

Southwestern Regional IGP Championship Policy

(Revised 11/2024 - Subject to Vote at 2025 Regional Meeting)

1. Host Club Bidding Process

- Full-member regional clubs in good standing may bid to host the Regional IGP Championship for the following year at the annual regional meeting, held in conjunction with the Regional IGP Championship.
- Bids must be submitted in writing and include the proposed dates, judge(s), and location for each phase, along with any additional pertinent information to assist member clubs in evaluating the bid.
- If multiple bids are presented, a vote will be conducted at the regional meeting to determine the host club.
- If no bids are presented, the Regional Director may establish a reasonable timeframe to recruit host clubs. At the end of the recruitment period, a regional vote will be conducted by email or USPS ballot.

2. Conflicting Events

- No other USCA events (e.g., trials, conformation shows, breed surveys, classification, or seminars) may be scheduled within the region during the weekend of the Regional IGP Championship.

3. Event Scheduling

- The Regional IGP Championship must be held between January 1st and May 31st, to accommodate regional temperatures and tracking conditions.

4. Venue Requirements

- A stadium is recommended for the event. If a stadium is unavailable, a club field may be used with approval from the Regional Training Director and supported by a vote of the regional board.

5. Tracking Requirements

- Tracking must take place on natural terrain, and the specific type of terrain must be disclosed in the bid to host the event.

6. Judges

- The host club will recommend the judge(s), subject to final approval by the regional board.

7. Entry Limits

- The event must accommodate a minimum of 24 entries for a one-judge, two-day format.
- It is recommended that the event have no entry limit. If necessary, multiple judges may be scheduled, and the event may be extended to three days.

8. Helper Requirements

- Helpers must reside within the Southwestern Region and possess the proper 'Helper Classification' required for a Regional Championship.
- If no qualified helpers apply, the selection committee may pursue helpers from outside the region.
- Helper applications must be submitted at least 90 days before the trial and include:
 - - An unedited video of an IGP3 routine (front and back halves),
 - - A helper bio,
 - - The last five trial pages from the helper's trial book.
- Helpers who have worked the SW Regional Championship, USCA Nationals, or USCA Working Dog Championship in the past five years are exempt from submitting a video.
- A helper committee (comprised of the Regional Training Director, Regional Director, host club representative, and Assistant Regional Director) will select four helpers at least 30 days before entries close.
- The protection judge and helper committee will determine placement during a helper tryout before draw night. Helper assignments include:
 - - Two IGP3 helpers (front and back halves),
 - - One helper for IGP1 and IGP2 entries,
 - - One alternate helper.
- Helpers should rotate positions annually to allow for skill development among regional helpers.

9. Regional Financial Support

- The Southwestern Region will provide up to \$1,000 as seed money to assist with upfront costs such as venue rental, helper reimbursement, and judge fees.

10. Flight Schedule

- Competitors tracking early should perform obedience and protection later in the day, and vice versa, to ensure fairness given the Southwest's varying weather conditions.

11. Event Oversight

- Final review of trial field setup and equipment must be approved by the Regional Training Director.