



**Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Face-to-Face Meeting**  
**Sheraton Gateway Suites – O'Hare**  
**Rosemont, Illinois**  
**November 19-21, 2010**

## **Agenda**

- 1. Reading of the minutes of last meeting**
  - Approval of the October 21, 2010 minutes
- 2. President's Report (Roger Frey)**
- 3. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President's Report (Jacqueline Brellochs)**
- 4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President's Report (Kathy McIver)**
- 5. Recording Secretary's Report (Mary Lou Cuddy)**
- 6. Corresponding Secretary's Report (Lynne Anderson-Powell)**
- 7. Treasurer's Report (Mary L. Price)**
- 8. AKC Delegate's Report (Mary W. Price)**
- 9. Committee Reports**
  - Breeders List Committee (agenda pages 4-5)
  - Electronic Publications Policy Committee (agenda page 5)
  - Governance Compliance Committee (agenda page 6-14)
  - Judges Education Committee (agenda page 14-15)
  - *Ad hoc* Newf Ambassador Committee
  - Obedience Committee (agenda pages 15-18)
  - Specialty Show Coordinating Committee (agenda page 18)
  - Steering Committee
- 10. Executive Session**
  - Approval of NCA Applicants
  - Awards Committee
  - Election Counting
  - International Liaison

## 11. Unfinished Business

- Discussion Item: Recognition of the AKC Grand Champion title (from 7/15/10 meeting)
- Discussion Item: How does the new AKC Grand Champion program fit into our club rankings? (Maredith Reggie) (from 8/19/10 meeting)
- Discussion Item: Determine procedure to award the AKC Select Dog and Bitch and the NCA Selects at the National Specialties, in addition, address the AKC Select award with Award of Merit awards at regional specialties. (from 8/19/10 meeting)

## 12. New Business

- Motion: NCA members licensed to judge Newfoundlands in their countries are automatically included on the NCA Approved Judges List for conformation. (Jacqueline Brellochs)
- Motion: The Specialty Show Coordinator, charged with updating an approved judges list every three years, shall enlist the assistance of two additional members of the Specialty Show Committee to conduct the count. Upon completion of the tabulation of those AKC judges in the top 15%, the coordinator will promptly share the following information with the committee, the NCA Board and be published in the next issue of *Newf Tide*. This information is of legitimate interest to our members who show and breed.
  - Number of NCA members who voted
  - Number of votes judges needed to qualify to be on the list
  - Number of votes each judge received(Jacqueline Brellochs)

Rationale: Board election procedures (see policy manual, p.47) provide pattern of transparency for elections conducted by the NCA.

- Motion: Pam Rubio, Lynne Anderson-Powell, Kathy McIver, John Cornell and Pam Saunders move that the 'Committee' articles be administered with respect to *Newf Tide* Policy Committee's general policy on article submissions and not as a committee report. (Lynne Anderson-Powell, John Cornell, Kathy McIver, Pam Rubio, and Pam Saunders)

Rationale: Committees, often as a part of their charge, submit articles that are informative, educational or entertaining; in addition to, or instead of, Committee reports which inform on the committee's activities.
- Motion: Refer a proposal for WRD requalifications (proposed by Lawren Coulam Kinney, Cindy Kursner, and Dawn Staffen) to the Working Dog Committee. (Maredith Reggie)

Rationale: Make provisions for individuals who wish to requalify at the WRD level but who cannot do so because the tests reach their limits with those attempting to qualify for the first time.

- Motion: Request the Working Dog Committee to review the requirements for passing performances in water test exercises. Specifically, request the Working Dog Committee to review the “Failing Performance” for each exercise to define the exercise more clearly and in a way that reflects the intent of the exercise. In addition, request the Working Dog Committee to set up procedures to follow when judges ignore these rules. (Maredith Reggie)

Rationale: The validity and integrity of our water tests is in question because of the inconsistency in the way judges adjudicate passing performances, particularly in certain exercises.

Specific examples: In the senior Take a Line/Tow a Boat exercise, there are judges that pass a dog when [a] the steward falls out of the boat reaching for the line (The steward then is towed to shore while holding on to the boat with one hand and the dog with the other.); [b] the dog swims around the boat and the rower grabs the line; [c] the steward grabs the dog and pulls it closer to the boat in order to reach the line.

These are inferred but not listed specifically under “Failing Performance,” and they are not, in the opinion of many, the intent of the exercise. The “Standard of Performance,” however, is clear: “A steward will be waiting—not stewards or steward and rower;” “dog...will come close enough (to the boat) to deliver the bumper or line to the steward in the boat;” “The steward will not leave the boat to grab the line;” etc.

In the Double Retrieve, one item under “Failing Performance” is “The handler assists the dog in marking an article by throwing objects.” Judges have been known to pass dogs when the handler has made a throwing motion without actually throwing something. Is this the intent of the exercise?
- Motion: Request the Working Dog Committee to review their evaluation procedures pertaining to observation experiences of potential judges. (Maredith Reggie)

Rationale: I am in the possession of an evaluation sent to a potential judge following an observation experience in which the provisional judge was told he/she needs to be more subjective in judging and the committee will be looking at this following his/her first judging experience. Judging should never be subjective; that is why we have rules.
- Discussion Item: AKC has confirmed that it is possible that a puppy sold with an AKC limited registration, then registered with the United Kennel Club or other registry, can then be re-registered with AKC on a full registration. (Mary Lou Cuddy)

- Discussion Item: Where is this breed headed and what can the NCA do to help to keep the breed on track? Regional Specialties now have 25-45 entries. We used to have over 100 at the same shows. What committees could be beneficial in helping the NCA raise the numbers back up and how can we do it? Discussion on majors many exhibitors cannot even get majors with out travelling hours and hours. (John Cornell)
- Request for Participation: Purina Dog Breed Library and Dog Breed Selector Tool (Roger Frey)
- Discussion item: The Board has discussed way to speed up the presentation of awards at the Annual Meeting. What can we do specifically? Who will be in charge of "enforcing" the procedures we establish? (Maredith Reggie)
- Discussion item: Review and clarify communications issues within the NCA. (Maredith Reggie)  
Rationale: There is confusion about the policy we passed at our August meeting. Numerous committee chairs have expressed confusion about this policy and Mary Lou Roberts specifically wrote a letter to which we have not replied.

### 13. Adjournment

### 14. FYI

- Board/Committee Item List
- Board Directory

### 15. Committee Reports

#### **BREEDERS LIST COMMITTEE - Action required: possible Board approval of proposal**

**From:** "jsmatsuda@comcast.net" <jsmatsuda@comcast.net>  
**To:** Kathy Mclver <cachalot54@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, October 26, 2010 1:02:23 PM  
**Subject:** Breeder's List Committee

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Hi Kathy,

Hope all is well with you & your Newfs.

Our committee would like to be in November's Agenda.

We would like to propose for the next application process to include a nominal fee of \$10 (or less) for renewals. The reasons for this fee are:

- Completed applications are sent with a check. The last process period, there were a number of breeders that did not sign and/or complete their applications. Following up with these breeders took time. We realize that there was a deadline, but there were a number of long time breeders that had not sent in their renewals.

- Some breeders said they did send in their applications.
- Breeders claim they never seen the application in Newf Tide.
- Sending a check with the application will confirm with the breeder that they did submit their renewal application.

If this is approved by the Board, we would appreciate any suggestions to explain why we are now requesting a fee for the renewals.

As always, thank you for your help & support!  
Johanna

## **ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS POLICY COMMITTEE - Action required: possible Board approval of proposal**

**From:** Marylou Zimmerman <[marylouz@marylouz.com](mailto:marylouz@marylouz.com)>

**Date:** October 5, 2010 8:58:21 AM PDT

**To:** KM McIver <[cachalot54@yahoo.com](mailto:cachalot54@yahoo.com)>

**Subject: Proposal- Article Marketing**

Background: As the parent club for the Newfoundland Dog, the NCA is a primary stakeholder in the future of the breed. One of the most important functions of the NCA is to preserve and protect the breed and one of the best ways to accomplish this is through education. The NCA holds a wealth of knowledge: animal husbandry and care, breed history, training and health are just a few of the areas with existing resources and untapped expertise within the membership. The disconnect is getting the information into the hands of those who need it. The NCA website is currently the repository of hundreds of pages of information, but many receptive audiences do not find us.

Proposal: "Article Marketing" is a strategy used to improve page rank and search engine results and to drive traffic to a website based on links integrated into keywords found in article content. The NCA should use this technique to more widely disseminate existing articles, engage the membership in creating new content and provide ancillary support to the Charitable Trust. Squiddo™ article marketing services provides a copy-protection secure environment to post articles that would contain links to resources found on the NCA sites. In addition the company displays vendor advertising in the article sidebar. Each time a visitor opens/reads and article the article owner (NCA) would receive an advertising fee.

Project Outline:

1. Sign up for Squiddo™ Service (free) and use CTMB as vehicle for receipt of referral fees (like [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)™ or Missionfish™)
2. Reformat "Newf Know-How" series to include illustration and photographs and imbedded links to keywords in the text
3. Glean additional educational articles from *Newf Tide* (obedience, water or draft training, conformation, etc.) add images and links as outlined in step 2.
4. Solicit additional articles from committees and the membership. Committees could generate lists of proposed subjects and solicit articles, possibly offering a "premium" (mug, t-shirt, etc) for authors

References: <http://www.squiddo.com/>

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## **ad hoc GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

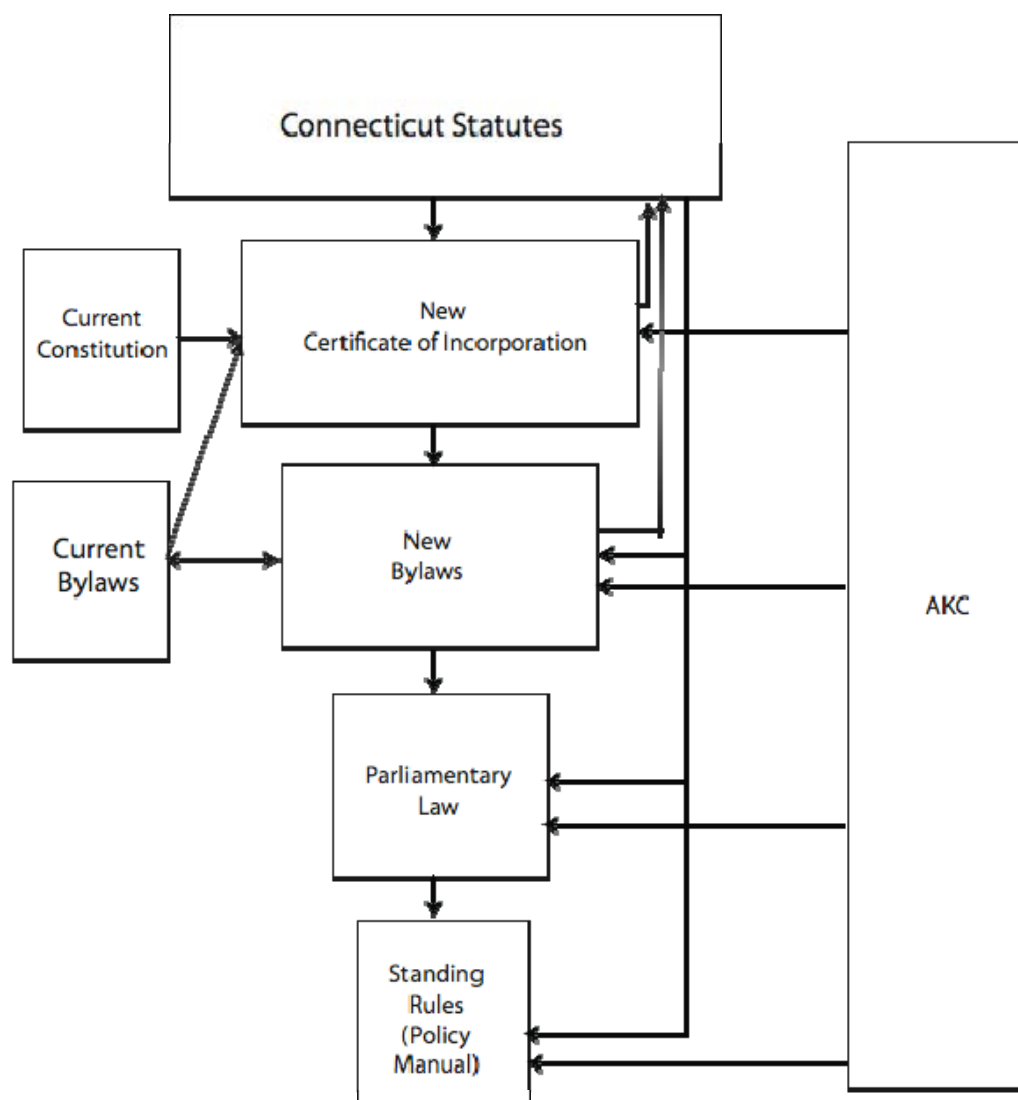
### **Interim Report of the Governance Committee**

Charge--Review the governing documents of the NCA for consistency.

The committee has had 4 teleconferences. The first goal was to determine the extent of governing documents and assemble copies of all documents for the committee. These include the Connecticut not-for-profit statutes, the current certificate of incorporation (coi), the coi described by the motion adopted by the board to separate the coi from the overall bylaws and code of ethics as described by the Connecticut not-for-profit statutes, the statutes themselves, the current and proposed bylaws, two parliamentary authorities (Roberts and Sturgis-the rationale provided below), the various guidance materials from the AKC website, the NCA Policy Manual, and the board minutes since 1997.

### **Overview of Documents and Order of Precedence**

A schematic of the documents and the relationships between them is shown in Fig 1. There are several aspects of this chart that are important to our work. First, there is a relatively straight line of precedence: State Statutes->Certificate of Incorporation (coi)->Bylaws->Parliamentary Law->Standing Rules. Each document governs where it is not inconsistent with documents above itself. When there is any conflict between documents, the higher authority document is always followed. All else being equal, we are legally bound to follow the highest priority document that speaks to any issue.



The straight line of precedence is sufficient to interpret most cases of conflict between documents and we should try to avoid contradictions between documents wherever possible. There are some exceptions, however, that may cause ambiguity and some are so broad in scope, e.g. the statutes and parliamentary law, that there are bound to be some inconsistencies. Since these sources of ambiguity are also the source of much of our flexibility in governance, they are not something that we want to eliminate, but that we must account for in governing the club.

### **Exceptions to order of precedence**

#### 1) Bylaws and Certificate of Incorporation vs Statutes

The most difficult of these, and the one for which we are most likely to need legal advice arises from the fact that, though the Certificate of Incorporation has higher precedence than the bylaws, the bylaws may or coi “override” the state statutes in many areas. In fact that is completely anticipated by the Statutes, i.e.

Sec. 33-1001. Construction of statutes. (a) Sections 33-1000 to 33-1290, inclusive, shall be so construed as to provide for a general corporate form for the conduct of lawful activities with such variations and modifications from the form so provided as

the interested parties may agree upon, subject to the interests of the state and third parties. **Whether or not a section of said sections contains the words "unless the certificate of incorporation or bylaws otherwise provide", or words of similar import, no provision of a certificate of incorporation or bylaw shall be held invalid on the ground that it is inconsistent with such section unless such section expressly prohibits variations there from, or prescribes minimum or maximum numerical requirements, or a substantial interest of the state or third parties is adversely affected thereby.**

In other words, unless specifically prohibited from doing so, most of the provisions in the Statutes can be overridden by the Certificate or the bylaws (in most cases either, but in some cases only the certificate). It does imply that it will be difficult to be confident of the legitimacy of bylaws without some attention to the statutes. The clause regarding "minimum or maximum numerical requirements" is the most difficult to interpret in specific instances. An example is Board voting requirements. According to the state statutes, board motions in general, require a majority of those present for adoption, as opposed to the usual "a majority of those present and voting". Although it is our impression that we could not override the statutes to use "a majority of those present and voting", we are not competent to make a final, legal interpretation. This will therefore appear in the committees final report as a recommendation for a legal opinion should the board wish to use the "majority of those present and voting" rule which preserves a neutral abstention.

The AKC is well aware of this aspect of State Statutes. From the AKC bylaws faq:

Most corporate statutes usually provide clubs with latitude since they refer most issues back to the bylaws. Otherwise the AKC recognizes the precedence of the state statutes over the club and the AKC documents.

## 2) Parliamentary Procedure vs higher authorities

Another area in which there are inevitable conflicts is the relationship between parliamentary law and the higher authority documents. When a parliamentary authority is adopted the following or similar language is used:

### **Parliamentary Authority**

**SECTION 1.** The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised," shall govern the club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any other special rules of order the club may adopt.

Clearly, the language proactively states that any conflicts are referred to the higher authority documents. The parliamentary authorities are so broad that they often have several inconsistencies with the higher precedent documents. This allows more specialized rules to be used where it is desired. --note special rules of order occupy a precedence below the bylaws but above standing rules. The NCA currently has no special rules of order.

## 3) Bylaws vs statutes when the bylaws are silent

Another aspect of the state statutes that is important with respect to our bylaws is that, when our coi and bylaws are silent on a topic, we are legally obliged to follow the statutes. For example, unless our bylaws (or coi) expressly prohibit proxy voting, we are obliged to allow it under the



Connecticut statutes. Also, in the absence of a parliamentary authority (or a specific rule defining how a quorum is maintained) we are obliged to follow the “once a quorum, always a quorum” rule in the statutes. In other words, the statutes provide a schematic set of rules that serve as the “default”.

Though we could depend on the statutes to provide a great deal of our governance, it is unwise to have any significant governance rules that reside in the state statutes by default. Clearly, few members could be expected to be familiar with the statutes and so would be unaware of such. If the proposed revision follows the current plan (i.e., substitute the coi for the constitution) we do not have to worry that coi provisions are also “hidden” from the membership, though in practice they may not come to mind when needed.

Again, the AKC is aware of the default nature of the rules in most State Statutes. From the AKC bylaws faq: “ There will be cases where the bylaws are silent and the statutes will prevail. “

4) Additionally, the AKC has direct approval authority of our bylaws and indirect influence on all the documents other than the Connecticut statutes (note as well that the statutes explicitly allow that membership may be contingent upon standing in a superior organization). When there is deviation between the bylaws and normal practice (or AKC sample bylaws) necessitated by the statutes, the relevant wording from the statutes should accompany the document when submitted to the AKC. There are several AKC documents delineating their requirements and suggestions and we have collected those along with all of the other documents.

## **Significance of particular documents.**

### **Parliamentary Law**

We have used this designation since neither the current nor the proposed bylaws adopt a Parliamentary authority. We strongly recommend that the proposed bylaws be amended to do this for a number of reasons.

First, whether we adopt an authority or not, we are bound by parliamentary law. There is a compelling statement of this fact in Sturgis, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, that, because of its importance, we include here at some length.

### **What organizations Must Observe Parliamentary Law**

Deliberative bodies, such as business, cultural, religious, social, fraternal, professional, educational, labor, civic, scientific, medical, and governmental organizations, are subject to the principles of common parliamentary law. **All profit and nonprofit corporations and associations and the boards, councils, commissions, and committees of government must observe parliamentary law.**

### **When Must Organizations Observe Parliamentary Law**

**The courts hold that all deliberative groups, with the exception of state, national, and international governmental bodies, must follow general parliamentary law whenever they are meeting to transact business....**

**Even a small group—for example, a finance committee or a board of education—must observe parliamentary law.** However, the procedure in such groups is usually more informal than it is in a large convention.

When a group meets for the purpose of presenting proposals, discussing them, and arriving at democratic decisions, parliamentary procedure is not only helpful but indispensable. **In all organizations the rules of procedure must be observed if the actions of the assembly are to be legal.**

All meetings must be characterized by fairness and by good faith. Trickery, **overemphasis on minor technicalities**, dilatory tactics, indulgence in personalities, and railroading threaten the spirit and practice of fairness and good faith. **If a meeting is characterized by fairness and good faith, a minor procedural error will not invalidate an action that has been taken by an organization.** But fraud, unfairness, or absence of good faith may cause a court to hold any action invalid.

Parliamentary strategy is the art of using legitimately the parliamentary principles, rules and motions to support or defeat a proposal. It includes, for example, such important factors as timing, wording of proposals, choice of supporters, selection of arguments, and manipulation of proposals by other motions. **Strategy, ethically used is constructive; however, if it involves deceit, fraud, misrepresentation, intimidation, railroading, or denial of the rights of members, it is destructive and actually illegal.**

In 1775 John Hasell, the famous British parliamentarian, wrote, "Motives ought to outweigh objections of form." **The interpretations of the courts make it clear that the intent and overall good faith of the group are of more importance than the particular detail of procedures used in a given instance.** The effectiveness and, in fact, often the existence of an organization are destroyed if its officers or members condone unfairness or lack of good faith.

Clearly, in an organization controlling a budget the size of the NCA's we are legally bound by Parliamentary Law. With our current bylaws this would amount to "common parliamentary law", a much less detailed and systematized entity than any parliamentary authority. In fact, when there are questions about parliamentary procedure, almost invariably people will refer to a specific authority, usually Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RRONR) though there are others.

One advantage of adopting an authority is the availability of a universally accepted, easily used, reference to resolve questions. A second advantage is that without having an authority in the bylaws, a great many things will default to the Connecticut Statutes--something that is obviously problematic for the membership and for most board members, i.e. members should not have to refer to the legal language of the statutes to know what their rights and obligations are.

Our committee has tried to deal with some of the past objections to RRONR. We have examined another parliamentary authority, which is designed to eliminate some of the more obscure aspects of RRO and modernize the language employed. This book, "The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure", though not used as commonly as RRO, is a well-known standard that the board might find more acceptable because of its more straightforward and simplified language. The reference was originally written by Alice Sturgis and was revised by the American Institute of Parliamentarians. We will refer to the book as "Sturgis".

Our discussions with Mike Liosis at the AKC (and the presentation at the Parent Club meeting) have made it clear that the AKC strongly favors the adoption of a parliamentary authority. We have discussed the possibility of using Sturgis with Mr. Liosis and have furnished him a copy since he was not specifically familiar with it.

Please note that both of the parliamentary authorities have language that governs their own suspension where necessary or beneficial.

## Standing rules (policy)

Standing rules as exemplified by NCA policy are also governing documents that must be consistent with the higher authority documents. They cannot override the bylaws, coi, or statutes. Lastly, it is unwise (or even illegal) to have standing rules that are inconsistent with parliamentary law (or a specific parliamentary authority when adopted). Standing rules are below the parliamentary authority in precedence.

This is proving to be a difficult aspect of our charge since we do not have an up to date policy manual. We have gotten all the board minutes from 1997 to 2010 into searchable files, but unfortunately, there are many policies alluded to in the minutes without their full text. Further, we are reluctant to put a major effort into this, duplicating the work of others on the manual. Clearly it is the currently active policies that are important to us, not the historical record. This is an important part of our job and we will need some guidance as to how to proceed.

We have spent considerable time covering two aspects of policy for which we had either recent experience among committee members or expert consultants who are familiar with current practice. These two areas are committee governance and policy regarding the conduct of board business.

Obviously committee function is critical to the work of the NCA. We invited Kathy McIver, the current 2nd vice president to discuss this with the committee. Please be aware that we are not considering the substantive organization of the committees (i.e. how should we combine or change current committees with particularly high degrees of overlapping business), but with more general aspects of policy for handling the large number of committees we have. It is perhaps not well known among the board that both RRO and Sturgis have a great deal of information on both of these topics that goes far beyond the statement of formal rules. For example, the content and organization of material passed to committees and the content of reports from committees back to the board are discussed in both authorities and it would be valuable for the NCA to refer to these discussions. The committee had open, wide-ranging discussions about current practices, the degree to which those practices fell within our charge, and what, if any, our recommendations would be. While, that report is still being formulated, we did discuss the degree to which poor communication both from the board to its committees and vice versa was responsible for difficulties NCA is now experiencing. We are recommending new guidelines for committees and for the board in its handling of committees as well as the use of "committees of the board".

There are, as well, many policy related aspects of the manner in which the board conducts its meetings and overall business that need to be reviewed with respect to the overall governance environment. We discussed, in particular, the current practices regarding board agendas and how they might be improved including the possible use of consent and priority agendas, as well as general and special orders (i.e. items that are put on future agendas by adopting motions at a meeting), manner in which board members may put items on the agenda, and the timing for closing agendas. Further, we discussed recommendations regarding how progress with individual projects is tracked and evaluated.

## **Other documents**

The current and, as yet unwritten, revised Certificate of Incorporation needs to be addressed in this endeavor since the coi has an important place in the governing hierarchy. We are not charged with actually writing the new document, but will address what the statutes stipulate must and may be included. We have also included the consistency of the current documents (coi, constitution, bylaws, standing rules) and those for which proposals for revisions now exist (current constitution,

bylaws, code of ethics). Presumably it will be important to have the discrepancies between the current and proposed documents be documented for the membership's ultimate consideration.

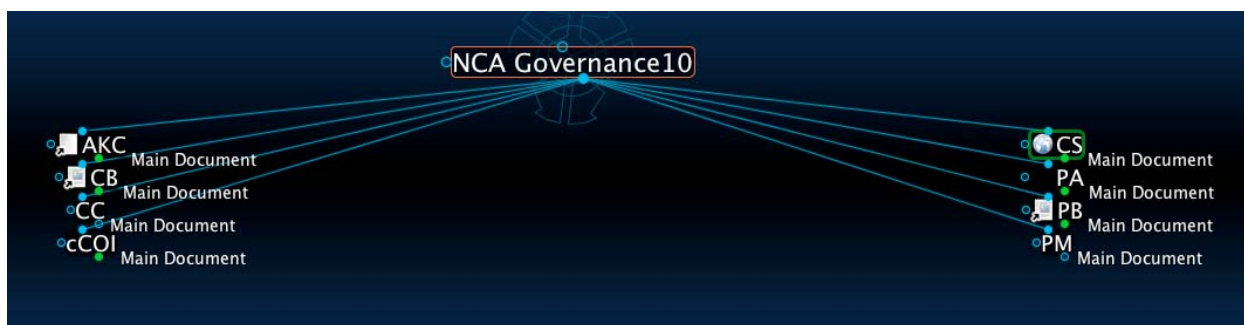
We also have not yet discussed the current or proposed Code of Ethics. Clearly this discussion only bears on the relationship between that and other governing documents, not the substance of the coe, an example being the consistency of the coe with the disciplinary provisions in the bylaws.

### **The current state of the work.**

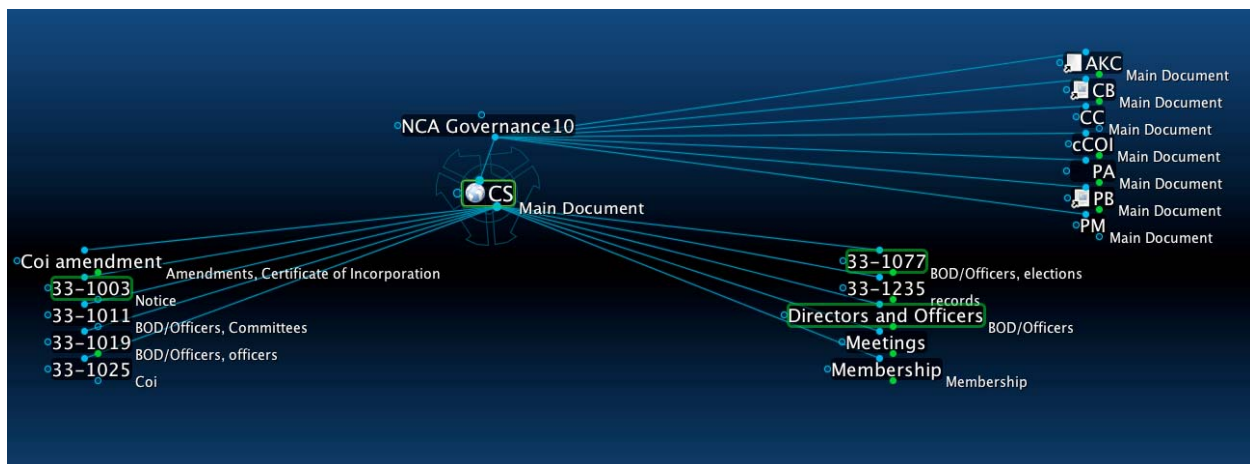
We have been organizing the information in all the governance documents into many areas of concern, some of which have considerable overlap. As you might imagine this is a prodigious undertaking since many, if not all, of the documents may have statements regarding particular topics. For example, the current and proposed bylaws, the Connecticut statutes, the AKC and the policy manual all have regulations regarding the elections--some of which are not entirely consistent. This is not at all unusual. We have identified some 34 different areas of concern, regulations for which are spread over four or five different documents.

We have investigated software to aid us in this project, one of which is extraordinarily useful: something called PersonalBrain. This is "mind mapping" type software, which allows us to organize the topics hierarchically with respect to the documents, and will then reorganize the entire file with respect to the topics themselves. We can, for example, enter a query of "elections" and it will return a systematic organization of topics from all documents regarding elections, which carry with them the actual text of the document as well as links to files and web addresses. Ignoring the standing rules for the time being, we have approximately 80% of the material transferred to this form. We believe the great benefit is obvious and that it will allow us to complete the job with some dispatch. Some example screens from this file follow:

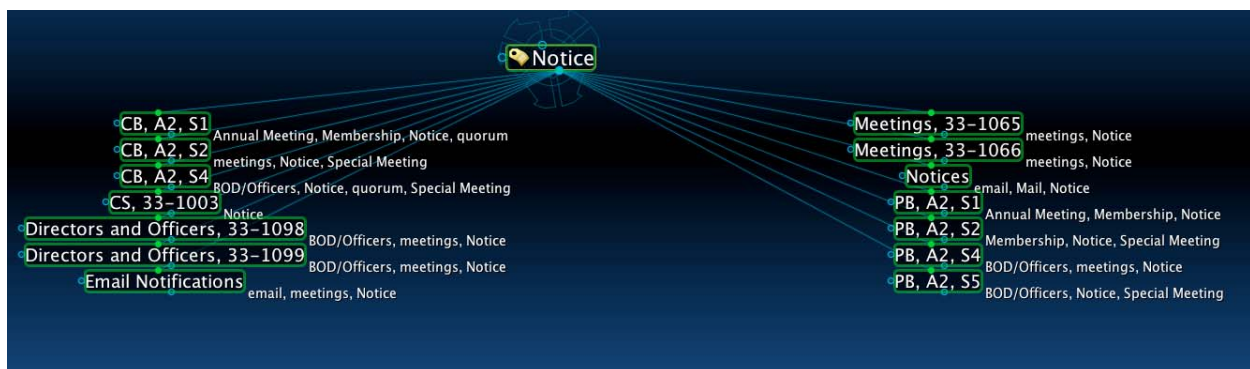
The home screen showing the roots for all the main documents, AKC, current bylaws, certificate of current constitution, certificate of incorporation, Connecticut statutes, parliamentary authority, proposed bylaws, policy manual.



Clicking on CS, Connecticut Statutes, organizes all of the subcategories of that document.



Below, the result of searching for the “Notice” tag. This includes all the sections from the current bylaws, Connecticut statutes, the Proposed bylaws, and the AKC faq. The text of each of those sections appears in a separate window you move the mouse over each item.



## Final Comments

Clearly, we are not yet done with our work, but I think we have made substantial progress. One of the most important accomplishments to date has been simple open discussion of current practices and how they relate to the governing documents. This has been very helpful in narrowing and focusing our discussion. We have included our current constitution and bylaws in our discussion for two reasons. First, changes (inconsistencies) between the current and proposed documents will have to be delineated for the membership to be able to evaluate them and second, it will be some time before the new documents can go through all of the procedures (e.g. AKC evaluation) leading to their adoption.

As a result of our work to this point, we have agreed to several recommendations. The wording for these recommendations is still being developed, though the substance had been agreed to. We believe these to be important to bring the NCA’s procedures into line with a coherent set of governing documents.

- a) that the NCA adopt a parliamentary authority in the new bylaws
- b) that new protocols for committee work, both from the board and from the committee perspectives, be developed
- c) that procedures regarding the development of agendas be brought up to date
- d) that new procedures for tracking progress on projects be formulated

November 8, 2010

Patrick Randall, Chair

Kevin Gallagher

David Helming

Pam Saunders

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**JUDGES EDUCATION COMMITTEE - Action required - Board answers to committee questions**

**From:** CastaNewf <castanewf@shaw.ca>

**To:** KM <cachalot54@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Tue, October 19, 2010 6:43:45 PM

**Subject:** RE: Referrals to JEC

Hi Kathy,

Below is the response from the JEC:

Discussion items from the NCA Board:

Request the Judges Education Committee to develop a code of ethics for mentors which will lessen the appearance of a conflict of interest. Following aspects to be included (but not limited to):

1. Seminars be hosted by one JEC member and at least two breed mentors.
2. Make audio tapes of all seminars and make them available to members.
3. Restrict professional handlers from unassisted mentoring of judges and from choosing the dogs that will be used in seminars.
4. Preventing mentors from showing to any judge that they have mentored within the last 12 months.

The JEC met by teleconference on September 27, 2010 on the above. All members were in attendance with regrets from Ingrid Lyden and Sue Jones.

The consensus of the committee was to ask the Board why they felt the need for a JEC code of ethics. If the Board feels there is a conflict of interest then documentation should be provided to the JEC so that the committee can deal with it.

To address some of the noted aspects above:

1. Seminars are hosted by at least one, (usually two) JEC members. Mentors in the geographical area of the seminar are invited to attend and assist though this is not always possible.
2. Roger Frey made a motion which was seconded by Peggy Helming that regarding recording of seminars the JEC felt this was unnecessary and difficult. Vote in favour was unanimous. It should also be pointed out that every NCA member now has a CD of material (script and photos) of what the JEC presents to judges at our breed seminar.

Along with the illustrated guide, which every NCA member has, this covers what we present to judges.

3. If the Board is referring to professional handlers who are breed mentors and/or JEC members, why should professional handlers be singled out? JEC members and/or mentors are just that – they are qualified to mentor judges and are certainly qualified to select dogs for hands on in seminars. The JEC has its own internal policy of not using any dog that is currently being campaigned in its seminars.
4. The JEC felt this would prevent all breed mentors from mentoring judges. It would also be a logistical nightmare to manage and police.

Again, the JEC asks why the Board feels there is such a need to monitor this committee. It would be most appreciated if the Board actually showed some support of this committee. Every member of the JEC is board appointed which should eliminate the need for any of the discussion items. If there have been complaints, the Board should bring this to the attention of this committee.

To the last item:

**"Request to the JEC that the committee encourage seminar presenters to point out to participants that deep flews and long upper lips are not a part of our approved standard for the breed." Etc. (Jacqueline Brellocks)**

The JEC would like to point out that the illustrated guide addresses excessive flews and has a very defined picture of excessive flews. The illustrated guide is handed out to every judge in attendance at our breed seminars. Board members are encouraged to read the Illustrated Guide and attend JEC seminars."

Denise  
NCA JEC Chairperson

Denise & Marc Castonguay  
CastaNewf Kennels  
[www.castanewf.com](http://www.castanewf.com)

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### **OBEDIENCE COMMITTEE - Action required: review of initial request regarding recognizing the new AKC awards**

Hi Kathy, There are 4 new titles not counting the progressive numbered ones 2, 3, 4 etc.

In my opinion these 3 new titles are a bridge to the traditional titles, something to get the dog and handler into competing. Some of the exercises are methods of training the dog to do the exercises for the CD, CDX or UD. If you are training for these bridge (my word) titles you may as well be competing for the CD, CDX or UD. However, I can only speak for myself, who knows how many Newf owners will choose to use these training methods for a title.

Versatility is long and I will send it in a 2nd email.

Joyce

**Beginner Novice A & B – BN 3 legs needed.**

Heel on leash, Figure 8, Sit for Exam, Sit Stay, Recall

**Graduate Novice - GN** 3 legs needed.

Heel on leash & Figure 8 off leash, Drop on Recall,

Dumbbell Recall - The judge's orders are: "Give your dog the dumbbell," "Leave your dog," "Call your dog," "Take it" and "Finish.",

Recall over High Jump - Orders are: "Leave your dog," "Call your dog," and "Finish." The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at least 8 feet from the jump. When the judge orders, "Leave your dog," the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay, go at least 8 feet beyond the other side of the high jump, and turn and face the dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump the dog will come front then finish.,

Recall over Broad Jump - The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at least 8 feet from the jump, facing the lowest hurdle. When the judge orders, "Leave your dog," the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay, go at least 8 feet beyond the last hurdle, and turn and face the dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump the dog will come front then finish.,

Long Down

**Graduate Open - GO** 3 legs needed.

Signal Exercise - The exercise and scoring will be the same as in the Utility Signal exercise, except that leaving the dog will be from 10 to 20 feet and the handler may give the command and/or signal on the judge's order to stand and the judge's signals to stay, down, sit, come and finish.

Scent Discrimination - The exercise and scoring will be the same as in the Utility Scent Discrimination exercise except that there will only be four articles (two leather and two metal), the handler and dog will remain facing the articles, and only one article will be retrieved. It is the handler's discretion as to which article is retrieved.

Directed Retrieve - The exercise and scoring will be performed as the Utility Directed Retrieve exercise, except that no center glove is used.

Moving Stand & Exam - The exercise and scoring will be the same as in the Utility Moving Stand and Examination, except that the handler may pause or hesitate when giving the command and/or signal to stand.

Go Out - The handler will stand in the approximate center of the ring between the jumps facing the unobstructed end of the ring. The judge will order "Send your dog," and the handler will command and/or signal the dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet past the jumps in the approximate center of the ring. When the dog reaches this point, the handler will give a command to sit. The dog must stop and sit with its attention on the handler, but it need not sit squarely. The judge will then order the handler, "Return to your dog," and the handler will return to the heel position.

Directed Jumping - The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at the



unobstructed end and in the center of the ring. The judge will order "Leave your dog," and the handler will walk to the far end of the ring and turn to face the dog. The judge will order either "Bar" or "High" for the jump, and the handler will command and/or signal the dog to return to the handler over that designated jump. The rest of the exercise is front/finish.

**From:** St8ofNewfs <st8ofnewfs@yahoo.com>  
**To:** KM <cachalot54@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wed, November 3, 2010 10:24:56 AM  
**Subject:** Re: BOD meeting - New Title Info VER

I forgot to mention that BN, GN and GO from what I can figure out from the rulebook have no prerequisite requirements; anyone can enter them whether they have an OTCH or no title at all. That seems a little odd to me but maybe I'm missing something.

Here is the info on the new Versatility Title. I think this is a worthy title, something the team really has to earn and whether we give a pin for it or not I am excited about it and will be competing in it - because I love obedience and working with my dog and this is not the same old thing over and over especially if you are stuck in one class for awhile - but I think others will too. The VER is similar to the traditional titles, there are no shortcuts and none of the exercises are like doing a training session. I am looking forward to competing at this level. I can no longer compete in Novice with my dog because she has an Open leg but I did put her in Novice a couple of times (AKC took our scores away and scolded me) and she Loved it!! She is really bored with Open so I hope this new VER class will bring back her joy and enthusiasm for obedience.

This title will keep a dog and handler working and a bored dog engaged in something new. It mixes the exercises up and you never know what you'll be doing until you get there. It pushes the team forward without treating them like a novice. Any team can compete at this level there is no prerequisite i.e. CD before CDX or CDX before UD.

**Versatility Title - VER** 3 legs needed. Six exercises will be performed: two each from the Novice, Open and Utility classes. There will be no group exercises. The combination and order will not be disclosed to exhibitors until it is posted at the ring, approximately 45 minutes prior to the start of the class. Judges are required to alternate the combinations so that each will be used approximately the same number of times. There are 12 different combinations which I have listed below.

V1- Stand for Exam, Recall, Drop on Recall, Broad Jump, Signal Exercise, Directed Retrieve

V2- Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, Recall, Retrieve on Flat, Broad Jump, Moving Stand and Exam, Directed Retrieve

V3- Stand for Exam, Recall, Drop on Recall, Retrieve Over High Jump, Signal Exercise, Directed Jumping

V4- Novice Heel Free, Recall, Retrieve on Flat, Retrieve Over High Jump, Moving Stand and Exam, Directed Jumping

V5- Stand for Exam, Recall, Heel Free and Figure Eight, Retrieve on Flat, Scent Discrimination, Directed Jumping

V6- Stand for Exam, Recall, Figure Eight and Heel Free, Retrieve Over High Jump, Directed

Retrieve, Directed Jumping

V7- Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, Stand for Exam, Drop on Recall, Retrieve Over High Jump, Scent Discrimination, Directed Retrieve

V8- Stand for Exam, Recall, Retrieve on Flat, Broad Jump, Signal Exercise, Moving Stand and Exam

V9- Novice Heel Free, Stand for Exam, Drop on Recall, Broad Jump, Scent Discrimination, Moving Stand and Exam

V10- Stand for Exam, Recall, Figure Eight and Heel Free, Retrieve on Flat, Scent Discrimination, Directed Jumping

V11- Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, Recall, Retrieve Over High Jump, Broad Jump, Scent Discrimination, Directed Retrieve

V12- Novice Heel Free, Stand for Exam, Drop on Recall, Broad Jump, Moving Stand and Exam, Directed Retrieve

Now doesn't that sound like fun??!! LOL Thanks Kathy for the opportunity to share my opinions with the board. I look forward to hearing from you after the next meeting.

Joyce

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**SPECIALTY SHOW COORDINATING COMMITTEE - Action required: how does the BOD wish to proceed?**

**From:** "RSeaman985@aol.com" <RSeaman985@aol.com>

**To:** cachalotmailbox-ncabod@yahoo.com

**Sent:** Tue, November 2, 2010 7:52:57 AM

**Subject:** Re: Waseeka Kennels

Hi Kathy:

It is not that we cannot honour Mrs. Loring Powers or Waseeka Kennels. The AKC will not allow any more perpetual trophies to be given. If we wanted to give a trophy every year in honour of her or in her memory we could do that. It just cannot be a perpetual trophy like we do with some of the classes. It would probably need to be Lennox to keep the cost down every year or something else if that is what the Board would like.

Robin