



Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.
Board of Directors
Teleconference Call
Wednesday, June 30, 2004
8:15 pm Eastern Time/ 7:15 pm Central Time

Agenda

Reading of the minutes of last meeting

- May 27-June 10, 2004 teleconference minutes (emailed separately)

President's Report (Roger Frey)

1st Vice-President's Report (Aura Dean)

2nd Vice-President's Report (Sandee Lovett)

Recording Secretary's Report (Mary Lou Cuddy)

Corresponding Secretary's Report (Robin Seaman)

Treasurer's Report (Mary L. Price)

AKC Delegate's Report (Mary W. Price)

Committee Reports

1. General Education Committee (Ann Thibault)
 - a. Request for funding of additional Internet advertising (Attachment pages 34-43 of 4/19-22/04 agenda)
2. Breeders' List Committee (Aura Dean)
 - a. Project completion: facts and figures
 - b. Accompanying flyer
3. Newf Tide Policy Committee (Aura Dean)
 - a. Update on the subscription notice
4. NCA Policy Manual (Mary Lou Roberts)
 - a. Update and clarifications on policy manual revisions
5. Ad hoc Constitution & By-Laws Revision Committee (Sandee Lovett)
 - a. Job Description (Attachment page 7)
 - b. Budget
6. Finance Committee (Kevin Gallagher)
 - a. Approval of 2005 budget (Attachment pages 8-14)

Executive Session

1. Applicants for NCA Membership (page 15)
2. Challenged application
3. Special Award (attachment page 23)

Unfinished Business

1. **To establish Newfoundland Health Clinics at National Specialties, as outlined by the Health & Longevity Committee (H&L). Said clinics to be funded by the Newfoundland Health Challenge (NHC) up to \$2,000 for a single specialist and up to \$5,000 for multiple specialists. The NHC will approve all proposed financing prior to any commitment being made by the host club. Both the host club and the NHC will reevaluate the program after each National with a report to the Board, with the possibility that in the future this type of program could be expanded to regional specialties. (Jan Boggio and Aura Dean) (discussion carried over from 4/19-22/04 meeting)**
 - a. Rationale: H&L voted in August, 2003 to support the offering of health clinics at Nationals to be sponsored by the NHC. Their proposal suggests several options for clinics such as cardiac, patella, cystinuria, thyroid, DNA, reproduction, wellness and research. The NHC (Jan Boggio, Mary Jane Spackman and Dave Helming) have endorsed this proposal.
 - b. Report on Health Clinics at Nationals (Attachment pages 67-72 of 4/19-22/04 agenda)
 - I. Majority report
 - II. Minority report
2. **Northern California's 2005 National and the 75th diamond jubilee of the NCA (Ken Price, Kevin Gallagher) (Additional material under separate cover/email)**

New Business

1. **Lack of quorum at the last two Annual Membership Meetings**
2. **Subject: Certain people at the national actively worked to prevent a quorum at the annual meeting by telling people not to attend or, if they did attend, then not to sign in. (Jack Dean)**
 - a. Discussion: At the annual meeting, NCA members have reported that certain people stood at the entrances to the Annual Meeting room and told people not to enter. They also told them if they did enter, then they should not sign in as NCA members. The stated purpose was to make sure there was not a quorum so the NCA could not hold an annual meeting.

We only needed a few members more to hold the annual meeting.

There were two important issues for NCA members to consider and vote upon: A member whose application had been denied and the election reform process.

I firmly believe that everyone has the right to dissent from Board actions and to voice their disapproval because that is the democratic process. Good things can happen from open discussion. Such action encourages the members to participate in the affairs of their club and does not effect other members who are equally free to voice their opinions.

It is vastly different to tell people not to attend or not to sign in because it effectively disfranchises members who are there because it prevents them from discussing the issues and voting.

Working to prevent issues from being discussed and decided because they fear the outcome of how the members may vote, is exceptionally undemocratic and horribly unfair.

3. Election Reform

- a. Proposal from Jack Dean (Agenda page 1-2 of 4/19-22/04 agenda and attachment pages 48-51 of 4/19-22/04 agenda)
- b. Proposal from Roger Frey and Jacqueline Brellochs (Attachment pages 52-53 of 4/19-22/04 agenda)
- c. Mary Lou Roberts moves and Mary Lou Cuddy seconds to enact Election Reform consistent with the objectives outlined in the 4/1/04 Election Reform Proposal, submitted to the NCA Board and signed by 38 NCA members, in a time frame such that these reforms can be put implemented for the 2004 NCA Election. (Attachment pages 54-58 of 4/19-22/04 agenda)

4. Establish a “Newfoundland Novelties” utilizing an existing committee such as Rescue or Rescue Prevention or forming a new committee as a service to our membership and a source of funds for the club’s activities. The artwork would be the NCA’s copyrighted logo and drawings found in our Illustrated Guide. (Jacqueline Brellochs)

5. To require the following changes in the preparation and presentation of the policy manual. (Jack Dean)

- a. The policy manual is an expensive item that has been completely reprinted every year and given to each Board member at a cost of over \$300. At the fall face-to-face meeting the matter was referred to the policy manual person but nothing has happened. Therefore, the following changes are requested to be made to the policy manual.
 - I. Distribute an electronic copy to NCA Board as little or no cost and a printed version only to those board members that request one.
 - II. Go to a loose leaf type format instead of the current hard bound format so that only changed paged need to be replaced.
 - III. Make that modification that each committee does not start on a new page so that we will save about 50 printed pages.
 - IV. Require the chair to issue quarterly summaries of proposed changes so that errors and omissions can be caught quickly and can be brought to the chair’s attention rather than wait and be faced with

a completed printed manual where you cannot tell what changes have been made.

6. Propose revision of “Committee Guidelines and Policies”, Responsibilities, (From NCA Policies and Procedures - Volume II, 3/30/00) (Jacqueline Brellochs)

- a. Committees are to be knowledgeable of the current NCA policies governing their committee’s responsibilities. New policies and policy changes proposed by a committee, and any actions in exception to policy, must first be referred to the Board for consideration and approval prior to implementation.
- b. In addition, all material - including but not limited to original or modified text, video, photos and illustrations - used to represent the NCA and/or to educate fanciers and others interested in the breed must be brought before the NCA Board prior to publication and/or distribution in any form including print publications, the NCA website, the Internet, or any other media, with the exception of *Newf Tide*.

If there has been no question or objection to the material from any Board member within one week from the time of distribution by email, or within two weeks from the date of distribution by regular mail of such material to the NCA Board, the content will be considered approved and may be published and/or distributed. If any question or objection has been raised by a Board member, the Second Vice-President will so notify the committee, and the Board will discuss, amend if necessary, and vote on approval of the proposed content at its next meeting.

7. Revisiting Working Dog Excellent Award (Jacqueline Brellochs)

- a. Background: An email reminder about the *Newf Tide* paragraph brought 29 responses of which 27 enthusiastically supported such an award, 1 was equivocal and 1 was opposed.

Major points were that this is a working breed and so engaging in working events is to be encouraged, that incentives to spur action important, that this would serve more of our membership (several mentioned they’d had their pursuit of a VN halted when their young bitch got pyometra and had to be spayed). An award which results in more people pursuing working activities with their Newfoundlands would be good for our dogs who would benefit from the additional time interacting with their owners.

A Working Dog Excellent award to require core titles from activities consonant with the heritage of the breed, i.e. Water Dog, Water Rescue Dog, Draft Dog and Companion Dog.

In addition, such an award would require two additional titles, one each from two of the following categories: NCA working tests, AKC obedience, tracking and agility.

8. **To have the NCA change its policy regarding membership applications and provide to applicants denied membership by the Board at initial stages reasons why their applications were denied. (Roger Powell)**
9. **That a member donated fund be created, to raise money, that would be used to promote the goals of the Rescue Prevention Committee and that this fund would be listed on the NCA membership renewal form. (Roger Frey)**
10. **That the Board review the Rescue Prevention Committee's proposal to create a breeder/puppy referral program as previously distributed. (Roger Frey) (Attachment pages 59-66 of 4/19-22/04 agenda)**
11. **That the following be included in the update of the National Specialty Guide. (Jan Boggio and Aura Dean)**
 - a. The Newfoundland Health Challenge (NHC) is an active NCA committee that utilizes the National Specialty (per Board policy) as the premier event to promote the goals of the NHC and to raise funds to meet these goals.
 - I. The NHC shall be assisted by the host club to set the facilities to conduct their fund raising activities. Ringside auctions (a maximum of three (3) days) shall be held in a location close to the breed ring for the purpose of conducting silent auctions and the sale of limited edition soft goods. The host club will help to facilitate the rental of tenting, tables and chairs for this function; however, the host club shall not be responsible to pay for the rental of same or provide the man-power to run the ringside auctions. The host club shall discuss these arrangements with the NHC well in advance of the National Show.
 - II. In coordination with the Fine Arts Auction conducted by the host club and the National, the NHC shall be allowed to place a minimum of three (3) pieces in the auction, with all proceeds there from to be directed to the NHC.
 - III. Rationale: This information needs to be placed in the Specialty Guide so that host clubs will know what their responsibilities are to the NHC. When these requirements are spelled out there can be no misunderstanding about the needs of the committee and the responsibility of the host club to help provide it.
12. **Propose the consideration of a set schedule of teleconferences (i.e. 3rd Tuesday or the 4th Wednesday of each month) (Roger Frey)**
13. **Input on setting the fall face-to-face meeting (Roger Frey)**
14. **Clarification of the handling of votes for approval of items in "email sessions". Recording of the same in permanent minutes. (Aura Dean)**
15. **Mary Lou Roberts moves and Sandee Lovett seconds to eliminate the practice of including lengthy rationale for motions in the published NCA Board agenda. Any rationale offered in the agenda should be limited to 25 words or less.**

Rationale: Preliminary discussion of motions should be encouraged among Board members and NCA members, but in a forum that permits examination of multiple points of view.

16. To have the NCA consider taking a position on non-refundable deposits for puppies (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 16)
17. To consider stopping the practice of “rationales” after every vote (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 16)
18. To schedule Board meetings at the National for Sunday and Monday (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 17)
19. To pay for Board members’ hotel rooms for three nights at the National (if the Board is meeting prior to the show) (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 17)
20. That the Board review the renewal form which was sent out in a format different than the one developed and approved by the Board (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 18)
21. To set policy for email meetings (Patti McDowell) (Attachment pages 18-19)
22. To determine a method so puppy buyers can verify NCA membership and health clearances (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 19)
23. Senior memberships on dues renewal form (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 19)
24. To develop policy for screening membership applicants via the AKC Stud Book’s electronic records to ascertain if they are breeders (within 5 years of application) (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 20)
25. Establish an Ad Hoc Breeders Committee (Patti McDowell)(Attachment pages 20-21)
26. To ask NCA Regional Clubs to develop a flier with club information (Patti McDowell) (Attachment pages 21-22)
27. To produce a flyer for *Newf Tide* subscription for puppy buyer packets (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 22)
28. Non-NCA awards (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 23)
29. To review the Versatility class at Nationals (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 23)

Adjournment

FYI

- 4/22/04 minutes from the Annual Meeting of the Board
- 4/19-21/04 minutes from the National face-to-face meeting (Jack Dean will email)
- To Do List
- Board Directory
- NCA Committee List