UNITED STATES POLO ASSOCIATION

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USPA Tournament Support Program Guidelines for 2024

The USPA created the Tournament Stimulus Package (TSP) to help its Member Clubs host USPA Events when the United States was emerging from the first wave of the COVID-19 crisis. The USPA wants to continue to support its Member Clubs with TSP benefits in 2024. Therefore, it has extended and expanded TSP under a new name - the Tournament Support Program. To participate, Member Clubs must adhere to the Tournament Support Program Guidelines outlined below:

Eligibility & Criteria:

- Each USPA Member Club can obtain TSP benefits for two USPA Events (in most cases, tournaments). Member Clubs that host more than one of the types of tournaments listed below may obtain TSP benefits for a third USPA Event. Event types that are eligible for TSP benefits include:
 - All USPA Outdoor Events (Circuit, National, Sanctioned, and NYTS) with an upper handicap limit of 12 goals or below.
 - All USPA Women's Events (Circuit, National, and Sanctioned)
 - o All USPA Arena Events (Circuit, National, and Sanctioned).
- A \$500 deposit is required when applying for the tournament. The deposit will be refunded when the tournament is completed, tournament results are entered into the Tournament Database, and the USPA has verified that the club has complied with all TSP Guidelines. The deposit will be forfeited if the club fails to comply with the guidelines.
- Tournament applications and TSP applications must be submitted <u>30 days prior</u> to the tournament start date.
- Tournament play dates must be confirmed 2 weeks in advance. Clubs that cancel or make changes to the dates after that date may be charged additional umpire fees.
- Any date changes, cancellations, or tournament detail changes must be submitted in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the start date of the tournament to USPA Tournament Manager, Kaila Dowd at kdowd@uspolo.org
- Tournaments must have a minimum of four teams competing to be eligible, team rosters to be verified 7 days prior to securing TSP benefits.
- The Host Club must appoint a Host Tournament Committee (HTC) of at least 3 members. The HTC is responsible for determining the eligibility of all players and teams.
- Clubs have the option to receive a second free umpire instead of prize money for tournaments with 6 or more teams in a single tournament or flight.
- Umpires are subject to availability.
- Prize money is contingent on confirmation of 4 eligible teams and paid after the tournament is played and results are entered into the Tournament Database.
- USPA prize money MUST be awarded to the winning team(s) and may not be used for other club expenses or subjective awards, including but not limited to, Most Valuable Player or Best Playing Pony.
- Clubs participating in the Prize Money Matching Program are not eligible for TSP benefits.
- If an Event has separate flights, each flight must be applied for as a separate tournament and qualify for TSP separately.

Tournament Support Program (TSP) benefits include:

- **Trophies:** Clubs will either be provided trophies by the USPA, or they will be reimbursed up to \$500.00 for Circuit and Sanctioned Tournaments and up to \$1,200.00 for National Tournaments.
- Umpire: USPA will provide one Professional Umpire for TSP Tournaments at no cost to the club.
 - o A tournament with four teams will be provided an umpire for up to 5 consecutive days.
 - \circ A tournament with five teams or more will be provided an umpire for up to 10 consecutive days.
 - o A fee may be assessed if additional days are needed to complete a tournament.
- **Prize Money:** \$2,500.00 in prize money per tournament, no match required. All prize money MUST be awarded to the winning teams participating in the tournament upon completion of the event.

To take advantage of the 2024 Tournament Support Program (TSP) complete this application form.