

USBCCHA – Director’s Meeting

Date **February 7, 2018**

MINUTES

Attending: Maria Amodei, Faansie Basson, Dianne Deal, Wyatt Fleming, Stephanie Goracke, Joe Haynes, John Holman, Lyle Lad, Amanda Milliken, Mary Minor, Lori Perry, David Saunders, Frank Smith, Bob Stephens, Kay Stephens, Linda Tesdahl, Joni Tietjen, Laura Vishoot, Pearse Ward, Terri Warner, Linda DeJong (Secretary), Marianna Schreeder (Treasurer), Carol Clawson (President).

Absent: Scott Glen, Tracy Hinton, Beverly Lambert

1. **Finance Report** – Marianna/Carol (Materials will be posted prior to meeting)

- a. Marianna reported on the 2016 P&L, noting that we are using a different format which is hopefully clearer. Questions were asked about the format as well as the profit share from the 2017 Finals. The HA received a little over \$18,000 in profit share from the Finals Committee pursuant to the Agreement with Final’s host. Marianna will look into a way to communicate that more clearly in the P&L.
- b. Investment report: Carol reported that our investment account currently totals \$241,493.16, which is an increase of \$11,471.09 since we began investing earlier this year. We lost a bit during the last few days but performance is still positive.

2. **Judging Clinic DVD** (Carol/Linda)

Carol reviewed a Proposal from Linda Tesdahl regarding a DVD “Judging Clinic.” A preliminary outline and summary of the proposal is as follows:

In response to consensus from handlers at the 2017 Annual Meeting and other requests, we are proposing that the USBCCHA create a DVD that would be a “Judging Clinic.” By creating a DVD as opposed to providing grants for judging clinics, we can reach more people who may be interested. Clinics are usually restricted to a certain number and are available only to those living reasonably close to the clinic site.

The general outline of the DVD is set forth below (subject to some modifications as we proceed:

- Intro: Introduction to the Project. Participating judges chosen would also talk about their thoughts – preparation, method, (we’ll come up with an outline of sorts).
- Clips of the following elements of the run. Run each element first without talking for the viewer to concentrate on and perhaps judge, then have 2-3 judges (doesn’t have to be the same each time) talk about their judging for that part of the run. It would be nice to get different kind of sheep and maybe one run in each segment where something kind of unexpected happens so that the judge can talk about it.
 - outwork

- drive
- shed
- pen

Dave Imas has agreed to assist in this project. He is donating video that he has in his library plus his time. He will get the voice-overs from Judges as he travels to trials. We are hopeful that Judges will also agree to donate their time. Estimated cost for Dave's expenses as well as making the DVD master and duplicating 100 DVDs is **\$5000**. Propose selling the DVDs for \$10 or \$20 (Board to decide), which would provide some offsetting income.

Subcommittee – Steering Committee: Linda Tesdahl, Lyle Lad, Dianne Deal

Motion requested: Authorize expenditure of \$5000 for the project and authorize the Steering Committee to provide ongoing direction to the video, including the selection of judges. Discussion followed and motion was amended to include a goal of completion of the project by this year's Finals.

Motion: Bob Stephens; Second: John Holman. The Motion passed unanimously.

3. Single Day Qualifying - Member Survey – Laura Vishoot moved as follows:

Motion to submit a survey to the membership to determine support or lack of for single day qualifying at the Alturus Finals. Survey would be through our mass email system and would not be binding on the Directors but would provide guidance on members' position. In order to insure accuracy, votes would not be anonymous and would be submitted only to the Secretary. Only General Members (which includes Life Members who have run in a sanctioned class during the last 2 years) would be eligible to vote. Linda would be instructed not to disclose any particular member's vote.

Survey Question: (yes/no question):

Are you in favor a single day qualifying at the Alturus Finals? - yes -no

Explanation: Single day qualifying would mean that the 10-11 dogs (as set forth below) from each day of qualifying would advance to the semi-finals. The rule requires that we take the top 150 pointed dogs that enter the Finals, plus any ties at the final point level. Sometimes that means we have 151 or 152 dogs. Under the single day qualifying approach, we would run 37 dogs on day 1, 2, and 4, and would take the top 10 dogs from those days. On day 3, we would run 39 dogs (if 150 entries) and all additional dogs if more than 150 entries. On day 3, we would take the top 11 dogs if 39 dogs ran. That number would be adjusted by the Trial Committee if there were more than 150 entries accepted into the Finals.

Discussion followed, noting that this topic has come up on several occasions and it would be helpful to have information on the members' opinion. The poll would not be binding on the Board. It was requested that we include information on the district of each respondent and to add a "no opinion" option to the yes/no. Carol stated she would add the additional questions to the survey and to post it on the Forum for comment.

Motion to accept: Laura Vishoot; Second – Linda Tesdahl. Motion passed with one no vote (Amanda Millken).

4. 2018 Webcast Proposal

Carol reported on the financial and viewer results of last year’s live webcast (below) and asked to discuss USBCHA support for this year. 2017 Webcast accounting

INCOME	
Contributions	
USBCHA	\$ 4,500.00
ABCA	\$ 4,500.00
All other	\$ 14,230.00
Total Contributions	\$ 23,230.00
DVD sales	\$ 5,222.27
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 28,452.27
EXPENSE	
Webcast	\$ 18,116.75
DVDs	\$ 1,875.45
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 19,992.20
BALANCE	\$ 8,460.07

a. Webcast analytics (full report attached on Forum)

	Total	Semi Final	Final
Total Unique Viewers:	2566 (10 countries)	1495	1488
Total Viewing Time:	409 d 4h 18m	159d 11 h 38 m	249d 16h 47m
Average Viewing Time	3h 49 min 38sec	2h 33m 37s	3h 38m 43s

b. 2018 Estimated costs / Proposal – Options Presented

All options are for Semi Finals and Finals; no preliminary runs. All options include DVD duplication for USBCHA to sell.

Option 1: no live webcast but Video on Demand (VOD)

Production - \$9,285

Travel - \$4,595

Total: \$13,880

DVD Duplication - \$10 per daily set

Option 2: Live Webcast, but 2 cameras – no cross-drive camera + Archived VOD

Production - \$11,475.00

Travel - \$8,740.00

Total: \$20,215

DVD Duplication - \$10 per daily set

Option 3: Live Webcast, with Cross-drive Camera + Archived VOD

Production - \$14,895.00

Travel - \$11,150.00

Total: \$26,045

DVD Duplication - \$10 per daily set

Note: We have a \$5,000 contribution committed to the payment of 5:00 Film's travel for a live webcast.

Carol reported on the possible problem of having enough bandwidth to do a live webcast. If insufficient for live, there could also be a significant delay in Video On Demand (VOD). Pearse provided information on possible technical difficulties and solutions. Carol indicated that the provider may be able to provide satellite feed for between \$3000-\$5000 additional if we are unable to get sufficient bandwidth.

The Board agreed to proceed with Option 2 – Live Webcast for Semi and Finals, 2 cameras, and DVDs for sale by USBCHA.

Motion: USBCHA to pay \$4500 towards this year's webcast (Option 2) by Maria Amodei; seconded by Bob Stephens. Passed unanimously.

Will come back to Board if additional funds required for satellite feed. Hopefully we can continue to raise enough money to fund the project and to keep a balance in the fund moving forward.

5. Bluegrass request

Marianna submitted a request to the Board for the funding of an additional judge at the Bluegrass. This Judge would judge the preliminary rounds as an open judge. This judge would not judge the double lift/international shed, but would have the opportunity to work with a judge with that experience for training purposes. The request was for \$1700 for this judge. It would be a training opportunity to address the need for more judges qualified to judge double lifts and international sheds.

Discussion followed with concerns about proceeding without clearer criteria for selection, particularly if this became an ongoing grant program. The Board agreed that it was premature to proceed with funding at this time. Carol indicated that she would post a topic on the Forum to develop criteria and to continue the discussion and, if no response, would assign it to a committee for study.

6. 2018 Cattledog Finals Proposal

John Holman reported on the proposal from Hwy 38 Arena to again host the Cattledog Finals. Other potential hosts were contacted but this proposal was the only one that was feasible. The costs are essentially the same as last year for a four-day trial with options for five days if required. The USBCHA will contract directly for the cattle and related expense.

Motion to accept the proposal by Joni Tietjen; second – Bob Stephens. The motion passed unanimously.

7. 2019 Sheepdog Finals proposal

Carol reviewed the Strang Ranch for the 2019 Sheepdog Finals. A short discussion followed concerning USBCHA branding of the event and the need for more detailed accounting. Carol explained that Marianna has developed a template for Finals Accounting that will be required of all hosts moving forward. Adjustments may be made to suit individual circumstances but it should make for more uniformity in the information provided to the Board.

Motion to accept the proposal – Bob Stephens; second – Maria Amodei. Motion passed unanimously.

8. 2018 ABCA Funding Request: Carol briefly noted that the funding request for the ABCA would be made by February 15.

9. Judging Guidelines

A subcommittee of the Rules Committee reviewed the USBCHA Judging Guidelines and proposed some changes and corrections. The material was provided to the Board in advance of the meeting.

a. The tables included in the Guidelines had several inconsistencies between the description of “faults” and the number of points to be deducted. For example, in the Table under outrun, in the first column it states: “Dog that is redirected on the run (minimum ½ point).” However, next to it in the right column, it stated “2-3 points” for the deduction. The suggested changes make column 1 consistent with column 2 in all of the tables. A motion to accept the changes in the tables was made by Pearse Ward and seconded by Linda Tesdahl. The Board agreed to accept all of these corrections

b. Reruns

Current language is contained in the USBCHA Rules, but not in the Guidelines. It was agreed that the language should be in the Guidelines as well. The proposed change to the language is noted in red below.

With few exceptions left to the judge's discretion, a rerun should be given if ~~in~~ the case of a rerun ordered as the result of the wrong number of sheep having been let out, or sheep being wrongly marked, or one or more sheep being unsound for working. In these cases, the judge shall decide if the rerun will commence at the beginning and if not, at which point it will start. If decided that the rerun starts at any point other than the beginning, the points scored up to the point of rerun shall stand. When a rerun is granted, the handler shall send the dog in the same direction as the original run unless otherwise instructed by the Judge.

David Saunders moved to change the last sentence to state: When a rerun is granted the handlers shall send the dog in either direction as the original run unless otherwise instructed by the Judge. Lyle Lad seconded the motion.

Discussion followed on whether it should be the same direction or either direction. A roll call vote was taken – a Yes vote was for “either direction” and No vote would keep the language - “the same direction.” Given the discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Maria Amodei	No	Faansi Basson	No
Dianne Deal	Yes	Wyatt Fleming	No
Stephanie Goracke	No	Joe Haynes	No
John Holman	No	Lyle Lad	Yes
Amanda Milliken	No	Mary Minor	No
Lori Perry	No	David Saunders	Yes
Frank Smith	Yes	Bob Stephens	Yes
Linda Tesdahl	No	Joni Tietjen	No
Pearse Ward	Yes	Terri Warner	No

Laura Vishoot could not remain on the call.

The change in the language will indicate that, on a rerun, the handlers shall send the dog in the same direction unless otherwise instructed by the Judge. The rule will be updated in the Rules and included in the Guidelines.

c. Addition of a new Guideline – Water Rule

At the last meeting, the Board changed Part II. F of the USBCHA Rules regarding having water on the course. That rule (in the USBCHA Rules) also included judging guidelines. It was decided that we should add the water rule and its guidelines to the Judging Guidelines. The proposed language, taken from the Rule and modified to include the text in red, was as follows:

Fresh water shall always be available on the field for cooling a dog. Handlers should be allowed to direct a dog to the water and the dog use the water with no points penalty. Handlers should not leave the post to go to the water with the dog. However, if the handler is moving to the shedding ring or moving to the pen, he/she may detour to the water but should not continue to work or unreasonably

influence the sheep. The clock will not be stopped. Actions of the stock are still being judged and may result in a loss of points, up to disqualification if the stock leaves the trial area.

There was a debate on the inclusion of the additional language in red. There was a motion by Bob Stephens to delete the new language on working the sheep, seconded by Lori Perry. The motion to strike that language passed 14-4 with Terri Warner, Joni Tietjen, Linda Tesdahl and Faansie Basson voting No. (John Holman and Laura Vishoot were no longer on the call). Joe Haynes contacted Carol after the meeting to indicate he had misunderstood the motion and changed his vote to a No, so the Motion to strike the language in red (working or influence the sheep) passed 13-5. The language, which is currently in the Rule, will now be included in the Guidelines.

d. Outrun and Drive – when can you go to the shed.

Suggested change to be consistent with ISDS rules – two modifications: (1) positioning of dog near the handler when sent and (2) may move to shed ring when first of stock enters ring if shed required after the drive (see both 3.1 Outrun and 3.4 Drive, on when handler can go to the shedding ring.

Suggested language:

The dog must be positioned close to the handler/post. The handler will remain at the post from the commencement of the run and remain at the post until the first of the stock enters the shedding ring when a shed is required after the drive.

Maria Amodei moved to accept this language; Bob Stephens seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

e. Shedding – suggested change

Consistent with ISDS 5.2.7, the suggested changes allow for regathering in a practical and workmanlike manner, not necessarily in the ring.

Current language:

On completion of the shed the handler should have the dog bring the stock together in a practical and workmanlike manner. While it is not required judges are encouraged to have the stock be re-gathered into the shedding ring prior to going to the pen.

Suggested language:

On completion of the shedding, the dog will reunite all of the sheep, not necessarily within the ring but in a practical and workmanlike manner, and the handler must proceed to the pen, leaving the dog to bring the sheep to the pen.

Motion to accept the new language – Linda Tesdahl; seconded by Bob Stephens,

passed unanimously.

10. Remaining Business

Carol commended Maria Amodei for her current work on updating the website's reporting of Open Points. Because we were running out of time, Carol asked Maria Amodei to post information about what she was doing on the Forum.

Carol informed the Board that she will not run for a third term. She wanted to give them plenty of warning so that they could begin recruiting as necessary. Nominations are not due until October.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.

USBCCHA – Director’s Meeting
Date August 1, 2018

MINUTES

Attending: Maria Amodei, Faansie Basson, Wyatt Fleming, Scott Glen, Beverly Lambert (until 6:40 MDT), Lori Perry, David Saunders, Frank Smith, Bob Stephens, Kay Stephens, Linda Tesdahl, Laura Vishoot, Pearse Ward, Terri Warner, Carol Clawson (President).

Absent: Dianne Deal, Stephanie Goracke, Joe Haynes, Tracy Hinton, John Holman, Lyle Lad, Amanda Milliken, Mary Minor, Joni Tietjen

The meeting commenced at 6:00 pm MDT

1. **Finance Report** – Carol briefly reported on the status of the Investment Account at RBC. Earnings to date are \$13,653.55, a return of 4.2% per year. The brokerage fees were renegotiated in April from 1.25% to .55% (from approximately \$3000/yr to \$1300 yr.)
2. **Judging Clinic Video Update** – Linda Tesdahl updated the Board on the status of the judging clinic video. All taping is complete and Dave Isom is working on editing and experimenting with different formats for quality. The project is on time and we expect videos (blu-rays) to be available by the Finals.
3. **Point System:** Maria Amodei gave a brief update of the point system conversion.
4. **Nursery pay-out:** The Board reviewed two proposals for a change in the Nursery payout. The nursery payback has been based on a percentage of a 60-dog nursery class. Classes have been larger in the recent past. The percentage distribution was also reviewed. Upon review of the existing payout schedule and two proposals prepared by Marianna, the Board unanimously adopted Proposal 2. (Motion by Bob Stephens and seconded by Linda Tesdahl.) The adopted pay-out schedule is attached to these minutes.
5. **Judge List proposal:** Carol informed the Board of a suggestion made by Angie-Coker Sells to reach out to members and create a list of handlers who are judging or interested in judging and post it on the website. The Board agreed to the proposal so long as it was clear that the Board or Association was not endorsing any judge on the list but that is simply information about who is interested in judging.
6. **Judging Guidelines:** The Judging Guidelines Subcommittee to the Rules Committee proposed moving some of what are judging guidelines that are in the HA Rules to the Judging Guidelines to make the Guidelines a complete, integrated document. There was discussion on judging guidelines the international shed with respect to whether the handler had to regather the sheep if a collared sheep joined uncollared sheep if all sheep were still in the shedding ring. The Board decided to continue that discussion on the Forum. The Board unanimously adopted the changes attached to these minutes.

7. **World Trial Qualification Criteria:** The Board reviewed the World Trial Committee Report and discussed the options proposed by the Committee. After discussion of the various options, Pearse Ward made a motion to adopt the criteria as follows, seconded by Linda Tesdahl. The motion passed unanimously.

World Team Qualification: Places in the USA team for the World Sheepdog Trials will be offered to the top five (5) American teams from the 2019 USBCHA Sheepdog Finals and the top five (5) American teams from the 2018 USBCHA Sheepdog Finals. If all ten (10) teams selected do not accept, the remaining places will be offered to American teams placing sixth (6th) through seventeenth (17th) at the 2019 USBCHA Sheepdog Finals. If the ten (10) places on Team USA are still not filled, places will be offered to those American teams finishing eighteenth (18th) through fortieth (40th) (i.e. semi-Finalists) from the 2019 USBCHA Sheepdog Finals.

Carol will post a Forum topic for a discussion about funding.

8. **Other Business:** Carol reminded the Board that Officer Nominations are due by Oct. 5, with an election by Nov. 5. She suggested a meeting for elections and other matters shortly after October 5.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m. MDT

Nursery Sheep Finals Payback Proposal

Nursery

This proposal has been updated from the proposal submitted at the beginning of 2018.

The nursery payback has been based on a percentage of a 60-dog nursery class. It is my understanding there was Director agreement prior to 2012 to pay a fixed amount and reserve any additional entry fees to help support the cost of the National Finals such as increasing the number of dogs, days of competition, sheep costs and transportation.

Proposed Changes:

1. Approve percentages for each placing: Proposal 1 or 2
2. Designate the amount of payback
 - Flat rate based on range of entries:
 - Amount of \$10,000 for 90 & over dogs
 - Amount of \$9,500 for 80-89 dogs
 - Amount of \$9,000 for 70-79 dogs
 - Amount of \$7,000 for 60-69 dogs

Proposed percentages compared to previous years				
NURSERY	Proposal 1 (%)	Proposal 2 (%)	2012 & 2013 (%)	2014-2017 (%)
1st	15.000	16.000	14.52	9.800
2nd	11.000	12.000	12.74	9.000
3rd	9.000	8.000	10.36	8.500
4th	7.750	6.000	8.57	7.000
5th	6.500	5.500	7.98	6.000
6th	5.500	5.250	6.19	5.750
7th	4.500	5.000	5.00	5.500
8th	4.000	4.750	4.40	5.250
9th	3.750	4.500	3.81	5.000
10th	4.250	4.250	3.21	4.750
11th	4.000	4.000	2.62	4.500
12th	3.750	3.750	2.62	4.250
13th	3.500	3.500	2.62	4.000
14th	3.250	3.250	2.62	3.750
15th	3.000	3.000	2.62	3.500
16th	2.750	2.750	2.02	3.250
17th	2.500	2.500	2.02	3.000
18th	2.250	2.250	2.02	2.750
19th	2.000	2.000	2.02	2.500
20th	1.750	1.750	2.02	2.250
	100.000	100.000	99.98	100.300

Sheep Finals - Nursery Payback

PROPOSAL 2

\$ 12,000.00	Entries	90 Dogs (& over)
\$ 10,000.00	Payback	

\$ 12,000.00	Entries	80 - 89 Dogs
\$ 9,500.00	Payback	

NURSERY	Proposal 1	%	Rounded
1st	1600.00	16.000	1,600.00
2nd	1200.00	12.000	1,200.00
3rd	800.00	8.000	800.00
4th	600.00	6.000	600.00
5th	550.00	5.500	550.00
6th	525.00	5.250	525.00
7th	500.00	5.000	500.00
8th	475.00	4.750	475.00
9th	450.00	4.500	450.00
10th	425.00	4.250	425.00
11th	400.00	4.000	400.00
12th	375.00	3.750	375.00
13th	350.00	3.500	350.00
14th	325.00	3.250	325.00
15th	300.00	3.000	300.00
16th	275.00	2.750	275.00
17th	250.00	2.500	250.00
18th	225.00	2.250	225.00
19th	200.00	2.000	200.00
20th	175.00	1.750	175.00
	10,000.00	100.000	10,000.00

Proposal 1	%	Rounded
1520.00	16.000	1,520.00
1140.00	12.000	1,140.00
760.00	8.000	760.00
570.00	6.000	570.00
522.50	5.500	523.00
498.75	5.250	499.00
475.00	5.000	475.00
451.25	4.750	451.00
427.50	4.500	428.00
403.75	4.250	404.00
380.00	4.000	380.00
356.25	3.750	356.00
332.50	3.500	333.00
308.75	3.250	309.00
285.00	3.000	285.00
261.25	2.750	261.00
237.50	2.500	238.00
213.75	2.250	214.00
190.00	2.000	190.00
166.25	1.750	164.00
9,500.00	100.000	9,500.00

\$ 10,500.00	Entries	70 - 79 Dogs
\$ 9,000.00	Payback	

\$ 9,000.00	Entries	60 - 69 Dogs
\$ 7,000.00	Payback	

* decrease 20th by \$4

* decrease 20th by \$2

NURSERY	Proposal 1	%	Rounded
1st	1440.00	16.000	1,440.00
2nd	1080.00	12.000	1,080.00
3rd	720.00	8.000	720.00
4th	540.00	6.000	540.00
5th	495.00	5.500	495.00
6th	472.50	5.250	473.00
7th	450.00	5.000	450.00
8th	427.50	4.750	428.00
9th	405.00	4.500	405.00
10th	382.50	4.250	383.00
11th	360.00	4.000	360.00
12th	337.50	3.750	338.00
13th	315.00	3.500	315.00
14th	292.50	3.250	293.00
15th	270.00	3.000	270.00
16th	247.50	2.750	248.00
17th	225.00	2.500	225.00
18th	202.50	2.250	203.00
19th	180.00	2.000	180.00
20th	157.50	1.750	158.00
	9,000.00	100.000	9,004.00

Proposal 1	%	Rounded
1120.00	16.000	1,120.00
840.00	12.000	840.00
560.00	8.000	560.00
420.00	6.000	420.00
385.00	5.500	385.00
367.50	5.250	368.00
350.00	5.000	350.00
332.50	4.750	333.00
315.00	4.500	315.00
297.50	4.250	298.00
280.00	4.000	280.00
262.50	3.750	263.00
245.00	3.500	245.00
227.50	3.250	228.00
210.00	3.000	210.00
192.50	2.750	193.00
175.00	2.500	175.00
157.50	2.250	158.00
140.00	2.000	140.00
122.50	1.750	121.00
7,000.00	100.000	7,002.00

Proposed Update to the Judging Guidelines

In February, the Board made some changes to the Judging Guidelines. As part of those changes, the Board moved what were really judging guidelines from the USBCHA Rules to the Guidelines. Upon further review, there remained in the Rules what are really guidelines. On August 1, 2018, the Board of Directors made the following changes to the Judging Guidelines. In general, the changes move judging guidelines that are found in the Association Rules to the Guidelines for an integrated document.

The changes to the Guidelines are noted in BLUE below. All changes were adopted unanimously by the Board of Directors.

CHANGES TO GUIDELINES

2 GENERAL

2.4 Decorum, Sportsmanship & Humane Rules

Any conduct not in the best interests of the sport either before, during or after a run can result in a DQ, the handler being reported to the HA, or removal of the handler from the trial field, or all three. This includes unsportsmanlike conduct such as foul or abusive language or actions, any loud remarks made about the judging within earshot of the judge, encouraging aggressive behavior toward the stock by the dog, or deliberate abuse of the stock or dog by the handler. Handlers are possible role models for the general public who admire their abilities with their dogs and their performances on the trial field. Handlers should treat their sport, their fellow competitors, the stock, their dogs and the judge with the same respect that they would like to receive. The good conduct and sportsmanship of dog handlers has been admired for centuries and it is the responsibility of every handler to protect that image. Handlers should try to take defeat with the same grace as they enjoy success.

Handlers should identify themselves and their dogs to the judge or his secretary when requested to do so. Under no circumstances, however, should handlers approach the judge while the judge is working, for discussions on any subject. Handlers should not make any comments in earshot of the judge that could possibly be construed as efforts to influence the judges scoring or represent an opinion of the handler about the judge's scores or abilities. Such behavior could result in an immediate DQ and reporting to the HA for disciplinary action where such action appears appropriate.

Water shall always be available on the field for cooling a dog. Handlers should be allowed to direct a dog to the water and the dog use the water with no points penalty. Handlers should not leave the post to go to the water with the dog. However, if the handler is moving to the shedding ring or moving to the pen, he/she may detour to the water but should not continue to work. The clock will not be stopped. Actions of the stock are still being judged and may result in a loss of points, up to disqualification, if the stock leaves the trial area.

At the recommendation of a veterinarian, course director or at the discretion of the judge, a sick or injured dog will not be allowed to compete.

Motion by Bob Stephens, seconded by Pearse Ward to adopt all proposed changes but to include the above language (in blue) in both the Rules and Guidelines. The remaining items highlighted in blue in this document will be moved from the Rules to the Guidelines. All changes as set forth here were adopted unanimously by the Board of Directors on August 1, 2018.

2.7 Touching Sheep

In any USBCHA sanctioned trial, a handler who touches the sheep shall be penalized by loss of points as the judge thinks appropriate in the circumstances.

2.8 Command

In considering "Command," the handler who gives fewer commands and who works the dog quietly shall be preferred to the handler who over-commands and works the dog noisily, to be judged with regard to the circumstances. In the case of a dog, its obedience to commands given shall be the sole consideration. The points for "Command" are included in the points awarded for each phase of work.

2.9 Style

Style maybe otherwise defined as a dog's attitude to his work and his method of doing it. His attention should be on his master's commands. Inattention, turning away from his sheep, unsteadiness or rashness all amount to poor style and should be penalized. As with command, style is included in the points allowed for each phase of the work.

3.5 SHEDDING (10 points)

There should be a clearly designated area for shedding. Although circumstances may dictate a smaller area or an unmarked ring, it is preferable that such an area be clearly marked and should measure 40 yards in diameter. When the shed is after the pen the handler will proceed to the shedding ring leaving the dog to bring the stock from the pen to the ring. The handler is forbidden to assist the dog in moving the stock. When the shed follows the drive the handler will remain at the post until the first of the stock have entered the shedding area.

Having gotten the stock suitably positioned the dog should come in and take off the required stock and, once having taken them off, the dog must have them under control before the shed can be deemed satisfactory. Too much assistance on the part of the

handler should be penalized as not allowing the dog to demonstrate his shedding ability to the judge. Nevertheless, the circumstances at hand should determine the appropriate point deduction. ~~Since shedding the last sheep on the head is not required by the ISDS rules there are no guidelines to describe how this should be pointed. While it is generally recommended that the stock to be shed be clearly marked (i.e. collars or crayon marks)~~ When the judge is requiring the last animals be shed, the judge should clearly explain to competitors how the judge is judging this work.

The dog must take full control of the shed stock ~~and wear them~~ to the judge's satisfaction, otherwise the shed will not be deemed satisfactory and the shed should be penalized or the handler asked to re-shed by the judge. **Shedding must be done within the ring.** Sheds performed outside the shedding area should not be accepted but must be repeated in the shedding area. **Judges will apply suitable penalty in the case of ragged work, sheep moving out of the ring, splitting the stock incorrectly, when the shed is done by the handler, when opportunity to shed is missed etc.** The test here being to ensure that the dog can shed off and control the required sheep.

On completion of the shedding, the dog will reunite all of the sheep, not necessarily within the ring but in a practical and workmanlike manner, and the handler must proceed to the pen, leaving the dog to bring the sheep to the pen.

3.6 PENNING (10 points)

On completion of the shed the handler must proceed to the pen, leaving the dog to bring the stock. The handler is forbidden to assist the dog in driving the stock to the pen. ~~The handler will stand at the gate holding the rope and must not let go of the rope while the dog works the stock into the pen, at which time the handler closes the gate. After releasing the stock, the handler will close and fasten the gate and shall be penalized for failure to do so.~~ **The handler will keep hold of the gate rope (6 ft. long) until the dog works the sheep into the pen and the gate is closed.** The handler may assist the dog but over assistance should be penalized, as should stock circling the pen or making breaks away from the pen, unsteadiness, rashness, slackness, or any other fault shown by the dog. Scoring for the pen begins when the stock is within 10 yards of the pen, or it is obvious that the penning has begun, in cases of the pen following the drive. When the pen follows the shed, the pen begins upon the judge's acceptance of the shed. The pen is completed when the stock has been removed and the pen gate has been closed and fastened.

3.7 SINGLE (10 points)

There should be a clearly designated area for singling. Although circumstances may dictate a smaller area or an unmarked ring, it is preferable that such an area is clearly marked and should measure 40 yards in diameter. When the single is after the pen, the handler will proceed to the shedding ring, leaving the dog to bring the stock from the pen to the ring. Again, the handler is forbidden to assist the dog in moving the stock. When the single

follows the drive, the handler will remain at the post until the first of the stock has entered the shedding area.

One head will be shed off within the shedding area and thereafter worn (inside or outside the ring) to the judge's satisfaction. **The cut off must be done within the ring, but the wearing may be outside or inside the ring, the test being the dog's ability to hold or completely control a single.** While shedding is a partnership between the handler and the dog, too much assistance on the part of the handler should be penalized as not allowing the dog to demonstrate his shedding ability to the judge.

Handlers are forbidden to assist the dog in driving off or attempting to drive off the single any distance or by forcing the stock onto the dog. ~~Since shedding the last animal on the head is not required by the ISDS rules there are no guidelines to describe how this should be pointed. While it is generally recommended that the stock to be singled be clearly marked (i.e. collars or a crayon mark)~~ When the judge is requiring the last one be shed, the judge should clearly explain to competitors how the judge is judging this work.

If the judge feels that the dog has not been fairly tested owing to the disposition and action of the sheep he may order the handler to collect the stock again and shed off and wear any other animal. As with the shed the dog, not the handler, should come in and cut off the single. The greatest help the handler can give the dog is by getting out of the way and allowing the dog room to prove his ability to take off and wear a single. It is essential that the dog should be able to keep the single away from the remainder and the judge should not express satisfaction until the dog has been thoroughly tested. The judge when deciding whether the single has been effectively completed should consider the behavior of the stock.

4.3 Fetches & Drive

INTERNATIONAL DRIVE (40 Points): Both lots of sheep will be driven around a triangular course consisting of two sets of drive gates and will be completed when the sheep enter the shedding ring.

4.4 Shed

INTERNATIONAL SHEDDING (20 points): The unmarked sheep are to be shed off within the ring. The shedding must be done by the sheep being passed between the dog and handler with the dog being brought in to stop and turn back any marked sheep. If the sheep are passed between man and dog in the approved manner, it is occasionally possible to get rid of a considerable number, and provided the dog and man are properly positioned and the dog stops any marked sheep that tries to join with the unmarked lot, this is acceptable. There is no rule against the handler changing sides, but judges will assess whether a competitor who does so, or is compelled by circumstances to do so, can

be as good as one who does not change over. If a marked sheep escapes to join a group of unmarked sheep, that group must be brought back into the shedding ring and reunited with the remaining sheep before the shedding can proceed.

Handler and dog change sides. Per occurrence.	1-2 points
Shedding off unwanted animals and driving them away, rather than running the animals off between the dog and handler. Per occurrence-per head.	1-2 points
Marked animal leaves the ring and joins the unmarked animals. Group that the marked animal has joined must be regrouped in the ring before shedding can continue.	3-6 points

CHANGES TO THE RULES AS RESULT OF THE GUIDELINE ADDITIONS

THE RULES FOUND IN PART III NOTED BELOW WILL ALL BE MOVED TO THE GUIDELINES AND DELETED FROM THE RULES. ALL OTHER RULES WOULD REMAIN. This would be consistent with the rest of the Rules and Guidelines.

NOTE: THE RED LETTERING BELOW WOULD BE ADDED TO THE RULES.

K. SCORING PRELIMINARY AND SEMI-FINAL RUNS

ALL JUDGING AND SCORING GUIDELINES PREVIOUSLY IN THIS SECTION OF THE RULES HAVE BEEN MOVED TO THE JUDGING GUIDELINES.

Section L would be modified as noted below

L. **ADDITIONAL SCORING RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL FINALS CLASSES**

1. Individuals judging the USBCHA National Finals should read and follow the USBCHA Rules, and be familiar with the *Judging Guidelines* and ISDS Rules posted on the HA website.
2. If at any time during the running of a class at the National Finals, one of the judges becomes disabled in any way, all of his/her scores in that round will be dropped. Scoring

and placements will be determined solely by the other judge(s) to the end of that round. The Trial Committee may appoint a substitute judge for subsequent rounds.

- ~~3. **TOUCHING SHEEP:** In any of the Association's Trials, a handler who touches the sheep shall be penalized by loss of points as the judge thinks appropriate in the circumstances.~~
- ~~4. **COMMAND:** In considering "Command" the handler who gives fewest commands and who works his dog quietly shall be preferred to the handler who over-commands and works his dog noisily, to be judged with regard to the circumstances. In the case of a dog, its obedience to commands given shall be the sole consideration. The points for "Command" are included in the points awarded for each phase of work.~~
- ~~5. **STYLE:** Style may be otherwise defined as a dog's attitude to his work and his method of doing it. His attention should be on his master's commands. Inattention, turning away from his sheep, unsteadiness or rashness all amount to poor style and should be penalized. As with command, style is included in the points allowed for each phase of the work.~~
6. **DISQUALIFICATION:** A dog which grips or bites shall be disqualified if the gripping or biting is of such character and the circumstances are such as to justify disqualification. When gripping or biting occurs, the judge shall decide at once whether to disqualify the competitor. If the judge disqualifies the dog, he shall instruct the Course Director to stop the competitor. In the event a judge has cause to DQ a competitor, he or she must do so by showing a flag to the course director. This is done with no discussion with the other judge[s]. We are looking for independent action from the judges. If the course director sees a flag from each judge he will confirm then ask the competitor to retire from the field. If the course director does not see a flag from each judge he will leave the contestant on the field. The DQ-ing judge will DQ the contestant on his score sheet and the other judge[s] can keep scoring the contestant.
7. A competitor whose dog damages sheep shall be liable to pay the damage. The judge may stop a competitor at any point of the trial or withhold any prizes on the ground of insufficient merit.
8. Any judge that feels that a dog is not capable of continuing with his run because he is showing signs of stress should disqualify that dog and handler. This would include overheating, lameness or demonstrated inability to do the work required.
9. At the National Finals there will always be water available on the field so the dogs can cool themselves. Handlers are allowed to direct their dogs to the water and the dogs may use the water with no point penalty. Handlers may not leave the post to go to the water with their dog. If the handler is on the way to or in the shedding ring or on the way to the pen, they may detour to the water. The clock will not be stopped. Handler and dog are still being judged on the actions of the stock and anything that the stock do

may cause a loss of points or if the stock leave the trial area disqualification. The HA recommends that all HA sanctioned trials adopt this rule.⁹

10. Except in the case of an injury or illness of either the dog or handler or sickness or injury in the handlers' family, if a contestant refuses to compete in the Final round of the Finals, any money/prizes won in the preliminary or semi-final run will be forfeited. In the event money/prizes have been distributed before the finals, it must be refunded/returned within fifteen (15) days after the refund request is made, or the contestant will be suspended until the money/prizes have been refunded/returned.

USBCHA ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Wed. September 26, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Handlers' Tent – Alturus, CA

Welcome: Carol welcomed members and thanked those who have assisted in the 2018 finals, including the Directors of the USBCHA and ABCA, the USBCHA Officers, Linda, DeJong, Joanne Murphy and Marianna Schreeder and the Finals Committee: Faansie Basson, Patrick Shannahan, Dianne Deal, Dennis Gellings and Tom Wilson

Financial Report: The 2017 Financial information was reviewed, including the status of the Investment Account.

Future Finals: Carol provided a brief update on the 2019 Finals to be held at the Strang Ranch, Carbondale: Sept. 10-15, 2019. Financial information provided at the meeting and can be requested by email.

Election Results: Carol reported that 90 ballots were cast.

Results: Directors by District,

1. Joe Haynes
2. Terri Warner
3. Angie Coker-Sells
4. Faansie Basson
5. Mike Neary
6. Linda Tesdahl
7. Mich Ferraro
8. David Saunders
9. John Palmer
10. Milt Scott

At large: Laura Vishoot

Bylaw Amend – passed 78%

Thank you to our outgoing Directors: Bev Lambert, Scott Glen,
Amanda Milliken

Judging Clinic Blu-Ray: Carol reported on the Judging Clinic DVD, thanking all those involved

- Committee: Linda (chair), Dianne Deal, Lyle Lad, Carol Clawson
- Judges: Angie Coke-Sells, Faansie Basson, Bruce Fogt, Don Helsley, Lyle Lad, Patrick Shannahan

- Dave Imas – did the filming and final production – volunteered his time and video – special thanks.
- Blu-rays will be available for sale when we adjourn for \$10.00 and also from Linda at the Secretary’s trailer for the remainder of the finals or until gone. More will be ordered once all are sold.

Judge List: Angie Coker-Sells suggested that we post a list of those interested or willing to be judges on the USBCHA website. We have passed on a list for you to sign if you are interested or you can sign up at the Secretary’s trailer or email the Secretary at any time to be include on the list.

Judging Guidelines – USBCHA subcommittee on Judging Guidelines: Faansie Basson, Scott, David Saunders. Changes approved by the Directors have previously been sent via email and are posted on the website. Carol indicated that her “gift” back to the USBCHA has been a printed pamphlet of the Judging Guidelines which are available here after the meeting. Members were asked not to take more than one copy and additional copies will be printed and made available as demand may warrant.

Director Presentation: Terry Warner then asked for time and she and Amanda Milliken presented Carol with a gift (a beautiful crook) from USBCHA members as a thank you for her service.

Officer nominations: Carol reminded members that Officer nominations are due October 5, 2018.

Meeting adjourned and Judging Clinic Blu-Ray and Guidelines were made available to attendees.