

AWDF Teleconference May 13, 2008 Minutes

Meeting began 8:10 CST

Attendance:

Pres. Al Govednik, Vice Pres. Lyle Roetemeyer,
Treasurer Sean O’Kane, Secretary Michelle Testa,
Executive Dirs. Vera Reeves, Glenn Stephenson, Gary Patterson

Clubs with Delegate Representation:

United States Boxer Assoc., United Doberman Club, United States Rottweiler Club
United Schutzhund Clubs of America, Working Riesenschnauzer Federation
North American Working Bouvier, United States Mondioring Assoc. LV/DVG America
American Working Malinois Assoc., Federation American Bulldog
Working Pit Bull Terrier Club of America, Society in America for the Cane Corso Italiano

Clubs absent:

N A Working Airedale Terrier Assoc. & Authentic Hovawarts of North America

Total present on the call **22**

Delegates present **14**

Guest present for the teleconference: James Honda of New Jersey with Free Dog!
Schutzhund Club.

President report

Al began the meeting thanking again Andreas Arportela, Bill Cambell and USA Schutzhund Club for sponsoring the team to the FH CH in Europe. He continued to let everyone know about the camaraderie there was from many of the representing countries at the event. The American team was welcomed and supported. Al was grateful for the assistance from the people in Vienna when he arrived as Hex’s crate had been seriously damaged during the trip. Thankfully Hex came out of it without injury. The American team made most of the trip accompanied by a competitor from Holland and Frans Jensen (FCI working dog commission president)

Overall the event was well organized with a nice venue. The weather did not cooperate making it difficult for all the competitors. The 3 FCI IPO FH judges were Zoltan Tatarko, Peter Mosbacher, & Wilfried Schapermeier president of the AZG ended up replacing the intending judge (who was ill) for the event.

People asked what the AWDF’s position was in regards to the softening of the rules in the sport. There was conversation in regard to a 5 yr plan to change the rules in Schutzhund and because of the green party they will eventually be limited as to what they will be allowed to perform in Schutzhund. Switzerland has already removed the stick hits from their tests. The Europeans were positive about the AWDF title program.

Al and Dan really enjoyed the camaraderie and sportsmanship from all the competitors Carol Patterson (LV/DVG America) asked about what opinions in Europe were in regards to the watering down of the rules and would they try and fight the change as they came on. Al stated that most were very frustrated and that people there are willing to fight it. The European working dog community work every day trying to convince the Kennel clubs that these changes are not in the best interest of preserving the heritage of these breeds.

Ron Marshall states that the police are looking into having their own breeding programs. Al states that the working dog community in Europe sees that having the AWDF here in America gives the working dog people a position to continue the heritage of the working breeds.

2009 AWDF Championship

James Honda of Free dog! Schutzhund Club in New Jersey was attending the conference call to make a proposal for the 09 CH.

The venue he has secured is close to 3 major airports with aprox.400 acres of hay fields Stadiums are available but it will depend on the date chosen as to which one can be secured

He suggested a weekend in June which brought up the topic of other event conflicts such as the DVG championships and airline flight issues

Carol Patterson states that the DVG 09 CH dates will be finalized at the 08 event and will inform the board of the decision as soon as it is made. She suggests that it is possible to work together to prevent conflicts

It was mentioned that USA has now combined the H.O.T and North Americans events as one so this leaves more flexibility for dates for the 2009 AWDF

James Honda suggested that a June date would be nice as it would give people in the northern and New England regions more time to prepare because of snow and weather situations. It was mentioned that any earlier in the year would leave the possibility of snow in NJ.

Glenn S. suggested that a couple of weekends be put on the table for James to go back and see what he can work with for hosting the event.

James Honda offered that all proceeds from the 09 event will go to the AWDF

Sean offers the first 2 weekends in May be evaluated

Augusta asked if there had been any request posted for bids to be submitted

Sean suggests that to be fair and consistent that going forward there should be established a deadline for proposals

Annetta C. suggests that in support of Sean, all proposals in the future be presented at the AWDF event.

Sean O. made the motion that we give James approval for hosting the event

Michelle T. 2nd the motion – none opposed - all in favor – motioned passed.

James Honda and the Fee Dog! Schutzhund club will host the 2009 AWDF Championship

Contract for AWDF Championships

Sean O’Kane and James Honda have discussed the issue of having a contract.

James H. who is an attorney will work with Gary Patterson (also an attorney) to put together a standard contract for hosting this event.

Al G. made the motion that Sean be the liaison to develop the contract and for evaluating with James the first 2 weekends in May as dates for the 2009 event

Vera R 2nd the motion

None opposed – all in favor- motioned passed

James Honda signed off the call

UDC conflict of interest

It was noticed on the UDC website that the Tri-state Doberman Club (a member of UDC/AWDF) is co-hosting with the AKC Doberman pincher Club of the Tappan Zee an AKC working dog sport Trial

In the February 4th 2008 TC minutes a motion was passed that the AWDF will not support the AKC WDS programs.

May Jacobson (UDC) states that the UDC club mentioned is not hosting a WDS trial, that the website had an error in posting

Glenn Stephenson asked for a review of the situation. Michelle T. went over the posting on the UDC website.

May again stated that this post has been corrected. There will be 2 trials a WDS trial hosted by the AKC/DPCA Tappan Zee club and an IPO trial hosted by the UDC club. She continued by stating that the Judge doing the event is allowed to do both trials.

Sean O'Kane asked May if the UDC is ever planning to host an AKC WDS event and May Jacobson's response was no they were not.

May states that the AKC has been trying to contact the AWDF

Michelle T. states that as secretary she has not seen any correspondence from the AKC and Al Govednik states the same.

Al G. lets May J. know again that he always available if they (AKC) want to contact him.

Secretary Report

Michelle sent out a draft of the minutes from the annual meeting to all delegates for review. There were some errors made and suggestions to correct them.

Sean motioned to accept the minutes from the annual meeting with the corrections

Glenn S. 2nd

None opposed, Minutes were accepted.

Treasurer Report - Sean O'Kane

\$726 was taken in from the 2008 Championships to the AWDF. Sean incurred some expense on a printer for the event and asked for reimbursement

Sean will email the delegates the current budget.

Annetta Cheek made a motion to reimburse Sean for the printer, Vera Reeves 2nd the motion- none opposed - motioned passed.

Update on member complaint discussed at annual meeting

Michelle T. states nothing has been submitted to the Secretary

Vera R. states that the WRSF will be discussing this issue in their next conference call

Vice President Report

Lyle states that despite all the negativity and internet warriors USA Schutzhund Club membership continues to grow.

Cell Phone – Al Govednik

Sean has received the bill from Al and it is within the budgeted amount for reimbursement.

Trophies

AWDF again thanks USA for donating the trophies from this year's event it was greatly appreciated.

Annetta C suggests that it would be nice to come up with trophies that have a design that reflects the AWDF and it would be the design to be used going forward for every annual event.

Sean recommends an events committee for the CH to be sure things stay organized.

Michelle offers to volunteer for the events committee

Annetta suggests to review the by laws in reference to years the committees are appointed.

Augusta states that in the past there have been 2 committees, an Events committee and a Team selection committee.

Al G asks that Bill Bimrose and the nominating committee research this situation

Sean O'kane made a motion to have Bill Bimrose and the nominating committee research the events committees situation

Annetta C. 2nds the motion

None opposed -motion passed

Score book and registry updates both are tabled to another conference call at a later date.

USRC in membership violation with AWDF by having no representation at 2 consecutive annual meetings

Darlene Devlin is present to represent the USRC

Darlene states that this Thursday there will be a general board meeting of the USRC Elections are happening and Wayne Simanovich, and Amanda Hoskinson are both running for president. Although the parties are different they both support the AWDF.

Darlene states that the executive board that is elected will support AWDF. She continues that the situation of non contact from the USRC with the AWDF will be discussed at the annual meeting. Darlene Devlin will ask to be appointed as the delegate for her club to the AWDF and hopes that the USRC will support her endeavors.

She has discussed the importance of USRC being a part of the AWDF and understands the suspension. She will forward the information to the USRC.

Al concludes that he is available if needed to discuss the USRC's situation at their general meeting.

Rhonda Moses requests that Al G. be present for the Federation American Bull Dogs board meeting to answer questions. Al G states he would be happy to attend.

SACCI update

Erik Storm and the SACCI are planning in TX a National event some time in October 2008. Working events are being discussed by the membership and he was curious as to

whether there are any AWDF people located in the SW Dallas Fort Worth area that could assist them and questions in regards to local judges as well

Carol P. and Ann P. offered their assistance and Michelle suggested that she will put them all in contact with each other via e mail.

Constitution and By-Laws ballot

The response is low and Michelle is asking that everyone at least participate. At this point it is important that we get an idea if we are on the right track and to not respond really won't help to get things correct.

Mondioring update

Ann P lets us know that the championships went well and that they do have a team heading to Italy! They are allowed up to 4 teams at the event and she will keep us posted as things progress.

Annetta Cheek motions t o adjourn the meeting

Bill Bimrose 2nd

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 CST