

MINUTES OF THE ALSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OCTOBER 14, 2003

Present

Dick Sheehan, President
Dwayne Flinn, Vice President
Jeff Jones, Treasurer
Carolyn Myers, Secretary
Carolann Evans, Director
Sandy Wickham, Director
Niki Kuklenski, Director
Cheryl Ryberg, Executive Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Motion made by Jeff Jones to approve the September minutes as written.
Seconded by Sandy Wickham. Following a vote, the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Investment Account	\$ 54,020.18
Checking Account	\$ 36,680.81
Scholarship Account	\$ 9,638.49*

*Scholarship paid out this month for Jessica Rothering

Regionals have received their premium monies and three regions have returned their entry monies.

The entry money from the fleece show has not yet been returned to the office.

The Rocky Mountain Regional spent \$13,033.98 and collected \$11,320, resulting in a loss of \$1710. These figures are subject to verification when the superintendent's income/expense report is received.

Grand National has received a total of \$18,000 to date.

Executive Secretary's Report

No report.

Old Business

A. Communications

- 1. Susan Ravan's letter regarding obstacle cart driving at regionals and nationals was referred to the performance, regional and national committees.**
- 2. Marilyn Nenni's letter regarding suggested changes to age breakout for youth divisions was referred to the youth committee.**
- 3. Correspondence from Phyllis Wycoff, Debbie Shellabarger, Hank Kauffman and Tami Lash regarding the ALSA fee increase were referred to the web site for an explanation. In addition, an explanation will be included in the mailing for membership renewals for 2004.**
- 4. Tami Lash's inquiry regarding Adult Showmanship not being included in the Regionals or Nationals. This will happen in 2004, the first full year the new class will be in the handbook.**
- 5. Donley Gardner's letter regarding qualification for regionals and nationals was referred to the regional and national committees.**
- 6. Susan Tellez's e-mail to an individual board member was not considered an official correspondence to the board.**
- 7. Correspondence from Virginia Christenson, Linda Rogers, Wendy Cummins, Deb Garvin, Debby Ullrich and Nelson Leonard regarding the suri class were considered by the board before making a decision. President Sheehan will send letters to each of the above.**
- 8. Petition from Joanne Pottebaum was turned down and she was contacted by Cheryl Ryberg**
- 9. Karen Fenker's petition was approved by the board.**

B. ALSA Budget

President Sheehan will post an explanation of the new fee

structure on the web site and will include information gathered by Cheryl Ryberg from the records. Fee increases for youth and judges dues were not included in the September motions. Motion made by Jeff Jones, seconded by Carolann Evans, to raise youth membership to \$25 and judges dues to \$50. Following a vote, the motion passed.

C. ILR Certificates

ILR has agreed to put ALSA information on the ILR certificates. Cheryl Ryberg will contact Jan Wassink, ILR Registrar, regarding transfer and verification of points.

New Business

A. Face to Face Meeting at Nationals

Meeting will be held at Nationals, beginning at 8a.m. on Thursday, November 6th, and is scheduled for the entire day.

B. Showring

Dwayne Flinn will present Gayle Woodsum's contract proposal to serve as editor of Showring at the face-to-face meeting in Lincoln, November 6th.

C. Financials for all regionals

Dwayne Flinn will gather all financial information from each region and present to the board at the meeting in Lincoln, November 6th.

D. Suri Class

Motion made by Carolann Evans, seconded by Carolyn Myers, to begin a suri class in 2004. Based upon recommendations received from the Suri Committee, Judges Committee and members, it will be a separate halter class and judging will be based on conformation as outlined in the handbook for other wool division halter classes. The guidelines will be presented at the open meeting at Nationals. Following a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Alpaca Committee

ALSA national Alpaca show will be held the weekend of October 18th.

Education Committee

Will send information regarding youth judging

Ethics Committee

No report

Fiber Committee

**37 fleeces were entered at the regional show
\$1000 was raised for sponsorship**

Grand National Committee

Nationals are on schedule

Handbook Committee

Gayle Woodsum reports that the handbook changes are at the printer and have been sent to the ALSA office.

Judges Committee

- A. Carol Hicks has requested recertification as a Level III judge via continuing education credits. The committee reviewed the request and found that she had accumulated sufficient points for recertification. There are no adverse comments in her file, and she has adequately addressed an issue of show cancellations with the committee. Therefore, Mrs. Hicks meets the criteria for recertification.**

- B. With respect to the complaint of a standing rule violation by Susan Tellez, the committee makes the following recommendation: After discussion**

with Ms. Tellez, who adamantly defends her position with regard to an ILR ruling and has instituted an appeal of such ruling, the committee feels it would be premature and imprudent to take any punitive action until such time as the appeal has been concluded. Although the board discussed that the ILR does not have an appeal process, the board agreed with the judges committee recommendation.

- C. With respect to the complaint of standing rules violations by Penny Davidson, Tami Lash and Toni Knie, the committee find that this complaint is totally without merit. The show was delayed due to severe weather. Torrential downpours forced the show superintendent (Penny Davidson) to find a protected venue for what was to have been an outdoor show. As to a mother caring for her baby, this is a situation that does not bear comment. Both the judge (Toni Knie) and the exhibitor (Tami Lash) deny any inappropriate contact between judge and exhibitor before the show. The complaint relative to the performance course was simply a situation of a judge giving an exhibitor the opportunity to allow an animal to leave the course with a positive experience rather than a negative one. The obstacle had already been scored and the additional "attempt" had no effect on the score or final placement.**
- D. The Suri Division. The committee continues to recommend that ALSA institute a Suri Llama Division effective with the 2004 show season. The division would be judged before light, medium and heavy wool divisions. Animals would be placed in the division based upon "type," with heavy emphasis on fleece characteristics. For at least the first year this division would be judged on "a comparative basis, using the lists of positive and negative traits and list of serious faults." The judging would be based on "soundness and conformation." The committee further proposes that, as early as is practical in 2004, a facilitated judges' conference be held to address, among other issues, additions to the Suri Llama judging criteria, including fleece.**

This conference would also include appropriate industry representatives, e.g., representatives of the ALSA Board of Directors, the Suri Committee, the Suri Llama Association, the International Llama Registry, etc.

For 2004 the committee proposes the following as a working definition of a Suri Llama for the purposes of determining class eligibility:

Suri llamas have a naturally balanced athletic body type, which may appear more narrow than llamas of other fiber types when viewed from the front or rear aspect. The fleece of a suri llama hangs and drapes over the llama's body, usually forming a natural part along the spine. The fibers are grouped into a very distinctive and well-defined lock structure, which is indicated by the many individual separate locks of fiber formed near the skin and carrying out to the ends of each lock. The fleece should be lustrous, the locks consistent in size, and the degree of wave or spiral consistent throughout.

Motion made by Carolann Evans, seconded by Dwayne Flinn, to adopt the Judges Committee's recommendations. Following a vote, the motion passed.

Membership Committee

The committee made a proposal to send a letter to members that have not renewed. In addition, the committee made a proposal to send a letter to welcome new members.

Nominating Committee

No report

Performance Committee

Jeff Jones made a motion, seconded by Dwayne Flinn, that Wally Baker be accepted as the new chairperson of the Performance Committee. Following a vote, the motion passed.

Planning & Policy Committee

The committee is working on removing ambiguities in the wording of the standing rules.

Protest Committee

Two protests are currently being investigated.

Publications Committee

A contract will be discussed at Nationals at the face to face meeting.

Regionals Committee

The regionals are currently underway across the country.

Youth Committee

Scholarship participants have been chosen by the board and will be announced at Nationals. Niki Kuklenski has contacted all applicants via phone and e-mail to let them know the outcome of the awards.

Suri Group

President Sheehan will discuss with the group what the board has decided with regard to a suri class.

Motion made by Jeff Jones, seconded by Sandy Wickham, to adjourn. Following a vote, the motion passed.

THE NEXT BOARD MEEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 6th AT 8:00 O'CLOCK A.M., IN LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

**Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Myers, Secretary**