



United States Mondio Ring Association Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes from the October 24, 2016 Board Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Don Lee at 2059 (or 8:59 P.M. CST). A quorum was present.

Members Present:

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

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - September minutes were approved via Facebook October 11, 2016

Officer Reports

President – Don congratulated the USMRA World Team for their success. He also complimented Todd with acclimating the training from things he learned the year prior and presented a very prepared team to the World Championship. Don further reported that there was a good amount of interest for FMBB, April 26-30, 2017. USMRA Nationals will need to be decided so that it does not conflict with the FMBB or other scheduled club trials.

Discussed that USMRA is not listed on the FCI website as a member or associate member and that we should probably discuss having an agreement with FCI so that USMRA is specifically recognized. Don further discussed the possibility of having our Judges become FCI recognized.

Regarding the FCI registered dogs, Don was unable to have a meeting while at World’s with Frans due to an emergency. Several Judges did get together for a meeting, and Bernard, head of Mondioring, was very adamant that he did not want any FCI Judges judging non-FCI registered dogs. An agreement was discussed providing the possibility that with a FCI judge completed score sheet, a USMRA judge could enter the score in the dog’s scorebook. Don further discussed that USMRA is trying to work on an agreement with two breed clubs, AWMA and WDSAA, to give a “Working Privilege Listing” so that the purebred dogs can be listed by their actual breed instead of mixed breed.

There was extensive discussion about an agreement with FCI and USMRA and the consequences in both directions if USMRA was a member or wasn’t a member or had an agreement in place. This area of discussion is still unclear as far as USMRA recognition with FCI. Putting the USMRA World Team in jeopardy of not being recognized was a concern and the status of all the USMRA non-FCI registered dogs is also a concern. USMRA is working on a process to list pure

bred dogs as their true breed instead of being listed as “Mixed Breed”. True “mixed breed” dogs competing in USMRA Nationals is a huge concern as the FCI judges do not want to allow this to occur and only want purebred dogs competing. This is a concern as European Judges currently judge USMRA Nationals. USMRA will need to determine what to do in the future and address these concerns. It is noted that FCI IPO does not have the same international rule requiring an FCI registry for dogs competing in IPO.

Vice President – No report

Treasurer – PayPal total is \$3658.04 Wells Fargo \$27365.32 Total: \$31023.36

Secretary – The Dog ID card process is in place enabling the ability to track sociability testing and current rabies vaccinations.

Director at Large – No reports

Committee Reports

Judge’s Committee – Don reported that evaluations have been completed on Jake and Lisa as they Apprentice Judge during trials. David will soon begin his apprentice. There will be a continuation of a Judges College when Jos is here next week. There will be a handler and decoy seminar and a decoy certification. Jos will work with the judges Thurs evening and Friday morning. There was extensive discussion about consistency of judging such as taking points for a dog hitting the key during the long jump, some judges take points and others do not. Point deductions should be consistent with what the International Rules of Mondioring dictate. The Judge’s College training should address consistency. One problem is the Judge’s College is not mandatory so not all judges are attending the training.

There was discussion about posting of scoresheets and video of trials to assist members with learning and improving in Mondioring. Looking at scoresheets without video to correspond with the score wouldn’t be beneficial if the member couldn’t see why points were deducted.

There was discussion that if agreeing to be a Judge for USMRA, all judges should be required to attend the Judge’s College.

Decoy Committee – Discussed upping levels of 1’s to 2’s at Nationals like a type of Super Selection. Also discussed selecting the Nationals decoys for the following year. This is still in discussion with the Decoy Committee. The Committee would also like to see the best decoy from the World Super Selective as one of the decoys for Nationals.

Education Committee –

Membership Committee – No report

AWDF Update – No report

Nationals Committee – Extensive discussion about competition date and club approval for Nationals. David will discuss with the Committee to have USMRA host Nationals. There was further discussion that all clubs could contribute retrieve items, object guard items and field decorations. Purina Farms was discussed as a central location to host Nationals. Flight

embargos were discussed for those needing to fly their dogs to Nationals. Nationals Committee currently consists of David Broderick, Jake Schneider, Jake Scott, Tiffany Giessen, Tony Mooney.

David will take the option of USMRA hosting Nationals back to the Committee for discussion and approval.

International Committee –

Michon questioned whether Lisa Geller should be receiving money for attending the FMBB as this is an international event. Michon will find out from AWMA what money they paid for Lisa Geller. This will be voted on via Facebook.

The future budget for the FMBB and World Teams will need to be discussed and possibly increased since we are sending close to full teams to both events.

Unfinished Business

- **Discussion/review of Member approved Bylaw Changes**
 - The final changes for the two changes to the Bylaws will be posted on the website after November 1, 2016.
- **Discuss future survey questions to be sent to the membership for future direction of USMRA – 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 meeting**
 - The Committee needs to have a meeting to discuss what their recommendations are on continuing the Educational Grants. This will be tabled until the November meeting.
 - David reported that there are four people on the Committee. Jennifer and David felt the grant money should be allocated to something more beneficial to all members. Nina did not give an opinion and Elissa wants to keep the grants. The Committee will need to come up with a final decision.
- **Discuss Club Insurance – Should USMRA pay for membership club insurance to defray costs to make club trials more affordable? – Follow up from September meeting discussion**
 - **Discuss Sportsman's USMRA Insurance coverage**
 - Discussed that the \$75.00 is an administrative fee as the clubs already have coverage for liability insurance for spectators. Insurance does not cover participants, judges, decoys or other members, volunteers, etc. The club is not covered specifically and the land is not covered. An additional \$50.00 will add additionally insured to the liability insurance policy. Again, the club specifically is not covered under the accident policy. The liability insurance covers USMRA specifically, not the event host, property owner or participants.

- USMRA also has an accident policy that covers the members at a sanctioned event. Policy is covers up to \$100,000 per year.
 - There was discussion that a lawyer can draft a waiver for participants to sign to cover the land owner.
- **Discuss status of Standardized Trial Entry form – Discuss possible Dog Registration Card.** The Board of Directors voted via Facebook to require all dogs competing to have an approved sociability test prior to competing and to have a current rabies vaccination. There were questions from members after this was announced asking if USMRA would accept titers instead of vaccinations. It was reported that there are currently 18 states that allow for a medical exemption to a rabies vaccination by an approved veterinarian. All states have a requirement for rabies vaccinations and there are no current exemptions for titers.

It was moved by Michon, second by David that “USMRA requires that all participating dogs at USMRA sanctioned events be in compliance with state laws regarding rabies vaccinations”. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Discuss status of Non FCI Registered Dogs Competing in USMRA events – Update**
- **Purebred breeds not FCI registered**
 - **Mixed breeds**
- Discussed current status with FCI in the President’s report.
- **Discussion/action for approval to pay for the uniforms for the decoys attending the Selective at the World Championships**
- Michon will find out from Scott to see who paid for the uniforms.

Evaluate the Status of USMRA Clubs

- **Discuss/motion for approval of new clubs** – None pending

New Business

Discussion/action for approval to remove Emma Svensson as a USMRA Judge – There was discussion that Mondioring rules do not allow judges to hold judge status in two different countries. Emma is submitting to be a judge in Sweden, this is per her request and she is in good standing with USMRA. It was moved by Michon, second by Jill “per Emma’s request, to remove Emma Svensson as a USMRA judge so that she can become a judge in Sweden, her home country”. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion about prior USMRA member involved in bite incident in Italy

Don will talk with this member to get her version of the incident before any decision is made with her status in USMRA. It was reported that the bite did not break the skin of the person that got bit.

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

Announcements

Next Regular BOD Meeting – November 28, 2016 at 8:00 PM Central Time

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 2357 hours (11:57 P.M. CST)

Michon M. Mills,
USMRA Secretary

Approved (Approved as Corrected)
BOD Electronic approval

Michon M. Mills
USMRA Secretary
December 13, 2016