



Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.

Board of Directors

March 15, 2012

8:00 pm Eastern Time/ 7:00 pm Central Time

Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes of last meeting
2. President's Report (Pat Randall)
3. 1st Vice-President's Report (Roger Frey)
4. 2nd Vice-President's Report (Pam Saunders)
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
 - Regional Club Committee
 - Marketing NCA membership to regional clubs
 - Percentages of NCA members in regional clubs
 - Newf Tide Policy Committee
 - Inclusion of new AKC Therapy Dog title in *Annual of Titlists*
 - Rescue Prevention Committee
 - Newf information cards
 - Rescue Data Award
 - Regional Club Liaison
 - Approval of changes to the Constitution & Bylaws of the Newfoundland Club of New England
 - Publicity Committee
 - Referral to committee of listing in the Canine Review Directory
 - Health & Longevity Committee
 - Revision of NCA health testing statement
 - Awards Committee
 - Changes in way AKC distributes awards information
10. Executive Session
 - Approval of NCA Applicants

- Nominating Committee
 - Choose alternate to move up
- Recognition Committee
 - Committee vacancy
 - Request for extension for *Annual of Titlists*
- Steering Committee
 - Committee vacancies
- Newf Ambassador Committee
 - Appoint new committee members
- Rescue Prevention Committee
 - Appoint new committee members
- Working Dog Committee
 - Appoint new committee members

11. Unfinished Business

- Correspondence regarding the NCA Database and the Annual of Titlists. (from 2/16/12 meeting)

12. New Business

- Motion: Newfoundlands who have reached their 14th birthday should be recognized by the NCA. (Kathy McIver)
 Rationale: Based on personal experience, I think the age should be lowered to 13. Any NCA member lucky enough to have a Newf reached such a grand old age should have the pleasure of receiving a certificate and having their dog's name printed in Newf Tide.
- Discussion Item: Discussion of the need for a Finance / Project Advisory Committee or the revival of the old Finance Committee. (Pam Saunders)
- Discussion Item: While attending the recent Detroit Kennel Club Benched Show long time NCA member Rita Van Brandeghan expressed to me that in two of the four dog clubs that she is a member of, upon election to membership in the clubs, issue lapel pins to their members. If the NCA did something like this, it could be a source of pride to all members. Is it feasible to do this in the upcoming membership renewal cycle for all NCA members, and thus, continue the practice for all newly elected members afterward. (Steve Britton)

13. Adjournment

14. FYI

- Board/Committee Item List
- Board Directory

COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

Regional Club Committee:

Initial Draft

Report of the RCC

The Regional Club Committee met on January 9th to discuss the items referred to it by the Board of Directors.

RCC member Chris Plum explained that it was the original intent of the Steering Committee that it would be a "good idea" if a member of a regional club who is also a member of the NCA, voluntarily agreed to speak to their regional club members who are not NCA members. The conversation was intended to be regarding benefits of becoming an NCA member.

Member Plum also stated it was not the intent of the Steering Committee that the NCA identify non-member individuals for an individual email campaign.

Without objection, the RCC felt that this sort of a program should only use information submitted by a particular individual regional club when the particular regional club gives its permission.

Without objection, it was noted that a more comprehensive marketing plan directed toward regional clubs and their members would be beneficial. The plan could include existing materials available on the NCA website ("This is your NCA," etc.). However, some of these materials are not current and are in need of some revision. The committee felt this could be something referred to another NCA committee.

Without objection, a rough draft of a portion of a marketing plan was given preliminary endorsement by the committee, with final endorsement forthcoming prior to reporting to the board. It was presented that portions of the plan could be distributed by the e-notes publication.

Also, attached is the partial information requested by the Board of Directors.

Listed below is the Membership list information update as of today.

Thank you to everyone that has providing information, thus far, and I hope to receive addition information in the near future.

Steve

Bear Mountain Newfoundland Club 51 of 136 are NCA members (38 %)

Colonial Newfoundland Club 79 of 211 *** (37%)

Columbia River Newfoundland Club

Genesee Region Newfoundland Club 17 of 31 *** (47 %)

Great Lakes Newfoundland Club 75 of 159 *** (47 %)

Heart of America Newfoundland Club

High Country Newfoundland Club 41 of 89 *** (46 %)

Mesquite Newfoundland Club

New England Newfoundland Club 115 of 427 *** (27 %)

New Pen Del Newfoundland Club 156 of 256 *** (60%) (0 long time)

NewfoundlandClub of Florida

NewfoundlandClub of Seattle 58 of 111 *** (52 %)

NewfoundlandClub of San Diego 27 of 72 *** (38 %)

North Central Newfoundland Club

Northern California Newfoundland Club* 45 of 46 *** (98 %) (113 Assoc.Memb.)*

Northland Newfoundland Club 30 of 99 *** (30 %) (3 long time)

Old West Newfoundland Club 52 of 124 *** (42 %)

Pacific Northwest Newfoundland Club

Penn-Ohio Newfoundland Club**

River King Newfoundland Club**

South Central Newfoundland Club 40 of 80 *** (50%)

Southern California Newfoundland Club 31 of 126 *** (24%)

Southeastern NewfoundlandClub

*Associate Non-Voting Members ** no RCC representative

Newf Tide Policy Committee:

The NTP wishes to have board authorization to include the new AKC therapy title in the Annual. This new title is consistent with the Annual's inclusion paragraph: "to be eligible for this ANNUAL, a Newfoundland must have earned either an AKC or NCA title during the year (for that specific Annual).

We seek this authorization as a formality.

Thank you,

Aura Dean, Chair
Members Ken Wildman, Beth Sell,
Jeannette Voss, Julie Siefert, Patti
Emmerling & Meredith Reggie, editor

Rescue Prevention Committee:

Background: One of the ideas that RPC has discussed over the past year has been the printing of informational cards on Newfs, to be distributed to regional clubs at their request for members to hand out in any situation where someone takes an interest in the breed, such as dog events or while walking their dogs, etc. Each of us have been in situations where people approach and want to visit about the breed. Whether you are trying to prepare your Newf for the ring, exercising your Newf or participating in any event, it would be convenient to be able to offer a card to those who are interested in the breed providing them with some resources for further learning opportunities. A member could add their name and number to the card if they were willing to accept a call at a later time. By using attractive artwork and providing something tangible, we hope that the information is less likely to get lost or be thrown out before someone follows up by looking at the information resources.

Cissy Sullivan has agreed to do the artwork for the card, with the cover and information sources listed on the back side of the card as in the attached file. FedEx has a nationwide printing service, which would allow us to upload the card configuration and print at most cities in the U. S. where regional clubs would be able to collect the order. The cost for a matte finish is \$30 for 250 cards or \$40 for 500 cards plus tax.

Proposal: At this time, we are seeking approval of the concept, and would present the final card for Board approval following Cissy's work. We would then propose that RPC make the cards available for printing for all NCA regional clubs, as an RPC budget item, with no cost to the regional clubs.

This proposal is unanimously supported within the committee, as it serves our purpose by placing information resources within the hands of new buyers or prospective new buyers that will allow them the opportunity to make better choices.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Zink
RPC Chair

What is a Newfoundland?

There is no short answer to this question! However, the Newfoundland Club of America web site contains volumes of information on the breed, its purpose and its history, health issues, the needs for training and care, and the list goes on. Please visit:

<http://www.ncanewfs.org/>

Looking for a Newfoundland?

There is a lot of information on the internet these days, some of it good and some of it less than accurate. Here is a good resource to help you prepare:

<http://www.newfpuppy.com/>

Interested in Rescue?

Open <http://www.ncanewfs.org> and choose "**NCA Rescue Network**" from the left-hand menu

Is there a regional club in your area?

Becoming acquainted with a regional club will provide many opportunities to learn more about the breed, train with other Newf owners and participate in Newf-related events in your area. Choose "**Regional Clubs**" from the top menu options, then choose "Contact a local regional club" to display a map of regional club locations.

What can you do with your Newfoundland?

Look for "**Working Dogs**" in the left menu to learn more about activities to do with your Newf.

Would you like more information?

Please use the **Contacts** link from the main menu and select an option that fits your interest. Also, there is a quarterly publication, the *Newf Tide*, available by subscription under "**Publications**" from the top menu options. This publication is filled with information and photos!

Following is our second proposal, for a Rescue Data Award:

Background: Trends in Rescue data provide significant information for RPC. This information helps identify relationships between increases in Newfs relinquished and concurrent issues, which helps us allocate our committee resources to better impact those issues. However, it has not been easy to obtain data on a regular basis. Since Rescue groups are very interested in funding sources for their operations, and we need the data, preferably submitted through the Rescue Sharepoint site so the data is in an easily combinable and usable format, we would like to offer a cash award to encourage participation. We feel that this is a good "recirculation" of the donated funds provided to RPC, since this in turn goes toward the operating expenses of the regional Rescue operations.

Proposal for award:

RPC would like to offer the following cash awards:

1. \$100 for the regional Rescue group who is first to submit their data after the end of each year, based upon timestamp of receipt.
2. \$100 and \$50 to the first and second group whose name is drawn from those Rescue groups who submit their data using the Rescue Sharepoint site. The first award would not preclude the possibility of the second award, so that one regional Rescue group could win \$200 or \$150 total.

These funds would be made available for the operating expenses of these Rescue groups.

The data on Rescue trends would be published in a summary format in *Newf Tide*. We would propose that this award begin with the 2011 calendar year, and that the timeline for submission be set for April 1 as the earliest submission date and April 15, 2012 for the last date to participate. For future calendar years, the competition date for earliest submission would begin on Jan. 1 of each year, and the last date for participation would be Feb. 15 of each year. Drawings would be done within one week of the close of participation and the winners published in the NCA eNotes and in the following issue of *Newf Tide*.

Announcements and reminders would be issued to the Regional Club Committee Chair, the Rescue Chair and Co-Chair, and to the list of Rescue chairs as published on the NCA web site during the first week of December. These notices would also be published in NCA eNotes and on the NCA discussion list.

This proposal is unanimously supported within the committee, as it serves our purpose by gathering information which will allow us to better allocate our committee resources and to focus on those issues which result in increased rates of relinquishment of ownership.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Zink
RPC Chair

Regional Club Liaison:

NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

CONSTITUTION

Article I

SECTION 1. Name. The name of the club shall be Newfoundland Club of New England, Inc., which shall hereafter be referred to as the Club. The name may be abbreviated NCNE.

SECTION 2. Objectives. The objectives of the Club shall be:

(a) To encourage and promote the understanding and appreciation of purebred Newfoundland Dogs and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection;

(b) To urge members, breeders, and others to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which Newfoundland Dogs shall be judged;

(c) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed;

(d) To encourage sportsmanlike conduct at all events in which Newfoundland Dogs participate;

(e) To conduct sanctioned match shows, specialty shows, obedience trials, tracking tests and other events under the rules of the American Kennel Club if and when permission is granted by the American Kennel Club;

(f) To promote the special qualities of the breed by sponsoring working dog activities under the rules of the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.;

(g) To urge all members to abide by the NCNE Ethics Guide as a guideline for responsible Newfoundland ownership.

SECTION 3. Nonprofit Status. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit, and no Club asset or remainder or residue from dues, fundraising activities, or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

SECTION 4. By-Laws. The members of the Club shall adopt and may from time to time revise such By-Laws as may be required to carry out these objectives.

NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I
Membership

SECTION 1. Eligibility. There shall be four (4) types of membership open to persons who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc., and who subscribe to the purposes of the Constitution of the Newfoundland Club of New England, Inc. (hereafter referred to as the Club):

(a) Individual Membership. Open to individuals 18 years of age or older. Individual members (referred to hereafter as members or membership) shall enjoy all privileges described within these By-Laws and receive all Club publications.

(b) Family Membership. Open to members of the same household. Two (2) members from the same household who are 18 years of age or older shall have all the privileges of Individual Membership, but will receive only one (1) copy of Club publications.

(c) Junior Membership. Open to individuals under the age of 18 years of age. Junior Members shall have all of the privileges of Individual Membership except for the rights to vote or hold office. Upon reaching his 18th birthday, a Junior Member may convert to an Individual Membership by notifying the Secretary.

(d) Honorary Life Membership. For members or former members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Breed and/or to the Club. They shall have all the privileges of Individual Membership including the rights to vote and hold office.

SECTION 2. Dues. Membership dues for members shall be determined by a majority vote of the full Board of Directors. In any year in which the Board has not acted by October 1st to change the amount, dues for the ensuing year shall be at the current level. Honorary Life members are exempt from dues.

Dues are payable on or before the 1st day of January of each year. In November of the prior year, the Board shall notify each member of dues for the ensuing year. Such notice may be included in a Club publication. The Board shall mail to each member whose dues have not been paid by February 1st of the current membership year a notice that his dues are in arrears. Honorary Life members shall receive a notice as a method of keeping data current.

SECTION 3. Election to Membership. Each applicant for membership shall apply on a form approved by the Board of Directors which shall provide that the applicant agrees to abide by the Club's Constitution, By-Laws and the rules of the American Kennel Club (AKC). The application shall carry the endorsement of one (1) member in good standing. Along with the application, the prospective member shall submit the dues payment for the current year. The Board may also establish and set the amount of an initiation fee.

The applicant's name and sponsor's name shall be published in a Club publication following receipt of the completed application. Any comments received by the Secretary within thirty (30) days of publication shall be included in the material distributed to Board members prior to final consideration by the Board.

An applicant may be elected at any Board of Directors meeting or by written vote of the Board.

Affirmative votes of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the present Board shall be required to elect an applicant. The Board may deny membership for any reason and it is not required to give any reasons for denial of membership. An application which has been denied may be presented for reconsideration by the applicant's endorser at a subsequent meeting of the Club, and the members may elect such applicant by secret ballot with a favorable vote of three-fourths (3/4ths) of the members present.

Any member in good standing or former member may be proposed for election to Honorary Life Membership by a Board member or by a Club member through the Secretary. Election shall be by two-thirds (2/3rds) favorable vote of the entire Board of Directors voting by secret ballot.

SECTION 4. Termination of Membership. Membership may be terminated by:

(a) Resignation. Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary, except that no member may resign who is in debt to the Club or a Club-sponsored function or who is in possession of Club property.

(b) Lapsing. A membership is considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if the member's dues remain unpaid by March 1st. However, upon written notification, the Board may, in its sole discretion, grant an additional sixty (60) days of grace to delinquent members. In no case may a person whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting be entitled to vote at any Club meeting. A person needs to reapply and be elected in order to reinstate a lapsed membership. A lapsed membership does not negate the member's obligation to resolve debt to the Club or a Club-sponsored function or to return Club property.

(c) Expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion as provided by Article VI of these By-Laws.

ARTICLE II Meeting and Voting

SECTION 1. Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Club shall be held in May, June or July in one of the New England states at a place, date and hour designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of the Annual Meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member or be included in a Club publication at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for the Annual Meeting shall be one-twentieth (1/20th) of the members in good standing.

SECTION 2. Special Club Meetings. A special meeting of the Club may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present at a meeting of the Board or who vote by mail. A special meeting shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by twenty (20) members of the Club who are in good standing. Such meeting shall be held in one of the New England states at a place, date and hour designated by the Board of Directors. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed to all members by the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. This notice shall state the purpose of the special meeting and no other Club business may be transacted. The quorum for a special meeting shall be one-twentieth (1/20th) of the members in good standing.

SECTION 3. Voting. Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year and who is 18 years of age or older shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Honorary Life members in good standing shall have voting privileges. Proxy voting is not permitted. Voting by mail is permitted only for the election of Officers and Directors and upon proposed amendments to the Club's Constitution and By-Laws. In no case may a person whose dues are unpaid vote at any Club meeting.

SECTION 4. Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in one of the New England States at a place, date, and hour designated by the person authorized herein to call the meeting. Board meetings may also be conducted by teleconference. A quorum for a Board meeting shall be a majority of its members. Any Club member in good standing may attend any Board meeting.

The Board may schedule its next regular meeting by majority vote before adjourning any face-to-face meeting, and any meeting so decided shall be a regular meeting at which any Board business may be transacted. A regular meeting may be canceled upon the consent of a majority of the Board members.

SECTION 5. Special Board Meetings. A special Board meeting may be called by the President or shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least three (3) members of the Board. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting or telephone notice may be given at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted except that the election of applicants to membership is allowed in accordance with Article I, Section 3.

Article III Officers and Directors

SECTION 1. Board of Directors. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors. The Board shall be composed of nine (9) members all of whom shall be members in good standing. Each Board member shall be elected for terms of two (2) years each as provided in Article IV, Section 2. Each Director shall serve until his successor is elected or until he resigns.

SECTION 2. Officers. The Club shall have a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected by the membership. These four (4) officers shall also serve as members of the Board of Directors during their tenure. Supplemental officers may be appointed from time to time by majority vote of the Board of Directors to serve such terms as the Board shall determine. Supplemental officers appointed by the Board, if any, shall not serve on the Board.

The duties and responsibilities of all officers shall be determined by the Board and may be changed from time to time. The following officers' duties shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, appoint all special committees except the Nominating Committee, and have the duties and powers normally attributable to the office in addition to those particularly specified in these By-Laws. The President is an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

(b) Vice President. The Vice President shall have the duties of and exercise the powers of the President in case of the President's absence or incapacity. The Vice President shall also serve as policy and committee liaison for the Board.

(c) Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club and provide a report of each meeting of the Club and of the Board to the membership. Such reports may be included in a Club publication. The Secretary shall also have charge of general correspondence, notify members of meetings, notify Officers and Directors of their election to office and carry out such other duties as prescribed in these By-Laws.

(d) Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club and deposit the same in the name of the Club in a bank or an account approved by the Board. The Club's books shall at all times be open to inspection by the Board. The Treasurer shall report to the Board at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and at the Annual meeting shall be able to account for every item of receipt or payment during the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall also prepare a proposed Club budget for the upcoming official year for consideration by the Board at its first meeting following the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

The immediate past President may be invited by the new Board of Directors to become a non-voting member of the Board of Directors for two years.

The Board shall select one of its members other than the President or Treasurer to carry out the duties and exercise the powers of the Treasurer in case of the Treasurer's absence or incapacity. The Board member selected shall have signatory power over all Club accounts but shall not automatically succeed to a vacancy in the office of the Treasurer.

In case of the absence or incapacity of the Secretary, the President shall appoint a director to serve until the absence or incapacity ends or the position becomes vacant.

SECTION 3. Vacancies. A Board member may resign from the Board upon written notice to the Secretary. Any Board member who fails to attend three (3) face-to-face Board meetings during any term of office shall be deemed to have resigned. However, the Board by two-thirds (2/3rds) affirmative vote by secret ballot has the option to invite such Board member to return to the Board of Directors for his remaining term.

A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled automatically by the Vice President. Any other vacancy occurring on the Board shall be filled for the unexpired term of office by a majority vote of all remaining members of the Board. Any person filling a vacancy must meet the requirements of an "eligible candidate" as defined in Article IV, Section 2 below. The vacating officer or director shall turn over to his successor all records and properties relating to that position within thirty (30) days after the succession. Any person who fails to do so within ninety (90) days may be suspended from all privileges of the Club until the transfer is affected.

ARTICLE IV

The Club Year, Nominations, and Elections

SECTION 1. Club Year. The Club's fiscal year shall begin on January 1st and end on December 31st. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the installation of Officers and Directors at the Annual Meeting and shall continue through the installation of Officers and Directors at the next Annual Meeting.

SECTION 2. Nominations for Board Positions. No person may be a candidate in a Club election who has not been nominated in accordance with this Section, and no person may be a candidate for more than one position.

The Board shall select, no later than ninety (90) days after the Annual Meeting, a Nominating Committee (hereafter called the "Committee") consisting of a chairman and two (2) other members, plus a first alternate and a second alternate, all of whom must be in good standing. No more than one (1) of the five (5) may be a Board member. No person shall serve on the committee for two (2) consecutive years.

The Secretary shall promptly notify the Committee members and alternates of their selection. If any member is unwilling or unable to serve or continue to serve on the Committee, the alternates shall succeed to the Committee in the order of their selection.

The chairman shall call a Committee meeting which shall be held at least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the Annual Meeting. This meeting may be conducted in person, by mail or by telephone. Electronic mail (e-mail) may be used if all Committee members have a current e-mail address. The Committee, by majority vote, shall nominate one (1) eligible candidate for each position on the Board of Directors becoming vacant.

After securing the written consent of each eligible candidate to accept the nomination and, if elected, to attend all Annual Meetings and Board meetings during his term of office, the Committee shall submit its slate to the Secretary in writing at least ninety (90) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

The Secretary shall provide written notification, which may be included in a Club publication, of the Committee's slate of candidates to each member at least eighty (80) days prior to the Annual Meeting. This notification shall also advise members of the procedure for making nominations by petition.

Additional nominations of eligible candidates may be made by written petition addressed to the Secretary and received at his regular address at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Each petition must be signed by twenty-five (25) members in good standing and accompanied by the written acceptance of the candidate signifying his willingness to be a candidate and, if elected, to attend all Annual Meetings and Board meetings during the term. The additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those eligible candidates who have not accepted nomination by the Nominating Committee.

Nominations cannot be made at the Annual Meeting or in any manner other than as provided by this Section.

In order to be an "eligible candidate", whether nominated by the Nominating Committee or by petition, the individual must meet all of the following: (i) be a member of the Club in good standing, (ii) be over eighteen (18) years of age, (iii) have been a member in good standing throughout the two (2) year period immediately preceding the nomination, and (iv) cannot be an immediate family member of another Director whose term is not expiring.

SECTION 3. Annual Election. If no additional valid nominations are received by the Secretary by the due date, the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected at the time of the Annual Meeting and no balloting shall be required.

If one or more valid additional nominations are received, the election for the contested director position(s) shall be conducted by secret ballot. At least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting, the Secretary shall mail to each member eligible to vote a ballot listing all nominees for each contested position in alphabetical order together with a blank envelope and a return envelope addressed to the Secretary and marked "Ballot Enclosed" and bearing the name of the member(s) from whom it was sent. So that the ballots remain secret, each voter, after marking his ballot, shall seal it in the blank envelope which in turn shall be placed in the return envelope.

To be considered valid, a returned ballot must be received by the Secretary at least ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting, and the envelope must bear the name of each member whose ballot is enclosed. Valid ballots shall be opened and counted by the Secretary in the presence of two (2) inspectors who are members but not candidates. The two inspectors shall be appointed by a majority vote of those Board members whose terms are not expiring and who are not on the ballot. The member receiving the largest number of votes for each contested position shall be declared elected at the time of the Annual Meeting.

The elected Officers and Directors shall take office upon installation at the Annual Meeting, and each retiring Officer and Director shall turn over to his successor all records and properties relating to that position within thirty (30) days after the Annual Meeting. Any person who fails to do so within ninety (90) days may be suspended from all privileges of the Club until the transfer is affected.

If any nominee is unwilling or unable to serve for any reason, such nominee shall not be elected and the resulting vacancy shall be filled by the new Board of Directors in the manner provided in Article III, Section 3 of these By-Laws.

ARTICLE V Committees

SECTION 1. Appointments. The Board may appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as Club events, rescue and other activities which may well be served by committees. Special committees may be appointed by the President to aid in particular projects. All committees shall always be subject to final authority by the Board. A committee appointment shall remain in force as long as the member remains in good standing unless terminated as provided in Section 2 below.

SECTION 2. Termination. Any standing committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board upon written notice to the appointee, and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services have been terminated. Any special committee appointment may be terminated by the President upon written notice to the appointee, and the President may appoint successors to those whose services have been terminated. Each committee chairman or member whose services have been terminated shall turn over all records and properties relating to that committee within thirty (30) days after the succession to his successor or, if the committee has been dissolved, to the Secretary. Any person who fails to do so within ninety (90) days may be suspended from all privileges of the Club until the transfer is affected.

ARTICLE VI Discipline

SECTION 1. Suspension. Any member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club or the Newfoundland Club of America is automatically suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period.

SECTION 2. Charges. Any member or group of members may prefer charges against another member for conduct alleged to be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the Breed including failure to abide by the Constitution or By-Laws of this Club. Written charges with specifications must be filed with the Secretary together with a deposit of Fifty and 00/100 (\$50.00) Dollars which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained in whole or part by the Board. The Secretary shall, within fourteen (14) days of receipt, send a copy of the charges to each member of the Board or, provided there will be no prejudicial delay, present such charges at the next scheduled Board meeting. In addition, any member of the Board may prefer charges (without posting a deposit) alleging that a member's application for membership contained material misrepresentation or omission.

As soon as practical after receipt of the charges, the Board, in Executive Session, shall make a determination whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, would be prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed or would constitute a violation of the Certificate of Incorporation, Constitution or By-Laws. Unless the Board, by majority vote, determines that if proven the actions would be prejudicial or constitute violations of the Certificate of Incorporation, Constitution or By-Laws, no further action will be taken and the matter will be closed. If the matter is closed, the Board may, but shall not be required to, send notice of the charges and its decision to the accused.

If the Board, by majority vote, determines the charges merit further inquiry, the matter shall proceed to hearing and the Secretary shall so inform all parties to the charges by a method of communication which includes proof of receipt. The notice shall contain the date, time and place of the hearing. The hearing shall be held at the next regularly scheduled face to face meeting of the Board, unless the date of that meeting would be less than sixty (60) days from the date of the notice. In that event or should the Board decide that such scheduling does not allow adequate preparation time, the hearing date shall be delayed until the following face to face meeting. Due to the confidentiality of such hearings, no member of the Board may participate unless he is physically present at the hearing.

SECTION 3. Board Hearing. The hearing shall be informal. No strict adherence to the Civil Rules of Evidence or Procedure shall be required. The Board shall have absolute discretion to make all decisions regarding process and procedure, including without limitation, placing time constraints on the parties and limiting the number of witnesses. At the conclusion of the hearing, the parties (and legal counsel, if applicable) shall be excused and the Board shall move to Executive Session to discuss and vote on the matter. A vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3rds) of the Board members present, but not less than five (5) Board members present shall be required to sustain the charges. If any charges are sustained, the Board shall determine the appropriate punishment which may include (i) reprimand, (ii) suspension of member privileges for period of not more than one hundred eighty (180) days or (iii) suspension plus the recommendation of expulsion. If the charges are sustained by the Board, the \$50.00 deposit shall be refunded to the proffering member(s). The Board's findings and actions shall be put in written form immediately and filed with the Secretary within three (3) days. The Secretary shall, within three (3) days of receipt, send each of the parties notice of the Board's decision by means of delivery that includes proof of receipt.

SECTION 4. Conflict of Interest. In the interest of insuring impartial and objective consideration of the charges, no member of the Board may be involved in either the hearing, deliberations or voting in regards to any disciplinary matter placed before the Board if he has a conflict of interest. Since it is not possible to fully define what could be determined a conflict, if there is any question, the Board will first deliberate and resolve the question of a conflict prior to dealing with the disciplinary issue. Such conflicts may involve perception, personal relationships, business relationships, co-ownership or co-breeding of dogs, etc. A majority of the remaining members of the Board will make that decision by a vote. If a conflict is deemed involved, the Board member who is in conflict shall recuse himself from the meeting.

SECTION 5. Expulsion. Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only by vote of the members at a meeting of the Club following a Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this Article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular or special meeting of the Club to be held within sixty (60) days but not earlier than thirty (30) days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion.

The accused shall have the privilege of appearing on his own behalf though no new evidence shall be taken at this meeting. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendation, then invite the accused (if present) to speak on his own behalf if he wishes. The members present who are 18 years of age or older shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of those present and voting shall be necessary to effect the expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

ARTICLE VII Amendments

SECTION 1. Proposed Amendments. All amendments to the Constitution and/or By-Laws of the Club must be ratified by vote of the membership. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by one-tenth (1/10th) of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors, and the Secretary must submit them to the membership, together with the Board's recommendations, for a ratification vote within ninety (90) days of receipt of the petition.

SECTION 2. Ratification. The Constitution and/or By-Laws may be amended at any time upon ratification of proposed amendments as provided herein. The Secretary shall mail to each member in good standing who is 18 years of age or older a copy of the proposed amendments, a ballot (dual envelope procedures described in Article IV, Section 3 shall be followed in handling such ballots) on which the member may indicate his choice for or against the amendments, and a notice specifying a date not less than thirty (30) days after the date of mailing by which the ballot must be received by the Secretary. The Secretary will only open the ballots in the presence of two Inspectors of Election. The two Inspectors shall be appointed by majority vote of the Board of Directors. The favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the valid ballots shall be required to ratify any proposed amendment.

No amendment to the Constitution shall become effective unless and until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.

ARTICLE VIII
Dissolution

SECTION 1. Dissolution. The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than two-thirds (2/3rds) of the members in good standing. In the event of dissolution, whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds therefrom nor any asset of the Club shall be distributed to any individual or member. After payment of the just debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. or to a non-profit organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX
Order of Business

SECTION 1. Club Meetings. At meetings of the Club the order of business so far as the character and nature of the meeting may permit shall be as follows:

Roll Call
Minutes of Last Meeting
Report of President
Report of Secretary
Report of Treasurer
Reports of Committees, if any
Unfinished Business
Installation of Officers and Directors (Annual Meeting)
New Business
Adjournment

SECTION 2. Board Meetings. At meetings of the Board the order of business, unless otherwise directed by a majority vote of those present, shall be as follows:

Roll Call
Minutes of Last Meeting
Report of Secretary
Report of Treasurer
Election of New Members
Reports of Committees, if any
Unfinished Business
New Business
Adjournment

ARTICLE X
Interpretations

SECTION 1. Gender and Number. All references to the masculine gender in these By-Laws shall be deemed to include the feminine gender. Where appropriate, references to the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

SECTION 2. Parliamentary Procedure. Robert's Rules of Order, current edition, is adopted as the Club's parliamentary authority to supplement these By-Laws and the Club's standing rules.

Health and Longevity:

I've attached a document that Health and Longevity would like the Board to consider. It is a revision of the NCA position statement concerning health testing. The original statement can be found on the NCA website. It has been revised to include the diseases being tested for, rather than listing tests that should be done without mentioning the diseases and the reference to GDC has been eliminated. The committee voted unanimously to send it to the Board at our February teleconference. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thanks!

Jenny

The Newfoundland Club of America encourages health testing and release of all health testing results.

The Newfoundland Club of America considers it necessary to screen all breeding stock for the following diseases: hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, subaortic stenosis and cystinuria. The NCA also recommends testing, where indicated, for autoimmune thyroiditis, inherited eye diseases, luxating patellas and shoulder OCD. All results of such health tests on any Newfoundland should be recorded in an open, searchable database such as the Orthopedic Foundation For Animals. Open registries are information sources for current and prospective Newfoundland owners and breeders seeking health data on specific dogs. If results are not publicly available, documentation should be available for test results of the sire and dam of a litter. Please be sure to discuss the status of these tests with your responsible breeder. All prospective buyers are encouraged to utilize this information in their inquiries.

DNA submission to DNA repository/DNA bank

The NCA strongly encourages sample submission to the CHIC DNA repository for DNA banking in support of future research studies.

Open Registries

The [Canine Health Information Center](#), also known as CHIC, is a centralized canine health database jointly sponsored by the AKC/Canine Health Foundation (AKC/CHF) and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA).

[Orthopedic Foundation for Animals](#) While the OFA continues to focus on hip dysplasia, and other orthopedic disorders, today's OFA Mission, "To improve the health and well being of companion animals through a reduction in the incidence of genetic disease," reflects the organization's expansion into other inherited diseases.

The [Canine Eye Registration Foundation \(CERF\)](#) is an organization that was founded by a group of concerned, purebred owner/breeders who recognized that the quality of their dogs' lives were being affected by heritable eye disease. CERF was established in conjunction with cooperating, board certified, veterinary ophthalmologists, as a means to accomplish the goal of elimination of heritable eye disease in all purebred dogs by forming a centralized, national registry.

Awards:

Hi Pam- Since the AKC is changing how the Awards reports are going to be sent out, it looks like the NCA will need to pay for a monthly report. I know the Board has a meeting shortly. According to the info Mary Lou Cuddy forwarded me, it would be \$420 for a monthly conformation report & another \$420 for a monthly obedience report (so \$840 per year). I'm assuming we'd be able to get this report to each counter via some method (not \$420 per counter). I will try to get that info. However, I wanted to mention it as it's not something I budgeted for, but will obviously need. Thanks for any help you can offer. Ingrid