



Dual-Licensed Weight Pull Events

Dear Event Host,

The Iron Dog Sports Association (IDSA) invites your organization to consider hosting a dual-licensed weight pull event in collaboration with one or more recognized weight pull organizations. IDSA has pre-approved collaborations with American Pulling Alliance (APA), Global Canine Registry (GCR), International Weight Pull Association (IWPA), and Unified Pulling Federation (UPF). Our goal is to help event hosts expand their reach, attract more participants, and strengthen community ties within the sport—all while maintaining the integrity and autonomy of each organization's rules and systems.

Dual-licensed events create an exciting opportunity for dogs and handlers to earn points and recognition from multiple organizations at the same time, without increasing the number of weekends or travel commitments required. Your club benefits through higher participation, greater visibility, and a stronger return on venue and event resources.

What Is a Dual-Licensed Event?

A dual-licensed event allows participants to compete under the rules and scoring systems of more than one organization during a single event. This approach lets handlers accumulate points or titles in multiple systems while giving hosts the flexibility to choose how the event runs day-to-day.

Main Benefits:

- Increased participation and entry revenues
- Broader exposure and recognition for dogs and handlers
- Enhanced collaboration and community connections across organizations
- More efficient venue and staffing use
- Flexibility for hosts to structure events that suit their membership and local preferences

Choosing the Right Event Format

To support different levels of coordination and host autonomy, IDSA offers three operational formats. When applying, you'll select the one that best matches your event goals and comfort level.

1. **Separate Format** – Each organization operates independently while sharing the same venue, track, and judging area. Handlers may compete under one or both organizations during the event. This format works well when both organizations have strong member bases or unique rule sets to preserve.
2. **Joint Format** – Both organizations integrate fully and all dogs compete under both systems simultaneously. One combined score sheet is used, and eliminations apply across both organizations. This format is ideal for seamless, unified events where consistency is key.
3. **Primary Organization Format** – One organization serves as the primary license, while the other acts as secondary. All competitors participate under the primary organization's rules, with the option to enter the secondary organization for additional recognition. This model is great for first-time collaborations or areas where one organization has an established presence.

Administrative Process

To request a dual-licensed event, simply complete the IDSA Weight Pull – Licensed Event Application and indicate that you'd like to host as a dual-licensed event and with which organization. You'll also specify your preferred operational format.

After you submit your application:

- IDSA will coordinate directly with the collaborating organization to review your proposed format.
- You'll be informed if any adjustments are recommended and will have an opportunity to confirm the final structure.
- Once approved, IDSA will guide you through next steps—such as judge confirmations, equipment verification, and submission of any additional paperwork.

IDSA will provide all necessary forms, manage event licensing fees (\$5.00 per dog per pull, minus a non-refundable \$50 deposit), process results, and update official records following your event.

Your Role as Host

As the host, you oversee:

- Venue preparation and compliance with both organizations' equipment standards
- Recruiting qualified judges (dual-certified when possible)
- Collecting registration, entry forms, and waivers for both organizations
- Providing results and final paperwork to IDSA and any collaborating organizations

Throughout planning and operation, IDSA will be available to support you and ensure all requirements are handled consistently and efficiently.

Moving Forward

Your club's participation in dual-licensed events contributes directly to the growth and accessibility of the sport. By hosting a dual-licensed event, you help reduce scheduling conflicts, increase handler participation opportunities, and showcase your event as an inclusive and forward-thinking competition.

We'd be delighted to partner with you on a dual-licensed event and are happy to discuss which format best matches your goals and resources.

Thank you for your interest and for supporting the continued development of weight pull competition.

Sincerely,
Iron Dog Sports Association

Sarah Szymanski
Director of Operations and Administration