

IFCS 2010 Team Selection Rules

USDAA, as an associate member of the International Federation of Cynological Sports, wishes to sponsor a team to participate in the 2010 IFCS World Agility Championships to be held early to mid-summer in 2010 in a country to be announced. The event is to be organized and conducted by an organization other than USDAA, unless held in the United States, and the event date and other event related matters are beyond the direct control of USDAA, for which USDAA cannot be held responsible.

As an IFCS associate member, USDAA will oversee team member selection for the United States of America and will make such selections in accordance with rules set forth herein. Sponsorship is limited to cost of entry fees, uniforms, and providing a coordinator for team travel logistics and selecting a coach. Selected team members agree to follow all policies and procedures set forth by USDAA and/or the team coach. USDAA will also facilitate the raising of additional funds to assist with team travel. Sponsorship fund distribution shall be governed by additional rules published separately.

Team Selection

Four teams of 3 dogs are chosen to compete in the four IFCS height divisions. An individual handler may have more than one dog on the team.

Consideration for a position on the U.S. team is offered first to the handler/dog with the highest number of Team Selection Points (“TSPs”) earned. If the handler declines, consideration then goes to the handler/dog that is immediately next on the list, and so on, though the RCSB may opt to leave a position vacant at its sole discretion.

TSPs are earned based upon a placement chart set forth below and applies to all “Four Star” events as set forth herein. Four Star events for qualification for the 2010 IFCS World Agility Championship team include six USDAA Regional U.S. championship events and five specially designated local events, and the Cynosport World Games.

Selection of team members will be announced on or before November 25, 2009.

Eligibility of Handler

- (1) The handler must submit the official Intent to Compete form prior to Friday, October 9, 2009, in order to be eligible for the team; early submission is encouraged. The form can be emailed to info@usdaa.com, mailed via US Post to: USDAA, PO Box 850955, Richardson, TX 75085, or faxed to (972) 231-9700..
- (2) The handler of a dog under consideration for the team must have been the handler in all events. In case of injury, illness or other unusual circumstance that the RCSB deems in its sole discretion to be valid, a substitute handler is permitted in a given round provided at least 90% or more of the competitor’s TSPs have been earned with the handler under consideration for team participation as the actual handler.
- (3) The handler must either be a citizen of the United States -OR- have permanent resident status within the United States. Note that a permanent resident who competes as a representative for their country of residency will be ineligible to compete for their country of citizenship for a period of 5 years following the IFCS competition.

- (4) The handler must have satisfied all conditions pertaining to travel documentation (i.e. passports and health certifications) required for themselves and their dog no later than 6 months prior to the travel date to attend the event. Health certificate and other requirements vary from country to country and are subject to change without advance notice. *One or more countries under consideration as host country for the event may have strict animal vaccine and transportation regulations that require special vaccine and/or microchipping compliance, as well as utilization of specific carriers. Handlers vying for a place on the team should be attentive for announcements and be prepared to take steps necessary for compliance, which may be before final determination of team composition is made. Regrettably, such requirements are beyond the control of USDAA and IFCS.*
- (5) If the handler is under 18 years of age, permission must be given by a parent or guardian for participation on the team and that handler must be accompanied at their own expense by a parent or legal guardian.
- (6) The handler must be physically able to compete in the event. Ill or incapacitated handlers should inform the RCSB if possible no less than 15 days prior to the closing date so that an alternate can be notified, if any is to be named. The closing date will be announced as soon as it is known.
- (7) A competitor must be financially able to provide their personal travel expenses to and from the event should financial sponsorship not be available. This must be demonstrated by purchase of the travel ticket no later than 60 days prior to the event. Should financial sponsorship be available, handlers will be reimbursed for their travel and lodging expenses to the extent available.
- (8) A competitor shall be expected to serve as a representative and goodwill ambassador of the United States, USDAA, and of the sport of dog agility. As per Appendix C of the USDAA rulebook, any written complaints filed against a potential team member for actions or incidents occurring at a USDAA trial and which are found to be upheld by the trial's Disciplinary Action Committee will be reviewed by the RCSB. Additionally, any warnings or disciplinary actions issued by a judge or member of an event organizing committee, or its disciplinary action committee, and reported in their official report to USDAA will be reviewed. The RCSB in its sole discretion and without recourse may declare such a competitor ineligible for the team.

Eligibility of Dog

- (1) The dog's official height must have been verified in accordance with the Intent to Compete form for compliance with IFCS jump height standards. Note that in addition, all dogs in the Toy, Mini, and Midi divisions will be measured by IFCS judges or officials prior to the start of the IFCS competition. Official IFCS height breakdowns are as follows:
 - (a) Toy: 30 cm (11.81 in) and under jumps 30 cm
 - (b) Mini: 40 cm (15.75 in) and under jumps 40 cm
 - (c) Midi: 50 cm (19.69 in) and under jumps 55 cm (21.65 in)
 - (d) Maxi: over 50 cm jumps 65 cm (25.59 in)
- (2) Any medications that the dog is on must be declared in advance to the RCSB. Only dogs receiving medications intended for the healing of illness or injury can compete; i.e., no performance enhancing drugs are permitted (i.e. IFCS specifically prevents 'doping' of dogs).

- (3) Ill or exhausted dogs, bitches in heat or pregnant bitches are not permitted in the IFCS competition. Therefore even if selected, the RCSB may overrule a team member's eligibility on this basis and elect to send an alternate (or leave the team position vacant) instead.
- (4) As per Appendix C of the USDAA rulebook, any written complaints filed against a potential team dog for actions or incidents occurring at a USDAA trial and which are found to be upheld by the trial's Disciplinary Action Committee will be reviewed by the RCSB. The RCSB has the option of declaring such a dog ineligible for the team in their sole discretion.

Team Selection Points

- (1) Competitors may earn TSPs in 2009 only from specially designated "Four Star" events, which include Regional Championship events, specially designated local events and the Cynosport® World Games, a list of which is published on usdaa.com. Points shall be awarded in each of the four height classes offered at the events. Dogs must compete in the appropriate USDAA class based upon the following IFCS height categories:
 - a. Toy (30 cm): points earned must come from 12" Championship classes by a dog measuring 30 cm (11.81 in) and under.
 - b. Mini (40 cm): points earned must come from 16" Championship classes by a dog measuring 40 cm (15.75in) and under.
 - c. Midi (55 cm): points earned must come from 22" Championship classes by a dog measuring 50 cm (19.69 in) and under.
 - d. Maxi (65 cm): points earned must come from 26" Championship classes.

Points must be earned in no more than five events, being the first four "Four Star" local or regional events in which competed, plus the Cynosport World Games, for a maximum of five events. All Four Star local and regional events are equally weighted. TSPs will be awarded in accordance with the chart below:

Table 1 2010 Team Selection Trial Point Accumulation Schedule

Placement	12" height points earned	16" & 26" height points earned	22" height points earned
1 st	6	9	12
2 nd	5	8	11
3 rd	4	7	10
4 th	3	6	9
5 th	2	5	8
6 th	1	4	7
7 th		3	6
8 th		2	5
9 th		1	4
10 th			3
11 th			2
12 th			1

- (2) Points will be earned at the Regional 4-Star Team Selection events as follows:
- i. Grand Prix Semi-Final Round
 - ii. Steeplechase Final Round
 - iii. Team Gamblers, Jumpers, Snooker & Standard, individually
- a. Points will be allocated for the same classes in the Cynosport World Games agility championships, as well as to the Grand Prix Finals and Steeplechase Semifinal rounds.
 - b. Points will be earned at the local events designated as Four-Star Team Selection events as follows:
 - i. Grand Prix
 - ii. Steeplechase Final Round
 - iii. Team Gamblers, Jumpers, Snooker & Standard, individually

Collectively, it means points may be earned in –

- six rounds of Grand Prix (four Four Star local or regional events plus the semifinals and finals from Cynosport),
- six rounds of STP (four Four Star local or regional events plus the semifinals and finals from Cynosport), and
- twenty rounds (five events) of Team individual classes (four Four Star local or regional events plus one from Cynosport).

- (3) In the event of ties on the number of overall points, factors used to break the tie are listed below in the order of their consideration:
- a. the average number of dogs defeated per qualification event, excluding Cynosport.
 - b. the dog who cumulatively places better in head-to-head competition at the USDAA World Championships.
 - c. the dog with the larger number of Top Ten points earned in 2009 in all classes.

For more information about the event, watch the news pages at www.usdaa.com. Information about the event should be available in autumn 2009.

**2010 IFCS WORLD TEAM
CERTIFICATION OF MEASUREMENT & INTENT TO COMPETE**

Deadline for submission of form: Friday, October 9, 2009

Through submission of this form, I declare my intent to be a candidate for the 2010 World Team representing the United States in England in May of that year. Further I have read and understand the IFCS Qualification Regulations set forth by the United States Dog Agility Association.

Handler Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Dog's Call Name: _____ Breed: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Current Jump Height: _____

I acknowledge through my signature below that I am aware of and understand that IFCS height cut-offs differ from those currently used in USDAA competition, and that those height cut-offs are as follows:

- (a) Toy: 30 cm (11.81 in) and under jumps 30 cm
- (b) Mini: 40 cm (15.75 in) and under jumps 40 cm
- (c) Midi: 50 cm (19.69 in) and under jumps 55 cm
- (d) Maxi: over 50 cm jumps 65 cm

Further, I understand that a panel of Certified Measuring Judges chosen by USDAA will make the final height determination through measurement of the candidate dog at the Cynosport® World Games as the final determination of height and eligibility to participate.

I have competed at the USDAA Regional Championships indicated below (see selection rules for eligibility):

- SE (6/5-7) NE (6/12-14) NW (6/16-18) NC (8/8-10) SC (8/28-30) SW (9/5-7) RM (9/11-13)

I have competed at the Four-Star IFCS Team Selection event indicated below (see selection rules for eligibility):

- DART (4/18-19) Blue Ridge (5/8-10) Canine Combustion (5/8-10) Wasatch (6/19-21)
 Riverside (7/10-12) Travis Agility Group (10/2-4)

Further, I submit the following measurements (to nearest 1/16") made by Certified Measuring Judges:

_____	_____	_____	_____
Signature of Certified Measuring Judge	Measurement	Club hosting show where measured	Date of Measurement

Dog's recorded measurement is within 1/4" of an IFCS height cut off listed above.

Finally, my signature below further attests that I will accept the 2010 IFCS World Team Competition nomination if the measurements listed herein make the candidate dog eligible.

Signature

Date

Measurements taken at 2009 Cynosport® World Games:

_____ Judge: _____

_____ Judge: _____

_____ Judge: _____



USDAA Use ONLY