

March 14, 2011 Conference Call Minutes

Meeting began 8:06pm CST

Attendance:

Pres.: Al Govednik Secretary: Michelle Testa

Executive Delegates: Vera Reeves, Dyan Harper, Glenn Stephenson

Member Clubs & Delegate attendance

United States Boxer Association - Mark Chase

United Doberman Club - May Jacobson

United States Rottweiler Club Dan Williams

Working Riesenschnauzer Federation - Tim Nyx, Vera Reeves

North American Working Bouvier – Carole Walker

American Working Malinois Association - Anne Camper

Federation American Bulldog - Rhonda Moses

Working Pit Bull Terrier Club of America – Annetta Cheek,

N A Working Airedale Terrier Association - Marcia Govednik

Authentic Hovawarts of North America Barbara Baker

DVG America - Carole Patterson

Working Black Russian Terrier Club of America Patty Bartley, Anne Marie Chaffin

The Society in America for the Cane Corso Italiano Ish Moore

North American Ring Association Dave Kroyer

Absent from the call:

Vice Pres.: Lyle Roetemeyer

Treasurer: Sean O’Kane

United Schutzhund Clubs of America

Working Dutch Shepherd Association

United States Mondioring Association

President Report:

President Al Govednik asked that everyone check out the 2011 AWDF event website. The competition is at 120 entries and is the largest turnout for our Championships.

He congratulated AWMA and John Wiitanen for bringing together a great event.

Judge Siem Kwak will be unable to attend the championship as our judge. Al announced that he will be judging tracking.

There have been some issues and oversights with trophies/sponsorships. Al asked that people with questions, concerns or problems to please call him.

At the request of some of the AWDF member clubs; Kentucky Hundesport Klub Club will host a trial for BHs only on Wednesday April 6th. This is a USA trial and Al has volunteered to judge this event. He stated that it is important to support people attending the event.

Vice President Report:

Nothing to report

Secretary’s Report

Michelle asked that all clubs send in the names of the attendees (appointed delegates or substitutes) for the annual meeting so that I/we have an idea of the number of delegates attending. Clubs please have these names in by Monday March 21st.

She then asked if anyone had any questions on the January 17, 2011 teleconference minutes.

Carole Patterson made the motion to accept the January 17th minutes into record and Annetta Cheek seconded the motion. No one opposed. January 17, 2011 minutes were accepted into the record

Treasurer Report

Al G. let the call attendees know that Sean O’Kane will be stepping down as the treasurer for the AWDF. He thanked Sean for all his hard work.

Al G. has appointed Cathy Markos from USA Boxer club to step in to finish out Sean's term. She will be included on all AWDF communication going forward.

Old Business

AWDF 2011 Championship update

AL asks again to visit the championship website.

Club Sanction Policy

With the latest situations that have occurred at a couple of trials, Al talked about the importance of having a structured policy to honor each other's sanctions. After discussion with an attorney it was suggested that we need to be very careful in posting such information on our website. A policy needs to be developed, but most important is the ability to communicate the information through to all the clubs.

Annetta Cheek asked if this is about the specific policy or is it about distribution of the information.

Carol Walker talked about the written publications found in the AKC magazine. She suggested that maybe there could be a section on the website via a pass code to access this information.

Barbara Baker asked if when Al spoke to the attorney was the question asked about speaking absolute truth.

Al G. replied that the attorney suggested having vague descriptions.

Anne Camper stated that she, Bill Bimrose and Michelle Testa had worked on a draft for this situation. She continued by saying that they basically tried to protect us from frivolous lawsuits

Draft Sanction Policy

All AWDF member clubs will respect and honor sanctions against individual members in each other's organizations, subject to the following conditions: (1) the sanction was achieved through an established process (e.g., Board of Inquiry hearing, proven violation of an existing policy), and (2) a summary of that process and the specific findings are made available to the AWDF secretary for distribution to the member clubs.

There was some discussion; points of concern were made in regards to retaliation for injuries and possible legal actions. Al asked that Michelle send the copy out to the delegates for review.

Ann Camper pointed out that it was left open for specific flexibility.

Dyan Harper mentioned that if a breed club decided to sanction a member for, say, a pedigree registration issue that DVG would most likely not uphold that type of sanction as they are a sport club and not a breed club.

Dan Williams stated that the development of a process is very important, adding that this is a dangerous area if clubs won't uphold a sanction. Reciprocity is important. Finishing up, Dan stated that some things passed by the AWDF are sometimes very difficult to get passed through the member clubs.

Judges program

Al is receiving emails from people interested in becoming a judge. He feels that there are a lot of quality people out there who have titled dogs other than the German Shepherd out there who may meet the criteria but because of their breed, they cannot enter the USCA judges program. Al G. would really like to move forward on a judge's college for the AWDF member clubs and has spoken with Director of Judges Nathaniel Roque and he is supportive of developing some sort of process/ apprenticeship, a sort of sport judging license.

Carole Patterson will be at the DVG meeting in Germany and will be asking Christa Bremer about the possibility for a non-DVG member to audit under LV/DVG America judges in preparation to become Judges under the AWDF. She will let us know of the results of her conversation.

Carole suggests guidelines be set to have this program geared to an AWDF judge situation.

This could double the amount of available judges here in America

The question was raised as to whether these "new judges" titles would be honored by DVG Germany.

Ann Camper asked about already established judge education programs by other AWDF member clubs if they would suffice for those judges be allowed into the USCA judges' college.

New Business

Bid Submission for 2012 Championship

Al asked that if there are any groups interested to please submit a bid. He has had some people contact him but nothing solid as of yet.

The latest dates (due to the FCI IPO team selection) we can entertain would be the first weekend in June.

The pre selection of helpers for the AWDF Championship events

The question was raised as to a length of time before the event where the preselected helpers should not be allowed to work dogs entered in to the AWDF Championship.

The suggestion was made of 2 weeks or 14 days.

Carole Patterson made a motion that Helpers should not be able to work dogs entered in the AWDF Championship 2 weeks prior to the event.

Vera seconded.

Glen had a point – What happens to the helper and the handler if information comes forward. What would be the disciplinary action?

Suggestions were made that the helper be replaced and the handler be excluded from the event.

Another statement was made that this is not in our rules presently, so this should be implemented in 2012

Correct verbiage is needed to be able to pass this new process correctly. Carole Patterson stated she will send her draft to the secretary.

Al G. asks that this subject to be tabled and Carole agreed.

The topic was tabled until a proper process can be written and presented to the delegates and board.

2011 Elections

This is the first year for the new procedure to be implemented. Due to misinformation and misunderstanding of the process only 1 of the 4 submissions was delivered accurately and in a timely manner.

President Al Govednik asked that due to this unfortunate misunderstanding, the attending voting club delegates and executive board vote on accepting the Slate for the 2011 Election.

President: abstain

Secretary: abstain

Executive Delegate: yes

Executive Delegate yes

Executive Delegate yes

United States Boxer Association yes

United Doberman Club yes

United States Rottweiler Club yes

Working Riesenschнауzer Federation yes

North American Working Bouvier – yes

American Working Malinois Association yes

Federation American Bulldog - yes

Working Pit Bull Terrier Club of America – yes

N A Working Airedale Terrier Association - yes

Authentic Hovawarts of North America yes

DVG America - yes

Working Black Russian Terrier Club of America yes

The Slate is accepted by the AWDF board.

Carole Patterson made the motion to adjourn the call.

Dyan Harper seconded the motion.

None opposed.

Conference call adjourned at 8:56pm CST.

