

**Board of Directors Meeting
Phone Conference
September 21, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm by President Jeff Mundorf.

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

Steven Rosvold moved to approve the minutes from 8/22; Campbell Forsyth seconded; approved.

President's Report

- Feedback from sending out the agenda items shows it is a positive move.

Treasurer's Report

- We currently have \$34,000 in the account.

Old Business

- Director appointments
 - Steve Knipmeyer for At-Large
 - Randy Mooney for the South East
 - Campbell Forsyth moved to approve both appointments; Steven Rosvold seconded. Motion passed.
- Moving intermediate handlers up
 - Discussion continued with a lifetime points limit suggested as the best possible way to do this. There was some discussion of how many points the limit would be.
 - Discussion of handlers with multiple dogs; a lifetime limit per handler was also suggested.
 - There was some discussion of when to make this take effect.
 - Bob Wagner moved that the NCA establish criteria for requiring Intermediate handlers to move up to Open depending on points earned in the Intermediate class.
 - Cumulative lifetime points will be kept for both Intermediate teams (handler + dog) and Intermediate handlers (all dogs for a given handler).
 - Handlers will be required to move up in the qualifying year following the year in which the point limit is met.
 - Exact point limits will be decided upon at the next Board meeting. Campbell Forsyth seconded; approved.
- Regional Finals
 - Discussion of the idea to have all Regional finals sometime in the spring which would make things simpler as far as tracking points (various regional qualifying points apply to different qualifying years with the current system of Regionals falling at all times of the year).
 - Much discussion of various activities in the different regions that might make this difficult ensued: calving, seeing, haying, etc.
 - We also already have applications in for Regional finals, if we have all Regionals in spring, applicants would need to reapply.
 - Bob Wagner moved that we require all Regional Finals to fall between January 1 and National Finals, with only points earned in that qualifying year applying toward Regionals. Tom Blasdell seconded; motion passed.
- National Finals
 - We have two viable options: Afton, WY and North Platte, NE.

- There was some discussion of both sites and the amounts of work that would be required for each. It was agreed that specific dollar amounts for both potential sites are necessary to make an informed decision. Those figures should be available by the next meeting.

New Business

- A suggestion was made to shift from the individual course committees that we have used for the past several years to one small course committee that would be responsible for all courses at Finals.
 - A list of possible obstacles can be provided to handlers, along with a range of outrun, drive, and cross drive lengths so that handlers can be properly prepared.
 - This allows us the ability to change things as needed, given the cattle and other circumstances that cannot be foreseen ahead of time.
 - Jimmy Walker made the motion to adopt this new approach to course preparation for Finals; Campbell Forsyth seconded. Motion passed.
- New EOAD Study
 - There is a new study being conducted on this important issue; the University of Minnesota and the University of Finland are jointly working on this. They are currently collecting samples, and Bob Wagner could collect at trials, and would like the NCA to provide swabs for doing this.
 - There was discussion of what exactly would happen with this data (or who else might have access to it).
 - There were questions about the time frame for having an actual test, the answers to which were unknown.
 - There were also questions about those who might like to participate but may not see Bob Wagner at a trial.
 - Campbell Forsyth moved that we donate \$150 for collection of samples; Steve Knipmeyer seconded; motion carries.
- More discussion of the Facebook page which Jennifer Quinton is the admin for.
 - Our logo is not trademarked, and perhaps should be. Bob Wagner is working on the applications to get it trademarked and will get us all of the necessary info.
 - There was also some discussion of the newsletter now being made public on Facebook, where it had originally been designed as a benefit for members only. Most felt that having it public was fine.

Next meeting will be Thursday, October 13, 2016.

Jennifer Quinton moved to adjourn; Tom Blasdel seconded; meeting adjourned.