

High Country Newfoundland Club
Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
Via Telephone conference September 19, 2017

Proof of Notice: Notification of this meeting was sent out by email from the Club Secretary to all the 2016-2017 Members of HCNC on September 2nd, 2017 in accordance with the documents of HCNC.

Present on the call: Matt Sidesinger (Host); Katherine Payne, Lynn Kitch, Claudia Walters, Steve Gunther, Mark O'Connor, Sue Callister and Terri Desnica, Patti Pigeon and Sue Raney and John LeVett.

Matt Sidesinger, President called the meeting to order at 8:04pm and announced the recording of the meeting to begin. The objective of this meeting is the single agenda item to discuss and approve the committee for the July 2018 Water Test. Representing the two proposing committees we had Mark O'Connor, Patti Pigeon and Sue Raney on the call. Matt announced we would have each of the proposing committees go thru a short presentation of the documents provided and why the board should consider their application; then we will have a short discussion and we will have a vote.

Opening up the discussion on the first proposal; Patti Pigeon reviewed items on the budget she submitted and explained why she prepared the budget using a lower entry number since there is no way to know exactly what the outcome will be. She highlighted that the July 2017 water test had a profit of over a thousand dollars. She supported her request to hold the test sharing her years of experience with the club and chairing successful working tests, keeping focused on the dogs first, and that the tests have all resulted in a good test. The proposed committee has both the chairperson of the NCA Working Dog Committee and a water judge as well as herself as a member on the WDC. Sue Raney when given the floor wanted to add that Patti has always gone out of her way to make everyone feel comfortable, and she has a strong history of conflict resolution and that the committee works very well together, closing with her recommendation that Patti be allowed to have the water test. Terri Desnica when given the floor shared that during the years she has been a member of HCNC that Patti has always put on a very good and fair test.

Mark O'Connor reviewed his proposed budget indicating he did have more entries represented but stating that both budgets were comparable with costs and expenses. He supported his request to hold the test with the history of having good entries in the past tests he has chaired. Highlighting that having Kathy Sylvia as secretary, who is hyper-organized is good for him to work with on the committee. He expressed that having good judges and stewards are an important factor which results in increased entries. Regarding Stewards; Mark indicated he wants the very best possible stewards who have experience and especially the skills for the calling stewards for every exercise. He indicates that he prepares early in the season to select his stewards. In closing he stressed that he wants people to have fun at the tests as well as supporting entrants during the test and the social events with the judges and entrants outside of the test.

Mark made a motion to nominate himself as the chair for the July 2018 Water test, Lynn Kitch made the second.

During discussion, Terri Desnica asked for the floor and wanted to express that she felt that Patti's proposal was submitted first and felt it should be considered and that the second committee could chair the September Test. Claudia Walters responded that there should be no priority given based on when the applications are received. Matt Sidesinger thanked Terri for her comments and reiterated that we would not be making any decision concerning the September Water test during this meeting. Steve Gunther requested the floor and asked both proposing committees a couple questions first concerning the Safety Steward as required by the NCA. Patti Pigeon responded that there would be changes forthcoming. Neither committee has finalized a plan for the Safety Steward position at this time. The second question proposed by Steve Gunther was if the committee who is not awarded the July Water test would be interested in chairing the September test. Mark responded first and indicated he did not know. Patti responded that she was unsure.

With no further discussion the motion on the floor was repeated by Mark as:

I wish to nominate myself, Mark O'Connor, to have the 2018 July High Country Water Test; Lynn Kitch made the second.

Matt called for the vote individually as follows:

Steve Gunther – Nay
Katherine Payne – Nay
Lynn Kitch – Yea
Mark O’Connor – Yea
Sue Callister – Yea
Claudia Walters – Yea
Terri Desnica – Nay

With 4 votes approving and 3 votes in opposition, the motion passed for Mark O’Connor to hold the July Water Test. Matt congratulated Mark on the outcome and noted that he felt that both proposed committees would have been appropriate to hold the water test.

Being no further business, Matt adjourned the meeting at 8:31pm and the conference call recording was stopped.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katherine Payne
HCNC Secretary

FINAL - APPROVED