

Affiliate Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 5, 2014

Bryan, Texas

Present: President Ann DeChant, Secretary Ken Silveira, Treasurer Pete Dolan, Director Rachel Vest, Director Jan Wesen, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Carol Gerken (Treasure Valley ASC), Sherry Butler (TRWASA), Jamie Hansen (Cascade ASC), Dawn Burdick (Cascade ASC), Robbi Norman (ASC of Michigan), Tom Morrare (ASC of Montana), Betty Jaco (Texas)

DeChant called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Business Office

Tom Morrare brought up several concerns he had with the smoothness of operations in the ASCA Business Office. It was discussed that this is likely due to staff turnover and will be figured out in time. There is a lot of moving parts to what goes on in ASCA and issues will lessen as employees become more comfortable in their positions.

DNA Error

Morrare also brought up an apology due to Betty Williams that should have been published in the Aussie Times, which would clarify that there has been nothing wrong with her breeding practices and that the DNA error was on the part of Therion.

Computer System Update

The Board reported that implementation of ASCA's new computer system is moving forward, but a solid timeline is unknown at this time.

Sanctioning Paperwork

Robbi Norman brought up how much paperwork comes in when an Affiliate sanctions a show. She suggested having the paperwork needed by the show chair for the whole weekend available in one packet, instead of with each of the individual shows, which would cut down on the extra or duplicate paperwork sent out. While this is a good idea, it would be difficult due to the way packets are pre-compiled at the Office. Part of the plans for the new computer system include the ability for Affiliates to receive and submit their paperwork electronically, which will cut out extra paperwork all together.

Hacking Rumor

Morrare questioned the Board about a rumor he heard about ASCA's website being hacked and the DNA files being corrupted. This is just a rumor. There has been no corruption of ASCA's DNA records.

Text Entry for Entry Forms Online

Morrare requested that all online entry forms have the option of text entry. This will hopefully be available soon.

Financial Reports

Morrare brought up that there should be a more detailed financial report published in the Aussie Times for the membership to see. Currently there is only mention in the Secretary's Report.

Dolan stated that he would work on something for the membership that will paint a clearer picture of ASCA's finances.

Cost of Finals

The cost of Finals was discussed. Dolan is bringing a motion to the Board to lower entry fees at their next meeting.

The process for Finals reimbursement was discussed. The Host Club pays to put on and they receive entry fees, event membership dues, sponsorships, etc. to cover the cost. Then they take what they spent and what they got and provide a report to the Board requesting reimbursement where there is a difference. The use of sponsorships to cover costs was also discussed.

Judges Presenting Finals Awards

Those present discussed that it would be nice for the Judges to be present to hand out the awards at the Finals reception, but that is sometimes not feasible due to Judges' travel schedules. There can be a statement in the Judges' contract, however, that states they must pose for all pictures or they must hand out awards, etc. and this could be accommodated.

Volunteers

Carol Gerken brought up how difficult it is to get volunteers for course director or show secretary at trials because of the fear of backlash in case something goes wrong at the trial. If there is an issue, too often a member will resort to filing a complaint after the fact instead of just bringing it to the people involved while it is happening. This is an unneeded worry for volunteers. There are deadlines in ASCA's Dispute Rules for how long after an event something can be brought to the Board as a complaint. Anyone acting as an officer of ASCA is protected; the ultimate responsibility comes down on the Affiliate and ASCA.

At 8:44 pm all present approved adjournment of the meeting.