

# **NFC Envirothon Operating Committee**

## **September 1, 2016 Conference Call Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees: Committee Members:** Sid Lowrance, Ron Hellstern; Barry Burch; Jeff Folger; Jessica Kaknevicus; Kerin Hume, Jeanne Dryburgh, Patricia Pohrebniuk; Wendee Zadanski, Millie Langley, Dana Collins, Shonny Nordlund

**Staff: NACD:** Rich Duesterhaus, Peggy Lemons; Debbie Waycott, Melissa Augusto

**Absent:**, Clay Burns

**Guest:** Melissa Augusto

Burch opened the meeting at 1:31PM EST.

Roll Call by Folger

Minutes: The minutes of the July 23rd meeting were reviewed

Motion to accept by Lowrance, second by Hellstern, vote unanimous.

### **2016: Ontario – Kaknevicus reported:**

- 110 outlets published the media release after the event
- Overall positive response.
- Financial, a bit in the red – HR and overhead costs, \$15K outstanding.
- Registration is tough for the host when it is done off site.
- Social media , twitter reached the financial sponsors. Instagram reached the students.
- Team Exams ;”To return or not return, that is the question”.
- Concerns about returned tests being “banked” for future use by states.
- Discussion on returning oral tests.
- The practical expense of reproducing the tests for distribution is costly.
- Option: to just post the answer sheets on the website.
- Make a policy statement about not releasing the test questions on the website.
- Motion: do not hand out the tests going forward to maintain the integrity of the resource questions.  
By Langley, second by Kaknevicus. Vote: Lowrance, Burch; Folger; Kaknevicus; Hume, Dryburgh, Pohrebniuk; Zadanski, Langley, Collins, Aye: Hellstern; Nordlund, Nay. Motion passes.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Rules and Regs:**

- Need resolver numbering issues.
- Added ages to the eligibility.
- Added “dues paying member” by March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Clarifying a member in good standing
- Certification of the team will be the responsibility of the local Rep unless a substitution is requested. Then the Ops Comm. must give approval. Subs must have competed in their State/Provincial event to be eligible.

#### **Scoring:**

- Scoring went well, very efficient.
- Motion: Proposed that the Ontario score sheet be incorporated as the official oral score sheet by Langley, second by Pohrebniuk, Vote, unanimous.

**NCF Updates:** Duesterhaus and Augusto reported:

- Devel/Fundraising update: Exploring new avenues for funding and coordinating with the host states/prov. Possible Canon request. Possible NWF request opportunity with no \$\$ but increased outreach to schools.
- Smithfield update: Follow-up with bill Gill after the event. They will commit prize \$\$ in 2017 for the top teams. Instead of block grants to NCF, they want to support State programs. Opportunity to get more corporate folks to the Maryland Event.
- Name. NCF owns the word “Envirothon” so as long as the word is included, the tag line may be changed based on the hosts preference.
- Will hold the registration cost to \$1800.00. Increase the dues to \$350.00. They will include an area in the invoice for \$550.00 for a voluntary increase.
- Met with China Rep. He wants to build the program in China. We need to set guidelines.

**Public Relations Update:** Waycott reported:

- Survey from the students and advisors has been tallied. She will email responses.
- China: Good response from the students, they were pleased with their scores.
- Website has been updated with Maryland as the future host.
- Top three oral presentations are on the website.
- Some local states/prov are not receiving the list serve. The Ops comm. should reach out to verify contact info.
- Evaluation: forestry was the most difficult site, soil and aquatics somewhat difficult with wildlife the least difficult.
- Social media had strong participation with students.

**Committee Reports - continued**

- Diversity Grants: Available mid October.
- ED Committee: NWF possible partnership, Community projects.
- CAT: Survey of ideas. Increase host volunteer orientation, more communication w/host prior to the event. Make a to-do list for the host.
- LOGO: Generate more participation, oral communication

**Future Competitions:**

2017: Maryland – Burch reported:

- Update learning objectives.
- Four objectives still to be finalized.
- \$110 in the bank.
- May adjust schedules based on Ontario’s schedule.
- Finalize advisor tours.

2018: Western Hosts: Idaho

- No report.

2019: North Carolina – Langley reported:

- No report

2020: Nebraska – Dryburgh reported

- Toured the campus in Lincoln.

- Researching prices, schedules.

2021: Canada

2022 – New York possible.

Adjourn – 3:30pm

**Next Meeting Late October TBA**