



Canadian Working Belgian Shepherd Association Trial Policy

Adopted by the CWBSA Board of Directors on June 21, 2020

Introduction

The objectives of the Canadian Working Belgian Shepherd Association (CWBSA) are to preserve the Belgian Shepherd Dog in accordance with the Breed Standard as a working dog. With respect to these objectives, activities of the association include the following:

Promote IGP Utility and Tracking Dogs training for the working dog, to promote humane training methods for the working dog, and to support responsible dog ownership and breeding practices.

Develop, qualify, and license local clubs in Canada so that they may conduct IGP trials and tracking tests for the IFH tracking degree, as per the [IGP regulations of the FCI](#) (Fédération Cynologique Internationale).

Develop, as decided by the Board of Directors, any other tests to ensure the further development and maintenance of the Belgian Shepherd as a working dog, and to encourage local clubs to implement these tests.

Conduct annually a National IGP championship and/or selection trials and/or implement a point system to select a team to represent Canada at the FMBB (Fédération Mondiale du Berger Belge).

In consideration of these objectives and activities the CWBSA has established a policy for all trials held by CWBSA clubs.

CWBSA Trial Entry Requirements

To enter a CWBSA IGP trial, a Canadian resident with a Belgian Shepherd Dog, that has proof of registration from an FCI-recognized organization, must be a member of the CWBSA.

Canadian residents entering a CWBSA trial must be members of a Canadian Working Dog Federation (CWDF) member club. These clubs include the Black Russian Terrier Club of Canada, the Bouvier des Flandres Club of Canada, Boxer Club of Canada Inc, the Canadian Working Belgian Shepherd Association, the Doberman Pinscher Club of Canada, the German Shepherd Schutzhund Club of Canada, Giant Schnauzer Canada, the Rottweiler Club of Canada.

Non-Canadian residents entering a CWBSA trial must be a member of their national IGP organization recognized by the FCI.

To ensure unified trial paperwork and records, CWBSA clubs hosting trials will use the Caniva IGP trial management platform (<https://www.caniva.com/>); all trial entries must be entered in Caniva.

Trial conduct and ethics

Trialing must be consistent with a spirit of sportsmanship and fair play. It is critical that our competitions make every effort to ensure the safety of participants and spectators and a humane experience for the dogs. As such, it is the responsibility of all trial participants to compete with their dogs in a safe, humane, and sportsman like manner, and to insist that all others follow similar practices.

Corrective devices may not be used on or within sight of the trial venue (the venue is considered to be all trial fields to include tracking fields, competitor parking or any area within the spectator's sight of the event venue; examples of corrective devices are choke, pinch, electric collars, heeling sticks, etc.).

Abuse of any sort, regardless of whether any specific corrective device is used or not, will lead to disqualification and/or other sanctions. If abusive or unsafe actions are observed at a CWBSA sponsored events the response should be to report these activities to the trial judge, the hosting club, or a CWBSA executive member.

By default, tolerance or non-response to abusive actions condones such actions.