

Date: February 15, 2019 at 9:53 AM

Subject: Re: Retrieving Credit - Round 2 Feedback - WCA

Ms. Murphy,

The Weimaraner Club of America (WCA) has surveyed our membership and forwarded the results to our Field Committee for their comment. They submitted their recommendations to the BOD and the WCA Board of Directors has voted to respond to the AKC's 2nd request for input with the following:

Options:

#1 - Rating = 5 All four dogs placing in a retrieving stake would receive retrieving credits.

#2 - Rating = 5 Dogs placing first through third in any retrieving stake would receive retrieving credits.

#3 - Rating = 1 Dogs would earn retrieving credits depending on the size of the stake:

1st place remains as is.

2nd place - 1 retrieving credit if placing in a 2-point stake (8 - 12 starters).

3rd place - 1 retrieving credit if placing in a 3-point stake (13 - 17 starters).

4th place - 1 retrieving credit if placing in a 4-point or better stake (18 or more starters).

#4 - Rating = 2 Leave retrieving as is.

#5 - Rating = 5 Provide for a stand-alone retrieving test which can be offered at the option of the club where a dog earns one retrieving credit by demonstrating steadiness and a good retrieve. If the standalone retrieving test is adopted, there would be no change to how retrieving is currently handled in retrieving stakes.

We feel option #3 is an acceptable compromise that provides credit for dogs that have completed a retrieve but will limit dogs competing in very small stakes and being awarded placements when they have beaten no other dogs. Our second choice is to leave it as is until further evaluation is made. A large number of the original survey respondents included breeds that don't require a retrieve today. This may have influenced the results in one direction or another. The remaining options are all undesirable to the WCA at this time.

Our board shares many of our members' and other club's concerns that this proposal will make it easier to attain the field championship title, effectively diminishing the hard work of those who achieved those titles under the current rules. We are not convinced that changing the rules will encourage more participation.

The WCA feels a dogs retrieving proficiency is an important skill for any versatile breed and would be strongly against anything that compromises this. The main purpose of a versatile gun dog is to find and point game, and once shot, bring it back for the table.

Respectfully,

John Bonner

WCA President