

LV Board Teleconference

January 20, 2015

LV Officers present – President Annetta Cheek, Vice President Carole Patterson, Secretary Debra DeFrank, LRO Lisa Little, OfG Randy Theen, SEKG President Melissa Hepler, West KG President Anne Thomas, and MWKG President Dyan Harper.

The meeting was called to order by Annetta Cheek at 8:34 PM EST.

President's Report – Annetta reported an opportunity for volunteers for the Handbook Committee and for a marketing plan were posted on the website.

Vice President's Report – No report

Secretary's Report – Debra requested approval for the minutes from the November 18, 2014 Board meeting. Anne Thomas moved to approve the minutes, Melissa Hepler seconded. None opposed, the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Annetta reported for Anne – Anne sent out financial information to the Board and since there were no comments, they will be posted on the "Members Only" section of the website. Member numbers are slightly up. Annetta asked everyone if they were OK with accepting James Honda's \$5,000.00 donation for some members going to the BSP. None opposed.

LRO Report – Lisa reported there have been 26-27 trial applications put in for this year and one outside organization has requested a DVG judge. We now have 10 judges as Fred Marashi and Ray Reid retired as of December 31, 2014.

The Judges Meeting in Germany went very well. With the exception of an LRO and an OfG from Bavaria, all LRO and OfG's were in attendance. Lisa stayed with Klaus Jurgen-Gluh and his wife so there were no hotel costs to DVG America. The minutes were in German and English and the meeting was translated for her. Lisa stated that all judges' paperwork to Germany is now electronic. Germany would like it there within 2 weeks along with trial reports. Also discussed was the possibility of a new apprentice judge for LV America. Judges are required to retire at age 70 but the VDH is proposing an extension of 3 years. Volker Sulimma would like the OfG to be a judge. Lisa stated that would not be a good idea, the other OfG's agreed and it was voted down. OfG's can be judges but don't have to be.

We have 7 competitors going to the BSP this year. Melissa Hepler has volunteered to be Team Captain. Guy Ventura II (Essex County Schutzhund Club) will be working the front half, back half helper TBA. The judges have been announced and will be posted on the DVG-America website as well as information on tracking fields and articles.

For the 2015 Nationals, Germany has asked to send 2 judges - if the host club wants to financially support it. They would send one older, experienced judge and one younger judge for more contact with LV America.

There's a group from the Bahamas that would like to join DVG America. After speaking with Klaus and Wolfgang Pahl, there is not a problem as long as they don't already belong to the FCI. Anne Conroy has been dealing with new people in new clubs. Melissa has offered to be a mentor for new clubs.

Lisa reminded everyone of the FH Championship in Florida which is not receiving support from the LV. Klaus mentioned that competitors with a score of 90 or above will automatically be able to start at the FH Championships in Germany the third weekend of October 2015.

There are a lot of new rules that the VDH is proposing. Some for the LRO will be put up on the website. New trial applications are being made in Germany. They will be translated and put up on the website.

Lisa mentioned she would like to get Klaus over here in 2016 as one of the judges at our nationals and hold a judges workshop at the same time.

OfG Report – Randy reported he got all documents from Wayne Kemper and James Akin-Otiko. A lot of Training Director's tests have been completed and we need to order helper books.

Committee Reports

Communications Committee – No report

Handbook Committee – No report.

Training Director/Helper Committee – no report

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Vote on Membership Officer
Annetta mentioned Anne Thomas has resigned as LV Membership Officer. Christine Lietzau has offered to take up this position. Carole moved to appoint Christine Lietzau as Membership Officer. Lisa seconded. None opposed. The motion carried.
2. Filling volunteer positions – Handbook Committee - Dyan and Carole have resigned from this committee. Annetta said she has had some responses for volunteers. Three people are thinking about it, 1 has offered to be on it.
3. Club Trial Fees – Annetta said Anne is going to create a form that will go out to the clubs having trials on what the fees would have been. These will be analyzed and then discussed at the General Membership Meeting. No fees will be collected this year.
4. Birthdates on rosters – There's a concern about having too much information out there. Annetta said this is a requirement from Germany for the fee structure and senior members, but we will not be able to see it in Wild Apricot. If a member is over 70, has been in DVG for 30 years and has received an Honor Pin, they don't have to pay dues.
5. Clarify 2008 Helper Policy – two issues – the KG OfG is allowed to certify to Level 3 and upgrade with a judge present (from the 2008 minutes) and if a host club has to have permission from the KG to host a certification. Randy suggested a phone call between himself and the 4 KG OfG's to present a written policy to be voted on at the February teleconference. Also discussed was how to handle the paperwork – moving it to the LV Secretary or the Membership Officer.
6. LV supporting helper seminars in 2015 – Randy mentioned there has been discussion about the LV supporting 3 helper seminars and inquired about how much money the LV will contribute and how it's going to work. Annetta said the details have not been decided as yet and asked Randy to think about it and make a detailed proposal.
7. Regional Bylaws – Annetta mentioned we have not done the disciplinary section of the LV Bylaws but the regions should be asked to move on with updating regionals bylaws consistent with the new changes to the LV Bylaws.
8. AWDF Trophy Sponsorship – Carole motioned to sponsor a High DVG trophy for DVG members entering the AWDF through DVG America. Deb seconded, none opposed. The motion carried.

Dyan motioned to adjourn, Carole seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 PM EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra DeFrank
LV Secretary