

**February 2008**

# **PULLING WEIGHT POWER**

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**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL WEIGHT PULL ASSOCIATION**

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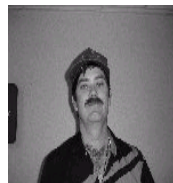
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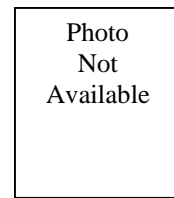
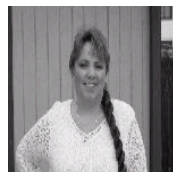


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**Deadline for all submissions to the Newsletter is the 18th of the month prior to the month of publication.**

# Championship Results ~ Snow

## 2007-08 International Championships Yakima, Washington

Pull: 94 -- Organizer(s): Sellers, Nathan  
Track: Snow-Artificial Surface inside an ice rink  
Weather:

Snow on Snow Region: 2  
Date: 26-Apr-08  
Day 1 of 2

Chief Judge: Donna Daymude

### 40 # Class (21 thru 40 pounds)

Judged by Terence Reed

100# Start weight, 50# Increment, Cart weighs 90#

George Ferrari

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Riki	2	450	5.00	39	11.54	0.0	Phillip Vandever	Am. PitBull Terrier
Uky	5	300	5.41	39	7.69	0.0	Wendy Leister	Alaskan Husky

### 60 # Class (41 thru 60 pounds)

Judged by Bob Daymude

100# Start weight, 100# Increment, Cart weighs 90#

Robbie Reed

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Starbuck	5	900	7.53	56	16.07	0.0	Steve Jackson	Alaskan Husky
Silver	9	800	8.25	52	15.38	0.0	Rodney Martin	Norwegin Elkhound
Kane	2	800	10.47	51	15.69	0.0	Phillip Vandever	Am. PitBull Terrier
Blue	2	700	15.07	57	12.28	0.0	Phillip Vandever	Am. PitBull Terrier
Arrow	9	700	35.38	58	12.07	0.0	Bob Sencenbaugh	Samoyed
Sally	4	700	57.85	55	12.73	0.0	Carey Green	Alaskan Hound
Tech	2	400	16.65	48	8.33	0.0	Dan Riddle	Am. PitBull Terrier
Demond	9	300	4.47	44	6.82	0.0	Cassandra Martin	Norwegin Elkhound

### 80 # Class (61 thru 80 pounds)

Judged by George Ferrari

200# Start weight, 100# Increment, Cart weighs 90#

Steve Jackson

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Goliath	2	1400	15.72	77	18.18	0.0	Jeff Russell	Am. Bull Dog
Czar	4	1000	17.18	72	13.89	0.0	Carey Green	Husky
Gage	2	500	5.38	62	8.06	0.0	Karl Varnadore	Am. PitBull Terrier

### 100 # Class (81 thru 100 pounds)

Judged by Wendy Leister

200# Start weight, 100# Increment, Cart weighs 90#

Terry Reed

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Boomerang	2	1400	9.75	100	14.00	0.0	Devin Crouch	Alaskan Malamute
Vader	2	800	6.12	90	8.89	0.0	Devin Crouch	Alaskan Malamute
Blizzard	4	500	5.38	82	6.10	0.0	Annette McNeely	Siberian Husky

**125 # Class (101 thru 125 pounds)**

*Judged by Rodney Martin*

*100# Start weight, 150# Increment, Cart weighs 90#*

*Donna Daymude*

<b>Dog</b>	<b>Reg</b>	<b>Pulled</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Wt</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Handler</b>	<b>Breed</b>
Taboo	2	550	5.88	107	5.14	0.0	Nathan Sellers	Alaskan Malamute
Typhoon	2	400	3.72	118	3.39	0.0	Justin Ferrari	Alaskan Malamute
Diva Marie	2	250	5.94	121	2.07	0.0	Trisha Porter	Fila

**150 # Class (126 thru 150 pounds)**

*Judged by Rodney Martin*

*100# Start weight, 150# Increment, Cart weighs 90#*

*Rodney Martin*

<b>Dog</b>	<b>Reg</b>	<b>Pulled</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Wt</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Handler</b>	<b>Breed</b>
Avalanche	2	1150	12.34	128	8.98	0.0	George Ferrari	Alaskan Malamute
King Dukes	9	1000	6.09	132	7.58	0.0	Terence Reed	Dogge DeBordaeux
Shaman	10	1000	22.78	126	7.94	0.0	James Galli	Alaskan Malamute
Baron Baxter	9	550	9.13	138	3.99	0.0	Robbie Reed	Dogge DeBordaeux

**Unlimited Class (over 150 pounds)**

*Judged by Steve Jackson*

*300# Start weight, 200# Increment, Cart weighs 90#*

*Wendy Leister*

<b>Dog</b>	<b>Reg</b>	<b>Pulled</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Wt</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Handler</b>	<b>Breed</b>
Teton	2	1100	5.63	167	6.59	0.0	Nathan Sellers	Alaskan Malamute
Tenakee	2	900	35.56	159	5.66	0.0	James Charles	Alaskan Malamute



**If Gas prices continue to rise.....**

# Championship Results ~ Wheels

## 2007-08 International Championships Yakima, Washington

Pull: 95 -- Organizer(s): Sellers, Nathan      Wheel on Carpet      Region: 2  
Track: 2 Tracks      Date: 27-Apr-08  
Weather: Nice weather in the 60's. Light overcast      Day 2 of 2

Chief Judge: Donna Daymude  
40 # Class (21 thru 40 pounds)  
Judged by Bob Daymude  
400# Start weight, 120# Increment, Cart weighs 200#  
Donna Daymude

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Matty	2	1480	16.60	35	42.29	0.0	Shad Holmes	Am. PitBull Terrier
Riki Terrier	2	1480	21.97	39	37.95	0.0	Phillip Vandever	Am. PitBull
Rock	2	1240	15.18	38	32.63	0.0	Shad Holmes	Am. PitBull Terrier
Uky	5	400	6.16	39	10.26	0.0	Nicholas Lutz	Alaskan Husky
Riliegh	2	400	8.60	27	14.81	0.0	Jaci Sorkness	Beagle

60 # Class (41 thru 60 pounds)  
480# Start weight, 200# Increment, Cart weighs 200#  
Bob Daymude

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Sinai	2	1880	16.09	60	31.33	0.0	Jeff Russell	Am. Bull Dog
Cadillac	2	1680	19.19	58	28.97	0.0	Travis Hall	Am. PitBull Terrier
Gage	2	1480	13.28	60	24.67	0.0	Karl Varnadore	Am. PitBull Terrier
Razzor	9	1480	16.50	57	25.96	0.0	Cheryl Martin	Olde English
Starbuck	5	1280	20.09	56	22.86	0.0	Steve Jackson	Alaskan Husky
Arrow	9	1280	23.87	58	22.07	0.0	Bob Sencenbaugh	Samoyed
Sally	4	880	9.90	55	16.00	0.0	Carey Green	Alaskan Hound
Demond	9	880	11.84	44	20.00	0.0	Cassandra Martin	Norwegin Elkhound

80 # Class (61 thru 80 pounds)  
Judged by Debra Jackson  
600# Start weight, 240# Increment, Cart weighs 200#  
Bob Daymude

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Layla	2	2280	15.87	78	29.23	0.0	Steve Russell	Am. PitBull Terrier
Flex	2	2280	22.15	78	29.23	0.0	Dan Riddle	Am. PitBull Terrier
Tater	2	2280	23.56	78	29.23	0.0	Steve Russell	Am. Bull Dog
Spook	2	2040	13.93	77	26.49	0.0	Timothy Strangeway	Am. PitBull Terrier
Duke Jonah	9	1320	10.31	66	20.00	0.0	Terence Reed	Boxer
Czar	4	1320	13.19	72	18.33	0.0	Carey Green	Husky

100 # Class (81 thru 100 pounds)  
Judged by Rodney Martin  
680# Start weight, 240# Increment, Cart weighs 200#  
Bob Daymude

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Samson	2	2360	13.69	91	25.93	0.0	Phil Harper	Am. PitBull Terrier
Caty Bear	2	1400	45.03	88	15.91	0.0	Carole Parsons	Alaskan Malamute
Sunny	2	1400	58.16	90	15.56	0.0	Jeff Parsons	Alaskan Malamute
Blizzard	4	1160	8.99	82	14.15	0.0	Annette McNeely	Siberian Husky

**125 # Class (101 thru 125 pounds)**

*Judged by George Ferrari*

*790# Start weight, 280# Increment, Cart weighs 230#*

*Robbie Reed*

<i>Dog</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Pulled</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Score</i>
Boomerang	2	1630	13.03	106	15.38	0.0
Diva Marie	2	1630	50.12	121	13.47	0.0
Sequoia	2	1070	11.21	102	10.49	0.0
Typhoon	2	790	5.87	118	6.69	0.0

<i>Handler</i>	<i>Breed</i>
Devin Crouch	Alaskan Malamute
Trisha Porter	Fila
Carole Parsons	Alaskan Malamute
Justin Ferrari	Alaskan Malamute

**150 # Class (126 thru 150 pounds)**

*Judged by Debra Jackson*

*750# Start weight, 280# Increment, Cart weighs 230#*

*Rodney Martin*

<i>Dog</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Pulled</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Score</i>
Hoss	2	2380	13.50	137	17.37	0.0
King Dukes	9	1820	32.79	132	13.79	0.0
Shaman	10	1540	17.28	126	12.22	0.0
Avalanche	2	1540	31.03	128	12.03	0.0
Badger	2	1540	35.19	136	11.32	0.0
Baron Baxter	9	1260	40.97	138	9.13	0.0

<i>Handler</i>	<i>Breed</i>
Timothy Strangeway	Am. PitBull Terrier
Terence Reed	Dogge DeBordaeux
James Galli	Alaskan Malamute
George Ferrari	Alaskan Malamute
Nathan Sellers	Alaskan Malamute
Robbie Reed	Dogge DeBordaeux

**Unlimited Class (over 150 pounds)**

*Judged by Terence Reed*

*770# Start weight, 320# Increment, Cart weighs 230#*

*George Ferrari*

<i>Dog</i>	<i>Reg</i>	<i>Pulled</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Score</i>
Teton	2	1730	27.57	167	10.36	0.0
Tenakee	2	1730	36.62	159	10.88	0.0
Coca	2	770	37.53	168	4.58	0.0

<i>Handler</i>	<i>Breed</i>
Nathan Sellers	Alaskan Malamute
Teresa Charles	Alaskan Malamute
Jaci Sorkness	Alaskan Malamute

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## Pull, puppy, pull! Dog weight-pulling championships this weekend



Who needs a tow truck when you've got a dog?

Yes, it's unlikely any of the competitors in this weekend's competition among the world's top weight-pulling dogs has ever been used to pull a car. But many of them could.

Easily.

And, for that matter, happily.

Before George and Sue Ferrari of Yakima saw a dog weight-pull demonstration eight years ago and got involved with the International Weight Pull Association -- which will hold its championships Saturday and Sunday in Yakima -- they were ordinary pet owners with ordinary pets. "Just the typical 'I have a dog at home, he eats, he poops, we clean up after him and he barks at the mailman,'" Sue says.

Now, the Ferraris' -malamutes are more likely to bark in excited anticipation when their pulling harnesses are brought out from the closet.

Diva, a Fila Brisliero (Brazilian mastiff) owned by Trisha Porter of Yakima, will actually search high and low for the harness.

"I have to hide it," Porter says, "because if she finds it, she will bring it to me. She'll sit in front of it and yodel for hours when it's time to pull." Dog weight pulls have two categories -- wheel pulls, in which the weight (usually concrete

blocks) is placed onto a wheeled cart, and snow pulls, in which the dog pulls the weight on a sled. In each category, the dog must pull the weight 16 feet within a minute.

Some of the larger breeds can pull 4,000 pounds -- more than the weight of the mini-vans their owners might use to haul them to competitions.

The dogs are high-performance athletes, and are fed as such. Avalanche, George Ferrari's champion malamute, eats 2 pounds of raw meat a day, much of it ground beef but also chicken backs, turkey necks, "whole chickens when we can get them for sale -- anything we can get for 50 cents a pound, we try to get," he says.

"It probably costs us \$1,000 to \$1,500 a year to feed our three dogs and our two pups. Well, (the pups) are not little -- one's 83 pounds and the other's 71, and they're just 5 months old. They're goo be gi-normous."

George and his youngest son, 13-year-old Justin, will each have a dog competing this weekend.

For George, these championships will be poignant. His 9-year-old malamute, Avalanche, was a regional double gold-medal winner, taking both the wheels and snow categories in his age group. But George plans to retire



Avalanche from competition after Sunday. "I've got really mixed feelings about retiring him, because he's done everything I've ever asked of him," he says. "I kind of tell people I'm his sidekick because he does everything. It's just a thrill to watch him."

According to the weight pull association's rules, Avalanche could pull until age 12; he pulled 3,700 pounds in his last competition. "But ... a big dog like that, you only get maybe 10 or 12 years out of them, in terms of lifespan," George says. "You're talking about a 130-pound dog. My heart is what's telling me to do this."

Sue Ferrari won't have a dog in this weekend's event. Her longtime champion malamute, Big Thunder, died last fall at 8 years old. "He was an awesome dog, a gentle giant," she says. "Just a big couch potato." Big Thunder was already done competing. Sue had retired him after last spring's national championships, when the 157-pound dog earned a bronze medal on wheels and placed



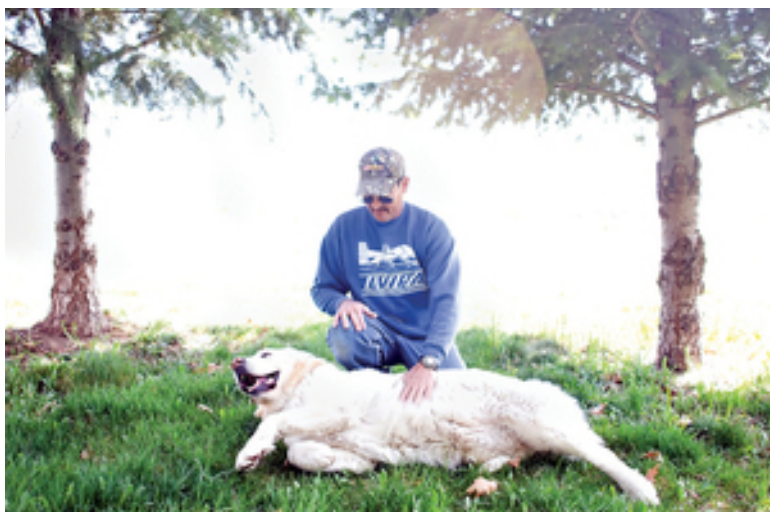
KRIS HOLLAND/Yakima Herald-Republic:

Justin Ferrari, 13, and his dog Typhoon also compete in weight-pulling competitions. The pair has worked for two years in both snow and wheel competitions.

fourth on snow.

For dogs accustomed to pulling, retirement might even be confusing and disappointing. The pulling is one way they bond with and please their owners.

"It gives them a lot of confidence," says Porter, who owns Rising Phoenix Kennel in West Valley and whose dog Diva will be competing this weekend after winning a regional gold medal on wheels. "It gives them an outlet for a lot of energy, too. A lot of the dogs you'll see in weight pulling are high-strung dogs, and they need something



KRIS HOLLAND/Yakima Herald-Republic:

George Ferrari pets Avalanche at his West Valley home. Ferrari plans to retire 9-year-old Avalanche from competition after this weekend.

to do because they were born to be working dogs."

As for people whose immediate reaction is that weight pulls are somehow tantamount to animal cruelty, lovers of the sport have a ready response.

"We ask them to please just sit and watch, because dogs are wagging their tails and smiling the whole time they're doing it," Sue Ferrari says. "If the dog doesn't want to do it, if they're having a bad hair day or whatever, they'll just sit down and ignore you."

The Ferraris know from personal experience. While they've had champion malamute pullers, the Ferraris also have an Australian cattle dog named Frosty who has been retired from pulling simply because she didn't like it.

"You would pull her harness out and she would cover in the corner and glare at you," George says. "Instead of fighting with her, we just said that's OK. Now she's basically the house dog; she watches the place. "If a dog doesn't like it, I'm not going to



Submitted photo:

George Ferrari and his malamute, Avalanche, compete in a weight-pulling competition. The pair has competed together for about eight years.

# Congratulations

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**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP** (An individual membership consist of one adult 18 years and older at the start of the pull season).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP** (A family membership consists of two head of household adults or one or two parents and children under 18 years of age at the start of the pull season).

Name of Primary \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Second Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Family \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**\$40.00** Paid by check number \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by cash \_\_\_\_\_

DUES MUST BE PAID IN U.S. CURRENCY. Both Discounts may apply.

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

For returned checks the IWPA will charge the check writer for cost incurred or a MINIMUM of \$25.00

**Please submit Application with fees (make checks payable to the IWPA, do not mail cash) to:**

Rodney Martin

Membership Chair

3407 17<sup>th</sup> Ave

Evans, CO 80620 USA

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Rm (07/07)

Date \_\_\_\_\_



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