

## **Bracco Italiano Club of America Board Meeting**

**Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Called to order 7:34 pm Eastern**

Attendees: Jennifer Caban, Bobbi Benson, Jeff Lemenes, Gary Lewis, Amanda Inman, John Kavalier, Lisa Moller

1. Report of Treasurer - John Kavalier- The club has a solid balance of \$23,556.74
2. Bylaws Review Process- board needs to set a date and time for a separate call to go through the proposed revisions and get things ready for a club vote- the board has agreed to have this call on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 7:30pm at which time they will review the current bylaws and make and suggested revisions to present to membership for vote.

Jennifer will resend the emails to the board for review before the call set for 4/14/22.

3. Bella Bravo Award- Need to set a committee to form a standard of how this is awarded each time- Jennifer will send an email to determine any club members interested in serving on this committee. The board was presented with a suggested committee of Valerie Kessler, Ericka Dennis, Gary Lewis and Kim Caudill. The board is ok with this committee, with the ability for the board to review and approve of criteria set. Gary has reached out to several contacts in Italy on how they determine their award criteria and will report back if he hears anything.
4. AKC Canine College- Discuss possibility of using Manfroni as a breed expert and what is required to do that- Jennifer let the board know that AKC confirmed we could use Manfroni if we choose to do so, he would need to be interviewed on camera with one person asking the questions and him answering, with a translator. Amanda will reach out to determine if he is willing to do an interview as a breed expert. Bobbi asked who besides Manfroni would be considered a breed expert, possibly exploring other people to be interviewed due to the translation and making it easier for judges to follow and understand. Gary mentioned Mauro might be a possible candidate and has published a few books on the breed. For the photos and videos to be used in the canine college it was suggested we look at using some photos and possibly videos of European dogs to prevent the canine college using all dogs who are actively showing in the US. Amanda will take the lead on the Canine College project and work with Meagan at AKC. Jennifer forwarded Amanda all of the emails and communication of pending items from AKC on this project. Amanda will reach out to a few European contacts for photos and videos and possible see if we can use Crufts videos as well.

- Post call note John sent an email suggesting we look at using Dr. Michele Ivaldi as a breed expert. He is an ENCI judge as well as having attended a US Bracco specialty as a judge in the past and judged Bracchi at Crufts in 2020. The board agreed this was a great resource and John will reach out to determine if he is willing to be interviewed for the Canine College. John and Amanda will coordinate on this item.
5. AKC Delegate discussion- item tabled from last call- we need to determine who our potential candidates are as an AKC Delegate. Each breed club has an AKC Delegate. There are 4 in person meetings per year held, 3 in Newark and 1 in Orlando. The delegate position is basically a lobbyist for the breed and the club's wants within AKC. The job of the delegate is to keep up with the changes in rules and regulations and the on goings of AKC. The delegate that the club selects should know their way around the AKC system and have relationships within the AKC. It is important to have a delegate who understands both the show, performance and hunting aspects of the breed. We as a club have the right to assign our delegate. If we have existing judges within the club they are good candidates.
- We as a board need to discuss who we have within the club who might be good candidates. To keep the discussion fair we need to look at a list of criteria that we expect from our delegate and develop a "resume" of sorts that we would like to see in this candidate. It was suggested possibly looking at Marilyn Vinson, David Hayek or Lisa Moller. Lisa stated both Marilyn and David are both AKC judges and are respected with AKC folks. We need to think about who knows "the right parties" within AKC to get things accomplished. It was also mentioned that the candidates need to have not only a show background but understand the hunting side of this since a main goal of the club is to promote and protect the dual dog.
- Bobbi asked if there was anything on the AKC site which might provide a list of qualifications we can look at to brainstorm candidates. We need to look to have someone in this position who will remain there for a long term.
- It was also mentioned that the delegate typically is invited to sit in on the board calls, or at least part of the calls to keep themselves up to date with the business end of the club that they represent.
- Bobbi also asked can a delegate represent more than one club at a time, the answer is NO they must only represent one club. That would have to be taken into account if we ask someone who is already a delegate because they would have to step down from their current position to become the BICA delegate.

Old business still to be addressed or new business to be raised:

6. Judges Education-raised by Lisa Moller- We have lots of requests coming in from judges, is there a list of approved judges education mentors? In other breeds the committee has an application for becoming a mentor. Amanda had to drop off the call before this question was raised, but at this time Jennifer stated the only judges education presenters were Amanda Inman, Katherine Inman, Marilyn Vinson, and Lisa Moller. We do have others qualified but no one else has raised any interest in becoming a presenter for the club. Jennifer will send a membership list to the board so that we can try to target several regionally spread out mentors and see who would be willing to do seminars.
7. Bobbi asked about the hunt club where we will be hosting the National Specialty, now in 2023 and if they are still on board to host us. Lisa confirmed they are still willing to host us in the April 2023 timeframe as selected by the membership vote.

8. Jennifer asked to be reminded of the cost of a membership to that club. Lisa stated it was \$150 or \$200 annually. Jennifer motioned that the club do a 2022 membership as a good faith effort and for all of their flexibility with our planning team. Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all were in favor (Amanda was absent on the call but later also voted in favor). Lisa will work to get an invoice from the hunt club and will send this to John to have paid.

No further business raised. The next meeting will be in April and will be an open membership call.

Meeting adjourned 8:38pm EST.