



**GSDCA BOARD MEETING**  
**Courtyard Loveland Fort Collins**  
6106 Sky Pond Drive  
Loveland, Colorado 80538  
**October 13, 2019**

**Officers Present:**

Gary Szymczak, President

Patty Korsch, Vice-President

Gail Stiefferman, Corresponding Secretary

Larry Rock, Treasurer

Absent: Joan Intersimone, Recording Secretary (no telephone access)

Class of 2018: John Ayotte, LaMar Fredrick, Erin Nellis

Absent: Joy Schultz

Class of 2019: John Bemont, Laura Gilbert, Deborah Stern

Absent: Bart Bartley

**8:00 AM – Sunday October 13, 2019 – Closed session**

Discussion about a membership question.

**8:15 AM – Sunday October 13, 2019 – Regular Board Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 8 am by President Gary Szymczak. We held the meeting Sunday morning. It was very brief as we did not have the phone connection. It was announced that the meeting would re-convene within the next two weeks (November 2, 2019).

The results of the polling question on the ballot was that the members want the National indoors with grass.

There was a brief discussion on the Electronic Balloting. AKC has a method that we must follow in order to institute Electronic Balloting. An RFP will have to be sent out to balloting companies, and members will have to Opt-in or Opt-out.

Larry Rock reported that as of September 30, 2019 we had \$543,000 and September 30, 2018 we had \$499,000 in Cash and Equivalents.

When we re-convene, we will address the tie for the Board in 5th place, Gary will speak to AKC for the process to be followed.

Laura Gilbert made a motion that Membership be transferred to Mary Bjelica and Laura would remain as a Committee Member for as long as Mary deems necessary. Lamar Second, Unanimously approved. Laura will make the transfer within the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Laura announced that the Temperament Committee will be promoting the GSDCA Temperament Test to parent clubs and ask that they approve the GSDCA Temperament Test to be recognized as one of their Parent Club Titles with the American Kennel Club.

GSDCA Board Meeting – October 13, 2019 (cont.)

Gary recommended that we pay special attention to Charlie Starr's Report as it will be discussed at the re-convened meeting.

The Charitable Trust will be discussed at the re-convened meeting with an Attorney available to answer questions.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 am.

Submitted by: Laura Gilbert

Guests present: Helen Gleason, Rita Sandell, Vicki Bemont.



**GSDCA BOARD MEETING**  
**Via Conference Call**  
**November 2, 2019**

**Officers Present:**

Gary Szymczak, President

Patty Korsch, Vice-President

Joan Intersimone, Recording Secretary

Gail Stiefferman, Corresponding Secretary

Absent: Larry Rock, Treasurer

Class of 2018: John Ayotte, LaMar Fredrick, Erin Nellis, Joy Schultz.

Class of 2019: John Bemont, Laura Gilbert, Deborah Stern

Absent: Bart Bartley

**9:00 AM CST – Sunday November 2, 2019 – Regular Board Meeting****I. MINUTES**

*The minutes of the January 27, 2019 meeting were approved as corrected. The minutes of April 26-27, 2019 and July 27-28, 2019 were approved as submitted.*

**II. REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY ..... Joan Intersimone**

*Special meetings of the Board were held on August 15, 2019 and September 10, 2019 for the purpose of correcting the January 27, 2019 regular meeting minutes and approving the minutes of the April 26-27, 2019 and July 27-28, 2019 regular meetings. Board members were sent a copy of the requested additions/corrections to the January minutes which included responses to each of the proposed items. All members of the Board were in attendance at both meetings except Erin Nellis.*

*Minutes of the January 2019 meeting were corrected and the corrections approved by a majority of the members in attendance. Votes in Favor: 9, Against: 2*

*Minutes of the April 2019 and July 2019 regular meetings were approved as submitted by a majority of the members in attendance. Votes in Favor: 9, Against: 1, Abstained: 1*

*Minutes of the July 2019 regular meetings were approved as submitted by a majority of the members in attendance. Votes in Favor: 9, Against: 2*

*Note: Per Roberts Rules of Order, Minutes of a meeting may be approved by Unanimous Consent. Unanimous Consent is a method by which something is approved without taking a vote. This does not mean that meeting minutes have to be approved unanimously to be valid.*

**III. REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – No report ..... Gail Stiefferman****IV. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ..... Gary Szymczak**

- a. *It was decided that Honest Ballot would do the printing and mailing of the ballots due to the problems last year and subsequent recount.*
- b. *A polling item would be added to the ballot about having the National indoors or outside in coming years.*
- c. *The Recording Secretary was instructed to forward the By-Laws proposed changes and ballot to Honest Ballot.*
- d. *The deadline to receive marked ballots was extended because Canadian members had not received their ballots even though they were mailed on August 29th.*

The executive committee actions were ratified unanimously during the closed session.

**V. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** ..... Gary Szymczak

**VI. REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT** ..... Patty Korsch

**VII. REPORT OF THE TREASURER – Action Item**..... Larry Rock

Presented by Erin Nellis

*Cash & equivalents at September 30, 2019 \$543,336 as compared to September 30, 2018 \$499,078*

*October results are not available at this time – Store results were received Wednesday evening from John Ayotte. It will take several hours to code for ASG entry and review those results.*

*National issues – resolution of a couple of the key items are needed before October close can occur*

- *The Ranch invoice has not been released for review, negotiation and pay processing.*
- *Tracking paperwork has not been received (entry checks, judge invoice and other docs)*
- *Receipts needed to pay Gail and Butch Stiefferman associated with lodging and transportation are needed.*
- *Rau Dog Show invoices for National ribbons were received Friday morning - full review needed.*
- *Shumsky invoice for Products has not been received plus listing of obsolete inventory to be written off is needed.*
- *Reconciliation between Clover receipt reports vs cash, checks and credit card receipts needs to occur so proper records of National, Redbook, Product, etc. can be recorded.*

*I would really appreciate a face-to-face meeting with Gail to review several other National items after Thanksgiving when I return to St. Louis.*

*Most committee chairs made efforts to obtain approval for expenditures over \$500 even when budgeted before making commitment with vendors. Those efforts are appreciated as we continue efforts to control expenses and implement appropriate spending controls. Several committee chairs need to improve in this area during 2020.*

*For insurance purposes we should have a listing of GSDCA assets, but do not at this time. We would have difficult time filing a claim without some records.*

*As done previously I encourage our Recording Secretary to take steps to obtain a listing of our assets. Page 32 of the P&P states that the Recording Secretary shall send a request after the National Show to each board member and committee chairperson asking each to submit a listing of GSDCA property in his or her possession.*

*Action item*

*Our By-laws state in Article III Section 10 the Annual Financial Report of the GSDCA shall be published in the GSDCA Review within 60 days of delivery to the Board. In recent years we have not done this, but rather made the results available to members on our web site. As a clarification issue, I move the placement of the 2018 audit results already on the GSDCA web site behind the Members Section under Financial Results satisfy this requirement for 2018 and in future years.*

Motion by Erin Nellis, second by Joan Intersimone to place the annual audited financial reports on the website in lieu of publishing in the review.

Motion failed by a majority vote. It was suggested this be brought up as a By-Laws amendment in the future.

**VIII. REPORT OF THE AKC DELEGATE – No report** ..... Carmen Battaglia

**IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. Budget and Finance – Report** ..... Erin Nellis

*Starting to prepare budget for 2020*

Motion by Erin Nellis, second by John Bemont: Approve the Budget & Finance committee for 2020:

Erin Nellis, Chair, Deborah Stern, Treasurer, Frank Fasano, Pamela O'Dell

Approved unanimously by everyone on the call (Gail Stiefferman did not vote)

**2. By-Laws – Report**..... LaMar Frederick  
*All approved By-Law changes will be submitted to AKC for final approval. Once that is received the updated By-Laws will be posted on the GSDCA web site.*

**3. Awards:**

**Awards Committee – No report**..... Cindy Bartley

**R.O.M. – No Report**..... Dee Laufer

**Award of Excellence – Report** .....Laura Gilbert  
One new applicant

**ATAA – No report**..... Cynthia Binder DVM

**Performance Award of Merit – Report** ..... Lori Nickeson

**4. Education – Report** ..... Vicki Roye

**5. Ethics and Breeders Code – No report** ..... Michelle Wallis

**6. Futurity – Report - Action Items** ..... Cyndi Flautt  
*The Futurity Committee requests action on the following items:*

- a. *Approve purchase of cards to be mailed each month to new GSDCA members. Cards would contain a welcome note and short explanation of the Futurity System with contact info for questions and help. Cards and postage would be paid for by donations we have received for live streaming and other activities. **RATIONAL:** The Futurity committee is committed to increasing participation of new members. We feel that a mailed card is more personal, and could generate more interest than an email. In today's age of information overload, an email can easily be overlooked.*

Motion by Gary Szymczak, second John Ayotte

Unanimously approved by members on the call. (Gail Stiefferman not on call)

- b. *Allow a change of the Futurity nomination year to September 1 through August 31. Currently, the nomination year is October 1 - September 30. If approved, the Futurity committee requests that the change begin with puppies eligible to be shown in the 2021 Futurities. Nomination year for these Futurities would be September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020. **RATIONAL:** Per AKC rules, puppies must be at least 6 months of age to compete in a Futurity. Due to their established show weekends, clubs have occasionally requested to host a Futurity in the latter part of March, and the board has approved. Puppies born at the end of September the prior year may not be eligible for these Futurities because they are not yet 6 months. Changing the nomination year alleviates this issue and allows all nominated puppies "equal access." Additionally, there are a number of clubs who hold shows in March who would be able to bid on a futurity whose show weekends prevent them from doing so at present.*

Motion by Gary Szymczak, second by Patty Korsch

Unanimously approved

- c. *Approve prices for color ads on inside pages of Futurity catalogs: \$150 for single page and \$275 for double spread. Current prices are \$60 for single page (black and white), \$120 double spread (black and white); \$200 outside back cover (color) and \$185 for inside covers (color). **RATIONAL:** We were asked to inquire if color ads could be bought for inside pages. Foy Trent has made them available for \$0.15 per page as compared to the current price of \$0.05 per page for black and white.*

Motion by Gary Szymczak, second LaMar Frederick  
Unanimously approved

- d. *Approve the attached free survey for GSDCA members. If approved, the link to an online version would be sent to members via constant contact and placed in the member’s only section of the GSDCA website. It would also be printed in the Review for members who prefer to mail in. **RATIONAL:** The Futurity Committee is seeking additional feedback and wishes to hear from all members who would like to offer an opinion.*

Motion by Gary Szymczak, second by Deb Stern  
Unanimously approved

- 7. GSDC of Canada Liaison – No report**..... Jack Kilgore
- 8. Health & Genetics – No report**..... Carolyn Gerganoff
- 9. Internet – No report** ..... John Ayotte
- 10. Juniors – Report** ..... Nick Hodge/Nancy McDonald

- 11. Legislative Liaison to the AKC – Report – Action Item**..... Stormy Hope  
*We need to be in front of anti-breeder/dog owner legislation, not behind it catching up. All animal use continues trend will grow to the demise of breeding pure bred dogs as we know it.  
I urge the GSDCA Board to give more impetus and tools in order that the GSDCA Legislative Committee can grow and work more effectively with members. This includes more funding and more emphasis at ALL events of the GSDCA and their member clubs.*

Suggested to create a sub-Committee of committee chairs involved in GSDCA events and the PR committee.

- 12. Marketing, Review Marketing, Products - Report – Action Item**..... Seth Keida  
*Approve the marketing committee to be responsible for creating and/or approving any logo or creative design using the GSDCA name and/or logo (this includes freelance pro-bono work and/or third parties who profit from using the GSDCA name or logo on any creative design)*

Motion by Gary Szymczak, second by Patty Korsch

In Favor: John Ayotte, John Bemont

Opposed: Lamar Frederick, Laura Gilbert, Joan Intersimone, Patty Korsch, Erin Nellis, Joy Schultz, Deb Stern, Gail Stiefferman

Motion Failed

- 13. Membership – Report – Action Item**..... Laura Gilbert  
*I am asking that the board approve Mary Bjelica as the primary Membership Chair for the Membership Committee. Mary will be taking the lead on Membership and I will be her secondary committee member. Mary is prepared to take over this committee as soon as I can transfer all of our information to her. We plan to spend some time together, and I will be by her side as long as she needs me to be there for her.*

(This was voted and approved at the October 13 meeting)

- 14. National Specialty – Report - Action Items** ..... Gail Stiefferman  
Need to settle up with the treasurer. Congratulations to winners. Thank you to all that helped

- Agility - No Report** ..... Rhonda Meath/ Karen McKee-Bendtsen
- C.A.T. – No Report** ..... Gail Stiefferman
- Dock Diving – No Report** ..... Susan Condreas
- Herding - No Report**..... Val Manning
- Obedience – No Report**.....
- Rally – No Report**..... Karen Lollar
- Tracking – No Report**..... Kathy Lester
- Lure Coursing** .....(none)
- Scent Work – No Report** ..... Hallie McMullen

- 15. National Trophy Donations – Report** ..... Deborah Stern
- 16. National Site Selection – No report**..... Patty Korsch  
Received information on a couple of other sites.  
Contracts have been reviewed by LaMar Frederick and questions have been sent to Patty Korsch
- 17. Nominating Committee – No report** ..... John Bemont
- 18. Public Education Committee – No report**..... Kathy & Ken Tank
- 19. Parent Club Office – No report**.....Laura Gilbert
- 20. P & P Manual – No report**..... Myra Shear
- 21. Products – No report** ..... Butch Stiefferman
- 22. Public Relations – No report** ..... Kathy & Ken Tank
- 23. Red Book – No report**..... Kim McNamara
- 24. Regional Clubs – No Report**.....Mary Tripp
- 25. SV Office – No report**..... Joy Schultz
- 26. SV Programs - Report - Action Items**..... Charlie Starr  
*The report of the SV Committee was read by Rebecca Underwood*

*Action items:*

- a. *Restate and update the policy and procedure manual of the GSDCA to reflect that a board member must attend the GAM in Germany. Recommend the guest to be the SV Program Chair or other knowledgeable individual of both WUSV and SV policies.  
This is to comply with the WUSV/SV rule*

Moved by Gary Szymczak, second by Patty Korsch  
Unanimously approved

- b. *Motion to send a proposal to the WUSV from the GSDCA, that member clubs be allowed to send a committee representative to GAM in place of board member if needed.*

Need to re-write and resubmit

- c. *As a GSDCA board and SV committee meet to review the GAM Agenda and discuss items prior to the yearly meeting. Also, after the GAM send minutes to all board and SV committee members to review items that were passed at the meeting and decide the next steps as a club.  
Note: Minutes of these meetings were not received by the SV committee members.*

Motion by Gary Szymczak, second LaMar Frederick  
Motion by Joan Intersimone, second by Patty Korsch to amend: This is a P&P item  
Vote to approve as amended  
Unanimously approved

- d. *Incorporate donation areas on the membership application for WUSV teams, Juniors, etc.*

Motion by Gary Szymczak, second by LaMar Frederick  
Rejected Unanimously

- e. *Table indoor show poll until all emails of participants can be obtained, deadline December 1st 2019 for completion of poll.*

No action needed.

- f. *Review all items of WUSV in regards to one umbrella organization, breeding regulations and global harmonization. Discuss as board, involve SV Programs committee and our national organization the AKC as this has possible global implications.*

SV committee needs to work with Carmen regarding the SV Harmonization program

**27. Temperament – No Report** .....Laura Gilbert

**X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS**

*Distribution of the Purina Weight Circle money.*

Add this item to the Trust agenda. Trust meeting to be held at a future date

*Discussion of National & Pre-Show judges. Does the three-year rule apply to both?*

Gail did not have wording for the ballot. Deferred until January 2020

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

*We need to solicit bids and make arrangements for electronic balloting for the 2020 elections.*

Deferred to January 2020

**XII. ADJOURNMENT: 10:58 AM CST**

Joan Intersimone, Recording Secretary

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## **GSDCA Futurity / Maturity Survey (Fall 2019)**

### **A Few Futurity Facts**

\*\* Did you know that 241 Futurity/Maturity finalists (123 winners, 101 reserves and 17 amateur winners) also exhibited in the US nationals between 2014-2018 averaging 48 per year (15% of the national entry) and representing at least \$8,840 in entry fees? \*\* In 2018, specialty shows associated with futurities had on average 46% more entries than shows not coupled with futurities.

**Please provide your email address to confirm GSDCA membership (will not be shared) \***

**Are you a member of a regional club \***

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

**Which region do you reside \***

- ( ) NE
- ( ) MA
- ( ) SE
- ( ) GL
- ( ) MW
- ( ) SW
- ( ) SP
- ( ) MP
- ( ) NW

**If you breed, do you nominate your litters in the futurities? \***

- ( ) yes
- ( ) No

**Do you exhibit at regional futurity shows? \***

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

**If you exhibit at Futurity shows, how many per year on average? \***

- ( ) One
- ( ) Two
- ( ) Three
- ( ) Four or More
- ( ) I do not exhibit at Futurities

**Do you believe Futurities benefit regional clubs? \***

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) Maybe

**If so, what would you guess the regional club impact is?**

- ( ) No Benefit
- ( ) Specialty Entries Increase by 10-25%
- ( ) Specialty Entries Increase by 25-50%
- ( ) Specialty Entries Increase by 50-75%
- ( ) Specialty Entries Increase by more than 75%

**Should the number of Futurity regions be reduced?**

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

**If yes, reduced to what? \***

- ( ) Eight
- ( ) Seven
- ( ) Six
- ( ) Five
- ( ) The number of Regions Should NOT be Reduced

**Would you follow the Futurity Committee's recommendation on regions?**

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) Maybe

**Do you believe regional Futurities should be eliminated entirely and substituted with one Futurity held at the National? \***

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

**Should the club return to one closing date for all regions?**

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

**Should the club return to a maximum entry of two regions per dog? \***

- ( ) yes
- ( ) No

**Should the club return to allowing dogs to be shown in only one region? \***

- ( ) yes
- ( ) No

**Do you support providing amateur classes?**

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) Yes, as long as they don't lose money

**Do you feel Futurities are an important benefit/perk of GSDCA membership? \***

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

Additional comments