

Bracco Italiano Club of America General Membership Meeting

DATE: Wednesday June 15th, 2022

7:30pm eastern

Called to order 7:35pm

Roll Call: Jennifer Caban Secretary- Attendees: Jennifer Caban, Linda Paddock, Kailee Joyner, Jeff Lemmenes, Bobbi Benson, Tom Harper, Jesse Freese, Amanda Inman, Katherine Inman, Jack Hague, David Hayek, Aline Pearl, Lisa Moller, Gary Lewis, Jody Kirtley, Allison Schultz, John Kavalier, Zach Robinson

Start of meeting/welcome: President Amanda Inman

Report of Treasurer: John Kavalier

- a. **Club financials report-** The account balance is currently \$22,552.65 continuing to be in a strong position. We are in a good balance as we move into the planning of the National Specialty and upcoming expenses to be incurred.

Committees Reports

- **National Specialty Planning Committee-** David Hayek reports that things are getting solidified, the dates are pretty set for April 2023. The committee is budgeting for seminars to be held and meal planning options. They are working to block off a host hotel with a block of reserved rooms. Looking at blocking the rooms Easter Sunday through the following Saturday. Estimating 25 rooms to block off at this time, the rate is looking to be around \$100 a day with the pet fee included. They are trying to plan for Italian events one portion of the week, hunt evaluation and possibly a Parent Club Regional Specialty show under the Italian judge then AKC events the later part of the week, allowing travel on weekends both before and after. The committee is trying to nail down a Superintendent to use. Options are FoyTrent, MBF or a private individual. Allison is still waiting on this info with the show committee and will present once the info is ready, not quite to that point yet. BICA is still waiting on AKC to recognize us as a member club to be able to host our own events.
- **Rescue Committee-** There has been 1 dog recently to come through the rescue committee as an owner surrender. The dog was placed with a new home and the new owner paid a rescue rehoming fee of \$300 to BICA funds are marked in accounting for future rescue use. This dog had no medical issues and was already neutered so no expenses incurred by the club.
- **Hunting Committee –** The committee is working on getting some articles to load on the website. They are compiling a list of mentors who will be listed on the club website as well to help owners who want to start hunting, or needs tips to advance their training. Zach Robinson in WA and Jeff Lemmenes stated they would be willing to be listed. There is an upcoming Bracco Bash to be held in MI for owners to meet up and get dogs out in the field details were emailed out to members.

- **Health Committee-** Amanda stated there aren't too many big updates at this time. The grant from AKC was declined by the canine health foundation. The UK Club has been working with Amanda as well and has posted some recent health statements on their site on social media. Amanda and her team will continue to work towards additional funding for research.
- **Judges Education Committee-** Lisa Moller- There is a JE session scheduled tomorrow 6/16 at the Windy City Cluster and there are several interested attendees. There have been many comments on how specific and elaborate the standard is, many have questions on it. Lisa is working to schedule a few more opportunities for JE. IKC in Chicago has asked if we would like to do JE in January & August 2023. Amanda will be doing a JE the second weekend in July in Houston. David Hayek will be there and will help by bringing some dogs. Amanda has contacted a few others for dogs. Lisa will try to record a JE seminar so membership can watch. Amanda is going to do a Zoom meeting for the membership to review the conformation standard. This will be a learning tool for us to understand the standard and get visual examples and learn how it is broken down and taught. Jennifer mentioned based on some feedback received that it might be beneficial to do a comparison from the Bracco to Spinone. It was asked if there was a concern judges thought they were basically the same, which they are not. Allison stated this is old chatter due to cross breeding years ago and that genetic studies in Milan confirm they are genetically different breeds. There are several marked differences within the two breed standards. Nadi Graini of Italy did a comparison of the two breeds at one time, we can check to see if that had been recorded. Allison can check with Sue Aquistapest of SCOA.
- **International Committee-** The Bracco recently won the continental competition. This was the first time in 17 years a Bracco won. The World Dog show is upcoming. Lots of Bracco have been winning big shows and awards in Europe lately. COVID is still making travel and importing of puppies under 12 weeks very difficult. The situation in Ukraine is also making moving of dogs challenging. Right now puppies are about 4 months being imported. If members are interested in viewing results from overseas you can access fossedata for UK shows and WDSSpain2022 (British flag for English).
There is a good video at www.talkingdogswithante.com which has interviews with judges and breeders all over Europe

Bylaws Vote Status Update- The bylaw updates were passed by a majority positive vote of club members. Jennifer has passed that on to AKC for their review and the next steps in being able to become a member club allowing us to hold sanctioned events. The updated bylaws are posted on the BICA website.

Any Old business not addressed- None Raised

Any new business- None Raised

David Hayek made a motion to adjourn, Amanda Inman 2nd. Meeting adjourned 8:24pm EST