

# USBCHA DIRECTORS MEETING

## Aug 4, 2021 8 PM EDT

**Attending:** Amanda Milliken, Bob Allen, Bob Washer, Cy Peterson, Frank Smith, Jamie Spring, Jan Stebbins, Kay Stephens, Laura Vishoot, Lori Cunningham, Louanne Twa, Marianna Schreeder, Mary Minor, Mich Ferraro, Mike Neary, Milton Scott, Russell McCord, Scott Glen, Sue Schoen, Tracy Hinton, Wyatt Fleming

**Officers:** Peter Hall, Linda DeJong, Pearse Ward, Russell McCord, Marianna Schreeder

**Director Nominations:** Nominations are now closed. Ballots will be posted as soon as possible. We need to encourage members to vote. Winners will be announced at annual meeting.

**Archives:** Linda received several boxes of materials, primarily copies of VHS tapes of previous finals and audio tapes of a conference by Francis. Suggested converting them to a digital format. Will follow up after finals to make final decisions as archives are important to organizations such as ours.

### **Finals:**

**Sheepdog Finals**-Open is full with a waiting list and over 100 entries in nursery. We have purchased new countdown timers, one for each field. Most of cost was covered by a grant from Purina.

USBCHA finals reps will be Tom Wilson, Linda Tesdahl and Lori Cunningham

ABCA has been notified but has not yet named their reps.

Sandy Payne has passed on a preliminary schedule.

The two overseas judges are still good to go at this time. Peter has contacted other nominees and received affirmative answers from many of them that they could step in in the event Michael Gallagher and Aled Owen are not able to come due to covid restrictions. Important to make a decision on date to make final determination so replacement judges have time to make arrangements. Suggested decision day when U.S. President's current executive order is due to expire (Aug 21).

Canadians ability to come to finals is still up in the air. Board is agreed that refunds will be extended if Canadians are unable to cross the border to attend finals.

Issue was raised about plan to care for judges that doesn't involve individual contestants taking care of them. Particularly important due to new judge guidelines. Peter will remind Sandy of having a factotum for transporting judges. Also need to consider hospitality such as food and drinks and areas for judges to be in when not judging that is not necessarily in middle of handler area.

Webcast: Heather Nadelman is involved in planning of webcast production. Meetings are ongoing how best to improve the coverage. Peter will be sitting in on future meetings.

**Cattledog Finals:** Pearse is contacting Lyle East and has offered to set up a website for them that can be used in subsequent finals.

Entries are beginning to come in and entries will be posted on USBCHA website.

**2022 Finals:** Proposal from Mary Minor has been submitted.

Motion: Marianna moved to accept finals proposal.

Second; Amanda

Board did voice vote and approved the proposal with no negatives.

**Financials:** Taxes have been filed.

Finances very complex for 2021 due to having only partial year in 2020. Directors were encourage to contact Marianna about any specific questions. Bottom line is that revenues exceeded expenditures.

We have made a first down payment to Five O'Clock Films for the webcast. It was noted that currently membership is down but the point was made it is typical for membership to vary depending on where Finals is held. Frequently members chose not to join if Finals is on other coast, then rejoin when new trial year begins.

Investments: Our last bonds matured a couple of months ago so we are sitting on a lot of cash in the investment account. Peter received a proposal from Ameriprise and passed it on to the Finance Committee. It is basically a mixed portfolio that is typically set up for not-for-profits such as USBCHA.

Motion made by Cy to accept the proposal

Seconded by Marianna

Voice vote approved with no negatives.

**Interim Rules:** Discussion was held about whether to extend rules, end them or modify them. Point made that currently very few requests coming in.

Motion: Amanda to extend for another 90 days (to October 31).

Seconded

Voice Vote-passed with 5 negatives.

**Misc.** A trial host requiring handlers show proof of Covid vaccination to participate in a trial does not violate USBCHA Rules and such trials can be sanctioned. Directors agreed that requirements such as this are not contrary to II.4.a.

Concern expressed about trials with first-come, first-serve on-line entries (only) that fill in first half hour and whether this was fair to handlers who do not have access to internet during that very short window. Question raised whether we want to micro-manage how hosts handle their entries. Conclusion was that USBCHA does not condone the practice and needs to continue monitoring situation before making changes.

Question raised about how to handle situations where a non-member owner wants to receive the points a dog earned with another handler when they do not intend to run the dog in the future. Conclusion that this is not currently a problem. If owner is not a member, points cannot be transferred.

**Motion to Adjourn- 9:30 PM EDT**