



## United States Mondioring Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes November 19, 2018

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Don Lee at 2004 (or 8:04 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	Vacant		

### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes –

- October minutes will be approved via Facebook

### Officer Reports

**President** – Don reported about discussions he had with Jos Helsen regarding FCI issues. Don stated that the variance will expire after the 5-year deadline. Any championship trial will need to be strictly under FCI rules. Don further discussed possibly having two podiums at Nationals to accommodate the non FCI dogs that compete.

**Vice President** – Allison reported that the Vice President will take over the duties of completing any insurance claims and submitting for insurance certificates for sanctioned events, as the BOD has a fiduciary duty to USMRA.

**Treasurer** – Michon reported the following: Wells Fargo – \$34,416.33 PayPal \$3000.00  
Total: \$37,416.33

**Secretary** – Michon reported the following: 2018 YTD numbers: 278 members and 27 clubs

**Director at Large** – No report

## **Committee Reports**

### **Judge's Committee –**

Judge's Committee Report – Ann Putegnat  
November, 2018

The Judge's Committee did not meet in October. The General Meeting of Judges was held, with all USMRA judges invited to attend. In attendance were Aida Flick, Ann Putegnat and Lisa Geller. A brief review of proposed changes to Judge's Program was given. Questions were solicited at this meeting and on Judge's Facebook page for inclusion in Judge's College with Belgian judge Jos Helsen.

The Judge's College was held in conjunction with an upcoming trial Nov. 1-4. Jos Helsen presented a detailed review of the current rules, with explanations of common mistakes made (by handlers, judges or decoys) during trials. This Judges College was attended by Dave Kroyer, Ann Putegnat and Don Lee.

In addition, Jos conducted a Handler's Seminar on Wednesday, attended by most competitors and other interested persons. Jos spent three days on the field helping handlers and decoys polish their skills.

Discussion ensued after the report from Ann was read. Don confirmed with Jos, that during the obedience phase, the positions must have 3 (level 1) 6 (level 2-3) separate position changes after the handler leaves the dog in the position determined by the judge.

Don also reported that a handler seminar was put on by Jos that included a written handout.

### **Decoy Committee –**

Don reported that Jos suggested not having 3 levels of decoys. It was further reported that Belgium has National (level 1) and International (level 2) decoys. Only their level 2 decoys can attend the Super Selective. Belgium decoys are required to have documentation in their books of a Very Good / Excellent in 5 consecutive trials before they are able to become an International decoy. This information will be passed on to the Decoy Committee.

It was reported by Michon that all decoys must sign the waiver that is in their decoy books. If the decoy does not have the waiver in their book, they will need to get a new decoy book and sign the waiver there. Any decoy not signing the waiver will be suspended from decoying at USMRA events.

### **Membership Committee –**

The Membership grant will be awarded in January for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2018 to members that have trialed during the timeframe of June-December, 2018.

**AWDF Update** – No report

## **Nationals Committee –**

Written report from Jake Scott

The hosting clubs of nationals have at this time submitted their requests for judges and foreign decoy to the judges and decoy committees respectively.

The hosting clubs have requested Cedric Haltcoeur of France as the foreign decoy.

The hosts are requesting Emma Svensson and Celso Alves as judges.

There is still yet to be a confirmed venue at this time.

**FCI Committee – No report**

**International Committee – No report**

**Election Committee – No report**

## **Unfinished Business**

- Bylaw changes for defining members pertaining to National Championship placement and non US resident members
  - Suggested Bylaw changes to discuss for presentation to the membership

## **Evaluate the Status of USMRA Clubs**

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

None to approve

## **New Business**

- Discuss and approve adding an additional member to the Decoy Committee

There was discussion about adding an additional decoy to the Decoy Committee. There were concerns that the recommended decoy was new and didn't have a lot of trial experience and may not be ready to conduct decoy certifications. Don will talk with Carlos about other options.

- Discuss possible referral to the BOI for possible Code of Conduct violation by a USMRA member towards current/past Board of Directors members

The BOD discussed submitting a complaint to the BOI for multiple code of conduct violations by a current member. The complaint will be written up and submitted to the BOI.

- Discuss USMRA Insurance claim process

Allison discussed the process for insurance claims. There was also discussion that USMRA decoys will need to be required to have their own medical insurance.

- There was discussion about expulsion from the organization for major violations of the Code of Conduct. It was further discussed that discipline in the form of expulsion should include a majority vote of the Board of Directors and the Board of Inquiry, as a group. Allowing the BOD and/or the BOI to recommend expulsion was also discussed as currently only the BOI can recommend expulsion. If the Bylaws are amended to include changes for expulsion, the Code of Conduct will need to be updated to be consistent with the Bylaws. This would need to be a change approved by the membership as described in the Bylaws.
- There was discussion that the Auditing Committee duties need to be amended in the Bylaws as an independent firm with knowledge and ability to conduct audits of a non-profit organization should be the ones conducting audits of the Organization, not USMRA members that are not auditors. This would need to be a change approved by the membership as described in the Bylaws.
- There was discussion about changing the verbiage for the Committees listed in the Bylaws to remove the maximum limits but leave the minimum limits for members. This would need to be a change approved by the membership as described in the Bylaws.
- All discussed Bylaw change suggestions will be sent to the membership via Election Buddy with the assistance of the Election Committee after the BOD election is complete.

### **Facebook Business**

October 16, 2018

David Broderick resigned from the position as USMRA Treasurer

October 16, 2018

It was moved by Michon, second by Allison to approve USRMA club status to Rocky Mountain All Sports K9. The motion carried unanimously

November 5, 2018

It was moved by Gail, second by Michon to appoint Angie Leonberger as the interim USMRA Secretary for 2019. The motion carried unanimously

### **Member's Concerns** – Any concerns that USMRA Members may have

- Will neutered male dogs be allowed to compete in USMRA

Following the rules of the FCI, male dogs which participate in Mondioring trials must have two testicles that appear normal and completely descended into the scrotum.

- Facebook monitoring by non BOD members

It was discussed that the BOD will need to continue to be the ones to monitor the Member's Only Facebook page. Non-BOD members should not be the ones moderating the page as there is not an ability to pick a neutral member. The BOD believes the members should be able to communicate without censorship, but still remain compliant with the Code of Conduct.

- There was discussion about a possible fundraising opportunity for the organization to make a rule book with the USMRA rules that would be available to members to purchase.

### **Announcements**

Next Regular BOD Meeting – December 17, 2018 at 8:00 PM Central Time

### **Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 2204 hours (10:04 P.M. CST)

Michon M. Mills  
USMRA Secretary

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

Michon M. Mills  
USMRA Secretary  
December 29, 2018