

PBGA Minutes - June 18, 2011 Meeting

Present: Bellwood, Breakneck, Cambria, Carlisle, Central, Conemaugh, Eldred, Elizabethtown, Hilltop, Jacobus, Indiana, Lebanon, Lycoming, Lykens, Monroe, Oil Creek, Pucketos, Rainbow, Shamokin, Susquehanna, Towanda, Webster, West Branch, York & Adams. Clubs not present: Mason Dixon, N. Lancaster, Rayburn, Sharpsville, Tunkhannock. All executive board members were present and West Director John Elder.

Meeting was called to order at 4:14 p.m. at Hilltop Beagle Club. Motion to approve the published minutes from the January 2011 meeting was moved by Lykens Valley, 2nd by Susquehanna Valley, motion approved. President Jim acknowledged two guests: Mike Luchetta, Purina, and his wife Mary; and Tom DePriest, new owner of Hounds & Hunting

Agenda has been modified to deal with some new business pertaining to some disciplinary action that requires our attention. First, pursuant to an official complaint filed by the Bellwood Beagle Club, WVP Frank Keene has resigned his position. By mutual agreement, Frank is now on probation – for a period of one year he may not judge, marshal, may not serve as a member of a field trial committee nor as field trial secretary or chairman, but he is able to run his dogs in PBGA competition. This does not affect his involvement in AKC related events either. The Executive Committee was required to meet several times this morning to deal with disciplinary action issues that are much better served if clubs hold field trial committee hearings when events like this occur—it's much better to do so when all parties involved are present and available for testimony, memories are fresh, and witnesses can easily be reached.

In another disciplinary action, John Walls of Lykens Valley, was suspended for two years for his actions. Through mutual agreement, his hounds can participate in PBGA related events, but Walls himself is not to compete until his suspension ends on April 1, 2013. Walls has expressed his apologies to the PBGA.

One final disciplinary action requires our attention. Marshall Sparks is here today to address the delegates. Before I ask him to speak, I would like to establish the following ground rules: this is to be statement of fact only, emotional outbursts do nothing to further our discussion, only clubs present today may speak and be heard, clubs may also yield your time to another club, but 2 minutes is allowed per club. We will follow Robert's Rules of Order throughout this process. I would also like to share with the delegates that the punishment given to Sparks 12 years ago and has been honored by Sparks, so Sparks has fulfilled his obligation. I wish to also remind the delegates that as long as a member is in good standing with the AKC, clubs cannot refuse entries or else it is viewed as discrimination.

Marshall Sparks addressed the delegates saying that he just wants to be able to run his dogs to support the association and apologized for what happened 12 years ago. After a brief question and answer session, Jim notified the members that the Executive Board recommends that if Sparks is voted back into the Association, it should be with a probationary period of 2 years. York & Adams moved that Marshall Sparks be allowed to participate in PBGA events with a 2 year probationary, with the understanding that another incident could result in permanent suspension. Susquehanna – 2nd the motion. A paper ballot was conducted and the delegates have voted 14 to reinstate him, 10 to reject the reinstatement. ***[Note that after the meeting it was revealed that a 2/3 vote is required to reinstate Sparks and this was not achieved at the meeting, so Sparks is unable to rejoin the Association.]***

According to our bylaws, if an officer is no longer in office, it is incumbent upon the president to replace him. As a result, Ed Sankey from Breakneck has been appointed, with the support of the board, to fulfill the term of WVP.

Executive Board Reports:

- EVP - Blaine thanked Sara Sharer for her calculations throughout the year on the consistency competition. The longest traveler entering a hound today was Edgar Burdette.
- WVP – Ed –looks forward to serving on the board and thanks everyone for their vote of confidence.
- Secretary's Report - Kay - we took in \$154 for the raffle today; thanks for all the donations.
- Treasurer's Report (see attached) – Dave submitted a written report. Motion by Webster to pay the bills, 2nd by Elizabethtown. Motion approved.
- Director of Communication - Tina reported that effective immediately she will only make changes to the field trial schedules at the request of field trial secretaries. This prevents confusion and miscommunications.

Nominations were taken for the 2012 Derby Trials to be held in the East: Elizabethtown, Monroe and Towanda. Delegates voted as follows: Towanda (1st), Monroe (2nd) and Elizabethtown (3rd).

Nominations were taken for the 2012 All Age Qualifier to be held in the West: Central and Hilltop.

Delegates voted as follows: Hilltop (1st) and Central (2nd). Judges were voted on and ranked as follows: East: Don Wagner, Mark Malloy, John Cable, Edgar Burdette, Mike Johnson, Gary Keller, Lisa Snyder, Jeremy Bowles. West: Jim Rousch, Greg Ritter, John Elder, Mikes Lee, Mike Hockelberry, Kevin McEwen, Jeremy Hooks, John Hilliard. Show Judges: Bill Moyer, Jim Dowd.

Tom DePriest thanked the PBGA for its hospitality and hopes everyone is enjoying the magazine. He encouraged people to give him a call, he's open to your suggestions. They have updated the webpage and are now on facebook. He also announced that H&H and Purina will cover the cost to print the PBGA Field Trial Cards.

Political Action – having email addresses for sharing important information is important. Next sporting hounds meeting at the PA Game Commission is scheduled; if you can, please plan to attend. Show Seminar – any club interested in hosting one is encouraged to contact Tina or Sam. Hall Of Fame – one nomination is in hand – any nominations submitted by the end of the meeting can still be considered. Banquet 2012 – Dave Sharer announced it is scheduled for January 14th at Zafar Grotto. Winter meeting starts at 11 a.m. and the banquet at 6:00 p.m. Directory 2012 – Deb Overdorf – new directory being planned. Let's aim for more stud ads and beagling ads. Website – Tina asked about interest in the social media: Facebook, etc., hearing a lukewarm response, it will not be considered. All sites are up to date. FT Committee – No report. By Law Committee – committee is currently reviewing our bylaws and will be proposing changes as needed.

Championship Trial Review – 355 qualifying hounds this year, last year 409. In 2009 we had 459 hounds. We hope to have 50 females here tomorrow. All Age Championship Trial – York & Adams Beagle Club to host, nice facility, camper hook ups, lots of rabbits, come and spend the weekend on October 8-9. Judges to be finalized soon. Derby Trials - Blaine and Dave notice that several derby trials were cancelled this year. They proposed the delegates consider eliminating the derby consistency. Clubs can still have derby trials and the derby runoff would still be held (all hounds would qualify). Suggestions for clubs to consider – scheduling your all age and derby trials on the same day. Charlie Flexer suggested we waive the per capita fee but still encourage participation and keep the consistency. Sam also

suggested keeping the derby consistency. Delegates were asked to take the discussion back to your club for consideration. Raffle tickets - \$5 tickets available for sell, each club is asked to sell 34 tickets and you have until October, return any unsold tickets to Dave. Consistency Standings Report (see attached report). Recognition was given to Sara Sharer for the work she does year round to maintain the consistency. 2012 Field Trial Schedule – Tentative schedule will be prepared by Tina for the October meeting. Members are encouraged to notify her now of any changes to the upcoming schedule. Purina Trials - Copy your Purina results (due within 14 days after the trial) to Mike Luchetta (send to Eddie Wiley). Purina has agreed to upgrade the dogfood for the runoffs. Field Trial Cards will be printed and available at the October meeting courtesy of Purina and Hounds & Hunting.

NEBGF/BAC/AKC National Update – Deb Overdorf (secretary of the NEBGF) noted that field trial changes are on the federation website. Delegates are not in favor of holding championship trials as AKC licensed trials. At the upcoming trial at Lebanon Beagle Club, Tri-Tronics will give 12 collars to the federation and in turn, the federation will provide one collar to each association for their own use. Webster moved and Carlisle seconded that the PBGA raffle off their collar at the All Age Championship Trial. Motion approved. BAC is considering adding a grand champion title for the 4 largest associations with Purina as a sponsor. Ed stated that the judges at the AKC nationals have no voice, unless clubs pay the per capita to the federation. This is based on the amount of involvement in the federation and we need better involvement from our associations. AKC National and Purina award will be on Thursday again this year since it was a big success last year. Thanks to the PBGA members who marshaled for the AKC nationals: Louie Burger, Josh Rissinger, and Todd Seitz. Judges Todd Seitz and Kevin McEwen were excellent representatives of the Federation/Association. Hunt of a Lifetime – Jim reported that this is an organization that sponsors hunts for seriously ill children (18 and under) – was formed in PA about 10 years ago when it was learned that Grant a Wish and Make a Wish would no longer consider sporting hunts as an option as a last wish. The PBGA is now listed as a sponsor for providing hunts for the Hunt of a Lifetime. Please consider doing this if you are called upon. Motion from Dave Sharer that we make a \$200 donation to a Hunt of a Life Time – 2nd by Blaine Grove, motion passed.

A new committee, chaired by Sam Lauchman, will be created to address permitting, rabbit trapping, hunting predators in season, and other such topics with the PA Game Commission, in particular WCO Chad Eyler. The committee will also consist of Jim Katchko and John Gible. Gible asked delegates if they have any contacts with senators and/or their aides. Senator Alloway and Mike Folmer are potential candidates.

Good of the Association: Tina proposed a PBGA Youth Scholarship Award of \$500.00 to be considered in 2012. Motion was made by Carlisle, seconded by Conemaugh for Tina to pursue consideration, with a proposal to come forward at the October meeting.

Sam announced that York & Adams had purchased fencing from a vendor and warned beagle clubs about thoroughly researching the integrity of vendors before investing in such a major purchase. Ed Sankey asked if there was any interest in hosting a judging seminar (either for the 1st time judges or the recertification). Jim was encouraged to contact AKC to make this happen.

Stan Hepler made the motion to adjourn, Cambria seconded the motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at ??? time?