



**BORZOI CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
BOARD MEETING
FINAL MINUTES**

February 7, 2022 – Teleconference & Continuations on 2/15/22 & 2/21/22

1. ROLL CALL – taken and meeting commenced at: 7:33 PM, 8:03 PM & 8:05 PM

OFFICERS/BOARD	IN ATTENDANCE
Ron Williams, President	YES YES YES
Shirley McFadden, Vice President	YES YES YES 8:27
Lyn Snyder Hoflin, Treasurer	YES YES YES
Joyce Katona, Recording Secretary	YES YES YES
Barbara Danieli, Corresponding Secretary	YES YES YES
Prudence Hlatky, AKC Delegate	YES YES YES
Kari McCloskey, Region 1	YES YES YES
Elizabeth Tolley, Region 2	YES YES YES
Amy Sorbie, Region 3	YES YES YES
Kay Novotny, Region 4	YES YES YES
Kristina Terra, Region 5	YES YES YES
Kim Horn Janek, Region 6	YES YES YES
Rebecca Peters-Campbell	NO NO XX
Karen Ackerman	YES NO XX
	XX- not required to attend

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM three-part meeting 11/15/21, 11/22/21 & 11/28/21

Minutes were accepted via email on; **February 2, 2022**

Motion: B. Danieli moved to approve the minutes from the November meetings on 11/15, 11/22, & 11/28

Second: L. Hoflin 10 in favor, one opposed, P. Hlatky, motion carried

Minutes posted on the website on: **February 10, 2022**

2. PRESIDENT – Ron Williams

Welcome to the Board

R. Williams welcomed the new members to the BCOA board. He stated it was an honor for him to continue as President. He enjoys working with the people who have been on the board and is looking forward to working with Amy Sorbie and Kristina Terra. He hopes we all find working on the board fulfilling. He feels the board members all have the best interests of Borzoi and the BCOA at heart.

Housekeeping

R. Williams reminded everyone to mute their phones as much as possible during the meeting. Most of last year the meetings were long and ended up being carried over to two or three meetings. In the future, he will be scheduling two meeting dates from the start.

R. Williams mentioned that we typically meet on Mondays. A. Sorbie stated she is the President of a local dog club and needs to run their meeting on the 4th Monday of each month. K. Terra requested that we begin at 8 PM, EST in case she has to work until 5 PM, her time.

R. Williams said we would keep that in mind stating we sometimes begin at 7:30 PM, EST and other times at 8:00 PM, EST.

He plans to have a stop time of 10:30 PM for this meeting. We determined the next meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, at 8:00 PM.

We have an issue with board email addresses on the BCOA Board I/O group. R. Williams ran a test and the only time everyone received the test was when he used our BCOA email addresses but NOT through the Board I/O group. A. Sorbie indicated she has not received any email from him since she joined the board. The two of them will work through that issue.

Code of Conduct Update *Should Helen Lee sign?

R. Williams asked if I had a signed Code of Conduct form from every board member, and I indicated that I do. R. Williams indicated we had issues concerning a Code of Conduct breach last year. A board meeting should be considered a safe haven where anything can be said without fear of it being repeated to the membership. We all need to be very careful with what we take away from each meeting. The person or persons who allegedly leaked information is still on the board. There is an uncomfortable feeling that we hope to get past. We want to be able to trust everyone on the board but last year that trust was broken.

It was mentioned that the Webmaster should be required to sign a Code of Conduct. He/she does have access to our board emails and other sensitive information via the I/O group.

Since K.C. Artley is the backup person for H. Lee as Webmaster, she, too, should be asked to sign a Code of Conduct.

National Week

All board members are there to fill in wherever needed during the week of the National. It is especially important this year as it is going to be new for us. A lot is unknown about this year and we need to all be available to take care of whatever arises.

Meeting Date

We usually have our face-2-face meeting at the National on Monday after the AKC performance event is over and folks have had a chance to take care of their dogs, change clothes and get to the meeting on time. We will do the same this year. Due to the length of our meetings, we will have an additional Board meeting a week or two prior to the National to shorten the length of the face-2-face meeting during the National.

Responsibilities

Photo Assignments

R. Williams asked A. Sorbie if she would be the person to schedule which board member would be in the photos on each day. Due to their other responsibilities, K. Horn Janek (show chair), B. Danieli (steward), and P. Hlatky (judge) will be excused from this task. R. Williams does the Saturday photos. J. Katona stated she would continue to do Futurity. We also need a floater to fill in when the scheduled person needs a break.

Standing Committee Chair Update & Approval

The new committee chairs for 2022 are Kristina Terra as AKC Gazette Columnist and Janice Haldi as the Legislative Affairs Liaison.

B. Danieli questioned what inventory B. O'Neill was in charge of besides the medallions for the Regional Specialties. R. Williams clarified that it did not include the POD inventory. B. Danieli suggested that it could be broken into two components since B. O'Neill is only keeping track of the medals. R. Williams suggested the name of the committee could be changed to simply 'Club Medal Inventory'. There are some guidelines on the website regarding organizing a National Specialty, however B. Danieli and K. Horn Janek plan to create something much more comprehensive following the 2022 National. B. Danieli also asked about the Specialty Guidelines and indicated she and K. Horn Janek will be putting together a comprehensive book covering planning and organizing a National Specialty. She questioned if B. O'Neill's name should be removed from the Specialty Guidelines and possibly the standardized trophies since other individuals are doing those tasks. R. Williams would like to discuss this further since B. O'Neill indicated she would continue chairing those committees.

R. Williams will speak to B. O'Neill.

R. Williams has added back-ups for several committee chair positions: K.C. Artley and Helen Lee for the website and Ginger Jones along with Nancy Hopkins for the health committee.

S. McFadden questioned if R. Williams or another board member has access to the username and password for the website and I/O group in case something was to happen to H. Lee and/or K.C. Artley. He replied that H. Lee has sent him that information in the past. Given the situation we were in when J. Windle passed, we should try to prevent that same thing from happening again. R. Williams will contact H. Lee and make sure that is taken care of.

Motion: B. Danieli moved to accept the 2022 Standing Committee Chairs with the exception of the Specialty Inventory and Specialty Guidelines sections as previously mentioned.

Second: B. Tolley All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

R. Williams uses a spreadsheet to keep track of reports that were submitted, were not submitted or when he received no response. He explained how he puts most of the documents for our meeting into one file to make it easier to navigate and find them during our meetings.

Each year when confirming the chairs, R. Williams asks the current Chairs to look over the description of their position to make sure it is accurate.

There is a third page that covers all Board positions, all meeting dates including special meetings, and important information such as security details.

3. VICE PRESIDENT – Shirley McFadden

S. McFadden thanked all for continuing to serve on the board and/or being willing to serve. She indicated how we are all dedicated to the BCOA. She stated she hoped we would all support each other and respect the confidentiality agreement so that we may have open and honest discussions without fear they will end up on social media.

4. REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY – Joyce Katona (report attached)

Submitting edits for minutes – Ron / Joyce

R. Williams mentioned how he and J. Katona have been discussing how the edits to the minutes are to be sent to J. Katona going forward. J. Katona stated what she would like each person to do when they send their edits. First, begin with her original draft minutes then underneath whatever paragraph a board member feels needs a change, she would like each member to type their changes in black ink and then highlight the changes. The typical yellow highlight is perfect. That way, she will only have to scan down the document until she sees the highlight and make the change if necessary.

J. Katona asked to try this method for the next set of minutes. If it isn't working, a change may be considered. After more discussion, it was decided all changes will be sent through the I/O group so that each person can see what suggestions had already been made.

R. Williams asked that when the minutes are sent out for approval or edits J. Katona would repeat how she wants to see the edits so that everyone remembers to use that method. J. Katona agreed and stated she would include an example.

Special Meeting and Executive Session Meeting minutes need to be posted to the BCOA website. - Barbara Danieli

B. Danieli asked that the minutes from the Special meetings be posted on the BCOA website. She feels the membership should be aware of meetings taking place and the changes that have been made to the standing rules as a result. R. Williams indicated that they would be posted going forward. He will discuss how to handle executive session minutes, possibly with assistance from B. Tolley who is very knowledgeable regarding Robert's Rules.

R. Williams has given the updated Standing Rules to H. Lee to post on the BCOA website. He feels many of them are already posted and will follow up to see what has been done to this point.

Member Applications

First Readings

Second Readings

- 1. Justin & Erin Wagner**
(Heimdal, ND) Reg. 6
- 2. Maria Sabella**
(Akron, OH) Reg. 6

K. Horn Janek asked if R. Williams would include the email addresses of the new applicants in the first reading section of the agenda so the governors could add them to their list for their regions. All information is included on the applications and all applications are posted on the I/O group. R. William stated that in the future, he would add the email addresses of the applicants to the first reading only.

No negative comments were received regarding Justin and Erin Wagner and Maria Sabella.

Motion: L. Hoflin moved to accept the Wagners and Maria Sabella as BCOA members. Second: S. McFadden All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Junior

No new applications were received.

J. Katona requested assistance for how to handle the Junior members who have aged out of juniors. Our Household membership states it is two adults living at the same address, it does not address children as household members. R. Williams indicated

that B. Lord sends a letter to the aged-out juniors encouraging them to become adult members of BCOA.

S. McFadden stated that our Constitution says that when juniors have aged out, they must apply for adult membership. A. Sorbie will reach out to see if there is a second household member in the Gilbert household. If there is, Madison, who has aged out as a junior, will be removed from the membership roster and must apply for membership on her own with two sponsors but no home visit. This is the process that will be followed for juniors aging out in the future.

There were several address changes that were included in the Rec Sec report. One email change was accidentally not included for Laura Hyatt. Her new email address is: lauralavanway@gmail.com.

Motion: B. Danieli moved to accept the Recording Secretary report

Second: L. Hoflin All on favor, none opposed, motion carried

Trophy Supported Entries

None have been received.

Mailings

There have been no mailings since the last meeting.

5. REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Barbara Danieli (report attached)

B. Danieli mentioned that there is a BCOA requirement to receive regional specialty applications at least six months in advance of the show date. AKC has a requirement of at least 18 weeks or 4.5 months prior to the show date. During the height of COVID, these requirements were not strictly enforced. Recently she has been getting many that are under those time limit requirements. A recent one was received only 2.5 months before the event. It was brought to B. Danieli's attention that it wasn't clear on the Regional Specialty application that applicants could email the information to her. She will request that H. Lee adjust the language on the website application to indicate email submission is allowed. She will also post a message on the BCOA Members-Only I/O group reminding members of the date and other requirements and that it is fine for them to send the applications via email.

Motion: K. Horn Janek moved to accept the Corresponding Secretary report

Second: B. Tolley All in favor none opposed, motion carried

6. REPORT OF THE TREASURER – Lyn Snyder Hoflin (report attached)

L. Hoflin has been working with a bookkeeper to reorganize the many unnecessary categories that were in the treasurer's files from the past seven years.

She stated that she and H. Lee have been working on getting the special projects PayPal account disassociated from the shopping cart. She plans on moving the remaining funds from that second PayPal account into the general operating PayPal account. Also, the special projects bank account that Barbara O'Neill worked with for the National Specialty will be closed and the funds will be moved into the general operating account. This will eliminate the second bank account.

L. Hoflin has been in contact with PayPal in an attempt to access information related to charge purchases through Braintree. PayPal and Braintree will not allow in depth access to credit card transactions as Rita Rice is listed as the owner of the account. Jan Leikam told L. Hoflin that she had tried to change the owner of the PayPal account with no success. L. Hoflin has contacted R. Rice for assistance. She will be required to sign off if we change that PayPal account. It is interesting to note that neither Jan Leikam nor Rita Rice, our past two treasurers have any idea what the Braintree account is about. When Braintree is googled, it states it is an e-commerce

company specializing in mobile and web payments. L. Hoflin is still trying to gain access to those accounts as well.

L. Hoflin will send an updated Treasurer report to the board which will be discussed at our next meeting. She feared that even though she has been cleaning up the categories for quite some time, it seems as though there is still a lot to be done. Several board members stated that it is clear how much work she has been doing and it is appreciated.

S. McFadden mentioned that she would like to see the income and expenses of the National Specialties broken down and posted on the website. It was stated that a report with that information was received from B. O'Neill with that information from 2021 and there will be one generated by K. Horn Janek and B. Danieli for 2022. S. McFadden was shocked to learn that the 2021 National only brought in \$3200. B. Tolley cautioned the board regarding putting financial information on the website. It is better handled by having the information and financial reports available to the membership at the annual meeting. It is a website safety recommendation that no profit and loss statements are posted on a website.

There was discussion regarding ways to increase BCOA revenue in the future.

As always, if any club member is interested in the financials, contact L. Hoflin for a report.

Motion: P. Hlatky moved to accept the Treasurer's report
Second: B. Danieli All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

7. REPORT OF THE AKC DELEGATE – Prudence Hlatky (report attached)

P. Hlatky said the animal rights agenda against showing dogs is getting a lot worse. Washington and Oregon are two of the worst places in the country for animal rights. P. Hlatky will get the board some information on the AKC Political Action Committee. She thinks it is something we should look into supporting. The Semen Bank project is moving forward and the AKC will want parent clubs to make a commitment to that. They're still working on the bylaws. They have a mission statement. They're working on the legal side of it but we will be required before too much longer to make a decision. The board also wanted more information from the AKC as there are many questions that need to be answered before presenting the program to our membership. A. Sorbie also requested additional information from P. Hlatky as she has members in her region who are potentially interested.

Motion: L. Hoflin moved to accept the AKC Delegate report.
Second: B. Danieli All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

8. REPORT OF THE REGIONAL GOVERNORS -

- **Region One Governor -Kari McCloskey (report attached)**
- **Region Two Governor – Betsy Tolley (report attached)**
- **Region Three Governor – Amy Sorbie / Shirley McFadden**
- **Region Four Governor – Kay Novotny (report attached)**

AKC will be doing the MTB in September. K. Novotny requested anybody who is near the San Diego area and wants to participate to get in touch with Tomomi Mikawa since she is doing the organization for the event.

- **Region Five Governor – Kristina Terra / Karen Ackerman (report attached)**

K. Terra reported that some members in her region would like the distinction between the work of the BCOA Health Committee, and the Borzoi Health and Welfare Foundation to be clearly stated in order to make informed decisions when making donations.

- Region Six Governor – Kim Horn Janek (report attached)

A member mentioned considering member vs. nonmember pricing on more than just health tests at the National. A discussion took place regarding other benefits we could offer to the membership. This will be ongoing.

Motion: P. Hlatky moved to accept the Regional Governors' reports

Second: J. Katona All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

9. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES -

- AKC Gazette Columnist – Kristina Terra

K. Terra spoke with former Gazette columnist J. Steele and is prepared to submit articles when required.

- Annual Versatility Award and Versatility Hall of Fame – Kay Novotny
- Archivist – K.C. Artley
- ASFA Delegate – Sandra Moore
- Beverly C. Taylor Trust for Borzoi Rescue Committee – Karen Ackerman

R. Williams explained the makeup of the BTRC as being 3 BCOA board members (R. Williams, J. Katona, and B. Tolley (pending board approval), 2 BCOA members at large (Shen Smith-Secretary and Karen Ackerman-Chairperson), and advisors. The financial advisors are Karen Denning and Kelly Brunarski. Dee Jones is an advisor for rescue and Barbara O'Neill is an advisor for continuity).

Motion: P. Hlatky moved that the board members on the BTRC be R. Williams, J. Katona and B. Tolley

Second: S. McFadden All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

K. Ackerman explained that due to escalating inflation, BTRC is currently experiencing some loss of funds. There is a program to provide protection against inflation but in researching it, it was decided against. The BTRC prefers to stay with their current investments and leave them as-is for 2022. They are being very conservative since there are a lot of factors beyond their control. There is a lot of information regarding the TIPS (Treasury Inflated Protective Security) program in the supporting documents. K. Ackerman explained that the BTRC reviewed their financial condition and voted to disburse \$15,000 to NBRF. They are asking the BCOA board to approve the disbursement of \$15,000 to NBRF. There was additional discussion regarding the money given for the Texas rescue years ago.

Motion: B. Danieli moved to allow BTRC to distribute \$15,000 to NBRF

Second: S. McFadden All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

There are two proposed amendments to the BTRC Standing Rules. Sections two and five amendments combine existing section two text with new text. This change establishes and requires going forward that all authorized BTRC rescue groups looking to be considered for annual rescue fund distributions, must complete and submit a form entitled "Request for BCOA-BTRC Rescue Funds" before being placed into consideration for annual BCOA, BTRC rescue distributions.

BTRC Standing Rule - Annual Budget to replace existing Section 2 text with amended text:

Section 2:

A) BORZOI RESCUE GROUPS DEFINED: To be considered as a recipient of BCOA-BTRC Borzoi Rescue Funds all previously approved and new organizations applying must maintain current USA State incorporated status and be IRS 501 (c3) non-profit authorized with an EIN identifying them as a Borzoi-Only 501(c3) Rescue Organization. Borzoi-Only rescue organization recipients must have applied and received final approval for distribution consideration from the BCOA-BTRC rescue funds by both the BTRC & the BCOA Board of Directors. All approved Borzoi-Only rescue organizations are expected to maintain financial records on how and where their BCOA-BTRC previous Borzoi rescue distribution funds were spent, and this information is required to be provided to the BCOA-BTRC.

Exclusions: It was previously determined that all-breed or combined other breed rescue groups are not eligible for approval status as a BTRC-BCOA Borzoi-Only non-profit rescue group. Any individual, other parties, or group may apply directly to one of the approved BCOA-BTRC Borzoi-Only rescue groups for possible rescue assistance they might require.

B) LIST OF CURRENTLY APPROVED GROUPS:

(1) The National Borzoi Rescue Foundation (NBRF)

C) FOR RESCUE FUND DISTRIBUTION CONSIDERATION REQUESTS: going forward an application form entitled “Request for BCOA-BTRC Rescue Funds” will be found on the www.borzoiclubofamerica.org website. This form is required to be completed and submitted annually by all preapproved BCOA-BTRC Borzoi-Only 501 (c3) rescue groups looking for consideration of funds from the BCOA-BTRC Borzoi-Only rescue fund. The completed application form with copies attached of the rescue’s last filed IRS 990 form is required along with a written report outlining where the previous years (if any) BCOA-BTRC funds were spent, to what purpose were they used, and who received the financial benefits of those funds.

For consideration of rescue funds, the completed application form with the required attached documents will be annually received by the BTRC Secretary between September 1st and December 1st of each year. Failure to submit the required application form and documents during the specified time frame could cause a serious delay in processing or a possible loss of the rescue’s preapproval status.

Motion: B. Danieli moved to approve the Standing Rule change to add the form titled “Request for BCOA-BTRC Rescue Funds”

Second: L. Hoflin All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

BTRC Section 5 ACCOUNT OWNERSHIP: The primary account contact for any and all BTRC-BCOA fund accounts shall be held legally for the BCOA in the name of the BCOA Corresponding Secretary. Additional authorized personnel may be granted account access, such as designated financial consultants, BTRC Chair, BTRC Secretary, etc. as deemed necessary.

Motion: K. Horn Janek moved to approve the BTRC Standing Rule above

Second: K. Novotny All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

Motion: J. Katona moved to suspend the meeting to be reconvened on Feb 15 at 8 PM

Second: B. Danieli All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

- Borzoi Welfare – Danielle Steenkamp
- Championship Medals for Conformation – Christine Danker
- Championship Medals for Performance and Companion Titles – Amy Balthrop
- Championship Medals for Open Field – Karen Ackerman
- Club Inventory and Medals – Barbara O’Neill
- Futurity Event – Cindi Gredys

Further discussion took place regarding the futurity opening reception timing, menu and costs. It was discussed to possibly eliminate the meat and have more vegetables and finger food. It was decided to set the budget for the Futurity reception at \$3500.

Futurity Entries – Rebecca Neal

There was a question regarding the results of the Futurity judging. Only eight votes were received. There was a discussion as to who is allowed to nominate and vote for the Futurity judge. The breeders of the nominated litters are the only ones who nominate and vote and there were 25 eligible voters. Barbara Binder was the selected judge.

- **Health Chair – Nancy Hopkins**
- **Health – Canine Health Foundation and Morris Animal Foundation – Ginger Jones**
- **Judges Education – Patti Neale**
- **Junior Showmanship – Barbara Lord**

B. Lord submitted three proposals and S. Moore submitted one proposal pertaining to Juniors. It was determined that to do the topics justice, we will have a special meeting devoted only to Junior Showmanship. R. Williams will inform B. Lord that we will be scheduling a separate meeting for discussing the Junior proposals. It was mentioned that we should invite B. Lord to attend and participate in that meeting.

- **Keeping in Touch – Edna Ogata**
- **Legislative Affairs Liaison – Janice Haldi**
Janis Haldi has replaced L. Hoflin as the new committee chair. Report for activity through January 31, 2022, submitted by L. Hoflin.
- **Meet the Breeds – New York – Ron Williams**
 - Pomona, CA 3/5-6/22 – POSTPONED
 - Tampa, Fl 4/23-24/22
 - Dallas, TX 6/25-26/22 – Gary Gideon
 - San Diego, CA 9/10-11/22 - Tomomi Mikawa
 - Columbus, OH 10/15-16/22
 - NYC 11/12-13/22

R. Williams registered BCOA for the Meet the Breeds events. He put himself as the main contact and will notify AKC of the liaisons for each city. At that time AKC will contact those individuals to set things up. We were unable to find volunteers to work the Tampa event. G. Gideon will organize the Dallas event and T. Mikawa will chair the San Diego event. Gale Snoddy would like more information. She may be interested in running the Columbus event. We still need volunteers to work the New York events along with R. Williams.

- **Meet the Breeds – Orlando – Patti Neale**
- **Member Education – Prudence Hlatky**
- **National Specialty Chairperson – Kim Horn Janek**
 - 2022 – Mesquite, TX April 23 – 30. 2022

There is continued concern regarding the correctness and timeliness of information being posted online regarding the 2022 National Specialty. R. Williams suggested K.C. Artley should be copied on all correspondence to H. Lee as she is the backup webmistress and copy R. Williams as well. Discussion followed regarding finding a younger member to serve as a backup for H. Lee in the future. At a minimum, we need to find someone who can answer questions Helen may have regarding coding and proofreading. A. Sorbie mentioned that her daughter, Crystal, is terrific with computers and maybe she could help.

R. Williams will speak with H. Lee and K.C. Artley about these concerns. He is also going to see if he can learn the purpose of having L. Abordo involved in proofreading the premium and the entire National section of the BCOA website.

- 2023 – Virginia Beach April 22- 29, 2023

B. Tolley has some corrections for the 2023 event. There are some questions regarding the performance events, judges, and fields. She has asked the committee to give her a list of their top recommendations for obedience and rally judges and has now received them. The board needs to make the judge selections to get them under contract soon. We do have a signed contract with the hotel. The room rates for 2023 are double queen \$159, single king \$149, and standard queen \$139 per night.

Discussion took place regarding the judges who were recommended and the fact that they all have experience not only with judging but also running the lure and working on the equipment.

Motion: B. Tolley moved to approve the four judges as recommended by the 2023 performance events committee; Donna Richards and Julie Kramer for AKC and Eddie Kominek and Janice Preiss for ASFA

Second: J. Katona All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

o 2024 – Region 5

R. Williams mentioned that the 2024 National will be in region 5. K. Terra should begin looking at possible sites and committee members and ask her regional member to see if anyone is interested in being the facility coordinator

Nominating Committee – TBA

- Ready Borzoi – Veni Harlan
- Registry of Merit (ROM) – K.C. Artley

We will begin only accepting these reports instead of approving them since none of us has actually seen the dogs' qualifications. We have to trust the committee chairperson and accept that they have followed the rules when approving the dogs for a ROM.

Motion: B. Danieli moved to accept the dogs submitted for their ROM

Second: B. Tolley All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

- Shop – Kari McCloskey

A discussion was held regarding the BCOA shopping cart and how to add shipping. Up until now, various BCOA members have been paying to ship those items out of their own pocket. That should stop and R. Williams has spoken to H. Lee about how to add shipping charges to the shopping cart. Several large international orders for the Visualization and the judges DVD came through the website store and there is no shipping charged on the site. With shipping charges going up we need to have them added to the shopping cart for online purchases, especially for overseas purchases. K. McCloskey has some exciting items planned to offer at the National sales table. There will be a surprise item that will only be available at the National. K.

McCloskey is having everything shipped to Laurie Courtney as she is local to the National and will store them until bringing them to Mesquite in April.

R. Williams has the 'growing borzoi' mugs and has been bringing several to the past Nationals to make available for sale. He will give some to K. McCloskey to bring with her this year since she is driving. Ron doesn't have a lot left so we will need to order more if it is decided to continue offering them for sale.

- Specialty Guidelines – Barbara O'Neill
- Standardized Trophies – Barbara O'Neill
- Standing Rules – Ron Williams

R. Williams mentioned that we have separate meetings for the Standing Rules adjustments. J. Katona is working on the rule that refers to judges voting timelines as it is very long and needs to be simplified. It is not currently a part of the standing rules but needs to be included.

Several sections such as the National and Accounting have been completed. We still need to set up a special meeting to work on Notices and Reports.

B. Danieli asked if we were going to begin reporting the special meetings to the membership. **R. Williams** said we will start reporting on the meetings by stating that we had a meeting on Standing Rules. Go to the website to see the changes that were made. The separate discussions, etc. will not be noted, but the motions and votes will be listed from this point going forward.

- Webmaster – Helen Lee

Motion: L. Hoflin moved to accept the standing committee reports

Second: S. McFadden All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Adjustment to Breed Standard – Barbara Tyler Lord

- “I make a formal request that the Borzoi Club of America address the accidental removal of the word BROAD from the description of the Borzoi hock in our official breed standard. As I suggested during our conversation, Lena Tamboer should be contacted to detail this matter as she was on the committee when the accidental removal of the word took place. I believe the word BROAD is vital in providing an accurate description of this part of our breed's structure. If any committee is formed, I formally ask to be included as a member of such committee. My hope is that this matter is put on the front burner by the board and dealt with through the proper channels, as soon as possible.” Apparently, when this happened, the then-current board voted to leave the error in the standard and it was kept off.

11/28/21- The board agrees to correct the error of the omission of the word 'broad' from our standard. A committee was formed consisting of, R. Williams, B. Danieli, B. Tolley, P. Hlatky, Barbara Tyler Lord and Patti Neale to consider ways to inform the members of the need to correct the omission of the word 'broad' in our standard

UPDATE – Working on scheduling a date with said committee.

P. Hlatky mentioned that the AKC now has a process that parent clubs must follow when attempting to change the breed standard.

Home Visit Regional Survey Result Discussion

R. Williams mentioned the home visit survey results. It was interesting to note that Region 4 had a large number of people who felt that no home visit or video should be required while the rest of the regions did not have many votes for that option. It was mentioned that it was possibly due to the fact that the population of that region is very spread out. Overall, the majority of members responding would like to see something required.

J. Katona mentioned an article in the NBRF bulletin regarding home visits that brought things to mind that she had not considered. She offered to forward the bulletin to the board members to read.

More discussion took place. For example, if there was a situation where the person couldn't get a home visit because they lived in a remote area with no members nearby the board could review and approve of a video visit. A video is a significant change to the way it is currently done. Much discussion regarding the criteria for using a video

vs a home visit. The form listing the process will need to be adjusted to address this change. R. Williams asked K. Novotny and K. Terra to review the form and report back to the board with some suggestions as to how to include the criteria on the form. R. Williams requested the board have the form to view during that discussion.

Motion: S. McFadden moved to add the sentence, "A video will be allowed when a home visit is impractical." (This will go on the document 'Applying for Membership' under The Process, section #2 at the end.)

Second: J. Katona All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

Motion: B. Tolley moved at 11:09 PM, to adjourn this meeting until 8:00 PM EST on February 21st

Second: B. Danieli All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

Changing the age breakdowns for our Regular Veteran classes –Prudence H

- "Veterans are a non-regular class and as a result at our National we are able to set our own age brackets. I believe it would be a welcome move to have the same age brackets as in the sweepstake classes."
- 11/28/21-Discussion was held on the possibility of changing the age breakdown for the Veteran classes. The idea is to not have very old dogs competing with much younger dogs. There is a big difference between a 7-year-old borzoi and a 12-year-old borzoi. It was determined that it was a topic that needs more thought and discussion. It was decided to continue this topic at a future meeting. P. Hlatky mentioned that we are not limited to using the age that AKC uses. BCOA can decide if we want to change the age when a borzoi is considered to be a Veteran.

P. Hlatky would like to see the age breakdowns for veterans changed. She discussed what other parent clubs are doing. There is a huge difference between 7-year-olds competing against 10-year-olds. B. Danieli wondered where we draw the line, we have big differences in classes now in 6 to 9 months and 9 to 12 months. Changes will make the veterans' classes run longer. J. Katona would prefer to see the order of judging changed so that the older dogs would be judged first and could rest before having to go back in for Best in Veteran Sweeps.

Discussed various different age breakdowns 7-9, 9-over. P. Hlatky's goal is to have a more even number of entries per class and a more equitable grouping. It was agreed to see how the breakdowns look on paper for the 2023 National and decide if we want to continue using these age brackets for the future.

Motion: P. Hlatky moved to change the National Veteran classes to 7-9 and 9 and over effective for the 2023 National.

Second: K. Novotny

The vote resulted in a tie with P. Hlatky, K. Novotny, K. McCloskey, B. Tolley and A. Sorbie, voting in favor of the motion. Voting against the motion were: L. Hoflin, J. Katona, B. Danieli, K. Terra, and K. Horn Janek. When a tie exists, the president casts the tie-breaking vote. R. Williams voted in favor, motion carried.

Review our Confidentiality Agreement

UPDATE – Working on scheduling a date with said committee.

Lifetime Achievement Awards

R. Williams asked all board members to submit nominations via email for the three AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards, conformation, companion, and performance.

UPDATE: No nominations received at this time.

Four names were submitted for conformation. All nominees must be a BCOA member which means that previously nominated Edd Ablett must not be considered. Three names were submitted for performance with one individual asking that her name be removed and only one nominee for the companion category. All board members will send one vote for each category privately to Ron via email no later than the end of the day on Wed. 2/23/22. R. Williams requested board members use “Lifetime Achievement Awards” as the subject of the email.

The vote was held, and the results will be announced at the Annual Membership meeting in April.

Service Award – Barbara D

Discussion whether to have a service award as well as a sportsmanship award. There has been confusion as to the qualifications required to receive the sportsmanship award. Many times the qualifications of a nominated member related more to service than sportsmanship. There is also a Presidential Award for service that has rarely been used. B. Danieli will research to see if the Presidential Award would be what she would like to see used for service to the club. It will be discussed further at the next meeting.

It was discussed and now that we have a better understanding of what the award is used for, it does not need to be discussed further. We also will look into using some other awards such as the Presidential Award.

NEW BUSINESS

Password change – Each year we change the password to the ‘Club Access’ section of the BCOA website. R. Williams and J. Katona will ask H. Lee when she can have this done and then send a blast email to the membership to announce the change.

Bylaws of the Borzoi Health and Welfare Foundation Discussion

The bylaws of the Borzoi Health and Welfare Foundation (called the Foundation in these minutes) refer to BCOA often. The BCOA board did not give approval to BHWF to do that, in fact, the BCOA board was not aware of this until B. Tolley brought it to the board’s attention. S. McFadden said the group that R. Rice is the president of is NOT the same as our club’s health and welfare fund. In the BCOA’s Health Committee year-end report, presented by Nancy Hopkins, it mentions the joint venture between BCOA and the BHWF. They are looking to have BCOA fill board positions on their Foundation. It states that the BCOA Health committee is working with the Foundation. It is easy to see how things would be confusing since all the officers, directors, and committee chairs of the Foundation are BCOA members and N. Hopkins is the chair of our BCOA health committee and also, the chair of the Foundation’s Health Committee. The bylaws of the Foundation have reserved board positions for the BCOA committee chairs of the Health Committee, the Welfare Committee, and the Ready Borzoi committee.

Does BCOA need some sort of contract with Texas A&M? Do the members know that their test results are going to the research study? They are including us without telling us what we are signed up to do. It's clearly stated that the 2022 echoes will go

to the database. Do the members who pay for the echoes to be done know that this is happening? Does BCOA need to have a contract with Texas A&M to do this research for us?

It has been stated that the research will end after the echoes are done in TX. What is missing is what is being done with the project. We do not know what the objective is of the study? The board was never given reports from Texas A & M.

The BHWF is a completely separate entity. They are a Texas 501c3. With the same individuals on both boards of directors, there is a serious conflict of interest when money is spent.

There are statements that the Foundation wants to spend a certain amount of BCOA money to pay for three 'Linq devices'. They're also looking to involve the BCOA in supporting genetic research for Dilated Cardiomyopathy of which the BCOA board was not informed.

When reading the Borzoi Health and Welfare Foundation's website to get a better understanding, it was learned that the last time there were minutes posted was July 2020. The last financial report is from the third quarter of 2020. Are regular meetings being held?

The BCOA board has had no input at all into what the echo project is and we've never seen a formal research proposal from the investigators at Texas A&M.

There are many questions that need answers.

A meeting will be scheduled with Nancy Hopkins and possibly Leslie Walenta and the board to understand BCOA's involvement in relation to the BHWF. P. Hlatky will forward the minutes from the meeting when this was originally discussed.

Motion: B. Tolley moved that BCOA will not appoint any members to the board of the Borzoi Health and Welfare Foundation to avoid a potential financial conflict of interest as the BHWF is a separate entity and not affiliated in any way with BCOA.

Second: B. Danieli All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

Electronic Voting Discussion

The BCOA Constitution states in Article IV, section 2, "...election of Officers, Delegate to the American Kennel Club, Regional Governors, amendments to the *Constitution and By-Laws*, and amendments to the Standard for the Breed. These shall all be decided by a written ballot cast by mail. The Board of Directors may decide to submit other specific questions for decision of the members by written ballot cast by mail. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted."

Electronic voting is not simply voting by email. There must be some sort of registration process to verify that the people voting are who they say they are. It is difficult to meet AKC guidelines. P. Hlatky explained AKC's requirements that must be met to switch are very involved. K. Terra asked about using an online survey program for voting. K. Horn Janek shared information with the board regarding an online voting service. It uses various price points depending on the number of members and the number of times we would utilize them yearly. We must also send paper ballots to those unable to vote electronically and have a tabulator collect those ballots. K. McCloskey said the whippet club has gone to elec. voting. She will find out the specifics and share them with the board. A. Sorbie suggested explaining to the membership how costly it is and how difficult it would be to change our Constitution and also to meet AKC requirements. She suggested the topic be put on the agenda for the annual meeting to explain to the members how difficult it is and the costs incurred to make a change. R. Williams stated that we will do our due diligence and get the information needed to discuss this at the annual membership meeting.

Juniors Discussion

There are only 2 BCOA Juniors who have competed in anything other than Junior Showmanship. Discussion took place regarding the other activities such as performance events and how to combine all those scores equitably. Sandra Moore

wants BCOA to score all events combined. It isn't an easy process since the various events are so different. There is no problem with recognizing Juniors who compete in various events but the combining of the scores is problematic.

Motion: B. Tolley moved that beginning in 2022 BCOA will separately recognize juniors for points in conformation, companion, and performance events i.e., Top 5 and top Junior handler.

Second: K. McCloskey All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

2022 AKC BBE Award – Barbara D

AKC is offering a certificate for a free litter registration to the winner of the BBE class. BCOA must sign up for this program. BCOA will receive the certificate from AKC and it will be handed to the winner of Best Bred-By at the National. The winner needs to follow the instructions on the certificate to receive a free litter registration. This BBE Award is applicable to the 2023 National Specialty.

Challenge Trophy in Memory of Doc Lord presented by Kathy Wright for 2023 A challenge trophy is being offered by 'the friends of Doc Lord' for winning BOB 3 times with different dogs. The winner must be a BCOA member. The first name on the dog's registration is who will be considered as the owner. After winning 3 times, the owner will retire this trophy. Do we want to accept this trophy?

Motion: S. McFadden moved to accept this trophy

Second: B. Danieli All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

More discussion took place regarding the brass nameplates. They need to all be updated. R. Williams will either do that in Texas or will take them home and have them done.

Presidential Statue presented by Lynda Cattoni Sarman

Not a trophy that will be won by a person to keep. It will be a tribute to past BCOA presidents, 'Past Presidents' Tribute Statue.' It will arrive with the nameplates including all BCOA past presidents already engraved.

Motion: A. Sorbie moved to accept the presidential statue.

Second: S. McFadden All in favor, none opposed, motion carried

2023 Judges – what is the order of selection in the event Ms. Ostrovskaya cannot travel:

Barbara Ewing & then Karen Dumke

Board Approved Judges Education – Amy S

A. Sorbie said by using that name it means that all board members have seen the performance and have approved it. If P. Neale leaves the position, we need to make sure that the new person presents the correct information. They cannot just do their own thing. A. Sorbie would like a group of board members to see the presentation and approve it. If anyone new takes the position and wants to make any changes, they will have to get board approval for those changes. A. Sorbie gave an example of two portions of the presentation that had changed that she and other judges do not agree with. In the future, she would like to see such changes be approved by the board before they are incorporated into the presentation. In the past, feedback had been requested but the suggested changes were not implemented. Ron will ask for the link to the current webinar for the board to view. The board can also attend the Judges' Education on Friday at the National. It will also be placed on the next agenda to discuss our thoughts.

National Animal Interest Alliance (see supporting Documents) – Barbara D

Postponed until our next meeting.

Barbara Yoon's estate – Kim HJ

The Board went into executive session at 11:58 PM to discuss details of the estate of deceased BCOA member Barbara Yoon. Ended exec. session at 12:06 AM

Fred Vogel called K. Horn Janek to tell her that deceased BCOA member Barbara Yoon left a collection of borzoi items to the BCOA. K. Horn Janek has received three boxes of items from the estate of Barbara Yoon. She asked for permission to send the three boxes of items to Texas to be stored in the pod. Several of the items can be used each year for the art auction since there are many multiples of each. R. Williams stated he would like to see what is in those boxes and other board members said the same. K. Horn Janek has a full inventory including pictures. She will send the spreadsheet to the board.

2022 Fall / Winter Face to Face – All

Hopefully, we can go to the hotel we will be at in 2024. As for now, it is up for discussion. K. Terra asked B. Tolley if she had attended the Bearded Collie National in WA last year. B. Tolley had not but would ask some of her colleagues to see what they thought of the venue. She will also send K. Terra the information they used in planning the 2023 National to give her some guidelines regarding the types of spaces we need. R. Williams talked about the organization of the face-to-face meeting in the fall. He also mentioned the team-building events at these meetings and how important they are to the club.

Lure Coursing Statistics Update from Leo Abordo: Top-10 quarterly reports are included in each issue of the Aristocrat. Final year-end rankings for 2021 were delayed from AKC due to an error in trial results recording. That error has been corrected and final results published. Congratulations to all who participated in lure coursing this past year.

P. Hlatky asked if we could create a new standing committee to work on the AKC Heritage Preservation Bank, aka, Semen Bank. For now, with the Board's approval, R. Williams appointed A. Sorbie to be The BCOA's contact person to the AKC for the Semen Bank discussions. She will build a committee at a later date.

Meeting Adjourned at: 12:11 AM (EST) on February 22, 2022

**Submitted by:
Joyce Katona
BCOA Recording Secretary**