



WORKING DOG FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

TRIAL GUIDELINES & TRIAL BY LAWS

- **Planning on entering a W DFA Trial? Some facts you need to know!**
 - **W DFA's WD1-3, OB 1-3 and TR1-3 Program**
 - **Information for Trial Secretaries**
 - **W DFA Trial Regulations**
 - **W DFA State and National Trial Regulations**
-

PLANNING ON ENTERING A W DFA TRIAL? SOME FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW.

A Working Dog Federation of Australia (W DFA) scorebook or a recognised organization scorebook is required for entry in all trials.

Entrants must be a member of a W DFA or be a member of a W DFA recognised IGP sportdog organisation.

Foreign Membership: If your permanent residence is outside Australia you must provide valid membership information from your club where you hold your membership.

Foreign Scorebooks: If your permanent residence is outside Australia you must provide a valid scorebook from a W DFA recognised club where you are a member.

Imported Dogs: The W DFA Office needs to certify all imported dog's scorebooks before they can enter a trial. Titles recorded in these scorebooks that allow advancement to the next level must be obtained by a W DFA recognised judge.

Good Luck on Trial Day!

W DFA’s WD, OB & TR PROGRAM

Working Dog Federation of Australia (W DFA) has implemented the examination level WORKING DOG 1 (WD1), which is identical to IGP1, but without Phase A, tracking. Furthermore, W DFA offers the progressively higher levels of the Working Dog examination; namely Working Dog 2 (WD2) and Working Dog 3 (WD3). Which are identical to IGP2 and IGP 3, but without tracking. The examination level IGP will remain as a separate title.

TR & OB titles stand for TRACKING 1, 2 and 3 and OBEDIENCE 1, 2 and 3. These titles do not serve as any type of qualification for IGP. They are available to further increase involvement of the membership in our trials, to add more opportunities to gain the needed trial experience for the higher level IGP and to acquire sports medal points. This program will be for W DFA trials conducted by W DFA recognised judges. The results will be posted and recorded by Administration and published under Trial Results on the website.

The impartiality test administered at all trials will also be a requirement to participate for these titles.

The TRACKING 1, 2 and 3 and the OBEDIENCE 1, 2 and 3 will be judged by the same rules and regulations that apply to these phases in the IGP 1, 2 and 3 degrees. Dogs may compete at any level of these titles regardless of their current, if any, IGP degree.

The sports medal point total for these titles will be 1 point for the TRACKING and 1 point for the OBEDIENCE, requiring a “G” or better rating for the purpose of gaining points towards the Sports Medal Program. These points may only be counted once per title per dog.

Acceptable abbreviations for these titles are WD1, WD2, WD3, TR1, TR2, TR3, and OB1, OB2, and OB3.

INFORMATION FOR TRIAL SECRETARIES

(Also see the Trial Rules, ref Trial Chairperson)

At the completion of the trial the paperwork is done. The Trial Secretary must send the competitor’s individual Trial Entry Forms, each signed and stamped by the judge, a Trial Competitor Validation List, also filled out, signed and stamped by the judge, together with the appropriate trial filing fees (for details see **Trials**, point 20, below) to the Administrator of Records within 14 days of your trial.

No team can start in a trial without having filled out and signed a Trial Entry Form for each entry. Each team must handed over a certified scorebook to the Trial Secretary before the start of the trial. (See **Trials**, point 7.) To acquire a W DFA Inc. scorebook the entrant must be a W DFA Inc. member and applications must be endorsed by the Secretary of a Full W DFA Inc. Member Club. Scorebook Application Forms ([Scorebook Application Form](#)) are available from your club secretary or can be downloaded off the website. Notice of the trial results will be posted on the W DFA Inc. website and filed in the organisations records by Administration.

Before being returned, all the competitor’s scorebooks must be filled out with their trial results, signed by the judge and counter signed by the Trial Secretary. All competitors with passing scores must receive a Trial Certificate signed by the judge and counter signed by the Trial Steward. Clubs can purchase Trial Certificates from the Administrator of Records.

Trial Secretaries and Trial Stewards must be W DFA Inc. Members.

TRIAL REGULATIONS & BY LAWS

1. In order to ensure sufficient public notice, also in the Organisation's publication, member clubs will notify W DFA in writing of proposed trial dates and venues 2 months prior to the event. Special exceptions can be made by the BOM based on merit.
2. W DFA Trials are open to members of all similarly structured sportdog clubs (i.e.: those using FCI/VDH/SV rules) issuing an accredited scorebook.
3. Restrictions limiting participation by physically impaired handlers do not apply to W DFA Trials.
4. Member Clubs must only apply for and use licensed Judges from the following organisations: Working Dog Federation of Australia (W DFA), Working German Shepherd & Dogsport Clubs of Australasia (W GSDCA). If licensed under the terms of qualification required in the 2005 mandatory judge's apprentice program; All FCI recognised organisations or other internationally recognized IGP sportdog organisations.
5. Member Clubs must only use certified Helpers from the following organisations:
 - W DFA – Working Dog Federation of Australia (If licensed under the terms required in the W DFA Helper Program.)
 - FCI accepted Organisations or other internationally recognized IGP sportdog organisations.
6. All Trial entrants must produce evidence of a pass in BH before entering IGP trials. Entrants must produce evidence of a pass in IGP 1 before entering IGP 2 and respectively IGP 3. FH entrants must produce evidence of a pass in BH or IGP. A pass in BH is also required before participation in WD, OB and TR.
7. Only signed Certificates and Score Books of the following organisations will be accepted:
 - W DFA – Working Dog Federation of Australia
 - FCI accepted Organisations or other internationally recognized IGP sportdog organisations.
8. All entrants must be current financial members of their organisation.
9. All entries must be in writing on the relevant official entry form.
10. All entries must present their Score Book to the Trial Chairperson before the commencement of a Trial.
11. There is no waiting period between trials to the next higher examination level, so long as the dog has reached the minimum age for entry.
12. The limit on the number of dogs to be judged by one Judge in one day in a W DFA Trial is 12 dogs. Otherwise, it is as per the W DFA Trial Rules and the W DFA Variances.
13. All dogs entered in a W DFA Trials must pass an impartiality test and that it be clearly indicated to the Judge that a comprehensive character assessment of the dog must be conducted before competing.
14. Only dogs that have successfully completed the Trial will be eligible for awards.
15. At the conclusion of a Trial, all paperwork must be forwarded to the Administrator of records within fourteen (14) days of the Trial.
16. Only members of W DFA affiliated Clubs are eligible to obtain points towards W DFA Sports Medals.
17. All requests for Judges for any judging event are to be made in writing to the Chief Judge of W DFA. Where applicable, FCI Judges require validation by the Organisation of their trial scores on W DFA trial documents.

18. WDFFA Scorebook applications are required to have an identifying tattoo or microchip number included in their applications for their dog. If the preferred means of identification is a microchip, then it is the responsibility of the owner to provide a veterinary certification verifying the dog's microchip number, or for the owner to provide a reader for the judge to confirm the dog's identity on the day of the trial.
19. WDFFA will accept a record of previous trials and their results with signed and/or stamped certificates.
20. There will be a flat \$5 levy (payable to WDFFA) for each trial entry at all WDFFA sanctioned Trials with the exception of National trials (see National & State Trials).
21. That all dogs must present for and pass the BH Test prior to entering any events offered by WDFFA.
22. Only dogs from WDFFA recognised breeds are eligible for trialing in IGP dogsport, as per the guidelines set in the WDFFA Rules for Trials. The WDFFA National Championship is reserved for pedigreed dogs only.
23. WDFFA Score Books and Helper Passports remain the property of WDFFA and any entitlement to hold these documents is subject to compliance to the WDFFA trial rules and statutes governing their intended use. Failure to meet these conditions means the organisation (WDFFA) has the right to revoke or suspend the holder's use of the documents until compliance. The WDFFA Scorebook shall follow the dog.

That it is a condition of purchase of WDFFA Score Books that each of the aforementioned be made available for inspection at the request of the WDFFA Administrator of Records, or by a WDFFA Board member so delegated by the Administrator of Records. Failure to produce the requested document within (6) weeks will leave a member open to a restriction from WDFFA sanctioned events, at the discretion of the Board of Management, until such time as the relevant documentation is produced.

Any alteration to an entry in a Score Book, other than by the Administrator of Records or sanctioned in writing by the Administrator of Records, shall result in a five-year disqualification of the person found responsible from all WDFFA Sanctioned Trials, seminars or other such WDFFA events.
24. Members may trial under another family member by means of a written request for a permission to do so from the Board of Management, applied for on a case-by-case basis.

NATIONAL & STATE TRIAL REGULATIONS

1. The WDFFA National Trial is open to all WDFFA members and to members of all similarly structured Sportdog clubs (i.e.: Those following FCI/VDH/SV rules) that are issuing an accredited scorebook. (Special penalty fees will apply to entries of non-WDFFA members). No trial clearances will be granted in the same state the National is being held for one (1) month prior to the event, unless first receiving a special dispensation from the Board of Management.
2. The WDFFA National Championship Trial is to be held annually no later than mid-September of each year. State Trials are held at the discretion of the delegated host club in that State, but not within two weeks of a National event, or for one month prior if in the same State as the National. Or unless receiving first a special dispensation from the Board of Management.

To ensure the host club and BOM have sufficient time for preparation and finalising all approval criteria for the National event, applications for hosting the National close three months prior to the current National commencement date. BOM approval will be announced at the current National. Within six weeks of their acceptance to host a National Trial, the host club must supply to the WDFFA BOM a list of at least two judge's names, together with their résumés. Also required, in order of preference, is a Helpers and Tracklayers selection list, in accordance with the State and National Rules and considering availability at the actual time of the National event.
3. State clubs which have held a National Championship Trial cannot host the event the next year but can make an application to host a National Championship Trial in the absence of another State providing a host candidate.

4. In order to ensure minimum standards in the requirements for a club hosting a National only WDFFA Full Member (State) Clubs may host a WDFFA National Championship Trial or a State Championship Trial. Affiliated WDFFA clubs (not full members) may be eligible to host a National Championship upon receiving a special dispensation from the Board of Management.
5. To secure the WDFFA Grand National Championship for IGP titled dogs, a minimum grading of VG (Very Good) and a minimum score of 270 points is necessary to win the title. Only IGP 3 dogs are eligible to win the Grand National Championship title. National Championship titles are for IGP 1-3 National awards, the HOT (Handler Owner Trained) Champion award, the Team Champion award and the FH Champion award. All National Champion IGP titles require a minimum grading of G (Good) and a minimum score of 240 points to win the award. BH, FH, WD, TR and OB events are accepted at the National Trial but are not eligible for National Championship titles.
6.
 - a) The Team Champions event for the National Championship Trial shall comprise of a first to fourth place for teams representing a single WDFFA State club or affiliate club.
 - b) National Team Champion Awards will be presented to the teams with the highest combined scores of any pair or pairs taken from the same club.
7. Awards for the National Championship Trial shall be as follows:
 - a) WDFFA National Champions: IGP 1 (Minimum of 240 points required for title.)
 IGP 2 (Minimum of 240 points required for title.)
 IGP 3 (Minimum of 240 points required for title.)
 Grand National Champion*
 (*Only IGP3 dogs eligible. Minimum of 270 points required for title.)
 - b) WDFFA National Team Champions.
 - c) National H.O.T. Champion
 - d) National FH Champion

Note:

- i) WDFFA Certificates are provided for all place getters and qualifiers with passing scores.
- ii) Awards for National Champion IGP titles must qualify with scores of 240 points or better.

8.
 - a) The Judge for National Championship Trial will be selected by the Host Club and approved by the WDFFA Board of Management and the Chief Judge.
 - b) Any WDFFA Helper is eligible to make application to participate in an WDFFA sanctioned National Trial but this does not guarantee their acceptance by the host club or by the WDFFA Executive.
 - c) To ensure minimum standards in the requirements for a club hosting the National event, the WDFFA Board has the final approval of the National Judge, the National Helpers, the National awards and trophies and the National catalogue.
 - d) The Host Club shall levy a \$10 per dog trial fee for the WDFFA National Championship Trial, to be paid to WDFFA. IGP and FH entries shall be set at a total of \$80, BH shall be \$50 and WD/TR/OB shall be \$60. Dogs entering IGP cannot enter WD, TR and OB.
 - e) At all Championship trials sanctioned by Working Dog Federation of Australia, the WDFFA name shall be present in and on all forms of Championship event advertising, trophies, catalogues etc.

National Trial Entry Fees Schedule

Effective July 2022

Entry Type	W DFA Member Entry	Non-Member Entry		
BH	\$50.00	\$70.00		
TR 1- 3, OB 1 - 3	\$60.00	\$80.00		
WD 1- 3	\$60.00	\$80.00		
IGP1, IGP2, IGP3	\$80.00	\$100.00		
FH1, FH2	\$80.00	\$100.00		