

3rd Q 2023 ABDA Board Meeting
July 13th 2023
Minutes

Meeting began @ 7:02 p.m.

- In attendance:

Hilde Stappens
Randy Breaux
Chuck Stielstra
Dana Stewart
Jeanne Holifield
Carol Hedges

- Last board meeting minutes review and approval:

Carol motioned to approve. Chuck seconded.

- Membership Status:
 - o Same from last quarter. There are two memberships in “pending” status, meaning they filled out the renewal online but did not pay through Paypal. Per Dana, these types of statuses are likely due to individuals paying by check, or other means.
 - o Hilde suggested the future addition of a Membership Chair to the Board (or a less official position) who could facilitate renewals and updates, and seek out new corporate sponsors.

Quarter	Total	Individual	Family	Corporate*
1	88	59	28	1
2	66	43	22	1
3	67	43	24	
4				

- Budget Status (Carol):
 - o Income is up compared to last year at this time, approximately \$900. Expenses are down approximately \$4,000, mostly due to delay in bird invoices from vendors. There might be a backlog of invoices in October/November. Per Hilde, month-to-month comparisons are less useful to ABDA than event-over-event comparisons, year to year. Carol advises watching for extreme or abnormal expenses.
- Secretary’s report – N/A

- Birds and pen set-up - Chuck Stielstra
 - Per Chuck, the shipping costs are approximately \$6,000, but there's a credit of approximately \$2,000 with the vendor. There was a loss of 67 birds on the first two shipments (only half of which was ABDA's). Currently, almost \$7,200 has been paid to (vendor) Dimond Wings, and 568 birds have been sent for ABDA.
 - Chuck stated that he received multiple freight quotes from different Alaska Airlines locations, which made getting quotes difficult. He wrote a letter the vendor and copied in Alaska Airlines, referencing the need to change packaging for bird shipments because Alaska handlers were not to be trusted in keeping birds alive. Received a positive response from Alaska, resulting in cheaper costs of freight.
 - Bill is working on seeing whether or not the first lost birds need to be replaced in order to fulfill all orders placed this season. Carol suggests working out plan to perhaps provide rebate towards next year's bird order for those who wanted birds this year but didn't receive one. Hilde advises working through details first.
 - The Board thanks Chuck for all his hard work on the bird project.

- Website - Dana Stewart
 - Upcoming events have been posted – Spaniel gun safety clinic the last weekend of July. There's a limit of 25 participants total, so Dana will keep an eye on registrants.
 - Sponsor page is linked to website – Gun Dog Supply
 - Two requests from Dana:
 - On calendars, clarification should be provided on who can use fields on what days. Per Hilde, all ABDA members can use fields on training days, there is just field-sharing that will need to occur. It's never exclusive to pointing/flushing days. Bird Dog Acres, LLC members are primarily pointer dog owners, and Training Fields is used primarily by flushing dog owners.
 - Could online registration closure for events be changed from midnight, to help Dana with ensuring that registrants are accounted for before closing the event? By comparison, Hunt Secretary closes at midnight EST. Hilde states that as long as closures are announced/published, times can be changed.
 - Looking for better mass-email system than MailChimp, that can interface with website. MailChimp does not allow PDF documents to be attached to emails. Per Hilde, low cost of better service would be worth it, but only if Dana deems worthwhile.
 - Dana was unaware that the Chukkar Challenge #2 had been postponed; only one slot was left. She will work on getting website updated. Bud was going to contact all 15 registrants to let them know, and see if they could commit to new date of August 5th.

- Events – Randy Breaux/Hilde Stapgen
 - Thank you to Dana for all the work on the website.
 - Clinic with John Bruggeman was successful. There will be some expenses that were not approved prior to event. Please notify Randy if there are questions.

- Two-day spaniel hunt test occurred 7/8 & 7/9 – one out of state judge from Washington; the other judge was Stacy Dean. Had the luxury of having gunners that were not handlers. Dana and Martin Steward were gunners both days.
- Gunner safety clinic coming up – Facilitator will be driving up from the States. Will there be any extra birds available for this event? Next shipment per Chuck will be Wednesday, 7/19, and the next Wednesday after that.
- In regard to birds, Delta participants will likely be as high as last year, but numbers are currently unknown. Chuck states that Mike Kasterin had asked about sourcing pheasants in place of chukars. Randy asks if it would benefit more than one person. Hilde suggests that the idea be explored, if there's someone who can source/manage the order. Chuck decided that if Mike would do the ordering, then Chuck would handle billing.
- Gun Dog Supply provided 7 \$25.00 gift certificates. Discussion on how to utilize these, perhaps by nominating members for contributions, or for membership renewals, or door prizes at social event.
- Randy, too, would like to see someone in the club who is willing to handle new sponsors and revenue sources. Hunt Secretary is willing to do several ads at no charge.
- The Pointer hunt test is coming up; was suspended briefly due to event secretary dropping out without notice. Hilde volunteered, in order to continue having the event. Steve Eldridge volunteered to learn how to be the event secretary moving forward.
- Randy asks if there are missed opportunities in getting volunteers to commit to events. Per Hilde, the issue is that NAVHDA test procedures are easier than AKC, and that means people tend to participate less in ABDA/AKC events. Also, there is a fast-growing population of GSPs (drahthaars) and Munsterlander owners who are not able to participate in AKC events due to parent club rules.
- 2nd Chukkar Challenge scheduled for Saturday 7/15 has been postponed, due to lack of birds and predicted weather (92% chance of rain).

New Business –

- Per Randy, new member from Novice class who works for the State is interested in taking on Treasurer position as Carol's replacement. Carol willing to talk over the position with her; will be out of state soon, but available for phone/text conversations. Hilde asks that both Randy and Carol both interview new member. Chuck suggests that there will be a point when we need to hire a portion of club work to be done, such as a bookkeeper/CPA, so as to not overwhelm volunteers. Randy agreed and stated that there all types of work to be done, if there are volunteers to do it.
 - Carol advises that the IRS treats sponsorships and donations as non-taxable, but advertising is taxable, and considered to be "unrelated income" which requires a separate tax filing.
 - Hilde states that there needs to be an existing nominating committee and chair at the next meeting that can make decisions on next year's officers – President, Secretary and Chuck Stielstra's Director position. Elections will be in January 2024.
- 2023 full Calendar of Events: See Page 4.
 - Next GM Meeting: November 9th, 2023, Location: Zoom.

ABDA 2023 Events, rev. 3/21/23

Dates	Event	Location	Lead	Notes
Training				
19 Apr - 23 May	Pointing Novice Class	ACT/Eagle River	Dan & Barb Brandvold and Dale Sweetser	
20 Apr - 25 May	Flushing Novice Class	TPR/Eagle River	Gretchen Clark	
30 April	Gunners' Clinic for Spaniel Hunt Tests	Birchwood Shooting Park	Mike Kasterin	
10 June	Family Fun Day/Training Day	TF LLC	Randy Breaux	
17 June	Chukar Challenge (classic) & Training Day	TF LLC	Bud R	
18 June	Chukar Challenge (Master)	Robertson Field	Bud R	
8 July	Training Day	TF LLC	<i>needed</i>	
8 & 9 July	Flushing HT and Training Day	Pt Mac	Lindsay	
15th July	2 nd Chukar Challenge/Training Day	BDA LLC	Bud	
29/30 July	Gunner Safety Clinic (All ABDA gunners)	TF, LLC	Jeff Lipscomb	
19 Aug	Pointer HT & Training Day	BDA LLC	_??_/Sue Davis	
20 Aug	Pointer HT & Training Day	BDA LLC	_??_/Sue Davis	
26-27 Aug	Flushing Tests	Delta Junction	Jeff Lipscomb	
_December; 3pm	Holiday Party	<i>TBD</i>	<i>needed</i>	