

PROPOSED REVISION TO CWA RULES FOR EVENTS

As stated in Chapter 1, Paragraph B. 8: "The Rules Committee shall be comprised of the Board of Directors. Drafts of proposed rule changes must be submitted to the Secretary by October 1. No proposals submitted after October 1 can be voted on. The Secretary shall post all drafts for discussion not later than October 5. Final versions of all proposals must be submitted by November 1. The Secretary shall distribute ballots to each Committee member as soon as possible thereafter, either electronically or by land mail. The deadline for Board members to vote on the proposals is January 1. Amendments to rules and regulations are passed if two-thirds of the submitted ballots are in favor."

Please complete the following three questions (to be shared with Rules Committee – a.k.a. CWA Board of Directors):

1. Identify the specific Chapter and Paragraph of the CWA Rules for Events you propose amending.

Chapter VI , Section C(1)(b). Adult Grading System/Grading Principles (highlighted section)

C. Grading Principles

All adult Whippets shall have a Grade Classification, A, B, C, D, or FTE. Whippets shall be seeded by using the grading guide. 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:

- a) Any whippet having a racing grade from the Whippet Racing Association (WRA), 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 CWA race meet.
- b) 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.

From that point on, the Whippet will earn his/her average, and therefore, grade qualification.

2. State in exact words what your proposed revision, deletion or addition is and where it would fit into existing wording.

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- b. In the event that a first time entered dog is known to be too fast to run safely in Grade D, it may be started, with the approval of both the race secretary and the owner, at any grade other than grade A. There are two ways to request this change. The final decision on whether or not the dog should start in a higher grade than D belongs to the race secretary.
 - i. Owners who believe their FTE Whippets to be too fast to run safely in Grade D may request that their dogs be started in a higher grade. Race Secretaries may use recommendations of other CWA Board members, or videos of the dog in question practicing with dogs in higher grades than D, to make the decision of whether or not to accept the owner's request.
 - ii. The Race Secretary has the option of moving up any FTE whippet that he/she has personal knowledge of, either from having seen it race as a puppy, or in training races. This change requires the owner's approval

3. State the justification or rationale for this proposed change (i.e. how it will improve or enhance the existing rule).

At the time the option of moving FTE dogs higher up in grade for the safety of all was introduced, the easy availability of videos to prove the dog's abilities did not exist. Adding in recommendations from other CWA Board members, many of whom are race secretaries in their own right, helps race secretaries make this call on dogs who may be coming in from other parts of the country and thus the race secretary has had no opportunity for personal observation of their abilities.

This change specifies that the final decision on this question belongs to the race secretary. The entire idea is to ensure safety for all racers, new and old, and to give race secretaries additional tools to work with in making the decision of the safest grade for individual dogs to start.

SIGNATURE *Lisa M Ochoa* DATE 10/1/21

Submit to the CWA Secretary by October 1

Krista Siehndel, CWA Secretary

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