

MINUTES
General Board Meeting
October 19, 2000
Madison, Wisconsin

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Michael Hamilton called the meeting to order at 8:07 am. Secretary Diane Madigan took roll call, 44 Club Delegates and 16 Executive Board Members were present.

II. PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION

President Michael Hamilton acknowledged a second place finish for the USA World Championship Team, and thanked **GEORGE FOREMAN** for his support. Mike described the change in structure of our Executive Board, with the elimination of the Executive Director's position and his assistant. As President, he has changed the function of the committees and the Executive Board; these members are now often doing tasks that were previously accomplished by paid vendors or professionals. Examples of this are the magazine committee: a year and a half ago, an editor that was a paid professional accomplished this. Our USA Office Manager, Kelly Hope is also functioning as our in-house accountant. Vice President, Jim Elder has taken over the website. As webmaster, Jim has been working very hard updating the site on a regular basis, and providing up to date coverage of events such as this National Event. This site is getting a lot of attention around the world. **We really appreciate his efforts!**

The Meloy lawsuit has been settled. Our insurance carrier and Mr. Meloy agreed upon the terms that are confidential between the two parties. Thanks to Barbara Malcolm, Paul DiNenna, Ann Marie Chaffin, Jim Elder, Diane Madigan, and Kelly Hope for spending over 2000 hours to defend our organization against this lawsuit.

Membership has grown slightly, we are receiving new applications for membership and the Lifetime Membership Program has provided much needed revenue to help USA programs move forward. Thanks to **Cynthia McMahan, Keith Benson, Vickie Keller, Mike Gardner, Kathy Jobe, Jerry Wolfe, Egon Vollrath, George Foreman, Barbara Bruun Ferguson, James Terra, and Richard Plunkett** for being there when we really need them. Kelly Hope distributed gifts to all lifetime members and delegates in attendance as a token of appreciation for their support. Mike also acknowledged the support of **Charles Dorrance Jr.** as a major contributor, his donation helped sponsor the Judge's College 2000 and 2001. Charles also represented the USA at the AWDF Championship 1999. Thanks also to **Best Breed Dog Food** for being our National Event sponsor.

Poster boards showing the evolution of our, "Schutzhund USA" magazine were displayed. Mike Hamilton announced that Donna Rednour was stepping down as the managing editor for the magazine. Christine Kemper will assume the position as chairman for the Editorial Committee. A plaque was presented to Donna Rednour from the organization for appreciation of her outstanding service. Mike also acknowledged **Cynthia McMahan** as a sponsor and supporter of our judge's program. **Mike Andrel**, through **Barthco International** has also made a generous donation to the Judge's College.

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Kay Koerner moved to correct the error in the minutes of the May 1999 Executive Board Meeting.

Page 2 Heading: (Auditing Committee) be corrected to read that she presented an audit report on the 1999 World Championship, Boston. After the correction was made Kay Koerner moved to approve the 1999 EB Meeting Minutes as corrected, the General Board, Meeting 1999 Minutes, and also the Executive Board Meeting 2000 Minutes. Seconded by Ian McLeod. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** (1999 EBM Minutes corrected in secretary's file)

IV. OFFICER'S REPORTS

President's Report: President Mike Hamilton deferred his report until the Breed Advisory Committee's report, at which time he will give an overview of the dynamics and inter-relationships of the different international organizations.

Vice President: In his report, Jim Elder recommended that we take control of our own destiny and future, as a leader, with the decisions that we make today; or follow a path that is being designed for us. Jim informed the members that it is not the intention of any member of this Board to knowingly jeopardize our relationship with any other organization within the dog sport community. It is our responsibility to do what is necessary for the breed and the future of our sport in America. Jim thanked the Board for the teamwork and dedication they have shown to this organization, and for the strong leadership of Mike Hamilton. (*Report on File*)

Treasurer's Report: Mike Hamilton advised that Paul DiNenna would not be attending the meeting and would not seek reelection. Mike then commended Paul on a great job during his tenure as treasurer. The financial report was distributed. Membership is up, revenue is up, and debt is down.

Secretary's Report: Diane Madigan reported that the minutes from both the 1999 GB and 2000 EB meetings were completed well before the 60-day deadline. They were printed in the magazine, sent to the clubs, and the results were placed on the website.

MAIL BALLOTS: 13 mail ballots were polled electronically and the results were printed in magazine.

BOI CASES: 5 Board of Inquiry cases were rapidly processed.

DELEGATE FORM LETTER was revised to include e-mail confirmation and was made available as a download from the website.

New Club Listings 1995-2000

Additions: North County SchH Club (SW) 1-1-96, Northeastern Ohio Police and Working Dog Assn. (ME) 5-1-00, Brandywine SchH Club (NE) July 2000

Changes: Indian Creek SchH Club, (MC) from 1998 to 9-1-99

Deletions: Mo-Kan SchH Assoc. from Aug. 1999. Mo-Kan was granted full member status in Feb. 1981.

Thanks to Kay Koerner, Kelly Hope, and Carl Johnson for their continued support and assistance. (*Report on File*)

Motions that were passed at this meeting and now become standing rules:

- **USA Office Procedure**

Any Non-USA member who wishes to have their eligible Non-USA scorebooks certified by USA, must pay a non-member fee of \$15 plus the cost of certification, which is \$5 at this time. **MOTION PASSED**

- **Regional Directors/Trial Rules**

The General Board ratifies the Executive Boards decision that a club hosting a regional championship event, working or breed, may host a trial on the day preceding the event. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The General Board ratify the Executive Boards decision that the Regional Directors are required to formally acknowledge the approval of full member clubs in their region, at each EB and GB Meeting. **MOTION PASSED**

- **Judges Committee**

Motion to uphold the judge's program's mandatory retirement age of 75 years old **MOTION PASSED**

Motion to accept open reciprocity with Canada with regards to their judges. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by Mark Przybylski seconded by Jim Elder that the United Schutzhund Clubs of America not adopt the 70-point minimum score in Protection for any and all Schutzhund titles and continue to adhere to the current stand of 80-points minimum as a passing score for any and all titles in Schutzhund trials.

Furthermore, any dogs that are imported with a 70-point minimum score in Protection in regard to Schutzhund shall be required to achieve a passing score in all phases of a Schutzhund trial including a minimum of 80 points in protection in order to be awarded a recognized Schutzhund title in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America. The 80-point minimum in Protection is also required for any and all Schutzhund titles and is a prerequisite for any and all Breed Surveys, shows, and the USA Sieger Show.

Foreign judges must adhere to our 80-point protection passing score when judging at USA Sanctioned events.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- **National Events Committee**

To compete in the GSD Championship, the dog must have a minimum “G” conformation rating, in addition to the current requirements. Effective with the 2001 Championship. Mark Przybylski, the maker of this motion tabled this until after the breed program is in place. **MOTION TABLED**

- **Breed Advisory Committee**

Motion to accept the Breed Advisory Committee Proposal for a new registration system in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America, with the deletion of all startup dates and time frames. **MOTION PASSED**

- **Judge’s Committee**

Motion to approve **Nikki Banfield** as a USA probationary judge. **MOTION PASSED**

- **Breed Advisory Committee**

The Director of Judges, the National Breed Warden, or their appointee, shall select the helpers at the National Sieger Show. **MOTION PASSED**

Motion to uphold the approved judging classes and judges for the 2001 Sieger Show.

Motion to accept the Breed Advisory Committee’s approved slate of judges for the 2002 National Sieger Show: Hans-Peter Rieker – Males, Erich Bösl – Females, Johannes Grewe 6-9 mth males, 9-12 mth females, 12-18 mth males, and 18-24 mth females. **MOTION PASSED**

- **National Events**

Motion that effective in 2002 the GSD Championship be taken out of rotation and be in the Nashville area on a permanent basis. **MOTION TO TABLE THIS MOTION PASSED**

- **Helper Committee**

Motion to allow competition entered dogs to be available for helper tryouts at National Events. **MOTION PASSED**

Officers Reports Continued

Director of Judges: Mark Przybylski announced that he would combine the Director of Judges report with the Judge’s Committee Report. The H.O.T. tournament held in Texas at the Triple Crown facility was a success as was the USA Judge’s College that was held in conjunction with the event.

Nikki Banfield from Pennsylvania has satisfactorily completed all of the requirements of the judge’s program and has the approval of the USA Judge’s Committee to become a probationary USA Judge. There are currently six apprentice judges: David Millmore, Chris Madsen, Paul Schneider, Jim Elder, Nathaniel Roque, and Barry Drangel. Ray

Blomberg has applied and was approved by the judge's committee as an apprentice judge applicant.

Karen McIntyre apprentice judge is currently working toward finishing the conformation judge's program. Ricardo Carbajal has applied as an apprentice conformation judge applicant.

Mark has sent out 10 USA Judges packets to interested individuals. He asked that clubs try to schedule trials as far as possible in advance so that he is better able to advise requesting clubs which USA judge is available. *(Report on file)*

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing: Chair Kay Koerner reported that the auditing company, Davis, Keller, and Wiggins, completed the audit, copies were distributed.

Board of Inquiry: Chair Dena McGowan reported that since the Executive Board Meeting, the committee has handled one case, USA vs Wayne Curry. The Executive Board, per electronic ballot, did not approve the BOI's recommended 6-month suspension and increased it to a 12-month suspension. The committee chairman expressed disappointment with this decision. *(Report on file)*

Breed Advisory Committee: Chair Johannes Grewe urged support from the members on the suggested program that was mailed to the clubs several weeks ago from the committee. *(Program on file)*. Johannes stated that the purpose of this program is a positive one and not an attempt to jeopardize our long-term relationship with anyone. He also stated that we are not necessarily in a hurry with the implementation of this program, but should be ready when we need to implement it. Our organization is the steward for the German Shepherd Dog in the United States and has always followed in the footsteps of the SV and the WUSV, and will continue to do so.

Mike Hamilton added that for breeding purposes in Germany, any title received from a USA Judge is not recognized in Germany. Performance titles earned under USA Judges are recognized internationally. The USA/SV registration documents that we receive from the SV are recorded at the SV but the document is an "addition" to the AKC Pedigree. The VDH and almost every other kennel club of different countries in the world make up the membership of the FCI. The AKC has a relationship with the FCI, but is not controlled by them. The SV is a member of the VDH.

FCI rules do not allow a separate registration system different from the original registry of a country. The concept of our own breed registry is not a new concept. We must take hold of our destiny. Our breed warden and tattoo program must be reorganized and restructured. The Executive Board has already approved this program unanimously.

Budget Committee: Mike Hamilton asked that the members read the financial statements that were distributed. *(Copy on file)*

By-Law Committee: Chair John Koerner deferred his report to Old Business.

Editorial Committee: Chair Donna Rednour resigned from her position of managing editor of "Schutzhund USA" Christine Kemper will be her replacement. The committee is continually looking for ways to reduce cost. The printing company, Quebecor Printing is going strictly electronic, this will change all of our advertising guidelines. Beginning in 2001, all advertising will need to be submitted in electronic format. Every ad will be checked to make sure that it follows "Schutzhund USA" guidelines. These guidelines will be printed in the Nov./Dec. issue of the magazine. For questions concerning advertising, contact Kelly Hope, or Cheryl Morris. Thanks to Tim Crusier and Dave Puzzo for working with "Dog World Magazine" on an advertising agreement for our national events.

Helper Committee: Mark Chaffin reported that the second annual helper seminar was a success with 20 helpers participating. 675 helper books have been sent out. The committee would like to continue to conduct seminars at our National SchH3 Championships. The Helper Committee recommends that all helpers interested in being selected as helpers at the National SchH3 Championship be required to attend a National Helper Seminar. The host club should provide an adequate amount of dogs for the seminar.

National Events Committee: Chair Tim Crusier reported on the 2001 Events:

- **Sieger Show – March 9-11** St. Joseph, Missouri, Mid-Central Region.

Kristen Moreland reported that the approved judges for this event are: Schweikert, Henrici, and Grewe. Hotels are within 12 minutes of the show sight. Entry deadline will be three weeks before the event

- **USA-GSD Championship – April 13-15** Tenino, Washington, Pacific NW Region.

Jim Elder gave a report on the progress of plans for this event. The hotel will be in Centralia, WA. with a negotiated \$45 per night rate. 15 minutes from practice field and the stadium. The stadium will be in Tenino at a football and track stadium. Tracking will be in 6-8 inch hay fields. Practice and banquet will be at the Cascade Club House and Field.

- **North American and FH Championship – May 3-5** Lancaster, California.

Located about 60 miles from LA and about 40 miles outside of Burbank. Host club, Der Hundesport Canine, Nathaniel Roque reported that this event would be located at a covered high school football stadium. Tracking will be on deep plowed dirt fields.

- **USA National SchH3 Championship – New England Region**

The event will be located about 50 miles south of Boston. Bob Winski from the Inner City SchH Club reported that there is regional club support for this event. Approved judges for this event: Tracking Glen Stephenson, Obedience Hans Schultz, Protection Mark Przybylski, WPO Bill Szentmiklosi. Currently the region is working on securing a date for the stadium and tracking fields. There is sufficient tracking in this area to choose between dirt and grass. Let your preference be known to the organizing committee.

Tim Crusier recommended that the organization strongly consider a permanent location for one or more of the National Events. Tim listed the advantages of placing the Sieger Show and the USA-GSD Championship. It is the National Events Committee's goals to provide a fair, consistent and optimum trial venue for everyone. Contact an NEC member with your suggestions or comments. Promote the sport by your actions both on and off the trial and training field.

Nomination Committee: Chair Lyle Roetemeyer deferred his report until the elections.

Website Committee: Chair Jim Elder reported there are 77 pages on the website. The committee is working very hard to give complete coverage of our national events. The USA Website Committee will be in charge of coverage of our national events. A goal for this committee is to have live streaming video from our major events available on our website. Feedback is welcome.

USA International GSD Championship Committee: Chair John Oliver reported that this year's WUSV Team sponsored by George Foreman and representing the United Schutzhund Clubs of America had a second place finish. All six team members that showed at the WUSV Championship passed and the lowest score was 271. 2001 WUSV Championship will be held in Moribor, Slovenia. John gave a report on the WUSV meeting. It was suggested that the United States only send one team to the WUSV Championship. This will be voted on in August 2001.

John asked for the GB support in returning the name of this committee to the World Championship Committee. Thanks to **George Foreman** for his support of the team. This year's team has voted to give George the Second Place Trophy. Thanks to John Oliver for securing his support.

USA K-9 Committee: No Report. Mike West requested that Greg Mominee's report be deferred to New Business. Mike Hamilton expressed his thanks to this committee for their help in securing tracking fields across the country, for our sport.

9:50am Break. Meeting reconvened at 10:00am Roll Call, 46 club delegates plus 16 EB Members Total-63 in attendance

VI. OLD BUSINESS BY-LAW CHANGES- Chair John Koerner

John Koerner thanked the members of this committee. (*Attachment #1: By-Law Changes*)

Total club delegates 64.

Name Change; from United Schutzhund Clubs of America to United German Shepherd Clubs of America

Motion by Kay Koerner, seconded by Mark Przybylski, not to accept the proposed By-Law change for the name change. VOTE: Yes-59, No-2, Abstained-3. **MOTION PASSED**

10:20am 1 additional club delegate for a total of 65.

Addition of Herding Dog Trials

Mark Przybylski read a statement from Ulf Kintzel.

Motion by Lyle Roetemeyer to accept the By-law changes to include herding dog trials. VOTE: Yes-65. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Establishing A National Breed Warden- This will be a new Executive Board Position, which will affect the bylaws and structure of our organization. Mike Hamilton stated that this position is just as important as the Director of Judges. Our breed warden and tattoo program must be reorganized and restructured.

Tom Quaka motioned, seconded by Lyle Roetemeyer to amend the By-Law Change to leave the Breed Advisory Committee as is until the 2001 General Board Meeting, when all Regional Breed Wardens have been elected. This becomes effective at the General Board Meeting 2001. John Koerner amended the By-Law change to include the Director of Judges as a member in the Breed Advisory Committee.

John Koerner read the By-Law Change:

(i) The breed advisory committee shall consist of the Director of Judges, the President, and five (5) members at large. Two (2) of the members at large shall be elected in even numbered years and three (3) shall be elected in odd numbered years. The chairman shall be elected by the committee. This committee is to be dissolved at the General Board Meeting 2001. The Breed Advisory Committee shall consist of all Regional Breed Wardens, Director of Judges, the USA President, and the National Breed Warden. VOTE: Yes-61, No-0, Abstained-2. **MOTION PASSES**

Annual Meeting Date:

Article VI Section 2: The Executive Board of Directors c. Meetings (i) A meeting of the Executive Board may be called at any time by the President. Motion to add he/she may name the time and place of the meeting. VOTE: Yes-62, No-1, Abstain-0. **MOTION PASSES**

Motion by Nia Cottrell seconded by Gordy Esselmann to reject the proposal by the Bylaws Committee that changes the date of the annual meeting. VOTE: **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The date of the General Board Meeting remains the same: Bylaws Article VI Section 1: c. Meetings: The General Board of Directors shall choose one (1) date per calendar year between the dates of October 1 and November 20 on which it shall conduct its annual meeting.

Change of Committee Name

Current name: USA International German Shepherd Dog Committee

Motion to return the name of the committee to the World Championship Committee: VOTE: **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11:00am Jim Hill left meeting 15 EB Members present

Felons Not Eligible For Office

This proposal added to the current requirements for eligibility: "and shall not have been convicted of any felony, or other crime(s) involving dishonesty."

Discussion regarding the wording of this proposal; Mike Hamilton read a statement from Jack Smith, delegate of German Shepherd SchH Club, in which he urged the membership to reject this proposal. Extensive discussion was held prior to the VOTE: Yes-8, No-50, Abstained-4. **MOTION FAILED.**

Announcement: Georg zum Felde has missed his flight and is unable to judge the Obedience. Mike Hamilton will be judging the Obedience at this SchH3 National Championship.

VII. ELECTIONS

Lyle Roetemeyer, Chairman of the Nominating Committee thanked the members of this committee for their involvement in the election process.

President: The Nominating Committee nominated Michael Hamilton. Lyle requested additional nominations from the floor. Having none, John Oliver motioned, seconded by Dena McGowan to close the nominations and elect **Michael Hamilton** by Acclamation. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Vice President: The Nominating Committee nominated Jim Elder. Lyle requested additional nominations from the floor. Having none, John Oliver motioned, seconded by Dena McGowan to close the nominations and elect **Jim Elder** by Acclamation. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Secretary: The Nominating Committee nominated Diane Madigan. Lyle requested additional nominations from the floor. Having none, John Oliver motioned, seconded by Dena McGowan to close the nominations and elect **Diane Madigan** by Acclamation. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Treasurer: The Nominating Committee nominated Paul DiNenna based on a letter of intent that Paul sent to the committee. Recently Paul DiNenna decided not to run for reelection. William Plumb had sent a letter of intent to the nominating committee for a position on the Auditing Committee. The committee recognized Mr. Plumb's financial capabilities and experience based on his resume, after the committee became aware of Mr. DiNenna's decision; the committee asked if Mr. Plumb would be interested in running for the Treasurer's position. Lyle requested additional nominations from the floor. Sue Wyatt nominated William Plumb, seconded by Kay Koerner for the Treasurer's position. William Plumb gave a brief autobiography, and answered questions from the floor regarding his work history. John Oliver motioned, seconded by Dena McGowan to close the nominations and elect **William Plumb** by Acclamation. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

There are now 16 EB Members in attendance

Director of Judge's: The Nominating Committee nominated Mark Przybylski. Lyle requested additional nominations from the floor. Having none, John Oliver motioned, seconded by Richard Greba to close the nominations and elect **Mark Przybylski** by Acclamation. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

National Breed Warden: Ricardo Carbajal nominated Johannes Grewe, seconded by Dena McGowan. Mike Hamilton requested additional nominations. Having no additional nominations, John Oliver motioned, seconded by Hilde Taylor to close the nominations and elect **Johannes Grewe** by Acclamation. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

There are now 17 EB Members in attendance 47 club delegates

Executive Board Members at Large: (4 Positions for election this year due to the addition of the National Breed Warden) The Nominating Committee nominated Kay Koerner, Al Govednik, Debbie Quaka, and Henry DeBoer. Nominations from the floor: Karen Henkel nominated by John Oliver seconded by Nia Cottrell. Tim Cruser nominated Jim Hill but he was not present to accept. Bruce McNabb nominated Richard Greba. John Koerner clarified the bylaws regarding the acceptance of write-in votes. Kristen Moreland moved that the nominations be closed seconded by Dale Brett. Kay Koerner and Al Govednik spoke briefly. Deb Quaka was not in attendance at this time, she had sent a letter of intent to the nominating committee. Tom Quaka and Lyle Roetemeyer spoke briefly in her behalf. Henry DeBoer was not in attendance, he had also sent a letter of intent to the nominating committee. Lyle Roetemeyer and Debbie Zappia spoke briefly on his behalf.

Karen Henkel and Richard Greba spoke briefly. VOTE: **Kay Koerner 58, Al Govednik 51, Debbie Quaka 38, Jim Hill (write-in) 33**, Henry DeBoer 26, Karen Henkel 21, Richard Greba 21. *There are now 18 EB Members present and 47 club delegates*

Auditing Committee (3 positions) The Nominating Committee received one letter of intent from William Plumb; Mr. Plumb is now our Treasurer and not eligible. Tim Cruser nominated Kay Koerner, seconded by Lyle Roetemeyer. Gordy Esselmann was also nominated and Richard Greba nominated Dan Knippenburg. John Oliver moved that the nominations be closed, seconded by Dena McGowan.

Kay Koerner, Gordy Esselmann, and Dan Knippenburg elected by Acclamation. *This committee elects their own chairman.*

Breed Advisory Committee (2 Positions to replace or reelect Jim Hill and Ricardo Carbajal)

The Nominating Committee nominated Richard Greba. Mike Hamilton requested additional nominations from the floor. John Oliver nominated Ricardo Carbajal seconded by Tim Cruser. Also nominated was Vickie Bartley, Ricardo Carbajal nominated Roanna Banducci. John Oliver moved to close the nominations seconded by Dena McGowan. Ricardo Carbajal, Vickie Bartley, and Roanna Banducci spoke briefly VOTE: **Ricardo Carbajal – 55, Jim Hill (write in), Richard Greba, and Vickie Bartley – 18.** Roanna Banducci – 14, Martin Vollrath (write-in)-1, Illegal vote-1. **Runoff Vote: Jim Hill-27**, Richard Greba – 21, Vickie Bartley – 17.

Debbie Quaka arrives 19 EB Members present

Board of Inquiry (5 Positions + 2 alternates)

The Nominating Committee selected Kristian Taves and Randy Kromer. Dena McGowan nominated Mo Weldon. Kay Koerner nominated John Koerner. John Oliver nominated Ann Marie Chaffin (Ann Marie is disqualified, due to the fact that she is a USA Judge). Debbie Roetemeyer nominated Shelly Neill. Julia Grayson nominated Dena McGowan. Dena declined the nomination. Lyle Roetemeyer nominated Jeff Lawless (*letter of intent on file with secretary*). Ricardo nominated Barbara White. Dena McGowan nominated Vickie Bartley. Vickie declined the nomination. Kirsten Moreland nominated Dale Brett. Mike West nominated Jerry Kenwick. John Oliver motioned, seconded by Kay Koerner to close the nominations. Kristian Taves spoke briefly. Randy Kromer did not attend the meeting. Lyle Roetemeyer read Mr. Kromer's letter of intent. Mo Weldon, John Koerner, and Shelly Neill spoke briefly, Jeff Lawless was not in attendance at this time, Mike Hamilton spoke in his behalf. Barbara White and Dale Brett spoke briefly. Steve Robinson asked the candidates if they belong to the WDA. Shelly Neill is a WDA member. VOTE: **Kristian Taves – 55, Mo Weldon – 53, John Koerner–50, Jeff Lawless-46, Randy Kromer-39, Shelly Neill-27, Dale Brett-23, Nia Cottrell(write-in) 1**

While the votes were being counted several miscellaneous items were discussed:

Mike Hamilton reported that the organization has an aged account with Gordy Esselmann that will be reviewed and resolved.

Mike also reported that in two years we have increased our membership from 4600 to 5480 members.

Mike then asked Steve Robinson to report on his/our concerns regarding air travel with our dogs. Steve suggested that we group together with other organizations for a possible solution. Steve asked for suggestions or that people who have any influence in this matter contact him and possibly get together as a group or committee to put pressure on Airlines as a group.

Mike Hamilton instructed all newly elected officers and committee members to furnish Jim Elder, Webmaster and Diane Madigan, Secretary with their current phone, address, and e-mail info.

Judge's Committee: (1 USA Judge)

The Nominating Committee did not receive any letters of intent. Dena McGowan nominated Carla Griffith. Bruce McNabb nominated Ann Marie Chaffin, Ann Marie Declined. John Oliver closed the nominations, seconded by Dena McGowan. Carla Griffith spoke briefly. VOTE: **Carla Griffith-34**, (write-ins) Al Kerr-19, Mike Caputo-3, Al Milner-1, John Mulligan-1, Bill Szentmiklosi-1, Glen Stephenson-1, Illegal vote (*Wapner*)-1.

World Championship Committee (4 Positions)

The Nominating Committee received 1 letter from David Puzzo. David Puzzo did not attend the meeting. Lyle Roetemeyer summarized his letter. John Oliver nominated Mo Weldon, Carl Johnson nominated Steve Robinson, and Dena McGowan nominated Gary Hanrahan (*letter of intent on file with secretary*). VOTE: **Steve Robinson-61, Mo Weldon-60, David Puzzo-59, and Gary Hanrahan-59**. Write-ins Jerry Kenwick-1, Lyle Roetemeyer-2, Debbie Roettemeyer-1, John Mulligan-1. *Per the bylaws, this committee elects a committee chairman.*

12:50pm Lunch Break

2:00pm Roll Call taken by Diane Madigan 16 EB + 48 club delegates= 64 delegates.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS ARISING FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

USA Office Procedure:

Clarification of foreign scorebook certification, enforcement of fee for all foreign organizations.

Motion by Diane Madigan seconded by Nia Cottrell. Any Non-USA member who wishes to have their eligible Non-USA scorebooks certified by USA, must pay a non-member fee of \$15 plus the cost of certification, which is \$5 at this time. VOTE: Yes-63 No-0 Abstained-1 **MOTION PASSED**

Regional Directors/Trial Rules

Motion by Nia Cottrell, seconded by Diane Madigan that the General Board ratify the Executive Boards decision that a club that is hosting a regional championship event, working or breed, may host a trial on the day preceding the event. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion by John Oliver seconded by Gordy Esselmann, that the General Board ratify the Executive Boards decision that the Regional Directors are required to formally acknowledge the approval of full member clubs in their region, at each EB and GB Meeting. VOTE: Yes-63, No-0, Abstained-1. **MOTION PASSED**

Judges Committee

Director of Judges, Mark Przybylski read current retirement age policy as it stands:

From Judge's Program Section 8.D. The retirement age for a judge shall be 75(seventy-five) years old. This age will be observed whether the Judge is a working dog judge or a conformation judge. Upon retirement, the judge will receive the title of "Judge Emeritus" and become a lifelong member of USA with the suspension of their yearly dues and would also receive free admission into any USA sponsored event (spectator or competitor) as gratitude for his/her years of service.

Mike Hamilton added that this should be a time for celebration. USA Judge Bill Fields presented his opinion on the mandatory retirement age requirement. Bill also urged the members to vote to change this ruling. Discussion on both sides of this issue ensued. Mike Hamilton verified Bill Fields age from his driver's license. (1-14-23). Nia Cottrell proposed a secret ballot. Motion by Diane Madigan seconded by Barbara White to uphold the judge's program's mandatory retirement age of 75 years old and to vote with a secret ballot. VOTE by Secret Ballot: Yes-52, No-13 **MOTION PASSED. A long round of applause celebrating the years of service Bill Fields has given to the organization.** Mark Przybylski then added that we might utilize retired judges for affiliation trials, seminars, and protection tournaments.

Ann Marie Chaffin turned over audiotapes from some past Executive Board Meetings to secretary, Diane Madigan

Motion by Mark Przybylski seconded by Lyle Roetemeyer to accept open reciprocity with Canada with regards to their judges. VOTE: Yes-65 **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Canadian SV Judge Doug Deacon presented a description of the Canadian Judges Program. He stated that the Canadian program is exactly the same as the SV with the addition that they must be a member of the GSSCC for 5 years, and belong to the SV. There are 6 Canadian Judges: Doug Deacon, Frank Mensing, and Rudi Meitzner are SV/Canadian, and Lance Collins, Dave Grant, and Jan Hrouda are Canadian judges. Upon approval of this motion, Doug Deacon will present the same proposal to the GSSCC regarding USA Judges.

Motion by Mark Przybylski seconded by Jim Elder that the United Schutzhund Clubs of America not adopt the 70-point minimum score in Protection for any and all Schutzhund titles and continue to adhere to the current stand of 80-points minimum as a passing score for any and all titles in Schutzhund trials.

Furthermore, any dogs that are imported with a 70-point minimum score in Protection in regard to Schutzhund shall be required to achieve a passing score in all phases of a Schutzhund trial including a minimum of 80 points in protection in order to be awarded a recognized Schutzhund title in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America. The 80-point minimum in Protection is also required for any and all Schutzhund titles and is a prerequisite for any and all Breed Surveys, shows, and the USA Sieger Show.

Foreign judges must adhere to our 80-point protection passing score when judging at USA Sanctioned events. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

National Events Committee

To compete in the GSD Championship, the dog must have a minimum "G" conformation rating, in addition to the current requirements. Effective with the 2001 Championship. Mark Przybylski, the maker of this motion, tabled this until after the breed program is in place. **MOTION TABLED**

Breed Advisory Committee

Johannes explained the agreement with Professor Frank Verstraete DMV at the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of California, Davis. Dr. Verstraete is qualified to provide a written scientific explanation to identify dental problems through X-rays. The cost would be \$25. The USA Office will handle the X-rays and records. Motion by Ricardo Carbajal seconded by Lyle Roetemeyer to accept the Breed Advisory Committee Proposal for a new registration system in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America. With the deletion of all startup dates and time frames. VOTE: Yes-56, No-1, Abstained-5. **MOTION PASSED**

IX. NEW BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE REPORTS

Judge's Committee:

Motion to approve **Nikki Banfield** as a probationary USA judge. VOTE: Yes-57, No-4, 1 Illegal vote.

Breed Advisory Committee

Motion by Karen Henkel seconded by Gordy Esselmann, The Director of Judges, the National Breed Warden, or their appointee, shall select the helpers at the National Sieger Show.

VOTE: Yes-61, No-1. **MOTION PASSED**

Karen Henkel proposed a change in the judging classes between judges Henrici and Schweikert at the 2001 Sieger Show. After discussion, there was no support or second for the change. Motion by Johannes Grewe, seconded by Ricardo Carbajal to uphold the approved judging classes and judges for the 2001 Sieger Show. VOTE: Yes-56, No-2, Abstain-3. **Motion Passed**

Motion by John Oliver to accept the Breed Advisory Committee's approved slate of judges for the 2002 National Sieger Show: Hans-Peter Rieker – Males, Erich Bösl – Females, Johannes Grewe 6-9 mth males, 9-12 mth females, 12-18 mth males, and 18-24 mth females. VOTE: Yes-61, No-0, Abstained-1. **MOTION PASSED**

National Events

Motion by the National Events Chair, Tim Crusier, seconded by Lyle Roetemeyer, that effective in 2002 the GSD Championship be taken out of rotation and be in the Nashville area on a permanent basis. Motion by Ian McLeod, Seconded by Nia Cottrell to **table this proposal** VOTE: Yes-56, No-6, Abstained-1. **MOTION TO TABLE THIS MOTION PASSED**

Helper Committee

Motion by Mark Chaffin seconded by John Oliver to allow competition entered dogs to be available for helper tryouts at National Events. VOTE: Yes-56, No-2, Abstained-4. **MOTION PASSED**

X. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion regarding acceptance into the USA SchH3 Club with titles earned by USA Members at Non-USA sanctioned events under USA judges.

This matter was never voted upon. The meeting room needed to be vacated by 4:00pm

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Kirsten Moreland, seconded by Lyle Roetemeyer. VOTE: Yes-61, No-1, Abstained-0. **MOTION PASSED.**

President Michael Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.

To the best of my knowledge, these minutes are an accurate record of the proceedings of this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Madigan

Attachment #1

BY-LAW CHANGES AT GENERAL BOARD MEETING 2000

The following proposals were voted on at the General Board meeting in October 2000. Additions are underlined and deletions are noted in strike-through.

CHANGE OF NAME (This proposal was rejected)

~~ARTICLE I — NAME, COLORS, PROFIT STATUS AND BUDGET~~

~~SECTION 1: NAME~~

~~a. The name of this association shall be, "UNITED SCHUTZHUND CLUBS OF AMERICA."~~ "UNITED GERMAN SHEPHERD CLUBS OF AMERICA"

ADDITION OF HERDING DOG TRAILS (Proposal passed)

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this association shall be to preserve the German Shepherd Dog in accordance with the Breed Standard as a working dog. Activities shall:

1. Promote schutzhund and HGH (Herdengebrauchshund) herding dog training for the working dog.
2. Promote breeding and establish breed surveys for the working German Shepherd Dogs. .
3. Promote HGH herding dog training for the working dog.
- ~~4~~3. Establish a Breed Registry for German Shepherd Dogs.
- ~~5~~4. Promote events, which evaluate the conformation of German Shepherd Dogs.
- ~~6~~5. Develop, qualify, and license local clubs in the United States and its possessions so that they may conduct schutzhund trials, German Shepherd Dog Breed Surveys, conformation shows for German Shepherd Dogs, tracking tests for the FH degree (Faehrtenhundpruefung), HGH Herding Dog trials, and endurance tests for the AD award (Ausdauerpruefung).
- ~~7~~6. Develop, as decided by the Board of Directors, any other tests to insure the further development and maintenance of the German Shepherd Dog as a working breed, and to encourage local clubs to implement these tests.
- ~~8~~7. Promote ~~schutzhund~~ training of working dogs among the youth.
- ~~9~~8. Support the use of working dogs for search and rescue work, police work, customs and border patrol work, guide dog work, scenting work and in other ways for which working dogs are utilized.
- ~~10~~9. Publish a magazine to promote the objectives of the association.

~~1140~~. Conduct annually a National Schutzhund III Championship to coincide with the meeting of the General Board of Directors between October 1 and November 20. _

ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP OF CLUBS

SECTION 1: LEVELS OF CLUB MEMBERSHIP

a. Affiliated Clubs.

Affiliated clubs are formally connected with USA and may be represented on The General Board of Directors by a non-voting Delegate. An affiliated club is considered an apprentice club and must complete a program of qualification before it shall be licensed to hold any USA sanctioned events or vote on the Board of Directors. A club may become affiliated with USA provided that the club:

(i) Adopts a set of by laws and provides USA with a copy. These by laws shall

b. Full Member Clubs

A full member club is licensed by USA to conduct Schutzhund Trials, German Shepherd Dog Breed Surveys, HGH (Herdengebrauchshund) Herding Dog Trials, and other events sanctioned by USA. If in good standing a full member club may send a voting Delegate to the meeting of The General Board. A local club may gain full member club status in USA by:

(i) Being upgraded from affiliated club status.

(ii) Being admitted directly into the United Schutzhund Clubs of America with full member club rank. Only clubs of exceptional qualification may bypass the affiliated club stage and be admitted directly into USA as a full member club.

(iii) In order to be upgraded from affiliated status or to be granted direct admittance, a club must consist of not fewer than five (5) members, only two (2) of which may be part of any family membership.

(iv) To be in good standing a club's dues to USA must be current, the USA dues of all members of the club must be current and the club may not be under any disciplinary action from USA.

(v) Each full member club shall hold at least one (1) sanctioned USA schutzhund trial or HGH Herding Dog Trial per calendar year beginning January 1 of the year after the year in which the club is granted full member status. The Board of Directors shall approve any waiver of this requirement. Failure to comply with this provision will reduce the club to affiliated status for at least one (1) year. The affiliated club shall meet all the requirements once again to become a full member club.

c. To be admitted directly to USA as a full member club, the club must:

(i) Complete the requirements as outlined in this article, section 1, Part a, Items (i) through (vii).

(ii) Be recommended by a Regional Director.

(iii) Demonstrate satisfactory performance in the training of dogs in the ~~schutzhund~~ sport by conducting a practice trial, which was judged by some person who has been approved by the Board of Directors and is not a member of the club.

(iv) Be approved by the Board of Directors. The Regional Director is

(v) In the event that the Regional Director does not approve the full member status of the club then the club may appeal to the Executive ~~Board~~ Board ~~which~~ who has the authority to override the decision of the Regional Director.

SECTION 2: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN USA AND LOCAL CLUBS

a. All local clubs within USA shall be classified as schutzhund or HGH herding training clubs for working dogs. Events sponsored by these clubs through USA which evaluate the working conformation of dogs shall be restricted to the German Shepherd Dog.

ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL BREED WARDEN

ARTICLE VII OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1: OFFICERS

The Officers of USA are those people who handle the official affairs of the association. Officers shall have a vote on both Boards of Directors. The Officers of the association shall be:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Treasurer
- d. Secretary
- e. Director of Judges
- f. National Breed Warden

SECTION 2: TERMS OF OFFICE

All elected Officers shall have a term of office not to exceed two (2) years.

SECTION 3: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- a. President

The President is the Chief Administrative Officer and legal head of USA. The President exercises

- b. Vice President

The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in case

- c. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting, accounting for and

- d. Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for taking and preparing accurate minutes of

- e. Director of Judges

The Director of Judges shall be the chairman of the Judges Committee. He/she shall be a USA Schutzhund judge in good standing. _

- f. National BreedWarden

The National Breed Warden shall be the chairman of the Breed Advisory Committee.

SECTION 6: VACANCIES

a. If the office of Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, ~~or~~ Director of Judges, or National Breed Warden should be vacated for any reason, or if the incumbent becomes incapacitated and cannot or is unwilling to perform the duties of office, the Executive Board shall elect a replacement. For the purposes of these bylaws incapacitation shall mean illness or death.

- e. Breed Advisory Committee

(i) The breed advisory committee shall consist of the Director of Judges, the President, and five (5) members

at large. Two (2) of the members at large shall be elected in the even years and three (3) shall be elected in the odd numbered years. The chairman shall be elected by the committee. This committee shall be dissolved at the General Board meeting in October 2001.

(ii) The Breed Advisory Committee shall consist of all Regional Breed Wardens, the USA President, and the National Breed Warden. This committee shall become effective at the General Board meeting in October 2001.

(iv) This committee shall advise the Board on all matters pertaining to the breed registry. It shall recommend criteria for administering the program including the breed standard, tattooing, registration eligibility.

This committee shall be the keeper for rules of conformation shows and breed surveys.

(v) The committee shall recommend judges for the national breed events to the Executive Board.

(vi) The committee shall recommend the endorsement of future Breed Judges and advancements to the post of Breed Selection Masters (Koermeisters) to the Board.

ARTICLE IX REGIONS, REGIONAL DIRECTORS, AND REGIONAL BREED WARDENS-

SECTION 1: REGIONS

a. The area served by USA shall be divided into regions. There shall not be fewer than five (5) nor more than twenty (20) regions.

SECTION 2: NUMBER AND VOTING RIGHTS ~~OF REGIONAL DIRECTORS~~

a. There shall not be fewer than five (5) nor more than twenty (20) Regional Directors and Regional Breed Wardens.

b. Regional Directors are members of both Boards of Directors and shall have a vote on each. Regional Breed Wardens do not have a vote on the Board.

SECTION 3: DUTIES-

a. USA Regional Director shall be the regional representative of the association. The Regional Director shall assist in the development of new clubs in the region and shall approve trial dates for all clubs in his/her region. The Regional Director shall forward requests for USA judges to the Director of Judges. He/she may be assigned other duties as needed. .

b. The Regional Breed Warden will:

(i) promote the development of Breed Wardens and tattooers in his/her region.

(i)

(ii) be responsible for supervising and training of local breed wardens. Local Breed Wardens will report directly to the Regional Breed Warden.

(iii) Dispense and collect Breed paperwork and develop regional breeding statistics.

(iv) Keep regional records of all breeding activity in the region and present results and recommendations at the regional meetings.

(v) Act as local Breed warden when none is available

SECTION 4: TERRITORY

a. The territory over which each Regional Director/Regional Breed Warden shall have supervision shall be decided by the Board of Directors.

b. A Regional Director/Regional Breed Warden shall have authority in his/her region only. If circumstances dictate, the President or the Board of Directors may require a Regional Director/Regional Breed Warden to take responsibility for an area or a club outside of his/her own region.

SECTION 5: ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for election a nominee must be able to show significant experience in the training and/or breeding of dogs for the schutzhund sport. He/she must be a full member of USA and must reside within or be a full and active member of a full member club which is within the geographical boundaries of the region. The ~~nominee~~Regional Director may not be less than twenty-one (21) years of age and may not be under current disciplinary action.

SECTION 6: NOMINATION AND ELECTION ~~OF REGIONAL DIRECTORS~~

a. Candidates for the position of Regional Director/Regional Breed Warden may be nominated by a Delegate from a full member club in that particular region. All nominations must be seconded.

b. One need not be nominated to receive votes. "Write in" balloting is permitted.

c. Regional Directors/Regional Breed Wardens shall have a term of office of two (2) years and shall be elected in odd numbered years.

d. Elections may be held ~~for the office of Regional Director~~ at a regional meeting or by mail between the dates of January 1 prior to the annual meeting and 14 days prior to the annual meeting of the General Board of Directors, provided, all full member clubs in the region are notified in writing, not less than thirty (30) days prior to said election. If this election is held, the USA Secretary shall be notified of the result within ten(10) days.

SECTION 8: APPEALING A DECISION OF A REGIONAL DIRECTOR/REGIONAL BREED WARDEN

Any Affiliated Club, Full Member Club, or individual member of the association in good standing can appeal the decision of the Regional Director, ~~or Assistant Regional Director~~ or Regional Breed Warden to the Executive Board of Directors. The appeal must be made in writing to the Secretary of the association. After consideration of the appeal and allowing the Regional Director, ~~or Assistant Regional Director~~ or Regional Breed Warden to explain his/her position the Executive Board of Directors by majority vote can overrule the decision, ~~of a Regional Director~~

ANNUAL MEETING DATE (This proposal was passed as modified)

ARTICLE VI: BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

There shall be two (2) Boards of Directors which govern the affairs of the United Schutzhund Clubs of America. When a reference in this constitution and bylaws is made.....

SECTION 2c

(i) A meeting of the Executive may be called at any time by the president. He/she may set the time and place of the meeting.

CHANGE OF COMMITTEE NAME (This proposal passed)

ARTICLE X COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: STANDING COMMITTEES

The committees indicated below are permanent. All members of these committees shall be elected by a plurality vote of the General Board. The members of the committee shall elect a committee chairman unless otherwise stipulated in these provisions. All members of standing committees shall serve a two (2) year term and must be full members of USA.

- a. ...
- b. ...
- c. ...
- d. ...
- e. ...
- f. The ~~USA International German Shepherd Dog~~ World Championship Committee

It is the duty of this committee to recommend rules for the selection of a team to represent USA at the World Schutzhund III Championship for German Shepherd Dogs. The committee will also recommend sites and judges for qualification trials to the Board of Directors. The committee selects a person to act as team captain. The Committee consists of four (4) members and the President of USA. The committee will be elected every even year by the General Board of Directors.

FELONS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR OFFICE (This proposal was rejected)

~~Article VII~~

~~SECTION 5: ELIGIBILITY~~

~~"To be eligible for election a nominee must be able to show significant experience in the training of dogs for the schutzhund sport. He/she must be a full member of USA and must reside within or be a full and active member of a full member club which is within the geographical boundaries of the region. The Regional Director may not be less than twenty-one (21) years of age and may not be under current disciplinary action, and shall not have been convicted of any felony, or other crime(s) involving dishonesty.~~

~~Article IX~~

~~Section 5-~~

~~b. Eligibility~~

~~To be eligible for election, a nominee or write in candidate must be a full member of USA. He/she may not be under twenty-one (21) years of age. He/she may not be under current disciplinary action, and shall not have been convicted of any felony, or other crime(s) involving dishonesty.~~