

## ***Health & Welfare Committee***

### ***Responsibilities and Guidelines***

**Committee Number** – The Committee consists of seven to nine members all recruited by the Chair of the Committee. This is an ongoing committee and meets via conference call monthly or as needed.

**Current Chairperson (2019):** Karen Rooks Nauer, RN MBA [health@gspca.org](mailto:health@gspca.org)

**Current Assistant Chair (2019):** Shelley Schwerdt

### **Reporting:**

- The Board liaison is invited to the monthly calls and written reports are submitted to the Board.

### **Resources Required, not provided by the GSPCA:**

- Computer and printer
- Email and Internet access

### **Requirements for the Chairperson:**

- Member of the GSPCA in good standing
- At Least 15 years of experience of breeding GSPs or other sporting breeds for conformation and/or field events
- Conversant knowledge of veterinary medicine and canine genetics
- Ability to access experts in different health related topics
- Interact cooperatively with experts and GSPCA members
- Prepare written reports and articles for publication in the Journal
- Notify Board Liaison immediately if unable to fulfil the responsibilities of the position.

### **Responsibilities of All Committee Members:**

#### ***Providing research based information to the GSPCA Board of Directors and members in a factual manner.***

- Foster open communication about health-related issues.
- Participate in scheduled conference calls. Must attend at least six calls per year.
- All issues and discussion are confidential until the owner or breeder of the dog (s) give permission to the committee to disclose the information.
- Participate in Fund Raising Activities.
- Participate and support H & W activities at the NSS and NFT and other events as needed or available.
- A new issue requiring research will be done in a confidential manner with the appropriate resources.
- The Committee should be proactive in bringing new information on health issues to the GSPCA Board and membership.
- Any health issue is to be brought to the committee by the owner or the breeder of the affected dog for the committee to discuss and take action.
- Time is of the essence to resolve questions or provide resources for GSPCA members.
- Maintain communication with the AKC Canine Health Foundation, CHIC, CERF and other organization as needed. The committee will respond to annual surveys and post results on the GSPCA website.

- Review all health related articles to be published in the Journal to ensure accuracy and consistency of the information. The articles will also be placed on the GSPCA website in the Health & Welfare section.
- Obtain permission from authors for articles to be published in the Journal and on the website of interest for GSPCA members.
- The Committee will organize and schedule an annual health related activity at the NSS and/or NFT.
- Attend conferences and seminars on behalf of the GSPCA. All participation and expenses will need prior approval from the GSPCA Board before attending a conference to be paid for by the GSPCA. All receipts will be submitted to the GSPCA Treasurer for payment. A written report or summary of the conference or seminar will be submitted to the Health & Welfare Committee and the Board of Directors.
- All issues related to Code of Ethics violations should be referred to the appropriate Board member.
- Promptly notify the Chairperson if unable to fulfill committee responsibilities or if you want to discontinue your service on the committee.
- Give any records, files or to successor. All information should be kept in a confidential manner and not shared with anyone not on the committee. Please use caution in discussing health related topics on social media sites.
- Confidentiality is critical to the success and impact of the Committee with GSPCA members.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised 24 July 2019 – Karen Rooks Nauer