

The Iron Welsh Challenge

Celebrating the Versatility of the Welsh Springer Spaniel

Iron Welsh Competition Rules and Procedures

1. The Iron Welsh Challenge is a versatility competition intended to be held in conjunction with the WSSCA National Specialty. It is sponsored by the Welsh Springer Spaniel Club who hosts the Challenge.
2. In the event the Iron Welsh Challenge is not held with the National Specialty, an alternate Iron Welsh Challenge may be approved by the WSSCA Board to be held in conjunction with a Regional Specialty or Supported Entry show.
3. Any Club offering Iron Welsh Challenge competition must offer at least 4 of 7 possible events: Conformation, Field, Obedience, Tracking, Agility, Rally and Scentwork. Conformation and field competition should be offered at every Iron Welsh Challenge.
4. Two types of awards are offered in the Iron Welsh challenge; the Qualifier award and the Medal awards. The Qualifier award is given to all Welsh Springer Spaniels who compete in at least 3 of the offered events and earn qualifying performances in at least 2 of the events. The Medal Awards, Gold, Silver and Bronze are given to the top three point winners in the Challenge. The Gold award winner is designated the Iron Welsh Champion of that year.
5. The owners of the medal winning dogs must all be members of WSSCA for the full calendar year of the Challenge. If any of the owner(s) of the medal winners are not members of WSSCA then the corresponding award will not be given that year.
6. The winners of the Qualifying awards must all be members of WSSCA.
7. The Awards will be presented to the owner or handler of the dog at the National Specialty banquet if the results are known at that time. If the competition continues after the banquet, the awards will be presented at the last performance event of the Iron Welsh Challenge.
8. Point values increase as the level of difficulty increases, and bonus points are awarded based on successes across multiple events, rewarding versatility.
9. It is encouraged to allow scores from all days of competition surrounding the National Specialty. Allowing more eligible days helps minimize conflicts between the individual events, although strategizing the choice of classes and event, and dealing with conflicts is considered part of the challenge.

10. Maintaining the Welsh Springer Spaniel as a single breed with no split between show and field or performance dogs is a very important goal of WSSCA, and thus conformation is considered a key component of the Iron Welsh Competition. Sponsoring clubs are strongly encouraged to offer a judged conformation class for the Iron Welsh Competitors who are not eligible for the regular breed classes or handlers electing not to compete in regular classes. Either an "Iron Welsh Competitor" and/or "Altered" classes (for each dogs and bitches) in Sweepstakes or following Best of Breed, should be held to provide an opportunity for Iron Welsh Competitors to compete in Conformation. A "Parade" of Iron Welsh Participants may not substitute for a Conformation event.
11. Appendix A lists the Schedule of Points. Changes to the schedule of points shall be reviewed and approved by the Board at least six months in advance of the Iron Welsh Competition at which the new rules will be implemented. Proposals for changes must be sponsored by at least three WSSCA members who have qualified in at least one previous Iron Welsh Challenge. The attached form labeled Exhibit B should be submitted to the Recording Secretary for consideration by the Board.

Appendix B

WSSCA Iron Welsh Competition Schedule of Points

Proposal to the WSSCA Board for Changes in the Points Schedule

Date Submitted _____

Proposed Effective Date _____
(Must be at least 3 months prior to the next Iron Welsh Competition)

Submitted By:

Name (Email address)

Sponsors

First Sponsor

Name and Date of Previous Iron Welsh Participation

Second Sponsor

Name and Date of Previous Iron Welsh Participation

Third Sponsor Name

Name and Date of Previous Iron Welsh Participation

Please Describe the Scoring Change Proposed and the Rationale for the Change