



# United States Mondioring Association

A Member of the American Working Dog Federation



## United States Mondioring Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes February 18, 2019

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Don Lee at 2004 hrs (or 08:04 P.M. CST). A quorum was present.

### Members Present

President	Donald Lee	Director	Francois Massart
Vice President	Paul Anthony	Director	Heather Ratynski
Secretary	Angelyn Leonberger	Director	Karen Shivers
Treasurer	Jake Scott		

### Special Guest

Maureen Haggerty

### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- January minutes to be approved via Facebook.

### Officer Reports

**President** - Presented by Don

Rights of Members and of Organizations, Chapter 27 *Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure 4th Ed.*

- Rights of Members
  - “Upon joining an organization, a member enters into an implicit contract with the organization. No particular procedure is necessary to establish this relationship so long as a mutual understanding as to membership is reached.”
  - “A member has the right to fair and equitable treatment from the other members of the organization.”
  - “A member also has the following fundamental rights under common parliamentary law, subject only to any specific limitations contained in the bylaws.”
- Rights of Organizations
  - “To carry out its purpose and to exercise any of the rights or authority granted it by law.”

- “To establish eligibility requirements and procedures governing the admission of members, and to grant or refuse membership according to the law and its adopted rules.”
- “To establish and to amend, through changes in its bylaws, the rights, privileges, and obligations of its members either by extension or by limitation.”
- Relationship of Individual and Organizational Rights
  - “If the rights of an individual member or a minority of members conflict with the rights of the majority of the assembly, the rights of the majority ultimately must prevail.”

If discipline is to be taken, there is a process outlined in the bylaws that must be followed.

**Vice President** - No report.

**Treasurer** - Jake reported the following: Wells Fargo – Not reported PayPal \$7,825.19  
Total: Not reported.

At the time of the meeting, neither Jake, Don or Angie had online access to the Wells Fargo account.

- Jake to pay AWDF member dues by March 1, 2019.

**Secretary** - Angie reported the following: 2019 YTD numbers: 179 members and 22 clubs.

**Director at Large** - No report.

### **Committee Reports**

**Judge’s Committee** - Report submitted by Ann Putegnat

In attendance:

Don Lee

Aida Flick

Dave Kroyer

Ann Putegnat

The Judge’s Committee met on Feb. 12 th .

The updated Judge’s Examination has been posted for review by committee members.. This exam has included components of the new Judge’s Program. An Exit exam, required in new Judge’s Program, has been posted as well.

A Grievance Policy was presented for review by Dave Kroyer. No action was taken, and the committee will continue to refine this policy.

The Judge’s College to be held at the Championships was discussed. Don will organize this. All judges are invited to attend. More information to follow.

Dave updated the committee on the Continuing Education plans. He states that a format has been determined for a quarterly online video conference with all judges with a European judge.

Details under discussion.

A date to meet with all judges has been set for March 20th .

**Decoy Committee** - Submitted by Allison Seghetti-Keheo

- Decoys will not be required to carry their own health insurance, but it is strongly encouraged. If a decoy is injured during a USMRA event, it is the responsibility of the decoy and not the organization to pay for medical treatment. The USMRA will not be responsible for treatment and is under no obligation to provide medical treatment to an injured decoy.
- Decoys will be charged a replacement fee of \$15.00 to replace a lost or damaged scorebook. The fee does not apply when a decoy needs a new scorebook because the old was filled up. It only applies to lost or damaged scorebooks. Payment will be made to USMRA. Decoy committee is requesting the treasurer track the money submitted for lost or damaged scorebooks so that money can be included in the decoy budget.
- Decoy committee is discussing whether decoys should be able to level up from a level 1 decoy to a level 2 decoy at a few trials per year, including at Nationals.
- Decoy committee is working on changing the physical test so it is in line with the physical test used in Europe and at international super selection.
- Decoy committee is working on changing the criteria regarding leveling up from level 1 to level 2 and level 2 to level 3.

**Membership Committee** - No report.

**AWDF Update** - The AWDF Championship is in Little Rock, AR March 29-31, 2019. USMRA is obligated to send a delegate at least once every other year to remain in good standing with AWDF. A delegate was able to attend the 2018 Championship so we are not required to attend this year. This year's annual meeting will be on Friday, March 29 at 1700.

**Nationals Committee** - Report submitted by Jake Scott

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The National committee has spent the last month in an advisory type roll to the 3 hosting clubs. The official .com website was launched, entry opened, and at this time there are no entries to date. There is a major concern regarding the complexity of communications with the arrangement and following this year's event we would like to discuss setting limits to the structure of hosting nationals for subsequent years.

**FCI Committee** - Report submitted by Dave Kroyer

Upon notice of the BOD decision regarding the matter of Maggie Klein's forged and altered scorebook, the FCI committee has contacted and formally submitted to AWMA the only approved team members for the 2019 FMBB team will be Francois Massart and Paul Anthony. Francois has provided documents showing the active process of updating his LOF registration to AKC in order to be compliant with USMRA policies.

**International Committee** - No report.

**Election Committee** - No report.

## Unfinished Business

- Special Guest, Maureen Haggerty, was invited to discuss her findings regarding the various insurance plans and what each entails.
  - Currently USMRA has 3 policies - directors & officers insurance, general liability insurance & accident policy.
    - Directors & Officers - protects the board members in the event of fraud or negligence. Current cost is about \$1,000 per year.
    - General Liability - protects the organization and all members in the event of fraud or negligence in the event someone were to sue. Only if something was done or said in good faith, not if malicious intent can be proven. Covers general public. Example - a pop up tent blows in the wind and hits someone in the head. Cost is about \$700 per year.
    - Accident Policy - covers injuries sustained by members. Cost is about \$1,200 per year. Maureen plans to confirm which type of Accident Policy USMRA carries.
      - There are two types of Accident Policy - excess coverage & primary coverage.
      - Excess Coverage - kicks in after primary has reached its limit. If a person does *not* have insurance, Excess Coverage acts as primary insurance.
        - If a person is injured with personal insurance, Excess Coverage would not kick in as there are no longer limits on insurance coverage.
  - Maureen compiled a list of questions that should be presented to our broker (Sportsman's) regarding each policy and what is and is not covered.
    - To confirm the information, the questions should also be presented to the representatives of each policy underwriter.
      - Liability - Hanover
      - Accident Policy - Hartford
    - The BOD agreed that it would be in the organization's best interest to have Maureen contact Sportsman's & each insurance policy underwriter with the recommended list of questions.
- Discussion was had regarding the previously passed motion to revoke Maggie Klein's 2019 FMBB application.
  - As noted in the President's report, the BOD were refreshed on relevant parts of Rights of Members and of Organizations, Chapter 27 *Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure 4th Ed.*
  - The concern was raised that the BOD was passing discipline without having followed the procedures noted in the bylaws.
    - It was discussed by Jake that revoking the application is not disciplinary action. No discipline will be taken until NARA's BOD have made their final decision regarding their scorebook issued to Maggie Klein's dog, Laura.
    - After reviewing the bylaws, Angie requested that the BOD consider rescinding the previous motion passed at the Special Meeting on February 11, 2019.

- Maggie Klein was not given time, or contacted, to fix the paperwork issues noted in the FMBB packet prior to the passing of the motion to revoke said application.
- To date, there is nothing listed in the USMRA bylaws stating that the organization cannot, or should not, issue an AWDF book. Laura has full AKC registration and 2 microchips with an owner (Maggie Klein) who is currently a USMRA member in good standing.
- One of the concerns brought up was that Laura's pedigree submitted with the FMBB packet was a Bosnian export pedigree. Angie & Karen, both AKC judges, confirmed that any dog with limited or full AKC registration does in fact have an AKC pedigree. AKC does not automatically dispense a copy of a dog's pedigree when registration is completed. There is a \$35 fee per certified hard copy.
- Don contacted Maggie on February 13, 2019 to notify her of the motion that had passed to revoke her application to FMBB.
  - A screenshot was presented by Maggie to Don & Angie regarding a conversation she had with NARA's secretary, Ari Fleischman, on updating Laura's NARA scorebook. Laura was originally registered with a PAL (Purebred Alternative Listing) number through AKC. Eventually the dog's Bosnian paperwork came through and was able to be fully registered with AKC.
    - Said screenshot was brought up to the remaining board members by Angie on February 18, 2019 during the board meeting. As requested by the board members, the screenshot was posted to the BOD Facebook page.
    - Description of screenshot in a private message between Maggie Klein & Ari Fleischman.
      - Maggie Klein - "Ok, what should I do next to update the Nara book ? Thanks" Included was an image of Laura's AKC full registration certificate.
      - Ari Fleischman's response - "Just write it in on the line below"
  - The DOB, registered name, registration number and color listed in the scorebook no longer matched the full AKC registration paperwork.
  - Don talked with the importer of Laura to better understand the timeline of the registration.
    - Laura was originally imported and trained as a bomb dog. She then went through a few handlers due to bites.
    - At the time, Maggie was working at the facility housing Laura and eventually adopted her.
    - Maggie started working with Laura and opted to get an AKC PAL number for a scorebook. The PAL date of birth was guesstimated as Maggie had not previously seen the dog's registration paperwork.
    - Maggie later reached out to the importer to see if the dog was papered. The importer confirmed that Laura did indeed

have paperwork and would track them down. Eventually the importer produced the papers to which Maggie then registered Laura with the AKC as full registration with her Bosnian paperwork.

- When Don was contacted by the AWMA, he ensured that all 2019 FMBB applicants were current USMRA members in good standing.
- Don brought up the concern of having 2 applicants, with similar issues, being treated differently. Both applicants did not have paperwork in order for world level competition according to USMRA's requirements.
  - The majority of the BOD did not agree with the recommendation to rescind the Special Meeting vote to revoke Maggie Klein's FMBB application at this time. This was due to contradictory evidence initially presented by NARA in regards to unauthorized alterations of a NARA issued scorebook. The remaining BOD would prefer to obtain a response from NARA regarding this contradiction, as well as if NARA will deem the book invalid, prior to making any further decisions, including considering a vote to reinstate Maggie Klein's application packet.
  
- Assignment of Committee Members
  - Don is still working on updating the committees for 2019.
  
- Updated liability waiver for all members.
  - Will be posted to the BOD Facebook page for review.
  
- 2019 USMRA Budget
  - To ensure the entire budget continues to be viable, Education Committee budget was lowered to \$1000.00 from \$3000.00.
  - Judge's Committee budget was lowered to \$2000.00 from \$3000.00.
  - It was moved by Jake, second by Angie to approve the 2019 USMRA Budget. The motion carried unanimously.
  
- Complaint submitted to the BOI from the 2018 BOD.
  - Confidentiality
  - Communication with accused
    - Notarized copy of complaint was received by the accused via certified mail.
    - Accused responded via email to BOD & BOI on January 27, 2019.
  - Currently awaiting BOI's findings.
  
- Discuss World's bid
  - Jake reached out to Sarah Brueske regarding Purina Farms as a potential venue - interior of the main building would fit a regulation trial field.
    - Purina Farms event planning staff is putting together a quote for the following as a baseline.
      - Entire indoor area Friday through Sunday.
      - Working dog field for a decoy selection.
      - Event center for dinner & awards ceremony.

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

- **Discuss/motion for approval of new clubs.**
  - None to approve.

## **New Business**

- Discuss policy to determine process / procedures for MR team applications prior to being sent to AWMA.
  - Don, after discussing in length with Anne Camper, suggests having USMRA members that are interested in attending FFBB championship apply through USMRA directly. USMRA should screen the applicants and forward recommendations to the AWMA.
- Discuss policy for scorebooks - who may enter information into scorebooks.
  - USMRA to work on creating a written policy, based off of the sister organizations, regarding writing in scorebooks.
    - AWMA & DVG both have policies with differences regarding who can and cannot write in the book.
    - Specifically the initial identifying page.
    - Discussion to move to Facebook.
- Sportman's Insurance - information on what our policies cover (Paul Anthony).
  - Previously discussed by Maureen.
  - Discussion to be continued.
- Discuss proposed policy for IPO teams to be represented by USMRA at the AWDF IPO National Championship Trial.
  - Dave Kroyer previously attended the IPO Championship as a representative of USMRA.
    - Due to USMRA being an all breed club, any breed would be able to attend as a representative of USMRA. Example - if the AWMA team was filled, additional Malinois would be able to attend under USMRA.
  - Discussion was had regarding if USMRA should financially support an IPO competitor.
    - The consensus was that the BOD would be willing to support the entry of dogs that currently compete, or previously competed, in Mondioring vs a dog that has not.
  - Discussion to continue.
- Karen Shivers MR OB only judge.
  - Application was sent in in accordance to the requirements for judging.
  - Discussion was had regarding what the next step is in reviewing the request to become a MR OB only judge.
    - Requested that the packet be sent to the Judge's Committee for review.

## **Facebook Business**

- February 4, 2019
  - It was moved by Jake, second by Heather to approve the updated USMRA Code of Conduct which now matches the By-Laws. Motion carried unanimously.
- January 29, 2019
  - It was moved by Angie, second by Heather to approve Joaquim Dovat as a USMRA Temporary Member through the 2019 calendar year. Motion carried unanimously.

**Member's Concerns** - Any concerns that USMRA Members may have.

- Submitted anonymously and presented by Don.
  - Is the BOD going to be checking the validity of all AKC papers for all USMRA members, or just ones they choose to check. The concern is based on is the BOD discriminating or singling out some members?
  - Discussion was had that when a member submits to be on a world team, all applications will be reviewed to ensure every detail is in order.
    - It is not viable for USMRA to check the validity of AKC paperwork. It is USMRA's job to simply ensure a packet is in order according the USMRA's world team requirements.
- Submitted to and presented by Jake.
  - A concern was brought up regarding the posting of scoresheets recently at a Texas trial.
    - A competitor competed and was unaware of their score on the first day of competition (Saturday) and they did not learn of their score until the second day (Sunday).
    - Scoresheet received on Sunday was in excess of 1 hour which is outside of the trial procedures.
    - Similar concerns have been brought up to previous boards.
      - What can we do to ensure that clubs are following trial procedures to post scores promptly?
        - Discussion was had that it should ultimately come down to the judge to ensure that sheets are posted in a timely manner. Don was the judge at the trial in question and did not remind the trial secretary that day.
        - USMRA is a growing organization and often new people are requested to volunteer in roles for their first time, particularly the role of trial secretary. This happened to be the case at the trial where there was a delay in posting scoresheets.
        - The scoresheet in question took a bit longer as discussion was required on points.

**Announcements**

Next regular BOD meeting - March 18, 2019 at 8:00 PM CST

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Angie, second by Jake to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.  
The meeting adjourned at 2216 hours (10:16 P.M. CST)

Angelyn Leonberger  
USMRA Secretary

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

Angelyn Leonberger  
USMRA Secretary  
March 18, 2019