



# AGILITY DOG ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA LTD

ABN 83 070 415 040

## IFCS WAC SELECTION - 2010

### **Introduction:**

This document sets out the process that the Agility Dog Association of Australia Ltd (ADAA) will use to select representatives to participate in the IFCS World Agility Championships to be held in 2010.

### **Purpose:**

The IFCS World Agility Championships (WAC) provides an opportunity for handlers from member countries to participate at an international level. ADAA is seeking to select the best team possible (including Team Captain and Team Coach), taking into account that handlers will be running dogs supplied by the host country (UK) for the event, to represent Australia.

### **Policy Statement:**

ADAA is aiming to send the highest calibre of handlers available to represent Australia at the WAC 2010. Handlers will be assessed based on their handling skills, their sportsmanship, and their performance at two WAC Selection Competitions. ADAA is also aiming to support the Handlers with a Team Captain and Team Coach. Their selection will be based on skills required to successfully support the Team.

### **Definitions:**

IFCS – International Federation of Cynological Sports

Member – person who is a recognised under one of the categories of membership and is financial

Mini – competition height class for dogs up to and including 400 mm at the wither

Midi – competition height class for dogs up to and including 500 mm at the wither

Maxi – competition height class for all dogs ie no restriction in height

Team Handler – a financial member of ADAA in good standing that has been selected to handle/run a dog at the WAC

Team Member - term used to indicate all members of the Australian IFCS WAC Team, including Captain, Coach, Handlers and any other support crew as approved by the Board of Directors

Toy – competition height class for dogs up to and including 300 mm at the wither

### **Responsibilities:**

Board of Directors – responsible for assessing applications and selecting Team Members

### **Procedure:**

#### **1. Event details**

##### **1.1 IFCS World Agility Championships 2010**

1.1.1 The IFCS World Agility Championships (WAC) is held every two years.

1.1.2 The Next WAC will be in England (Gloucestershire) between 17-20 June 2010.

1.1.2.1 Location: Hartpury College, Hartpury House, Gloucestershire, GL19 3BE, England.

1.1.2.2 Location website: [http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/equine/indoor\\_arena/](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/equine/indoor_arena/)

1.1.2.3 Planned schedule of dates (subject to minor changes):

1.1.2.3.1 Travel from Australia to UK: 10-11 June 2010 (2 days)

1.1.2.3.2 Training with Host Dogs in England: 12-15 June 2010 (4 days)

1.1.2.3.3 Venue Set-up and Team Rest Day: 16 June 2010 (1 day)

1.1.2.3.4 Check-in/Warm-up and Competition Dates: 17-20 June 2010 (4 days)

1.1.2.3.5 Travel UK to Australia: 21-22 June 2010 (2 days)

1.1.2.3.6 Total days a team member needs to commit to is 13 days.

1.1.3 At time of writing, participating countries may include:

- 1.1.3.1 England
- 1.1.3.2 USA
- 1.1.3.3 Canada
- 1.1.3.4 Japan
- 1.1.3.5 Russia
- 1.1.3.6 Spain
- 1.1.3.7 Belgium
- 1.1.3.8 Holland
- 1.1.3.9 Italy
- 1.1.3.10 South Africa (need host dogs)
- 1.1.3.11 Ukraine (need host dogs)
- 1.1.3.12 Australia (need host dogs)

## **1.2 Team composition**

- 1.2.1 Maximum Team members from each country will be 12 Handlers with not more than three dogs from each of the height classes (3 Toy, 3 Mini, 3 Midi and 3 Maxi dogs). . Any incident of harsh handling and/or bad sportsmanship by a member from time of release of this document and the Expression of Interest (EOI) up to and including time of departure to the WAC will be considered by the Board and may have a serious impact on the member being able to represent ADAA and Australia at a World Agility Championship. All Team Members will be ambassadors of ADAA and Australia and will be expected to show the highest levels of self discipline and good sportsmanship.
- 1.2.2 ADAA is aiming to send up to 12 Team Handlers to the WAC in 2010 (depending on the number and calibre of the response from members). The Team may include up to 6 Mini/Toy Handlers and up to 6 Midi/Maxi Handlers. ADAA is also aiming to send a Team Coach and a Team Captain. ADAA also plans to choose Reserves (Reserves do not go to England unless at their own expense and will not be reimbursed through any WAC Fundraising).

## **1.3 Team Selection**

- 1.3.1 Team Handlers and Reserves will be selected from Members who submit a Handler's Expression of Interest (EOI) on or before 30 April 2009. The Handler's EOI will require members to place themselves in either the Mini/Toy height group or the Maxi/Midi height group to handle either a Mini/Toy dog or a Maxi/Midi dog.
- 1.3.2 All Team Handlers, including Reserves will be initially selected from the members who achieve the most selection points to place in the top 12 positions in each of the two height groups of Mini/Toy and Maxi/Midi as determined at two WAC Selection Competitions (see 1.3.6 for details).
- 1.3.3 While a maximum of six (6) Team handlers will be selected for each height grouping (i.e. toy/mini and midi/maxi), the Board may decide there is a lack of depth and experience in the quality of EOI's submitted and/or as displayed in the WAC Selection Competitions and, as such, may decide by majority vote to limit the Team handlers selected to less than six (6) but at least three (3) for each height grouping. This allows for between one (1) and four (4) Handlers that achieved the highest points accumulation during the selection process and two (2) mandatory Wild Card Handlers to be selected.
- 1.3.4 For the Mini/Toy Height Group the top 12 Handlers with the highest number of selection points will be considered for final selection.
- 1.3.4.1 From the top 12 Handlers, the Board will select between one (1) and four (4) of the top 12 Handlers based on the highest accumulation of points and these Handlers will be given the opportunity to be on the Team as a Mini or Toy dog Handler (subject to meeting the requirements of this document, including the requirements of clause 4 and the Selection Criteria to be a Team Handler).
  - 1.3.4.2 As stated in clause 1.3.3, the Board may choose between one (1) and four (4) Handlers in each height group that are allocated from points accumulation. The decision to choose between one and four Handlers will be based on the quality of the EOI's submitted and/or as displayed in the WAC Selection Competitions. This decision will include consideration of whether ADAA would be better represented sending a reduced Team in difference to a full size Team with Team Handlers not suited to competing at WAC level with host dogs.
  - 1.3.4.3 No matter if the Board selects less than four (4) Handlers from those with the highest points accumulation, the Board of Directors will also choose two (2) Wild Card Handlers from the top 12 and will offer them the opportunity to be on the Team as a Mini or Toy dog Handler (subject to the requirements of this document, including the requirements of clause 4 and the Selection Criteria to be a Team Handler).

- 1.3.5 For the Maxi/Midi Height Group the top 12 Handlers with the highest number of selection points will be considered for final selection.
- 1.3.5.1 From the top 12 Handlers, the Board will select between one (1) and four (4) of the top 12 Handlers based on the highest accumulation of points and these Handlers will be given the opportunity to be on the Team as a Maxi or Midi dog Handler (subject to meeting the requirements of this document, including the requirements of clause 4 and the Selection Criteria to be a Team Handler).
- 1.3.5.2 As stated in clause 1.3.3, the Board may choose between one (1) and four (4) Handlers in each height group that are allocated from points accumulation. The decision to choose between one and four Handlers will be based on the quality of the EOI's submitted and/or as displayed in the WAC Selection Competitions. This decision will include consideration of whether ADAA would be better represented sending a reduced Team in difference to a full size Team with Team Handlers not suited to competing at WAC level with host dogs.
- 1.3.5.3 No matter if the Board selects less than four (4) Handlers from those with the highest points accumulation, the Board of Directors will also choose two (2) Wild Card Handlers from the top 12 and will offer them the opportunity to be on the Team as a Maxi or Midi dog Handler (subject to the requirements of this document, including the requirements of clause 4 and the Selection Criteria to be a Team Handler).
- 1.3.6 Selection points required to make the top 12 in each of the two height groups will be achieved by winning and/or placing in Advanced Agility and Jumping Tests, Open Gamblers and Open Snooker Classes held over two WAC Selection Competitions during 2009 (see 1.3.9).
- 1.3.7 The four mandatory "Wild Card" Handlers, two from each height group of Mini/Toy and Maxi/Midi will ensure the Team has "depth" and allow the Board to inject experience or a specific skill or strength into the Team that the Board feels may otherwise be lacking. The selection of two Wild Card Handlers in each height group will be by majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- 1.3.8 Reserves will be chosen from members who make the top 12 in each of the two height groups but do not actually make the Team. The WAC rules do not allow for use of Reserves outside the Team of 12 and thus there is no requirement to send Reserves to the WAC. Reserves will only be required to go to the WAC if a Team Handler chosen cannot attend the WAC (due to a last minute injury or some kind of urgent work/family crisis). Notwithstanding, Reserves can attend the WAC if they pay their own way, in which case ADAA would attempt to find a place on the team as a driver or assistant to reward commitment and attendance at training.
- 1.3.9 The WAC Selection Competition dates are:
- 1.3.9.1 6-8 June 2009 (Long Weekend) , and
- 1.3.9.2 2-5 October 2009 (Grand Prix).
- 1.3.10 All WAC Selection Events will be normal titling rounds with Clear Round and Qualification cards issued and will be open for participation by all ADAA members. Venues for both WAC Selection Competitions will be mid-way (or thereabouts) between Sydney and Brisbane.
- 1.3.11 The Captain and the Coach will work together at the WAC to choose the best handler/dog combinations from the dogs made available, and to choose Handlers for the Team Events.

## **2. Team Captain – Roles and Responsibilities and Selection Criteria**

### **2.1 Position Description**

- 2.1.1 The Team Captain is primarily an administrative and managerial role. The focus of the Team Captain is one of overall leadership, management, liaison and communication. The Team Captain must have previous WAC/International experience. The Team Captain also represents the interests of ADAA and the Board of Directors.

### **2.2 Roles and Responsibilities**

- 2.2.1 Represent ADAA and Australia in a professional manner and not bring ADAA or Australia into disrepute.
- 2.2.2 Coordinate with the Board of Directors and the Team in the purchasing of Team uniforms.
- 2.2.3 Attend any Team training sessions in the months leading up to the WAC and on arrival at location.
- 2.2.4 Work closely with the IFCS WAC representative (Steve Drinkwater) to communicate to the Team all relevant decisions and information provided by the WAC organising committee.
- 2.2.5 Coordinate the Team's travel plans and manage the team during periods of travel.
- 2.2.6 Be available in the months leading up to the WAC to deal with any disputes, complaints or problems that may arise during preparation.
- 2.2.7 Provide regular updates to the ADAA Board of Directors on any such problems, and in conjunction with the Team Coach, any relevant information pertaining to the welfare of a Team Member or their host dog.
- 2.2.8 Liaise directly with WAC officials as the primary representative of the Australian Team.

- 2.2.9 Attend all meetings held by the WAC organising committee and represent the Team with regards to dealing with officials, registering and dealing with complaints/disputes, finding out about rules, times and locations for events etc.
- 2.2.10 Liaise directly with the owners of borrowed (host) dogs to ensure that their dogs' needs are understood and met.
- 2.2.11 Work closely with the Team Coach to match the best Handler and host dog combination.
- 2.2.12 Interpret and communicate relevant information to the team in a timely manner on a need-to-know basis.
- 2.2.13 Work closely with the Team Coach at the WAC to choose the best Handlers for the 3 dog Team Events.
- 2.2.14 Respect the confidentiality of any personal information of Team Members and/or support crew.
- 2.2.15 Reports directly to the Board of Directors.
- 2.2.16 Represent the interests of ADAA and the Board of Directors.

### **2.3 Selection Criteria**

- 2.3.1 The Team Captain will not handle a dog at the WAC.
- 2.3.2 The Team Captain must be a current financial member of ADAA.
- 2.3.3 The Team Captain must have been a Member of ADAA for at least two years prior to close of the EOI.
- 2.3.4 The Team Captain must be an Adult, over the age of 18 on the first day of the WAC.
- 2.3.5 The Team Captain may or may not be a member of the Board of Directors and/or a Judge.
- 2.3.6 The Team Captain must be able to demonstrate past experience at an IFCS World Agility Championship (WAC) in an official capacity, including one of the following:
  - 2.3.6.1 Team Coach,
  - 2.3.6.2 Team Captain,
  - 2.3.6.3 Team Handler,
  - 2.3.6.4 "other" Team position,
  - 2.3.6.5 IFCS and/or Host Country WAC official,
  - 2.3.6.6 IFCS WAC Judge,
  - 2.3.6.7 ADAA will also consider past experience in an official capacity at other major international Agility Competitions.
- 2.3.7 The Team Captain will demonstrate excellent administrative skills including organisational and coordination skills.
- 2.3.8 The Team Captain will demonstrate excellent communication skills including the ability to communicate in a courteous but firm manner with WAC officials and Team Members.
- 2.3.9 The Team Captain will demonstrate the ability to gain a rapid understanding of relevant IFCS processes for the conduct of the WAC.
- 2.3.10 The Team Captain will be available for the full period of the WAC and as needed in the months leading up to the WAC.
- 2.3.11 The Team Captain will be required to meet all pertinent requirements of this document with regards to passports and medical insurance.
- 2.3.12 The Team Captain will be required to (usually) respond to email correspondence regarding the WAC within than 36 hours.
- 2.3.13 The Board of Directors will release an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Team Captain. The Team Captain EOI can be found on the ADAA website.
- 2.3.14 The Team Captain EOI must be submitted to the Board of Directors on or before close of business on 31 March 2009. Interested members should submit a response advising the Board of Directors of their interest to hold the position of Team Captain and to advise the Board of their qualifications and state why they believe they should get the job. Interested members should pay due attention to the selection criteria outlined in this document.
- 2.3.15 The Team Captain will be chosen by majority vote of the Board of Directors from members who submitted an Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Board. In case of a split decision the Board Chairman would be given a second vote.
- 2.3.16 If a Board member, including the Chair has submitted an EOI for Team Captain, then they must abstain from a vote. If the Chair has submitted an EOI, then the Deputy Chair would break a split vote. If both the Chairman and Deputy Chairman have conflict of interest (submitted an EOI for Team Captain) and cannot cast a vote, then the Director Judging would be used to break the tie.
- 2.3.17 The Board of Directors will publicly announce the Team Captain on or before 30 April 2009.
- 2.3.18 The Board of Directors will endeavour to cover the travel costs of the Team Captain with regards to airfares and hotel expenses up to a maximum of \$5000.00 and will only cover hotel and meal expenses for the duration of the WAC, as stated in this document (including the five days leading up to the start of the WAC).

### **3. Team Coach – Roles and Responsibilities and Selection Criteria**

#### **3.1 Position Description**

3.1.1 The Team Coach is primarily a coaching and mentoring role. The focus of the Team Coach is to provide handling and strategy advice, coordinate training sessions, and to act in a support role to Team Handlers. The Team Coach has a focus on the Team Members' and host dogs' welfare, rather than a focus on dealing with WAC officials and administrative details.

#### **3.2 Roles and Responsibilities**

- 3.2.1 Represent ADAA and Australia in a professional manner and not bring ADAA or Australia into disrepute.
- 3.2.2 Coordinate any Team training sessions in the months leading up to the WAC and on arrival at location.
- 3.2.3 Be very familiar with and experienced in teaching different handling techniques and provide high level and innovative training and handling advice (as required) to the Team in the months leading up to the WAC and at the WAC.
- 3.2.4 Have a good understanding of any relevant information that may affect a Team Member's ability to compete at the WAC.
- 3.2.5 Provide an empathetic and non-judgmental support role to Team Members.
- 3.2.6 Play a conflict resolution role in the event of disputes between Team Members and/or support crew.
- 3.2.7 When opportunity presents itself, gain a basic understanding of the handling strengths and weaknesses of each Team Handler so as to be better prepared to make an informed decision when it comes time to matching a host dog to an individual Handler. Further, when required/requested, provide handling and Games strategy advice to Team Handlers.
- 3.2.8 Team Handlers have been selected due to their proven ability to perform at the highest levels within ADAA. Each Team Handler is best placed to know their own strengths and weaknesses and after some training with their host dogs – have the best idea on their limitations as a dog/handler team. As such, the Team Coach responsibility does not include dictating or controlling how a Team Handler will run a host dog or run a specific course. Advice should be given when a Handler asks for it. Advice may also be offered, but not dictated to a Handler when a Coach feels such advice may be warranted – but was not asked for. In such case, the advice must be given in a supportive manner.
- 3.2.9 Ensure that the day-to-day needs of the Team are met during the WAC, including such things as access to water and snacks/fruit during each day's competition.
- 3.2.10 In conjunction with the Team Captain provide regular updates to the ADAA Board of Directors on any relevant information pertaining to the welfare of a Team Member or their host dog.
- 3.2.11 Work closely with the Team Captain to match the best Handler and host dog combination.
- 3.2.12 Work closely with the Team Captain at the WAC to choose the best Handlers for the 3 dog Team Events.
- 3.2.13 Respect the confidentiality of any personal information of Team Members and/or support crew.
- 3.2.14 Represent the interests of ADAA and the Board of Directors.

#### **3.3 Selection Criteria**

- 3.3.1 The Team Coach will not handle a dog at the WAC.
- 3.3.2 The Team Coach must be a current financial member of ADAA.
- 3.3.3 The Team Coach must have been a Member of ADAA for at least two years prior to close of the EOI.
- 3.3.4 The Team Coach must be an Adult, over the age of 18 on the first day of the WAC.
- 3.3.5 The Team Coach may be a member of the Board of Directors and/or a Judge.
- 3.3.6 The Team Coach will demonstrate excellent people skills, including empathy and communication skills.
- 3.3.7 The Team Coach will demonstrate superior understanding of the rules of Agility, including Gamblers and Snooker.
- 3.3.8 The Team Coach will be an experienced Agility Handler and will demonstrate superior understanding and knowledge of handling skills and strategy, and a demonstrated ability to instruct, assist and coach others to improve their performance and skills.
- 3.3.9 The Team Coach will be available for the travel dates of the WAC.
- 3.3.10 The Team Coach will be available for any Team training sessions set before departure.
- 3.3.11 The Team Coach must already have (or be prepared to arrange access to) and be familiar with Clean Run Course Design (to view training assignments and/or courses set by WAC Judges).
- 3.3.12 The Team Coach will be required to meet all pertinent requirements of this document with regards to passports and medical insurance.
- 3.3.13 The Team Coach will be required to (usually) respond to email correspondence regarding the WAC within more than 36 hours.
- 3.3.14 The Board of Directors will release an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Team Coach. The Team Coach EOI can be found on the ADAA website.

- 3.3.15 The Team Coach EOI must be submitted to the Board of Directors on or before close of business on 30 April 2009. Interested members should submit a response advising the Board of Directors of their interest to hold the position of Team Coach and to advise the Board of their qualifications and state why they believe they should get the job. Interested members should pay due attention to the selection criteria outlined in this document.
- 3.3.16 The Board of Directors will select a Team Coach from the EOI's submitted by majority vote. In case of a split decision the Board Chairman would be given a second vote.
- 3.3.17 If a Board member, including the Chair has submitted an EOI for Team Coach, then they must abstain from a vote. If the Chair has submitted an EOI, then the Deputy Chair would break a split vote. If both the Chairman and Deputy Chairman have conflict of interest (submitted an EOI for Team Coach) and cannot cast a vote, then the Director Judging would be used to break the tie.
- 3.3.18 The Board of Directors will endeavour to cover the travel costs of the Team Coach with regards to airfares and hotel expenses up to a maximum of \$5000.00 and will only cover hotel and meal expenses for the duration of the WAC, as stated in this document (including the five days leading up to the start of the WAC competition).

#### **4. Team Handler – Roles and Responsibilities and Selection Criteria**

##### **4.1 Position Description**

- 4.1.1 A Team Handler will be an experienced and skilled Agility Handler who is accustomed to winning in all forms of Agility, including Gamblers and Snooker. The Team Handler will be required to compete at the WAC with a host dog as provided by the host nation. The Team Handler must accept the dog they are matched with and do their best with the host dog provided. The Team Handler will be required to represent ADAA and Australia at the WAC 2010 and compete in all classes possible, including Standard Agility, Jumping, Gamblers and Snooker.

##### **4.2 Roles and Responsibilities**

- 4.2.1 Represent ADAA and Australia in a professional manner and not bring ADAA or Australia into disrepute.
- 4.2.2 Attend any Team training sessions in the months leading up to the WAC and on arrival at location.
- 4.2.3 Be very familiar with and experienced in different handling techniques.
- 4.2.4 Treat all Team Members with respect.
- 4.2.5 Ask for advice from Team Coach and/or Team Captain when required.
- 4.2.6 Receive handling advice in a friendly and polite manner from all Team Members, including Team Captain and Team Coach.
- 4.2.7 Team Handlers are expected to listen to more experienced Team Handlers and the Team Coach/Captain with regards to handling advice – however, all Handlers have the ultimate responsibility to run a course that they believe best suits the skills and ability of themselves and/or their host dog.
- 4.2.8 Team Handlers are required to follow the direction and rules set by the Team Captain and/or Team Coach with regards to administrative processes at pre-training, WAC training and actual WAC competition, including travel arrangements, any night time curfews and meeting times. Team Handlers must also accept any Team Event selection by the Team Captain and Coach.
- 4.2.9 Team Handlers will be required to be friendly and courteous to fellow competitors and officials at the WAC. This includes responsible and courteous behaviour when being a spectator.
- 4.2.10 Advise the Team Captain or Coach of any changes to fitness or health that may affect the ability to compete and/or travel.
- 4.2.11 Respect the confidentiality of any personal information of Team Members and/or support crew.
- 4.2.12 Team Handlers will be responsible for practicing any personal training programmes dictated by the Team and provide any training videos requested.

##### **4.3 Selection Criteria**

- 4.3.1 A Team Handler must be a current financial member of ADAA.
- 4.3.2 There is no minimum time set as a member of ADAA to be a Team Handler.
- 4.3.3 A Team Handler must be at least 15 years of age on the first day of competition at the WAC.
- 4.3.4 A Team Handler needs to be able to state in an Expression of Interest (EOI) their ability to self fund the costs of representing Australia at a WAC.
- 4.3.5 A Team Handler needs to be able to state in an EOI their ability to obtain time away from work/family commitments for 13 days in June 2010 for the WAC.
- 4.3.6 A Team Handler should have a good understanding of the rules of Agility, including Gamblers and Snooker.

- 4.3.7 A Team Handler must be able to demonstrate a proven level of experience and success (winning) at running fast dogs at both the Open and Advanced level.
- 4.3.7.1 Such experience at this level will be acquired by default during the WAC Selection Competitions – requiring Handlers to achieve points for winning and placing in Advanced Agility and Jumping Tests and Open Gamblers and Snooker.
- 4.3.7.2 The EOI will provide an opportunity for Handlers to demonstrate previous experience and success (i.e. winning) at the Advanced level for Agility and Jumping and Open level for Gamblers and Snooker. The achievement of Clear Round and/or Qualifying Certificates and subsequent Titles, does not in itself prove that a Handler has the skills and experience to perform and win against the world's best at a WAC.
- 4.3.8 A Team Handler will be available for the travel dates of the WAC.
- 4.3.9 The Team Handler will make their best efforts to be available for any Team training sessions set before departure.
- 4.3.10 A Team Handler must already have or be prepared to arrange access to Clean Run Course Design (to view training assignments and any received practice courses from WAC Judges).
- 4.3.11 The Board of Directors will release an Expression of Interest (EOI) for Team Handlers. The Team Handler EOI can be found on the ADAA website.
- 4.3.12 The Team Handler EOI must be submitted to the Board of Directors on or before close of business on 30 April 2009. Interested members should submit an EOI advising the Board of Directors of their interest to hold the position of Team Handler and to advise the Board of their skills and achievements and state why they believe they should represent Australia. Interested members should pay due attention to the selection criteria outlined in this document.
- 4.3.13 A Team Handler will be required to meet all pertinent requirements of this document with regards to passports and medical insurance.

## **5. Expressions of Interest**

### **5.1 Member Submissions**

- 5.1.1 Members may submit an EOI for more than one position.
- 5.1.2 An EOI from any Team Member who demonstrates verbal or physical abuse to a dog or fellow competitors or acts abusive or challenging to an Agility Judge may be declined and/or cancelled.
- 5.1.3 EOI forms can be downloaded from <http://www.adaa.com.au/wac/eoi-2010.htm>.

### **5.2 Team Handlers**

- 5.2.1 The selection process for Team Handlers requires members to register an Expression of Interest (EOI) with the Board on or before the close of business on 30 April 2009.
- 5.2.1.1 If a member has not registered a Handler EOI by 30 April 2009, they cannot be deemed eligible for selection as a Team Handler.
- 5.2.1.2 The Handler EOI will require the member to choose between being a Toy/Mini dog Handler or a Midi/Maxi dog Handler. A Member must choose one or the other and cannot register for both.
- 5.2.1.3 A member who registers within the Handler EOI as a Mini/Toy dog Handler may be given either a Mini or Toy host dog – as decided by the Team Captain and Coach. All effort will be made to match the best dog to best suit individual Handlers. A Mini/Toy dog Handler would not be given a Maxi/Midi dog to run.
- 5.2.1.4 A member who registers within the Handler EOI as a Midi/Maxi dog Handler may be given either a Midi or Maxi host dog – as decided by the Team Captain and Coach. All effort will be made to match the best dog to best suit individual Handlers. A Midi/Maxi dog Handler would not be given a Mini/Toy dog to run.
- 5.2.1.5 At a WAC Selection Competition a member who has submitted a Handler EOI may only achieve points once for any one Class within their nominated height group. That is to say, a Handler who has nominated as a Midi/Maxi Handler in their EOI may be running several dogs across several Classes at a WAC Selection Competition (for example the Grand Prix), they may even be running a dog in each height Class of Toy, Mini, Midi or Maxi. However, before the start of judging for the Day, they must nominate a dog from either the Midi or Maxi Class and that is the only dog they can achieve points with for that Skill Group at that WAC Selection Competition. They may nominate another dog for a different Skill Group at that WAC Selection Competition.
- 5.2.1.6 The Handler EOI will not require the handler to nominate dogs at time of submission of the EOI. However all Handlers who have submitted an EOI will be issued with a nomination form for each day of WAC Selection Competition. The Handler must submit details of the dog(s) to accumulate points/results (for all relevant events), prior to the advertised start time of judging for

- the day, to a designated ADAA official. The dog must be on the IP register and must be eligible to enter the Class under normal ADAA Agility Regulations.
- 5.2.1.7 The member is not restricted to any one dog or any limit in the number of dogs they achieve points with. The only criteria set for dogs is that the dog is registered with ADAA on the IP register, is eligible to enter the Class and the member has nominated to run that dog in the nominated event before the start of judging for the day.
- 5.2.2 The EOI also requires all potential Team Handlers to agree in writing that they can arrange time away from work/family commitments for 13 days in June 2010 for the WAC and the pre-WAC training. Expected agenda (subject to change) is shown below:
- 5.2.2.1 Team Handlers should have a minimum of two days of training in England with their host dog just prior to the WAC. The schedule will allow for 4 days, 2 days on the weekend prior to the WAC and 2 days during the mid-week days prior to the WAC. The 4 days will be required to cover a variety of host dog owners who will vary in their availability to provide their host dog. Some owners will be able to provide their dogs on the weekend before the WAC and some will not. Some Handlers may be able to train for 3 or even 4 days – the owner of the host dog will dictate availability for training over the four days allocated.
- 5.2.2.2 Four days training with host dogs, 4 days of the WAC, a rest day on the 16 June (venue set-up by officials), 2 days travel (each way) for a total commitment of 13 days in the month of June 2010.
- 5.2.3 The Handler listed on the EOI and handling the dog at the WAC Selection Competitions will be the only Handler allowed to compete at the IFCS WAC.

## **6. Handler Points Accumulation**

### **6.1 Skill Groups**

- 6.1.1 The WAC Selection Process has grouped WAC Selection Classes into four Skill Groups, being:
- 6.1.1.1 Skill Group 1 = Advanced Agility Test.
- 6.1.1.2 Skill Group 2 = Advanced Jumping Test.
- 6.1.1.3 Skill Group 3 = Open Gamblers.
- 6.1.1.4 Skill Group 4 = Open Snooker
- 6.1.2 The WAC Selection Process will favour (by way of bonus points) Handlers who show they can win or place in a Class of 10 or more bona fide entries from Selection rounds from each of the four skill groups.
- 6.1.3 Points during the selection process and WAC Selection Competitions will be earned by a registered Handler (via submitting an EOI) against the nominated dog for a first, second or third placing in each of the Skill Groups. Bonus points will be awarded for achieving points from two or more Skill Groups from Classes that ran 10 or more bona fide entries. The bonus points will be awarded for multiple wins and/or placings over the four skill groups from the two WAC Selection Competitions. The Board will use the best result (may only be a single result if a Handler only attends one WAC Selection Competition) and after discarding the worst result (if applicable) will then apply the bonus points (if any). A Handler cannot be awarded more than one set of bonus points from clauses 6.1.6.4 through 6.1.6.9 inclusive.
- 6.1.4 The Handler will be awarded different points for a win or a placing (second or third) in up to two (2) Classes from each Skill Group. Each Skill Group will be offered at each of the two WAC Selection Competition dates.
- 6.1.5 The Handler's best result from each Skill Group will be accumulated. In other words, ADAA will drop the member's worst score (if applicable) from each Skill Group. This provides the advantage of allowing a member the opportunity to be selected for the Team, even if they can only participate at one of the WAC Selection Competitions.
- 6.1.6 Points that can be achieved by registered Handlers who have submitted an EOI are as follows:
- 6.1.6.1 First place (win) from any Skill Group = 25 points.
- 6.1.6.2 Second place from any Skill Group = 15 points.
- 6.1.6.3 Third place from any Skill Group = 10 points.
- 6.1.6.4 A Handler that achieves first place (win) points in four Skill Groups, in which any three of the four Classes had 10 or more bona fide entries running, will receive a bonus of 20 points.
- 6.1.6.5 A Handler that achieves first place points in three Skill Groups, in which any two of the three Classes had 10 or more bona fide entries running, will receive a bonus of 15 points.
- 6.1.6.6 A Handler that achieves first place points in two Skill Groups, in which at least one of the two Classes had 10 or more bona fide entries running, will receive a bonus of 10 points.
- 6.1.6.7 A Handler that achieves a win or placing (second and/or third place points) in four Skill Groups, in which any three of the four Classes had 10 or more bona fide entries running, will receive a bonus of 15 points.

- 6.1.6.8 A Handler that achieves a win or placing (second and/or third place points) in three Skill Groups, in which any two of the three Classes had 10 or more bona fide entries running will receive a bonus of 10 points.
- 6.1.6.9 A Handler that achieves a win or placing (second and/or third place points) in two Skill Groups, in which at least one of the two Classes had 10 or more bona fide entries running will receive a bonus of 5 points.
- 6.1.7 From the top 12 Handlers with the most accumulated points in each of the two height groups, the Board of Directors will select up to four (4) Handlers with the most accumulated points. Subject to their ability to meet the requirements of the selection criteria, up to a maximum of four (4) Handlers in each height group will be nominated as Team Handlers on the Team.
- 6.1.8 The Board will choose a further 2 Wild Card Handlers from each of the two height groups. Subject to their ability to meet the requirements of the selection criteria, these 2 Wild Card Handlers (in each height group) will become Team Handlers and will be nominated as a Team Handler on the Team.
- 6.1.9 Reserve Team Handlers will also be chosen from the remaining Handlers in the top 12 in each height Group, based on points accumulation. Reserve Handlers will also be chosen subject to their ability to meet the requirements of the selection criteria.
- 6.1.10 Should the Board of Directors be placed in such a situation that Team Handlers selected on points (not a Wild Card) cannot self fund and/or meet all the requirements of the selection criteria, the Board will select the first Reserve. If after working through the Reserves, using points accumulated and the ability to meet the selection criteria, the Board of Directors is still unable to select up to four (4) Team Handlers (from points accumulation), then in such a case the Board of Directors may choose a third Wild Card Handler from outside the top 12 in each Height Group or send a Team with Reduced Team Handlers.
- 6.1.11 Should the Board of Directors be placed in such a situation that any one of the original four (4) Wild Card Handlers is not able to self fund, arrange time off work or meet all of the selection criteria, then the Board may choose another Wild Card Handler, by first choosing from the top 12 in each height group, and then if needed, going outside the top 12 in each height group. The Board will choose by majority vote.
- 6.1.12 The Board of Directors will choose the Team Handlers, including Reserves and the four Wild Cards based on majority vote.
  - 6.1.12.1 The Chair will get a vote.
  - 6.1.12.2 In case of a tie – the Chair will get a second vote.
  - 6.1.12.3 If a Board member, including the Chair has achieved enough points to make the top 12 Handlers (in their nominated height group), then they must abstain from a vote for their nominated height group. If the Chair has achieved enough points to be in the top 12 of their nominated height group, then the Deputy Chair will break a tied vote for the height group in question. If both the Chairman and Deputy Chairman have conflict of interest (as above) and cannot cast a vote, then the Director Judging will be used to break the tie.
- 6.1.13 The Board has the final right to select a Mini/Toy Handler and ask them to run a Mini or Toy dog at the WAC, or choose a Maxi/Midi Handler and ask them to run a Maxi or Midi dog at the WAC. The Board will not ask a Toy dog Handler to run a Maxi dog or a Midi dog Handler to run a Mini dog, etc.
- 6.1.14 Selected Team and Reserve Handlers have until close of business on 15 January 2010 to accept or withdraw the nomination. Acceptance will be required in writing in a format to be determined by the Board.
- 6.1.15 When Team Handlers withdraw from the Team, then Reserves and next in selection step up to the Reserve position and would have two weeks to accept. After two weeks, the invitation goes to next person in line. If a Wild Card Handler is asked to become a member of the Team, they will also have two weeks to accept the position.

## **7. Funding**

### **7.1 Costs**

- 7.1.1 Individual Team Handlers, including the four “Wild Card Handlers chosen, will be responsible for all costs associated with airfares, travel, hotels and meals. ADAA will aim to fundraise to cover the cost of the Team Captain and Team Coach (up to \$5000.00 each) and also for team uniforms and transport (Mini van) to and from the hotel/venue. If, from fundraising, there are funds left after covering the costs of the Team Captain and Team Coach, team uniforms and mini van hire (to and from hotel/venue), then ADAA will distribute equitably any funds left over between the Team Handlers.
  - 7.1.1.1 ADAA believes that a Team Handler will require between \$4000.00 and \$5000.00 to cover expenses (airfares, hotel and meals) of attending a WAC.

## **7.2 Fundraising**

- 7.2.1 All Team Handlers will be required to assist in fundraising activities.
- 7.2.2 All fundraising by ADAA, ADAA affiliated Clubs and/or Individual ADAA Members that makes any reference to the WAC will be “pooled” and equitably divided among all Team Handlers once the required funding has been used/allocated to cover the costs allocated to Team Captain and Team Coach. Where a Team Handler sources funds from an external source (eg grant, personal donation), then this may be taken into account when determining the distribution of the balance of the fundraising “pool”.
- 7.2.3 Team Handlers who do not participate in Team Fundraising may not receive an equal share or may receive no share of any funds available.

## **8. General Obligations**

### **8.1 Sportsmanship/Behaviour**

- 8.1.1 This is a team sport; therefore all Team Members must show sportsmanship and team spirit (as a competitor, Team Official or spectator). Team Members are representing ADAA and Australia. Failure to meet any of these expectations is cause for dismissal from the Team. This includes blatant failure (no acceptable reason) to participate in training exercises, fundraising and Team discussions.
- 8.1.2 Team Handlers must be in good standing with ADAA. Any Team Handler who receives a misconduct charge after earning a Team position on the ADAA IFCS World Team, including during the IFCS WAC, may also be subject to sanction by the Coach and Captain.
- 8.1.3 Any known charge of misconduct, harsh handling or abusive behaviour by a Member from another sporting organisation, including other dog related organisations may be considered by the Board of Directors and may prevent a Member from being selected as a Team Member.

### **8.2 Eligibility to Apply**

- 8.2.1 Team Handlers should be an Australian citizen. Any ADAA member that is not an Australian citizen and wishes to submit an EOI for a Team Handler position should contact the Board of Directors as soon as possible and advise all relevant details so that ADAA may request status, advice and approval from the IFCS. Rules on citizenship are controlled by the IFCS and are outside the control of ADAA.
- 8.2.2 Team Captain, Team Coach and other Team support roles do not have to be Australian citizens.
- 8.2.3 If a Team Handler has competed at a previous IFCS WAC for another country, under any flag other than Australia, they may be ineligible to represent Australia under IFCS rules. In such case, the Member should contact the Board of Directors as soon as possible so that clarification may be sought from the IFCS.
- 8.2.4 All Team Members must have a valid passport (with at least 6 months left before expiry date), before 1 March 2010 and will be required to have their own travel/medical insurance. ADAA will require proof and details of overseas medical insurance before departure. All Team Members must be eligible for entry into the UK.

### **8.3 Juniors**

- 8.3.1 Any Team Handler younger than 18 years of age must be accompanied to the WAC by a parent or legal guardian at their own expense (eg air, hotel & ground travel). The WAC Selection Competitions will require normal ADAA competition requirements with regards to minors and guardian supervision. Any pre-departure Team Training will require supervision of a minor by a parent or legal guardian in accordance with normal requirements for an ADAA Competition.

### **8.4 Medical Conditions**

- 8.4.1 The Team Captain and Coach must inform the Board of Directors of any medical conditions that they may have such as allergies, seizures, asthma etc.
- 8.4.2 The Team Captain and Coach must be informed of any medical conditions that the Team Member may have such as allergies, seizures, asthma etc.

### **8.5 Announcement of Team Members**

- 8.5.1 All WAC Team Members (including Reserves and Captain/Coach) will be chosen and announced on or before 15 December 2009.
- 8.5.2 Team Handlers acknowledge that, due to circumstances beyond its control, ADAA (and the host organisation) may not be able to provide a dog for every Team Handler to compete at the WAC (for whatever reason) despite their best efforts. Any shortfall in the number of dogs to match the number of Team Handlers will be advised as soon as known, however Team Handlers acknowledge that this may not be apparent until after arriving at the WAC (eg injured/ill dog) and that there will be no recourse against ADAA (or the host organisation) should this occur.

**Stakeholders to be consulted prior to policy change:**

Board of Directors

**Related documents**

Memorandum and Articles of Association

Agility Regulations 8.1 Edition

Expression of Interest Team Captain WAC form FOR-MEM-042

Expression of Interest Team Coach WAC form FOR-MEM-043

Expression of Interest Team Handler WAC form FOR-MEM-044

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action (Created/Reviewed)</b>	<b>Created/Reviewed by</b>	<b>Next review due</b>
18 January 2009	Created	Director Judging	19 January 2009
19 January 2009	Revised	Board of Directors	19 January 2009
20 January 2009	Approved	Board of Directors	