LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Committee Number and Makeup: Co-Chairs appointed by GSPCA Board

Remaining committee members selected by the Co-Chairs with input from the GSPCA Board and regional clubs, ideally one member per region

Committee Type: Ongoing

Committee Co-Chairs Term: 4 years each

Contact Person(s): Scott Roker

Reports to: GSPCA Board by written report

GSPCA Equipment: None

Supplies Needed:

- Computer and printer*
- E-mail and Internet access*

* Not paid for by GSPCA

Overview

Create awareness of legislative issues on the national, state and local level affecting the GSP, including owners' and breeders' rights and the sports in which they participate. The methods currently employed are the GSPCA Website, E-mail Blasts, the Legislation Facebook page and articles in the journal. The board encourages the Legislative Chairs to seek additional ways to communicate to GSP owners.

Seek out and share organizations like NAIA, US Sportsmen's Alliance, etc. to gain information on Legislative issues affecting our breed. The board would be glad to provide a reasonable budget and supports educational efforts such as fees and expenses to attend Legislative Conferences. The AKC and NAIA have them periodically. We do ask that budget and expenses are approved in advance.

Every Chair brings different experiences to the position and the board generally supports creativity and new ideas.

Skills Required for Committee Co-Chairs:

Interest in Canine Legislative issues with the capability to keep up to date on information from a variety of sources on a Federal, State and Local basis. Ability to prepare written reports/articles suitable for updating the GSPCA board and membership on related activities for publication in the *Shorthair Journal* and on website and in social media.

Responsibilities and Protocols: Legislative

1. Proactively research Legislation and related activities that could negatively affect the GSPCA membership and their ability to pursue the activities for which GSP's were bred. Additionally keep

aware of activities that may affect the ownership and breeding of pure bred dogs as well as dog ownership in general such as anti-hunting, anti-breeding or other anti-dog legislation.

2. Proactively provide information to the GSPCA membership and the Board regarding these activities through e-mail blasts, articles in the *Shorthair Journal*, the Legislative Facebook page or other social media, etc. The particular vehicle used should be chosen based on the time sensitivity and the audience affected (i.e. Federal legislation should go to all members; State and local issues only to those in the affected geographic area)
3. Respond in a timely manner to questions from the membership by answering personal letters, phone calls and/or e-mails from GSPCA members, or direct the member to a more appropriate source for assistance.
4. Attend conferences, seminars and webinars to increase knowledge. A written report or summary of a conference, seminar or legislator meeting should be submitted to the GSPCA Board and the *Shorthair Journal*. Participate in groups and organizations that specialize in issues related to dog related legislation with the purpose of sharing information gained with the GSPCA membership.
5. Any anticipated reimbursable expenses must be approved by the GSPCA Board in advance, and receipts will be requested.
6. The Committee will prepare a written summary of its activities, to be provided to the GSPCA Board of Directors in advance of their annual and midyear meetings. These will also be published in the *Shorthair Journal*.
7. The Committee will proactively seek articles relevant to Canine Legislation and suitable for the *Shorthair Journal*, gathering appropriate permissions before submitting. The Committee may also write articles or summaries of important legislation. The Committee will forward these articles to their GSPCA Board Liaison and the editor of the Journal. The Committee should plan to provide a minimum of four articles to the *Shorthair Journal* per year.
8. The Co-Chairs shall keep their GSPCA Board Liaison updated on an ongoing basis on their activities and contact them for any questions or concerns they may have.
9. Records including passwords, etc. should be maintained in a usable format that can easily be turned over to successors.
10. Co-chairs should promptly notify their GSPCA Board Liaison if they are unable to fulfill their responsibilities permanently or for an extended period of time. When a replacement has been appointed they should promptly turn over records and assist in the transition.