**GDCA BOD Teleconference Meeting Minutes, January 17, 2015**

*All motions are considered unanimous unless otherwise noted*

The meeting was called to order at 1104 EST

**Present:** Dianne Powers, Jamie Harshfield, Susan Davis Shaw, Kathy Munyan, Cindy Harwin, Jean Highlands, Lynda Moriarty, Phil Gray, Linda Cain, Jason Hoke, Teresa LaBrie, Neil O’Sullivan, Denise Matulich and Gary Romerosa.

**Guests:** Joy Lobato and Joyce Guthrie.

**Absence of Board Members:**

Motion: To excuse the absence of Bill Stebbins from the 01/17/2015 meeting.

Moved: Teresa LaBrie Second: Sue Davis Shaw

Motion: To excuse the absence of Nancy Ridgway from the 01/17/2015 meeting.

Moved: Jean Highlands Second: Sue Davis Shaw

**Minutes:** Denise Matulich

No further changes or corrections made to minutes.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the BOD meetings of 10/19/2014 and 10/22/2014.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Phil Gray

**President’s Report:** Dianne Powers

Nothing to report.

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

Sue received a couple of correspondence from book publishers, asking for endorsement. We don’t provide links to our website to commercial ventures.

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

Kathy reported for December, income of $11,800. Expenses of $2,642.19. Net income of $9162.37. We have combined cash in bank of $183,148.30.

Motion: To approve the Treasurer’s Report.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Denise Matulich

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

Cindy is asking Affiliate Clubs for dates of their specialty shows, so as not to conflict with BOD meetings. Sue is also keeping track of dates received. No new requests for by-law changes received.

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

Dale was not able to attend Orlando meeting due to illness. There are four candidates up for nominations for three AKC Director positions becoming available, with upcoming vote in April with one seat being challenged. The next meeting is February 2015 in Newark.

**Special Guests:** Joy Lobato and Joyce Guthrie

Joy is seeking approval for the 2018 National. She presented agreed upon cost of $15,500 to utilize the Exhibition Hall at the Expo Center in Topeka, KS and the Domer Arena for Performance Events free of charge. The Capitol Plaza Hotel is offering both Standard and King rooms for a group rate of $109 per night, with the Hospitality room rate of $150 per day. The hotel also offered two complimentary boardroom suites from Friday to Sunday, the week of the show.

Motion: To approve the GDCA National show site for 2018 with the provision of inserting required language and review by attorney.

Moved: Jason Hoke Second: Cindy Harwin

**National Specialty Coordinator:** Lynda Moriarty

2014 – Central Division Report: Kathy and Jean finishing up details to get the final financials completed. They earned approximately $50,000 in profits. Once everything is finalized, money can be distributed to the division.

2015 – South East Division Status: Myrtle Beach, SC – On schedule. Meeting in February on site. Targeting larger ring of 100 ft. x 125 ft. for both conformation and performance rings. Discussing ring size (60 ft. x 80 ft.). Need to review rules and regulations on size of ring.

2016 – South Central Division Status: Tulsa, OK – No communications. No answers to questions.

2017 – Western Division Status: Chandler, AZ – Pam Winter resigned due to health issues. No Division Chair yet. Explored the possibility of hiring a show chair. Cannot hire people due to expense involved and they will be considered an employee. Major problem is Chair cannot show. Lynda to hold a Division Chair meeting and report back with possible solutions/recommendations. Judges Hospitality chair to also possibly chair judging selection. Jamie to communicate with Cindy offline for possible solution.

2018 – Midwest Division Status: Approve the site with stipulation to add required language and review by attorney.

**Standing Committees:**

**Advisory:** Linda Ridder, Linda Tonnancour, and Dave Miller

Nothing reported.

**Awards:** Margaret Ontl

Margaret is waiting for report from the AKC for yearend awards.

**Performance/Companion Events:** Joyce Guthrie

Joyce presented her proposal for reducing trophy costs with two different options. She also reviewed selecting a venue location which offered everything needed for both performance and conformation events. She proposed the possibility of having permanent locations for three to four different regions. Agility events presents the biggest cost. Her proposal is to include all breeds, but with the caveat that planning for such events need to be planned three years in advance.

Proposed to conduct performance events on Saturday and Sunday. Asking to have both Obedience and Rally awards to be highlighted more, possibly during the Awards Dinner. Conflict with this idea is it would require Obedience/Rally participants to stay longer at the venue. Presented idea of possibly moving the awards dinner mid-week versus at the end of the week.

Obedience and Rally events require three judges. To help reduce cost, perhaps use one provisional judge to do the novice class.

Include more veterans and rescues in the Parade?

Offer multi-level, versatility awards. Criteria and requirements for the award included in written proposal submitted by Joyce to the BOD.

Welcome party starts after the performance events have started. Performance participants are unable to attend it, and wants performance events to start after the party. BOD to review information presented and come up with recommendations by April.

**Constitution & By-Laws:** Nancy Ridgway, Lourdes Carvajal, Linda Cain and Tom Sandenaw

Update: Further suggestions by Committee Members; Membership recommendations – January 2015 meeting. Via Dianne, Nancy is waiting to talk to the attorney from The Rottweiler Club who put together their by-law. Will have an update in April.

**Futurity:** Michael Pacucci, via Dianne Powers

Superintendent Proposal: Contract with Kathy Baraga for the 2015 Futurity is written awaiting for approval and signatures.

Motion: To approve the contract for Futurity with Kathy Baraga as show secretary pending her acceptance of a two year contract which will include 2-3 nights’ accommodations.

Moved: Teresa LaBrie Second: Linda Cain

Discussed increasing the entry fee, or reducing the prize money. We lost The Purina sponsorship money. Proposal is to increase the nomination fees, but to leave the cost of nominating the bitch the same. Proposals discussed to be published as an article in the bulletin. Michael and Dianne will write the article with the proposals and submit to the BOD for approval prior to publication.

Motion: To eliminate the prize money for the 2015 futurity and to increase the registration/nomination fee to $15 for the first nomination and to $10 for the second nomination for 2016.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Denise Matulich

**Health & Research:** Dr. Neil O’Sullivan

(Genome) Resequence Project – Dr. Leigh Anne Clark – Clemson University

Megaesophagus Research Status Report – Clemson University

Wobblers Research Report – The Ohio State University

Cardiomyopathy Study Status Report – Clemson University – Katie Meurs & Dr. Leigh Anne Clark.

Neil recommended to the BOD to fund the CHF bloat study. Neil is working with Allison Paxton to update content of website. Mary Anne Zanetos helping with translating the science behind the studies in plain language for the public. Neil to speak with Mary Anne and get back to the board on the progress.

Motion: To fund the Bloat Studies of the Canine Health Foundation.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Jason Hoke

**Judges Education:** Jason Hoke, Dale Tarbox and Bill Stebbins

Discussion – judges education, presentation and judge’s guide.

Jane Treiber to conduct a seminar in Oregon. Inventory of educational materials was completed by Jason, and we have on hand 26 Great Dane Standards, 44 Discover The Great Dane handouts, 232 Trifold pocket guides, and 11 Great Dane CDs. Jason recommended to hand over the Discover The Great Dane handouts and CD for breeder’s education vs. including it in the packet for judge’s education. The BOD needs to decide which materials to reproduce and what edits need to be made with the educational materials. Jason and Dale recommended to focus on the Illustrated Standard versus the CD. Dale can update the PowerPoint presentation with new pictures that she receives. Need to have GDCA and AKC website updated with current officers for judges’ education. Dianne to follow-up with Melissa on this.

**Judges Selection:** Teri Holle (2016 Division Chair) Status of Ballot

Via Nancy Ridgway. Waiting for an updated judges list from the AKC before the first ballot is sent out.

**Junior Showmanship/Scholarships:** Jamie Harshfield

One change for scholarship. Change the age from 25 to 26 (for Veterinary students only).

No applications received. Request was made by Mary Lou Carmody to have all juniors be mentioned at the awards and to have the names on banners with asterisks by Carmody Scholarship recipients.

Proposal to announce the name of scholarship recipients before the start of the Junior Showmanship Competition.

**Membership Health and Welfare:** Linda Cain

The committee to be renamed Wellness and Memoriam Committee. Linda to meet with committee members to go over the functions of the committee and report back to the BOD to be published in the bulletin. GDCA membership will not be a requirement to have names published on the bulletin, nor will contributions to the breed. Names will be published as a notice of passing which may be accompanied by an obituary.

**Public Education:** Jeffrey Ball

Report forwarded from Meet the Breed event in Orlando. Next event is in NY.

**Rescue:** Kathie Shea – Rescue Report

No report. Kathie to follow new procedure for grants that are ready to go.

**Standard (Breed):** Sharon Fulford

No report.

**Website:** Nancy Lerch

No report. Need to update information on the website. Cindy to follow-up with Nancy.

**Special Committees:**

**Breeders Education:** Jane Gray

No updates. Jane to remain as chairman. Lots of positive comments per Dale from recent Breeder’s education.

**Breeder Referral:** Nancy Lerch

No updates.

**Charitable Trust:** Jean Highlands

Need to update the website for the list of donors. Donors only listed through April. Board meeting in January. Sale of canvas bags did not go as well as anticipated. Check received from Marge Paszek’s estate.

**Corporate Sponsors:** Laurie Maulucci

No updates.

**Historian:** Norvel Benoit

No updates.

**Legislative:** AKC Report; Tom Sandenaw

No report.

**Membership:** Lynda Moriarty

Comment period ends January 24th. List of members to be published sent out for the 4th quarter.

Motion: To approve the pending members list for the 4th quarter for publishing on the bulletin.

Moved: Teresa LaBrie Second: Jamie Harshfield

Motion: To approve the following applicants Tammy Sudeth, Linda Grammatico, Paul Bowman, Darlene Gill, Ruth Greene, and Eddie and Sondra Easterly for membership pending no negative comments by 1/24/2015.

Moved: Sue Davis Shaw Second: Jean Highlands

**News Bulletin:** Cindy Harwin

Need more information that needs to be published in the bulletin.

**Top 20 Statistician:** Rita Suddarth

No report.

**Trophies:** Jean Dinkins and Kathy Munyan

To discuss spreadsheet of trophies during follow-up meeting on Tuesday.

**Old Business:**

Meet The Breed: Orlando

Color Code Review: Neil O’ Sullivan – no report.

Discussion: Conflict with CA Specialty for April Meetings in the future.

Motion: To recess until January 20, 2015 at 7:30 PM Eastern.

Moved: Jason Hoke Second: Dale Tarbox

**GDCA BOD Teleconference meeting, January 20, 2015**

*All motions are considered to be passed unanimously unless otherwise noted.*

**Present:** Dianne Powers, Lynda Moriarty, Jason Hoke, Bill Stebbins, Phil Gray, Sue Shaw, Denise Matulich, Jamie Harshfield, Teresa LaBrie, Jean Highlands, Kathy Munyan, Cindy Harwin, Nancy Ridgway.

**Special Committees** (Continued from 1/17/2015)

Trophies: Jean Dinkins/Kathy Munyan

It was noted that it is becoming increasing difficult to cultivate trophy donations from the membership to help cover the large cost of trophies for the National. It was felt that the parent club could take a more active role in supporting the division committee chairperson. Several other ideas were suggested as well, but it is felt that it is now necessary to make changes to reduce the cost of the trophies so as to not incur a loss year over year. Kathy Munyan and Jean Dinkins presented a detailed report of the cost of each level of trophies given out and alternative ideas to reduce the cost. The trophy spreadsheet report was reviewed line item by line item. Suggested changes were agreed upon and made.

Motion: To accept the changes to the National trophies as recommended except Award of Merit and approve a 2 ½” medallion for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th placements pending the approval of final artwork.

Moved: Jason Hoke Second: Cindy Harwin Passed

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Meet the breeds – This subject item was covered during Saturday’s Teleconference meeting on 1/17/2015.

Color Code in Review – Neil reported he had nothing to add at this time.

Discussion – Conflict with Northern California Specialty for April BOD Meetings. Week 17 for the scheduled BOD meeting is also the Northern California Club’s specialty. Specialty dates need to be confirmed before making adjustments to the BOD meeting dates. Cindy will compile a list of specialty dates. It was decided that the April 25th meeting will be by teleconference and commence at 3:00 PST.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion – parameters of Board’s duties – covered earlier

Discussion – Expectations of attendance for teleconference meetings.

It was suggested that guidelines and expectations for attendance on teleconference meetings should be set forth which addresses a minimum time to spend on call, popping in and out of call, requiring BOD members who are judges to provide contracts for excusal.

Distribution of Donation from Margaret Paszek’s estate – It was reported the GDCA has received a $6500.00 distribution from the Paszek estate. The funds were not earmarked for anything specific. It was suggested that the funds go into the general fund. Jean reported that the Charitable Trust also received a distribution in the amount of $3074.

Donation from Keith Hanlon – It was reported that GDCA is a likely recipient of 125K from the Keith Hanlon estate. It was also noted that a determination is being made on whether the monies are for the GDCA and/or the Charitable Trust. Some additional assets in the estate are likely to go to the Charitable Trust. Keith leaves behind 2 Danes that need a home and need to stay together. Funds have been set aside for their care.

Invitation from Purina – It was reported that there is an open invitation for 2 representatives of the GDCA BOD from Purina to visit the Purina Event Center for consideration to hold a future National. The invitation includes 2 nights lodging and transportation to see the surrounding area.

Motion: to accept the motion as presented

Moved: Jean Highlands Second: Teresa LaBrie Passed

Motion to adjourn Moved: Jason Hoke Second: Jamie Harshfield