



# TREIBBALL RULES – Czech Republic

by Treibball klub z.s.

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## Introduction

Treibball (hereinafter referred to as TRB) is the sport for all dog breeds and crossbreeds. Treibball keeps the dog busy not only physically, but also mentally. Treibball significantly develops communication and cooperation between the dog and the handler, who make up the competition team. Treibball does not put extreme demands on the physical condition of the dog or handler so dogs and handlers of older age or with disabilities can also enjoy it.

The main equipment consists of gymnastic balls with a diameter of 30-75 cm, straight, clearly marked playing field with a minimum width of 15 meters and a minimum length of 25 meters and a goal (clearly marked space) with dimensions of 3 x 3 meters. The back wall can remain open.

In the main race, the dog's task is to transport balls grouped in a triangle or other formation to the goal, or to perform other activities between the balls. Balls must be delivered across the goal line from the field towards the handler. The number of balls and the distance of the formations from the goal varies according to the performance class and the size category of the dog. In addition to pushing balls, treibball games can include other activities and other elements, e.g. cones, obstacles, etc.

## The races

The main race consists of two runs, the FAST run and the SMART run.

### The FAST run

In the FAST run, which is always the same and is detailed in these rules, the balls are placed in a triangle shape 6-20 m from the goal. The top of the triangle points away from the goal. The number of balls and their distance are determined by the performance class and the size category of the dog (see Attachments No. 1 and 2). The dog must deliver all the balls across the goal line from the field towards the handler to the goal within the set time limit, always starting with the top ball at the tip of the triangle, which must be the first to deliver to the goal. Furthermore, the order of the balls is random. The number of commands during the entire run is not limited.



## **The SMART run**

In the SMART run, the balls are grouped in different formations at distance of 6-20 m from the goal. The number of balls and their distance are determined by TRB class according to advanced level and category according to size. The shape of the formations and the way of working with them is determined by the organizer for each race. The organizer is obliged to publish a detailed description and rules for the second run, including drawings, at least 6 weeks before the race. The dog must perform the required actions with the balls as described and must transport all balls across the goal line from the field towards the handler to the goal within the specified time limit.

The times of both runs are added to the final rating, including penalty and bonus points.

## **Treibball games**

After two mandatory runs of FAST and SMART, treibball games can be included. The listing of the games and their contents are fully within the competence of the organizer, the rules are not defined. The games are listed in the race schedules. The race organizer is obliged to publish a description of treibball games requiring practice at least 6 weeks before the race. The games must be safe for both the dog and the handler.

Treibball games are scored separately.

## **General conditions**

### **Rights and obligations of race participants**

The races are open for all dog breeds and crossbreeds, with or without the pedigree certificate.

Both members and non-members of the Treibball club can participate in competitions under the auspices of the Treibball club. All participants should familiarize themselves with the rules of the Treibball club valid for competitions under the auspices of the Treibball club before registering.

When registering for the race, the organizer, in cooperation with the judge, or with the veterinarian, will take over the dog. The dog handler is obliged to present proof of valid vaccinations. The organizer (judge, veterinarian) may check the identity (chip), height and health status of the dog. If the dog is not clinically healthy, the referee or veterinarian has the right not to admit the dog to the race.

The minimum age of the dog is 10 months in the beginner category, 12 months in the competition class.

When registering, the participant declares that:

- In the last 6 months, the dog has not get into contact with any contagious disease, and if this happens before the races, the dog will not participate. The participant will not hold the Treibball-



club or the referee responsible for damage caused by him or his dog. The participant knows the Treibball klub rules.

- The participant familiarized himself with the rules of the Treibball club
- The participant agrees to the rules for race participants.

## **Training and races**

For training, the organizer must provide a training space. Boundaries, goal areas, and goals do not need to be marked on this area. Teams can train on this area during the entire race. During training, priority is given to the teams currently preparing for the race, in the order in which they start in the race. The organizer is not obliged to provide training balls.

Teams are not allowed to enter the racing game area except for their own race.

In the case of indoor competitions, the organizer is obliged to provide space for training. If this is not possible for technical reasons, he is obliged to set aside time for training before the start of the race on the competition playing area. During training, the handler must not use treats as a reward.

The organizer will provide a referee, an assistant referee and a timekeeper for the race.

## **General rules valid for all classes and categories**

The dog pushes the balls with his nose or body across the goal line in the direction from the playing field to the handler.

The dog can work in a collar or harness, pull-down, barbed and electric collars are prohibited. It is not allowed to let the dog work in a muzzle or in a halti halter.

## **Course of the race and timing:**

- Upon the referee's instruction, the team may enter the playing area in a designated place.
- The handler and the dog start their work in the goal.
- The handler sends a signal to the judge by nodding his/her head or in another agreed way that he/she is ready for the race
- The judge gives the command to start by waving his/her hands.
- The team starts from the goal and the time is measured from the moment the dog crosses the goal line.
- During the race, in the TRB 1 and TRB 2 classes, the handler may stand in the goal or in the goal area, in the TRB 3 class, the handler must be in the goal for the entire duration of the race. In TRB Z, the handler can move around the entire playground.
- The handler may verbally confirm the dog's correct behaviour at all times, support and motivate him/her.
- Timing ends when all balls are in the goal and the dog is lying in the goal or in the goal area. If the dog does not lie down, the timer runs until the time limit expires.
- The handler must prevent balls that have already been delivered to the goal from returning to the field over the goal line. If this happens, the dog must deliver these balls to the gate again.



- The ball is in the goal when it touches the ground behind the goal line

### **The playing field, the goal and the goal area**

Competitions take place on a flat, visibly demarcated field (in the case of indoor competitions in an area of the same dimensions) with a minimum width of 15 m and a minimum length of 25 m. The surface of the playing area consists of short-cut grass, sand, or external and internal smooth non-slip surfaces. The surface must be safe for both the dog and the handler.

The goal is a clearly marked area with dimensions of 3 x 3 m.

In front of the goal, there is a designated goal area with dimensions of 5 m wide x 3 m deep for TRB 1 and 5 m wide x 1 m deep for TRB 2 and 3.

### **The balls**

The organizer will provide a set of balls for each class and category, which can be of different sizes and different colours. For the Small category with a diameter of 50 cm and smaller, for the Large category with a diameter of 45-75 cm.

From these balls, the judge will make a set that is the same for all dogs in one TRB class and category at one race. The largest ball is placed as the top ball. The top ball must be visibly recognizable from the other balls.

The handler may exchange any ball or balls (one, several or all) for his/her own for his/her team's race. The replaced ball may be smaller, the same or larger than the original ball. However, the rule always applies that the top ball is the same size or larger than the other balls in the set and must be visibly recognizable from the other balls. Before the start of the race, the judge can measure the handler's own balls and check whether they correspond to the size specified in the rules.

The possibility of changing the balls applies also for the accompanying treibball games.

The judge can use ball fixation. If it chooses to use it, it must use it for all teams in the entire TRB class and category and must ensure comparable conditions for all teams competing in the same class and category.

### **Rewards**

- TRBZ – the dog handler may reward the dog with a toy at will. The dog handler can motivate the dog with treats only in a closed box, so that the treat does not fall out on the playground. If a treat falls out on the field, the team is disqualified.
- TRB 1-3 – the dog handler must not reward the dog with treats or toys on the field (including the goal and goal area).
- TRB 1 - the handler may have threats or toys with him/her, but dropping the threat or toy is considered as their use and thus the team is disqualified.



- TRB 2-3 - the handler must not have a threat or a toy with him/her. For violation of this rule, the team is disqualified.

### **Time limit and repeating of the race**

The maximum duration of a dog's work is 5 minutes in all classes (times without penalty). If the time limit is exceeded, the team is disqualified. The judge is authorized to terminate the team's work before this limit in the event of the dog's complete lack of interest in the work, and also if the dog leaves the field and the handler does not call it even on the third command.

If during the game the balls move considerably from their positions due to the wind, the judge can propose a replay of the race for a specific team.

### **Rules for a new team or already a racing dog with a new handler**

The dog can start at the same races only once – with one handler, in one class.

The handler can start with several dogs in one race.

The new handler with a previously competing dog forms a new team. This team can start a maximum of one class lower than the dog already started.

### **Class selection rules**

At the start, the handler can choose the class in which the team will start. However, afterwards he/she cannot choose a class lower than the one in which he has already started.

The exception is the old age or handicap of the dog or the handler, which does not allow the team to start in the achieved class and entitles the handler to choose any lower class after agreement with the race organizer. The handler must document this fact with a veterinary medical certificate.

### **Participation of female dogs in heat**

Female dogs in heat can participate with the organizer's approval.

The handler is obliged to report the participation of a hot female to the organizer before the start of the race.

In the FAST and SMART runs in the performance and preparation classes, they always start last - after all other competitors in all performance and preparation classes.

In the games, the race organizer determines the conditions and the order according to the possibilities.

Information about the possibility of participation of female dogs in heat must be included in the race regulations.

## Penalties

After the start in classes TRB 1 - TRB 3, the handler may no longer actively touch the dog, each active touch with the dog during the game is penalized by 10 seconds.

After the „outrun“, the dog starts work with the top ball. If this condition is not met, the team will receive a penalty: TRB Z – not applicable, race classes TRB 1, 2, 3: 10 s.

The top ball must be delivered to the goal by the dog first. If this condition is not met, the team will receive a penalty: TRB Z – not applicable, race classes TRB 1, 2, 3: 10 s.

If the ball leaves the playing area (bounded area) and the dog is unable to deliver the ball into the goal across the goal line from the field, the team is disqualified. Applies to all categories.

For delivering the ball to the goal in the wrong order in the SMART round, a team in the TRB 1, 2, 3 competition classes will receive a penalty of 10s for each instance that the wrong ball is knowingly delivered to the goal by the dog. If the incorrect ball enters the goal by bouncing off another ball or by weather or other factors, no penalty is awarded.

Leaving the goal and goal area (i.e. stepping over the line with the handler's entire foot) is penalized as follows:

- TRB Z - without penalty
- TRB 1, 2 - a penalty of 10 s is given for each leaving the goal area
- TRB 3 - a penalty of 10 s is given for each leaving the goal, a penalty of 30 s is given for leaving the goal area.

For active moving the ball by the handler the team is disqualified. For stopping the ball in category Z, the team receives a penalty of 10 s.

The handler may move balls that are already behind the goal line without penalty to prevent them from being re-entered into play.

If the ball gets back into the goal area or field, the dog has to bring it back to the goal.

## Disqualification:

- TRB Z: for dropping a treat on the playing surface (field including goal)
- TRB 1, 2, 3: using a toy or treat on the playing surface (field including goal)
- TRB 2, 3: if the handler has treats or a toy with him during the game
- for biting, or clawing through the ball
- for moving the ball outside the goal by the handler
- for rude behaviour towards the dog (behaviour towards the dog is assessed throughout the race day)
- for defecating a dog on the playground

## Classes and categories

### Classes:

- Preparatory class: TRB Z (Beginners. Z is the first letter in Czech language - Začátečníci)
- Performance classes: Class 1, 2 and 3

### Categories:

- Small (dogs 40 cm and under, measured at the shoulder)
- Large (above 40 cm, measured at the shoulder)

## Competition rules valid for different classes – FAST run

### Preparatory class - Beginners (TRB Z)

- TRB Z S - one ball lies at the distance of 6 m from the goal line.
- TRB Z L - one ball lies at the distance of 8 m from the goal line.
- The handler can place his/her target behind the ball before the start.
- The handler can freely move around the playing field.
- The dog handler may freely reward the dog with a toy on the playground. The handler can motivate the dog with treats only in a closed box, so that the treat does not fall out on the field. In case that the treat falls out on the field, the team is disqualified.

### Class 1 (TRB 1)

- TRB 1 S - three balls lie in the triangle shape at the distance of 8 m from the goal line.
- TRB 1 L - three balls lie in the triangle shape at the distance of 10 m from the goal line.
- The handler can place his/her target behind the top of the triangle.
- If the dog does not start with the top ball, the team receives the penalty of 10 seconds.
- If the dog does not deliver the top ball to the goal the first, the team receives the penalty of 10 seconds. The order of other balls is random.
- A penalty of 10 s is given for each handler leaving the goal area during the game.

### Class 2 (TRB 2)

- TRB 2 S - six balls lie in the triangle shape (3-2-1 balls) at the distance of 10 m from the goal line..
- TRB 2 L - six balls lie in the triangle shape (3-2-1 balls) at the distance of 15 m from the goal line
- The use of target is not allowed.
- If the dog does not start with the top ball, the team receives the penalty of 10 seconds.
- If the dog does not deliver the top ball to the goal the first, the team receives the penalty of 10 seconds.
- The order of other balls is random.
- A penalty of 10 s is given for each handler leaving the goal area during the game.



### **Class 3 (TRB 3)**

- TRB 3 S - eight balls lie in the triangle shape (4-3-1 balls) at the distance of 15 m from the goal line.
- TRB 3 L - eight balls lie in the triangle shape (4-3-1 balls) at the distance of 20 m from the goal line.
- The use of target is not allowed.
- If the dog does not start with the top ball, the team receives the penalty of 10 seconds.
- If the dog does not deliver the top ball to the goal the first, the team receives the penalty of 10 seconds.
- The order of other balls is random.
- For every leaving of the goal by the handler during the race, the team receives the penalty of 10 seconds.
- For every leaving of the goal area by the handler during the race, the team receives the penalty of 30 seconds.

### **Other provisions**

The organizer must list TRB Z, TRB 1, 2, 3 classes for both categories Small and Large.

The organizer can also list a special class for seniors over 8 years of age and handicapped dogs and a class for young dog handlers under 15 years of age. The choice of class for teams falling into these categories depends on the handler.

All registered classes must be listed in the race regulations.

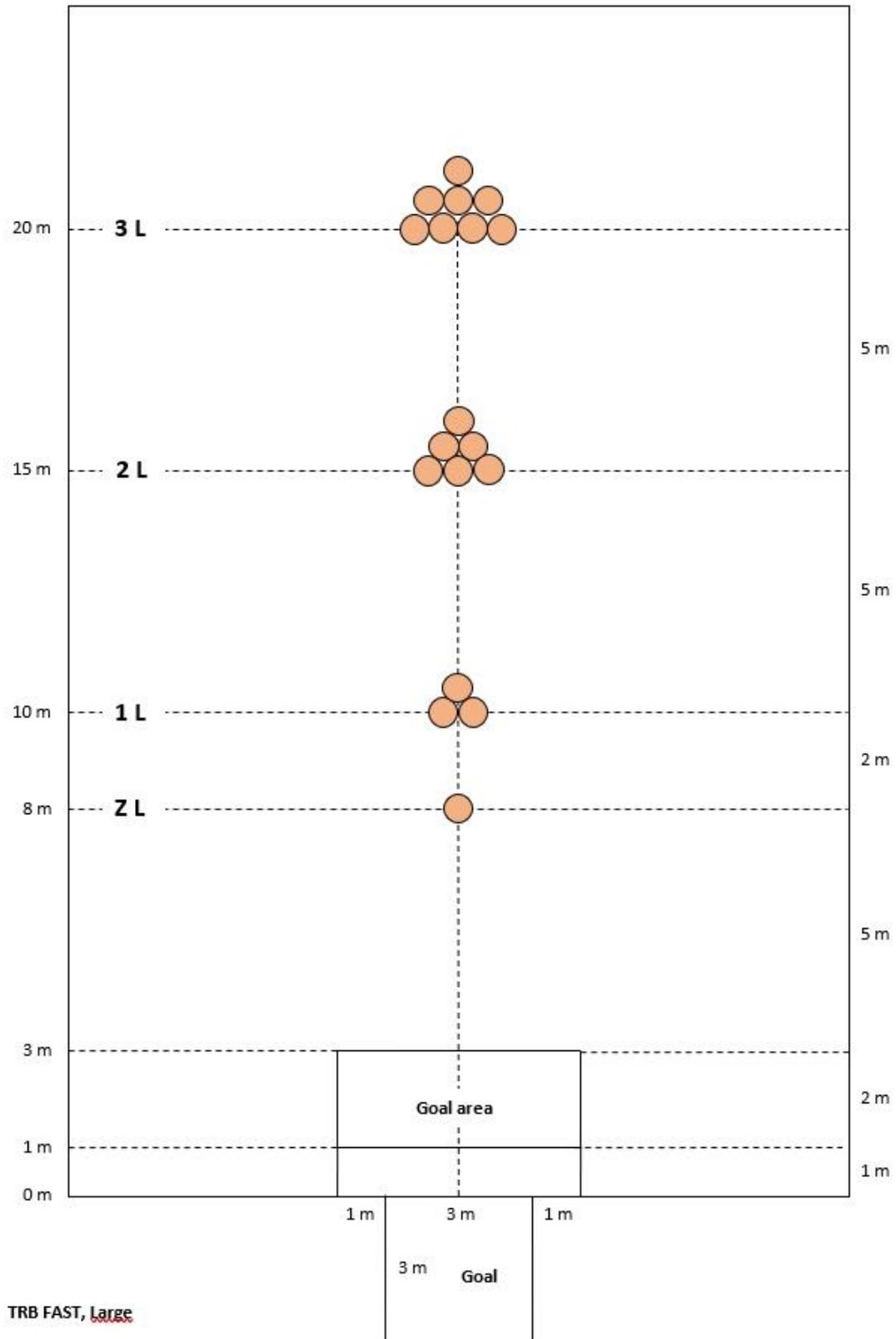
The minimum number of registered teams for mandatory opening and separate evaluation of a class/category is 3. With a smaller number of participants, the organizer can combine size categories within one class during the evaluation.

### **Organization of the Czech Treibball Championship and the title of the Czech Treibball Champion**

The organizer of the Czech Treibball Championship and the venue must be approved by the club's membership meeting.

The title of the Czech Treibball Champion and the 1st and the 2nd Czech Treibball Vice-Champions are awarded only to the winners in the highest occupied class in categories L and S who are citizens of the Czech Republic.

Attachment 1: The playing field for the FAST run – Category Large



Attachment 1: The playing field for the FAST run – Category Small

