

Message from the Director of Judges

The FCI has adopted the new IPO rules for 2012. These will be effective Jan 1, 2012 for all USCA Trials.

The major changes that will take place are the elimination of the SchH 1-3 and the WH and the addition of a few new titles. Titles that will be available for USCA Members pending final review and approval will be BH, ZTP, IPO-VO, IPO1-3, IPO FH, IPO FH2, STP or Article Work 1-3, IPO RH, and our AWD 1-3, TR 1-3, OB 1-3.

BH-basically the same exercise

ZTP

Tracking - basically the same as SchH1

Obedience - is a SchH1 routine without the retrieve over the scaling wall and no send out

Protection - is direct send to the "Find" Blind, bark and Hold, Pick up may be done by holding the dog by the collar and Helper leaves the blind. Attack on Handler with stick hits (same as breed survey or old SchH 1) , Attack on Handler and Dog which is where the Helper walks away from the dog and at 40 paces turns and attacks and the dog is released like the current "Attack Out of Motion" or Courage Test/ Long Bite.

IPO-VO

Tracking - is 200 paces with 2 legs, 1 corner and 1 article.

Obedience - is On and Off lead heeling, Down with recall, Flat Retrieve with handlers own article, Jump Over Hurdle (1meter) with no retrieve, Long Down

Protection – Bark and Hold, Escape (handler may hold the dog and the Helper exits the blind and immediately attempts an escape, Attack on the Handler and the Dog is again the helper walking away from the dog and at approx 20 paces the Helper turns and attacks the dog followed by a side transport.

IPO1-3

Tracking – very similar to current SchH with changes to the judging criteria for behaviors

Obedience – very similar to current Schh with changes to the judging criteria for behaviors

Protection – very similar to current Schh, verbal command to send the dog on the escape, changes to the judging criteria for the behaviors.

IPO FH- 1200 paces, 3 hours old otherwise similar to current FH

IPO FH2 – 1800 paces, 3 hours old

Article Indication (StP 1-3) – same as currently used

In general many of the new changes are regarding the judging, there is more emphasis on more a natural, free, happy behavior in all exercises.

I have scheduled the 2011 USCA Judges College for the weekend on August 5-7, 2011. This year Machtig Strom SchH Verin has offered to host the College and we are privileged to have as a guest Judge Mr. Frans Jensen from the FCI Working Commission. Mr. Jensen was one of the Judges that served on the committee that wrote the new rules.

Because of the big change and its effect on all of our AWDF Member Clubs I have opened this years USCA Judges College to any Judges from AWDF Member Organizations as well as the German Shepherd Schutzhund Club of Canada (GSSCC) since we share a reciprocity agreement with them. There will be a fee associated with the attendance of the AWDF Judges. It is my belief that working with our AWDF Member Clubs to establish a bench mark for the implementation of these new rules will benefit all of our membership.

Additional information will be available after the College to include a date for availability of the new rule books.