

Southeast Kreisgruppen

General Membership Meeting

Top Dawg Schutzhund Club, Plant City, Florida

Saturday, September 18, 2010

Call to Order at 2:00 p.m. Officers present: Melissa Hepler, president, Connie Johnson , vice-president & Chris Daugaard, secretary

Melissa Helper, KG President thanked Top Dawg for hosting the GM Meeting and thanked everyone for coming and showing an interest in the running of the KG.

A brief summary of the minutes from the last meeting was read. Minutes accepted unanimously.

President's Report: None

Vice President's Report: None

Treasurer's Report: Not available. Financial information will be sent to the KG secretary for disbursement to the membership.

Secretary's Report:

*All clubs have renewed. Renewals are not yet completed so do not have a final membership count available. This information will be in the report at the next meeting

* Thanked the club secretary's for their hard work, noting starting to get quite a few renewals in with few or no mistakes. Discussed some of the mistakes that still need to be worked on.

* Discussed the need for membership to be more involved with the running of the KG. This is an election year and not one club has submitted a nomination for KG Treasurer.

* Welcomed our latest club Copper Creek. Have had a couple inquiries about becoming dual affiliated club and another training group wanting to form a club.

OFS Report: To be discussed later in the meeting

Old Business: None left over from the last meeting.

New Business agenda items: AKC / DVG relationship.

*AKC had approached DVG regarding a relationship that would enable titles earned to be put on AKC pedigrees. The item was tabled when discussed by the LV board. Does the SEKG want to submit an agenda item asking that this relationship be further explored for its advantages and disadvantages?

A lively discussion regarding whether such a relationship would constitute support of puppy mills was conducted. It was brought out that until the issue is examined, any such concerns are speculation because there is no information regarding the issue. That is why it needs to be put on the agenda, so such information can be gathered and the membership can make an informed choice.

Motioned: Chris Daugaard

Seconded: Connie Johnson

Vote results: 5 for, 3 against. Item will be submitted to the LV for inclusion in the LV agenda.

* Correction of typographical error on the revised bylaws.

When the by laws were being renewed, one of the drafts included a requirement that the OfS should be a national level helper. This was supposed to have been removed in subsequent versions but was inadvertently left in the final draft. A motion was made to correct this clerical error.

Discussion included whether removing this item would be “dumbing down” the requirements. It was brought out that this had never been a requirement in the original bylaws for over 20 years. No other KG had such a requirement.

Further discussion entailed how we can word the requirements to not create a lack of eligible candidates while not allowing unsuitable candidates to be voted in. The discussion became heated at one point between two members.

Further discussion commented on the fact just because someone meets the requirements, however strict, doesn't mean they are a suitable candidate for the position. That it is up to the membership to vote in the person they think to be the most competent for the position.

Motioned to remove the sentence regarding national level requirement:

Motioned: Chris Daugaard

Seconded: Connie Johnson

Vote result: 8 for, 3 against. Sentence regarding national level status will be removed from the OfS requirements.

*A item was submitted for the agenda as to what the KG thought about making it a requirement that all KG clubs be required to host a yearly event, a trial, seminar, fun match, etc. Whether such a requirement would strengthen the KG by making the clubs be more active.

Discussion included such comments as to what does an inactive club cost the LG monetarily? Are we willing to risk losing clubs that do bring in some funds with the dues? It was brought out that small clubs could be forced out by such a requirement.

Discussion also included such points as lack of helpers to train and work trials. If clubs have to have a trial, then those entries are being taken away from the active clubs, which would cause a financial hardship on them.

Melissa thanked those in attendance for their candid thoughts. All agreed that such requirements would not strengthen the KG and could very possibly harm it.

*KG Championship was briefly discussed. Everyone encouraged to speak with their respective clubs regarding a host club. Waiting for word from the LV as to when the Championship must be held by.

* Calendar of events

Helper seminar being planned with the OfS from DVG Germany. To be held February 5th & 6th in the Orlando area. This could be a great fund raising event for the KG. Need to confirm dates and travel arrangements with Gottfried so airplane tickets can be purchased. This will be a KG sponsored event open to the entire LV.

South Metro Atlanta having their first DVG trial next weekend.

Top Dawg trial Thanksgiving weekend.

South Florida trial November 18th & 19th

SCO trial December 11th & 12th.

3:55 Motion to adjourn:

Motion: Connie Johnson

Seconded: Shelly Timmerman

Vote results: All in favor.

Meeting minutes are not official until they have been approved by the membership at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted By:

Chris Dugaard, KG Secretary: _____

Approved By the Membership on: Date_____