**GDCA BOD Meeting Minutes, July 30, 2016**

*All motions are considered unanimous unless otherwise noted*

Called to order at 0900.

**Present:** Dianne Powers, Jason Hoke, Sue Davis Shaw, Bill Stebbins, Kathy Munyan, Cindy Harwin, Joyce Rowe, Lynda Moriarty, Phil Gray, Nancy Ridgway, Teresa LaBrie, Dr. Neil O’Sullivan, Denise Matulich and Gary Romerosa.

**Absence of Board Members:** Jamie Harshfield, Dale Tarbox, and Linda Cain.

**Motion:** To excuse the absence of Dale Tarbox, Jamie Harshfield and Linda Cain.

Moved: Nancy Ridgway Second: Neil O’Sullivan

**Minutes:** Gary Romerosa

* Minutes presented to the BOD for approval. Electronic copy of the minutes had been sent to the BOD via-email prior to the meeting for review.

**Motion:** To approve the minutes as presented.

Moved: Phil Gray Second: Bill Stebbins

**Guests:** Loren Bengston, Mary Ann Hartt, and Alxe Noden.

**President’s Report:** Dianne Powers

* Should award be offered for non-AKC events? This will fall under performance. Need to look at versatility guidelines to see if it can be included. Will have Joyce Guthrie look into it.
* Agility/performance events. Can the GDCA pay for service for tallying scores? Need to check into expanding services we want to include, for both conformation and performance. Dianne will check with Rob with the AKC on a bundle.

**Motion:** To purchase a monthly bundle from the AKC, if available, for statistics for all awards.

Moved: Teresa LaBrie Second: Sue Davis Shaw

* Meet The Breeds. Jeffrey will get booth to Orlando. Does the booth actually help or restrict with public education? We need a proposal from group on how to proceed with improvements for the educational board. Cindy to contact Jeffrey to discuss possible options/changes to the booth.
* Agreement on April meeting dates.

**Motion:** To approve week 14 from the AKC Corresponding Date Calendar for April meeting dates.

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Cindy Harwin

* Are we going to provide medallions for Eukanuba?

**Motion:** To provide medallions for Eukanuba.

Moved: Jason Hoke Second: Teresa LaBrie

* OFA new cardiac database. More complex and provides more information. Takes approximately 45 minutes per dog to complete. Need to put information out on bulletin, website and Facebook. New testing includes Board Certified cardiologist. This was started in April, and there is no option of not sending it in.
* CERF to transition to OFA. Need to put out info on this as well per Neil.

**Secretary’s Report:** Sue Davis Shaw

* Meet The Breeds in Orlando.
* Voting for judges has been completed. Vote total has been distributed. E-mailed ballots to foreign members, and it didn’t make a difference on returned ballots, but actually decreased.A lot of Affiliate Clubs didn’t return ballot. How do we get them to return ballots? Only about 50% of Affiliate Clubs returned ballots. We are back on track on ballots now.
* Received several notices from AKC.
* Nominating report has gone out with no opposition.
* Facebook page going really well. Lots of feedback, with people really liking the page.
* Letter/complaint about GDCA member. Need to discuss under executive session.

The GDCA BOD went into executive session.

**Treasurer’s Report & Budget:** Kathy Munyan

Financials through June, 2016:

* Income: $5,968.97
* Expenses: $3,185.93
* Net: $2,787.19
* Balance in the bank: $245,830.27

**Motion:** To approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Jason Hoke

**Affiliate Club Representative’s Report:** Cindy Harwin

* The Inland Northwest Great Dane Club (Washington State) to be voted on as new Affiliate Club.
* Congratulate Affiliate Clubs who voted.

**AKC Delegate’s Report:** Dale Tarbox

* No report.

**Standing Committees:**

* **Advisory**: Linda Ridder, Linda Tonnancour, and Dave Miller
* No report. This functions to advise the board.
* **Awards:** Margaret Ontl
* No official report.
* All caught up on certificates.
* Waiting for information on awards plaques.
* Joyce Guthrie still needs to forward medallions to Margaret.
* **Constitution & By-Laws:** Nancy Ridgway, Lourdes Carvajal, Linda Cain and Tom Sandenaw
* To have format sent to AKC. Proposal to have it considered. The membership has to approve it first before it goes to the AKC. Reviewed line by line changes with the BOD for approval by members.
* Lynda to incorporate Code of Ethics to be signed by prospective members to go along with their application.
* Need to have a job description for each committee chair.
* Need to include dual ballot procedures into by-laws.

**Motion:**  To approve the changes to the by-laws for members’ approval.

Moved: Jason Hoke Second: Neil O’Sullivan

* **Futurity:** Michael Pacucci
* No official report.
* Through June 2016:
* 1st nominations: 186
* 2nd nominations: 413
* Receiving 2017 nominations already.
* 1st nominations: 22
* **Health & Research:** Dr. Neil O’Sullivan Status/Updates:
* Megaesophagus Research Status Report: Clemson University
* Nothing new to report. No additions to the database since April.
* Wobblers Research Report – The Ohio State University
* No update.
* Cardiomyopathy Study Status Report – Clemson University – Katie Meurs & Dr. Leigh Ann Clark
* Moving along in two separate channels.
* GDV Study – Dr. Alex Alvarez
* No update.
* Study circulating online and Facebook that was not peer reviewed, need to advise members of this. Not a good study due to limited gene study and is not recommended by the club.
* Epilepsy Study – University of Missouri in Columbia
* Moving along with funding as part of a bigger study and hope to see useful findings.
* Color Code Review: Dr. Neil O’Sullivan
* BOD is requested to print it out as a hard document, so Neil can go through it and review.
* Reviewed current draft of revision with the BOD.
* Include with it organizations where color testing can be done. There are two labs in Europe that can delineate the merle gene.
* Will include pictures on the document eventually.
* Include recommended color testing for the approved colors.
* **Judges Education:**  Jason Hoke, Dale Tarbox, and Bill Stebbins.
* Presentation done in Houston last week.
* Two presentations to be done this year for the Dog Judges Association of America and The American Dog Show Judges.
* Also did a presentation for a local judges’ association.
* In August, Jane Treiber is doing one.
* There will be a presentation in September in Maryland.
* October at the National. Already getting registrations.
* Show Sight magazine sent out a questionnaire to Dianne for publication and feedback came from several people. The publisher was very complimentary for the information received.
* Jane Treiber wanted more information included in the brochure for Judges Education. Compared to other breeds, ours is sparse.
* Need to reach out to Norvel to see what she has as far as old articles for history and judging Danes.
* If anyone on the BOD, or if anybody knows anyone with old articles, please forward it to the committee.
* There was a post on Facebook regarding judges’ education where the moderator did not allow feedback after attendees provided their placements.
* **Judges Selection:**
* Nothing to report.
* Waiting for show site for the Northeast. Question is, why do we even need to know the site before we can send out the ballots? Initial ballot will go out in January.
* **Junior Showmanship/Scholarships:** Jamie Harshfield
* List of applicants were sent out to the BOD.
* **Membership Health and Welfare:** Melanie Wisdom and Sue Davis Shaw - Guidelines
* Melanie won’t put out anything on Bulletin unless she has permission from the family. If there is an obituary available, then there shouldn’t be a problem. Her concerns were with any personal information that may be included.
* **National Specialty Coordinator:** Lynda Moriarty
* 2016 – South Central Division status – Tulsa, OK. Question: whether we can upgrade somebody’s Bronze Sponsorship to Silver or Gold when they have donated not only cash ($,1000), but also other items to the Auction, which will bring in additional monies to the National.

Discussion: The question above was discussed in detail. Bronze sponsors won’t be upgraded, as Silver or Gold sponsorships are reserved for Corporate Sponsors.

* Room raffle went well. Collected $5,300.00. Still have tickets available.
* Welcome party will have Belly Dancers, and will serve Mexican food.
* Futurity. Everything is under control.
* There is an option to enter the Top 20 competition via online store.
* As of July, the account balance is $75,494.00.
* 13 Bronze Sponsors so far.
* Way behind on trophies, and only have $3000.00. Need to advertise on Facebook.
* Have Performance Chairman solicit trophy donations from performance folks.
* Welcome bags. Having a hard time for clubs and people to donate. Making 700 bags. It was suggested to ask different businesses for donations for the welcome bags.
* Need organizers for reserved seating.
* Thank you to Denise, Jamie and Cindy for selling over $1,100.00 for room raffle tickets.
* Won’t upgrade Bronze sponsors and combine cash donation with in-kind donations.
* Futurity 50/50 raffle needs workers.
* 2017 – Western Division status – Chandler, AZ
* Ahead of schedule. Everything done.
* Performance venue is 40 minutes from Host Hotel (San Marcos).
* All committee chairs working hard to get things lined-up.
* Meal plans in the works already.
* 2018 – Mid West Division status – Topeka, KS
* Joy visiting every club, having meetings with them to make sure everyone understands their particular roles.
* Meeting in Tulsa to work on budget.
* List of committee chairs have been filled.
* 2019 – Northeast Division
* Got report with regards to site selection from Rita. Looking at Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Frederick, MD.
* Currently have 155 rooms.
* Country Inn Suites can take the overflow.
* Having a division meeting soon.
* **Performance/Companion Events:** Joyce Guthrie
  + Sent the report to the BOD.
  + Obedience, rally, and agility. Working to find ways to increase entry.
  + Putting together informational videos and pamphlets.
  + Scheduling continues to be a challenge.
  + Working on historical video.
  + Recognition of rescues who obtained performance events title.
  + Propose working do g title with four different levels. Working on criteria for designation. Ask Joyce for the written criteria before the meeting at the National. Need formal structure for the Invitational.
* **Public Education:** Jeffrey Ball
* Continue with Meet the Breeds with what we currently have right now.
* **Rescue:** Kathie Shea
* Sent grant requests that she has, and sending them in as well, as it happens.
* **Standard (Breed):** Sharon Fulford
* Per Jason, merles are now on the table after vote came back.
* Anything proposed have to be approved by a 2/3rd vote of membership.
* Have beginning draft of proposed changes, but not ready yet for review. Will make necessary changes based on membership comments and will include rationale behind each change.
* Merle color is a very complex issue that touches a lot of different areas. Won’t have anything ready by the National. Every change will be voted on separately.
* **Website:** Nancy Lerch
* No report.
* Website not getting updated with stats on obedience, rally and agility, and it has been sent already.
* Need a sub-committee to implement updates/changes to the website.
* **Special Committees:**
* Breeders Education: Jane Gray
* In the process of putting together information packet, not only for people attending the National, but packets for breeders as well. Asking breeders to send in suggestions/information that they may want to be included in the packet.
* Breed Mentor: Bill Stebbins
* Jane received an e-mail, then phone call from Vince Mulligan, regarding being eliminated as a breed mentor. Everything was done by committee recommendation. Bill received e-mail and sent reply to Vince approved by the committee on cause of removal.
* Developed a form for breed mentors to use for formal mentoring to keep track of activity level, and how much the progress is actually being made.
* In touch with AKC who coordinates with Judges education. Received feedback and asked to keep guidelines for future parent clubs to use as an example.
* People applying for judging license needs to have forms signed by approved breed mentors.
* Breeder Referral: Nancy Lerch
* No report.
* Charitable Trust: Sue Davis Shaw
* Meeting August 3rd.
* Corporate Sponsors: Lauri Maulucci
* No report.
* Historian: Norvel Benoit
* No report.
* Legislative: Dale Tarbox
* No report.
* Membership: Lynda Moriarty
* No negative comments on applicants that have been published.
* Voting on the following applicants: Rebecca Poynter, Theresia Jacobs, Suzanne Eberling, Mildred McKenzie, Bonnie O’Brien, Randi Altman, Maria Gkinala, and the Inland Northwest Great Dane Club.

**Motion:** To approve the membership for the following applicants, Rebecca Poynter, Theresia Jacobs, Suzanne Eberling, Mildred McKenzie, Bonnie O’Brien, Randi Altman, Maria Gkinala, and the Inland Northwest Great Dane Club as new members.

Moved: Nancy Ridgway Second: Bill Stebbins

* 3rd Quarter applicants to be published: Stacy Smith, Dena Cassell, Treasure Hauer Wylie, Jaclyn Watts, Maricella Osterman, Linda Lee Boone, Nicole Dunn, Lisa Lewis, Diane Husar, Arlene Erbacher, and Mark Davenport.

**Motion:** To publish the following applicants in the next Bulletin, Stacy Smith, Dena Cassell, Treasure Hauer Wylie, Jaclyn Watts, Maricella Osterman, Linda Lee Boone, Nicole Dunn, Lisa Lewis, Diane Husar, Arlene Erbacher, and Mark Davenport in the 3rd quarter bulletin.

Moved: Denise Matulich Second: Teresa LaBrie

* News Bulletin: Maria Perkins
* Maria is on track and doing a great job!
* Deadline for submission is August 15th.
* Top 20 Statistician – Rita Suddarth
* None.
* Trophies: Jean Dinkins
* No report.

**Old Business:**

* Nationwide Vet List –Proposal from Mary Barnett
* This is a list for reproductive vets.
* Will ask Mary Barnett to compile a list of repro vets used by Dane breeders.
* Mary Ann Land has a list. Ask if she would share it with the BOD.
* Top 20 Committee Report/Recommendations/Vote – Linda Cain
* Forwarded by Linda to the BOD.
* Most changes were discussed and voted on at the last BOD meeting.
* The BOD conducted a thorough line by line review of recommendations, and made necessary modifications.

Add to eligibility, that all owners are in good standing with the AKC.

* Dianne will put together the edited report.
* Lynda and Andy to edit the Top 20 script.
* Website
* On hold.
* Restructuring Awards - Jamie Harshfield
* On hold.
* Add Best of Opposite to Annual Awards - Linda Cain
* Will revisit in October.

**New Business:**

* Meet The Breeds – Vote on Medallions
* Done and voted on already.
* Champion of Health – Lynda Moriarty – Nominations were due by July 15th.
* No new nominations received. Will review old ones. Lynda to check on this.
* Per Teresa, regarding merles. On website, can historical dates be included/pulled out for when the colors (specifically blue) was approved?

**Approval of Motions for Publication in the Bulletin:**

**Motion:** To approve the motions for publication in the Bulletin pending final review.

Moved: Joyce Rowe Second: Bill Stebbins

**Drawing of Deluxe room package:**

* Winner of Deluxe room is Jerry Lobato.

**Drawing of Presidential Suite package:**

* Winner of Presidential Suite is Ruth Greene.

**Motion:** To adjourn.

Moved: Cindy Harwin

Board meeting schedule:

2016 - January 23, April 23, July 30

2017 – January 21/22, April 8/9, July 29/30

2018 – January 20/21, April 7/8, July 28/29

2019 – April 6/7

2020 – April 4/5

2021 – April 10/11

2022 – April 9/10

**Conference call meeting August 17, 2016**

Called to order at 9:04 PM EST.

**Present:** Dianne Powers, Joyce Rowe, Kathy Munyan, Linda Cain, Phil Gray, Sue Shaw, Denise Matulich, Dale Tarbox, Lynda Moriarty, Nancy Ridgway.

**Agenda item**: Approval of the new Top 20 Rules.

Following discussion Linda Cain made the motion ‘To approve the Top 20 Rules and Regulations as presented and amended’ seconded by Phil Grey

Vote was unanimous

Motion to adjourn made by Joyce Rowe at 9:20PM