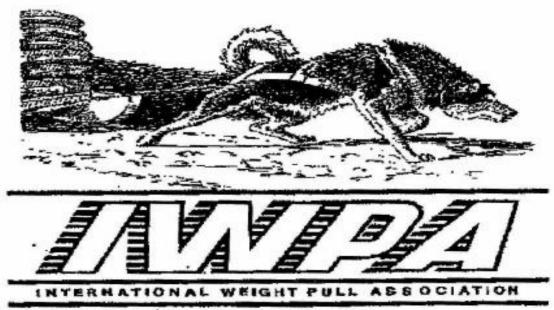
PULLING POWER

The Official Newsletter of the International Weight Pull Association



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Championship Results

Committee Chairs:

Drug Testing:

Robbie Reed

Membership:

Rodney Martin

Sanctioning:

Sue Ferrari

Judges:

Bob Sencenbaugh

Elections:

Beverly Detwiler

Animal Welfare / Education:

Sheryl Franklin

Standing Rules/Forms:

Robbie Reed

Awards:

Sue Gallagher

Grievance:

Sean Hammell

Personnel:

Kendell Jones

Championship:

Rodney Martin

Newsletter Committee:

Robbie Reed

Regional Coordinator:

Sue Gallagher

Statistician:

Sue Ferrari

Web Master:

Sheryl Franklin

Web Site Inquiry:

Sean Hammell

Hall of Fame:

Robbie Reed

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pg 11

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The IWPA Newsletter is published monthly except June and July.



Please direct all text submissions, including correspondence, articles, PDF photos, advertising and columns to: Robbie Reed • 2414 26th Ave • Greeley, CO 80634 • Reedtr9@comcast.net (subject line: Newsletter)

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT Terry Reed

Hello IWPA Members,

We can put another season in the books. The medals have been awarded, equipment stored and the dogs can rest a bit.

Congratulations to everyone that qualified for the Championships and a special congratulations to those who won medals Championship Weekend. The weekend was full of good clean fun and competition. The event was well run and the sponsor and organizers made every effort to make sure anything asked for was provided. Thanks to Carol Gerke and her Region 6 support team for a great time. If you were unable to make it to Grand Rapids you really missed out.

I hear rumor that next season may be in Spokane, Washington. We will know more by the end of the year.

Now it is on to the board meeting where we will be evaluating the season and deciding what actions to take on the ideas presented at the General Membership Meeting.

This is my final column as IWPA President. I will be completing my term on the Board of Directors at the board meeting. It has been a pleasure and an honor serving you these past 5 years.

I look forward to seeing you all at the pulls and who knows, I may decide to run for the board again someday.

Until next season,

Terry Reed

IWPA President

2015-2016



FROM THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD Robbie Reed

The 2016 Board of Directors Meeting will be held on June 4th and 5th, 2016. It will be held at the Best Western El Paso (TX) Airport Hotel. The telephone number to reserve a room is 915-342-5322. The hotel has reserved rooms under International Weight Group Association at the rate of \$89.00 per night with breakfast included in this rate. Reservations must be made by May 23rd to get this guaranteed rate. The hotel address is 6655 Gateway West Blvd. El Paso, TX 79925.

If you have something you would like the Board of Directors to discuss forward that information to Secretary to the Board Robbie Reed via e-mail at Reedtr9@comcast.net or mail to her at;

2414 26th Ave Greeley, CO 80634

This information needs to be submitted and received by May 28th, 2015

Best Regards,

Robbie Reed



FROM THE HALL OF FAME CHAIR Robbie Reed

I'm very excited to announce the 2015-2016 Regional Hall of Fame Inductees presented during the Awards Banquet on May 7, 2016. That Inductee is;

Galyith with Owner/Handler Richard Felice Sr.

No International Hall of Fame Inductee's were officially announced as non had been submitted to the Board of Directors for induction.

Be sure to view all bio's of Regional Hall of Fame and International Hall of Fame Inductees on the IWPA Website.

Congratulations to Galyith and Richard for their achievement!!!

Robbie Reed Hall of Fame Chair



General Membership Meeting—Grand Rapids, MI 050616

President Terry Reed called the meeting to order at 7:17 PM.

President Terry Reed introduced to the membership all present Board of Directors, Treasurer Cheryl Martin and Secretary Robbie Reed.

President Terry Reed explained this was the membership's opportunity to express concerns or achievements throughout the pull season. Stephanie Pitz brought up concerns of the current Handicap Rule and suggested the rule be better defined in the Standing Rules. Stephanie added the rule as currently written leaves too much discretion and interpretation of what is acceptable and what is not. She suggested a specific procedure be created and adopted for this exception. President Terry Reed explained what had been previously accepted by the board. A person wanting to use this exception would need to present a note from a physician indicating the member would not be able to follow the rules as written. He added this subject is already placed on the board agenda for the board meeting in June.

Stephanie Pitz expressed issues seen throughout the season with dogs weighing in the 25 pound class that are presented extremely underweight to make the class. Stephanie suggested the 10 pound and 25 pound weight classes be reviewed and possibly realigned to be 0 to 10 pound, 11 to 20 pound and 21 to 40 pound classes. This topic to be placed on the board agenda for review.

President Terry Reed explained for the new 10 pound and 25 pound weight classes, the weights pulled in this Championship will be record setting and not subject to records being broken and not subject to receiving record breaking awards. For any current record that may be broken will receive a record breaking award.

Carey Green discussed not changing the sleds midway through any weight class. He suggested using the same sled throughout the weight class. Discussion was also about specifications for sleds and or carts for the smaller classes; in that they be modeled after carts/sleds for the larger classes.

Jean Wilson stated she will make the Championship Program available in a PDF format for people who are unavailable to attend the Championship but would like a Championship Program or for those people who would like a color version of the program. Robbie Reed stated she will post this in the upcoming May Newsletter.

Mary Hernandez suggested for organizers to introduce all cart help/cart marshals at all pulls.

President Terry Reed introduced all the Championship Judges present.

Treasurer Cheryl Martin explained there is Travel money available for those members who traveled over 300 miles to compete in Championships. Cheryl explained this money is budgeted from the fees collected from organizers after events are completed and paperwork returned to Statistician Sue Ferrari. Cheryl will be contacting those members eligible to receive travel money.

Championship Host Carol Gerke explained there are approximately 90 silent auction items on display for bidding. Bids will end at approximately 1200 noon on Sunday. This will be announced prior to closing

the bidding. Proceeds will be donated to the local Children's Hospital. Shirley Webber explained after her granddaughter was born, the granddaughter stayed for an extended time at Children's Hospital for treatment.

President Terry Reed adjourned the meeting at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Reed Secretary to the Board of Directors





CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

James Webber Memorial IWPA Championships

Grand Rapids, Michigan (2550 Patterson Ave SE)

Pull: 119 -- Organizer(s): Gerke, Carol Wheel on Wheels Region: 6

Track: Carpet over asphalt

Weather: Warm and partly sunny

Date: 07-MayDay 1 of 2

Make it fun! For the dogs and the handlers

Chief Judge: George Ferrari 10 # Class (-9 thru 10 pounds)

Judged by Sue Ferrari 30# Start weight, 10# Increment, Cart weighs 30# Steve Jackson also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled Time	Wt	% Score Handler	Breed
Knox	9	80 19.13	5	16.00 0.0 Larry Williams	Pomeranian
Hope	9	70 11.87	5	14.00 0.0 Larry Williams	Chihuahua

25 # Class (6 thru 25 pounds)

Judged by Cheryl Martin 65# Start weight, 35# Increment, Cart weighs 65#

Sue Gallagher also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled Tim	e Wi	<i>%</i>	Score Handler	Breed
Obie	5	450 28.69	23	19.57	0.0 Courtney McDermott	Mixed
Mouse	6	415 12.88	22	18.86	0.0 Diane Krupski	Mixed
Ceasar	9	310 48.41	17	18.24	0.0 Richard Felice Sr	Miniature Schnauzer
Roscoe	6	275 18.66	24	11.46	0.0 Donna Libbey	Mixed
Prince I-Da Mack	9	135 5.43	18	7.50	0.0 Terence Reed	Boston Bull Terrier
Magnus	9	135 7.56	15	9.00	0.0 Mary Felice	Schnauzer
Ripper	6	0 0.00	17	0.00	0.0 Diane Krupski	Patterdale Terrier
		40 # Clas	s (21	thru 4	10 pounds)	

Judged by Brenda Lemon

220# Start weight, 105# Increment, Cart weighs 220# Robbie Reed also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score Handler	Breed
Raven	5	1060	17.46	37	28.65	0.0 Timothy Goodell	Staffordshire Bull
Bobber	7	955	11.84	34	28.09	0.0 Melissa Kehler	Staffordshire Bull
Razzel	6	955	12.56	40	23.88	0.0 Stephanie Pitz	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
Honeysuckle	9	955	22.78	36	26.53	0.0 Rodney Martin	Norwegian Elkhound
Dew	5	850	8.97	38	22.37	0.0 Steve Jackson	Alaskan Husky
Mist	5	850	11.12	39	21.79	0.0 Wendy Leister	Alaskan Husky
Lexis	9	745	9.72	37	20.14	0.0 Cheryl Martin	Norwegian Elkhound
Breeze	5	745	31.94	36	20.69	0.0 Michele Izzo	Siberian Husky
Ambrosia	11	745	58.40	40	18.63	0.0 Mary Wolf	Samoyed
Cinder	2	640	14.81	33	19.39	0.0 George Ferrari	Australian Cattle Dog
Moxie	5	535	5.85	39	13.72	0.0 Kari Hunyadi	Siberian Husky
Daffodil	9	535	8.00	36	14.86	0.0 Cheryl Martin	Norwegian Elkhound
Eagle	7	430	7.19	40	10.75	0.0 Melissa Kehler	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
		60 #	Class	<i>(</i> 41 ·	thru (60 nounds)	

60 # Class (41 thru 60 pounds)

Judged by Jean Wilson

220# Start weight, 140# Increment, Cart weighs 220# Brenda Lemon also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled Time	Wt % .	Score Handler	Breed
Ruby	5	1620 27.56	57 28.42	0.0 David Gallagher	Alaskan Malamute
Onyx	5	1620 47.90	52 31.15	0.0 Timothy Goodell	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
Mole	5	1620 53.41	56 28.93	0.0 Wendy Leister	Alaskan Husky
Hurricane Clyde	6	1480 13.63	55 26.91	0.0 Carol Gerke	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
Junior	5	1480 16.76	58 25.52	0.0 Steve Jackson	Mixed

Knuck-Knuck	6	1200 1	1.66	59	20.34	0.0 Shirley Webber	Am. Pit Bull Terrier		
Zoie	5		3.03	57	21.05	0.0 Melissa Zebda	German Shepherd		
Zapper	2		6.28	59	17.97	0.0 George Ferrari	Siberian Husky		
Syd	11	1060 4	11.40	57	18.60	0.0 Chris Hockaday	Chow Chow		
Kori	6	920	8.18	58	15.86	0.0 Marie Zimmerman	Mixed		
Yogi	4	920 3	33.81	60	15.33	0.0 Constance Meech	Siberian Husky		
Duke Moses	9	920 3	37.16	59	15.59	0.0 Robbie Reed	English Bulldog		
Chief	9	640 2	21.44	44	14.55	0.0 Cheryl Martin	Norwegian Elkhound		
Molly	9	640 2	27.29	44	14.55	0.0 Rochelle Wacker	Mixed		
Taz	9	0	0.00	45	0.00	0.0 Jeff Stock	Mixed		
		80 # 0	Class	(61	thru 8	80 pounds)			
						nce Reed			
		220# S				ment, Cart weighs 220#			
Dog	Reg	Pulled		eryi Fi Wt		lso judged Score Handler	Breed		
Tyson	6	2495 1		75	33.27	0.0 Ted Gerke	Boxer		
Bobby	5	1970 1		78	25.26	0.0 Todd Sheehan	Alaskan Malamute		
Milo	5		7.75	75	26.27	0.0 Todd Sheehan	Alaskan Malamute		
GrimmLoc	9		52.97	71	27.75	0.0 Richard Felice Sr	Am. Pit Bull Terrier		
Fat Boy	7		2.03	76	21.32	0.0 David Heffelfinger	Am. Bull Dog		
Hercules	11		7.32	75	21.60	0.0 Charles Collins	Am. Pit Bull Terrier		
JD	6		32.81	72	22.50	0.0 Ted Gerke	Mixed		
Maddox	6	1620 7		68	23.82	0.0 Paige Pitz	Am. Pit Bull Terrier		
Lucky	5		1.85	72	20.07	0.0 Steve Jackson	Alaskan Husky		
Tidus	9		0.90	80	15.88	0.0 Jennifer Berning	Mixed		
Sarge	5	1095	7.47	74	14.80	0.0 David Gallagher	Alaskan Malamute		
Ludo	4	1095 4		66	16.59	0.0 Debbie Bickford	Am. Bull Dog		
				s (81					
100 # Class (81 thru 100 pounds) Judged by Jean Wilson									
660# Start weight, 210# Increment, Cart weighs 240#									
		D 11 1				o judged			
Dog	Reg		Time	Wt		Score Handler	Breed		
Ngata	11	2340 1		100	23.40	0.0 Jenna Star-Farling	Gr. Swiss Mtn. Dog		
Valiant	5		7.97	97	19.79	0.0 Todd Sheehan	Alaskan Malamute		
Diesel	6		70.69	87	22.07	0.0 Ted Gerke	German Wire Hair		
Olaf	5 5	1710 1		95	18.00	0.0 David Gallagher	Alaskan Malamute		
Boe	9	1710 1 1710 1		94 94	18.19 18.19	0.0 Michele Izzo0.0 Richard Felice Sr	Alaskan Malamute Am. Bull Dog		
Lacy	11	1710 1		93	18.39	0.0 Charles Collins	Gr. Swiss Mtn. Dog		
Xena	5	1710 1			20.12		German Shepherd		
Daegan Rugged	9	1710 1			19.66	0.0 Tammy Bristol 0.0 Matt Hernandez	Rottweiler		
Carmen	11	1080 5			12.27	0.0 Valarie Thawley	Alaskan Malamute		
Carmen	11					•	Alaskan Walamute		
		125 #				u 125 pounds) Sheehan			
		240# S				nent, Cart weighs 240#			
					Reed also				
Dog	Reg	Pulled		Wt		Score Handler	Breed		
Ruckus	7	2550 4			22.57	0.0 Carol Dodds	Saint Bernard		
Kong	9	2340 1			21.67	0.0 Chris Stock	Am. Pit Bull Terrier		
Woody	9	2130 1			17.60	0.0 Chris Stock	Am. Bull Dog		
River	5	2130 3			20.88	0.0 Lonna Goodell	Mixed		
Stormie	2	1710 2			14.87	0.0 Sue Ferrari	Alaskan Malamute		
Cinnabar	7				13.27	0.0 Sheryl Franklin	Alaskan Malamute		
		150 #				u 150 pounds)			
		2.40// 0			d by Sue				
		240# S				nent, Cart weighs 240# so judged			
Dog	Reg	Pulled		Wt	_	Score Handler	Breed		
Delbert	7	2760 3					Alaskan Malamute		
·	•				2.50				

Micky	6	2130 12.5	_		0.0 Jean Wilson	Newfoundland			
Lilly	2	2130 13.8	1 132 1	16.14	0.0 April Perrin	Am. Staffordshire			
Brody	6	1500 4.2	2 137 1	10.95	0.0 Jean Wilson	Newfoundland			
Cisco	9	1500 9.2	2 131 1	11.45	0.0 Mary Hernandez	Rottweiler			
Prince Mufasa	9	1500 11.3	1 126 1	11.90	0.0 Robbie Reed	Dogue De Bordeaux			
Autumn	10	1290 56.1	5 137	9.42	0.0 James Galli	Alaskan Malamute			
Beau	4	870 5.6	3 146	5.96	0.0 Constance Meech	Newfoundland			
Unlimited Class (over 150 pounds)									
			Judged by	y Wendy	Leister				

240# Start weight, 210# Increment, Cart weighs 240#

George Ferrari also judged

Dog Reg Pulled Time Wt % Score Handler Breed Sebastian Alaskan Malamute 870 10.03 154 5.65 0.0 Sheryl Franklin

James Webber Memorial IWPA Championships Grand Rapids, Michigan (2550 Patterson Ave SE)

Pull: 120 -- Organizer(s): Gerke, Carol Snow on Snow Region: 6

Track: One track fairly level, one track al little lumpy Date: 08-May-Weather: Inside an ice rink - climate controlled Day 2 of 2

Make it fun for the handlers and the dogs

Chief Judge: George Ferrari

10 # Class (-9 thru 10 pounds)

Judged by Sue Ferrari

12# Start weight, 10# Increment, Cart weighs 12# Steve Jackson also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	% 5	Score Handler	Breed
Knox	9	42	5.72	5	8.40	0.0 Larry Williams	Pomeranian
Lil Mama	6	22	7.58	7	3.14	0.0 Diane Krupski	Chihuahua

25 # Class (6 thru 25 pounds)

Judged by Cheryl Martin 65# Start weight, 35# Increment, Cart weighs 65# Sue Gallagher also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	% X	Score Handler	Breed
Ripper	6	135	5.50	17	7.94	0.0 Diane Krupski	Patterdale Terrier
Mouse	6	135 1	13.48	22	6.14	0.0 Diane Krupski	Mixed
Ceasar	9	135 1	18.79	17	7.94	0.0 Richard Felice Sr	Miniature Schnauzer
Prince I-Da Mack	9	65	5.34	18	3.61	0.0 Terence Reed	Boston Bull Terrier
Magnus	9	65	5.97	15	4.33	0.0 Mary Felice	Schnauzer

40 # Class (21 thru 40 pounds)

Judged by Brenda Lemon 70# Start weight, 70# Increment, Cart weighs 70# Robbie Reed also judged

Robbie Reed also judged										
Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed		
Honeysuckle	9	420	9.88	36	11.67	0.0	Rodney Martin	Norwegian Elkhound		
Moxie	5	350	5.09	39	8.97	0.0	Kari Hunyadi	Siberian Husky		
Lexis	9	350	6.85	37	9.46	0.0	Cheryl Martin	Norwegian Elkhound		
Dew	5	350	7.47	38	9.21	0.0	Steve Jackson	Alaskan Husky		
Mist	5	350	14.84	39	8.97	0.0	Wendy Leister	Alaskan Husky		
Razzel	6	350	29.35	40	8.75	0.0	Stephanie Pitz	Am. Pit Bull Terrier		
Breeze	5	350	49.78	36	9.72	0.0	Michele Izzo	Siberian Husky		
Sunnidae	5	280	9.66	39	7.18	0.0	Diane Geitzenauer	Samoyed		
Cinder	2	210	6.79	33	6.36	0.0	George Ferrari	Australian Cattle Dog		
Daffodil	9	140	4.03	36	3.89	0.0	Cheryl Martin	Norwegian Elkhound		
Ambrosia	11	140	5.75	40	3.50	0.0	Mary Wolf	Samoved		

60 # Class (41 thru 60 pounds)

Judged by Jean Wilson
Start weight, 70# Ingrament, Cart

140# Start weight, 70# Increment, Cart weighs 140# Brenda Lemon also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled Time	Wt	% .	Score Handler	Breed
Hurricane Clyde	6	700 10.03	55	12.73	0.0 Carol Gerke	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
Mole	5	630 6.13	56	11.25	0.0 Wendy Leister	Alaskan Husky
Junior	5	630 10.28	58	10.86	0.0 Steve Jackson	Mixed
Zoie	5	630 10.34	57	11.05	0.0 Melissa Zebda	German Shepherd
Ruby	5	560 5.25	57	9.82	0.0 David Gallagher	Alaskan Malamute
Zapper	2	490 26.66	59	8.31	0.0 George Ferrari	Siberian Husky
Knuck-Knuck	6	420 35.53	59	7.12	0.0 Shirley Webber	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
Chief	9	210 3.84	44	4.77	0.0 Cheryl Martin	Norwegian Elkhound
Tog "The Terrible"	9	210 63.10	44	4.77	0.0 Rodney Martin	Norwegian Elkhound
Taz	9	0 0.00	45	0.00	0.0 Jeff Stock	Mixed
		00 // 01	111	41 0	1)	

80 # Class (61 thru 80 pounds)

Judged by Terence Reed 140# Start weight, 140# Increment, Cart weighs 140# Sheryl Franklin also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled Time	Wt %	Score Handler	Breed
Bobby	5	1120 38.65	78 14.36	0.0 Todd Sheehan	Alaskan Malamute
Tyson	6	980 12.00	75 13.07	0.0 Ted Gerke	Boxer
Seth	5	980 30.43	78 12.56	0.0 Todd Sheehan	Alaskan Malamute
JD	6	840 6.12	72 11.67	0.0 Ted Gerke	Mixed
GrimmLoc	9	840 13.85	71 11.83	0.0 Richard Felice Sr	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
Bristol	5	700 22.25	67 10.45	0.0 Michele Izzo	Siberian Husky
Tidus	9	560 5.63	80 7.00	0.0 Jennifer Berning	Mixed
Lucky	5	560 9.16	72 7.78	0.0 Steve Jackson	Alaskan Husky
Mercy	9	560 52.53	79 7.09	0.0 Shannon Faltak	Retriever
Ludo	4	420 5.85	66 6.36	0.0 Debbie Bickford	Am. Bull Dog
Maddox	6	420 7.06	68 6.18	0.0 Paige Pitz	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
Sarge	5	280 4.10	74 3.78	0.0 David Gallagher	Alaskan Malamute
		100 // 01	(01.41	100 1)	

100 # Class (81 thru 100 pounds)

Judged by Jean Wilson

155# Start weight, 140# Increment, Cart weighs 155# Robbie Reed also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled Time	Wt %	Score Handler	Breed
Lacy	9	995 51.47	94 10.59	0.0 Richard Felice Sr	Am. Bull Dog
Boe	5	855 13.09	94 9.10	0.0 Michele Izzo	Alaskan Malamute
Olaf	5	715 5.66	95 7.53	0.0 David Gallagher	Alaskan Malamute
Valiant	5	715 8.47	97 7.37	0.0 Todd Sheehan	Alaskan Malamute
Xena	11	715 9.37	93 7.69	0.0 Charles Collins	Gr. Swiss Mtn. Dog
Rugged	9	575 8.93	87 6.61	0.0 Matt Hernandez	Rottweiler
Diesel	6	575 11.32	87 6.61	0.0 Ted Gerke	German Wire Hair
Daegan	5	0.00	85 0.00	0.0 Tammy Bristol	German Shepherd
=		4.5 = 11.00	(404.3	4.5	•

125 # Class (101 thru 125 pounds)

Judged by Todd Sheehan

155# Start weight, 140# Increment, Cart weighs 155#

Terry Reed also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score	Handler	Breed
Kong	9	1275	10.20	108	11.81	0.0	Chris Stock	Am. Pit Bull Terrier
Woody	9	1135	10.05	121	9.38	0.0	Chris Stock	Am. Bull Dog
Ngata	11	995	9.91	111	8.96	0.0	Jenna Star-Farling	Gr. Swiss Mtn. Dog
Stormie	2	995	27.62	115	8.65	0.0	Sue Ferrari	Alaskan Malamute
Tornado	2	855	6.22	104	8.22	0.0	George Ferrari	Alaskan Malamute
Cinnabar	7	435	5.03	113	3.85	0.0	Sheryl Franklin	Alaskan Malamute



150 # Class (126 thru 150 pounds)

Judged by Sue Ferrari 155# Start weight, 140# Increment, Cart weighs 155# Sue Gallagher also judged

Dog	Reg	Pulled	Time	Wt	%	Score Handler	Breed	
Micky	6	995	9.12	132	7.54	0.0 Jean Wilson	Newfoundland	
Autumn	10	995	59.84	137	7.26	0.0 James Galli	Alaskan Malamute	
Brody	6	855	6.10	137	6.24	0.0 Jean Wilson	Newfoundland	
Cisco	9	855	7.09	131	6.53	0.0 Mary Hernandez	Rottweiler	
Beau	4	855	9.00	146	5.86	0.0 Constance Meech	Newfoundland	
Prince Mufasa	9	575	45.53	126	4.56	0.0 Terence Reed	Dogue De Bordeaux	"



COCOA MULCH TOXIC TO DOGS AND CATS

Cocoa Mulch, which is sold by Home Depot, Foreman's Garden Supply and other Garden supply stores, contains a lethal ingredient called "Theobromine".

It is lethal to dogs and cats. It smells like chocolate and it really attracts dogs. They will ingest this stuff and die. Several deaths already occurred in the last 2-3 weeks. Just a word of caution — check what you are using in your gardens and be aware of what your gardeners are using in your gardens.

Theobromine is the ingredient that is used to make all chocolate — especially dark or baker's chocolate — which is toxic to dogs.

Cocoa bean shells contain potentially toxic quantities of theobromine, a xanthine compound similar in effects to caffeine and theophylline. A dog that ingested a lethal quantity of garden mulch made from cacao bean shells developed severe convulsions and died 17 hours later. Analysis of the stomach contents and the ingested cacao bean shells revealed the presence of lethal amounts of theobromine.

According to tables we've examined, cocoa mulch contains 300-1200 mg. of theobromine per ounce, making cocoa mulch one of the strongest concentrations of theobromine a pet is likely to encounter in any chocolate product. However, the question of the gravity of the risk presented by this type of gardening mulch remains a matter of debate.

Theobromine affects the heart, central nervous system, and kidneys, causing nausea and vomiting, restlessness, diarrhea, muscle tremors, and increased urination. Cardiac arrhythmia and seizures are symptoms of more advanced poisoning. Other than induced vomiting, vets have no treatment or antidote for theobromine poisoning. Death can occur in 12 to 24 hours.





