

NOTE: PLEASE INCLUDE THE \$15 FEE PER TITLE WITH EACH APPLICATION SUBMITTED.

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To encourage Samoyed owners to provide opportunities for their dogs to work in the many ways in which Samoyeds are capable of providing physical service in venues not recognized by the AKC, and thereby enable dogs and owners to know the joy and honor of working together and enabling the public to witness and appreciate the value of dogs at work.

1.2 To provide certification for those Samoyeds who perform these tasks.

1.3 To encourage those Samoyed owners who do not exhibit their dogs in conformation shows to work with their dogs, and by means of these activities, find benefit in taking part in the Samoyed Club of America.

1.4 To encourage those Samoyed owners who do not exhibit their dogs in conformation shows to value those inherent working traits in Samoyeds, whereby the breed merits its place in the Working Group.

1.5 To encourage the breeding of the best possible Samoyeds with the soundness and attitude that enables them to be workers, a role equal in importance to their roles as visual works of art and superb companions.

2.0 Scope

2.1 To establish criteria for earning the working titles – Working Samoyed (W.S.), Working Samoyed Excellent (W.S.X.), and Master Working Samoyed (W.S.X.M.).

2.2 To define those types of work and the level of work by which Samoyeds can earn these titles.

2.3 To establish the rules for certifying that the criteria have been met.

2.4 To revise the criteria as needed to improve the certification program. The criteria can be modified or corrected, or the program can be discontinued upon approval of the Samoyed Club of America Board of Directors.

2.5 The Working Dog Program shall be self-supporting and thereby not burden the Samoyed Club of America. The committee has set Certification fees of \$15 per title for which application is made, in order to pay for printing and mailing of certificates and unforeseen costs.

2.6 The Working Dog Program shall be administered by a standing committee of the SCA. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to handle all matters pertaining to

Working Dog Program, and to regularly report, in the SCA Bulletin, on the progress of the program. Reports shall include evaluation and statistical data as an honor roll of those completing certificates.

3.0 Types of Work for Earning Titles

3.1 Competitive: Sled, cart, skijoring, bikejoring and scooter

3.2 Weight Pull

3.3 Packing

3.4 Excursion: Sled, cart, skijoring, bikejoring and scooter

3.5 Herding

3.6 Therapy

3.7 Special application, including but not limited to retrieving, search and rescue, seeing eye, hearing ear, assistance, shall be considered by special application to the Working Committee on an individual basis.

4.0 Eligibility

4.1 In order to receive a working title from SCA each individual Samoyed shall be registered with a recognized kennel club (AKC, CKC, etc.) and owned by an SCA member at the time application for certification is submitted.

5.0 Basic Requirements

5.1 All races, weight pulls, or herding trials used for purposes of certification shall be open to all eligible Samoyeds and shall meet requirements in this document. All these events must be sufficiently advertised so that Samoyed owners who are not members of the organization staging the event nor of another Samoyed club have reasonable opportunity to learn of the event so that they make take part in it for a nominal fee.

5.2 The dog owners have the responsibility of ensuring that their dogs are sufficiently trained and conditioned to take part in these events so that they pose no hazard to themselves or to other dogs taking part in the event. A dog which is a hazard to itself or to other dogs will be disqualified from certification. Poor sportsmanship by an owner or handler or abuse of dogs by an owner or handler, shall also be cause for refusing certification.

5.3 The dog owner is responsible for completing and returning all documents along with a copy of any official published results and/or the url of the official published results needed for working certification..

5.4 In cases where a Samoyed obtains a title by working on a team with other dogs, the other dogs do not have to be Samoyeds.

5.5 A Working Samoyed (WS) title can be awarded to a Samoyed which has accumulated 1000 points in one, or a combination, of the working areas defined below.

5.6 A Working Samoyed Excellent (WSX) title can be awarded to a Samoyed which has accumulated 2000 points in one, or a combination, of the working areas defined below.

5.7 A Master Working Samoyed (WSXM) title can be awarded to a Samoyed which has accumulated 5000 points in a minimum of four categories (including special applications) with a minimum of 200 points in each of the four categories.

5.8 There is no time limit imposed on the awarding of these titles. The title may even be awarded posthumously, if the proper documentation of the work accomplished during the dog's lifetime to earn the points can be established according to the criteria.

6.0 Certified Dogs

6.1 Any dog certified by the SCA shall be privileged to use that title in any SCA literature.

7.0 Protests

7.1 Any person wishing to protest the eligibility of a dog or dog team, the qualification of an event for certification purposes, or protest any violation of competition rules or certification requirements, must do so immediately after the event. The protest may be verbal, but must be followed by a written statement to the race marshal or chief judge of the event within ten days, with a copy to the Working Dog Committee. The committee shall notify the concerned parties of the protest in order that they may file a rebuttal. It shall be the responsibility of the Working Dog Committee to decide whether or not the protest is valid by a 2/3-majority vote.

8.0 Documents and Certification

8.1 Intentional falsification of documents in order to certify a dog shall be cause for withholding certification. Falsifying may include substitution of one dog's work for that of another, forging documentation, or otherwise making false claims in order to certify a dog.

8.2 The Working Dog Committee shall consist of four or five SCA members, each from a different region, plus a chairperson, all of whom shall be appointed by the SCA Board of Directors.

8.3 Title application forms may be obtained by writing to the Working Dog Committee chairperson, whose name will be listed in the SCA Bulletin. or alternatively, they can be

downloaded from the Samoyed Club of America website or photocopied from SCA's At Your Service. Completed forms, cover letter and result verification shall be returned to the committee chairperson, for review. The committee chair will accept hardcopy, disk or electronic submissions.

9.0 Competitive Sledding, Carting, Skijoring, Bikejoring, and Scootering Events Rules and Requirements

9.1 The conveyance may be a snow sled, wheeled rig, skis, bicycle or scooter.

9.2 Races shall be held under ISDRA rules, and any amendments created by the officiating organizations, provided such amendments do not change the basic character of the ISDRA rules.

9.3 The applicant shall pay the cost of competing, and payment to SCA for certification processing.

9.4 The team does not have to be all Samoyed.

9.5 The dog does not have to run on the same team each time.

9.6 Competitive points may be accumulated by means of a formula created by the Organization of Working Samoyeds. This formula takes into account the number of miles run, the miles per hour of the team, and the speed of the team relative to the first place finisher in each race. This system is best understood by examining the tabulation sheet on which the points for each race are calculated (Form A). Lead dogs receive a bonus equal to 1.25 times the points received by team dogs for the same race.

9.7 A copy of the published race results and/or the url for the results must be submitted.

10.0 Weight Pull Rules and Requirements

10.1 Points may be earned at pulls sanctioned under the rules of the following organizations:

- A. Samoyed Club of America (SCA)
- B. International Weight Pull Association (IWPA)
- C. United Kennel Club (UKC)
 - 1. Only wheel and snow pulls will be accepted for working points.
- D. Alaskan Malamute Club of America (AMCA)
 - 1. The cart must have four (4) pneumatic tires which must all have the same air pressure prior to the event.
 - 2. Dogs shall achieve traction on the same surface as that on which the cart rides.

The Working Dog Committee of the SCA may grant exceptions to this rule on a case-by-case basis, upon written request and explanation by applicant.

E. North American Dog Sports & Registry (NADSR)

10.2 Points can be accumulated by pulling either a sled or a wheeled cart.

10.3 Points are calculated on the basis of the body weight percentage the dog successfully completes in each competition.

10.4 Dogs pulling on snow will receive 12 points for each body percentage pulled. The body weight percentage will be calculated by taking the highest number of pounds successfully pulled by the dog and dividing it by the dogs weight. The body percentage times 12, rounded to the nearest whole number, is the number of points earned at that event.

10.5 Dogs pulling with wheels will receive 6 points for each body percentage pulled. The body weight percentage will be calculated by taking the highest number of pounds successfully pulled by the dog and dividing it by the dogs weight. The body percentage times 6, rounded to the nearest whole number, is the number of points earned at that event.

10.6 A copy of the official published results and/or the url of the official published results must accompany a completed copy of the weight pull form for each pull. For UKC pulls, signature from the weight pull judge will be accepted as proof of participation

11.0 Pack Dog Rules and Requirements

11.1 **WEIGHT** - The dog must carry weight that at the beginning of the hike is equal to at least 25% of the dog's weight. Because such items usually are food, water or fuel, this weight should decrease as supplies are used up and are replaced in the packs with lighter, bulkier items, like clothing. However, heavier items should never be discarded for the sole purpose of lightening the dog's load, unless the dog is risking illness or injury.

11.2 **TERRAIN** - Pack trips should be over natural terrain, such as hiking trails, unpaved roads, or cross-country, where the dog has a legitimate function as a pack animal. Trips on trails that have been asphalted or covered by boardwalks will be allowed to count; however, this does not include walking 150 times around a shopping center parking lot.

11.3 **DISTANCE** - Dog will receive 50 points for packing a minimum of five miles and 10 points per mile over five.

11.4 ELEVATION GAIN - Elevation gain may be substituted for distance. One mile of flat terrain is assumed to be equivalent to 1000 feet of elevation gain. (An eight-mile hike with 2000 feet of elevation gain equals ten flat miles.) Elevation gain is the difference in elevation between the highest and lowest point on the trip.

11.5 VERIFICATION - Completion of these requirements shall be recorded as follows:

WEIGHT - For each trip the dog's burden must be inventoried with the initial weight recorded for each item (for example, first aid kit – 1 lb.; 1 quart of water - 4 lbs.; etc.) The dog should be weighed at the beginning of each trip in order to determine the correct amount of weight to be carried in the pack.

DISTANCE - The route of each trip must be indicated on a map which shows the distance. For each trip, provide a photograph which shows the dog and some identifiable landmark (sign, building, natural feature) at approximately the furthest point of the trip. For trips that end at a different place than where they begin, provide a photo at the approximate midpoint. Waiver of the photo requirements for one or more trips can be granted by the Working Samoyed Award Committee for reasonable cause (camera broke, developer spoiled film, ran out of film.) Forgetting, or walking far beyond the appropriate picture site are not reasonable causes.

NARRATIVE - A brief written narrative about each trip (dog's reaction, notable sights or events, interaction with other humans, etc.) though not required, would be appreciated.

12.0 Excursion Sledding, Carting, Skijoring, Bikejoring and/or Scootering Rules and Regulations

12.1 Any terrain is allowable so long as the route or trail chosen poses minimal hazard to dogs and people, either from traffic or damage to legs and feet.

12.2 Dogs will receive 15 points per mile for sledding a minimum of 10 miles per day. Dogs will receive 15 points per mile for carting, skijoring, bikejoring or scootering a minimum of 5 miles per day. For dogs that run lead throughout the excursion, multiply points by 1.25.

12.3 Five mile excursions will count for dogs pulling sleds in team of one and/or two.

12.4 Elevation gain may be substituted for distance. One mile of flat terrain is assumed to be equivalent to 1000 feet of elevation gain (an eight mile run with 2000 feet of elevation gain equals ten flat miles). Elevation gain is the difference in elevation between the highest and lowest point on the trip.

12.5 Completion of these requirements shall be recorded as follows:

- A.. Completed excursion verification form for each excursion
- B. Provide a map that shows the route and distance of each excursion.

C.. Provide photographs that shows the Samoyed working on the excursion and include some identifiable landmark (sign, natural feature) in the photo at approximately the midpoint and the furthest point of the trip.. Show the route and distance of each trip. Waiver of the photo requirement for one or more trips may be granted by the Working Dog Committee for reasonable cause.

13.0 Therapy Rules

13.1 A dog will be awarded 250 points for becoming registered with Therapy Dogs International or any other reputable therapy organization with similar requirements and for completing 15 hours of verified therapy work following such registration. Subsequent to those hours, the dog shall be awarded 10 points for each hour of therapy work.

13.2 A dog not certified by any agency shall be awarded ten points for each hour of therapy worked.

13.3 Verification

A A copy of the certificate issued by the organization with which the dog is registered shall accompany the written material. While a dog may be registered with more than one organization, only one will count for section 13.1 above.

B Hours shall be verified by:

- 1) A verification sheet signed and dated by an administrator of the program or facility with which the dog has been affiliated; or
- 2) A letter on the letterhead of the facility stating that the dog has completed a set number of hours service, signed by an administrator, program or nursing director.

13.4 Acceptable therapy venues include but are not limited to: nursing homes, hospitals, hospice programs and reading programs. Hours are limited to that time actually spent in therapy work; transportation, costume design, preparation and any volunteer training required by the facility are not considered "hours" under this section.

14.0 Herding

14.1 The Samoyed being tested for herding instinct must be a minimum of six months of age on the day of testing.

14.2 Applicants may earn up to 200 points by fulfilling the requirements of any one of the three sections below. Points under 14.2 may only be earned one time per dog.

A Testing through a sanctioned organization (i.e. AHBA, AKC, ASCA, CKC)

1. 75 points shall be awarded for every first qualifying score in an instinct test or certification.
2. 75 points shall be awarded for the second leg if the requirements are identical to those of the first leg.

3. 125 points shall be awarded for the second leg if the requirements are such that the dog must show evidence of additional training to obtain the qualifying score.
 4. In no event shall more than 200 points be earned under this section.
- B Herding titles**
1. Any dog earning a herding title in lieu of the basic title / certification (i.e. HIC, HCT, and so forth) offered by a sanctioned organization shall receive 200 points upon submission of a copy of the certificate.
- C Independent Testing.**
1. Applicants for dogs being tested other than at a trial or test sponsored through a sanctioned organization shall fulfill the following:
 - a. The judge or tester shall be approved by the Working Committee prior to the administration of the test. The Applicant shall provide documentation showing the qualifications of the tester, including but not limited to herding titles earned, herding seminars attended, number of years herding, explanation of testing criteria, and familiarity with multiple breeds and styles of herding;
 - b. The applicant shall not be a student of the instinct tester;
 - c. The applicant shall submit
 - i. A video of the test and
 - ii. A score sheet with a written critique of the test signed by the tester.
 - d. The point scale shall be as per 14.2 "A" above, provided, however, that the tester shall set forth in detail and in writing the additional requirements for the second leg, if the Applicant is requesting 125 points for that score.

14.3 Farm or Ranch Herding Experience

Herding experience may substitute for 200 points toward the Working Samoyed titles. The experience must be documented by a minimum 15 minute video-tape of the Samoyed in a stock management situation. The video-tape will be monitored and approved by the Working Dog Committee.

15.0 Special Application

Points toward working titles or even entire working titles may be earned by special application for work a Samoyed does in venues not specified in the categories stated above. The applicant must submit proof of the work by means of photos, video and/or verifying documentation when available.. Verification can also include testimonial, letters from those observing or benefiting from the work being done. The working committee as a whole will make the determination of the number of points or titles to be awarded.