

Dogs Go for Gold at Cynosport Games

Top dog athletes from around the world compete in this five-day sporting event.

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Photos courtesy of the USDAA More than 1,000 dogs from a dozen countries will convene in Scottsdale, Ariz., to compete at the Cynosport World Games, a sporting event that combines several doggie competitions over a five-day period. Events take place Oct. 31 through Nov. 4, 2007, at WestWorld of Scottsdale.

Motivated and led by the tremendous growth in dog agility over the past decade, Cynosport is the first event to unite top-tier competition in the wide range of canine sporting events, including agility, disc dog, flyball, dock jumping, canine freestyle, rally obedience, herding, terrier races, and lure coursing, as well as dog exhibits.

"I first saw dog agility in Great Britain in 1985 and was mesmerized by the intense bond between handlers and their dogs," said Kenneth Tatsch, founder of the U.S. Dog Agility Association (USDAA). "Since that time, the world of canine sport seems to have attracted huge interest from people around the world." Tatsch founded the USDAA in 1986 to introduce the sport to the United States and has since helped pioneer dog sports in the United States and abroad.

Competitors will come from all over the world, including North America, Southeast Asia, Central America, and parts of Western and Eastern Europe.

"The most athletic dogs in the world will compete [during Cynosport]," says Tatsch, who is quick to point out that virtually anyone with any type of dog can participate in canine sports. "Dog agility and other canine-related sports are competitive, spectator events that combine exercise with fun for handlers and dogs, and provide an opportunity to compete for local, regional, national and international recognition. The World Games is a great opportunity to see if your family dog has what it takes to compete in some of these events."

For more information about the 2007 Cynosport World Games, visit www.cynosport.com