The United States Police Canine Association, Inc.

Certification as a Chief Judge for non-certified USPCA trainers.

The USPCA allows certain qualified individuals to Chief Judge trials even if they are not certified through the USPCA as a trainer. Application for this can be submitted via the USPCA National website.

1. You must have certified in a USPCA Detection, tracking or PDI trial at least five times. You will be required to provide proof of these certifications. (Certifications must be in the discipline that you are applying for)

2. You must novice under a Chief Judge at a Trial (in the discipline you are applying for) with not less than 10 K-9s participating. You will technically be the Novice Chief Judge with the Chief Judges' Oversight. The Chief Judge will provide the Judges Committee with a form documenting that the Chief Judge has covered the listed content with you, and you are familiar with the responsibilities of a chief Judge. This document will be available from the National Secretary or the Judges Chair.

3. You must have judged at least 200 dogs in each venue (in the discipline you are applying for – with apprehension and gunfire being considered one venue). For Detection, you must have also judged at least 5 dogs in explosive packages and set up/judged an ORT phase. These numbers will be confirmed by the national office.

4. If you are already a USPCA Nationally Certified PDI Judge or a USPCA Nationally or Regionally certified Detector Judge, you will be required to take the Certification Test that is administered by the Judges Committee. The Only exception to this will be if you have taken the test within the last three years.

5. You must have been a scorekeeper in a trial in the discipline in which you are applying for a trial with at least 10 dogs participating. You do not have to be the Chief Scorekeeper, but you must be a documented scorekeeper on the trial paperwork. This is a separate trial from the one that you are required to do as a novice Chief Judge.

Once you have completed the above steps, complete the online form that will be reviewed by the Judges Committee. If the Judges Committee confirms and verifies the submitted information, you will be contacted by the Judges Chair and added to the list of qualified judges. From there, you must meet the annual requirements just like all Chief Judges.

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