

UNITED SCHUTZHUND CLUBS OF AMERICA GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 9, 2006
Gadsden, Alabama

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The General Board meeting was called to order by President Lyle Roetemeyer at 8:45 A.M. Roll call was conducted with 19 Executive Board members and 47 club delegates present for a total of 66 voting delegates. A quorum was present.

The President polled the delegates to verify they had time to review the agenda even though it was mailed out 12 hours after the 30-day deadline and to see if there were any objections to continuing the meeting. There were no objections. Nathaniel Roque moved to proceed with the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Point of order raised by John Oliver contending the O.G. Wesconn Schutzhund Club delegate should be seated, as the club's suspension was not effective because the appeal had not been heard. Point of order ruled not well taken by President because the Executive Board had already voted on the motion submitted by John Oliver to overturn the decision of the regional director (E-Ballot 24-06 – Appeal of New England Regional Director Decision).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the General Board meeting on November 3, 2005 were approved as printed.

OFFICER REPORTS

PRESIDENT – LYLE ROETEMEYER

2006 WUSV World Championship

Congratulations to Team USA on their first place performance at the 2006 WUSV World Championship in Denmark. It was a pleasure to witness the team attitude displayed by members T. Floyd, Martin Vollrath, Gus Elfar, Wallace Payne, Karoly Meszaros, and Jim Lempner and team captains Dean Calderon and Phil Hoelcher.

O.G. Wesconn Appeal

Most of you have heard of the situation in the New England Region where the regional director suspended O.G. Wesconn Schutzhund Club for hosting another organization's event on the same day as that given on a USA event authorization. The ruling stems from E-Ballot #9-04 which was passed in April 2004.

During the course of the Board of Inquiry's investigation of charges filed against O.G. Wesconn by USA stemming from a trial they hosted on July 8–9, 2005, the BOI asked the USA Office to request copies of the judges sheets from the SV Office for that O.G. Wesconn event in an attempt to compare them to the scoresheets that were turned into the USA Office by O.G. Wesconn more than two months after the event. The SV Office sent scoresheets for the same day as the USA New England Regional Conformation Show that O.G. Wesconn hosted on July 10, 2005. O.G. Wesconn was listed as the hosting club on the first scoresheet. The second sheet, with the scores of the two dogs that trialed for their SchH1's, listed Wesconn Schaeferhund Verein. The judge was the same judge procured through USA for the O.G. Wesconn event.

BOI Chair John Koerner stated that when he questioned O.G. Wesconn President John Henkel, Mr. Henkel denied on two separate occasions this two-dog event had taken place. Not until Mr. Koerner explained that he had in his possession copies of the scoresheets from the event did John Henkel admit to having hosted this trial using a judge that had been procured through USA.

John Henkel contacted me a few days after the suspension and I informed him our bylaws provide a member or club, in good standing, can appeal the ruling of the regional director to the Executive Board (Article IX, Section 8). After consideration of the appeal and allowing the regional director to explain his/her decision, the Executive Board of Directors by majority vote may overrule the decision.

A few days later O.G. Wesconn appealed the ruling. They made certain claims in their appeal and were asked to provide the EB with certain documents that would prove their appeal. O.G. Wesconn was twice given full opportunity to comply with our request for documentation supporting their claims. The denials of the O.G. Wesconn President to our BOI Chairman that the event had taken place before finally admitting that it had indeed taken place support that the club was not only aware of the rule, but also the intent of the rule. John Oliver's motion to overrule the regional director's decision failed for lack of a majority.

The General Board can approve or overturn a decision by the Executive Board and that opportunity will come to you later today during New Business Arising from Reports.

USA Programs

Last November I spoke about the future growth of our organization being tied to the programs we have in place, both new and established.

- The Judges Program continues to gain strength and we now have several quality individuals as apprentice judges.
- The Helper Program has given us a vehicle to develop the spirit of sharing knowledge for the good of all members.
- The USA Breed Registry needed database changes and many members wanted a better quality pedigree document. I would like to thank Laurie Tollifson for volunteering her help and expertise. She has worked diligently with our USA Office Manager, Kelly Hope, over the past several months and that document has been recently presented to the BAC and EB. The database is ready and we now need approval of the new pedigree document.

National Events Funding

The National Events Committee suggested an increase of more than double the funding for national events. The budget was increased 25% for clubs hosting national events, but it has still not produced the desired effect of multiple bids for each event or bids two years out.

GSD National Championship

While working on the budget for this fiscal year, I decided to ask this board to consider the possibility of making our GSD National Championship a USA-hosted event. The possibility of

finding more clubs to help provide a venue exists if event funding, planning, organization, and implementation are the responsibility of USA, not the club. This would also allow us the opportunity to host the best possible championship and be able to share income with the club or region that provides the venue. This event is an expense only item in our fiscal year budget, but with proper planning would produce income that would offset the expense. I believe we have enough talented and experienced members within our organization to make this a reality for USA. This savings of \$4,000 yearly could be applied to a number of important line items within the budget.

Should we decide to do this, we must pay close attention to the Sieger Show and the positives and negatives incurred since it became a USA-hosted event. The BAC has recently been looking at ways to make our Sieger Show an even better event and Margi Ross brought several items to the BAC for consideration. When USA decided to make the Sieger Show a USA-hosted event, the main focus was to make sure the participants had a quality venue and quality grass surface on which to show their dogs. We can't control the weather, but we can seek out facilities that provide a handler-friendly venue that allows safe conditions for competitors and their dogs and ample paved parking.

Youth Committee

The continued growth of our membership is encouraging; in particular our youth membership. I have been looking for an active approach to supply our youth members with more educational and fun opportunities with their dogs. We hosted our first National Youth Championship during 2006, with the ages of participants ranging from four to eleven years. Providing scholarship incentives for youth members is an excellent suggestion and hopefully we will have financial support for this program soon. Even more important is the need for opportunities for youth members at local and regional levels. I have appointed Michele Scarberry as Youth Committee Chair, and she will work with the other committee members to build a real Youth Program. Michele has some great ideas, and our youth members will be excited to see more opportunities available.

Anti-Dog Legislation

This past year brought encouraging news for the future of the working GSD and Schutzhund in the United States. We made serious efforts to stop the onslaught of anti-dog legislation. Those efforts have been rewarded in many locales, but in others they came too late or were not effective. We must continue those efforts in a sincere and proactive approach. The efforts of our USA members on the AWDF Legislative Committee have provided countless support and knowledge to those needing it. We must continue to promote the importance of SchH/VPG as a breed evaluation tool and always hold to the ideals and principles of the founder of the GSD, Max von Stephanitz. Only through proper working and breed evaluations can we assure the working temperament and structure of the GSD. We must be careful to never become a sport or show organization only.

Membership

Many of our fellow breed clubs have experienced a significant decline in membership during the past couple of years. Our membership has shown continued growth and our trial and show entries have remained steady over the past year. AWDF President Al Govednik will address this Board today on some of the exciting opportunities being offered to USA through AWDF because of our AWDF membership and the strong support of your current USA administration.

WUSV Meetings

At the September WUSV Annual General meeting in Germany elections for the board were held, with Dr. Wolfgang Tauber of Austria and Dr. Erkki Laike of Finland reelected. David Landau from GSDCA was elected to the board, narrowly defeating COAPA President Roque Benavides. There were many wording changes to the bylaws, the majority replacing verein (club) with verband (association). This was to meet legal requirements in Germany. The addition of China to the WUSV was discussed, as was the new club from Turkey. Johannes Grewe was given a brief time to speak about the 2008 WUSV Championship hosted by USA. There were 52 out of 74 countries present.

At the October WUSV Congress for Working Dogs in Denmark the judges were announced for the 2008 WUSV Championship:

- Tracking – Carmelo Sesto of Italy
- Obedience – Karl Krug of Germany
- Protection – Mogens Bechmann of Denmark

President Henke will be appointing a committee to work on international affairs. During the judge's report on the competition he commented on the very fast front half helper and that several dogs had difficulty making the grip or failed to grip on the escape exercise. He stated dogs that were not set up parallel to the helper in the arc had problems and dogs that were too heavy or over-angulated had problems making the grip in time.

Johannes Grewe gave an excellent report on our preparations for the upcoming 2008 WUSV Championship in addition to showing the PowerPoint presentation. Many WUSV members are excited about coming to the United States for this event.

The Swiss German Shepherd Club announced their current dilemma with the Swiss Kennel Club (SKC). The SKC has announced stick hits will no longer be allowed during working trials and breed evaluations. All WUSV member clubs voted to send a memorandum from each club protesting the SKC position. The possibility exists that this and other changes could be forced upon organizations that operate under the auspices of their own country's kennel club, and would not be in the best interest of preserving the working heritage and temperament of our beloved breed.

Sponsorship

After returning from Denmark I visited the USA Office and also met with our new Royal Canin account representative, Adam Fellers, and discussed the 2008 WUSV Championship. They wish to be the main sponsor for this event. Please join me in thanking Royal Canin and Tri-Tronics for agreeing to sponsor USA. We are currently in the first year of three-year agreements with both sponsors.

Support

It has been an honor and privilege to serve you as President. I would like to thank the members of USA for your support of our local, regional, and national events; and for your continued efforts in the fight against breed-specific legislation. Your efforts will continue to protect the German Shepherd Dog, and all working dog breeds, and keep their valued place in our society.

VICE PRESIDENT – NATHANIEL ROQUE

USA is the premiere working German Shepherd Dog breed club and Schutzhund club in the United States. We have over twice the membership and more world-recognized judges, breeders, and competitors than any other working dog club in

the United States. We are the best because of the quality and passion of our membership.

Now more than ever USA members need to work together to support our organization, keep it strong, protect the breed standard, and keep the quality, integrity and test in our sport of Schutzhund. We are facing many changes and challenges over the next couple of years, and some of these are:

- Hosting the 2008 WUSV World Championship is our opportunity to show the world who and what we are and our importance to the working dog world.
- We continue to face more and more breed specific legislation locally, nationally, and worldwide.
- The AKC Working Dog Program challenges what we do.
- Changes on the WUSV Board and our relationship with the SV, WUSV, and FCI.
- Rumors about changes and some changes already happening involving Schutzhund/IPO rules.

Many of our members are involved and care about the future of the organization, and we need to take our passion and commitment back to our clubs and dog sport friends and encourage them to get involved, pull together, volunteer, and make the extra effort to support USA.

During the past year some of the EB issues have been emotionally charged and challenged the integrity and commitment of your EB members. Though we don't always agree, I want to thank the EB and express my respect for their time, commitment, and passion.

I have worked on some USA committees and believe these committees have made very positive changes for the organization. They are:

- The USA Helper Committee, of which I am currently serving as Helper Program Director.
- The newly formed Magazine Committee chaired by Kathy Moacanin. They have made some very positive changes to the magazine, are taking a lot of work off of the USA Office, and have more improvements planned for upcoming issues.
- The World Championship Committee chaired by Johannes Grewe and assisted by Craig Groh. I am confident their planning and hard work with the support of our membership will create a world-class event.

I am still concerned with the business of USA and our organizational structure. We continue to waste resources because we do not allow people to freely do the jobs they are selected to perform. We need to develop clear, concise job descriptions that give board members and committees the authority and autonomy to complete their responsibilities in a more timely and efficient manner. It is the job of the membership to place the right people in office and then allow them to perform their jobs. This applies to your club and on up. Please consider your decisions and vote wisely for what is best for USA, which may not always seem to be best for a single member, club, or region. Without strong, fair, and determined leadership on your Executive Board, this organization will not grow and we will all suffer.

This is my last opportunity as Vice President to thank the membership, Executive Board, and the USA Office staff for allowing me to represent them and work with and for you. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as Vice President.

SECRETARY – SARA WALLICK

The Rules and Regulations document was updated after the first of the year and will be again in January. I will continue trying to improve the document, and would appreciate any suggestions for making it more helpful to the members. Last year I promised to get all the minutes going back to 1977 up on the website. They are just about ready, but I need to rescan some of them a little differently to make them less memory intensive.

In February we began posting the pending Executive Board ballots on the website under Member News & Info in an effort to disseminate information to the membership more quickly.

Since the 2005 General Board meeting, we have acquired twelve new clubs but unfortunately have lost ten.

New Clubs (12)

Columbus Hundesport Club (ME)
Der Michigan Schutzhund Verein (ME)
Lake Matthews Schutzhund Club (SW)
Metro Richmond Schutzhund Club (NE)
Mid-Missouri Hundesport Club (MC)
New York Schutzhund & Police Dog Club (NE)
Red River Schutzhund Club (SC)
Redwood Schutzhund Club (NW)
San Gabriel Hund Verein (SC)
Somis Schutzhund Club (SW)
TN Valley Working Dogs (ME)
Treasure Valley Working Dog Association (PNW)

Club Dissolutions (10)

Above the Peak Schutzhund Club (RM/GP)
Bayou City Schutzhund Club (SC)
Canyon K-9 Club (SW)
Desert Winds Schutzhund Club (RM/GP)
German Shepherd Working Dog Club of Western NY (NewE)
Hampton Roads Schutzhund Club (NE)
Piedmont Schutzhund Klub (SE)
Pikes Peak Schutzhund & Police Association (RM/GP)
Seminole Schutzhund Club (SE)
West Texas Working Dog Association (RM/GP)

Region Changes (1)

First HGH Herding Club (NE to NewE)

Name Changes (2)

Northeastern Ohio Police & Working Dog Association to Northeast Ohio Working Dog Association (ME)
O.G. Kentucky Schutzhund Club to Cedar Hill Working Dog Club (ME)

Trial Waivers–2005 (5)

Boise Working Dog Association (PNW)
Buena Vista Working Dog Club (SC)
Chicagoland Schutzhund Club (MC)
Mid America German Shepherd Dog Schutzhund Club (MC)
Texas Working Dogs (SC)

TREASURER – BILL PLUMB (Read by Sara Wallick)

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2006 was a financial success. We had an increase in net assets of \$26,064, which was slightly better than the previous fiscal year and much better than our financial plan. Two major factors contributed to our better than planned results: the Sieger Show had a greater than planned profit and we had two full-time employees who were replaced with part-time employees. There was a gap between the full-time employees leaving and the part-time employees starting.

Individual, family, foreign, and youth membership income increased; but club membership revenue decreased. The net cost of the magazine increased again this year to a total of \$85,233 from \$63,642 the previous year. This has been a long-term trend as magazine advertising revenue continues to decline. We ended the fiscal year with net assets of \$157,740.

For the first four months of the current fiscal year we are on track with our financial plan, as amended. We show an increase in net assets of a little over \$40,000. That is some-what deceiving because we received our Royal Canin annual sponsorship of \$30,000, which will be spent over the course of the year. If adjusted for that, we would have a net increase of about \$15,000, which is about where we need to be this time of the year. We build cash in the first few months of the year, then are cash negative during the winter. Membership revenue is steady for the four months.

At this time we have free cash of about \$140,000 and contributions for the 2008 WUSV World Championship stand at just under \$20,000.

DIRECTOR OF JUDGES – MARK PRZYBYLSKI

The USA Judges Program is growing and the apprentices currently in the program are Randall Hoadley, Israel Cruz, Frank Phillips, and Warren Jones; and Alvin Clemmons is an apprentice judge applicant. We expect to approve Randall as a probationary judge this month. When they ask permission to apprentice at your club, I hope you will help them as that helps the USA Judges Program.

One order of business we need to take care of today is voting on Jim Elder's permanent USA judges license. This should have been done last year but was an oversight on my part and I apologize for that.

At the USA judges meeting in August in St. Joseph, Missouri we had 18 out of 24 judges attending. We revamped the USA Judges Program and USA Apprentice Judges Program, formed a USA Teaching Judges Program, and set up a committee to look at the current rulebook to clarify where needed and make sure we officially get the correct information on all rules in the sport. We had a presentation by Johannes Grewe and Craig Groh on the plan and status for the 2008 WUSV World Championship. Many of the USA judges already have jobs at this event and the others are eager to help out in any way.

At the USA Judges College we discussed the bylaw covering how the USA Director of Judges is elected and believe the DOJ should be required to be a USA judge.

There are many proposed changes to the USA Judges Program and USA Apprentice Judges Program that the USA judges feel will make the programs better.

I want to thank all of you for your support.

NATIONAL BREED WARDEN – KAREN MACINTYRE

2006 German Sieger Show

It was an honor to assist Henning Setzer with the Kennel Groups and learn the SV's new system at this show of over 2000 dogs. We had very good discussions and I was also able to assist Wilfred Scheld with the Herding Groups in the next ring. Throughout the weekend I was able to discuss many GSD issues with other leaders in the SV (Wolfgang Henke, Erich Orschler, Inge and Heinz Balonier, Walter Hoffmann, etc.).

The following five issues are being addressed by the SV and other GSD organizations. We need to do the same by making

changes in our rules so we don't end up with everyone else's rejects.

- *Measurement of Youth and Young Dog Classes* – The SV is focusing on the GSD as a service dog with new programs like the RH, and a medium-size dog is of utmost importance. The dogs in these classes were measured at the 2006 USA Sieger Show and this practice will be continued, but we need to move toward making it a requirement for all shows down to the local show level.
- *Hair Coat Dying* – This year at the SV Sieger Show the top dogs and randomly selected other dogs had samples of hair taken to test for dyes. The SV does not have set parameters for testing yet, but they are working on it. We need to follow suit. I have a copy of the affidavit entrants had to sign for the show.
- *Doping* – This is a big problem in athletic events throughout the world. All dogs on the podium at national performance events and all VA dogs at the Sieger Show need to be tested.
- *Kennel Group Scoring* – Johannes started a scoring system similar to the SV's, but they just started a more refined scoring system I would like to incorporate into ours as it has more details and less math.
- *Elbow Certification* – We need to require elbow certification for VA dogs, as is done in Germany, by 2008 then eventually for all breed surveys. While we don't have our own elbow certification program, the SV will review elbow x-rays sent with hip x-rays and we also have the OFA H&E program.

We should be looking at closing dates for all breed surveys and eventually all shows. Correct paperwork and verification of titles, etc. is a real problem at the club level. It is important to have a correct/complete catalog at a show, which requires a closing date.

2007 Sieger Show

Due to all the issues surrounding the Sieger Show, we are a little behind schedule in promoting this event. Fortunately, we were able to get a contract with the same hotel as last year for April 20-22, 2007 and we have the venue.

We have a lot of competition to pay attention to. The WDA Sieger Show had 416 entries this year (only 20 in the non-standard classes), similar to 2005. We had 344 entries this year compared to 302 in 2005 and 265 in 2004. The goal is to break 400 this year.

We need to change how we deal with our national events, as many clubs do not want to host them. Having USA co-host the Sieger Show has helped, but we need to find a better way of dealing with the clubs and with problems. The proposal by the President to have USA co-host the GSD National Championship is good idea. It would alleviate a lot of work for the clubs to have a well-organized team run the event. That would give it the same support with a lot of pro-motion, donations, and sponsors, and it can bring in money for USA. This year the Sieger Show brought in \$14,000 and is a key to helping USA.

The USA Office struggles with a lot of paperwork issues and issues dealing with clubs, so we are working on a fee or fine structure to deal with some of these minor issues so they do not have to be brought up to the BOI. Hopefully we will have something workable within the next couple of months.

The RH Program involves critical issues for the GSD. Keeping to a strict standard in conformation and size along with breeding stable temperaments is the only way we can have GSDs

involved with the service sector. It is important that conformation and performance judges as well as breeders pay attention to what we need in the breed to work in the service sector. Our organization also has to take the role of helping and servicing the police and rescue organizations, not ruling these organizations.

AWDF PRESIDENT – AL GOVEDNIK

Thank you for the support given to AWDF the past few years. It is very important to support the other breed clubs and use them as resources, as we will all be much better off. I urge you to support other AWDF clubs' programs and continue to share ideas. They still look to USA for guidance.

Throughout the year the AWDF Legislative Committee has worked with the American Dog Owner Association to fight against anti-working dog legislation, and I was named an executive director of ADOA. We need to fight that type of legislation, because we are the next group they will look at.

Thank you to USA for providing team uniforms for our 2006 FCI IPO-FH team when our sponsor didn't follow through. The entire team, Al Govednik, Anthony Braccio, and Team Captain Gordon Esselmann, were USA SchH3 Club members and both dogs were H.O.T. We need declarations for the 2007 FCI IPO-FH team for the championship in Switzerland on May 10–13.

The 2007 AWDF Championship will be in St. Louis, Missouri on March 29–April 1. Our judges will be FCI Mirian Mars from Slovenia (tracking), FCI Markus Knutz from Germany (obedience), and USA Nathaniel Roque (protection).

The 2007 FCI IPO Championship will be in Torino, Italy on September 6–9. Tracking will be on dirt with leather, wood, and jute articles. There is no smoking in Italy and prong and e-collars are forbidden. They emphasize you must follow the country's rules, regulations, and laws. The plan is to use the Olympic Village for both competitors and spectators.

I have attended several FCI Working Commission meetings and have been told they will do their best to figure out a plan for us to become more permanent members of the Working Commission. While I have not been allowed to vote, I have been asked opinions on every plan that has been presented. I was asked about our relationship with the working dog community here in America, and I stated that only the AWDF and our member clubs fully support all of the working dog programs that were developed in Europe. No other organization can make that claim. During this last year I took the delegates from Finland and the Working Commission VP from France to visit a local AKC GSD club to see firsthand what we have been talking about regarding the working side of the GSD. USA also worked in conjunction with the FCI Working Commission to develop an international events manual.

During the FCI Working Commission meeting I was asked to send some of our USA judges to the FCI judges meeting in December. I asked if we would be allowed to have our attending judges listed in the FCI richterpool and was told we would.

In 2008 there will be a rule change to the FH2 start. Only one starting flag will be used to mark the track. This will again make the SchH/IPO track starting areas consistent.

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Lyle Roetemeyer presented USA Award of Appreciation to Terry Macias/San Jose German Shepherd Dog Club and Martin Vollrath/South County Schutzhund Club for hosting the 2006 GSD National Championship.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – STANDING COMMITTEES

AUDITING COMMITTEE – KAY KOERNER (No Report)

BOARD OF INQUIRY – JOHN KOERNER (Given by Michele Scarberry)

The BOI heard one case regarding non-adherence to USA trial regulations. The BOI substantiated the charges and forwarded our recommendations for disciplinary actions to the Executive Board for approval. The EB confirmed the BOI recommendations. We currently have another case we are working on.

BREED ADVISORY COMMITTEE – KAREN MACINTYRE

The BAC selected Franz-Peter Knaul (SV), Richard Braunch (SV), Ricardo Carbajal (USA), and Karen MacIntyre (USA) as judges for the 2007 Sieger Show and O.G. Boston will co-host the show. We have a website up for the 2007 Sieger Show and have the venue, host hotel, and judges.

We have been working on plans for Sieger Shows beyond 2007. The general consensus is we need to return to some type of zone or regional rotation that designates regions to support cities with air carrier capacity for 400+ dogs. Regions would not be allowed to skip their turn. A Sieger Show committee and the USA Office would still run the event, but the local club activity would be the responsibility of regional directors and regional breed wardens. Margi Ross has documented most of the procedures for running the Sieger Show, and it is very different from the NEC manual because it is a different type of event. We have an on-line manual for running the Sieger Show with the proposed modifications. If the Sieger Show is profitable, we need some type of Sieger Show fund. In the past we have not been able to reimburse the volunteers, but with a Sieger Show fund we could at least partially reimburse them. We want to be able to use PayPal and online entries.

The BAC is working on the new registration forms and need to start working on the rules that go along with that because there are a lot of changes that need to be made. We inherently have some issues trying to accept registrations from AKC because of the difference in requirements.

JUDGES COMMITTEE – MARK PRZYBYLSKI

(Given under Director of Judges report.)

NATIONAL EVENTS COMMITTEE – MARTIN VOLLRATH

This year the NEC placed ads in *Schutzhund USA* for bids for the 2007/2008 events. The purpose of the ads was to keep the members aware of the unique opportunity to host one of our three main events. The following are the three bids received:

- 2007 North American and FH Championship – Fayetteville Schutzhund Club in North Carolina
- 2007 H.O.T. Championship – German Shepherd Schutzhund Club in Washington
- 2007 GSD National Championship – San Jose German Shepherd Dog Club/South County Schutzhund Club in California

Unfortunately we did not receive the multiple bids hoped for, but did receive bids for each event.

(Lyle Roetemeyer mentioned the NEC has completed the National Events Manual revision.)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – RIFKY MACKEEN (Given by Marie Weller)

We have presented a full roster of candidates. The committee had monthly phone conferences and we contacted the current members and asked if they would like to be considered. We also placed ads in *Schutzhund USA* trying to recruit more members who might be interested in different positions. We did not get a lot of input from that but I would like the membership to go back to their clubs and encourage anyone interested in running for office to contact any member of the Nominating Committee.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE – HOWIE RODRIGUEZ

The WUSV/FCI Championship Team Eligibility document was revised and approved by the Executive Board. We are currently working on the 2008 WUSV World Championship helper selection process.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – SPECIAL COMMITTEES

BUDGET COMMITTEE – BILL PLUMB (No report)

Lyle Roetemeyer stated we have amended the budget for expenditures such as sending two USA judges to the FCI judges meeting and some other items, and we are still doing well and are slightly ahead of projections.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE – NIA COTTRELL

There are several proposed bylaw amendments. Some of them are derived from a desire to be consistent with our status with the IRS. They will allow the flexibility to become a 501(c)(3) corporation at some point should we also do some of the other things required to obtain that status. That includes various prohibitions concerning officers, particularly as we are developing a Youth Program. Others are simply housekeeping or cost-saving proposals.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – VICKI KELLER (No report)

HELPER COMMITTEE – NATHANIEL ROQUE

The USA Helper Committee is happy to report the success and acceptance of the current Helper Program, and we are recommending revisions to the final Helper Program based on information gained over the first two years. We believe they will make the program more inclusive and easier for our club-based members.

Since the start of the program we have conducted 51 seminars/evaluations, including three national colleges. These seminars/evaluations have classified 396 USA helpers (out of about 470 helper books issued). Many more USA members have attended and gained information on correct trial helper work as promoted through the current program.

We currently have 39 teaching helpers, 4 apprentices (Bill Kulla, Marco Osorio, Brian Harvey, AJ Slaughter), 18 national level helpers, and 24 regional level helpers.

Recommendations to the program are:

- Changing the evaluation period for basic and club level helper from two to four years.
- Officially allowing minors to participate in the Helper Program with parental or guardian consent.
- Changing teaching helper requirements to give credit for participation in Helper Committee activities in lieu of attending a national college every two years.
- Changing the national helper selection process.

I want to thank the membership for their support of this program, our helpers and teaching helpers for their hard work, and especially the members of the Helper Committee.

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE – KATHY MOACANIN

Jennifer Acevedo has been a tremendous help with this committee. I would not have been able to do this without her. We have been working hard to bring our membership the best possible publication we can. We have some incredibly talented people within our membership who have shared their time to make a difference. The more people who get involved, the more who want to get involved.

Contact us to let us know what you want the magazine to be, what we are doing well and not doing well, and what you want us to do differently. We have been tapping the USA-GSD list to solicit feedback, article ideas, and new writers; and I have found various articles on the internet. We have all the talent we need in this organization—we just need to have people step forward to help us.

Jennifer Acevedo: We have worked hard to improve the quality of the articles in the magazine and have introduced new sections and features. We are trying to take some of the burden off the USA Office staff and have instituted an internal process for editing and proofing so the copy is clean before it gets to the editor. We have compiled a stylebook so abbreviations, titles, names of dogs and handlers, etc. are in a consistent format. We are trying to provide more informative photo captions. We are eliminating the all-caps format for trial results and club listings.

The magazine was in the red \$85,233 for fiscal year 2006 vs. \$63,642 last year, advertising revenue for fiscal 2006 was \$8,495 vs. \$27,852 last year, total revenue for fiscal 2006 was \$15,281 vs. \$35,788 last year, and costs were up only slightly from \$99,430 in 2005 to \$100,514 in 2006. This is obviously a trend we need to reverse.

We need to find ways to increase revenue by recruiting ad sales reps and reducing costs by being more proactive about the number of pages of each issue and cutting production costs. We would like to have the magazine at least break even, if not be profitable.

Kathy Moacanin: We contacted the printer and came up with two changes that will save us about \$14,000 a year. We are currently not doing a good job on advertising in the magazine and need to change that. Currently the advertising versus editorial ratio is not good. One thing that keeps coming up is paying for advertising on line. Right now we are not doing a good job in collecting on advertising, so we need to change that. We have our work cut out for us, and our goal for the next year is to not lose so much money on the magazine.

USA K-9 COMMITTEE – MIKE DIEHL (No report)

YOUTH COMMITTEE – MIC PETERSON (No report)

2008 WUSV CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE – JOHANNES GREWE

Thank you for trusting me to lead the Steering Committee and be the event coordinator. The other committee members are Mike Hamilton, Gordon Esselmann, Howie Rodriguez, Willie Pope, and Lyle Roetemeyer and we are making good progress. I asked Walter Hoffmann to act as liaison to the WUSV Office. He agreed immediately and has been very helpful. We have the main team and have named some other positions. The lead coordinators will fill the other positions.

There will be about 130 people working on the 2008 World Championship. The championship this year in Denmark gave me many good ideas. The judges have been chosen by the WUSV board as announced by Lyle, and the chief judge will be Günther Diegel and tracking supervisor will be Jürgen Ritzl.

(The PowerPoint presentation prepared earlier in the year was shown, then Craig Groh, Assistant Committee Chair, continued the report.)

The site has been chosen and the tracking grounds selected. The host hotel, stadium, and tracking fields are very close to each other. The host hotel is a very nice hotel with all the facilities required. There will be a detailed list of everything that needs to be done and when it needs to be done. The budget has been drafted and the goal is to host a quality event. We will have a very detailed organizational chart. All the key positions have been filled. The six key coordinators are Dave Robinson—Logistics, Jim Alloway—Communications, Loni Grewe—Auxiliary Events, Mark Przybylski—Sports, Nathaniel Roque—Administration, Tom Huelsman—Hospitality. The general logo concept has been developed—it is presently just a concept and more work will be required. All four domain names have been secured for the website. We are continuing to work on funding. We had a goal of \$25,000 for this event and are pretty much on track as to date we are at \$19,500.

We encourage everybody to sign up for a volunteer position. Let us know your availability and talents. This is a big event and we need a lot of help from a lot of people. We are only using our people to take care of “dog” things. The food and cleanup is taken care of through the stadium. We need key people to take care of key things for a large event.

Break from 11:30–11:45 A.M. Roll call with 19 Executive Board members and 53 club delegates for a total of 72 voting delegates. A quorum was present.

ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT

Lyle Roetemeyer selected by NC. Mike Hamilton nominated by Mike Diehl.

Vote: Lyle Roetemeyer—40 (*elected*), Mike Hamilton—32.

VICE PRESIDENT

Bill Bimrose selected by NC but withdrew. Mike Hamilton nominated by Lori Crusier and Randall Hoadley nominated by Burt Gorges.

Vote: Randall Hoadley—41 (*elected*), Mike Hamilton—30.

SECRETARY

Sara Wallick selected by NC.

Vote: Elected by acclamation.

TREASURER

Bill Plumb selected by NC.

Vote: Elected by acclamation.

DIRECTOR OF JUDGES

Mark Przybylski selected by NC.

Vote: Elected by acclamation.

NATIONAL BREED WARDEN

Karen MacIntyre selected by NC. Tim Burke nominated by Johannes Grewe.

Vote: Tim Burke—40 (*elected*), Karen MacIntyre—28.

DIRECTORS AT LARGE (4 positions)

Al Govednik, Terry Macias, Howie Rodriguez, and Nathaniel Roque selected by NC. Craig Groh nominated by Johannes Grewe.

Vote: Nathaniel Roque—58 (*elected*), Al Govednik—53 (*elected*), Terry Macias—51 (*elected*), Howie Rodriguez—39 (*elected*), Craig Groh—38.

AUDITING COMMITTEE (3 positions)

Gordon Esselmann, Kay Koerner, and Kris Taves selected by NC.

Vote: All three candidates elected by acclamation.

BOARD OF INQUIRY (5 positions/2 alternates)

Nia Cottrell, Heather Gray, Jeff Lawless, Jeff Pomeroy, Richard Quinn, Michele Scarberry, and Tom Shaftoe selected by NC.

Vote: Michele Scarberry—58 (*elected*), Nia Cottrell—53 (*elected*), Jeff Lawless—53 (*elected*), Jeff Pomeroy—39 (*elected*), Heather Gray—37 (*elected*), Richard Quinn—33 (*elected alternate*), Tom Shaftoe—22 (*elected alternate*).

JUDGES COMMITTEE/USA JUDGE (1 position)

Floyd Wilson selected by NC.

Vote: Elected by acclamation.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE (4 positions)

Gary Hanrahan, Lisa Jacquin, Howie Rodriguez, and Thomas Vollrath selected by NC.

Vote: All four candidates elected by acclamation.

Break from 1:20–2:45 P.M. Roll call with 16 Executive Board members and 40 club delegates for a total of 56 voting delegates. A quorum was present.

NEW BUSINESS

BYLAWS AMENDMENTS (Attachment 1)

NEW BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORTS

1. National Events Bids (Vote taken at beginning of New Business)

2007 North American and FH Championship:

- Fayetteville Schutzhund Club (SE Region—Dunn, North Carolina)

Motion to accept bid carried.

2007 H.O.T. Championship

- German Shepherd Schutzhund Club (PNW Region—Centralia, Washington)

Motion to accept bid carried.

2007 GSD National Championship

- South County Schutzhund Club/San Jose German Shepherd Dog Club (NW Region—San Jose, California)
- Chattahoochee Schutzhund Club/South Metro Atlanta Schutzhund Club (SE Region—Atlanta, Georgia)

Vote: Chattahoochee/South Metro—30 (*selected*), South County/San Jose (28).

2. Permanent Judge License for Jim Elder

Motion by Mark Przybylski to grant a permanent USA Judge license to Jim Elder.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Helper Program Revision (Attachment 2)

Motion by Nathaniel Roque to approve the USA Helper Program, Issue 6.0.

Motion carried (yes—54, no—2).

4. Performance Judges Program Revision (Attachment 3)

Motion by Mark Przybylski to approve the revised USA Performance Judges Program.

Motion to accept as amended carried.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

1. Felony Prohibition for Teaching Helpers

Motion by Nathaniel Roque to prohibit 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 teaching helpers.

Motion tabled.

2. Judges College Memorial Award – Mark Przybylski

2006 Judges College Memorial Award presented to the entire Vollrath family and the South County Schutzhund Club.

3. UKC Working Dog Judge License for Mark Przybylski

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.

4. Universal Siegerin Title

Motion by Sara Wallick for USA to offer the title of Universal Siegerin in addition to Universal Sieger.

Motion carried. (Motion rescinded later in the meeting.)

5. Revision of H.O.T. Definition

Motion by Nathaniel Roque to revise the H.O.T. definition as follows:

To qualify as Handler Owner Trained (H.O.T.), the following criteria must be met:

1. The dog must be owned and registered in the name of the handler ~~by two (2) years of age.~~
2. A significant amount of the training of the dog may not have been done by someone other than the owner without the owner being involved in the training; e.g., the dog may not have been sent to a trainer for the retrieve, heeling, protection, or tracking.
3. The dog may not have been trained to the level of being ready to pass a BH before purchase. When purchasing a scorebook or entering a trial with a H.O.T. dog, the handler/owner may be required to sign a statement that the requirements listed above have been met. Falsely entering a dog as a Handler Owner Trained (H.O.T.) will result in the handler being disqualified for "unsportsmanlike conduct" from the entered event, and may also result in possible BOI charges that may include loss of USA membership.

Motion amended to delete age restriction. Amended motion carried.

6. RH Program Acceptance

Motion by Al Govednik to accept the RH Program.

Motion carried.

7. Communications Committee

Motion by Kathy Moacanin to establish a Communications Committee as a special committee to coordinate the functions of the magazine, website, and general education.

Motion carried.

8. Approval of Karen MacIntyre as Körmeister

Motion by Johannes Grewe to approve Karen MacIntyre as a Körmeister.

Motion carried. (Ratifies E-Ballot #13-06.)

9. Recognition of Sampson vom Haus Ledda, SchH2, FH2, SAR

Nathaniel Roque reported the loss of a member of USA at ten years old, Sampson vom Haus Ledda, SchH2, FH2 with greater than 100 certified Search and Rescue missions. He was owned by John Koerner and just recently passed away. If the purpose of this organization is to test dogs for use and service, we should make a formal recognition of this dog which was USA registered and truly was working on the streets.

10. Declaration Process for WUSV/FCI Teams

Declaration process for WUSV/FCI teams discussed.

No vote.

11. Universal Siegerin Title

Motion by Laurel Carle to reconsider and rescind previous vote regarding the Universal Siegerin title.

Motion carried.

12. GSD National Championship Qualification Process

Motion by Dennis Vander Linde to amend the qualification process for the GSD National Championship to add the option of showing at either a regional championship or another national event.

Motion ruled out of order because proposer was not a club delegate.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

Sara Wallick

Sara Wallick, Secretary

Attachments:

1. Proposed Bylaws Amendments–2006
2. USA Helper Program Revisions (Version 6.0)
3. USA Performance Judges Program Revisions
4. General Board Meeting Delegate List–2006

**PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS
2006**

(The amendments in this section reflect the Executive Board ballot 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. In order to effect the necessary background checks, USA will contract with a firm providing such services on an annual basis. The cost for such services is not to exceed \$65 annually.)

1. **Article VI, Section 2 (Boards of Directors/Executive Board of Directors)** – Submitted by Nathaniel Roque
Change Part h to h. Eligibility and add (i):
h. Eligibility
 (i) Individuals who have been convicted of felonies involving dishonesty (e.g., fraud, forgery, embezzlement, perjury, impersonation of a police officer, theft, etc.) are prohibited from holding positions as members of the Executive Board.
Vote: Amendment tabled.
2. **Article VII, Section 5.b. (Officers of the Association/Nomination and Election of Officers/ Eligibility)** – Submitted by Nathaniel Roque
Add:
 (ii) Individuals who have been convicted of felonies involving dishonesty (e.g., fraud, forgery, embezzlement, perjury, impersonation of a police officer, theft, etc.) are prohibited from holding positions as officers.
Vote: Amendment tabled.
3. **Article IX, Section 5 (Regions, Regional Directors, Regional Breed Wardens/Eligibility)** – Submitted by Nathaniel Roque
Add:
 b. Individuals who have been convicted of felonies involving dishonesty (e.g., fraud, forgery, embezzlement, perjury, impersonation of a police officer, theft, etc.) are prohibited from holding positions as regional directors or regional breed wardens.
Vote: Amendment tabled.
4. **Article IX, Section 7 (Regions, Regional Directors, Regional Breed Wardens/Assistant Regional Directors)** – Submitted by Nathaniel Roque
Add:
 e. Individuals who have been convicted of felonies involving dishonesty (e.g., fraud, forgery, embezzlement, perjury, impersonation of a police officer, theft, etc.) are prohibited from holding positions as assistant regional directors.
Vote: Amendment tabled.
5. **Article X, Section 1.d. (Committees/Standing Committees/Judges Committee)** – Submitted by Nathaniel Roque
Add:
 (vi) Individuals who have been convicted of felonies involving dishonesty (e.g., fraud, forgery, embezzlement, perjury, impersonation of a police officer, theft, etc.) are prohibited from holding positions as judges.
Vote: Amendment tabled.
Motion by Burt Gorges to table amendments in this section so they can be rewritten. Motion carried.
6. **Delete Article I, Section 2 (Colors)** – Submitted by Nia Cottrell
 a. The colors of the association shall be red, white, and blue.
Vote: Amendment rejected. Motion by Bob Gager to accept. Motion failed.
7. **Change Article I, Section 3.a. (Name, Colors, Profit Status and Budget/Profit Status and Budget)**
From:
 a. The United Schutzhund Clubs of America is and shall be conducted as a non-profit organization.
To:
 a. The United Schutzhund Clubs of America is and shall be conducted as a not for profit organization within the meaning of Section 501)(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Vote: Amendment accepted.
8. **Change Article II (Objectives)**
From:
 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: ...

To:

The United Schutzhund Club of America is organized exclusively for educational, social, and recreational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code. The objectives of this association shall be to preserve the German Shepherd Dog in accordance with the Breed Standard as a working dog, to promote humane training methods for the working dog, and to support responsible dog ownership and breeding practices. Activities shall: ...

Vote: Amendment accepted.

9. Change Article III (Performance Regulations) – Submitted by Sara Wallick

(This amendment to the article title reflects the addition of breeding regulations many years ago.)

From:

Article III. Performance Regulations

To:

Article III. Performance and Breeding Regulations

Vote: Amendment accepted.

10. Change Article III, Part 1 (Performance Regulations) – Submitted by Mark Przybylski

(This amendment removes performance regulation exceptions from the bylaws and lists them in the applicable document instead.)

From:

1. The performance regulations for all USA working evaluations shall be decided by the Board of Directors, yet shall be based upon international standards. Any changes from the currently accepted trial regulations require approval of the Board of Directors.

(i) Handlers may enter up to three dogs in USA trials excepting for any and all championship trials where the specified limit of two dogs shall apply.

To:

1. Performance regulations for all USA working evaluations shall be identical to those of the Verband für das Deutsche Hundewesen (VDH), other than exceptions listed in the *USA Official Rule Book for All Workings Dogs Evaluations* under USA Variances. Any changes to the USA performance regulations require approval of the General Board of Directors.

Vote: Amendment accepted.

11. Change Article III, Parts 2 and 3 (Performance Regulations) – Submitted by Karen MacIntyre

(This amendment removes breeding regulation exceptions from the bylaws and lists them in the applicable documents instead.)

From:

2. The regulations governing the German Shepherd Dog breed surveys shall be identical to those of the Verein fuer Deutsche Schaeferhunde (SV), but with the following exceptions:

(1) In lieu of the A stamp, certification by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals will be acceptable.

3. The regulations governing events which evaluate the conformation of the German Shepherd Dog shall be identical with the SV with the following exceptions:

(1) In lieu of the A Stamp, certification by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals will be acceptable.

(2) The Board shall establish the rules for the championship conformation shows.

To:

2. Regulations governing German Shepherd Dog breeding, breed surveys, and breed shows shall be identical to those of the Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV), other than exceptions listed in the USA Breeding Regulations, USA Breed Survey Regulations, and USA Sieger Show Regulations. Any changes to the USA regulations require approval of the General Board of Directors.

Vote: Amendment accepted.

12. Change Article IV, Section 1.e. (Individual Membership/Youth) – Submitted by Mic Peterson

(This amendment removes the prohibition against youth members holding office or serving on committees; and also, because of the differences in various state laws governing age of majority, allows parental/guardian consent to be handled as an administrative function by the USA Office per the advice of the USA attorney.)

From:

e. This membership is available to person 18 years of age or younger. It is intended to create interest in the objectives of USA among young people. Dues and privileges of membership shall be determined by the General Board. Youth Members shall not be eligible to hold office or serve on any committee except as specially determined by the Board. Parental or guardian consent is required.

To:

e. This membership is available to persons 21 years of age and younger, and is intended to create interest in the objectives of USA among young people. The General Board of Directors shall determine dues and privileges of membership.

Vote: Amendment accepted.

(The changes in this section put all matters relating to discipline in one article, clarify mailing procedures, and allow the Secretary to use less expensive mailing options when sending documents to Board of Inquiry members. Section 1 also revises the time limit for filing charges.)

13. **Delete Article IV, Section 3 (Individual Membership/Discipline) and replace with Article VI (Discipline)** – Submitted by Nia Cottrell and Sara Wallick
Vote: Amendment accepted.
14. **Delete Article V, Section 3 (Membership of Clubs/Discipline) and replace with Article VI (Discipline)** – Submitted by Nia Cottrell and Sara Wallick
Vote: Amendment accepted.
15. **Delete Article V, Section 5 (Membership of Clubs/Discipline Against Club Not to Affect Individual Membership) and replace with Article VI (Discipline)** – Submitted by Nia Cottrell and Sara Wallick
Vote: Amendment accepted.
16. **Add Article VI (Discipline)** – Submitted by Nia Cottrell and Sara Wallick

Section 1. Charges

Any full member of USA may prefer charges against any USA club and/or USA member for violating USA regulations or for conduct which is prejudicial to the interests of USA. To be heard, charges must be filed within one (1) year of the date of the alleged misconduct or rule violation, or *from the time it was known or reasonably should have been known that a violation occurred.*

Section 2. Procedure

Charges must be processed according to the following procedure:

- a. The charge(s) against the accused member and/or accused club must be submitted in writing and must be notarized. The charge(s) shall be forwarded to the Secretary with a deposit of seventy-five dollars (\$75) for each charge. The deposit shall be forfeited for each charge that is not sustained.
- b. The President and Secretary of the organization may file charges on behalf of USA against members or clubs without a deposit. Such charges shall be required to be notarized.
- c. The Secretary shall send copies of the charges to the Board of Inquiry full members and alternate(s) (if applicable) within fifteen (15) days of receipt.
- d. The Secretary shall also send one (1) copy of the charges to the accused member and/or to the accused club in care of contact person of record listed in Schutzhund USA within fifteen (15) days of receipt.
- e. The accused member and/or accused club may respond to charges in writing to the Secretary within thirty (30) days of receipt of the charges, and may also provide testimony from witnesses. The Secretary shall forward copies of any response and/or any testimony to the Board of Inquiry full members and alternate(s) (as applicable) within fifteen (15) days of receipt. If no answer is received, the Secretary shall so inform the Board of Inquiry within thirty (30) days.
- f. The Secretary shall use certified mail/return receipt for transmittal of all documents to the accused and the accuser, and shall use U.S. mail, electronic mail, and/or digital communication for transmittal of all documents to the Board of Inquiry.

Section 3. Board of Inquiry Action

- a. The Board of Inquiry shall make a determination about the relevancy of the charges and whether the charges shall be considered within thirty (30) days of receipt of the charges. If not relevant, the accuser and accused shall be notified by the Secretary within fifteen (15) days of the decision of the Board of Inquiry. If the charges are determined to be relevant, the Board of Inquiry shall act upon the charges within sixty (60) days of receipt of the response to the charges and shall by majority vote sustain or not sustain the charge(s).
- b. The Board of Inquiry shall recommend, if the charges are sustained, appropriate disciplinary action.
 - (1) If a full member club is found guilty, appropriate disciplinary action may include:
 - (a) Reprimand of the club.
 - (b) Monetary fine in an amount commensurate with the seriousness of the offense.
 - (c) Placement of the club on probation under the supervision of some person appointed by the Board of Inquiry or the Executive Board of Directors.
 - (d) Suspension of the club for a specified period of time, during which the club may hold no USA-sanctioned activities.
 - (e) Cancellation of the club's license (reducing the club to affiliated club status).
 - (f) Expulsion of the club.
 - (2) If an affiliated club is found guilty, appropriate disciplinary action may include Items a, b, c, d, and f above and also may include delaying consideration of the club for upgrade to full member status for up to one (1) year.
- c. If the accused is found guilty, the Board of Inquiry shall recommend an appropriate disciplinary action and present that recommendation to either Board of Directors. The recommendation shall be sustained, modified, or rejected by the Board of Directors.

- d. No member who has been suspended or expelled by USA may participate in any activities sponsored by the association, or in activities sponsored by any of its clubs, for the duration of the suspension or permanently if expelled.
- e. If any charges against a club and/or member fail to be heard within the time frame specified by Article VI, Section 3.a. as provided in these bylaws, all money deposited with USA by those filing the charges will be refunded and a full report by the Board of Inquiry will be made to the either Board of Directors.
- f. Disciplinary action taken by a local club against a member or members of that club is an internal affair of the club and does not affect the USA membership of those individuals. Such local club disciplinary actions need not be recognized or honored by other local clubs.

Vote: Amendment accepted.

17. Change Article VI, Section 1.c.(i), (ii), and (iii) (General Board of Directors/Meetings) – Submitted by Sara Wallick *(These amendments allow the USA Office to avoid the costs for printing, envelopes, labels, postage, and labor in distributing the agendas and minutes. The agendas and minutes will be posted on the USA website and will be sent electronically to all clubs.)*

From:

- (i) 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. Written notice shall be provided to all clubs and executive board members not less than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting unless notice of the meeting is published in the association's official publication not less than ninety (90) days prior to the meeting date.

To:

- (i) The General Board of Directors shall choose one (1) date per calendar year between October 1 and November 20 on which it shall conduct its annual meeting. The Secretary shall notify all clubs and Executive Board members at least thirty days prior to any General Board meeting. Notification may be by *electronic mail* or regular mail and *shall contain the date, time, location, and agenda for the meeting. The agenda shall also be posted on the USA website.*

From:

- (ii) A special meeting of the General Board of Directors shall be called if a petition is received by the USA secretary signed by Delegates of a majority of the full member clubs in good standing. Written notice of the special meeting shall be sent to all USA clubs, Officers, Directors at Large, and Regional Directors not less than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting date.

To:

- (ii) A special meeting of the General Board of Directors shall be called if a petition is received by the USA Secretary signed by delegates of a majority of the full-member clubs in good standing. The Secretary shall notify all clubs and Executive Board members at least thirty days prior to any special General Board meeting. Notification may be by *electronic mail* or regular mail and *shall contain the date, time, location, and agenda for the meeting. The agenda shall also be posted on the USA website.*

From:

- (iii) All actions of the Board shall be reported as minutes. A printed copy of the minutes will be mailed within sixty (60) days of the meeting to all clubs and Executive Board. It will be sent by mail or electronic mail to any individual member of USA at that member's request. A copy of the minutes shall be published promptly in the association's official publication and internet web site.

To:

- (iii) All actions of the *General Board of Directors* shall be reported as minutes. The minutes shall be sent to all clubs and Executive Board *members* within sixty (60) days of the meeting. The minutes may be sent by *electronic* mail or regular mail and shall be sent by regular mail to any individual member of USA upon request of that member. The minutes shall be published in *Schutzhund USA* and on the USA website.

Vote: Amendments accepted.

18. Change Article VI, Section 2.c.(iii) and e. (Executive Board of Directors/Meetings) – Submitted by Sara Wallick *(These amendments allow the USA Office to avoid the costs for printing, envelopes, labels, postage, and labor in distributing the agendas and minutes. The agendas and minutes will be posted on the USA website and will be sent electronically to all clubs. Changing 2.e. to 2.c.(iv) places it with the other items under meetings and coincides with the designations used under General Board meetings.)*

From:

- (iii) Executive Board members shall be given *written* notice at least thirty (30) days prior to any meeting.

To:

- (iii) The Secretary shall notify all Executive Board members at least thirty days prior to any Executive Board meeting. Notification may be by *electronic mail* or regular mail and shall contain the date, time, location, and agenda for the meeting.

From:

- e. All actions of the Board shall be reported as minutes. A printed copy of the minutes will be mailed within 60 days of the meeting to all clubs and will be sent by mail or electronic mail to any individual member of USA at that member's request. A copy of the minutes shall be published in the association's official publication and internet web site. The General Board of Directors may rescind or modify any action of the Executive Board.

To (Change Section 2.e. to Section 2.c.(iv):

(iv) All actions of the *Executive Board of Directors* shall be reported as minutes. The minutes shall be sent to all clubs *and Executive Board members* within sixty (60) days of the meeting. The minutes may be sent by *electronic* mail or regular mail and shall be sent by regular mail to any individual member of USA upon request of that member. The minutes shall be published in *Schutzhund USA* and on the USA website. The General Board of Directors may rescind or modify any action of the Executive Board of *Directors*.

Vote: Amendment accepted.

19. Change Article VI, Section 2.g. (Executive Board of Directors/Voting) – Submitted by Sara Wallick**From:**

(iii) In lieu of calling a special meeting, members of the Executive Board of Directors may be polled by mail or electronic communication ballot. Two (2) weeks shall be allowed for the return of ballots before closing the vote. Complete and factual information on the subject(s) to be voted on must be supplied with each ballot. Balloting by telephone is prohibited.

To:

(iii) In lieu of calling a special meeting, members of the Executive Board of Directors may be polled by mail or electronic communication ballot. Two (2) weeks shall be allowed for the return of ballots before closing the vote. Complete and factual information on the subject(s) to be voted on must be supplied with each ballot. *Voting by telephone on mail ballots is prohibited.*

Add:

(v) Conference call meetings may be conducted, and voting by telephone during such meetings shall be allowed.

Vote: Amendment accepted.

20. Article VII, Section 5, Part c. (Officers of the Association/Election of Officers – Submitted by Mark Przybylski**From:**

(i) The General Board of Directors shall elect Officers and Directors at Large at every meeting which takes place in an even numbered year.

To:

(i) The General Board of Directors shall elect Officers and Directors at Large, except the Director of Judges, who shall be elected by the USA Judges at the USA Judges College.
(ii) Elections shall take place in even numbered years.

Amendment withdrawn.

21. Change Article X, Section 1.d.(iii) (Judges Committee) – Submitted by Mark Przybylski

(This amendment reflects a revision to the USA Performance Judges Program and USA Breed Judges Program approved at the 2005 General Board meeting which was proposed to avoid the prolonged time lapse sometimes experienced before a qualified apprentice judge can begin judging.)

From:

(iii) The committee shall be responsible for the judges at all USA trials. It shall be the keeper of the trial rules and regulations. It shall be responsible for the conduct of USA judges. It shall recommend that a judges license be granted to persons who have successfully completed the apprentice judge program. It may recommend that a judges license be revoked for conduct prejudicial to the interest of USA. A decision to accept or reject the recommendation shall be made by the Board of Directors. Any judge whose license has been recommended for revocation shall be permitted to speak at the board meeting at which the recommendation is heard.

To:

(iii) The committee shall be responsible for the judges at all USA trials. It shall be the keeper of the trial rules and regulations. It shall be responsible for the conduct of USA judges. *It shall grant probationary judges licenses to apprentice judges who have successfully completed the apprentice judge program.* It may recommend that a judge's license be revoked for conduct prejudicial to the interest of USA. A decision to accept or reject the recommendation shall be made by the Board of Directors. Any judge whose license has been recommended for revocation shall be permitted to speak at the *Board of Directors* meeting at which the recommendation is heard.

Vote: Amendment accepted.

22. Article X, Section 8 (Appealing Decision of Regional Director/Regional Breed Warden) – Submitted by Nia Cottrell**From:****Appealing Decision of 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, 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,

HELPER PROGRAM REVISIONS (Version 6.0)

ITEM 1 – Revision Accepted

Changed to reflect Basic and Club level helpers now only required to attend seminars every 4 years (used to be every 2 years). This change is to make the Helper Program friendlier and easier for Basic and Club Helpers to participate, but maintain educational and re-evaluation requirements for Regional and National Helpers.

CHANGED FROM:

Section 12.3: Helper Classification Maintenance

The results of Helper Evaluations are the Classification of Helpers. The result of the Performance Evaluations by Judges is the identification of Helpers who perform proper and safe helperwork, or those that do not. Once a Helper has attained Club Level Classification, he/she must continue to perform proper and safe helperwork in Events, must be re-evaluated once every four (4) years and receive a Passing Grade on each Exercise during their Helper Re-evaluation in order to maintain Club Level Classification. Once a Helper has attained Regional or National Level Classification, he/she must continue to perform proper and safe helperwork in Events, must be re-evaluated once every two (2) years and receive a Passing Grade on each Exercise during their semi-annual Helper Re-evaluation in order to maintain their current Classification. If a Helper does not meet these requirements, he/she will face reclassification to a lower level or withdrawal of their Trial Helper Privileges as described below.

CHANGED TO:

Section 12.3: Helper Classification Maintenance

The results of Helper Evaluations are the Classification of Helpers. The result of the Performance Evaluations by Judges is the identification of Helpers who perform proper and safe helperwork, or those that do not. **Once a Helper has attained Basic or Club Level Classification, he/she must continue to perform proper and safe helperwork in Events, must be re-evaluated once every four (4) years and must receive a Passing Grade on each Exercise during their Helper Re-evaluation in order to maintain Basic or Club Level Classification.** Once a Helper has attained Regional or National Level Classification, he/she must continue to perform proper and safe helperwork in Events, must be re-evaluated at least once every two (2) years and receive a Passing Grade on each Exercise during their semi-annual Helper Re-evaluation in order to maintain their current Classification. If a Helper does not meet these requirements, he/she will face reclassification to a lower level or withdrawal of their Trial Helper Privileges as described below.

ITEM 2 – Revision Accepted

Changed to allow minors to participate in the Helper Program with proper consent.

CHANGED FROM:

Section 13.1: Trial Helper Record Book Prerequisites

To obtain a Trial Helper Record Book, one must meet the following prerequisites.

- A. Be a current Member of USA in good standing.
- B. Be a minimum of 18 years of age.
- C. Complete the Written Examination discussed in Section 10.2, and obtain a passing score.
- D. Complete a Trial Helper Record Book Application Form.
- E. Sign a Helper Release Form stating that the undersigned understands and acknowledges that Trial helperwork, and helperwork in general, may be physically strenuous and dangerous, and that they are in good health and accept all the risks and liabilities with regard to their own safety and health while performing helperwork at an Event. The Helper Release Form is presented in Appendix E.

CHANGED TO:

Section 13.1: Trial Helper Record Book Prerequisites

To obtain a Trial Helper Record Book, one must meet the following prerequisites.

- A. Be a current Member of USA in good standing.
- B. Be a minimum of 18 years of age or have parental or legal guardian consent in the form of a signature in the Helper Book and a signed consent form presented at all USA events.**
- C. Complete the Written Examination discussed in Section 10.2, and obtain a passing score.
- D. Complete a Trial Helper Record Book Application Form.
- E. Sign a Helper Release Form stating that the undersigned understands and acknowledges that Trial helperwork, and helperwork in general, may be physically strenuous and dangerous, and that they are in good health and accept all the risks and liabilities with regard to their own safety and health while performing helperwork at an Event. The Helper Release Form is presented in Appendix E.

ITEM 3 – Revision Accepted

Changed to reflect credit to Teaching Helpers that are participating on the Helper Committee or Helper Events and activities such as Helper Selection at National Events.

CHANGED FROM:

Section 14.2: Maintaining Teaching Helper Classification

- A. Maintain USA Membership.
- B. Attend and participate in a minimum of one (1) Helper College every two (2) years.
- C. Conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times and adhere to the USA Code of Ethics.
- D. Shall not advertise their Teaching Helper Classification for personal or monetary gain.
- E. Shall not hold office or an official designation in a competing German Shepherd Dog organization located in the United States of America.

CHANGED TO:

Section 14.2: Maintaining Teaching Helper Classification

- A. Maintain USA Membership.
- B. Attend and participate in a minimum of one (1) Helper College every four (4) years and / or participate in or on a USA Helper event (i.e., Helper selection for events, member of the Helper Committee).**
- C. Conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times and adhere to the USA Code of Ethics.
- D. Shall not advertise their Teaching Helper Classification for personal or monetary gain.
- E. Shall not hold office or an official designation in a competing German Shepherd Dog organization located in the United States of America.

DELETE THIS TABLE AS IT IS NO LONGER NEEDED:

Initial Teaching Helpers by Region

Region	Teaching Helper Name			
Mid-Central				
Mid-Eastern				
New England				
North-Central				
Northeastern				
Northwestern				
Pacific Northwest				
Rocky Mountains/Great Plains				
South Central				
Southeastern				
Southwestern				

ITEM 4 – Revision Accepted

Revise Section 16 to address Pre-Selection of Helpers for National Events

CHANGED FROM:

SECTION 16: NATIONAL EVENTS

The Selection Process for Helpers at National Events shall be approved by the USA General Board (GB). (USA Policy). Upon approval of the Helper Program by the GB, the Selection Process contained herein will fulfill that requirement. Prior to recommending to the Executive Board that the Selection Process be revised to Pre-Selection of Helpers for National Events, the Evaluation of Helpers as described in Section 10 must occur for a minimum of two (2) years (i.e., 2005 and 2006). This stipulation will provide sufficient time for the identification of Helpers who have attained Regional, National or Teaching Helper Level Classification, and therefore are eligible for Pre-Selection. To accommodate this stipulation, the Selection Process for Helpers at National Events will be different for each year through 2007 as described below. The Selection Process will remain unchanged from that described below until a different Selection Process is approved by the GB.

Section 16.1: Helper Selection Process for 2004 National Events

The Selection Process for 2004 National Events remains as currently approved by the GB. Any Helper who has been issued a Trial Helper Record Book or Old Helper Book and is a current Member of USA in good standing for a period of more than one (1) year is eligible to tryout for Helper at a 2004 National Event. The Helper Selection Criteria and Exercises to be performed during the Tryout are described in Section 16.3.

The selection of the Helpers for 2004 National Events will be performed by the Director of Judges, the Hosting Region’s Regional Director and a Member of the Helper Committee. Should the Director of Judges not be able to fulfill this

obligation, he/she may delegate this responsibility to a person he/she deems capable of performing this role. Should the Hosting Region's Regional Director not be able to fulfill this obligation, the responsibility for this obligation defaults to the Hosting Region's Assistant Regional Director. Should the Hosting Region's Assistant Regional Director not be able to fulfill this obligation, the Hosting Region's Regional Director may delegate this responsibility to a person he/she deems capable of performing this role. Should a Member of the Helper Committee not be able to fulfill this obligation, the Helper Committee may delegate this responsibility to a person they deem capable of performing this role.

Section 16.2: Helper Selection Process for 2005, 2006 and 2007 and Beyond National Events

Section 16.2.1: Helper Eligibility for 2005 and 2006 National Events

Any Helper who: (i) has been issued a Trial Helper Record Book; (ii) is a current Member of USA in good standing for a period of more than one (1) year; (iii) has been Classified in accordance with Sections 10 and 12; and (iv) has not received an Unsatisfactory Rating from a Judge, is eligible to Tryout for a 2005 and/or 2006 National Event.

Section 16.2.2: Helper Eligibility for 2007 and Beyond National Events

All Helpers that: (i) have been issued a Trial Helper Record Book; (ii) are a current Member of USA in good standing for a period of more than one (1) year; (iii) have attained Regional, National or Teaching Helper Level Classification; and (iv) have not received an Unsatisfactory Rating from a Judge, are eligible to Tryout for a 2007 and beyond National Event, unless a Pre-Selection Process has been approved by the GB. Helpers who meet these requirements will be contacted by the Helper Program Director to solicit their participation in Helper Tryouts for 2007 and Beyond National Events. The contact will occur in writing at least two (2) months prior to the Tryout for the Event.

Section 16.2.3: Helper Tryouts for 2005, 2006 and 2007 and Beyond National Events

Helper Tryouts will be held in conjunction with the National Event and one or two days prior to the first day of competition. The Helper Selection Criteria and Exercises to be performed during the Tryouts are described in Section 16.3.

Section 16.2.4: Helper Selection for 2005, 2006 and 2007 and Beyond National Events

The selection of Helpers for 2005, 2006 and 2007 and Beyond National Events will be performed by a minimum of three (3) Members of the Helper Committee. Should the Helper Committee not be able to fulfill this obligation, the Helper Committee may delegate two (2) of the required three (3) positions to people they deem capable of performing this role.

Four (4) Helpers will be selected for each 2005, 2006 and 2007 and Beyond National Event as described in Section 16.3. Announcement of the names of the four (4) Helpers selected will occur no later than one week after the Tryout. The four (4) Helpers will then engage in a Final Tryout on the day preceding the start of the National Event for which they have been selected. The Final Tryout will be used to determine the Helper's assignment as either:

- SchH/VPG 3 Front-Half Helper for the GSD-National Championship, North American Championship or HOT Tournament;
- SchH/VPG 3 Back-Half Helper for the GSD-National Championship, North American Championship or HOT Tournament;
- SchH/VPG 1 or 2 Helper for the HOT Tournament; or
- Alternate.

CHANGED TO:

SECTION 16: NATIONAL EVENTS

The Selection Process for Helpers at National Events shall be approved by the USA General Board (GB). (USA Policy).
Helper selection for National Events will be performed using the Pre-Selection Process described below.

Section 16.1: Helper Pre-Selection

All Helpers that: (i) are a current Member of USA in good standing for a period of more than one (1) year; (ii) have attained Regional, National or Teaching Helper Level Classification; and (iii) have not received an Unsatisfactory Rating from a Judge, are eligible for pre-selection for a National Event. Helpers who meet these requirements will be reviewed by the Helper Committee and contacted to solicit their participation in a forthcoming National Event. The contact will occur at least three (3) months prior to the Event and will also assess the Helper's availability, fitness and desire to work the National Event. Based on the results of this inquiry, the Helper Committee will recommend a slate of Helpers for the Event to the Executive Board for approval. Upon approval by the Executive Board, the Helper Committee will contact and confirm the Pre-Selected Helpers for the Event.

Section 16.2: Helper Final Assignment

Four (4) Helpers will be pre-selected for each Event; however, three (3) Helpers may be pre-selected if the overall entry for the Event is less than 30 dogs. Final assignment (i.e., SchH/VPG 1, 2 or 3, Front-Half, Back-Half or Alternate) of the Helpers will be performed by a minimum of three (3) Members of the Helper Committee during a Helper Tryout at the Event. The Helper Tryout may not be conducted more than two (2) days prior to the Event. Should the Helper Committee not be able to fulfill this obligation, the Helper Committee may delegate two (2) of the required three (3) positions to people they deem capable of performing this role, such as, a USA Teaching Helper, Executive Board Member or USA Judge, excluding the Protection Judge for the Event.

USA PERFORMANCE JUDGES PROGRAM
(Revisions – 2006)

SECTION A.1: The candidate *must* have been a USA member in good standing for a minimum of five (5) years and must maintain that membership throughout his/her judging career in USA.

SECTION A.4: The candidate *must* have knowledge of and have participated in a breed show and/or a *breed* survey.

SECTION B.2: The regional director should acquaint him/herself with the applicant, perform a background check on the applicant, and review a criminal history supplied by the applicant. The regional director will then forward all of the above information along with his/her recommendation, the club's recommendation, and the applicant's résumé to the USA Director of Judges and the Judge's Committee for the applicant's file.

SECTION B.3: The USA Director of Judges *or his/her designee* shall check the résumé and all accompanying material that has been submitted for truth and forthrightness. *This material will then be disseminated by the USA Director of Judges to the USA Judges Committee for final approval and recommendation to the USA Performance Judges Program as an apprentice judge applicant.*

SECTION C.1: The apprentice judge *must* send a written request for permission to apprentice at an event to the *presiding* judge, the *trial secretary* of the *trial* hosting club, and the USA Director of Judges *or his/her designee*. This must be done a minimum of ten (10) days before the event.

SECTION C.2: The apprentice trial report *must* be sent to the presiding judge and the USA Director of Judges no later than ~~thirty (30) days~~ *two (2) weeks* after completion of the event.

SECTION C.3: (Delete) After completion of the apprenticeship (i.e., all copies graded and mailed back), there will be a waiting period of 30 (thirty) days before the next assignment. This should give the apprentice judge the time to study the results and the presiding judge's remarks from the preceding event.

SECTION C.3 (Renumbered): After apprenticing under a USA judge, the apprentice must send two (2) copies of the trial report to the presiding judge *with a self-addressed envelope, an envelope addressed to the USA Director of Judges*, and the required return postage *for each envelope*. The presiding judge will return one (1) copy of the report to the apprentice, with corrections and remarks as *well as a cover letter evaluating the work of the apprentice*, and will send one (1) copy of the same documents to the USA Director of Judges. *In addition, the apprentice will send copies of all presiding judges' cover letters to all members of the USA Judges Committee so they may stay apprised of the apprentice's progress.*

SECTION C.4: After apprenticing under an SV judge, the apprentice must send two (2) copies in English and one (1) copy in German of the trial report to the presiding judge (unless the presiding judge agrees that English only is acceptable) *with a self-addressed envelope, an envelope addressed to the USA Director of Judges*, and the required return postage *for each envelope*. The presiding judge will return one (1) copy of the report to the apprentice, with corrections and remarks, *as well as a cover letter evaluating the work of the apprentice*, and will send one (1) copy of the same documents to the USA Director of Judges. *In addition, the apprentice will send copies of all presiding judges' cover letters to all members of the USA Judges Committee so they may stay apprised of the apprentice's progress. It is the responsibility of the apprentice to have all cover letters and reports translated for the USA Director of Judges and the USA Judges Committee if this has not already done by the presiding judge.*

SECTION C.5: Only after receiving the corrected copy of the previous trial report and an elapsed period of ~~thirty (30) days~~ *two (2) weeks* will the apprentice be able to apprentice at another trial. *Cover letters from all previous trials are required to be sent to the next teaching judge ten (10) days prior to the next apprenticeship assignment and may be sent by U.S. mail or electronic means (i.e., fax or email). However, the apprentice shall bring all of his/her previous work to the trial at which he/she will be apprenticing. Failure to do this will prevent the apprentice from proceeding with the next assignment.*

SECTION C.6: There will be a required minimum of ~~eight (8)~~ *six (6)* apprenticeship trials as follows:

- The first apprenticeship will be under the USA Director of Judges or *his/her* designee.
- ~~Five (5)~~ *Four (4)* apprenticeships *will be* under USA-recognized judges such as USA, SV, *Canadian*, FCI, and all judges from WUSV-*recognized* member countries with approval from the USA Director of Judges.
- ~~One~~ apprenticeship at a national event, (USA German Shepherd Dog World Qualifier, North American Championship or the USA Schutzhund 3 National Championship) where at least 2 (two) complete flights of dogs will be followed throughout the event.
- The last apprenticeship will be under the USA Director of Judges.

SECTION C.9: The apprenticeship will last no longer than three (3) years, and the apprentice must perform at least ~~three (3)~~ **two (2)** apprenticeships per year to remain current in the program.
(Section introduced and revised at the meeting to reduce the number of apprenticeships.)

SECTION C.10: A written final exam will be taken by the apprentice that is administered by ~~the USA Judges Committee or the~~ **USA Director of Judges**, with the questions based on the USA Official Rule Book.

SECTION C.11: After completion of the above-mentioned requirements, the USA Director of Judges and the USA Judges Committee will review all of the apprentice's records and will grant a ~~three (3) year~~ probationary judge license to apprentice judges who have successfully completed their apprenticeship.

SECTION C.12: The initial license will be for a minimum probationary period of three (3) years **or thirty (30) trials, whichever comes first. The probationary judge will also be required to perform one walkthrough at one national event (USA-GSD National Championship, USA North American Championship, AWDF Championship, or USA H.O.T. Championship) and provide a cover letter evaluating the event to the USA Director of Judges and the USA Judges Committee.** At the end of the three (3) year or **thirty (30) trial** probationary period, the USA Director of Judges and the USA Judges Committee will review the probationary judge's work for recommendation to either Board of Directors for his/her permanent USA performance judge license.
(Section revised at the meeting to include "whichever comes first" to the first sentence.)

SECTION D.7: It is absolutely necessary for ~~everyone~~ judges **and apprentices** involved in the USA **Performance** Judges Program to inform the USA Director of Judges of their correct address, telephone number, and all other vital statistics that may be required for insurance purposes. All of this information must remain current throughout their judging career **with USA** and will be updated annually.

SECTION D.11: Judges may judge a maximum of twenty-five (25) trials per year. Endurance tests, BH trials, **seminars**, and obedience and protection tournaments do not count toward this total.

SECTION E.1: Judges should keep expanding their knowledge by attending the USA Judges College **or any other corresponding seminar/workshop.**

SECTION E.2: Judges must remain actively involved in the training **and/or** trialing of dogs in the sport of Schutzhund.
(Section introduced and revised at the meeting to replace "and" with "and/or.")

SECTION F.5: A judge's fee as prescribed by either Board of Directors for trials and seminars, which is currently ~~seventy-five dollars (\$75)~~ **one hundred dollars (\$100)** per day **of judging** and includes one (1) travel day.

SECTION G.1.c: Failure to judge four (4) trials in any one (1) calendar year without sufficient cause will result in suspension by the **USA Director of Judges** until good reason is supplied to the USA Director of Judges and the USA Judges Committee. If good reason is not supplied, the judge in question will be required to perform one (1) apprenticeship with the USA Director of Judges within one (1) year of being placed on suspension in order to reinstate his/her license.

SECTION G.2: Judges may be removed as a result of an Executive Board decision after an impartial hearing. The basis for this action **would be:**

SECTION G.3.b: A judge may request inactive status for personal reasons. **If a judge remains inactive for more than eighteen (18) months, he/she must perform one (1) apprenticeship under the USA Director of Judges or his/her designee to be reinstated as a fully licensed USA Judge.**

SECTION G.4: The retirement age for all judges shall be seventy-five (75) years of age. Upon retirement, judges will receive the title of "Judge Emeritus," become life-long members of USA with suspension of their yearly dues, and receive free admission into any USA-sponsored event (as either spectator or competitor) as gratitude for their years of service. This honor **may** only be bestowed upon judges who are no longer actively judging and have completed **at least** fifteen (15) years of active service.

SECTION H.1: Must have been a licensed **USA** judge for a minimum of five (5) years **and must be a USA teaching judge.**

SECTION I.1: Must ~~have been~~ **be** a licensed judge **and hold a permanent license.** ~~for a minimum of five (5) ~~three (3)~~ years or~~ **must have judged thirty (30) trials and must have been recommended by the USA Director of Judges.**
(Section revised at the meeting to change "have been" to "be," add "and hold a permanent license," and delete remainder of sentence.)

SECTION J.1: Judges may accept no more than one (1) assignment at the national level during the **WUSV/FCI** qualifying series (USA-GSD National Championship, USA North American Championship, AWDF Championship, and USA H.O.T. Championship). **The WUSV/FCI qualifying series will start with the USA-GSD National Championship.**

SECTION J.3: *The USA Director of Judges and the Judges Committee will establish a rotation schedule of qualified judges that will be fair and equitable to all.*

SECTION J.4: *At the end of the year the USA Director of Judges and the Judge's Committee shall provide a list of eligible judges for national events. The list will be available to all hosting clubs.*

SECTION K.3: Must be sponsored by a member of the USA Executive Board *and must provide a written résumé.*

SECTION K/PART 6: Must supply the USA Director of Judges and the USA Judges Committee with a curriculum of their experience in all aspects of Schutzhund, and must keep all of their vital statistics current with the USA Director of Judges *and the USA Office.*

SECTION K.7: Must have trained *and trialed* at least one *German Shepherd Dog* to SchH3 and at least one other dog to SchH1, and must have also acquired an FH.

ADD NEW SECTION L. REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHING JUDGES:

The position of USA teaching judge will be a strictly voluntary opportunity for USA judges who qualify and wish to pursue this position. These judges will serve as mentors to the future USA judge apprentices who enter the USA Performance Judges Program. These judges will come from within the USA Performance Judges Program and will insure the continued development of that program.

1. The applicant for USA teaching judge must have finished his/her probationary period and must have been a licensed USA judge for five (5) years.
2. The applicant must have judged a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) dogs, inclusive of BH, FH, SchH1, SchH2, and SchH3.
3. The applicant must have judged a minimum of one (1) regional and one (1) national championship.
4. The applicant must present an application for the position of USA teaching judge to the USA Judges College with a letter of recommendation from the USA Director of Judges.
5. The USA Judges College shall review the application and voted on acceptance, with a majority vote required for approval.
6. The applicant must be actively training and/or trialing of dogs in the sport of Schutzhund.
7. Final approval for acceptance shall be at the discretion of the USA Director of Judges.

The USA Performance Judges Program was revised with all of the current proposed changes submitted at the USA Judges College held in August 2006. There were 18 out of a possible 22 USA judges and USA apprentice judges at this meeting.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING DELEGATE LIST – 2006

Attachment 4

NUM	EXECUTIVE BOARD	DELEGATE	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
1	President	Lyle Roetemeyer	X	X	X			
2	Vice President	Nathaniel Roque (1st/2nd) – Randall Hoadley (3rd)	X	X	X			
3	Secretary	Sara Wallick	X	X	X			
4	Treasurer	Bill Plumb						
5	Director of Judges	Mark Przybylski	X	X	X			
6	National Breed Warden	Karen MacIntyre (1st/2nd) – Tim Burke (3rd)	X	X	X			
7	Executive Board Member at Large	Al Govednik	X	X	X			
8	Executive Board Member at Large	Mike Hamilton (1st/2nd) – Nathaniel Roque (3rd)	X	X	X			
9	Executive Board Member at Large	Terry Macias	X	X	X			
10	Executive Board Member at Large	Howie Rodriguez	X	X	X			
11	Regional Director (Mid-Central)	Bill Bimrose						
12	Regional Director (New England)	Pia Blackwell	X	X	X			
13	Regional Director (Southwestern)	Uwe Doose–Absent (ARD Michelle Kutelis)	X	X	X			
14	Regional Director (North Central)	Jerrold Gray–Absent (ARD Gordon Esselmann)	X	X	X			
15	Regional Director (South Central)	Randall Hoadley (1st/2nd)	X	X				
16	Regional Director (Southeastern)	Vicki Keller–Absent (ARD Arthur Collins)	X	X	X			
17	Regional Director (Northeastern)	Randy Kromer	X	X	X			
18	Regional Director (Pacific Northwest)	Lynne Lewis	X	X	X			
19	Regional Director (Rocky Mtn/GP)	John Oliver (3:00)	X	X				
20	Regional Director (Northwestern)	Peggy Park	X	X	X			
21	Regional Director (Mid-Eastern)	Mark Scarberry	X	X				
	SUBTOTAL		19	19	16	0	0	0
	MID-CENTRAL REGION							
1	Illinois Schutzhund & Police Dog Club	Cele Danner/Jim Sears/Tami Stephenson						
2	Iowa Hundesport Club	Mike Williams						
3	Machtig Strom Schutzhund Verein	Marcia Govednik/Mike Wood	X	X	X			
4	St. Louis Schutzhund Association	Burt Gorges/Bill Seely	X	X	X			
5	Working Dogs of Central Illinois	Jeff Govednik	X	X	X			
	MID-EASTERN REGION							
1	Belleville Dogsport Association	Abe Chahine						
2	Cedar Hill Working Dog Club	Jeff Lund	X	X	X			
3	Cumberland Valley SchH & Police Club	Debbie Roetemeyer/Amoreena Wynn	X	X	X			
4	Feuerlands Hundesport	Tammy Blackford/Debbie Hartzell/Doug Slagle	X	X				
5	Great Lakes Working Dog Association	Ronnie Weiss/Penny Taylor						
6	Greater Cincinnati Schutzhund Club	Susan Britton/Ryan Wessling						
7	Michiana Working Dog Association	Bob McKown/Jan Abbs/Lilly Mckown						
8	Middle Tennessee Working Dog Association	Krista Wade/David Taylor/Steve Massey						
9	O.G. Buckeye Schutzhund Club	Raye Lynn Ackerman/Michele Scarberry/Jim Ackerman	X	X	X			
10	O.G. Indianapolis Schutzhund und Polizei	Mike Diehl/Nate Harves/Sean O'Kane	X	X				
11	O.G. West Penn Schutzhund Club	James Honda						
12	South Michigan Schutzhund & Police Club	Lisa Clark/Sean Murphy	X	X	X			
	NEW ENGLAND REGION							
1	Empire Working Dog Club	Debbie Zappia	X	X	X			
2	Inner City Schutzhund Club	Tracy Stowers	X	X	X			
3	Interstate Schutzhund Club	Kathleen Rogers	X	X	X			
4	Merrimack Valley Working Dog Club	Ken Murphy/Don Yelle/Ivana Karlsen	X	X	X			
5	O.G. Boston Schutzhund Club	Ann Crystal/Sherri Bushee	X	X				
6	Ocean State Schutzhund Club	David Wood	X	X	X			
7	Southern New Hampshire Working Dog Club	Kandace Jacopino	X	X				
	NORTH CENTRAL REGION							
1	Hauptstadt Schutzhund Verein	Mathew Levin/Karolyn Levin	X	X	X			
2	Indian Creek Schutzhund Club	Jennifer Acevedo/Bill Kulla/Roni Hoff	X	X	X			
3	O.G. Bierstadt Schutzhund Club	Gordon Esselmann/Dorothy Esselmann	X	X	X			
	NORTHEASTERN REGION							
1	Alpha K9 Schutzhund Club	Carlos Rojas		X				
2	Blitzberg Hundesport Club	Pedro Jimenez/Glyn Clayton	X	X				

GENERAL BOARD MEETING DELEGATE LIST – 2006

Attachment 4

3	East Coast Schutzhund & Police Club	T. Floyd/Dana Palumbo (9:15)		X					
4	Greater Baltimore Schutzhund Club	Gordon Campbell	X	X	X				
5	Johann Platt Schutzhund Verein	Terry Spahn							
6	Lehigh Valley Schutzhund & Police Assoc.	Tina Werkheiser							
NORTHWESTERN REGION									
1	Blue Tahoe Schutzhund Club	Tim Burke	X	X					
2	Golden Valley Working Dogs	Diane Vegsund (3:00)	X	X					
3	Menlo Park Schutzhund Club	Erin Sampson							
4	Pacific Coast Working Dog Club	Jonathan Butler	X	X	X				
5	San Jose German Shepherd Dog Club	Terry Macias/Carol Beasley	X	X	X				
6	South County Schutzhund Club	Martin Vollrath/Laurel Carle	X	X	X				
PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION									
1	Cascade Working Dog Association	Hal Lymus/Joyce Westgard	X	X	X				
2	German Shepherd Schutzhund Club	Joyce Westgard	X	X	X				
3	Greater Seattle Working Dog Association	Kurt Meacham/Nia Cottrell							
5	Willamette Valley Schutzhund Club	Nia Cottrell	X	X	X				
ROCKY MTN/GP REGION									
1	Denver Mile High Schutzhund Club	Lori Cruser	X	X					
2	High Plains Schutzhund Club	Ann Marie Chaffin	X	X	X				
3	O.G. Valencia Schutzhund Verein	Scott Zwart	X	X					
4	Rocky Mountain Schutzhund Club	Patty Bartley/Shawn Lytle/Brigitte Lytle	X	X	X				
SOUTH CENTRAL REGION									
1	Buena Vista Working Dog Club	Adrian Ledda/Rita Ledda/Betty Thomas	X	X	X				
2	DFW Working Dogs	Randall Hoadley/Dawn Hoadley/Marylee Grasso		X	X				
3	Greater Houston Schutzhund Club	Dr. Dena McGowan/Charles Ottesen/Sunny Moore	X	X	X				
4	Greater New Orleans Schutzhund Association	Will Jackson							
SOUTHEASTERN REGION									
1	Asheville Schutzhund Club	Gunder England/Richard Daniels/Garrett Ferguson		X	X				
2	Central Alabama Schutzhund Club	Gary Cooper	X	X	X				
3	Chattahoochee Schutzhund Club	Tracy Betenbaugh	X	X	X				
4	Fayetteville Schutzhund Club	Arthur Collins							
5	Georgia-lina Schutzhund Club	Nancy Kille/William McClure/Sherry McFarland	X	X	X				
6	Hundesport Schutzhund Club of Florida	Russell Wall/Ken Simsic							
7	Jefferson/St. Clair Schutzhund Association	Gary Hanrahan/Pam Hanrahan/Lia Jacquin		X					
8	Lake Valley Schutzhund Club	Bernard Stringer/Diane Madigan/Vicki Keller	X	X	X				
9	Mountain Empire Schutzhund Club	Jim Hall		X					
10	O.G. Volmarstein Schutzhund Club	Floyd Wilson/Bobbie Wilson/Julio Rosa, Jr.	X	X	X				
11	South Metro Atlanta Schutzhund Club	Wallace Payne	X	X	X				
SOUTHWESTERN REGION									
1	Anacapa Working Dog Association	Christine Johnson	X	X	X				
2	Aztec Schutzhund Club	Shannon Biszantz							
3	Der Hundesport Performance Club	Bob Gager	X	X	X				
4	Golden State Schutzhund Club	Marie Weller/Lionel Madden	X	X	X				
5	Somis Schutzhund Club	Craig Groh	X	X	X				
6	Southwest Working Dog Association	Roanna Banducci/Michael Stackhouse	X	X	X				
7	Sunland Schutzhund Club	Johannes Grewe	X	X	X				
SUBTOTAL (Club Delegates)			47	53	40	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL			66	72	56	0	0	0	0