



Borzoi Club of America, Inc.
Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
Founders Inn & Spa
Virginia Beach, VA
4/27/2023

Meeting Called to Order – President Ron Williams

President Ron Williams called the meeting to order at 7:48pm EST

Recording Secretary Establishes Quorum – Ginger Jones

Written roll call was taken for all in attendance. There were 60 BCOA members present. The requirement for a quorum is 48. A quorum was established. There were 11 non-BCOA members in attendance.

Approve Minutes of April 28, 2022 – Ron Williams

Motion made to approve the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Membership Meeting of April 28, 2022 – Valori Trantanella

Motion seconded – Anne Midgarden, DVM

All in favor; none opposed

Motion carried

President's Welcome

President Ron Williams welcomed all those in attendance to the 80th BCOA National Specialty Show and had the following message:

"I welcome all of you and trust you had a safe journey to Virginia Beach, VA. BCOA put on their first show in 1928! Albeit we didn't put on shows every year. This represents our 80th show. If you have been present whenever I've address in this forum, you've heard me address you as family. Yes, we all have our families that we love, cherish, and take care of. However, this is your extended family, your community. We all share at least one common love. The love of Borzoi. Our goal should be to do our best for the Borzoi community and to wish our organization well and to help guide us in a direction that will make us proud to be under the umbrella we call AKC. I'm a part of a social media group of AKC parent clubs. You should be proud to know that our community, our organization, is far ahead of many parent clubs. I'm the president of a Board that I am very proud of and respect. Yes, we all have issues. Everyone does. However, I'm confident the members you have voted into office have the club's best interests at heart and will do all they can to gain your continued support and respect."

In addition, Ron Williams recognized the following National attendees for this year's specialty:

"Will the following please stand:

BCOA members from outside the United States, new BCOA members with less than a year of membership, BCOA Member attending your first National, Guests who are non-members, remain standing if this is your first Borzoi Club of American National Specialty show."

Ron Williams introduced the National Specialty Coordinator:

"To put on this type of show you need hard working and dedicated people. Facility / Specialty Coordinator, Betsy Tolley, is the person who put her heart and soul into this year's National to make it enjoyable to all. Betsy, will you and your committee chairs please stand. This continues to be a difficult year to put on a national. To be honest, a short year and a half ago, we didn't believe we would survive putting on a successful and profitable national without our trusted Barbara O'Neill. However, Kim Horn-Janek has stepped up and proved there's life after Barbara O. She has had help and worked closely with Betsy, Barbara Danieli, and others. She has shown us the commitment needed to successfully handle the Show Secretary and Chair positions. Thank you!"

Officers' Reports

Introduction of Officers – Ron Williams

Ron Williams introduced the Officers and Regional Governor Board Members and thanked them for their hard work and dedication:

“With this in mind I would like to Introduce the Officers, some of which you will hear from shortly: Region 1 Governor – Kari McCloskey, Region 2 Governor – Elizabeth Tolley, Region 3 Governor – Amy Sorbie, Region 4 Governor – Kay Novotny, Region 5 Governor – Kristina Terra, Region 6 Governor – Kim Horn Janek, AKC Delegate - Prudence Hlatky, Corresponding Secretary – Barbara Danieli, Recording Secretary - Ginger Jones, Treasurer - Lyn Snyder Hoflin and Vice President – Shirley McFadden.”

Recording Secretary Update – Ginger Jones

Ginger Jones announced the total current membership was 460. Of these, 189 are life members, 8 are Juniors, and 6 are members residing in a foreign country other than Canada. An important announcement was also made to notify the membership cutoff date to renew your membership **AND** have your name included in the Membership Directory is December 31st. This will expedite the ability to provide a Membership Directory in a much more timely manner cutting at least 3 months out of the process to reconcile paid membership dues with the Treasurer, Helen Lee’s one stop shopping payments and the Recording Secretary’s Master Membership file as well as cut down on the repeated cycles of proofreading of the Membership Directory during the extremely busy time period when the National Specialty Catalog is being developed.

Treasurer Report – Lyn Hoflin (See Document on table)

Report provided.

Standing Committee Reports

Ron Williams introduced the Standing Committee Chairpersons:

“Standing Committee Chairs, in the essence of time, please stand.

AKC Gazette Columnist -Kristina Terra

Annual Versatility Award & Versatility Hall of Fame - Kay Novotny

Aristocrat - Helen W. Lee, Editor

ASFA Delegate - Susan Van de Water

BCOA Archivist - K. C. Artley

BCOA Beverly C. Taylor Trust for Borzoi Rescue - Barbara O'Neill

BCOA Shop - Gary Gideon

BCOA Webmaster - Helen W. Lee

Championship Medals for Performance & Companion Titles - Amy Balthrop

Championship Medals for Open Field - Lyn Snyder Hoflin

Championship Medals for Conformation - Christine Danker

Canine Ambassador Program - Emily Killian

Club Inventory & Medals / Specialty Double Eagles & TSE medallions - Barbara O'Neill

Futurity Event – Cindy Gredys

Futurity - Lydia Pruett

Health & Liaison to Canine Health Foundation, Morris Animal Foundation & Orthopedic Foundation for Animals - Ginger Jones

Judges Education - Patti Neale

Junior Showmanship - Barbara Tyler Lord

Legislative Affairs - Lyn Snyder Hoflin

Meet the Breeds, Eukanuba - Patti Neale

Meet the Breeds, New York City - Ron Williams

Member Education - Prudence Hlatky

National Specialty Show Chairpersons - Kim Horn Janek / Barbara Danieli

Nominating Committee - Shirley McFadden

Registry Of Merit (ROM) - KC Artley

Specialty Guidelines - Kim Horn Janek

Standardized Trophies - Barbara Danieli / Betsy Tolley / Kim Horn Janek

Standing Rules - Shirley McFadden”

Ginger Jones introduced the new Health Committee Members and provided a report of the new Committee’s team organization and future plans. (See attached report)

Two new Standing Committee Chairpersons were introduced:

- **Parliamentarian**

Ron Williams introduced **Betsy Tolley** as the new BCOA Parliamentarian and showed his appreciation for her efforts to obtain this certification to assist the Board of Directors. This includes keeping up with legal issues that may affect the club, acting as the liaison to the BCOA Attorney, assuring that all meetings follow Roberts Rules of order and provide assistance with the correct interpretation of the intent of the Constitution, By Laws and Standing Rules.

- **Membership Chairperson**

Ron Williams introduced **Kelley Frary** as the new Membership Chairperson.

The BCOA Membership Chairperson shall be responsible for maintaining the BCOA Membership file and all other responsibilities as required to maintain and report on

BCOA Membership status. She will work closely with the Recording Secretary, Ginger Jones, and our Webmaster, Helen Lee.

Unfinished Business

- BCOA might consider adding the Amateur-owner class to the National, perhaps replacing the Novice class. After discussion took place, a survey of the membership was agreed upon, resulting in Amateur-owner classes being offered this year.
 - 60.9%, 109 votes: Amateur Owner:
 - 38.5%, 69 votes: Novice
- Juniors Recognition- As you may have noticed a there is a \$1,000.00 scholarship offered to the winner of Best Junior at this show. Let's give thanks to The Rachel Hunt Memorial Scholarship Foundation and Jim & Krista Hunt. A committee of Krista Hunt, Barbara Tyler Lord and Ron Williams was formed to move forward with a possible scholarship for 2024 and beyond.
- AKC Heritage Preservation Bank – Amy Sorbie

Amy described the AKC Preservation Semen Bank purpose. Parent club will decide how the semen is appropriated. BCOA has elected to be part of this program. The committee was established and is in the process of determining the criteria for application to use the semen. Stephanie Parker Infinity Semen bank was chosen by AKC to be one of the banks for storage for the program.

New Business

- BCOA Puppy Referral- Barbara Danieli

Barbara discussed the investigation into providing website breeder listings and perhaps other pertinent information in a section of the BCOA website. Updates will be provided once the plan is in place.

- Member Awards:
 - Life Members 25 years 1998
 - Irina Terra Reg 5
 - Kristina Terra Reg 5
 - Liz A. Duncan Reg 6
 - Rebecca Peters-Campbell Reg 6
 - Paul J. & Diane Spohn Reg 6
 - Golden Anniversary 50 years 1973
 - Timothy & Sharon Robinson Reg 2
 - Diamond Anniversary 60 years 1963
 - None
 - AKC Sportsmanship Award –

Ron Williams provided the background for this award and announced the winner, Phyllis Potter.

- 2024 National Judge Selections

- Conformation – Karen Dumke
 - Sweepstakes – Rebecca Peters-Campbell
- Submitted Topics from the Membership
 - (Pam Leichtnam)

Limit National Specialty sites to 2 or 3 locations. Suggestions were Wilmington OH, Estes Park, CO and maybe Asheville, NC.

The Board has been taking this into consideration for some time now. The Board is forming a committee of the Specialty Coordinators to review and make recommendations.

- Anne Midgarden discussed opportunities to improve specialty field events in her location in Ohio.
- Barbara Binder expressed concern (via a letter to Kay Novotny, her Regional Governor) for content on the judge's trifold. Requested adjustment regarding description of teeth and plush coat.

Patti Neal described that the trifold was based on the illustrated standard which describes the coat that returns to bitches after their seasonal blow being a short but very soft and fine coat and that more importance should not be placed on teeth than any other requirement for the borzoi breed.

- (Renee McCartin)

Ron, I'd like to add something to the agenda to the membership meeting that we look at possibly changing our performance events to make them more profitable or at least not as expensive for the club.

The Board is proposing an exploratory committee to address the following recommendations:

- 1) Change events to all breeds to bring in entries. We do not need to do big awards for other breeds, rosette for BOB, flats for placements.
- 2) Contact a local club in the area and get an event planned for that weekend where we only have to worry about sponsoring the Borzoi entry. They run the event, pay the field fees, pay the judges, and we are just out trophies.
- 3) In KY we ran LGRA and a coursing event on the same day. LGRA in the morning, coursing afterwards. Texas clubs often run ASFA in the morning, and AKC in the evening. That way we only need the field for two days versus three.

- 4) Cancel whichever coursing event pulls the smallest entry. Cuts down on one day of the event (or two if we stick with just Borzoi events and do LGRA in the morning and coursing in the afternoon), and thus cost of field rental.
 - 5) Add FastCAT after one of the events. (Maybe racing as the field is set up, just have to shorten it, but it means investing in timing equipment.
 - 6) Allow gate entries. There's no reason to have pre-entries for coursing/racing be a month ahead of the event. It's quite easy to have the entries close the Wed before and the secretary get everything together. For our area, the first AKC event of the year is the first weekend in April. The first LGRA had nasty weather and nobody came out, 2nd was cancelled due to the weather in your area this last weekend, the 3rd is the weekend after closing date, If you have young dogs that are now old enough to run, you don't have a chance to cert them prior to the nationals, thus losing out on entries.
- John Steele requested a budget report for National Specialties by event.
Barbara Danieli indicated and agreed that this should be done going forward.
- Kristen Lord and Valori Trantanella – requested that they be allowed to advertise their specialty as well as any other club at the National Specialty.
Renee McCartin also recommended that the clubs advertise their specialties in the Aristocrat.
- Karla Smith inquired if the Club had plans for an audit. Lyn Snyder Hoflin responded that several firms were contacted and the lowest estimate for a full audit would be \$13,000 - \$14,000. A review would run around \$8000 - \$9000. The Board plans to have a review done and is looking into more affordable options.
- Tina Wismar DVM raised a concern about why the Board changed the CHIC requirements.
Julia Merriman raised a concern for lack of transparency regarding the Boards' handling of the change and felt that there was not sufficient communication to the membership. John Steele conveyed that the process the Board took was appropriate and the procedurally correct method.
- Stephanie Parker asked how to become involved in the committees or as a committee chairperson. Kim Horn Janek offered the membership should review the website for information. Barbara Danieli reminded members that social media is not the correct place to go to for accurate information on what is transpiring in the Club, unless it's the Official BCOA Facebook page, BCOA IO Group or posted BCOA Board minutes. She recommended contacting Regional Governors or Officers of the Club with their concerns and recommendations.

***Motion made to adjourn - Prudence Hlatky
Motion seconded; Kelley Frary
Meeting adjourned at 10:42pm EST***

