

USBCHA-DIRECTOR'S MEETING

November 4, 2020

5 PM PST, 8 PM EST

Present:

Officers- Peter Hall, Marianna Schreeder, Linda DeJong, Linda Tesdahl

Directors- Mary Minor, Jan Stebbins, Angie Coker-Sells, Wyatt Fleming, Kay Stephens, Mike Neary, Jennifer Boznos, Linda Tesdahl, Lori Cunningham, Mich Ferraro, Sue Schoen, David Saunders, Frank Smith, John Palmer, Amanda Milliken, Milton Scott, Dianne Deal Laura Vishoot, Cy Peterson

1. Bylaw Change Vote Results

a. Vote was to amend bylaws for 2021 Sheepdog Finals Qualifying

1. Yes: 129

2. No: 173

b. **Result: Bylaws will not change**

2. Interim Rules – Discussion concerned whether to extend Interim Rules (Part IIa: Interim Rules Pertaining to Covid-19 Pandemic) another 90 days

a. Interim rules were adopted July 8, 2020 and were to remain in effect for 90 days from the date of adoption unless extended by a majority vote of the USBCHA Board of Directors.

b. While interim rules pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic were in effect, USBCHA would reimburse trial hosts for refunds of sanctioned class entry fees (Open and Nursery) made to handlers who withdraw within 14 days of a trial's start date due to COVID-19 symptoms or suspected exposure to COVID-19.

c. Outside the context of the Interim Rules, USBCHA also offered mitigation grants to trials hosts of \$150 to help with additional costs associated with porta-johns and sanitation supplies; and reduced the sanctioning deadline to no less than 5 days (from 30) before the trial open date.

d. Statistics – Marianna

i. USBCHA has issued about \$3,600 in mitigation grants, potentially increasing to \$6,700 through the end of October.

ii. Refunds have only been around \$1,000 so far. Hosts seem to be using it as intended and not requesting refunds when able to fill scratches from their waiting list.

e. Comments

i. Experience seems to show mitigation has been helpful allowing trial hosts to have best conditions possible.

ii. There is no current evidence of any COVID outbreaks as a result of trials so far.

iii. Price of porta-johns has gone up so the mitigation grant has been very helpful to hosts of smaller trials

f. Discussion: Whether to extend or remove Interim Rules

i. Directors discussed whether it was necessary to extend the interim rules or whether to separate the mitigation and 5 day emergency sanctioning from the interim rules.

ii. Also discussed was whether the interim rules were within the mission of the USBCHA.

- iii. Question was asked why the interim rules should be dropped just as the Covid crisis is intensifying, noting that the original decision was made based on expert advice.

g. Motion: Do not extend interim rules for another 90 days (Jan Stebbins).

i. **Second: Frank Smith**

ii. **Vote: Motion defeated in a rollcall vote. Interim Rules are extended through Jan 31.**

3. Temporary 5-day notice for sanctioning

a. Discussion:

- i. Rule should be same for both open and nursery.
- ii. Reminder that hosts can still ask for waiver if circumstances require less than 30 days before entries open.
- iii. Point made that there now seems to be a lot of trials so emergency notice is no longer necessary.
- iv. Question was raised about hosts rescheduling a trial due to either Covid outbreak, weather or other unforeseen circumstances.
- v. Linda, as secretary, informed directors that she has already allowed hosts to do so for a variety of reasons- the only requirement is that the handlers entering the trial be kept informed.

b. Motion: Return to 30 days and require mitigation refunds be requested within 21 days after trial (Mike Neary)

i. **Second Amanda Milliken**

ii. **Vote: passed without objection**

4. Insurance Update

a. Summary memo of USBCHA general liability coverage posted on BC Boards

i. Findings

- 1. Memo questions value of USBCHA'S "Additional Insured" option for trial hosts.
- 2. Research and consultation with the insurance company suggests the HA's GL policy does not protect trials hosts.
 - a. For example, additional insured coverage would only apply if HA caused injury, which is unlikely as USBCHA only sanctions trials and does not control trials from a liability perspective
- 3. HA GL insurance applies only to the Finals

b. Discussion:

- i. HA needs to see if other agencies are willing to provide desired additional insured coverage for a reasonable price.
- ii. Although preliminary research suggests this is not likely, HA needs to solicit bids from other companies to see if one could meet our needs better.
- iii. USBCHA needs to withdraw additional insured coverage for trial hosts at this time.
- iv. USBCHA should update Trial Resources web page with list of agents that trial hosts can contact for insurance.

5. Waiver/release status

a. Proposal to remove indemnify clauses introduced.

b. Discussion:

- i. Do we need to change waiver form, and do we need a waiver at all?
- ii. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

6. Officer Elections

- a. Vice President was the only contested position:
- b. Vote: Roll call: Russell McCord begins as Vice President Jan 1**

7. New Business

- a. New Directors terms begin Nov 15
- b. Annual Member meeting
 - i. ABCA has not determined format of their annual meeting yet
 - ii. In lieu of a meeting, USBCHA annual report must be posted on website prior to end of calendar year
 - iii. Question: Should we hold the annual meeting at Bluegrass?

8. Finals judges:

- a. It was previously decided that in January, 2021 USBCHA will notify judges who were selected for 2020 to have right of first refusal for 2021.
- b. Discussed whether to contact judges earlier than that.
- c. Decided that Peter will notify all the judges this month.

9. Peter thanked outgoing directors for their service.

**Adjournment: Motion to adjourn (Linda Tesdahl)
Second Cy Peterson**

Adjourned at 6:17 PM