

## INFORMATION FOR HOSTING AWMA CLUB TRIALS

This document provides guidance for groups hosting club trials. In addition to this information, clubs should be aware of the regulations governing IPO and VPG trials as covered in documents located at <http://www.dvgamerica.com/rules.html> that can be downloaded at no cost.

### Judges:

Judges approved to officiate at AWMA events include those licensed by any of the AWDF member organizations, including those from USA and DVG, and any other FCI recognized judge. However, the executive board of the AWMA may determine that any judge is unacceptable by a 2/3 majority vote. The Director of Judges will be aware of any disallowed judges as directed by the board of the AWMA. Host clubs are encouraged to contact the AWMA Director of Judges with the name of their judge before issuing the invitation to the judge for their trial. WDA program judges are not permitted. Judges may require that letters from the host club be sent to their umbrella organization to seek approval to judge the trial. Judges are limited to 30 phases per day. Each BH is two phases, with an additional phase if the written test is taken by the competitor. OB and TR entries are one phase per entry.

Host clubs should ask the judge if they should pre-arrange and pay for the judge's transportation. Clubs are required to cover transportation to and from the trial site. They are also required to pay for accommodations and meals for the same time period and miscellaneous costs for the judge (airport parking, taxis, etc). Judges will provide the host club with receipts in order to receive reimbursement. Clubs are also required to remit fees to the judge per guidelines of the judge's licensing body.

### Application process:

A request to hold the trial, including the dates, judge(s), titles to be offered, and documentation of proof of event insurance must be sent to your Regional Director at least 30 days prior to the trial date. The Regional Director will then forward the request to the Director of Judges for final approval. The Regional Director must submit information on the trial to the AWMA webmaster for inclusion on website no later than 14 days before the trial date. As per the AWMA by-laws (<http://www.workingmalinois.org/bylaws/>), the host club can allow all breeds or limit entries to Belgian Malinois. If restricted, that information must be clearly stated on the entry form and in the information submitted to the Regional Director, DOJ and webmaster.

### Trial paperwork:

Clubs set their own entry fees. These fees will include a \$5/title/dog filing fee to be remitted to the AWMA.

Clubs must use the forms found at <http://www.workingmalinois.org/membership/forms.shtml>. It is helpful to have pre-entries so these forms can be filled out in advance.

Upon completion of the trial, one copy of the signed forms must be submitted to the AWMA secretary along with a check for the filing fees. The secretary will then send the trial results to the webmaster for

inclusion on the AWMA website. It is also desirable for the host club to complete a brief narrative on the trial outcome and send it to the newsletter editor for inclusion in the newsletter.

Clubs should preferentially offer IPO titles. VPG titles may be offered as reciprocity with USA and DVG.

#### Competitors:

Competitors must show proof of membership in any AWDF organization.

Competitors may use a scorebook from any AWDF member organization, including USA and DVG. WDA scorebooks are not allowed, nor are USA-issued scorebooks that are designated for use at USA trials only. Competitors who do not present a scorebook prior to the beginning of the trial (temperament test or beginning of the first phase) will be required to post a \$50 refundable scorebook bond. The bond will be refunded upon presentation of the scorebook, which must be within 48 hours of the completion of the trial. If no scorebook is presented within the allotted time frame, the \$50 is forfeit, and the AWMA will issue a scorebook in the dog's name listing the dog as a mix and showing the trial results, which will be mailed to the handler.

Competitors who enter for OB or TR titles must attain these titles in sequence. For example, a dog that has attained an IPO 1 can enter for an OB 1 or 2 but cannot enter for an OB 3.

As per VDH and AZG regulations, and to ensure reciprocity with USA and DVG, a dog must have acquired a BH before trialing for an IPO 1 or VPG 1.

AWMA members should preferentially pursue IPO (vs VPG) titles.

Dogs must have a permanent identification in the form of a tattoo or microchip. If the dog is microchipped, the owner is required to provide a chip reader at the trial for the temperament test unless the club has specifically stated that it has a reader that will recognize the dog's type of chip.

#### Other information:

All dogs MUST be checked for permanent identification (tattoo or microchip) at the trial. If permanent identification is not available, the dog should be listed as "mix" in the trial report and scorebook, regardless of the breed listed in the scorebook.

If the club has a chip reader available, this information should be stated on the entry form along with the types of chips that can be read.

Clubs should ensure that permission has been obtained to use the tracking fields. As a rule of thumb, it requires about 5 acres per IPO3 track and 15 acres for an FH (with accommodations for change of terrain and the road crossing). Clubs must also provide regulation dumbbells, high jump, wall, gun and ammunition, blinds, and sufficient people to have a group and a person to fire the gun.

The trial secretary must be a member of the AWMA. Memberships run from June to June.