WDF – WORLD DOG FEDERATION

INTERNATIONAL WORKING DOG SPORT REGULATIONS

COMPLETE PROFESSIONAL EDITION

BOOK 1 – GENERAL REGULATIONS, GOVERNANCE, WELFARE AND BH CERTIFICATION

Version 1.0 (Original WDF Framework)

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This regulation is an original sporting framework developed for the World Dog Federation (WDF).

The WDF International Working Dog Sport is an independent canine working discipline designed to evaluate working ability, temperament, trainability, environmental stability, scenting ability, obedience, courage, self-control, and handler partnership.

This document is not affiliated with nor intended to replace any existing national or international working dog regulation.

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CHAPTER 1

MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY

Article 1.1

The World Dog Federation promotes:

- Responsible dog ownership
- Canine welfare
- Ethical training
- Sporting excellence
- Public safety
- Breed preservation
- Inclusion of all dogs

Article 1.2

The primary objective of the WDF Working Dog Sport is the evaluation of:

- Temperament
- Stability
- Working ability
- Trainability
- Physical fitness
- Environmental confidence
- Handler partnership

Article 1.3

The sport shall never prioritize victory above canine welfare.

CHAPTER 2

CORE PRINCIPLES

Article 2.1 – Welfare First

The welfare of the dog takes precedence over:

- Titles
- Championships
- Rankings
- Sponsorships
- Commercial interests

Article 2.2 – Fair Competition

All competitors shall receive equal evaluation regardless of:

- Breed
- Sex
- Color
- Country
- Pedigree status
- Mixed-breed status

Article 2.3 – Transparency

All scoring procedures shall be publicly documented.

Article 2.4 – Integrity

Fraudulent behavior shall result in disciplinary action.

CHAPTER 3

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this regulation:

Dog

A canine entered in a WDF event.

Handler

Person responsible for presenting the dog.

Judge

Official authorized by WDF to evaluate competitors.

Decoy

Certified helper used during protection exercises.

Steward

Official responsible for ring administration.

Trial Committee

Event management authority.

Technical Commission

Highest technical authority within WDF.

CHAPTER 4

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

The official language of WDF is English.

Translations may be approved in:

- Italian
- German
- French
- Spanish
- Portuguese
- Dutch

In case of conflict, the English version prevails.

CHAPTER 5

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

National member organizations may adopt WDF regulations.

The WDF may recognize:

- National Titles
- International Titles
- Championship Results

subject to compliance with WDF standards.

CHAPTER 6

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

Article 6.1

Participation is open to:

Purebred Dogs

Registered or unregistered.

Mixed-Breed Dogs

Without limitation.

Article 6.2

No dog shall be excluded solely because of:

- Breed
- Bloodline
- Color
- Coat type
- Ear type
- Tail type

CHAPTER 7

DOG ELIGIBILITY

All competing dogs must:

Be physically healthy

Be properly identified

Be free from contagious disease

Demonstrate adequate social stability

Minimum Ages

WDF-BH

15 months

WDF-WD1

18 months

WDF-WD2

20 months

WDF-WD3

24 months

CHAPTER 8

HANDLER ELIGIBILITY

Handlers must:

- Respect officials
- Follow regulations
- Maintain control of the dog
- Promote humane training

CHAPTER 9

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Competitors must hold:

- WDF Membership
  or
- Membership through a recognized WDF affiliate

CHAPTER 10

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Dogs may be examined by:

- Veterinarian
- Veterinary Delegate
- Chief Judge

Participation may be denied if welfare is compromised.

CHAPTER 11

WELFARE PRINCIPLES

The following principles are mandatory:

Respect

Safety

Humane Training

Fair Treatment

Scientific Understanding of Canine Behavior

CHAPTER 12

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

The following are prohibited:

Physical abuse

Excessive force

Kicking

Striking

Choking

Intimidation

Cruel punishment

Deliberate injury

CHAPTER 13

VETERINARY OVERSIGHT

Veterinarians may:

- Stop participation
- Recommend withdrawal
- Conduct welfare inspections

Their welfare decisions are final.

CHAPTER 14

EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS

Permitted

- Flat collars
- Tracking harnesses
- Long lines
- Approved dumbbells
- Approved toys

Prohibited

- Shock collars
- Spike collars used abusively
- Electrical punishment devices
- Devices causing injury

CHAPTER 15

WELFARE VIOLATIONS

Violations may result in:

Warning

Score Deduction

Trial Failure

Disqualification

Suspension

Permanent Ban

CHAPTER 16

WDF GOVERNANCE

The WDF shall consist of:

General Assembly

Executive Board

Technical Commission

Judges Commission

Decoy Commission

Appeals Commission

CHAPTER 17

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Responsibilities:

- Regulation development
- Technical interpretation
- Championship oversight
- Rule revisions

CHAPTER 18

JUDGES COMMISSION

Responsible for:

- Judge education
- Certification
- Evaluation
- Discipline

CHAPTER 19

DECOY COMMISSION

Responsible for:

- Decoy licensing
- Performance standards
- Safety protocols

CHAPTER 20

APPEALS COMMISSION

Responsible for:

- Reviewing protests
- Interpreting regulations
- Ensuring procedural fairness

PART V

WDF-BH CERTIFICATION

CHAPTER 21

PURPOSE OF WDF-BH

WDF-BH serves as:

Entry Requirement

for all advanced working titles.

It confirms:

- Social stability
- Public safety
- Basic obedience
- Environmental confidence

CHAPTER 22

TEMPERAMENT ASSESSMENT

Dogs must demonstrate:

Confidence

Neutrality

Recoverability

Emotional Stability

Automatic Failure:

- Unprovoked aggression
- Panic behavior
- Loss of control

CHAPTER 23

TRAFFIC NEUTRALITY TEST

The dog shall remain stable around:

- Pedestrians
- Cyclists
- Joggers
- Wheelchairs
- Vehicles
- Other dogs

Judge evaluates:

Calmness

Confidence

Handler Responsiveness

CHAPTER 24

COMPANION DOG EXERCISES

Exercises include:

Heeling on leash

15 points

Heeling off leash

15 points

Sit exercise

10 points

Down with recall

15 points

Stand exercise

10 points

Group exercise

15 points

Traffic evaluation

20 points

Total:

100 Points

CHAPTER 25

BH SCORING

Excellent

95–100

Very Good

90–94

Good

80–89

Satisfactory

70–79

Fail

Below 70

WDF – WORLD DOG FEDERATION

INTERNATIONAL WORKING DOG SPORT REGULATIONS

BOOK 2 – WDF-WD1

WORKING DOG LEVEL 1

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55. Advancement to WD2

CHAPTER 26

OBJECTIVES OF WDF-WD1

The WDF-WD1 title represents the first official working title within the World Dog Federation.

The objective is to evaluate:

- Natural working ability
- Basic scenting skills
- Functional obedience
- Courage
- Emotional stability
- Handler partnership
- Environmental confidence

CHAPTER 27

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To enter WDF-WD1:

The dog must:

- Hold a valid WDF-BH
- Be at least 18 months old
- Be healthy
- Be identified by microchip
- Pass veterinary inspection

CHAPTER 28

TRIAL STRUCTURE

The trial consists of three phases:

Phase A – Tracking

100 Points

Phase B – Obedience

100 Points

Phase C – Protection & Control

100 Points

Maximum Score:

300 Points

Minimum Passing Score Per Phase:

70 Points

Minimum Overall Score:

210 Points

CHAPTER 29

QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

Excellent

286 – 300

Very Good

270 – 285

Good

240 – 269

Satisfactory

210 – 239

Fail

Below 210

PART II

PHASE A – TRACKING

CHAPTER 30

TRACKING PHILOSOPHY

Tracking evaluates:

- Concentration
- Nose quality
- Persistence
- Problem solving
- Independence
- Precision

The dog must demonstrate calm and systematic work.

CHAPTER 31

TRACKLAYER REQUIREMENTS

The tracklayer shall:

- Walk naturally
- Follow designated route
- Place articles correctly
- Avoid contamination

Tracklayers are appointed by trial officials.

CHAPTER 32

TRACK SPECIFICATIONS

WD1 Track

Length:

300–400 meters

Aging Time:

20–30 minutes

Corners:

Minimum 2

Maximum 3

Surface:

Grass, natural field, or agricultural terrain.

CHAPTER 33

ARTICLES

Three articles are used.

Permitted materials:

- Leather
- Fabric
- Wood

Article Length:

5–15 cm

The dog must indicate or retrieve according to handler declaration.

CHAPTER 34

EXECUTION

The dog works on:

- Tracking harness
  or
- Flat collar

Long line:

Maximum 10 meters

The handler shall remain behind the dog.

Judge evaluates:

- Intensity
- Accuracy
- Independence

CHAPTER 35

TRACKING SCORING

Track Following

70 points

Corner Work

10 points

Article 1

5 points

Article 2

5 points

Article 3

10 points

Total:

100 Points

PART III

PHASE B – OBEDIENCE

CHAPTER 36

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The dog must perform with:

- Precision
- Enthusiasm
- Confidence
- Control

Mechanical performance without engagement shall receive deductions.

CHAPTER 37

HEELING

The dog must remain:

- Attentive
- Close to handler
- Responsive

Includes:

- Normal pace
- Fast pace
- Slow pace
- Left turn
- Right turn
- About turn

Score:

20 Points

CHAPTER 38

SIT EXERCISE

From heeling position:

Handler commands sit.

Dog remains seated while handler continues.

Judge evaluates:

- Speed
- Stability
- Accuracy

Score:

10 Points

CHAPTER 39

DOWN WITH RECALL

Dog is commanded down.

Handler continues forward.

Upon command:

Dog recalls directly.

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 40

STAND AND RECALL

Dog remains standing.

Judge evaluates:

- Immediate response
- Stability
- Precision

Score:

10 Points

CHAPTER 41

FLAT RETRIEVE

Object weight:

650–1000 grams

Dog retrieves directly.

Judge evaluates:

- Speed
- Grip
- Front position
- Delivery

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 42

SEND AWAY

Dog runs forward on command.

Distance:

Minimum 30 meters

Dog downs on command.

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 43

LONG DOWN

Dog remains down while another competitor performs.

Judge evaluates:

- Stability
- Neutrality
- Reliability

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 44

OBEDIENCE SCORING

Heeling

20

Sit

10

Down Recall

15

Stand

10

Retrieve

15

Send Away

15

Long Down

15

Total:

100 Points

PART IV

PHASE C – PROTECTION & CONTROL

CHAPTER 45

PHILOSOPHY

Protection work evaluates:

- Courage
- Confidence
- Self-control
- Stability
- Handler responsiveness

Aggression alone is never rewarded.

CHAPTER 46

SEARCH FOR DECOY

The dog searches designated blinds.

Number of blinds:

4

Judge evaluates:

- Commitment
- Independence
- Speed

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 47

HOLD AND BARK

Upon locating the decoy:

Dog must:

- Guard actively
- Bark confidently
- Avoid unnecessary contact

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 48

ESCAPE PREVENTION

Decoy attempts escape.

Dog must prevent escape.

Judge evaluates:

- Determination
- Grip quality
- Control

Score:

20 Points

CHAPTER 49

TRANSPORT

Dog accompanies handler and decoy.

Judge evaluates:

- Control
- Focus
- Neutrality

Score:

10 Points

CHAPTER 50

COURAGE EXERCISE

Decoy approaches actively.

Dog must engage confidently.

Judge evaluates:

- Commitment
- Stability
- Recovery

Score:

30 Points

CHAPTER 51

RELEASE REQUIREMENTS

Release command must be obeyed promptly.

Delayed release results in deductions.

Failure to release may result in failure.

CHAPTER 52

PROTECTION SCORING

Search

15

Hold & Bark

15

Escape Prevention

20

Transport

10

Courage Exercise

30

Control & Releases

10

Total:

100 Points

PART V

TITLES

CHAPTER 53

QUALIFICATION SCORES

Excellent

96–100 per phase average

Very Good

90–95

Good

80–89

Satisfactory

70–79

CHAPTER 54

CERTIFICATION

Successful competitors receive:

WDF-WD1

Official Certificate

Official Scorebook Entry

Permanent WDF Database Registration

CHAPTER 55

ADVANCEMENT TO WD2

To enter WD2:

Dog must:

- Hold WDF-WD1
- Be minimum 20 months old
- Maintain BH status
- Be in good health

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INTERNATIONAL WORKING DOG SPORT REGULATIONS

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85. World Championship Qualification

CHAPTER 56

PURPOSE OF WDF-WD2

WDF-WD2 evaluates advanced working capability.

The dog must demonstrate:

- Greater endurance
- Higher precision
- Increased environmental stability
- Advanced control
- Stronger scenting ability
- Enhanced handler cooperation

CHAPTER 57

ELIGIBILITY

Requirements:

WDF-BH

Required

WDF-WD1

Previously earned

Minimum Age

20 Months

Veterinary Approval

Mandatory

CHAPTER 58

TRIAL FORMAT

Tracking

100 Points

Obedience

100 Points

Protection & Control

100 Points

Total:

300 Points

Minimum per phase:

70 Points

Minimum overall:

210 Points

CHAPTER 59

QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

Excellent:

286–300

Very Good:

270–285

Good:

240–269

Satisfactory:

210–239

PHASE A

ADVANCED TRACKING

CHAPTER 60

OBJECTIVES

Tracking evaluates:

- Accuracy
- Concentration
- Persistence
- Problem Solving
- Adaptability

The dog shall demonstrate independent scent work.

CHAPTER 61

TRACK DESIGN

Track Length:

600–800 meters

Corners:

4–5

Terrain:

Natural terrain only.

Track complexity is significantly increased.

CHAPTER 62

AGING TIME

Minimum:

45 Minutes

Maximum:

60 Minutes

CHAPTER 63

TERRAIN CHANGES

Track may include:

- Grass
- Dirt
- Crop field
- Gravel edge
- Light vegetation

Judge evaluates adaptability.

CHAPTER 64

ARTICLES

Four Articles

Possible Materials:

- Leather
- Wood
- Fabric
- Cork

Each article shall be indicated clearly.

CHAPTER 65

TRACKING SCORING

Track Following:

60 Points

Corners:

15 Points

Articles:

25 Points

Total:

100 Points

PHASE B

ADVANCED OBEDIENCE

CHAPTER 66

OBJECTIVES

The dog shall demonstrate:

- Precision
- Reliability
- Athletic ability
- Motivation
- Focus

CHAPTER 67

HEELING

Includes:

- Normal pace
- Slow pace
- Fast pace
- Group work
- Distractions

Score:

20 Points

CHAPTER 68

MOTION EXERCISES

Includes:

Sit in Motion

Down in Motion

Stand in Motion

Judge evaluates:

- Speed
- Precision
- Stability

Score:

20 Points

CHAPTER 69

RETRIEVES

Flat Retrieve

Weight:

1000 grams

Judge evaluates:

- Speed
- Grip
- Delivery

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 70

SCALING WALL RETRIEVE

Dog retrieves over approved obstacle.

Judge evaluates:

- Confidence
- Safety
- Athleticism

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 71

SEND AWAY

Distance:

40–50 meters

Dog downs immediately upon command.

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 72

GROUP EXERCISES

Long Down

Neutrality

Distraction Resistance

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 73

OBEDIENCE SCORING

Heeling:

20

Motion Exercises:

20

Flat Retrieve:

15

Wall Retrieve:

15

Send Away:

15

Group Exercise:

15

Total:

100 Points

PHASE C

ADVANCED PROTECTION & CONTROL

CHAPTER 74

OBJECTIVES

The dog shall demonstrate:

- Courage
- Stability
- Self-control
- Recovery
- Handler responsiveness

CHAPTER 75

SEARCH PATTERN

Number of blinds:

6

Judge evaluates:

- Commitment
- Speed
- Thoroughness

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 76

HOLD AND BARK

Dog locates decoy and guards.

Requirements:

- Confidence
- Stability
- No unnecessary contact

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 77

ESCAPE PREVENTION

Decoy attempts active escape.

Judge evaluates:

- Determination
- Grip quality
- Control

Score:

20 Points

CHAPTER 78

DEFENSIVE PRESSURE EXERCISE

Decoy applies realistic pressure.

Dog must:

- Remain stable
- Engage appropriately
- Recover immediately

Score:

15 Points

CHAPTER 79

TRANSPORT

Judge evaluates:

- Precision
- Focus
- Neutrality

Score:

10 Points

CHAPTER 80

COURAGE TEST

The principal evaluation of working confidence.

Judge evaluates:

- Commitment
- Stability
- Recovery
- Handler responsiveness

Score:

20 Points

CHAPTER 81

RELEASE STANDARDS

Release must be:

- Immediate
- Reliable
- Calm

Failure may result in significant deductions.

CHAPTER 82

PROTECTION SCORING

Search:

15

Hold & Bark:

15

Escape:

20

Pressure Exercise:

15

Transport:

10

Courage Test:

20

Control & Releases:

5

Total:

100 Points

CHAPTER 83

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eligibility:

Minimum WD2 title.

National Federations may establish additional requirements.

CHAPTER 84

CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eligibility:

WD2 title.

Qualification through national ranking systems.

CHAPTER 85

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION

Requirements:

- Active WDF Membership
- WD2 or higher title
- National Team Selection

- Veterinary Approval

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM FORMAT

Each nation may enter:

- 4 Primary Competitors
- 1 Alternate Competitor

Best three scores count toward team ranking.

WDF – WORLD DOG FEDERATION

INTERNATIONAL WORKING DOG SPORT REGULATIONS

BOOK 4 – WDF-WD3 ELITE WORKING DOG TITLE

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102. Long Send Away
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CHAPTER 86

PURPOSE OF WD3

WD3 represents the highest standard of the WDF Working Dog Sport.

The title certifies excellence in:

- Tracking
- Obedience
- Protection & Control
- Nerve strength
- Recovery ability
- Social stability
- Working reliability

CHAPTER 87

ELIGIBILITY

Requirements:

WDF-BH

Mandatory

WDF-WD1

Mandatory

WDF-WD2

Mandatory

Minimum Age

24 Months

Veterinary Approval

Required

CHAPTER 88

TRIAL STRUCTURE

Phase A:

100 Points

Phase B:

100 Points

Phase C:

100 Points

Maximum:

300 Points

Passing Score:

210 Points

Minimum per Phase:

70 Points

CHAPTER 89

QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

Excellent:

286–300

Very Good:

270–285

Good:

240–269

Satisfactory:

210–239

Fail:

Below 210

PHASE A

ELITE TRACKING

CHAPTER 90

OBJECTIVES

The dog must demonstrate:

- Elite scent discrimination
- Endurance
- Problem-solving
- Independence
- Accuracy

CHAPTER 91

TRACK SPECIFICATIONS

Track Length:

800–1200 meters

Corners:

5–7

Terrain Changes:

Multiple

Environmental Variables:

Permitted

CHAPTER 92

AGING PERIOD

Minimum:

90 Minutes

Maximum:

180 Minutes

CHAPTER 93

ADVANCED TERRAIN CHANGES

Possible Surfaces:

- Grass
- Dirt
- Agricultural field
- Forest edge
- Gravel path
- Sparse vegetation

CHAPTER 94

CROSS TRACKS

Artificial distractions may be introduced.

Judge evaluates:

- Concentration
- Scent commitment
- Recovery

CHAPTER 95

ARTICLES

Five Articles

Materials may vary.

The indication must be:

- Immediate
- Clear
- Consistent

CHAPTER 96

TRACKING SCORING

Track Accuracy:

55

Corners:

15

Cross Tracks:

10

Articles:

20

Total:

100

PHASE B

ELITE OBEDIENCE

CHAPTER 97

OBJECTIVES

The dog must display:

- Precision
- Speed
- Motivation
- Stability
- Reliability

CHAPTER 98

PRECISION HEELING

Judge evaluates:

- Position
- Focus
- Responsiveness
- Attitude

Score:

20

CHAPTER 99

ADVANCED MOTION EXERCISES

Includes:

- Sit
- Down
- Stand
- Position changes

performed at advanced distances.

Score:

20

CHAPTER 100

RETRIEVES

Exercises:

- Flat Retrieve
- Hurdle Retrieve
- Scaling Wall Retrieve

Score:

25

CHAPTER 101

SCALING WALL RETRIEVE

Obstacle height shall be determined by WDF standards.

Safety remains the priority.

CHAPTER 102

LONG SEND AWAY

Distance:

50–70 meters

Judge evaluates:

- Commitment
- Direction
- Immediate down

Score:

15

CHAPTER 103

DIRECTED EXERCISES

Advanced obedience tasks may include:

- Directional sends
- Target exercises
- Distance control

Score:

20

CHAPTER 104

OBEDIENCE SCORING

Heeling:

20

Motion Exercises:

20

Retrieves:

25

Long Send Away:

15

Directed Exercises:

20

Total:

100

PHASE C

ELITE PROTECTION & CONTROL

CHAPTER 105

OBJECTIVES

The dog must demonstrate:

- Courage
- Self-control
- Stability
- Recovery
- Precision

CHAPTER 106

SEARCH PROCEDURES

Number of blinds:

6–8

Judge evaluates:

- Thoroughness
- Efficiency
- Independence

Score:

15

CHAPTER 107

ELITE GUARDING

Dog shall maintain:

- Active vigilance
- Stable behavior
- Handler responsiveness

Score:

15

CHAPTER 108

ESCAPE PREVENTION

Judge evaluates:

- Commitment
- Grip quality
- Recovery

Score:

20

CHAPTER 109

DEFENSIVE PRESSURE

The dog must remain:

- Stable
- Confident
- Controllable

under increasing challenge.

Score:

15

CHAPTER 110

COURAGE EVALUATION

The principal working assessment.

Judge evaluates:

- Determination
- Stability
- Recovery
- Reliability

Score:

25

CHAPTER 111

HANDLER CONTROL

The dog must demonstrate:

- Immediate releases
- Reliable recalls
- Consistent obedience

Score:

10

CHAPTER 112

PROTECTION SCORING

Search:

15

Guarding:

15

Escape:

20

Pressure:

15

Courage:

25

Control:

10

Total:

100

CHAPTER 113

WDF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The WDF World Championship represents the highest level of competition.

The event may include:

- Individual Championship

- Team Championship
- Tracking Championship
- Obedience Championship
- Protection Championship

CHAPTER 114

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

National teams consist of:

4 Competitors

1 Reserve

Best 3 scores count.

CHAPTER 115

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Champion determined by:

Highest total score.

In case of tie:

1. Higher Protection Score
2. Higher Tracking Score
3. Higher Obedience Score

CHAPTER 116

INTERNATIONAL JUDGES

Requirements:

- National Judge Certification
- WDF Judge Seminar

- Practical Examination
- Ethics Certification

Levels:

Judge I

National

Judge II

International

Judge III

World Championship

CHAPTER 117

INTERNATIONAL DECOYS

Certification Levels:

Decoy A

National

Decoy B

International

Decoy C

World Championship

Evaluation Criteria:

- Technique
- Consistency
- Safety
- Physical Fitness
- Welfare Awareness

CHAPTER 118

TRIAL DIRECTORS

Responsible for:

- Event organization
- Compliance
- Safety
- Documentation

APPENDIX A

OFFICIAL WDF TITLES

WDF-BH

Companion & Temperament Certificate

WDF-WD1

Working Dog Level 1

WDF-WD2

Working Dog Level 2

WDF-WD3

Working Dog Level 3

WDF National Champion

WDF Continental Champion

WDF World Champion

APPENDIX B OFFICIAL WDF MOTTO

"Working Ability, Welfare, Integrity."

WDF – WORLD DOG FEDERATION

INTERNATIONAL WORKING DOG SPORT REGULATIONS

BOOK 5 – FEDERATION MANUAL

OFFICIALS • JUDGING • DECOYS • DISCIPLINARY CODE • RANKINGS

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CHAPTER 119

GENERAL PROVISIONS

All WDF officials shall:

- Act professionally
- Maintain neutrality
- Protect canine welfare
- Promote fair competition
- Avoid conflicts of interest

Officials represent the reputation of WDF at all times.

CHAPTER 120

OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Officials shall demonstrate:

Integrity

Professionalism

Transparency

Respect

Objectivity

Officials shall not:

- Manipulate scores
- Favor competitors
- Accept improper gifts
- Abuse authority

CHAPTER 121

INTERNATIONAL JUDGE PROGRAM

The WDF Judge Program develops judges capable of evaluating:

- Temperament
- Tracking
- Obedience

- Protection & Control
- Welfare Compliance

CHAPTER 122

JUDGE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Education includes:

Theory

- Canine behavior
- Learning theory
- Welfare science
- Rule interpretation

Practical Training

- Ring procedures
- Score allocation
- Problem solving
- Video analysis

CHAPTER 123

JUDGE LICENSING

Candidates must:

- Complete training
- Pass written examination
- Pass practical examination
- Sign ethics declaration

Licenses remain valid for:

4 Years

CHAPTER 124

JUDGE CLASSIFICATION

National Judge

Authorized for BH, WD1

Senior Judge

Authorized for BH, WD1, WD2

International Judge

Authorized for all levels

Championship Judge

Authorized for Continental and World Championships

CHAPTER 125

DECOY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The WDF recognizes decoys as elite technical athletes.

Certification Levels:

D1

National

D2

International

D3

Championship

D4

World Championship Master Decoy

CHAPTER 126

DECOY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Evaluation includes:

Technique

Timing

Consistency

Safety

Athleticism

Welfare Awareness

CHAPTER 127

DECOY SAFETY STANDARDS

Decoys shall:

- Use approved equipment
- Avoid unsafe impacts
- Follow judge instructions
- Protect the dog from injury

Unsafe conduct may result in:

- Suspension
- License revocation
- Permanent exclusion

CHAPTER 128

STEWARD PROGRAM

Stewards are responsible for:

- Competitor management
- Timing
- Equipment checks
- Field preparation
- Documentation

CHAPTER 129

EVENT ADMINISTRATION

Each event must have:

Trial Director

Chief Judge

Steward Team

Veterinary Officer

Safety Officer

CHAPTER 130

CHAMPIONSHIP HOSTING STANDARDS

Host organizations must provide:

Competition Fields

Veterinary Support

Emergency Services

Accommodation Information

Security Measures

CHAPTER 131

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Requirements:

International Judge Panel

Certified D3 or D4 Decoys

Veterinary Team

Live Scoring System

Anti-Doping Program

CHAPTER 132

INTERNATIONAL RANKING SYSTEM

Competitors earn points through:

National Events

International Events

Continental Championships

World Championships

Ranking Period:

24 Months

CHAPTER 133

ATHLETE CLASSIFICATION

Bronze Athlete

0–499 Ranking Points

Silver Athlete

500–999

Gold Athlete

1000–1999

Elite Athlete

2000–2999

World Class Athlete

3000+

CHAPTER 134

DISCIPLINARY CODE

Violations include:

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Welfare Violations

Fraud

Manipulation of Results

Harassment

Abuse of Officials

SANCTIONS

Level 1:

Warning

Level 2:

Score Deduction

Level 3:

Disqualification

Level 4:

Suspension

Level 5:

Permanent Ban

CHAPTER 135

COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

Appeals must:

- Be submitted in writing
- Include evidence
- Be filed within specified deadlines

Appeals Commission decisions are final.

CHAPTER 136

ANTI-DOPING CODE

The following are prohibited:

Performance-enhancing substances

Behavior-altering substances

Unauthorized stimulants

Unauthorized sedatives

Exceptions:

Documented veterinary treatment.

CHAPTER 137

WELFARE PROTECTION MEASURES

WDF adopts:

Five Domains Model

Modern Welfare Science

Positive Training Principles

No title shall override welfare concerns.

CHAPTER 138

WDF HALL OF FAME

The Hall of Fame recognizes:

Dogs

Handlers

Judges

Decoys

Breeders

Federations

Eligibility:

Minimum 10 years of contribution.

CHAPTER 139

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

May be awarded for:

Sporting Excellence

Welfare Contributions

Education

Service to WDF

CHAPTER 140

OFFICIAL WDF FORMS

Required Forms:

Entry Form

Score Sheet

Appeal Form

Welfare Report

Veterinary Report

Judge Evaluation Form

Decoy Evaluation Form

APPENDIX A

SCORE DEDUCTION GUIDELINES

Minor Error:

0.5–2 points

Moderate Error:

2–5 points

Major Error:

5–15 points

Critical Error:

15–30 points

Disqualification:

Immediate Trial Failure

APPENDIX B

OFFICIAL WDF CODE OF HONOR

All members shall:

- Respect dogs
- Respect competitors
- Respect officials
- Respect the sport

- Protect welfare
- Promote fairness

APPENDIX C

OFFICIAL WDF OATH

"I pledge to uphold the principles of the World Dog Federation, to protect canine welfare, to compete honorably, to respect officials and fellow competitors, and to preserve the integrity of working dog sport."

WDF – WORLD DOG FEDERATION

INTERNATIONAL WORKING DOG SPORT REGULATIONS

BOOK 6 – TECHNICAL MASTER RULEBOOK

OFFICIAL TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND COMPETITION PROCEDURES

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164. Technical Amendments

CHAPTER 141

GENERAL TECHNICAL STANDARDS

All WDF competitions shall be conducted under:

- Equal conditions
- Standardized procedures
- Consistent judging
- Welfare-first principles

Judges shall evaluate performance rather than breed characteristics.

CHAPTER 142

COMPETITION FIELDS

Competition fields shall provide:

Safe footing

Adequate visibility

Controlled access

Emergency access routes

Weather contingency plans

CHAPTER 143

TRACKING FIELD SPECIFICATIONS

Tracking areas shall:

- Be free from dangerous hazards
- Permit natural scent retention
- Allow consistent judging

Minimum Area:

10 hectares recommended

Acceptable Terrain:

Grassland

Agricultural fields

Meadows

Mixed natural terrain

CHAPTER 144

OBEDIENCE FIELD SPECIFICATIONS

Recommended Size:

70 m × 50 m

Minimum Size:

50 m × 40 m

Surface:

- Grass
- Artificial turf
- Natural soil

Not permitted:

- Hazardous surfaces
- Sharp gravel
- Dangerous obstacles

CHAPTER 145

PROTECTION FIELD SPECIFICATIONS

Recommended Size:

100 m × 70 m

Blinds:

6–8

Protection area must permit:

- Safe visibility
- Emergency access
- Spectator separation

CHAPTER 146

TRACKING EQUIPMENT

Permitted:

Tracking Harness

Flat Collar

Tracking Line

Maximum Length:

10 meters

Prohibited:

Electrical Devices

Remote Correction Devices

Equipment causing pain

CHAPTER 147

OBEDIENCE EQUIPMENT

Approved Equipment:

Dumbbells

Weights:

650 g – 2000 g

Hurdles

Adjustable according to level

Scaling Walls

Certified WDF design

CHAPTER 148

PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Approved:

Bite Sleeve

Protective Suit

Hidden Protection Equipment

Approved Field Blinds

All equipment must pass annual inspection.

CHAPTER 149

DETAILED TRACKING JUDGING SYSTEM

Judges evaluate:

Nose Commitment

0–20 points

Track Accuracy

0–30 points

Concentration

0–15 points

Corner Performance

0–15 points

Article Work

0–20 points

Total:

100

TRACKING DEDUCTIONS

Brief hesitation:

-1

Wide corner:

-2 to -5

Missed article:

-5

Track loss:

-5 to -15

Failure to recover:

Failure

CHAPTER 150

DETAILED OBEDIENCE JUDGING SYSTEM

Evaluation Categories:

Precision

Speed

Motivation

Stability

Handler Cooperation

Each exercise shall be scored individually.

Judge may deduct for:

Slow responses

Crooked positions

Extra commands

Lack of attention

Handler assistance

CHAPTER 151

DETAILED PROTECTION JUDGING SYSTEM

Evaluation Categories:

Search Quality

Guarding

Engagement

Courage

Recovery

Control

Protection scores reward:

Confidence

Stability

Responsiveness

Protection scores do not reward:

Uncontrolled aggression

Nervousness

Environmental insecurity

CHAPTER 152

SCORE DEDUCTION TABLES

Minor Faults

0.5 – 2 Points

Examples:

- Slightly crooked sit
- Brief distraction
- Slow response

Moderate Faults

3 – 5 Points

Examples:

- Poor retrieve grip
- Wide turns
- Delayed down

Major Faults

6 – 15 Points

Examples:

- Missed article
- Exercise failure
- Loss of control

Critical Faults

16 – 30 Points

Examples:

- Multiple exercise failures
- Significant control loss

CHAPTER 153

FAILURE CRITERIA

Automatic phase failure:

Less than 70 points

or

Safety violation

or

Welfare concern

CHAPTER 154

DISQUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Immediate Disqualification:

Aggression toward judge

Aggression toward spectators

Deliberate abuse

Fraud

Drug violation

Refusal of veterinary inspection

CHAPTER 155

JUDGE PROTOCOL

Judges shall:

- Remain impartial
- Avoid conflicts of interest
- Explain scores clearly
- Apply standards consistently

Judges may not:

- Coach competitors
- Influence results
- Accept gifts affecting neutrality

CHAPTER 156

DECOY PROTOCOL

Decoys shall:

Follow judge instructions

Demonstrate consistency

Prioritize safety

Protect welfare

Decoys may never:

Intentionally injure dogs

Provoke unsafe behavior

Manipulate outcomes

CHAPTER 157

STEWARD PROTOCOL

Stewards shall:

- Organize competitors
- Verify equipment
- Maintain schedules
- Assist officials

CHAPTER 158

PUPPY APTITUDE TEST (PAT)

Age:

8–16 weeks

Evaluation:

Social Attraction

Environmental Curiosity

Recovery Ability

Food Motivation

Toy Motivation

Startle Recovery

Purpose:

Educational evaluation only.

No puppy may fail PAT.

CHAPTER 159

WORKING APTITUDE TEST (WAT)

Age:

6 months and older

Evaluation Areas:

Tracking Interest

Toy Drive

Food Drive

Environmental Stability

Social Stability

Recovery Ability

Score Range:

0–100

Classification:

Basic

Intermediate

Advanced

Elite

CHAPTER 160

BREED SUITABILITY ASSESSMENT (BSA)

Purpose:

Collect working data from all breeds.

Areas evaluated:

Trainability

Endurance

Confidence

Tracking

Obedience

Recovery

No breed receives automatic preference.

CHAPTER 161

SECURITY DOG CERTIFICATION

Separate program from sport titles.

Evaluation includes:

Obedience

Neutrality

Environmental Stability

Operational Control

Public Safety

Certification validity:

24 months

CHAPTER 162

SERVICE DOG CERTIFICATION

Evaluation includes:

Public Access Behavior

Reliability

Task Performance

Welfare Standards

Certification validity:

24 months

CHAPTER 163

INTERNATIONAL RECORDS

WDF may recognize:

Highest Championship Score

Most Titles Earned

Longest Active Career

Outstanding Working Achievement

CHAPTER 164

TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS

Only the WDF Technical Commission may issue:

Rule Revisions

Technical Clarifications

Championship Directives

Safety Bulletins

APPENDIX I

WDF INCLUSIVITY CHARTER

The WDF recognizes the value of:

- Purebred dogs
- Mixed-breed dogs
- Rescue dogs
- Working dogs
- Companion dogs

Participation shall be based on merit and welfare rather than breed identity.

APPENDIX II

WDF WELFARE DECLARATION

The physical and emotional welfare of the dog shall always take precedence over competition results, titles, rankings, breeding interests, commercial interests, and organizational objectives.