

Dear members,

USCA Executive Board met last night to discuss sport and breed activity within our organization in light of the new international IGP rules. Of course, all decisions still must go through our democratic process, (trial rules, helper program amendments, and subsequent EB vote) but I can assure you that at the heart of the discussion is what is best for our breed, sport, members, and organization. Below are some highlights.

Club level events:

- Clubs may choose to host a USCA internationally recognized (IGP) trial under international rules.
- Clubs may choose to host a USCA-WUSV trial, United States Prufung (Test) – **USP***
- These are separate events that can be held on the same weekend but not commingled.
- Each type of event requires its own event authorization and trial paperwork.

* What is USP? USP would be a new title that is a more rigorous test than IGP that still encompasses all of the elements of IGP. Our initial proposal / recommendation would be that USP is the same as IGP but *with the stick hits*. Over time, and with your input, we may make the USP rules even more rigorous (such as making the USP3 sit in motion 10 points again, or adding the attack out of the blind back into USP1, full retrieve over A-frame on the USP1, etc . . . we have a lot of flexibility).

As a member of the WUSV, we can adapt and perform some of our USA-specific breed activities and continue to comply with WUSV harmonization. Specifically, premium breeding status can be obtained with the substitution of an equivalent test to the minimum requirements of IGP1, SV-ZAP, RH2, or HGH by a WUSV member club.

Regional events:

Each region, through its own procedure, may determine to host an internationally recognized IGP or a USCA recognized USP championship. It's entirely up to the region / host.

National events:

- Current national events will be held in strict accordance with international IGP rules as they are also qualifying events.
- Depending on member response and interest, we may add an event at the national level that is USP and has no international connection other than breed titles.

WUSV Qualification Trial:

International IGP trial rules.

USCA Breed Surveys:

There will be stick hits.

SV Breed Surveys:

There will be no stick hits, in full accordance with SV rules.

We are optimistic and hope that all our American sister-organizations participate in USP events and possibly also adopt this as a mutually recognized test within the borders of the USA.

Some questions you may have:

Can we host a single trial with IGP and USP titles? **NO**

Can a USP Trial be held with a separate event authorization on the same weekend? **YES**

Will regional participation at a USP event satisfy National Requirement? **YES**

Will a qualifying score of 270 obtained in a USP trial satisfy National Requirement? **YES**

Are USP titles accepted for USCA-WUSV Breed surveys? **YES**

If I have an IGP3, can I trial for a USP3? **YES**

If I have a USP title, can I earn a progressive IGP title? **NO**

At all levels, always be respectful to all visiting judges. Please respect that foreign FCI or WUSV judges cannot participate in trials with stick hits.

All WUSV members must follow local, state, and national animal welfare regulations.