



GSDCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 23, 2022

Held by Teleconference

- I. 4/5/2022 Special Board Meeting
- 4/24/2022 Special Board Meeting
- 3/16/2022 Board Conference Meeting
- 3/9/2022 Special Board Meeting
- 2/22/22 Board Conference Meeting

II. Report of the Recording Secretary – Candee Foss

Candee Foss made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes dated (listed above). Ileana Nogureras 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Candee Foss made a motion to approve the minutes dated above. Jeff Pyle 2nd the motion. Ileana Nogureras asked that a correction be made under the SV portion of 2/22/22 to add “expect to get”. Candee Foss amended her motion to approve the minutes with the correction to the 2/22/22. Jeff Pyle 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Report of the Corresponding Secretary – Gail Stiefferman

1. Board nomination for judges will be held in closed session.
2. Regional club Facebook page – discussion was shared that Gail and Mary Tripp thought the regional FB page was hard to find and needs to be easier for members to utilize the page for members and regional clubs. Pam thought that in bringing it all together to include SV and regional club’s activities. Ileana Nogureras felt that by putting this under the “marketing umbrella”, we could better reach the membership. It was decided that we would hold off in light of the new website being done.
3. Selection of Judges for the AKC-Eukanuba American Dog Classic – Gail hasn’t received a request for judges so she will reach out to Micheal Canalizo.

IV. Report of the Executive Committee – Pamela O’Dell

1. The Executive Committee met once. Cyndi Flutt had asked us to approve John Bemont to judge the SE F/M due to Randy Chestnut having health reasons.
2. The executive committee also approved adding per the FCI rules a national event can accept more than 36 dogs per judge. We just need to update our rules to correspond with the FCI rules. Pam asked the board to ratify those two decisions the executive board made. Steve Bloom made a motion to approve the ratification of the Executive Board. Candee Foss 2nd the ratification. Passed unanimously.

V. Report of the President – Pamela O’Dell

Pam wanted to congratulate our members that our competing now at the IGP National. She also thanked Ann Solt for representing the GSDC Board.

VI. Report of the Vice President -Laura Gilbert

No report at this time.

VII. Treasurer’s Report – Ann Solt

Basically, we have completed the March financials, which were sent to the Board. The main focus right now is completing the audit. According to the auditors, it is going very well. Her one question was the allocation of the review, and the auditor is going to weigh in on the different profit centers.

Board of Directors:

Class of 2021
Cyndi Flautt, Ileana Noguerras, Jeff Pyle, Lenny Brown
Class of 2022
Erin Nellis, John Ayotte, Steven Bloom, Julie Degen

VIII COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. AKC Delegate...Report.....Carmen Battaglia

We did receive a report from Carmen and one of the highlights was that AKC is starting to invite veterinarian students to dog shows as a way to educate them on pure bred dogs. Carmen also mentioned the ongoing interest by many breeders and parent clubs regarding the growing number of owners who pass away and abandon their frozen semen and how we would be responding to that. He wants to know if the GSDC is interested in the project and if we are willing to participate, we need to send the AKC a name/liaison who can help with this. Pam opened it up for discussion and the board members voiced their thoughts and concerns. There are a lot of behind the scene issues that might not be able to be resolved. A few board members thought maybe sending out a Constant Contact to the membership may spearhead some interest in someone having the time to dedicate to this project. Ileana Noguerras recalled that Julie Degen was going to contact the Otter Hound Club. Julie shared her findings and it basically mirrors Carmen’s report. The Otter Club has a foundation that pays for the storage of the semen as they are such a rare breed. Pam O’Dell will send out a constant contact asking members if they would be interested in the AKC Dog Detection Task Force. This demand for detection and patrol dogs continues to increase. Carmen asked that if members want to be added to the list to contact Mellissa (Melissa.Ferrell@akc.org) for further information. Also in Carmen’s report was the new “Bred by Exhibitor Title that AKC is recommending the board to approve. The board decided to wait until June to further discuss this.

2. AKC GazetteJeff Pyle(Under Marketing)

3. AKC Dog Detection Report.....Mark French, Wilhelm Lipp, Irina Suchko

The work of our Detection Dog Committee has been concentrated in creating and developing new approaches to existing methods of procurement of the working dogs for the needs of law enforcement, homeland security and government agencies at the Local, State and Federal Level. It is a known fact there is a shortage of Detection Working Dogs in the United States. The current procurement system is not fulfilling that shortage. It currently includes resellers, and vendors/brokers who acquire dogs locally and overseas; profiteers who then resell them. Many domestic breeders do not want to participate in this “middleman approach.” Many domestic

breeders have different motives than the current procurement system, knowing their dogs are protecting their own communities, citizens, friends and families.

An online platform has been created allowing our fellow domestic breeders to advertise freely to assist in alleviating this shortage. This platform is now in the process of being introduced to interested entities to provide a database of domestic dogs available and located in the USA without using a vendor/broker to purchase.

We have started working with United States Police Canine Association and were pleased to find out that our views of the current procurement system are the same. We are working together to connect our breeders with K9 law enforcement departments that are in need to working dogs.

4. AKC Canine Health Foundation- No Report.....John Bemont

5. Breeder’s Code of Conduct No Report.....Candee Foss, Jeff Pyle, Julie Degen

6. Budget and Finance – Report – Erin Nellis
Erin worked with the chairs and overall, we are forecasting a \$30,000 profit for 2022. Most of that is from one-time events which is from the grant for the WEC and the sponsorship of the SV which nets about \$15,000. These 2 events make up the bulk of the profit forecast – last year we made roughly \$14,000 in profit.

SV will be showing a profit because of sponsors they had received. Erin has \$7000.00 budgeted for the teams to Europe . Ileana Nogureras asked if we would consider paying for the SV members that are representing our club to go to the National Sieger show. At the present, we pay \$1500 per member. Ileana feels that with the work and time invested by these members with their dogs, we should pay their way. One thought was to start a “go fund me” for the SV team. Ileana will reach out to her committee and get back with us on this.

Erin shared that the national is on track to make apx \$47,000 profit. \$10,000 of this is from a grant application that she and Gail are still working on to get approval of hopefully by July.

Erin allocated more money to the website/webmaster. This will help with possible additional scopes in case they need to be more automated. The Review showed a small profit because we budgeted to increase the advertising rates from the deeply discounted rates implemented during COVID. The Herding budget this year will be different as she combined Julie and Val Mannings reports – historically herding has shown a loss since 2019, so hopefully we are forecasting a small profit. Herding Revenue and expenses are 3X historical numbers.

National trophy budget is trending about the same. Trophy Donation fundraising has usually been 50% completed by this time. With Ellen Pfann retiring her position, those efforts have not yet begun. We are forecasting the same level of trophy donations as previous years.

Jeff Pyle made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Gail Stiefferman 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

7. By-Laws – No reportXXXXXXXXXXXX

8. Awards:

Awards Committee Report- Action Item Vicki Bemont
GSDCA Robert "Bob" Slay Award

Recipients of this award must be an AKC German Shepherd Dog judge and GSDCA Member for a minimum of 10 years. The recipient adheres to The AKC Code of Sportsmanship and is recognized

for their outstanding breed knowledge, impartiality, and a commitment to integrity and ethical behavior. The Board discussed and tabled this to the July board meeting.

R.O.M. – Report/Action Item..... Dee Lauffer/Chris Carter
 We also need to add an Action Item to the Agenda. It is regarding two ROM Dams that should have earned their awards in 2013 but were not identified until we discovered the oversight using the new ROM database software. I will have the full details to present during the meeting. Laura Gilbert made a motion to accept these Dams. Ileana Nogurearas 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously. John Ayotte will get the names of the dams so they will be in the minutes.

Award of Excellence – No Report Laura Gilbert

ATAA – No Report..... Cynthia Binder DVM

Dual Award...Report.....Amber Turley
 Twenty 9x3 plaques have been ordered through EDCO. This will enable our membership to receive their Dual Award plaques in a timelier manner.

Performance Award of Merit – No report.....Julie Degen

Select Excellence Award... No report.....XXXXXXXXXX

Health Award of Merit... No ReportGinny Altman

Thirteen Club...No Report.....Sherry Kenachu

Regional Club Challenge No Report.....Kathy Spilos

Phyllis Kraft Award Report/Action Items - [Dr Zoe Backman](#)
 Report was submitted in January 2022 with regards to having this award put back in its original form. Dr Zoe has given the board information pertaining to the outline of the award. This was tabled to the July meeting on whether or not to keep as amended or go back to the original criteria for the award. Zoe will send an original copy; the board will review when the change was made (2018) and discuss this at the next meeting. It will be on the July agenda to keep as original or change.

Education – No Report,Bob Drescher

9. Ethics – No Report.....Michelle Wallis

10.Futurity – Report Cyndi Flautt

2022 Info with 2021 comparison:

	2022	2021
Catalog Ads	\$6465	\$6700
Trophy Donations	\$5195	\$4490
Memorials- Review ad excess	\$3200	
TOTAL	\$14,860	

\$11,190 Live Stream \$2430 (as of 4/13/22)

\$6105 Litter nominations 226 176

The Futurity Committee will be discussing the following this spring and have recommendations for the July meeting:

- Ideas for use of live stream donations.
 Example: Exhibitor hospitality at regional Futurities and National Futurity finals.
- Amateur Futurity classes: continue or discontinue?
- Add Best Dog/Bitch in Futurity/Maturity rosettes.
- Class placement plaques vs rosettes

11. Health & Genetics – No Report..... Carolyn Gerganoff

12. Historical Preservation... *No report*..... Travis Scarlett

13. Internet – No Report, John Ayotte

14. Insurance... Report Pamela O’Dell

To cover Certificates of Insurance for locations for GSDCA Events, we paid the additional \$500 premium to cover All events.

15. Juniors – - No Report..... Nancy McDonald

16. Legislation No Report..... Nancy Harper-Mulvany/Stormy Hope

17. Legal Affairs No report Sam Israel

18. Marketing, Review Marketing – Report, Jeff Pyle

GSDCA Tik Tok - Marketing has initiated a new GSDCA Tik Tok and will soon be posting short fun videos from events as well as brief interviews with exhibitors. The goal of this initiative is to broaden our reach to as many GSD enthusiasts as possible within a fun interactive platform. Tik Tok is interactive and videos can be shared to Facebook, Instagram, and other platforms. There is no cost. The focus will be on 1.) Fun 2.) Education & 3.) Introduction to various venues. The underlying goal is to reach & pull in potential club members and exhibitors.

Products - We have narrowed down several products and would like to get them ordered no later than June to avoid any issues or shipping delays such as happened last year. Does this require a budget or do we work with Ann and/or Erin once final quotes are obtained? Erin explained that there is a significant budget for the national for products and Jeff, Gail and Erin will discuss this.

New Member Reach Out - The Committee is finalizing a template or checklist of items and questions to be used by committee members who would alternate by month reaching out to all new applicants published in The Review to welcome them to the GSDCA and see if they have any questions or need pointed toward a regional club, or other committee or group of their liking. This would be a person-to-person phone call followed up with an email to each person.

National Carnival Party in Ocala - I have communicated some with Gail on this. The idea is to take advantage of the wonderful Ocala location and weather with an event that would be for all attendees from all venues. Food, drinks, games (such as corn hole),

karaoke, etc. This could replace what used to be the Chili Cook off event and be a fundraiser. Marketing brainstorms several interesting fun additions we can add that would surely bring in some money - Dunk Booth, Signature Drink Station, Break the balloon game, Photo Booth, etc.

National Herding Marketing Blitz - As we all know we need to drum up as many Herding entries as possible to ensure profitability for that venue. I know the National & Herding Committees are working on this. However, a conversation with Erin this past weekend spawned that idea that Marketing could work on some communications and social media posts to help. The idea is to get as many exhibitors from other venues to check out herding and try their dogs via the Herding Instinct Test.

The Board approved the updated flyer at the July 2021 board meeting and it needs a box where they can cut it out and mail the information to Laura Gilbert. The marketing committee is working on revamping it, and Jeff has an updated version that he wants to get approved. Currently there are two emails and he would like to use a standard email address. John suggested using gsdcaoffice@aol.com info@gsd.org John is also working on a sv email too

19.Meet the Breed... No reportDiane Roberts/Carolyn Gerganoff

20.Membership – No Report..... Laura Gilbert

21.National Specialty – Report –Action Items Gail Stiefferman/Lori Payne

- 2022 National Recap – Tentative schedule for WEC – same
- Advanced brochure will be out May 1, 2022
- Gail made a motion to approve Amy Edwards to coordinate the Parade of Greats entries for the Nation this year. Amy has once again agreed to do the Parade of Greats entries for this year’s National but unfortunately will not be able to attend the National. Lori Payne will coordinate the presentation at the National. Amy has done a fantastic job the past two years and our committee is excited she is joining us again this year. Ileana 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Stud dog/Brood bitch presentation has been dwindling for the last few years. Gail has talked to Ellie Carson about it and Ellie feels it should be dropped. Gail has also discussed this with Cyndi Flautt. For now, we will keep it in the hopes that we get some entries. Gail thought that maybe by putting something in the Futurity catalog may promote this presentation.
- Cyndi Flautt would like that to pay for the Parade of Greats, Top 10, Top 20 be able to be paid through the GSDCA store. The futurity committee will work to make sure the membership knows what qualifications are needed.
- Cyndi made a motion for the Futurity/Maturity sire/dam Top 10 stud dog/brood bitch presentation– the requirement for the “3” progeny be eliminated/2 for dams – progeny may be shown if desired, but progeny must be listed. Candee 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously

Agility – No ReportRhonda Meath/ Karen McKee-Bendtsen

C.A.T. – No ReportGail Stiefferman

Dock Diving – Report Julie Degen

- A request has been submitted to NADD for more information on availability and requirements for a mobile dock for the week of the GSDCA National at the WEC. According to the NADD website, requirements for a mobile dock include:
 - (A) a level and flat area for the dock of 30 ft by 100 ft with an area for water to drain nearby
 - (B) space for administration and check in
 - (C) electricity for sound system, computers, pool filters
 - (D) water. The event host is responsible for setting up the delivery of water and the cost. Most pools require about 28,000 gallons of water. This cost can be covered by sponsorships, donations, or sometimes the local city or government will cover the cost.
 - (E) easy vehicular access to the site.
 - (F) a minimum of 150 dogs to be preregistered for the event or a deposit by the hosting club

Herding – Report Julie Degen for MA site

- The 2022 National GSDCA Course C will be held at Creepy Hollow Farm, 243 N Spencer Rd, Spencer, MA, 01562 on September 17 & 18, 2022.
- As of April 12, 2022, the contract with the Blackstone Valley Herding Group Association (owner of the livestock and facility) still needs to be signed.
- AKC applications have been submitted, approved, and are listed on the AKC website.
- Emily St. Hillaire will be the trial secretary.
- George “Rusty” Jeffers is confirmed to judge. He is getting his airline tickets and rental car.
- GSDCA member, Susan Sullivan, has generously offered to judge the test classes for Sunday, Sept 18.
- As of April 12, 2022, GSDCA member and tending enthusiast, Amanda Piala, has raised \$1194.83 (more than double what we projected on the budget!) that she will be donating to the GSDCA to help to financially support the Course C trials.

Herding – Report Val Manning for FL site

- Herding National Events are scheduled in conjunction with the Ocala National to be held Friday, October 7 - Tuesday, October 11, 2022. The bulk of the trial/tests will be held at Linden Hollow Farm in St Cloud, FL, with Herding Instinct Testing (tending style) at Acorn Farm in Bushnell, FL on Tuesday October 11th in the morning and Farm Dog Certification offered at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala on Tuesday in the afternoon.
- We will be offering 2 - C and D course Trials on Friday and Saturday, and 2 - A and B course trials on Sunday. HT/PT and PT with Boundary will be offered on Saturday and Sunday. Our National judge is Rusty Jeffers and he has confirmed his acceptance and availability for the event. The trials will be open to all breeds with preference given to German Shepherds. To fit the two trials into Sunday, we will want to limit our trial entries to 25 runs and allow 20 runs of tests. The scores used for the GSDCA special awards would come from the runs on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. That will allow exhibitors to run in the previous trial as practice and encourage more entries

both days while giving the opportunity to earn 2 qualifying legs during the trip (for test exhibitors – the opportunity to earn their initial herding titles).

- Obedience – No Report**..... Kathleen Cook
- Rally – No Report**..... Luann Vuckson
- Tracking – No Report**..... Gail Stiefferman
- Lure Coursing No Report** (none)
- Scent Work – No Report** Hallie McMullen

22.National Trophy Donations – No Report,.....XXXXXXXXXX

23.National Site Selection – Report Patty Korsch

- The Board discussed the locations that were presented by Patty. There was a lot of discussion as having on opposite extreme coasts can be a handicap for the membership. Patty will do more research on Nevada, Utah and Colorado for a location for the 2024 National. Patty hasn't visited Reno and will reach out the clubs in the area. She will also reach out to Colorado and Salt Lake City clubs.
- The National in 2023 is in Springfield IL. Candee made a motion to have the National at Purina in 2025, Ileana Nogureras 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- The National rotation is west (2024), Midwest (2025), Midwest (2026), East (2027) – then Midwest (2028), Midwest (2029), West (2030) – it was only due to Covid that the rotation was off.

Several of the Board members felt that if we found 3 locations in the country that could facilitate the activities of the National, this may be a better solution for future Nationals.

24.Nominating Committee –No Report.....Steve Bloom

25.GSDCA Office- Report, Action Item.....Laura Gilbert

Laura made a motion to purchase 200 antique silver single sided medals for the ROM plaques from ACE Custom. She gave an attachment showing the plaques. Medals will cost \$1.99 each plus shipping. We can get them in a timely fashion to use with this year's ROM awards. 200 should last approximately 4-5 years. Candee Foss 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

26. Public Education Committee – Under Marketing....Jeff Pyle, GSDCA Interactive Michael Banks

27.P & P Manual – No Report –..... Zoe Backman

The approved minutes will be sent to John Ayotte and Zoe Backman to be added to the website and the P&P manual.

28.Performance Stats... No Report Shelley McLaren

29.Products – Under Marketing.....Jeff Pyle

30.Public Relations – Under MarketingJeff Pyle

31.Red Book – Action ItemKim McNamara

Work is underway for the Futurity and AKC majors' sections of the Red Book. For the first time we have a dog appearing from 25-plus year old frozen semen. Normally, Owners are required to be members of the GSDCA and we don't have a process in place for situations such as this. In this case, the dog, Doppelt Tays Zeek v Stonehaven was a highest living ROM sire in 1996 and his owner, Penny Hughes, is still alive. She is not currently a member but she was when the dog was alive and active. I propose that we consider these rare occurrences on a one-on-one basis and for this particular case we

allow the dog to have his page in the Red Book without Penny having to rejoin. Candee Foss made the motion to recognize this ROM. Ileana Nogureras 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

32.Regional Clubs – No Report Mary Tripp

33.Review Management... Report – Action Items.....Jeff Pyle(under Marketing)

34.Search & Rescue... No reportBarbara Balyeat

35.SV Office –No Report Joy Schultz

36.SV Programs – Report –Action Items Ileana Noguerras, Frank Fasano

- In reviewing the P&P section for the SV committee we discover several changes are needed. It needs to have a section on the events that the GSDCA puts on every year pertaining to the SV, Universal, National IGP, Combined Qualification Trial, GSDCA Sieger Show, etc. The section needs a lot of work, ie it still show committee chairs from 2019. Gail Stiefferman made a motion to add “SV” events on the ballot. Ileana Nogureras 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Also, the Sieger Show location needs to be included as a venue in the National Site selection, along with all other venues. Pam suggested that an ad hoc committee be created for the SV and suggested Jeff Pyle, Ileana Noguerras, Frank Fasano, Ann Solt and Pam O’Dell to strategize to make money for the SV team!
 - Cyndi Flautt suggested that the entry fees be raised or a portion of the entry goes towards the cost of sending the team. The SV committee is looking at other idea’s to help offset the cost.

37. SV/WUSV Liaison... No reportPamela O’Dell

38.WUSV Continental Director No Report.....Morton Goldfarb

39.Temperament – ReportLaura Gilbert

- Laura has canvassed the current Evaluators asking them to review the video of the AKC Temperament Test. She received a resounding NO for her members with the exception of one that was sitting on the fence. Laura supports the opinion of all of her evaluators and committee members and agrees that it in no way compares with the GSDCA Temperament Test. The Board takes the recommendation from Laura and her committee with regards to this issue. Also, Cyndi Flautt asked Laura if she could bring a report in July to compare numbers of tests that are being conducted.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS

- Review (closed Session)
- Website (closed Session)
- Show Committee for the National – from Gail Stiefferman (under national)
- Gail’s follow up with Mary on the form and if 5 members need to be in the club. Gail has not heard back from Mary Tripp, so she will follow up on this.
- Phyllis Kraft Award – done under awards.

- Breeders Code of Ethic's Follow up was tabled till the July 2022Tripp board meeting.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- Approve Futurity/Maturity host clubs / Completed at previous meeting
- Board selects slate for judges (Breed and Performance venues) for the following year's National Specialty Show. (Closed Session)
- Each Officer and Committee Chair will read the pertinent part of the P and P and report if it is current or not. (On going)
- Budget approval for all committees. (During B&F report)
- Herding discussion Julie Degen and Val Manning
Val Manning and Julie Degen give us the pros and con's for having the herding "C" course in both locations for this year's National. Due to the fact that there are only 6 locations throughout the US that offer "C" course, the board decided to offer it in MA and in Ocala. The board feels that with the limited opportunities to have "C" course, we can't always offer this at the national. The board is considering offering course "C" in different locations in the US and having those score results apply to the herding GV/GVX title in order to spur additional interest throughout the country. The board was also asked to consider offering course "D" and have it also be applied to the herding GV/GVX.
- *After the presentation from Julie Degen and Val Manning the board will continue to visit these issues with regards to the "C" course and possibly implementing course "D" as part of the overall award. In moving forward it would be best if we could find facilities to have all herding venues at the Nationals. Julie will bring more information to the July meeting and the board will continue to look at review thoughts from the herding committee.*
- Gail Stiefferman stated that on submission of the petitions she's getting several that are taken with her phone and is having difficulty reading them and printing them. It was noted at the January meeting that submissions must be done in PDF form. Jeff Pyle stated that there are several apps that can convert the picture to PDF – Jeff will do a training session with us on the next meeting. Ileana will change the wording on the form to reflect that it must be in PDF format.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Candee made a motion to adjourn. Meeting ended at 1:40pm

Meeting went into closed session for judge's nominations and voting. The names of the judges that were approved (in alphabetical order)

- Vicki Bemont
- Lew Bunch
- Randy Chestnut
- Rita Sandel
- Butch Stiefferman
- Gary Szymczak

*Respectively submitted,
Candee R Foss, Recording Secretary*