



2004 Rule Book

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1.0 PURPOSE AND ELIGIBILITY	4
1.1 PURPOSE OF THE WHIPPET RACING PROGRAM	4
1.2 WHIPPETS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WRA'S RACING PROGRAM	4
SECTION 2.0 REQUIREMENTS	6
2.1 REQUIREMENTS FOR WHIPPET RACING ASSOCIATION RACING	6
2.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR A QUALIFYING WHIPPET RACING ASSOCIATION RACE MEET	6
2.3 REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTING A WAIVER OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR A QUALIFYING MEET	7
2.4 SCHEDULING OF APPROVED WHIPPET RACING ASSOCIATION RACE MEETS	7
2.5 REPORTING RESULTS OF AN OFFICIAL RACE MEET	8
2.5.1 Per Capita Payment and Grading Guide Information	8
2.6 NATIONAL MEET	8
2.6.1 Seniors and Legends Classes	9
2.7 NONAFFILIATED EVENTS	9
2.8 OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK FOR APPROVED WRA RACE MEETS	9
SECTION 3.0 RACING OFFICIALS AND DUTIES	10
3.1 LOCAL RACE SECRETARY	10
3.2 INSPECTION COMMITTEE	10
3.2.1 Disqualifications	10
3.2.1.1 Monorchid and Cryptorchid Puppies	11
3.2.2 Measuring	11
3.2.2.1 Purpose	11
3.2.2.2 Site	11
3.2.2.3 Procedure	12
3.2.2.3.1 Proper Positioning	12
3.2.3 Inspection for DQs	13
3.2.4 Paddock Scratches	13
3.3 FOUL JUDGES	13
3.4 FINISH LINE (Placement)) JUDGES	13
3.4.1	14
3.4.2	14
3.4.2.1 How to Calculate Official Placement When the Head Line Judge Finds No Consensus Between The Judges.	14
3.4.2.2	15
3.4.3	15
3.5 PADDOCK JUDGES	15
3.6 LURE OPERATOR	16
3.7 BOX OPERATOR	16
3.8 TIMER	16
3.9 EXTRA OFFICIALS	16
SECTION 4.0 DISQUALIFICATIONS AND DISMISSALS	17
4.1 ADULT DQs	17
4.2 PUPPY DQs	17
4.3 OWNER CONDUCT AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR POSSIBLE DISMISSALS.....	17
4.4 RERUNNING OF A RACE	18
4.5 CAUTIONS	19
4.6 PROTEST PROCEDURES	19

SECTION 5.0	OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL GRADING SYSTEM	21
5.1	OBJECTIVES	21
5.2	HOW WHIPPETS ARE GRADED	21
5.3	SELECTION OF POST POSITIONS	22
5.3.1	First Program	22
5.3.2	Rotation by Points	22
5.4	ADULT POINT SCORING	23
5.5	PUPPY RACES	23
5.5.1	Age	23
5.5.2	Grouping Puppies by Races	24
5.5.3	Scoring of Puppy Races	24
5.6	TROPHIES AND AWARDS	24
SECTION 6.0	RACE TRACK AND EQUIPMENT	25
6.1	RACE TRACK	25
6.2	Paddock AREA	25
6.3	Paddock IDENTIFICATION BOARD OR OFFICIAL SCORE BOARD	25
6.4	LOUDSPEAKER	25
6.5	RACING BLANKETS	26
6.6	RACING MUZZLES	26
6.7	LURE EQUIPMENT	26
6.7.1	Lure Machine	26
6.7.2	The Lure	27
6.8	STARTING BOX	27
SECTION 7.0	TITLES AND AWARDS	29
7.1	CERTIFICATES	29
7.2	COMPANION RACER AND COMPANION RACER EXCELLENT POINTS AND USE ..	29
7.3	WHIPPET RACE CHAMPION AWARD POINTS	30
7.4	WHIPPET RACE CHAMPION EXCELLENT (National) POINTS	30
7.5	TITLES AWARDED BY THE WHIPPET RACING ASSOCIATION	31
7.5.1	The Companion Racer Title (CR)	31
7.5.2	The Companion Racer Excellent Title (CRX)	31
7.5.3	The Whippet Race Champion Title (WRCh)	32
7.5.4	The Whippet Race Champion Excellent Title (WRChX)	32

SECTION 1.0 PURPOSE AND ELIGIBILITY

The Whippet Racing Association sponsors and supports Whippet Races as a part of its overall Breed Improvement Program. The authority and responsibility for the administration and operation is delegated to the National Race Director and Board of Directors. The authority to operated the WRA Race Meets is then delegated to the local Club or Group.

1.1 Purpose of the Whippet Racing Program

| To encourage properly trained, registered race Whippets to compete against one another in an organized manner, in a safe environment, with high quality equipment, and knowledgeable people in charge.

| To respect the all-purpose Whippet as:

? A racer with speed, endurance and intelligence.

? A dog with proper conformation to be able to compete in all Whippet activities.

? A friend and companion, of disposition and discipline to be a pet in the home.

| To reward race Whippets with recognition commensurate with their ability as outlined in the award program. (See 7.5, Titles Awarded by the Whippet Racing Association.)

1.2 Whippets Eligible to Participate in the WRA's Racing Program

| Whippet must be registered by the American Kennel Club or The Canadian Kennel Club. A Whippet with a foreign registration (and a certified COO pedigree of three generations) shall be issued a temporary WRA registry, and be allowed to race for a period of six (6) months, subject to receiving AKC registration. This temporary registry may be extended for a period of three (3) months. No further extensions will be permitted. Any points toward a WRCh, or WRChX under the temporary registry shall be awarded to the dog upon receipt of its AKC registration. In the event that the dog is not AKC registered within the maximum nine (9) month time frame, any WRCh/WRChX points garnered by said dog shall then be awarded to the 2nd place dog (and on down the line of winners) in the meet(s) in which the points were awarded.

| Any disqualification covered in the AKC Whippet Standard of the Breed, or any AKC disqualification, applies to any Whippet racing in a WRA meet.

| Prior to the first WRA Practice or official WRA Meet in which a Whippet will participate, a copy of the AKC or CKC registration and \$2.00 registration fee should be sent to the Registrar/Recorder. However, the copy of the Whippet's registration may be sent with the race results by the Club Secretary. A litter registration number will be accepted on Whippet racers 8 to 14 months of age for entries in the puppy class only, but at the adult level, 14 months, an individual registration number is required.

| The person entering a Whippet for racing, must be the owner of the Whippet, or be the authorized agent for said Whippet, or be in possession of the AKC papers transferring the ownership to the name of the person entering the Whippet for racing.

- | Whippets carrying Indefinite Listing Papers (ILP) are NOT eligible to run in the WRA Program.
- | Spayed/Neutered Whippets are eligible to run in all WRA events.
- | Whippets with the following AKC or WRA disqualifications may be raced only when they have been spayed or neutered.
 - ? Blue or China Colored Eyes.
 - ? Undershot Jaw.
 - ? Overshot Jaw [One-Quarter (1/4) inch or more.]
 - ? Deafness

A veterinarian's certificate, signed and dated, must be presented to the inspection committee each time the Whippet is inspected for a race meet. Any Whippet which is found to have raced at any WRA race meet under false neutering papers will automatically have all titles and points toward all titles revoked. Any WRCh or WRChX points will be assigned to the next Whippet in line for the points. The number of WRCh and WRChX points for the race meet will be unaffected by a Whippets revocation.

SECTION 2.0 REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Requirements for Whippet Racing Association Racing

Any group or club interested in participating in the WRA sponsored Racing and the Whippet Race Champion (WRCh) programs must demonstrate to the National Race Director the ability to fulfill the requirements of the program as listed in The Official Rules and Regulations, by:

1. Conducting a qualifying WRA Race Meet.
2. Have sponsored National Point Racing under the rules set forth by the AWC prior to 4/10/96, and within two years of the request.
3. Have been granted a waiver of the requirement for a qualifying meet by the NRD using the below listed criteria.

2.2 Requirements for a Qualifying Whippet Racing Association Race Meet.

1. The group or Club requesting a qualifying WRA Meet must sent the request to the NRD at least 60 days in advance of requested date, in writing, although initial contact may be by telephone. The Group or Club requesting an approved WRA Meet must hold at least one (1) successful Qualifying Meet.
2. The Group or Club must have a minimum of fifteen (15) adult Whippets starting in the first race program.
3. There should be four complete race programs. Three programs would be acceptable only in the event of severe weather or other racing conditions that would make further racing hazardous to the Whippets and/or their owners. The reduction to only three programs must be with the approval of the RRC or his/her representative at the qualifying meet, or the Race Secretary for said meet.
4. Results of the race meet must be sent to the NRD within two weeks, with a copy to the RRC.
5. The official qualifying race meet must be free of written, factual complaints to the NRD.
6. The group or club requesting permission for a WRA meet must show they are capable of operating a race meet under WRA Official Rules and Regulations.

Following compliance with all of the above requirements, the NRD will then notify the group or club of official approval to hold WRA Race meets and of their acceptance as a WRA member Club. At this time the new Member Club will be asked to inform the NRD of the identity and location of its Member representative.

2.3 Requirements for granting a waiver of the requirement for a Qualifying Meet

1. Has an experienced Race Secretary.

- 2 Either has other trained people to do the necessary work within the club, or a guarantee of help from trained people from other clubs who will also help train the host clubs workers at the meet.
- 3 The National Race Director, or another individual appointed by the NRD, must attend the race meet to observe. Based on the observer's report the NRD may grant or deny permission for further Race Meets or require a Practice meet before another Race Meet may be held.

2.4 Scheduling of Approved Whippet Racing Association Race Meets

- 1 Any approved group or club must write or otherwise communicate with the RRC having jurisdiction, requesting race dates at least sixty (60) days in advance of the proposed Official Race Meet. The RRC will give preference to clubs that asks for dates on which they traditionally hold race meets. (The number of weekends into the year will decide what is the traditional date for a race meet, not which holiday or which weekend in a month. An AKC scheduling calendar is excellent for this purpose.) Otherwise the RRC is to disapprove a date only for reasons of date conflict. All other problems or questions on race dates must be handled directly by the NRD.
2. Announcements of an approved Whippet Race Meet should be made at least thirty (30) days prior to the event. Should a cancellation be necessary, ALL ENTRANTS must be notified by letter or telephone by the local Race Secretary. The Registrar/Recorder must be notified as soon as possible of a cancellation by the local Race Secretary.
- 3 No Member Club will hold more than four (4) Race Meets per year within a radius of one hundred (100) miles of one another.
 - 2.4.3.1 Race Meets held in conjunction with the AWC National Specialty or an AWC Regional Specialty, and held on a date other than the traditional dates used by the club, will not count against the four meet limit.
4. A Member Club may hold two (2) Race Meets in one weekend.
- 5 Two (2) Clubs may have meets in conjunction with each other on the same weekend if the race meets are no more than fifty (50) miles from each other. Special permission for a greater separation may be given by the NRD in some cases if requested by both Member Clubs.
6. Regardless of regional boundaries, WRA race meets may be held on the same weekend provided the meet locations are separated by a driving distance of 400 miles. (For convenience, a computerized mapping program may be used to determine driving distance.)
- 7 No scheduling of a WRA meet will be allowed on the same day as any AWC Regional or National Speciality within the same region, unless in conjunction with that Specialty.

2.5 Reporting Results of an Official Race Meet

The approved group or club operating a WRA Meet must send to the NRD, the Registrar/Recorder, and the Regional Race Coordinator the complete results of

the meet, within two weeks, following the race meet. Also, the registrar/Recorder must receive the results of the meet by phone, fax, or e-mail by the Monday immediately following the completion of the meet (as detailed in section 2.5.1 below). A sample WRA Race Report is shown in *Figure 1*. These results should include the following information.:

- | Number of Whippet adults, and puppies starting.
- | Registered name of each starter, its owner, and AKC Registration papers included for the first time entered (FTE) Whippets.
- | Individual points, and placement earned by each Whippet.
- | Placement or position, with race points earned, of each Whippet in each race or heat. A photocopy of the race results sheets for each heat, copied from the results board, is the preferred way to do this.
- | Names of Whippets eligible to receive WRCh or WRChX (National) points with the names and complete address of the owner(s).
- | Disqualifications and scratches
- | Any other information needed to properly award WRA Title Points. Sending of the above information is compulsory, and it must be sent to the NRD, the RRC and the Registrar/Recorder in writing within two weeks following the meet. Failure to supply this information could result in points being withheld. This information is needed in order for all to maintain proper grading records. The NRD will send all race reports to all RRC at year end.

2.5.1 Per Capita Payment and Grading Guide Information

The local Race Secretary is to send the per capita fee for all dogs who started the meet, and the \$2.00 registration fee for any dog not previously listed in the Grading Guide to the Registrar/Recorder, along with the final report and any registration papers collected. This requirement covers both adult and puppy racers.

The Registrar/Recorder will be phoned or faxed with the information necessary to complete the Grading Guide no later than the Monday following a race meet. This is in addition to the requirement for sending a written record to the NRD, RRC and Registrar/Recorder. The Registrar/Recorder will inform the Race Secretaries which information is necessary to be phoned or faxed for the Grading Guide.

2.6 National Meet

Once a year WRA will celebrate a National WRA Meet. Member Club(s) are encouraged to volunteer to host this Meet and submit their request to the NRD by the same time rule proposals are due. When more than one host club location has been received, Club Members will be allowed to vote to determine the National Meet location. If no club requests to host the National Meet, then the NRD may solicit a host club.

2.6.1 Seniors and Legends Classes

In addition to the regular puppy and adult classes held at the National Meet, the host club is encouraged to have the special classes of Seniors and Legends.

The Senior Class is for dogs at least 9 years of age, and the Legend Class is for dogs at least 11 years of age. These classes will run once, unless there are over 6 entries. If there are over 6 dogs entered in the class, then they will run twice, and the winner of the second race shall be declared the winner of the class. Entrants in these classes will NOT count toward the number of adult starters, for the purpose of awarding Championship and National Points.

2.7 Nonaffiliated Events

The Lure Coursing, Oval Racing, Exhibition Racing of AKC registered Whippets, or other breeds must not interfere with the conduct of an official WRA Race Meet. Nor may such events be advertised or construed as part of the WRA race program.

2.8 Official Entry Blank for Approved WRA Whippet Race Meets

A sample official WRA entry blank appears in the Appendix. The official entry blank must be sent to the local Race Secretary, with all the information requested on the form, by the entrant. Grade and average information will be taken from the grading guide if one is available. If a Whippet is first time entered (FTE), it should be so noted in the average column. All titles that each Whippet has earned should be noted on the entry form, and check, cash, or money order should be included for entry fees.

Alternately, the Quick entry form, also found in the Appendix, may be used. This Quick Entry Form will contain the Club Name, Date of the Meet, Name of the Race Secretary, the dogs Call Name and Registered Name with all titles, the Owners Name, Class (Adult, Puppy or Veteran), whether FTE (yes or no), the required disclaimer of Liability, the Owners, or Agents, Signature and address.

The following statement must appear on all entry forms returned and must be signed by the actual owner, or the owner's agent, of Whippet or Whippets entered.

"I and my heirs, legal representatives and assignees shall hold harmless and defend _____(Name of Club), its officers, directors, committeemen and agents, from any claim arising from participation in this event. I agree to abide by the Official Rules and Regulations of the Whippet Racing Association during the period of this race meeting.

_____ "
 Actual Owner of Whippet or Owners Agent Date

The recommended closing entry dates for clubs and groups sponsoring WRA meets should be 7 to 10 days prior to the approved race meet.

SECTION 3.0 RACING OFFICIALS AND DUTIES

It is most important that each group or club make every effort to have officials that are well trained. The officials can come from other clubs or can all belong to the club offering the race meet. The important point to remember is that no race meet is better than the efficiency and honesty of the officials in charge. It is important to plan in advance the duties to be assigned to each official or group of officials.

3.1 Local Race Secretary

The Race Secretary is solely responsible for the conduct of the race meet. Should there be a change of the local Race Secretary on the day of the race meet, an announcement so stating the change must be made at the time of Inspection. The local Race Secretary will appoint qualified people to perform the necessary details of the race meet, and will act as coordinator of these individuals and/or committees and will assume responsibility only when true emergencies arise.; If the Race Secretary deems it to be necessary, there may be an Assistant Race Secretary appointed. The local Race Secretary will write the Official Race Report as soon as possible after the race meet is concluded, and within two (2) weeks. This report will then be sent to the NRD, the Regional Race Secretary, and the Registrar/Recorder. The local Race Secretary is responsible for the enclosure of the sponsoring Club's check for the Per Capita Fee. (Number of Whippets that began the meet x the Per Capita Fee set by the WRA Board of Directors).

3.2 Inspection Committee

It is the responsibility of the local Race Secretary to select an Inspection Committee of three qualified people for each approved race meeting. The Race Secretary, or his/her appointee, will officially check-in those Whippets that qualify to participate in the meet. This person can also be the "Timer for Measuring Procedure." The purpose of this committee is:

- | To measure and inspect all Whippets following procedures described in section 3.2.2 (Measuring)
- | To check and inspect all Whippets for all characteristics that might disqualify them from racing.
- | To check muzzle of each racer for safety.

These are all done before the racing begins.

This committee of three should not include the RRC or the NRD. However, if the RRC or NRD is present, he/she may step in to help only after allowing the host club reasonable time to solve a situation.

3.2.1 Disqualifications

If the Inspection Committee finds a Whippet which measures over or under the allowed size limit, or possesses a disqualification listed below, that particular Whippet will not be allowed to run at that race meet. All Whippets racing in WRA meets must be inspected at each meeting, except in cases where two race meets are held on the same weekend, by the same club and at the same location. In such instances, the inspection committee may choose to inspect for disqualifications only those Whippets who did not compete in the first day's

meet. All Whippets must be inspected each day for soundness and bitches checked for evidence of being in season.

Disqualifications included in the AKC Standard for the Breed are:

- ? BLUE OR CHINA-COLOR EYES
- ? UNDERSHOT JAW

- ? OVERSHOT JAW (ONE QUARTER (1/4) INCH OR MORE)

- ? A WHIPPET MORE THAN ONE-HALF (1/2) INCH ABOVE OR BELOW THE MEASUREMENTS SPECIFIED UNDER "SIZE"

- ? COAT OTHER THAN SHORT, CLOSE, SMOOTH AND FIRM IN TEXTURE

Those disqualifications covered by the Whippet Racing Association program are:

- ? MONORCHIDS ~~(A MALE WITH ONLY ONE VISIBLE/PALPABLE TESTICLE)~~
(A MALE WITH ONLY ONE VISIBLE/PALPABLE TESTICLE NORMALLY DESCENDED INTO THE SCROTUM.)
- ? CRYPTORCHIDS ~~(A MALE WITH NO VISIBLE/PALPABLE TESTICLES)~~
(a MALE WITH NO VISIBLE/PALPABLE TESTICLES NORMALLY DESCENDED INTO THE SCROTUM.)
- 3.2.1.1** Puppies that are monorchids or cryptorchids should be allowed to run as puppies. When entered as a FTE adult they must be neutered.

- ? WHIPPET BITCHES IN HEAT OR SEASON

- ? A WHIPPET THAT SHOWS POSITIVE EVIDENCE OF SICKNESS OR ABNORMLITY (ie, LAMENESS) THAT COULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE WHIPPET OR TO OTHER WHIPPET RACERS.

- ? THE USE OF ANY DRUG, STIMULANT OR NARCOTIC

3.2.2 Measuring

3.2.2.1 Purpose

The purpose of Measuring is to determine through the use of the wicket whether the Whippet is within the height limits as described in the Whippet Standard of the Breed, "19 to 22 inches for dogs"; "18 to 21 inches for bitches" as measured across the shoulders at the highest point. More than One Half inch above or below the above stated measurements will disqualify.

3.2.2.2 Site

The measuring site will be picked by the local Race Secretary. This site will be located away from "traffic" and other disturbances. Only the Whippet being measured and handler will be allowed in this area. During the measuring procedure, there will be NO activity on the track, no testing of boxes, no lure machines going, or loudspeakers seaking! We must do everything possible to maintain "quiet," so to avoid distractions that could "trigger" the racing personality, thus making the "natural, relaxed stance" harder to obtain. The place of inspection will be a level, hard, even surface, into which the legs of the wicket will not sink, that is not smooth so it will give good traction to the whippets when standing on it. There will be an inspection board, generally made to

these requirements: 1/2" to 1" plywood 24" wide, 44" to 45" long, and will be flat over its entire surface. The board may be unpainted, but if painted, only nonskid paint will be allowed. The Race Secretary, or an appointee, will check-in each entrant on the program that, after the measurement and inspection, is acceptable, and will be responsible to time each measuring attempt. The wickets for measuring each entrant will be approved by the NRD. Approved wickets are available through the WRA.

3.2.2.3 Procedure

Each Whippet handler is entitled to two (2) measuring procedures, of three (3) minutes each. In the event a Whippet does not measure properly on the first attempt, the handler may return for a second measurement before the Committee closes. To eliminate wasted time with this procedure, the owner and/or handler is encouraged to train the Whippet at home, so all become familiar with the exercise! The Inspection Committee will not speak other than answering questions from the handler, or to request that the handler properly position or handle the dog for inspection. The Committee will not touch the Whippet on the board except to perform individual inspection duties. Any Whippet whose

shoulder touches the crossbar of the wicket and either, or both legs of the wicket fail to touch the surface on which the Whippet is standing will, at the second measurement, be disqualified for that particular WRA meet. The entry fee will not be returned.

Any Whippet that has the crossbar of the wicket touch the shoulder and the legs of the wicket still touch the surface on which the Whippet is standing is qualified to run in that particular meet.

3.2.2.3.1 Proper Positioning

The Whippet being measured should be walked or placed on the measuring board, and the handler should ready the Whippet for the wicket. The Whippet will be posed in a naturally alert position, with the head up, but not stretched upward in an exaggerated position nor will the top of the head be lowered below the level of the top of the shoulder blades; its feet should be well under it, and its forelegs vertical, ie, the front legs must be perpendicular to the board, and parallel to each side of the wicket, as viewed from front and side. The front legs cannot be spread far apart, nor can they be angled or stretched in front of the Whippet's head. The hindquarters may not be pulled back, and hocks must be at a right angle to the board. ABOVE ALL, the handler is not allowed to push, poke, pinch, slap, or in any way attempt to alter or change the height of the Whippet. (Stroking or scratching will be allowed only to relax the Whippet.) If two (2) of the three (3) inspectors on the Inspection Committee agree a handler is attempting to alter the height of the Whippet, the handler will be excused and thereby forfeit one turn.

Once the handler feels he has attained the proper pose, the call is made for the wicket. A member of the Committee then brings the wicket quickly from behind the Whippet, over the back and lowers it so that the crosspiece comes directly over the highest point of the shoulder blades. That is the moment the majority (2 of 3) of the Inspection Committee must agree that the Whippet is within or outside of the limits as covered by the Breed Standard. A Whippet is disqualified if above or below a certain height, ie, dogs under 18 1/2" or over 22 1/2"; bitches under 17 1/2" or over 21 1/2'. It must be noted that the wicket should never be allowed to

hang or rest temporarily in place to see if the Whippet will "settle-down."

3.2.3 Inspection for DQs

The Inspection Committee is then ready to check bites, and in dogs, check for testicles and in bitches look for evidence of being in season (any sign of discharge or swelling.) In doubtful cases regarding bites, the bite can be measured by cutting a light, thin piece of wood, stiff paper, or a piece of cardboard not wider than one inch. Make a line one-quarter (1/4) of an inch from the end of the measure. If overshoot, place end of the measure against front teeth of lower jaw. If the point of the front teeth of top jaw "touch or exceed" the quarter-inch mark, the Whippet is disqualified.

3.2.4 Paddock Scratches

No Whippet may be scratched by its owner after the racers have been regrouped for the next racing program, unless the Whippet is injured or ill. Late scratches must be approved by the Inspection Committee. Owners scratching a sound, healthy Whippet after racers are regrouped, are subject to have all their Whippets disqualified from further competition at that event.

3.3 Foul Judges

There should be three thoroughly qualified judges who understand what constitutes intentional fouling by a Whippet or Whippets in a race. Judges should stand in appropriate locations on opposite sides of the track, along the side of the track. The first judge should be approximately 50 yards from the front of the box. However, the first judge may be the box operator if qualified. The third judge should be standing in the general area of the finish line for either puppy or adult, and the second judge should be approximately halfway between the first and third judge. This should provide the best possible vantage points for certainty when an intentional fouling occurs.

Two or more, (a majority), of the three foul judges must agree that a Whippet or Whippets has committed an intentional foul. The foul judges will individually report the blanket number of the Whippet or Whippets creating the intentional Foul to the Racing Secretary prior to discussion of the foul with any other person, including other foul judges. The Race Secretary discusses the foul with the foul judges before it is publicly announced that a Whippet has been disqualified for intentional interference. If a minority of the foul judges call a foul the owner of the Whippet will be told that a minority of the foul judges called a foul on their Whippet, that it is not disqualified, and there may be a problem that the owner would wish to address to prevent a future disqualification. Only the Race Secretary or the Assistant Race Secretary should appoint replacement foul judges in the event they have a dog in a race. If the Race Secretary feels it is necessary, he may supply a list of qualified persons to his Head Foul Judge who can then replace needed judges from this list. Only persons whose names are on this list should be used in the foul judge positions.

3.4 Finish line (Placement) Judges

~~The Race Secretary will appoint a head Finish Line Judge, who, in turn, will select the necessary finish line judges for each race. Judges must be thoroughly qualified to honestly place all dogs in each race. Whippet owners may act as judges, but must ask to be replaced when their dogs are competing.~~

~~There should be six (6) placement judges with a minimum of four (4) for High Point Races, Adult or Puppy, and four (4) placement judges, with a minimum of two (2) for all other races. Each judge will write placements by number on the finish line report form immediately after each race and give this information to the Head Line Judge. Care must be taken to see that spectators are not blocking the placement judges view of the races, and that there is "quiet" with the judges until all placement reports are submitted to the Head Placement Judge. Owners and judges should learn to call races BY BLANKET NUMBERS ONLY, not by color of blanket. The color can be helpful to judges, but should not be relied upon in lieu of the actual number on the blanket. At no time should the numbers or colors of racing blankets be called out loud as this may confuse the other judges. Placement judges should decide quickly about placement in order not to confuse the owners of dogs racing. Should there be a disagreement on a placement the decision of a majority of the judges will make the placement decision official. Any questions or complaints regarding placement or order of finish should be directed to the local Racing Secretary only! Judges, under no circumstance, should discuss placement with owners or spectators. Once the final placements are determined, under no circumstances should these placements be reversed. This information is then given to the local Race Secretary for official scoring, and an announcement of the results will be made to owners and the public.~~

The Race Secretary will appoint a head Finish Line Judge, who, in turn, will select the necessary finish line judges for each race. Judges must be thoroughly qualified to honestly place all dogs in each race. Whippet owners may act as judges, but must ask to be replaced when their dogs are competing.

There should be six (6) placement judges with a minimum of four (4) for High Point Races (Adult or Puppy), and four (4) placement judges, with a minimum of two (2) for all other races.

3.4.1

Each Judge will write placements by number on the finish line report form immediately after each race and give this information to the Head Line Judge. Care must be taken to see that spectators are not blocking the placement judges' view of the races, and that there is "quiet" with the judges until all placements reports are submitted to the Head Placement Judge. Owners and judges should learn to call races BY BLANKET NUMBERS ONLY, not by color of blanket. The color can be helpful to judges, but should not be relied upon in lieu of the actual number on the blanket. At no time should the numbers or colors of racing blankets be called out loud as this may confuse the other judges.

3.4.2

Placement Judges should decide quickly about placement in order not to confuse the owners of dogs racing. Should there be a disagreement on a placement the decision of a majority of the judges will make the placement decision official.

3.4.2.1 HOW TO CALCULATE OFFICIAL PLACEMENT WHEN THE HEAD LINE JUDGE FINDS NO CONCENSUS BETWEEN THE JUDGES.

In the case of judges disagreeing in such a way that it is not immediately apparent which dog or dogs are in which placements, the judges sheets will be given to the Race Secretary, who will use, or make sure that the following method was used, to determine official placements. A number is assigned to each placement 1st = 1, 2nd = 2 etc. Then those numbers are assigned to the blanket numbers/colors as the judges have placed them. In this example the #1 dog was given 1st place by two judges, therefore it gets 1 + 1 for those two placements.

It was put in 3rd place by the other two judges, it gets 3 + 3 for those two placements for a total of 1+1+3+3 or 8. Each dog's score is calculated using this method, and then the scores are placed LOWEST TO HIGHEST, for the official placement of each dog. **ANY TIME THIS METHOD IS USED TO CALCULATE PLACEMENTS, IT MUST BE POSTED PUBLICALLY ALONG WITH THE INDIVIDUAL JUDGES SHEETS FOR THAT RACE**

	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4
1st place	1	1	4	4
2nd place	2	2	3	3
3rd place	3	3	1	1
4th place	4	4	2	2
5th place	5	5	5	5
6th place	6	6	6	6

Placement Score
1st = 1 pt
2nd = 2 pts
3rd = 3 pts
4th = 4 pts
5th = 5 pts
6th = 6 pts

Calculation					
red = 1	red = 1	red = 3	red = 3	#1 blanket	1+1+3+3 = 8
blue = 2	blue = 2	blue = 4	blue = 4	#2 blanket	2+2+4+4 = 12
white = 3	white = 3	white = 2	white = 2	#3 blanket	3+3+2+2 = 10
green = 4	green = 4	green = 1	green = 1	#4 blanket	4+4+1+1 = 10
black = 5	black = 5	black = 5	black = 5	#5 blanket	5+5+5+5 = 20
yellow = 6	yellow = 6	yellow = 6	yellow = 6	#6 blanket	6+6+6+6 = 36

Official Finish
#1 is 1st
#s 3 & 4 are tied for 2/3
#s 3 & 4 are tied for 2/3
#2 is 4th
#5 is 5th
#6 is 6th

3.4.2.2

Once the final placements are determined, under no circumstances should these placements be reversed.

3.4.3

Any Questions or complaints regarding placement or order of finish should be directed to the local Racing Secretary only! Judges, under no circumstance, should discuss placement with owners or spectators.

3.5 Paddock Judges

This individual should be thoroughly qualified to ascertain all racing Whippets are in the paddock area on time, properly blanketed and wearing a safe, secure, and properly adjusted muzzle. Any muzzle that allows a Whippet to grab the lure is a serious safety threat to other Whippets and handlers, and therefore will not be allowed. The Paddock Judge shall note each Whippet for any obvious indication of ill health before each race and is empowered to recall the inspection committee to determine if a Whippet, which has not been scratched, is lame, injured or ill before the Whippet is allowed to run in a race. The Paddock Judge should work closely with the local Race Secretary, or may be the local Race Secretary. Either the Paddock Judge or Race Secretary may be the official announcer of the race meet. All owners must enter the paddock area through the provided entrance, report to the Paddock Judge, and exit onto the race track in the area as directed, proceeding, AT A WALK, to the starting box as a group.

3.6 Lure Operator

The Lure Operator will be trained to properly place the lure. The lure should be kept approximately 25 feet ahead of the lead Whippet for adults, and 15 feet for puppies, to provide the best possible racing. The lure is to be pulled at a steady pace, rather than a jerking motion, and continued at full speed for at least 20 yards beyond the finish line.

3.7 Box Operator

If possible, two persons should be assigned to work the starting box, but one will suffice if a second qualified person is not available. The Box Operator may serve as a foul judge also, if qualified. The lure should be placed ten to fifteen (10-15) feet down track, directly in front of, and at the center of the starting box. By watching the movement of the lure, and with practice, the boxes should be opened the very instant the lure moves. A delay in opening the box after the lure moves can cause Whippets to charge the door and be off balance when the door opens, causing an unfair advantage. Whippets should be placed (loaded) in the starting box in numerical order, one (1) through six (6) after all entrants reach the boxes. The Box Operator should check all Whippets and racing equipment as the dogs are placed in the starting box, it is the responsibility of the Box Operator to see that all Whippets are muzzled and jackets are on properly before the box is opened. The operator may assist owners in placing Whippets in boxes when necessary. After all Whippets are in the starting box, the Box Operator will tease the Whippets with the lure, and ascertain at that time all racers are facing the front and have their blankets and muzzles ON! The Box Operator will then place the lure in the center of the area, at the front of the box, in the marked circle. Box Operators will not delay the start of a race due to untrained Whippets that persist in turning around in the boxes. If a muzzle is broken, or pulled off by a dog, or if the jacket comes loose, the Box Operator must hold up the race until all problems are corrected! If a delay of more than a few seconds is necessary, all Whippets will be removed from the box by their handlers.

3.8 Timer

It is not necessary to have a timer, but if one is available, it is most important to have a thoroughly qualified individual with a stopwatch, or better still, an electric timer. Ideally, two stopwatches would be averaged for more accurate results. Time is irrelevant unless distance is exact, track conditions are thoroughly understood and proper vision of the race is available for the trained person operating the stopwatch.

3.9 Extra Officials

When possible, there should be extra people who are experienced and available to assist in the actual operation of the racing program.

EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE BY THE GROUP OR CLUB HOLDING A WRA MEET TO USE ONLY QUALIFIED OFFICIALS. Many people racing Whippets travel hundreds of miles to participate, and spend countless hours training their Whippets for a WRA meet. Therefore, it would be most unfair to use unqualified or opinionated officials that could influence results on a negative basis. Officials must not be under the influence of alcohol, or any other mind-altering substance (such as, but not limited to illegal drugs), during the period they are acting in any official capacity. Any Owner racing a Whippet in a WRA Meet will report any such violation(s) directly to the local Race Secretary.

SECTION 4.0 DISQUALIFICATIONS AND DISMISSALS

Any Whippet who fouls other racers based on unnecessary, intentional bumping, fighting, riding or interfering in a race, will be disqualified from all placements in the race where the foul was committed. The Whippet or Whippets causing the intentional foul will not be allowed to race again during that particular WRA Meet. All racing points accumulated by a Whippet before an intentional foul will be allowed. For more information regarding "fouling situations," please see "Lets Get Something Straight," in the appendix.

4.1 Adult DQs

Any adult Whippet disqualified twice (2 times) for "Intentional Interference" in any one (1) year (twelve (12) month period beginning with the date of the first foul) will not be allowed to race again until 12 months, from the date of the second foul.

Should an adult Whippet with two (2) disqualifications in one twelve (12) month period beginning with the date of the first foul again race in the following 12 month period, or periods, and be disqualified for "Intentional Interference," said Whippet will be permanently barred from all future WRA Meets.

Should an adult Whippet with two (2) disqualifications in one twelve (12) month period beginning with the date of the first foul again race in the following 12 month period or periods and run clean for six (6) race meets or twenty-four (24) complete heats, one of the two fouls will be removed.

Any adult Whippet racing with one foul or disqualification in any one year (twelve (12) month period beginning with the date of the first foul) may continue to race as long as it incurs only one foul per twelve (12) month period beginning with the date of the first foul.

4.2 Puppy DQs

Any puppy racer (8 to 14 months) disqualified for "Intentional Interference" twice, while running as a puppy, will not be allowed to race further within twelve (12) months of the second foul, either as a puppy or an adult.

4.3 OWNER CONDUCT AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR POSSIBLE DISMISSALS

Owner making frivolous claims of fouls not allowed by officials are subject to having their Whippets dismissed at that particular meeting and a full report covering frivolous claims sent to all Member Club Representatives for distribution to their club members.

Owners who walk toward their Whippets on the track area while a race is in progress and interfere with the other dogs in the race can have their Whippets dismissed, if so ruled by the racing officials in charge.

No owner or handler will be allowed to remain within six (6) feet of the starting box, after the Whippets have been loaded and the starter is preparing to release the Whippets for the start of the race. Such action can cause a dismissal of owner's Whippet in said race. Handlers must stay outside the designated track area. Handlers are not allowed to touch the lure or have any type of lure to tease his/her Whippets once the racer has been placed in the starting box. No owner or handler should be at the front of the starting box after the Whippets are loaded in their respective stalls. Any action by an owner or handler attempting to take unfair advantages of other Whippets in a

given race can cause owner/handler to be excused from said meet and all accumulated race points at that meeting will be canceled.

All persons waiting to catch a Whippet at the finish of a race must stand outside the designated track area and beyond the finish line.

Owners or visitors should not be standing at the trackside with their dogs on a lead. Such Whippets on leads can distract the Whippets running in a race. If owners are advised by judges or by the Race Secretary that their dogs are creating possible interference, Whippets owned by these people who do not respond to the request, will have their Whippets dismissed, and all points canceled for that meet.

Any loose dog entering the track area more than once during a race will be excused by the local Race Secretary from further competition during said meet. A fine of \$5.00 will be assessed to any owner having a dog that gets loose from the time the Whippets leave the paddock until the lure stops and the race Whippets stop at or pass the lure after the finish line. This fee must be paid before the Whippet can run in the next program. This is necessary for the safety of Whippets, handlers, owners and visitors.

Race muzzles that are of poor construction may not be used running WRA races. If the Paddock Judge or Race Secretary find muzzles of poor construction, a Whippet will not be allowed to race until a muzzle that is acceptable and in good condition is provided. Races are not to be delayed because of improper muzzles. Very hard plastic muzzles with sharp corners, heavy wire muzzles with metal in the nose strip that could injure another Whippet during or at the finish of a race should not be used. Muzzles that allow a Whippet to grab the lure at the end of a race are forbidden.

If a Whippet loses its muzzle in two races, the owner will be warned by the Race Secretary that said Whippet may be excused from the current meet and all racing points voided. If a muzzle comes off in the starting box or during the running of a third race the Race Secretary may excuse the Whippet. Again for safety, every effort must be made to minimize injury during or at the finish of a race due to muzzles of poor quality.

4.4 RERUNNING OF A RACE

Only the Race Secretary may decide to rerun a race. The Race Secretary will gather evidence from the Box Operator, Foul Judge or Lure Operator, as appropriate to the reason for a possible rerun, in deciding whether or not, to rerun a race.

| If a Whippet or Whippets catch or pass the lure, or any part of the lure, at any point from the starting box to the finish line, it will be declared "NO RACE," and the race will be rerun after a rest period of twenty (20) minutes.

| If the starting box fails to open properly, giving any starter an unfair advantage or disadvantage, the race will be rerun after a period of at least twenty (20) minutes. The decision must be made by the Box Operator and Race Secretary only.

| If a Whippet or Whippets not running in a race should escape from their owners and interfere with the actual racers, affecting the finish, the race is to be rerun. If the escaped Whippet or Whippets in no way interfered with the racers, then the race should be declared official.

(Do not rerun an official race unless there is absolute certainty that the outcome of the race was altered by outside interference.)

| A race may be rerun on extremely rare occasions when there is undue intentional roughness based on extreme interference involving many Whippets in a race.

| A race will not be rerun or a Whippet placed in a substitute race if a Whippet is left out of a program through human error on the part of racing officials. It is the Whippet owner's responsibility to check the official score board to make certain his/her Whippets have been placed for the following program.

4.5 CAUTIONS

| Any Puppy or adult Whippet who "INTENTIONALLY INTERFERES" in a qualifying schooling races may be temporarily excused from a race meet if the Race Secretary at said meeting feels such a Whippet would create interference during the said officials race meet.

| Any adult or puppy who fails to finish a race, or finish in a true racing style will receive no racing score. The Racing Secretary MAY ALLOW further racing of this Whippet, but should it not finish another race, then it will be excused from the remainder of the WRA meet and no refund will be made.

| It is the responsibility of the Whippet owner to see that his/her racer is listed on the paddock identification board before each race program. (See "Rerunning of A Race.")

| It is the responsibility of the owner to go postward promptly with his/her racer when a scheduled race is called to the post. Any Whippet left out of a race due to neglect or oversight on the part of the owner will not be allowed to race further at that particular race meet.

| It is the responsibility of the owner to arrange to have a "catcher" before the start of each race.

| No Whippet should have its muzzle removed at the finish of a race until it has been taken from the track area.

| No Whippet participating in a race may be carried to the starting box. All whippets must walk to the starting box.

4.6 PROTEST PROCEDURES

Any person racing a Whippet at a race meet held under the Official Rules and Regulations for The Whippet Racing Association has the right to lodge a claim of protest in writing with the NRD. Such a person must first contact the local Race Secretary with the complaint. If the matter is not settled to satisfaction, said person may then contact the Regional Racing Coordinator having jurisdiction at the race meet for his ruling. The protest to the RRC must be filed within 10 week days of the race meet. If the dispute cannot be handled regionally, then a complaint should be forwarded to the NRD. A check for \$20.00, made payable to "The Whippet Racing Association," must accompany the complaint. The \$20.00 will be returned to the person making the claim if it is considered justifiable by the NRD and the Protest Committee after a thorough and impartial investigation has been made of the complaint. The same policy covers misconduct charges. Protest of the conduct of a WRA meet must be settled before any WRA Title points can be awarded. The Protest Committee may sanction the

Member club through any means it chooses, up to but not including suspension, such as fines or requiring the running of Practice meets. The Protest Committee is not required to disallow a race meet if, in its opinion the Rules violation did not compromise the integrity of the placements in the race meet. If suspension is appropriate then the Committee will advise the NRD to invoke the procedures for Suspension and Expulsion as stated in the Bylaws.

If the protest involves the NRD, or a dog or dogs owned or handled by the NRD, the protest will be handled by the Secretary/Treasurer if the protest goes beyond the Local Race Secretary and RRC.

SECTION 5.0 OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL GRADING SYSTEM

5.1 OBJECTIVES

To match properly trained racing Whippets against each other by a point system based on actual racing performance. Weight, height, or sex have no bearing on the grading of Whippets in WRA.

5.2 HOW WHIPPETS ARE GRADED

All adult Whippets must have a point average and starting grade in the first program of any official WRA Race Meet. Whippets that have run before will come into subsequent races with a point average that will dictate the letter grade. Whippets that are entered for the first time in the Adult Division, are designated as "FTE," (First Time Entered), and are classed as grade D Whippets in that first race meet, any Whippet having a racing grade from the Continental Whippet Alliance (CWA), or the North American Whippet Racing Association (NAWRA), or the National Oval Track Racing Association (NOTRA) will retain that grade when FTE in a WRA race meet. From that point on, the Whippet will earn his/her average, and therefore, grade qualification.

To obtain an adult Whippet's point average, the race points from the last three (3) meets are considered. The average is the average of scores from completed meet, in the last three meets. If a Whippet has no completed meets in the last three entered, then its average will be the average of the incomplete meets (where the dog scratched, disqualified or was OFF course).

The letter grading of race entrants is a more simplified grouping which will be used in first adult race program setup, and may be used for trophy presentations or for other general recognition of current achievement level. The letter grade is based upon the numerical point average as follows:

29.0	-	15.0	=	Grade A	9.9	-	4.0	=	Grade C
14.9	-	10.0	=	Grade B	3.0	-	0.0	=	Grade D (and FTE)

By being precise, the job of Race Secretary is more objective; the Whippets earn their average, and again, it is the responsibility of the owners to keep accurate records from the races they have attended, so that proper entries are made for the next performance.

Whippets which have no change in their racing average may have their grade reduced by one grade if it meets the following criteria:

1. One year has passed since a race meet was completed.
2. A Whippet's grade may be reduced by one grade for each year in which it has not finished a complete race meet
3. If a Whippet has not competed in WRA race meets for more than two years then the racing grade from another organization will be used for grading the Whippet.
4. The Race Secretary may use his/her judgment in grading Whippets that are veteran racers that have not been in the WRA system for more than two (2) years even if graded in another race system. This down grading must reflect the Whippet's current level of ability.

5.3 SELECTION OF POST POSITIONS

The first complete program is arranged to run Whippets of comparable speed together, based upon their past performances. In the second, third, and fourth programs, racers are placed in races according to points scored in the previous program or programs.

5.3.1 First Program

The first step in selecting post positions in the first complete race program is to determine the total number of entrants in that program, (adult, or puppy). Then group the Whippets in the first adult program according to grade. If there is more than one race in any grade, then the Whippets of that grade will be seeded by alternating, according to point averages, between the races in that grade. If there is more than one race in any grade, then the Whippets of that grade will be divided as evenly as possible between the races, with the higher race containing the highest number of dogs. The whippets will be seeded by alternating, according to point averages, between the races in each grade. For puppies, use random draw. Whenever possible, when two (2) or more Whippets have the same numerical point average, they are arranged in ascending order within the group by the score of each Whippet on its last complete race meet. When this information is not readily available, the Race Secretary may use personal knowledge or a random draw to determine placement. All First Time Entered (FTE) Whippets should be dispersed through the Grade D adult entrants having 0 - 3.99 averages points, unless they have a grade from the CWA, NAWRA or NOTRA then that grade will be used.

The actual selection of post positions in the first complete race program is then accomplished by randomly drawing the names of the individual Whippet racers for each race. The first name drawn for each race will get box #1, the second name will get box #2 and so on down through all races in the first complete program. If an owner has two or three entries that carry close averages, they will probably be running in the same race, but that's just the way it is. In the D races, First Time Entered (FTE) Whippets of same ownership should be separated, if possible.

5.3.2 Rotation by Points

After the first complete program Whippets are regrouped by race points earned in the preceding programs. This procedure of grouping by similar points continues until the end of the meet. Each Whippet's points are taken from the board or race sheets in sequence from the highest points earned, down to the lowest. Whippets having the same number of points are removed in sequence from the highest race [for purposes of this paragraph, the "highest" race is the last one run in each grade and the lowest is the first race run in each grade.] to the lowest and within any given race by the order of finish. If a dog finishes in last place in the high point race and has the same number of points as the dog that wins the semi-feature race, then the winner of the semi-feature will move up to the high point race and the last place finisher will move down to the semi-feature. The racers are then grouped into their race according to the set up chart. Box positions are randomly drawn within each race.

The high point adult race should always have six (6) starters, except for the first heat where all dogs are grouped by grade only. When necessary, the semi-feature on down may have less than six (6) starters. These gaps should begin in the second race, and go consecutively upward, and should

not be intermittent throughout the race program. (Please refer to Figure 2 "Quick Setup Chart").

5.4 ADULT POINT SCORING

First Complete Program

<u>High Point Race Points:</u>		<u>Grade A Races:</u>	
1st Place - 8 Points		4th Place - 4 Points	
2nd Place - 6 Points		5th Place - 3 Points	
3rd Place - 5 Points		6th Place - 2 Points	

All Other Grade Races, Grade B, C, & D

1st Place - 5 Points
2nd Place - 3 Points
3rd Place - 2 Points

Second Complete Race Program

<u>High Point Race Points:</u>	
1st Place - 5 Points	4th Place - 2 Points
2nd Place - 3 Points	5th Place - 1 1/2 Points
3rd Place - 2 1/2 Points	6th Place - 1 Points

All Other Grade Races, Grade B, C, & D

1st Place - 5 Points
2nd Place - 3 Points
3rd Place - 2 Points

Third and Fourth Complete Race Program

<u>High Point Race Points:</u>	
1st Place - 8 Points	4th Place - 4 Points
2nd Place - 6 Points	5th Place - 3 Points
3rd Place - 5 Points	6th Place - 2 Points

All Other Grade Races, Grade B, C, & D

1st Place - 5 Points
2nd Place - 3 Points
3rd Place - 2 Points

5.5 PUPPY RACES

5.5.1 Age

Young Whippets who have reached the age of eight (8) months, but have not reached the age of fourteen (14) months the first day of a WRA meet are eligible to run in a special series of puppy races. Should a Whippet under fourteen (14) months of age compete in an adult race, it is no longer eligible to run in any puppy race at any meet thereafter. (Abuse of this ruling on age will disqualify, and all trophies, money, ribbons, etc., must be returned by the owner.) A young puppy under fourteen (14) months of age cannot be entered on the same program as both a puppy and adult racer.

5.5.2 Grouping Puppies by Races

There are no grades used in puppy races. The name of each puppy is written on a slip of paper. The Racing Secretary when possible, draws not more than four names to make up each race for the first program. Puppies should not be grouped by age, and when possible, an owner should not have more than one puppy in each race of the first program. After the first program, puppies are then rotated by points like the adult racing Whippets. No high point puppy racer should be in the #1 box more than twice. There should be only four puppy starters per race, per Figure 3 "Puppy Quick Setup Chart". Owners should not enter Whippet puppies that are not fully trained for racing. Should a puppy not finish a race, and not intentionally interfere, the Race Secretary may allow further racing of the non finishing puppy at that race meet.

5.5.3 Scoring of Puppy Races

The scoring by points differs between adult and puppy racers. The scoring listed below rotates the puppies on true speed and ability, not age. Often a well-trained, fast younger Whippet can easily outrun older Whippets who might be poorly trained or lack speed.

First Puppy Race Program, All Races:

1st Place - 5 Points
2nd Place - 3 Points
3rd Place - 2 Points

All Other Puppy Race Programs:

High Point Race:
1st Place - 8 Points
2nd Place - 5 Points
3rd Place - 3 Points

All Other Races:
1st Place - 5 Points
2nd Place - 3 Points
3rd Place - 2 Points

All Puppy races are to be run over a distance of 150 yards, and have four programs per race meet as do the adult Whippets.

5.6 TROPHIES AND AWARDS

Each approved group or club offering a Whippet Racing Association Race Meet selects its own trophies, ribbons, etc., and sets a precedent that these awards should be used to the very best advantage. While the emphasis is on rewarding the race Whippets who accumulate the most points, such as the "Top Ten," awards for Whippets in certain special categories may also be considered by each host club, such as High Point AKC Champion, High Point Obedience, High Point Puppy, High Point B, C, D and First Time Entered. The purpose of the WRA is to honor the fastest and most consistent Whippet, but these special categories offer an opportunity to support and encourage other Whippet owners. If awards are so noted, (advertised), in the host club race program, those awards must be given, if applicable.

In some cases there will be a tie in total race points earned by several dogs, and only one trophy is available for the award. It is up to the host club to decide the policy for this situation, but usually the award goes to the Whippet that comes off the board first. Tie scores can be run-off, or a flip of the coin could decide. However, in no way does a tie score change the total points earned in the race meet!

SECTION 6.0 RACE TRACK AND EQUIPMENT

6.1 RACE TRACK

All WRA meets should be run over a straight, flat, level surface of 200 yards for adult races. All puppy races are 150 yards. An extra 30 to 50 yards should be allowed from the finish line to where the lure stops, the over-run. The width of the track should be not less than 20 feet in width, preferable 20 feet wide at the box area, increasing to 30 feet at the finish line and after. The track can be of any texture, such as turf, dirt, synthetic footing, etc., providing it does not injure the pads and feet, or hinder the natural stride of a Whippet during the running of a race. A wide, smooth track allows freedom of stride, resulting in less bumping and body contact by the racers taking part. The track, when at all possible, should have both inside and outside rails to keep spectators and Whippet owners off the track at all times during the running of a race.

In case of rain or other unavoidable reasons, the location must be quickly changed, the following policy is in effect:

In case of rain, or for other unavoidable reasons at a scheduled race meet, the location of the track must be changed, two-thirds (2/3) of the original Whippets entered (allowing for a minimum of 15 adult starters) are still available, and their owners are willing to race under the existing condition, it can be considered an official race meet. If less than 15 adult Whippets originally entered are available for racing, the event will be considered unofficial, even though those Whippets present might actually run in a series of races.

It should be the responsibility of the group or club offering a race meet to check the racing surface thoroughly several days before a scheduled meeting, as well as the day of the race meet. Every effort must be made to offer only the best possible racing surface.

6.2 PADDOCK AREA

An area should be set aside by bunting or rope adjacent to the track so racing Whippets can be called to this area by the announcer. The paddock area will do much to speed the race meet: Blanket check, muzzle check, and organize the racers in a group to "parade" to the starting boxes. The Whippets should be loaded into the starting box in numerical order, 1 to 6.

6.3 PADDOCK IDENTIFICATION BOARD OR OFFICIAL SCORE BOARD

A board showing race number, each Whippet racer's official name, post position and racing points will be located in the paddock area. The board should be large enough so Whippet owners can easily identify their Whippets and post positions in each race for each program. To eliminate confusion, it is mandatory to list the Whippets racing by the Official Registered Name, though call names, titles, divisions may also be listed.

6.4 LOUDSPEAKER

Some type of loudspeaker equipment should be available to properly inform Whippet owners and spectators of all activities in connection with a WRA meet.

6.5 RACING BLANKETS

Only the following colors are used:

#1	is Red Blanket, White Number	#4	is Green Blanket, White Number
#2	is Blue Blanket, White Number	#5	is Black Blanket, White Number
#3	is White Blanket, Black Number	#6	is Yellow Blanket, Black Number

Blankets must have bright, pure colors. The Race Secretary may excuse any Whippet with improper color or number. Numbers should be large, 4 1/2 inches to 5 inches tall, and be placed in proper order - not backward!

Race blankets should be designed to give the racing Whippet complete freedom of stride. Do not make these blankets too tight or so big or loose as to create extra wind resistance. Methods for fastening the blanket around the Whippet can be of Velcro, cotton ties, etc., and should be strong enough to prevent the blanket from coming loose from the Whippet during the running of a race. That could cause a serious injury to the racer. The race blanket should fit along the Whippet's topline from shoulder blade to slightly beyond the last rib.

6.6 RACING MUZZLES

All Whippets must wear racing muzzles of good quality and in good condition during the regular race event and schooling races. Muzzles should be of the box type and should give a Whippet full freedom to open its mouth before, during and after the a race. Any owner new to racing should first inquire of the experienced race Whippet owners before having a special muzzle made. There are several types available constructed of leather, plastic and Teflon. Muzzles made of heavy wire that could bruise or cut other Whippets at the finish of a race are forbidden. Also, muzzles that allow a Whippet to grab the lure at the end of a race are forbidden. Light wire muzzles covered with a heavy rubber or plastic coating of the English type are permissible, but not recommended. Uncoated wire muzzles are not allowed. Anyone using an uncoated wire muzzle will have his or her Whippets excused from the race meet. Race muzzles will be inspected by the Inspection Committee before racing begins, at "Check-in and Measuring."

Whippets will wear muzzles while parading to the starting box. The Race Secretary may alter this ruling in cases of extreme heat or under any emergency situation where it might be considered abusive to the racing Whippet. "NO BARK" type muzzles are forbidden.

6.7 LURE EQUIPMENT

The lure machine and the actual lure used to attract the racing Whippet are the most important factors in offering top quality Whippet racing.

6.7.1 LURE MACHINE

The lure machine may be the hand-wind type or battery driven. The important thing is to have a machine that can pull the lure at a consistent, steady pace approximately 25 feet ahead of the Whippets. An operator and lure machine that jerks the lure away from the Whippets and then slows it down or keeps the lure so far ahead that the Whippets become unsighted makes a mockery of true Whippet racing. Even the very best racers will turn in a poor performance when there is poor pacing of the lure. Two or more lure machines should be available at any WRA meet in case of mechanical breakdown.

6.7.2 THE LURE

The lure will be of the squawker style, "Jack-A-Lure," type sold by the National Greyhound Association, P.O. Box 543, Abilene, Kansas, 67410; telephone (913) 263-4660. It's made of real or synthetic fur and contains a squawker. Replacement reeds and squawkers are available from Pete Rickard Inc. RD#1 Box 292 Cobleskill, NY, 12043 phone (518) 234-2731. This squawker type lure has been proven to create extra keenness and diminish dishonest tendencies. The lure should be large enough and should bounce in a straight line during the race so it can be sighted at all times by the Whippets. Rags, towels or cloth can be used as part of the lure, but it must include some fur. The small amount of fur that is attached helps to bring the Whippets to the lure at the finish of a race. At times many tracks are dusty or muddy, making it virtually impossible for the Whippets to see the lure. Here is might be well to add a piece of white plastic, white rags, or something else light in color and weight, so that the lure will be more visible to the lure operator as well as the running Whippets. Therefore, the lure should not be allowed to take on the same coloring as the track; such blending of colors make it impossible for the Whippets to see the lure.

Too much emphasis cannot be placed on having a lure that can be seen by the Whippets from the time they are placed in the starting box until they hit and attempt to kill the lure at the finish of a race. Do not be afraid to replace a lure several times during a race meet if the lure becomes so dirty it cannot be seen by the racers. It is advisable to have several spare lures for each race meet. It would be well for all people participating in a WRA meet to be constantly reminded that unsighted Whippets at any point from the starting box to the finish line, have little chance of winning, and most often this is the reason for strictly honest racers causing unnecessary bumping crowding, fighting, etc. Also, it should be remembered that the lure must always be brought to a halt well beyond the finish line. This encourages the Whippets to finish strongly, and it also makes it much easier to pick the Whippets up at the end of a race because they are trying to pin down or "kill" the lure after it has stopped.

An important reminder, the lure, at the start of each race, should be centered ten to fifteen (10 - 15) feet in front of the starting box in the circle specially outlined, (usually with white spray paint,) in clear view for all the Whippets to see.

6.8 STARTING BOX

The great majority of races are won by Whippets who leave the starting box promptly, and then give their best efforts during the running of the race. More races are won or lost leaving the starting box than at any other point during the race.

It is absolutely necessary to have all starting boxes of virtually the same type (standardization). Various sizes, types of door, strange noisy devices only hinder and confuse racers who are not familiar with all the different box configurations. For WRA meets it would be well to consider a starting box of lightweight materials. The box can have a base of 3/4" plywood, a top of 1/2" plywood. The door should be of metal tubing with the lower 10" made of 1/2" rods set vertically on 1" centers. The upper 2/3 should be of fiberglass, painted so the Whippet cannot see through, forcing the racer to take a good position for starting. The floor of the starting box should be covered with matting of some type to avoid slipping. Rear doors should not fit flush with

the bottom; allow one (1) to two (2) inches of space so the Whippets' tails will not be smashed when the rear door is slipped down. The rear doors must also be painted the same colors as the racing blankets - Red, Blue, White, Green, Black, and Yellow - #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6.

Boxes should be of such construction to make dismantling a simple process in the event the box must be transported.

Before building a box, it would be advisable to write the NRD for plans on starting boxes; several plans are on file that have proven to be satisfactory for our WRA program. In the interest of standardization of box plans, local groups or clubs wishing to use boxes which differ greatly from those recommended under Official Rules and Regulations, should request special permission from the NRD regarding box building plans. Written approval by the NRD for box plans prior to construction for WRA is mandatory. Please see Starting Box Plan in the Appendix.

SECTION 7.0 TITLES AND AWARDS

The Whippet Racing Association Awards Program has been originated to honor racing Whippets at a level of excellence commensurate with their ability.

At the end of each racing season the NRD will name the Whippet that is Dog of the Year and the Best of Opposite Sex. The Whippet earning the highest number of National Points will be named the Dog of the Year. The Whippet of the opposite sex, of the Dog of the Year, with the next highest number of National Points will be Named Best of Opposite Sex.

7.1 CERTIFICATES

All Whippets that earn a title will be awarded a certificate signed by the National Race Director and the Secretary/Treasurer to identify the accomplishments of the racing Whippet.

The certificate for the Whippet Race Champion and Whippet Race Champion Excellent shall be framed. One framed certificate shall be given for each dog. If there is a co-owner, a second certificate may be requested at the time the owner is notified that a certificate will be awarded. There will be no charge for the second certificate and the second certificate will not be framed.

7.2 COMPANION RACER AND COMPANION RACER EXCELLENT POINTS AND USE

The points used for awarding the Companion Racer and Companion Racer Excellent titles are the race points given for placement in each race during a race meet. These points are accumulated from the different race meets entered by the Whippet until the required number are reached for the awarding of the title by the Whippet Racing Association.

When the title Companion Racer Excellent is awarded, the title Companion Racer will no longer be used.

Then the title Whippet Race Champion is awarded, the title Companion Racer Excellent will no longer be used.

When the title Whippet Race Champion Excellent is awarded, the title Whippet Race Champion will no longer be used.

7.3 WHIPPET RACE CHAMPION AWARD POINTS

Whippet Race Champion Award Points are earned by the Whippets earning the highest number of racing points in a race meet. The points are awarded according to the schedule of points presented below.

- | No Whippet which has already earned a Whippet Race Champion, or an Award of Racing Merit, shall earn WRCh Award Points.

- | If the Whippet(s) with the highest number of race points have their WRCh, or ARM, title the Whippet(s) with the next highest number of racing points, that have not earned their WRCh, or ARM, will receive the Award Points.

| All Whippets with the title of WRCh, or ARM, count as entries when awarding WRCh Award Points.

WRCH AWARD POINTS SCHEDULE:

70 Adult Whippets or More (based on starters not entries)
8 WRCh points - High Point Winner
6 WRCh points - Second High Point Winner
4 WRCh points - Third High Point Winner
2 WRCh points - Fourth High Point Winner
60 to 69 Adult Starters
7 WRCh points - High Point Winner
5 WRCh points - Second High Point Winner
3 WRCh points - Third High Point Winner
1 WRCh points - Fourth High Point Winner
50 to 59 Adult Starters
6 WRCh points - High Point Winner
4 WRCh points - Second High Point Winner
2 WRCh points - Third High Point Winner
40 to 49 Adult Starters
5 WRCh points - High Point Winner
3 WRCh points - Second High Point Winner
1 WRCh points - Third High Point Winner
30 to 39 Adult Starters
4 WRCh points - High Point Winner
2 WRCh points - Second High Point Winner
20 to 29 Adult Starters
3 WRCh points - High Point Winner
1 WRCh points - Second High Point Winner
15 to 19 Adult Starters
2 WRCh points - High Point Winner

7.4 WHIPPET RACE CHAMPION EXCELLENT (NATIONAL) POINTS

National points are earned by the Whippet earning the highest number of racing points in a race meet. The points are awarded according to the schedule of points presented below. All Whippets with the title of WRChX, WRCh, or ARM, count as entries when awarding WRChX points.

WRChX (NATIONAL) AWARDS POINTS SCHEDULE:

70 Adult Whippets or More (based on starters not entries)
8 WRChX points - High Point Winner
6 WRChX points - Second High Point Winner
4 WRChX points - Third High Point Winner
2 WRChX points - Fourth High Point Winner
60 to 69 Adult Starters
7 WRChX points - High Point Winner
5 WRChX points - Second High Point Winner
3 WRChX points - Third High Point Winner
1 WRChX points - Fourth High Point Winner

50 to 59 Adult Starters
 6 WRChX points - High Point Winner
 4 WRChX points - Second High Point Winner
 2 WRChX points - Third High Point Winner

40 to 49 Adult Starters
 5 WRChX points - High Point Winner
 3 WRChX points - Second High Point Winner
 1 WRChX points - Third High Point Winner

30 to 39 Adult Starters
 4 WRChX points - High Point Winner
 2 WRChX points - Second High Point Winner

20 to 29 Adult Starters
 3 WRChX points - High Point Winner
 1 WRChX points - Second High Point Winner

15 to 19 Adult Starters
 2 WRChX points - High Point Winner

7.5 TITLES AWARDED BY THE WHIPPET RACING ASSOCIATION

7.5.1 THE COMPANION RACER TITLE (CR)

Any Whippet that accumulates fifteen (15) race points (Race Points are issued for placement in the races during a race meet) earns the title of Companion Racer (CR). Only points earned during meets in which the dog has run the complete race meet can be utilized in the total for this award.

Any Whippet that has accumulated race points under the American Whippet Club's National Point Race program prior to 4-20-96 may receive credit for these points for use toward this award if it meets the following criteria:

1. Only Whippets still running complete meets in the WRA are eligible to receive a CR.
2. Whippets previously issued an ARM are not eligible.
- 3 The owner must submit the following items to the record keeper for verification.
 - a) A list of meets in which race points were earned.
 - b) The dates of the meets.
 - c) The number of points earned at each meet.

7.5.2 THE COMPANION RACER EXCELLENT TITLE (CRX)

Any Whippet not holding an ARM, WRCh, WRChX title that has earned a CR title, and then accumulates sixty (60) race points will earn the title of Companion Racer Excellent (CRX).

Only points earned during meets in which the dog has run the complete race meet can be utilized in the total for this award. Any holder of the CRX title who accumulates a further sixty race points will earn another title and be known as a CRX-II. Further CRX titles will be awarded with the

Roman Numeral being increased to reflect the number of titles earned, and another Title Certificate awarded.

Any Whippet that has accumulated race points under the American Whippet Club's National Point Race program prior to 4-20-96 may receive credit for these points for use toward this award if it meets the following criteria:

1. Only Whippets still running complete meets in the WRA are eligible to receive a CRX.
2. Whippets previously issued an ARM are not eligible.
3. The owner must submit the following items to the record keeper for verification.
 - a) A list of meets in which race points were earned.
 - b) The dates of the meets.
 - c) The number of points earned at each meet

7.5.3 THE WHIPPET RACE CHAMPION TITLE (WRCh)

Any Whippet that accumulates fifteen (15) Whippet Race Champion Award Points will be awarded the title Whippet Race Champion (WRCh).

Any Whippet that accumulated points toward an Award of Racing Merit under the American Whippet Club's National Point Racing Program prior to 4-20-96 will have those points utilized in the awarding of the WRCh title, provided that the Whippet has not already been awarded an Award of Racing Merit by the American Whippet Club.

7.5.4 THE WHIPPET RACE CHAMPION EXCELLENT TITLE (WRChX)

Any male Whippet that accumulates Fifty (50) National Points, and any female Whippet that accumulates Thirty (30) National Points, earns the title of Whippet Race Champion Excellent (WRChX).

Further WRChX titles may be earned with the accumulation of another Fifty (50) National Points for males, Thirty (30) National Points for bitches. A Roman numeral will be added to the WRChX title indicating the number of WRChX titles earned after the first, I.e., WRChX-II and another Title Certificate awarded.

Any Whippet that has accumulated National points under the American Whippet Club's National Point Race program prior to 4-20-96 may receive credit for these points for use toward this award if it meets the following criteria:

1. Only Whippets still running complete meets in the WRA are eligible to receive a WRChX.
2. The owner must submit the following items to the record keeper for verification.
 - a) A list of meets in which race points were earned.
 - b) The dates of the meets.
 - c) The number of points earned at each meet.