S6 Fig. Vaccination-induced IS to Salp15 and Iric-1 can compete with tick protein binding to different types of OspC. The competitive ELISAs were performed analogously to those shown in Fig. 9, except that immobilized *B. burgdorferi* OspCa was replaced by its variant OspCb, or the *B. afzelii* isolates OspC A3 and OspC YU, as indicated on the top of each graph. Less efficient binding of soluble Salp15 and Iric-1 to the *B. afzelii* versus *B. burgdorferi* OspC proteins in the sequential assay format (left part of the graphs) confirmed previous data obtained with the anti-Salp15 mAbs 18/12.1 and 19/7.4 (Kolb et al., 2015). Importantly, however, switching to the premix format (right part of the graphs) markedly reduced the amounts of bound Salp15 or Iric-1 for all OspC proteins. This implies that antibodies to Salp15 and Iric-1 could reduce transmission of different borrelia species. Error bars indicate mean values ± SEM (n=3), significance levels (***, p<0.001) refer to comparison of the same tick protein in sequential vs. premix format.

**Supplementary reference:**