

# Meeting Notes

## 1Q 2022 ABDA General Membership

### Thursday 20 January 2022

Zoom meeting was hosted by Hilde Stappgens,  
which began around 7:10 PM and ended around 8:30 PM

Welcome and recognition of members: Present were President Tim Gallagher, Vice President Hilde Stappgens, Treasurer Carl Hedges, and Member-At-Large Chuck Stielstra. Secretary Bud Rice (notetaker) was out of state and Past President Derek Tomlinson listened online, but was unable to connect via Zoom. Others present included: Carol Stielstra, Jeff Lipscomb, Trigg Davis, Mark Davis, Gretchen Clark, Mike Kasterin, Jimmy DiCarlo, Marty and Dana Stewart, Ryan Mahoney, and Elsa Crisafulli, and Jeanie Holyfield (sp?) later. Tim had all participants tell where they are from, how long they have been members, what breed of dog(s) they have.

Membership Status: Membership totals increased to 89 from 76 total memberships at last meeting. Totals are now at 51 individual, 35 family, and 3 corporate. Tim noted this was the highest number he has observed during his tenure.

Treasury: Carol Hedges noted the account balances are at \$22,170. This balance is down from last year, but some payments were accrued from last year. She indicated we broke even last year and gained about \$2,000 this year after payments were applied to the correct FY. Tim noted we bought \$2,000 of new signs and \$800 of new wire bird cages in FY21.

#### Board Elections:

We have a 6-member Board with 2-year terms and 3 are elected during even numbered years. This year we are electing President, VP, and Secretary. Tim Gallagher moves to Past President after 8 years as our serving President. Derek Tomlinson moves off the Board as Past President.

Nominated and elected by unanimous consent, after Trigg moved and Mark seconded to accept the slate, were:

President – Hilde Stappgens

Vice President – Bud Rice

Secretary – Jeanie Holyfield

(Steve Woods had offered to be Secretary, but Mike Kasterin said he would bow out if someone else was interested in the position. Gretchen Clark had an email

from Jeanie indicating she would accept the position. We had no written acceptance from Steve, so Mike withdrew his nomination.

Draft 2022 Event Schedule: Hilde Stappgens led this discussion and did much research to attempt to avoid conflicts with other dog club events. The proposed schedule mirrors that of 2021.

<b>2022 ABDA Event Dates</b>		
<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Novice Class - Pointing	4/12/2022	On Eagle River field, led by Dan Branvold
Novice Class - Spaniel	4/14/2022	On Eagle River field, organized by Mike Kasterin with 5 rotating instructors: Mike K, Derek T., Jedd L., Mike Chihuly, and Gretchen C.
Family Field Day	6/11/2022	On Training Fields LLC, we need an event leader; Derek Tomlinson is not interested and available to lead this event.
Chukar Challenge - Classic	6/25/2022	On Training Fields LLC – organizer Bud Rice
Chukar Challenge - Master	6/26/2022	On Robinson Field – organizer Bud Rice
Training Day	7/9/2022	Training Fields LLC
Hunt Test – Pointing (Training)	7/16/2022	On BDA Fields – Chair Hilde Stappgens
Hunt Test - Pointing	7/17/2022	BDA Fields – Chair Hilde Stappgens
Hunt Test - Spaniel	7/30/2022	Conflict with AKC Dog Show that several lab retriever owners like to attend. Need to consider options at either 7/9-10 or 7/23-24?? Hilde to send email to flushing dog owners to determine best dates for 1 <sup>st</sup> Spaniel Hunt Test.
Hunt Test - Spaniel	7/31/2022	Conflict with AKC Dog Show that several lab retriever owners like to attend. Need to consider options
Hunt Test - Pointing (Training)	8/13/2022	At BDA – Chair Hilde Stappgens
Hunt Test - Pointing	8/14/2022	At BDA – Chair Hilde Stappgens
Hunt Test - Spaniel	8/27/2022	In Delta Junction – Chair Jeff Lipscomb

Hunt Test - Spaniel	8/28/2022	In Delta Junction – Chair Jeff Lipscomb
Holiday Party	TBD	

	Location	Topic	Speaker	Coordinator
21 Apr	Zoom	2022 Program Update	Bud	
21 Jul	Zoom	TBD		
17 Nov	TBD	Bird Surveys	Rick Merizon Update	Bud

The Robinson Field is available all summer for training, but the area is shared with other groups.

Mike Kasterin noted members need to attend judging seminars to be recertified for hunt tests. He may contact AKC President Doug Lundgren to establish a webinar/zoom class so participants need not travel long distances.

Board of Game Proposals:

Bud sent comments on due date 7 January 2022 before travel outside. He had forwarded Rick Merizon’s email to Board members in late November, which indicated meeting and comment due dates with links to the BOG website. In summary: Bud supported a proposal to reduce the grouse daily bag limit in Unit 14A (Palmer-Sutton area, etc) from 15/day and 30 in possession to 5/day and 10 in possession. In the current and proposed rule the Ruffed Grouse limit is 2/day and 4 in possession. Bud supported this proposal because Spruce Grouse numbers have plummeted due to the loss of white spruce habitat resulting from the spruce bark beetle infestations. Two other proposals moved to extend the ptarmigan season in units 13B and E (Denali Highway region) from February 15 to March 31, but they also moved to reduce the bag limit to 5/day. Bud opposed these proposals because recruitment and fall hunting efforts show there have been very low survival of young birds. Spring hunting removes breeding birds, which is not advisable at this time when those populations are struggling. Heavy spring rains or snow have wiped out chicks the last two years.

Bird Program:

Hilde noted bird orders were opened and only 60 chukar are still available at \$26/bird. The grower has chicks on the ground. Birds used to cost \$9 and shipped for \$5, but now each bird costs \$10 and shipping is \$14/bird!! We need a grower in AK to cut out shipping costs. Members noted training with pigeons helps to

reduce training costs. Carol Hedges suggested looking into Polaris Poultry in Palmer as a potential grower. Gretchen Clark suggested Alaska Chickapalooza.

ABDA Use of BDA and TF LLCs:

Members need to observe the 5-mph speed limit through these areas for safety and dust considerations.

Other:

Chuck Stielstra asked that members get reminders to pay dues. Hilde noted dues are due one year after joining, and the web sends a reminder email to the member one month and 2 weeks before dues are needed. After the due date the member is moved to inactive status.

Chuck Stielstra wants to establish a mentor program with the goals to make new members feel welcome, aware of events/schedule, encourage participation, and introduce new members to the association. A mentor would not need to be a trainer, but could be. Tim Gallagher offered to be a new mentor.

Next Meeting: 21 April 2022; Location: Zoom