

USDAA Policies & Procedures

Statement of Policy on Establishing Event Dates

Effective: January 1, 2005

The Board of Directors has adopted the following Statement of Policy on Establishing Event Dates to be effective January 1, 2005. This permits those affected by this policy to offer comment for further consideration before the policy goes into effect. The Board has considered the many arguments presented to it in recent months and deems the following policy to be balanced in serving the best interests of groups, competitors and USDAA. Address your comments to board@usdaa.com.

USDAA licensed groups shall have designated weekends that are “protected” for scheduling of future sanctioned tournament and titling events on the USDAA Calendar of Events. “Protected” shall mean that a group has first right of refusal for utilization of their designated weekend for scheduling future events, provided rules set forth below are followed. Protected dates shall be published on a *planning calendar* showing the current and subsequent three or more years to facilitate scheduling.

The Board emphasizes in adopting this policy the importance of groups working together in the best interest of groups, competitors and USDAA for the development and promotion of USDAA brand of dog agility and to build a schedule of events that serve competitors with a strong USDAA presence in their area.

The 2004 calendar year shall be established as the base year, taking into account temporary changes previously requested. Existing events will be assigned a weekend number, based upon a calendar where the first weekend of the year is the first full weekend of January, except when January 1 falls on a Saturday. A previously non-designated event date by a new or existing group is established with the filing of a USDAA event application for a sanctioned titling or tournament event. The date selected on the application must meet the requirements of this policy statement.

The following rules for date selection shall apply:

1. No sanctioned tournament or titling event can be held on the same day as another USDAA sanctioned tournament or titling event that is within 200 miles of their locale unless and until both groups file a statement of agreement and cooperation with the USDAA office. (Note that this radius requirement does not apply to sanctioned matches.)
2. A locale shall be defined as the group’s base city of the actual event location, whichever is closer. A base city shall be the group’s contact address listed on the USDAA web site; however, where a contact address is a suburb of a major city, the major city shall be the base city.
3. An event must be held within 60 miles of a group’s base city; however, if a group has conducted an event outside the 60 mile radius for two or more consecutive years on the same date, this requirement does not apply. This rule is not intended to preclude a group from conducting an event outside the 60 mile radius, but only applies when a potential conflict exist with regard to other groups.

Once a date has been designated for a group, it is reserved until they relinquish it by one of the following:

1. Failure to file an event application within 6 months of the event date; if not filed at least six months in advance, they have a two-month grace period for first right of refusal, during which time they must file application with applicable fees to secure the date. During the grace period,

the group must file application within five business days of notification by the USDAA office of a date request by another group. If they fail to file the application during this time, the dates are granted to the other group.

2. The group submits a written statement to USDAA relinquishing their date to another group, either permanently, for any single year, or for one or more consecutive years.
3. A group conducting more than three events per year must declare which of their show dates are to be protected.
4. Failure to file results, other required documentation and/or settle amounts due on a previous event.

A group may not have more than three protected dates. Additional dates in a calendar year by a group are on a first-come, first-served basis, based upon the date of application filing; however, a group with fewer than the maximum designated event dates shall generally have preference over a group who already has three or more designated event dates. When both groups have equal number of designated event dates, or highly unusual circumstances exist, the USDAA office shall have sole authority for granting of dates to a group based upon circumstances surrounding the conflict known at the time.

USDAA ASSUMES NO LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR GROUPS WHO SECURE FACILITIES OR OTHER CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS EXECUTED PRIOR TO SECURING THE EVENT DATE THROUGH PROPER PROCEDURES, OR WHERE AN ERROR HAS BEEN MADE RELATIVE TO CALCULATING DISTANCES. THE LICENSED GROUP ASSUMES ALL LIABILITY FOR ANY ERRORS OF FACT. INCURRENCE OF CONTRACTUAL LIABILITY IS NOT GROUNDS FOR CIRCUMVENTING THE FOREGOING POLICY.
