



United States Mondioring Association Board of Directors Meeting

February 21, 2022
Agenda

Call to Order

Officer Reports

President –

Discussion on USMRA budget

Discussion on Decoy Committee budget for 2022 of \$9,000 to hold decoy camps in each region

Vice President –

Treasurer –

Secretary –

Current Active Membership: 269 members as of Sun., Feb. 20, 2022

Current Number of Active Clubs: 23

I'm personally trying to put some time expectations on requests from members. I'm trying to get scorebooks, dog ID cards, trial requests out within 72 hours max. Trying to reply to all emails within 24 hours.

Sarah and I are working on simplifying some tasks where there is a lot of duplicate/triplicate work that isn't necessary as long as we have all information/documentation backed up. A few things on our project list:

- Clubs

Sarah has made it possible for me to quickly and easily view active members in clubs and track their last trials. We can also now easily contact active clubs, clubs who were active in the previous year but haven't renewed, etc.

- Membership

-Sarah has made it simple to sort membership by almost any criteria, pull lists based on those criteria, etc.

-We also removed the secretary needing to assign new members a number, which just slowed down new memberships from being finalized. Now the website assigns new members a number

and new memberships can be finalized much faster. If Sarah or I needs to assign a number for any reason, the website will just pick up sequentially after our update has been made.

-A member had a little glitch around the close of the renewal period, so Sarah had the idea to have a few testers for this year's renewal period to make sure every member can renew with ease

-I would like to ask the membership committee to go back through previous BOD minutes and begin a visual track of membership over the last two years. This way we can see trends and have a keener awareness of where our membership is at and what things affect its growth or decline.

- Trials

-All scores were updated from the last season and we made it in time to get the nationals entry form out on time.

-We will get into deeper discussion about moving away from JotForm and moving trial entry forms to the website to speed up member entries by making them more convenient for members.

-At Brad's suggestion, I added a section to the trial request form confirming that the trial field meets FCI requirements and informing that should the location change after the initial trial confirmation that the BOD needs to be informed.

- Communication

-We have been discussing more auto-reply messages so that members 1) know that their requests through the website have gone through, and 2) getting some information like when they can expect their inquiry to be complete.

-We are working on a way to email directly from the website to simplify things. Right now Sarah has made it easy to pull any lists that we want based on criteria and paste those email addresses into the bcc line of an email

- Member Records

-We are also working on maintaining more member records on the website, like dog ID cards, rabies info, title certificates, etc. This will make it easier for people to update those, print them out when necessary, receive their title certificates quickly after receiving them.

Some of these are items that were previously discussed with the last BOD, but we will be taking actionable steps on all of these this year, and getting help from the Membership Committee or others when needed.

Directors at Large –

Committee Reports

Judge's Committee –

The Education Sub Committee met February 6 with Jos Helsen. The topic was Search and Escort. Jos provided great insight into that exercise. Several potential apprentices joined the meeting as well.

Jos will continue to meet with us on a regular basis.

The Judge's Committee met on February 15. The agenda included an update from each judge on the potential apprentices that they are mentoring through the entry process into program. There are now ten persons being mentored.

In addition, the committee discussed developing a process or guideline for judges to follow when faced with extraordinary circumstances on a trial weekend.

Decoy Committee –

We are currently working out the details for the Decoy Seminar in March. Registration forms went out and we've already had 12 prospective decoys and 1 trial decoy sign up.

We can submit an approximate budget next week.

We're looking to extend certifications one year for all decoys. Will send a formal proposal to the BOD for the next meeting.

Working on finalizing details for the points on the decoy certification.

Membership Committee –

The Membership Committee will have our first meeting of 2022 on February 20th.

We will be discussing our goals for this year. The big goals we have listed thus far include:

- Making policy/rule changes, BOD motions, etc. easier to find for members
- Creating website content for the webmaster: new ideas, photos, resources/other helpful information
- Brainstorming ideas on how to get better support for new clubs hosting a trial, forming a club, Mondioring trial requirements for clubs

Current to dos:

- Logo and dress code

AWDF Update –

Nationals Committee –

The bid for the host of the 2023 national championships went out to clubs on the west coast. Bids will be accepted until March 17, 2022. If no bids are received by that time, the hosting will open to the next region. We hope to share details for 2023 nationals at this year's nationals to make sure members are informed, the hosting club has ample time to plan, and to begin building excitement.

We currently have six entries for this year's nationals (3 level one dogs and 3 level two dogs). The hosting club has been working tirelessly to make sure this championship goes off without a hitch.

FCI Committee –

International Committee –

Election Committee -

BOD Motions Since January Meeting

Jan 28, 2022

Motion by Ann to have Tommy Verschueren as backup for USMRA nationals
Seconded by Anneliese
Motion passes with 5 in favor, 1 absent (Brienne)

Jan 22, 2022

Motion by Anneliese to approve the January meeting minutes
Seconded by Ann
Motion passes with 5 in favor, 1 absent (Brienne)

Feb 2, 2022

Motion by Mahogany to add Jan Elizabeth to international committee
Seconded by Anneliese
Motion passes with 4 in favor, 2 absent (Gene and Brienne)

Feb 9, 2022

Motion by Brienne that the Rocky Mountain Guerrière trial does not meet FCI requirements for a
Mondioring trial
Seconded by Brad
Ann recuses
Motion passes with 5 in favor, 1 abstain (Ann)

February 9, 2022

Motion by Mahogany to approve David Wright as decoy committee chair
Seconded by Ann
Motion passes unanimously

February 10, 2022

Motion by Mahogany to approve the formation of the Evergreen Mondio Club in Seattle, WA
Seconded by Gene
Motion passes with 5 in favor, 1 absent (Brienne)

February 18, 2022

Motion by Ann to approve Anneliese Johnson as membership committee chair
Seconded by Mahogany
Motion passes unanimously

Unfinished Business

New Business

Facebook Business –

How can we utilize the USMRA Facebook page, the non-members only page? What are the guidelines for sharing/promoting seminars on the FB page? Interested in discussing to see how we can better utilize social media platforms for visibility of the sport/organization and also to support clubs who are hosting events that could benefit USMRA members.

Member's Concerns –

Submitted Feb. 18, 2022

I would like the BOD to reverse the decision to void the recent trials in Sedalia for the reasons I stated on the USMRA FB page. I also request the release of the names of the individuals who complained. I suspect they came from a group of individuals who cancelled their own trial for lack of entries and this had little to do with concerns about the rules. At the very least consider allowing the BH scores since they are NOT an FCI title.

I looked over the FCI rules about the competition field and see minimum length and width and max square meters. Nothing about shape and/or minimum square meters and nothing about if the entire field needed to be 60 meters ?? Even if we redefine the field size you can't fairly do it retroactively when the rules were never enforced before and void a trial especially with a perfect Level I scored and the highest rank decoy in the US at the time. This should have been a Judges committee decision. The BOD has one Judge on it and should NOT be overruling an onsite Judges. What was the hurry to vote on this motion ? Shouldn't something this serious have had member input ??? I'd like this included as an additional member concern if possible .

Thomas Barriano

Submitted Feb. 18, 2022

Hi:

I wanted to add to the agenda for the BOD a line item to discuss training of decoys. It's fantastic that USMRA is having a decoy selection in March and offering a training seminar.

I would like to see USMRA hold more training for decoys throughout the year. Many clubs struggle to find their own dedicated training decoys.

I also suggest that USMRA create a drive to raise funds for the decoy clinics. For the upcoming March clinic a GoFundMe or other online fund collection platform could be used to offset the cost of the training weekend for upcoming decoys.

For future clinics USMRA could do merchandise sales such as tshirts, hats, sweatshirts etc to raise funds to subsidize training of new and upcoming decoys.

Thanks for considering my request and happy to volunteer with the effort.

Regards,
Pam Wonson

Announcements

Next Regular BOD Meeting – March 21, 2022 at 6:00 PM Central Time