



**GSDCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 17, 2021**

Lake St Louis, MO

NOTE: Meeting began Sunday 8:00AM CDT

Deborah Stern brought the meeting to Order at 8:05 CDT. She Introduced Julie Degen as one of our 2022 BOD Members in attendance as a guest.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Deborah Stern, Laura Gilbert, Pamela O'Dell, Gail Stiefferman, Jeff Pyle, Lenny Brown, Erin Nellis, Candee Foss, Ann Solt, Ileana Noguera, John Ayotte. **ABSENT:** Morton Goldfarb

REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY Pamela O'Dell

Pamela O'Dell made the Motion to waive the reading of the minutes, 2nd by Candee Foss. Passed Unanimously.

Pamela O'Dell made the Motion to approve the following Minutes. 2nd by Lenny Brown. Passed Unanimously.

July 23-25 GSDCA Regular BOD Meeting Minutes
8/17/2021 GSDCA Special BOD Meeting Minutes
9/11/2021 GSDCA Special BOD Meeting Minutes
10/5/2021 GSDCA Special BOD Meeting Minutes

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Gail Stiefferman

No Report

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Deborah Stern

Previously Tabled Ratifications

May 19, 2021

(Morton Goldfarb, Continental Director, and Charlie Starr and Rebecca Underwood, GSDCA's SV Committee co-chairs, were on this call to give their expert advice and answer all questions.)

Based on expert information given by Morton Goldfarb and Rebecca Underwood and Charlie Starr, approval of Frank Phillips, already approved by SV Committee, to judge upcoming IGP Joint Qualifier. Motion made by Laura, 2nd by Cyndi. YEA – Laura Gilbert, Cyndi Flautt and Jeff Pyle. NAY – Ann Solt. Motion Passed. Pamela O'Dell made the motion not to Ratify, 2nd by Candee Foss. Passed by majority. Abstained: Jeff Pyle, Cyndi Flautt.

Approval of Carl Smith as Apprentice Judge for IGP Joint Qualifier. Motion made by Laura, 2nd by Cyndi. YEA – Laura Gilbert, Cyndi Flautt and Jeff Pyle. NAY – Ann Solt. Motion Passed. Motion made by Pamela O'Dell to table until the January Meeting hoping we receive the completed application and paperwork from Carl Smith. Second by Jeff Pyle. Passed Unanimously.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT Deborah Stern

No Report

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT Laura Gilbert

No report

REPORT OF THE TREASURER Ann Solt

Ann Solt had shared with the BOD the 9/30/21 financials.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. AKC Delegate Carmen Battaglia

See Report

2. AKC Dog Detection Mark French, Wilhelm Lipp, Irina Suchko

See Report

3. Awards:

Award of Excellence Laura Gilbert

See Report

Dual Award Amber Turley

Report for both Dual Award and Dual Award Excellent

Performance Award of Merit –Julie Degen

Report listing recipients

4. Education – Bob Drescher

See Report

5. Futurity – Cyndi Flautt

Cyndi Flautt noted that Bob Drescher was approved to judge the SW Futurity. With his acceptance to judge the Canadian National, he needed to decline from judging our Futurity due to the contract.

Cyndi asked for Approval for the following judges for the 2022 Southwest Futurity pending receipt of signed contracts.

First choice: Lorry Bellah

First alternate: Nancy Godek McDonald

Second alternate: Art Sinclair

Pamela made the motion to approve, 2nd by Lenny Brown. Passed Unanimously.

Cyndi asked for permission to offer an online survey of the membership for feedback on the possibility of the following proposal:

Make the National Futurity/Maturity finals a separate event from the regional shows, requiring an AKC application and event number. Dogs that qualify for the finals (regional winners and reserves) would need to be entered in the new event. This would allow the dog's information to be updated with new AKC titles and/or owners that may have changed since the regional show entry. It would also provide income to help cover the cost of the building. Prize money would be given to winners per AKC rules. Entries could be taken by Foy Trent or Dogzibit, whomever the Board prefers. Candee Foss made the Motion to approve allowing Cyndi to reach out to the membership to see if this change would be supported. 2nd by John Ayotte. Passed Unanimously.

Dogs who win Best/Best Opposite or reserve at a regional Futurity/Maturity must be owned or co-owned by a GSDCA member to be eligible to compete in the National Finals. Approve September 15th as a new cutoff date for membership application and payment for non-member owners who want to compete in the finals. This is needed to accommodate the expanded Futurity season of March 1st through Labor Day that was approved by the Board at the July 2021 meeting. Motion made by Candee Foss, 2nd by Jeff Pyle to extend the cutoff for membership 9/15 to accommodate the extended Futurity date for entering the Finals. Passed Unanimously.

Cyndi asked for several changes to the current Futurity Judge Rules.

The following are automatically eligible to judge a Futurity:

1. AKC licensed and provisional judges of German Shepherd Dogs
2. Persons who are licensed to judge German Shepherd Dogs in the country where they reside.
3. Persons who have previously judged one or more GSDCA Futurity/Maturity shows.

Applicants not meeting any of the above criteria:

1. Must have exhibited German Shepherd dogs for a minimum of ten years.
- **2. Must have bred two German Shepherd Champions and exhibited at least one other German Shepherd to its AKC Championship while being the owner of record. (Total of three AKC Champions)
3. Must have completed four ring experiences, which would include any combination of judging a match or ring stewarding at a GSD specialty, all breed show, or Futurity/Maturity show.
4. Must have attended a GSDCA National judge's seminar or an approved GSDCA judge's seminar and have a certificate verifying attendance.

Cyndi asked that we approve adding #2 back it as it was removed in 2015. Motion made by John Ayotte to approve adding this criteria back into the Judge rules, 2nd Candee Foss. Passed Unanimously.

Professional handlers who have not previously judged a Futurity/Maturity show must meet the following criteria:

1. Must have exhibited German Shepherd dogs for a minimum of ten years
- **2. Must have finished at least ten German Shepherds champions.
- **3. Three of the ten finished must have earned one of the following titles at the GSDCA National Specialty: GSDCA Select, Futurity Victor, Futurity Victrix, Maturity Victor, Maturity Victrix.
4. Must have completed four ring experiences, which would include any combination of judging a match or ring stewarding at a GSD specialty, all breed show, or Futurity/Maturity show.
5. Must have attended a GSDCA National judge's seminar or an approved GSDCA judge's seminar and have a certificate verifying attendance.

Cyndi asked for approval to add #2&3 for a Handler to judge a Futurity. Motion made by John Ayotte to approve adding the above mentioned criteria for a handler to judge a Futurity. , 2nd by Laura Gilbert. Passed Unanimously.

Cyndi asked add the following to one of the Rules:

A person may judge a Futurity once every three years. No person may judge a Futurity the year he/she judges the American National Specialty Show or **the year following judging of the National Specialty Show.** Motion made by Jeff Pyle to add the additional verbiage, 2nd by Pamela O'Dell. Passed Unanimously.

6. Historical Preservation Travis Scarlett Report

Laura Gilbert noted that she talked to Tom Mesdag and he was putting together all of the historical information from Von Nassau Kennels. Laura noted that we really need to go find historical information from our past large kennels. She also noted we need to reach out to Tom Brown for what he put together regarding our first 20 years.

7. Internet John Ayotte

Lenny and John gave an update on the new website. John will run the old one as the new site is being created and ready to go live. Erin Nellis is working on the completion of the contract so we can make the initial payment for the production. It will take 3 months to build the website and probably an additional 3-4 months to get it really where it needs to be for finance, store, and committees.

Lenny Brown suggested that we look at creating a Legal Committee with several of our attorneys on it. Our members who are attorneys are very busy, but at times we have a sense of urgency with Contract issues. Having a committee with several attorneys may help us and lessen the need to rely on only one attorney. We should discuss at the January meeting.

John also discussed the cloud site for storing our information. This should be a part of the new website. He noted that we might be able to run through the trust for the tax discount.

8. Insurance

Deborah Stern noted our agent should have some options for us next week. She has included Pamela O'Dell in the conversations.

9. Juniors – Nick Hodge/Nancy McDonald

See Report

Pamela O'Dell made the Motion to accept the resignation of Nick Hodge as Co-Chair, 2nd by Erin Nellis. Passed Unanimously.

Pamela O'Dell made the motion to accept Nikki Bodea as Co-Chair for the Juniors Committee, 2nd by Jeff Pyle. Passed Unanimously.

We still need to discuss allowing the Juniors to appoint their Judge for the National. They have sufficient funds in the Trust to support this request. Erin Nellis noted that the Juniors made \$4,663 with the Chuck a Duck event and the Silent Auction.

10. Marketing, Review Marketing – Jeff Pyle

Reviewed in closed session.

11. Membership - Laura Gilbert

We are still working on updating all the Membership information. Laura shared the information she sends out to new members. She asked about our Illustrated Standard. We discussed the price of the actual printed publication. John Ayotte suggested that he put it up on the website in a printable PDF and members could print it off. Pamela O'Dell noted that we paid for the Illustrated Standard in digital form and we could probably get a copy from vendor to keep the Website copy clean.

12. National Specialty – Gail Stiefferman/Lori Payne

2021 National Recap

Gail Stiefferman informed the BOD that the Trailer needs some maintenance and a rack for the turf. After some discussion, Erin Nellis made the motion to approve \$1,500 for the necessary maintenance and a rack for the trailer. 2nd by Jeff Pyle. Passed Unanimously.

We discussed Ocala for 2022. We have to make the next deposit of \$2,500 by Nov 15, 2021. We confirmed that the SV Committee wants the 2022 Sieger Show in Ocala with the National Specialty so the fields do need to be added to the contract. After a tour of the facility, all agreed that it would work, the price would be good and being able to offer the membership both events at the same time and same location would be very beneficial. It would also help the GSDCA to maximize the Grant for hotel rooms. Pamela would confirm the number of days needed. Gail brought up that we also need to confirm the tracking fields for the AKC events. She also asked that we use the same tracking judges from 2021 to 2022. We could offer all of the tracking venues with these judges. They also live very close to the venue and could go look at them for us. John Ayotte made the motion for Ron and Lucinda

Wheeley to be our Tracking Judges for 2022. 2nd by Laura Gilbert. Passed Unanimously. Deb Stern asked if they can go look at the tracking fields as soon as possible so we can get it on the contract.

Erin Nellis gave an update regarding the grant application for Ocala. It covers all room nights includes all hotels, RVs, and the cabins. Deb Stern noted that we need to implement a process to track the room nights as our Grant could be as much as \$25,000. The Chamber will help us, but we want to make sure we do not miss anyone. Deb asked if there was a way to add to the website when members are purchasing items if there could be a box added to ask the member where they are staying and how many nights.

The main hotel rooms are in the contract. We are at the point we need to get back to Ocala on how many rooms at the main on-site hotel. Erin was going to forward a schedule for approval prior to the completion of the contract.

Gail did note that our videographer was hacked which caused most of the problems for our live stream. He will make it right for our membership. Gail would like to have him come back for our Ocala National. He did this at no charge to the club.

13.P & P Manual – Ileana Noguerras

See report

14.Regional Clubs – Mary Tripp

See Report

15.Review Management- .Jeff Pyle(under Marketing)

Discussed in Closed Session

Review management Committee. Jeff Pyle made the Motion to approval for the following Committee. Christine Grainer, Jeff Pyle, Kathaleen Strong, John Ayotte, Valerie Harrington and Pamela O’Dell. 2nd by John Ayotte. Passed Unanimously.

16.SV Programs – Report –Action Items Charlie Starr/Rebecca Underwood

Tabled until the follow up 10/25/21 meeting

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS

NA

XI. NEW BUSINESS

ABBSC Presentation

The American Berger Blanc Suisse Dog Club made a presentation to the BOD giving the history of the breed. This is not the first time we have been approached. They are asking that the GSDCA write a letter to the AKC noting that the GSDCA will not object to the FCI Berger Blanc Suisse entering the AKC Foundation Stock Service or a Letter to the AKC to stop registering the BBS as a German Shepherd. Pamela O’Dell spoke up and asked Linda what is the difference between the BBS and the White GSD, specifically if they had added another breed into the BBS to genetically differentiate the 2 breeds. It was noted that there is no difference genetically. Pamela also asked what would be the plan for the 2 other White GSD organizations that want to remain as GSDs. Linda stated that there is no reason to bring these White GSDs into the BBS registration. Jeff Pyle asked when they broke off from the White GSD, what was difference at the time genetically. Linda confirmed that there was no difference at the time. The BOD asked for additional time to look into this as it is important factor to have all the information before a decision is made. John Ayotte stated there is additional information since the last presentation. Jeff made the motion to table to the January meeting, 2nd by Laura Gilbert. Passed Unanimously.

January 2022 BOD Meeting. Pamela suggesting we go to Phoenix. Erin Nellis made the Motion to go to Phoenix, 2nd by Candee Foss. Passed Unanimously. Gail Stiefferman offered to take care of the details with Erin Nellis's guidance.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned until Monday 10/25/2021