

Weight Pull Glossary

TITLES

See each section for the requirements for each title.

WWPD - Working Weight Pull Dog

WWPDA - Working Weight Pull Dog Advanced

WWPDX - Working Weight Pull Dog Excellent

WWPDS - Working Weight Pull Dog Superior

Club Abbreviations

AMCA - Alaskan Malamute Club of America

ISDRA - International Sled Dog Racing Association

IWPA - International Weight Pull Association

Cart - A weight pull cart is usually a long platform that has four pneumatic or solid wheels attached at the four corners. It must be constructed to safely hold over 3,000 lbs.

Competitions - At a weight pull dogs are organized into weight classes that can vary among each organization's rules. All dogs only compete against dogs in their same weight class, i.e., 61-80lbs or 81-100lbs are the most common for Alaskan Malamutes. After all weight classes have competed, the dogs are awarded 1st through 4th place in each class. At some competitions, ribbons and/or other prizes for Most Weight Pulled and High Percentage are awarded from all the dogs competing.

Competitive events must be open events. Open events are those that are not restricted to certain breeds or clubs and are sufficiently advertised so that the public has the opportunity to participate. Exceptions to this will be events sponsored in conjunction with an AMCA or AKC event and therefore limited to a given breed(s) or dog(s).

Event - An event is a scheduled day of weight pulling organized by individual dog clubs or organizations. Each club may hold one or more weight pulls in one day. Each separate weight pull event may count as one leg towards a title if the leg requirements are met.

Harness - A weight pull harness is best described as a freighting harness. It fits closely to the breastbone and withers around the dog's neck and follows along the sides of the dog's body. It has been fitted with a bar that is long enough to come across the rear quarters of the dog to help distribute the weight being pulled and has a ring that slides along a strap at the back.

High Percentage – High Percentage may be awarded to the dog which pulled the highest times its weight in a competition. It is more accurately referred to as High Times Body Weight and is an achievement that can be awarded but is not required. An example of this calculation would be a dog weighing 85lbs pulled 2000lbs. $2000/85 = 23.52$.

Most Weight Pulled – This is the highest amount of weight pulled by any dog in the competition excluding the Novice class. This achievement can be awarded but is not required,

Novice - A novice puller is any dog that has little experience at weight pull. The Novice Class or Division encompasses any dog beginning at 12 months old or older. The Novice competition can either be held as a separate event or can be worked into the regular pull. The weight for the Novice class shall not exceed 1000lb except in a graduated weight increment, i.e., 1008lb.

Officials - For a weight pull the officials needed are found below. Any of the officials listed will conduct the weigh-in to determine the class or division of each dog.

Chief Judge - the main judge who will determine that each pull is completed. The Chief Judge calls 'Good' or some other identifying word at the end of each pull and calls out the time used to complete the pull in the event there is no Timekeeper available. The Chief Judge may be relieved by another appointed judge for that event.

Timekeeper - or often called Timer. This person uses a stopwatch to keep the time needed to complete the pull. The Chief Judge or the Scorekeeper will be the back-up Timekeeper in case of equipment failure.

Scorekeeper - This person records each dog's pull or pass for each weight increment. This can be done by computer, on paper, or on a displayed board or a combination.

Weight Marshall - The Weight Marshall makes sure that the correct amount of weight is added to the cart for each weight increment. He/she also makes sure that the cart or sled is placed correctly at the starting line.

Cart-Help - The cart-help assists the Weight Marshall in adding weight to the cart and helps make sure that the cart or sled is placed correctly at the starting line.

Sled - A weight pull sled is a platform generally constructed with sides that have sled-like runners on the bottom that allow it to slide across a snow track. They must be constructed to safely hold 2,700lbs.

Sportsmanship - Common courtesy and good sportsmanship shall prevail during all events. Any applicant who is abusive to his dogs or other people shall not be eligible for a WWPD or higher award for his dogs. Dogs must present a good example for the breed. Any dog ruled to be vicious or overly aggressive by the Chief Judge may be dismissed from the competition.