

# CANADIAN RINGSPOrt ASSOCIATION

[www.canadianringsportassociation.com](http://www.canadianringsportassociation.com)

President – John Bayreuther  
Vice-President – Frederick Labrousse  
Secretary – Ryan Venables  
Treasurer – Alexandra Venables  
Director-At-Large – Mihai Rusu

December 11, 2018

Groupe Travail de Ring ("GTR")  
Commission d'Utilisation Nationale Chiens de Berger et de Garde ("CUN-CGB")  
Societe Central Canine ("SCC")  
Canadian Ringsport Association ("CRA")

**Re: 2019 Palisade Implementation & International French Ring Federation**

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Dear Sirs and Madams ,

In June 2018 at the French Finale in Narbonne, representatives from foreign countries practicing French Ring including the Canadian Ringsport Association ("CRA") attended an international meeting hosted by the Group Travail de Ring ("GTR"). In that meeting information was revealed of a new palisade design which would be effective as of January 1, 2019. The representatives from the CRA brought this information back to Canada to discuss the implementation of the new palisade.

Since June 2018, information has been disseminated sporadically and many questions remain to global partners who practice French Ring. Additionally, unsettling information has come to light in which it has been clearly stated that if other organizations do not adopt the new palisade the availability to utilize French judges and/or decoys will be restricted and/or denied.

On November 16-18, 2018 the CRA along with the North American Ringsport Association ("NARA") and the Group Travail de Ring Mexico ("GTRM") jointly hosted the 2018 version of the Cup of the Americas. Each country sent a team of dogs, judges and decoys. The event was a resounding success. Following the competition, representatives including the Presidents from each organization, met to discuss the effects of the new palisade design and implementation of such in each country.



The meeting resulted in the CRA's decision to draft this letter. Further, the CRA anticipates adopting the new palisade design on or before November 1, 2019, which is after the 2019 competition season. While we respect the French rules and protocols there are many factors making the change on January 1, 2019 not feasible for all CRA members and clubs. The CRA respectfully request the GTR to respect our position on the new palisade and to continue to permit French judges and decoys to participate in competitions with our organization during the transition period and pending the anticipated implementation date on or before November 1, 2019.

Although information has been available since the 2018 Finale Ring – Narbonne, we understand the final approved design, potential rule changes, potential penalties, and protocols have yet to be finalized and tested in trial by the GTR. Much rumour and speculation has been disseminated on social media, but little official information has been provided to guide and aid with the transition to the new palisade design. We also understand there is a manufacturer in Europe who will be manufacturing and/or retrofitting existing palisades for the French adoption date of January 1, 2019. There are no universal fabricators in Canada and each club will be required to source the yet to be determined design and have the new palisade constructed for trial use. This will be a tremendous expense to our over clubs, in the range of \$1,000 - \$1,500 each that will greatly hinder our country's ability to grow French Ring.

Additionally and perhaps most importantly, the CRA has commenced a new trial season prior to January 1, 2019. The Cup of the America's was a co-hosted event and the results will count toward the 2019 championship season. The CRA Board of Directors discussed the January 1, 2019 adoption date and believes in the fairness for the dogs that have participated, and because January 1, 2019 is in the middle of the trial season, an anticipated implantation date on or before November 1, 2019 is the fairest and most equitable result for all involved. Furthermore, following the rule changes in 2008, there was leniency and a grace period in which the CRA was permitted to transition over time to the new rule changes. We also understand, through conversations with representatives of Ring Spain that the date for the 2019 Coupe d'Intercontinentale will be in mid-November 2019. As such, the CRA will be in full compliance for this cherished international competition.

It is no secret that the climate of French Ring in France is currently very turbulent and there have been challenges in a court of law to the change of the palisade, amongst other areas. We believe it be pertinent to the membership of the CRA to have all issues resolved prior to committing to the cost and expense to our clubs to implement the change in the palisade.

Finally, the CRA Board of Directors has met with respect to the International Federation de Ring which was discussed in Narbonne this past June. The CRA is committed and is a willing partner to grow the sport of French Ring internationally. However, the CRA is united in a position and believes any International French Ring Federation should be rooted in equal partnership and not contained and/or controlled as a sub-organization of the SCC. As such, until such a time where an international federation can be established where all countries have an equal voice on the direction of French Ring internationally, the CRA will decline the invitation to this organization. We would like to be very clear, we are eager to join an international federation and would encourage further discussions to achieve this goal.



The CRA is very respectfully requesting cooperation, understanding and respect toward our position noting our country is committed to being a partner in Ring along with the GTR.

Yours very respectfully,

John Bayreuther – President - on behalf of the CRA  
E: [info@canadak9.ca](mailto:info@canadak9.ca)

