

## **Bracco Italiano Club of America Open Membership Meeting**

**Date: January 8, 2024**

Attendees: Jennifer Caban, Bob Gross, Amanda Inman, Kailee Joyner, Gary Lewis, John Kavalier, Siva Aiken, Heather Hauser, Allison Schultz, Lisa Welch, David Hayek, Tarn and Delita Rosenbaum, Bobbi Benson, Charles Calisto, Megan Waters, Marilyn Vinson

Meeting Called to Order 7:31pm EST

Welcome by President Amanda Inman: The BICA is in its 14<sup>th</sup> year this year 2024. Amanda would like to welcome our newest board member Bob Gross to the board and to the call. Bob to say a little about himself: Bob stated he is active in field work with his dogs, does some guiding over them, and has done some showing with them as well. He is based in the Northeast and tries to actively encourage members and Bracco owners to get together when they can to work the dogs.

Report of the Treasurer: John Kavalier: The club finances are in good shape and the club account is currently at \$26,565.84. There is income recently from membership renewals as well as revenue in regards to the 2024 National Specialty. A deposit to SCOA for part of our portion of the NS was made in July for \$1890. The board recently made an addition to have separate bank accounts for the even and odd year specialty events in order to better track the banking activity specifically surrounding the national specialties.

Any questions regarding the treasurer's report? None raised

2024 National Specialty Report: The premiums should be released coming up in early February. The Planning committees are nailing down some of the final details in order to open up the event for entries. There will be a NAVHDA test held by SCOA on Saturday 4/20, 1 AKC hunt test per club BICA/SCOA on Sunday 4/21 and then the conformation events, seminars, health testing etc. from Monday 4/22-Thursday 4/25 in Charlotte, NC. There will be a merchandise store to open online before the event with event logo and club logo items.

Any questions regarding the 24 National? None Raised

2025 National Specialty Report: The 2024 event is being planned for May 16-18, 2025 in Lincoln, NE in conjunction with the Lincoln Kennel Club all breed shows at the Sandhills event center. The cost is roughly \$500 for the use of space at the event center. Hunting events would again be held at the Oak Creek Sporting club with an approximate cost of \$300 usage fee. The Super for the show would be Onofrio and fees are about \$7.50 per dog. They will create the premium/catalogs/necessary paperwork for the show(s). The local hotel is the Best Western with rates around the \$150.00 per night range with a \$25.00 pet fee up to 2 pets- \$10.00 for additional pets. Breakfast included in room rates, no scheduled lunches at the event, more of a "lunch on your own"

Corporate Images would again work on the logo merchandise store for 2025.

The team plans to offer a double Hunt Test and would need commitment from 10 or more volunteers to make it a success. They will start to reach out for volunteers as the event gets closer. They would also like to host a Chukkar challenge type hunt. There is a possibility of an FCI hunt seminar as well.

They hope to host SABI (Italy club) as a special attraction and hold the SABI meeting here in the USA in conjunction with the event. SABI would know if this is feasible about a year in advance.

As a note: there was a motion at a recent delegates meeting to allow for reserve winners to be a major if the number of entrants permits. This new rule is to take effect May 2024.

Allison Schultz motioned to send a letter to AKC on behalf of BICA against email addresses being included in show catalogs. Bob Gross 2<sup>nd</sup>. Amanda Inman in agreement- called if anyone was opposed- no opposition to sending such a letter to AKC. Amanda Inman agreed to draft a letter and send to AKC Club Relations and Board of Delegates.

#### Report of Committees:

International Committee: SABI will be having their Bracco Italiano meeting 5/26/24 and would love to have some Americans attend with their Bracchi. This will be held in Caldaez and will be translated to English.

There will be a show and a field trial. They have added a “junior hunt” where there is no shooting involved. They will award a Bella E Bravo

Show season in Italy started Sunday. ENClshows.it for more information and some live feeds available

Training Season starts soon and the first field trials will be held in a few weeks.

The World Dog Show falls this year in April- the same week as BICA National Specialty

Hunting Committee: Gary Lewis- The committee had a meeting before Christmas trying to get members more engaged and volunteers to work at the hunt test for the 24 specialty week. Allison S. asked if there had been any commitments- Gary stated not yet for 25 event they were still working to get volunteers for the 24 events. A few members have stated they will be in attendance and can help in the field as needed when not running their dogs.

Rescue committee: No activity since the last report- which is always a good thing for this particular committee!

Judges Education: The 2024 Judge’s Education seminar at Nationals is posted on the AKC site and has generated some interest. Amanda Inman did the seminar in Orlando and had roughly 33-35 judges in attendance.

Health committee: Amanda Inman- Update on the Kidney research study, they are at a full year from the funding with University of Florida that was provided by the BIHF. They are looking at options to extend the funding and the study. At this time they may not be able to offer the blood draws at the 24 event but will continue to enroll dogs who qualify- either older dogs 8-10 or older who are healthy or dogs under 3 who are affected.

Any Old Business not addressed? Nothing raised

Any New Business?

Charlie Calisto wanted to say Thank You to all of those who ran for the board elections this past period.

Bob Gross asked about the AKC Delegate- the last meeting of the AKC board was in December and the notes didn't reflect anything to do without club being mentioned. Jennifer will follow up with AKC regarding the timeline which was sent to our club and verify when we will be approved to have a delegate for the Bracco.

Marilyn Vinson mentioned that at the recent Judge's Education seminar in Orlando it was mentioned that if there was black in the Bracco it should show in the mucous membranes. It could also show in the nails.

Discussion was that it would be helpful to change the way the standard is worded to remove the necessity to have an open mouth examination in the ring.

There needs to be a vote of the membership to change the standard. This should happen in the next two years. It was mentioned that it would be helpful to have those in the ring think of things that need to be changed, both from exhibitors and judges perspectives.

It was mentioned that it might be helpful to put out a notice to the membership for anyone interested in being on a standard review committee.

No further items brought up for discussion

Meeting adjourned 8:17 pm EST