

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR : 11/18/2023

1. AKC Gazette – Kristina Terra

The AKC Column on Borzoi that is due to come out on February 1 is dedicated to the history of international cooperation in our breed. It is thanks to this cooperation that the breed was saved from extinction through world calamities and many Borzoi breeders cooperate with their peers around the world. I have a couple of drafts going for the next articles. One on overall balance and another one on the different head styles. Also, there is an article in the works on showing Borzoi in juniors.

2. Annual Top 5 Awards – Samantha Isaacs

The ribbons and the certificates have been printed and ready to be mailed

3. Annual Versatility Award & Hall of Fame – Kay Novotny

Need approval from the board to add point values for select dog and bitch to the versatility formula

4. BCOA Archivist – KC Artley

Archives information on the changes to the breed standard that resulted in the current standard were sent to Prudence Hlatky at her request. There is documentation for some changes but not about hindquarters.

5. BCOA Ready Borzoi – Denise Ross

Working with Barbara Danieli on ideas for the website

6. BCOA Shop – Gary Gideon

The BCOA Specialty Store on Bonfire is still open with merchandise from 2023 and 2024. There was much work done with the new logo merchandise and members have bought from the store totally about \$250 profit for the club so far. I will keep items up on the site until I hear otherwise.

7. Bev Taylor Trust – Barbara O'Neill

Greetings BTRC, BCOA BoD & BTRC Support Staff,
Attached are 2023 3rd Quarter ResAcct #1 & #2 Schwab Account Statements for July-August-September. (See Supporting Documents) Also attached are copies of the latest updated Bond Ladders for both of these accounts. Borzoi Welfare – TBD

8. Championship Medals

Performance & Companion – TBD (Amy Balthrop resigned)

9. Futurity Event – Kim Horn Janek

The committee has been in contact with Leslie Hutto that is working on a new bronze for the winner of Best In Futurity. She has submitted several drawings and has made corrections per our suggestions. We are awaiting the final sketch and plan to approve it soon.

10. Futurity – Lydia Pruett

New nominations for the 2024 Futurity closed on October 23, 2023.

2024 Futurity (to date):

- Bitches nominated – 21 (plus 1 dropped and 1 has not responded to inquiries regarding the litter nomination)
- Litters nominated – 20 (plus 1 dropped)
- Puppies nominated – 56 (45 new for 2024, 11 continuing their eligibility from 2023)
- 22 additional puppies have either formally dropped their eligibility or stopped paying and have not responded to reminders.

Requests for nominations for the 2024 Futurity Judge have been sent to the litter nominators. Due date for return is November 13th. The first ballot will be sent out by November 17th, to those eligible to vote. The BCOA tabulator has been contacted and is ready to receive the ballots. A second ballot will be sent out if needed.

2025 Futurity (to date)

- Bitches nominated - 1

11. Health – Virginia Jones

- AKC Parent Club Health Statement

12. Junior Showmanship – Barbara Tyler Lord

Working on Scholarships for Juniors

13. Keeping In Touch – Ron Williams

See Supporting Documents

14. Legislative Issues – Lyn Hoflin

Between August 1, 2023 and November 13, 2023, twenty legislative alerts have been sent out to the Membership through the BCOA Member Only group on Groups.io. The alerts are intended to keep members up to date on pending and passed legislative items impacting Borzoi breeders and fanciers.

15. Meet the Breeds - Ron Williams

A special thank you goes out to all the volunteers, human and K9, who represented Borzoi at the two Region 6 AKC MTBs.

- CHICAGO, IL: JULY 7, 2023

Tina Wismer -Kristen Suhrenbrock, five borzoi and myself manned the booth for Chicago Meet the Breeds. The borzoi booth was busy both days and we talked to hundreds of people each day. Several visitors said we were the busiest of all the booths and many said they were just there to meet borzoi in real life. The popularity of the breed on YouTube, Instagram and TikTok made the dogs instant celebrities.

Our dogs ranged in age from 11 months to 6 years. They were amazing with people of all ages and readily engaged people in wheelchairs and children in strollers. The dogs were featured in lots of selfies and social media posts.

The most common questions we received were about exercise, temperament, and grooming requirements.

While the AKC provides the backdrop, we brought décor for the tables. Kristen made photo collages of each of the dogs we brought and we also included their titles and fun facts (like to carry toys, mistress of chaos, etc.). The other table contained canvases of multiple dogs (all the different colors) and some borzoi art.

The days were long, but educating people about the breed is very rewarding and important.

- COLUMBUS, OH: AUGUST 21, 2023

Gale Snoddy - Thank you all so very much for your participation in BCOA's booth at the AKC Meet the Breeds this past Saturday. I walked around a couple of times, and was extremely impressed with our booth and the wonderful representation we had. What wonderful ambassadors our dogs were! All were friendly and outgoing, and seemed to drag a lot of people over just to pet them and to ask questions about the breed. And all of you were so wonderful too in answering questions and just sharing your love of our breed show. I think we left a lot of people with a much better understanding of our breed and of course there were a few folks very interested in the possibility of adding a Borzoi to their household at some time.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your time and effort. It was wonderful getting to meet some of you, and to spend more time with those I already knew. Hope you all enjoyed the day as much as I did.

- NYC JANUARY 27 & 28 2024, Reg 1

16. Membership – Kelley Frary

- 1 & 2) The answer to number 1 and 2 are incorporated together. After some thought & review of other national parent clubs, my recommendation would be to use a program such as Jotform (web-based platform) that could either be an external link away from the website or embedded into the website on our membership page (would need to discuss this further with Helen). Essentially, the end user would input their information (same as they would with the membership form we currently use), then input the email of the sponsors they would like to reference and have a digital signature embedded into the form. An email would then be sent to sponsors to fill out information on their potential members and a signature can be incorporated again. They would just need to be redirected to the BCOA store to pay the membership fee or directed to send a check/payment form. Once both sponsor forms are completed, it would come back to the Secretary/Treasurer/Membership Chair for review and to be pushed forward from there. The nice part about this system would be that we could check the progress of applications much easier and do reminders to sponsors/make sure information is filled out quicker. There are a couple of different levels of pricing but I think the \$35/month option would be suitable for our needs. For those who don't have email, the option could still be to have the paper form available. I believe that we are trending in a direction away from this and eventually it would be somewhat obsolete to have the paper form. I would be happy to setup a test of what this system would look like before we move forward with it and can send it to board members.
- There is a secondary option if we didn't want to do Jotform, where we used an electronic signature for the forms. This would not require an additional application outside of email. Dotloop (is the program I'm most familiar with and it's \$40/month), other very similar programs are Docusign (\$40/month), Pandadoc (\$50/month), Adobe (\$20/month). All operate in a similar manner, but the gist of what it would look like would be the potential applicant reaches out to the membership chair. The membership chair can use a template to send to the person and request an electronic signature. From there, the membership chair would then send the sponsor forms for verification and electronic signatures. As long as you have an email, that is all you would need to fill out the forms since it's a web-based platform. The latter option is a bit more labor intensive for the membership chair which is why my recommendation after review would be option #1 as described above.
- 4) I have reviewed the documentation used at the recent meet the breeds event and it would be my recommendation to come up with a BCOA marketing pamphlet for promotion of the benefits of joining membership and a little about borzoi ownership so it could be dual purpose for future events. I will work on getting something for the Board to review by the end of the year (unless someone has something furnished and ready to go for this). Once that's completed, I will request the Regional Club information from the Corresponding Secretary and start contacting people who are members of the regional clubs, but not the national club. This would be a pretty easy, organic way to get a hold of folks who are interested in Borzoi.

17. National Specialty - Kim Horn-Janek

- 2023-Virginia Beach, VA
The 2023 National Specialty Reconciliation was completed, and a memo was sent to the membership via the Members Only io group mail. I am writing an article for the next issue of The Aristocrat which will include the reconciliation.
- 2024 – Olympia, WA

On November 3, 2023, Kristina Terra received a phone call from the Sales Director of the Olympia Hotel at Capitol Lake informing her that the property had been sold and the building will be demolished. She contacted me immediately, I in turn called Barbara Danieli and Ron Williams. B. Danieli composed a note to the membership which she immediately posted to the BCOA National Specialty Group FB page after K. Terra notified her committee of the news. K. Terra has worked non-stop since that day, making more phone calls than one can imagine, chasing down leads which she has received from vendors, judges and fellow BCOA members. At this time, she visited a site that has provided us with the best proposal. She also visited the field that we used in 2012 and 2018 for Lure Coursing but did not get a solid answer from the city at this time. She will share with the Board her latest findings at the Face-to-Face meeting on November 18, 2023.

- 2025 – TBD
 - We are visiting the Kingsport, TN location to check out the viability of using it for our 2025 Specialty.
 - We are still searching for two to three other locations throughout the US.
 - A site in Des Moines, IA has been suggested by a member that will report back to B. Danieli, Elizabeth Tolley and myself with details.

18. Parliamentarian – Betsy Tolley

- I am pleased to report that I have been able to answer several questions related to the Bylaws.
- The Board needs to revise/delete MMB-1 because it conflicts with the Bylaws Article 1, Section 1, Paragraph 2.

19. Registry of Merit – KC Artley

No applications received.

20. Specialty Guidelines – Kim Horn-Janek

There is nothing new to report at this time.

21. Standardize Trophies – Kim Horn Janek, Betsy Tolley & Barbara Danieli

No final decisions have been made regarding the trophies for the Specialty. We may suggest changing the name to "Specialty Trophies" vs "Standardized Trophies" but will present our suggestions at the F2F.

22. Standing Rules – Shirley McFadden (Nothing new to report since last meeting)