



## The Open European HTM & Freestyle Championships 2013

### Information letter

Dear OEC participants and team leaders,

Thank you all for your entries to the Open European HTM & Freestyle Championships 2013, that will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> in Burgum, the Netherlands. The OEC organization is very much looking forward to welcoming you all in our beautiful Friesland (Fryslân, in Frisian).

With this information letter we hope to inform you of all the things that you need to know about coming to, and participating at, the OEC 2013.

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#### **Location**

Sports center 'Sporthal de Westermar'  
Burgemeester Bothenius Lohmanlaan 40 B  
9251 LD Burgum  
The Netherlands

#### **Parking**

You can park your vehicle free of charge at the parking area in front of the hall. Please note that it is not allowed to stay in your vehicle (kamper/caravan) on the parking area overnight.

#### **Opening times**

On Friday the hall will be open for competitors from **11:00 am**. On Saturday and Sunday the hall will be opened at **7:00 am**.

#### **Entry tickets**

Each participant, reserve and team leader will receive a free entry ticket that is valid on both competition days. Accompanying people (supporters, family members, etc.) must buy their own entry ticket for Saturday and/or Sunday. Entrance is free only on Friday, the training day.

Tickets cost **€5,00** per day, and can be ordered online **until September 23**, by sending an e-mail to [esterniemeijer@hotmail.com](mailto:esterniemeijer@hotmail.com) with your name, country, and the amount of tickets that you would like to order. Payment should be made at the same time by bank transfer to:

Bank: Rabobank, Emmeloord, Netherlands  
Account number: 1502.60.822



Account name: N.D.D.B., Emmeloord, Netherlands  
Account owner: G.M.C. Oerlemans, Bant, Netherlands  
IBAN: NL05RABO0150260822  
BIC: RABONL2U

As soon as we have received your payment, we will send you your ticket(s). After September 22 online ordering is no longer possible and you need to buy your ticket at the OEC hall entrance.

### **Competition managers**

Esther Niemeijer and Grietje Wagenaar will be the competition managers on both days. They will introduce themselves to you at the briefing on Friday. If you have any questions, feel free to ask Esther or Grietje. The competition manager's instructions must be followed at all times.

### **Dressing room**

There will be a dressing room (quiet space for the dogs) allocated to each team. There will be some sharing, since there are only 8 rooms in total. We will place signs on the doors of each room so you can see which one is yours. Please note that all crates and props should be placed in your dressing room. Crates and props may not be placed anywhere else in the hall due to safety restrictions. If there are bitches in season, please let us know in advance so we can arrange a separate room. You can leave all of your belongings in the (locked) hall overnight, but this will be at your own risk.

### **Dogs in the audience**

Dogs in the audience will not be allowed to sit near the competition ring. They will only be allowed next to the warming-up ring. If the dog causes a disturbance you will be asked to take it elsewhere. If possible, leave your dog in their crate in your dressing room. We ask spectators and supporters not to bring their dogs, unless absolutely necessary. Please remember that all foreign dogs present at the OEC must be vaccinated for rabies. This will be checked.

### **The ring**

The competition will be held on astro turf (artificial grass) in the color green. The ring size will be 20 x 25 metres, with the judges positioned on the longer side. There will be a warming-up area in the same hall. The ring will have a separate opening and exit and will be barred with plants/flowers and sheets.

### **Training in the ring**

The ring will be opened for training on [Friday afternoon](#). Each country will get **20 minutes** of training time in the ring. There will be a ring steward to keep track of time. We ask you to respect the training times and leave the ring on time, so your training does not cause delays. There will be no other times to train in the ring during the weekend. Bitches in season cannot participate in the training on Friday. They will be given 5 minutes of practice time in the ring prior to their performance. The times in the training schedule below are estimated times; there will probably be a few minutes extra in between to make sure every team gets 20 minutes.

Group 1:	Holland	12:30 – 12:50
Group 2:	Belgium	12:50 – 13:10
Group 3:	Germany	13:10 – 13:30



Group 4:	Denmark	13:30 – 13:50
Group 5:	Sweden	13:50 – 14:10
Group 6:	Great Britain	14:10 – 14:30
Group 7:	Russia	14:30 – 14:50
Group 8:	Czech Republic + Austria	14:50 – 15:10
Group 9:	France + Japan	15:10 – 15:30
Group 10:	Finland + Norway	15:30 – 15:50
Group 11:	Switzerland + Slovakia	15:50 – 16:10

When the team before you is training in the competition ring, please start getting ready in the warming-up area. Please remember to keep your dog to yourselves at all times.

### **Food/toys in the ring**

There may not be any food or smelly toys (for example made from animal skin) in the competition ring at any time. Please remember that this also applies during training time, the award ceremony and the opening ceremony. You may only use food and smelly toys in the warming-up area. During the competition on Saturday and Sunday it is forbidden to use squeaky toys, flying toys and/or clickers in the warming-up area.

### **Music check-in**

Please hand over your music CD (or USB with the music in MP3 format) to our DJ about **20 minutes before your training time starts**, so it can be tested during your training time. The DJ asks that your music is marked with handler name, dog name, which class you are entered (HTM or FS) and which signal you will use to tell the DJ that you want your music started. The DJ also asks that you only have the one piece of music that you will be performing to on your CD. One CD should be handed in for each routine, and a back up CD for each routine should be taken to the ringside prior to entering the ring to compete.

Please also bring a CD with your country's **national anthem** to the music check-in, to be used during the opening ceremony on Saturday.

### **Speaker information sheet**

Please fill in the speaker information sheet, which is attached, and send it by e-mail to [estherniemeijer@hotmail.com](mailto:estherniemeijer@hotmail.com) or hand it in with your CD at the music check-in.

### **Checking of vaccination booklets**

Please have the vaccination booklet of your dog(s) readily available for inspection on **Friday** during training. You can hand them in at the time of the **music check-in**. There will be a check of all booklets. All dogs must be vaccinated for rabies, when coming from abroad. Docked dogs, or dogs with a Natural Bob Tail must have a medical declaration from a vet in their booklet (see below under 'Dog legislation in Holland').

### **Briefing**

The briefing will be held on **Friday** after training, at **17:00 pm**. The briefing will take place in the ring. It will be possible to direct questions to the competition managers and to the judges at the briefing and important information will be given at this time, so make sure you are there. Please only send your team leader or a maximum of 2 persons per country to the briefing.



### **Official opening and tour through the town center**

The official opening/welcoming of the OEC will take place on **Friday** after the briefing at restaurant 'The Pleats' in the town center of Burgum. All participants should gather here at **18:00 pm**. The Pleats lies only a few minutes from the competition location. You can go there by car or on foot. We will provide you with a printed route. Please wear your **team clothing** (if you have any) and bring a **flag** of your country. Dogs are welcome, but you can also leave them in the hall. You will be served a welcoming drink at the Pleats, and the mayor of Burgum will say an official welcoming word. After the official welcoming we will take you on a short tour through the town center (about 20 minutes). After the tour we will head back to the hall, for the get-together dinner.

### **OEC get-together dinner**

The get-together dinner (buffet) on **Friday** starts at around **19:30**. The dinner will take place at restaurant 'Time Out', which lies in the competition hall. If you haven't reserved a seat for the dinner, please do so **before September 21**. If you are vegetarian, please let us know at the time of registering. The price for the dinner is **€22,50 p.p.** This does not include drinks. We prefer that the dinner-payment is made in advance to our bank account (see details above, under 'Entry tickets'). Payment on the day of the dinner will also be possible (cash only). It will be the responsibility of a competitor or team leader to register and ensure payment. Cancellations will unfortunately not be accepted after September 20<sup>th</sup>. We welcome you to email the number of participants and the country represented to: [estherniemeijer@hotmail.com](mailto:estherniemeijer@hotmail.com)

### **Running orders**

The running orders for the qualification rounds will be drawn by the judges during the get-together dinner. We will post the running orders on the OEC website as soon as possible after that, and we will also hang a list of running orders at various locations in the hall.

The running orders for the finals will be drawn by a random draw, immediately after the qualification round, before the lunch break.

### **Opening ceremony**

The opening ceremony will take place on **Saturday** at **8.30 am**, before the HTM judging commences. All OEC participants should be ready (with or without dog(s)) for the opening ceremony at **8.00 am** in the warming-up ring. Please bring your country's **flag**, which can be carried in front of the team at the ceremony. Please don't forget to hand in your country's **national anthem** on Friday at the music check-in.

After the opening ceremony, please place your country's flag into one of the flag poles around the ring, so we will have all country's flags around the ring.

### **Judges**

The judges for the OEC 2013 will be Claudia Moser (Switzerland), Johanna Saariluoma (Finland) and Wies Koelewijn (the Netherlands). Johanna Saariluoma will be the head judge.

### **White dog**

The first dog in the ring on both days is the 'white dog'. The dog and handler team which draws running order No. 1, will be the 2nd team to perform in the ring.



### **Individual finalists and winner**

The ten dog and handler teams that have acquired the highest score in each of the disciplines, qualify for the individual finals (10 Heelwork to Music and 10 Freestyle). The individual OEC

Winner in each section will be the competitor with the combined highest score from the qualifying heat and the individual final.

### **Team winner**

Winner of the Open European Team Championship in each section, will be the country whose 3 highest scoring competitors have the combined highest scores from the first competition round.

### **Demo performances**

We would like to offer a demo performance for all reserve competitors (HTM and Freestyle), during the breaks in between the qualifying competition and the finals. The HTM reserves can give a demo performance on the HTM day (Saturday), and the Freestylers on the Freestyle day (Sunday). If you are a reserve for your country and are interested in giving a demo performance, please send an e-mail to [estherniemeijer@hotmail.com](mailto:estherniemeijer@hotmail.com). Please make sure you let us know if you're interested in giving a demo performance [before September 21](#).

### **Bitches in season**

Bitches in season are allowed to compete at the OEC under the following conditions:

- Bitches in season are not allowed into the competition area (dressing room only) until all other teams have finished competing in the first round.
- Bitches in season will compete last in the first round, regardless of the official running order and random draw.
- Unfortunately, we cannot create a separate ring for bitches in season, so they will compete in the competition ring. We will try to clean the floor as good as possible after they've competed.

Bitches in season will not be able to participate in the opening ceremony or the prize-giving. Please let us know [as soon as possible](#) if you have a bitch in season so we can make the arrangements.

### **Dog legislation in Holland**

Please note the following:

#### *Dogs with cropped ears*

- Dogs with cropped ears which are born in the Netherlands after 30 April 1989 are not allowed to compete at the OEC.
- Dogs with cropped ears which are born in another country than the Netherlands after a legal ban on cropping was put in force there are not allowed to compete at the OEC.
- Dogs with cropped ears which are born after 30 September 1996 in any country whatsoever are not allowed to compete at the OEC.

#### *Dogs with a docked tail*

Dogs with a docked tail which are born in the Netherlands after 31 August 2001, or which are born in another country than the Netherlands after a legal ban on docking was put in force there, are not allowed to compete at the OEC, unless the amputation was for medical reasons and a medical statement concerning the required amputation is entered in the European animal passport (or other passport, for



dogs from countries outside of Europe) by a practicing veterinarian. The record in the passport must include the reason for the amputation (the medical indication) and the date of the operation; it must also be accompanied by a legible statement of the name, address, and original signature of the veterinarian. The passport must be made available for inspection during the OEC. Failure to present the passport will result in a disqualification at the competition. The dog will not be allowed to compete.

#### *Dogs with a Natural Bobtail (NBT)*

Dogs born with a Natural Bobtail (NBT) are allowed to compete at the OEC, but only when a statement concerning the Natural Bobtail is entered in the European animal passport (or other passport, for dogs from countries outside of Europe) by a practicing veterinarian. The statement must be accompanied by a legible statement of the name, address, and original signature of the veterinarian. The passport must be made available for inspection during the OEC. Failure to present the passport will result in a disqualification at the competition. The dog will not be allowed to compete.

#### *Other rules*

Some other rules that apply at the OEC:

- It is forbidden to use par-force collars, pin collars, shock collars and/or other forcing material on dogs present at the OEC, anywhere at the location.
- Dogs with an ear- and/or skin condition shall not be permitted entrance to the OEC.
- All people participating or visiting the OEC with their dogs must be able to present proof of valid vaccination for their dog(s).
- Dogs present at the OEC, coming from abroad, must be vaccinated against rabies. Proof of valid vaccination will be asked for.
- Dogs present at the OEC must not have been in circumstances where there might have been danger of infection with disease during the 12 weeks before the competition.

#### **Veterinarian on call**

There will not be a veterinarian present at the OEC location. The following vets are on call before and/or during the weekend:

*Mondays – Fridays until 17:30:*

A7 Noord dierenartsen – Burgum Tussendijken 41 9251 LX Burgum Tel.: 0031 – 511 – 46 40 60	A7 Noord dierenartsen – Drachten Nipkowlaan 17 9207 JA DRACHTEN Tel.: 0031 – 512 – 30 14 44
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*Friday from 17:30, Saturday and Sunday:*

Dierenziekenhuis Drachten De Bolder 74 9206 AR Drachten Tel.: 0031 – 512 – 51 36 27
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#### **OEC meeting**

Up to two representatives from the competing countries will meet and discuss next year's OEC and/or if there need to be rule changes in the OEC rules. This year's OEC meeting will take place



on **Saturday** at **17:30**, after the HTM competition. The meeting will take place at restaurant Time Out, in the hall, and shall be lead by Emmy Simonsen from Denmark.

We would like to ask each country to send in their items for the agenda by e-mail to [estherniemeijer@hotmail.com](mailto:estherniemeijer@hotmail.com). You can send in your items for the agenda **until September 21**. The agenda will be posted on the OEC website after that time.

### **DVDs and photos**

DVDs and photos from the OEC can be ordered at the show or online, before and after the competition. Please follow the instructions on the order forms, which are attached. You can hand in your order forms to the show managers.

DVDs from 1 day (Saturday or Sunday) cost **€20,00** and the DVDs from both days cost **€ 30,00**.

Photos from 1 routine cost **€15,00**. Photos from every next routine from the same handler: **€ 12,50 per routine**.

We prefer that the payment is made in advance by transfer to our bank account (see above). Payment at the OEC is also possible. In that case, you can hand in your order form including payment to one of the competition managers (Esther Niemeijer or Grietje Wagenaar) in an envelope with the exact amount of money (Euro) included.

Please note that the photos will be sent to you by e-mail via Wetransfer (not on CD), so don't forget to fill in your e-mail address on the order form. If you prefer the photos to be send on CD by regular mail, contact Esther Niemeijer. There will be an extra charge for shipping.

### **Filming and photographing**

Please note that it is forbidden to film the entire competition! A competitor may only have someone film their own routine. If you upload your own video to the internet, please mention that there is an official OEC DVD for sale with all the OEC routines, and add a link to the OEC website.

Please note that if you want to take photographs at the OEC, flashlights are not allowed in the hall, as it can disturb the performing dogs.

### **The OEC website**

The website will be updated with news and results throughout the weekend. For friends and family to keep updated on the events, visit: <http://oec2013.wordpress.com>

### **Time Schedule**

The global time schedule for all three days:

#### *Friday*

11:00	The hall opens
12:30	Training in the ring starts (+ music check-in)
17:00	Briefing
18:00	Official opening at 'De Pleats' in the town center (+ short tour)
19:30	Get-together dinner starts



### *Saturday*

- 7:00 The hall opens  
7:30 – 8:00 Extra time for music check-in  
8:30 Opening ceremony  
9:00 The White Dog performs  
9:05 HTM competition (with some short breaks in between)  
14:00 Drawing of running orders for the HTM finals  
14:15 Lunch Break (+ demo performances)  
15:00 HTM finals  
16:30 HTM award ceremony  
17:30 OEC meeting

### *Sunday*

- 7:00 The hall opens  
7:30 – 8:00 Extra time for music check-in  
8:30 The White Dog performs  
8:35 Freestyle competition (with some short breaks in between)  
14:00 Drawing of running orders for the Freestyle finals  
14:15 Lunch Break (+ demo performances)  
15:00 Freestyle finals  
16:30 Freestyle award ceremony and closing

The timing of the short breaks during the qualification rounds will be announced on the day.

Soon after the prize-giving on Sunday, Team Holland and all the helpers will be cleaning up in the hall – feel free to stay and give us a hand, it would be much appreciated!

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If you have questions or are in need of further information, please contact the OEC organisation by sending an e-mail to: [estherniemeijer@hotmail.com](mailto:estherniemeijer@hotmail.com).

We wish you all a safe journey to Burgum, and a pleasant stay!

Kind regards,

The OEC 2013 organization:

**Esther Niemeijer**

Tel.: 0031 – 6 – 43 88 71 70

**Grietje Wagenaar**

Tel.: 0031 – 6 – 57 22 42 04