

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE PORTUGUESE WATER DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
OCTOBER 6, 1999

The 27th annual meeting of the PWDCA, Inc. was called to order by President Karen Arends at 7:26 p.m. CST, on Wednesday, October 6, 1999, at Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan, Wisconsin.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Karen Arends, Vice President Carol Mattingley, Recording Secretary Geri Zuckerman, Treasurer Stuart Freeman, Corresponding Secretary Maralee Johnson, and Directors Andrew Kalmanash, Karen Miller-Stebbins, Linda Otey and Renee Thimann.

QUORUM: A count of the voting members was taken and 148 active members were present, which constituted more than a 10 percent quorum of the active membership of 1,161.

MEETING RULES:

MOTION was made by Jane Harding and **SECOND** by Melinda Harvey to approve the Annual Meeting Rules, as posted at the entrance to the hall and listed on the Meeting Agenda provided to each member. Motion was affirmed.

President Karen Arends noted that the 1998 Annual Meeting Minutes were previously published and that the Board's 1999 Annual Reports are contained in the Annual Report package that each attending member was furnished. (Members not attending the meeting may request a copy of the reports from Recording Secretary, Geri Zuckerman.)

OLD BUSINESS:

SELECTION OF JUDGE FOR 2001 SPECIALTY:

President Karen Arends announced to the membership that the individual selected to judge the 2001 National Specialty, by ballot of the membership, did not meet the judges selection qualifications. The Board has thus directed Alan Strauss, Chair of the Judges Selection Committee, to issue a new ballot to the membership by October 15, 1998. The ballots are to be returned with postmark no later than November 15 in order to be valid.

DISCUSSION:

Martha Schneider demanded a complete revote.

Lou Guthrie commented strongly that not only did this error occur this year, but that errors had occurred in prior years and the vote of the membership was allowed to stand previously.

Ginny Santoli commented that this year a decision was made to allow Mr. Shelton to judge by providing exception to the 3month rule.

Steven Bean asked that consideration be extended ...that the Club consider that Linda Fowler had accepted the assignment to replace another on very short notice last year. He also reminded the assembly that allowance has been made for other judges and that this practice should also be considered for American judges.

MOTION by Steven Bean and **SECOND** by Rebecca Molinari that exception to the rules be made and that the vote of the membership re the judge for the 2001 Specialty be allowed to stand.

DISCUSSION:

Pat Volz requested a verbatim reading of the rules.

President Karen Arends read from the Policy and Procedure Manual, as follows:

NATIONAL SPECIALTY JUDGE SELECTION PROCESS

All national specialty AKC regular conformation judges (beginning in 1996 and thereafter) shall be approved by vote of the membership. The following procedure was adopted by the membership in July 1996:

1. The Breed judge(s) for each PWDCA National Specialty shall be selected by vote of members of the PWDCA in good standing, who have been members for at least one (1) year. (Whenever "members" is used, it shall be defined as herein.)
2. A Judges Selection Committee shall be formed. This Committee shall keep current records of eligible judges, using information published in the AKC Gazette. This Committee shall also prepare all necessary mailings in accordance with these rules.
3. A Judges Tally Committee shall be formed. This Committee shall be comprised of three (3) members of the Club who are not currently breeding or showing Portuguese Water Dogs. These members should live reasonably close to each other to facilitate their ability to meet for the purpose of counting votes. All members shall constitute a quorum. If a member will not be able to attend a specific meeting, a representative may be appointed with the concurrence of all members of the Committee. Representatives shall meet the same criteria as regular members, but in the case of an emergency, need not be a member of the Club.
4. The members will be mailed a list of eligible judges to select from, as described below. Each member must vote for three (3) judges. A ballot with less than three individual names will be invalid.
5. The list of eligible judges will be defined as follows:
 - A. AKC licensed judges, both U.S. and foreign who have been licensed to judge Portuguese Water Dogs for a minimum of three years as published through the December issue of the Gazette of the year prior to the voting.
 - B. Foreign judges, not AKC licensed but recognized by the FCI, may be added to the list by request of any member. This request must be made by November 15 of the year prior to the voting. A foreign judge must meet the three year experience requirement.
6. The Judges Selection Committee will cause a list of eligible judges to be mailed to the members by January 20 of each year.
7. Nominations will be due at the Judges Tally Committee by March 5 of each year.
8. Candidate judges will be ranked according to the number of votes received, and the top approximately ten candidates (actual number will depend upon ties) will be placed on a list for final voting.
9. The National Specialty Committee may nominate up to five additional names, after the first membership round of voting. However, they are not required to make any additional nominations.
10. The combined list of candidate judges will be submitted to the membership for final vote by a mailing not after April 1 of each year. The candidate judge names will be listed in alphabetical order and foreign judges (not AKC licensed) will be indicated with an asterisk. Official ballots will be due at the Judges Tally Committee by May 15 of each year. Voting will be on a "non-weighted" basis, with each member indicating three preferred judges. It will not be necessary to specify any order of preference.
11. Judges will be offered assignments by the National Specialty Committee in order of final voting. If the nominated judge with the highest number of votes should decline, the National Specialty Committee will move down the list making offers to the other judges in successive order. All declinations must be confirmed in writing. If the National Specialty Committee deems it necessary to designate more than one judge, these designations shall be also made in successive order, after the primary judge has been selected.
12. A judge, having judged a PWDCA National Specialty, shall not be eligible to judge another PWDCA National Specialty for three (3) years.
13. A judge shall not judge PWD's at any AKC show held in the United States for at least six (6) months prior to them judging at a national Specialty.
14. Judges selection shall be done for each individual National Specialty. Names shall not be automatically carried over to future years.

15. The National Specialty Committee will choose Obedience, Water Trial, Agility, Junior Handling, Tracking, Sweepstakes and all other judges, consistent with the competition offered.

It is recommended that the following criteria for judge selection, not listed in any order, should be included with all requests for voting:

The proposed judge will not discriminate against a dog correctly presented in either coat type, clip or color; is acknowledged to both know and like our breed; will make awards to owner handlers; is good with puppies; has judged the breed a minimum of three (3) years; if a group judge, has a record of giving group placements to deserving representatives of the breed.

Any member who has been a club member for at least one year at the time that a judging vote proposal comes before the membership shall be allowed to vote even if they were ineligible to vote during part of the voting process.

VOTE on the **MOTION**: Affirmed by 64 members present and voting. Denied by 55 members present and voting. 5 members abstained. Motion is affirmed.

NEW BUSINESS:

JUDGES SELECTION:

Karen Keller noted that the Judges Selection Committee was negligent in their duties.

MOTION by Martha Schneider and **SECOND** by Jane Harding that no further exceptions re judges be made. Affirmed by 67 members present. Denied by 35 members present. 19 members abstaining. Motion is affirmed.

Charles White questioned the procedure to be followed if a judge died. President Arends responded that the 2nd choice of the membership would be used in this situation.

PRESIDENT'S AWARDS:

President Karen Arends presented a brief synopsis of the many ways in which **JODY VAN LOAN** has served our breed and the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, as well as the Offices and Board positions she has held. The membership acknowledged their support of this award with a standing ovation for Jody who could not be present.

President Karen Arends presented a second award to **JOAN BENDURE**. Joan has also served the Club in many official capacities as well as being a generous advisor to many members. She publicly acknowledged the first case of PRA and has worked tirelessly on behalf of health issues. The membership enthusiastically supported this award by standing to honor Joan. Joan thanked the President and the Club for the honor.

President Karen Arends expressed her personal thanks as well as that of the membership to **Claire Dignard** and **Betty Grotophorst** for their efficient and pleasant assistance and coordination during the specialty.

Re Awards to be presented at the banquet, photo opportunities are available on Thursday and Friday with various awards available for use.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS/QUESTIONS:

Re the "Orange Sheet/Georgie Project":

This is a proposed new undertaking. Blood samples from 500 dogs will be utilized. 50 of these will be Addisonian dogs and a comparison made to distinguish different gene patterns. The Georgie Project is NOT a Portuguese Water Dog Club of America entity.

Re the PWD Foundation:

The PWD Foundation is NOT a PWDCA Foundation. It is a separate organization.

Re the Georgie Project:

The Georgie Project is NOT a PWDCA organization. Karen Miller-Stebbing is the Coordinator of the Georgie Project. There is no written agreement between the Georgie Project and the PWDCA, Inc. Blood that is sent to the University of Utah is stored at the lab there. Complete confidentiality exists. Studies are based on "population" rather than specific names.

Re application of new Judges Selection rules:

Brood Bitch and Stud Dog judges will be selected from the list.

Water Trial and other performance judges will be selected by the Host Club.

For the FIRST YEAR ONLY (2000 National Specialty) an exception has been made for the Futurity.

Due to time constraints, the Host Club made the selection. After 2000, the Futurity Judge will be selected by membership vote.

Comments by Director Andrew Kalmanash:

It has been the policy of this Board to develop policy through committee. Therefore it would be more appropriate for questions of this nature to be brought to the Specialty Judges Committee rather than motions from the floor.

Re Futurity for 2001: whether the judge selection for Futurity will be part of regular ballot for judges or by separate ballot. Since 2001 National Specialty Committee has not yet proposed a Futurity for that year's competition, the question can not be answered.

Brenda Butkovich wished the Officers and Board of Directors formally introduced to the membership. Introductions were provided by President Karen Arends.

Stuart Freeman announced that all relevant Treasury Documents were available at the table in the rear of the hall and he would be available to answer questions.

MOTION to Adjourn by Deb Zorn and **SECOND** by Karen Kirby Ash. Affirmed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned by President Karen Arends at 8:19p.m. CST.

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Zuckerman
Recording Secretary
Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.