



**ESAA Board of Directors  
Teleconference  
March 10, 2020**

**In attendance:** Colleen Bell, Julie Brimble, Lynda Chase, Kathy Cunningham-Roy, Jane Danek, Tony DiSiena, John Fabelo, Jane Flynn, Judi Hunter, Sandy Miller, Mary Nowak, Anna Quigley, Julie Quirk, Coleen Raber, Lori Whorff.

**WGS delay in judging**

Kathy went over the situation that occurred at the Winter Garden Specialties regarding the halting of judging of Irish Setters Friday morning and English Setters Friday afternoon to accommodate the judging of best of breed in the opposite breed ring. Kathy, as president of WGS, knew nothing about what was happening. Gail Ryan, who was show chair for ESCNE, also knew nothing about what was going on. The AKC rep spoke to the judges but never consulted the ESCNE show chair. Kathy has been trying to find out what lead to delay the judging.

The ripple effect also impacted the dachshund club by delaying their judging by an hour and a half Friday evening.

The English Setter show chairs will be sure language is placed in the English Setter premium list that ES judging in 2021 will not be delayed.

Hopefully the WGS Board will discuss this issue to be sure this does not happen again in the future to any of the member clubs. It was also suggested that the AKC rep who made this decision without consulting the ES show chair needs to hear our concerns. We feel the AKC rep owes us an explanation as to why this occurred and who requested it.

The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Cunningham-Roy at 8:27 pm EST to discuss the National Field Trial.

**National Field Trial**

Kathy reviewed the background for the National Field Trial from when Melissa Newman started it, to the NFT Committee of 2014 – 2015, and the following fall-out.

Kathy also reminded the Board that one of the reasons Frank Luksa was named to head the Field Events committee was that he would be a great individual to get the National Field Trial going again.

Kathy summarized her conversations with Frank regarding the possible dates for a NFT and accommodations being made to avoid conflicts with members who might be coming in from the west coast.

- ✿ The weekend prior to the NFT is a walking field trial held by the Hudson English Setter Club at the same site.
- ✿ Monday would be a day of rest which would allow for west coast members to travel to New Jersey to the event site at the English Setter Club of America's grounds in Medford, NJ.

- ✿ We hope that this might eventually turn into a rotating event to accommodate members in different parts of the country.
- ✿ This year the trial must be a horseback trial. However, ESAA might be able to petition AKC in the future to request a walking trial, once we have reinstated the mounted trial.
- ✿ It was brought up that ESAA had an approved field logo of which Frank will be made aware.
- ✿ The budget was questioned as perhaps being overly optimistic, but those who have attended the field events in association with the National the last few years have noticed that the participants are very dedicated and really do a great job in taking out ads and supporting the trophies and raffle.
- ✿ The NFT committee will be asked to review their budget again to be sure it is realistic.
- ✿ We would like Frank to join us for a future conference call to update us and answer some of our questions.

Lynda Chase made a motion, seconded by Sandy Miller, to give the committee permission to move forward with the National Field Trial, submitting a more realistic/updated budget, and using the Board approved NFT logo.

This event is not the same as the field events that typically are held in conjunction with our ESAA National. That decision needs to be made by the local show committee of that year's National depending on weather conditions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 EDT on a Raber/Quigley motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Coleen M. Raber*

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ESAA Secretary