

Minutes of the 2002 National Amateur Delegates Meeting

The annual meeting of the English Springer Spaniel National Amateur Championship was held December 9, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Best Western, Porterville, California.

General Chairman Dave Anderson called the meeting to order. Secretary Patricia Bramwell took the roll call. There were 42 delegates present and 49 clubs had paid their dues.

Motion was made & seconded that 2001 NAC Minutes be approved. Carried.

Motion was made & seconded that the 2001 NAC Treasures report be approved. Jeff Miller questioned why we paid so much money for the bird planters. GC Anderson commented that this is an individual issue, each area that is putting on the trial tries to get the best bird planters possible. The better the bird planters, the less birds used. Secretary Bramwell stated that the planters were reimbursed for travel, motel, meals, etc. The NAC 01 Committee knew this is what they were going to do so they asked for more Sponsor money to compensate. Secretary Bramwell also handed out a revised NAC 01 financial which included monies received to date. She also stated that she also received some more monies for t-shirts that evening. Dean Reinke stated that bottom line is that it doesn't matter what is paid for bird planters or whatever as long as the money is covered. Carried.

GC Anderson welcomed everyone to California. They have good birds and good cover. Hope everyone has a good time.

Motion made & seconded that club dues remain at \$75.00. Seconded. Carried.

GC nor Secretary Bramwell were aware of how the Nominating Committee worked. It was decided that Ed Faraci would take care of getting it taken care of and announce it the following day.

Bob Bertoncini gave his report on next year's NAC. They will be November 15. Location will be 75 miles north of Dayton, Ohio. Hotels have been set up. Motion was made to accept dates and location. Seconded and carried.***

(Secretary Bramwell's note:) At this point in the meeting, evidently there was some talk about Nov 15 being the same date as the Canadian National. She had two tape recorders going and to the best of her knowledge, did not hear anything about this further discussion. The acoustics were bad in this tent, making it very difficult to hear everything that was said.)

Motion was made to keep entry fees at \$125. GC Anderson said this is not adequate. He paid \$125 to enter a dog in 1988. Seconded. Carried.

There was a motion to disregard the last motion about the entry fee motion and approval until we hear from the Finance Committee by Cathy Lewis. Seconded and approved. Al

Defalco said that it costs \$225-250 per dog to run a national. He stated that even though there is money in the treasury, we always run people to death trying to get fund raisers, etc. It is very difficult to take resources which could be used elsewhere to raise money. The principle is – “if you play, you pay.” We’re burning out people to make money that is not covered by the fees. Heather Maxcy stated that she would pay to play but she would like to be able to vote on the monies that are expended, wants to know where the monies are going. (Again, a lot of discussion here that could not be heard because of the acoustics in the tent.)

Cathy Lewis presented the Financial Committee’s report on behalf of Bob Iversen. Basically the committee is going on the same lines as what Jeff Miller and Heather Maxcy have just stated. We need to have a budgeting process that we can live with and go by. What we need is some standard operating expenses, ie the bird planters. Who are we paying? Whose motel rooms are we paying? Whose travel expenses are we paying? As far as number crunching is concerned we tried looking at the past five years. Unfortunately, our history is not available to us. Our first course of action is that we need a standard chart of accounts that we go by year to year. The trial management would submit their budget to either the advisory committee or the parent club well in advance, at least by the February meeting. As a group we need to be talking about what our financial objectives are. We have a substantial amount of monies in our savings account. What do we want to do with it? We have no long range plans. Do we maybe want to buy land at some point? Would we want to put part of that money into research? The “budget” will be more of a guideline than an actual “you can only spend this amount for this”.

Cathy Lewis suggested we appoint a task force or committee (Cathy pointed to several people then specifically said Mhari).

Motion made to continue the financial committee for a few more years in order that we might be able to get the financials in order. Seconded. Carried.

Julie Hogan asked for pre-approval the NAC 04 dates and locations. The Sportsman’s Club delegate (Doug Roberts) made a motion that the NAC 04, chaired by Doug Miller, be held in Prairie County, IL on December 6 (training day). This is southern, IL and is on 18000 acres on State land. Doug guaranteed snow. Seconded. It’s south of McComb by approximately 2 ½ hrs. Dean Reinke guaranteed green grass. Carried.****

Jeff Miller made a comment about where our trials are being held. “Everyone says we’ll be running in these beautiful brome fields. Our springers should be run in the river beds and cattails and the nasty old briars and brambles. Let’s see some cover that will challenge our dogs. We certainly aren’t going to see it this year.” GC Anderson said that is what we would be running in in the next couple of days.

Mhari Peschel talked about changing the way our national judges are selected. As it stands now, the 6 finalists for the Nat’l Open are automatically eliminated from the Nat’l Amateur ballot. Mhari thinks we should rethink this as quite often those top 6 are the ones we want judging our trial. The Open judges know who they are in June. She would

like us to not eliminate all 6, just the 2 that were chosen for the Open. Motion made that we do not exclude all 6 of the top Open judges, only the 2 Open judges for the following year. Mhari's concern is that we're taking qualified judges out of the pool that should be on there. Seconded. Asked for a roll call vote. A yes vote is to change the rules to only eliminate the top 2 from the Open. A no vote is to leave it as it is (remove all 6). There were 20 Yes and 21 No votes and 1 delegate who had already left the meeting. Was not carried.

Heather Maxcy made mention that some of the NAC trophies are in bad need of repair. Julie Hogan said that the Parent Club would pay to have them repaired.

2003 judges were announced. – Marty Knibbs and John Leininger.

Tony Zablit, Field Trail Chairman, gave updates for the trial.

A motion was made to adjourn. Seconded & carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Bramwell
Field Trial Secretary

*** Since the above was written, there has been a delegate vote to change the 2003 NAC from November 15 to November 22 so the NAC and Canadian National would not be on the same dates. On January 10, 2003, Secretary Bramwell sent out emails and/or regular mail ballots to the delegates present at the meeting. She also sent out ballots to clubs that had paid their dues but did not have a delegate at the meeting. The deadline for ballot return was January 21, 2003. At that point Secretary Bramwell tallied up the votes. It was decided that the 2003 NAC would change their dates to November 22, 2003. Secretary Bramwell then sent notice via email to the Hunt-R list & many privately. pb

*** Since the last note was written, it has been brought to my attention that the 2004 NAC will be in Perry County, IL, not Prairie County, IL. pb