

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 in sufficient 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.