

Minutes for the 2020 American Brittany Club Board of Directors Annual Meeting
November 22, 2020 9 am
First Western Bank Conference Room, 80 West Main, Booneville, AR
Zoom Locations – All Regions

First order of Business: Roll Call

7 Directors Present in person: East Coast – Darlene Dow; East Central – Ron Gulembo, Jack Alexander; Central – Joe Droel; Midwest – Ed Tillson, Mary Karbiner, Bret Lindback

8 Directors in attendance via Zoom: East Coast – Bob Fleury, Leslie Hunt; East Central – Vincent Anderson; Central – Bernie Crain, Burton Wice; West Coast – Robin Tomasi, Jim Hammett, Mary Brown

Officers Present in person: President Ed Janulis, 3rd VP Dawn Droel, 4th VP Bob Burchett, Finance Chair Judy Graves

Officers in attendance via Zoom: Executive Secretary Jan Kilpatrick, Elected Secretary Brooke Burlingame, Treasurer Gerilyn Sennott

New Judges Education Chair Amy Booth zoomed in to introduce herself and make a few comments about her new position. Amy got started her new position at the 2020 National Specialty Show where there were 4 judges in attendance. Amy stated she is impressed with the current ABC Judges education program and intends to keep it running the same with Diana Kubitz and other committee members continued input.

Before beginning other 2020 business President Ed Janulis took a few minutes to go over his recommended regulations for Covid-19 for all activities at the 2020 National Activities. Ed then moved into the reports and action items presented in the 2020 Agenda Book.

2020 ABC AGENDA BOOK REPORTS, TOPICS, ACTION ITEMS AND MOTIONS:

Motion 1: Move to officially approve the 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

Motion by: Mary Karbiner

Seconded by: Darlene Dow

Motion Passed: 15 Yes

Topic: ABC Officers and Board of Directors need a better mode of communication, i.e., Yahoo, direct email blasts, wider use of ABC Facebook page or a dedicated spot on the ABC website to communicate with members directly.

Discussion: Ed Janulis commented he is currently sending out welcome letters to all new members and has had some very positive responses. Bernie Crain stated he had tried communicating via email and social media groups, and nothing has been able to reactivate the enthusiasm of the past. Bernie feels having club supported activities that would attract and interest young people is of paramount importance. Robin Tomasi agreed and stated the ABC members on the West Coast have been responding positively to email blasts on issues and events. She stated that many young people these days do not use Facebook but have gone to other groups such as Instagram and Tik Toc. Robin was not in favor of changing to another social media as she felt the ABC Facebook page is continuing to maintain its informational content practice.

Topic: Report from Bob Burchett – Note: Some of Bob’s verbal report is missing due to technical difficulties during his presentation. Bob reported that the 2020 Walking Gun Dog Nationals in Ionia had a strong entry and the budget shows a small profit for the event. A younger than normal crowd was in attendance. In regards to no Champion or RU Champion being awarded in the NOWGD this was due to dog performance; specifically, dogs running so far ahead they ended up putting up the large coveys of birds they were finding before the handlers were able to reach them. A question was asked if there were plans to move the Gun Dog Nationals back to the Spring and Bob stated there were no plans to do that at this time. Bob expressed his pleasure at serving two terms as the 4th Vice President and cautioned all Directors to look to the future but if necessary, dig in their heels, to protect the past.

Topic: Dawn Droel, 3rd Vice President, gave her report on the 2020 National Specialty Show. Dawn expressed her pleasure at serving as 3rd Vice President but stated she was eager to get back to showing her dogs at the Nationals. She stated her inability to show her dogs while serving in this capacity is only an ABC rule not an AKC rule. Covid-19 precautions were successfully implemented at the 2020 NSS. There was one incident involving an inebriated exhibitor who fell in the parking lot and then filed an accident report the next day. All necessary paperwork was completed by the show superintendent and will be filed with AKC and any other necessary organizations. Very successful fund raising this year in part due to a member run online raffle and also because ABR didn't attend so there was not another source of fundraising items for sale thus the NSS items received all the funds which were put back into the National Specialty Show. Dawn made the suggestion that in the future ABR be limited in the number of items they sell or raffle at the NSS.

Topic: Paige Giebel won her third ABC Best National Specialty Junior Handler so the traveling trophy given for this award was retired to her. Dawn requested permission for Teresa McNulty to establish a new traveling trophy for the ABC Best National Junior Handler winner. Teresa's replacement trophy would be at her cost.

Motion 2: Move to grant Teresa McNulty permission to replace the retired ABC Best National Specialty Junior Handler traveling trophy.

Motion by: Mary Karbiner

Seconded by: Joe Droel

Motion passed 15 Yes

Dawn expressed concern that the Agility entries were much smaller this year and for that reason she was concerned it would not pay for itself. Judy Graves explained Agility has its own budget for the NSS starting this year. Dawn felt that the new Judges Education Coordinator who started at this year's NSS was involved in an awkward situation that caused a few complaints from other exhibitors. Amy was mentoring 4 judges ringside on Friday then showed a dog on Saturday which won a high award. Dawn felt this was not only an awkward situation but that it was potentially a conflict of interest. Jessica Carlson requested permission to speak and took the floor. Jessica said this situation was a one-time occurrence due to the mid-season appointment of Amy Booth as the new Judges Education Coordinator. If the same situation is likely to occur in the future there would be time to make arrangements for a different Judges Education mentor. No further action was required on this item.

Report and Action Item from Jennifer Brooke Burlington, Elected Secretary - Staying busy but feel the position is under-utilized and could include some other responsibilities. Having said that Brooke presented the following action item.

Action Item: Would like to request that Regional Clubs (especially in the West) make a list of resources (pointing dog clubs, hunting clubs, other Brittany organizations) and submit them to her so she can give out this information to people from different areas of the country inquiring about activities for their Brittany's.

Discussion: Mary Brown suggested that Brooke contact other Western Regional Club Officers in the area where the inquiries were coming from to get suggestions. Jim Hammett said the Western Regional Clubs have started offering Amateur Walking Stakes especially in the juvenile stakes as an incentive to bring in new Brittany owners. He also mentioned the ABC Futurities as being a good event for new Brittany owners. Burton Wice stated Walking Field Trials are posted on the ABC Field Trial Schedule which is posted on the ABC Website and published in the ABC Magazine. Burton suggested that the ABC think about offering a Hunt Test Schedule similar to this Field Trial Schedule that could be posted on the ABC Website and possibly published in the Magazine. He also mentioned there were Hunt Tests and Field Trials posted on the AKC Event Website. All of these suggestions should be taken under Brooke's consideration. No further action required.

Report from Gerilyn Sennott, ABC Treasurer – Will continue sending out quarterly reports which have been well received. Comparison from year to year have been difficult since 2019 items were entered incorrectly and it took several months work for Judy Graves and I to figure them out. Have a preliminary cost report on the 2020 National Walking Gun Dog events. The Amateur is showing a small profit and by moving the unawarded trophy costs for the Champion & RU Champion to next year should help with the Open budget as well.

Report from Jennifer Brooke Burlington, Agenda Book - Brooke reported she had fewer complaints this year but said there were fewer reports. Also mentioned that there was a total of 55 ABC committees many of which had never sent in reports. Ed Janulis stated he was working on this item.

Topic: Brooke felt she had time to take on the duties of the ABC Dog of the Year Award so Ed said he would enter her name for consideration of this position.

10 MINUTE BREAK

Report and Action Item from Mary Jo Trimble on AKC Legislative Liaison

Mary Jo reports that legislative issues were greatly reduced due to Covid-19 because of less meetings. She expects if things settle down action will begin again in Spring 2021.

Action Item: Continue financial support on a continuing basis to both the US Sportsmen's Alliance and the National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA).

Discussion: No action required as both of these items are in the budget.

American Field Liaison – Ray Trimble sent in a report covering the current status of American Field. Ed Janulis makes the statement that American Field as an organizational expense is in question now due to the discontinuance of a printed magazine with the American Field charging the same price for Championship and regional trial sanctioning for digital advertising.

Book of the American Brittany from Jessica Carlson – Jessica reported that the ABC Book of the 2010's (2010 – 2019) is still on track for publication in 2021.

Action Items from Ron Gulembo-East Central Director

Topic 1: Publish Standard Operating Procedures for Officers and Chairmen in Policy Book.

Motion 3: Move to form a one-time committee, comprised of Ron Gulembo and Darlene Dow, to create a simple guideline sheet outlining duties of the 1st VP, 4th VP and their respective Field Trial Secretaries.

Motion by: Ron Gulembo

Seconded by: Ed Tillson

Motion Passed: 14 Yes 1 No

Topic 2 Fund raising must be done within the laws of the state in which ABC is incorporated as well as each state which host the fund-raising event.

Tabled pending legal opinion.

Action Item from Ed Janulis interjected at this time - Approval for the use of video conferencing (example: Skype or Zoom) at all future ABC Board Meetings.

Motion 4: Move to approve all future ABC Board of Directors Meetings will be allowed to be conducted via video conferencing and all attendants, whether in person or via video conferencing, will be considered part of the quorum.

Motion by: Joe Droel

Seconded by: Ron Gulembo

Passed 15 Yes

Topic 3 Alternate running of events at National Horseback nationals from year to year; i.e. (AGC-OGD) – (AAA-OAA) and vice-versa

Motion 5: Move to rotate the order of the American Brittany Club Horseback National Events currently being held in Booneville, Arkansas beginning in the year 2021. The order of rotation will be:

Odd Years: AAA/OAA/OGD/AGD

Even Years: AGD/OGD/OAA/AAA

Motion By: Robin Tomasi

Seconded By: Ron Gulembo

Motion Passed: Roll Call Vote 10 Yes: Bob Fleury, Leslie Hunt, Darlene Dow, Ron Gulembo, Vincent Anderson, Joe Droel, Bernie Crain, Robin Tomasi, Jim Hammett, Mary Brown **5 No:** Jack Alexander, Burton Wice, Ed Tillson, Mary Karbiner, Bret Lindback

30 Minutes Lunch Break

Topic 4: Officers & Committee Chairs should be available to provide info for any BOD meeting.

Not addressed

Topic 5 Should Purina Award be based on 1-hour stakes only?

Tabled

Action Items from Ron Gulembo-Policy Committee Chairman

Topic 6 The Policy Book Committee recommends a new addition be added as **Appendix III** to the Policy Book in the form of a Glossary for clarification only.

Motion 6: Move to add Appendix 3 to the Policy Book for clarification only of these common terms found throughout the Constitution and/or By-Laws: **Active Member** – refers to a full Member in the American Brittany Club/ABC Regional Club; **National Kennel Clubs** – refers to American Kennel Club, The American Field, and Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America; **Secretary** – refers to Executive Secretary- Constitution Article IV, Sections 1-2-4; **Secretary** – refers to Elected Secretary – By-Law Article VI, Section 6, Part F; **Mail** – refers to mail and email; **Telephone** – refers to by telephone, teleconference and video conference.

Motion By: Mary Brown

Seconded By: Jack Alexander

Motion Passed: 15 Yes

Action Items from Judy Graves, Finance Committee Chair

Added Topic: Elimination of Judges Travel Insurance

Motion 7: Elimination of Judges Travel Insurance by removing from the Duties of the Treasurer, item number 13... (1973), page 46 of the ABC Policy Book.

Motion by: Bernie Crain

Seconded by: Mary Karbiner

Motion Passed: 15 Yes

Topic 1: Reappointment of Mary Karbiner to another term on the Finance Committee.

Motion: Move to reappoint Mary Karbiner to another term on the Finance Committee

Motion by: Bernie Crain

Seconded by: Joe Droel

Motion Passed: 15 Yes

Topic 2: Approval of the of the 2021 Administrative & General budgets as presented

Motion 7: Move to approve the 2021 budget reports which include Cost Center #1: General & Administrative/Jan Kilpatrick; Gerilyn Sennott; Jennifer Burlingame, Ed Janulis; Cost Center #2: Membership/Jeri Conklin; Cost Center #3: Magazine/Bob Fleury; Cost Center 4: Publications/Year Book, Jessica Carlson. The budget includes a \$50 per month salary increase for Deb Rudert, Membership Data Chair.

Motion by: Bret Lindback

Seconded by: Ed Tillson

Motion Passed: Roll Call Vote

13 Yes Bob Fleury, Leslie Hunt, Ron Gulembo, Vince Anderson, Jack Alexander, Joe Droel, Bernie Crain, Burton Wice, Ed Tillson, Bret Lindback, Mary Brown, Robin Tomasi, Jim Hammett
2 No Darlene Dow, Mary Karbiner

Topic 7 Add policy covering the procedure for ABC Agility and ABC Rally Events. (See Cindy Miller Non-Field Performance Committee Chair-page 30 of the 2020 ABC Agenda Book).

Motion 8: Move to Add the following written policy to the ABC Policy Book covering the procedure for ABC Agility and ABC Rally Events: The American Kennel Club has made available to the American Brittany Club 12 licenses for Agility and 12 licenses for Rally. Currently, 5 are used during the ABC National Specialty Show, 2 for the ABC Summer Specialty and the remaining 5 licenses based on a first come first served basis with net income from the trial being split 80/20 (ABC 80% to support the ABC National Agility Trial and 20% to be retained by the sponsor club to help offset its expenses.) If hosting the ABC Summer Specialty Agility Trial, 20% will be sent to ABC and 80% retained by the host club. The Agility trial program shall be the responsibility of the chair of the Non-Field Performance Committee. The ABC National Agility Trials will support the ABC National Agility Trials and the ABC National Rally Trials will support the National Specialty Show.

When an ABC Agility Trial or ABC Rally Trial is run in conjunction with the ABC National Specialty Show, the Chair of the Non-Field Performance Committee shall coordinate activities with the ABC 3rd Vice President. All requests for an American Brittany Club Agility Trial or an ABC Rally Trial must be submitted to the Non-Field Performance Committee Chair along with the completed AKC request form. The Non-Performance Committee will approve the request and send to the ABC Executive Secretary. The request form shall identify the ABC host club, dates, breed(s), estimated revenues & expenses. Once approved by the committee, it shall be forwarded to the ABC Executive Secretary. This shall be the ABC club officer authorization of the event. The Chair shall send notice of the events to the Treasurer along with the estimate of revenues, expenses, ABC share. Once completed, the host club shall send a report of receipts and expenditures to the Committee Chair. The chair shall review and send notice to the host club of amount due to ABC. Such notice shall be also sent to the Treasurer.

Motion By: Ron Gulembo

Motion Seconded: Joe Droel

Motion Passed: 15 Yes

Topic: Discussion of 2021 Qualifications for the National All Age Championships (NFC, NAFC) and the National Gun Dog Championships (NOGD, NAGD, NOWGD, NAWGD) due to the continued COVID-19 restrictions. This topic was discussed and voted during the January 6, 2021 Zoom Meeting.

Motion 9: Move that all 2020 National Championship Qualifiers be automatically qualified for the 2021 National Championships Events (NFC, NAFC, NOGD, NAGD, NOWGD, NAWGD) and any dog that has placed in an hour stake with 13 or more dogs started in an AKC licensed field trial held by a Brittany Club will be qualified to run in the 2021 National Championships (NFC, NAFC, NOGD, NAGD, NOWGD, NAWGD).

Motion by: Mary Karbiner

Seconded by: Jack Alexander

Motion Passed: 13 Yes 1 No 1 No Vote

Executive Session via Zoom on January 6, 2021, 7:30 PM

In Attendance: Directors

- East Coast - John Perry (incoming), Bob Fleury (outgoing), Darlene Dow, Leslie Hunt
- East Central - Ron Gulembo, Jack Alexander, Vincent Anderson
- Central: Joe Droel, Bernie Crain, Burton Wice
- Midwest: Ed Tillson, Mary Karbiner, Bret Lindback
- West Coast: Robin Tomasi, Jim Hammet, Mary Brown
- Officers: President-Ed Janulis, Executive Secretary-Jan Kilpatrick

Elected to the ABC Hall of Fame for Distinguished Members: Fred Strawson

2020 Elected ABC Magazine Committee Chairperson: Dana Na'ayem

2020 ABC BOD Election Results:

- East Coast: John Perry
- East Central: Ron Gulembo (re-elected)
- Central: Joe Droel (re-elected)
- Midwest: Ed Tillson (re-elected)
- West Coast: Robin Tomasi (re-elected)

2020 ABC Elected Officers:

- 1st Vice President: Kent Patterson
- 3rd Vice-President: Bryce Novotny
- 4th Vice-President: Lisa Pollock
- Executive Secretary: Mary Jo Trimble
- Elected Secretary – Position Undecided

The Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM

Respectively Submitted:

Jan Kilpatrick

Jan Kilpatrick, Executive Secretary
American Brittany Club