



The Off Season Informer

The Official Publication of the New England Sled Dog Club, Inc.

Volume 13 Issue 1

March 2010

Date: April 11, 2010

Time: The meeting will start at 10:00 am.

Location: Sendaishi Pet Resort

Directions: From Concord: 93-S to 293-S, exit 6, bear right off exit. Travel 3/4 way around the rotary through 2 sets of lights onto Goffstown Road. Travel 1.5 miles to Straw Road (right at fork), Sendaishi is 0.5 miles on the left.

From Merrimack: 293-N, exit 6, bear left through 2 sets of lights onto Goffstown Road. Travel 1.5 miles to Straw Road (right at fork), Sendaishi is 0.5 miles on left.

Agenda for Annual Meeting:

- Opening Remarks
- Minutes from the Fall meeting
- Officers Reports
- Committee Reports
- Election of Officers
- Old Business
- New Business

Due to lack of races this season, awards will not be presented.

NEW ENGLAND SLED DOG CLUB, INC.

**FALL MEETING
September 27, 2009**

The meeting of the NESDC was brought to order at 1:25 pm by Meg Mizzoni, President. Gretchen Karlson motioned to waive the reading of the minutes of the Spring Meeting as they were posted on the internet and sent out in the Fall Newsletter. Rainer Wischinski seconded the motion and it was passed.

President's Report:

Meg reported that we have a good race schedule this year. She also mentioned that the elections are this Spring and we need volunteers for officers and board positions. Meg also reported that the Board of Directors appointed Stephanie Fraser as our new Publicity Director. She is already working hard.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Jackie McCreedy was unable to attend the Fall Meeting. Meg read her report as of 8/31/09. The only error in the report is that it did not show the monies in the Club Store. The balance is correct though. The balance is \$11,643.62. Expenses for the period of April 2009 to August 2009 were \$1,914.86. Tom DiMaggio motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Bob Heckman seconded. It was passed.

Due to the shift to electronic mail, it was decided that the Club Newsletters would be sent out electronically via email to save postage. Those members who do not have an email address will receive a hard copy of the newsletter. It will also be posted on the website in "pdf" format for anyone to download.

Race Committee Report:

Race Chair, Anita Wischinski reported that we have a \$7,000 purse (it may be higher by race time) for Inlet, NY. They have widened the trail where needed and it will be more loop and less head-on passing.

There is a \$3,000 purse for Purity Spring, NH. Greg Barker and Dan Houde went over the trail and reported that minor modifications were made. It will be a 5 to 5 ½ mile trail for the four-dog and skijoring classes. Again, there will be a pizza dinner during the awards ceremony. There may be more cabins available for the mushers.

Tamworth, as always, will be the same. It has a \$3,000 purse.

The Hill race will be a charity benefit this year to benefit the Bristol Food Bank. The race will be ISDRA sanctioned but trophy ribbons will be handed out instead of purse money.

Stephanie Fraser reported that the Bristol Food Bank serves 70 to 75 families per month. The Lions Club will provide food and will also plow the area for the club. Drivers are asked to bring nonperishable food items to the race for donation to the food bank. We will have a presentation with the Bristol Food Bank. A recommendation would be to get the communities involved with children making posters. T-shirts will be made for the race. Bob Heckman suggested we get the snowmobile club involved to help at the race. Stephanie will notify radio stations, newspapers, TV, etc.

Anita was contacted by the Myopia Hunt Club in Hamilton, MA asking to hold a race. Anita, Rainer and Meg are going to check out the trails next week (10/2/09).

We need to have race posters printed. Bob Heckman will have them printed so we will have them for the Trade Fair in Contocook, NH next weekend.

OLD BUSINESS:

Proposed Rule Change on Time Disqualification Rule. As posted in the newsletter, Bob Heckman motioned to accept the rule posted. Tom DiMaggio seconded. Tom then motioned to amend the rule to read that the decision to use the disqualification rule rests upon the Race Committee and that the rule will be for all classes-professional and sportsmen. Rainer seconded the amendment. The rule will be in place for all races and may be waived by the Race Committee at the driver's meeting at the start of the race. The amendment was accepted. A vote was taken for the rule change with amendment. Greg Barker seconded and it was passed.

Proposal regarding substitution of dogs with a penalty. After discussion, Tom DiMaggio suggested that the Club table the vote until the Spring Meeting.

Proposal that dogs cannot run in more than one class. Bob Heckman motioned and Tom seconded. It was voted to make no new changes and to keep the rule the way it is.

New Hampshire Musers Association. Tom DiMaggio reported regarding the "trail bandit" for trails on private properties. If using private land-owned trails, please be tolerant and behave. They are still putting together the final statistics to show how mushers affect the trails, economy, etc.

Pisgah State Park needs support so the trail use will not be affected by development. Tom will put the link to the NH State website on the NESDC website so you can check it out. Tom motioned that the NESDC again join the NH Musers Association for the year. Bob seconded. It was passed.

We have two positions open on the Board of Directors at this time: First Vice President & Recording Secretary.

NESDC Raffle: Two raffles-one for \$250 towards hotel and the second one-free entries for the season. The drawing will take place at the Tamworth Race. We have \$240 so far. Keep buying those tickets.

So far we have \$161 in donations to the Bristol Food Bank at the Hill Race.

New Business:

Bob Noyes motioned that late arrivals to the races (after the drivers' meeting) should have to move to the end of the parking lot. The issue of moving trucks through the parking area is difficult when drivers are preparing for their classes and there isn't much room. It was not seconded, therefore rescinded.

Danae Bryar reported that there will be a new race in Jackman, Maine named the Keith Bryar Memorial race which is independent from all race organizations (ie Down East, NESDC). It is being held January 9th and 10th, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Karlson,
Acting Recording Secretary



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