Phone Conference April 11, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm.

Present: Jeff Mundorf, Bob Wagner, Anna Guthrie, Jimmy Walker, Campbell Forsyth, Steve Knipmeyer, Steven Rosvold, Steve Wight, Jennifer Quinton, Randy Mooney, Tresea Briggs

Minutes from 3/16/17 need one minor change to "online Finals." Jimmy Walker moved to approve the changed minutes; Campbell Forsyth seconded. Minutes approved.

President's Report

- Membership renewals are in, with 149 still not renewed. This is pretty normal for this time of year.
- We need to look at the Horseback classes again; we have calls in to insurers to find out what we can do.
- If we do reinstate the Horseback classes, they would be their own point earning classes, so not just another class offered to those already qualified in Open or Intermediate. Perhaps a West Coast committee to investigate this issue would be good.

Treasurer's Report

• We currently have \$34,224 in the account after an initial payment of \$10,000 to Steve Wight for Finals prep.

Old Business

- Finals
- We still need to secure our Intermediate scorers
- Other issues discussed were sponsors, the handlers' dinner, a dessert bar with auction, announcers, and vendors. Things are coming together.
- Merchandise
 - After some input from Tresea Briggs on past years' initial costs, etc., Steve Wight made a motion to invest \$3000 for merchandise; Jimmy Walker seconded, and the motion passed.
 - Tresea Briggs also mentioned handlers' bags; Sheri Wight is handling those, with more discussion of those at the next meeting.
- BAER testing at Finals
 - There will be BAER testing done at Finals, as well as blood draws for data collection for the ongoing EOAD study.
- Trademark
 - The attorney has filed a reply on this issue and thinks it will go through.

New Business

- Regional Finals
 - There was some discussion of the Midwest Region planning a Regional Finals for this spring (per the decision some months ago to encourage all regions to have their Regionals in the spring);
 - However, that would result in that one region having two Regional Finals for the same National Finals qualifying year. Some discussion ensued.
 - Jennifer Quinton mode a motion to not allow this one region to have a second Regional Finals for the same qualifying year; Anna Guthrie seconded. More discussion ensued. The vote was 8-2 in favor of the motion.

Elections

 We have a contested election for an At-Large position. Tresea Briggs asked if we could send out mail ballots (as well as a reminder to renew memberships) because of this.

Obstacles for Finals

• There was some discussion of the diagrams that were sent out of potential obstacles. There was discussion of some that had not been included but should have been (they will be added); if anyone feels any others are missing, please send them to Jeff Mundorf.

Dog sponsors

- There was some discussion of a prior suggestion to have some portion of a dog sponsor's money go directly to the handler or toward their entry.
 - It was pointed out that this would result in lowering the available money for payout, as that is what we have traditionally used dog sponsor money for.
 - It was also pointed out that the success of leaving it to individual handlers to get sponsors has been minimal at best.
 - A suggestion was made that having a calcutta before the Finals might be better. It was decided to then drop the dog sponsor program and go with the calcutta.

Top Rookie award

 There was discussion of how to determine the winner of this award. Bob Wagner suggested the highest placing person. Jimmy Walker made the motion to award a buckle to the Top Open Rookie; Campbell Forsyth seconded. The motion passed.

Next meeting will be May 9, 2017.

Jimmy Walker made the motion to adjourn; Campbell Forsyth seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.