

USMRA Judge's Committee Annual Report for Calendar Year 2011

Judge's Committee Chair: Charlie Bartholomew

Committee Members: Keith Jobe, Donna Matey, and Donald Lee

Ex Officio Member: Lisa Geller

This past year was busy for the USMRA Judge's Committee. Two new USMRA Judges were added to our Judge's slate. The committee revised the USMRA Judge's Program. We simplified the language and added clarification to the wording; and increased the difficulty of the requirements, bringing them more into line with European standards. We also discussed possibilities to create regular training / instruction for current USMRA Judges to maintain consistency in judging; and discussed conducting temperament tests as a requirement to enter USMRA trials.

New USMRA Judges:

Keith Jobe and **Aida Flick** completed the Judge's Program and became USMRA Judge's. Keith has already judged two USMRA events and Aida is scheduled to judge her first trial.

Kadi Thingval, a certified French Ring Judge, was accepted into the USMRA Judge's Apprenticeship Program.

Revision of USMRA Judge's Apprenticeship Program: *Completed

Completed a new revision on August 28, 2011
Voted on and accepted by USMRA Board of Directors

Improvements to the USMRA Judge's Program:

We are currently working on a post trial Judge's Evaluation Form for clubs to provide feedback and to evaluate the Judge's performance at each MR Trial.

***Currently in discussion**

Discussed possibilities for a continuing education / training process for Certified USMRA Judges.

***Currently in discussion**

Training / Education:

Discussed Judges' responsibility for safety on the trial field – Judges taking better control over the field and the field helpers for safety purposes.

***Recommendations passed on to USMRA Judges**

Discussed protocol to train current USMRA Judges to maintain consistency at trials and to provide FCI updates of all rules and regulations.

***Currently in discussion**

Temperament Tests:

Discussed USMRA Judge's performing Temperament tests on all dogs entered in USMRA Trials. **Primary concerns are with liability issues

*Recommended to accept current Temperament Tests from other Organizations, and/or to consider a Brevet as acceptable.

***Waiting for further information from Temperament Test Committee**