

Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.



**Board of Directors
Regular Monthly Meeting
May 24, 2012
8:00 pm Eastern Time
7:00 pm Central Time**

AGENDA

- I. Roll Call.
- II. Reading and Approval of Minutes:
 - Regular April Meeting of the Board of Directors: April 17, 29, 30, & May 1, 2012. (*separate cover*)
 - Annual Membership Meeting, May 1, 2012 (*separate cover*)
 - Annual Board of Director's Meeting, May 1 & 2, 2012. (*separate cover*)
- III. Motion to adopt the May Regular Meeting's Agenda. (*Steve Britton*)
- IV. Motion to adopt Thursday, May 31, 2012 at 8 p.m. as the date and hour for an adjourned (continued) meeting, if needed. <Note: Please, check your calendars prior to this meeting for other alternate dates.> (*Steve Britton*)
- V. Motion to Suspend Rules which would normally interfere with the consideration of a new item of business listed under *roman numeral eleven* of this agenda, and to *immediately* proceed to the item regarding American/Canadian member/breeder conformation judges, prior to tonight's appointment of committees. (*Roger Frey*)
- VI. Special Order for this meeting: Appointment of Standing and Special Committees. (*Executive Session*)

VII. Reports of Officers and Standing Committees:

- President's Report – *Pam Saunders (see attachment – p.5)*
- 1st Vice-President's Report – *Pat Randall (see attachment – p.5)*
- 2nd Vice-President's Report – *Lynne Anderson-Powell*
- Recording Secretary's Report – *Steve Britton (see attachment - p. 6)*
- Corresponding Secretary's Report – *Kathy McIver*
- Treasurer's Report – *Mary L. Price (see attachment – pp. 7 - 11)*
- AKC Delegate's Report – *Mary W. Price (see attachment – p.12)*
- Report of Regional Club Liaison
 - 1.) NCNC Revised Bylaws (*pending response from NCNC.*)
- Working Dog Committee Report (*pending from the Regular April Board of Director's Meeting*):
 - 1.) Water Rescue Dog Excellent - *handbook review (pp: 13 - 25.)*
 - 2.) Provisional Judges Changes – (*p. 26*)

VIII. Reports of Special (or Ad-hoc) Committees:

- Membership Pin Committee - *Steve Britton (separate cover)*

IX. Election of New Members:

- Report of the Membership Chairman – *Mary Lou Cuddy*
 - 1.) Consideration of New Member Applications –
(Executive Session - separate cover)

X. Unfinished Business and General Orders (pended from April Board of Directors Meeting):

- The Working Dog Committee's, "The Judge's Corner" Newsletter. (*Meredith Reggie*)- (pp. 27 - 31).
- Listing of titles on certificates and rosettes, etc. –
(*pended from April Meetings*)

XI. New Business:

1.) *Proposed Amendment to the NCA Board's Policy:*

"I move that the NCA Board's Policy be amended by adding the following:

Resolved, that provided a quorum is present, no board meeting shall be called to order later than 15 minutes after the published start time." (*Patrick K. Randall*)

- 2.) "I move that the Technical Resources Committee provide the board with a critical appraisal of whether the services supplied by *Club Express* would provide a viable alternative to incorporating membership and other "people" functions into our current database. URL=<http://www.clubexpress.com/> ." (*Patrick K. Randall*)

3.) *Proposed Amendment to the NCA Board's Policy:*

"I move that all NCA member/breeder conformation judges who reside in the United States and Canada be invited to serve on the NCA's Conformation Judges Education Committee." (*Roger Frey*)

4.) *Proposed Amendment to the NCA Board's Policy:*

"I move that the NCA Board's Policy manual be amended by adding the following:

Resolved, with exception to its face-to-face meetings and when the Board of Directors does not complete its monthly session's agenda, the next week's Thursday, is automatically reserved for an adjourned (continued) meeting." (*Steve Britton*)

- 5.) *Other proposed items of New Business:*

VII. REPORTS OF OFFICERS and STANDING COMMITTEES:

Report of the President
Newfoundland Club of America
Board of Directors
May 2012 Regular Meeting

Dear Officers and Directors:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Directors for the opportunity and honor of serving as the club's president.

Sincerely

Pam Saunders

Pam Saunders
President

Report of the First Vice- President
Newfoundland Club of America
Board of Directors
May 2012 Regular Meeting

Dear Officers and Directors::

Nothing to report at this time, other than that I spoke to Clyde at the National and am expecting an information packet.

Pat R.

Pat. Randall

Report of the Recording Secretary
Newfoundland Club of America
Board of Directors
May 2012 Regular Meeting

Dear Officers & Directors:

I would like to thank all Officers and Directors for their help, friendly consort and support; thus far, as we transition into the new club year. I would especially like to thank the Immediate Past Secretary for her aid and counsel during this transition, and I am truly appreciative of her steadfastness in completing our previous year's minutes.

Also, I ask or request:

1) Direction from the board regarding the integration of the "To Do List" into the meeting agendum.

2.) Other requests:

2.1) "when a committee makes a recommendation(s) in a report to the Board of Directors, all proposed actions be placed in the form of a written motion, and the motion's wording be published at the end of the committee's report." This could potentially save some time during the course of a board meeting.

2.2) ask that all *main motions* which are over eight words in length be put in writing and emailed to the secretary no later than one day before a scheduled teleconference. Many organizations have an eight word rule that helps moves the business along.

Sincerely

Steven J. Britton

Steven Britton
Recording Secretary

Report of the Treasurer
Newfoundland Club of America
Board of Directors
May 2012 Regular Meeting

Dear Officers and Directors:

The following information represents the financial activity of the NCA Operating accounts from April 7, to May 8, 2012.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Price

Mary L. Price
Treasurer

Cash Balances

NCA Operations

Checking Account	8,038.63
Checking Account - 2013 Natl. Spec.	10,488.30
Savings Accounts	55,318.07
CDs	95,920.95
Juniors Fund	1,000.00
Uniform Trophy Fund	<u>6,851.30</u>
	177,617.25

INCOME

Dues - Applicants

4/7/2012	EFT	K McNichols	105.00
4/7/12	DEP	Gleason; Littlefield; Gerri	300.00
4/16/12	EFT	M Morrison	105.00
5/7/12	DEP	Moll; Lucia	205.00
5/7/12	EFT	Dallen	<u>141.00</u>
TOTAL Dues - Applicants			856.00
Dues - Renewals			
	DEP	C Nelson	85.00
Gen. Educ. - Inc.			
5/7/12	DEP	Varied	15.00
Interest			
4/30/12	EFT	Interest	1.86
Newf Tide Ads			
4/21/12	DEP	K Benedict	300.00
Newf Tide subscriptions			
4/15/12		Varied	598.00
4/15/12		Pfonner	<u>55.00</u>
			653.00
Newf Tide back issues			
4/7/12		Jeter	24.00
5/7/12		Varied	<u>48.00</u>
			72.00

Newfoundland Club of America
Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda & Board Packet
May 24, 2012
Page 9 of 31

WD-Water - Inc.	5/7/12	Varied	10.00
TOTAL INCOME			1,992.86
EXPENSES			
Annual Membership Meeting	4/29/12	Hotel Carlisle	-2,606.23
	5/1/12	Mary Ellen Bittner	<u>-500.00</u>
			-3,106.23
Awards	4/21/12	U P S	-53.69
	5/6/12	U P S	<u>-36.99</u>
			-90.68
Board	4/29/12	Hotel Carlisle	-371.00
	4/30/12	Hotel Carlisle	<u>-50.40</u>
			-421.40
Breeders Education	4/7/12	S.c. - Credit Cards	-52.85
	4/7/12	Vari	235.00
	4/7/12	Vari	300.00
	4/15/12	Paul Matson	-491.00
	4/15/12	K Mclver	-64.90
	4/15/12	J Cornell	-157.12
	4/16/12	Varied - Credit Cards	130.00
	4/16/12	various Checks	445.00
	4/29/12	Hotel Carlisle	-2,078.30
	5/6/12	Accu Conference	-38.29
	5/7/12	Varied	350.00
	5/7/12	Varied - Credit Cards	<u>245.00</u>
			-1,177.46
Constitution	5/6/12	Accu Conference	-9.11
Gen. Ed. - Packets, Ads,	5/6/12	Accu Conference	-18.27
Health & Longvt	4/29/12	New Pen Del NC - tent at Natl.	-155.00
Health Chall.	4/29/12	New Pen Del NC - tent at Natl.	-250.00
	5/7/12	NHC - reimb. tent at Natl.	<u>250.00</u>
			0.00

Judges Educ	4/29/12	New Pen Del NC - tent at Natl.	-240.00
	4/29/12	Hotel Carlisle - meeting room at Natl.	<u>-215.00</u>
			-455.00
Legislative Liaison	4/15/12	Massachusetts Federation Of Dog Clubs	-50.00
	5/6/12	Accu Conference	-6.26
	5/6/12	Federation Of Maine Dog Clubs	<u>-35.00</u>
			-91.26
Loan	4/10/12	NCA Trophy Fund	-6,000.00
Membership	4/7/12	S.c. - Credit Cards	-22.40
	4/29/12	Mary Lou Cuddy	<u>-440.61</u>
			-463.01
Newf Ambassador	5/6/12	Accu Conference	-17.01
Newf Tide editor	4/25/12	Mouse Designs - 1 Qtr 12	-2,600.00
Newf Tide subscription expense	4/7/12	S.c. - Credit Cards	-8.96
	4/15/12	Postmaster - Washington, ME	<u>-48.00</u>
			-56.96
Newf Tide Policy	5/6/12	Accu Conference	-13.15
Obedience	4/15/12	Award Presentations - 150 pins	-395.00
Rec Sec	4/29/12	Mary Lou Cuddy	-1,013.97
	5/6/12	Accu Conference	<u>-71.48</u>
			-1,085.45
Rescue	4/29/12	New Pen Del NC - tent at Natl.	-250.00
	5/7/12	N/R - reimb. tent at Natl.	<u>250.00</u>
			0.00

Newfoundland Club of America
Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda & Board Packet
May 24, 2012
Page 11 of 31

Steering	5/6/12	Accu Conference	-13.84
Technical Resources	4/7/12	S.c. - Credit Cards	-5.37
	4/7/12	M L Zimmerman	<u>-693.34</u>
			-698.71
Treasurer	4/30/12	s.c. - maintenance	-57.07
Versatility	4/15/12	Palmer	12.00
	5/7/12	Lorenz	<u>12.00</u>
			24.00
WD-chair	5/6/12	Accu Conference	-26.93
TOTAL EXPENSES			<u>-16,927.54</u>
OVERALL TOTAL			-14,934.68

Report of the AKC Delegate
Newfoundland Club of America
Board of Directors
May 2012 Regular Meeting

Dear Officers and Directors:

The Club's AKC Delegate reports that she sent the following email to the American Kennel Club:

Mr. Neil Singer,

It is my pleasure to report that the Newfoundland Club of America's recipient of the 2012 American Kennel Club Outstanding Sportsmanship Award is Mrs. Deborah Bridge, a resident of Lincoln, California. The award was presented to Mrs. Bridge at our club's annual meeting in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on May 1.

The Newfoundland Club of America is grateful to the AKC for making this prestigious award available for presentation.

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate

Newfoundland Club of America

**WATER RESCUE DOG EXCELLENT TEST
HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES,**

STEWARDS & TEST COMMITTEE MEMBERS

SECTION 1

Applications for WRDX Tests

When completing an application to hold a regular Water Test, please indicate to the WDC Water Test Application Contact person that **whether** the WRDX level will be offered at this Water Test. If the Water Test is to cover a two-day period, please indicate which day(s) the WRDX level will be offered. Please include signed acceptance forms from any changes of judges for the WRDX portion of the test, if applicable. Please clearly indicate to the Water Test Application Contact which judges will judge each level of the Water Test day/weekend. ~~No additional fee is required to add the WRDX level as part of a Water Test day/weekend.~~ Please be sure the premium list advises exhibitors **of the schedule for each division to be tested and** that WRDX dogs in season will be judged after all other ~~in-season dogs~~ **divisions** have been tested. Please also note the maximum number of dogs to be tested per day, as set forth in the Water Test Regulations is 30. On average, it takes approximately 30 minutes to test each WRDX entrant. This should be one of the factors used to arrive at stated maximum number of entries for any given day in a Water Test weekend. **WRDX may have a separate entry limit but the limit for the whole test may not exceed 30 for each day.**

SECTION 2

Test Site Specifications

The Water Test Regulations for a ~~regular~~-WD/WRD water test require usable waterfront to be a minimum of 75 feet, with the water extending at least 200 feet from the shore.

For the WRDX level ~~division~~ the site ~~should~~ **must** have a minimum of ~~100~~ **75** feet of waterfront **but the water markers must be at least 100 feet apart** and the water should extend at least 300 feet from the shore. ~~Required minimums may be changed after further data is obtained following this year's water tests.~~

In marking the beach area for the WRDX ~~level~~ **division**, a center pole is used with poles on either side 35 feet apart to use as markers for the Multiple Person Rescue (Exercise #2). However, it is extremely important to place the water markers wider than the test site. **An optional plan for water markers can be found on the water test time line on the NCA web site.**

Retrieval of water markers at the WRDX ~~level~~ **division** causes the dogs to fail. Safety is an additional consideration for placing the side water markers (and thus increasing the usable waterfront area) much farther apart than for use in a regular WD/WRD event. If the side water markers are either tied down or tied to one another (as in many test sites), the likelihood of the dog becoming tangled is much greater. The shoreline to the sides of the usable waterfront should also not be so close as to tempt the dogs to take the stewards to the sides of the test site, rather than back to the boat. In other exercises, the **other** shoreline(s) should not be closer than the center of the test area where most exercises are completed.

Prior to the start of the test, a center flag is set up with two additional beach flags/markers set 35 feet away from the center flag. It is highly recommended that a second set of beach flags/poles be set in front of the original markers to give a better line of sight for the water stewards. ~~to line up with.~~ Side markers are set ~~either~~ in the water ~~or on the shore~~ on both sides at 75 ft., 100 ft, and 150 ft. This is wide enough to not interfere with the stewards in exercise #2.

SECTION 3

Equipment

It is strongly suggested that judges review the WRDX required equipment, as indicated in the WRDX ~~test~~ regulations, with the test committee ~~ahead of arrival on~~ **before the** test weekend by phone call, letter or e-mail.

Judges should inquire of the test chair whether the committee has on hand ~~The test committee shall provide~~ the required level of hand/arm protection **as indicated in the WRDX Test Regulations, whether the a raft to be used is a four person raft** that will sit flat on the surface of the water **as required in the regulations**, and ~~an~~ **whether** anchor systems **to be used** ~~that~~ can be brought up or untied BEFORE the dog reaches the boat in each of the required exercises. **Judges should also inquire** ~~require~~ as to whether ~~The test committee is reminded that~~ all calling stewards ~~must~~ meet the restrictions for “overly familiar”, as currently approved by the NCA Board.

DURING THE TEST

SECTION 4

Pre-Swim

Either the judges or a steward should ensure that 15 minutes total is allowed for all WRDX dogs to pre-swim. Only a bumper is allowed to be brought into the testing area. **Dogs are allowed to familiarize themselves with the boat platform.** No food is allowed in the testing area. This is also an opportunity for judges to make notes with regards to the depth each handler must be in the water in order to touch their dog ~~BEFORE~~ **before and after** the dog is at his/her wading depth. Since the exercises REQUIRE contact by the handler ~~BEFORE at or before the dog touches down~~ wading depth, the depth where the water touches the handler's body or wet suit may be noted at this time. If the handlers are primarily throwing bumpers from shore, ~~you~~ **judges** may ask them to wade in to where their dogs are almost standing and ~~so~~ note the distance ~~for the handlers/~~ where the water reaches ~~their~~ **the handlers** legs, wet suits, etc. on the exhibitor sheet for that dog.

SECTION 5

Time Limits

All time limits listed with the exercises are suggestions. By the very nature of the WRDX exercises, the dogs will either be continuously working if they commit to swimming depth or jumping from the boat in the ~~opening~~ permitted time period; or they will fail the exercises by turning back without completing ~~rescues, or without the boat, as the exercises require~~ **the exercise**. Dogs may also be called off of an exercise for safety reasons, or if the judges do not consider the dog physically capable of working for any longer period of time due to being in distress. Otherwise, the dogs should be permitted any reasonable period of time to complete an exercise, without regard for whether one dog is a faster or slower swimmer than another.

SECTION 6

Beach Stewards

Beach stewards make sure the equipment is ready for each entrant. They may also have additional chores such as taking and returning the entrants leash. Before the first exercise they need to bring the entrants 8 foot line with bumper to the rowing steward and help to attach it to the front of the rowboat as well as help remove it after the exercise. They may also help to steady the boat when the handler and dog are boarding. They hand the 125 line to the handler before the Line to Shore exercise and take it off the beach after the exercise.

SECTION 7 Exercises

All stewards in the boats or in the water must be wearing coast guard approved life jackets and secure foot protection. Life jackets are optional for beach stewards but they must wear foot protection.

Exercise #1, ~~Search for~~ Abandoned Boat

One rowing steward is needed, ballast steward is optional.

Preparation: The eight-foot line with bumper attached should be pre-attached to the bow of the boat, with the line and bumper placed in the boat for use by the rowing steward.

The rowing steward takes the boat out 75 feet, parallel to shore, anchors the boat; and then rests the oars on the boat. The boat may move freely around the anchor in the current or wind.

~~The rowing steward, upon receiving an arm signal from the judges, quietly places the floating eight foot line with plastic or canvas boat bumper attached into the water on the seaward side of the boat. The rower then faces primarily away from the dog. However,~~ It is crucial that the steward watch for the dog to approach the boat, since the anchor is to be detached or brought up BEFORE there is any chance that the dog would be able to either try to retrieve the anchor line, or to become tangled in any lines or poles used for the anchor system. **Once the anchor is detached the rowing steward will quietly place the bumper off the seaward side of the boat being sure to time this so that the bumper is in the water before the dog goes behind the boat. The rowing steward does not touch or move the bumper or line again.** The rowing steward then faces away from the dog and does not make eye contact.

The judges and rowing steward should have discussed **before the first dog is tested** how close the dog should be to the boat before the anchor system is no longer in use. Wind and currents may dictate some sites requiring the boat being left in place longer than those with calm bodies of water. However, the dog should NEVER be close enough to the boat for any safety or retrieving concerns to occur when the anchor system is detached or brought up into the boat.

~~Once the dog is working around the unanchored boat, the rower should then be vigilant in case the bumper with line attached has been caught under the boat. This would make retrieval by the dog almost impossible, as well as posing a hazard. If the rowing steward observes such a situation, he/she should quietly pull the bumper loose just enough so that it and the attached line are floating free for the dog to find on his/her own. The rowing~~

steward should ride quietly in the boat from this point until the dog beaches the boat and the judges whistle completion of the exercise.

The bumper with floating line is removed from the bow of the boat at the completion of the exercise.

Exercise #2 Multiple Person Rescue

One rowing steward, anchor system set to hold the boat at 150 feet from shore (may be stationary or anchor kept in the boat), one ballast steward, ~~if necessary~~, three calling stewards. Two beach stewards to steady the boat and to push the boat off when the dog and handler are safely aboard after indicating readiness.

Preparation: Prior to the start of the test, it should be determined which calling stewards will call the dogs from each of the three positions, and which hand signals will be used by the rower to keep the stewards in place.

The rowing steward brings the boat to shore, where two beach stewards steady the boat. When the handler is aboard and indicates readiness to proceed, the beach stewards will push the boat off, being careful to use a fluid motion so as not to jostle the dog off of the platform. The rowing steward takes the boat out so that the back of the platform is 150 feet from shore, the boat platform is facing the shoreline, and either attaches the anchor system or drops the anchor from the side of the boat. **It is important that this anchor be heavy enough and long enough to steady the boat in windy and rough conditions since the boat will be out at 150 feet from shore and possibly in deep water.**

The rowing steward also employs the use of the oars to keep the boat as much in position and platform facing the shoreline as is at all possible. Altering the way the boat faces, or letting the boat drift from the original position may change the exercise significantly for the dog.

While the boat is being rowed out to 150 feet from shore, the 3 calling stewards will swim out quietly, and ~~at the same time~~ to their designated positions.

- Drowner #1 will line up with the 1st markers on shore, and with the side water marker set 100ft. from shore.
- Drowner #2 (~~in the middle~~) will line up with the center markers on shore, and with the side water marker set 75ft. from shore.
- Drowner #3 will line up with the 3rd markers on shore, and with the side water marker set 100ft. from shore.

They will wait quietly in the water until signaled by the judges. Each of the drowning stewards will be alert at all times to hand signals pre-arranged for use by the rowing steward in case they may be drifting out of position. **This is very important to remember.** In addition, they should often look very briefly over their shoulders to check the beach marker they should be lined up with, as well as very briefly to the sides to check the side water markers corresponding with their position. The rowing steward

watches to be sure that the boat is steady in position, that the stewards remain in position, and also watches the judges in case pre-arranged arm motions alert the rower to problems with the stewards in the water, retrieval of water markers, etc.

When the judges are satisfied that all are in position and that the handler is ready, a brief arm signal will be given to the stewards in the water by the judges to begin calling the dog for help. From this point forward, the calling stewards will watch the rower, who will relay any signals from the judges to the callers, or who will signal the calling stewards as being out of position.

Each calling steward will call the dogs in a manner consistent with being in distress. It is permissible to praise the dogs coming toward the stewards, as this would certainly occur in instances of real rescue. However, words of praise should always be intermingled with those asking for the dogs to “help”, “come”, “save me”; etc., as during a real rescue situation. The dog’s name is not to be used. The stewards need not call in the same manner as one another.

The dogs will naturally focus on a steward, heading towards the ~~victim~~ steward to bring him/her back to the boat. Stewards might expect the dogs to swim around them, in order to give them a greater opportunity to grab hold. However, stewards should always be ready to take hold of the dog any time the dog is close enough to the steward in the same manner as the life-ring exercise in a WRD **test event**.

In some instances, the dogs will be swimming just past a steward on the way to pick up a second, or even third steward. For this reason, calling stewards should be vigilant in grabbing hold of the dog should the dog be close enough to them at any time. If one steward is picked up and it is clear that the dog is heading for a second steward, rather than back to the boat ~~first~~, the first steward picked up should move to hold on to whichever hip area of the dog will allow the second steward to take hold of the opposite hip area in the easiest way as they approach/get close to the second steward.

It is suggested that when a dog opts to bring in all 3 stewards the stewards will be in a towing formation of one on each hip area of the dog and the final steward **either holding the center of the dog or** hanging onto the life jacket of one of the other stewards. **All 3 stewards should be sure they are floating on top of the water and not hanging down.** ~~This formation is less stressful for the dog.~~ Judges should be ~~ready to~~ observing the dogs for any sign of distress should the dogs opt to try to bring in 3 stewards at once.

Some test sites would allow for a fully conditioned dog to perform the exercise in this manner. Other test sites would make such an attempt very hazardous for the dog.

The stewards will not aid the dog through the use of swimming strokes in returning to the boat.

Should the dog at any time turn and head back to the boat with either one or two victims, any remaining stewards will soften their voices considerably until the dog reaches the boat, and the handler touches hands with the stewards brought to the boat in that one trip.

When the handler touches the stewards, the remaining calling stewards should **immediately** resume the previous volume and intensity in calling for help in order to attract the dog away from the ~~victims~~ **stewards** and handler at the boat.

Those stewards brought back to the boat should quietly move to the opposite sides of the boat from one another, and remain behind the platform to give the dog and handler room to work with the rest of the stewards. The rescued stewards can also assist in steadying the way the boat platform faces to aid the rowing steward in keeping the platform of the boat pointing towards shore.

Rescued stewards should avoid conversation, which would create a severe temptation for the dog to return to the boat to check up on them, as opposed to going to or working with any remaining stewards at a distance from the boat. The instinct of the dogs in wanting to take care of those they have rescued cannot be taken lightly. For this reason, the rowing steward also uses hand signals, rather than verbal commands when needing to give directions to the stewards. ~~whenever possible.~~

Calling stewards should be looking up to the rowing steward frequently to watch for hand signals or further direction. It may be anticipated that the dogs will swim around the boat between rescue attempts to check all sides for ~~victims~~ **stewards** needing assistance, especially since this is required in another of the exercises within the WRDX test. Therefore, it is very important that the rescued stewards avoid eye contact and conversation with the dogs once they have touched hands with the handler and have moved quietly to the sides of the boat.

When the dog has rescued all ~~stewards~~ **victims**, or the exercise has been signaled to end by the judges for other reasons, the rowing steward will detach or pull up the anchor and will row the boat either to the shore with the handler aboard, or; if the handler elects to swim in with the dog, will row out of the testing area. The rescued stewards will swim back to shore **as quickly as possible to be out of the way to start the next exercise.** The rescued stewards should not expect to be towed in to shore by the dog, ~~which~~ **who** would then have been given the erroneous message that it is permissible to take the stewards to the shore, rather than to the boat.

Exercise #3, ~~Rescue of an Unconscious Victim~~

One steward, wearing the required hand/arm protection set forth in the WRDX Test Regulations. ~~This is sold in dive shops; or the web site for ordering of extra large size OMS 5MM Exposure Protection Dry Suit Gloves is provided in the WRDX Test Regulations.~~ Full wet **or dry** suit is required, unless the weather/temperature is so hot that the steward would be too uncomfortable/overheated. If a full wet **or dry** suit is not worn,

the steward must still wear a ~~wet suit~~ **jacket or** sleeves of wet suit material on both hands. **The gloves and/or arm protection must be of sufficient length to reach the elbows.** ~~Foot protection required, as for all stewards. A life jacket is required, as for all stewards in the boat or water.~~

Following a signal from the judge, the steward should quietly swim out to the 75 ft. side water markers, and in line with the center beach markers. The steward does not make contact with, nor speak to the dog or handler either while waiting to enter the water, or when swimming out to the designated water marker. Once in position, and upon receiving an arm signal from the judges, the steward must float on his/her back naturally, without swimming strokes, starting out with feet pointed towards shore, letting the current move him/her. The steward's arms and legs should be floating as still as possible on top of the water. The hands of the steward will be "palm up" on the surface of the water **and the arms will be straight out at a ninety degree angle with the body.** Every attempt should be made by the steward to keep his/her eyes closed.

The steward will expect the dogs to approach and to take hold of one or the other of the steward's gloved hands, arms, or the lifejacket. The dog may or may not circle the steward one or two times, requiring patience on the part of the steward. Depending upon which hand or where on the lifejacket the dog takes hold of the steward, the ~~victim~~ **steward** may find himself turned in a slow circle and then towed back to shore. The handler has been instructed to wade into the water to the prescribed depth, determined earlier by the judges, when the dog and steward are on the return trip, and to take hold of the steward PRIOR to the dog reaching its wading depth. This will make certain that the steward is not dragged up on shore by the dog.

If, at any time, the dog scratches the steward, or attempts to climb on the steward **or swim over the steward's legs,** or, if the steward feels pain when the dog takes hold of his/her gloved hand/arm, or feels pain at any time in the towing process, the steward may stand up **or call out** to terminate the exercise. It is never required of the steward ~~to need~~ to tolerate discomfort at any time. The handlers are aware of this, and will have taught their dogs a gentle hold. The superior protection of the **dry or wet** suit extended length gloves, now required at all ~~water~~ **WRDX** tests, ensures at least a decently comfortable tow in by the dog in case of accidental positioning of the dog's canine teeth set at sensitive areas of a person's palm.

The steward will remove his/her hand/arm or lifejacket from the dog's mouth with the assistance of the handler, when the handler takes hold of the steward, and may then stand up. The judges will whistle the exercise completed as soon as the handler takes hold of the steward.

Exercise #4, ~~Rescue of a Victim From Under a Capsized Boat Raft~~

One rowing steward, one ballast steward (if necessary), one calling steward.

Preparation: A canoe, kayak or rowboat will have a rowing steward with a second steward aboard to enable an inflatable raft (able to sit flat on the water when overturned, and with no lines hanging from it after being turned loose for the start of the exercise) to be towed by guide rope (s) to the center of the testing area.

The calling steward will ride quietly in the inflatable raft. If conditions allow, the calling steward may use their arms to paddle the inflatable raft into position instead of being towed. Upon receiving an arm signal from the judges, the steward in the kayak, canoe or rowboat will set the raft free, and the rowing steward will exit as fast as ~~at all~~ possible from the testing area, as the raft is not expected to remain in its released position for very long in most test conditions.

The steward in the raft will watch for the arm signal from the judge to begin the exercise. This signal will be given as quickly as possible for the above test site/wind/current reasons. The timing must be such that there are no delays in the towing craft very quickly leaving the area, the judge signaling to the calling steward and the calling steward beginning the exercise immediately.

The calling steward will then loudly call out for help as he/she capsizes and overturns the raft in one motion. **If weather or current conditions warrant the steward may begin in the water and flip the raft over his/her head while loudly calling for help.** The steward ~~quickly moves to the stern of the raft,~~ will hold the shore side of the raft up approximately 3 inches ~~with the left hand~~ to be certain the raft is held as much as possible parallel to shore. The calling steward continues to call the dog for help, using words consistent with being in distress, such as “help me”, “come and save me”, etc. The calling steward does not use the dog’s name.

The calling steward must lower the raft to lie flat on the surface of the water as the dog approaches to **within** 10 feet from the raft. It may help for the steward to have measured this distance prior to the start of the test, in order for a uniform approximate distance to be used for each dog. The calling steward may expect the dog to swim in under the raft from any side, and should be prepared to immediately grab hold of the dog for the ride out from under the raft. The calling steward does not have the dog grab hold of him/her. The calling steward immediately grabs hold of the dog and prepares to be brought out from under the raft quickly.

The dog is permitted to exit any side of the raft. **For the stewards safety**, the steward is permitted to lift up on the side of the raft ~~as he/she and~~ **after the dog has exited** from under the raft to avoid any down-turned handles or to ensure the steward's lifejacket does not catch in any way on the raft. The rescue is ~~very much~~ a success when the dog swims out from under the raft with the steward in tow. ~~Therefore, the steward may ensure his/her safety in coming out from under the raft.~~

The dog will then tow the steward, riding quietly behind, having moved back to ~~be~~ hold onto the hindquarters (but not the tail) of the dog. **The steward will remain free floating and hold onto the dog until the dog reaches wading depth and the steward touches hands with the handler.** The handler will wade into the water when the steward and dog are on the return trip from the raft and will touch hands with the steward ~~BEFORE~~ **when** the dog reaches his/her wading depth. The judges will immediately whistle completion of the exercise, at which time the steward may stand up.

Exercise #5, ~~Delivery of a Line From a Stranded Boat to Shore~~

One rowing steward, one ballast steward (~~if necessary~~), one calling steward, two beach stewards.

The calling steward must not go into the water; however, he/she will be required to hold onto the wet dog after completion of the exercise until the boat returns with the handler. Two stewards are required to hold the boat steady in the water while the dog and handler get aboard. They will push the boat off when the handler indicates readiness ~~for this~~. **An anchor system is** necessary. This may either be an under the surface of the water system to clip onto when the boat reaches the desired distance from shore, or may be an anchor dropped from the boat.

A beach steward hands the 125 foot line to the handler. The handler brings the 125 ft. line, which may be on a winding device or in a container with him/her to the boat. When the handler indicates readiness to the judges, the beach stewards will push the boat off, so that the rowing steward may row the boat out so that the back of the platform is 100ft. from shore. An anchor system may be used to enable the rower to keep the boat in position with the platform facing the shoreline, and the boat held at the 100ft. distance.

The handler indicates readiness to proceed and the judges signal the handler to give the dog the rope and to jump from the boat. The calling steward should have approached the shoreline to stand quietly near the water in the center of the test area as the boat was being rowed out. The calling steward will watch for the dog to have left the boat with the line in his/her mouth, to have surfaced the water, and is just **STARTING TO SWIM TOWARDS SHORE** before beginning to call the dog. The steward will not call the dog by name. The calling steward will loudly call for the dog to bring the rope to him/her **and**

may also use arm motions. continuously. Praising words may be used in between commands for the dog to come with the rope.

The judges will note that, while it is natural for the dogs to stand and look back to their handlers for further instructions once they reach their wading depth, the dogs should not turn back and begin swimming towards the boat before the completion of the exercise. Therefore, it is extremely important that the rowing steward keep the boat at the full distance until completion of the exercise.

The dog will deliver the line to the steward on shore. It is not the responsibility of the steward to determine commands or words that might be used to get the dog to hold onto the line long enough for the steward to take hold of the line. However, the steward should take hold of the line as soon as he/she is able to reach it while still on shore. The dog does not have to give up the line.

The steward may move down the shoreline to meet the dog. The judges will whistle completion of the exercise as soon as the steward has hold of any part of the line. The steward should then immediately take hold of the dog's collar to detain the dog on shore or in shallow water pending arrival of the handler riding back in the boat. In this way, the dog is not permitted to incorrectly assume that he/she may return to the boat at any time. Instead, the handler should come to the dog to avoid the chances of the dog performing the exercise incorrectly (swimming back to the handler) in future performances.

Exercise #6, ~~Rescue of Hidden Victims Behind a Boat~~

Two calling stewards, one rowing steward, one ballast steward (~~if necessary~~).

The two water stewards ride out on the platform of the boat, rowed by a third steward to 75ft and parallel to shore.

(It is recommended, to save time, to put the next dog's line with bumper in the boat at this time. That way, when this exercise is finished, the boat steward can remain at 75 feet from shore and attach the line to the boat which saves the time of rowing into position. If this option is chosen the boat must also be in this position when the first dog to be tested enters the test area so that it is that same for every dog.)

Once the boat is in place, the rower should attach the anchor system, or drop the anchor into the water. Each of the two water stewards then exit quietly from the platform and move to the seaward side of the boat. One water steward is at the bow of the boat, and the other is towards the stern. The stewards hold onto the lip of the boat and await instructions from the rower.

The rowing steward gives a brief arm signal when the stewards are in place, whereupon the judges will signal back to the rowing steward to quietly tell the calling stewards to begin calling for help. The stewards should call as if in distress **but their bodies and splashing should not be visible from shore. If the stewards cannot be heard well from**

shore they may also bang on the boat. The rowing steward should, at that time, bring the oars into the boat, and should remain quietly in the boat, avoiding eye contact with the dog.

However, when the dog approaches the boat, the anchor system should be detached or the anchor pulled up to avoid the dog attempting to retrieve or get tangled up in the line. Should the dog come around the boat with only one of the two stewards in tow, the rowing steward re-attaches or drops the anchor again once the dog is **well away** from the boat with the steward to keep the boat in place until the dog approaches the boat once again to get the second **steward victim**.

The calling stewards should call in a manner consistent with being in distress; but without using the dog's name. ~~Certainly,~~ Once the dog has appeared in sight of the stewards, praising words may be interspersed with those commanding the dog to come and save them. As soon as the dog reaches close enough for one or the other steward to take hold of the dog without losing his/her grip on the lip of the boat, the steward should grab the dog and work his/her way back to the outside hip of the dog to make room for the other steward to take hold of the inside hip in case the dog elects to bring back both stewards at once. If the dog comes close enough to the second steward for him/her to grab hold of the dog without losing his/her grip on the lip of the boat, that steward should also take hold of the dog and work his/her way back to the inside hip.

Depending upon how close the dog swims alongside the ~~floating~~ boat to come around the corner, one of the stewards may have to push off a little to avoid being scraped too closely along the boat. The stewards will avoid conversation with one another or with the dog to avoid distracting the dog at work, which ~~who~~ will be focused upon reaching the handler.

The handler will wade in to the pre-determined distance when the dog is on the return trip with the steward (s) in tow. The steward(s) may stand and walk out of the water as soon as the handler touches the hand of the steward(s). ~~and the judges whistle completion.~~ The judges will whistle **completion of the exercise when** ~~as soon as~~ the handler touches the hand of the **second** steward(s).

This clears the way for the handler to immediately command the dog to swim back to the boat if the dog brought only one steward in at a time. The rowing steward must be watching the ~~judge~~ **handler** carefully to be able to tell the remaining calling steward to begin calling **as soon as** the handler directs the dog to go back to the boat.

There should not be a delay between the time **the first steward** ~~to~~ stands up and leaves the water and ~~when~~ the judge signals the rower to tell the remaining steward to begin calling again. Although the handler may not touch the dog to keep him/her ~~there~~ in the water waiting for further instructions, neither can the handler be reasonably expected to ask the dog to commit to swimming depth, moving back towards the boat within 20 seconds ~~again~~ if the calling steward is not calling for the dog. The judges, calling and rowing

stewards must be alert for the sequence of the remainder of the exercise should a dog bring in only one steward at a time.

The handler remains at the pre-determined depth in the water until the dog returns with the second steward, arriving close enough to touch hands with the ~~stewards~~ **handler**. The judges will immediately whistle completion of the exercise, at which point the steward may stand up and leave the water.

IV. Requirements of Provisional Judges

1. Provisional judges must judge a minimum of three (3) judging assignments. These tests must be with at least two (2) different judges and in at least three (3) different locations.

At the first two (2) assignments, the mentor judging with the provisional will provide the WDC with a written evaluation of the provisional judge's performance. However, the provisional judge may not accept a second, **or third**, judging assignment until he/she receives confirmation that the first, **and second**, evaluations ~~has~~ **have** been reviewed by the WDC, which will provide the provisional judge with summaries from the comments received. The WDC chair will advise the provisional judge of the status of the evaluations.

If the **first** two evaluations contain sufficient positive feedback, the provisional judge will be approved to continue judging without need for further formal evaluations. Feedback from exhibitors will also be considered before advising the provisional judge that he/she has successfully completed the evaluation requirements. **If any of the evaluations are not positive additional evaluations may will be required. A provisional judge needs at least two positive evaluations to complete the evaluation requirements. If a provisional judge continues to receive evaluations, from mentor judges or exhibitors, which are not positive, a member of the WDC will be asked to observe this judge. If the provisional judge does not improve or meet the standards expected by the WDC the judge will not be allowed to continue in the judging process. (please check this to be sure it's what we wanted)**

2. Provisional judges must exhibit a dog at least once every three (3) years in whatever type of test is appropriate, water or draft. Requalifications are allowed, and the exhibition does not need to result in a passing performance. However, for the exhibition to qualify for this requirement, the dog must complete the test and participate in each of the exercises.

Provisional judges who are delinquent in the exhibiting requirement may not accept judging assignments. Their judging status will be flagged on the NCA Website until they have completed the necessary requirements.

3. Provisional judges are encouraged to continue their experience and education. See Section IX for suggested activities.

THE JUDGE'S CORNER

NCA Working Dog Committee Publication
Spring 2012

THE JUDGES' CORNER newsletter is being presented by the Working Dog Committee for NCA judges' continuing education, to keep our judges updated on any regulation changes or updates and to share experiences of how other judges have handled a challenging situation.

Newly Approved Changes to NCA Water Test Regulations

As you all know the WDC recently updated the NCA Water Test Regulations. Some of the changes were due to adding the updated WRDX regulations to the general regulations while others were in answer to NCA board directives and test evaluations. The new regulations are posted on the NCA web site with the changes and updates in red. They will remain in red for one year to highlight the changes and make them easier to find. They are in effect now, April 2012.

These are some of the most notable changes:

All One Test

The WRDX test was added to the WD/WRD regulations to make it all one test with one set of regulations though offering the WRDX division is still optional and WRDX may still be held on a separate day. The new qualifications to judge the WRDX level are on the web site.

Equipment:

- Paddles may be painted, may vary from the 2.5 feet by 2 inches but may be longer. They may not be taped or have texture added.
- The coast guard approval must be visible on life jackets and boat cushions.
- A handler may use two underwater retrieve articles but they must be identical except for color and if the second one has to be used, due to the first one getting lost, then the dog has to retrieve the second item, not the first.
- Unconscious victim steward must wear a wet or dry suit unless it is too hot but, if so, they must at least have arm protection from the hand to over the elbow. A wet/dry suit jacket may be used or just gloves and sleeves.
- Life jackets must be adult or child size, no infant size allowed.
- Life jackets are optional for beach stewards.
- Dog Works life rings fit the criteria, don't need coast guard approval.

General regulations:

- If a dog leaves the test area while being tested or after finishing the test before being put on leash, that dog will be disqualified, even if that dog had just passed all of the

exercises.

-The use of a whistle to instruct the dog must be a voice produced whistle. Mechanical whistles are not allowed.

-A dog may be GENTLY pushed into a sit but no extreme force may be used.

-The WRDX test may use the same judges as the rest of the test or have a separate panel of judges.

-Special provisions for handicapped handlers are allowed.

-If the number of WRDX entries are limited at a test an entrant may enter the WRDX division and enter as a Senior requalifier so that if they do not get into the WRDX division they can still be entered in the test. When the test closes the entrant will have to choose to stay on the WRDX alternate list or keep their entry as a Senior requalifier.

-Dogs with titles may enter more than one division at a test as long as they already have a title in the divisions entered.

-The shore line may be only 75 feet wide for a WRDX test as long as the water area is wide enough for the water markers to be at least 100 feet apart.

-If the steward falls out of the boat while reaching for a line the exercise must be re-tested.

Junior Division Exercises:

-During Basic Control the dogs do not have to sit to start the exercises or finish the exercises with the exception of the Recall exercise where the dog must be left in a sit to start the exercise and may no longer change position.

-During the Take a Line exercise if the dog drops the line on shore and enters the water without the line the handler may pick up the line and offer it to the dog as long as the dog does not leave the water with more than two feet and the handler does not enter the water. If the dog drops the line in the water then the dog has to pick up the line and the handler may not move the line to entice the dog to take it.

-During the Take a Line exercise the dog must still have the line in his/her mouth when the steward grabs the line for the exercise to be successful.

-During the Swim with Handler exercise the handler may use any type of swimming stroke.

Senior Division Exercises:

-Once the dog has boarded the boat platform on the Retrieve off Boat and Rescue exercises he/she may not leave the platform until in position to start the exercise. The dog has only one chance to stay on the platform. Jumping to shore or into the shallow water is a failure after boarding.

-The dog must deliver the paddle to the handlers hand, it must not be let go until the handler has a hand on it and it may no longer be delivered to a steward in the boat.

-During the Life Ring exercise if the dog drops the line on the shore and then enters the water the dog may be instructed to pick up the line on shore if he/she may do so without more than two feet exiting the water.

-During the Take a Line/Tow a Boat exercise the dog must deliver the line to the calling steward, not a silent steward. The dog must hold either the bumper or the line adjacent to the bumper. They may not hold the line on the opposite end from the bumper.

-During the Rescue exercise the timing starts when the handler indicates that rescue is needed.

Excellent Division Exercises:

-Most of the WRDX exercises names have been shortened.

-The comfort break and wading depth have been clarified.

-The WRDX handbook on the NCA web site will be updated to reflect the new changes.

-During the Abandoned Boat exercise the rower will not toss the bumper into the water until after having released the anchor line. Also, the handler has one opportunity to redirect the dog which may be given while the dog is still swimming or after the dog has reached wading depth. Either way the dog must respond within 10 seconds from the first redirect command.

-During the Multiple Rescue exercise the dog has one chance to board the platform and may not exit the platform again until ready to start the exercise. It is emphasized that the stewards must watch the rower for instructions as to their position in the water. The dog has 20 seconds after jumping off the boat to be swimming toward a steward. Also, once the dog has brought a steward back to the boat they have 20 seconds to be heading for another steward. The dog may not circle the boat if no stewards have been rescued yet and after rescuing stewards the dog may only circle the boat once between each rescue.

-The Unconscious Victim exercise will now begin with the dog and handler facing away from the water. The steward must be wearing at least arm protection from the hand past the elbow if it is too hot for a full wet suit and must keep their fingers fully opened in the gloves. The dog may not cross over the stewards legs nor push the steward in to shore. The dog must have a hand/arm or life jacket in their mouth to complete the rescue.

-The Capsized Raft exercise may begin with the steward already in the water and just lifting the raft over their head if the wind or current conditions warrant such a change. The dog may only circle the raft once before going under the raft. The steward may not lift the raft to assist the dog to enter or exit.

The handler will wait at the dog's wading depth for the dog to return. Judges must watch the steward flip the raft for the Capsized Raft exercise before the test begins to be sure it is done properly and safely. Judges must also be sure that the raft stays inflated properly.

-During the Line to Shore exercise the dog has one chance to board the platform and may not exit the platform again until ready to start the exercise. The dog may no longer drop the line on the boat or it will fail. The calling steward only has to put a hand on the line, the dog does not have to release the line.

-During the Hidden Victims exercise the stewards and their splashing must not be visible from shore. The handler will meet the dog and stewards at the dog's wading depth.

Updates to Draft Test Regulations:

There have also been a few minor updates to the NCA Draft Test Regulations which will take effect for the 2012 fall draft test season. The updates are listed below:

-During Basic Control the dogs do not have to sit to start the exercises or finish the exercises with the exception of the Recall exercise where the dog must be left in a sit to start the exercise and may no longer change position.

-During the Maneuvering Course there is no time limit as long as the dog continues to work. If the dog stops pulling at any point along the course the handler has one minute to get the dog moving again.

-To begin Harnessing and Hitching the handler must give the steward their lead at the edge of the test area and enter the test area with the dog off lead to a spot that is twenty feet from the cart.

Reminders for Judges:

There is now a Judges Corner page that can be found in the working dog section of the NCA web site.

It contains the qualifications to become a judge and to move up in the judging levels. It also contains the judges lists, the test regulations and links to all of the judges forms. Most importantly it contains the NCA Judges Code of Ethics, by which you are all required to abide, so be sure to review them before your judging assignments.

If you are judging a test you may not also chair, secretary or chief steward that test. There is the risk that it would be too distracting and make it hard to do both jobs well.

Please remember to send in your test evaluations and your evaluations of provisional and observer judges. If you don't feel you will have the time to evaluate the provisional or observer judge in a timely manner, please do not accept the assignment. Most of these people are waiting for the results of their evaluation so that they may accept other assignments and it isn't fair to keep them waiting. Also, the NCA WDC relies on our judges to be our eyes and ears at our working events. Without your evaluations we may not know about a problem with the site or the test committee. They do remain anonymous when the results are given to the test committee.

We sometimes receive complaints about judges conduct or appearance at a test. Please remember that you are representing the NCA when you are judging. Wear appropriate attire and act professionally.

Judges should not be sitting down in a chair, on a wall, etc. when a dog is actively working. It is impossible to see everything the dog and handler are doing by staying in one position. Remember it is up to you to keep a test running on time. Be aware of the schedule for the day and try to stay as close to being on time as possible. Limit the chatting and seminar type instruction to after the test.

You must remain an NCA member in good standing to stay on the judges lists.

Changes to Working Dog Committee Contacts:

The WDC is currently short staffed and a few of our members are doing double duty working at two jobs on the committee. Laura Gallagher is the interim contact for Observer Judges and Dwight Gorsuch is the contact for Water Test Applications. Please inform your friends and regional clubs.

Newfoundland Club of America
Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda & Board Packet
May 24, 2012
Page 31 of 31

Thank you for taking the time to become familiar with our newly revised regulations and reminders.

Please contact us if you have any concerns about our tests, judges or regulations.

Your NCA Working Dog Committee

Tom Brant, Denise Castonguay, Laura Gallagher, Dwight Gorsuch,
Cindi Kursner, Sue Marino, Patti Pigeon, Pam Saunders