

**Newfoundland Club of America Board of Directors Meeting  
Teleconference**

**February 19, 26, and March 11, 2004**

President Tom Broderick called the meeting of the NCA Board of Directors to order at 8:34 p.m. Eastern time on Thursday February 19, 2004. The following directors were present: Tom Broderick (TB), Jan S. Boggio (JSB), Jacqueline K. Brellochs (JKB), Aura Ellen Dean (AD), Jack Dean (JD), Roger Frey (RF), Sandee Lovett (SL), Patti McDowell (PM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Robin Seaman (RS), Roger Powell (RP), Deb Wigal (DW). Absent were Beverly Eichel (BE), *ex officio*, Mary W. Price (MWP), *ex officio* AKC Delegate. Present were Board members-elect Mary Lou Cuddy and Mary Lou Roberts

Time 8:36 p.m.

**Review of Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the face-to-face meeting

**Policy modification in email meeting procedures**

The Board, by consensus, made the following modifications to the email procedure passed in the last teleconference: if a motion comes in without a second, then the recording secretary shall automatically second it.

Time 9:20 p.m.

**Members' Dues Increase**

As there was a dues increase motion in the email meeting, the record reflected that Mary L. Price made a motion and Jack Dean as Recording Secretary automatically seconded it under procedure to increase the members' dues from \$50 to \$55. The motion was withdrawn to be considered fresh at this meeting.

Roger Frey moved and Patti McDowell seconded that we increase the membership dues in each category.

There was a question about senior dues and if we should change juniors' dues.

Roger Powell moved to amend the motion and Jacqueline seconded the motion to amend the outstanding motion to read that we increase the membership dues. The motion passed unanimously.

The vote on the amended motion carried 11 Yes 1 No Voting Yes were TB, JSB, JKB, AD, RF, SL, PM, MLP, RP, RS, DW Voting no was JD (I cannot agree to a blanket increase in dues without specific numbers and without tying it to cost savings reduction.)

Patti McDowell moved and Jan Boggio seconded that the membership renewal form be modified as follows:

1. *Newf Tide* and *Annual of Titlists* subscription ONLY \$55
1. Single membership with *Newf Tide* and *Annual of Titlists* \$75
2. Double membership with *Newf Tide* and *Annual of Titlists* \$80

The Board members then discussed the motion and made statements as follows:

Currently the total projected cost per member for *Newf Tide*, the roster, the *Annual of Titlists*, the election ballots and the annual meeting notice is \$42.89 and the actual cost for the year ending June 30 was \$38.60.

This new procedure will highlight the cost of *Newf Tide*.

There should be a differential dues structure based upon new members paying top rate and old members paying only a \$5 increase.

There should be reduced fees for water and draft test and reduced registration fees by having the NCA pay for these items.

We had eliminated fees for regional specialty and working events. The economy had gone down, and a year ago we had extra funds for the rescue issue. We tried to increase the budget for our committees to operate and handle their requests. Namely, General Education with their ads; Rescue Prevention teleconferences. All of that ate into our reserves.

We sent two people to AKC Parent Club Conference and two people to the AKC Health Conference.

We have not raised the dues since 1992 and need to increase dues and our reserves.

The motion passed 7 yes 5 no. Voting yes were TB, JSB, JKB, P MCD, MLP, RS, DW  
Voting no were AD, JD, RF, SL, RP

The reasons given by Board members were as follows:

Voting Yes TB: My decision to increase dues was made after carefully considering all the information available. The Board has made modest committee cuts where necessary and took steps to control NCA Board spending. In order to continue the fine service to our membership and great tradition, I find it necessary to support this dues increase. I am sure the membership involved in our wonderful organization will approve. JSB:

Membership in the NCA is well worth \$20. I hope we will be able to resume operation of the club fully in the coming fiscal year and be able to afford to put *Newf Tide* back as it was prior to the November face to face meeting. JKB: My position to support this motion is reflected in the recorded Board discussion prior to the vote.

PM: While I am not happy that we have had to raise dues, I understand the work of the club is very important and we must not only be able to maintain our current level of services but must also be able to move forward. We cannot effectively serve the breed or the members without sufficient resources. MLP: This increase is needed to provide programs and services for our breed and its fanciers. RS: Ditto Mary L and Jan. DW: Ditto Mary L and Jan

Voting no were:

AD: After careful consideration of all of the factors provided I can support a dues increase but not of this magnitude. I vote as I do knowing full well the amount of time and money devoted to many of our services and I want that to continue too. I am not sure by this dues increase we are accomplishing that. JD: If the basic cost is about \$40 per member and our dues are currently about \$50 or \$55, we are actually increasing them by 50%. We have not tied this to a cost saving measures and we could have saved \$6,400 if we had just removed the minutes from *Newf Tide*. Such an increase is far too high and will drive out the pet owners from the NCA and lose a valued source of ideas and help. RF: While I realize the need to increase the dues, I would have favored a smaller increase for one year we could then reevaluate our finances and increase the dues again if necessary. SL: Considering the other cuts we have made I do not feel that a dues increase of this amount is necessary at this time. RP: I cannot support a vote to increase dues without having before me an entire package with proposed dues for all membership categories and I believe an increase in dues should be tied directly to increases in benefits for NCA members. For example reduced registration costs at working tests.

Patti McDowell moved and Jan Boggio seconded that lines 3 and 4 of the membership application would say single senior membership plus *Newf Tide* and the *Annual of Titlists* \$60, Senior Double Membership plus *Newf Tide* and the *Annual of Titlists* \$65.

The Board members then discussed the motion as follows:

Senior dues were \$25 single and \$30 double before a dues increase. We are increasing them a large amount.

We are just now making seniors pay for *Newf Tide* and *Annual of Titlists*.

Seniors are now 63 and 10 years of membership. A Board member asked if we should raise it to 70 years of age and 20 years of membership.

These numbers were based upon the costs of memberships and the basic services. They would be paying \$15 less than a regular single or a regular double membership.

Patti McDowell moved and Robin Seaman seconded to amend the motion to \$50 and \$55. The amendment motion passed unanimously.

The amended motion was then voted upon and passed 9 yes 3 no. Votes on the motion were as follows:

Voting yes were TB :Rather than increasing the requirements for senior membership from 62 to 70 and years of being an NCA member from 10 to 20 years I voted to approve

the increase., JSB :While this is a large increase it actually offers seniors a larger dollar discount than before, JKB, SL, RP, PM, MLP, RS, DW.

Voting No was AD (Ditto Roger Frey), JD (This is a tremendous increase on seniors and again we are not offering the membership anything more and we have not really reduced our costs where we could. We are not the government that should solve our budget problems by just increasing the dues. It appears to me a sad thing that we will increase the seniors by so much and say that they should be thankful we did not raise it more), RF (I would prefer a smaller increase.)

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Jan Boggio seconded that membership fee for juniors with *Newf Tide* be raised to \$30

The Board members stated as follows:

Juniors right now are \$10 and \$20 if they receive *Newf Tide*.

The cost of *Newf Tide* for 2003 is \$24.63 and the *Annual of Titlists* is \$4.66 for a total of \$29.29.

It is reasonable for them to pay the actual costs.

It is a matter of principal. This just places on them the actual costs.

The motion passed Yes 10 No 2

Voting Yes were: JSB (*Newf Tide* and the *Annual of Titlists* is certainly worth \$30 and we have left that as an option and have not raised the actual membership fee), JKB (I agree with Debbie), AD (I agree with Debbie.), SL, PM, MLP, RP, DW (I just feel that we need to cover our costs and we are giving the memberships for free.)

Voting No were: TB, JD (We are talking only about 5 young people as junior members and it seems unfair to place the economic burden up them. Besides if the cost of *Newf Tide* is only \$29.29 and the subscription price is \$55 that means we are making \$25 on each of the 250 subscribers), RF, RS (With the NCA having only having 5 juniors I think we should somehow try to promote more juniors becoming members.)

### **Increase in the *Newf Tide* Postage Stipend**

Aura Dean, *Newf Tide* Policy Chair stated that there needs to be an increase of the postage for international mail to cover the actual costs. Currently, Canadian & Mexican members pay \$15 and all others pay \$35.

*Newf Tide* Policy Committee recommended that the Canadian postage cost of \$21.83 be covered by a raise to \$22. There are approximately 51 *Newf Tides* delivered to Canadian members. The costs of Mexican delivery is \$28.49 and it should be raised to \$30.

Aura Dean moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that the postage costs stipend for the next fiscal year 2004-2005 for Canada be raised from \$15 to \$22 and that the Mexican members' postage levy be raised from \$15 to \$30, which will cover the actual mailing costs. The motion passed unanimously.

Aura Dean, *Newf Tide* Policy Chair stated that all Europeans pay one postage rate of \$35.00. The cost of postage to Italy for our 20 members is \$38.82 and the cost to the Slovak Republic for our 3 members is \$42.06.

Aura Dean moved Jan Boggio seconded that for the fiscal year 2004- 2005 that the postage cost to Italy be raised to \$39 and to the Slovak republic be raised to \$42 to cover actual mailing costs. Motion passed 11 yes 1 no. Voting yes were TB, JSB, JKB, AD, JD, RF, SL, PM, RS, DW. Voting no was RP (I think it will be easier in the long run to have one postage fee for all the European countries.)

Aura Dean moved Jan Boggio seconded that the international subscribers air mail charge reflect the actual costs rounded up to the nearest dollar. The motion passed unanimously.

The General Education Committee developed a piece to be placed on the NCA website in light of the Josh win at Westminster because it feels that so many people will be going to the NCA website so they can have a Newf just as nice and pretty as Josh. Jack Dean moved and Roger Frey seconded to approve it. The motion passed unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Board to thank the General Education Committee for its work.

Time 11:30 p.m.

### **Recess of Meeting**

Roger Frey moved and Deb Wigal seconded to recess the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Board Meeting Reconvenes**

The Board meeting reconvened on February 26, 2004 at 8:33 p. m.

All members were present except Tom Broderick. Aura Dean, the First Vice President, chaired the meeting until he arrived.

Time 8:35 p.m.

### **Review of the Minutes**

The Board continued to work on the face to face minutes.

Tom Broderick arrived at 8:45 p.m.

Time 9:11 p.m.

### **Executive Session**

The board went into executive session

Jack Dean moved and Aura Dean seconded that the Board come out of executive session.

Time 9:46 p.m.

While in executive session the Board selected Robin Seaman and Tom Broderick as our delegates to the AKC Parent Club Conference to be held this fall and declined one new member applicant.

Jack Dean moved and Roger Frey seconded that the NCA pay the transportation costs of delegates to the AKC Parent Club Conference. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Report of the AKC Delegate, Mary W. Price**

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, requested the board's recommendations in casting votes in the March 8<sup>th</sup> election of three persons to serve four-year terms on the AKC board of directors. From the slate of four candidates, NCA board members recommended supporting the three incumbents, Dr. Tom Davies, Ronald Meneker, and Walter Goodman.

Additionally, Mary asked for the Board's direction regarding a proposed amendment to registration procedures which would permit, under limited conditions, a change in the name of a registered dog whelped in the United States. No change would be allowed if the dog had received an award at an AKC event or produced or sired a litter. If the breeder first registered the dog, that breeder would have to approve any subsequent name change. Passage of this amendment would enable AKC to offer incentives to breeders to register whole litters. The NCA board directed the delegate to vote against passage of this amendment.

Time 10:05 pm

### **Survey of Members at the National**

NCA Member Brenda McKeel had prepared a survey on how the members viewed the National Specialty and requesting their ideas. She had sent copies to the Board and had made modifications suggested by individual Board members.

One Board member stated that it was a smack in the face of the host club and that a survey should come from the National Specialty Committee.

Jack Dean moved that the survey developed by Brenda McKeel and modified according to Board suggestions be photocopied by her and forwarded by March 15, 2004 to the host club for distribution at this year's National Specialty and that the form be returned to Brenda for collation and a tentative report that would be forwarded to the National Specialty Committee, the Board and the host club chair. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Patti McDowell moved and Robin Seaman seconded that we send all of the information on the survey to the National Specialty Committee and ask them to report back to the Board at its face to face meeting.

The motion passed 11 yes one no

Voting yes were TB (All projects should be sent to the committee.), JSB, JKB, AD, RF (I voted yes even though I do not expect a response by the chairman by the deadline), SL PM, RP, RS, DW.

Voting No was JD (This is a slap in the face of a member who put the item on the agenda at the national face to face, then at the Board's fall face to face and both times the Board did not reach it. She prepared a survey and then, knowing that nothing will happen, the Board now refers this to the National Specialty Committee.)

Time 10:31 p.m.

### **Executive Session**

Jan Boggio moved and Roger Frey seconded to go back into executive session to discuss personnel 11Yes TB, JSB, JKB, AD, RF, SL, PM, RP, RS, DW

1 No JD (It is unfair to replace a committee chair without giving the chair any advance notice.)

Jan Boggio moved and Aura Dean seconded to come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board announced that during executive session Robin Seaman was appointed as co chair of the National Specialty Committee.

Time: 10:41 p.m.

### **WRDX Exercises**

The Board started with a straw vote whether to leave the exercises exactly as they came from the WDC. The results were 5 Yes TB, SL, MLP, RS, DW and 7 No JSB, JKB, AD, JD, RF, RP, PM.

The Board then examined the individual items.

Right now the requalifying swim is 6 minutes but it was raised to 10 minutes with the option of the handler to swim with the Newf. Passed with 10 Yes TB, JSB, JKB, AD, JD, RF, SL, PM 2 No JD RP,

To reevaluate the exercises after two years: Yes JSB, JKB, AD, RF, SL PM, MLP, RS  
No JD

The Board decided the following changes by consensus: Handlers should be able to touch and hug their dogs and have his arm around the dog on the boat, return the

exercises to that originally suggested namely not require a judge on a boat, modify exercise to have the dog outside the test area when it is being set up and then come into the test area.

There was a straw vote on whether to remove the platform from the boat and make the dog jump from the boat itself. Yes JD, RP No TB, SB, JKB, AD, RF, SL, PM, RP, RS, DW

Roger Frey moved and Deb Wigal seconded to approve the WRDX Exercises as amended. The motion passed 10 Yes 2 No Voting Yes were TB (Good luck to all WRDX entrants), JSB (Ditto Robin and Debbie), AD (I agree Robin and Debbie), JD (I agree in theory with Roger Powell and Jacqueline but I do not think that we can do anything at this point to make changes because they would cause intolerable delay.) RF (I agree with Robin and Debbie), SL (Ditto Robin and Debbie), PM (Ditto Robin and Debbie), MLP (I agree with Robin and Debbie), RS (I think the Working Dog Committee has worked long and hard on this project and this is a good place to start.) DW (I think the regulations may need to be reevaluated but I think this is a good place to start.) Voting No was JKB (Exercise #5's requirement that dog take victim 75' from shore out to a boat 150' from shore is unrealistic and counter to Newfoundland instinct. Moreover, as a rule of lifesaving is that the lifeguard should not endanger his own life, why would we not throw a life ring to the panicked person and THEN send the dog to help? Exercise #6, capsized boat is unrealistic as any boat other than the light inflatable stipulated for the exercise would sink and, so, is not related to the historical sea rescues which made the breed famous.) RP (I find the exercise unrealistic and not appropriate for a WRDX.)

The Josh piece from the General Education Committee was approved and it was agreed to advertise the openings for the WDC and the Internet Committee on the NCA website.

The Board set the meeting times at the National Specialty on Monday at 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Tuesday with trying to avoid meeting on Wednesday if possible

### **Recess of Meeting**

Deb Wigal moved and Robin Seaman seconded to recess until March 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m.

### **Board Meeting Reconvenes**

The Board meeting reconvened on March 11, 2004 at 8:33 p. m.

All members were present except Beverly Eichel

### **Report of the First Vice President, Aura Dean**

Aura stated that the Breeders List Application had been completed by herself, Jan Boggio and Patti McDowell. She also stated that the education portion of the project was still in the works and presented updates on *Newf Tide* deliveries.

### **Report of the Second Vice President, Sandee Lovett**

The Second Vice President, Sandee Lovett, reported that Bob Rogers, the Membership Chair, wanted a copy of the letter sent to a declined applicant for his files.

Bob Rogers also wanted to know when the new dues structure would apply to membership applications. The Board by consensus decided that on the new applications sent out after April 1<sup>st</sup>, Bob would use the new membership applications showing the new dues structure. Bob should wait until April 1<sup>st</sup> before sending out any forms even if he received applications in the meantime. All membership applications received after July 1<sup>st</sup> must pay the new dues structure.

The Board decided that in the future all committee applications should be directed to the second vice president.

Time 9:09 p.m.

### **Report of the Recording Secretary, Jack Dean**

Jack asked for advice on how the Board wanted to treat the various emails that were sent on the prior email meeting as incorporating them into the emails, incorporating the discussions into these meetings or something else. The Board by consensus decided that the minutes of the email meeting would only include a list of the topics discussed and the motions that passed.

### **Report of the Corresponding Secretary, Robin Seaman**

AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards in Conformation, Companion, and Performance events will be on the agenda for the face-to-face meeting. There is a June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Robin had contacted Mike Leosis, AKC Liaison for Breed Clubs on questions about dealing with constitutions and by laws. He said it was not legal under our by laws to have a different dues structure for seniors. He also said that to send the ballots to someone other than the recording secretary was absolutely one hundred percent illegal.

There was some discussion about the need for new bylaws and it was decided that there should be further discussion about this at the face to face meeting.

Robin Seaman moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded a motion to appoint a Constitution and Bylaws ad hoc committee. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Report of the Treasurer, Mary L Price**

The balances in the accounts were:

#### **NCA Operations**

Checking Account	3,104.09
Savings Account	26,066.22

CDs	<u>156,224.34</u>	
	185,394.65	185,394.65
"Distinguished Member" Restoration Money Market Account		1,162.84
Uniform Trophy Fund Money Market Account		<u>521.29</u>
		\$187,078.78

**Continued Report of the AKC Delegate, Mary W. Price**

AKC Delegate Mary W. Price reported the election results from the AKC's annual meeting, which was held in New York City on Monday, March 8th. From among four candidates, the three incumbents, Dr. Thomas Davies, Walter Goodman, and Ronald Meneker, were elected on the first ballot to serve as AKC directors for a four-year term.

Mary also reported the approval by the delegate body of an amendment to the Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline, which will permit, under certain circumstances, a change in the name of a registered dog. As reflected in these minutes, the proposed amendment was outlined to the NCA Board during a previous session of this teleconference.

Mary announced that long-time NCA member Dr. Jack Hyatt was seated at the meeting as the first-ever delegate of the Greater Hickory (North Carolina) Kennel Club. There are now eight NCA members serving as AKC Delegates for their respective all-breed or Obedience clubs. Additionally, Mary reported that AKC's annual report, which was distributed to delegates, features a full-page color photograph of former award-winning NCA junior member Adrienne Hill and her Newfoundland.

Time 9:24 p.m.

**Review of the Minutes**

The Board made further changes to the face-to-face minutes.

Time 10:45 p.m.

Deb Wigal moved and Aura Dean seconded to approve the minutes of the face to face meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Roger Powell abstaining.

**Miscellaneous Matters**

The Board then discussed the minutes of this teleconference and the need to have a teleconference to approve them.

The General Education Committee sent another pamphlet for Board approval. The Board by consensus discussed the pamphlet and approved it with changes in the type font and the cropping of the pictures. Some Board members had not seen it and it was decided that an email vote would be taken after the members had a change to review it.

There was a discussion of the 2003 National Specialty report submitted by the Niagara Frontier Newfoundland Club and disposition of funds. Tom Broderick said that he would write a letter to the club asking them for more specific information and to determine any amounts owed to the charitable trust.

Time 11:13 p.m.

Aura Dean moved and Jack Dean seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously