

MINUTES of the USA GENERAL BOARD MEETING

October 30, 2003

Reno, Nevada

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Jim Elder called the meeting to order at 8:15am USA Secretary Diane Madigan took roll call, 17 Executive Board Members and 41 Club Delegates were present. Three additional club delegates arrived shortly after roll call for a total of 61 voting delegates.

II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

General Board Meeting 10/31/2002, and the Executive Board Meeting 4/04/2003, minutes were sent to clubs, printed in "Schutzhund USA" and posted in the Members Area of the Website. Motion by Kay Koerner seconded, to approve the minutes as written **Approved Unanimously**.

III. OFFICER'S REPORTS

President's Report: Jim Elder welcomed all delegates with special recognition given to Herr **Gunther Diegel** was in attendance at the meeting. Jim presented special plaques of appreciation to **John Oliver**, Rocky Mtn./Great Plains Regional Director for his support at the 2002 Sieger Show and another to **Pam and Gary Hanrahan** for their organization of the 2002 National Championship Jim thanked many members of the Board for their support and assistance in this his first year in office.

Vice President's Report: Lyle Roetemeyer apologized for our Marketing Director, **Blake Fohl** who could not attend the meeting Lyle announced that he would try to paraphrase some of Blake's thoughts from his presentation into his report Lyle stated that our principal objective is to be the leader in the United States of America as steward of the German Shepherd Dog with regard to health, temperament, intelligence and structure. He added that for continued growth to be achieved, we need to work hard to not only be customers of the organization but to also be representatives.

The ESPN2 "Schutzhund Story" will air for a third time in late November Lyle stated that we have continued positive discussions with the ESPN Network for future programs Lyle believes that we lose members each year due to our lack of an educational process at the club level Lyle stated that the "Regional Policy" will help make educational programs a reality Programs on behavior, responsible dog ownership, dog bite

prevention, and breeding ethics should be standardized and shared with local clubs and schools within our communities Lyle recommended that Regional Directors develop a system that will insure identification of venues for our National Events two years in advance Lyle believes that this advanced planning will help to insure the best conditions possible for all of our competitors and those that wish to represent us at the world level.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Plumb could not attend the meeting Jim Elder read Bill's report Fiscal 2003 was a truly remarkable year We began the year with a deficit net worth of over \$30,000 We ended the year on June 30, 2003 with a net worth over \$65,000 Our IRS debt was paid off, our many year old debt to a printer was completely paid off, SV Judge's travel deposits were paid back to the clubs We also ended the year with approximately \$38,000 in free cash Membership revenue increased 3.5% with a trend in increase of membership over 5% compared to the first quarter in fiscal 2003 Our Breed Registry Program reached our goal of break even We also earned \$12,000 hosting the 2002 Sieger Show

Bill reported that our low financial point was in 1999 when our Net Worth hit a deficit of \$140,000 and our debts were \$245,000 As of this year, with all that behind us, we move forward very healthy financially Bill advised that the members need to keep an eye on our financial statements as he could in retrospect see financial problems developing as early as 1993 Jim Elder then asked the membership for a show of support for Bill Plumb. (*Applause*)

Secretary's Report: Diane Madigan thanked the members of the **Northwest Region** for their combined efforts in hosting this event and also acknowledged **Howie Rodriguez** for his outstanding efforts in making sure this event was presented to the world with the utmost quality and attention to detail. (*Applause*)

Fifty-Eight Delegate Letters were received prior to this meeting. Since the 2002 GBM a total of 27 electronic mail ballots were processed. The results of ballots 8-22 were sent to the clubs with the Agenda, the balance will be printed in the magazine

Early in 2002, Diane made a trip to the USA Office for a walk through of the new database designed by USA member, **Erica Butler**. Soon after, the Secretary's Office was linked electronically to this database Access to this information after hours and on weekends has increased efficiency, allowing us to directly communicate with clubs regarding delinquent members on their membership lists and club dues. Diane thanked the club contacts for their quick response to our membership inquires.

With **John Mulligan's** help, we developed new trial scoresheets based upon the SV's Bewertungsliste John's behind the scenes service and advice to our organization was greatly appreciated and is sadly missed

Sharyn Baker helped by adding fill-in boxes to the new trial scoresheets, and this document is now available as a pdf download from our webpage. From speaking with several trial secretaries, this form is the most "user friendly" for those having **Adobe Acrobat Writer** Carbonized sheets are also available from the Office.

In 2002 Trial Waivers were given to:

Arizona Valley German Shepherd SchH Club (SW)
O.G.Boston (New Eng)
Southern Idaho Working Dog Assn. (Pacific NW)
Blue Tahoe (NW)

A 2003 Name Change:

Verhalten SchH Verein to Iowa Hundesport Club

New Clubs

Carolina SchH Club (SE)
DFW Working Dogs (SC)
Rocky Mountain SchH Club (Rky./Grt Plains)
Great Lakes Working Dog Assn.(ME)
Working Dogs of Central Illinois (Mid-C)
Clackamas SchH Club (PNW)
Rivanna SchH and Police Club (NE)
Bayou City SchH Club (SC)

All clubs that were dropped for dual member status with the same name have resolved this issue and have been reinstated

The Rules and Regulations Manual was recently updated with a revised date of November 2003 added to the first page, be sure you see this date or a more current version before printing this lengthy document.

In closing, Diane thanked all the club delegates that sacrificed their time with their families and their dogs to attend to the business of our organization.

Approved Rules From This Meeting:

- Acceptance of the USA Breed Judges Program as amended.(See Attachment #1)
- Handlers may enter up to 3 dogs in USA trials excepting for any and all championship trials where the specified limit of two dogs shall apply. *Bylaw Change*
- The President/Board may appoint/replace committee member(s) to the above committees, except for the Board of Inquiry, if the elected member resigns, becomes incapacitated for any reason, or unable/unwilling to do the work. *Bylaw Change*
- The Director of Judges shall be the chairman of the Judge's Committee He/She shall be a USA Schutzhund Judge or Schutzhund Judge Emeritus in good standing. *Bylaw Change*
- Change the National Schutzhund III Championship to the USA German Shepherd Dog National Championship. *Bylaw Change*
- To be elected (*to a regional position*) a candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast by the full member clubs in good standing in that particular region. *Bylaw Change*
- The General Board rejected an EB decision that allowed a police officer to enter both the SchH3 National and the Police Dog Championship.
- The host body along with the Judge's Committee shall recommend a slate of judges for all National working dog events The Executive Board shall approve the slate or recommend alternatives. Only the Director of Judges may initially contact the approved judges. *Bylaw Change*
- The General Board ratified an EB decision to place the state of Alabama in the Eastern Zone.
- Effective January 1, 2004 we will no longer recognize WDA Scorebooks
- Youth dues will be reduced from \$39 to \$12 per year.
- You must maintain USA membership to have a USA registered kennel name.
- The 2004 Sieger Show will be held the October 29th Weekend in the Nashville area hosted by USA.
- The 2004 USA-GSD National Championship will be held the following weekend, November 5-7 in the Nashville Area hosted by Cumberland Valley Schutzhund and Police Club.

- The Regional Policy was accepted with approved \$50 per club annual dues. (See Attachment #2)
- Ricardo Carbajal has been approved as a probationary USA breed judge.
- Mike West's and Bill Knox's USA judge's licenses have been permanently revoked.
- USA apprentice judges must now train a **German Shepherd Dog** through SchH3, FH and at least one other dog to a SchH1 ...
- Acceptance of Foreign Judges into the USA Judges Program has slightly changed. (See Attachment #3)
- Changes in puppy classes at USA breed shows from 3-6 months to 4-6 months
- Dental qualification changes for VA dogs at the Sieger Show.
- Policy for reserving practice times for competitors at National Events.

Director of Judge's Report: Mark Przybylski clarified which judges are approved to officiate at USA events USA recognizes USA, GSSCC (Canadian), and SV judges to officiate at USA events, all other judges require individual authorization from the Office of the Director of Judges This includes SV-Foreign Judges, FCI judges and other entities that USA may recognize in the future Individuals listed on the WDA judge's lists that are solely listed as WDA judges are not authorized to judge at USA events. From an Executive Board action effective January 1, 2004 SVF judges listed as WDA judges are not authorized to judge USA events

DVG Judges are not authorized to judge USA events just as we are not authorized to judge their events DVG titles earned at DVG events are recognized by USA as prerequisites for progression in working titles but not as prerequisites for Breed Surveys and shows.

Currently we have 9 USA Apprentice Judges working through our Judge's Program, they are:

- Paul Schneider**
- Ray Blomberg**
- Patty Garcia**
- Uwe Doose (Has dropped from this program for personal reasons)**
- Lyle Roetemeyer**
- Karen McIntrye**
- Julia Priest**
- Craig Groh**
- Thom Payne**

The last 4 had made their decision just this year. We wish them the best of luck. There are currently no USA

Apprentice Judge Applicants in either the Performance or Breed Programs.

2002 Trial Data:

243 club trials including National Events for a total of 249 judging assignments

- SV- 72
- USA-124
- USA/SV (John Mulligan) 7
- SV Canadian – 12
- Canadian-2
- SVF- 32

Mark believes the large percentage of USA judging assignments conducted by USA judges speaks well of our USA judges and the program that licensed them.

National Breed Warden: Johannes Grewe reported a decline in litter registration from 159 with 887 puppies in 2002 to 113 litters with 558 puppies registered thus far in 2003 Johannes is encouraged by the number of Breed Surveys In 2002 we processed 165 Breed Surveys Johannes compared this number to eight regions in Germany So far this year we have processed 93 Breed Surveys with five more conformation events still on our calendar.

Johannes believes we have the largest market for German Shepherd Dogs and yet, we let the demand for this market go by us and let other countries supply these dogs Johannes addressed a need for more breed surveys and a need to offer more shows so that all our members will have the opportunity to attend a conformation show at least twice a year.

Johannes reported on our successful USA hosted Sieger Show in Bakersfield He believes that with this new system, participants and spectators can now be assured that shows in years to come will be of high and consistent quality.

Johannes stated that USA has all necessary policies to guide the German Shepherd Dog Breed, and that the problem is that we do not believe in our use of our own system He added now is the time to believe in the use of our system, and this is up to all of us, our regions and our clubs to use these policies.

Additional Committee Updates

The World Championship Committee will distribute their presentation on the 2003 WUSV Championship at Drawnight.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE 2002 GENERAL BOARD MEETING

1. Approval of the USA Breed Judges Program.
See Attachment #1

Motion by Diane Madigan to retain section 4-K in the policy, seconded:

“K A Judge can judge at any club only once in a 12 (twelve) month period and there must be another trial held with a different judge before they can return Furthermore, a Judge may not judge consecutive events at any club, except in an emergency which may only be decided by the Regional Director This restriction will also be lifted if the local club is the sponsor of a Championship event from the Regional level on up”
VOTE: Yes (leave in the policy) 34, No (remove from Policy) 15, Abstain-2 **This policy stands.**

Motion by Kay Koerner to accept the USA Breed Judges Program as amended
VOTE: Yes- 51, No-0, Abstain-2 **See Attachment #1**

(Three additional delegates arrived)

2. Tabled from EB Meeting: Logo and name change No motion for discussion or presentations submitted. **Item dropped.**

V. BY-LAW CHANGES

1. **TRIAL ENTRY OF 3 DOGS**
ADD: Article III, Section 1, (i)

Handlers may enter up to 3 dogs in USA trials excepting for any and all championship trials where the specified limit of two dogs shall apply. Motion by John Oliver to accept the proposed bylaw change:
VOTE: Yes-37, No-15, Abstain-2 Variance accepted.

2. **DELETION OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP AND NATIONAL EVENTS COMMITTEES**

Nia suggested that we address the following proposed bylaw change (Article X Section 1) that deals with committee member replacement rather than disbanding committees Jim Elder agreed.

3. **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPLACEMENT**

This change allows the President/Board to replace committee members who are incapacitated or unable/unwilling to serve as required.

ADD

Article X Section 1 Addition.

- h. The President/Board may appoint/replace committee member(s) to the above committees,

except for the Board of Inquiry, if the elected member resigns, becomes incapacitated for any reason, or unable/unwilling to do the work.

Motion by Laurel Carle to accept the proposed bylaw change, seconded:

VOTE: Yes-53, No-0, Abstained-1 **Accepted**

4. **DELETION OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP AND NATIONAL EVENTS COMMITTEES**

No second, item dropped

5. **JUDGE EMERITUS ADDED AS DIRECTOR OF JUDGES CANDIDATE**

This proposal allows a Judge Emeritus to be a candidate for the Director of Judges.

Article VII Section 3E Director of Judges.

FROM:

The Director of Judges shall be the chairman of the Judge’s Committee He/She shall be a USA Schutzhund Judge in good standing.

TO:

The Director of Judges shall be the chairman of the Judge’s Committee He/She shall be a USA Schutzhund Judge or Schutzhund Judge Emeritus in good standing.

Motion by Nathaniel Roque to accept the proposed bylaw change, seconded

VOTE: Yes-41, No-12, Abstain-0 **Accepted**

6. **SCHUTZHUND III CHAMPIONSHIP NAME CHANGE**

This change would change the National Schutzhund III Championship to the USA German Shepherd Dog Championship.

Article II, 11

FROM:

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

TO:

Conduct annually a USA German Shepherd Dog (GSD) Championship to coincide with the meeting of the General Board of Directors between October 1 and November 20.

The above would also eliminate the wording National Championship from **Article IV, d**, as follows:

“...including Sieger Show, National Championship, USA German Shepherd dog Champion
Motion by John Roeslien to amend the name of this event to include the word “National”, seconded
VOTE: Yes-48, No-2, Abstain-6

Motion by Nathaniel Roque to accept the proposed bylaw change, seconded

TO:

Conduct annually a USA German Shepherd Dog (GSD) National Championship to coincide with the meeting of the General Board of Directors between October 1 and November 20

VOTE: Yes-39, No-16, Abstain-1.

10:15 am Break 10:25

Roll Call 16 EB Member and 44 Club Delegates Total 60 delegates

7. JUDGES FOR NATIONAL EVENTS

ADD:

Article X, SECTION 2, D, (v)

The host body along with the Judge’s Committee shall recommend a slate of judges for all National working dog events The Executive Board shall approve the slate or recommend alternatives Only the Director of Judges may initially contact the approved judges.

VOTE: **Approved Unanimously**

8. DEFINITION OF CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Article V Section 1E

FROM:

A full membership shall consist of no less than five (5) members.

TO:

A full membership shall consist of no less than five (5) current USA members of which only one of the family memberships shall be counted as 2 members, the others count as one

After discussion, it was determined that this addition is not need as it is previously stated in Article V Section 1 B(iii)

9. BYLAW CHANGES FROM REGIONAL POLCY

Article IX Section 6

From

e. “To be elected a candidate must receive a majority of the votes of all the full member clubs in good standing in the particular region“

To:

e. To be elected a candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast by the full member clubs in good standing in that particular region.

Motion by Lyle Roetemeyer, seconded to accept the proposed bylaw change

VOTE: Yes-58, No-2, Abstain-0 Change Accepted

Laurel Carle suggested from the floor, a bylaw change to provide for two General Board Meetings, one at the USA-GSD National and one at the All Breed, North American Championship Since the section of the bylaws that describes meetings was not open, changes to this section require 30 days notification to our clubs This item will be discussed at the 2004 GB Meeting.

VI. ELECTIONS

Judges Committee (2) Members-at-Large currently held by Willi Ortner and Dean Calderon. The Nominating Committee (NC) nominated Willie Ortner and Sharyn Baker Jim Elder asked for nominations from the floor: John Oliver, Deb Zappia, and Sami Jones’ names were nominated from the floor Lyle moved that the nominations be closed, seconded, **Willie Ortner (44), Deb Zappia (37)**, John Oliver (27), Sami Jones (11), Sharyn Baker (5).

National Events Committee (4)

The NC nominated Patti Garcia, Cathy Jobe, Jean-Luc Gustin, Jim Closson, Mary Dygert, and Martin Vollrath. Nominations from the floor were Vicki Keller, Howie Rodriguez. Jim read letters that were sent to the Nominating Committee were read, and nominations that were present had a few moments to speak. Lyle moved that the nominations be closed, seconded.

VOTE: **Martin Vollrath (58), Patti Garcia (56), Howie Rodriguez (54), Vicki Keller (53)**, Jean-Luc Gustin (8), Mary Dygert (4), Jim Closson (3). This Committee elects their own chair.

Nominating Committee (5)

The NC nominated Carl Johnson/Mideast, Vicki Bartley/SC, Jim Clossen/Pacific NW, and Dennis VanderLinde/SE. Nominations from the floor were Rita Ledda/SC, Char Tarleton/MidC., Deleta Jones/Pacific NW, Michael Peterson/NE, and Pam Hanrahan/SE. Howie Rodriguez nominated Nathaniel Roque, who declined due to time constraints. Lyle moved that the nominations be closed, seconded
VOTE: **Carl Johnson (50), Pam Hanrahan (50), Vicki Bartley (46), Dennis VanderLinde (40), Rita Ledda (38)**, Michael Peterson (25), Jim Clossen (23), Deleta Jones (20), Char Tarleton (14).

Run Off Vote for BOI Alternate

Randy Kromer was recently elected as the Northeast Regional Director Both Shelly Neill and Jeff Pomeroy, 2002 elected alternates, had the same number of votes Therefore, a run-off ballot was needed to fill the vacancy left by Randy Kromer

VOTE: **Jeff Pomeroy (43)**, Shelly Neill (17).

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Business Arising From Mail Ballots

1. E-ballot #15-02 (Entry to both the SchH3 and WPO Championships)

Motion to ratify the EB decision to change the existing USA rules and regulations to allow USA K9 Officers (that qualify) to be allowed to compete at the USA Annual SchH3 Championship and also at the International Police Dog Competition that is held in conjunction with that event, should they so desire, as long as they have met all qualifications for entering both of the championships. This motion applies to annual championships only and does not apply to local or regional events.

Steve Robinson mentioned that this rule is not in the best interest of the dog that is entered in both events. Motion by Nia Cottrell to reject the Boards decision in E-ballot #15 seconded.

VOTE: Yes-59, No-0, Abstain-1 **Ballot rejected by the General Board.**

2. E-ballot #03-03 (Eastern Rotation Zone)

Motion to ratify the EB decision to place the state of Alabama in the Eastern Zone.

Approved Unanimously

3. E-ballot #16-03 (WDA)

Motion to no longer recognize WDA scorebooks. Effective January 1, 2004

VOTE: Yes-48, No-9, Abstain-2 **Motion Passed**

Lunch Break 12:15 Return at 1:15

Roll Call 16 EB Members and 44 club delegates, total of 60 voting delegates

B. New Business Arising From the 2003 EB Meeting:

1. The EB recommends that the Youth dues be reduced to \$12 per year from the current \$39.

VOTE: **Approved Unanimously**

2. You must maintain USA membership to have a registered kennel name. **Approved Unanimously**

3. The EB recommends that the GB approve a dues increase of \$5 for individual and family membership. Jim Elder and Bill Plumb recommended rejecting this increase as it is not needed due to our current financial status Motion to reject: by Nia seconded **Approved.**

Increase Rejected

4. Regional Policy including dues structure (*Attachment #2*)

Motion by Johannes Grewe and seconded to approve the Regional Policy as amended

VOTE: Yes-54, No-5, Abstain-2 **Policy Approved**

5. Motion by Carl Johnson seconded that the Regional Dues be set at \$50

VOTE: Yes 56, No-5, Abstain-0 **Motion Passed**

C. New Business Arising From Officer's Reports

Director of Judge's Report:

Motion by Mark Przybylski seconded, to permanently revoke Mike West's USA judge's license.

VOTE by secret ballot: Yes-46, No-4

Motion by Mark Przybylski seconded, to permanently revoke Bill Knox's USA judge's license VOTE by secret ballot: Yes-54, No-5, Abstained-1.

Motion by Mark Przybylski seconded to accept Ricardo Carbajal as a probationary USA breed judge.

VOTE by secret ballot: Yes-56, No-3, Abstained-1

Changes for Performance Judges Program from the Judges Committee

1. Change in USA Judges Program. **Section 1 : Mandatory Qualifications for Apprentices / Part B**

FROM

A candidate must have trained and shown a dog through SchH 3, FH and at least one other dog to a SchH 1, and in addition acquired a " B " and an " AD " Also, the candidate should have competed at the SchH 3 level in a Regional or National competition.

TO:

A candidate must have trained and shown a *German Shepherd Dog* through SchH 3, FH and at least one other dog to a SchH 1, and in addition acquired a " B " and an " AD " Also, the candidate should have competed at the SchH 3 level in a Regional or National competition.

Motion by Mark Przybylski seconded to accept change the above stated change to the Judges Program
VOTE: Yes-58, No-2, ABSTAIN-0 **Approved**

2. Section 11: Acceptance of Foreign Judges into the USA Judges Program

Part G: FROM

Must do 2 (two) adjustment trials, 1 (one) with the USA Director of Judges and 1 (one) at a USA National event.

TO: Part G

Must present him/herself and actively participate at the annual Judge's College, at the end of which the USA Director of Judges will recommend to the USA Judge's Committee to sponsor and accept the presenting judge as a licensed USA Judge or recommend either 2 (two) walk throughs or an appropriate amount of formal apprenticeships. This will be at the discretion of the USA Director of Judges.

This change applies to the performance and breed judges programs.

Motion by Mark Przybylski, seconded to accept the above changes to the Judge's Programs.

VOTE: Yes-58, No-1, Abstain-1 **Approved**

3 Add a Part H to Section 11, which would read:

Part H:

The USA Judges Committee will present their recommendation to the Executive Board for approval via a mail ballot (electronic or U.S. Mail) or at the next meeting of either the Executive or General Board.

Motion by Mark Przybylski to accept the above stated change, seconded.

Approved Unanimously

4. Add a Part I to Section 11, which would read:

Part I:

Once accepted, all other USA Judges rules and regulations will apply.

Motion by Mark Przybylski to accept the above stated change, seconded

Approved Unanimously

USA Performance Judge's Program (See Attachment #3)

National Breed Warden's Report:

Motion by Johannes Grewe, seconded to conduct the 2004 Sieger Show at same venue as the USA-GSD National Championship

VOTE: Yes-49, No-4, Abstain-7 **Motion Passed**

The 2004 Sieger Show will be held the October 29th Weekend in the Nashville area hosted by USA.

The 2004 USA-GSD National Championship will be held the following weekend, November 5-7 in the Nashville Area hosted by Cumberland Valley Schutzhund and Police Club.

D. New Business Arising From Committee Reports

Breed Advisory Committee Changes to USA Show Regulation Policy

• Change USA Show Regulation Policy II. 2.7

From:

To promote breeding activities, a puppy show where no ratings are awarded may be held. Dogs between 3 and 6 months old, 6 and 9 months old, and 9 and 12 months old can be entered in this show. Puppy classes are only possible in conjunction with a regional and local breed show. The Puppy Class must precede the breed show and take place on the same day. Assessment of the dogs must be made by SV, USA, or WUSV approved judges.

To:

To promote breeding activities, a puppy show where no ratings are awarded may be held. Dogs between 4 and 6 months old, 6 and 9 months old, and 9 and 12 months old can be entered in this show. Puppy classes are only possible in conjunction with a **regular breed show** Assessment of the dogs must be made by SV, USA, or USA approved judges (*Regular breed show was described by Johannes as a breed show that allows all classes and is not just for puppies only*)

• II. 4.2

1. From:

At the National Breed Show, the rating "Excellent-Select is awarded in addition to the ratings shown under 4.1, which requires proof of the following criteria: To qualify for a V-Select rating, dogs must have a breed survey ranking of Class 1, have complete and faultless dentition, and must have at least a SchH 2 title. They must come from a survey and performance breeding. Dogs competing for the V-Select rating a second time must have a SchH 3 title.

To:

At the National Breed Show, the rating "Excellent-Select is awarded in addition to the ratings shown under 4.1, which requires proof of the following criteria: To qualify for a V-Select rating, dogs must have **currently** a breed survey ranking of Class 1, have complete and faultless dentition **or must have a dental notation as established by the breed book office**, and must have at least a SchH 2 title **or equivalent**. They must come from a survey and performance breeding.

Dogs competing for the V-Select rating a second time must have a SchH 3 title.

- **c) II. 4.3**

From:

Extraordinary circumstances which resulted in partial tooth damage or tooth loss do not affect breed ratings. The requirement here is that the previous presence of healthy, strong teeth, a faultless scissor bite without faulty incisor tooth line is established without doubt and this fact has been entered into the pedigree. Proof can be provided to the registry as follows:

1. #9; Proof of complete dentition and presence of healthy, strong teeth and a faultless scissor bite without a faulty tooth line can be made by submitting the dog's breed show or trial booklet wherein, a breed survey master officiating at a breed show where the dog was entered has described the status of the dog's dentition after examining the animal who was at that time at least 12 months old
2. Presentation of the breed survey certificate where the status of teeth and bite was entered during the breed survey.
3. Presentation of an x-ray accompanied by a certificate issued by a veterinary dentist. The x-ray must show at least parts of the roots or the tooth pocket. To have proof added to the pedigree, conditions under paragraphs 1 and 3 or paragraphs 2 and 3 must be met

TO:

Extraordinary circumstances which resulted in partial tooth damage or tooth loss do not affect breed ratings. The requirement here is that the previous presence of healthy, strong teeth, a faultless scissor bite without faulty incisor tooth line is established without doubt and this fact has been documented.

The original presence of missing teeth can be documented by:

1. **A certification of dental completeness by a USA or SV conformation judge documented in the scorebook or the appropriate window of the pedigree.**
2. **The presence of the breed survey documentation in which the dental completeness has been notified at the breed survey.**
3. **A dental notification entered by the USA office on the pedigree.**

- **Change Sieger Show Regulations: Classes and Schedule**

Change: Baby puppy class from 3-6 months to 4-6 month

- **Eliminate: Adult Dog Classes**

- **Change from:**

To be eligible for the rating of Excellent-Select (VA), the dog must possess at least a SchH2 Degree, the "a" Stamp or OFA Certification and be currently Breed Surveyed in Class 1 To be eligible to repeat the Excellent-Select rating, the dog must possess a SchH 3 Degree

To:

To qualify for a V-Select rating, dogs must have currently a breed survey ranking of Class 1, have complete and faultless dentition or must have a dental notation as established by the breed book office, the "a" Stamp or OFA Certification and must have at least a SchH 2 title or equivalent. They must come from a survey and performance breeding dogs competing for the V-Select rating a second time must have a SchH 3 title.

Motion to accept the above stated changes to USA's Show Regulation Policy, seconded.

VOTE: Yes-59, No-0, Abstain-1 Changes Accepted

National Events Committee:

A) Motion to allow the competitors at National Events to reserve their times in advance either by using a website or by talking with the trial secretary. This way after a hectic day of travel you don't have to hunt down the local person in charge of scheduling the stadium practice.

Motion to accept the above policy by Gordie Essleman, seconded

VOTE: **Approved Unanimously**

B) The NEC moves to recommend two options for the handlers. Not everybody wants to practice obedience and protection during an 8 minute time frame.

Obedience may be practiced at one time and protection at another Two handlers can practice obedience at once, allowing 6 minutes total Then, when all the obedience is done, if the handler wishes, they can have 5 minutes allotted for protection This plan will speed up stadium practice and make for a more pleasant and fair competition. Motion by Bill Bimrose to accept the NEC recommendation seconded.

VOTE: **Approved Unanimously**

C) The NEC moves that on-line sign up for time/flight schedule are implemented by the web-master for each National Event. **Deleted, was covered in A)**

D) The NEC moves that National Events do not take

place on Major Family Holidays. Seconded by Jean-Luc Gustin. Input from Deb Zappia regarding family commitments and from Steve Robinson regarding airline travel on holidays was discussed Jim recommended that this proposal be Tabled and sent back to the Committee for review and clarification of what is a major family holiday giving consideration to the already approved window for our National Events.

No Vote

E) The NEC moves to change the National Events Flight Schedule from the traditional flights of 6 to a one phase per day format when competing in a three day trial with more than 18 entries.

Seconded by Diane Vegsund

Peggy Park had concerns about scheduling shorter Sunday performances Jim Elder

recommended that this proposal be **Tabled** and sent to the NEC for review with Dennis Vander Linde's input who was able to schedule as recommended at last year's National Championship.

F) The NEC moves to establish a means by which recourse is available when clubs do not follow recommendations. Jim Elder stated that the National Events are USA events, if clubs do not provide proper venue, or administration of the event, we will pull the event and conduct it ourselves through our committees.

Kay suggested that the National Events Manual be updated, approved and added to our Rules and Regulations to provide current rules to be followed by our host clubs/regions.

Jim added that updating the Manual will be the responsibility for the newly elected members of the NEC.

E. Other New Business

Steve Robinson suggested that clubs be allowed to host a formal seminar, approved by the Regional Director every third year in place of the required annual trial.

Tabled for a Bylaw Change in 2004.

Ray Jeffers asked for an update on the Youth Group Jim stated that this committee is an appointed committee and he will make sure that it remains active.

Gordie Esslemenn, Former USA President, thanked Jim Elder, the officers, and the General Board for making this meeting one of the most successful and productive meetings he has attended in the last twenty-seven years. (*Applause*).

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Dena McGowan seconded **Approved Unanimously.**

Before adjournment, President Jim Elder concluded the meeting by saying, "We have achieved a lot and we need to keep doing what we are doing. Be sure to spend time with your families, have fun, and good luck to all this weekend."

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm

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



November 11, 2003