

**GSDCA-WDA BOARD MEETING**  
**April 16-17, 2010**  
**Philadelphia, PA**

**Official Minutes**

**CALL to ORDER:** 8:15 PM by President Spreitler

**ROLL CALL:**

Officers Present: Spreitler, Petersen, Kirkwood.

Directors Present: Rojas, Henkel, Munsinger, Andrel, Smith, Blomberg, Kalvaitis, Southern, Landau, *ex officio* Walker.

Directors Absent: Barry, Gattone, Osburn, Starr.

Guests Present: Dr. Thomas Mesdag, GSDCA/WDA Liaison, Yulia Matvyeyeva.

Motion to Suspend the Rules. *Passed.* (This formality allows the Board to address Agenda items in a flexible, time-effective manner, rather than following a rigid Agenda order.)

**READING of MINUTES:**

Minutes from the Special Called Meeting regarding the 2010 NASS venue were approved.

Minutes from the January 29-30 Meeting were corrected and approved.

Minutes from the July 10-11, 2009 Meeting were approved.

**REPORTS:**

Written Reports were received from the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Directors Munsinger, Henkel and Andrel, Administrative Policy Committee, Bylaws Committee, Helper Committee, Performance Rules Committee, WDA office and Office Productivity Committee.

Motion: That the Board adopt a new policy requiring all reports to be submitted in writing. Motions arising from a report shall be formally submitted.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Kirkwood). Reports, motions and supporting documents shall be forwarded to the Secretary at least 15 days prior to regularly scheduled Board Meetings. The Secretary shall compile the Agenda and supporting documents for distribution to the Board at least 10 days prior to regularly scheduled Board Meetings.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Munsinger). To appoint an *ad hoc* committee to develop a Breeder Code of Ethics and Registration form for GSDCA-WDA Breeders. Such policy will apply to participation in WDA events and qualify the Breeder to advertise in WDA publications, both print and electronic media.

Vote: *Referred to Performance Rules Committee.*

Motion: (Munsinger). Per WDA Breed Show Rules, to reimburse DeeAnn Noland \$250 for testing of alleged coloring of puppy, December 2009 San Diego, CA show. Test results were negative.

Vote: *passed. Petersen, no. All others, yes.*

Motion: (Munsinger). Resolve to allow Regional Universal Sieger & Siegerin winners to enter the World Universal Sieger Event in 2011.

Discussion: Rules for participating in the 2011 Universal event are not yet formalized. Petersen cites unfairness to OG Carolina Universal entrants.

Vote: *Motion withdrawn.*

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Motion: (Kirkwood). To appoint Cindy Petersen as Chair 2010 NASS.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Smith) To approve the following helpers for the National Schutzhund Championship: Josh Markow, front half; Charles Purdham, back half; Darnaz Sloan, alternate and SchH 1/SchH 2.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: To contract with BeachFleischman to conduct an Audit of GSDCA-WDA 2009 Financial Status, with a maximum cost to WDA of \$6,000 (fee includes filing of WDA 2009 Tax Returns).

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

President Spreitler briefly reviewed the history of the WDA relationship with the GSDCA. Originally, there were no WDA members to serve on the WDA Board. As we look to our future partnership, we need to also remember our past. The suggestion was made to ask Heidi Landau to draft a history of the GSDCA-WDA.

The Board entered Executive Session at 9:10 and adjourned from Executive Session at 9:50.

#### Executive Session Summary:

- Ms. Munsinger was appointed to the Office of Treasurer. She will recommend a replacement for Region 7 Director at the July 2010 meeting.
- Dr. Landau was appointed as the Director of Trials and Judges.
- Ms. Walker will nominate a new General Director to fill Dr. Landau's previous position, subject to ratification at the July Board Meeting.
- A disciplinary matter was concluded.

### **ELECTION of NEW MEMBERS & CLUBS:**

Welcome to all new members and Clubs!

Air Capital Schutzhund Club

Atlanta Schutzhund Verein

Danubius Schutzhund Club

Georgia-Lina Schutzhund Club  
German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta  
Kansas Working Dog Club  
Nanjemoy Renegade Rebels Police Dog & Schutzhund Club  
Northwest Arkansas Working & Police Association  
OG Kansas City  
Oklahoma Working Dog Association.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion: (Petersen). To approve Dr. Wolfgang Lauber as the 2010 NASS Judge for all female classes.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Landau). To approve Carlos Rojas as WUSV Team Captain.

Discussion: Mr. Rojas initially declined to serve, citing his concern for other applicants (who had asked his advice) and his desire to avoid any perceived impropriety owing to his position on the Board. Numerous Board members spoke, strongly, in favor of Mr. Rojas accepting the position. Mr. Rojas agreed to accept.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: That a press pass be requested for Julie Richards-Mostosky to photograph the German Sieger Show in Nuremberg, 2010.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: To recess until 8:00 AM Saturday.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

**SATURDAY 4/17/2010**

**ROLL CALL:**

Officers Present: Spreitler, Petersen, Kirkwood, Munsinger.

Directors Present: Rojas, Henkel, Andrel, Smith, Blomberg, Kalvaitis, Southern, Landau, *ex officio* Walker.

Directors Absent: Barry, Gattone, Osburn, Starr.

A quorum is present.

**CALL to ORDER:** 8:15 AM by President Spreitler.

**Setting of the Agenda:**

New Business: Motion to support the Judges Program educational seminar.  
Executive Session at 4:00 PM.

**REPORTS & NEW BUSINESS:**

**2013 WUSV Championship.** (Walker).

Ms. Walker affirmed the GSDCA commitment for a World Class event and recognized the need for experienced Schutzhund members to help manage the event. The event falls on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the GSDCA founding. The possibilities to showcase the

versatility of the GSD are enormous. Questions arose regarding the level of WDA involvement and the need for a firmly established committee to help guide the event.

Motion: (Spreitler). The WDA shall appoint the entire current GSDCA-WDA Board to the WUSV 2014 Liaison Committee to work with the GSDCA. The Committee term shall expire 12/31/2013.

Discussion: The need for a major international gateway (Washington DC, Atlanta, Chicago, Seattle) was explored.. The WDA will assist in looking at possibilities such as the Georgia Horse Park or the Meadowlands. Noted, it is already late to be considering some of these venues.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

**AKC Title Recognition Program.** (Walker).

Excerpts from the AKC 2/11-12/2010 meeting were distributed, along with AKC instructions, “How to Record a Working Dog Title with AKC” and “Application to Record a Working Dog Title”. Once the AKC receives an application, it will be forwarded to the designated GSDCA Liaison, who will validate the title in conjunction with the WDA office.

**Administrative Policy (ad hoc).** (Kirkwood).

Motion: To make Administrative Policy a standing committee.

Discussion: As a standing committee, the Board will need to re-appoint in 2012. Ms. Walker notes that oversight of a Policy & Procedure Manual is a full time job, one that includes the assignation of policy numbers, a permanent record of changes, red-line versions, validation of correct versions for presentations to the website. Personnel turn-over issues are always inherent.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

**Budget & Finance:** (Petersen)

There is no complete Budget to vote upon because of flexible expenses. The WDA is constrained by both fixed costs (office) and flexible costs (national event income/loss ratio, foreign exchange rate, magazine income/expense ratio, etc.) The Board needs to change the Budgeting process—either in July or a special meeting in October. All ideas need to come to the Board with a self-financing plan in place. The Board cannot rely upon the generosity of donations.

Dr. Landau expressed discomfort that a motion was made to present a budget by the end of February 2010, and the Board still does not have an official document in hand.

Ms. Petersen responded that we have a Budget, but it is a “living thing”.

Ms. Munsinger suggested that a side-by-side analysis might be profitable.

Ms. Petersen noted that the proposed Audit expenses needed to be reflected in the Budget.

Currently 37.5% of our General Operating Expenses are allocated to the Office.

The WDA is challenged to have the courage to “flex everything”.

All National Events need to pay for themselves.

In view of Ms. Munsinger’s new appointment as Treasurer, her position on the Audit Committee must be relinquished.

Dr. Landau is appointed Chair of the Auditing Committee. Dr. Landau requested that Mr. Yee also serve on the Audit Committee. Reporting shall come through the Auditing Committee.

**Bylaws:** (Kirkwood)

**Motion:** To approve staggering of terms for Officers and Directors between even and odd years. (Requires 2/3 majority.)

**Discussion:** How to allocate elected vs. appointed positions? Noted, the staggering of positions is encouraged by Colorado Statutes. Landau, “An eminently sensible thing to do.”

**Vote:** *passed, unanimous.*

**Motion:** That GSDCA-WDA Board Members shall be elected by rotation over even and odd years. The President, and Regions 2, 4, 6, 8 shall be elected in even years. The Vice-President, and Regions 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 shall be elected in odd years. (Requires 2/3 majority.)

**Vote:** *passed, unanimous.*

President Spreitler passed the gavel to the Vice President.

**Motion:** (Spreitler). Bylaws. Article 4 section 2c. Amend the paragraph. “The Secretary shall be elected in accordance with Article V.” (Requires 2/3 majority.)

**Discussion:** Munsinger – How to insure that Board Members are qualified for positions? Our Bylaws do not adequately define job descriptions. There is a need to ensure a sound Board. Spreitler – We need to trust our members to elect the right people. If only a minority are eligible to serve, this is a problem. Southern – There is a need for better defined job descriptions in the Bylaws.

**Vote:** *Passed. Andrel, Blomberg, no; all others, yes.*

**Motion:** (Spreitler). Article IV Section 2e. Strike “All future Training Directors shall be nominated by the President then in office and selected by a simple majority of the President and Regional Directors present and entitled to vote.” Replace with “The National Training Director shall be elected in accordance with Article V.” (Requires 2/3 majority.)

**Discussion:** Munsinger – The Bylaws are clear for description of duties. Do you have to be a Judge? Question regarding international rules? Walker – Responsibility of Board Member is both to the Membership and to the Club. Smith – Argues for consistency with other elected positions.

**Vote:** *passed; Smith, no; Landau abstain; all others, yes.*

**Motion:** (Kirkwood). The Board of Directors shall bring these approved Bylaw changes to a vote by the membership, in accordance with the GSDCA-WDA Bylaws, subject to legal review, on 5/17/2010.

**Vote:** *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Spreitler). Ballots for the above Bylaw Amendments shall be mailed by the Secretary the week of 5/17/2010, to be returned no later than July 1, 2010.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Break – reconvene at 10:25 AM. The gavel returned to the President.

**Helper Committee:** (Smith). The Board needs to streamline policies for certifying Helpers. Current policy allows only for two day Certification Seminars. The committee recommendation is to adopt a point system, similar to that for trials. That is, 3 points for a beginner enrolled in the seminar; 2 points for a person with some experience; 1 point for an experienced person who has already worked trials. A Teaching Helper may instruct a maximum of 12 points in one day.

Motion: To adopt a point value for Helpers participating in Helper Certification Seminars. (3 points for beginning applicants; 2 points for helpers with some practical experience; 1 point for experienced helpers who have already worked trials.)

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: To amend the current Helper Certification rules to allow one day Helper Certification Seminars if 12 points or fewer are expected.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: Helpers who already have National Level status from another organization may obtain a National Level rating with the WDA by: 1) attending a WDA Helper Certification Seminar; 2) fulfilling the standard of National Level competence in the seminar; 3) having previously worked a Regional or National Schutzhund Trial; 4) presenting a documented evaluation of “Very Good” or “Excellent” from a licensed SV Judge.

Discussion: For applicants who meet these criteria, participation in seminars under two Teaching Helpers will no longer be required.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: A helper may attend a WDA Helper Certification Seminar after applying for Membership in WDA. If the Membership has not met the 30 day requirement at the time of the Seminar, the Helper Applicant may still participate and receive a rating according to his/her skill level (without a Helper Book). The Helper Applicant will receive his/her official Helper Book, signed by the Seminar Instructor, only after all Membership requirements have been fulfilled.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: The two motions immediately above shall be retroactive to July 2009.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

The Helper Committee is responsible for incorporating all appropriate language into the relevant Program documents.

**Performance Rules:** (Landau).

Motion: (Landau). Strike duplicate second paragraph from Trial regulations regarding violation of trial rules by a judge.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

The Performance Rules Committee is responsible for updating documents.

Motion: (Southern). To enter a GSDCA-WDA trial, registered German Shepherd Dogs must have:

1. A GSDCA-WDA scorebook; or
2. A scorebook certified by GSDCA-WDA: A WUSV or other FCI recognized club issued scorebook that has been certified by the GSDCA-WDA office; or
3. A WUSV or other FCI recognized club issued scorebook along with:
  - a. Proof of ownership: i.e. Original registration/pedigree documentation (American Kennel Club, Canadian Kennel Club, or other FCI registry).
  - b. An original four generation pedigree. (Three-generation pedigrees for dogs born prior to January 1, 2005, will continue to be accepted).
  - c. Original tattoo or microchip certification (This may be on the foreign pedigree or may be certified on AKC pedigree by the GSDCA-WDA office to avoid providing this as a separate document)

*AKC pedigrees that have been tattoo or microchip certified by USCA will be accepted at all GSDCA-WDA events provided they meet the 3 or 4 generation requirement above.*

For unregistered German Shepherd Dogs, other breeds and mix breeds, scorebooks are available through the GSDCA-WDA Office, or you may use a scorebook from a WUSV or other FCI recognized club.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.* Effective date: 5/17/2010.

Motion: (Landau). To ratify documents as presented and amended by the Performance Rules Committee.

Vote: *passed. Petersen abstain, all others, yes.*

Motion: (Southern). That all trial documents be located on the website for members to download. These forms will be secured and alleviate the need for the office to incur the expense and time of mailing these forms. Forms would also remain available to order from the office. The forms would be available in both fillable PDF Files and MS Excel Protected Files. The website would include instructions that all judges sheets be printed 2-sided; and all forms should be printed or copied with an ink that does not run when wet (not an ink jet printer). Any recent form changes would be noted on the website.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

**National Training Director:** (Rojas). Two WDA National Training Seminars are currently scheduled. 1) June 25-26, 2010 in New Egypt, NJ. Obedience and Protection. Instructors will be Phil Hoelcher and Carlos Rojas. 2) September 18-19, 2010 in

Marshall, MI. Obedience and Protection. Instructors will be Wallace Payne and Carlos Rojas.

**Sponsorship:** (Henkel). Permission was requested to revamp the committee. Conversations with Royal Canin are ongoing, who are being encouraged to work more closely with WDA.

**Junior Helper Program:** The committee will prepare a written program description for the July meeting that details ages, point system to be used and certification requirements.

**NASS 2010:** (Petersen). The Host Hotel will be the Hyatt Dulles, with a room rate of \$89/night and a one time \$30 pet fee if there is a dog in the room. 200 rooms are reserved. There will be no charge for a meeting room and a work room Two alternate hotels are three blocks away (room rates of \$99/night, breakfast included). Ten rooms have also been held at the Comfort Inn (\$70/night). The Host Hotel is 5-10 minutes from Dulles International Airport. The show venue is Lake Fairfax Park in Reston, VA. RV parking is directly adjacent to the show fields. Boy Scouts already scheduled to be camping in another park area will serve as volunteers for the show. A list of food vendors familiar with the Park rules is still under investigation. An indoor facility at Frying Pan Park is reserved with a refundable deposit in the event of extreme weather conditions. Debra Grauert will develop the NASS 2010 website for free, including live coverage and results. Carol Schultz will produce the catalogue at no charge. Trophies are budgeted at \$2,800, to come from the same company as for NASS 2008. There will be 10 trophies per class. Medallions are expected to cost \$800-900. Donations to date total \$20,000. Catalogue ads sold to date amount to \$2,700.

Motion: (Gattone). Only the Show Chair and the Show Secretary may not show dogs at the NASS.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Henkel). Strike the language, “The owner and co-owner must be WDA members...). Restore old language, “either the owner or the co-owner of the dog must be a GSDCA-WDA member in good standing. *Requires 2/3 majority.*

Discussion: A number of people are straddling the membership fence (WDA vs. UScA) in order to promote their dogs.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Petersen). To present a Kennel Group at the NASS, the kennel owner must be a GSDCA-WDA member in good standing.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Kirkwood). Strike from the NASS and Breed Show Rules, “All dogs at or over 12 months of age shall be measured. A check mark shall be placed in the show catalog next to the dog’s entry to indicate that the dog was measured. The measurement, however, shall not be noted.”

Vote: *passed, unanimous.* The Chair’s opposition to the motion is noted.

Motion: (Petersen). No Judge (except trial judges who are otherwise governed by WDA trial rules) may judge in any WDA event if that Judge is a member of the club hosting the event. The Judge is not allowed to evaluate dogs that are shown by a person living in the same household with him.

Motion: (Petersen). No member of the WDA Board of Directors may serve as an officer, delegate or hold any position in the United Schutzhund Clubs of America.

Vote: *withdrawn after discussion.*

Motion: (Henkel). To eliminate the 24+ month Without Title Class from all WDA Conformation Shows.

Vote: *failed; Henkel, yes, all others, no.*

Motion: (Petersen). To accept an Official Show Letter from the WDA Office in lieu of original documents for entry into the 12-18 month and 18-24 month classes at conformation shows, any WDA trials or HGH events.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Munsinger). To appoint an *ad hoc* web site committee.

Discussion: Issues of creativity vs. content, designer vs. programmer were discussed. Since the website is the most public face of the WDA, content is primary. The need for a single point of contact was recommended.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Payne). To consider a plan for funding the National Schutzhund Championship that would allow both the WDA and the Hosting Club to turn a profit, as well as limit financial risks to the WDA.

Vote: *Referred to the Nationals Committee who will bring the proposal before the July meeting.*

Motion: (Petersen). To convert the *ad hoc* HGH Committee to a Standing Committee.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

Motion: (Carolina German Shepherd Working Dog Club). To waive the \$2 fee to the GSDCA-WDA due to the financial hardship incurred during their March event.

Vote: *fails for lack of a second.*

Motion: (Henkel). To allow a dog to be entered into the WDA Nationals SchH 1 or SchH 2 if the Owner is a pending WDA member.

Vote: *passed, unanimous.*

The Board entered Executive Session to discuss Apprentice Judge Applicants.

Motion: (Southern). That all Board members, Judges, Judge Applicants and Teaching Helpers must submit to a criminal background check. No convicted felon may serve in the above listed positions.

Vote: *passed, unanimous. Effective date: 5/17/2010.*

Noted that everyone must sign a waiver for the criminal background check. Ms. Southern will facilitate.

**Office Productivity:** Discussion centered on the current IRS distinction between Independent Contractor and Employee. Does the contractor have a risk of loss? The concern is that Ms. Schultz may no longer meet the definition of an Independent Contractor. The need to realize real savings within the WDA office was noted.

The Board Recessed at 3:30 and reconvened at 4:00 PM

Officers Present: Spreitler, Petersen, Kirkwood, Munsinger.

Directors Present: Andrel, Smith, Henkel, Kalvaitis, Blomberg, Southern

Directors Absent: Rojas, Walker, Gattone, Landau, Starr, Barry, Osburn

Guests Present: Dr. Mesdag, Mr. Yee

The July Meeting is set for July 16-18, 2010 in Portland, Oregon.

The Board entered Executive Session.

Executive Session Summary: A \$400 per issue increase for the magazine designer was approved. A disciplinary matter was concluded.