

Board of Directors Teleconference Meeting
June 19 and June 26, 2008
(Approved August 21, 2008)

Roger Frey, President, called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m. Eastern time.

The following directors were present: Jacqueline K. Brellochs (JB), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Barbara Finch (BF), Roger Frey (RF), Kevin Gallagher (KG), Sue Marino (SM), Kathy Mclver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Mary Lou Roberts (MLR) and Pam Rubio (PSR). Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Nikki Dobson, Linda Larsen, Robin Seaman and Cissy Sullivan were present as member guests.

Approval of Minutes

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy Mclver seconded to approve the April 28, 2008 face-to-face meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy Mclver seconded to approve for publication the April 29, 2008 Annual Membership Meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy Mclver seconded to approve the April 29, 2008 Annual Meeting of the Board minutes as written. 1 Absent (JB)

Kathy Mclver moved and Pam Rubio seconded to approve the March 27, 2008 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Report of the President

Roger Frey, President, asked Mary L. Price to update the Board on the fall face-to-face meeting. She reported that she had spoken to five hotels in the St. Louis, Missouri area. She is currently negotiating with the Crowne Plaza as it meets the needs of the Board the best and the prices are reasonable. She does not have a final contract yet.

Roger Frey asked that the Board be prepared to start meeting at 8:00 a.m., on Friday, October 31, 2008. There will be a working lunch and then the Board will break at 5:00 p.m. for dinner. The meeting will resume at 8:00 p.m. and meet until 11:00 p.m. The Charitable Trust Management Board meeting is tentatively scheduled to start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 1, 2008. The rest of the schedule for that day will remain open due to the uncertainty of two possible hearings. Starting at 8:00 a.m. Sunday, November 2nd, the Board will continue to work until a quorum is lost.

Report of the 1st Vice-President

Mary Lou Roberts, 1st Vice-President, reported that the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) met the week earlier. The CTMB voted to fund the proposed cruciate ligament study by Dr. Vickie Wilkie of the University of Minnesota at a cost of \$119,000.00 to be funded over two years. Progress reports will be made available for this study but the final results will be published four to five years from now.

The CTMB reported that fund-raising for both Rescue and Health Challenge at the 2008 National Specialty was very successful. The CTMB will consider new fund-raisers to replenish the Health Challenge after the cruciate ligament study. The CTMB is looking for members with estate-planning expertise to assist them in developing programs.

The CTMB is also working on expanding its presence on the *NCA Website* and developing ways for members to donate online. A mission statement is also being developed.

Report of the 2nd Vice-President

Kathy McIver, 2nd Vice-President, stated that all her items were under the committee reports.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the June 19, 2008 agenda and distributed it. She announced that agenda items for the July 17, 2008 teleconference would be due on Monday, June 23rd due to her vacation plans.

She also reported that the Northland Newfoundland Club is having great difficulty in finding insurance to cover club events and activities. She said that she would be adding this topic to the July 17, 2008 agenda.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Pat Randall, Corresponding Secretary, reported that communications that he had received were included in the agenda packet for this teleconference.

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the NCA provide medallions in conformation, obedience and agility for the 2008 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show.

There was some discussion about providing medallions for obedience and agility. The Board was reminded that the top five from each breed are invited to participate in these events. Newfoundlands have competed in obedience at this event before and it should not be assumed that a Newfoundland would not be shown in agility.

The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Pat Randall drew attention to the letter from AKC in which the AKC instructs clubs holding AKC events that agility events held through another organization may not be held in

conjunction with AKC events. The Board directed that a copy of that letter be kept with the Corresponding Secretary and a copy provided to the Specialty Show Chair.

Pat Randall informed the Board that he and Robin Seaman, Specialty Show Chair, have set up a procedure to exchange AKC information relating to shows to ensure timely communication.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$8,172.88; savings account: \$12,238.35; invested in CDs: \$263,117.84; and the NCA operations balance total of \$283,529.07 with \$4,063.01 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund money market account balance is \$9,179.23 for a total of \$292,708.30.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported that she had attended the AKC Delegates meeting in Quincy, Massachusetts on June 8-9, 2008. She attended the Parent Club Committee meeting, specifically to address the misconception that the Newfoundland Club of America had not participated in the development of the AKC Drafting title program which the AKC Board had recently disapproved. A letter had been written by Mary W. Price, Sandee Lovett and Sue Marino to the Parent Club Committee and others detailing the NCA's involvement and comments during the development of this program. Pat Laurans, Parent Club Committee Chair, asked Mary W. Price to speak at the meeting to inform the rest of the committee that the NCA had participated in the process and to outline our concerns with this program and with the dogs' safety.

There was much discussion about this misconception. It was suggested that an article be placed in the AKC Delegates' newsletter, *Perspectives*, detailing our involvement, comments and concerns.

Kathy McIver moved and Mary Lou Roberts seconded that the NCA submit a letter to the AKC Delegate's newsletter, *Perspectives*, outlining the NCA's past contributions and involvement with the recently declined AKC Drafting title proposal and its great concern about the dog's safety while participating in said event. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

There was additional discussion about addressing this in the *AKC Gazette* Newfoundland breed column.

Pam Rubio moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that a column be written by the Working Dog Committee for use in the Newfoundland breed column of the *AKC Gazette*. This column would address, in a positive manner, the safety, proper equipment and fit for the dogs competing in draft tests and using our tests and regulations as examples. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Mary W. Price updated the Board on the rest of the AKC Delegates meeting. She reported that there was much discussion concerning the AKC's consideration of a "mixed-breed registry". AKC has been reporting alarming declines in AKC purebred registrations. This would help the AKC coffers. There was much discussion at the meeting whether the Delegates would have any say in this matter or if the AKC Board would make a unilateral decision. Mary W. Price reported her personal concerns that AKC does not seem to have a business plan for bringing these dogs in.

She reported that the amendment to the Dog Show Rules to allow incorrectly entered dogs to be moved to the Open class passed. The amendment to change the wording to allow the AKC Board to set fees was defeated.

There was an update on the possibility of Group re-alignments. Under consideration is an idea of dividing the current seven groups into ten. This would be accomplished by dividing some of the larger groups, the shifting of several breeds and the addition of a Northern breed group. Parent clubs will be asked for their input.

The next Delegates meeting will be in Newark, New Jersey in September, 2008.

Dr. Terry Warren was announced as the new Executive Director and Chief Counsel for the AKC Canine Health Foundation.

At 9:00 p.m., Mary L. Price left the teleconference.

Reports of the Committees

At 9:18 p.m., Linda Larsen, Robin Seaman and Cissy Sullivan joined the teleconference.

2010 National Specialty

Cissy Sullivan, President of the North Central Newfoundland Club (NCNC), gave an update to the Board on the 2010 National Specialty. NCNC had been approached about hosting the 2010 National Specialty. She reported that the majority of the NCNC Board was willing to open the topic to discussion and that the NCNC membership would be voting on June 22, 2008 whether to host this National Specialty. Tonight's meeting is to be considered a for-your-information meeting. NCNC does have two sites that could be considered. One in Illinois and the other is in Wisconsin. There was discussion over the merits and drawbacks of each site.

There was discussion about what NCNC could expect from the NCA Board as far as help and support, given the short timetable. Manpower and financial aid were topics brought forward for consideration. There was some discussion of scaling back the National due to circumstances. It was stated that NCNC has very hard-working and dedicated members with lots of enthusiastic new members and that NCNC had had very successful National

Specialties in the past. It is a compliment to the club that they were approached to consider hosting the 2010 National Specialty.

The Board will be informed of the vote of the NCNC members.

At 9:52 p.m., Jacqueline Brellochs joined the teleconference.

At 9:58 p.m., Linda Larsen, Robin Seaman and Cissy Sullivan left the teleconference.

At 9:59 p.m., Nicki Dobson joined the teleconference.

Newfoundland and You

Nicki Dobson, General Education Committee Chair, invited the Board to submit their comments on the *Newfoundland and You*. She reported that the committee had their first teleconference last Monday and the committee members were given assignments. The committee will develop drafts on additional areas to include but not limited to color photographs of the different Newfoundland colors and a FAQ section. Many questions that NCA members receive are coming from people who have not dealt with NCA breeders.

At 10:07 p.m., Nicki Dobson left the teleconference.

Health Tested Open Database Awards

Kathy McIver, NCA Committee Liaison, reported that she had contacted Ingrid Lyden, Awards Committee Chair, about her committee taking on the TOD and TOD-D Award program. Ingrid Lyden had replied that she believed that this belonged with Health & Longevity (H&L) or develop another committee to handle it. There was much discussion about verification and if that was a time-consuming matter. It was stated that the choice of a donation to Health Challenge instead of the pin was only discussed by members of the Internet lists. The Board has not addressed that issue.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Sue Marino seconded to advertise for a volunteer to assist the Awards Committee to verify TOD and TOD-D applications.

There was much discussion about verification, the use of the titles in *Newf Tide* and the use of the NCA and/or the OFA database to verify the awards. It was asked that Dan Carr, Technical Resources Committee, call into the meeting on June 26, 2008 to discuss how the NCA database will be able to generate lists of awards winners.

The motion failed. 4 Yes (MLC, RF, SM, MLR); 6 No (BF, KG, PKR, KM, MR, PSR); 1 Abstention (JB); 1 Absent (MLP)

Pam Rubio moved and Pat Randall seconded that the Board table further discussion on the TOD and TOD-D awards until the July teleconference. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

Some Board members wanted to be certain that the Board is not abandoning the program, but merely working out the administrative details.

Breeders Education Committee

The Breeders Education Committee requested more information about where a request for more calendar information for the *NCA Website* originated; with the Board or the Technical Resources Committee. Some people were uncomfortable with the tone of the request. There have been many requests for calendar information sent to all committees. There is an effort to make the NCA Website calendar a useful tool for puppy buyers to use to attend local events and to find local contacts. An apology was issued to all who took offense to the tone of the letter.

Breeders List Committee

Kathy McIver, Committee Liaison, reported that the Breeder List will be included in the 2nd Quarter 2008 *Newf Tide* mailing. The question of whether to keep printing a hard copy of the *Breeders List* or if it could be published cheaper will be discussed at the fall face-to-face meeting.

Newf Tide Policy Committee

Kathy McIver moved and Mary Lou Cuddy seconded that the Board accept the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee (NTPC) to raise the postage rates for international subscribers.

The postage rates for international mailings rose dramatically in May, 2008. The Board agreed that international subscribers should cover the cost of mailing.

The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

NTPC asked for clarification of policy of whether the *Newf Tide* Editor, Meredith Reggie, who is an ex-officio member of NTPC and a Board member fills the requirement that a Board member sit on the NTPC. There was some discussion whether that policy had been changed. The Board elected to move on to other business while that was being researched.

Working Dog Committee

Observer Judging Requirements

The Board discussed the Working Dog Committee's (WDC) recommendation concerning the qualifications needed to be approved as an observer judge for water tests. An applicant had requested a variance from the qualifications currently in effect.

Pam Rubio moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that the Board accept the following recommendation of the Working Dog Committee: as part of the qualifications to apply for water test observer judge, an applicant will have titled one WRD and one WRDX each on different dogs or two WRD titles. The motion passed. 8 Yes (JB, MLC, BF, KG, SM, MR, MLR, PSR); 3 No (RF, PKR, KM); 1 Absent (MLP)

Specialty Carting Class

In response to a request for additional titles for draft work, the WDC revisited the Specialty Carting class. The WDC recommended that the already existing Special Carting be made more available by allowing regional clubs to hold Specialty Carting at any of their club events such as fun days, draft tests, etc. or as an independent event. There will be no application process or fee other than notifying the draft records person by email that they intend to hold the event, the date it will be held, the site and the judge. The certificates for those who pass in each division will be available to download from the NCA web site so that they will be uniform. After the event the regional club will download a form to send to the draft records person which will include the name of the regional club, the date of the event, the site, the judge, whether it was held with another event and the number of entries in each division as well as how many passed. The WDC would like to see this event highly publicized in *Newf Tide*, Regional club newsletters and in the e-newsletter.

Pam Rubio moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that the Board accept the following recommendation of the Working Dog Committee: that the existing Specialty Carting class be made more available to members by allowing regional clubs to hold Specialty Carting at any of their club events such as fun days, draft tests, etc. or as an independent event. There will be no title but a certificate for successful completion will be awarded.

In response to a question, it was stated that an article explaining this change will be in the next issue of *Newf Tide*. There will be no title, but a certificate will be available to give to successful qualifiers. It is hoped that novice Newfoundland owners would try this event and then move onto the draft test. One Board member felt the current Specialty Carting regulation were so far below that of the draft as to not be viable as a lead-in to draft work. Other Board members compared this to the tadpole or guppy class held at some water tests.

The motion passed. 10 Yes (JB, MLC, BF, RF, KG, PKR, SM, KM, MLR, PSR); 1 No (MR); 1 Absent (MLP)

Working Test Guidelines for Entries, Alternates and Refunds

In response to a member's complaint, the WDC informed the Board that the only issue the WDC could address was the complaints about procedures for entries, alternates and refunds. The WDC had submitted a proposed set of guidelines the day before the teleconference meeting. Some Board members did not have the time to study them before the teleconference.

Pam Rubio moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that the Board accept the recommendation of the Working Dog Committee for procedures to be used for the handling of entries, alternates and refunds. By consensus of the Board, this motion was tabled until the July teleconference.

WRD Requalifications

The WDC reported that an NCA member requested that the WDC reconsider her request to allow her WRD requalification. She had entered a test in the WRDX division as well as entering the same test as a WRD requalifier. She said that she did not realize she was not allowed to do so and that she thought they were still two separate tests since they had two different sets of judges. The WDC had previously disallowed her requalification because they did not feel that a dog should be entered in more than one division at one test. The WDC was asked to reconsider this decision because it was a misunderstanding and that no where in the rules does it state that it is not allowed. The WDC discussed that it is not clear in the rules that this is not allowed and that discussion was needed whether it should be allowed it or not. The WDC decision could be added to the addendum that has previously been discussed. The WDC was told that another NCA member also had her WRD requalification denied for the same reason. The WDC voted as to allow both requalifications to stand.

Late Water Test Application

The WDC reported that a water test application was presented late to the WDC. The application was over 6 days late which requires a \$50 late fee. When the person sending the application went to the *NCA Website* to see where to send it, Sandee Lovett was still listed on the website. It took a few days for the person to find where to send this application. However, when he started asking where to send the application it was already past the deadline and would be late regardless. The WDC decided to compromise, due to the fact that the contact person had not been changed on the web site, and decided to charge a \$25 late fee.

Newf Tide Policy Committee

A search of the *Policy Manual* as to how many Board members must be on the NTPC was inconclusive. This will be researched and a report made back at the next teleconference.

At 11:31 p.m., by consensus, the Board recessed the meeting until 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, 2008.

NCA Teleconference Meeting Reconvenes on Thursday, June 26, 2008

Roger Frey, President, called the meeting to order at 8:08 p.m.

The following directors were present: Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Barbara Finch (BF), Roger Frey (RF), Kevin Gallagher (KG), Sue Marino (SM), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Mary Lou Roberts (MLR) and Pam Rubio (PSR).

Jacqueline K. Brellochs (JB) and Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* were absent. Dan Carr was present as a member guest.

The Board briefly reviewed the letter from the North Central Newfoundland Club and their decision not to host the 2010 National Specialty. A full discussion will take place later in the meeting.

At 8:18 p.m., Dan Carr joined the teleconference.

Technical Resources Committee

Dan Carr, Technical Resources Committee Chair, reported on the progress of the NCA database. The committee is currently working on security issues which it hopes to have resolved in the next two weeks. Once the security issues are resolved, then the data can be loaded. A user guide will be ready within the week. In response to a question from the Awards Committee, Dan Carr reported that he is doing most of the tracking for the ROMs and VNs at this time. In response to another question, it was stated that all data collected since data was taken from the former database should be forwarded to the Technical Resources Committee.

The Breeders Education Committee had a question as to where the request for calendar information originated. The request originated from the *NCA Website*. The Technical Resources Committee apologized for the perceived tone of the letter and pointed out how easily email can be mis-interpreted.

It was reported that there had been a change in software developers as the original developer had left the company. The new developer seems to be better technically and is confident that the database will soon be ready for testing.

At 8:25, Jacqueline Brellochs joined the teleconference.

Working Dog Committee

Sue Marino, Working Dog Committee Chair, asked for the Board's approval of the Addendum to the NCA Working Test Rules: Handling of Entries, Alternates and Refunds.

There was some discussion of the procedures outlined in the addendum. It was suggested that some of the wording needed to be clarified. Meredith Reggie and Sue Marino will work together on clarifying some of the wording.

Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board approve the content of the Addendum to the NCA Working Test Rules: Handling of Entries, Alternates and Refunds.

It was asked if this would remain an addendum forever. Sue Marino replied that the addendum would be incorporated into the NCA Working Test Rules at its next revision.

The Board requested that they receive the revised addendum for a *pro forma* review and ratification.

The motion passed unanimously.

Internet Policy Committee

Kathy McIver, NCA Committee Liaison, reported that Marylou Zimmerman, NCA Webmaster, has some questions and feels that a policy should be developed to address password-protected sections of the NCA site. This led to a discussion about an Internet Policy Committee. There had been previous discussions about an Internet Policy Committee being a part of the Technical Resources Committee. There was discussion about the parallels between an Internet Policy Committee and the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee. It was stated that the *NCA e-notes* should be included under this committee. A Board member brought up the idea of a Communications Policy Committee to cover *Newf Tide*, the *NCA Website* and *NCA e-notes*.

It was stated that there is some difficulty in determining and defining what the Board needs or should see versus what the Committee would handle. Kathy McIver will ask the NTPC for its input.

Kathy McIver moved and Pat Randall seconded that the Board ask the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee for its input on becoming a Communications Policy Committee, to include but not be limited to *Newf Tide*, the *NCA Website* and *NCA e-notes*. The *Newf Tide* Policy Committee should develop recommendations, as in new committee members. The motion passed unanimously.

The Newf and You

After some discussion, the Board tabled discussion of the *Newf and You* revision until the July 17, 2008 teleconference. It was felt that the Board should send its opinion and not have individual Board members submit theirs.

Executive Session

At 9:20 p.m., Barbara Finch moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 9:54 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board approved the June 19, 2008 Applicant List.

While in executive session, the Board discussed committee vacancies and the posting of vacancies on the *NCA Website*.

While in executive session, the Board approved placing Jim Bricknell on the approved judges list.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Pat Randall seconded that the Board release the Health & Longevity discussion from executive session and report it in the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board discussed the H&L survey. It was felt that the H&L committee should start planning a new health survey. A well-constructed survey is needed for helping to determine where research funds should be concentrated.

Unfinished Business

One Person Committees

The Board considered the discussion item of whether a one-person committee should be referred to as “chair” or “secretary”. The Board took no action.

2010 National Specialty

The Board returned to a discussion about the 2010 National Specialty. The Board considered the letter from the North Central Newfoundland Club in which the club reported that members had voted to decline the invitation to host the 2010 National Specialty.

Kevin Gallagher moved and Barbara Finch seconded that the Board direct the Specialty Show Committee to draft a plan for the 2010 National Specialty and report back to the Board by the July 17, 2008 teleconference.

Barbara Finch, a member of the Specialty Show Committee, reported that the Specialty Show Committee is already considering options for 2010. It was asked if this would have to be a “bare bones” National Specialty. Barbara felt that it would not be although some things may have to be left out due to the time constraints. It was said that one of the reasons clubs are reluctant to host National Specialties now is because of all the events and the finances needed to host a National Specialty.

The motion passed unanimously.

There was some discussion about splitting the Specialty Show Committee into two committees, one for the National Specialty and the other for regional specialties. There was no action taken.

Sunshine Committee

There was a brief discussion about the continuation of the Sunshine Committee. When the committee learns of NCA members who are ill or who have suffered a loss, these members are sent cards and notes by the committee. It was decided to leave the committee as is.

Steering Committee

There was a discussion about the continuation of the Steering Committee. It was stated that there are several substantive issues facing the NCA and the Steering Committee would be the appropriate committee for those discussions. One Board member stated that he would prefer that the Steering Committee be an *ad hoc* committee with deadlines for reports back to the Board. There was discussion about putting additional qualified people on the committee. By consensus, the discussion was tabled until a later date.

Obedience Top Twenty

Barbara Finch, Special Show Committee member, stated that guidelines for this have been added to the *Specialty Show Guide*. In response to several questions, it was stated that the wording was such that it was left to the regional clubs' discretion as to how to handle the Obedience Top Twenty. Several members said that these guidelines do not address the points brought up by an NCA member. This member is looking for more continuity and respect for the Obedience Top Twenty. Once the Board has seen the exact wording of these guidelines, the issue can be addressed again.

Committee Protocols and Reviews

The Board briefly discussed protocols and addressing different issues of out-going committee members and chairs. It was suggested that the Board discuss the various committees and appointments at the National, but do the actual voting at the next teleconference. That would eliminate the Committee Liaison from having to locate committee members and chairs at the National Specialty or trying to make phone calls to those not present. It was decided that the Board members needed to give this more thought and discussion and will be addressed at a later teleconference.

There was some discussion about conducting a review of the committees' progress at the fall face-to-face meeting. It was agreed that this would be helpful to both the Board and to committees.

New Business

Approved Judges List and International Judges

In response to a request to clarify policy regarding automatically placing international NCA member breeder judges on the NCA Approved Judges List, it was stated that there is a policy in place. International breeder judges who are not NCA members would have to be voted onto the List.

Advertising on Puppy Classified Websites

The Board discussed an email received from an NCA member who asked that the NCA create a statement or policy about whether NCA members should advertise on puppy websites. After discussion, the Board referred this to GenEd, REACT and Steering

Committees for input due back to the Board by the August 21, 2008 teleconference. This is an issue that needs considerable thought and input.

Constitution and Bylaws Review Committee

Pat Randall moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board put on the July 17, 2008 agenda a discussion of the draft *Constitution and Bylaws* revision for the purpose of conveying to the committee the issues about which the Board is unsure or unclear.

It was stated that it would be preferable to give the committee time to address some of the Board's concerns about the proposed changes instead of waiting until the fall face-to-face meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Legal Opinion to Define Board Votes

Pat Randall moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board obtain a legal opinion on whether, in view of the Connecticut "not-for-profit" statutes, Board votes should be decided as a "majority of those present and voting" or as a "majority of those present." Further, should the opinion be a "majority of those present," the Board shall request an opinion on any remedy required to bring the NCA into compliance with respect to past issues incorrectly decided. Lastly, the *Constitution and Bylaws* Committee be apprised of the opinion and directed to bring the proposed Bylaws revision into compliance with the decision.

It was stated that the Board needs to clarify how votes and abstentions are counted. It is important that this issue be addressed now and the results forwarded to the *Constitution and Bylaws* Review Committee so that the definitions may be incorporated into the new document. The Connecticut statutes supersede the NCA *Constitution and Bylaws* and the AKC. The President will copy the Board on the letter sent to the attorney.

The motion passed unanimously.

NCA Website Information

Pat Randall moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that any time-sensitive information posted on the *NCA Website* (e.g. committee openings) be accompanied by the date of posting.

In response to comments that it is frustrating to find out-of-date information on the *NCA Website*, it was agreed that a date of posting would be helpful. Marylou Zimmerman, NCA Webmaster, had forwarded information to the Board as to how this could be accomplished.

The motion passed unanimously.

Working Achievement Award

The Board discussed the abbreviation to be used with the dog's name for this award. It was felt that the "WA" designation was preferable as the "WN" was too close to "VN". The "WA" would follow the "VN" abbreviation, if applicable.

Meredith Reggie moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that the Working Achievement Award be abbreviated as "WA" which would go in front of the dog's name and if the dog also has a VN the WA would follow the VN title. The motion passed. 11 Yes (JB, MLC, BF, RF, KG, SM, KM, MLP, MR, MLR, PSR); 1 No (PKR)

DNA Clinic Guidelines

Meredith Reggie moved and Mary Lou Cuddy seconded that the Board request the Health & Longevity Committee to develop a detailed outline to help regional clubs conduct DNA clinics. This outline should be extremely specific and based on the experiences at the clinic held at the National.

The volunteers who helped at the DNA Clinic at the last National Specialty learned a great deal about organizing such a clinic. This knowledge needs to be made available to other regional clubs to help and encourage them to hold DNA clinics. It was felt that a checklist format would be useful. It was suggested that doing the blood draws in a private area for safety reasons should be added to this information.

The motion passed unanimously.

Administration of the TOD and TODD Awards

It was stated that here is some confusion about these awards and the administration of them. Some Board members felt that this issue should be re-visited at a later meeting rather than rush through it at this meeting.

Meredith Reggie moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board review the administration of the TOD and TODD awards at the August 21, 2008 teleconference. The motion passed unanimously.

Health Test Abbreviations

The H&L committee had recommended that the OFA abbreviations be used in NCA publications. Meredith Reggie, *Newf Tide* editor, had found some concerns with this and had sent a separate document to the Board. The Board agreed to re-visit this at a later meeting. It was suggested that this also be referred to the Technical Resources Committee.

Fall Face-to-Face Meeting

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported that costs for the Crowne Plaza would be only \$200.00 more than last year's fall face-to-face meeting even with the additional night added due to the Board having to schedule a full three-day meeting.

Kathy McIver moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that the Crowne Plaza at the St. Louis, Missouri Airport be approved as the site for the fall face-to-face meeting to be held October 31, Nov 1 & 2, 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

At 11:26 p.m., Sue Marino moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The next teleconference will be July 17, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Cuddy
Recording Secretary