

Bracco Italiano Club of America

Annual Meeting, in person at BICA Nationals, Charlotte, NC April 23, 2024

Called to order 3:37pm EST

Attendees: Amanda Inman, Jennifer Caban, David Hayek, Christ Bennett, Emily Bennett, Deb Pereira, Anna Vaughn (Associate member), Katherine Inman, Edward Inman, John Kavalier, Kailee Joyner, Polly Hineman, Courtney Bastian, Burke Bastian (Jr. member), Delita Rosenbaum

Guest Parliamentarian: Fashika Willis

Agenda was presented via screen projector for review.

President: Agenda Presented, asked if there were any objections to the agenda?

No objections raised, Agenda Adopted.

President's Welcome (Amanda Inman): Amanda thanked all for attending the meeting. Noting there is very nice quality of dogs present at the National Specialty and it is very nice to see new people showing an interest in the club.

We have 139 members, 90 voting members, 4 International members, and 45 Associate Members

There were 16 Bracchi with new AKC titles reported this month.

The club has adopted a new Versatility Award which is being presented at Nationals for the first time, we have several dogs here receiving this honor. Congratulations to all of those dogs and owners!

Amanda asked if there were any question raised on her report- none raised

Report of Treasurer (John Kavalier):

The club finances are sound right now. We have 3 bank accounts currently, the main club account, then 1 for even year specialties and 1 for odd year specialties. This is designed to keep finance tracking cleaner moving forward.

Activity recently, There is \$150.00 so far in the 2025 account. This amount is for a supported entry in NE and is being done in an effort to host our 25 event with the all-breed club in NE.

The general club account currently stands at \$19,511.76 as of 4/19/24.

The even year account currently has \$8,993.66

Total in all BICA accounts: \$24,495.36

Any questions regarding the report of Treasurer? None Raised

Report of Committees (Amanda Inman):

Secretary- Jennifer Caban- reached out to each committee prior to the annual meeting for reports if they would not have a representative at the annual meeting.

All committees have been quiet, which is the reason for the Board wanting to revitalize committees now instead of with the next new year.

Hunting Committee: Nothing to report- the committee has been fairly dormant recently. No questions regarding this committee.

Rescue Committee: Nothing to report, no recent activity for dogs coming into the rescue. There was recently a post on Facebook regarding a Bracco in Virginia, but by the time the club saw the post the dog had been pulled. No questions regarding this committee.

Health committee: The kidney study is still underway. They have received a funding extension until March 2025 from the Bracco Italiano Health Foundation. Research is ongoing through the University of Florida looking for a genetic marker for kidney disease. They are still able to take samples from young dogs with kidney disease or older dogs over 10 years who are healthy. No questions regarding this committee.

International Committee: Email information from Allison Schultz- SABI International (Italy) is being revitalized as a worldwide club for Bracchi. BICA is a member club of SABI. The goals will be to support international events. There is ongoing communications with hopes SABI International will be able to be in attendance for the 2025 BICA National Specialty. There will be a meeting of SABI May 23-27 in Cadiz Italy. Recently our 2023 National Specialty winner, Columbus, competed at Crufts in the UK. Congratulations to Columbus, John Kavalier & Polly Hineman and his team. No questions regarding this committee.

Judges' Education committee: Amanda did a seminar at Royal Canin in Orlando in December and had a very nice turn out of judges in attendance. She just completed Judges' education here at the National Specialty and had a good turn out with great question raised and good awareness of the features of the Bracchi and its standard.

There was a question raised if there is a schedule of future judges' education seminars.

As of now there are not any further events scheduled. It is possible to do Orlando again in December but we do need to get additional presenters able to do seminars around the country.

Item of New Business Raised: As a club we need a strategy to get committees revitalized and get more members participating in those committees.

It was asked if anyone in attendance was interested in serving on committees.

Kailee Joyner mentioned she was interested in discussing further with Amanda about the Judges Education committee.

Deb Pereira mentioned she would like to see a Versatility Committee to promote all of the activities the Bracchi can participate in through AKC and other venues. Emily Bennett stated she would also be interested in seeing this committee.

It was brought up to possibly have a website committee to promote additional photos and content online. This could include social media etc. The club can look into forming a Digital Assets Committee.

It was raised that we need to revitalize the mentor listing that we currently have online and try to get that more up to date.

The members in the meeting like the idea of doing regional get togethers, training dates, etc. Maybe in addition to the mentors listing we create regional points of contact who can then connect members to each other based on their particular interests.

There has been a question recently of a bylaws review committee, with a few volunteers. Most clubs do a bylaws review committee on an ad hoc basis. The committee is formed when something specific needs revision, works on that item, and is not a regularly scheduled committee such as one with monthly or quarterly meetings. We did have a bylaws review committee who worked on the bylaws within the AKC guidelines just prior to coming into full status.

It was stated that forming a standing committee is probably more than is needed at this time but that if something in particular needs to be reviewed we would look to add an ad hoc committee. It was mentioned that it can be a very long process with AKC to change bylaws and therefore is not done often.

It was brought up that BICA needs to create a role of Historian. This role needs to keep documents and records of the club and breed's activities. We need to do this as soon as we can so that there is ability to get the past few years included before we get too far into the breed club's future.

No old business not addressed was raised

No other new business raised

4:11pm EST David Hayek made a motion to adjourn

Jennifer Caban 2nd

None opposed- meeting adjourned