



CANINE COMMITTEE

Colorado Springs, Co

May 28, 2008

In Attendance: Kris Lesperance, Mike Weiderhold, Tim Hanavan, Robin Habeger, Janet Yatchak, and Melissa Furash.

Excused: Annette Gaston

Not in Attendance: Michael Wolff , Mara Booth-Miller

Guest: Dana Ray

Item 1: Communications internal and external to the committee

It is decided that Robin will assume the communications duties for the committee which will include but not be limited to:

- Work to assist Mike with email and phone communications with the NASAR leadership including the executive and the board.
- Work to assist Mike with internal communications within the committee.
- Work with NASAR leadership to properly convey needed information via the website
- Resume publishing the SAR Dog Alert. Tim has agreed to assist Robin with this.

It is decided the Kris will assist Mike with the content of all public statements, letters and other written communications that will be published or widely distributed.

Item 2: Certifications Review

All NASAR Canine certifications need to be reviewed and revised accordingly as part of the two-year review process.

It is decided that Janet will chair and be the single conduit for the review of all certifications. The following certifications sets will be reviewed by subcommittees assembled and led by the following Canine Committee members:

- Disaster/CanDaster – Kris Lesperance
- Water – Tim Hanavan
- Cadaver – Mike Weiderhold (with Robin)
- Avalanche – Janet Yacheck
- Area – Robin Habeger (with Tim Hanavan)
- Trailing – Janet Yacheck
- PAM Integration – Melissa Furash

Item 3: NASAR Conference 2009

A sub-committee of Janet, Annette, and Melissa will oversee the Canine Track for the 2009 NASAR conference in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Pre-conference

Pre-conference next year will be a Disaster Track with Teresa MacPherson as the lead instructor. The pre-conference will be limited to 15 active dogs. Auditing standards have yet to be decided.



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Conference

It is decided that Thursday will have lectures that may include canine unit building and/or working with law enforcement agencies, operant conditioning lectures, or trailing lectures. Friday will focus on HRD methodology including imprinting and problem solving. Activities and lectures are to be decided. Saturday will focus on trailing. There was some discussion of bringing Robert from the Border Patrol back for that purpose. Activities and lectures are to be decided.

Canine Rules

It is decided that all dogs attending the conference must have a CGC certification. It is recommended that a copy of the certification be mailed with registration by the attendee PRIOR to arriving at the convention site.

Item 4: Evaluator Program

It is decided that the Committee will focus on one area of the nation each year to increase the number of evaluators and lead evaluators. Tim has agreed to assemble and chair this subcommittee, and will provide the committee with more specifics once the Board rules on the evaluator reimbursement program. The end goal is to increase the number of evaluators to eight and lead evaluators to four in those areas.

Item 5: Conference Calls

It is agreed that the committee will meet via conference calls monthly. Robin, as communications person, has agreed to coordinate this.

Item 6: Study Guide For Disaster

It is agreed that Kris will develop a study guide for the disaster written test.

Respectfully submitted by Tim Hanavan on 6/2/08