



United States Mondio Ring Association Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes from the December 19, 2016 Board Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Don Lee at 2115 (or 9:15 P.M. CST). A quorum was present.

Members Present:

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

Additional Attendees: Newly elected Board Members for 2017/2018

Gail Marit, Paul Anthony and Todd Dunlap

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

Officer Reports

President – Don thanked the current Board for their service to USMRA. He also welcomed the oncoming Board members that are were in attendance. He explained to the oncoming board that USMRA follows Sturgis Parliamentary Procedures and suggested reading the USMRA Bylaws. He further discussed that the Board works for the members and it is our duty to represent them working towards the betterment of USMRA. He expects all directors to be honest and sincere and for things to be done respectfully. It was stated that we won't always agree but should support the majority decision.

Vice President – No report

Treasurer – David reported USMRA Accounts Wells Fargo \$25,847.48, PayPal \$5,632.61
Total: \$31,480.09

Secretary – No report

Director at Large – No report

Committee Reports

Judge's Committee – Don reported that Iris Remund from Switzerland agreed to judge Nationals. She has judged a prior National Championship and speaks very good English.

It was moved by David, second by Jake to approve Iris Remund as the 2017 National Championship's Judge. The motion carried unanimously.

Decoy Committee – Decoys recommended for 2017 Nationals are Spencer Bowman, Joaquim Dovat and Carlos Aguirre. The Committee is looking at having the Level 2's re-up at Nationals, possibly Monday after the trial. Committee is also looking at possibly having decoy selection for the following Nationals being done after the championship. Committee is still discussing the criteria for this and whether there will be other opportunities to move up to level two or recertify.

Jake also discussed the Committee producing a video showing how to complete a decoy certification so that people can be more prepared.

Education Committee – Don discussed a prior communication from Elissa. The Committee is not positive it wants to continue with the Education Grant as there needs to be further discussions on how to implement it and possible changes to criteria.

Membership Committee – No report

AWDF Update – Don reported that the vote for the AWDF Breed Club agreement to allow the Working Privilege Listing did not pass. The proposal had been approved by the AWMA and WDSAA but was not approved by AWDF.

Nationals Committee – David reported that the tickets for Joaquim and Iris have been booked. Purina Farms is booked. Committee will start reaching out to clubs to provide retrieve and object guard items. There was some discussion about getting sponsorships and raffle items for the Championship that will help the Committee stay within the budget.

FCI Committee – Michon reported that the Committee members are OJ Knighten, Ben Luddy, Don Lee and Michon Mills. The Committee discussed how Nationals will be approached. Goal is to allow all members to compete. Don discussed the FCI rules for dogs competing in Mondioring, which are not the same rules as IPO as IPO has a variance to allow non-FCI recognized dogs to compete. Don discussed the background of non-FCI recognized dogs being allowed to compete with USMRA. He further reported Rosier instructed FCI Judges not to sign scorebooks of non-FCI registered dogs. A letter has been sent to Frans addressing the issues with USMRA allowing non-FCI recognized dogs and is requesting a solution to allow these dogs to compete with USMRA. USMRA is a working breed club and obtaining scorebooks with a Working Privilege Listing must go through a breed club but does not address the issue of being non-FCI recognized. There was discussion about IPO Champions from the US and whether they are being recognized for winning, which currently is unknown.

Todd reported that the decoys would be allowed to decoy in Europe if they had their books with them. There was discussion about the status of our decoys and judges being FCI recognized as once any official recognition occurs, they would be bound to FCI rules, regulations and sanctions.

Unfinished Business

- **Discuss future survey questions to be sent to the membership for future direction of USMRA – Update from September meeting – Tabled until January**

- 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
- **Discuss Educational Grant Status for Budget** – Follow up from September/October meeting.

It was moved by Michon, second by David to discontinue the Education grants. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Tabled until January

- **Discuss status of Non FCI Registered Dogs Competing in USMRA events including Nationals – Update**
- **Purebred breeds not FCI registered**
 - **Mixed breeds**

There was discussion that all of the members are a priority to USMRA and all members will be considered in making decisions for growth of USMRA.

- **Discuss AWDF Working Privilege Listing Vote** – It was reported that this did not pass with AWDF
- **Discussion about prior USMRA member involved in bite incident in Italy**

Don discussed briefly this incident. He has attempted to contact the handler to find out her version of this incident before any decision can be made with the status of future membership privileges.

- **Discussion/approval for reimbursement for approved International (FMBB) costs to Lisa Geller - Michon David Jake Lisa Jill**

Michon discussed that she spoke with Lisa Geller and she doesn't recall paying for anything for attending the FMBB. Discussed that the World Team was approved \$250.00 for each handler that shipped a dog to the World Championships in Belgium.

It was moved by Michon, second by Jill to approve reimbursing Lisa Geller the same amount that the World Team members were reimbursed towards the dog shipping costs for when she attended the FMBB. The motion carried unanimously.

David will make sure that Lisa is reimbursed.

Evaluate the Status of USMRA Clubs

- Discuss/motion for approval of new clubs – So Cal Mondioring

It was moved by Michon, second by Jake to “approve USMRA club status to SoCal Mondioring. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Sportsman Insurance clarification/discussion – OJ Knighten – tabled until January

2017 Budget – Don will post this.

Junior Handler Membership Fees –

Michon discussed wanting to grow junior handlers competing with USMRA. It was moved by Michon, second by Jake to implement a \$20.00 Junior Handler Membership Fee as long as a parent is a current USMRA member, for any junior handler under the age of eighteen (18). The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued that the age of a junior handler will need to be determined and a waiver signed by the parent will be required for a junior handler to compete at a trial. A junior handler must be a member in order to be covered by USMRA insurance. Further discussed ensued that a parent should be on the field when the junior handler is participating in a trial.

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

Michon discussed that there were some issues with the voting process causing a member to not be able to vote. Efforts were made at the time to correct the issues. It was also discussed that it is important to have current contact information for all members.

It was discussed that a future bylaw change may need to occur to change the verbiage requiring that the election results need to be mailed to all members. Results can easily be emailed to all members, eliminating the time and money spent to manually mail the results to all members.

Announcements

Next Regular BOD Meeting – January 16, 2017 at 9:00 PM Central Time

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 22:49 hours (10:49 P.M. CST)

Michon M. Mills,
USMRA Secretary

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

Michon M. Mills
USMRA Secretary
January 2, 2017