

GWPCA Board Meeting Minutes August 2011

Call to Order: The regular meeting of German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America Board of Directors (BOD) was called to order via telephone conference call on August 16, 2011, at 5:47 pm PDT by Ray Calkins. In addition to Ray, BOD members present were Chuck Casanova, Bob Perry, Erika Brown, Liz Barrett-Dixon, Garnett Persinger, and Mary Hanson.

Finalize agenda: The agenda was finalized with the addition of Ericka's list of new members to be voted in and a discussion on fraud insurance. Both items were added under New Business.

Approval of minutes from July meeting: Garnett moved to approve the July minutes with the change to remove AKC field judges from list to receive the electronic WireNews; Bob seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote. Mary asked to revisit the issue of the price of back issues under Old Business.

President's Report: Ray reported on correspondence received from AKC (Doug Ljungren) on two issues: 1) The recommendation to not allow conditionally registered dogs to participate in Field Trials was read to the AKC Board in August. There was some discussion and they will vote on the recommendation at their next meeting in October. 2) GWPs are eligible to participate in Retriever Hunting Tests starting 9/1/2011.

An invitation from Club Count Ballot Counting Service was received. Discussion was moved to New Business.

Ray received an email from Janet Van Wormer, Doberman Pinscher Club of America President, inviting the GWPCA to contribute to a 911 Rescue Dog Memorial. Discussion was moved to New Business.

Ray received an email from Lori Sargent (New Titles Coordinator) with a draft letter attached for the Board to review. The letter will be sent out to holders of new titles of record provided to her by AKC. Ray asked Board members to review the letter and send any edits to Mary, who will then send Lori a revised letter for her to use. Ray has advised Pat Laurens the GWPCA's process to use the AKC new title list as a membership tool

Secretary's Report: Mary has received a petition to nominate Lori Sargent for Secretary; discussion moved to New Business. A draft Parent Club Approval for Events form has been made available to the Board for review; discussion moved to New Business. The Board's approval letter has been sent to Bill Schmidt.

Treasurer's Report: Erika reported technical difficulties with her computer and will email her treasurer report after Board meeting. She has started a detailed report of what money went in, what went out and what it was spent on to provide accountability for the national club. Based on a recent experience with her local GWP club, she is advising bonding of officers and purchasing of fraud insurance for the club. Ray advised moving that discussion to New Business.

Erika asked if an annual treasurer report should be prepared for the end of the calendar year or end of the fiscal year. There was support expressed to have copies available at the annual meeting and to also publish it in e-WireNews. Ray asked to table a decision until Sept meeting in order to allow time for additional thought.

Committee Reports:

SEAC Report: Judy Cheshire provided a report which included a recommendation that the GWPCA Regional Specialty be held in conjunction with the Nationals in order to provide exhibitors more opportunity for majors and encourage participation and entries. She reported on judges for the 2012 and 2013 Nationals (see under Old Business); and asked for Board consideration and approval of criteria for a GWPCA Maturity. Discussion on this was also moved to Old Business.

FEAC: Liz has sent out requests for names for 2012 judges for the field events. Judges gifts for 2011 have been taken care of.

Directors' reports:

East Coast – Garnett reported the DelVal Club will be holding a water test on August 26th. Erika added the South Florida GWP Club has been approved by AKC to hold an A match for a show and an A test for hunt test.

MidWest – Chuck has sent mid-west club secretaries an email requesting they add him to their distribution list for minutes; he has heard from one club, but hasn't received any minutes. He will follow up with the clubs.

West Coast - Bob has talked to the NorCal GWP club regarding field trial grounds for the 2012 Nationals. They are going over pros and cons of two locations, Kissler Ranch and Brooks Ranch. Kissler is more expensive, but has great facilities. Access at Brooks Ranch in bad weather may be an issue and the Club would have to rent a tent, but Brooks offers a more potential to run an hour stake. Kissler may not have enough room to run an hour stake. Ray noted the decision would be left to the field trial organizers. Bob asked if the Club is liable if someone wrecks their motor home at Nationals. Chuck indicated the Club would be covered under liability insurance for a personal injury; the owner's vehicle insurance would cover damage to the vehicle

Rescue: No report submitted. Garnett is working on getting a permanent board set up. She has worked out how to handle the rescue presentation at Nationals.

Nominating Committee: Erika has heard that others might be interested in running.

Bylaws: Nothing new to report. Ray and Mark need to discuss reconvening the committee to update C & Bylaws. Chuck reiterated his offer to help.

Old Business:

ROM – Sean Perry emailed her results on the ROM clarification to Ray. Ray will forward the email to the Board. The results reflect Sean's recommendations and her discussion and approval by Gail. A decision by the Board on the revised ROM requirements was tabled until Board members can review and discuss subsequent to Board meeting.

CHIC Program: Robin sent an email via Chuck that included an email from OFA with five questions for Robin. She can answer questions #1 and #2, but has requested Board

advice/action on questions #3 (appropriateness of GWP picture on CHIC website page, #4 (add link to parent club homepage on the GWP CHIC page) and #5 (health information for Breeder of Merit kennels that don't participate in CHIC program). The Board decided to table any action on #5 as it warrants more discussion and a decision by the GWPCA CHIC committee as to whether there should be any changes to the GWP CHIC health screens and further discussion on the AKC Breeder of Merit. Bob pointed out that membership in a breed parent club is not necessary to be an AKC Breeder of Merit. Ray asked the Board to take a look at the picture of the GWP (#3) for the next meeting and asked Chuck to tell Robin to go ahead and take care of #4 (link to website).

2011 Nationals: Bill Schmidt's draft budget was provided for the Board's review. Ray indicated the 2011 Nationals Committee has asked for a \$2000 advance from parent club; they will pay it back to GWPCA from income generated at Nationals. Garnett moved that GPWCA provide \$2000 as seed money to Ft. Detroit GWP Club for 2011 National event to be repaid after finances are calculated so seed money will be available for the next Nationals. Bob seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Erika will send the check once the 2011 Nationals bank has been opened; she will contact Bill. Erika has received several bills for Nationals and asked if she should forward them to the Ft. Detroit club. Ray indicated the bills should be out of one account except for the Nationals awards which come out of the GWPCA account. Maturity and Futurity events have their own accounts. Futurity chairpersons have separate accounts for these events. A discussion on the need for a financial statement from each futurity chairperson going forward was moved to New Business.

2012 Nationals: Ray has nothing new to report other than what has already been reported by Bob and Judy.

2013 Nationals: Chuck has dates but needs to verify them with Rick. The Nationals Specialty was switched to Friday rather than Thursday. Once he has verified dates with Rick he will contact Judy.

Versatility Committee: A request from Greg DuBois was received by Ray to have the Board re-establish the Versatility Committee (tabled at the May Board meeting). In light of the new retriever hunt test titles and other new titles from AKC the timing may be right to proceed with a Versatility Committee. Garnett moved to have the Versatility Committee re-visit new titles available from AKC and incorporate them into their program. Erika seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Ray will email Greg with the Board's decision.

Cost of WireNews copies to renewed members: Tabled.

New Business:

Liability Insurance coverage for Directors and Officers: Chuck went over insurance information from Equisure; he is ok with the liability limits, but thinks the other limits are low, e.g., death and permanent disability limits. The insurance is endorsed by AKC and there is no way to change limits. Chuck, citing an example from Equisure, informed the Board that any decision made by Club directors and officers has the potential to prompt a lawsuit and we would be liable. The cost of liability insurance is based on membership and limits, 333 members, \$1400 for 1 million in coverage and in addition to the Club's regular comprehensive and property insurance makes the annual premium over \$2,000.

He also cautioned that we need to consider our decisions in light of the possibility of being sued. Ray asked Chuck to prepare a recommendation for next board meeting. Erika suggested maybe someone could look into other companies. Chuck will do. Mary mentioned Accordia of Colorado used by the GSPCO and Erika said Rescue uses Mourer Foster. Mary moved in favor of paying the current insurance premium, due Sept 1, 2011; Chuck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

It was pointed out that the parent club insurance does not cover local clubs; they need to have their own insurance coverage. Ray asked Mary to send a letter to each local club secretary informing them of this fact; they need to have their own liability insurance.

911 Rescue dog memorial – Ray called the coordinator of the event, Judy Robinson) and indicated the GWPCA would not be contributing to the rescue dog memorial due to our Club's small size and lack of funds for philanthropic purposes at this time. There is nothing preventing individuals from donating and her contact information would be provided (robinsonschrader@comcast.net).

Club Count Ballot counting service: Ray thought we should check with Sue Mueller on what we have paid in past for this service and compare it with Club Count's estimate; we should also ask Club Count for references for various clubs that have used. Mary will contact Club Count for references and Erika will contact Sue Mueller.

DNA for proof of parentage for National Events: The GWPCA does not require DNA proof of parentage on dogs at National Events, but most other field breeds do except for Vizlas. Ray asked Liz to poll FEAC on their thoughts regarding DNAing dogs for National. Mary asked if it would apply to all dogs entered or just the winners? Ray thinks it would be required of all dogs entered. Liz will provide a report for the next meeting. Ray also noted the FEAC needs a replacement for Gary Wickwire. Liz indicated that would be decided at the FEAC Nationals meeting

Candidate Information on Website (refers to Roger Doyle email) Ray recommended waiting until nominations close to post anything on website, then post them all at once. The guideline for nominee biographies is 250 words or less. Mary will let Roger know that the Board has decided. Current nominees should send their biographies to Mary, who will see that Angie gets the information for the website

Parent Club Approval Form: The Board responded favorably to the new form. Mary will provide the form to Erika for saving in an editable pdf. Once Mary is sure it will work for member clubs, she will send the information to Angie for posting to the website.

Maturity Criteria – Judy asked for board approval for Maturity criteria. Ray explained the Maturity would apply to dogs had been in the show futurity and would give judges a chance to look at them one year older. He asked for input from Bob and other show people. Bob moved to approve the GWPCA Maturity criteria as described by Judy in her August report, and Liz seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote with no further discussion. Mary will relay the Boards decision to Judy

Fraud Insurance: Ray asked Erika to provide the differences between fraud insurance and bonding and the pros and cons of each for the next Board meeting. He

asked Chuck to look into the costs of fraud insurance when he looks into other insurance costs.

Eliminating Top Ten in WireNews: Ray reported on a proposal from Ellen Herminghaus to eliminate the top ten from WireNews to save costs. Lyn Sandor opposes. The topic was tabled until Ray obtains more information from both parties. Ray felt the top ten should be in the end of year issue, but maybe not in every issue

New Members: Erika's email had eight new members for the Board to vote on. Garnett moved to approve all and Bob seconded the motion. The motion carried. Erika will notify new members David Swift, Justin and Keri Tyler, Jason and Amie Ruckman, Shirley Hoskins, Dalen Meredith, Chad and Roxanne Hanson, Richard Freeland, and Terry and Kathy Anserello.

AKC email notifications: Ray reported on an email from AKC that would offer clubs the ability to receive all event and judging panel notices via email instead of receiving letters via the US Postal Service. Garnett moved that the GWPCA accept the offer by AKC and let local clubs know about it; Bob seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Mary will notify AKC of our decision and let local clubs know of the opportunity.

ROM Criteria: Ray asked for feedback on the ROM requirements asap and he would do a vote by email so the clarifications can get into the latest issue of the WireNews.

Next Board Meeting: Tue, Sept 13th, 5:30 PDT

Adjournment: Garnett moved to adjourn, Bob seconded, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm PDT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Hanson,
GWPCA Secretary