



Best in the West Rules

Best in the West is a three-day event intended to reward athleticism and versatility of dog and handler teams and promote fun with our dogs. Above all else, Best in the West is a time to celebrate the dog and handler bond and have a great time!

Registered teams will compete in dock jumping, sport dog, and agility over the course of the three days. Dogs earn Best in the West (BITW) points based on the level they are competing at and how they perform at that level. Dogs of ALL levels can compete - but dogs competing at higher levels have the opportunity to earn more points for a qualifying run (but keep in mind the higher the level, the lower the qualifying rate!).

Organizations:

The following organizations are used for BITW competition:

Dock Jumping is a United Kennel Club (UKC) event. Dogs do not need to be registered with UKC in order to compete, but they must be registered in order for the splashes to be reported to UKC for legs towards titles.

For more information on UKC please see <http://ukcdogs.com>.

Sport Dog is a North American Sport Dog Association (NASDA) event. Your dog must be registered with NASDA in order to compete in any NASDA event, include the trial affiliated with BITW.

For more information on NASDA please see <http://nasda.dog>.

Agility competition is a North American Dog Agility Association (NADAC) event. Your dog must be registered with NADAC in order to compete in any NADAC event, include the trial affiliated with BITW.

For more information on NADAC, please see <https://www.nadac.com>.

General Rules:

- BITW points are given for qualifying scores. Additional points are awarded for first place in a class.
- In order to earn a BITW title or placement, a dog must earn at least one BITW point from each of the three events (sport dog, agility, and dock).
- BITW participants are required to adhere to the rules of each organization they are competing with (UKC, NASDA, and NADAC) and maintain good sportsmanship at all times.

Teams:

A BITW team consists of one dog and one handler. Dogs may only be registered in one team but handlers may be in multiple teams. The dog must be handled in all events by the registered handler or a member of their household.

Divisions:

Each team will compete in one division. The following divisions are available:

STANDARD DIVISION – open to all teams that are not eligible for any other division.

SMALL DOG DIVISION – open to teams where the dog is under 16" at the withers.

LARGE DOG DIVISION – open to teams where the dog is 24"+ at the withers.

VETERAN DOG DIVISION – open to teams where the dog is 9+ years old by first day of competition.

JUNIOR HANDLER DIVISION – open to teams where the human is 17 years of age or younger on the first day of the competition.

All dogs will be measured upon check in UNLESS an official AKC Jump Height Card is provided with your entry. All dogs under age 2 will be measured.

Awards:

A BITW Champion (1st place) will be awarded from each division as well as a 2nd and 3rd place in each division. Additional awards may be offered at the discretion of the event organizers.

Placements are determined by the number of points each team in the division has earned. In the event of a tie, the tie-breaker methods are as follows:

1. The dog with the most Qs in all three events, even if these did not all count for BITW points, will be the winner.
2. If the tie still exists, the dog with the least NQs will be the winner
3. If the tie still exists, it will stand and both teams will earn the placement.

Events and Scoring:

SPORT DOG - North American Sport Dog Association:

Teams may use a maximum of 4 scores from the following classes to earn BITW points.

- Shed Dog
- Trailing & Locating

No more than 2 scores may come from any one class. There will be 2 rounds of each of these classes offered.

There are two ways BITW points are awarded from sport dog:

1. BITW points based on a Q in a sport dog run as follows:

		1 point	2 points	3 points	4 points	5 points
<i>Score Earned in each game</i>	<i>Shed Dog</i>	Q in Level 1 with time over 1 minute	Q in Level 1 with time 1 minute or under	Q in Level 2 with time over 1 minute	Q in Level 2 with time 1 minute or under	Q in Level 3 and up
	<i>Trailing & Locating</i>	Q in Level 1 with time over 1 minute	Q in Level 1 with time 1 minute or under	Q in Level 2 with time over 1 minute	Q in Level 2 with time 1 minute or under	Q in Level 3 and up

1. When a dog earned BITW points from a NASDA run, if they also earn high in class they will be awarded one additional BITW point.

AGILITY- North American Dog Agility Council:

- Touch N Go
- Weavers
- Tunnelers

Teams will need a maximum of 6 scores from the classes listed above- no more than 2 scores from any one class. There will be at least 2 rounds of each of these classes offered.

There are two ways BITW points are awarded from agility.:

2. BITW points based on a Q in an agility run as follows:

2 points	3 points	4 points	5 points
Q in Intro Level Class	Q in Novice Level Class	Q in Open Level Class	Q in Elite Level Class

3. When a dog earned BITW points from a NADAC run, if they also earns first place in the class (per NADAC rules) they will be awarded one additional BITW point. A first place NQ does not earn any BITW points.

DOCK DIVING- United Kennel Club
- Distance Jumping

Teams will need a maximum of 3 scores. There will be 8 splashes offered.

There are two ways BITW points are awarded from dock jumping:

1. BITW points based on a Q in a dock jumping splash as follows:

2 points	4 points	6 points	8 points	10 points
Novice Level Q	Junior Level Q	Senior Level Q	Master Level Q	Elite Level Q

2. When a dog earned BITW points from a dock jumping splash, if the also have the longest jump in that division for that splash, they will be awarded one additional BITW point.

Summary:

Remember, above all else BITW is about having fun with our dogs and challenging ourselves to do many different events over three days. Make sure you have a great time!!!

Note: These rules will be followed as closely as possible for all BITW events. However, the event organizers reserve the right to alter rules if needed during an event. The event organizers have the final decision if a situation arises that is not described in these rules.

Rules last updated May 30, 2022