

USCA WUSV TEAM DECLARATION PACKET

PLEASE DECLARE ONLINE UNDER THE ONLINE FORMS SECTION (IN MEMBERS ONLY) ON THE USCA SITE AFTER REVIEWING THIS DOCUMENT.

USCA thanks you for your interest in the WUSV team process! Please feel free to contact anyone on the World Championship Committee if you have any questions/issues/concerns.

This packet includes all information/documentation necessary to declare for WUSV team consideration.

Included:

- Eligibility requirements
- Qualification process
- Team member/captain expectations
- All necessary forms

ELIGIBILITY

PREREQUISITES

Candidates who qualify to represent the United Schutzhund Clubs of America (USCA) in the WUSV World Championship must demonstrate the following.

1. Conduct that exemplifies good sportsmanship and self-discipline.
2. A strong desire to attend the WUSV World Championship and represent the United Schutzhund Clubs of America in international competition.

OVERVIEW/DOGS

1. Teams representing USCA at the WUSV World Championship are restricted to eligible German Shepherd Dogs.
2. Dogs declared must have a USCA recognized scorebook.
3. The deadline to declare for the WUSV World Championship Team is May 1 of the same year the WUSV World Championship is held (Ex. May 1, 2015 for the 2015 WUSV Championship).
4. Competition is restricted to one dog per handler.
5. Declared dogs must be registered with the USCA Breed Registry or USCA/SV Breed Registry no later than the declaration deadline.
6. These are the complete restrictions and supersede all past rules and e-ballots (ex. dog import dates are no longer relevant).

HANDLER

1. The handler must be a member in good standing of the United Schutzhund Clubs of America (USCA) for one (1) year prior to the declaration deadline.
2. The handler must be a United States citizen OR a permanent resident of the United States.
3. The handler / dog team must remain the same throughout the qualification process and the WUSV championship.
4. The handler is not required to be the owner of the declared dog.

REQUIRED FORMS/PAYMENT

FAILURE TO SUBMIT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING BY THE DECLARATION DEADLINE WILL RESULT IN REJECTION OF THE APPLICATION.

Candidates aspiring to be on the WUSV World Championship Team must submit the *following declarant packet to the USCA Office*, postmarked no later than declaration deadline even though all of the qualifying events have not yet been held. ***This deadline will be strictly enforced.***

- a. A declaration of consideration (ATTACHED)
- b. A copy of the dog's registration papers
- c. A declaration fee of \$250 must be submitted with the declarant packet. The fee will be returned if the candidate does not make the team. The fee will be refunded after the declarant completes participation in the WUSV World Championship. The fee will be forfeited if the candidate makes the WUSV team and chooses not to participate as a team member in the WUSV World Championship.

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REVIEW

The USCA Office will notify a candidate in writing (i.e., letter or email) if the candidate does not meet the necessary requirements. The notification will contain the reasons for the decision. The candidate may appeal this decision to the World Championship Committee.

QUALIFICATION PROCESS

The following process will be used to select the 10 dog-handler teams to compete for USCA at the USCA-GSDCA WUSV Qualification Trial.

1. The top five (5) eligible dog/handler teams at the USCA German Shepherd Dog National Championship, who receive at least 270 points and at least 80 points in protection (pronounced), will earn an automatic bid to compete in the Qualification Trial.
2. The top five (5) eligible German Shepherd Dog dog/handler teams at the USCA Working Dog Championship, who receive at least 270 points and at least 80 points in protection (pronounced), who have not already qualified, will earn an automatic bid to compete in the Qualification Trial.
3. The remaining spots (should 1 or more of the above not be filled) will go to the eligible dog/handler teams that have competed in the USCA German Shepherd Dog National Championship and USCA Working Dog Championship. The spots will go to the teams with the highest average, calculated by using the scores from those 2 trials. Ties - First preference will go to dogs who receive at least 270 points and at least 80 points in protection (pronounced) in both trials; second preference to dogs with 270 points and 80 points in protection (pronounced) in one of the 2 qualifying trials. Average protection score will settle ties; if still tied, the average obedience score will settle the tie. If tied in all 3-phase averages, then the spot will go to the youngest dog.
4. If positions remain to be filled after completing 1 through 3 above, the World Championship Committee may select additional eligible dog/handler teams, giving consideration to teams that placed 6th or lower in the USCA German Shepherd Dog National Championship.
5. If positions remain to be filled after completing 1 through 4 above, the World Championship Committee may select additional eligible dog/handler teams, giving consideration to German Shepherd Dog dog/handler teams that placed 6th or lower in the USCA Working Dog Championship.
6. Announcement of the team members will be made as soon as practical to the team members.

TEAM MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

1. All USCA members of the WUSV World Championship Team are representatives of USCA and shall strive to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner both on and off the field.
2. The USCA team members will be required to arrive at their event destination at least three (3) days prior to competition. Team members who want to arrive earlier must make their own arrangements.
3. All team members, including the alternate, shall wear their team uniforms during competition and at all official events such as draw night, opening ceremonies, and closing ceremonies.
4. Any member of the team who conducts himself or herself in an unsportsmanlike manner shall be subject to disciplinary action, including dismissal from the team. The decision to dismiss a team member shall lie solely with the team captain.
5. Any disciplinary action taken against USCA team members for detrimental conduct shall be filed in an Exception Report with the World Championship Committee no later than 30 days after the WUSV World Championship, or within 30 days after the action became known to the filer. The World Championship Committee shall decide if further action is to be taken by filing charges with the Board of Inquiry, if necessary.

USCA TEAM CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

The USCA Team Captain for the WUSV World Championship Team shall be responsible for:

1. Assisting dog and handler teams in preparation for international competition.
2. Organizing and managing a training program in the host country of the WUSV World Championship.
3. Advising all team members in all matters pertaining to their well-being and the well-being of their dogs pertaining to and at the event.
4. Acting as spokesperson for the USCA team in all matters pertaining to the USCA team's participation in the WUSV World Championship.
5. Making advance preparations for the WUSV team's visit to the host country and arrangements for competition in the championship. This shall include air travel reservations, ground transportation, lodging, uniforms, correspondence, etc.