



# Rules

The official AWI World Championships will consist of the Open Overall Championship, which includes Freestyle and Toss and Catch, and Open Toss and Catch Championship. There will be a Freestyle Champion crowned only at the World Championship, based on the best 2 rounds of Freestyle for the day.

No cash awards are presented at the World Championships, only at qualifier events, including the last chance qualifier.

AWI qualifying events now include Freestyle Only Division which consists of 2 rounds of freestyle only. There will be no cut or run-off, just two rounds. This is not a qualifying event. Medals will be awarded to the top three competitors in this division.

The AWI International Qualifiers consist of the Open Overall Division that includes Freestyle and Toss and Catch as well as the AWI Open Toss and Catch Division. Recreational Freestyle and Recreational Toss and Catch Divisions can be added if the Host chooses to do so. The local clubs running the qualifying events may run additional divisions at their discretion.

The AWI does not guarantee continuity of divisions at every competition.

Please contact the hosting club to see whether additional divisions will be offered, and check [www.ashley-whippet.com](http://www.ashley-whippet.com) often for more updates as they become available.

## REGISTRATION RULES

The times for registration opening and closing will be announced before the date of each event. Please arrive on time, or you will not be allowed to register and compete. ONCE ON-SITE REGISTRATION IS CLOSED, NO MORE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. All competitors must sign the injury/illness waiver and full publicity release.

No substitutions of either canine or thrower will be allowed at the Ashley Whippet® Invitational once the injury/illness waiver has been signed. Pre-registration may be offered at the discretion of the host.

AWI events will ALWAYS accept walk up registrations on the day of the event. Pre-registration, if available, is expected and preferred, of veteran teams. If an event host applies any ON-SITE late registration fees, please make it clear to everyone that these fees are not being assessed by AWI but by the event host.

AWI STRONGLY PREFERS THAT ANY NEW COMERS TO THE SPORT NOT BE CHARGED ANY ON-SITE LATE REGISTRATION FEES.

## QUALIFYING FOR THE AWI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

**The top 3 finishers at the AWI Open Qualifiers in the USA will receive an invitation to the Ashley Whippet Invitational World Championship.**

The top 5 finishers at all International AWI Open Qualifiers will receive an invitation to the Ashley Whippet Invitational World Championships.

The winner of the previous year AWI World Championship in both Open Overall and Toss and Catch are automatically invited back for the next year World Championship.

The rules described herein will apply equally to both the World Championship Series, and any US Qualifier Events. See Europe, Asia and other international websites for additional rules.

A team can qualify with a maximum of 4 dogs, maximum of 2 per division, now across all three divisions instead of 2 divisions as last year. A thrower can have dogs in all three divisions, but cannot compete with their small dog in both small dog and open divisions (can compete in one or the other with small dog, your choice).

At the World Championships we will crown champions in Open Overall, Open Toss and Catch, and Small Dog.

To qualify to compete at the World Championships teams must have completed a minimum of 2 scored rounds.

If a team that is already qualified for the AWI World Championship plays at another Open Qualifier and places in the top 3, that invitation will slide down one spot to the next eligible team. We want 3 new teams invited from each qualifying event/division to the World Championships.

If a team qualifies but can not go to World Finals, the team can not be replaced by another qualifying team.

Qualified teams may win multiple event trophies but only one Qualifying medal.

## **ENTRY FEES**

Entry fees for the USA:

Open Overall ( Freestyle and Toss and Catch) : \$20

Open Toss and Catch : \$20

Event Freestyle: \$20

Recreational Freestyle : \$15

Recreational Toss and Catch : \$15

Entry fees for other countries:

What happens with the money?

For the USA:

From each entry fee of the Open Overall, \$10 from each team goes to the host and \$10 goes to AWI.

From each entry fee of the Open Toss and Catch, \$5 goes to the host, \$7 goes to the winner, and \$8 goes to AWI .

From each entry fee of the Event Freestyle, \$10 goes to the host and \$10 goes to AWI.

From each entry fee of the Recreational Freestyle class, \$5 from each competitor entry goes to the host and \$10 goes to AWI.

From each entry fee of the Recreational Toss and Catch class, \$5 from each competitor entry goes to the host and \$10 to the AWI.

The money that goes to the AWI in the USA is used for things like trophies, medals, shipping of discs to each event, and costs of running the World Championship (field fees, judges, trophies, insurance, PA system, bathroom facilities, etc.).

## **GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION**

Disqualification will be at the sole discretion of the head judge. The following will be grounds for mandatory disqualification:

Abuse and endangerment of an animal

Female dogs in any stage of heat

Dogs under one year of age used in freestyle competition

Dogs under 18 month of age used in freestyle competition with high jumps, vaults etc.

Overly aggressive canine behavior

Dogs who are found not to be current on rabies vaccinations

Boisterous challenges of contest officials, abusive language or other inappropriate or unsportsman-like behavior could result in the competitor's disqualification from the event.

Competitors are responsible for the safety and welfare of their dogs at all Ashley Whippet® Invitational events. Competing canines should be properly supervised and must be under the care and control of their handler at all times. Failure to do so could result in the disqualification of that team.

Any other violations of these rules may result in disqualification at the discretion of the head judge.

## **DOGS ALLOWED IN COMPETITION**

Any physically sound dog may compete in the AWI World Championship Series, subject to the restrictions described below:

Due to the risk of injury because of underdeveloped anatomy, dogs must be at least one year old to be eligible to compete in the AWI World Championship Series Open Division. Dogs under one year of age may compete in the AWI Toss and Catch World Championship and any Toss and Catch division run at any Open Qualifier. The AWI realizes that it is difficult to determine the age of some rescue dogs, and does not want to bar any dogs from competition. The AWI requests that handlers use their best judgment in entering dogs of uncertain age, not vault dogs under the age of eighteen months ( if so the AWI will disqualify the handler for lifetime from playing any AWI event), and above all BE SAFE.

Dogs in any stage of heat are not allowed at the competition site.

All dogs must have current Rabies vaccinations. Vaccinations for Parvovirus and Kennel Cough are strongly recommended.

## **DISCS ALLOWED IN COMPETITION**

The following discs are allowed for competition at all AWI competitions:

All Hero Disc USA dog style models (includes size 235, 215 and the Atom 185)

All Wham-O fastback models (includes Eurablend)

All Hyperflite disc models (Jawz are allowed)

All Dogstar disc models

All mamadisc models

All Trixie disc models

K9 Disc

Any dog friendly "pup" (smaller diameter) disc will be allowed. If a competitor chooses to use a smaller diameter disc for the freestyle round(s) the competitor may choose to use a larger disc to use for the Toss and Catch round. Any special disc requests to accommodate special needs dogs should be made to the AWI Tournament Director and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Any dog-friendly disc not mentioned on this list will be subject to the approval of the AWI Tournament Director or head judge at events with no AWI official around.