



German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America Board of Directors Meeting Minutes October 9, 2024

A Zoom Board of Directors (BOD) meeting was held on October 9, 2024. Presiding over the meeting was Sharon Fitzpatrick, President. The Board of Directors (BOD) meeting was called to order at 8:35 p.m. EST. A roll call was taken. Present were Sharon Fitzpatrick – President; Karen Nauer – Vice President; Lynn Pettinato – Corresponding Secretary; Becky Feigh – East Central Section Director; Vanessa Carmean – South Central Director; Fred Lowry – Southeast Director; Chris Fields - North Central Director; and Dominic Pettinato – Northwest Director.

Dean Browning – Treasurer, Melissa Campbell- Recording Secretary, Tiffany Cessna – Northeastern Section Director, and Dan Schoenfelder – Southwest Section Director were absent.

Running Rules Update: This project will take some time to get right. Karen Nauer has a goal of having the running rules for the three national events as similar as possible to avoid any confusion.

A discussion was held about the possibility of allowing clubs to vote electronically on event locations, especially for the National Specialty Show. They agreed to consider further this idea and the club's role in decision-making processes. The team also addressed the challenges of the current site selection process for national events and proposed a new method in which clubs would submit their preferred sites in advance. They planned to target January to send site options to clubs, with a response deadline in February for the National Specialty Show. Vanessa Carmean and Fred Lowry would provide timing for the NAGDC, while Dan Schoenfelder would provide timing for the NFT site selection.

Karen Nauer called out the timing for budgets for all national events. Preliminary budgets are due to the Board of Directors (BOD) six months before the event. Final budgets are due three months before the event, and final financial reports are due one month following the event.

The chairperson and co-chairperson are named in the running rules. The NAGDC committee did a great job of this in their bylaws. For clarity, a committee can replace the chair and the vice chair with additional working members. They vote on a chair and a vice chair. The group would then ask Lynn Pettinato, as the corresponding secretary, to send out an email blast seeking a replacement from that region with a short timeline for response, in case the need arises.

A process for selecting judges for both the NAGDC and NFT needs to be established to expand the list of qualified judges for national events. There is a system in place for the NSS with a list of competent judges to vote for.

Lastly, the importance of inviting liaisons to meetings was also emphasized, with the decision to include this in the running rules.

Action Item: Karen Nauer, flesh out the details of the running rule changes discussed and bring them back to the next meeting.

Stats from Joe Venner: Stats Team Summary Report

Reviews were conducted with all members of the Stats Team. Overall, each member follows a process that aligns with AKC stats or uses a modified system that better reflects overall performance by implementing a point system to prioritize stronger performances. Each Stats reporter also verifies that the dogs and owners included in the reports or awarded titles are members of the GSPA based on the March 31st deadline of the current year.

- **Obedience & Rally** (Belinda Venner): Results from AKC. Sorted by regular classes with points assigned to each score per a long-established process. Spreadsheet posted to Performance GSP group. Top 10 and top 20 sent to GSPCA
- **Agility** (Beth Janos): Results from AKC. Points are calculated based on qualification runs (double Q's) and times under course time. The method aligns with the AKC approach to ranking MACH dogs as well as the Invitational rankings. The excellent level is calculated in the same way as the Master level. Game classes and premier classes are not calculated or published.
- **Conformation** (Tiffany Cessna): Pulled directly from AKC.
- **Field** (Rick Petersen): Pulled from AKC reports. Uses points assigned to stake placements to rank according to the established process.
- **New Titles:** (Karen Josephson) Lynn Pettinato provides a list of title holders that is sorted and then placed into a Word document for publication.
- **Annual Awards** (Tiffany Cessna): Based on input from the Stats person for the area.

All Stats Team members demonstrated a thoughtful approach to compiling the statistics, recognizing that accuracy and visibility were key to a successful process. However, there are a couple of recommendations to improve the processes that are listed below for your consideration:

Action Item: Karen Nauer to get the detailed calculation methodology from Joe Venner to Becky Feigh to place on the website

Membership Due Increase: Sharon shared feedback on the membership dues increases and the lifetime membership program, as well as how members will receive the journal. Overall, the feedback has been positive.

Membership questions for NFT Futurity: The Board of Directors (BOD) discussed the need for more explicit rules and dates for nominations.

Action Item: Lynn Pettinato will follow up with Terry Bomer to verify the eligibility of the members and breeders.

Action Item: Karen Nauer will revise the rules to include specific dates to prevent similar issues in the future.

Membership List dated 10/9/24: Motion: To accept the pending members list dated 10/9/24 as presented. Motion made by Karen Nauer, seconded by Chris Fields. The motion carried unanimously.

Centralized Site for the NSS: Joe Venner explored Purina Farms as a possible central location. The only time Purina Farms is available is in July. However, due to the heat and travel restrictions, this will not be a viable option.

Motion to adjourn made by Vanessa Carmean. The meeting adjourned at 10:28 pm EST.

SECRETARY's CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America Board of Directors meeting held November 13, 2024.

Melissa Campbell
Recording Secretary
German Shorthaired Club of America

June 2025