

NOTE: There was an informal meeting held on Friday evening, July 26. The purpose of this meeting was to have the two Futurity/Maturity co-chairs (Kathy Potter and Joan Intersimone) present to the Board an overview of the Futurity/Maturity program. Kathy was present and Joan participated via phone. The first part of their program was a current status report - there were some comparison charts depicting dogs entered, percentage of absentees, profitability, etc.

The Futurity Committee members are: Carol Moore, Michelle Graham, Margaret Bleakney, Lea Ruggieri, Dean Wylie, Peggy Kurz, Ann Schultz, Dorothy Linn and Ann Akerill.

The Chairs reported that many serious questions came up during their meetings including: Should we do away with Futurities? Should we cut their number? Should we have the Futurities at the National rather than being regional shows? etc. Other issues, such as transporting dogs and regional clubs' lack of interest in hosting Futurity shows were discussed. Some of the committee's recommended ideas will be brought up to the GSDCA Board for a vote.

### **GSDCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JULY 27 AND JULY 28, 2013**

These are the minutes of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America Board of Directors meeting held on July 27 and 28 in St. Louis, MO. Officers present: President Frank Fasano, Vice-President Lanalee Jorgensen-Law, Treasurer Bill Pfeiffer and Corresponding Secretary Laura Gilbert. Board Members present: Morton Goldfarb, Dorothy Linn, Carol Moore, Pam O'Dell, Zoe Backman, Dean Wylie, Ardin Bartley, Lew Bunch, Gary Szymczak, Patty Korsch, Bill Burggraaf and Fred Migliore. Absent: James Moses and Ginny Altman. James Moses participated via phone. Taking minutes for Ginny Altman is Dania Karloff.

Frank Fasano welcomed visitors: Kathy Potter, Gail Stiefferman, Ken Peterson, Ken Cunningham, Elaine Bisbing and Pat Parsons.

Fred moved to approve the minutes of the April Board meeting. Lew seconded. Lew noted a correction to the proposed minutes that had not been included. Lew stated that at the April meeting he made a motion to "allow PALS at the 2013 National and then send a ballot to the GSDCA membership to vote as to whether this should be allowed in future National events." Members present remember the motion, but the proposed minutes that came to the board did not reflect this. Fred changed his motion to approve the April Board minutes as amended with Lew's motion. Motion passed with Laura and Dorothy abstaining.

Fred moved to approve Dania to take the minutes. Motion passed unanimously. Zoe moved to have Dania to produce the BOG of the July meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Zoe will contact Ginny to produce the April minutes, as amended, to be published in the Review.

### **Correspondence Secretary Report:**

Laura Gilbert has the Honest Ballot contract, ready to be signed, quoting \$2,280 which is lower than last year's cost. Laura informed the Board that Honest Ballot can help us with the transition to electronic balloting. She stated that Mike

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yGAvwSp86hY&feature=youtube\\_gdata\\_player](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yGAvwSp86hY&feature=youtube_gdata_player)osis of AKC told her AKC is developing a policy for electronic balloting to be released in September. Laura said that this year we will be asking members for their choice of paper or electronic balloting for future elections. Laura said this will require a change to the By-Laws. First the Board will draft the recommended change, which will then be sent to AKC for approval of the language. Then the proposed change will be submitted to the membership for a vote.

A discussion followed concerning the timing required to implement electronic voting. Laura was concerned that there was not enough time to get this accomplished for this year's election while Carmen thought it could be done. Lana made a motion that Laura and Carmen get together tonight to develop the language for the changes to the By-laws, get it to the Board tomorrow for approval, and then go to AKC, hoping to get it back in time to be placed on this year's ballot. Motion approved unanimously.

Laura noted that she normally receives an overdue application notice from AKC regarding regional clubs GSDCA-sponsored shows approval. In these cases a fine is levied to the GSDCA. In a recent situation, the regional club is willing to pay the AKC fine. Bill Pfeiffer made a motion that the GSDCA pay any fine that the AKC levies on a GSDCA-sponsored regional club's event with the expectation that the regional club will reimburse the GSDCA. Jim seconded the motion via phone. Motion approved unanimously.

### **Executive Committee Actions:**

- Stopped Just-A-Minute TV contract they were negotiating.
- Verified judges' assignments for the National.
- Monitored progress of the Centennial project.
- Approved to do the Friday night celebration at Dream Park and go back to the Annex for the Historical items.

Dorothy moved to ratify the decisions of the Executive Committee. Lew seconded. Carol abstained. Motion approved.

### **President's Report – Frank Fasano.**

- World Union Trials and Centennial plans are coming along – lots of behind the scenes work is being done. WUSV phone meetings are held every week.
- Pam Stoesser and Susan Casey are working on putting together the GSD Review magazine on line. The idea behind this is to offer new GSD puppy owners a peek at our magazine and invite them to join the club. They are also looking at a reduced membership dues fee for members who want the Review on line. Lana suggested that we offer an automatic membership renewal using a credit card.
- Frank asked Bill Pfeiffer and Dania to work on an automatic membership renewal proposal to bring to the Board in October.
- Zoe proposed to offer the online free Review magazine to all GSD judges. Frank agreed that this might be feasible once the Review is available electronically.

### **Treasurer's Report. Bill Pfeiffer**

The audit is still in process. The Board was handed several financial sheets to review, including GSDCA Profit and Loss Detail Statement, GSDCA Balance Sheet, GSD Review Profit and Loss Detail Statement, Futurity Profit and Loss Detail, etc. Bill offered to provide P&L for the various GSDCA programs including the Review, Central Office, Red Book, GSDCA Store, web services, World Trial, etc. Bill also reported that he renegotiated the credit card charges rate with Merchant Services to a lower fee from 5.8 % to 3.1%. Bill has also reduced our expenses by getting discounted fees through early bill payments. Bill's review of past bills revealed expenses paid to Board members which were not in accordance to GSDCA policy, Frank has directed Bill to pay for authorized expenses only. Bill is using the club's credit card to pay for this meeting Board's expenses and we are receiving some cash back as a result. Pam and Zoe questioned the Club's credit card company rebate and the state of NY policies for non-profit organizations. Bill will look into these issues. Carmen praised Bill's performance and the tight running of the Club's finances. There was a brief discussion of the number of Review pages allocated to each committee.

### **Budget - Carmen Battaglia**

Three reports were available to Board members: B & F report, Centennial budget and the World Trial report.

- GSDCA 2013 budget projected income is \$433,000 and projected expenses are \$419,000
- The Centennial budget has been reduced from \$37,400 to \$33,900. Most of the Centennial budget will be covered by trust donations.
- The World Trial total projected income is \$224,550 and total projected expenses are \$229,000. The Board continues to work to close this gap. Projected expenses could rise to \$275,000
- Carmen showed a video of proposed literature to advertise the WUSV trials. Also a hand out/press kit with information of what the WUSV trial is all about; a view of the PPL Park; and a copy of flyers that advertise the upcoming events including a message advertising the sale of event tickets to be donated for the attendance of a Veteran, Wounded Warrior, Policeman or Fireman. Carmen will send a packet to all board members with a listing of all the scheduled events for the WUSV Trials. Frank emphasized that it is important for board members to be informed and able to respond to members' questions regarding the trial's schedule. Carmen gave an explanation of how he derived the projected income of attendance tickets and encouraged all to contribute to this event.

### **Budget - Gary Szymczak**

Gary reported that there were four bids for the Review Graphic Designer – these were rated on ability, cost, time, etc. The recommendation of the committee was to continue with the current provider, Blue Line Design. Gary made the motion, Lew seconded and it passed unanimously. Gary commented that the GSDCA Budget is now half way through the year and complimented committee chairs for following their proposed budget. Gary encouraged all individuals and committees to turn in their expenses in a timely manner.

### **Futurity**

Futurity co-chairs Kathy Potter and Joan Intersimone were available. Kathy was present and Joan participated via phone.

Dorothy Linn moved to approve continuation of the litter mate entries reduced fee. Litter mates do not need to have a common owner. Lew seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Carol moved that the National Futurity/Maturity classes be placed by the judges 1st through 4<sup>th</sup> placing. Lew seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Zoe moved to suspend the two year rule to implement the above changes to the Futurity program. Carol seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Lanalee moved that the Redbook award points for the Amateur Sires/Dams. Carol seconded. There was a discussion regarding the size of most Amateur Futurities shows and the fact that the Amateur Futurity will be discontinued after 2014. Motion was defeated with Lana voting in favor of the motion.

A discussion ensued regarding eligibility to judge a Futurity and the requirement to attend the National judges' seminar. There appears to be a discrepancy in the P&P between what is stated in the Futurity manual and the information provided in the Education Committee section.

Dorothy moved to honor the present requirement that requires a prospective judge to attend the GSDCA National Judges' seminar. Gary seconded. A lengthy discussion followed. Motion passed with Morton voting against it and Jim abstaining via phone.

Zoe moved to clarify the words in the Futurity manual and the Futurity contract to include GSDCA National Judge's seminar requirements. Lana seconded. Discussion followed regarding the ability of the Education Committee to host qualified Educational Judges seminar outside of the National. Opposed to Zoe's motion were Fred Migliore and Bart Bartley. Motion passed.

Morton moved to allow GSDCA approved Judges Education seminars, hosted by the Education Committee, to be held throughout the country. Gary seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Addressing the above action, Zoe moved to suspend the two year rule, Dean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The following judges were approved for the 2014 Futurity/Maturity shows:

NE Region - Ben Bigornia alternate Debbie Kaser-Friedberg– Amateur Jason Lyle

MA Region - Jerry Guzman alternate Jerry Graham – Amateur Linda Burley

GL Region - Sharon Avery alternate Judy Teidel - Amateur Leslie Beccia

SE Region - Phil Miller alternate Brenda Newby – Amateur Georgia Miller

MW Region – Art Sinclair alternate Donna Calabrese - Amateur Elizabeth Stiefferman

SW Region - Dean Wylie alternate Helen Gleason - Amateur Rita Chapman

SP Region - Cathy Darnell alternate Iza Kabuska - Amateur Sheryl Brockett

MP Region - Mike Sherman alternate Joan Fox - Amateur Sharlonna McGaha

NW Region - Joe LaRosa alternate Doris Farrell - Amateur Juanita Williamson

The board went into closed session for a brief period of time.

There was a motion to approve Pat Parson to attend the AKC Canine Health Conference. Motion passed unanimously.

### **National Committee – Gail Stiefferman**

Gail reported that the specialty show on Tuesday will be outside of Barn A. The welcome party will be Wednesday evening. Agility will be held on the main arena. Hot water will be completely installed by the end of this month. The risers will be delivered on Saturday. Most of the premium list is listed on the website. Specialty show premium list will be in the website this weekend. They have not determined yet as to how the classes will be divided by day. The Veterinary clinic is open seven days a week and Gail is hoping to have a Vet Tech in attendance at the show. We will have three banners designed by Olivia Calabrese and donated by Gary Szymczak. Peggy Kurz and Kim McNamara are doing a great job with trophy donations. Lea Ruggieri is working to get replacements for the bibs that are missing. They are checking on table cloths to see if purchasing these is more economical than renting. Gail asked for volunteers to help with the many jobs required to host a National event. Everything else is on schedule and running smoothly.

### **WDA**

Dan Yee reported via phone that they are working to have everything in place for the trials. He spoke briefly about the possibility of garnering some monies from video streaming the event. This and other issues will be discussed during scheduled budget meetings. Dan said he has individuals committed to working in obedience and protection work but that he needs help with the tracking portion of the event.

### **Marketing Committee – Lew Bunch**

The Credit Card program has yielded over \$680. The wine program has had a small profit this summer. Lew is working on a project to sell the rest of the calendars.

### **Future National Board Meeting Sites**

Frank said the January, April and July of 2014 board meetings will be held in St Louis.

### **Changing the Standard Committee Report – Bart Bartley**

Bart reported that the recommendations he sent to the Board were the overall ideas of the committee. The most important issue is to frame the proposal in a positive manner. Bart's opinion was to separate the two items discussed and present color and coat change separately.

After a lively back and forth discussion, Morton moved to change the GSD standard to say: "The GSD varies in color and most colors are permissible. Strong rich colors are preferred. Liver, blues, whites and dogs without predominantly black noses are very serious faults. Dogs exhibiting albino characteristics are to be disqualified." Motion seconded by Bill Burggraaf. Frank explained that this language must first be approved by AKC, come back to the GSDCA Board for approval in case there are changes, and then sent to the GSDCA membership for a vote. For the motion: Lana, Bill Pfeiffer, Fred, Bart, Zoe, Carol and Pam. Against the motion: Laura, Carmen, Bill Burggraaf, Dean, Morton, Lew, Patty, Gary and Dorothy. Motion defeated.

Morton Goldfarb moved to change the GSD standard to state: "The ideal dog has a double coat of medium length, a long coat is also permissible. The outer coat should be as dense as possible, hair straight, harsh and lying close to the body. Slightly wavy outer coat, often of wiry texture is permissible. The head, including the inner ear and fore face, and the legs and paws are covered with short hair, and the neck with longer thicker hair. The rear of the forelegs and hind legs has somewhat longer hair extending to the pasterns and hocks, respectively. Faults in coat: soft, silky, curly, open coat and lack of under coat." Carmen seconded. Motion passed with Zoe opposed.

It was asked why the previously proposed color change could not be sent to the membership for their decision. The idea of a membership straw vote was discussed. It was noted that if the coat proposed change is approved, no further changes to the standard can be submitted for five years.

A discussion ensued regarding the previous motion and the understanding that before any proposed change to the standard is sent to the membership for a vote, it must be first reviewed

and approved by AKC. Carol reminded all that at the April board meeting the Board voted to send these two proposed changes to the membership for a vote. Morton made a motion to reconsider the color change motion and Bart seconded. Frank explained that a motion to reconsider requires an affirmative vote by two thirds of the Board . Motion to reconsider passed unanimously. On the second vote, Morton's original motion passed with Laura, Lew, Dean and Gary opposed.

Morton Goldfarb moved to remove the statement from our standard that any dog that bites or attempts to bite the judge is disqualified. This is already an AKC disqualifying fault making it redundant. Motion seconded by Bart. Opposed: Lew, Gary, Patty, Dorothy, Carol, Pam, Carmen and Bill Pfeiffer. Fred abstained. Motion defeated.

## **SUNDAY**

### **Continuation of the Futurity/Maturity judges' approval**

Joan Intersimone talked to Helen Gleason, former Education Chair, who clarified that GSDCA Regional Judges seminars are not to be used to meet the requirements for Futurity judges – only GSDCA National Judges seminar attendance is acceptable. Laura suggested that a list of eligible people who have attended the GSDCA National Judges' seminar be available in the website. Morton suggested that the Education Committee keeps the list of past attendees.

## **EDUCATION**

Morton Goldfarb thanked DD Ardoin and Sheree Moses for their help in the distribution of material to new breed judges. Morton encouraged board members to write educational articles for the Review. Lew moved, seconded by Carmen, to approve the letter that Morton presented to the Board to be sent to new breed judges. Motion passed unanimously. Morton proposed to revise and update the DVD provided in the packet for new judges. Morton showed his proposed DVD which contained a brief history of the breed and a copy and a discussion of the AKC standard. The Board members were quite pleased with the DVD, however it was their consensus to change some of the pictures used in the DVD to better reflect our standard and our dogs. Gary moved to go forward with the production of the DVD. The initial cost of duplicating 500 DVDs will be \$250. Lew seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Making a procedural correction to the change to the standard to remove white as a disqualifying fault, Lana re-stated the motion and Carol seconded. Motion passed.



## **AKC Delegate Report**

Carmen noted that he is receiving messages from regional clubs asking about their show date/site. In order for a club to leave their date/site and be able to return to their regular show date/site the following year, they must submit an application for the following year as soon as possible. This action secures the date/site for them by protecting it from any other club that may come into the area and apply for a new show.

Laura and Carmen, working together, developed a proposed change to the By-Laws allowing for electronic balloting/voting with options for members to opt out and request mail-in ballots. This proposal is to be sent to AKC and then to the membership for a vote. Motion to send to AKC made by Dorothy and seconded by Lew. Motion approved unanimously.

## **Herding Committee.**

Committee Chair, Theresa Royer, requested the Board to rescind a previous Board motion to allow PAL dogs to receive GSDCA National awards. The Board voted on this issue at the April meeting and then again yesterday. Motion made by Bart and seconded by Zoe to rescind a previous motion to allow PAL dogs to compete and receive Obedience Victor and Herding Victor awards. Carmen stated that AKC will penalize us for not following a previous announcement. Gail Stiefferman, National Show Chair, pointed out that the premium list has been printed with the notice that PAL dogs will be eligible for these awards. In favor of rescinding: Laura, Bart, Dorothy, Pam, Carol and Zoe. Dean abstained. Motion failed.

## **AOE**

Committee Chair, Helen Franklin, asked for an extension of the deadline for AOE awards. Dean made a motion to extend the deadline and Bill Burggraaf seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Legislative Liaison.**

Once again, Stormy Hope is asking the Board to establish a Legislative Committee and appoint a Chair. Carol said she will help. Frank stated that he will be looking for a person to chair this Committee.

## **Redbook Committee:**

Liz Leschorn requested to be allowed to suspend printing veterinary articles in the front pages of the Redbook because of the increased size of the book. Motion passed unanimously. Carol will call Lizz and suggest that a link to these articles be provided.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Two Rule Year**

Dean moved to accept the proposed update of the Two Year Policy brought by Carmen. The new policy will apply to structural changes that affect GSDCA programs that lap over from one year to the next. Motion passed with Zoe abstaining.

### **Obedience Committee:**

Julia Priest and Dawn VanDyken requested authorization to offer two special awards at this year's National: "Highest Scoring Dog in the Regular Classes Bred, Owned and Handled by the Exhibitor" and "Highest Scoring Dog in the Beginner Novice Class Bred Owned and Handled by the Exhibitor". Julia Priest and Dawn VanDyken will sponsor these trophies. Dorothy made a motion to approve this request and Bart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.