

Amend Section XIII, Item D (page 18) as follows:

~~D. *Junior Racing Dog (JrRD) and Senior Racing Dog (SrRD) titles.* Adult whippets that complete all programs of 15 NAWRA race meets that award at least one RCH point, without scratching and without being disqualified, shall earn the Junior Racing Dog (JrRD) title, which may be used as a suffix to the registered name. Upon completion of 30 such meets, the dog shall earn the Senior Racing Dog (SrRD) title, which then replaces the JrRD title. Dogs with RCH or SRCH titles will not also use the JrRD or SrRD titles. Race meets held prior to approval of these titles may be used towards satisfaction of the requirements, providing that the owner or agent presents copies of published race results when applying for the titles to the National Race Director. The first named owner of dogs earning JrRD and SrRD titles will receive a certificate from the National Race Director acknowledging the accomplishment.~~

D. *Sprint Racer (SR) and Sprint Racer of Merit (SRM)* The title of Sprint Racer (SR) is awarded when a whippet earns 50 SR points; the titles of Sprint Racer of Merit (SRM) and multiples (SRM2, SRM3, etc.) are awarded with each ADDITIONAL 100 SR points. These titles are listed as a suffix to the registered name of the hound, but only one such title may be used at any one time. The SRM replaces the SR, the SRM2 replaces the SRM; the championship title (RCH) replaces all Sprint Racer titles and the recording of SR points is discontinued when the hound earns the NAWRA championship title (RCH).

Hounds must compete in all scheduled programs in order to earn SR points. An SR point is earned for each dog defeated in the final order of finish up to a maximum of 10 SR points per meet.

SR points will be recorded by the Registrar-Recorder and presented on the NAWRA web site. SR points earned during the 2001 season will be tabulated and "grandfathered" in, but no records prior to January 2001 will be considered. Completed SR and SRM awards will be listed on the NAWRA web site. Certificates documenting the completion of these titles may be purchased from NAWRA.

Reason for Submitting

To recognize the efforts of those dogs that place consistently and competitively within the lower grades with a meaningful award.

Currently, a dog need only compete in a certain number of race meets **with no regard for level of competition** before becoming eligible for NAWRA's non-championship awards. The proposed SR/SRM award would

replace North American whippet racing's only "participation" award with a more meaningful indication of a dog's abilities.

Why are non-championship awards desirable?

Non-championship awards are desirable because they encourage newcomers to participate in the sport of whippet racing and, more importantly, they encourage them *to continue to participate* in the sport. Very few, if any, first-time race enthusiasts come to the track with a dog capable of earning a race championship. While some of those whippet owners will stay with the sport because they enjoy it, many will become discouraged and leave. A non-championship award will offer those newcomers incentive to remain active within the sport.

With the prospect of AKC whippet racing definitely on the horizon, it would be in our best interest to consider what might happen if NAWRA remains the only North American whippet racing organization not offering a meaningful non-championship award. Based on their lure coursing program, it is reasonable to assume that the AKC will offer a multitude of participation and non-championship awards; the WRA has seen strong growth in their organization since implementing their non-championship titles. In a newcomer's eyes, the availability of a meaningful, obtainable NAWRA award may very well tip the scales in favor of NAWRA racing, over racing offered by other sanctioning organizations.

Submitted by:

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