

## Emergency BOD Meeting #2

4/3/20

8 PM EST

### **Present:**

**Officers:** Peter Hall, Linda DeJong

**Board Members:** Angie Coker-Sells, Cy Peterson, David Saunders, Dianne Deal, Faansie Basson, Frank Smith, Jan Stebbins, Jennifer Boznos, Joe Haynes, John Palmer, Kay Stephens, Laura Vishoot, Linda Tesdahl, Lori Cunningham, Louanne Twa, Mary Minor, Mich Ferraro, Mike Neary, Sue Schoen, Wyatt Fleming

**Guests:** Tracee Treadwell, Dr. Dianna Sylvestre

### **Opening Remarks:**

**Peter:** This meeting is called under the authority of the USBCHA Bylaw Article 7.5 where advance notice requirements are waived.

The purpose of this meeting is to review the recommendations of the Covid-19 Committee and to vote on those recommendations

Tracee Treadwell and Dianna Sylvestre are present to help explain and clarify the recommendations. Peter has also had discussions with Sandy Payne (Sheepdog National Finals) Rich Hall (Cattledog National Finals)

### **Covid-19 Committee Recommendations and Discussion**

#### **Kay Stephens speaking for committee:**

A written report was submitted to the BOD in advance of the meeting

Summary: Latest evidence is that the virus can live on surfaces for hours or days and there is some evidence of aerosol transfer. This means the virus can be easily spread at trials even if social distancing is maintained.

At this point the only way to keep death rate down to avoid overwhelming the health care system is by maintaining sheltering in place. Projections with enforcement of social distancing show peaks will occur from middle of April to middle of May with cases continuing to occur into June or July.

Committee recommends extending out moratorium through June 10 to give hosts and handlers more lead time for planning.

**Tracee Treadwell: Addressing epidemiology aspects.** Modeling is based on projections from IHME based at the University of Washington. Anyone wanting to review the information can find it on web at: <https://covid19.healthdata.org/projections>. This information is updated as new data is compiled and thus changes continually but has been shown to be accurate so far. Looks at peak usage- amount of beds, ICU and ventilator needs with date of peak use projected. Based on everyone complying with social distancing but so far this is not happening in all areas.

Question:

Testing- There are still many more cases than have been tested and a lot of people who feel well but are carriers.

#### **Dianna Sylvestre: Addressing resistance as a doctor**

This is a novel virus with no one having resistance. As a doctor, she stated that in time everyone is going to be exposed. The question is when do we want the exposure to happen- now or when there is a good treatment or vaccine. We need to slow down transmission because the longer we wait the better outcome there is going to be and the fewer people who will die.

When can we trial- we don't know. We need to see the infection trend go down which it is beginning to happen in some places. We don't know what will happen when restrictions are

lifted. Hopes June 10 will be enough but is not optimistic. She is comfortable with June 10 at this point as long as issue is revisited. Thinks monthly review is good.

**Discussion:**

Discussion included whether monthly review is sufficient. Also discussed the pros and cons of making decision to completely cancel the season and finals or whether to keep possibility open for at least another month. Peter had verified with Sandy that it would be possible for the sheep dog final to be pushed later in the year to as late as first weekend of December. Has not heard back from Cattedog committee whether there were later dates.

A suggestion was made to not push decision-making too far into the future, for example, make the current recommendation for a moratorium last until June 1 and then regularize the schedule where the decision is made one month before the next set of restrictions apply.

Response from Committee was that 10 June was chosen because all the epidemiological curves were starting to head down toward the middle of the month. If June 1 was the deadline, would probably have to extend it at least to June 10 when everything is reassessed in a couple of weeks. Also, because there are many trials scheduled for the Memorial Day weekend, the Committee thought it best to remove any uncertainty about the trials taking place.

**Motion:** To accept the committee recommendation to extend withdrawing sanctioning through June 10. Covid-19 committee will continue to review and update recommendations to Peter on a 2-week schedule. He will refer pertinent updates to the BOD which will meet monthly unless there is a radical change.

**Motion by:** Lori Cunningham

**Second by:** Cy Peterson

**Motion Passed:** 19 yes, 1 no

Website will continue based on current practice of marking current trials as non-sanctioned unless hosts notifies secretary of cancelation or rescheduling.

**Finals Qualification Committee (Cy Peterson)**

Have discussed a variety of scenarios but due to uncertainty of when or if there will be trials or finals are unable to give specific recommendations at this time.

**Adjourn:** 9:14 EST