

October 5, 2010 AWDF Conference call Minutes

Meeting began @ 7:05pm CST

In attendance:

President - Albert Govednik Secretary - Michelle Testa

Executive Directors, Dyan Harper

Clubs represented by delegates

USBA - Mark Chase FedAB. Rhonda Moses, Parker Burnette USA –Craig Grogh

UDC – Wendy Schmidt, LV/DVG Amer.- Carole Patterson (late) USMRA – Augusta Farley

AWMA – Anne Camper, Christopher Smith NAWATA – Marcia Govednik

NAWBA Cory D. Hart WPBTCA Ron Marshall (late) AWBRTA Anne Marie Chaffin , Patty Bartley

NARA Erin Suggett , Kadi Thingvall

Absent: V P Lyle Roetemeyer Treas. Sean O'Kane Ex Dirs. Vera Reeves & Glenn Stephenson

Clubs absent: WRSF, USRC, WDSH, SACCI, AHNA

Guest on call: John Whitanen - 2011 AWDF Championship host

President Report

Al began the meeting congratulating the AWDF FCI team for taking 3rd at the Championship in Finland. The Europeans took a close look at our team and stating that it was the most unified group that he has had the pleasure of working with.

There were 3 bite incidents that incurred during the course of the event; one causing serious injury to another dog and one specifically during closing ceremonies. There was a heavy discussion on temperaments and temperament testing at international championships. Al G. was asked to provide some suggestions.

Due to the previous occurrences and with the check-in station set in an area amongst heavy practice/ training and competitor traffic, the AWDF team made a decision to be proactive arriving at the vet check-in station with all dogs muzzled. This caused some conversation and questions amongst attendees and officials

There was a presentation on the Nordic events that are held in countries such as Sweden, Norway, Russia, & Finland.

Types of tests- such messenger dog that has tracking and some protection.

Al G. states he will send out the reading material to the E board and Delegates.

Continuing with the review of the FCI Championship; the definition of the start and finish of a Championship beginning Jan 1, 2011 is as follows:

The event starts when the scorebook is handed in and ends with the return of the scorebook after awards. Through this entire time you governed under Championship regulations.

Criteria for Judges to Judge an FCI World Championship

Judges must have 2 yrs of judging experience plus have judged 8 national assignments

2011 FCI IPO championships will be held in Germany Sept 8-11

2011 FCI IPO FH championships will be held in Croatia in April.

New Rules for the sport effective JANUARY 1, 2011

IPO will be the only rules governing our sport removing Schutzhund and VPG

The rules contain a better summary of the exercises.

Some examples of the changes:

There will be a shortening in the number of paces in the motion exercises.

Judges are required to stay 10 meters away from the dog during tracking.

Escape exercise – handler stays with the dog on the set up;

A full grip by the dog is no longer needed on escape. The power, strength and the way that the dog prevents the escape is more important.

Vice President Report - none at this time

Treasurers Report – none at this time

Secretary's Report

Michelle made the motion that the 2010 annual meeting minutes be accepted in to record.

Dyan Harper seconded the motion.

There was no one opposed.

2010 annual meeting minutes accepted.

Old Business

Update from the committee on the Judges program

No one from the committee was present on the call.

AWDF 2011 Championship update

John W. updated the board. Plans were coming together smoothly. The community is enthusiastic about hosting the event and he is getting full support from the local clubs. Contracts are in the works.

Host Hotel: Ramada Inn - 4767 Scottsville Rd Bowling Green KY 42104

A 2nd hotel has been added.

Website is currently being developed.

Draw Night: The Corvette Museum which is 6 miles from host hotel.

<http://www.corvettemuseum.com/facilityrentals/index.shtml>

The evening will be a gathering geared to the competitors and guests with a bar and either a buffet or sit down meal.

Stadium: Greenwood High School 5065 Scottsville Rd, Bowling Green KY 42104

Tracking is grass

Al G. would like to schedule a conference call with the events committee in the near future.

New Business

Defining what is considered a "National Event" for AWDF member clubs in relation to the submission of qualified scores for consideration to the FCI team.

Al Govednik would like to come up with a criteria to define what constitutes a "national event " for AWDF member clubs. That maybe there should be a minimum number of entries.

Anne Camper asked what brought this issue into question.

Al states that some breed club nationals may only have 1 or 2 SchH /IPO level entries.

She continues: Defining what "national" is for the breed clubs under AWDF is a slippery slope. Some clubs host breed specific only (USA AWMA) and not all clubs are willing to combine with other clubs or open their event to other breeds. If you have a minimum # of entries say 10 and 10 enter and only 6 show or if most entries are at levels other than SchH/IPO3 is that still under the "definition" .She feels that at this time we are not at a state in our federation where we are at a need to create this type restriction.

Al G. asked Bill Bimrose and Michelle to comment on the proposal.

Both Bill and Michelle agree strongly that the AWDF should not govern the clubs at this level.

Bill states that if the Executive board would like to put something together that will be fair to all of the clubs, then they can. However he feels it should be up to the AWDF member clubs to state if their annual event is to be considered a "National". By governing at this level it would create too much conflict amongst the AWDF member clubs.

Michelle continued that at this time the AWDF has strong qualification requirements in place that potential teams from the member clubs must meet to even be considered on the AWDF FCI team. The submission of declarations come from the member clubs and it should be up to the member clubs to make that decision if their team has met the grade to be considered for the AWDF FCI team.

John Whitenan commented on the subject stating that it is the judge's responsibility to judge the dogs and base the point / score a team receives in accordance with the rules. The number of entries in the breed's annual event / national shouldn't matter. It is up to the judge to judge the dog on its performance.

Michelle suggested that maybe a form could be given to judges to sign at these annual/national events that is a "kind" reminder that scores attained at these annual/ national events can and will be used as submission for consideration to participate on the AWDF FCI team.

The discussion ended.

A request has been made to include the addition of the breeder of the dog entered on the AWDF Championship entry form -

A line will be added to the entry form for this information and to all catalogs in the future.

AWDF FCI – Team - Fundraiser apparel design

Al G. would like to have apparel available to help raise funds to off set costs of team travel and expenses He has asked Michelle Testa as an artist if she would design a logo of some sort for the fundraiser shirts. .

Michelle agreed to create and donate the design. She will begin working on the design over the next month or two

Announcement: Mexico recognizes Mondioring— Augusta Farley

Announcement: World Championship Team results.

Announcement: Progress toward recognizing CACIT for mondioring—Augusta Farley

Airline Traveling

Dyan Harper will be sending out forms to all club contacts to collect data in order to set AWDF up with the opportunity to attain discounts for trips to competitions and traveling with dogs.

Delegates please be mindful and assist in this process as it will benefit all the member clubs.

The data that can be submitted can include judges, seminars, competitions and number of dogs flown for over the past 2 years. Look for Dyan's email in the near future.

NARA

Erin Suggett and Kadi Tingvall were present to give a nice overview and update on the NARA organization. They now have a new Board of directors and approximately 200 members. NARA is in full support of the AWDF. They wanted AWDF member clubs to know that there is a new Ring association called ARF of which they are not endorsing.

Erin asked about some adjustments / corrections to be added to the AWDF score book. Al G. replied that she send her suggestions to Michelle our Secretary.

FEDAB

Rhonda Moses states that FEDAB is still working with NWDA but is positive. FEDAB has some new shows coming up as well.

Score book issue - AWBRTA - Anne Marie Chaffin

Submitted by Anne Marie Chaffin to the AWDF Secretary for the meeting:

The AWDF is a great organization for the working dog of all sports and venues and its strength comes from its clubs. It is important that we all work together and in a fair manner to strengthen each other. I feel that this last motion about the AWDF scorebook might be more destructive and we can all come up with another plan.

1. The SV the German Shepherd Club of Germany what I consider one of the premier German Shepherd clubs in the world allows membership and gives SV scorebooks for non GSD.
2. Other breed clubs in Germany, as an example, allow for breeds other than the GSD
3. If you are professional or your family or you personally are working two different breeds or more including GSDs, it would behoove you to leave USA and go DVG so that you pay one set of dues and one scorebook and can enter any AWDF breed club trials and AWDF Nationals; not joining the smaller breed clubs as intended.

The original intent of the AWDF Scorebook was to provide a scorebook for clubs that couldn't afford one or didn't have one. (I know I was at all those meetings and I designed the AWDF scorebook with FCI direction and input for eventual FCI approval and endorsement.)

I believe to make the individual breed clubs stronger you help them. I have hosted two Doberman Nationals, one Doberman regional, been trial secretary of many Doberman events and a temperament judge and promoted the first ZTP in America and helped a Doberman woman become a ZTP judge. I have hosted the AWDF Championships. I have hosted a Bouvier Nationals with the past President in my club. I have helped with USRC with hosting a BH trial for them in conjunction with a breed show and now hosted the first event for the BRT. I feel that this is the best way to get members and keep clubs healthy; support between all the clubs.

I would appreciate any input for the next meeting so we can arrive at an idea we all agree with. Thank you!

In closing from the President

Al Govednik would like to remind everyone that with all the club nationals, meetings and elections coming up to please keep in mind those people who have supported the AWDF and what they have done.

Al G. made the motion to close the meeting

Michelle Testa seconded the motion

Meeting adjourned 9:20 CST