**GDCA BOD Meeting Minutes, October 23 & 27, 2016 and November 07, 2016**

*All motions are considered unanimous unless otherwise noted*

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

**Absence of Board Members:** Phil Gray and Dale Tarbox.

**Motion:** To excuse the absence of Dale Tarbox and Phil Gray.

Moved: Teresa LaBrie Second: Cindy Harwin

**Minutes:** Gary Romerosa

* Electronic copy of the minutes was sent to the BOD via-email prior to the meeting for review.
* Lynda wanted clarification regarding prospective members signing the Code of Ethics to go along with their application. This will only apply to new membership applications, which new applicants must sign.

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

Moved: Bill Stebbins Second: Sue Davis Shaw

**Guest:** Jean Highlands

**President’s Report:** Dianne Powers – Review of Job Descriptions

* If it’s your position being reviewed, please review it and give your feedback, if anything needs to be revised. This includes committees. Also, think about incorporating job descriptions for the divisions. Will discuss further in January.
* Received from AKC, letter asking if we want to advertise for Westminster (catalog).
* Request sent to AKC for Carol Grossman to judge 2017 National has been received by AKC and will be reviewed for a decision. Copy needs to be sent to Lynda and Everett.
* Received letter from AKC Political Action Committee asking for donations to support it.
* Letter from AKC for Meet & Compete to have a booth at Westminster.

**Motion:** To participate in the AKC Meet and Compete, and have a booth at Westminster.

Moved: Sue Davis Shaw Second: Jamie Harshfield

* Neil wanted the board to consider having a fuller meeting at the first new board members’ meeting on Thursday.

Discussion: To have it start early at 0900, or have the meeting time as is. Majority of the BOD wants to have it at 0900, with the understanding that some BOD members will be going in and out if they are showing dogs. We also can’t have it on Wednesday before the General Membership Meeting. Joyce checked with the hotel and it is OK to have the meeting at 0900 on Thursday.

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

* Letter from AKC Humane Fund requesting a donation, we gave $1,000.00 last year.
* Letter from AKC requesting our vote for Lifetime Achievement Awards for Conformation, Companion and Performance events. Needs to be e-mailed back to AKC by Tuesday.

**Motion:** To vote for the following for the AKC Lifetime Achievement Award; Conformation: Patricia Laurans, Companion: Tibby Chase, and Performance: Jim Campbell.

Moved: Teresa LaBrie Second: Sue Davis Shaw

**Motion:** To send the AKC Humane Fund a donation of $1,000.00 to support Domestic Violence Shelters.

Moved: Jason Hoke Second: Bill Stebbins

* Received letter from Kirsten Kraunsoe asking for reasons why she was “expelled” from the club. Bill to follow-up with her. Per BOD members, she sent in a resignation letter before.
* Letter from AKC announcing that Jeffrey Ball was running for a board position.
* There are lots of questions from people coming through the Facebook page; probably because they can’t get a response through the website.
* Dianne brought the trophy that was purchased by the GDCA for display.
* National Animal Interest Alliance looking for donation.

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

Financials through September 2016: Most of the income came from the Futurity.

* Income: $4,447.05
* Expenses: $1,231.50
* Net: $3,215.55
* Balance in the bank: $245,762.96
* The income reported does not include this year’s National.
* Biggest expense was printing expenses for the by-laws.
* The 2017 proposed budget was also presented for approval.
* Jason wanted to find out if we have money available to print out documents for the changes to the standard. May need $2,000.00.

**Motion:** To accept the proposed budget and include money for the Standards Committee.

Moved: Nancy Ridgway Second: Cindy Harwin

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

Moved: Bill Stebbins Second: Teresa LaBrie

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

* Cindy has a committee in place that will work on revising the by-laws for affiliate clubs.
* Received e-mail from Affiliate Delegates to have proxies to the meeting in their stead.
* Jason wanted to know if there was a procedure in place before for voting, as far as dates and voting at the same time. None existed before per Dianne since 1988. Jason suggested that the committee consider having the voting dates for ACR correspond with the August 15 ballots for the GDCA BOD’s regular election cycle, so the CPA will receive both.
* Letter will be sent out to Delegates and Affiliate Club Secretaries regarding nominations.
* Nancy heard back from Lourdes, and she agrees to have a CPA count the votes.
* Cindy to inform the Delegates that the GDCA BOD will review anything presented to keep the BOD informed.
* The GDCA should be able to decide with disputes or ties on votes.
* Cindy and Nancy will present to the delegates input from BOD and will be discussed by the BOD in January.

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

* No report.

**Standing Committees:**

* **Advisory**: Linda Ridder, Linda Tonnancour, and Dave Miller
* No report.
* **Awards:** Margaret Ontl
* No report
* **Constitution & By-Laws:** Nancy Ridgway, Lourdes Carvajal, Linda Cain and Tom Sandenaw
* Made changes voted on in July. Will revisit in January after ACR changes have been finalized.
* **Futurity:** Michael Pacucci – Futurity contract with Kathy Barraga
* 2016 Total:
* 1st nominations: 187
* 2nd nominations: 491. Dogs: 239 Bitches: 252
* Total entries: 291. Dogs: 134 Bitches: 157
* 2017 Total:
* 1st nominations: 65
* 2nd nominations: 87. Dogs: 43 Bitches: 47
* Contract is identical to the one before, except for the addition of the GDCA paying for hotel for the day before and day after the Futurity (4 nights).
* Jason suggested to change wording, to the Futurity Secretary.
* Do we need deadlines included in contract? Will include dates to contract.

**Motion:** To approve the contract for the Futurity Superintendent as amended.

Moved: Jamie Harshfield Second: Denise Matulich

* Jason presented suggested changes to the Futurity. Dianne said to review it on website.
* Have people take creative freedom to redesign the website. Need names of people who can do this.
* Jean informed the BOD that the Trust wants to create a website that will be linked from the GDCA website.
* Per Kathy, we need to keep in mind that a lot of the “stores” are linked into the website and have security layers in place to protect credit cards, etc.
* **Health & Research:** Dr. Neil O’Sullivan Status/Updates:
* Megaesophagus Research Status Report: Clemson University
* Sue and Leigh Anne Clark have worked on getting a new litter (11 puppies) and a 2nd litter for samples. Esophagus and blood samples taken. Need to contact Leigh Ann directly if anybody want litters included in the study, to ensure better confidentiality. The Trust will pay costs directly to the Vet.
* There are interventions that can be done to affected dogs. Therapy includes Viagra. Need to include this information on FB page and website. The type must be idiopathic and not obstructive. Botox addresses the nerve pathway, while Viagra regulates the sphincter.
* Megaesophagus is usually detected at 7 days of age with milk coming out of nostril.
* In obstructive megaesophagus, lesions are associated with H. pylori.
* Wobblers Research Report – The Ohio State University
* Still trying to collect new samples. If he needs help with normal, we will discuss in the future.
* Cardiomyopathy Study Status Report – Clemson University – Katie Meurs & Dr. Leigh Ann Clark
* We may find out that there are different forms of DCM from the separate studies being done. Some are sex-linked and some are not.
* GDV Study – Dr. Alex Alvarez
* No updates.
* Epilepsy Study – University of Missouri in Columbia
* Still accepting samples. We need to put the word out to the membership to participate in the study if they have affected dogs.

Discussion: CHIC explanation needed; that it’s a way to share information along with breeder’s options results. Need a way to convey how to understand the interpretations. Joy and Cindy will bring the health testing stuff to Breeder’s Education.

* Color Code Review: Dr. Neil O’Sullivan
* Made progress, but at a stuck point with Punnett Squares.
* Problem with classic merle gene. Variations to merle gene with normal merle and cryptic merle (Mc). Need to get the science sorted out.
* We can still write a solid standard.
* Go to the Trust to pay or subsidize tests for Harls being tested for merle.

Discussion: AKC PAC. Do we want to participate in this? Per Neil, this is professional and helpful, and really helped to lobby. Per Dianne, they are specifically asking the membership to make a donation.

**Motion:** To make a $250 donation to the AKC PAC.

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Jason Hoke

* **Judges Education:**  Jason Hoke, Dale Tarbox, and Bill Stebbins.
* Completed six this year, with the last one in Maryland with 22 attendees. The last one for this year will be this week at the National with 16 signed-up.
* Comments made, that we have the best Judges Ed presentation. The new Illustrated Standard is a huge part of this.
* Cindy proposed to possibly having cards sent to judges with questionable judging, and in the same token, send ones out to judges noted to have excellent judging.
* **Judges Selection:**
* Next ballot. Letters for 2018 have gone out to show chair and secretary.
* 2019 comes out after the 1st of the year.
* Teresa brought up that the Performance Event have the same judge all the time. Any changes to Performance should be brought up to the National Specialty Committee, since Performance is done at the Division level.
* Ask Performance people to provide a list of pool of judges that may be able to do it as a start.
* We’re still losing money on Performance. The problem is, there’s no committee, just one person. Teresa is not involved and doesn’t get any information.
* Talk to Joy Lobato about opening up agility to working breeds.
* **Junior Showmanship/Scholarships:** Jamie Harshfield – Proposal from Christy Horton.
* 10 scholarships awarded for $1,500.00 each.
* Olga Maderych awarded the Carmody Scholarship.
* Discussed opening scholarship to other professional degrees besides Veterinary School.

**Motion:** To recommend to the Charitable Trust to offer scholarships to students pursuing professional degrees, up to 26 years of age.

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Jason Hoke

* Proposal from Christy Horton to have FB page for Juniors. Wants Juniors to be encouraged and recognized. Post pictures and accomplishments. Feature Juniors at the National on poster board?
* Jamie does not like the idea of children being posted on FB. Too many legal hurdles attached to this.
* Have via parents, submit photos to FB page. How do we limit submissions? Junior of the Month?
* Poster board for the National is a good idea. Perhaps include Juniors on slide shows?
* Jamie to tell Christy what was discussed at the meeting.
* **Membership Health and Welfare:** Melanie Wisdom and Sue Davis Shaw
* Melanie is doing an excellent job.
* Diane Taylor passing. Request to Nancy Lerch to put obituary on website. We’ve turned ones down before, so we cannot do it. Information to be sent to bulletin.
* Slide show at Awards Dinner for members who have passed. Linda Springthorpe, David Moore, Trudy Muller, etc. Include those who have died in 2015 and 2016? Will start with just 2016 to recognize members who have passed. Sue to get list to Amy and roll the names.
* **National Specialty Coordinator:** Lynda Moriarty
* 2016 – South Central Division status – Tulsa, OK
* A few glitches, not knowing evening meals weren’t being provided. Going to address the $38,000 minimum.
* Issue with electrical as well, being fixed.
* We are 115% over number we reserved.
* One person gets comped room/meals, the show chair, Karen Schuller.
* Sold 560 meals. We’re still at 18.5% comp rate, with 101 people with comped meals (sponsors and vendors).
* Trophy donations, Bronze (27K), Friends of the Division (6K), and Purina (6K) have over $60,000 total.
* Vendors; Photographer received two free rooms, while the Videographer is on his own.
* The Division brought their own cables. AV would have cost over $4,500.00
* Videographer needed a dedicated T1 line.
* For Event tickets, see Sonya Moore.
* Alamo Club in charge of the grounds. Garbage cans and poop bags provided.
* Bronze sponsors get front, friends second row, and then paid ringside seats.
* 2017 – Western Division status – Chandler, AZ (San Marcos)
* Everything on schedule. A couple of people backed out of commitment.
* Brochure being delivered on Wednesday and distributed on Saturday. 500 brochures. Denise to get with Clarence to set up FB page.
* Website set up by Jerry Tandy and will be up on Saturday.
* Casitas are no longer available. Only 249 rooms, with only 12 suites available.
* Will have another meeting this week on Thursday, 30 minutes after judging.
* Need to find out from Lauri Maulucci which Corporate Sponsors are here this year.
* There are two alternative hotels within a five-mile radius. Residence Inn and Homewood Suites.
* Auction night will be Italian food; cost will be $40.
* Awards and Top 20 will be $55.
* No theme night.
* Welcome Party is Saturday night (14th)
* Tucson will hold Specialty on the 21st.
* John Garcia is in charge of Motorhome parking. The facility is charging $1,000/day to park, with electric $35,000/week.
* Agility is in air conditioned building off site. The cost is $500 for the whole day and includes all equipment.
* Conformation, Obedience, and Rally will be done at host hotel.
* Need to set aside more rooms, to around 60.
* Rooms will be $119/night.
* 2018 – Mid West Division status – Topeka, KS
* Division meeting this week, Thursday after judging.
* 2019 – Northeast Division
* No additional information. Meeting on November 5th.
* **Performance/Companion Events:** Joyce Guthrie
	+ Discussed under Judges Selection
	+ Chair must be GDCA member
* **Public Education:** Jeffrey Ball
* No report.
* **Rescue:** Kathie Shea
* Less rescues this year. More younger dogs in rescue, with the same color families.
* Update in AL (73 dogs) and FL (75 dogs) rescues. AL, only 15 were confiscated, but are supposed to surrender more. In FL, the breeder had to go to a nursing home. The dogs went to a very well-funded sanctuary.
* GDCA is the best with supporting rescue groups vs. other breed clubs.
* **Standard (Breed):** Sharon Fulford
* Per Jason, hit a snag with merles, especially with patterns and defining these dogs to non-breeder judges. Educating judges will be a challenge. Mantle merle vs. Solid merles, where do you delineate?
* Discussed height standard at 12 months, 28-30”, vs. 30-32”. Jason states that AKC will never change it to over 30” at a year old due to existing wickets maxed out at 30”.
* **Website:** Nancy Lerch
* No report.
* **Special Committees:**
* Breeders Education: Jane Gray
* Bill to run program this week. Person picked by Jane not available.
* Bill picked-up materials that Jane sent.
* Breed Mentor: Bill Stebbins
* This is the first year that mentors will be helping and utilizing the mentoring form to keep records of how many people are asking for assistance.
* AKC is very interested in the forms, and may be suggesting it to other breed clubs.
* Code of Ethics change from FB to website.

**Motion:** To approve the Breeder Code of Ethics for the GDCA website.

Moved: Linda Cain Second: Jamie Harshfield

* Breeder Referral: Nancy Lerch
* No report.
* Charitable Trust: Sue Davis Shaw – Update on Mega
* Discussed on previous points.
* Dianne Taylor bequeathed all statuary to the Trust. Will auction off items with the proceeds going to the Trust.
* Dianne still has Paddy’s donations in boxes that can be auctioned off. Dianne to check if it can be sent now for the auction.
* Corporate Sponsors: Lauri Maulucci
* No report.
* Historian: Norvel Benoit
* No report.
* Legislative: Dale Tarbox
* No report.
* Membership: Lynda Moriarty
* 3rd quarter bulletin published with no correspondence, either positive or negative.

**Motion:** To approve the following applicants; Stacy Smith, Treasure Hauer Wylie, Maricella Osterman, Nicole Dunn, Diane Husar, Dena Cassell, Jaclyn Watts, Linda Lee Boone, Lisa Lewis, Arlene Erbacher, and Mark Davenport as new members.

* To be published on 4th quarter bulletin, the following applicants: Shanda Bhasker, Liz Bush, Mari Hayhurst, David Hayhurst, Jana Inwood, Jose Ignacio, Nick Spirtos MD, Vicki Mazzorana MD, Dean and Clarisse (Jr.) Williams, and Jennifer Hester.
* News Bulletin: Maria Perkins – email to those with email address.
* Discussed Maria’s concerns regarding mailing vs. emailing. Those on the mailing list receives a hard copy, vs. emailing electronic copy.
* Put out a notice in the last quarter bulletin, that this would be the last hard copy they will receive and then it will be sent electronically.
* There are over 20 members receiving hard copies.
* Call the members per Linda Cain to notify them of receiving electronic copy vs, hard copy.
* Top 20 Statistician – Rita Suddarth
* None.
* Trophies: Jean Dinkins
* On AOM. Change the size to lower the cost to 2” thick x 7” high x 14” wide.
* Have people donate back old ones.
* Teresa proposed changes to awards for Performance events soliciting trophy donations to make it in memory of to boost trophy donations.
* Revise trophy for Reserve for Futurity. Currently it looks bigger and better than the BIF trophy.
* Jean to look at more cost-saving changes, including using different woods for bases.

**Old Business:**

* Top 20 Tabulators Meals – Linda Cain

**Motion:** To comp the meals for the three tabulators for the Top 20 Event.

Moved: Linda Cain Second: Sue Davis Shaw Opposed: Nancy Ridgway

* Nationwide vet List – Proposal from Mary Barnett
* Sue got in touch with Mary, but she has not done anything with it because she’s forgotten about it.
* Top 20 Committee Report/Recommendations/Vote – Linda Cain
* No other report.
* Website
* Dianne will put together a list of people by the next meeting.
* Restructuring Awards - Jamie Harshfield
* Jamie to put proposal together.
* Add Best of Opposite to Annual Awards - Linda Cain
* Add BOS to top winning Dane, and BOS to group wining Dane.
* Per Lynda, ask Jean how much it might cost to get additional plaques, and leave on the agenda for January.

**New Business:**

* Per Lynda, no Champion of Health submitted. Need to make announcements on FB page, and bulletin and make it a monthly notice on FB.
* Petition to FCI – Jason Hoke
* Letter sent to BOD via email.
* BOD to send one on our own to FCI. The whole premise is to condemn whole “Euro-type/Hyper Dane.”
* Quoted what the FCI Breed Standards have at the bottom of the Standard.
* Send it to the AKC as well and publish the letter in the bulletin. BOD to sign the letter.

**Motion:**  To approve the letter to the FCI President regarding the future of the Great Dane.

Moved: Neil O’ Sullivan Second: Bill Stebbins

* Meet the Breeds - Westminster
* Discussed already.
* Whether to revise the Affiliate Club Rep provision in bylaws, and if so, what do we want to change – Nancy Ridgway
* Discussed already.

**Motion:** To adjourn.

Moved: Jason Hoke Second: Bill Stebbins

**GDCA BOD 2nd Meeting, October 27, 2016**

**Present:** Dianne Powers, Sue Davis Shaw, Kathy Munyan, Bill Stebbins, Neil O’Sullivan, Gary Romerosa, Jamie Harshfield, Cindy Harwin, Joyce Rowe, Lynda Moriarty, Teresa LaBrie, Nancy Ridgway, and Linda Cain.

**Guest:** Dale Tarbox

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM EST.

* Second Board Meeting – Code of Conduct Sheets
* Passed out and signed by those present.
* Signed letter to FCI drafted by Jason Hoke.
* Discussion on Kathleen Fennell’s letter to the board regarding results of judging. Offering her services to volunteer and continue posting results. Asking for easel, internet connection, and two chairs by Superintendent and Ring Steward. Cindy expressed concern that the BOD may be overstepping with the Division hosting the show.

Kathy proposed to have it OK for the Futurity, but to leave it to the Division and make a recommendation to avail of their services.

* Top 20. Per Lynda, score change on score sheet not initialed by Judge on a particular dog. Need to go to the judge to have it reviewed and initialed. Need Linda Cain to be here so she can address concerns back to the committee.

**Motion:** To accept Kathleen Fennell and Yvonne Weed’s proposal for posting judging results and announcing for the Futurity, and recommend to each Division their offer of services for the breed judging, and to reimburse for supplies.

Moved: Kathy Munyan Second: Lynda Moriarty

* Easels used at the National are paid for daily.
* Website Design Standardization.
* Request from Mary Ann Land. Wants link from GDCA to the Division, but was told no by Melissa Ekis. Concern is with the store per Kathy, because of credit card security concerns.
* Neil to get clarification from Mary Ann to see if it’s just a link to the Division and not the store.
* Lynda proposed to just have Mary Ann have access to the GDCA site. Per Lynda, Mary Ann just needs access to the sub domain.

**Motion:** To allow Mary Ann Land access to the GDCA website for purposes of creating web pages for the 2018 National, including permission to add links as necessary.

Motion: Lynda Moriarty Second: Neil O’Sullivan

* Top 20.
* Will have a bunch of updates/changes that will go back to the committee. Neil wants less time between when the last dog exits and the next dog enters the ring to save more time.
* Linda wants recommendations sent to her, so she can bring it back to her committee.
* Per Dale, they should allow the Division to choose the music. Also, ask the judges for input.
* Concerns about standardizing the Top 20 catalog and be done by Rita. Take it off as a Division responsibility.
* Adding a second inside Ring Steward will expedite handing over score sheets.
* Site for next BOD meeting will be decided on after the Northeast Division decides after they meet next week.
* Will approve motions next week via teleconference.
* Next venue for BOD meeting (January) will be Atlanta. Dianne will coordinate and decide. April meeting will be in Houston.

**Motion:** To adjourn.

Moved: Linda Cain

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 November 7, 2016, 5:00 PM PST**

**Present:** Dianne Powers, Jamie Harshfield, Sue Davis Shaw, Kathy Munyan, Jean Highlands, Joyce Rowe, Linda Cain, Teresa LaBrie, Nancy Ridgway, Denise Matulich, Bill Stebbins, and Gary Romerosa.

* Dianne was waiting until motions were approved prior to notifying Kathleen and Yvonne.

**Motion:** To accept the motions as amended.

Moved: Linda Cain Second: Denise Matulich Abstain: Jean Highlands

**Motion:** To adjourn.

Moved: Jamie Harshfield Second: Joyce Rowe