

## USMRA BOD Minutes 24 March 2013

Conference Call

6:01 PST Lisa Geller Call to Order

Roll

Present: Lisa Geller, OJ Knighten, Aida Flick, Sharon Novak, Kyle Sprague, Rich Damico (2nd hour)

Absent: Marki Barta due to work scheduling conflict

Motion by Aida to accept February Minutes

2nd by OJ

Motion passed unanimous

Reports: [Secretary Report \(Link\)](#), [Decoy Committee Report \(Link\)](#)

Motion by Sharon to replace Dennis Bilik with Andrew Ramsey on the Decoy Committee as Dennis has expressed that he no longer wants to serve.

2nd by Aida

Motion passed unanimous

Motion by Kyle to add Jake Schneider (who has been doing a GREAT job organizing the 2013 Nationals) to the Nationals committee

2nd by Sharon

Motion passed unanimous

Motion by OJ to adjust the time span for Nationals decoys working dogs and events before the Nationals “ Change the Rule to #3. USMRA National Decoys will not be allowed to decoy any trials two weeks prior to the date of Nationals. Selected Decoys will also not be allowed to work any dogs as a decoy (trial or Training) that are enter in the National Trial 2 weeks prior to the date of National.”

(Lisa will update website)

2nd by Aida

Motion passed unanimous

Motion by Sharon to discuss insurance situation.

2nd by Kyle

OJ explained that our trial insurance coverage has been canceled and he has researched new policies that will give coverage of 10,25, and 50 k per occurrence. Additionally, the board discussed the possibility of including event coverage with club dues which ended in tabling this discussion.

Modified Motion by OJ to get maximum coverage of \$50,000 per occurrence at a cost of approx. \$1190 per year.

2nd by Aida

Motion passed unanimous

OJ will coordinate with Aida to see that the new policy is purchased.

Motion by OJ to place a temporary hold on deactivating decoys who have not met the yearly trial requirement in the last 2 years.

2nd by Aida

OJ – Yes / Kyle – Yes/ Aida- Yes/ Sharon - Abstain

Motion passed

Discussion

Nationals Reimbursements – OJ explained that 2 of the 2012 Nationals decoys still have not been reimbursed for their Nationals expenses. General consensus was that USMRA should take responsibility for this. OJ agreed to invite decoys submit receipts/expenses so that BOD could approve expenditure. Additionally Lisa will task Nationals Committee to explore solutions to this problem which might include BOD withholding payment to organizing club or paying Decoy/Judge expenses directly.

Nationals – Kyle will be having a Nationals meeting to check in with Jake/RRS for progress report.

International – Rich reported that International Committee had a meeting with Suggestions for world team selection, in addendum to the selection process already in place. (feed back for marki in red w. additional comments)

1. Handlers must be titled in the category that they wish to compete in.

(Already requirement)

2. Dogs will be selected by the average of their two highest scores. Must be qualifying scores.

(Already requirement)

3. National's score will count for 1.5x as much as club scores. Must be qualifying scores.

(Is not clear how this would work)

4. Winner of the Nationals (MR 3) will automatically get a team slot providing there were at least 3 dogs competing at the MR 3 level.

(Already requirement regardless of number of dogs competing)

5. No handler/dog teams will be accepted onto the team if they did not fulfill the requirements even if there are empty slots left. This is in fairness to the team members that did fulfill the team selection requirements.

(Consensus was this will not pass)

6. Once a handler accepts a slot on the team he will be expected to adhere to a standard of conduct – wearing the team uniform during competition, acceptable behavior off the field, attendance of Saturday night gala (this in deference to our European hosts). Team captain is expected to attend gala also.

Sponsorship- International Committee will explore possibilities and Lisa and Sharon will talk to Valeer at April trial for information about what is allowed.

In addition, the BOD discussed the possibility of requirements of multiple scores from multiple judges, on different fields with different decoys “in the event of more entries than slots?” If the International committee could discuss the possibility of making a residency waiver IF there is a member who is an active service personal living abroad.

Change deadline for WC from 1 August to 1 or 15 July to add more time for planning/organizing.

#### Sociability Test

Aida reported that there was one entry who participated in the USMRA Temperament Test at the last test. She filled out the form to be sent to USMRA. If the participant had a scorebook, it would be notated in the BACK INSIDE. Judge's will take this responsibility and be sure that this requirement has been met BEFORE the dog trials.

Membership for Obedience Only Titles – Discussion of changing policy of not being members to must be member considering liability and other issues.

Discussion of requirement of Sociability Test for Obedience Only Titles. General Consensus was that the Obedience Only IS a sociability test.

Motion to require Membership for Obedience only Titles by Sharon

2nd by OJ

Motion carried – unanimous

Motion to accept Obedience Title as Proof of Sociability by OJ

2nd by Sharon

Motion carried – unanimous

People Trialing who are not Members

Sharon reported that there were 2 individuals who played at the March Lonestar Trial who had no record of paying dues at the time of the trial. Opinion varied on how to handle this from considering it an honest mistake and letting it go to voiding the scores, and/or not considering them for international competition.

Overall it was agreed that due to liability, this is not something that will be allowed.

Responsibility of validating membership as well as considering adopting a late fee for members who pay after a certain date were also discussed.

Discussion tabled due to time

Lisa Geller adjourned meeting at 8:3