

## Terms of Reference: Dog Wellness Award

### 1. Introduction:

- The Dog Wellness Award was established in 2026 to recognize organizations in the canine world that exemplify the core values of IPFDogs.

### 2. Purpose:

- The award acknowledges and celebrates organizations demonstrating an exceptional commitment to the health and well-being of all dogs.
- It highlights those organizations embodying the collaborative ethos of IPFDogs and contribute significantly to the well-being of dogs and the canine community.

### 3. Core Values:

- Candidates eligible for the award should showcase dedication to the values upheld by IPFDogs, including a collaborative approach, transparency, and an integrated perspective on the challenges faced by dogs and their caretakers.

### 4. Eligibility Criteria:

- Nominees must have demonstrated outstanding contributions to the health and well-being of all dogs.
- Nominees should align with the collaborative philosophy of IPFDogs.
- Eligible candidates may include kennel and breed clubs, health committees, educational/research institutions, veterinary organizations, pet industry services/manufacturers (e.g., genetic test providers, food manufacturers, insurers), and non-profit dog health and welfare associations/organizations.

### 5. Selection Process:

- A selection committee, comprising members from IPFDogs (i.e., Board Chair, CEO, and 2 other Board Members, plus up to 3 other lay members), will review nominations and select the awardee.
- Nominations may be submitted by individuals or organizations within the canine community.
- The committee will consider the nominee's impact, dedication, and alignment with IPFDogs values.
- IPFDogs may choose to appoint this award without notice or a call for nominations in a special circumstance, if approved by a majority vote by the sitting IPFDogs Board of Directors.

6. Award Presentation:

- The award will be presented bi-annually at a prominent canine-related event, such as the IPFDogs International Dog Health Workshops (IDHWs) or other suitable occasions as decided by the IPFDogs Board of Directors
- The recipient will receive a commemorative plaque and recognition for their exemplary contributions to the well-being of dogs.

7. Promotion and Publicity:

- Award eligibility criteria and details of the nomination process will be widely disseminated within the global dog community. IPFDogs will actively promote the award through its online platform, DogWellNet.com, social media channels, and direct correspondence.
- The recipient will be notified in advance, and photos/videos of the presentation (along with details of their nomination) will be widely disseminated within the global dog community.

8. Collaboration and Networking:

- The award aims to foster collaboration and networking within the canine community by recognizing organizations that share the IPFDogs vision.
- The recipient will be encouraged to engage with the community, sharing their expertise and passion for dogs.

9. Conclusion:

- The Dog Wellness Award serves as a testament to the commitment of organizations making a significant impact on the well-being of dogs.
- Through this award, IPFDogs continues to promote a collaborative approach to address the complex challenges faced by dogs and their caretakers.

**Please submit your nominations to**  
**[marc.ralsky@ipfdogs.com](mailto:marc.ralsky@ipfdogs.com) by Monday, 30 March 2026.**