

Clubs eligible to vote on these proposals, 16 as follows:

<u>East</u>	<u>Southeast</u>	<u>Midwest</u>	<u>South</u>
	SOL	DR	POSSE
EWA	SWAG	GCWC	
JRRWA		GLWRC	
NEWC		GSLWC	
WVRC		IWC	
		LARK	
		MWRA	
		SMWC	
		TSWA	

Any proposal will need 2/3 of voting clubs to pass. With 13 of 16 clubs voting, 9 affirmative votes needed to pass any proposal.

IWC, TSWA and WVRC chose not to participate in voting this year.

PROPOSAL 1:

12 for and 1 against. PASS

2.7.1 Hand slipping senior and legend classes

Original Wording:

2.7.1 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 criteria for eligibility to run in either of these classes is that the dog has, or will have attained the age limitation as follows:

If the national is held prior to June 30th that the dog will have turned either 9 or 11 prior to June 30th of that year.

If the national is held after July 1st, that the dog will have turned either 9 or 11 prior to December 31st of that year.

1) Seniors will be for dogs that either are 9 years of age or who will turn 9 years of age within a maximum of 6 months after the date of the national.

2) Legend will be for dogs that either are 11 years of age or who will turn 11 years of age within a maximum of 6 months after the date of the national.

Legends and Seniors classes must run at least 100 yards, but can run any distance from 100 to 200 yards at the owners discretion. All owners must agree on any variance of distance.

These classes will run once. Entrants in these classes will NOT count toward the number of adult starters, for the purpose of awarding Championship and National Points.

It is not necessary to measure dogs running only in Legends or Seniors.

Proposed Wording: Insert the words in red:

Legends and Seniors classes must run at least 100 yards, but can run any distance from 100 to 200 yards at the owners discretion. All owners must agree on any variance of distance.

Legends and Seniors may be hand slipped in deference to their age, IF all owners agree.

Rationale:

Some of the dogs competing in the seniors and legends classes, especially in legends, are quite elderly, and haven't been in boxes in years. The intent is to let those dogs have a moment of glory without the stress that boxing sometimes causes.

PROPOSAL 2: To change official puppy races to three programs.

10 for and 3 against. PASS

Original Wording:

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.

5.5 All puppy races shall be run over a distance of 150 yards and have three programs.

Proposed Wording: Insert the words in red and delete strikeout text, as below:

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.~~ **have three programs.**

Rationale:

To bring the WRA in-line with other race organizations, those of which offer puppy races only have three programs. Most of the competitors who run puppies only run three programs, scratching the youngsters after three programs.

PROPOSAL 3: Change in Race Track Length

12 for and 1 against. PASS

Original Wording:

6.1 Race Track

All WRA meets should be run over a straight, flat, level surface.

- (a) All puppy races will be 150 yards.
- (b) Adult Whippets may race 4 programs at either 150 yards or 200 yards. All rules and points applicable to races at 200 yards will be applicable to races at 150 yards. The National Race Meet must be run at 200 yards, not at any other distance.

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.

Proposed Wording: Insert the words in red and delete strikeout text, as below:

All WRA meets should be run over a straight, flat, level surface.

- (a) All puppy races will be 150 yards.
- (b) Adult Whippets may race 4 programs at either ~~150 yards or 200 yards.~~ All ~~rules and points applicable to races at 200 yards will be applicable to races at 150 yards.~~ 150 yards, 175 yards, or 200 yards. All rules and points applicable to races at 200 yards will be applicable to races at any distance run. The National Race Meet must be run at 200 yards, not at any other distance,

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.

Rationale:

There are some fields which could safely run races at 175 yards, but not 200. This would give clubs using those fields another alternative besides shortening the track to 150 yards.

PROPOSAL 4: Change in Race Track Length for National Race Meet

1 for and 12 against. FAIL

Original Wording:

6.1 Race Track

All WRA meets should be run over a straight, flat, level surface.

- (a) All puppy races will be 150 yards.
- (b) Adult Whippets may race 4 programs at either 150 yards or 200 yards. All rules and points applicable to races at 200 yards will be applicable to races at 150 yards. The National Race Meet must be run at 200 yards, not at any other distance.

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.

Proposed Wording: Insert the words in red and delete strikeout text, as below:

All WRA meets should be run over a straight, flat, level surface.

- (a) All puppy races will be 150 yards.
- (b) Adult Whippets may race 4 programs at either 150 yards or 200 yards. All rules and points applicable to races at 200 yards will be applicable to races at 150 yards. ~~The National Race Meet must be run at 200 yards, not at any other distance.~~ **The National Race Meet may be run at any distance legal to run other WRA race meets.**

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.

PROPOSAL 5: To add sections, in chapters 1 & 7, to the WRA rules allowing a special class for oversized dogs. 5 for and 8 against. FAIL

Rationale: This year has seen a significant number of cancelled meets across the country due to lack of entries. The situation has spawned several discussion in social media settings, centered around ideas to increase support for whippet racing. One issue that has been raised is that oversized dogs are not eligible to participate in straight race meets. It is a fact of life that each year many Whippets do go oversize and do not measure in for sprint racing, but owners of these dogs are still interested in running them on the straights. In response to this demand, several clubs have offered unofficial "Dash Dog" classes so that ineligible dogs can participate. These classes have proven to be popular, and would probably become more so if they were formalized and the opportunity to earn points and titles was added.

Description: After much discussion, the idea of creating a fully recognized "Unlimited Class" was brought up, and has received quite a bit of support. The Unlimited class could use a scoring system like that used in LGRA, where sprint racing titles are earned based upon the number of dogs defeated. The new title designation of Unlimited Whippet Champion (UWCH) would be used for any whippet which participates in the Unlimited Class and earns a total of 15 UWCH points. UWCH points will not be transferable to any other class in WRA; however, Regular Adult points could be applied to the new UWCH title.

There will be no National Point record for this class so it does not get confused with the current Adult Class in WRA.

If an owner chooses to enter an oversize dog in the Unlimited Class for two race meets, it will forfeit its eligibility for future entry into the regular Adult Class and no longer be subject to the measuring procedure. However, an Adult Oversize dog cannot return to the Adult class once it has participated in two Unlimited Class race meets (analogous to transferring from the Puppy to Adult class). For the purpose of race setup, the Unlimited Class would be graded the same as the current Adult class. However, the Unlimited class will consist of 4-dog races and the point distribution would differ from the Adult class as described below.

Proposal: Create a WRA Unlimited Class for the Oversize Whippet.

Eligibility (Section 1.2), any Whippet deemed oversized in accordance with current WRA protocol for inspection and wicketing. Owners will have the option to enter the Whippet in the Unlimited Class. If a dog participates in the Unlimited Class for two race meets, it will no longer be eligible to return to the open Adult class and be exempt from the measuring procedure.

Section (race set up) The Unlimited Class races would be set up as Four Dog races using the current Adult Class model.

Section 7.5 UWch Point Award.
4 Dog races

Eligible Entry High Score Second High Score Third High Score Fourth High Score

2-4	1.0	0.5		
5-7	2.0	1.0		
8-10	3.0	1.5	0.5	

11-15	4.0	2.0	1.0	
16-21	5.0	3.0	1.5	
22-30	6.0	4.0	2.0	
31-40	7.0	5.0	3.0	
41-more	8.0	6.0	4.0	2.0

Title Section () Unlimited Class title. Dogs earning a total of 15 points in this class shall receive the designation of Unlimited Whippet Champion or UWCH.

? ?

? Since we are not deleting a current rule, I think it is just a matter of plugging this in where it fits best. I'm going to guess that something in the rulebook will have to be lined out?

Proposed Wording: Insert the words in red and delete ~~strikeout~~ text, as below:

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

1. Whippet must be registered by the American Kennel Club, the United Kennel Club, or the Canadian Kennel Club.
2. 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, UKC or CKC 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, UKC or CKC registration. In the event that the dog is not AKC, UKC or CKC 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.
3. Any disqualification covered in the AKC Whippet Standard of the Breed, or any [AKC disqualification](#), with exception of the monorchid/cryptorchid disqualification, applies to any Whippet racing in a WRA meet.

1.2.3.1 Any Whippet deemed oversized in accordance with current WRA protocol for inspection and wicketing. Owners will have the option to enter the Whippet in the Unlimited Class. If a dog participates in the Unlimited Class for two race meets, it will no longer be eligible to return to the open Adult class and be exempt from the measuring procedure.
4. Prior to the first WRA Practice or official WRA Meet in which a Whippet will participate, a copy of the AKC, CKC, or UKC 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.
5. 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.
6. Whippets carrying Indefinite Listing Papers (ILP), from the AKC, a Limited Privilege Listing (PL) from the UKC, or a Performance Event Number (PEN) from the CKC are NOT eligible to run in the WRA Program.
7. Spayed/Neutered Whippets are eligible to run in all WRA events.
8. 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.

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.

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, with the following exceptions:

- 1) 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), or the Canadian Amateur Racing Association (CARA) will retain that grade when FTE in a WRA race meet.
- 2) Any Whippet that the Race Secretary has personal knowledge of, either from having seen it race as a puppy, or in training races, may be started, with the approval of the owner, at any grade other than grade A. Decision must be based upon personal knowledge, information acquired from others may not be used

5.3.1.1 First Program for Unlimited Class for the Oversize Whippet

The Unlimited Class races would be set up as Four Dog races using the current Adult Class model.

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.

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.

Whippet Race Champion 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

7.3.1 Whippet Race Champion Points for Unlimited Class (UWCh) to be based upon number of dogs defeated:

Eligible Entry	High Score	2nd High Score	3rd Score	4th Score
2 - 4	1.0	0.5		
5 - 7	2.0	1.0		
8 - 10	3.0	1.5	0.5	
11 - 15	4.0	2.0	1.0	
16 - 21	5.0	3.0	1.5	
22 - 30	6.0	4.0	2.0	
31 - 40	7.0	5.0	3.0	
41 +	8.0	6.0	4.0	2.0

7.5 Titles Awarded by the Whippet Racing Association

Any dog that raced under the AWC's NPR program, that has not had its NPR points grandfathered in prior to 01/01/2005, will no longer be eligible to have those points applied toward any award(s) presented by the WRA.

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).

7.5.3.1 The Unlimited Class Champion Title (UWCh)

Any Whippet that accumulates fifteen (15) Unlimited Whippet Race Champion Award Points will be awarded the title of Unlimited Whippet Champion (UWCh)