

April 10, 2014 AWDF Annual Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting began 8:10 cdt

Attendance

President- AL Govednik, Vice President - Bill Bimrose
Secretary- Michelle Testa, Treasurer -Chantal Young (PHONE)
Executive Directors at Large – Dyan Harper, Vera Reeves (ABSENT), Dan Williams
Member Clubs and Delegates
United States Boxer Assoc. – Chris Becher
United Doberman Club – Scott Carlson
United States Rottweiler Club - Chuck Wilson (PHONE)
United Schutzhund Club of America – Jim Alloway
Working Riesenschnauzer Federation – Tim Nyx
North America Working Bouvier Assoc. - ABSENT
United States Mondioring Assoc. – Dave Kroyer
America Working Malinois Assoc.- Anne Camper, Christopher Smith
Federation American Bulldog – Paige Shriver (PHONE)
Working Pitbull Terrier Club of America – ABSENT
LV/DVG America – Ann Conroy
Working Dutch Shepherd Assoc. - Bill Harper
American Herding Breed Association – Linda Rorem (PHONE)
Cane Corso Assoc. of America – Angie Stark

President Report

Sport friends,

This last year, the AWDF was restructured a bit. The financials were changed around in a different way than say the last few years. The current dues structure is quite similar now to the original AWDF fee arrangement. Along with this change the federation opted to host our championship using our executive board as championship trial hosts. This change potentially puts more money back into the federation itself, and will be used to run the day to day operations of our federation. Along with this change, we moved the IPOFH championship to the fall.

Please indulge me for a few moments. I would like to thank everyone for all of the support for the last 10 years. Many of you are aware that I chose not to run for AWDF president. I feel the AWDF is in very good shape, and am comfortable with the new leaders. Bill Bimrose, is the new president. While I feel as if there's still more work ahead, it's time for some newer ideas.

I am proud what we, as a dog community, have accomplished in my time as president. I ran for AWDF president 10 years ago with the idea of figuring out how to make our federation work for all of its member clubs. As I recall, at that time there was even uncertainty if we would remain a federation much longer.

Our dog world is made up of many kinds of people, and like any group there are positives and negatives. What our dog community has though are lots of passionate people. The biggest problem I worked to avoid was to dampen the passion of those volunteers with different visions of the AWDF than say the majority.

With determination and hard work we solved our problems and moved on. Like any other organization as our federation grew, we had growing pains. As time went on, we increased the number of our clubs, which in turn made our event the largest IPO event in America. We also diversified in that we now have clubs whose main focus is not IPO. Along the way we also worked out many glitches between member clubs, problems with the IRS, and even had a few lawsuits levied against us, but we found a way to make things work for our federation. A large step for the working dog in America came in 2008, when we were given a letter of understanding between the AWDF and the FCI.

Specifically some of the things we have accomplished were the development of our own working dog program. This whole program began when Eberhard Strasser spoke with me many years ago. He told me our sport would be changing, and we proactively developed our AWD program. Another area of accomplishment is we have been and still are fighting against poor legislation via our BSL committee. We did make a difference in several situations. The AWDF provides opportunities for our members to compete in many other kinds of international competitions, including mondiao ring, search & rescue, and tracking. Our federation regularly sends judges to the FCI working commission judges' seminars as well.

I'm proud of the fact our federation offered help to the America Red Cross, and the American Dog Owner Association after hurricane Katrina hit.

The AWDF is currently a guest of all FCI working events, and we are allowed to win. This wasn't always the case. The AWDF now has an open invitation to FCI working commission meetings, including those meetings that involve rule changes. Our voice has been heard on many rule interpretations, and rules discussions. Inter club communication has improved as our member clubs have regular conference calls to discuss any and all issues that arise within our federation. Over the years, we, as an organization have had some strong guidance from a few gentlemen that are no longer with us. Some of these fellows that influenced the way we developed and evolved were Paul Maloy, Eberhard Strasser, Mark Przybyliski, and Bill Webber. Past president Ray Carlisle, is a gentleman that helped build our federation in its' early years, and Frans Jansen the current FCI working commission president has continually proved to be a good friend of the AWDF. I would like to thank all of these men for their wisdom, and their support.

More recently, USCA presidents' Mike Hamilton, Lyle Roetemeyer, and now Jim Alloway have all given the AWDF strong support throughout their terms in office, and I am truly thankful for that backing.

We have also has several vice presidents that have helped our federation throughout the last 10 years. George Marcos, Bill Bimrose, and our longest seated VP Lyle Roetemeyer. I would like to thank these men, as well as our many executive boards not only from me personally, but from the entire federation.

Again I would like to thank our entire working dog community for all of the help throughout my term in office.

Al Govednik

Vice President Report - Bill Bimrose thanked everyone for attending

Secretary Report – Michelle Testa thanked Judy Johnson for all her work assisting with the official website. She continued by asking for the meeting minutes from February to be accepted in to record

Motion made by Bill Bimrose to accept. Seconded by Dyan Harper; all in favor
Motion passed.

Treasurer Report- Chantal reviewed the budget and gave a report via email to the Executive board and delegates to review. At this time Checks from the event had not been received (secretary note the treasurer received them on 4/11/2014)

Old Business

Update on 2014 IPOFH Championship

Date: September 26-28, 2014

Location: Maine, 600 acres of hay fields

Judges : Bruno Kastilix has been asked. Still looking for second Judge as Frans Jansen informed Mark Chase he can't judge the event.

Elections

The following have been accepted for office of the AWDF

President - Bill Bimrose by Acclimation

Treasurer- Chantal Young by Acclimation

2 Executive Director at Large

Elected to office - Tim Karchnak & Brandon Wilson

Nomination committee – no appointments

New Business

AWDF member club judges not judging RKNA IPO trials

Rottweiler Klub of North America is an independent organization based in Canada. They are not recognized by CKC or the Rottweiler Club of Canada, the breed club for Canada. They conduct IPO trials and conformation shows in the US in direct competition with the USRC. The USRC would like to discuss and propose that judges from AWDF member clubs agree to fully support a fellow member organization and not judge any RKNA events.

Chuck Wilson spoke at length about the topic.

There was discussion.

Chuck Wilson made a motion – The USRC asks that the AWDF member club Judges to support the USRC and withhold their judges from judging any RKNA events.

Ann Conroy asked that the motion be tabled – not done

Ann Conroy asked to poll the delegates present at the meeting – not done

Chuck Wilson was asked to withdraw his motion he didn't want to withdraw

There was no second to Mr Wilson's motion –

Motion was cancelled.

Anne Camper made the motion to address the topic of Judges from outside the AWDF organization to judge AWDF events within 60 days.

Chris Becher seconded this motion
All were in favor
Motion passed.

The Secretary thanked Al Govednik for all his work in the AWDF.
Bill bimrose made the motion to adjourn
Scott Carlson Seconded
No one opposed
Meeting adjourned 9:54 am cdt