

PBGF Delegates Meeting Minutes
Saturday, June 13, 2015
Central Beagle Club, Gibsonia, PA.

Delegates in attendance: Beechton, Breakneck, Carlisle, Central, Conemaugh Valley, Elizabethtown, Hilltop, Indiana County, Jacobus, Lycoming County, Mayfield, Monroe, Oil Creek, Pucketos, Rainbow, Rayburn, Sharpsville, Susquehanna Valley, Towanda, West Branch, York & Adams.

Clubs not represented: Bellwood, Cambria, Eldred, Lebanon County, Lykens Valley, Mason Dixon, Northern Lancaster, Shamokin, Stein's Hollow, Tunkhannock, Webster.

Attending Officers: President. Jim Katchko, Western Vice-Pres. James L. Kazmarek, Secretary. Kay Coles, Treasurer. Dave Sharer.

Directors: John Cable, John Elder. Copies of the sign in sheets will accompany the minutes.

I. Call to Order: 7:00 PM in Prayer. Jim asked all to remember John Roland who is being honored at this year's derby championship as well as praying for the health of Mary Luchetta and Guy Emmanuel.

II. Approval of Minutes: Minutes were discussed and procedures to be changed to be completed ASAP as opposed to 30 days as the By-laws read. Motion made to accept the minutes by Susquehanna Valley and second by York & Adams. Motion passed.

III. Officers' and Directors' Reports:

- a. **President** - Jim Katchko informed everyone Mary Luchetta's illness and ongoing recovery and then jumped right into auctioning off a half-skid of Purina dog food of the top bidder's choice. Taylor Lewis had the high bid at \$410.00. Jim also had been informed during the trial of Guy Emanuel's health concerns and asked Steve Phillips to share the update on Guy with the delegates.
- b. **Eastern Vice President** - Jim Girafalco absent
- c. **Western Vice President** - Jim Kazmarek has been gathering information from western PA for the Directory and pleaded with the delegates to get each club's information either to Claire or to him.
- d. **Secretary** - Kay Coles asked the delegation to make sure they signed in.
- e. **Treasurer's Report** - Dave Sharer gave the report; Carlisle made motion to accept the Treasurers report and Rainbow 2nd the motion. Motion passed.
- f. **Director of Communications** - Claire Spettell absent
- g. **Board of Directors – West:** John Elder, no report
East: Dr. John Cable, no report

IV. Committee Reports:

- a. **Hall of Fame** - Dr. John Cable presented the proposed changes to the Hall of Fame

qualifications for hounds and distributed a handout with the changes. Motion to vote on the proposal made by Conemaugh Valley, seconded by West Mayfield. HOF proposal passed.

b. **Banquet (2016)** - Dave Sharer reminded the delegates that the banquet will be held on Sunday as a Luncheon in 2016. Reservation forms will be ready for the October meeting.

c. **By-Law Committee** – Jim Katchko informed the delegates they would be voting on two by-law proposals.

1. Proposal amending the By-Laws: Article 9 Section 7. The Director of Communications would become the Communications Liaison and would no longer have the voting rights of a director. After further discussion, motion to vote made by York Adams, seconded by Lycoming. Vote: 17 – Yes, 4 – No, 1 – Abstention. Amendment to Article 9 Section 7 passed by more than the necessary 2/3 majority.

2. Proposal amending the By-Laws: Article 3 Section 1. Membership in the PBGF would be available to club outside the state of Pennsylvania. After further discussion, motion to vote made by Monroe, seconded by Lycoming. Vote: 12 – Yes, 10 – No. Amendment to Article 3 Section 1 failed. It did not achieve the necessary 2/3 majority.

e. **Championship Prize Committee** - Executive Board. Prizes would remain the same as in previous years for the All-Age Championship, but we are always looking to increase our offerings. It was noted that Tractor Supply Company requires us to go to individual store managers to get donations and it would be much more efficient if this could be done on through a regional or national representative.

f. **Political Action Committee** – Copies of proposed legislation SB 373 and SB 77 were distributed to all present.

1. SB 373 – Anti-Tethering Bill. Toby Fauver explained problems with the bill which has already passed the PA Senate 45-4. It would greatly and adversely impact field trials as well as how dogs are kept by their owners at home. Jim pointed out that the AKC, Susan Wolf on behalf of the Sportsmen's & Animal Owners Voting Alliance, and Adam Wright on behalf of the US Sportsmen's Alliance have all come out in opposition to this bill. Toby distributed copies of a proposed amended version of the bill which he put together. Also distributed were sample letters to PA state representatives, opposing the bill. Delegates were asked to take the information and letters back to their home clubs and to ask members to contact their representatives, stating their opposition. It is especially important to contact the House Judiciary Committee members, since that SB 373 is currently assigned to that committee. Jim expressed his gratitude to Toby Fauver for his work on behalf of the PBGF and all PA Sportsmen and Women. We are extremely fortunate to have him with his knowledge of the legislative process in Harrisburg as the Deputy Secretary of the PA Department of Transportation working on defeating / amending this bill.

2. SB 77 – Amending Title 34, providing for dog training areas. This bill was passed unanimously by the Senate in the previous legislative session as SB 1068, but it died in committee in the House. It has been reintroduced. Jim thanked John Gible for his work in writing much of the amending language, Josh Rissinger for establishing contact with Senator Alloway and having him sponsor the bill, and Toby Fauver for his work on the bill. Sample letters in support of SB 77 were distributed to the delegates and again, they were asked to

take the information and the letters to their home clubs. This bill would provide greater protection for dog training areas as well as allow clubs to control predators under the seasons and bag limits established by the PA Game Commission rather than have clubs apply annually for a predator permit. Jim informed the delegates that he would be going to Harrisburg, representing the PBGF, to meet with lawmakers about both bills.

V. **Championship Trials:**

a. **PBGF All-Age Championship October 3-4, 2015 at Lykens Valley**

1. Selection of championship judges. Top vote getters were:
East: John Cable, Brent Reed, Mark Malloy, Ian Hannis, Mike Johnson
West: Steve Conlon, Lisa Purnell, Matt Minnick, Pat O'Sullivan, Ed Sankey
Show: Grace Roland
2. Discussion of licensing the federation championship. After discussion, a motion to make the All-Age Championship an AKC licensed trial was made by Susquehanna Valley, seconded by Lycoming. Motion failed.

b. **2016 Championship Sites**

Derby Championship (East) Mason-Dixon was nominated
All-Age Championship (West) Breakneck was nominated.
Oil Creek made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Rayburn. Motion passed.

DINNER

VI. **Old Business:**

- a. **Show competitions at Qualifying Trials** – Jim explained that discontinuing show events at qualifying trials was discussed at the January meeting. He asked if anyone wanted to make a motion to discontinue the show competition. No motion was made.
- b. **Championship Trial Review** - Jim Kazmarek gave a review of the first day's derby entries and smooth operation of the trial. Special thanks went to Grace Roland for judging the Show Competition at this year's Derby Championship in honor of her late father, John Roland.
- c. **PBGA Raffle: 2014-15 Review, 2015-16 Update** - Dave Sharer reviewed the number of tickets sold and the winners of the 2014 -2015 raffle and has tickets for each club with him for the 2015 – 2016 money raffle. Dave explained that the delegates voted in favor of a money raffle rather than a gun raffle for the upcoming year.
- d. **Consistency Standings Report** - Dave and Sara Shearer have compiled a consistency standing list for this trial. People can get the list from Dave.
 1. *Hounds and Hunting* Leaderboard on the H&H website for the consistency standings

Jim Katchko had a conversation with Tom DePriest of *Hounds and Hunting* regarding the

status of the leaderboard. His webmaster has moved to Minnesota and that has slowed the set-up of the board, but Tom expected it to be up and running soon.

VII. New Business:

- a. 2016 Trial Schedule** – With Claire out of the country and unable to be present, please send proposed date changes to her or to Western Vice President Jim Kazmarek.
- b. Presque Isle Application** - Jim Katchko Presque Isle has applied for membership in the PBGF and has sent the necessary documentation to Jim Girafalco as Eastern Vice President. Pat O’Sullivan from Presque Isle was present at this meeting.
- c. PA Game Commission**
 1. Jim Katchko let the delegates know that the PGC Board of Commissioners are holding a meeting on June 28th and 29th. The Commissioners placed the Mentored Youth Rabbit Season on the agenda and Jay Delaney asked for one more round of testimony regarding support for this proposal. Multiple commissioners have expressed their support for this.
 2. On June 30th there will be a PA Sporting Dog Owners Meeting at PGC Headquarters in Harrisburg. Jim thanked all who have attended in the past and encouraged as many as possible to attend.
- d. AKC Nationals** - Mark Malloy discussed the championship weekend including the Hall of Fame dinner, the trial itself, and the Purina Puppy trial for Youth Handlers held on Sunday after the trial. He told the delegates that representation at the AKC SPO nationals is based on the number of entries from each federation.
- e. BAC Meeting** - Dr. John Cable discussed the agenda items from the June 3rd teleconference of the Beagle Advisory Committee. The record of the teleconference will be attached to these minutes but summarizing: 1) Judges will now have to take a basic seminar and only one advanced seminar, 2) Either the Field Trial Chairman or the Field Trial Secretary will have to take a basic seminar, 3) The proposal to create a Grand Field Champion was defeated, 4) No change in the status of the NBQ hound, there will be no points awarded will be awarded to the NBQ. There were also discussions regarding Two-Couple Pack trails and Brace Championship trails.
- f. Good of the Association** - Jim thanked everyone at the Central Beagle Club and all attending the meeting and the trial for their part in making this event a success.

VIII. Adjournment: Motion by Lycoming, seconded by Rayburn. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.