



## United States Mondio Ring Association Board of Directors Meeting

### Minutes from the September 19, 2016 Board Meeting

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Don Lee at 2130 (or 9:30 P.M. CST). A quorum was present.

#### Members Present:

President	Donald Lee	Director	Jake Schneider
Vice President	Jill Fryling - absent	Director	Jennifer Marshall - absent
Secretary	Michon Mills	Director	Lisa Lucero
Treasurer	David Broderick		

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** - August minutes will be approved via Facebook

#### Officer Reports

**President** – No report

**Vice President** – No report

**Treasurer** – PayPal total is \$2861.98 Wells Fargo \$29,288.14 Total: \$32150.12

**Secretary** – Thank you to Makoto Mizutani and Patti Phillips for arranging and having the US Team uniforms made along with shirts for purchase with proceeds going to the World Team.

World Team Donations: Total shirt donations \$247.56 Total Gofundme donations \$321.15

**Director at Large** – No reports

#### Committee Reports

**Judge’s Committee** – No report

**Decoy Committee** – Decoy certification was done at Rogue Ringsport trial. Spencer Bowman completed his level 2. Once hosting club is determined for Nationals, selection will begin for decoys.

**Education Committee** – Michon reported that Elissa Cline stated she doesn’t want the grant opportunities to go away. There was further discussion and David stated that all other Committee members think that the money should be allocated somewhere else.

**Membership Committee** – No report

**AWDF Update** – No report

**Nationals Committee** – Still no clubs wishing to host Nationals.

**International Committee** – Discussed that the team has their uniforms and the team will look very nice. Fields have been set up for the team to train when they arrive in Belgium.

### **Unfinished Business**

- **Discussion/action for approval of the Bylaw change to stagger the Board of Directors Terms based on membership vote**

Received 102 total votes (46% members voted). 95% yes to change the bylaws, 5% no to change the bylaws.

- **Discuss future survey questions to be sent to the membership for future direction of USMRA**

- Possibly creating three regions within USMRA and changing the By-laws to allow the three (3) BOD Directors at Large to be replaced with three (3) Regional Directors
- Term limits for Board of Directors
- World Team Criteria

There was discussion about using Survey Monkey to help gather information to solicit which direction the Members want to go. Discussed putting a committee together to handle a future survey. Members have expressed that if we are asking personal opinions that the surveys should be anonymous. Michon explained that Survey monkey can collect anonymous data if the person making the survey selects that option but there is no way for others to verify that the option was selected.

Discussed the timeframe for voting for the next Bylaw change.

- **Discuss Educational Grant Status for Budget** – Follow up from August meeting.

There was discussion to allocate this grant money to something more beneficial to USMRA members. There was discussion about lowering the grant amounts so that more clubs have access. This will be sent back to the Educational Committee to discuss what direction to go.

- **Discuss Club Insurance – Should USMRA pay for membership club insurance to defray costs to make club trials more affordable?** – Follow up from August meeting discussion

There was discussion about what would be better for all USMRA members.

There was discussion about what the USMRA insurance actually covers. Discussed that if insurance is covering open field, USMRA rules should be in effect including use of training tools.

Michon will contact Sportsman's Insurance to get clarification on USMRA coverage.

- **Discussion/motion for approval on Educational Committee Grant Recommendations**
  - Rogue Ringsports

Lisa moved to approve the recommendation from the Educational Committee to award Rogue Ringsports the Educational Grant, second by David. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Discuss status of Standardized Trial Entry form.** This needs to move forward so that sociability testing can be tracked. Michon will put this on Facebook for members to start using. Clubs will be responsible to make sure that these forms are filled out and sent back to the secretary for day of trial entries.

- **Election Process for 2017 Terms**

- Discussion/action for approval of the Election Committee

Shawn Reed, Elissa Cline (Chair), George Manley and Christina Chapman were approved unanimously as members of the Election Committee via Facebook on September 10, 2016.

- **Discussion/action for approval of the Judge's Committee to reimburse Judges Aida Flick, Ann Putegnat and Donald Lee for the Judge's Training at the USMRA Nationals**

This was discussed and approved unanimously via Facebook on September 6, 2016.

- **Discuss status of Non FCI Registered Dogs Competing in USMRA events**

Lisa discussed that Brian Reynolds wrote a professional opinion on this topic which was sent to her and Don. There was discussion whether or not this is an actual breed test. If this is not a breed test, then why can't non registered dogs compete in the US. There was discussion that it would be very detrimental to not allow non FCI registered dogs to compete with USMRA. The issue may come down to not using European judges at club trials

Don explained that he will be meeting with Frans Jansen, the President of the FCI Utility Commission when he attends the World Championship to discuss this further.

USMRA BOD and Judge's Committee do not want to lose any of our current dogs or upcoming dogs due to not being FCI registered. Don will look into why the FCI website does not show USMRA or the USA as a Member.

- **Update on AKC accepting Mondioring Titles for Belgian Malinois**

The American Working Malinois Association (AWMA), the Belgian Parent Club has agreed to get the recognition of Mondioring titles and is working with AKC to make this happen.

### **Evaluate the Status of USMRA Clubs**

- **Discuss/motion for approval of new clubs**
  - Ouray Working Dog Club – Colorado – met criteria: 3 members, bylaws, payment
  - Flying Squirrels – California – met criteria: 3 members, bylaws, payment

It was moved by Michon, second by Jake to “approve Ouray Working Dog Club and Flying Squirrels USMRA club status”. The motion carried unanimously.

## **New Business**

- **Discussion/action for approval to provide additional financial assistance to the World Championship team for their dog's travel expenses**

There was discussion to give an additional \$250.00 to each World Team member to assist with the cost of shipping their dogs to Belgium. David disagreed with the additional money only for the dogs flying in cargo getting the money and felt that dogs flying as service dogs should also get the money.

It was moved by Michon, second by Jake to approve an additional \$250.00 to each World Team member shipping their dog to the World Championship. David abstained from the voting. The motion carried unanimously.

- **Discussion/action for approval to pay for the uniforms for the decoys attending the Selective at the World Championships**

There was discussion that it was too late to order the team uniforms. The decoys may have received sweatshirts. This will be tabled until this can be confirmed.

- **Discuss sending Bylaw change proposal to the members to add the Anti-Discrimination Policy to the Bylaws**

This vote will take place via Jotform and will be disclosed that the vote will not be anonymous.

**Member's Concerns** – Any concerns that USMRA Members may have

David discussed that there was a member concerned about our tax status and donations regarding giving tax exempt receipts.

## **Announcements**

Next Regular BOD Meeting – October 17, 2016 at 9:00 PM Central Time

## **Adjournment**

It was moved by Jake, second by Lisa to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2323 hours (11:23 P.M. CST)

Michon M. Mills,  
USMRA Secretary

**Approved (Approved as Corrected)  
BOD Electronic approval**

Michon M. Mills  
USMRA Secretary  
October 11, 2016