We in the IWPA hope this gives you a clearer picture of our sport and increases your interest to become involved. We look forward in seeing you in further competitions.

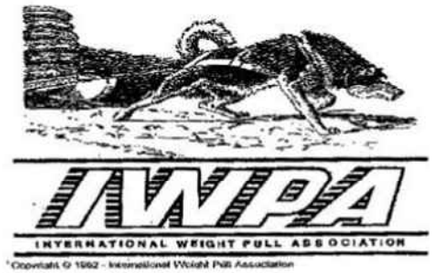
Please visit our web site at www.iwpa.net for information about upcoming events, people to contact, current point standings, pull results and a membership application.



The medals above are examples of the IWPA Regional Medals (which are 1 1/2" in diameter), Championship Medals (which are 3" in diameter) and Working Dog Medals (which are 1 1/4 X 2" rectangular).

The International Weight Pull Association

You've Got Pull with the



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www.iwpa.net

The International Weight Pull Association (IWPA) is a not for-profit organization that promotes the sport of dog pulling through well organized, safe, family oriented sanctioned events. The purpose of the IWPA is to promote the working heritage of all dogs. The IWPA also promotes a program to keep your dog in good physical condition with a constructive outlet for canine competition. You have received this pamphlet because you have expressed an interest in the sport and we thank you. We hope its contents will not only be informative but will assist you in your decision to join the IWPA. For more information you can visit our web site at www.iwpa.net.

Whether this is your first introduction to working dogs or your first dog pull the following facts are intended to help you better understand the sport. These are things the handlers themselves would be glad to talk with you about if they had the time. However, they are generally too busy with their dogs. At a competition such as this the dog's health, safety and wellbeing are first, last, and foremost in the handler's mind. The following are some of the most commonly asked questions about our organization.

How long has the IWPA been around?

The IWPA was first organized in November 1984 when a group of dogs pulling enthusiasts saw a need for an organization to promote this specialized sport.

What is the object of the competition?

The object is to see who has the strongest and best trained dog in an organized, safe, and professional competition. The dog must pull a weighted sled/cart the distance of sixteen feet within a sixty second time period. The handler must truly love and appreciate their dog to earn the dogs trust and respect. Everything the handler does for their dog determines what the dog will do for them.

How is a winner determined?

The winner is the dog that pulls the most weight in the shortest time. If two or more dogs pull the same weight, the fastest time will finish higher. In the event of a tie, of both weight and time the dog with the fastest time the previous round finishes higher.

Do all dogs compete with each other?

No. The IWPA provides nine different weight classes of competition so dogs can compete with others of comparable size. These weight classes are 0-10 lbs., 11-20 lbs., 21-40, 41-60 lbs., 61-80 lbs., 81-100 lbs., 101-125 lbs., 126-150 lbs. and 151 and over (unlimited class). The dogs in competition have ranged from a 5-pound Pomeranian to a 250 lbs.

other common questions about the IWPA

When, where and how many events are held?

The IWPA Sanctioned season currently has regional competitions from Sept 1 through March 31. There are both snow and wheeled competitions held across the U.S. and Canada. The regional medalists are invited to compete at the International Championships held at a different location each year.

Are there different levels of competition?

Yes. There are basically two levels of competition in the IWPA. They are *Novice,* and *Sanctioned*.

Novice: These are generally dogs and handlers that have never experienced weight pulling before and are beginning to work well and understand the concept. The novice handler may use a lead to direct the dog and teach it what is expected. They are not however, allowed to drag the dog by the lead. It should be a tug and release method as used in other types of dog training. The dogs are also beginning to work off lead and perform on their own.

Many sanctioned handlers will start new dogs or give seasoned dogs a work-out at these events.

Sanctioned: These are the professionall dogs. These dogs have generally worked through the ranks of the Novice pulls and are ready for the greater challenge.

Once a dog has competed in an IWPA Sanctioned event there is no turning back. They may no longer compete but, they may pull exhibition at Novice events. At this level, the handler must follow IWPA Rules of Competition.

How are the dogs taken care of?

The majority of weight pulling dogs are considered to be athletes with the owner/handler as the coach. They are among the best trained, fed, and conditioned canine athletes in the world. They are comparable to any professional or Olympic athlete when it comes to their care and conditioning. The successful handler will spend many hours training and conditioning their dogs. In addition, they are generally provided with the highest quality premium dog food and best veterinary care available.

What breed of dog can compete in weight pulling?

The IWPA is one of the few canine organizations that does not discriminate against mixed breed dogs competing in Sanctioned competition. Any breed or mixed breed of dog can pull within the IWPA. The IWPA recognizes breeds listed within AKC, UKC and CKC (Canadian).

What are the rewards?

Your rewards in weight pulling are like those of many other activities. You generally get out of it what you put into it.

The IWPA sponsors a Working Dog Degree program in which dogs may earn certificates for the weight they pull.

Each dog also has the opportunity to earn points at IWPA Sanctioned events toward Regional Medals. These medalists are then invited to compete at the International Championships for International Medals.

The IWPA also has a Hall of Fame program where dogs must earn a specific number of Regional medals and or Championship medals dependent on the Hall of Fame level earned. The levels are Regional, National and International Hall of Fame.

There are also the rewards of camaraderie with other dog enthusiasts, new friendships, and a closer relationship with your dog.

How do I get started with my dog?

To compete in IWPA Sanctioned competition the dog must be at least one and no more than 12 years of age. You will need a properly fitted freighting harness for the task. The harness should have a spreader bar at the back end of the dog to prevent any restriction of movement. Have the dog start with a light weight such as a small tire, chains or anything that provides some resistance. Your practice sessions should last about 15 minutes 3 – 4 times per week. Start out light with something the dog can pull easily to build their confidence. Have the dog drag the weight over grass or dirt. DO NOT attempt pulling on pavement or concrete. Gradually increase the weight after each week or two of practice. Remember this is a process in which you are building your dog's confidence in itself as well as in you. You must be patient with the progress. If you try to raise the weight to fast, you will destroy the confidence gained in previous training. Some dogs will learn faster than others. Many times, it depends on the dogs' desire to please you.

Who do I contact to join the IWPA?

You can find a membership application on the web site listed or you may contact the Membership Chairperson or the Regional Coordinator for your region. You may also join at any Sanctioned event.

How much does it cost to join the IWPA?

There are different costs dependent on a Family, Individual or Junior Memberships. The Family and Individual Memberships entitles you to ten monthly newsletters, voting privileges (1 vote for Individual and two votes for Family) and eligibility for entry into IWPA Sanctioned events.

How much does it cost to enter each event?

Entry fees vary depending on several circumstances such as location, size of event and prizes offered.

Does dog weight pulling hurt the dog?

No. In fact the IWPA has had over two thousand entries per year since 1984 and not one dog has been injured in competition. Unlike the human athlete the dogs seem to know their limit. Most of the time when a dog gets to its maximum weight it will stand, sit, or lay down and sometimes bark. Most dogs as well as their handlers know their limits. You will see at this point that the dog will be assisted with the pull. We always want the dog to feel as though they have accomplished a successful pull.

What other fun can I have with my pull dog?

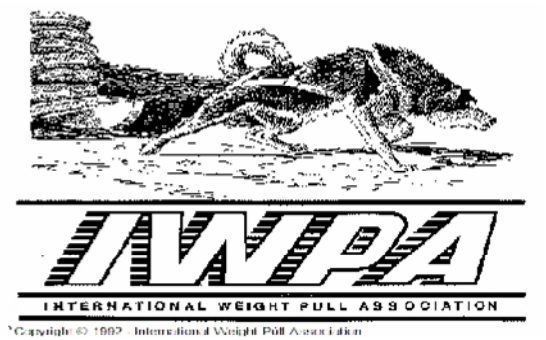
Once your dog has learned to pull there are a number of fun activities to be enjoyed. One of the most common family outings is to have your dog pull the kids on a small toboggan over snowy trails or streets. You can also take your dog cross country skiing and have them pull your gear in a toboggan. If your dog has been well trained and is not easily distracted, you may want to try skijoring (having your dog pull you on skis or skateboard).

Revised 06/25 RR

New Member ☐

Renewing Member ☐

Lifetime Member ☐



Application Received
Date _____
Time _____

Fees Received
Date _____
Time _____

Membership active upon receipt of the application and membership fees.

Application for Membership
(Please print clearly in black ink)

DUES MUST BE PAID IN U.S. CURRENCY

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP (An individual membership consists of one adult 18 years and older at the start of the pull season).

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

$40.00 **Check #** **Cash $** **PayPal #**

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (A family unit consisting of not more than two adult members and the minor children of the adult/s at the start of the pull season).

Name of Primary Adult _____ Date of Birth _____

Spouse/Significant Other _____ Date of Birth _____

Child/ren _____ Date of Birth _____

Child/ren _____ Date of Birth _____

$45.00 **Check #** **Cash $** **PayPal #**

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP (A member under the age of 18 years at the start of the pull season and has a sponsor who is a member of the IWPA in good standing).

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Sponsor Name _____ Signature _____

$15.00 **Check #** **Cash $** **PayPal #**

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

For returned checks the *IWPA* will charge the check writer for cost incurred or a MINUMUM of $25.00
Please submit Application with fees (make checks payable to the *IWPA*, do not mail cash) or PayPal iwpa.net/forms.html to:

Jean Wilson
420 N Ellsworth Rd
Petoskey, MI 49770
Cell: (231) 881-4094
Email: teamnewf@gmail.com

Membership Agreement: Abusive or inhumane treatment of a dog shall be strictly prohibited and shall be cause for disqualification. I consent that unannounced random drug testing of any or all dogs can occur at the approval of the IWPA Board of Directors.

Signature _____ Date _____

07/26 JW

INTERNATIONAL WEIGHT PULL ASSOCIATION, INC

Membership Receipt

NAME_____
ADDRESS _____
CITY_____STATE/PROV
POSTAL CODE_____COUNTRY _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

( ) FAMILY ( ) INDIVIDUAL ( ) JR

DATE ISSUED_____AMT PAID $_____

_____
(Signature of Liaison Officer)

Make checks payable to the IWPA. U.S. funds $45 for family, $40 for individual and $15 for Junior. New member to fill out a regular membership application to be sent to Member-ship Chairperson with payment. New Member to keep this receipt until receipt of membership card. *Revised 06/26 JW*

INTERNATIONAL WEIGHT PULL ASSOCIATION, INC

Provisional Membership Form

NAME_____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE/PROV _____
POSTAL CODE_____COUNTRY _____
PHONE NUMBER _____
EMAIL ADDRESS _____

DATE ISSUED_____AMT PAID $_____

_____
(Signature of Liaison Officer)

Make check payable to the IWPA. U.S. funds $5 per dog.

IWPA's Copy to be sent to the Membership chairperson
07/26 JW

----------Cut Here----------

INTERNATIONAL WEIGHT PULL ASSOCIATION, INC

Provisional Membership Receipt

NAME_____
ADDRESS _____
CITY_____STATE/PROV _____
POSTAL CODE_____COUNTRY _____
PHONE NUMBER_____
EMAIL ADDRESS_____

DATE ISSUED_____AMT PAID $_____

_____
(Signature of Liaison Officer)

Make check payable to the IWPA. U.S. funds $5 per dog.

Provisional Member's Copy
07/26 JW

Organizer's Use

Paid _____

No. Days _____

IWPA ENTRY FORM

Date_____ IWPA Member YES or NO Entry Fee $_____

Handler's Name_____ Phone_____

Address_____City_____St/Prov/Zip_____

Email Address _____ Number of dogs entered _____

Handler Agreement: I acknowledge and agree to be responsible for my conduct and the conduct of the dog(s) I've entered, and my family. Further, I shall not hold the sponsor of the club or the organizing club liable for any injury or damage to myself, my dogs, or my equipment. I state this dog(s) is not on any kind of medication not stated to the Chief Judge, are clear of any infectious or contagious diseases or virus, in fine medical health and up to date on all vaccinations. **I state this dog(s) is at least one year of age but not more than twelve years in age**. I agree to follow IWPA rules. Abusive or inhumane treatment of a dog shall be strictly prohibited and shall be cause for disqualification. I consent that unannounced random drug testing of any or all dogs can occur at the approval of the IWPA Board of Directors.

Handler's Signature_____Date_____

****

Dog's Name	Owner's Name & Region#	Wt	Breed	Sex
0-10 lbs Class				
11-20 lbs Class				
21-40 lbs Class				
41-60 lbs Class				
61-80 lbs Class				
81-100 lbs Class				
101-125 lbs Class				
126-150 lbs Class				
151 & Over (Unlimited) Class				

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IWPA HANDLERS MEETING REGISTRATION

PULL NAME _____ DATE _____

JUDGES NAME _____

HANDLER'S NAME	HANDLER'S NAME

RETURN THIS WITH YOUR JUDGE'S REPORT TO THE JUDGE CHAIRPERSON

Revised 07/26 JW

IWPA ***NOVICE*** HANDLERS MEETING REGISTRATION

PULL NAME _____ DATE _____

JUDGES NAME _____

Handler Agreement: I acknowledge and agree to be responsible for my conduct and the conduct of my dog(s), and my family. Further, I shall not hold the sponsor of the club or the organizing club liable for any injury or damage to myself, my dogs, or my equipment. I state this dog(s) is not on any kind of medication not stated to the Chief Judge, clear of any infectious or contagious diseases or virus, and is in fine medical health and is up to date on all vaccinations. Abusive or inhumane treatment of a dog shall be strictly prohibited and shall be cause for disqualification. I consent that unannounced random drug testing of any or all dogs can occur at the approval of the IWPA Board of Directors.

PRINTED HANDLER NAME	HANDLER SIGNATURE
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	
17.	
18.	
19.	
20.	

RETURN THIS WITH YOUR JUDGE'S REPORT TO THE JUDGE CHAIRPERSON

Revised 07/26 JW

Weight Pull Score Sheet

☐ Line ☐ No Line

Judge _____ **Timer** _____ **Recorder** _____ **Start-End time** _____ - _____

Weight Class_____ **Cart Weight** _____ **Weight Increments** _____ **Date** _____

	Number of weights on cart →																			
	Dogs Name	Owner/ Handler	Dogs' Weight																% Pulled	Finish
1																				
2																				
3																				
4																				
5																				
6																				
7																				
8																				
9																				
10																				
11																				
12																				
13																				
14																				
15																				
16																				

**** Fail Codes: N= No pull/ No points (did not make the 1st pull) D= DQ'd – Unspecified foul (anything not listed)**

Revised 07/26 JW

Please use Black Ink Only

I.W.P.A.
WEIGHT PULL FINAL RESULTS
AND ORGANIZER REPORT FORM

Please include form with final results

Name of Event _____ Date _____

Location _____ Region # _____

Organizer's Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip code _____ Telephone # (____)_____

Sponsoring organization _____

Did your pull run smoothly? Yes _____ No _____ If not why? _____

_____

_____

What time did the pull start? _____ What time was your pull advertised to start? _____

What time was your pull completed? _____

How would you rate the conduct of the competitors? _____

_____

Was your sponsor (s) pleased with your event? _____ Why? _____

_____

Type of pulling surface: Snow? _____ Carpet? _____ Natural (specify)? _____

How did you determine the pad was level? _____

How would you rate your pulling surface? (Between 1 & 10, 10 being best) _____

What was the condition of the pulling surface? _____

Weather conditions? _____

Please include any additional information that you would like to share with other organizers _____

_____

_____

Please send any information (or pictures) to the Newsletter Editor that could be used to inform the IWPA of any information that might be helpful.

(Use additional paper if necessary)

_____

Organizer's Signature Date

Revised 07/26 JW

IWPA WEIGHT PULL FINISH REPORT

Name of Pull_____Location_____ Check the weight class record below
Date_____ Region Number_____ Chief Judge_____
Judge of Class_____ Apprentice Judge_____
Cart weight_____ # Starting Weight_____ # Increments_____

○ 10 ○ 20 ○ 40 ○ 60 ○ 80 ○ 100 ○ 125 ○ 150 ○ UNL

Please type or print neatly.

NOTE: Weight must be in pounds and time in seconds.

Finish Position	Owner/Handler Name	Reg# or Prov	Dog's Name	Dog Wt lbs	Fail Code	Time Sec.	Weight Lbs.	Breed
Sample	**Tom Jones/JohnSmith**	**5**	**Tonka**	**84**		**62.15**	**1050**	**Alaskan Malamute**
1st								
2nd								
3rd								
4th								
5th								
6th								
7th								
8th								
9th								
10th								
11th								
12th								
13th								
14th								
15th								
16th								
17th								
18th								
19th								
20th								

***** Fail Codes: N= No pull/ No points (did not make the 1st pull) D= DQ'd – Unspecified foul (anything not listed)***

Any additional records for dogs beyond 20th place should be placed on reverse side
NSF Check fee will be cost incurred or a minimum of $25.00 (if not paid within 30 days of notification you will not be a member in good standing)
If a dog pulls provisional, it does not have a Region # just use "P"

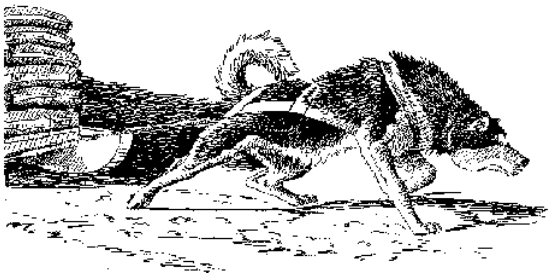
Final results verified by:

Revised 07/26 JW

_____
Organizer's Signature Date

You've Got Pull with The

I.W.P.A



I.W.P.A HANDLER COMPLAINT FORM

Name of Pull _____ Date _____

Location _____ State/Prov. _____

Handlers Name _____ Email Address _____

Weight Class: Unl (☐) 126-150 (☐) 101-125 (☐) 81-100 (☐) 61-80 (☐) 41-60 (☐) 25-40 (☐) 11-25 (☐) 0-10 (☐)

		Yes	No
1.	Was the event adequately published?	(☐)	(☐)
2.	Did the event start on time?	(☐)	(☐)
3.	Was the chute and holding area barriers adequate?	(☐)	(☐)
4.	Was the holding area large enough to safely accommodate the dogs and participants?	(☐)	(☐)
5.	Was the pull lane easy for the spectators to view?	(☐)	(☐)
6.	Were there adequate, qualified officials?	(☐)	(☐)
7.	Was the Judge knowledgeable about the rules?	(☐)	(☐)
8.	Were the rules uniformly and fairly enforced?	(☐)	(☐)
9.	Was the judge in charge of the pull and all officials?	(☐)	(☐
10.	If you had a complaint, did you make a formal complaint to the Chief Judge?	(☐)	(☐)

COMMENTS: _____

Handlers Signature _____

MAIL FORM WITHIN 7 DAYS TO:

Cheryl Martin
IWPA Judge Chairperson
3407 17th Ave
Evans, CO 80620
clmartin703@gmail.com

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INTERNATIONAL WEIGHT PULL ASSOCIATION, INC.
WEIGHT PULL FINANCIAL REPORT
Pull Name _____ Date_____

Owner's Name	**No. of dogs pulled**	**IWPA $5.00 per dog**	**Prov. Member-ship $5.00 per dog**	**Member-Ship $$ Collected @ pull**
Sample: John Smith	3	15.00		
Sample: Jane Doe	2	10.00	10.00	
TOTALS:	0	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00

Total Payment sent to Sanct. Dir. $ $ 0.00 **(one check from the organizer only)**
(IWPA <u>and Provisional</u> Member fee $ 5/dog)
Total payment sent to Memb. Dir. $ $ 0.00 **(one check from the organizer only for provisional fees)**
(New membership dues and $5.00 per provisional dog per day)
NSF Check fee will be cost incurred or a minimum of $25.00 (if not paid within 30 days of notification you will not be a member in good standing)
ONLY U.S. FUNDS ACCEPTED

Rev. 06/25 RR

_____
Organizer's Signature **Date**

IWPA JUDGES REPORT

Name of Event_____ Date:_____

City & State/Prov:_____ Region #:_____

Chief Judge's Name:_____

Phone #:_____E-mail Address:_____

Did Organizer have pull set up according to IWPA Rules? _____ Chute Barriers _____ Pad _____

Holding Area _____ Scales_____ Weight_____ Sled/Cart_____ Parking_____ Crowd Barriers _____

Who Oversaw the Weigh In: _____ How was the Pad Determined Level: _____

Who Judged What Classes?

Name: _____ Class: 10 Name: _____ Class: 100

Name: _____ Class: 20 Name: _____ Class: 125

Name: _____ Class: 40 Name: _____ Class: 150

Name: _____ Class: 60 Name: _____ Class: Unl

Name: _____ Class: 80

Apprentice Judge:

Name: _____ Class: _____ Name: _____ Class: _____

Other Officials: Chief Timer: _____

Chief Recorder:_____ Chief Sled Marshall: _____

Comments: (Set up, Conduct of Competitors/Officials, ECT, Comments about Apprentice Judge)

_____

_____

Fill in the following for each handler or dog disqualified

Handlers Name: _____ Dogs Name: _____

Weight Class: _____ Weight DQ'ed at: _____ Rule Number Violated:_____

Was the Handler Warned: _____ Judges Name Who DQ'ed: _____

Reason for DQ/Comments: _____

_____

Handlers Name: _____ Dogs Name: _____

Weight Class: _____ Weight DQ'ed at: _____ Rule Number Violated: _____

Was the Handler Warned: _____ Judges Name Who DQ'ed: _____

Reason for DQ/Comment: _____

_____

ANY ADDITIONAL DISQUALIFCATIONS/COMMENTS PLEASE ATTACH SHEET TO THIS FORM. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AT THE PULL SITE AND GIVE TO THE ORGANIZER TO BE RETURNED TO THE IWPA JUDGE CHAIRPERSON;

Cheryl Martin
IWPA Judges Chairperson
3407 17th Ave
Evans, CO 80620
clmartin703@gmail.com

Chief Judges Signature_____ DATE _____

Revised 10/26 JW

SECTION 1 – PHYSICAL AREA

A. SNOW

The weight pulling chute shall be in an area not less than ten (10) feet and no more than twenty (20) feet wide, and not less than thirty-five (35) feet long. The chute will open on the end toward which the pull is made. The chute shall be as level as hard packed snow permits. If there is any perceptible slope to the chute, the direction of the pull shall be toward the higher end. There shall be at least one (1) physical barrier separating the crowd from the chute. Dogs shall achieve traction on the same surface as that on which the sled rides.

B. WHEELED

The dimensions and the description of the weight pull chute shall be the same for wheeled pulls as for snow pulls. The chute shall be as level and firm as conditions permit. If there is any perceptible slope to the chute, the direction of the pull shall be toward the higher end. Acceptable surfaces shall be grass, hard packed dirt, gravel or carpet. Dogs shall achieve traction on the same surface as that on which the cart rides.

C. HOLDING AREA

A safe and adequate holding area shall be provided for both snow or wheeled pulls. All competing dogs shall remain in a marked or designated holding area. The holding area shall adequately and safely hold the number of dogs in competition.

SECTION 2 - EQUIPMENT

A. SNOW

The sled must be capable of safely carrying a load of 4000 lbs. The two runners must be a flat two (2) to four (4) inches wide and at least seven (7) feet long on the contact surface and curved at the front end in a reasonable manner for a sled. The runners shall consist of a p-tex material or a steel runner. The sled must be a minimum of thirty (30) inches in width and no more than forty-eight (48) inches in width. The sled shall be provided with an adequate bridle and tug line of total length so that the point of attachment to the dog's harness be a minimum of 5' and maximum of 6' from the start line. The bridle shall be made of rope or nylon. Chains or cables will not be allowed. The sled bridle shall be tied together at a point 2' - 3' in front of the sled. The bridle will look like a Y. For the ten (10) through forty (40) pound classes, a smaller and lighter sled may be substituted as approved by the Chief Judge provided it has two (2) runners.

B. WHEELED

If the pull is held on a surface other than snow, a wheeled cart shall be used. It must be capable of safely carrying a load that can exceed **4000** lbs. The cart must have four (4) pneumatic tires which must all have the same air pressure prior to the event and be at least at the maximum recommended air pressure. The tires shall not be less than eight (8) inches in height and no more than eighteen (18) inches in height. A spare tire for the cart or adequate repair kit should be available at the pull site. The bridle shall be made of rope or nylon and be a minimum of 5' and maximum of 6' from the start line to point of attachment to the dogs harness. Chains or cables will not be allowed. The cart bridle shall not be tied**.** The snap should be able to slide freely from side to side. This bridle will look like a long V. For the ten (10) through forty (40) pound classes, a smaller and lighter cart may be substituted as approved by the Chief Judge provided it has pneumatic tires. If using a lightweight cart/sled, when the weight is equal to that of the larger cart/sled, the competition may continue with the larger cart/sled.

C. WEIGHT

An adequate supply of pre-weighed, inert material suitable for safe, stable stacking shall be provided. This is applicable for both snow and wheeled pulls.

D. BARRIERS

The chute barrier shall be a minimum of three (3) feet high and not less than thirty-five (35) feet long. The chute barrier shall be located at the very edge of the pulling pad, within the chute area. The best possible barriers shall be encouraged, but any one material shall not be mandatory. The following would be considered appropriate chute barriers: plywood, wood planks, hog panels and other materials that possess a bouncing-off or glancing ability when struck by the sled. Snow fence is not an acceptable barrier. If the sled or cart becomes stuck or lodged on a barrier, it would then be considered a tangle (see Tangle Rule Sec. 5 C12). A crowd barrier is required to separate the spectators a minimum distance of three (3) feet from the pulling chute. A rope barrier is considered adequate for this purpose.

SECTION 3 - OFFICIALS

A. SNOW & WHEELED

The event will be governed by the Chief Judge. To ensure that the *IWPA* has qualified officials at its events, all Chief Judges shall be selected from a list approved by the *IWPA* Board of Directors. (A list of approved judges comes in the sanctioning kits or is also available from the Judge Chairperson.)

1. The Chief Judge shall supervise the overall event. He/She shall make all final decisions in any protest or dispute, before, during and after the event. The Chief Judge has the right to disqualify any dog or handler for any violation of the rules or unsportsmanlike conduct before, during and after the event.

2. The organizer of the event shall be responsible for the completion of all forms, handler reports and information required by the *IWPA* and a statement verifying that all *IWPA* rules were adhered to. Failure to comply with *IWPA* rules, especially rules that deal with the safety and the welfare of the dog, or put the *IWPA* in a liable situation, shall be grounds for loss of sanctioning, including insurance coverage.

3. The Sled Marshal shall be responsible for the safe and proper stacking of weight on the sled/cart, proper positioning of the sled/cart, hooking up of the dogs to the sled/cart, breaking the sled when pulling on snow, and maintenance of the pulling course. The sled/cart officials may not block the dog. The track is only to be groomed between classes.

4. A qualified timer equipped with a stopwatch capable of timing to a 100th of a second shall time each pull and report that time directly to the official recorder. The recorder shall post the weight pulled and the time required to the official score sheet. (The timer and recorder shall be supervised by the Chief Judge.)

SECTION 4 - Contestants

A. ELIGIBILITY

1. All contestants must be either a regular member of the *IWPA* or a provisional member to enter a dog in competition in any *IWPA* sanctioned weight pull. Dogs pulled by provisional members count for points but receive no points. Dogs participating in *IWPA* sanctioned events for points need to be owned and pulled by members (not necessarily the same member). The dog assumes the address of its current owner. Novice pullers are allowed to pull during a sanctioned event. Novice must have a specific designation marker placed on the pull harness cross strap on the back of the dog, such as a bright small flag or bright tape easily seen by everyone. Novice do not earn points nor contribute points for sanctioned participants.

2. All sanctioned dogs must be at least one (1) year of age. Dogs may not be more than 12 years of age at the beginning of the season to compete in any IWPA event. The physical condition of the dog should always be taken into consideration, and the Chief Judge may disqualify any dog they feel will be in danger of injury.

3. For the safety and welfare of the animal, all dogs must be currently immunized against any contagious canine diseases (hepatitis, distemper, leptospirosis, parvovirus, kennel cough, rabies etc.). These vaccinations must be recognized by the state/province in which the dog is pulling. The use of performance altering drugs including but not limited to controlled substances (i.e. illegal), stimulants, oxygenators, depressants, anabolic steroids or their precursors, suppressants, CBD/THC, and diuretics shall be strictly prohibited. If an organization intends to test for illegal drug medications, it shall be declared so on the entry form. It is the handler's responsibility to submit documentation to declare use of any medication.

4. All contestants shall fill out an official *IWPA* entry form.

5. No bitch in season shall be allowed to compete or allowed to be on the premises.

6. No pregnant or nursing bitch shall be allowed to compete in an *IWPA* event.

7. For the safety and protection of the dog, all dogs shall be fitted properly with a freight or weight pull type harness which extends no more than 24 inches from the base of the dog's tail.

8. Any person found to be participating in a dog fighting competition shall be suspended to the maximum amount, pending possible expulsion, due to abusive or inhumane treatment of dogs.

B. HANDLER CONDUCT & CONTROL OF DOGS

All entrants shall be responsible for the conduct of their dogs, family and handlers before, during and after the event. Vicious or unmanageable dogs shall be barred from competition. Disruptive, rude or unsportsmanlike conduct toward animals, officials, handlers or spectators will be cause for disciplinary action and/or disqualification. All dogs shall be under physical control, while in the pull area, except when hooked to the sled or cart. All handlers shall be responsible for cleaning up after their own dogs. Abusive or inhumane treatment of a dog shall be strictly prohibited and shall be cause for disqualification.

C. WEIGHT CLASSES

10 pounds - dogs weighing 0-10 lbs.
20 pounds - dogs weighing 11-20 lbs.
40 pounds - dogs weighing 21-40 lbs.
60 pounds - dogs weighing 41-60 lbs.
80 pounds - dogs weighing 61-80 lbs.
100 pounds - dogs weighing 81-100 lbs.
125 pounds - dogs weighing 101-125 lbs.
150 pounds - dogs weighing 126-150 lbs.
Unlimited - dogs weighing 151 lbs. or more

All weights shall be rounded down to the lowest whole pound. EXAMPLE: A dog weighing 60 3/4 lbs. would be recorded as 60 lbs.

D. WEIGH-INS

All dogs ***must*** be weighed prior to each *IWPA* sanctioned weight pull (multiple or consecutive day pulls by the same organization require only one weigh-in). The weigh-in ***must*** be no more than 24 hours prior to the start of the competition. All recorded dog weights ***must*** be rounded to the lowest whole pound. Dogs ***must*** wear only a standard collar during weigh-in. All weigh-ins will be overseen by an IWPA certified judge, and all dogs will be weighed in on the same scale provided for the pull. In the event that the dog's weight exceeds the scale's capacity, but it is obvious the dog is in the Unlimited Class it will be eligible to compete for points but not Working Dog Certificates or best percentage.

SECTION 5 – THE CONTEST

A. ORGANIZING CLUB OPTION

The organizing club has the option to run the weight pull event class by class or in conjunction with another class or to run the event concurrently (all classes together).

B. COMPETING IN HEAVIER WEIGHT CLASS

The dog that wins its weight class shall not be allowed to compete in the next weight class. However, the winning dog shall be allowed to pull as many times as it wants to establish a top percentage pull. These percentage pulls shall be at the established load increment.

C. PROCEDURE OF THE WEIGHT PULL EVENT

1. At any time, the harness of each dog competing in the weight class may be measured by a judge to ensure that each harness measures 24 inches or less from the base of the tail to the farthest extent of the harness when measured approximately parallel to the ground.

2. Each dog shall be required to pull a loaded sled/ cart a measured sixteen (16) feet within 60 seconds. If the sled/cart is in continuous forward motion the dog shall be allowed to complete the pull and the actual time required to make the pull shall be recorded.

3. a. For a pull designated as a "LINE PULL": Handlers shall position the dog and proceed directly across the finish line if

calling, or behind the front of the cart if driving, without stopping or hesitating. There shall not be any communication or contact with the dog or equipment. Once the handler has crossed the 16-foot line, they may not make contact with the dog, pulling surface or equipment between the start and finish line. The handler cannot touch the dog until the pull is complete.

b. For a pull designated as a "NO LINE" pull: Handler shall position the dog and cleanly release the dog if calling, or proceed directly behind the cart if driving, without stopping or hesitating. There shall be no physical contact with the dog or equipment until the pull is complete.

4. Once the dog is in position in front of the sled/cart no physical handling of the dog will be allowed. The judge will direct the handler to physically reposition the dog if there is a tangle or equipment failure. The dog is considered to be in position when the handler releases the dog.

5. Only one handler is allowed to communicate with the dog, either with hand signals and/or voice commands from the course area.

6. The handler shall be allowed to position his/her dog anywhere between the wheels/runners in front of the sled/cart at the end of the extended tug line. The dog shall be positioned with enough slack in the tug line to prevent the dog from inadvertently moving the sled or cart. There shall not be so much slack as to allow a sling shot start. A defined stop in the forward motion of the dog must be achieved.

7. The handler may pass one or two turns but must pull on the third turn. Once the dog is hooked up to the sled/cart the handler may not pass in that round except as stated in Section 5 #13. (Dogs are no longer required to pull the starting weight.)

8. Chief Judge shall recommend the starting weights not to exceed the following:

Class	Max Wt.	Class	Max Wt.
10 lb.	*150 lbs.*	100 lb.	*800 lbs.*
20 lb.	*250 lbs.*	125 lb.	*900 lbs.*
40 lb.	*500 lbs.*	150 lb.	*900 lbs.*
60 lb.	*600 lbs.*	Unl lb.	*900 lbs.*
80 lb.	*700 lbs.*		

These weights are maximum starting weights. Each dog may enter any round at or below the max weight in that class. If poor pulling conditions exist, the Chief Judge may adjust the starting weights lower to match the conditions.

9. Starting Weight and Load increments shall be determined by the Chief Judge and a simple majority of the handlers and shall be set prior to the beginning of the class. (A load increment usually considered appropriate for the lower classes is 40 to 50 lbs. For the larger classes it may be as much as 100 to 200 lbs. or more.) The Chief Judge shall recommend the load increments to the handlers, considering the pulling conditions and the welfare of the dogs. The selected increment for each class shall remain consistent throughout the class.

10. The handler has the option of having the cart placed anywhere on the starting line as long as the wheels are perpendicular to the start line. The handler has the option to reposition the cart one time. No test rolling of the cart shall be allowed.

11. The time will start once the handler is in the proper position and instructs the dog to pull or the dog attempts or starts to pull.

12. When on snow the sled shall be broken in the following manner: There shall be a break line 2 feet BEHIND the designated start line. The front of the sled shall be positioned at the break line. The Chief Judge shall then direct the following sequence: (1) the sled to be positioned at the start line with the sled runner's perpendicular to the start line. (2) The pulling pad to be cleared of all sled marshals (unless the handler requests assistance in hooking up the dog). (3) The handler to leave the on deck circle, hook up the dog and the pull to commence.

13. Tangles are called at the Chief Judge's discretion. A tangle shall be called by the judge only if the dog or any of the equipment in use becomes entangled in such a way that it could possibly cause injury to the dog. Deliberate tangles will be an immediate disqualification.

A. In the event of a tangle, at the judge's discretion the timer will stop the clock, and the handler must realign the dog and harness before the pull is resumed. Two tangles on the same round will constitute the dog's removal from the competition.

B. If the sled/cart becomes stuck on a barrier of the pulling pad it shall be considered a tangle. The clock would be stopped, and the sled/cart would then be freed of the barrier at the point of which it was stuck. The dog would be allowed to continue the pull with the remaining time left on the clock. Two tangles on the barrier on the same round shall constitute the dog's removal from the competition.

14. If any part of the harness or other equipment breaks, the handler shall have 60 seconds to repeat the pull after repairs. He/She may choose to accept this interrupted pull as a pass.

15. The use of whips, noisemakers, muzzles, pinch collars, nail caps, paw grips, booties or related aids shall not be permitted at any time during an *IWPA* event. Throwing of items while the dog is in the pulling chute is considered baiting. *Dogs may be rewarded once they have left the pull chute area and have returned to their crate, vehicle, or holding area. Handlers shall not have food/bait on their person in the chute area during the competition. If found, that dog will be DQ'd from the event.*

16. No dogs, including those not entered in competition shall be allowed in the area ahead of the starting line, except the dog that is pulling.

17. There shall be a marked "on deck" area behind, but near the starting end of the pull chute. This marked area shall house only the next dog to pull.

18. The dog pulling the most weight in its class is declared the winner. Each successive dog pulling a lower weight is placed second, third, etc. If two or more dogs pull the same weight the required distance and can pull no more weight the full distance, the winner is determined by the fastest time in the previous pull.

19. The maximum number of dogs handled in a given weight class by one handler shall be limited to no more than three (3) dogs per weight class.

20. Any dog who either urinates or defecates in or on the pull chute, whether purposefully or accidentally will be disqualified from competition.

SECTION 6 - POINTS

THE BASIS ON WHICH POINTS WILL BE AWARDED

In order for a weight pull to be recognized and points recorded, it shall be the responsibility of the weight pull organization to properly report the weight pull results to the *IWPA* as outlined in the sanctioning package, by the sanctioning director.

In order for the dog to be eligible and counted for points they must be entered and eligible as described in SECTION 4 - Contestants, A. ELIGIBILITY. Each dog will receive one (1) point for each dog defeated in his class that has made a successful pull. The last place dog in each class will earn 1/2 point, providing they have made a successful pull and place 4th or below.

In addition:

* 5 points will be awarded for first place
* 3 points will be awarded for second place
* 1 point will be awarded for third place

The dog's five best pulls will be counted in the final standing. Two pulls from out of region (two for snow and two for wheels) can be counted. Wheeled events will be kept separate from the snow events.

With an approved *IWPA* Chief Judge, dogs competing in non-sanctioned events or fun pulls shall be eligible to earn legs toward working dog titles.

SECTION 7 – REPORTING RESULTS

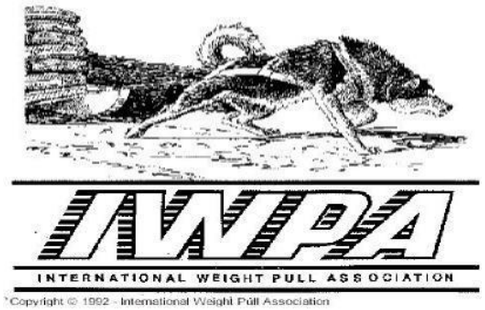
All forms must be completed with appropriate signatures and statistics and postmarked no later than 7 days following the event.

SECTION 8 - PROTEST

Any entrant protesting a violation of the rules shall do so immediately following the round. The protest may be verbal but shall be followed by a written statement directed to the Chief Judge within one (1) hour after the end of the contest. A hearing shall be scheduled and a decision rendered. The decisions of the Chief Judge are final.

SECTION 9 – WEIGHT PULL SEASON

The weight pull season shall run from September 1 through March 31.



IWPA
INTERNATIONAL WEIGHT PULL ASSOCIATION

RULE BOOKLET
Revised 07/26 JW