



United States Mondioring Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes May 21, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Don Lee at 2012 (or 8:12 P.M. CST). A quorum was present.

Members Present:

President	Donald Lee	Director	Gail Marit
Vice President	Allison Seghetti-Kehoe	Director	Todd Dunlap - absent
Secretary	Michon Mills	Director	Karen Shivers
Treasurer	David Broderick		

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – February

- February and March minutes were approved via Facebook May 9, 2018

Officer Reports

President – Don discussed some safety concerns that competitors and spectators were having with one of the decoys at the 2018 Nationals. Don stated several persons requested to have the decoy removed from the trial. He further stated that the Decoy Committee was discussing the concerns.

Vice President – Allison discussed her trip to Greece where she trained with a Mondioring team there. Greece does not have a National organization for Mondioring.

Treasurer – Michon reported the following: Wells Fargo – \$28,446.96 PayPal \$11,750.36
Total: \$40,197.32

Don requested a breakdown of the 2018 National Championship financials. Michon stated that she would pass on the request to Jake Scott, the National Committee chair.

Secretary – Michon reported the following: 2018 YTD numbers: 224 members and 25 clubs

Director at Large – None

Committee Reports

Judge’s Committee – Ann Putegnatt written report
The Judge’s Committee has not met this month due to the travel commitments of several members. During this next month, we will continue to work on incorporating the FCI Judge’s Regulations into the revision of the USMRA Judge’s Program.

Decoy Committee –

- Decoy Grants second half will be available in the near future
- Allison reported that scorebooks were sent out to decoys that need them. She also stated that Carlos will be submitting for reimbursement for the scorebooks.
- The Decoy Committee is addressing safety concerns regarding a decoy at the National Championship

Membership Committee –

- Sportsman of the Year – Karen will talk to the Membership Committee about getting the Sportsman of the Year posted to the membership for nominations and selection. Karen will contact Ann P. to discuss what has been done in the past.
- Membership Grant status – Karen stated that she has sent out a request to the Membership Committee to get ideas about the Membership Grant.

AWDF Update – Allison reported that she attended the AWDF meeting. The FCI update was informative and discussed the UScA issues with wanting to start their own All Breed Working Dog Club. FCI stated that the UScA would need to show that they would be better for FCI than AWDF but this did not occur. FCI is currently staying with AWDF.

Elections were held with Ivan Balabanov and Carol Karchnak voted as the Directors at Large. Anne Camper is the President; the BOI Committee Members were elected.

AWDF is looking at making some changes to their bylaws. Proposed changes are due by June 18, 2018.

AWDF is working on organizing their policies and procedures into an SOP book. Samie Jones is working on this and may be able to help USMRA with a template.

There was discussion about a host packet for championship events.

Nationals Committee – Jake Scott – written report

Review of USMRA Nationals 2018

- 33 entries total, 32 teams competed
- All jury flights and transportation went as planned and everyone arrived home safe and sound.
- Decoy Otto Sturm was injured during the lvl1 competitors, sought medical attention from the paramedics on site as well as visited the hospital for x-rays upon his return home.
- Received notice from the city that the fields and facilities were returned in proper order.

The National Committee would like to open bids for club assistance for the 2019 National Championships, dated April 13 & 14, 2019 beginning June 1, 2018 through June 30. The following requirements are what are necessary for the assisting host club.

Location:

- The trial location should be accessible easily by major airports and highways.

- Hotels and accommodations should be available readily in the area of the trial.
- Restaurants should be readily accessible from the trial grounds or the host should be able to arrange for food trucks or vendors to be on site.

Venue(s) must be secured for the following:

- Trial field (must be a regulation sized field that is neutral to competitors, may not have hosted a trial previously nor be the training field of a Mondioring club.) must have appropriate fencing, regulation jumps, and hides.
- Restroom facilities and ample parking need to be on site.
- Practice field, a space that competitors may warm up their dogs the day prior to competition, does not need to be a regulation size field. Field hides or jumps are a courtesy but not required.
- Judges college venue, a space that will be used by USMRA Judges, USMRA Judge apprentices, and our guest Judge for the purpose of continued education prior to the trial.
Conference room or similar.
- Meeting space for the annual USMRA membership meeting. Previous years this has been in conjunction with the judge's dinner for convenience.

A host club must be able to secure the above venues, work with local officials for any permits required and ensure all permissions are granted.

Trial theme is chosen by the host to allow them to use their resources for decorations, hides, and event theming to produce the best event possible.

Medical personnel for both dogs and humans should be available at the event. Veterinarian, RVT etc. Paramedics or EMS. This is to be arranged by the host club, either by volunteers or hire.

All expenses, loss and profit, are the responsibility of the host club after the initial \$4,000 of allocated USMRA funds which are available via the USMRA Treasurer with BOD approval.

- There was discussion that the BOD requested the financials from Nationals and Jake Scott responded that the financials were the hosting club's business and not USMRA business. He further responded to the request stating that he does not need to let the BOD know what the expenses were for Nationals because this was a club event and not the BOD's business.

Michon reported that the 2017 Nationals financials were made public to the BOD and the membership. The request for the financial statement was for educational purposes and to help prepare for the next year's budget.

FCI Committee – No Report

International Committee – No report

Unfinished Business

- Return of Scorebooks to Members after a trial if member must leave early

Don discussed that each day of a trial is considered one trial. All paperwork and scorebooks should be completed each day with books returned to the member.

There was further discussion regarding people that need to leave early before the book is completed. If scorebooks need to be mailed, the member should make copies of their book

prior to being mailed so that they have the information in the event that the book is lost in the mail.

This will be further discussed in the Judges Committee and the Membership Committee for a proper protocol for scorebooks.

Evaluate the Status of USMRA Clubs

➤ **Discuss/motion for approval of new clubs**

None to approve

New Business

- Membership status of non US residents pertaining to ability to compete/podium in the USMRA National Championship. Discuss possible bylaw change to add a Temporary Member category for non-residents participating in USMRA events.

There was discussion that non-resident competitors should be considered exhibition competitors and not allowed to podium at the USMRA National Championship. Adding a new “type” of member would require a bylaw change.

Michon discussed that in order to be covered under the USMRA accident insurance policy, a competitor or participant must be a USMRA member. This is why the foreign competitor, judge and decoy were made Honorary members, as they would not be considered bystanders. This would also effect decoys and judges that attend club trials.

Michon and Allison will work on verbiage to make additions to the USMRA Bylaws regarding Temporary Membership. There was discussion about eliminating the Honorary Membership as it gives full rights as a regular member. It was also discussed possibly putting a time frame for when the Temporary Membership would be valid as it should only be valid when in the US and participating in a USMRA sanctioned event.

There was discussion that USMRA currently has full paying members that are not residents of the United States. USMRA has a rule that a member must be a resident to be on the World Team but there is nothing written for the National Championship podium. Discussed adding a subsection in the bylaws under membership, about resident status when attending the National Championship.

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

- Numerous members were unhappy about a non-resident being able to podium at the 2018 USMRA National Championship. Members have expressed their desire to have a rule implemented so that non US residents do not have the ability to podium at Nationals.

This was discussed in New business

- Unavoidable decoy change causing issues with World Team Requirements

Gail discussed a situation where a decoy had to cancel and a new decoy was selected which created issues with members who were trying to meet the World Team criteria.

The World Team criteria requires different decoys for the two club trials and there are no listed exceptions.

- USMRA Nationals Instagram page still being used

There was discussion that the USMRA Nationals Instagram page is still being used to post about USMRA business.

- Establishment of SOP book, for online access to members – this was discussed during the AWDF discussion.
- There was discussion regarding a recent request made by Jake Scott, on behalf of the Auditing Committee, to review the USMRA Financials for the month of March, April and May 2017 because he felt there was a “problem and that the Committee needed to conduct an audit.”

It was further discussed that the Committee does not actually conduct audits but has oversight in the event that an independent auditor is hired or if the IRS conducts an audit. The Committee does not have access to the actual USMRA accounts but can request financial statements.

The USMRA Bylaws state the following:

The auditing committee has the authority to review all financial records of the USMRA, including records and reports generated or maintained by the Treasurer, bank records, and records and reports generated by other entities (e.g., a Certified Public Accountant) for the USMRA. The Committee shall have the power to summon the Treasurer to answer any questions. An audit report and/or a report of the legitimacy of USMRA's expenses shall be made to the Board of Directors annually or at the annual meeting.

It was discussed that the Auditing Committee members are not allowed to request records because they don't agree or are upset about a decision that the Board of Directors has made. If the Committee feels that an audit needs to occur, they can request that an auditor be obtained to conduct a full audit of USMRA records.

Don will contact the Chair of the Auditing Committee to see how she would like to proceed regarding Jake Scott's request.

Announcements

Next Regular BOD Meeting – June 18, 2018 at 8:00 PM Central Time

Adjournment

It was moved by Gail, second by Allison to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2222 hours (22:22 P.M. CST)

Michon M. Mills
USMRA Secretary

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

Michon M. Mills
USMRA Secretary
August 4, 2018