



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
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Photos Available Upon Request

### **United States Dog Agility Association 2018 Regional Championships** *Kick Off Year and Conclude with World Championships in Arizona*

Plano, Texas—February 20, 2018—Five countries. 15 cities. Thousands of dogs and dog lovers. One world championship. The United States Dog Agility Association (USDAA®) kicks off its 2018 regional championship qualifying calendar in Queen Creek, Ariz., March 9-11, followed by qualifiers in 10 other U.S. locations and four other countries. It all concludes in Scottsdale, Ariz., for the World Championships of the sport of dog agility, the Cynosport® World Games, October 31 to November 4, where athletes from 10 countries are expected to compete.

Guided only by voice and hand signals from their human partners, the canine athletes will race against the clock, flying over hurdles and through hanging tires, weaving around poles, scuttling through tunnels and bounding off the see-saw. Obstacles are set according to the dogs' height and experience level, allowing dogs of all breeds and sizes to compete.

While the USDAA boasts more than 10,000 active competitors worldwide, regional competitions vary in size, typically involving 300 canines and 200 human exhibitors vying to elevate their position for the year-end Cynosport World Games.

Dog lovers and anyone interested in learning more about the sport dog agility are invited to attend the regional championships in their area:

- **March 9-11, The Wild West - Queen Creek, AZ**
- **March 30-April 1, South Central - Tyler, TX**
- **April 20-22, Mid-Atlantic - Palmyra, PA**
- **April 27-29, Southwest - Camarillo, CA**
- **May 11-13, North Central - Brookfield, WI**

- **May 11-13, Rocky Mountain - Denver, CO**
- **May 19-20, Spain, Valencia, Spain**
- **May 24-27, Pacific Northwest - Auburn, WA**
- **June 7-10, Southeast - Perry, GA**
- **June 9-10, Japan - Fukuoka, Japan**
- **June 24-27, Eastern Canada, Barrie, Ontario**
- **July 13-15, New England - North Kingstown, RI**
- **August 17-19, Central U.S. - Gardner, KS**
- **September 1-3, Western - Prunedale, CA**
- **September 8-9, Mexico - Toluca, Mexico**

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“This is truly a sport for all ages and abilities – both humans and canines,” said USDAA President Kenneth Tatsch. “Our competitors range from children to seniors, with young, middle-aged and older dogs, working together to demonstrate skill and discipline -- and having fun.”

Dog agility as a sport traces its roots to Great Britain in the 1970s. It found its way to the United States a decade later with the creation of the United States Dog Agility Association in 1986. The USDAA has continued to advance the fast-growing sport internationally, this year hosting regional championships in Japan, Canada, Mexico, and Spain, in addition to the U.S.

The United States Dog Agility Association is the world’s largest, independent canine sports authority, dedicated to promoting the sport of dog agility as a recreational, family sport that fosters responsible pet ownership.

For more information visit [USDAA.com](http://USDAA.com).