

NCA Board of Directors  
Teleconference Meeting  
Minutes of January 20, 2011  
(Approved February 17, 2011)

Roger Frey, President, called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. Eastern time. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), Jacqueline Brellochs (JB), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Sue Marino (SM), Kathy Mclver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Meredith Reggie (MR), Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board considered the minutes of the November 19-21, 2010 face-to-face meeting.

Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the November 19-21, 2010 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board thanked Donna Thibault for acting as Secretary at that meeting. The Board considered the minutes of the December 16, 2010 teleconference.

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy Mclver seconded that the Board approve the December 16, 2010 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Report of the President**

Roger Frey, President, had no report at this time.

### **Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

Kathy Mclver, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, asked for the Board's input on sending the resumes of applicants for open committee positions to the committees involved. Under current practice, several committees, but not all committees are sent a list of potential committee members and asked for recommendations. Some Board members felt that the practice should be consistent for all committees.

There was discussion that committees should be able to give input on potential committee members regarding levels of experience or skills that would be useful to the committee. It was stated that committees would need to understand that their choices may not be the same as the Board's.

At 9:06 p.m., Robin Seaman, Specialty Show Coordinating Committee (SSCC) Chair, joined the meeting.

### **Specialty Show Coordinating Committee**

Robin reported that Diane Lavin had worked with Woodbury Pewter on the new Award of Merit medallions. Woodbury Pewter took one of the previous brass medallions and did a casting for \$50.00. The new medallions are reported to be very nice and will be available at a substantial savings to the NCA. The previous brass medallions cost the NCA \$18.50 per medallion. The pewter medallions will cost approximately \$5.25 per medallion and will include a nice gift box.

Pam Saunders moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board approve the recommendation of the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee to purchase 250 Award of Merit medallions from Woodbury Pewter at a cost of \$5.25 per medallion which includes the box. The motion passed unanimously.

Robin informed the Board that the Bear Mountain Newfoundland Club has been trying to negotiate with a potential site for the 2013 National Specialty. The site is under new management and now they will not allow dogs in the rooms. Although Bear Mountain is still looking for sites, it is unlikely that they will be able to host the 2013 National Specialty.

The SSCC is discussing returning to Frankenmuth for 2013. The committee is considering asking different regional clubs to handle various aspects of the National Specialty. It was suggested that the SSCC call into the next Regional Club Committee teleconference to discuss this proposal. In response to a question about returning to the site in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, Robin stated that the committee wanted to wait until after the 2012 National Specialty to see if the site worked well for the NCA's needs. There have been some changes to the site since the National Specialty was there last. It was also reported that the Colonial Newfoundland Club is considering several sites and the North Central Newfoundland Club has appointed a committee to research potential sites. It was stated that the Purina Farms Event Center in Gray Summit, Missouri would be considered once the on-premise hotel is completed.

The limited edition plates were discussed. It does not appear that a new vendor can be in place in time for the 2011 plates. Currently, the profit from the plates is not sufficient to cover the cost of the trophies, and there was mention of raising their cost or possibly discontinuing their sale. Fortunately, Pam Rubio, 2011 National Specialty Trophy Chair, did a phenomenal job lining up trophy sponsors, with almost all of the trophies being sponsored by NCA members.

At 9:32 p.m., Robin Seaman left the meeting.

### **Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

The Board returned to the discussion of committee appointments. It was agreed that Kathy McIver would develop a policy for the Board to review at its next meeting.

The Board considered whether to repeat the committee survey that was done last year. Some Board members stated that they appreciated having the committees' feedback. Other Board members stated that the survey done last year became subjective and, in some cases, hurtful with little objective information being gained.

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board continue the committee review process using the same survey as last year. The motion failed. 6 Yes (LA, JC, KM, PR, PS, DT); 6 No (JB, MLC, RF, SM, MLP, MR)

### **Report of the Recording Secretary**

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the December 16, 2010 minutes and the January 20, 2011 agenda. She reported that the executive session portion of the December 16, 2011 meeting had been deleted from the recording of the meeting and she thanked Pat Randall for his assistance.

Mary Lou informed the Board that election ballots were coming in and she was hopeful that many NCA members had chosen to vote this year.

### **Report of the Corresponding Secretary**

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported that she had distributed the AKC files that she had received to the appropriate committees. She informed the Board that all such mailings were now coming to the *NCA Website* Corresponding Secretary email address. This will allow for a smoother transition between corresponding secretaries. All other general inquiries were distributed to the appropriate committees.

### **Report of the Treasurer**

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$27,290.73; checking account for 2011 National Specialty: \$12,587.32; savings account: \$65,276.57; invested in CDs: \$102,338.01; and the NCA operations balance total of \$207,492.63 with \$4,287.63 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$7,205.50 for a total of \$214,698.13.

### **Report of the AKC Delegate**

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, apologized to the Board for not attending the December 2010 AKC Delegates meeting due to ill health.

Mary reported that there are seven candidates for the AKC Board election and their election statements can be seen in the current issue of the *AKC Gazette*. She regretted missing the candidates' speeches that were delivered at the aforementioned December AKC Delegates meeting. She will forward letters from the candidates to the Board as she receives them.

Mary reminded the Board of the AKC Humane Fund and AKC Canine Health Foundation fundraisers that will be held the weekend before the Westminster Kennel Club show in New York City. She also recommended the Barkfest at Bonham's that same weekend. Another reminder was that the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show would be broadcast on ABC on January 23, 2011.

### **Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Jacqueline Brellochs, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, reported that the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) had met on January 5, 2011. The CTMB voted unanimously to fund a co-sponsorship in the amount of \$3,000.00 for a pilot study on the effects of canine osteosarcoma metabolism and chemotherapy resistance.

Jacqueline reminded the Board that she had been instructed to contact Clyde Dunphy, CTMB chair, for a clarification of his understanding of the official NCA policy relating to committees. The following was his response: "Business for consideration and action by the CTMB or one of its committees from NCA committees must first be approved by the NCA Board of Directors prior to submission to the CTMB. For example, if the NCA Health & Longevity Committee wants the CTMB to fund a proposal from their committee, I believe this should move through the NCA and be approved by the Board of Directors prior to the CTMB considering approving the project. However, if the Health & Longevity Committee is merely seeking input, comments or getting an opinion from the CTMB, I believe the lines of communication should be open for a free exchange of information and communication. These lines of communication should also be opened from the CTMB to NCA committees without going through the NCA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and the NCA Board of Directors. This will keep the lines of communication open and allow the free exchange of ideas and information."

The next meeting of the CTMB will be Wednesday, February 2, 2011.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Judges Education Committee**

It was reported that *ShowSight* magazine is doing a feature article on Newfoundlands and has asked permission to use excerpts and illustrations from the NCA's *Illustrated Guide*.

Kathy McIver moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that the Board give permission to *ShowSight* magazine to use excerpts and illustrations from the *NCA Illustrated Guide* for a feature article. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Technical Resources Committee**

The Technical Resources Committee requested the Board's input on updating *Newf Know How* articles for posting on Squidoo. The committee wanted to know if the authors

of the articles should be contacted to make any updates to the articles. The Board had no objection to the authors being contacted and given the opportunity to update their articles. If an author refuses to update their articles and does not want any one else to do it, the article in question should be brought to the Board for review. Marylou Zimmerman, Technical Resources Committee member, will contact the authors.

### **Awards Committee**

The Board continued a discussion from the December 16, 2010 meeting regarding the Good Sportsmanship Award nomination procedure. It was agreed that Board members should use the nomination process whenever possible but if nominees do not meet the criteria for the award, the Board may choose another NCA member. It was also agreed that the *NCA Policy Manual* be reviewed by Pam Saunders and the policy be included in the February 17, 2011 agenda for the Board's consideration.

### **Working Dog Committee**

The Board discussed changes to the NCA Water Tests as proposed by the Working Dog Committee (WDC).

The first proposal addressed the concern that mentor judges were eligible to judge the WRDX test even if they had not seen, judged or participated in a WRDX test. The Board discussed different scenarios that this proposal should cover.

Pam Rubio moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board approve Section #1 of the recommended changes to water tests from the Working Dog Committee as follows:

Regulations for judges of WRDX tests: A Mentor level judge who has completed one of the following requirements at a WRDX test will be automatically approved to judge a WRDX test: judged, exhibited or officially observed. A Mentor level judge who has not completed one of the above requirements at a WRDX test may only judge with another Mentor level judge who has completed one of the requirements.

A Mentor level judge who has not completed one of the requirements at a WRDX test may complete an optional observation of a WRDX test to gain more experience before judging. No evaluation is necessary but a form will need to be signed by the test judges and sent to the WDC Judges Records person. There must be a minimum of three dogs entered in the WRDX test for an observation to be valid. If not, the judge will have to do two observations. The observation must be completed before accepting a WRDX assignment if it will be used as the requirement to judge. A Partner level judge may do an observation to gain more experience only.

A Partner level judge who has earned a WRDX title will be automatically approved to judge with a Mentor level judge who has completed one of the requirements. If necessary, a judge may judge the WRDX division of a test even if they are entered

in the WD/WRD division of the test. This should be avoided, if possible, but may be used as a last option with WDC approval.

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the second proposal from the WDC which would make the WRDX test a separate division of the WD/WRD test and not a separate test. The WRDX test would be optional. The host club would also have the option of two different judging panels; one for the WD and WRD divisions and another for the WRDX division. This will allow provisional and partner judges more opportunities to judge.

Pam Saunders moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board approve Section #2 of the recommended changes to water tests from the Working Dog Committee with the clarification that regional clubs will have the option to change the judging panel for the WRDX division of the test:

The WDC has voted to change the WRDX regulations, as well as the WD/WRD regulations, to reflect that the WRDX is no longer a separate test but instead is a separate division of the WD/WRD test. This will avoid some of the problems that have arisen with WRDX being a separate test. The NCA Water Test will now have three divisions: Division 1- WD, Division 2 - WRD and Division 3- WRDX. It will be optional for clubs to include Division 3 in their tests.

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered the third proposal from the WDC concerning requalifications at water tests. The WDC felt that this change will help participants who are working towards the Working Achievement Award. It was stated that dogs needing titles would still take precedence over requalifications as is already outlined in the regulations.

Pam Saunders moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board approve Section #3 of the recommended changes to water tests from the Working Dog Committee as follows:

Requalifications as Multiple Division Entries at NCA Water Tests: Dogs may be entered in more than one division on the same day but only if they have already qualified, at previous tests, in all of the divisions entered. Each entry must be sent on a separate entry form. If the entry for the test exceeds its limit and a lottery is necessary the dog may not get into each division entered. There will be no substitutions for dogs to change divisions if their entry is chosen for one division but not the other in a lottery. Judges must excuse any dog not in condition to finish the division entered and, if so, the dog will not be able to continue in any other divisions entered that day. Entry fees will not be refunded for dogs that are excused. Entrants are discouraged from pushing their dogs beyond their limits.

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered the fourth proposal from the WDC. There was some discussion if an exception could be made when a test had a small entry.

Maredith Reggie moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board approve Section #4 of the recommended changes to water tests from the Working Dog Committee as follows:

The WDC has voted that entrants passing WRD may not post enter into WRDX on the same day due to time restraints. Entrants passing WRD may change their entry to WRDX at future tests in which they had entered the WRD division.

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board considered the fifth proposal from the WDC concerning when to judge bitches in season. The Board discussed going beyond the recommendations of the WDC and not allowing bitches in season to compete at all, such as is done in obedience trials. It was stated, however, that there are many obedience trials throughout a year but very few water tests. The Board also discussed that the change as proposed by the WDC would make testing bitches in season easier on the stewards.

Pam Saunders moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board approve Section #5 of the recommended changes to water tests from the Working Dog Committee as follows:

Clubs will have the option to judge WD/WRD bitches in season at the end of the WD/WRD division even if it is followed by a WRDX division.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Executive Session**

At 10:44 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 11:53 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board considered the Applicants List of January 20, 2011.

While in executive session, the Board appointed Tom Brant and Cindi Kursner to the Working Dog Committee.

While in executive session, the Board was informed that two grievances had been received. The Board will consider entertaining jurisdiction of both grievances at its February 17, 2011 meeting.

While in executive session, the Board referred a letter written by a member concerning the *Newf Tide* Letters to the Editor policy to the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee for their recommendations.

## **New Business**

### **Specialty Show Coordinating Committee**

By unanimous consent, the Board referred the following to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee for their recommendations. Discussion Item: NCA will provide a loan for upfront "seed" money if needed by the regional clubs who host our Nationals with the amount(s) to be recommended by the Specialty Committee.

### **Proposal for a Money-back Arrangement**

The Board reviewed a request from a manufacturer of custom grooming totes for the NCA to link to her website and in return, receive 15 percent from any orders received. The Board declined the offer.

### **Adjournment**

At 11:58 p.m., Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy  
NCA Recording Secretary