

Bracco Italiano Club of America Board Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

Monday September 13, 2021 7:30 EDT

Attendees; Jennifer Caban, Gary Lewis, Lisa Moller, Bobbi Benson

Absent: John Kavalier, Amanda Inman, Jeff Lemmenes

Meeting Called to order 7:36pm EST

1. Report of Treasurer - John Kavalier- *Club balance as of the meeting is \$23,009.75. This balance is reflective of membership dues coming in this month.*
2. Committees Status/Tasks
 - a. Do we have a chair for the National Specialty Committee?
 - i. Nationals Locations Discussions
Jennifer will send an email to the committee to initiate a conference call so that the committee can get to know each other and determine what parts of the planning process they are willing to assist with. Lisa Moller will create an outline of the event with bullet points on the main items that need to be planned. Lisa has been working on looking at centralized locations and is making some calls to locations that look to be all inclusive. WE would still like to keep the timeframe of the event to April-May to avoid hotter weather or hunting seasons as much as possible. Jennifer will forward Lisa all of the info that was proposed on the California location. Bobbi also suggested looking into Twin Lakes MO as an option, it had been used in the past by the Spinone club and would probably be an appropriate size for our club event. Lisa and Bobbi will connect to look into that location. Lisa will also reach out to Rick & Debbie Maher to try to get them to assist with the Hunt Test planning portion of the event.
 - b. Hunt Committee
 - i. Jennifer would like to propose tasking this team with development of materials for the website regarding hunting with Bracco. Training tips, tools of the trade, how to get started etc. We have had several people ask to see more hunting related materials online and this team could work on that project. *The board agreed that this is a good idea and agreed with asking the hunting committee to start the process of gathering or creating materials to promote hunting and how to get started to see your dog's natural abilities. Jennifer will send an email to ask the committee to work on this with a proposed timeframe of November to get materials online. It was suggested that we start a mentor program, finding people within the club who would be willing to take emails or calls to help new Bracco owners or those who have never hunted on a how to get started.*

- c. Judges Education Committee
 - i. What is the plan (if any) to expand this avenue, to have more JE seminars? *Currently there are only 2-3 people on the Judges Education Committee. We need to look at the membership list to determine who else might be able to join this committee. We would like to have 1-2 members in several different geographical areas. The committee needs to review the current power point presentation and develop a "train the trainers" approach to having a uniform presentation for anyone who was to host a judge's education seminar.*
 - ii. Canine College- where are we in this process. AKC has an opportunity for filming in Orlando- how does the club want to select the dogs who are used in the Canine College? *Jennifer will send an email to membership to get an idea of who might be attending the AKC Nationals in Orlando. This would be a good starting point for filming. Also once the national specialty location is determined we can ask AKC if they can film at that location to get the biggest selection of dogs to be used in the filming both in the ring and field.*
 - d. Health Committee- *This committee is running smoothly and Amanda has been providing good feedback on the status of the current research project*
3. Newsletter- We have not had a newsletter in a long period of time. *Jennifer will email membership to see if we have anyone who would be interested in taking on the newsletter creation. This needs to get started back up ASAP members need something to show them what is going on within the club and breed.*
4. Regional Gatherings- *We would like to get more casual get together style events happening around the country. Maybe just training days or fun hunt type events, regional folks going to shows planning a dinner outing etc. We need to brainstorm how to get folks introduced to each other so that they can meet other members and Bracco enthusiasts. Jennifer suggested setting up conference calls or Facebook posts by region so people can see who else is in their reasonable driving location.*
5. Website- What can we do to make the website more of a GO TO place for members as well as those interested in a puppy? How can we encourage more breeders to be listed?
The board will work to develop a "what to ask a breeder checklist" with the best questions to ask potential breeders when searching for a puppy. Making the breeder's listing free to membership. Doing the listing as a list of links to breeder's websites/phone numbers and geographic region. Removing the individual dog's information from the club site. Try to encourage new buyers to speak to several breeders, ask the right questions and make informed decisions. Bobbi mentioned that we need to have a backup person who can edit the website if something was to happen to Jennifer. Jennifer agrees and also suggested once we get a bit more materials collected we may want to look at hiring someone to manage the website so that it can be "fancier" and have secure features. We could use the website to take entries for events if we could get someone to

develop that and securely link in payment features. We will try to determine who will be the backup person.

6. Upcoming Elections- The bylaws state we need a Nomination Committee.

Michael Herndon is willing to chair the nomination committee. Jennifer will email him the details and let him know how many other committee members need to be involved. Current board members Amanda, John, Bobbi and Lisa all stated they were willing to re-run for office.

7. Any Old business not addressed in this agenda?

I need notes from last call that I missed for website- Amanda stated she will get those to Jennifer this week