

**UNITED SCHUTZHUND CLUBS OF AMERICA  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**October 19, 2006  
Conference Call**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The Executive Board meeting was called to order by President Lyle Roetemeyer at 8:05 P.M. CDT. Roll call by Secretary Sara Wallick, with 15 Executive Board members attending. A quorum was present.

**Present:** President Lyle Roetemeyer, Vice President Nathaniel Roque, Secretary Sara Wallick, Treasurer Bill Plumb, Director of Judges Mark Przybylski; Directors at Large Al Govednik, Mike Hamilton; Regional Directors Bill Bimrose, Pia Blackwell, ARD Michelle Kutelis for Uwe Doose, Randall Hoadley, Vicki Keller, Lynne Lewis, John Oliver, Peggy Park, Mark Scarberry.

**Joined later:** National Breed Warden Karen MacIntyre (8:18 P.M.); Directors at Large Terry Macias (8:08 P.M.), Howie Rodriguez (8:14 P.M.).

**Absent:** Regional Directors Jerrold Gray, Randy Kromer.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from the following meetings will be done by Executive Board ballot after the meeting:

- Executive Board Meeting – November 2, 2005.
- Executive Board Meeting – June 3, 2006 (Correct item in USA Office Manager and Magazine Committee reports to show Jennifer Acevedo as a member of the Magazine Committee rather than Jennifer Aguilar).

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**PRESIDENT – LYLE ROETEMEYER**

**WUSV World Championship**

Congratulations to the USA WUSV team members on their first place finish. The team captains worked extremely well together, which made it very supportive for all the members of the team.

**Regional Congress**

Because of the schedule change for the GSD National Championship with draw night and judges dinner on Wednesday night, it was decided to try to hold the Regional Congress after helper tryouts on Wednesday.

**Executive session from 8:20–9:00 P.M.**

**WUSV Meetings**

At the September WUSV Annual General Meeting in Germany there were 52 out of 74 countries present. We now have two new clubs in the WUSV and are up to 76. There was a change in the bylaws in which verein (club) was changed to verband (association) because legally in Germany calling themselves a club would make them more of a taxable organization.

There are two clubs representing China as well as two from Taiwan. The FCI has been very involved in assisting China with their registry. They spoke about the difficulty with the AKC and they were happy that they are now introducing utility and dog sport in our country. There are two clubs from Hungary, and one of them (MEJK) was expelled last year and sued the WUSV, which so far has cost the WUSV \$12,000 in lawyer fees alone

and that case is still not settled. They had elections for the board and David Landau of GSDCA ran against Roque Benavides, COAPA President, and won by six votes. Dr. Wolfgang Tauber of Austria and Dr. Erkki Läike of Finland were reelected.

At the October WUSV Congress for Working Dogs in Denmark there were 22 countries present. President Wolfgang Henke gave a brief report regarding continued efforts regarding nationalization of the WUSV. He stated his desire to form an international committee made up of 12 members that would consist of both working and show people to assist in differences in countries and perform special tasks under his direction.

Günther Diegel gave his report on the championship. He stated the front half helper was an excellent helper, very young, fast, and strong, and he outran some of the dogs. He said the dogs that were not set up parallel to the helper in the arc had problems and dogs that were too heavy or were over-angulated had problems getting started quickly enough to catch the helper. There were two individuals (from Sweden and Taiwan) who were dismissed for unsportsmanlike conduct. He also stated that checking on turns is not faulty if the dog does not leave the track.

The Swiss member spoke about stick hits having been banned by the Swiss Kennel Club (SKC). Everyone was asked to send a memorandum to SKC protesting this ruling. It seems to show what can happen when you are affiliated with a kennel club and they decide to pass a rule that you have to abide by. If that rule sticks, it is going to make it very difficult for the Swiss to be able to test their dogs in their own country.

**VICE PRESIDENT – NATHANIEL ROQUE**

Deferred report to General Board meeting.

**SECRETARY – SARA WALLICK**

Kelly Hope will be sending a list to the regional directors of the clubs in their regions that have long-standing unpaid dues. The rest of the report deferred to the General Board meeting.

The following Executive Board ballots have been submitted since the June 2006 Executive Board meeting:

**E-Ballot #9-06 (2007 Sieger Show Slate of Judges)**

Motion by Karen MacIntyre to approve the Breed Advisory Committee's recommended slate of judges for the 2007 Sieger Show:

Richard Brauch (SV)  
Franz-Peter Knaul (SV)  
Karl-Heinz Zygadto (SV alternate)  
Erich Bösl (SV alternate)  
Ernst Seifert (SV alternate)  
Ricardo Carbajal (USA)  
Karen MacIntyre (USA)  
Mark Przybylski (USA) – Protection

**Vote: Yes–21. Motion carried unanimously 6/27/06.**

**E-Ballot #10-06 (Clarification of H.O.T. Definition)**

Motion by Mark Przybylski that to qualify as Handler/Owner Trained (H.O.T.), a dog acquired by a handler/owner/trainer on or after January 1, 2006 must have been owned by that handler/owner/trainer prior to the dog reaching one year of age, and the same handler/owner/trainer must have trained and titled the dog to BH and current Schutzhund titles.

Dogs acquired prior to January 1, 2006, regardless of the age of the dog when ownership commenced, shall also be considered H.O.T. if the handler/dog team meets the previous H.O.T. criteria of being owned and trained by the handler/owner/trainer to BH and current Schutzhund titles.

The dog shall not have changed ownership at any point subsequent to acquisition by the handler/ owner/trainer. Verification will be done through signed ownership transfer documents and also copies of the scorebook pages showing the titles, trial dates, and judges' names.

**Vote: Yes-18, No-2, NFD-1. Motion carried 6/28/06.**

**E-Ballot #11-06 (2006 GSD National Championship Slate of Judges)**

Motion by Sara Wallick to approve the USA Judges Committee's recommended slate of judges for the 2006 GSD National Championship:

Tracking – Al Govednik (USA)

Obedience – Mark Przybylski (USA)

Protection – Walter Hoffman (SV)

**Vote: Yes-20, ABS-1. Motion carried 6/30/06.**

**E-Ballot #12-06 (Travel Expense Reimbursement for Johannes Grewe)**

Motion by Bill Plumb that USA will pay travel expenses for Johannes Grewe while accompanying and acting as translator for the USA President at the WUSV meetings in September and October 2006. Expenses not to exceed \$3,500.

**Vote: Yes-18, No-2, NFD-1. Motion carried 8/22/06.**

**E-Ballot #13-06 (Approval of Karen MacIntyre as Körmeister/Breed Survey Master)**

Motion by John Oliver to approve Karen MacIntyre as USA's second Körmeister/Breed Survey Master as recommended by the Breed Advisory Committee.

**Background:** The USA breed program needs this. Karen has the same amount of time as a breed judge that Johannes Grewe had when Mike Hamilton appointed him as a Körmeister. She is also a performance judge and is therefore fully qualified to judge a long bite and an attack out of the blind. Karen has been asked to walk with the judge of the Kennel Group at this year's SV Sieger Show. That is an obvious honor and acknowledgment of Karen as our USA National Breed Warden. Karen has paid her dues, done the work, shown her knowledge of the GSD, and demonstrated her dedication to USA. It is time, for the good of the GSD and in the best interests of USA, for us to have Karen as our second USA Körmeister.

**Vote: Yes-18, No-1, ABS-2. Motion carried 9/7/06.**

**E-Ballot #14-06 (UKC Working Dog Judge License for Mark Przybylski) – Withdrawn**

Motion by Nathaniel Roque to allow Director of Judges Mark Przybylski to accept a working dog judge license from the United Kennel Club Working Dog Program.

**Motion withdrawn 9/7/06.**

**E-Ballot #15-06 (Amend Fiscal Year 2007 Budget)**

Motion by Bill Plumb to increase the fiscal year 2007 budget funds for the Judges College from \$8,000 to \$12,100 to cover the actual cost of the meeting. The additional funds will come from cash reserves, as the budget for the year had only a minimal surplus.

**Vote: Yes-14, No-1, ABS-6. Motion carried 9/21/06.**

**E-Ballot #16-06 (WUSV/FCI Championship Team Eligibility)**

Motion by Howie Rodriguez to approve the revised WUSV/FCI Championship Team Eligibility document submitted by the World Championship Committee.

**Vote: Yes-20, NFD-1. Motion carried 9/25/06.**

**E-Ballot #17-06 (Three-Day Event Authorization Revision [Rulebook/USA Variances Addition]) – Withdrawn**

Motion by Mike Hamilton to allow USA full-member clubs to host three-day events in lieu of two-day events. Clubs may use Friday or Monday to host events offering performance titles and degrees awarded by USA. Performance titles such BH, SchH/VPG, FH, IPO, and DPO must be offered on Saturday and Sunday in addition to Friday or Monday. If clubs anticipate more trial entries than can be accommodated in two days, a three-day event should be authorized with performance titles offered on both days of the weekend and the extra day intended for overflow.

Clubs are allowed to offer performance titles on Friday or Monday and just one day of a weekend if also hosting a breed show, breed survey, or seminar on the other day of the weekend. Breed shows and breed surveys must be hosted on Saturday or Sunday, while seminars may be hosted on any of the three days.

The three-day event is intended for larger events and will not be allowed unless the club has three days of activities. It is not intended to allow a club to host a trial on Friday or Monday and a one-day event on the weekend. The regional director must receive a request from the club for a three-day event, and issuance of an event authorization is at the discretion of the regional director.

Event notice must be given to all clubs in the respective region at least three weeks in advance of the event.

**Background:** This rule variance revision allows clubs to host seminars as part of a three-day event as well as trials, breed shows, and breed surveys.

**Motion withdrawn 9/18/06.**

**E-Ballot #18-06 (2007 USA Sieger Show Co-Host)**

Motion by John Oliver to approve the Breed Advisory Committee recommendation of O.G. Boston as co-host of the 2007 USA Sieger Show.

**Vote: Yes-11, No-5, NFD-4, NR-1. Motion carried 10/6/06.**

**E-Ballot #19-06 (BOI Case: USA vs. O.G. Wesconn Schutzhund Club)**

Motion by Al Govednik to accept the recommendation of the Board of Inquiry in the case of USA vs. O.G. Wesconn Schutzhund Club:

The BOI recommends that O.G. Wesconn Schutzhund Club should not be allowed to host any USA regional or national event for a period of one year, and also that the club be on probation for a period of two years to show whether the club can hold an event that is up to USA standards. It is recommended that the regional director monitor the club to insure compliance.

The charge of submission of scoresheets to the USA Office, received September 2, 2005, containing possible fraudulent titles is not sustained. The BOI has not been able to obtain sufficient evidence to prove conclusively that the scoresheets contained fraudulent titles.

The charge of accepting entries from one handler showing more than three dogs in the same event is sustained. O.G. Wesconn Schutzhund Club accepted entries for more than three dogs from one handler as evidenced by the scoresheets submitted for the trial. The USA General Board of Directors implemented a rule variance that allowed handlers to enter a maximum of three dogs in USA trials. Even though the submitted scoresheets were very sloppily written, it can be easily ascertained that up to six entries came from the same person. It should be noted that the scoresheets were almost unintelligible with the errors and corrections.

**Vote: Yes-16, No-3, NFD-2. Motion carried 10/6/06.**

**E-Ballot #20-06 (Felons Prohibited as Executive Board/Regional Officers/Judges/Teaching Helpers) – Withdrawn**

Motion by Nathaniel Roque to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, USA has become America's premier organization for working dog sports and working dog breeds, particularly the German Shepherd Dog;

Whereas, There are working dog breeds and activities that have attracted criminal elements and felons who may be in the working dog communities;

Whereas, USA must take steps to distance itself from criminal activities and to insure that felons are not involved with the governance and representation of the organization;

Whereas, USA cannot risk the damage to its public image and reputation in the event the actions of a felon who is identified as an officer or representative of USA become public knowledge, particularly if the publicized incident involves Schutzhund-trained and/or titled dogs;

**Resolved**, That the Executive Board of USA supports a bylaw amendment prohibiting individuals with felony convictions for crimes involving dishonesty (e.g., fraud, forgery, embezzlement, perjury, impersonation of a police officer, theft, etc.) from holding positions as members of the Executive Board, regional officers, judges, and teaching helpers.

*Motion withdrawn 9/27/06.*

**E-Ballot #21-06 (Prohibition of Felons)**

Motion by Nathaniel Roque to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, USA has become America's premier organization for working dog sports and working dog breeds, particularly the German Shepherd Dog;

Whereas, There are working dog breeds and activities that have attracted criminal elements and felons who may be in the working dog communities;

Whereas, USA must take steps to distance itself from criminal activities and to insure that felons are not involved with the governance and representation of the organization;

Whereas, USA cannot risk the damage to its public image and reputation in the event the actions of a felon who is identified as an officer or representative of USA become public knowledge, particularly if the publicized incident involves Schutzhund-trained and/or titled dogs;

**Resolved**, That the Executive Board of USA supports a bylaw amendment prohibiting individuals with felony convictions for crimes involving dishonesty (e.g., fraud, forgery, embezzlement, perjury, impersonation of a police officer, theft, etc.) from holding positions as members of the Executive Board, assistant regional directors, regional breed wardens, judges, and teaching helpers.

*Vote: Yes-16, No-2, NFD-2, NR-1. Motion carried 10/11/06.*

**E-Ballot #22-06 (Amend Fiscal Year 2007 Budget)**

Motion by Bill Plumb to amend the fiscal year 2007 budget to include up to \$3,000 in travel expenses to send two USA judges to the FCI judges meeting. The funds will come from cash reserves.

*Vote: Yes-20, ABS-1. Motion carried 10/13/06.*

**E-Ballot #23-06 (Appeal of New England Regional Director Decision) – Withdrawn**

Motion by John Oliver to overrule the decision of the New England Regional Director to suspend O.G. Wesconn Schutzhund Club as a USA full member club for one year. Furthermore, that, if this motion is passed by the Executive Board, O.G. Wesconn be reinstated to USA full member club status immediately following this Executive Board vote.

The evidence presented to the Executive Board proves that a mistake was made by the trial secretary when he erroneously wrote the name Wesconn on the line for the club name on one of the two forms required by WDA, but correctly wrote the full name of the WDA club, Wesconn Schaeferhund Verein, on the second form. The forms are obviously WDA forms.

Furthermore, WDA lists no Wesconn or O.G. Wesconn as a WDA member club, but it does list Wesconn Schaeferhund Verein, making it obvious that O.G. Wesconn and Wesconn Schaeferhund Verein are two separate clubs in two different organizations. Therefore, no infraction of USA rules has occurred.

*Motion withdrawn 10/2/06.*

**TREASURER – BILL PLUMB**

For the fiscal year ending June 2006 we performed slightly better than planned. We had a net increase in assets of \$26,000. That was mostly from higher than anticipated individual dues revenue; but we had a drop in club dues revenue, which was down 12.5%. We also had a reduction in operating costs, mainly due to replacing two full-time employees with part-time employees and the lag before the full-time employees were replaced. We have about \$5,000 in tax liability for last year that would include the Royal Canin sponsorship money and some of the other non-member revenue. For the three months ended September we had profit of about \$7,000. This is our profitable phase and about November we start losing money for about three or four months.

**DIRECTOR OF JUDGES – MARK PRZYBYLSKI**

Deferred report to General Board meeting.

**NATIONAL BREED WARDEN – KAREN MACINTYRE**

This year we started measuring all dogs at the Sieger Show from the youth class on up. That was started a couple years ago in Germany and it is important to measure the dogs in those classes. Size is a big issue when it comes to service dogs, particularly for the RH Program. We need to make this a requirement for all our shows soon so we stop getting oversized dogs that are KKL1. A big thing implemented in Germany this year is testing for hair coat dye, so they were testing all the top dogs, taking random samples. If we don't follow suit soon, we will be getting those dogs here—oversized, dyed, etc. They don't have parameters in place yet for what they are testing for, but are working on it and making all the handlers sign affidavits that the dogs have not been dyed. We are going to be seeing the same issue over here. We also need to start testing for doping in our national events, both show and working. All winners should be tested for doping as they are pushing that in Germany as well.

The 2007 USA Sieger Show will be April 20–22. There will be some minor changes in venue details, but the same hotel will be used. Right now the WDA Sieger Show has 416 entries. We had 344 this year and 302 last year. The WDA show is growing twice as fast as our show, even with all the complaints about how political the judges are at the WDA show. Many Europeans are not coming because of how political the judges are. WDA has over 60 entries in each adult class and only 20 dogs are in the non-standard classes that we do not offer. I have heard a lot of praises for our USA Office. One of the biggest strengths of entering the USA Sieger Show is getting the paperwork straightened out by our office. The WDA Office does not do that for people. Margi Ross has a good suggestion for using PayPal and on-line entries. That would especially benefit people from overseas who want to enter.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS – STANDING COMMITTEES

### BREED ADVISORY COMMITTEE – KAREN MACINTYRE

The BAC is discussing how to deal with Sieger Shows in the future and trying to come up with a rotation schedule that deals with the major cities that can actually handle 400–500 dogs as well as the zones that go with it. We can't get clubs to bid for the Sieger Show these days because of the concerns about running it. We hope to come up with a document by the GBM that covers Sieger Show procedures and venue selection because the NEC manual cannot cover everything required for the Sieger Show.

### NATIONAL EVENTS COMMITTEE – MARTIN VOLLRATH

(Given by Howie Rodriguez)

The new National Events Committee protocol is being applied this year at the GSD National Championship.

### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE – HOWIE RODRIGUEZ

The new WUSV/FCI Championship Team Eligibility document was approved by the Executive Board in September.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 1. E-Ballot Procedures

Randall Hoadley proposed discussing intended e-ballots with the Executive Board prior to submittal to eliminate the withdrawal of ballots. With input from more EB members, it would provide a chance to make any required changes prior to submittal.

### 2. Publish USA Rulebook on USA Website

Sara Wallick proposed publishing the trial rules on the USA website so members can view them there rather than going to the DVG website. Bill Plumb reported doing that would decrease revenue about \$10,000 per year. Some USA clubs provide a rulebook along with a new membership as part of their dues. Nathaniel Roque suggested we could offset the revenue loss by increasing USA membership dues, since we have not had an increase for several years.

### 3. Records Retention Policy

Sara Wallick proposed a change in the current policy because it mandates that BOI records be destroyed two years after the approval of the minutes from the board meeting at which the findings were reported. This leaves USA without substantiating documentation in the case of litigation. This will be discussed with the USA attorney before making the change.

### 4. WUSV/FCI Eligibility

Vicki Keller suggesting omitting the declaration process for the world teams and just select the top scoring teams provided they meet all requirements. Lyle Roetemeyer said the current process was a simplification for the USA Office so there would be time to verify the records on the possible team members before the submittal deadlines. Howie Rodriguez pointed out that some top scoring teams might not wish to be on a team or for some reason might not be able to be on one. It was suggested providing reminders such as notices in the magazine, on the bottom of the entry forms, links on the national event host club websites, and on the USA website national events page. It could also be mentioned at draw night. Vicki suggested a check box on the entry forms that would indicate the entrant is declaring while entering the national event.

### 5. Executive Board Confidentiality

Terry Macias expressed concern about the confidentiality breeches within the Executive Board. It has been a long-standing problem and several solutions were discussed. Terry Macias and Bill Bimrose will try to find ways to assure Executive Board confidentiality.

### 6. Archive National Events Videos

Terry Macias suggested we hire a company to video and archive our national events so they are available to us in the future. We should set a standard and ask for a request for proposal, evaluate it, then bring it to the General Board.

### 7. GSD National Championship Waiver

It was agreed to allow Mary Bowden-Evans to enter the GSD National Championship without having participated in a regional championship because of her health. Her entry will be for exhibition only and she will not be eligible for any official placement or trophy. (Submitted as E-Ballot #26-06)

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 P.M.

*Sara Wallick*

Sara Wallick, Secretary