



United States Mondio Ring Association Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes from the January 16, 2017 Board Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Don Lee at 2009 (or 8:09 P.M. CST). A quorum was present.

Members Present:

President	Donald Lee	Director	Gail Marit
Vice President	Allison Seghetti-Kehoe	Director	Paul Anthony - 2125
Secretary	Michon Mills	Director	Todd Dunlap
Treasurer	David Broderick		

Additional Attendees: OJ Knighten

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – December minutes were approved electronically via Facebook on January 2, 2017.

Officer Reports

President – Don discussed his expectations for the Board Members which included reading and understanding the USMRA Bylaws, shall be in accordance with the Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure by Sturgis, add input into discussions and share opinions so that the Board can make a collective decision and be respectful to others.

Vice President – no report

Treasurer – David reported USMRA Accounts Wells Fargo \$25659.89, PayPal \$7362.65 Total: \$33022.54

Secretary – 2016 Year in Review: There were a total of 31 clubs consisting of 244 active members and 23 trials consisting of 280 entries. Some of the 23 trials were two day events with separate trials.

Director at Large – No report

Committee Reports

Judge’s Committee – Don reported that the Committee is in the process of having positions on the field for the US Judges at Nationals. It is unknown whether there will be any training at Nationals. Thursday or Friday would be available for training.

Decoy Committee – The Committee has had a minor discussion about having a decoy certification at Nationals. There hasn't been much discussion within the committee about Nationals.

Education Committee – Don reported that currently the committee is not doing a whole lot as they are on standby waiting for the grant status.

Membership Committee – Looking at nominations for the Sportsmanship Award. This will be announced at the Nationals.

AWDF Update – A proposal was submitted to AWDF to work with the breed clubs to have Working Privilege Listing listed in the scorebooks for non-registered purebred dogs. The proposal was not approved by AWDF for unknown reasons.

Nationals Committee – David reported that the Committee is working on sponsorships for Nationals. Website is now up. Flights have been booked for the Judge and European decoy. Discussed that there is a trophy for the Level 3 winner which is separate from the National Champion trophy. Discussed that the Judges training should be scheduled. There was discussion that awards that are recognized at level 3 should also be recognized at level 1 and 2. Some of the trophies discussed were high obedience, best object guard, best escort, and decoy's choice.

FCI Committee – This is covered in the discussion about Non-FCI dogs.

Unfinished Business

- **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

Don discussed his ideas of creating three regions within the US. With the regions, the Directors at Large would change to Regional Directors that would be responsible for putting on a Regional Championship. Discussion ensued about how to divide up the regions. This change would require a Bylaw change. There was also discussion about whether the World Team criteria should change. Don will put together a draft of what he would like to see happen.

- **Discuss Club Insurance – Should USMRA pay for membership club insurance to defray costs to make club trials more affordable?**

OJ gave an update on the USMRA Insurance Policies. See below in New Business

Discuss status of Non FCI Registered Dogs Competing in USMRA events including Nationals – Update

- **Purebred breeds not FCI registered**
- **Mixed breeds**

Don reported that Frans Jensen sent a message to him regarding the FCI registered dogs and stated FCI is willing to give USMRA a five (5) year variance that will be voted on February, 18, 2017 at the FCI meeting in Spain. Frans stated that we will receive an official letter after the vote. It is unclear what the variance is going to allow so there will be nothing official to the members until a final decision and notification of the variance has been made.

There was extensive discussion about non-FCI dogs winning the USMRA National Championship at level three, which OJ stated has been understood that this has not been allowed. OJ reported that the FCI Committee already had discussed this issue and agreed that a non-FCI dog could not win the Championship. OJ further reported that USMRA will allow all dogs to compete in Nationals for the 2017 National Championships. FCI Judges will not be allowed to sign non-FCI recognized dogs' scorebooks, so those dogs' scores will need to be entered and signed in the scorebooks by a US Judge.

Discussion ensued about non-FCI dogs being allowed podium placement at level three as it would bring attention to USMRA allowing non-FCI dogs. There was discussion about having an award for the highest scoring MR3 dog, separate from any awards for winning.

It was moved by Michon, second by Paul, that for the 2017 USMRA National Championship all eligible teams may compete at the 2017 USMRA National Championships. If the competing dog does not meet the FCI requirements, the European Judge will not sign the scorebook but will complete a scoresheet. The trial secretary will fill in the scorebook, and a USMRA Judge will sign the scorebook. In order to win the National Championship at level 3, the dog must meet FCI requirements and must have an FCI registration, as per the International Rules of Mondioring. Dogs not meeting the FCI requirements for level three will not be allowed placement on the podium but will be recognized by USMRA in a different manner. The motion carried by majority. Yes votes: David, Michon, Paul, Gail, Todd No vote: Allison

- Discussion about prior USMRA member involved in bite incident in Italy

Tabled until more information is available as no official information has been available from either side and original stories are conflicting.

Evaluate the Status of USMRA Clubs

- Discuss/motion for approval of new clubs

None to discuss

New Business

Sportsman Insurance clarification/discussion – OJ Knighten

OJ gave an overview of all of our USMRA Insurance Policies. USMRA has the following policies: Directors and Officers, Accident and General Liability. The \$75.00 fee that is charged for the certificate of liability insurance is an administrative fee only and not purchasing an insurance policy. When a club requests insurance and pays the administrative fee, the club is added to the USMRA General Liability Policy for the date and timeframe requested and only for USMRA sanctioned events. If a club is hosting a dual discipline event, such as Mondioring and French Ring, the club will only be covered for the date that the discipline is USMRA Mondioring sanctioned. Additional insured is an additional cost of \$50.00 and adds the

additionally insured to the General Liability policy for the dates and times requested. OJ further explained that it is necessary to monitor what clubs are requesting the insurance for and insuring all dates and times of a USMRA sanctioned event are covered. The advantage of the clubs being added onto the USMRA policy is it insures the club for a specific event and doesn't require the club to purchase their own policy, which would be expensive for each club to pay for.

2017 Budget

There was discussion about adding funds for the elections that are now annual to cover Election Buddy, postage, envelopes and paper for election notifications per the Bylaws. It was proposed to have \$500.00 in the Secretary budget but further discussed increasing the Secretary budget to \$750.00 to cover the additional election costs.

There was discussion to keep money in the Education budget until a decision can be reached on where to allocate it to.

The World Championship Team budget was extensively discussed. Discussion ensued that there are more members interested in competing in the FMBB, which is also a championship that is supported by USMRA but is breed specific to Belgian Shepherds only. It was further discussed that USMRA will pay for entry fees and uniforms for the FCI World Championship and the FMBB teams. The original proposal for the World Team budget was \$4000.00. There was discussion that each team member for both championship teams will be given \$150.00 for entry fee and \$150.00 for uniform allowance, team leaders will be given \$150.00 for uniform allowance and up to 4 decoys for Super Selective will receive \$150.00 for uniforms. Discussed if uniforms are donated, the budgeted amount will be given to each team member.

It was moved by Gail, second by David to increase the total USMRA budget to \$24950.00. The motion carried unanimously.

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

None

Announcements

Next Regular BOD Meeting – February 20, 2017 at 8:00 PM Central Time

Adjournment

It was moved by Michon, second by Todd to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 23:19 hours (11:19 P.M. CST)

Michon M. Mills,
USMRA Secretary

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

Michon M. Mills
USMRA Secretary
February 16, 2017