Newfoundland Club of America Board of Directors Meeting

FALL FACE-TO-FACE MEETING MINUTES

November 21, 2003 thru November 23, 2003

Cleveland, Ohio

President Tom Broderick called the meeting of the NCA Board of Directors to order at 7:06 p.m. Eastern time on Friday, November 21, 2003. The following directors were present: Tom Broderick (TB), Jan S. Boggio (JSB), Aura Ellen Dean (AD), Jack Dean (JD), Roger Frey (RF), Sandee Lovett (SL), Patti McDowell (PM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Robin Seaman (RS), Deb Wigal and Beverly Eichel (BE), *ex officio*. Absent were Jacqueline K. Brellochs (JKB), Roger Powell (RP) and Mary W. Price (MWP), *ex officio* AKC Delegate.

In attendance were guests Bob Rogers, Lynn Reinhart, Bobbi Paul, Donna Spino and Judi Gunther.

Approval of Minutes

Robin Seaman moved and Deb Wigal seconded to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2003 meeting that had previously been circulated and approved by email. Motion passed unanimously.

Report of the President, Tom Broderick

Tom Broderick, President, announced an order for handling items on the agenda and a time line for completion of matters.

Tom Broderick suggested that the minutes include a start and stop time of when items were discussed so the membership could better understand the amount of time that was spent on matters. It was the consensus of the Board that we would do this.

Jacqueline Brellochs arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Procedures for email meetings

Tom discussed a procedure for conducting business by email. The time frame will be: Set a date for items due in for the agenda, agenda items then due 14 days later. If there is to be a motion, it does not have to have a second. Seven days later the Recording Secretary will send out the agenda items consisting of motions and discussion items. A response is due back to the Recording Secretary in seven days. Motions that have a second will have a vote. If a motion is not approved unanimously on the first round, then there will be discussion followed by a second round. Each member must respond to each motion and discussion item. Five days later the results will be sent out to the Board members who must return their vote in five days.

Specific procedures:
A non unanimous motion may be sent back to the Board for further discussion and possible voting or may be tabled by the President to be discussed at the next teleconference. Responses have to be emailed back. There will not be executive sessions except for new membership applications.

The Recording Secretary will send out the minutes using the emailed responses that were received.

It was brought up about the Board starting a Yahoo Group for purposes of this emailing. Jack Dean moved and Deb Wigal seconded that the procedures for emailing be set up for a one time test on Yahoo and then to be evaluated after the first email meeting is completed and then have a teleconference to evaluate the procedure and approve the minutes of the meeting that we have discussed. The motion passed unanimously.

Time 8:14 p.m.

Report of the First Vice President, Aura Dean

Aura thanked Nancy Beres for the wonderful hand-drawn map showing the attractions and eating places close by the meeting.

Time 8:16 p.m.

Report of the Second Vice President, Sandee Lovett

Sandee reported that three people had expressed interest in the Sunshine Committee and she had sent out letters on November 19th to all committee chairs reminding them of deadlines for their annual reports.

Time 8:18 p.m.

Report of the Recording Secretary, Jack Dean

Jack had drafted a policy on the conduct of email meetings which was adopted by consensus of the Board**.**

Policy on Approval of NCA Board Minutes

1. It is acknowledged that the members would be far better served if Board minutes were approved by email rather than waste time at a teleconference.
2. After the Recording Secretary writes the minutes, he will send them by email to Board members. The email will contain a MS Word file in rtf format and an Adobe PDF file. The email will bear the subject line NCA_Official Initial draft of minutes of #####
3. All Board members will carefully review them and make any changes deemed necessary. Board members have seven (7) days to respond with any suggested changes to the email. The preferred method shall be using MS Word with the track changes feature turned on and making the corrections on that document. If that is not possible, a separate email with suggested changes may be sent.

4. After all of the changes are received back, the secretary will make modifications to the minutes taking into consideration the suggestions of the board members.
5. The Recording Secretary will then email out the corrected minutes and all Board members have seven (7) days to respond with any further suggested changes or comments on the changes. The Email will bear the subject line NCA_Official second draft of minutes of #####. If a Board member disagrees with any of the changes, the Board member is to email the entire Board with the concerns.
6. At that point in time, a final draft of the minutes will be prepared and sent to the Board members who will vote on approving them or not approving them. The email will bear the subject line NCA_Official FINAL draft of minutes of ##### for Board Approval.
7. If the approval is less than unanimous, then the secretary will inform all Board members who may make comments to be recorded with their vote.
8. Final approval of all minutes will be at a teleconference or at a face-to-face meeting.

Jack had also drafted a policy on Board members responding to emails which was adopted by consensus of the Board.

Policy on Board Members not responding to official emails

1. The NCA has a policy that Board members are to respond to emails marked official.
2. Unfortunately, a few Board members consistently do not respond even though they have received the emails and it takes two or three follow ups to finally get a response.
3. Such conduct is not acting in a responsible way and consumes considerable amounts of time chasing down the errant Board member.
4. The best deterrent is to let the membership know which Board members are not filling their obligation.
5. Therefore, if a Board member does not respond within the required time limits to an official communication, his lack of response shall be noted in the minutes together with his statement as to why he did not respond.

Time 8:27 p.m.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary, Robin Seaman

Robin reported that we had received a letter from Purina on the Parent Club Partnership Program. As of September 8, 2003, there were 262 members. From January1st to September 30th of this year, Purina has given $2,305.42 to the Canine Health Foundation with one half going to the NCA Health Challenge and one half going to the CHF fund. The cash will be distributed in February.

One Board member raised the question of whether CHF would match the Purina Fund and it is believed it will.

The Corresponding Secretary received an email from Orange County California Humane Society about a breed seminar for their Adoption Day on December 6 or 7th. The Corresponding Secretary will send a letter or email to the regional clubs in San Diego and Southern California with the information.

Robin also received an advertisement from Austin Postal Service Company regarding a bulk mail service they offer that might save money on overseas mail. The information will be turned over to the ***Newf Tide*** Policy Committee.

Marget Johnson, Publicity Chair, has been in touch with David Frye for the show at Westminster and everything for the website and the show announcements has been taken care of.

The Newfoundland Club of Southern California is taking care of the materials and personnel required for the AKC Meet the Breeds Newfoundland breed representation at the AKC/Eukanuba Invitational Dog Show.

Time 8:22 p.m.

Report of the Treasurer, Mary L. Price

The treasurer reported as follows:

NCA Operations		
Checking Account	5,612.57	
Savings Account	46,017.54	
CDs	154,458.58	
	206,088.69	206,088.69
"Distinguished Member" Restoration		
Money Market Account		1,161.52
Uniform Trophy Fund		
Money Market Account		4,236.42
		$211,486.63

In response to a Board member's question, Mary stated that the money for the restoration of the painting by Sir Edwin Landseer which will be used to ship it back to England is now in a checking/money market savings account earning .0045 interest. The Treasurer is to check into transferring the money to a savings account or CD since we are not going to be using this money for a couple of years.

Mary stated that she has not received any report on the 2003 National Speciality from the Niagara Frontier Newfoundland Club. It was due on October 24, 2003, and is now a little under 30 days late.

Mary further stated she had sent Niagara an invoice for funds due on the auction proceeds for the artwork for the Number 1 limited edition plate, as well as the limited edition plate. On November 10, 2003 she received a check for $2,073.77. The expected amount was to be $3,213 but deducted from the proceeds was $832.00 for catering costs at the Board meeting. No check was received for the promised proceeds of 15% of the gross from the auction which would be about $2,400 each for the Newfoundland Health Challenge and NCA Rescue.

Regarding the financial statement from the National, Tom Broderick stated that he had spoken to Henry Jurczyk, National Specialty Chairman, who said that the report would be delivered in the first or second week of November.

One Board member stated that the Board needs to enforce its policy.

There was more discussion on the deduction for catering costs. The meeting room rental charges were paid for by Niagara Frontier. In the past some regional clubs have charged for rooms and catering and some have not. Sandee said that part of the catering bill may be for the WDC reception. There were two letters and some verbal communication before the National about the WDC charges and the $832 could be spread over several events. The Board needs to obtain more details on this charge.

Mary mentioned that donations for the Lenox China have to be sent to the NCA. In the past this has not always been clearly communicated to the host clubs and there is a problem of how do we communicate to the host club? It should be put in the National ***Specialty Show Guide*** but it is currently not there. This is another area where the ***Guide*** must be brought up to date.

Time 9:04 p.m.

Report of the AKC Delegate, Mary W. Price

Mary W. Price was not at the meeting but her report was part of the agenda packet.

Mary wanted direction from the Board about how to vote on the proposed amendment to change the date of the 4th Delegates Meeting of the year, which is currently held in December. The proposed change would allow flexibility of the date, so that the Delegates Meeting could be held in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba Classic each year. A letter from John Studebaker of the Canine Health Foundation supported the change because the CHF sponsors fund-raising events during the Classic, and a Delegates Meeting in conjunction with the show would support CHF's efforts. A concern that had been expressed by some delegates is that it could mean a lengthy and uneven amount of time between Delegates Meetings.

Aura Dean moved and Sandee Lovett seconded that the NCA Board direct our AKC delegate, Mary W. Price, to vote No on the proposed article 18, section 1 which would

allow for some flexibility in scheduling the 4th delegate meeting of each year. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board recessed at 9:15 p.m. and reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

Possible Working Championship

Jacqueline Brellochs stated that only three people had expressed an interest in a working championship. The Board felt that due to the current low expression of interest and budget constraints, the matter should not be pursued further.

Time 9:31 p.m.

Changes in the Publishing and Preparation of the *Policy Manual*

Jack Dean brought up items on changes to the ***Policy Manual*** in the way it is laid out. Each committee starts at the top of a new page and for some committees there are only a few lines of text which means most of the page is blank. A better layout could easily save 50 pages and significantly reduce the costs. The consensus of the Board was to save space and printing costs by eliminating the white space and starting each committee right after the other.

It was also suggested that the chair develop recommendations on having updates on a regular basis and that the additions to the ***Policy Manual*** should be verbatim out of the minutes and not be paraphrased.

Time 9:47 p.m.

The JEC Video being shown to Prospective Judges

Jacqueline Brellochs stated that the JEC is using a video in their seminars which has not been approved by the NCA Board. Robin Seaman gave a history of the video. There was an AKC seminar a couple of years ago. The video used by the JEC takes about five minutes and was done by Sandee Lovett from the WDC to show the working abilities of the Newfs. The consensus of the Board is that the Board will review this tape at the face-to-face meeting at the National.

Jacqueline moved to have the motion to have the video currently used by the JEC reviewed and approved by the Board and to make explicit existing policy. There was no second and the motion was withdrawn.

Robin offered to provide the video at the National.

Time 9:57 p.m.

Creation of an Ad Hoc Committee on the Most Effective Way to Advertise

It was pointed out that we are spending a lot of money on advertising and it is important that we know what type and amount of advertising will be effective. No one currently in

charge of placing the ads has any real technical expertise. A committee of experts could advise the NCA on the best overall approach to use.

Jack Dean moved and Roger Frey seconded to create an ad hoc committee to study the effectiveness of NCA advertising. The motion passed unanimously.

Time 10:01 p.m.

A motion made by Jacqueline Brellochs and seconded by Roger Frey to add a sentence to the ***Policy Manual*** was withdrawn.

The meeting recessed at 10:08 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on Saturday morning 8:03 a.m. with all members present except Roger Powell and Mary W. Price, *ex officio*. Present was Bob Rogers.

Membership Report on Requested Changes in Application and Sponsorship Forms

As directed earlier by the Board, Bob Rogers, membership chair, reported back to the Board concerning a new member application, a new sponsor form and other materials. Bob had previously sent to the Board information he had gathered from other breed clubs to see how other clubs approached the membership application process. Bob's material showed a wide variation. Some clubs had almost no information on the application and other clubs had extensive application. Some clubs required sponsors; some clubs did not. Several common questions from many clubs were how long the person was in dogs, what work had they done with their dogs, their motivation for joining, and from whom they go their dogs.

Bob had also worked up an open book test to attempt to make sure that the new applicant has read the constitution and by laws as well as the breed standard.

There was a discussion on sponsors and the problem of sponsors not knowing the people whom they were sponsoring. Bob reported that people tend to be a member for about three years and then drop out with the big cut off of three to five years. If they stay longer than five years then they tend to stay in the NCA for a very long time.

It was the consensus of the Board to accept the proposed applications with the modifications to ask members to certify answers on the application as true and correct, to modify the question about dog sales to relate to puppy sales, to find out if they have attended regional club functions, and how they originally they had found out about the NCA.

Aura Dean moved and Roger Frey seconded to accept the proposed application with amendments required by the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Aura Dean moved and Roger Frey seconded the membership chair provide copies of all applications forms when sending the Board the list of new member applicants. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board then examined the sponsorship form and made some modifications with regard to the wording. There was a discussion about requiring a specified length of time that the sponsors had known the applicants prior to submitting the application. The Board realizes that it cannot put in place requirements that are contrary to the NCA By Laws. However, the Board strongly recommends that the sponsors have known the applicants for at least three years prior to signing the application and that the two sponsors should not be husband and wife.

Patti McDowell moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to accept the proposed sponsorship form with amendments as required by the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Part of the modified new application procedure was an "open book test" which is to be taken by the applicants. The subjects covered involved the Constitution and Bylaws, the breed Standard and other items. The Board felt that this would at least encourage applicants to read important NCA documents prior to sending in their application.

Roger Frey moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that we accept the concept of an open book test as optional for the applicants. The motion passed unanimously

Jack Dean moved and Deb Wigal seconded that the effective date of the new procedure be May 1, 2004. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board thanked Bob Rogers for all of the very hard work that he put into researching what other clubs do and developing the revised materials for the NCA.

There was a break in the Board meeting starting at 9:41 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 9:58 a.m.

Breeders List **Changes**

The Ad Hoc Breeders List Committee provided the Board with a draft outlining purpose, general qualifications and health issues. Cathy Sands, the chair, also provided voting break-downs for responses to issues, some of which were closed and some of which needed continued discussion.
There was much discussion about the purpose of the ***Breeders List*** and general agreement with the committee's purpose statement that this list should not be maintained primarily as an advertising tool for breeders but as an educational tool for puppy buyers. There is need for those interested in our breed to be able to find experienced NCA members who can answer their questions in all areas of our country (note: there are currently areas without regional clubs and/or areas from which none of our breeders are represented).

The Board then considered ten items proposed under "General Qualifications", adopting numbers 1--7 and 10, with modifications:
1. Must have been a member of NCA in good standing for five consecutive years.
2. Must be willing to serve as an educational resource for prospective Newfoundland owners.
3. The NCA expects its members to make a life-long commitment to all Newfoundlands and to cooperate in the rescue of any Newfoundlands they produce.
4. Must have no grievances at the closing date of the List which the Arbitration Committee has found to have a basis in fact and have been sustained.
5. Must always use a written agreement/contract in all Newfoundland transactions.
6. Must have bred an AKC, CKC or NCA titled Newfoundland.
7. Must have bred two litters while a member of NCA.
10. The NCA recommends that all persons on this list be a member of their NCA regional club. If the member is not in the US, then that person should be a member of the national or regional club in the country in which they live.
The bottom of the application shall require attesting to the following:

I (we) agree to abide by the NCA Code of Ethics and to cooperate in the investigation of any written complaints lodged against me (us).

My (our) signature(s) attests to the truthfulness of the information provided herein and authorizes the NCA to verify said information.

I (we) agree to make a life-long commitment to the Newfoundland Dog

The Board seriously considered health issue recommendations. While the Board strongly supports health testing for breeding stock, it was concerned with the amount of work to verify all claims that stock had been tested for Cystinuria, hip dysplasia and cardiology problems. The Board was also concerned that backing all claims could open us to liability suits. It was felt that written recommendations of the questions buyers need to ask breeders would help puppy buyers make informed decisions, obtaining results by "peer pressure" (e.g. noted that most puppy buyers have learned to ask about hip clearances).

Some Board members thought that by changing the ***Breeders List*** requirements that the list would attract a larger number of breeders. The list currently has about 40 members and those same Board members thought that the increase would be an additional 40 to 50 members with a revenue increase of about $2,400 per year.

Jack Dean moved and Debbie Wigal seconded to direct Jan Boggio, Aura Dean and Patti McDowell to make the necessary changes approved by the Board concerning the general qualifications to be on the ***Breeders List*** and to prepare the application and educational materials to be included in the ***Breeders List***. Motion passed 10 yes, 1 No, 1 absent. Yes (TB, JKB, JSB, JD, AD, SL, PM, MLP, TS, DW); No RF (I feel we should keep the qualification to be on the breeders list that the stud dog owner accept responsibility for dogs sired by their dog.) Absent RP

There was discussion that a few breeders did not want listed certain specific information such as address and telephone numbers on the website and it was causing problems in that a large number of people were then requesting the printed list. Jack Dean moved and

Patti McDowell seconded that the specific ***Breeders List*** names and information as published on the NCA website will be exact duplicate of the printed ***Breeders List***. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board thanked the committee for its work.

Jack Dean moved and Robin Seaman seconded to disband the Ad Hoc Breeders List Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Time 11:15 a.m.

Report of the Ad Hoc Health Committee on the Sick Dog Problem at the National.

It was brought to the attention of the Board that the AKC currently is starting a committee to deal with the same problem. After discussion it was thought that the NCA should proceed anyway because it might be some time before the AKC would reach any recommendations.

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee was reviewed in detail.

The Board considered the recommendations of the committee and acted as follows:

It approved a modified recommendation one that a "No Dog Zone" shall be considered at the immediate accommodations check in point at any National and that unloading and exercising dogs in the proximity of the common check-in shall be prohibited.

The Board had no objections to recommendation two but said that Dr. Steve Van Wie would have to work that out with the host club. The recommendation was: "Each Host Club should adopt and conspicuously post a Public Education campaign to be conducted in advance of and actively during the National to inform exhibitors and spectators of the canine health dangers inherent within large group canine gatherings and discourage inappropriate behaviors such as failure to clean up dog feces, nose to nose contact between dogs, etc."

The Board declined to approve recommendation three because the contract with the hotel was already set. Recommendation three was: "The Host Club shall be strongly encouraged to adopt a room reservations "excusal policy", applicable at any time prior to arrival, for exhibitors unable to attend a National Specialty due to canine infectious disease concerns. The excusal policy shall be communicated to, and agreed with by the host Hotel, and invoked upon presentation of a valid veterinary statement of infectious disease present in the exhibitor's dog(s). The Host Club shall be strongly encouraged to adopt a room reservations "excusal policy", applicable at any time prior to arrival, for exhibitors unable to attend a National Specialty due to canine infectious disease concerns. The excusal policy shall be communicated to, and agreed with by the host Hotel, and invoked upon presentation of a valid veterinary statement of infectious disease present in the exhibitor's dog(s)."

The Board approved a modified version of the fourth recommendation as follows: In the case an exhibitor arrives on the show grounds with a diseased dog and makes such dog known to the Show Committee, and wishes to remain at the show, the Show Committee shall make every effort to locate lodging for the exhibitor in a manner that effectively isolates the diseased animal from the show grounds including, but not limited to, locating veterinary boarding for the diseased animal.
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The Board approved the recommendation that judges selected for the National shall be requested, but not mandated, to ask handlers to demonstrate the bite of each dog and to refrain from dog to dog oral contact.

The Board approved having disinfectant wipes available to each judge in each ring for the purpose of disinfecting between dogs or classes if the judge wished to use them but disapproved requiring that gloves be available.

It was the consensus of the Board that the chair of the Ad Hoc committee should work with his committee and the show chair of the National Specialty to try out various ideas at this National and then report back to the Board.

The committee will be continued at least until it renders to the Board a report on the problems, if any, at this upcoming National.

Time: 11:40 a.m.

Regional Club Liaison Report

Regional Club Liaison, Mary Lou Cuddy, reported that the Newfoundland Club of Northern California was requesting a change in their constitution but upon closer examination it was not clear if the material provided was the entire item and the Board requested that Mary Lou obtain more information and report back to the Board.

She also reported about the inactivity of the Mesquite Newfoundland Club and the lack of reporting. There was some increased reporting in the last few days and she will work with them to see if they can come into compliance.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 11:48 a.m.

The Board reconvened on Saturday afternoon at 1:08 p.m.

Sandee Lovett reported that she had called Mary Lou Cuddy, the Regional Club Coordinator, during the lunch break. Mary Lou will be contacting the Newfoundland Club of Northern California to learn the answer to the Board's questions about their proposed constitutional changes. She had just received some faxes from the Mesquite Newfoundland Club, which included their updated membership list. The consensus of the Board was to take no action at this time.

Time 1:15 p.m.

Budget Adjustments and Cost Reduction Measures

The Board then went on to examine the budget in detail in order to reach a more realistic budget which controlled the costs better.

A Board member brought up his agenda item that the quarterly updates to the Membership Directory are printed in two columns instead of the three found in the directory and contain a complete listing of all information on a member rather than just the changed information. That approach lengthens the directory updates and increases the cost. This year it was about $2,400. Just printing the changed information would significantly reduce the costs.

Jack Dean moved and Sandee Lovett seconded to update the Membership Directory change of address forms for one time in the second quarter which will result in a charge of $500. The motion passed 6 yes, 5 no, 1 absent.

Voting yes were JSB (Ditto Roger and Sandee), AD (Ditto Roger and Sandee), JD (I think the membership wanted this, and we can have the membership mandate reconsidered at the next annual meeting and the $500 will not make a significant difference), RF (Although I am against spending the $500 for the address changes, it has been mandated by the membership), SL (I support it because it was requested by the membership, it is important to support the networking among members), DW (ditto Roger and Sandee)

Voting no were TB (I voted no because, although having the changes of address is beneficial to NCA members, at this time due to the budget deficit I cannot support the $500 increase.), JKB (I do not feel the benefits outweigh the cost in these times.), PM (While the members requested the update they made that decision without any knowledge of what the costs were and our financial situation and while some items are nice to have, there are other items more directly related to the care and well being of the Newfoundland dog that would be better served by the investment of this $500.), MLP (Ditto Tom and also due to the additional work required), RS (ditto Tom).

Absent RP

In addition to reformatting the update directory to delete unchanged information, the Board further considered advertisements to generate revenue.

Mary L Price moved and Roger Frey seconded to appoint an ad hoc committee to investigate the feasibility of advertising in the membership directory and come back to the Board by the April face-to-face meeting. Motion passed unanimously. The Board named Mary L. Price, Aura Dean, Jan Boggio and Bob Rogers to this committee,

***Newf Tide* Revenue Increases and Cost savings measures:**

Aura Dean presented an analysis of items considered by the ***Newf Tide*** Policy Committee as cost-savings measures. These are possible ways of saving money, but the actual

decision is up to the NCA Board and technically the committee made no recommendation on any particular item.

Aura Dean moved and Jan Boggio seconded to raise the ***Newf Tide*** subscriber rate from $35 to $55 effective July 1, 2004 and international subscriptions from $ 60.00 to $ 70.00. The motion passed unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Board that all subscribers receive a copy of the ***Annual of Titlists***

It was the consensus of the Board that the costs of the international postage shall be set at another meeting prior to March 1, 2004.

Robin Seaman moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to raise the charge of a one page advertisement from $135 to $160 effective with the 2nd Quarter 2004 issue. The motion passed unanimously

Aura Dean moved and Jan Boggio seconded to raise the charge for a half page advertisement from $85 to $90, and the quarter page ads from $ 50 to $ 55.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Aura Dean moved and Deb Wigal seconded that because of the lack of interest we discontinue the whelping box advertising. The motion passed unanimously.

Jack Dean moved and Deb Wigal seconded to accept the report of the ***Newf Tide*** Policy Committee to increase the Best in Show/Group Placements to $ 50; New Champions and New Titlists to $ 35. The motion passed 6 Yes; 5 No Voting yes were TB, JD, RF, SL, MLP, DW Voting No were JSB, JKB, AD, PM, RS. Absent RP

There was a discussion about selling the covers. Most other breed clubs sell the covers of their magazine as a revenue measure.

Patti McDowell moved and Roger Frey seconded to allow color advertising on the inside front and back covers to members at $300 and $400 for member-vendors. The motion passed unanimously.

Roger Frey moved and Jan Boggio seconded to sell the back cover to members only at a price of $800 for only the first and fourth quarter issues. The motion was withdrawn.

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Jan Boggio seconded to eliminate the regional club columns which will result in an approximate savings of $3,240 per year. The motion passed 10 yes, 1 no, 1 absent.

Voting yes were TB (I was in favor of this motion because of the substantial savings that the NCA can save and that all regional clubs can have the opportunity to write a feature article about their special events.) JSB (While I support removing columns from ***Newf***

Tide, I think that it is very important we continue to hear in article format from the regional clubs), JKB (Ditto Jan) AD (Echo the sentiments of Jan and Tom), RF (Ditto Jan), SL (Ditto Jan), PM, MLP, RS DW

Voting no were JD (While I agree that I think it is a good idea to have regional clubs have special features articles, the savings is illusory because we are just shifting the money out of club columns and then into feature articles. I feel it would have been better to give the regional clubs a column every other issue and save about $2,000 while still having feature articles.)

Absent RP

Patti McDowell moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to reduce the articles for water and draft test from one page to one half page per report with an estimated savings of $1,350 per year. The motion passed unanimously.

Patti McDowell moved and Robin Seaman seconded that committee reports referring to the business of the committee be run continuously with a 300 word limit for an estimated savings of $1,350 per year. The motion passed unanimously.

Roger Frey moved and Jack Dean seconded to reduce the top-winning Newfoundland write ups in the 2nd Quarter issue from one page to one half page at a savings of $338 per year. The motion passed 8 yes, 3 no 1 absent

Voting yes were TB (I believe that the top producing Newfoundlands deserve the page allotted if not more but under these circumstances we have to take a hard line on the budget.), JKB, AD, JD, RF, SL, MLP, DW

Voting no were JSB (I think that by earning these awards these dogs earn a page in ***Newf Tide*** and I think they are important stories), PM (These are the highest awards we give out all year and the small recognition that we give to the dogs that are a part of our history and to give them less space than we give to skunks and kayaks does not seem an accurate record.), RS (Ditto Patti)

Absent RP

Jan Boggio moved and Roger Frey seconded that write-ups on regional club specialties be limited to 2 pages for entries under 30 and 3 pages for any entries over that number for a savings of about $675.00 per year. The current policy of the club paying for write-ups over three pages at the current per page rate will continue. The motion passed unanimously.

Jack Dean moved and it was seconded to recoup the costs for the scanning of photos at $10 a piece on regional club specialties so that the cost of all photos above four are paid for by the regional club for a savings of $1,920 while still permitting the clubs to have

their pictures in the magazine but sharing the cost of scanning the photos. Motion was withdrawn.

It was the consensus of the Board not to decrease the size of BOB, BOS nor limit the size of Select photos in the National Specialty issue.

Jan Boggio moved and Deb Wigal seconded to have a word limit of 500 words or less on the judges' reports from the National Specialty that should affect a cost savings of about $270.00. The motion passed unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Board not reduce the length of the VN write ups which would have saved approximately $540.00

Jack Dean moved and Aura Dean seconded to remove the Board minutes from ***Newf Tide*** and replace them with a one page summary in the magazine and let people who want them either receive them by mail or have them sent electronically to the members at a net savings of about $6,400 per year.

The motion failed 2 yes 9 no and 1 absent

Voting Yes were AD, JD (The permanent record will still exist as it does now in an easily accessible form on the NCA website and by mailing to the members but we will have a cost savings that is necessary to reduce the deficit. When we are back with a balanced budget, then we can consider returning the minutes to ***Newf Tide***)

Voting no were TB (Although $6,400 would be a substantial savings, I feel it would be a grave mistake to take our official minutes out of ***Newf Tide***.), JSB, JKB (I feel the electronic transmission of the minutes could work, but the logistics of accommodating the change would reduce the savings.) RF (Reiterate what Patti said), SL (Ditto Patti), PM (I feel NT is the official publication of the NCA and our minutes are part of our permanent records in history. There are few things in ***Newf Tide*** that are more important than the record of the business of the club.), MLP, RS (Ditto Patti), DW

Absent RP

Jan Boggio moved and Mary L. Price seconded that the Charitable Trust use its interest income to pay for an annual report and move the list of donors out of ***Newf Tide*** at a savings to the NCA of $945 per year.

The motion 10 yes, 1 no, and 1 absent

Voting yes were TB, JSB (I think we can make a better presentation for our donors. I think the Charitable Trust will make a better presentation by doing a better report), AD, RF, SL PM, MLP, RS, DW

Voting no was JD (All we are doing is taking the cost and shifting it the Charitable Trust and not saving any real money. Another problem that I see is that the rescue fund earns 2% interest on $20,000 and that is not going to be sufficient to pay the total cost.)

Absent RP

There was discussion of placing old issues of ***Newf Tide*** on a CD Rom and selling them. The consensus of the Board was that this should be referred to the ***Newf Tide*** Policy Committee for a recommendation at the face-to-face meeting at the National.

Patti McDowell moved and Robin Seaman seconded to raise the fee for a submission to the ***Annual of Titlists*** from $35 to $45 per dog which will be help to cover the expense in the publication and be effective for titles earned after January 1st of the coming year. The motion passed 10 yes, 1 no and 1 absent.

Voting yes were TB, JSB, JKB, AD, RF, SL PM, MLP, RS

Voting no was JD (This change does nothing to cure this year's budgetary deficit and I think that the change should be made to include this year.)

Absent RP

Jan Boggio moved and Deb Wigal seconded to remove the OFA information from the ***Annual of Titlists*** and have it placed on the NCA website at a cost savings of $1,400. The motion passed 9 yes, 1 no 1 abstention and 1 absent.

Voting yes were TB, JSB, JKB, AD, RF, SL PM, MLP, DW

Voting no was JD (This change does nothing to cure this year's budgetary deficit and I think that the change should be made to include this year.)

Abstaining RS. Absent RP.

The meeting was recessed at 4:59 p.m.

The Board reconvened on Saturday evening at 7:16 p.m. Present were members TB, JB, AD, JD, BE, PM, RS, DW Absent were JKB, RF, MP, SL and RP

Executive Session

7:18 p.m.
Robin Seaman moved and Deb Wigal seconded that the Board go into executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

At approximately 7:35 p.m. Board members JKB, RF, MLP and SL arrived with member Bob Rogers, who left for the time the Board was in executive session.

At approximately 8:12 p.m. the Board came out of executive session and announced that the following actions had been taken in executive session.

The new membership applications were approved for publication in ***Newf Tide***

Two members were added to the Finance Committee: David Helming and Dr. Howard Entman.

The Board decided on recipients of the Good Sportsmanship Award and the Heroic Newf Award.

The Board appointed the following ballot counters: Bethany Karger, Rhoda Hartmann and Debbie Zigo with alternates Pam Newsom, Trudy Stroup and Ed Fobes. Jack Dean will notify those people.

The Board appointed Patti Testa as chair of the Sunshine Committee.

The Board appointed the Nominating Committee consisting of Laura Gallagher, chair, and members Kathy Paxton, Cindi Goodwin, Pat Randall, Suzi Bidwell, with Chris LaMuraglia and Diane Broderick as alternates.

The Board found that, under the circumstances stated, it did not have jurisdiction to decide one member's complaint against another.

Time 8:13 p.m.

Budget Corrections (continued)

The Board then continued to examine the budget and made the following adjustments The ***Breeders List*** fee was increased by $5 and some Board members expect that there will be an increase of 40 to 45 NCA members on the list because of the changes in qualifications. The total anticipated increase in revenue would be approximately $2,400 per year.

Time 8:42 p.m.
Patti McDowell moved and Robin Seaman seconded to reinstate the $35.00 application fee for NCA draft and water tests which will bring in an estimated $1,400 per year. The motion passed unanimously.

Patti McDowell moved and Robin Seaman seconded that it hereby establishes a Board policy directing at each National face-to-face meeting one NCA Board member will be appointed to research the lowest cost location and meeting sites for the NCA Board for its fall face-to-face meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Patti McDowell moved and Robin Seaman seconded to roll back the budget of the General Education Committee to $3,575 (34%) as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Robin Seaman moved and Deb Wigal seconded that before a committee could hold a conference call they would need the express permission of the President. The motion passed 9 Yes 2 No. Voting Yes were TB, JKB, JD, RF, MLP, RS, DW. Voting No were JSB and AD. Absent RP

Robin Seaman moved and Jack Dean seconded to reinstate the fee that regional clubs pay to the AKC for holding their regional specialties instead of having that cost borne by the NCA. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board went over the budget line item by line item. Jack Dean had obtained from the Treasurer the Quicken Files and extracted from them the detail of all expenditures charged to each committee for the last two years. He distributed it so that the Board would know what the actual historic expenses had been, could examine them and see if they were likely to reoccur again.

The Board by consensus made the following line item modifications to the Budget originally proposed by the Finance Committee and adopted by the Board in June, 2003

The membership chair requested an increase of $ 1,500.00 to be added to his budget and was approved by Board consensus.

	Budget adopted in June, 2003	Finance Committee Revisions of October, 2003	Board Modifications of November, 2003
Revenue Producing Activities:			
Members' Renewal Dues	66,000.00	63,500.00	63,500.0
Applicants' Dues and Fees	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.0
	73,000.00	70,500.00	70,500.0
Less: Expenses	12,500.00	10,000.00	11,500.0
Net Membership Revenue	60,500.00	60,500.00	59,000.0
Newf Tide			
Advertising	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.0
Subscriptions	10,000.00	10,750.00	10,000.0
Less: Expenses	62,000.00	62,000.00	57,000.0
Net ***Newf Tide*** Revenue	-42,000.00	-41,250.00	-37,000.0
Annual of Titlist Revenue	6,000.00	5,775.00	6,000.0
Less: Expenses	12,000.00	8,858.00	12,000.0
Net *TITLIST* Revenue	-6,000.00	-3,083.00	-6,000.0
Breeders List Revenues	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,250.0
Less: Expenses	1,350.00	877.50	1,150.0
Net Breeders List Revenues	650.00	1,122.50	3,100.0

General Education Revenues	750.00	750.00	750.0
Less: Expenses	5,500.00	3,575.00	3,575.0
Net General Education Revenues	-4,750.00	-2,825.00	-2,625.0
Working Dog - Draft	250.00	250.00	950.0
Less: Expenses	400.00	260.00	260.0
Net Working Dog - Draft	-150.00	-10.00	690.0
Working Dog - Water	250.00	250.00	950.0
Less: Expenses	1,300.00	845.00	845.0
Net Working Dog - Water	-1,050.00	-595.00	105.0
Interest	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.0
Revenues, Net of Related Expenses	11,700.00	18,359.50	21,770.0
Board	10,000.00	5,500.00	5,500.0
President	1,000.00	650.00	200.0
Vice Presidents	500.00	50.00	0.0
Recording Secretary	9,000.00	9,000.00	11,200.0
Corresponding Secretary	300.00	75.00	75.0
Treasurer	2,000.00	1,300.00	1,300.0
AKC Delegate	2,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.0
Arbitration	250.00	0.00	0.0
Associations	100.00	100.00	100.0
Awards	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.0
Companion Dog	100.00	0.00	20.0
Database	1,150.00	1,250.00	1,250.0
Finance	350.00	227.50	250.0
Health and Longevity	600.00	400.00	1,000.0
Health Challenge	650.00	422.50	422.5
Health Liaison	400.00	0.00	.0
Historian	250.00	200.00	180.0
International Liaison	225.00	0.00	0.0
Internet	2,400.00	1,500.00	1,500.0
Juniors	400.00	0.00	0.0
Judges Education	2,500.00	1,500.00	1,300.0
Legal Services	1,700.00	1,000.00	1,000.0
Legislative Liaison	250.00	0.00	0.0
Liability Insurance	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,500.0
National Specialty coordinator	2,300.00	1,500.00	1,500.0
Newf Tide Policy	3,200.00	1,000.00	1,000.0
Nominating	150.00	27.00	27.0
Obedience	450.00	350.00	350.0

Policies	700.00	455.00	455.0
Publicity	100.00	0.00	0.0
Recognition	325.00	211.25	331.0
Regional Clubs Liaison	100.00	50.00	50.0
Regional Specialties	1,000.00	300.00	0.0
Research Advisory	250.00	0.00	0.0
Rescue and Referral	700.00	375.00	375.0
Rescue Prevention	750.00	487.50	187.0
Scholarship Fund grant	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.0
Specialty stipend	7,200.00	7,200.00	6,000.0
Versatility	100.00	65.00	65.0
Working Dog	500.00	325.00	125.0
Other ad hoc committees	12,500.00	1,300.00	0.0
Contingency	10,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.0
Misc. - prior fiscal years	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.0
Total Operating Expenses	82,050.00	47,420.75	45,862.5
Revenues, Net of Related Expenses	11,700.00	18,359.50	21,770.0
Excess of Receipts over Disbursements	-70,350.00	-29,061.25	-24,092.5

The Board recessed at 10:09 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened on Sunday Morning at 8:00 a.m. with all members present except Roger Powell. Bob Rogers was present.

WRDX Presentation

Sandee Lovett represented the Working Dog Committee in presenting the proposed Water Rescue Dog Excellent Regulations. She provided the historical prospective for the proposed test, which was developed at the request of the membership. The WDC began working on this project and gathering ideas for possible exercises over 5 years ago. Some members of the Old West Newfoundland Club took the lead and authored a set of exercises for a mock test in the summer of 2001. Using the exercises from this test as a starting point, the WDC designed a set of exercises for trainers to try during the summer of 2002 and asked them to provide the WDC with feedback. Only about a dozen trainers responded, but their comments were seriously considered by the WDC. Since several respondents expressed concern about the safety of the Capsized Boat exercise, that exercise was eliminated, by a close committee vote, and a retrieve of 3 objects from the boat was substituted, along with refinements of some of the other exercises. Judges and trainers were asked to try the revised exercises this past summer and provide the WDC with feedback. The Newfoundland Club of New England held a match to try out the exercises, which provided some feedback. The exercises were discussed and demonstrated at a number of training workshops. Once again, however, very few

comments were received. The general feedback on the triple retrieve exercise was negative, however, so after much discussion and a committee re-vote, the original capsized boat exercise was re-instated. The resulting proposed WRDX Regulations, which were being presented to the Board, had evolved through many votes on the individual items. The Working Dog Committee wanted to emphasize that the WRDX Exercises were not meant for every Newfoundland. As the introduction to the exercises states, they require a high level of physical stamina and teamwork between the dog and handler.

The Board members discussed each of the proposed exercises, one by one, and offered their suggestions. Many of them focused on the safety of the dogs since they will be required to swim longer distances for extended periods of time. One of the safety suggestions was that the dogs should be required to prove their physical fitness by passing a pre-test swim, prior to participation in a test. Another one included positioning one of the judges in a boat on the water so that safety issues and exercise completion could be more easily observed. It was also suggested that the steward in the capsized boat and unconscious victim exercises should wear a full wetsuit and that the dog might wear a safety vest with handlers to facilitate rescue, if needed. There was also concern that the exercises be as realistic as possible regarding when an handler may touch the dog and how the exercises are set up to begin. Sandee and Tom, who are both members of the Working Dog Committee, took careful notes of the suggestions that were given. It was the consensus of the Board that the suggestions should be sent to the Committee for its consideration. The Board gave conditional approval of the WRDX Regulations for implementation in the summer of 2004, provided the remaining issues could be resolved. Tom and Sandee planned to meet, following the meeting, to identify the main issues from the Board's discussion that should be presented to the WDC.

Time 10:11 am

***Newf Tide* Publications Contracts**

All Board members were present except Jan Boggio who left the room during this discussion and Roger Powell who was absent.

Aura Dean, the ***Newf Tide*** Policy Chair presented the contract information for the editor of ***Newf Tide***, the Editor of the Annual and the Printer.

Aura Dean moved and Deb Wigal seconded that we approve the contract for Jan Boggio to continue as editor of ***Newf Tide***. The motion passed unanimously.

Aura Dean moved and Roger Frey seconded that the contract with the Printing Center be extended for the next two issues with the possibility of extending it for a third issue and then be re-evaluated after the NTPC had further reviewed scanning and pre-press costs. The motion passed unanimously.

Aura Dean moved and **Sandee Lovett** seconded that we accept the recommendation of the ***Newf Tide Policy*** Committee to award a contract with the job description as

recommended by the ***Newf Tide*** Policy Committee to Meredith Reggie for editor of the ***Annual of Titlists, for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006***. The motion passed unanimously.

Aura Dean moved and Jan Boggio seconded that the cost of a back issue of ***Newf Tide*** would be increased from $12 to $15. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board then adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Dean
NCA Recording Secretary