

November 15, 2010 AWDF Conference Minutes

Meeting began 8:10pm CST

Attendance:

Pres.: Al Govednik Vice Pres.: Lyle Roetemeyer Secretary: Michelle Testa

Executive Delegates: Vera Reeves, Dyan Harper, Glenn Stephenson

Member Clubs & Delegate attendance

United States Boxer Association - Mark Chase

United Doberman Club - May Jacobson Wendy Schmidt

United Schutzhund Clubs of America - Craig Grogh

Working Riesenschnauzer Federation - Tim Nyx, Vera Reeves

North American Working Bouvier - Carol Walker

United States Mondioring Association - Augusta Farley, Ann Putegnat

American Working Malinois Association - Anne Camper

Federation American Bulldog - Rhonda Moses, Parker Barnette

Working Pit Bull Terrier Club of America - Ron Marshall, Annetta Cheek

N A Working Airedale Terrier Association - Marcia Govednik

DVG America - Carole Patterson

Working Black Russian Terrier Club of America - Patty Bartley,

Working Dutch Shepherd Association (guest status) - Les Flores

United States Rottweiler Club Absent - (Dan Williams did attempt to attend but had communication problems)

Absent from the call:

Treasurer: Sean O'Kane

Authentic Hovawarts of North America

The Society in America for the Cane Corso Italiano

North American Ring Association

President Report:

Implementation of the new FCI Rules –

President Al Govednik began by stating the new IPO rules are on hold with a possible 2010 implementation. He asked that all delegates notify their clubs.

He reminded all delegates that all FCI judge requests need to go through the AWDF Secretary.

Al spoke about the 2011 AWDF being put together by Motor City working dog – John Wiitenan and AWMA. He feels strongly that the event will be well put together and is very comfortable that John and AWMA. John W. is working with the Kentucky dept of tourism.

Vice President Report:

Lyle again reviewed the procedure for requesting an SV judge. Apparently clubs are usurping the process and it is creating an issue, The SV is now checking up with all judge requests.

Lyle asks that all clubs to please contact him and follow the rules.

Michelle made mention that this process has been discussed in at least 3 different meetings and Lyle shouldn't have to continually remind everyone. The inability of acquiring a judge may happen if clubs can't follow the procedure.

Carole Patterson asked if this was just for the SV judge request or would for example the WRSF have to go through Lyle or the AWDF for a DVG judge.

Al G. stated that this process is for SV only and all FCI judge requests must go through the AWDF Secretary.

Lyle also spoke about improving the procedure for field set up for the AWDF Championships. He suggested a qualified person from the helper committee or another judge over-see the set up to be absolutely sure it is according to the rules.

Treasurer Report – Sean sent an email with updates on the monies he was unable to make the call.

Secretary's Report October 5th TC minutes - accepted thru ballot and will be posted.

Reminder to all Club member Delegates the December 10th deadline for club submissions of declarations for consideration of the FCI IPO FH championships to be held in Croatia

Old Business

AWDF 2011 Championship update

Motor City Working Dog and AWMA are putting a venue together. It has been customary that the hosting clubs are allowed to choose 1 judge for the event and due to some circumstances with their first choice they have been asked to research another Judge for the 2011 event.

AWMA President Anne Camper is working closely with John on the event. The hotels are already arranged and the stadium choice has been made.

Update from the committee on the Judges program

Al G. would really like to move forward on a judge's college for the AWDF member clubs. He feels it is very doable and is open for suggestions.

New Business

Championship Fairness issues - Ron Marshall

Ron began stating that he appreciated Lyle's comments in his VP report. He was very concerned with the way things went last year regarding the field set up for the protection phase. He expressed the importance of making an extra effort to be sure fairness is a priority. Competitors work and extend themselves to prepare and enter the Championship and it would be a good idea to have a way to properly resolve controversy, conflicts and complaints.

Vera Reeves stated she didn't understand what Ron was talking about and if he would please explain further

Ron replied by reviewing the error made setting up the proper distances for the escape exercise at the 2010 Championships. He continued on stating there was really no one of authority to make a complaint to. Some competitors felt they couldn't voice their concerns that they would not be heard. He would like to see a clear procedure in place in support of the competitors so they do have a "place to go"

A lengthy discussion occurred and suggestions were made to have an "Over Judge" or Field Supervisor as well as defining the responsibility of the trial Secretary and Trial chairperson at the large events.

Thoughts mentioned in regards to the subject:

A) Is so inundated with paperwork when it comes to large events they may not have time to handle issues

B) Not all of these hard working people are aware of the power and responsibilities they do have as the acting Trial Secretary

C) Some may be very hesitant to act upon a complaint question a judge or competitor

Craig Groh state the Trial Secretary according to the rules is responsible for this task.

Vera Reeves and Anne Putegnatt both spoke of how this situation is handled in Europe with a supervisor or Liaison to the competitors.

Augusta Farley felt that it would be best to separate the 2 jobs.

Al G. asked that a committee be put together about the situation

Carole Patterson – will head up the committee

Ron Marshall, Dyan Harper, Michelle Testa, Mark Chase and Rhonda Moses volunteered for the committee.

Topics for the committee will be resolving miscommunications and a process for a democratic voice for the competitors.

Anne Camper & RH program

Anne presented the AWDF Board and Delegates with an outline and a resume from Bill Dotson.

Bill D. is very interested in heading up the RH program here in America. There was discussion about the RH titles program and the importance of raising awareness with the opportunities for another venue for not only sport dog handlers but with the S&R parties. Al G. reminded everyone that the AWDF already has an invitation to compete at the FCI World RH event. The conversation finished up with Al stating that he would speak with Bill Dotson in regards to his suggestions and Ideas.

Al would like another Teleconference around the 2nd week of December after the FCI meeting

Michelle T. made the motion to adjourn the meeting

Lyle R. seconded the motion

All were in favor - Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm CST