

2015 NGSPA Delegates Meeting
Booneville, Arkansas

Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order.

Reading of February 2014 minutes: Brooks Carmichael motion to suspend the reading of minutes; Mike Aldrich second. So moved.

Report of the President: The championship currently being put on started off several years ago Keith Richards expressed his appreciation to the club delegates and the support coming from clubs. Clubs as a whole are healthy and have grown. Twenty-four clubs responded to the mailing on the special meeting. Keith asked the delegates they run their field trial, to be creative and think of things that could spark interest, increase participation and increase funds. He asked people to thank those people helping out not only at this championship with the dog wagon, happy hour in the evening, but to be diligent in saying thanks to those who tirelessly help these events be successful, and the sponsors who support the sport.

Report of the Secretary: Lori Rezzardi reported out of 45 clubs, 34 were in good standing, having paid their dues. Lori also asked that checks be sent to her so she could record payments received. Lori also requested delegates provide their email address to her for future notification.

Report of the Treasurer: Don Kidd reported cash on hand at \$28,697.79. Assets stand at \$77,104.90; Receivables at \$350; Liabilities at \$8,152.63 for a net worth as of 12/31/14 of \$69,302.27. The only club that owes money is the Savannah River Championship. Net worth declined. When paying dues, Don asked that clubs make their checks payable to NGSPA, not him, that the club be clearly identified, and the signature on the check be legible.

Report of Committees:

a. Nationals Chairman and Social Director:

- Nationals Chairman, Dean Crabbs: Profit loss of \$9K, with \$6K incurred at the Nationals at Eureka. Dean indicated National costs have been cut as far as they can be. He encouraged people to buy raffle tickets and participate in the stud dog raffle. Dean thanked Brooks Carmichael for getting the raffle started, and once started, Brooks and Mike Patrick really got things rolling. The auction ends April 1st, so if you are planning on breeding dogs this year, this is a good opportunity to get a good stud dog breeding at a good price. Dean also reported we really need to get a big corporate sponsor. Things are getting harder across the spectrum, and if anyone has ideas on how to cut costs, please contact Dean. John Lunseth reported it was a blog when the club lost Sierra Trading Post and costs have increased since that time without corporate sponsorship. Don Kidd was able to get the catalog printed for free (thank you Andy Gerdes) and that saved \$3,300 in printing costs; ads also increased so that helps. Keith said the number of dogs entered has increased, which brings in an additional \$5K.

- Social Director: Mark Verdoorn said he was glad to help Rick Dodge in taking the responsibility for this year's social activities. He thanked the many people helping him get everything done so participants have a good national championship.
- b. Field Trial Coordinator: Mike Aldrich posted the report for the championship on the bulletin board for people to read. This gives a good idea on how many dogs and stakes are being run throughout the year. Mike said over 1,200 dogs ran in 24 trials last year, which averages 21 dogs per stake. Average number of dogs per championship runs about 57. The report shows how many dogs and stakes are being run throughout the year. Total dogs run in 24 trials in 2014 were 1,200, averaging 21 per stake. An average for championship stakes runs around 57 dogs.
 - c. GSP Museum Update: Mike Aldrich reported there were about five people at the Hall of Fame celebration. This year was the largest crowd they ever had. Lots of new breeds were brought in, and this is beginning to be quite an event for the area. However, the NGSPA exhibit was in shambles. Everything was on the floor. Don Kidd and Mike went down two days in advance and picked up items on the floor so the exhibit better represented the group. Andy Gerdes is working on a timeline which will be the highlight of the exhibit. Andy's plan is to cover 80 feet of wall-space, introducing the German Shorthair from the beginning and how dogs have changed, and onward through the history of the sport. Once complete it will be a good historical perspective on the dogs and will show the progress the breed has made. Reminder, dogs are coming up this year for election. Mike encourages all to nominate dogs and people who are worthy of this honor.

Old Business:

- a. Report on By Laws Amendments by Ballot Vote (handout)
There were 25 clubs responding to the By-Law amendment ballot, which is over, 50% representation. All amendments passed. The guidelines will be republished and should be available for all members by this time next year. John Lunseth clarified that the ballot was sent out via USPS and not email. Terry Bomer asked if the Board would pay expenses for both secretaries. Lori Rezzardi said she gets some fuel money but that's all. Keith said the Board does not really pay expenses for the recording secretary, but the Board would evaluate any requests and make the decision.

New Business:

- a. Discuss no Apprentice Judges at NGSPA Events: The issue first presented at an east coast championship that was dual sanctioned trial. There was an apprentice judge who forced their way onto the judging team, creating issues. Keith Richardson advised the people running the trial need to decide if they want an apprentice judge; however, the Board does not encourage the practice of using apprentice judges.
- b. Discuss Requirements for Placement (handout): These guidelines were developed for clubs to follow because some clubs are taking too much time sending in their information to Mike Aldrich. Failure to follow guidelines may result in a penalty to the club. Terry Bomer said the only problem with the requirements is the same people put on the Sharptail must turn around and go to another field trial. When stake managers do the write-up it is difficult get the information to the secretary for completion; a proper write-up can take weeks to complete. Keith Richards indicated the longer the write-up is put off, the more information can be lost. He

said these are the deadlines the American Field wants. Mike Aldrich said think of these are guidelines, not rules. Mike also indicate when writing up the first and second place dogs to make sure the nomenclature is “champion” and “runner-up” you can reference other dogs considered for placement or consideration.

- c. Potential changes by AR Fish and Game in 2016: Keith Richardson explained A tornado last year destroyed Camp Robinson and caused Arkansas Fish and Game to look at field trial program in Arkansas. Money being allocated to the locations was considered as it relates to field trial grounds. The State began a process to evaluate these grounds. The state approved the Camp Robinson plan and will show the Booneville plan to their members on the 20th. Belief is that Booneville will remain a viable option. In 2014 Arkansas Fish and Game laid off all temporary employees. There was concern NGSPA would be without help. For 2015, Arkansas Fish and Game will work the dog wagon and plant birds. Next year the State will pay for the facility and power, but NGSPA will have to buy birds out of pocket and plant them. NGSPA has been purchasing birds through Blue Mountain and Keith will talk to Ray Marshall with Blue Mountain. Based on the discussion, the NGSPA may pay for part of the birds, but need to be prepared to pick up the cost in case. The club will also be covering the dog wagon.
- d. Discussion of Board Decision to Eliminate “No Crossover Rule (handout): Keith Richardson explained in the past you could not run a dog in all age and open shooting dog. This was to cut down the size of the stakes and help meet the deadlines of the field trials. The change to allow crossover was in part to help put the organization on more stable financial ground by allowing dogs to cross over into other stakes because trials appear to be getting smaller. The concern was will this denigrate the all age dog stakes? There was a discussion and it was decided it would not impact the all age dog trials. If over time (next two years) allowing crossover does not work, there will be discussion to amend the decision. Keith said the single most important thing the Board can do is to invite judges who have all age credentials and are qualified to determine the all age dog and pick the best dog representing the all age dog performance.
- e. Discussion of Robert’s Rules of Order: John Lunseth researched Roberts Rules of Order and how that can be used with the NGSPA. There are rules for both small and large organizations, and NGSPA has loosely used the small rule rules in the past. John recommended unless there is something in the Bylaws requiring the use of Roberts Rules of Order they not be applied. As long as discussions on issues the membership bring forward are fair and open, the manner in which current meetings are held is fine; there is nothing wrong with the way the Board handles their meetings and discussions.
- f. Discussion of Responsibility of Board to Discipline, Sanction, or even Terminate the Ability of a Championship to Hold an NGSPA Event (handout): There have only been a couple situations where the Board has stepped in; mostly, when things happened at events the people running the event are encourage to change the way they do things without intervention. The handout defines the responsibilities of the Board to intervene. The Board has the power to sanction and de-sanction championships. Kurt Bomer asked if the Board does pull a championship from a group what happens to the accounting. After discussion, it was decided this issue would be added to the agenda for the June Board meeting.
- g. Discussion: Making Life Easier for Folks Putting it on (handout): Terry Bomer recommended developing a database detailing the dogs and owners. This would make it very easy for field trial

secretaries to refer to in order to access the dog information. There was also a suggestion for entries to be placed on-line, with a confirmation message generated back to the entrant. Also suggested was the ability to pay for the entry online using a credit card.

I. Election of Trustees:

Five Board members are up for re-election: Eldon Hongo, Brooks Carmichael, Dean Crabbs, Bob Reynolds, and Mark Verdoorn. Delegates were asked to nominate candidates for election as reflected below:

Mike Aldrich nominated Eldon Hongo
Kurt Bomer nominated Mark Verdoorn
Dan DiMambro nominated Peter Kainz
Kurt Bomer nominated Dean Crabbs
Mark Verdoorn nominated Joe Orndorff
Harvey Franko nominated Bob Reynolds
Mike Aldrich nominated Brooks Carmichael

Nominees were asked to step forward and say why they should be Board members. Afterwards, they were asked to leave the room and discussion followed. Ballots were tallied with the following candidates being elected to the Board: Mark Verdoorn, Peter Kainz, Brooks Carmichael, Bob Reynolds, and Dean Crabbs.

The meeting was adjourned.