

Minutes of the Carolina PBGV Club Board Meeting conference call, Monday, June 1, 2009.

In attendance: Mike Williquette, Mary Fluke, Ralph Hattox, Wendy Murphy, Cass Corliss, Bobbe Jackson, Lynn Rowell.

Called to order at 8:08 pm.

First item: Membership issues.

We have 2 delinquent members (Donna Bruce and Lisa Bruzzone)—Mary was concerned that they might need extensions but neither has pursued the issue so the point is moot.

Intend to do better explanation of membership rules (renewals, etc.) next year so it's clear to all.

Current membership stands at 49 voting members, 5 associates. This means a quorum is a problem since we need 10 people present to be able to conduct business. Review of meeting attendance shows that we have 8 people who come to meetings >50% of the time, 4 who come 25-50%, and 4 members who have never attended a single meeting (plus a bunch who come once in a while). Need to stress the importance to the club of renewing as associates if a person is not likely to come to meetings. Mike Williquette suggested that we send out a letter asking for feedback from members about what it would take to get them to show up to meetings more reliably—what kind of activity, what preferred location. (MF to do this.)

Bobbe asked about membership distribution within our geographic area (concern for AKC requirement that we have at least 20 members with 12 or more in our immediate location). Our bylaws describe our local area as “the greater Charlotte, NC area or within the local area of the club (described hereafter as western central North Carolina and adjacent portions of South Carolina).” We have plenty of members in this locale so it shouldn't be a problem.

Second item: hunt stuff.

Hotel—we've got the contract for the hotel for October and February. Room rate is \$75 a night. The contract requires us to pick up 10 room nights within the block to be “comped” the meeting room, otherwise it's \$100 a day. Susanne Long said she would overlook it in October, but not in February. Hopefully we'll meet our obligation. (Bobbe to have a chat with her about this.)

Judges Compensation. We've been paying 2 nights of housing for regular judges, 1 night for alternates. This means \$150/\$75 at current rates. Looking at expenses for our hunts, our fixed costs end up being nearly \$1700 plus before we take a single entry with a big

chunk of that being judges' costs. Mary suggests that we set a fixed stipend for judges with lunches and a gift assumed. Initial proposal was \$150/\$75 but after discussion this was reduced to \$100/\$50. Mary will include this in the letter to go out to judges for the upcoming hunt (sort of a contract). (Brief question regarding gift bags for entrants.

Bobbe asked if this cost us money. Mary explained that most of the stuff in the bags from the last hunt was left over—spent about \$15 on crackers and water. Mary feels strongly that the gift bags are important, particularly as our entry fees are higher than other hunts.)

Solo entries. If amendments to the rules are approved before our next hunt, we will be required to offer solo runs. More importantly there are people who need them for titles so we should offer them at this hunt. Mary expressed concern that a solo run during the regular trial eliminates the opportunity for between 2 and 4 other dogs to enter (difference between 1 dog and a pack of up to 5). This matters both for participation and for income.

Mary suggested that we offer 2 solo runs on the Friday rather than squeezing them into Saturday and Sunday. Mike and Ralph suggested increasing the number of runs to 3 or 4.

The group elected to plan for 3 runs on Friday. (Possible consequence is that we may end up being asked to pay a higher rent for Friday. Also we will need to have 2 judges, 1 marshal, and a field secretary present.) Mike expressed concern about the high entry fees that we had at our last hunt. Mary and Bobbe explained that these fees were calculated based on expected costs and the number of slots available for entries. It may be that we can lower our entries a bit for this hunt now that our judges' expenses are reduced.

Third item: Summer Fun Day Meeting. Wendy Murphy offered to host a Saturday potluck/picnic at her lake house in Denver. The date will be Saturday, July 18, Wendy and Mary to set times and announce the schedule. We will need to be sure that we get enough people to come to be able to do business (the magic number is 10!)

Match Committee item tabled due to lack of time.

Announcements regarding 2011 National will be sent around by e-mail.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.