

Carolina PBGV Club Meeting
October 3, 2023 - 7:00 PM ET
Virtual (Zoom)

Attendees

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| Roger Mayer, President | Mary Fluke |
| Vickie Willmann, Vice President | Charlie Johnson |
| Sharon Kimble, Secretary/Treasurer | Bev Seffrin |
| Kevin McDonald, Director | Coady Egan |
| Phyllis Lindquist, Director | |
| Jill Fitzgerald, Director | |

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

1. Welcome (Roger Mayer, President)

Roger welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Roger let everyone know that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss some of the current challenges facing the club and to discuss whether we should consider becoming a hunt host/hunt committee versus remaining a club.

Roger made it clear that tonight's meeting was not intended to bring a vote either way; we are not voting on anything tonight.

2. Discussion on Club Challenges

Roger shared that as indicated in the letter that was sent out to everyone, one of the challenges the club is facing is limited participation in club activities including nomination of next year's officers. He also shared that our membership numbers are dwindling. There are a small number of people who are involved and continue to be involved. However, we don't want them to get burned out and want new people to bring in new ideas to the club.

The club members present briefly discussed that having a club that is geographically dispersed can be part of the challenge with getting people together. Although the club is technically a Carolina club, our members live everywhere and even the Carolina members don't necessarily live close to each other.

Another club challenge is following our own bylaws, such as the number of club meetings required each year and the process for electing board members and its timeline. Our bylaws follow the AKC format for clubs and there are some things that they do require. It was suggested that we review the bylaws and the AKC requirements to determine if our bylaws might be adjusted to better accommodate what the club wants to do (such as reducing the number of meetings required). It was also suggested that we review the bylaws to see if it is required that board members have a term limit or if we can adjust that. There was a brief discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of board member term limits; primarily that it allows other people to get involved in club leadership and prevents burnout. However, if people wanted to continue to serve on the board and the club members wanted them to do that, maybe it should be allowed.

3. Discussion on Remaining a Club or Becoming Hunt Host Group/Hunt Committee

Discussion on this topic brought forward some of the following points:

- The club is an AKC-licensed club. That is why we follow those guidelines for our bylaws.
- Hunts are not AKC licensed. We do not have to be an AKC club to host hunts.
- An advantage to being a club is that we can get Equisure insurance for our events.
- We would still be insured if we were not a club; it would be the host's insurance or for the hunts it would be PBGVCA insurance.
- AKC licensed clubs do so to be able to host shows and trials such as obedience, scent work, rally, and agility.
- The club was incorporated years ago so it is not only AKC licensed but also a corporation.
 - The club did this to hold Health Clinics. There was a lot of money moving in and out of the checking account and we needed to be able to create 1099s.
- By being a club and hosting our own hunts, any profit made from the hunt remains with the club.
- We pay a fee to PBGVCA for each entry for the hunt. If we were not a club, we would not pay the fee.
- If we were not a club, PBGVCA would receive all of the money from entries. The event committee could decide how to use money raised by the raffles; most non-club hunt committees donate it to PBGV Rescue or other charity.
- We are not able to host an event (i.e., a trial or event for AKC titles) as a non-AKC club unless it is part of a regional or national specialty event.

4. Next Steps and Action Items

- The group agreed that we have a lot to think about and some information to gather before we make any type of decision.
- It was agreed that giving up being an AKC-licensed club is not something we should do unless we are sure that is what we want to do. It takes a lot of work to become AKC-licensed and we may not be able to do that again if we change our minds.
- We are going to research the bylaws and see if we can adjust them to meet the club's needs.
- We are going to see if we can find out if there are penalties from AKC if we don't follow all our bylaws or if we are not hosting shows.
- Everyone was encouraged to reach out to other members who were not in attendance at the meeting to gather thoughts and ideas.
- We'd like to have another meeting before the December hunt to provide updates and continue the discussion.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Next Meeting

To be announced