Working Dog Committee

Recent questions posed to the AMCA Working Dog Committee (WDC) about whether UKC rules are allowed for AMCA WWPD certification has caused us to review their rules again. Our initial review/approval of UKC's rules happened several years ago; however, they revamped their weight pull program and issued new rules in Jan 2014. We have determined that some of their new rules no longer meet our criteria for weight pull certification. Hence, effective Aug 22, 2014, we will no longer accept UKC weight pull legs for WWPD certification. Any legs earned prior to that date will still count (except rail pulls). Any legs earned from that date forward will not count.

There are four primary reasons that we feel UKC rules are no longer compatible with our program:

1. There is no handler's line, which means that the handler may walk next to the dog for the entire pull.

2. An unsuccessful pull is considered a "fault," and they allow the dog to try again.

3. If the pull time is over 60 seconds but the cart continues in motion and the dog successfully completes the pull, it is still counted as "timed out," and the dog is required to try the pull again.

4. The handler can choose to come in at any weight increment, which means that the starting weight for that dog could end up being 2000#, for example. This is more likely to cause injury to the dog.