

NOVA SCOTIA DUCK TOLLING RETRIEVER CLUB OF CANADA

Minutes 2nd Quarter, May 4, 2011 – July 8, 2011

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1. CALL TO ORDER – Krista, Bonnie, Andrea, Alison, Mairon, Vicki, Shelly, Mary, Gary, Stephanie

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (w/6.8 amended motion)

For: Shelly, Alison, Krista, Stephanie, Mairon, Mary, Andrea, Bonnie

Against: None

No Vote: Gary

**AGENDA PASSED** w/amendment

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

For: Shelly, Alison, Krista, Stephanie, Mairon, Mary, Andrea, Bonnie

Against: None

No Vote: Gary

**MINUTES PASSED**

4. EXECUTIVE & ELECTED OFFICERS

4.1. President (K. Wendland)

I, as well as Alison, received a document from Claire Wade regarding an analysis of spinal injuries in tollers for our review. I will upload the file to the Yahoo file section, as well it would be fair to include this in a future issue of Toller Talk for membership review. This may be a topic to include if a future Toller health survey gets off the ground.

Videographer update will be included in agenda item 5.5

4.2. Vice-President (A. Strang)

Much time has been taken up with the crossbreeding issue, which will be discussed further on during this meeting. A duty of VP is to ensure that all perpetual trophies arrive safely in time for a National Specialty. Stephanie Halse and Mairon Bennett have been of invaluable help, Mairon driving to pick up trophies from the past secretary and ensuring that they are sent off to Cheryl Tomayer. Stephanie has made the financial arrangements for all this. I am more than grateful to both of them for their work in this matter. I am about to send out a second notice to other trophy holders from the 2009 Specialty reminding them of the necessity of getting their trophies, suitably engraved, to Calgary in good time.

#### 4.3. Treasurer (S. Halse)

We have \$47,079.87 in the bank at today's date. I have some membership money to be deposited this week and a couple of bills to pay. I hope to have the 1/4 up by the end of the week or early next week. I've found something coded incorrectly and have to pull the old files to sort it out. I have closed the epilepsy account and transferred it to the Health and Genetics account. We don't get too many donations for it and I didn't want to waste the monthly service fee

#### 4.4. Secretary (S. Campbell)

We have had three breeder inquiries of interested future toller owners, two requests for updated information on previous breeder members, one inquiry about NSDTRCC membership, one breeder complaint, one rescue request, some questions regarding the Junior Scholarship, two essays entered, which will be discussed later, a 'toller health issue' letter from Czechoslovakia and two event notices. All inquiries have been answered, so far with no other requests or problems. I forwarded the European 'health concern' letter on to Alison, with her permission.

The event notices are regarding a toller-walk on North Vancouver Island and the LMDF club wondering about any interest in hosting Boosters or Supported Entries, Regionals etc. Also wondering if 'we' are interested in the 'Meet The Breed' area. If anyone is interested in this information for BC Booster etc - I can forward scanned copies on to you. I am not sure if the timeline is missed as this was received after the last meeting.

Referendum notices of 'No Amendment to the present motion' were emailed out and to the best of my knowledge have been received by ALL eligible members. Anything that was returned, I dug around for more current information and I believe the last were reached with two phone call messages and one 'request' to forward through a friend. The next step in finalizing the referendum will also be discussed shortly.

#### 4.5. Membership Director (A. Mills)

We have 275 individual/family memberships so far. There are approximately 45 members who have not renewed yet. I have sent out reminders messages to them but I have not heard back. We also have 11 new members who have joined in the last few months. Most people use personal cheques to apply or renew but credit cards are used frequently so this service is beneficial. The rush to renew is over and anyone who joins at this time will not be in the Roster.

#### 4.6. Editor (V. Mierins)

No Report

#### 4.7. REGIONAL DIRECTORS

#### 4.7.1.BC (Vacant) – No Report

#### 4.7.2.Prairies (B. Glines)

The National Specialty planning is well underway and the event promises to be a great success. The National club is sponsoring the videographer and pre-orders will commence when the show entries close, at a cost of approx. \$90 each for a 3 disk set. We will get 2 free copies each, one to our historian and one to the show chair. You can see a sample of his work at: <http://www.showdogvideopros.com/Tollers.html> The cost to us for this service is 4 nights accommodation and I will work directly with him at the show.

#### 4.7.3.Ontario (M. Bennett)

There were two Boosters at the recent Victoria County Show in Lindsay. They were organized by Sue Hill, Northern Director of the Ontario Toller Club. The prizes for one Booster were donated by the Ontario Toller Club and Sue donated the prizes for the second Booster. Michelle Evans has organized a Booster and a Conformation Sanction match next weekend at the Forest City show.

As Ontario Director I was responsible for picking up the BISS Colwell trophy and the two new trophies, the Shilo and the Driver, from Terri Newey. I had to ensure that these trophies were safely packed up and shipped from Toronto to Calgary. Thanks to the ongoing help of Stephanie Halse and Cheryl Tomayer, I was able to see the trophies safely off this week. They are now en route to Cheryl in Calgary and I am very eager to hear that they have arrived safe and sound!!!

Lynda Hixson has booked a day at Carny's K9 Swim Pool for some swimming and dockdiving. She has booked the pool on May 21st from noon to 4pm. If anyone wants to come and join Lynda, Woody and the Woodlets in some wet fun they would be happy to see you. Lynda would be happy to help anyone introduce their pups to the the sport. The pool is heated and sits on five acres in Brantford.

#### 4.7.4.Quebec (G. Thomas)

I have no report from Quebec except that there is a wave of ORANGE that has swept across our province, alas, they are not Tollers.

#### 4.7.5.Atlantic (M. Price)

We were successful in filling the position of Toller Rescue for the Maritimes and I would like to welcome Nancy Gallop of St. John, NB to this position. It had been vacant for some time and it is a relief that we finally have a person to represent our Toller community in matters of rescue.

Thanks to Jim Jeffery we have a trophy to replace the BISS Coldwell Trophy with the new HAP Smith Memorial Trophy being kindly donated by the great grandson Stephen Moulds of California. The design is still in its early stage but it may be along the lines of the Stanley Cup to make it easier to add sections to the bottom for each new award. The objective is to have the

trophy ready for the 2013 Specialty. We will know more once the design is complete and presented to the executive.

Also, the Maritime group has formed a committee to hopefully host the next National Toller Specialty in Halifax or Fredericton in 2013. A working committee has been formed and the details will be laid out at the AGM in Calgary in July. Hopefully, we will have the full support of the Toller community. In addition, all the trophies at the end of Calgary 2011 will be moved to their new home at the Dartmouth Museum along with the Toller Archives, to await the 2013 Specialty, in our new exhibition space.

4.7.6. Yukon/NWT (Vacant) – No Report

#### 4.8. APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

4.8.1. Webmaster (D. Unger) – No Report

4.8.2. Health & Genetics (B. Brua) / Hip & Eye (S. Fee) / On-Line Database Operator (C. Calado) – No Report

4.8.3. Club Historian (ME Kelm) – No Report

4.8.4. Western Canada Rescue Co-ordinator (K. Machin) – No Report

4.8.5. MB, ON, PQ Rescue Co-ordinator (I. MacCausland) – No Report

4.8.6. Eastern Rescue Co-ordinator (Nancy)

I have only been involved with Tollers for a very short time. Although I have known about Tollers for quite some time as my sister Dawn is a breeder in Ottawa. Our first Toller, Little River Brooke - Slye - was a rescued Toller in the sense that her owner's situation had changed and he needed to find her a new home. We had her for about 7 years before she succumbed to renal failure.

She was an interesting dog as she could never be let loose in the house as she didn't quite know how to behave. The experience of sorting out her "issues" was a learning adventure for my family.

We were quick to replace Slye and found our next Toller, Yellowrose's Takelma - Dash - within a very short time. By September of the same year we welcomed Dragonluck's Rite as Rain - Rain - into our home.

Being very busy with my career in the military we have not been able to do much more than obedience classes and play fetch or keep away depending on their mood on a regular basis. The travel in my job has settled down now I would still like to be involved with Rally O or Agility.

My interest in Toller Rescue comes from the wonderful time we spent with Slye. I don't like to think where she might have ended up had she not found us.

#### 4.8.7. Merchandise (Vacant)

### 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### 5.1. Cross-Breeding & CKC (A. Strang)

Update: The issue of whether to allow crossbreeding of Tollers in Germany has now been settled by VDH, the German Kennel Club, in that they have decided to allow it to go ahead but have set fairly stringent rules to follow. VDH has also been in contact with CKC asking that CKC will sanction such a thing. I have contacted all members of the Board and from what I hear the Board will never agree to such sanction.

Alison has asked Eric Johnson to extrapolate some statistics from Toller-L to present to the Board at its June meeting on behalf of the NSDTR Club of Canada, and have the promise of the Director for Southwest British Columbia to help with this. Also, just received a brand new paper from Claire Wade, a Toller owner as well as a highly respected geneticist who is currently in Australia and asking Danika Bannasch if she can submit something as well.

#### **NO MOTIONS**

#### 5.2. Referendum/Ballot Implementation (S. Campbell)

**5.2.1 MOTION:** WE, THE NSCTRCC ARE IN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE THE RETURN POSTAGE FOR OUR REGIONAL REPRESENTATION BALLOTS FOR CANADIAN MEMBERS (Shelly)

For: Shelly, Bonnie, Gary, Stephanie, Alison, Krista, Mary, Mairon, Andrea

Against: None

#### **MOTION PASSED**

**5.2.2 MOTION:** WE, THE NSDTRCC EXECUTIVE, ACCEPT THE FINAL DRAFT OF BALLOT1, AS POSTED IN OUR FILES SECTION, TO BE USED AS THE BALLOT FOR THE REGIONAL REPRESENTATION REFERENDUM

For: Shelly, Bonnie, Gary, Stephanie, Alison, Krista, Mary, Mairon, Andrea

Against: None

#### **MOTION PASSED**

#### 5.3. Status of ROM (M. Bennett)

There are some concerned members in regards to the status/implementation of the ROM (X) awards and certificates. After discussion, we felt that an administrative change may be necessary. We thank Dawn O'Leary for her temporarily taking on the position while also acting as administrator of the Dobirstein. Bonnie Glines offered her services as the new ROM(X) administrator.

**MOTION:** We, the executive, accept Bonnie Gline's offer as ROM coordinator effective immediately. (Krista)

For: Krista, Mary, Mairon, Shelly, Stephanie, Alison, Andrea

Against: None / No Vote: Gary / Abstain: Bonnie

**MOTION PASSED**

#### 5.4. Update of Junior Scholarship Entries (S. Campbell)

**MOTION:** That the NSDTR Club of Canada Scholarship requirements will be:

1. The applicant is or was a Canadian Junior Member previously, for a minimum of a 12 month period.
2. Is currently a member of Canadian status with the NSDTR Club of Canada.
3. The applicant is under the age of 20 years, as of December 31st the year the scholarship(s) is/are awarded.

All other requirements previously listed (4-7) will stand as written. (Shelly)

For: Mary, Bonnie, Krista, Andrea, Shelly, Alison, Mairon

Against: None / No Vote: Stephanie, Gary

**MOTION PASSED**

After MUCH deliberation due to discrepancies in printed rules and rules previously passed regarding length of memberships, junior membership requirements and other questions that arose, it was decided to hold a vote for three options:

- 1)Both applicants Emma and Elissa will receive the scholarship
- 2)Neither applicant will receive a scholarship
- 3)Only Emma will receive the scholarship

The final vote count: #2 - 5 votes / #1 - 3 votes

With the final outcome of the vote, it was decided that no new motions need to be put forward. After discussion it was decided that, for various qualification infractions, no submissions were considered valid for this year's Junior Scholarship award. It was also decided that the "Application Guidelines" need to be reviewed and some items clarified to eliminate any confusion regarding applicant qualification

The two candidates will be contacted by the president, Krista Wendland.

A rescindment of a previous motion was required.

**MOTION TO RESCIND PREVIOUS MOTION:**

**FOR:** Shelly, Bonnie, Krista, Stephanie, Andrea, Alison, Gary

**AGAINST:** None **No Vote:** Mairon, Mary

**Previous MOTION RESCINDED**

#### 5.5. Video DVD of Specialty (update) & Specialty DVD club sponsorship (K. Wendland)

**Update:** The contract was signed with the video company and accommodations were booked in the hotel. (Krista/Bonnie)

**MOTION:** The NSDTRCC provide \$1500 in funding towards a DVD (videography) being provided at any Canadian National Specialty Event. Any region applying to host a National Specialty event will commit to providing this service, at the sole discretion of the NSDTRCC, with the Regional Director of the host region as our liaison in all regards to the DVD process and/or funding matters. (Shelly)

Discussion by most members of the executive was with the viewpoint that although the DVD is very important, the National Club should not be responsible for the funding, this would be a one-time only payment and that future committees of the National Specialty should be providing this service unless future DVD costs become excessive or other changes in video methods change in the future.

**FOR:** None

**AGAINST:** Krista, Alison, Stephanie, Gary, Andrea, Mary, Bonnie

**No Vote:** Mairon, Shelly

**MOTION REJECTED**

#### 5.6. Vacant Positions – Regional Director mass email to members (K. Wendland) – Item was dropped as the issue was addressed in Toller Talk.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### 6.1. Epilepsy Donations (S. Halse)

Information Provided by Stephanie:

“When Dr Poma died, the last Executive voted to send \$250 to the trust fund for his family and \$750 to the Epilepsy research in his memory. I contacted Guelph with information that Dawn gave me. They were unsure what was going to happen to the research with Dr Poma gone. Jennifer Beehler contacted colleagues and eventually found that there has been a fund set up at the American College of Veterinary Medicine. I contacted Heather Ratynski at ACVIM and received the following information:

*The fund for Dr. Poma is restricted to Neurology, meaning that it can go toward any study that has a neurology focus. Obviously that would include epilepsy but would not be limited to it.*

*We allow people to restrict a gift within the five specialties of the ACVIM, but to restrict to a more specific disease requires a commitment of at least \$15,000.*

As the funds for Dr Poma were to be for Epilepsy, I have not sent them on. I contacted members of the previous Executive. Some didn't respond and the others didn't come to a definitive conclusion. There was definitely a feeling that the money should stay in Canada and be used for the original purpose.

I have sent emails to Bob Brua asking for information on Canadian studies and haven't received any answers. I would like to resolve this as I have money that has not been sent. Shall I send it onto ACVIM and let them put it wherever they want or shall I keep it?

If I don't send it on then the vote has to be reversed.”

**Krista also noted that she would like to see Bob Brua do some research in regards to whether any groups are currently doing any canine epilepsy research either in Canada or the US.**

Previous Motion - Moved by Dawn that the national Club donate \$750 to epilepsy studies in Dr.Poma's name and \$250 to the trust fund for his family.

Motion Passed

In Favour: Mary, Shannon, Andrea, Greg, Toby, Alison, Stephanie

Abstain: Dawn

No Vote: Terri, Gary

**MOTION TO RESCIND PART ONE OF PREVIOUS MOTION REGARDING \$750 DONATION TO EPILEPSY STUDIES IN THE NAME OF DR POMA.**

FOR: Shelly, Bonnie, krista, Mary, Stephanie, Andrea, Alison, Gary

AGAINST: None

No Vote: Mairon

## 6.2. BISS Designation for Regionals/Nationals (A. Strang)

Discussion was for a way to heighten the awareness of a National Specialty win versus a Regional Specialty win. As we do not have any way to implement rules regarding what any member chooses to use at a Regional

Specialty level, it was decided that we would recognize a National Specialty win by including the letter 'N' with the BISS show title that many members have adopted with their registered names.

**MOTION:** THE NSDTRCC SHALL ADOPT A NEW SET OF PREFIX TITLES, FOR CLUB AND ADVERTISING PURPOSES, TO GIVED HEIGHTENED VALUE TO WINS AT OUR NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOWS.

THESE WOULD BE: BISS(N) / BOSS(N) / BPIS(N) . (Alison Strang)

For: Andrea, Alison, Stephanie, Mary, Gary, Shelly, Krista

Against: Bonnie

No Vote: Mairon

**MOTION PASSED**

### 6.3. Skype as Meeting Format (B. Glines)

Bonnie introduced the format, procedures and approximate costs that Skype would provide for our future meetings

Proposed by Bonnie

#### Skype set-up

For those of you who have not used it before, Skype is just a way of talking to each other over a computer line as opposed to a phone line. It only requires that the user have a microphone pickup on their computer and an internet connection. Skype also does video with the voice but for our purposes that will not be necessary. This part of the service is free if everyone has reasonably fast internet access. The only cost to the club will be if an individual does not have a microphone on their computer or has an extremely slow dial-up connection. In which case there may be a few people we would either set them up with the equipment or have them call in on their regular phone line at a cost of .02/minute.

I realize that not everyone will be available at all times but I think if we know well in advance when the meetings will be, that will help. Also remember that you don't need to be at home to participate...all you need to have is your computer with you and an internet connection...or barring that access to a phone.

This is how I envision things working if we use Skype for our meetings.

- I will work with each person ahead of time to get them set up and familiar with the technology
- For our meetings we could schedule 2 separate days; say two consecutive Sundays around 11 or 12 o'clock MST " for 2 hours each
- The secretary will send out an email on yahoo to call for agenda items and reports 2 weeks in advance, to be posted on yahoo with a deadline of one week before the first meeting.
- If an individual has information that needs to be shared for an agenda item that will be posted as well on yahoo
- Everyone will be responsible for reading all the other reports before the first meeting and prepare questions or comments.
- The agenda could be separated into 2 parts for each of the 2 meetings.
- The President would facilitate the meeting so the secretary is freed up to take minutes.
- There will need to be quorum if anything needs to be voted on.

- If an item requires urgent follow-up another quick call could be scheduled to deal with it.
- The meeting will be conducted like any other meeting; ie agenda items will be opened and discussed...and voted on if necessary.

I know there are other things I probably have not covered but I think this is a basic enough outline to get us started. I estimate the most it could cost the club for a 2 hour call, if we had to accommodate 4 members calling in on a lan line (regular phone), is \$10.

I know this will mean a change to how we conduct our meetings but I'm sure most of you are familiar with a face-to-face type meeting in your regular workplace/home life so this should not be a stretch. Also I believe that with a real live conversation it is less likely that people will be misinterpreted.

Due to concerns from the executive regarding availability for Skype meetings - all members available in different times zones and/or days of the week it was not deemed viable by the majority of the executive. Some executive members also did not want to feel as though they may be rushed into decisions without time to thoroughly evaluate their decisions.

#### 6.4. AGM Meeting Agenda Ideas (S. Campbell)

A few ideas from executive were discussed and temporarily agreed that the agenda for the GM would be:

- 1) Introduction of Attending Executive
- 2) Jr. Scholarship Program(Krista)
- 3) Revised ROM information (Krista)
- 4) Rescue or National Calendar (Mary)
- 5) Open Floor for Members

Adjournment to Meet & Greet !!

A meeting before the GM would be held and more decided at that time.

#### 6.5. Toller Rescue Calendar or National Club Calendar (M. Price) – discussed at Specialty GM (Future Agenda)

#### 6.6. Donations for deceased members (K. Wendland) –Tabled for Future Agenda

#### 6.7. President/Membership Contact via regular email updates (K. Wendland) – Dropped from Agenda (Krista)

#### 6.8. Yarmouth Proposed City Legislation

It has come to our attention that the City of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia will be proposing to implement some possible dog legislation which may include - limiting the number of dogs to two, if you have more, they must be relinquished to the municipality for destruction. No provisions for grandfathering previously owned dogs, nor can you relinquish the dogs to a rescue. No provisions for breeders, no provisions for shelters or foster homes. Banning several breeds, requiring insurance for owning 'dangerous breeds', requiring a warning sign outside your home to designate you as an owner of a 'dangerous dog'. If your dog bites, it is automatically designated as a dangerous dog, no matter what the situation. If you own a dangerous dog you must show that you have an enclosed locked area for the dog, inspection of same can happen at any time without warning. 'Dangerous breeds and dogs designated as dangerous, must be leashed and muzzled whenever off their owners property. 'They' have the rights to shoot on-sight any dog acting dangerous. (information provided by Eric Johnson

Alison suggested we write a letter "being careful to keep it short and sharp but non-confrontational" and subsequently proposed the following letter:

*We, the members of the Executive of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club of Canada, express our total opposition to the proposed dog legislation being considered by the Town Council of the home of one of our truly Canadian dog breeds. To our way of thinking, your stance will harm your town's high standing in the world of Tollers, as Yarmouth has become something of a pilgrimage site for Toller lovers around the world. Such a move might do great harm to your tourist industry, apart from bringing hardship to numerous dog-loving families in Yarmouth and environs. We urge council members to re-consider this misguided legislation.*

**MOTION: Move that Alison's written request, on behalf of the NSDTRCC, to the councillors of Yarmouth County be accepted and forwarded as presented.**

For: Shelly, Alison, Krista, Stephanie, Mairon, Mary, Andrea, Bonnie

Against: None / No Vote: Gary

**MOTION PASSED**

## 7. ADJOURNMENT