**MINUTES**

**JUDGES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

**White Haven, PA**

**Meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM by Julie Willis**

**Roll Call: Julie Willis**

Present: Julie Willis, Robert Marshall, Rodney Silva

By Phone: Bob Wilson, Larry Moore, Rick Spier

Also present: Dirk Meskins, Stuart Sacks, Joshua Anthony, Jimmy Strong, Greg Lovell, Terry Travis, Richard Werner, Marcia Halbert, Barbara Waterman

**Minutes read Julie Willis**

Discussion of new WBO by-law concerning one national organization per country

Motion that if a motion is made, that in order to accept a judge from another society, it must pass by a ¾ majority, or other majority, that motion itself must be passed by the same majority. ( Was reworded)

Re-word the previous motion: Any motion to change the percentage of majority vote has to be passed by that percentage of the panel.

Discussion of previous presentation of new wire show cages.

Update on pricing: South Africa option is a lot more expensive than previously discussed.

Egypt cage option is less costly, (approx. $4 each)

Motion to accept minutes made by Julie Willis with the exception of eliminating the previous motion.

2nd Rick Spier

Passed unanimously

**New Business**

Discussion of new judge’s trainee packet.

Bob Wilson will send out copies from the recent training from the Egypt society.

Discussion of new Judge Administrator

No quorum at the Judges Panel meeting so the election will take place in the next few weeks.

Votes will be counted by a non-judges panel member decided on shortly.

Nominations for Judges Administrator:

Julie Willis

Rodney Silva

Both will prepare a short bio to include with their nomination

Robert Marshall made motion to accept nominations

Second from Rick Spier

Introduction of Grand National judge: Dirk Meskins

Rick Spier asked if there should be a discussion on the nominations for Judge Administrator.

Presenting the application from John Carroca Jr. as new judge trainee.

Three signatures should be signed from Julie Willis, Larry Moore, Robert Marshall Jr.

Bob Wilson waiting on verification from Greg Arena concerning qualifications of membership time with B.A.A.

New judge trainee application will be voted on at the same time as Judge Administrator.

Discussion of poorly marked birds winning top awards.

Julie mentioned weighing the overall quality

Larry Moore mentioned the markings of Spangles that are poorly marked but receiving top awards.

Julie mentioned an overseas show where a majority of judges voted to place a poorly marked Spangle as best in show, she did not.

Bob mentioned that some countries will not accept a Spangle without a bullseye spot. Melanistic only accepted with full dark spots.

The new melanistic spangle with full dark spots is what the original Spangle markings looked like.

Robert Marshall mentioned its a personal decision of the judge to decide the value of spots or markings.

Discussion of receiving several complaints from B.A.A. members about a member showing disrespect towards a judges decision at a previous show. In most countries, this behavior would be reprimanded by removing the person from the show hall.

Such actions decrease the credibility of the judge.

This discussion should be addressed in the general meeting. It is a matter of the show managers decision to take action.

Rick will be making an article in the journal about this type of behavior.

Discussion about judges training techniques.

Some countries requirements are more extensive including a number of years as show manager or steward. This gives the judge a better idea of how a show is conducted.

Suggestion to add more requirements to become a judge.

Rodney mentions this issue should be a priority for the next Judge Administrator.

Discussion of doing a better job as judges by sharing knowledge in the journal, adding bios of the judges.

Possibly adding a judges column in the journal for each journal issue.

Julie mentioned judges making reports about the show they judged focusing on the birds at the show, not the trip itself.

Bob discussed a Judges application from last year that failed. After the vote, he was approached with discussion that the vote seemed unreasonable and more personal instead of whats best for the hobby.

Larry Moore proposed a motion to vote on reconsideration of Terry Travis being accepted to the Judges Panel.

Rodney Silva proposed Terry Travis should add a bio before the vote.

Second from Rodney Silva

Julie Willis mentioned a possible requirement for judges to attend or at least call in to the Judges Panel meeting.

Julie made a motion to make a requirement for judges to attend or call in at least once every two years.

Second from Robert Marshall

Dirk wants to present a presentation to the Judges Panel.