

Team Singapore EO & AWC Groom Allocation Policy

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the framework for the **allocation, eligibility, and responsibilities of grooms and team assistants representing** Singapore at the European Open (EO) and Agility World Championship (AWC).

Given the increasing number of requests for grooms and the strict limitations on support personnel imposed by host countries, this policy ensures that **team support resources are allocated fairly, transparently, and in a way that upholds national representation standards and team cohesion.**

2. Guiding Principles

- **Representation:** EO and AWC are official international events where all team members (including grooms) are representing Singapore.
- **Fairness:** Limited passes must be allocated based on objective, transparent criteria.
- **Accountability:** Grooms must be accountable to SKC (Singapore Kennel Club) and the appointed Team Leader.
- **Team Utility:** Grooms should contribute to the overall team effort as decided by SKC and Team Leader and not serve only individual handlers.

3. Groom Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for an official **Groom / Team Assistant Pass**, an individual must:

1. Not be a competing handler at the same EO/AWC event.
 - Exception: May be the reserved handler of the official national team.
2. Be in **good standing** with the SKC and the agility community (no pending disciplinary matters or prior breaches of conduct).
3. Be registered and approved via the official **Groom Application Form**, including declaration of responsibilities.

4. Groom Allocation Quota & Prioritisation

4.1 Groom Pass Quota

The number of available groom passes is subject to:

- The **official quota** allocated by the EO/AWC event organiser
- SKC's internal delegation management and registration timelines

4.2 Pass Allocation — Priority Framework

If passes are limited, the remaining groom passes will be allocated in **descending order of priority**:

Priority	Handler Category
1	Priority will be given to handlers based on the number of competing dogs they are running — starting with the handler with the highest number of competing dogs, followed by the next highest, and so on.
2	First-time international competitors

*If multiple handlers fall within the same priority category and the number of applicants exceeds the quota, allocation will be determined via **draw lots** conducted by SKC.*

5. Groom Roles & Responsibilities

a. Primary Role (Handler-Focused)

- Assist with dog handling, equipment, warm-up, ring prep, and welfare.
- Support their assigned handler's competition routine and readiness during official and unofficial team practice, warm up and actual event

b. Team Support (As Directed by Team Leader and/or SKC)

- Grooms may be asked to assist with general duties, such as but not limited to:
 - Crating setup
 - Ring timing updates
 - Vet queue management
 - Shared gear or hydration runs

⚠ Team Leader Scope Clause: The TL may assign reasonable, light duties. Grooms are not to be overtasked or pulled away from their primary handler during critical performance windows. All assignments should be coordinated respectfully with handlers.

c. Conduct

- Uphold respectful, professional behaviour internally and externally at all times.
- Follow team rules, SKC and FCI boundaries.
- Maintain confidentiality and contribute positively to team morale.

6. Groom Declaration & Conduct

All approved grooms must:

- Sign a **Groom Code of Conduct & Declaration Form**
- Attend pre-event briefing (in person or virtual)
- Follow team schedule and respect event rules, regulations and boundaries
- Assist with general team tasks when requested

Any **breach of conduct**, disruption, or failure to fulfill agreed duties may result in revocation of the groom's pass immediately and future disqualification from team events.

7. Ineligibility & Rejection

SKC reserves the right to:

- Reject a groom application if the individual has a history of disruptive behaviour or non-compliance
- Revoke an approved groom pass if misconduct arises pre-event or during the event

8. Implementation Timeline

Milestone	Deadline
Groom Application Opens	One week after teams qualifying period ended
Groom Applications Close	One week after Opened Application
Groom Draw & Announcement	One week after Closed Application
Groom Conduct Briefing	T – 2 to 4 weeks

9. Communication & Transparency

This policy will be published on official SKC communication channels.