

USA WORLD TEAM

USBCHA GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN ISDS WORLD TRIAL

I. GENERAL

A. The International Sheepdog Society (ISDS) World Trial (WORLD TRIAL) is held every three years. The United States of America is allotted a number of entries, determined by the ISDS. The United States Border Collie Handlers' Association (USBCHA) is responsible for extending invitations to American handlers to join the USA team through the selection process set forth below. Handlers (including YOUNG HANDLERS) who accept an invitation to enter the WORLD TRIAL must agree to and abide by the following:

1. Team members must be current members of the USBCHA in good standing during their participation on USA Team.
2. Team members are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which properly represents their nation, the USBCHA and the Team. Team members will be held to the standards of conduct set forth in the USBCHA rules.
3. Team members are expected to participate in promoting the USA WORLD TEAM, the ISDS WORLD TRIAL event, and be available for promotional activities as needed.
4. Team members are responsible for all costs associated with participating in the WORLD TRIAL, including travel, lodging and incidentals. (see FUNDRAISING)
5. Team members are responsible for all costs related to dog transportation and care.
6. The USBCHA bears no liability, financial or otherwise, for an individual's participation in the trial or activities outside of the WORLD TRIAL.

II. QUALIFYING

A. QUALIFYING FOR USA WORLD TEAM

Invitations to participate on the USA WORLD TEAM will be extended to American teams in the order set forth below until the number of places allotted to the USA by the ISDS are filled:

1. The top five (5) teams from the USBCHA SHEEPDOG NATIONAL FINALS for the year prior to the WORLD TRIAL.
2. The top five (5) teams from the USBCHA SHEEPDOG NATIONAL FINALS two years prior to the WORLD TRIAL.
3. Teams six (6) through seventeen (17) from the USBCHA SHEEPDOG NATIONAL FINALS for the year prior to the WORLD TRIAL.
4. Teams six (6) through seventeen (17) American teams from the USBCHA SHEEPDOG NATIONAL FINALS two years prior to the WORLD TRIAL.
5. Teams eighteen (18) through forty (40) from the USBCHA SHEEPDOG NATIONAL FINALS for the year prior to the WORLD TRIAL.
6. Teams eighteen (18) through forty (40) from the USBCHA SHEEPDOG NATIONAL FINALS for two years prior to the WORLD TRIAL.

B. TEAMS IDENTIFIED FOR TEAM COMPETITION AWARD

The ISDS requires that five (5) USA WORLD TEAM members be identified prior to the trial for the purpose of the official team competition. The scores of these five teams will comprise the team score. The five (5) handler/dog teams with the highest qualifying

scores from the USBCHA NATIONAL SHEEPDOG FINALS for the year prior and/or two years prior to the WORLD TRIAL shall represent the USA for the team competition.

C. QUALIFYING FOR USA WORLD TEAM: YOUNG HANDLERS

Each USBCHA district may nominate one YOUNG HANDLER no later than December 31 of the year prior to the WORLD TRIAL. All nominations must meet the age qualifications set by the ISDS. Each YOUNG HANDLER nomination must be accompanied by a parental consent and release form. The USBCHA PRESIDENT will appoint a committee to select up to three (3) YOUNG HANDLERS to be members of the USA WORLD TEAM. Selection criteria may include consideration of the following:

1. Total number of USBCHA Open Points earned in each of the two years prior to the WORLD TRIAL.
2. Number of USBCHA Open trials the nominee participated in each of the two years prior to the WORLD TRIAL.
3. Other criteria as determined by the USBCHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

D. ALTERNATE DOGS

WORLD TRIAL rules allow for each competitor to name an alternate dog. If the qualifying dog is unable to complete, the qualifying handler's alternate dog may participate as necessary and in accordance with ISDS applicable rules.

E. USA WORLD TEAM CAPTAIN

The ISDS requires a Team Captain to be identified. When the roster of the USA WORLD TEAM is complete, TEAM members shall choose a TEAM CAPTAIN and notify the USBCHA of the selection.

1. The TEAM CAPTAIN is expected to attend and participate in the WORLD TRIAL opening and closing ceremonies, as well as other ceremonial activities, meetings and obligations required for the representation of the USA WORLD TEAM.
2. The TEAM CAPTAIN should also be available to provide the USBCHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS with periodic updates as to team preparation to attend the WORLD TRIAL. The TEAM CAPTAIN is responsible for providing the USBCHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS with information regarding any unforeseen circumstances or occurrences affecting the USA WORLD TEAM during the WORLD TRIAL. The TEAM CAPTAIN may delegate another team member to act as a liaison with the USBCHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS at his/her discretion.

III. FUNDRAISING FOR USA WORLD TRIAL TEAM

- A. USA WORLD TEAM members are encouraged to organize independent fundraising efforts. These may include fundraising for individuals or as a TEAM. Donors to these efforts are responsible for understanding how a donation will be used or distributed. The USBCHA is not responsible for funds collected or distributed through independent fundraising efforts.
- B. The USBCHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS may vote to authorize a stipend payable from the USBCHA general fund, an equal amount payable to each team member for WORLD TRIAL expenses.

IV. UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

In the event of unforeseen circumstances, unanticipated events or other emergencies, the USBCHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS should be informed as soon as practical and may by majority agreement, depart from the provisions of these guidelines for good cause and to provide for and protect the best interests of the USBCHA.