



**Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Face-to-Face Meeting**  
March 27-28, 2006  
Rocky Gap Lodge  
Cumberland, Maryland

**Agenda**

**Approval of the Minutes of last meeting**

- February 23/March 9, 2006 minutes (under separate cover)

**President's Report (Roger Frey)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President's Report (Sandee Lovett)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President's Report (Mary Lou Roberts)** (Committee information under separate cover)

- Policy Manual Revision

**Recording Secretary's Report (Mary Lou Cuddy)**

**Corresponding Secretary's Report (Aura Dean)**

- Detail of correspondence received and items responded to
- AKC Life Time Achievement Awards

**Treasurer's Report (Mary L. Price)**

**AKC Delegate's Report (Mary W. Price)**

**Committee Reports**

- ***Newf Tide*** Policy:
  - A. Bid reviews for printers and awarding of contract. (details under separate cover)
  - B. Additional committee member to be appointed
- Regional Club Liaison
- Specialty Show Committee
  - A. Specialty Show Guide

**Executive Session**

- Membership Applications (attachment A)

## Unfinished Business

1. Consideration of NCA support for Newfoundlands being listed as an eligible breed for the soon-to-be proposed AKC Draft title program. (Roger Frey) (attachment H of the 2/23/06 agenda)
2. Consideration of making a donation to the Seaman Memorial Sculpture, which is being erected on the banks of the Missouri River at the Fort Mandan Historical Site in North Dakota. (Santee Lovett) (attachment G of the 2/23/06 agenda)
3. Motion: To consider including the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show, in addition to Westminster, for the stipend given to junior handlers that qualify for the Junior Showmanship competition held at these shows. The Junior Handler would need to conform to the NCA requirements needed to qualify for the stipend. This would be retroactive to the November 4-6, 2006 face-to-face meeting. (Roger Frey)

## New Business

4. Motion: That the NCA Board of Directors appoint a committee comprised of an NCA member and an officer or Board member of each regional club to further define the responsibilities of the Regional Club Liaison and to also explore how NCA and the regional clubs can assist each other.
5. Motion: Any account number and/or secure password information to information owned/managed by the NCA (e.g., web sites, databases, password-protected CDs, etc.) be held by three different people. (Mary Lou Roberts)
6. Motion: In order to educate children about responsible dog ownership, canine safety and a variety of other canine-related topics, the NCA will participate in the AKC's Canine Ambassador program. (Kathy McIver)

Rationale: Since Canine Ambassadors contribute to public education efforts by making presentations mainly to groups of children, this is an excellent means of involving more of our members in public education.

Information: AKC Canine Ambassadors are endorsed by their AKC affiliated club, receive education and outreach material from the AKC, and are approved to make presentations to schools and other local organizations about responsible dog ownership. All Canine Ambassador applicants must first be approved by an officer of their AKC affiliated club. There is no limit to the number of Ambassadors a club may have. More information about the program can be found at the AKC Public Education website:  
[http://www.akc.org/public\\_education/index.cfm](http://www.akc.org/public_education/index.cfm).
7. Motion: All dogs used in the Canine Ambassador program must currently be certified therapy dogs (Delta, TDI, Crisis Response, etc). (Kathy McIver)

Rationale:

  - Having a third party evaluate the handlers and their dogs increases the likelihood qualified teams participate in this activity.

- Dogs certified by the various therapy groups are covered under the organization's liability insurance.
- These organizations already have experience-honed guidelines and recommendations to improve the quality of the educational experience for the public.

8. Motion: The Newfoundland Club of America petition the United Kennel Club (UKC) to accept the NCA as the "official" Newfoundland breed club for the UKC. (Kathy McIver)  
 Rationale: Once accepted as an official breed club, the NCA can control the registration of Newfs with the UKC and require that dogs with AKC Limited Registrations not be given UKC full registration. Right now, there are several worst case scenarios that can easily happen with the current status quo.

- A person could purchase a Limited Registration Newf (bitch or dog) from a breeder with a contract. That person could then re-register the Newf with the UKC and start a UKC breeding program of Newfies without the breeder's consent or knowledge.
- The purchaser of the Newf could re-register the dog's name so that the breeder would have absolutely no knowledge of what is going on in that dog's life.

And, while the UKC strongly suggests good contracts, knowing your buyers, etc, if a person wanted to do the above scenarios, they could. No contract would prevent that. Essentially, a person could purchase a limited registration dog and hide it from the breeder by renaming the dogs and then start a breeding program of their own.

9. Motion: To give back to the membership some of the accumulated cash in a one year program by:

- a) Giving a rebate of a dollar a year off of the dues for each year over 10 years a person (or family) has been a continuous member of the NCA.
- b) Give a rebate of \$5.00 for each NCA member's Newf for the first water and/or draft test they enter this coming year and pay all of their entry fee if they pass that test.
- c) Subsidizing various types of health testing by paying for the tests and result registrations of NCA members if they apply in advance and agree to make the results public. There should be a limit placed of about a hundred dollars per member. (Jack Dean)

Rationale: Actions such as the above will encourage members to remain in the NCA and to show that membership has its rewards which will make the membership more valuable. By placing strict dollar limits on the program amounts you avoid one person or one group getting much more than their dues back.

10. Motion: That the NCA cover the cost of OFA input of cardiologist and cystinuria DNA results for NCA members for a one year period, beginning with the initiation of the reduced fee program negotiated with OFA and scheduled to start March 1st, 2006. (Jacqueline Brellochs)

Rationale: The program coordinator will submit a bill monthly to the NCA Treasurer who will then send a check payable to OFA for the test results being submitted.

The burden on our Database Coordinator could be significantly lightened if, in the future, the only health clearances accepted for use in NCA publications are those in the OFA database.

Note: This motion would fulfill the policy intention the Board passed November 30, 2001, as found on p. 54 of the 2005 Policy Manual.

11. Motion: Reinstate the listing of health information in either ***Newf Tide*** or the ***Annual of Titlists*** by listing the dogs that have qualified for entry into CHIC along with an explanation of what CHIC is and how to find health results on the OFA database. If the ***Annual of Titlists*** is utilized, this information is to go at the front of the publication (previous OFA listings at that back were easily overlooked after perusing all the photos + pedigrees). (Jacqueline Brellochs)
12. Motion: That RAC (and, possibly, Steering Committee) investigate what is needed for the Newfoundland Club of America to become involved in the AKC's Canine Health Information Center's new DNA repository for future research, including review of all the health concerns relevant to our breed that should be on file for potential investigation. (Jacqueline Brellochs)
13. Motion: That RAC investigate possibility of transferring or sharing of information from the elbow anomaly work done at Michigan with group reportedly working on it in California. (Jacqueline Brellochs)
14. Motion: That the Database Chair be included in the electronic file transfer of the AKC Stud Dog materials. (Aura Dean)

Rationale: In the 90s our subscription to the Stud Book went directly to the database chair. In 1998 when the database chair resigned, the Stud Book publication was sent to the rescue chair. Paper copies were to be distributed to the board and to the database chair. The database chair should be included in the electronic distribution of this file.

Database keeps careful records of the litters and cross checks a lot of the information with existing information in the database. This information is vital to the database and receipt electronically would help the job immensely.

It is probably an oversight that the database chair does not receive this information currently. The Chair's receipt of this information should not be contrary to the existing agreement with the AKC. This is merely a formal motion to be sure the information is forthcoming and the policy manual reflects this action.
15. Motion: That at any face to face meeting of the Board of Directors, the Recording Secretary be charged with the responsibility of providing to any absent Board member a copy of any and all additional information distributed to those present at the meeting. This information should be provided within ten days of the date of the completion of the meeting. This procedure should be added to the policy and procedures manual relative to the board. (Aura Dean)

16. Update on **Newf Tide** (Aura Dean)

17. Motion: To “retire” the ROM award effective 2007 and institute a new ROMH award, using the same criteria as before but with the additional requirement that, in order to receive this award, the dog/bitch must have hip, elbow, heart, and cystinuria test results posted in the OFA database. (Mary Lou Roberts)

Rationale: ROMs by definition represent many of the top-producing Newfs and, as such, it is in the best interest of all that health information be publicly available on these dogs. Although 52 ROMs have been awarded in years 2002-2005, a review of the OFA database shows the following:

1. 8 (15.38%) are not listed in the OFA database at all
2. Only 3 (5.77%) have all four of the above-listed tests posted
3. Only 12 (23.07%) have hips, elbows, and heart clearances posted

Further, the posting of information for ROMs is not improving over time; in fact, posting of test results for ROMs has decreased somewhat for the 2005 ROMs:

Year	#ROMs	# with all 4 tests	# posting hips & elbows	Total # tests posted for all ROMs	Avg # tests per dog	Notes
2002	15	1 (plus CERF & pat)	3	29	1.93	Avg w/o the CHIC dog = 1.64
2003	13	0	5	30	2.31	
2004	13	1 (plus CERF)	5	30	2.31	Avg w/o the CHIC dog = 2.08
2005	11	1 (plus CERF & pat)	4	21	1.90	Avg w/o the CHIC dog = 1.50

The position statement of the NCA, included in several publications, including the Breeders List, is as follows: “The Newfoundland Club of America considers it necessary to test all breeding stock for hips, elbows, heart, and cystinuria clearances. The NCA also strongly recommends testing, where indicated, thyroid, eyes, and patellas. The NCA endorses and encourages the use of the open registry... These open registries are information sources for current and prospective Newfoundland owners and breeders seeking health data on specific dogs. ... All prospective buyers are encouraged to utilize this information in their inquiries.”

Further, the Newfoundland flyer for puppy buyers that the NCA has posted on the AKC web site says the following: “The only valid reason for breeding is to improve the breed. A study of both dogs’ ancestries is essential as is a full evaluation of both dogs’ littermates.”

How can we expect potential Newf owners and novice breeders to access this database for information, to participate in the open registry, and to test and post results on their dogs when many of our own top producing dogs have few or no health clearances posted?

Awarding a ROM only when the results of the tests that the NCA deems “required” are posted in the open database will show that the NCA is willing to “walk the walk” instead of just “taking the talk” and will ultimately benefit our breed greatly.

18. Motion: Committee reports and updates to the Board are due the same time Board members' agenda items are due and will be included in the meeting packet from the Recording Secretary. Committee items received after the deadline will be included in the packet for the next scheduled Board meeting with the exception of issues with relatively short timelines that need to be addressed by the Board. (Jacqueline Brellochs)

Rationale: This will give Board members ample time to familiarize themselves with the material and save them from needing to print out several reports, some of which are lengthy, in the last few days before a meeting.

19. Motion: The Board, the Specialty Committee and additional NCA members with National Specialty hosting experience will meet at a designated time to evaluate and update the National Specialty week, the mandates from the National club, and the events included in such a way as to minimize timing conflicts. (Jacqueline Brellochs)

Rationale: Classes and clinics and special events get added, and remain, making for an increasingly clogged agenda and increasing load for our host clubs.

20. Motion: To establish an online "Whelping Box" on our NCA website to let those looking for a Newfoundland to find reputable breeders with puppies and/or adult Newfs available. (Jacqueline Brellochs) (attachment B)

## **Adjournment**

### **FYI**

- Letter from Bruce Karger (attachment I from 2/23/06 agenda)
- Letter from NCNC (under separate cover)