

United Schutzhund Clubs of America

Board of Inquiry

Re: Findings of charges against Anjuli Kolarik

Date: September 12, 2018

Charges and Investigation

Charges were filed by Michele Clubb, USCA Secretary, on behalf of the United Schutzhund Clubs of America, alleging that member Anjuli Kolarik had been “convicted of animal abuse and other animal cruelty charges” and that this misconduct was “detrimental to the interests of USCA, the sport and USCA members.”

The documentation provided included printouts from the Franklin County (Ohio) Court Clerk website, an email from USCA member Steven Foss, and a Facebook post from an individual named Kathy Madden who has had dealings with Ms. Kolarik and was involved in her original 2015 court case.

The Board of Inquiry considered the evidence presented. In addition, the Board of Inquiry was provided a detailed written statement by Kathy Madden; a response to the charges by Ms. Kolarik, which included veterinary records; reviewed the Franklin County animal-related court cases and charges dating back to 2012; and also reviewed Ohio legal codes and degree of offense structures.

Conclusions

The following is undisputed:

- In 2012, Ms. Kolarik was found guilty of one count each of “failure to display dog registration tag on collar” (Ohio Code 955.10) and “violating a rabies quarantine order” (Ohio Code 955.39). Both of these charges carry no jail time. All other charges were dismissed.
- In 2015, Ms. Kolarik was found guilty of one count of “prohibitions concerning companion animals being deprived by their custodian/caretaker/person who confines them” (Ohio Code 959.131(C2)). This charge is a second degree misdemeanor that carries up to 90 days in jail. In the case of Ms. Kolarik’s guilty plea jail time was suspended. All other charges were dismissed.
- By her own admission, Ms. Kolarik violated the terms of her probation that required her to “keep/own/reside with no more than 4 dogs,” although the facts and circumstances surrounding the probation violation cannot be confirmed. However, the Franklin County Municipal Courts ended her probation early on January 17, 2018.

Although many of the allegations and charges that have been directed at Ms. Kolarik are shocking, suspicious, and certainly serious many cannot be objectively proven. However, Ms. Kolarik has ultimately been found guilty of an animal neglect related charge that has the potential to carry jail time.

Based on the evidence, the majority of the Board of Inquiry found that the guilty plea to the remaining animal neglect charge, as well as accompanying documentation, constituted behavior that is “detrimental to the interests of USCA, the sport and USCA members.”

Recommendations

As a dog sport organization, USCA animal neglect, abuse, and cruelty cannot be tolerated. The USCA objectives state that we promote “responsible dog ownership.” As such, USCA members are expected to care for their dogs in a manner that does not put their wellbeing at stake. Although Ms. Kolarik claims that the condition that many of her dogs were in was coincidental or not due to neglect on her part, the guilty plea and the documented condition that many of her dogs were found in cannot be ignored.

The Board of Inquiry recommends that Ms. Kolarik face a one-year suspension in membership of USCA. Any membership in USCA after the suspension expires shall require that Ms. Kolarik:

- Not hold or seek any office in USCA for a period of two (2) years after the end of the suspension.
- Hold a permanent probationary status that would allow permanent expulsion from USCA if she is found ever found guilty of an animal related neglect, cruelty, or abuse charge in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justine Kreso', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Justine Kreso
Chair, USCA Board of Inquiry