

WGWR Protocols

Section 1 (Getting Started)

A. Inspection: Inspection consists of weighing each dog and examinations for lameness or in season. At this time, no Dqs for size or breed disqualifications are considered.

B. Starting position: For dogs who have run in a weight graded meet, use the dogs numeric average from previous meets. If the dog is new to the program use the dogs existing score or grade from other racing venues. If the dog has an average in WRA, NAWRA or CWA we will use that first. If the dog only has a NOTRA wave average, we will use that instead. Any dogs without a grade will be entered FTE and an effort will be made to run them with experienced dogs for the first program.

In the unlikely event that none of the dogs have an average with any organization, then all dogs will be randomly drawn and the first program will not have a “high point” race.

C. Weight Divisions: Weight divisions are as follows:

The first division begins with the lightest dog present. From that weight we move up 8 (eight) pounds to mark the end of the first division. The next dog on the list defines the start of the next division, and that weight plus eight pounds marks the second. And so on ...

The only variation is that if a division starts at forty pounds or over, the upper limit is ten pounds plus the starting weight for that division. It could be extended a few more pounds at the discretion of the race secretary and the consent of the relevant owners.

D. Drawing the Board: The dogs are divided into their respective divisions, and then placed in order in each division high to low with the ftes distributed through the division. Then, using the table provided, they are drawn into races of four dogs (or less).

Once separated into races, each race should be randomized and the dogs placed on the board in that order.

Section 2 (Running the Meet)

A. Running the NOMINATING races (1-3)

Field Personnel

Each race should have the following worker's on the field.

Box Operator

Lure Operator

2 Line Judges

1 mid-foul judge

1 finish-foul judge

During each program, a division is completed before the next division begins. If a race is interrupted, it can be rescheduled into another division if the situation warrants.

The sequence in which the divisions run will start at the lightest division and continue until the last division is completed.

Finisher's are assigned points in the following order:
High point race: 6,5,3,1 all other races 5,3,1,0

When a program is finished for a given division, the race secretary may call for scratches and re-draw the board at any time. Once the last division is run the secretary can start the next program as soon as the dogs are ready. This does not mean they have to, but if field conditions permit there is no requirement to wait between programs.

After the third program has been completed, finished positions can be assigned from 5th on up or 7th on up (depending on the declaration of the presiding club).

In the event there is a tied score for one or more placement, the order they come off the board is used to determine the higher position. So, if two dogs are tied with 12 points, the dog running in the higher race will be placed higher. If they came out of the same race, the dog finishing higher in the race will be placed higher.

If they come out of the same race and tied in that race, just shoot the line judges and use whatever else seems fair...

B. Running the FEATURE RACES

Field Personnel

Each race should have the following worker's on the field.

Box Operator

Lure Operator

4 Line Judges

1 mid-foul judge

1 finish-foul judge

2 timers

The top dogs are nominated to the fourth or feature races. There is one feature race per division. The presiding club may run either four or six dog feature races. This decision must be declared before the first race is run.

If by some chance the box has become damaged during the day in such a way that there are an odd number of holes, so be it. The presiding club may then change the number of dogs in the feature race to conform to the situation.

If a dog is scratched, a replacement will be drawn from the top of the other finishers (the Pack). If a dog is paddock scratch, the race will be postponed until a replacement is selected and advanced to the feature race.

If there are less than sufficient finishers to fill the feature race, so be it.

A dog must complete all three nominating races to run in the feature race.

A dog nominated to the feature race who cannot run it or is pulled for another reason is placed between the feature racers and the rest of the pack for the final placements.

Should more than one dog be paddock scratched and new dogs advanced from the pack, the race will be redrawn before running.

The order the dogs finish in the feature races will determine their final placement for the day. No additional points are added to their daily totals.

The timers are assigned to time the lead dog in each feature race. We are looking for the fastest dog at the meet, so it will have to be one of the first place dogs. The times recorded by the timers are averaged.

The dog for which the shortest time is recorded is declared the meet winner. If the line judges determine that there was a tie for that position, both dogs are so declared.

Section 3 (Fouls)

A. Definition of a foul

A foul must meet two test criteria before a dog can be penalized. It must first be clearly intentional and second must have succeeded in interfering with the run of one or more dogs other than itself.

B. Calling a foul

If only one judge calls a foul no action is taken, but the owner should be informed. If two or three Foul Judges call a foul on the same incident and agree on the details, the dog is excused for the day and is placed on probation for a period of one year from the incident.

Foul judges (which includes the box operator) may consider retaliation before calling a foul on a dog that has been bumped and reacts. The call would be the same whether it is reacting to a foul or just an incidental bump. If the retaliation is excessive they may call a foul on the reacting dog. If the dog warns the bumping dog but does not waver in its attention to the race, no foul should be called.

A foul committed after the dog has crossed the finish line cannot be called under normal circumstances unless it ends in a dog fight. In that case it must be called by the finish foul judge and corroborated by at least three witnesses. The final call will rest on the race secretary's opinion after interviewing all the witnesses present

C. Probation

If a dog on probation commits no more fouls during the year, the dog is removed from the probation list. If the dog does not finish a meet during the probation period, it remains on probation. This will continue until it completes a full race meet. Completion of a meet constitutes running the three nominating races but does not have to include the feature race.

If a dog on probation commits a second foul, it is suspended from racing at WGWR events for one year from the second incident. Once a dog has been suspended and returned to racing status the dog is on probation permanently and on commission of a third foul will be again suspended. This second suspension will remain for a minimum of one year and until such time as the owner or handler can show positive proof that the dog has been rehabilitated.

Proof positive can be submitted in the form of videos, signed affidavits and other bone fide evidence that can support the appeal. Such an appeal cannot be acted upon if submitted on the day of a race meet. It must be submitted to chairperson of the WGWR who will then deliberate, consult where possible and make a decision within thirty days of receiving the appeal.

If the appeal is upheld, the dog will be reinstated but remains on permanent probation.

Section 4 (titles and awards)

A. Weight Graded Champion (WGch)

Points toward a weight graded championship will be awarded in any division where there are at least eight starters. More points will be awarded for each additional four dogs entered in the division. The schedule of points is listed on the following table. Remember, the schedule applies to a single division, not the entire meet.

Number of dogs	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
8	1	0	0	0
12	2	0	0	0
16	3	1	0	0
20	4	2	0	0
24	5	3	1	0
28	6	4	2	0
32	7	5	3	1

(If by some miracle we were to achieve thirty six dogs (or more) in a single division then points would be awarded for the fifth place dog and the schedule would continue to progress. And yes, if we found ... lets see ... uh, sixty four starters in a single division a dog could finish its title in one meet.)

Regardless of which division the dog runs in (as this may vary from meet to meet) the points awarded are combined into a single title.

At this time it will take a total of fifteen points to make a championship. This may be changed in the future as we get a better feel for entries and participation.

Multiple championships may be considered in the future, but not at this time.

B. Grand Champion (WGGch)

At each meet a single point will be awarded to the meet winner. Five such meet wins will complete this title.