**PBGF Meeting Minutes**

**Saturday, October 7, 2017**

**Lycoming County Beagle Club, Muncy, PA**

**Delegates in Attendance:** West Branch, Shamokin, Lycoming, Lebanon, Carlisle, Northern Lancaster, Susquehanna, Beechton, Mason-Dixon, Lykens, Eldred, Steins Hollow, Elizabethtown, Central, Tunkhannock, Webster, Breakneck, Indiana, Pucketos, Monroe, Sharpsville

1. **Call to Order-** The meeting was called to order by Josh Rissinger at 5:30 PM
2. **Approval of Minutes-** June Meeting Minutes were emailed out in advance of this meeting and were accepted (Motion by Shamokin and Tunkhannock)
3. **Introduction of Guests-** Mike Luchetta, representing Purina, was in attendance for the meeting and supporting the 2017 PBGF All-Age Championship Trial. Mike informed us that Purina is changing the point program weight circles over to a receipt-based scanning system. Mike emphasized that it is important to get all weight circles in prior to March of 2018 when the switchover is to occur.
4. **Officer’s and Director’s Reports**
5. **President-** Josh Rissinger-none.
6. **Eastern Vice President-** Jeremy Bowles- Clubs will need to get their PBGF Hall of Fame nominations in.
7. **Western Vice President-** Jim Kazmarek-none.
8. **Treasurer’s Report-** Dave Sharer gave a detailed treasurer’s report: Opening Balance $10,899.47 & Ending Balance of $6,922.83. A motion was made by Webster, seconded by Shamokin to accept the Treasurer’s Report as read. Motion passed unanimously.
9. **Secretary-** Brian Phillips- Any delegates that are not on the email distribution chain, please send email address to me.

1. **Committee Reports**
2. **Treasurer’s Annual Audit Committee-** Will be reviewed for January 2018 Meeting.
3. **PBGF Hall of Fame-** Persons nominated: Jim Katchko, Ed Sankey. Hounds nominated: FC Choptank Red Ringtail, FC Cable’s Bonnie, FC Boomerang’s Willie, NSPC FC G’s Line Sassy Lassy. To be distributed to Clubs for final vote.
4. **By-Law Committee-** none.
5. **Political Awareness Committee-** Separate Document will be sent out.
6. **Old Business**
7. **2018 PBGF Derby Championship Trial-** Shamokin Beagle Club accepted the use of their grounds.
8. **C-3 Non-Profit Status Update-** Dave Sharer informed us that our lawyer is conferring with colleagues on our purpose as a Federation. The lawyer recommends we update the language in our by-laws to clearly separate any grey areas around the requirements of a C-3. Basically, we are not allowed to pay lobbyists. We are allowed to put the Federation’s stance out to member Clubs, we just can’t pay any individual’s to lobby for the Federation. Breakneck (Ed Sankey and George Prycl) confirmed we will keep moving forward on this subject. The language update to the By-laws will be brought to a vote at the January 2018 Meeting.

1. **Annual Raffle Fundraising-** Dave Sharer distributed the raffle tickets to club delegates. Tickets will be collected at the January Meeting. Josh Rissinger asked if there is anyone interested in taking over the responsibility of the Federation Raffle to see him.
2. **Revised Running Rules-** Jeremy Boles has revised the current Running Rules. The by-law change to these updates were voted upon and successfully passed with 21 yes and 1 no. Updates include:
   1. All-Age Qualifiers should follow AKC rules and procedures
   2. (6) starters minimum classes will need to be combined
   3. Club has option of holding All-Age Qualifier with a show in conjunction with their AKC License Trial. Trial must be advertised as such. Clubs that want to try this in a given year will be allowed to do so without losing their original trial date the following year, in case they want to switch back to separate trials (AKC and AAQ).
   4. If a club elects to hold and All-Age Qualifier in conjunction with their AKC Licensed Trial, if a person is not in good standing with the PBGF enters a hound in a combined PBGF All-Age/AKC Trial, no consistency points shall be awarded to that hound owned or handled by a person not in good standing with the Federation.
   5. Please see the Revised Running Rules (October 2017 Revision Version) listed on our website for expanded verbiage and all updates.
3. **Proposal to make PBGF All-Age Championship Trial an AKC Licensed Trial-** Under this new proposal hounds must still need to qualify at a PBGF Member Club Trial or be a Field Champion. AKC rules and procedures will apply, such as all dogs will need to be measured. Mike Luchetta from Purina confirmed they will still sponsor the trial. Jeremy Bowles confirmed with Mel Stewart that the 100 mile radius rule for typical AKC License Trials does not apply since classified as a “special event”. This Proposal was voted upon with 17 yes and 2 no and will be effective starting in 2018. The Running Rules will be updated for this change.
4. **Back-to-Back Trials in Proximity:** Greg Ritter and group discussed more on the current overlap of trials spread across the state and the benefit to having neighboring clubs share trials on the same weekend to increase numbers. This will be taken back to clubs for more discussion. A continued effort.
5. **New Business**
   1. **Northeast Regional Junior Beagler Program-** Terry Gerhart was in attendance and gave us background on this great program. The program currently has 49 junior handlers. These junior handlers accumulate points for entering hounds in trials, but also in the “behind the scenes” work that is done at the beagle clubs, such as cleaning kennels, helping in the field, etc.. Terry emphasized this program is about Participation and not just the one aspect of entering dogs in trials. Terry expressed his appreciation of everyone’s efforts and the importance to have club support. Terry also acknowledged Purina for giving each junior handler a hat and Hound & Hunting and Better Beagling for mailing books out to each handler. Terry also is receiving requests from kids that want to go hunting and relayed this over to delegates in the close proximity to take them hunting. Josh Rissinger acknowledged the great efforts of the Gerhart Family and mentioned that the PBGF plans to help support a kids day along with the Gerhart’s to celebrate the Program.

The Gerharts can be reached at the below numbers:

Terry – 814-571-3837

Kellen- 814-598-5143

* 1. **PBGF Received Letter from Hounds & Hunting Regarding Hall of Fame-** Tom DePriest from Hounds and Hunting sent a letter to the Northeast acknowledging the need to recognize the Northeastern part of the country more effectively. As a result, they are working on changing their criteria to open-up fairness. Updates included changing from four to eight nominees. For the current Hall of Fame Voting Tom asked that we send (1) person and (1) beagle for consideration of the Hounds and Hunting Hall of Fame. The highest votes received at the meeting were for Donald Dobbs and FC Burdette’s Little Darbin and will be submitted to Hounds and Hunting. This was time sensitive and a vote had to occur immediately to get results back to Hounds and Hunting.
  2. **Nominations for PBGF Hall of Fame-** the following persons and beagles will be sent to the clubs for a vote. It is important for clubs to get their results back to the PBGF as quickly as possible. Beaglers- Jim Katchko, Ed Sankey. Hounds- FC Choptank Red Ringtail, NSPC FC G’s Line Sassy Lassy, FCGD Boomerang’s Willie, FCGD Cable’s Bonnie
  3. Mike Luchetta from Purina donated a skid of dog food and was auctioned off to highest bidder
  4. **2017-2018 PBGF Election of Officers-**
     1. Western VP- Craig Chelednik (replaced Jim Kazmarek)
     2. Secretary- Brian Phillips
     3. Dave Sharer
     4. Eastern Director- Mike Johnson (replaced John Cable)
     5. Western Director- Jim Roush
  5. **Annual Audit Committee-** Ken Hakes and Mike Johnson appointed to audit committee. Audit to take place at January 7, 2018 PBGF Banquet.
  6. **Application for new clubs that would like to join the PBGF-** Enchanted Mountain Beagle Club, Blue Juniata Beagle Club, Bald Eagle Beagle Club, Pender City NC Beagle Club, East Carolina Beagle Club. The PBGF Board will be in contact with these clubs to discuss next steps.
  7. **2018 AKC National Judge Selection-** top vote getters were Greg Ritter, Steve Phillips, Ian Hannis, and Jeremy Hooks. This list will be forward to AKC/Mel Stewart for selection.
  8. **2018 PBGF January Banquet-** To be held on January 7 at 11am - Zafar’s Grotto, South Williamsport, PA.

1. **Adjournment**: Shamokin made motion, second by Northern Lancaster. All approved.