



Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.
Board of Directors Teleconference Call
Wednesday, July 28, 2004
8:00 pm Eastern Time/ 7:00 pm Central Time

Agenda

Reading of the minutes of last meeting

- June 30, July 8, & July 15, 2004 teleconference minutes (emailed separately)

President's Report (Roger Frey)

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

2nd Vice-President's Report (Santee 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. NCA Policy Manual (Mary Lou Roberts)
 - a. Update and clarifications on policy manual revisions
2. Distinguished Member (Mary Lou Roberts)

Executive Session

1. Applicants for NCA Membership (pages 9-16)

Unfinished Business

1. Northern California's 2005 National and the 75th diamond jubilee of the NCA (Ken Price, Kevin Gallagher) (Additional material under separate email)
2. Input on setting the fall face-to-face meeting (Roger Frey)
3. Proposed revision of "Committee Guidelines and Policies", additions underlined (current policy retained in its entirety; reference NCA Policy Manual Vol II. (Jacqueline Brellochs)

Committees are to be knowledgeable of current NCA policies governing their committee's responsibilities. New policies and any policy change proposed by a committee, and any other actions in exception to policy, must first be referred to the Board for consideration and approval prior to implementation. New

proposals and proposed changes in content including text, photos/illustrations, additions to or deletions from ANY official NCA publication used to represent the NCA and/or to educate fanciers and others interested in the breed must receive approval from the NCA Board prior to publication and/or distribution, whether written, video, via internet or other media, with the exception of Newf Tide.

Examples:

General Education Committee + Internet Committee on the Josh reference and puppy picture (Board was involved, as per policy).

JEC - "visual sketch" never came before Board before distribution to AKC approved and provisional judges for the breed -- Board motion was "to direct the JEC to develop the concept of a visual sketch to use for the Breed seminar presentation" (N.T. 3d qtr., 2002, p.68) 1,000 "Pocket Guides" were produced at cost of \$861.00 and postage and envelopes to send to judges and Board totaled \$335.59 (Do large purchases have to be "cleared" first? I thought so, when I ran out VN pewter pins)

Publicity Committee - AKC Gazette columns have not come before Board

4. Review the policy on making the membership list mailing labels available to members for non-commercial purposes. (Mary Lou Roberts)

In light of the number of errors and incomplete references that exist in the Policy Manual, I went back to the original minutes 5/26/89 (the date that the Policy Manual references regarding "Other NCA members may obtain list at triple the cost.")

The actual exact reference from that meeting is as follows:

"Awards Chairman Flip Young presented information on her data base. It was duly moved and seconded that NCA data bases are not available to anyone in toto unless approved by the NCA Board. Limited information may be requested by individuals at appropriate costs. The motion passed unanimously. This policy will preserve the privacy of NCA members and prevent commercial use of information

"It was duly moved and seconded that address labels from the NCA mailing list will be made available to NCA Regional Clubs and Committees for official NCA business at cost and to other NCA members at triple the cost to cover the maintenance of the data base. The motion passed unanimously."

The wording of both the minutes and the, in my opinion, incomplete listing in the Policy Manual, is somewhat ambiguous. (Note that the Policy Manual makes no reference to the motion made and carried that "data bases are not available to anyone in toto unless approved by the NCA Board.") In context, I think it is questionable if those who passed this policy even envisioned non-commercial use by individuals.

That may be a moot point, however. Whichever way we as a Board decide this, the policy on use of the membership list -- and especially in the extent to which the NCA as an organization will assist in private mailings by making labels available -- needs clarification.

5. Concerns regarding membership list use (Bob Rogers) (Attachment page 17)

New Business

6. To require the following changes in the preparation and presentation of the policy . (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 pages 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.

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.
12. Propose the consideration of a set schedule of teleconferences (i.e. 3rd Tuesday or the 4th Wednesday of each month) (Roger Frey)
13. Clarification of the handling of votes for approval of items in "email sessions". Recording of the same in permanent minutes. (Aura Dean)
14. To have the NCA consider taking a position on non-refundable deposits for puppies (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 16 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
15. To consider stopping the practice of "rationales" after every vote (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 16 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
16. To schedule Board meetings at the National for Sunday and Monday (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 17 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
17. 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 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
18. 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 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
19. To set policy for email meetings (Patti McDowell) (Attachment pages 18-19 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
20. To determine a method so puppy buyers can verify NCA membership and health clearances (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 19 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
21. Senior memberships on dues renewal form (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 19 of the 6/30/04 agenda)

22. 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 of the 6/30/04 agenda) (more attachments sent by email from Tracy Warncke on 7/20/04)
23. Establish an Ad Hoc Breeders Committee (Patti McDowell)(Attachment pages 20-21 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
24. To ask NCA Regional Clubs to develop a flier with club information (Patti McDowell) (Attachment pages 21-22 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
25. To produce a flyer for *Newf Tide* subscription for puppy buyer packets (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 22 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
26. Non-NCA awards (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 23 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
27. To review the Versatility class at Nationals (Patti McDowell) (Attachment page 23 of the 6/30/04 agenda)
28. AKC Drafting Proposal (Attachment page 18)
29. Discuss the AKC position of advertising puppies/breeders on the AKC web site and determine if NCA should communicate a position to AKC on this matter. (Mary Lou Roberts) (attachment page 19-20)
30. Voting Rationales - reasons to explain how a Board member voted to be limited to 35 words, or less. (Jacqueline Brellochs)
 - a. (Note: in word count for Nov. '03 and Feb/Mar '04 minutes, there were 48 rationales, exclusive of "dittos"; 31 of those contained 35 words or less)
31. Motion: For a definitive statement from the membership chair whether he or the NCA owns the membership database, the source code and the programs necessary to run it. (Jack Dean)
32. Motion: To reevaluate the WRDX after this summer's experience rather than wait another year. (Jack Dean)
33. Motion: To permit a handler at a WRDX test to have his dog in a safety harness if the handler chooses. (Jack Dean)
34. Motion: To require the Second Vice President, as Committee Liaison, within five days of a Board meeting to communicate with committee chairs the results of Board decisions and reflect this in the policy manual. (Jack Dean)
35. Motion: If the board directs an action to be taken and later the treasurer does not think it is a good idea, to require the treasurer to inform the board that she does not think it should be done rather than just not do it and not inform anyone. (Jack Dean)
36. Motion: To require the Finance Committee to present to the board what they, as financial experts, think is (are) the function(s) of the budget, an evaluation of how well the current process is meeting those goals, and how the process may be improved to meet those goals and be accurate and reliable. (Jack Dean)
37. Proposal to create a Public Communications Policy and Review Committee. (Mary Lou Roberts)

This committee would be made up of 3-5 members whose job it would be to establish policies for and review/approve prior to publication the content of all NCA materials that are put in front of the general public, be reviewed would include but not be limited to material generated by the General Education, Health & Longevity, and Judges Education committees; web site content

(excluding linkage and navigation instructions and information); AKC Gazette columns; and any other published materials directed by NCA committees or the Board. A primary objective is to ensure consistency in messaging and adherence to any NCA guidelines and policies.

It is suggested that this committee have a diverse make-up, consisting of at least one person who is a breeder and who is active in conformation; at least one person active in NCA working events and AKC obedience; at least one person who is familiar with health/veterinary issues; at least one person who is a member of the NCA Board; and at least one person with very strong communications and/or publications background. (Note: these skills and capabilities may overlap in more than one individual.)

Adjournment

FYI

- Letter from the North Central Newfoundland Club (Attachment pages 21-27)
- May 27 and June 10, 2004 minutes - final version (emailed earlier)
- Board Directory