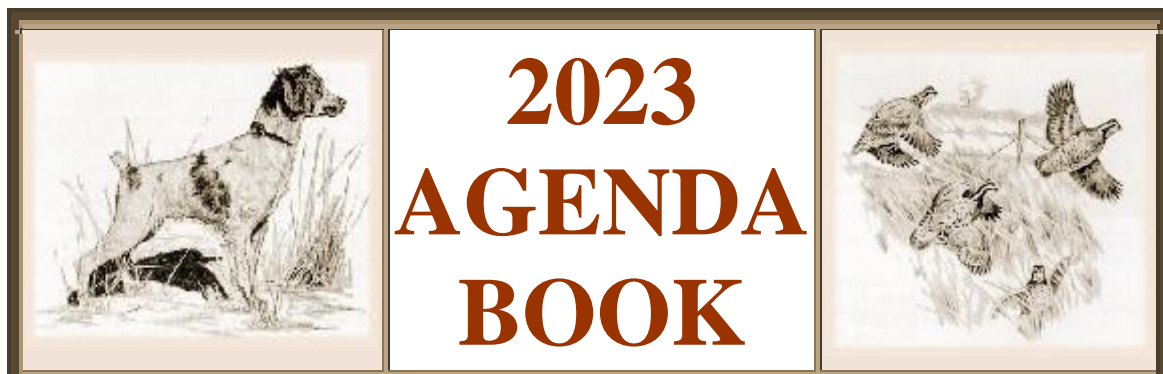




AMERICAN BRITTANY CLUB



AGENDA
2023 ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OF
THE AMERICAN BRITTANY CLUB, INC.
NOVEMBER 19, 2023
BOONEVILLE, ARKANSAS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page #

1. Call to Order	Dr. Robert Rankin	
2. Seating of the New Board Members.....	Dr. Robert Rankin	
3. Roll Call of Directors	Jennifer Brooke Burlingame	
4. Approval of 2022 Board of Director Meeting Minutes.....		5
5. Reports of Club Officers:		
A. President, Dr. Robert Rankin		NR
B. 1 st Vice President, Richard Beaver.....		10
C. 2 nd Vice President, Jacqui Campbell		10
D. 3 rd Vice President, Joy Crisler		11
E. 4 th Vice President, Mike Poehler.....		11
F. Ex Secretary, Jennifer Brooke Burlingame.....		12
G. Secretary, Jacqui Campbell.....		12
H. Treasurer, Gerilyn Sennott		12
I. Membership Data Chair Deb Rudert.....		15
J. Statistician Mary Karbiner.....		13
6. Reports from Committees and Others:		
A. Activities, TBA at each event.....		NR
B. Agenda, Jacqui Campbell.....		15
C. AKC Delegate, Terry Hilliard.....		19
D. AKC Gazette Reporter, David Weber.....		17
E. AKC Judges Education, Jessica Carlson.....		NR
F. AKC Legislative Liaison, Mary Jo Trimble		18
G. AKC Pointing Dog Advisory, Ray Trimble		NR
H. American Field Liaison, Ray Trimble.....		NR
I. Bird Dog Hall of Fame Liaison, Bob Rankin		NR
J. Book of the American Brittany – 90’s – 2000’s, Jessica Carlson		NR
K. Breed Referral, Pam Baird		NR
L. Breed Standards, Mary Brown and Christine Ward-Weber.....		NR
M. Classics, Joe Waitman		NR
N. Central Director Report.....		NR
O. Derby Invitational, Bob Rankin.....		19
P. Dog of the Year, Linda McCartney.....		NR
Q. Dual Dog Award, Nancy Clendenen.....		NR
R. Ethics, Jim Brigham		NR

S.	East Coast Directors Report.....	19
T.	East Central Directors Report.....	NR
U.	Facebook, Robin Tomasi	20
V.	Field Trial Dates, Steve Ralph	20
W.	Finance Committee, Chuck Lawrence.....	20
X.	Futurity, Leslee Masolotte.....	20
Y.	Hall of Fame (Dog), Bob Rankin	22
Z.	Hall of Fame (People), Bob Rankin.....	22
AA.	Health Aspects & Genetic Defects, Margaret Horstmeyer	NR
BB.	Insurance, Tom Milam	NR
CC.	Jr. Achievement Award, TBA.....,.....	NR
DD.	Jr. Showmanship TBA	NR
EE.	Legal Advisory, Sharon Wice.....	NR
FF.	Long Range Planning/ Future Grounds, Bob Rankin	22
GG.	Magazine Committee, Sandy Malloy	22
HH.	Membership Data Chair. Deb Rudert.....	15
II.	Membership Promotion Committee, Jacqui Campbell.....	13
JJ.	Midwest Directors Report, Leslee Masolotte	24
KK.	National (All Age) Field Trial Committee, Richard Beaver.....	NR
LL.	National (All Age) Field Trail Sec Report, Darlene Dow.....	NR
MM.	National (Gun Dog) Field Trial Committee, Mike Poehler.....	11
NN.	National Championship Grounds Liaison Richard Beaver.....	NR
OO.	National Show Committee, Joy Crisler.....	10
PP.	Nominating Committee, Bruce Heiter.....	NR
QQ.	Non-Field Performance Committee, Cindy Miller.....	37
RR.	Policy Book Committee, Ron Gulembo.....	NR
SS.	Pro Plan Liaison, Joe Gower.....	NR
TT.	Proposed Split – American Brittany and Breton, Helen Riggle.....	24
UU.	Registry of Merit, Karen Hanson	NR
VV.	Statistician, Mary Karbiner	13
WW.	Summer Specialty, Joy Crisler.....	10
XX.	Trophy (Field), Linda Thomas.....	NR
YY.	Versatile Dog, Karen Hanson	27
ZZ.	West Coast Directors Report.....	28
AAA.	Yearbook – Championship Program, Jessica Carlson	NR

7. Old Business

A. Motion & Vote - To Approve 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

8. Action Items32-38

9. Appendix A.....39

10. Courtesy of the Floor:

Members contribute to the success of a meeting when they:

1. Come to order at once when the President opens the meeting.
2. Give thoughtful attention throughout the business meeting and the program.
3. Rise to address the chair and wait to speak until recognized by the chair.
4. Sit down at once when someone else has been given the floor.

5. Rise to make a motion but remain seated in small assemblies when seconding the motion.
6. Write a long or involved motion and give to the assistant, when asked to do so.
7. Rise when a rising vote is requested and remain standing until the vote is taken.
8. Vote on every question.
9. Limit their remarks to their rightful share of the time of the meeting and do not infringe upon the right of others. The floor should be given to one who has not spoken on the question, in preference to one who has spoken, if there is any question as to precedence.
10. Rise to make reports, remain seated during the discussion of the report.
11. Refrain from conversation during the meeting.
12. The courtesy of the floor may be granted to one who is not a member when it is desired to have such one speak during a business session.

Table of Contents Comments:

Red Page Numbers Action Items or Action Items in Report

Blue Highlight Page Numbers Indicate a correction to Report or Action Item(s)

NR = No Report

ABC BOD MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 19, 2022

Kay-Rodgers Park Fairgrounds, Fort Smith, AR.

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Bob Rankin shortly after 8:00 AM, November 19, 2022.

Executive Secretary Mary Jo Trimble called roll. Directors present in the room were Karen Hanson, Darlene Dow, Vince Anderson, Joe Droel, Bret Ed Tillson, Leslie Masolotte, Mary Brown, Robin Tomasi, Jim Hammett: Present on video hookup were: Tom Bass, Ron Gulembo, Jim Stevens, Burton Wice, Bruce Heiter, and Brett Lindback. All Directors were in attendance and a quorum was achieved.

Motion 1: Motion to seat new members was made by Lindback and seconded by Hammett
Motion: I move to seat the new members elected in 2021. They include Leslie Masolotte, Jim Stevens, Bruce Heiter, for 3 year terms and Karen Hanson and Tom Bass to fill unexpired terms. All Yes, Motion Passed.

Pres. Rankin asked for a round of applause for Robin Tomasi for setting up the video equipment for the meeting.

Motion 278: Motion by Lindback, seconded by Hammett to approve the 2021 Board Meeting Minutes. All 15 yes, Motion Passed.

The BOD then moved through the list of Agenda Items and reports. If no one had questions or discussions, we moved on to the next one after any questions were recognized.

First discussed was by Secretary Trimble dealing with the new AKC Championship applications. She pointed out some of the problems with wording that AKC and ABC had encountered on the new forms. AKC has granted us 60 Championships. She asked the BOD if the BOD wanted to establish rules for who can apply for Championships if they were not already approved in the past. She also pointed out that if the American Field Championship Associations cannot run under a Regional Club, then they either have to run as an ABC sponsored event or an AKC Specialty Club. Currently only the New England Championship is the only Specialty Club. Specialty Club events and dates still have to be approved by the ABC and Regional ABC Dates Coordinators. Dogs will be qualified for the ABC Nationals and awarded AKC points for FC Titles. The BOD took no action.

Mary Karbiner, statistician, was in attendance and came to the microphone to present her report and answer questions. Mary was complimented by one of the Directors for the huge amount of work she puts into those stats and received an applause.

Sec. Trimble discussed National Animal Interest Alliance and Sportsmens' Alliance and how they help us with National legislation. Question was asked if ABC Foundation could donate. Finance Chair Judy Graves responded that was not feasible from the Foundation which has very little money at the present time.

Director Droel brought up the new AKC rules regarding Derby Stakes and was opposed to this. This was discussed as well as that Field Trial Secretaries are not responsible for dogs being entered correctly. AKC rules state that the Owner is responsible. Some felt if they act as agent that they are responsible even if the written rules say "owner". No action taken as this is an AKC rule no matter who promoted it.

Director Tomasi discussed her proposal regarding having a presence on Instagram. Director Hanson recognized two ladies Haley & Libby who came up with this proposal!. Motion# 3: Motion by Lindback, Seconded by Hanson I move that the Board move forward with a motion to approve the addition of an ABC Instagram page, change the name of the Facebook Committee to Social Media Committee, and to update the Facebook policy to add Instagram. Policy can be found on pages 28 - top of page 31 of the 2022 Agenda Book. Add highlighted content. All 15 Yes: Motion Passed. (Agenda book can be found on ABC website and in the ABC magazine.)

Finance Committee Chair Judy Graves presented and explained her Financial Report and Budget proposal. Discussion went on for a considerable length of time. Event Budgets will be sent out in March since National Events are just now happening. We do have money in reserve to cover any shortfalls we may have this year. Several suggestions were made by Directors to be added or changed in the budget Motion # 4: Motion by Tillson, Seconded by Hammett. I move to accept the budget with proposed changes.. 5 YES Votes (Bass, Wice, Lindback, Tillson, Hammett; 10 NO Votes (Hanson, Dow, Anderson, Gulembo, Stevens, Heiter, Masolotte, Brown, Tomasi) Motion Failed. President asked what changes would it take to pass the budget. Nothing was brought forth but maybe in executive session.

Finance Chair Graves also presented 3 names to be appointed to the Finance Committee. As this involved individuals and the Chairman, a decision was postponed to be discussed in Executive Session.

Nancy Clendenen asked that the BOD add the National Walking Open and Amateur Championships be added to the Dual Dog Points Award. She also asked that 3 points for any Champion just showing up be removed again as it was in the past. This part of the proposal was postponed till the summer meeting when Nancy will have a new schedule worked out to present to the BOD.

Motion# 5: Motion by Tomasi, Seconded by Brown. Motion: I move to add both National Open and Amateur Walking Gun Dog Sstakes be added to the Dual Championship Award schedule using the same point schedule as the horseback Gun Dog Stakes. (Schedule on page 27 of 2022 Agenda Book) All 15 yes votes. 0 No votes. Motion Passed.

Motion# 6: Motin by Dow, Seconded by Tomasi. National Open and Amateur walking gun dogs who placed will becounted on the point scale for the 2022 Dual Dog Award. 14 YES Votes, 1 NO Vote (Lindback)

During the Futurity Discussion, Statistician Mary Karbiner asked that she be notified of both show and field results by the secretary of each futurity.

Motion #7: Motion by Tomasi, Seconded by Droel: Motion: I move that in the Policy Book Futurity Secretary Duties #10 that the Field and Show results be sent to the ABC Statistician. Page 116 of policy book. All YES 15 Votes, 0 No Votes, Motion Passed.

Magazine Review Committee Chair Karen Hanson. She said her charge was to look at ways to make the magazine better. I am not charged with or trying to kill the magazine. She discussed results of a survey and other things she and her committee had looked at. This was a very lengthy presentation by the Chair. She will reach out to see if our website has the capability to have a members only section where current magazine could be posted rather than having a printed copy mailed. Chair Hanson said she would come back in February with some recommendations from her Committee. They would then be voted on at a summer meeting. The Executive Secretary was asked to reflect this in the minutes.

Discussion of Policy Book Housekeeping change. Current Policy Book Duties, Item 7, page 168.

Motion 8: This motion related to deleting all of item 7 and reporting to the BOD every change in the policy book. That Motion was withdrawn and replaced.

Motion: #9: Motion by Lindback, seconded by Wice. Motion: I move to delete current item 7 in its entirety and replace with: All changes including House Keeping changes to the ABC Policy Book except for spelling and numbering errors should be approved by the ABC Board of Directors. The approval can be made during a Board meeting or by email. (See page 25 of Agenda Book). 14 YES Votes and 1 NO Vote. (Gulembo).

Hammet questioned the policy of how to fill vacancies if a person not elected Page 25 Agenda Book Action Item# 2. does not have 33 1/3rd percent. Motion 9A by Hammett, Seconded by Wice that Directors from that region will nominate 2 candidates and a Regional election shall be held. Secretary Trimble quoted By-laws which state how vacancies can be filled. BOD shall appoint the replacement. Motion was withdrawn.

10 minute break.

New Directors elected by the membership were announced by President Rankin. East Coast Linda McCartney, East Central Vince Anderson, Central Burton Wice, Midwest Brett Lindback, and West Coast Helen Riggie.

Motion on 20 minute derbies qualifying for Invitational Derby: Motion by Hammett, Seconded by Tomasi. Motion: I move that for 2023 and all future years, the point calculation for the Derby Invitational shall include any horseback derby run for 20 minutes as follows. 1st-4 points x dogs run, 2nd 3 points x dogs run, 3rd 1 point x dogs run. The hour and 45 minute stakes are left the same. 12 YES Votes, 2 NO Votes (Wice and Lindback), 1 Not Voting (Bass). Motion Passed. Hammett went on to explain that the majority of AKC Derbies are 20 minutes in length.

Masolotte's Action items# 5, 6, 7 page 26 of Agenda Book can be handled without Motions. # 8 on the 5 minute rule needs to be clarified.

Motion# 11: Motion by Masolotte. Seconded by Dow. I move that the judging of the ABC Field Futurity Section of the ABC Policy Book, page 188 "The five minute out of judgment rule, and the judges are so advised: be clarified. Remove this highlighted line since AKC rules apply.) 15 YES votes, 0 NO votes. Motion Passed.

Motion dealing with DNA & Invitational Derby: Motion by Hammett. Seconded by Tomasi. Motion# 12: I move that all dogs entered in the ABC Derby Invitational must have an AKC DNA profile on record with the AKC. The DNA # must be included on the event form or if placing will submit to the field trial secretary within 6 weeks. 15 YES votes, 0 NO votes Motion Passed.

Secretary Trimble said this was not considered a National Championship nor are the Gamebird Classics or Regional AKC Championships. They are considered AKC stakes that all breeds must run under the same rules. The AKC Vice President can allow other provisions on the 6 (SIX) Parent Club National Championship Field Trials and the National Specialty Show which are considered NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS WHERE SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE.

{The BOD did not accept this for the Invitational Derby which is an hour AKC Derby Stake and passed the motion #12, but postponed any decision on the Classics and Regional Championships.}

Motion on Nat. Specialty Trophy. Motion by Tomasi. Seconded by Tillson. Motion# 13: I move that the BOD increase the amount allocated to the ABC Summer Specialty host club for Best of Breed from \$75 to \$150, and Best of Opposite from \$60 to \$120. All 15 YES Vote. 0 NO Votes. Motion Passed.

Motion #14 on ABC Primers: Motion by Dow. Seconded by Hanson. Motion: I move that we tell the Magazine to stop printing the ABC Primers and direct people to the website for a copy. All 15 YES votes, 0 NO Votes. Motion Passed.

Motion# 15 National Specialty Show: Motion by Tomasi. Seconded by Hanson. I move to add to the last line of the Show Fund Allocation paragraph on page 32 of the Agenda Book the following: In the event of a loss, an amount of 25% of the loss incurred will be deducted from the show projects fund. 11 YES votes, 4 NO votes (voting no: Droel, Lindback, Masolotte, Bass).

Motion# 16 Separation of the Breed. Motion by Hanson. Seconded by Anderson. Motion: I move to discuss a possible separation of the French and American Brittany. All 15 YES Votes, 0 NO votes. Motion passed.

A lengthy presentation and possible proposals by Director Droel and President Rankin was put forth to the Directors. They felt they needed more information that if we split would the French Clubs be ready to become a Parent Club meeting all the requirements by AKC. They would like

another Committee Appointed to look into this and present the information in 2023 BOD meeting.

Motion# 17. Breed Separation vote: Motion by Hammett, Seconded by Anderson. Motion: I move that ABC not recommend to AKC at this time to split the breed into American Brittany and Espanuel Breton 10 YES Votes, 5 NO Votes. (Hanson, Droel, Masolotte, Tomasi, Brown voting No)

Motion# 18: Motion on Laundry at Boonville Grounds: Motion by Tillson, Seconded by Droel. I move the ABC purchase a commercial coin operated washer and dryer for the laundry room at the Booneville property. Funds to come from the Special Grounds Fund not to exceed \$3,500. 14 YES Votes, 1 NO Vote. (Wice voting no)

Motion # 19: Position Statement on EB and American Brittany split: Motion by Hanson, Seconded by Tomasi. I move the ABC recognizes that the Epagneul Breton Breed and the Brittany are separate breeds in the United States and abroad, and we discourage cross- breeding amongst the two distinctly different breeds. 8 YES Votes, 7 NO Votes. (Bass, Dow, Anderson, Wice, Lindback, Tillson, Hammett voting No. Motion passed.

BOD then went into Executive Session. On return to the general meeting, the following was announced as passed in Executive Session.

Officers Elected: 1st Vice President: Richard Beaver; 3rd Vice President Joy Crisler; 4th Vice President Mike Poehler ; Recording Secretary Jacqui Campbell; Executive Secretary Jennifer Brooke Burlingame.

Appointed to the Finance Committee: Bruce Heiter, Mary Karbiner, and Brett Lindback. No announcement of any vote yes or no on the ABC Budget was announced.

No people were nominated in time for the People Hall of Fame. No Dogs put forth by the Committee were elected by the BOD for the Dog Hall of Fame.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Trimble,

Mary Jo Trimble, ABC Executive Secretary

2023 ABC 1st Vice President, Richard Beaver, See Action Item 3, page

Nothing to report at this time. Co-sponsored agenda item submitted with 4th Vice President, Mike Poehler.

2023 ABC 2nd Vice President, Jacqui Campbell See Action items 1&2, page 33

ABC membership has held steady this year compared to year's prior. The challenge this year continues to be getting members to re-engage with their regional clubs, some of which are still holding meetings online, some hybrid (in-person and online) and some are back to in-person, and see the benefits of being a member.

As of August 2022, we have 1,496 full and associate members in the American Brittany Club. This is flat from this time previous year (Aug 2022 vs. Aug 2021). Our membership breakdown by region is as follows:

Region	# of Members	% of Membership
East Coast	712	29%
East Central	335	23%
Central	416	29%
Midwest	317	22%
West Coast	504	34%
Members at Large	70	5%

Clubs at Risk

We continue to see many of our clubs at continued risk. This year, we have twenty-two (22) clubs across the regions that have less than 10 active members. Nineteen (19) of our clubs have between 10 – 25 members. Clubs are struggling to stay afloat due to dwindling numbers, unengaged members, and loss of ability to host events. Monthly reminder emails are being sent to re-engage expired or about to expire members and we do see increases in those re-engaging and renewing their memberships, so that is working. Regional clubs are also doing membership building activities on an individual basis which is also working to retain and increase their numbers. The new magazine format is also helping to attract new members and keeping others engaged that might have lapsed.

The focus for 2024 will be to continue to work with the at-risk clubs to help them gain members that are engaged with the activities the clubs host. Leveraging and highlighting those clubs that are growing membership will also help to provide new ideas to smaller clubs. I have been working with the Golden Bear BC and Sunland BC who have expressed interest and started the process to reinstate their clubs.

With continued efforts by regional club secretaries and directors, we can encourage and turn our membership around to make the needed gains to ensure the future health of the American Brittany Club.

Sincerely,

Jacqui Campbell, 2nd V.P.

ACTION ITEM 1: I request approval to reinstate the Golden Empire Brittany Club. The group working to get this restarted has a board, members who want to join and to support the club along with insurance to cover future club activities.

ACTION ITEM 2: I request approval to reinstate the Sunland Brittany Club. The group working to get this restarted has a board, members who want to join and to support the club. They will get their insurance in place once they are reinstated before holding any activities.

2023 ABC 3rd Vice President, Joy Crisler

The 2023 Summer Specialty was hosted by the Oregon Brittany Club & Diane Kroll reported it went well.

2023 National Specialty Show Committee is as follows:

Jacqui Campbell, Abbey Engler, Kassie Hamaker, Nancy Hewitt, Hailey Gould, Terry Hilliard, Sara Jacobs, Charles Lawrence, Karen Livingston, Cheryl Mika, Anthony Morabito, Nancy Morabito, Reva Pietzak, Helen Riggle, Elizabeth Smith, Peggy Snider, LeslieAnn Stalker, Doug Tighe, Colleen Walsh & Lili Wert

Nancy Hewitt & Sara Jacobs are our obedience & rally Chairs.

Apparel Chair – Reva Pietzak

Banquet Chair – Douglas Tighe

Chief Ring Steward – Dianne Kroll

Fund Raising – Reva Pietzak

Grounds – Chuck Lawrence & Anthony Morabito

Puppy Match – Elizabeth Smith

Welcome Bags – Cheryl Mika

Top 20 Chair – Jacqui Campbell

Trophy Chair - LeslieAnn Stalker

Ribbon Chair – Kassie Hamaker

This year we had a new challenge of finding a show secretary to handle our entries and premiums. The large superintendents had determined together that they were no longer doing breed National specialties unless in conjunction with an all-breed circuit. We were able to find Chris Allen, Run4Fun, who is our show secretary. We are having to purchase our own matting and gates as the show secretaries do not have any equipment. The large superintendents stopped allowing mats to be rented due to insurance issues. We had obedience equipment

donated to our club for use for the obedience trial.

Our additional events this year include the Pee Wee's, a welcome party for junior handlers, a Junior Handling clinic & Canine Good Citizen Test.

The 2024 Summer Specialty is going to be hosted by the Kentucky Brittany Club. Date is August 3, 2024. To be held in Canfield Ohio. Linda McCartney is arranging the committee.

Please find proposed budget and updated Top 20 guidelines in Appendix A.

Joy Crisler
3rd Vice President American Brittany Club

2023 ABC 4th Vice President, Mike Poehler See Action items 3, page 33

No report at this time. Motion for consideration to the Board of Directors by Mike Poehler, 4th VP & Richard Beaver, 1st VP.

ACTION ITEM 3: Due to raising costs of everything, including grounds fees, birds, lodging & travel, we propose increasing the per dog entry fee to \$225 starting in 2024 for all National Championship Field events.

2023 ABC Executive Secretary Report, Jennifer Brooke Burlingame See Action Item 4, page 33

This year has really been trial by fire for me. I must agree with Mary Jo, this is a thankless job. There is no way to make everyone happy. I am learning as I go, and I think that people need to understand that.

My first concern is that the email system needs to be used by those only. This means that when I send a BOD email it needs to be the BOD only. Not, only that but my email needs to come to me only. We need to know this system is secure.

Next, there has got to be a better and more efficient way to do the voting for the nominations. It is ridiculous to make 2000 envelopes by hand. To get all the printing done etc. At the cost of over \$1500.00 there must be a better option. I would like to see if there is a way to do online voting.

Also, all regional clubs need to have their own insurance and run under their own club. They must understand that insurance is required to run any event. This means not just field trails but shows, agility etc.

ACTION ITEM 5: I would like to find a way to make voting online for director positions.

2023 Elected Secretary Report, Jacqui Campbell

This year, I was fortunate to have a great handoff from Jan Kilpatrick and she provided me the needed medallions to support event chairman's needs for medallions. I have also been able to provide support to those interested in becoming members of the American Brittany Club and/or members of regional clubs, and directed them to the ABC website to complete their membership. I've also supported regional clubs looking to update their bylaws, and/or club guidelines.

2023 ABC Treasurer Report, Gerilyn A. Sennott

The financials are up to date with the cooperation of all chair members. The year end was completed and I am currently sending out quarterly reports to The President and The Board of Directors. These reports consist of a 4-year comparative Balance Sheets and Income Statements. The event detail is submitted with the December 31st reports.

I would like to welcome Chuck Lawrence as the Finance Chair. We have been working together to get all information and reports to the Finance Committee.

At this time, I have no action items.

Gerilyn Sennott
Treasurer

2023 ABC Statistician Report- Mary Karbiner

	2023	STATS	Mary Karbiner		BOD	2023	pg #1	
2022 stats								
BRITTANYS Per AKC	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Dual Ch	13	14	5	12	7	12	15	
Field Ch	49	41	29	37	28	51	43	
Amt Fld Ch	24 GAFC-3	32- GAFC-2	20 GAFC-14	21	25	25	18	
GFC	8	9	14				5	
GFC2							1	
GFC3							4	
GFC4							1	
GCH	42	57	63	60	24	59	54	
CH	146	151	180	166	57	135	137	
JH	161	143	127	118	89	123	110	
SH	27	19	35	21	24	29	17	
MH	4	16	15	10	8	18	16	
# dogs in comp., not # entered								
at Nat'l Spec Show	149	152	138	141	124	138	133	
DOGS Registered with AKC								
Litters # registered	1552	1655	1681	1528	1571	1827	1559	
Dogs # registered	4626	5043	4711	4585	5020	5448	4580	
AKC Ptg. Breed F.T's # of events	388	385	372	371	n/a	358	362	
Total # dogs entered	28,052	27,037	25340	24,972	18255	19391	23978	
FUTURITY Region & Starters- EAST	A-21 G18	A-5 G-24	A-5 G-21	A-5 G-6	A-5 G-6	A-4 G-18	A-2 G-4	A-4 G-29
CENTRAL	A-12 G-16	A-13 G-11	A-15 G-19	not held	A-9 G-17	A-12 G-13	A-11 G-15	A-13 G-24
WEST	A-2 G-21	A-14 G-28	A-5 G-8	not held	A-7 G-7	A-3 G-10	A-6 G-18	A-1 G-8
Fld Trl Event- Clubs active- #held	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
by Regional Clubs- East Coast-	s-17 f-6	s-16 f-7	s-15 f-9	s-18 f-8	s-6 F-7	s-11 f-12	s-13 f-3	s-3
Hsbck /Wlkg E. Central-	s-8 f-7	s-11 f-5	s-11 f-2	s-10 f-8	s-4 F-8	s-9 f-4	s-9 f-12	s-6
Central-	s-16 f-8	s-17 f-10	s-14 f-8	s-13 f-9	s-3 F-7	s-15 f-10	s-15 f-10	s-6
(no Classics) Midwest-	s-19 f-10	s-16 f-11	s-18 f-9	s-16 f-10	s-13 F-8	s-13 f-8	s-14 f-3	s-6
West Coast-	s-14 f-12	s-12 f-10	s-14 f-13	s-10 f-13	s-4 F-10	s-13 f-11	s-17 f-4	s-1
22 Stats Report Agenda Book	2023 BOD						pg #2	
Original Gambird Classics	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
# starters Pr. Chicken	39	50	54	not held	38	32	31	
Chukar	14	16	20	25	18	15	14	
Gun Dog	25	26	30	16	33	35	23	
Grouse/Wdck	17	13	14	13	8	10	13	
Pheasant	34	42	69	54	54	31	27	

Quail	36	51	54	52	48	38	35	
National All Age Open Start.	42	54	46	57	62	61	59	
Championship Amateur	44	39	45	46	44	43	43	
All Age Derby Invitational	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	
National Gun Dog Open-Start	48	37	54	47	57	53	54	
Championship Amateur	27	26	23	24	30	27	29	
Gun Dog Derby Invitational	10	9	8	x	x	x	x	
Nat'l Open walking GD CH					15	27	32	
Nat'l AMT walking GD CH					26	26	34	
HR STKS BY REGION	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
EAST COAST	3	4	5	s-5 f-0	S-2 F-2	S-3 F-0	s-0 f-3	
EAST CENTRAL	2	4	8	s-6 f-1	S-2 F-0	S-1 F-0	s-6 f-12	
CENTRAL	9	13	6	s-6 f-5	S-1 F-3	S-5 F-4	s-4 f-10	
MIDWEST	5	6	5	s-5 f-2	S-3 F-1	S-6 F-1	s-3 f-3	
WEST Coast	3	3	3	s-3 f-0	S-1 F-1	S-2 F-0	s-2 f-4	
ABC Classics/CH (code 7)					S-10 F-3	S-11 F-2		
TOTAL Hour Stks	22	30	27	s-25 f-8	S-19 F-10	S-28 F-7		
(not includ 6 Orig Classic/Nat'l stks)								
Total Events Spring/Fall							2021	2022
Field Trials- 5 Regions							S-68 F-49	sprg-64
Hunt Tests								19
Specialty Shows								14

2023 ABC Membership Data Chair Report, Deb Rudert

I have no report for agenda. All is fine with membership.

Thanks!

Deb Rudert ABC Membership Data

2023 Reports from Committees and Others:

2023 Agenda Chairman Report, Jacqui Campbell

I want to say Thank You to everyone who submitted their reports on time. This year, as noted in the past, I have received very few reports as shown in this agenda book from the different committees we have within the American Brittany Club. I reached out to the chairmen for each committee per the list on our website, and was surprised to learn that many of these names were not active in the committees they were listed as the committee chairman. I would recommend we get the committee listings updated with correct and/or active chairmen to help not only with the agenda book for the board meeting, but also for those that want to get in touch with a committee.

2023 AKC Delegate Report, Terry Hilliard

It has been my privilege to serve the ABC as the AKC Delegate for the past year. I have been able to attend all of the meetings in Newark and as of January have been elected and seated on the Field Trial/Hunt Test Committee. There are 2 sessions of meetings on Monday at the Delegate meeting and, as able, I attend the Field Trial/ Hunt Test Committee each AM and attend the Parent Club meeting in the afternoon, but at times those meetings conflict and I always to attend the Field Trial/ Hunt Test Committee each meeting. I also attend the Crop and Dock committee when they have a session and always attend the Government Relations meetings on Tuesday morning prior to the general assembly of Delegates.

The most important change that was made in the last year was in the Field Trial Rules for Derby dogs to run in Limited stakes.

In May of 2022 there was a proposed amendment to the Field Trial Rules and standard procedure for Pointing Breeds- Chapter 14, Section 2 and New Section 2A. The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds proposed by the Performance Events Department. This will be voted on in September 2022 meeting.

Chapter 14

Section 2 Regular Stakes that May Be Offered:

Limited Gun dog Stake (Open and/or Amateur) for dogs 6 mo. of age and over on the first advertised day of the field trial which have placed first, second, third or fourth in any Gun Dog Stake, or placement in an open Derby Stake as defined in Section 2A. A field trial giving club may give an Amateur Limited Gun Dog Stake in which places that qualify a dog have been acquired in Amateur Stakes only. The stake must be advertised as such in the premium list and any additional advertising that may be done.

Section 2A (NEW)

Derby Placements that qualify a dog to participate in a Limited Stake:

Dogs that place in a Derby stake are qualified to enter Limited stakes according to the following:

- # of starters
- 1-3- None
- 4-7- 1st place
- 8-12- 1st and 2nd place
- 13 or more- 1st-3rd place.

Amateur Walking Derby Stakes qualify a dog to enter Amateur Limited stakes only. Voted on by the BOD and Delegates in September, 2022.

The AKC has a very active government relations department and has representatives across the USA that is very aware of local, state and federal proposals that would affect breeders and kennels. They work with legislators to inform them of the proposal and they have been very

successful in combating PETA and USHS in shooting down many proposals that don't even make it to a vote by government agencies.

The government relations also work closely with the Food and Drug Administration to attempt to stop the import of foreign dogs for sale or rescue in the USA. They have also worked with the airline and hotel industry to only allow registered therapy or support dogs to fly in the cabin of airlines. They are a very important and active part of AKC that I'm not sure anyone knows that they are working to protect us and our dogs.

To stay updated on any AKC ruling or changes, as there are always Dog Show Rule changes, please go to AKC and access the Quarterly Secretary Report which will list any changes or please do not hesitate to contact me.

As always, thank you for allowing me to represent the ABC as the Delegate.

Terry Hilliard

2023 AKC Gazette Report, David Webb

During this past year there have been three articles written and submitted to the AKC Gazette for publication in the Brittany breed column, which appears quarterly each year. These pieces written for the Brittany breed column have been based on some 50 some years with Brittanys and the people who love the breed.

2023 articles written and published in the AKC Gazette for the Brittany

Breed Column are listed as follows:

- January -- It's a Dilemma
- April -- Field Trials and Clubs
- July -- Diamond in the Rough
- October -- Ghost

The first three articles have also been published in the American Brittany magazine. An additional article has been written ("Blind Eye") and accepted by the AKC Gazette editor for the January breed Brittany column issue of the magazine.

Each piece is sent usually three months in advance to Arliss Paddock, Senior Editor, AKC Gazette. Once again on many of the submissions, Ms. Paddock has had favorable comments about the articles.

Each article has been written with intent to provide readers with information about our breed. Appreciate the opportunity to represent ABC and to write the Brittany Breed Column, which appears quarterly in the AKC Gazette.

Submitted, Dave Webb

2023 AKC Legislative Liaison, and, Sportsmen's Alliance Liaison Report and National Animal Interest Liaison Report, Mary Jo Trimble

I have continued during the last year to work with both the Illinois Federation for Outdoor Resources and Illinois Federation of Dog Clubs and as well as representing Field Trial Clubs of Illinois on the BOD of these organizations. The Dog Federation is affiliated with AKC, and we work with them on legislation both in Illinois and across the country. This year the IFOR Lobbyist has worked with the Dog Federation and AKC on legislation as well which has been a big help to me. IFOR also works with the Sportsmen's Alliance on Federal legislation for dogs.

I plan to continue working with both groups as long as I can help and attend meetings in Springfield or by Zoom. Be looking for someone who can take over these jobs in the future as I have done it since the 1970s and would like to help someone learn the ropes.

I encourage the ABC BOD to continue to support both the Sportsmen's Alliance and the National Animal Interest Alliance who work for us on Federal Legislation.

I was asked by AKC this year to contact my US Representatives personally to get him to oppose the Puppy Protection Bill in Congress. He has agreed to oppose. I would ask that everyone do the same. It does not protect puppies but is a ONE SIZE FITS ALL BREEDER BILL like we have been fighting for years.

Clubs need to start paying attention to the AKC legislative site for updates on the bills in their states. If we don't, our sport, particularly field dog activities and hunting will become a thing of the past.

I would like to thank Judy Tighe for her diligence in notifying the East Coast of pending bad legislation. We need more than a few staying on top of things. Be sure and thank those people who do care about the sport and contribute their efforts to protect it.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Trimble

2023 Breed Standard, Judy Tighe

There are no issues that have come up in 2023 regarding Breed Standards. The Committee has no recommendations at this time.

2023 Derby Invitational Report, Bob Rankin

Last year the derby invitational was run under AKC rules for the first time and everything went well. For future events, we will continue to monitor how the events go.

2023 East Coast Director's Report, Linda McCartney, Director See Action Item 5,6, 7 & 8 pages 33-35

Agenda Item: Motion to require All ABC Championship and classic premiums to list the qualifications to enter the stake in the premium list. The entry form to have a line to list the qualifying placement on the form. This placement is to be on the same page that bears the owner and or agent's signature.

- This will help all secretaries in establishing all entrants are qualified and cut down on leg work of searching.
- Establishes accountability that the dog/s entered are indeed qualified and the qualifications for the stake/s are clearly explained prior to the event.
- These steps will alleviate situations that have been encountered in the past requiring committee hearings, resulting in conflict and dissension in the sport.

Agenda Item: Motion to establish the Brittany as a ramp optional breed in confirmation events. (See attached)

Action Item: Motion to disallow ANY conflicting events with ANY ABC NATIONAL event. We are cannibalizing our national events by allowing conflicting events to be held in conflict with our national events NFC NGDC NSS and ABCSS regional clubs events should not ever conflict these events. We need to preserve protect and promote national events.

- Field Trial Dates coordinator to block out those dates on the ABC calendar in all regions
- This motion is twofold as steps are needed for conformation events see motion 4

Action Item: Motion to establish a parent club approval process and calendar for specialty shows to alleviate conflicts on a regional and a national basis. We do this for our field trials and this process is badly needed for specialty shows.

- As an example, 4 specialty shows were held in direct conflict with the ABC Summer specialty this year alone. On a regional basis there are continually conflicting events held within the same region. This creates smaller events for all club's and strained relationships between the club's as both events are ultimately negatively impacted.

Respectfully submitted

Linda McCartney

2023 Field Trial Dates Committee Report, Steve Ralph

There were a few field trial date conflicts which occurred this year, which were resolved by the Regional Date Coordinators with the involved clubs.

Thanks to the work the Regional Date Coordinators Bruce Conover(E), Jack Alexander (EC), Burton Wice (c), Jim Crawford (MW), Larry Sandusky (W) do in coordinating their regional field trial dates and resolving conflicts in the best interest for their regional clubs and ABC. All Spring & Fall dates presented by Regional Date Coordinators were reviewed and approved for this year and the coming year schedule.

Larry Sandusky has asked that we start a search for a replacement for the West Coast Dates Coordinator within the next two years. He is willing to help train in the new coordinator as soon as one can be found.

2023 ABC Facebook Committee Report, Robin Tomasi, Chair

The ABC Facebook page has grown to over 8,000 followers and the addition of Instagram has been successful. Thank you to committee members for their hard work in helping to maintain the Facebook page and to Hailey Gould and Lilli Wert for tackling the Instagram page.

2023 ABC Finance Committee Report, Chuck Lawrence

Chuck Lawrence has agreed to be the Finance Chair for the committee. Chuck and Gerilyn have been working together to get all information and reports to the Finance Committee for their review.

At this time, no action items.

2023 ABC Futurity Committee Report, Leslee Masolotte, Chair See Action Item page 40

The three ABC regions had very successful Futurity events in 2023 with 95 nominated litters and 111 eligible dogs in 2023.

The Central Futurity hosted by the LaSalle Brittany Club was on April 6 and 7, 2023 near Thayer, Iowa.

The total expenses submitted were \$3,362.33 with their revenue as \$4,626.34 with net income \$1,264.34. Their settlement check was for \$2,906.79

The Pennsylvania Brittany Club hosted the Eastern Futurity on May 1 and 2, 2023 near Polk, Pennsylvania. The total expenses were \$3,416.48, their total revenue was \$4,803.58. Their settlement check was for \$2,148.24

The Washington Brittany Club hosted the Western Futurity on April 13 and 14, 2023 near Ritzville, Washington. The total expenses were \$2,716.35 and their revenue was \$2,361.66, their settlement check was for \$1,112.56

With the year 2024, there are 75 nominated litters. The Ft Worth Brittany Club is hosting the Central Futurity on January 17 and 18, 2024. The Saginaw, Michigan and Western Michigan

Brittany Clubs are cohosting the Eastern Futurity on April 4 and 5, 2024. The California, San Diego and Northern California Brittany Clubs were planned to cohost the Western Futurity on May 16 and 17, 2024 but the AKC Pointing Dog Championship is right before their event and they are concerned it will hurt attendance. The Washington Brittany Club will now host the Western Futurity on April 13 and 14, 2024.

In the 2023 futurity agenda items, is a request for an increase in the litter nomination fee from \$40 to \$50, commencing in 2024. The final forfeit fee raised from \$30 to \$40, commencing in 2024.

The Gun Dog and All age entry fee could go from \$60 to \$70 and the show fee from \$40 to \$50. With increases in the cost of birds, trophies/ ribbons, grounds fees and meals, this is warranted. These entry fee increases should be implemented for the 2024 running and published in the 2024 premiums.

The current standard of performance needs to reflect the change to ABC rules by removing the wording “placement without bird work on the course is permissible”, when the performance standard already says, “finding birds on the course should be a primary objective and when birds are located, the dog should point birds staunchly and with style”.

A national futurity runoff has been up for discussion by the futurity committee. There is a concern about host club participation and location of the renewed event. The trial grounds at Ionia, Michigan and Booneville, Arkansas and the show facility at Fort Smith were suggested as most favorable.

The reintroduction of the 2022/2024 nominated litters video was finally put back into our program full force. We are deeply grateful to Colleen Walsh for helping us to accomplish our goal. Colleen will be making the video available online through the ABC website and on Facebook. Host clubs can also show the video at their 2023 and 2024 events. The video will be featuring photos with the names of the sires and dams of each nominated litter along with the names of the grand sires and grand dams as well as the names of all the breeders of the nominated litters.

[See action items for the ABC Futurity Committee pg 40](#)

Respectfully submitted,

Leslee Masolotte, Chairman

2023 Hall of Fame (People) and (Dog), Robert Rankin

There were no submissions for the HOF for either a person or dog.

2023 Long Range Planning Committee Report, Robert Rankin

No new or additional long-range planning was conducted this year.

Respectfully submitted

Bob Rankin

2023 ABC Magazine Committee Report, Sandy Malloy, ABC Magazine Chair

I'm very excited to be submitting my first report to the ABC Board of Trustees as the Magazine Chair. We've assembled an enthusiastic initial Magazine Committee and received additional input and support from other ABC members from different backgrounds to get us started. Our first issue has just been mailed and when members receive it, they will see some changes already! We look forward to continuing to develop the look and feel of the magazine and include content even more rich and rewarding to read. We are very fortunate to have Bonnie Hill and Think Big Marketing as our new Editor to guide us and share ways that other breed clubs produce their magazines.

As we continue to determine the needs of the Magazine, our Committee Members will become more actively involved in the day-to-day business of producing the Magazine. I invite any other members who would like to participate in the Magazine Committee to reach out!

Our main areas of focus are the following:

PUBLICATION DATES

Our first goal is to get the ABC Magazine back on track so that members will receive each issue by the first of each month. To do this, we will establish a strict publication schedule with deadlines, and keep them. Because we are behind, this will not happen immediately; but we anticipate it to be corrected before the end of 2023.

CONTENT

The Committee is working to create a short term (through 2023) and long term (2024) content calendar so that each issue is planned out to include relevant and interesting content, national event schedules and results, and attract ad sales for each issue to offset costs.

ADVERTISING

We are working to attract and better document monthly advertising and will set targets for advertising as part of the budget process. This will require evaluating the ad costs and updating rates to match actual costs of producing the magazine, and defining what portion of the magazine should be allocated to ads. We will also consider establishing a "Club Rate" for Regional Club information versus regular advertising rates.

COLOR

Color printing costs are now very similar to black and white printing, so we will be evaluating proposals from vendors. In addition to being more appealing to readers, color printing will also attract more advertising revenue, helping to offset overall magazine costs.

REGIONAL EVENT RESULTS

This is the largest challenge facing the magazine – it is a problem that we have inherited, but one that all of ABC has been aware of for some time. Surveys of members clearly indicate that the membership wants magazine content to be more than Regional Event results, but ABC Policy and past practices maintain that Regional Club results (specifically Field Trial results) will be published in the magazine.

These two goals are incompatible in the current format of the magazine, given the page limit and budget constraints, and have been for some time. There are not enough pages in a monthly magazine of this size to contain all Regional Club results, and making the magazine larger to include them all is fiscally unreasonable.

As of the July issue, only 23 of the 80 Field Trials held in 2023 were published in the magazine and Fall trials have already begun. This means that we will not get all the 2023 results into the magazine before the end of the year, if at all. Even if we had enough time to collect and prepare all the results and allotted only 1 page per event – there are still not enough available pages with National Events and other content to include on already limited pages. And these are the pages the members themselves have responded that they want more of – not less.

It's time to seek alternatives. Some possible options:

- A separate publication apart from the Magazine, devoted only to Regional Club results (placements, possibly writeups and photos if budget would allow);
- An electronic publication with unlimited space devoted to Regional Club results such as a members-only area of the website or subscribed blog (placements, writeups & photos);
- A highly condensed format in the magazine each issue (placements, no photos);
- A special issue of the magazine devoted to only Regional Club results (possibly placements only, date of issue may be related to eligibility)

Regional Clubs need to provide their input on this topic. I am certain that there are other options that could work.

In the meantime, we will try to get as many into the magazine as can fit by the end of the year but acknowledge this is an unfortunate situation for clubs who have already paid for starter fees.

POLICY BOOK

~~Over the next two months, I will be working to update the Policy Book and propose new language to the Board during the November meeting.~~

BUDGET

I have been working closely with the Finance Committee Chair to identify, outline and project expenditures to develop a reasonable and accurate Magazine budget for 2024 in advance of the BOD Meeting in November. This process will also consider the fiscal impact of a monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly magazine.

SUMMARY

I am committed to finding solutions that will work for a majority of the membership but need to hear from members! If you have suggestions or feedback – please share it:

bcmagazinechair@gmail.com

2023 ABC Midwest Region Report, Leslee Masolotte, Director See Action Item page 41

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Several members have asked about host club insurance coverage. Are there any revisions with the change from American Field events to American Kennel Club events? Page 69 of the policy book briefly states “that insurance should be obtained. To receive permission for your trial, proof of insurance should accompany your Permission for Field Trial Form. Each club must carry \$500,000 liability insurance coverage (1988)”. Page 114 of the Policy Book states that “Sectional futurity host clubs must provide their own insurance. Page 161 of the policy book contains a similar statement of regional clubs required to carry \$500,000 liability insurance. Is that coverage adequate for today’s standard of events? Tom Milam no longer will be available to be chairman of the Insurance Committee. Tom has asked that a new person be appointed.

ACTION ITEM # 1 –ABC President should appoint a new insurance committee member to replace Tom Milam. Address concern if the amount of liability coverage is adequate at \$500,00.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – American Brittany Club Code of Ethics adopted November 30, 1996 item #9 states “Have tails and dew claws removed soon after birth”. The Brittany Standard states under the Forequarters/feet heading “dewclaws may be removed”. Recent Veterinary articles have expressed concern that removing dew claws can lead to activity related lameness. Whether we agree or disagree with the latest articles of research, the breeder should not be held unethical by not removing dew claws soon after birth as per item #9 in the ethical code. The Breed Standard Committee may want to address this item.

ACTION ITEM # 3 – Clarify the line in item #9 of the ethical code to recommend dew claws should be removed soon after birth, but not holding the breeder as unethical if the procedure is not done as per Veterinary recommendations.

Our Midwest Director Ed Tillson has decided not to seek reelection to the ABC Board of Directors. I would like to express our well wishes for Ed and to thank Ed for his years of service to ABC and the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted, Leslee Masolotte, Midwest Director

2023 Nominating Committee, Bruce Heiter

Director Candidates:

- East Coast Candidates – Doug Welsh, Philip Thayer Jr. & Ronald Harling Jr.
- East Central Candidates - Charles Lawrence & Ron Gulembo (incumbent)
- Central Candidates - Matt Weldele & Joe Droel (incumbent)
- Midwest Candidates – Dennis Sullivan & Shawn MaCleod
- West Coast Candidates – Steve Cosgriff & Robin Tomasi (incumbent)

Officer positions to be appointed by BOD:

- President – Joe Droel, Helen Riggle and Jan Kilpatrick
- 2nd VP – Jacqui Campbell
- Treasurer-

2023 Non-Field Performance Committee

Submitted by Cindy Miller

AKC Statistics published for 2022 indicates that Brittany owners love competing in non-field events with their dogs!!! Percentages stated are comparing number of titles earned in 2022 to 2021. These events include agility (+12%), obedience (0%), rally (+16%), dock-diving (+73%), trick dog (-92%), barn hunt (+150%), scent work (-24%), coursing (+71%) and Fast Cat (+2%).

The decrease in scent work could be due that these trials fill and have a waiting list. There is often a lottery system as to who actually gets into the trial.

Agility exhibitors continue to earn the most titles, with a total of 386 agility titles awarded in 2022. Two dogs were awarded the top agility title in 2022 – Agility Grand Champion.

Obedience had 41 titles awarded, including 5 Utility Dog titles and 2 Utility Dog Excellent; rally had 85 titles awarded, including three Rally Champions; 19 titles in dock diving; 66 titles in Trick dog; barn hunt had 4 titles awarded; Scent work had 155 new titles; coursing ability had 12 new titles and fast cat had 50 titles awarded, including 15 Brittanys obtaining the highest award offered in fast cat. Four Brittanys obtained the Farm Dog Certified title.

Six Brittanys passed the Temperament Test; 2 Brittanys earned their Therapy Dog title; and 101 Brittanys obtained a Canine Good Citizen title.

There are two clubs, Northern Virginia Brittany Club and Susquehanna Brittany Club, that have fund raising trials for the Nationals. Last year Susquehanna raised \$624 with the rally trials it held and Northern Virginia had an agility trial that netted \$896.

The owners of these companion/non-field performance Brittanys want to thank the American Brittany Club for their support in promoting all events. We also appreciate that the September 2023 ABC magazine highlighted their accomplishments.

I have enjoyed my time serving the American Brittany Club in this capacity, but I am willing to step down if someone new would like to be named to this position and continue to support all of the Brittany non-field performance exhibitors and their best friends.

The Proposed Split between the American Brittany and Breton, Helen Riggle, West Coast Director See Action Item 9, page 35

a) This proposed split has been sitting in limbo with the ABC since 2018 when I first submitted it. There are some hoops that need to be jumped through in order to free the Breton from the clutches of the ABC.

b) It is not on the CEB to ask for breed sanctioning from AKC in as much as the breed is recognized by ALL FCI nations as its own breed. The UKC follows the FCI sanctioning and already recognizes the Breton as a separate breed.

c)The actual protocol that needs to happen is for the ABC to decide if it wants to petition the FCI for breed sanctioning of the AMERICAN Brittany and not the other way around. Currently our American dogs are not competitive nor are they encouraged to participate in International FCI show events because they LACK MERIT when evaluated against the standard for the Breton (Brittany) as written in the FCI breed standard. It is clear the the American Brittany has evolved far enough away from this original standard to merit the request to be considered a separate breed in these modern times.

d) This type of decision MUST be made by ABC MEMBERSHIP vote and is not up to the BOD's sole decision-making process.

Agenda Item: I propose that the ABC BOD vote to put this AB/EB split decision to rest once and for all, by instead, voting to ask the ABC MEMBERSHIP for their voting approval in putting an application in to FCI to be awarded separate Breed status within its organization for the American Brittany.

The vote can take place with the mailing of the ballots for 2024 Regional Director Vote mailing and in the year between Nov 2023 and Nov of 2024 the CEB USA, USA based Breton breeders, and FCI sanctioned international breeders in good standing can come together for public education on the modern differences between the two breeds. We can publish ongoing articles in the magazine, hold webinars in conjunction with CEB USA and CEB-France and put on a HANDS-on breed clinic in breed type at the Summer Specialty in Ohio in Aug of 2024, where we will seek to educate the public as well as prospective and long standing AKC judges.

Respectfully Submitted, Helen Riggle, Western Region Director

2023 Versatile Dog Committee Report, Karen Hanson

Jacqui Campbell will be taking over the Versatile Dog program as of July, 2023.

2023 Website Committee Report, Steve Ralph

As always, we continue to offer up-to-date schedule of events, downloadable forms, historical data and much more on the ABC website as well as offering downloadable regional club premiums.

More of the “older” American Brittany magazines have been added to the on-line archives, and we will continue to add more in the coming years. A search option has been added to the website, so members can search data within the old magazines or website.

2023 West Coast Director’s Report, Robin Tomasi **See Action Item 10,11, 12, &13 page 35-37**

Agenda Item: Motion to Revise the Qualifications for National AA Championships (OAA & AAA)

Issue: The retirement of the primary Brittany pro on the West Coast has made it problematic for West Coast dogs to qualify for the National All Age Championships.

Background: Historically, West Coast dogs have been important contributors to the All-Age Brittany and associated progeny. National Champions originating within the region within the last 20 years include: Spanish Corral’s Sundance Kid, Shady’s Tia Maria, Maxwell’s Blew By You II, Blew Me Away, Spanish Corral’s Sonny Patch, MTB Cabo Rita De Scipio, and Wild Willie.

Problem: Until last year, Paul Doiron trained and campaigned a significant number of all age dogs. He retired and no pro has replaced Paul, and none are likely to. Since then, it has been difficult to get 13 dogs entered in regional all age stakes even when opening all age stakes to all breeds. Yet, many competitive all age Brittanys remain in the region.

In addition, the West Coast is a very large geographic region, with most all age dogs originating in California, Oregon, and Washington. This makes it difficult and expensive to travel out of the region to compete elsewhere. Making the situation even worse, some all age dogs in Arizona, Montana, and Utah have been traveling to Midwest trials to compete, knowing that it will be unlikely that West Coast regional trials will have 13 dogs in an all age stake. If these owners knew they could qualify within the region it would be less likely they would go elsewhere, hence boosting the number of AA dogs competing on the circuit within the region.

Data: For calendar year 2023, entries in West Coast all age stakes and the number of dogs qualified were as follows:

West Coast Trials - AA Stakes -- CY 2023

Club	Number of Starters		Number Qualified (West Coast Dogs)		Names	
	OAA	AAA	OAA	AAA	OAA	AAA
Spring						
Sahuaro	8	0				
Greater Phoenix	0	0				
California	0	0				
N. California	0	0				
Oregon	13	13	(wiem)	(setter)		
Whid Isle	9	7				
Washington	14	0	1	1	Bo	Bo Chance &
Idaho	19	15	1	2	Sage	Sage
ABC Chukar Classic	13		1	1	Doc	Doc
Wasatch Front	15	19	(GSP)	(GSP)		
Montana	0	0				
Washington (w)	0	0				
Oregon (w)	0	0				
Fall						
Montana	23	18	B* 1	1 (GSP)	Mick	Mick
Sahauro	0	0				
Oregon	5	8				
Washington	0	4				
Washington	9	5				
Idaho	9	5				
California	0	0				
		Total =	4	5		

Enhancing the ability for West Coast Dogs to be eligible for Nationals would expand the national pool of competitive dogs, increase the incentive to breed, purchase, and own all age dogs on the West Coast, and preserve more genetic lines of all age Brittany's that are so important to our breed.

Agenda Item: "For 2024 and all future years, the qualifications for dogs entering the National Brittany All Age Championship shall include:

For the National Open AA Championship – Any Brittany six (6) months of age or over which during the period from previous year's close of entries and the close of entries for the stake in the current year that has placed first in any Open All Age or Limited All Age Stake held by a Brittany Club.

For the National Amateur AA Championship – Any Brittany six (6) months of age or over which during the period from previous year's close of entries and the close of entries for the stake in the current year has placed first in any Amateur All Age or Amateur Limited All Age stake held by a Brittany Club or placed in any All Age or Limited All Age Stake held by a Brittany Club, when handled by an amateur. "

2023 ACTION ITEM LIST-Listed in order received			
Action Item	Subject	Originator	Page
1	Reinstatement of the Golden Bear Brittany Club	Jacqui Campbell	33
2	Reinstatement of the Sunland Brittany Club	Jacqui Campbell	33
3	increasing entry fee for all National Championship Field events in 2024	Mike Poehler, Richard Beaver	33
4	Online voting for election of directors	Jennifer Brooke Burlingame	33
5	Premium list to include qualifications to enter national Championship events and classics	Linda McCartney	33
6	Brittany as a ramp optional breed in confirmation	Linda McCartney	34
7	Disallow any conflicting event(s) with any ABC national	Linda McCartney	34
8	Establish a parent club approval process and calendar for specialty shows to avoid conflicts	Linda McCartney	35
9	ABC Membership Vote on AB/EB split	Helen Riggle	35
10	Revise qualifications for dogs entering the National Brittany All Age Championship	Robin Tomasi	35
11	Update DNA requirements for National Events in Policy Book	Robin Tomasi	35
12	Review and approve all current compensations/stipends/contracted positions for 2024	Robin Tomasi	37
13	Reimburse the 3rd VP for travel and lodging	Robin Tomasi	37
14	Update of language regarding finding birds during the Futurity field events.	Leslee Masolotte	40
15	Fee increases for litter nomination	Leslee Masolotte	40
16	Futurity Event Entry Fee Increase Proposal	Leslee Masolotte	41
17	New Insurance Committee Member	Leslee Masolotte	41
18	Ethical Code Revision	Leslee Masolotte	42

Action Items by Jacqui Campbell, 2nd V.P.

Action Item 1 Approval to Reinstate Golden Bear Brittany Club

Proposed Motion: Request the Board of Directors to approve the reinstatement of the Golden Bear Brittany Club. The group leading this request has been working to get a board in place, members who want to join, and to support the club along with insurance to cover future club activities.

Rationale: Reactivation allows local to the area Brittany owners to have another option for joining a local club that can host members activities, expand the awareness of both the regional clubs, and the American Brittany Club.

Proposed Motion: Request the Board of Directors to approve the reinstatement of the Sunland Brittany Club. The group leading this request has been working to get a board in place, members who want to join, and to support the club along with getting quotes for an insurance policy to cover future club activities once reinstated.

Rationale: Reactivation allows local to the area Brittany owners to have another option for joining a local club that can host members activities, expand the awareness of both the regional clubs, and the American Brittany Club.

Action Item 3 Mike Poehler, 4th V.P and Richard Beaver, 1st V.P.

Proposed Motion: Due to raising costs of everything, including grounds fees, birds, lodging & travel, we propose increasing the per dog entry fee to \$225 starting in 2024 for all National Championship Field events.

Rationale: Entry fees need to cover the costs associated with the events.

Action Item 4 Jennifer “Brooke” Burlingame, Executive Secretary

Proposed Motion: I would like to find a way to make voting online for director positions.

Rationale: There has to be a better and more efficient way to do the voting for the nominations. It is ridiculous to make 2000 envelopes by hand. To get all the printing done etc. At the cost of over \$1500.00 there must be a better option. I would like to see if there is a way to do online voting.

Action Items from Linda McCartney, East Coast Director

Proposed Motion: Motion to require All ABC Championship and classic premiums to list the qualifications to enter the stake in the premium list. The entry form to have a line to list the qualifying placement on the form. This placement is to be on the same page that bears the owner and or agent’s signature.

Rationale: This will help all secretaries in establishing all entrants are qualified and cut down on leg work of searching., Establishes accountability that the dog/s entered are indeed qualified and the qualifications for the stake/s are clearly explained prior to the event. These steps will

alleviate situations that have been encountered in the past requiring committee hearings, resulting in conflict and dissension in the sport.

Proposed Motion: Motion to establish the Brittany as a ramp optional breed in confirmation events.

Rationale: There has been ongoing discussion among Brittany exhibitors for some years about adding the Brittany to the ramp-optional breeds list with AKC.

Over the last 10 years or so, more and more breeds (in all groups) in the 17-21” height range have added the ramp option. The commonly cited reason is that this height range is a physical strain on the aging

base of exhibitors and judges both, but there are other reasons that the ramp option is favorable. Use of a ramp can give judges a better view of body proportions, length of leg, quality of pasterns and feet, as well as head and expression. Use of a ramp can also be an advantage in outdoor rings with high grass or rough ground.

Ramp-optional is simply that – the breed can be examined on the ground or on the ramp. Technically this choice is at the judges’ discretion; in practice, most judges defer to the exhibitors’ preference.

Exhibitors have their own choice to stack the dog on the ground or on the ramp. Breed exams for judges always include the question as to whether the breed may be examined on table, ramp or ground. The judge’s books also include this information, e.g. English Springer Spaniel (Ground or Ramp.)

Superintendents and show secretaries are not required to provide a ramp for ramp-optional breed judging; in practice, most try to have a ramp available. In the group ring, a ramp will be always be available and here it is the exhibitor’s choice to stack their dog on the ramp or the ground. In Junior

Showmanship, a ramp is virtually always available and again using it is the exhibitors choice. Ramp designs do vary among the superintendents; AKC provides only ‘guidance’ for the size and height of ramps or exam tables.

In the sporting group, only the Clumber and Sussex Spaniels are ramp-required. Ramp-optional breeds are the American Water, Boykin, Field, Welsh and English Springer Spaniels, the Lagotto Romagnolo, and the Novia Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever. Brittanys are the only sporting breed under 22 inches that is currently examined only on the ground.

Proposed Motion: Motion to disallow ANY conflicting events with ANY ABC NATIONAL event. We are cannibalizing our national events by allowing conflicting events to be held in conflict with our national events NFC NGDC NSS and ABCSS regional clubs’ events should not ever conflict these events.

Rationale: We need to preserve protect and promote national events. Field Trial Dates coordinator to block out those dates on the ABC calendar in all regions. This motion is twofold as steps are needed for conformation events see motion 8.

Proposed Motion: Motion to establish a parent club approval process and calendar for specialty shows to alleviate conflicts on a regional and a national basis. We do this for our field trials and this process is badly needed for specialty shows.

Rationale: As an example, 4 specialty shows were held in direct conflict with the ABC Summer specialty this year alone. On a regional basis there are continually conflicting events held within the same region. This creates smaller events for all club's and strained relationships between the clubs as both events are ultimately negatively impacted.

Action Item 9 Helen Riggle, West Coast Director

Proposed Motion: I propose that the ABC BOD vote to put this AB/EB split decision to rest once and for all, by instead, voting to ask the ABC MEMBERSHIP for their voting approval in putting an application in to FCI to be awarded separate Breed status within its organization for the American Brittany.

Rationale: This type of decision MUST be made by ABC MEMBERSHIP vote and is not up to the BOD's sole decision-making process.

Action Items from Robin Tomasi, West Coast Director

Proposed Motion: "For 2024 and all future years, the qualifications for dogs entering the ABC National Brittany All Age Championship event shall include:

- **For the ABC National Open AA Championship** – Any Brittany six (6) months of age or over which during the period from previous year's close of entries and the close of entries for the stake in the current year that has placed first in any Open All Age or Limited All Age Stake held by a Brittany Club.
- **For the ABC National Amateur AA Championship** – Any Brittany six (6) months of age or over which during the period from previous year's close of entries and the close of entries for the stake in the current year has placed first in any Amateur All Age or Amateur Limited All Age stake held by a Brittany Club or placed in any All Age or Limited All Age Stake held by a Brittany Club, when handled by an amateur. "

Rationale: Until last year, Paul Doiron trained and campaigned a significant number of all age dogs. He retired and no pro has replaced Paul, and none are likely to. Since then, it has been difficult to get 13 dogs entered in regional all age stakes even when opening all age stakes to all breeds. Yet, many competitive all age Brittanys remain in the region.

Proposed Motion: Update DNA requirements for all ABC National Field and Show Events in the Policy Book:

3rd VP Duties Page 38

Current

16. All dogs entered in the **ABC National Specialty Show** (with the exception of dogs registered with an ILP/PAL number and dogs under the age of 2 years at the start of the event) must have a DNA profile, either permanent or temporary, on record with the AKC or Field Dog Stud Book. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms.

Change to:

All dogs entered in the ABC National Specialty Show (with the exception of dogs registered with an ILP/PAL number and dogs under the age of 2 years at the start of the event) must have a DNA profile on record with the AKC. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms.

Qualifications for the National All Age Championship

The National Amateur All Age Championship Page 81

Current:

8. All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile, either permanent or temporary, on record with the AKC or the DNA number must be included on all entry forms. All placed dogs shall be required to have DNA on file.

Change to:

All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile on record with the AKC. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms.

The National (Open All Age) Championship Page 82:

Current:

6. All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile, either permanent or temporary, on record with the AKC. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms. All placed dogs shall be required to have DNA on file.

Change to:

All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile on record with the AKC. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms.

National Gun Dog Championship Qualifications Page 83:

Current

8. All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile, either permanent or temporary, on record with the AKC. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms. All placed dogs shall be required to have DNA on file.

Change to:

All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile on record with the AKC. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms.

National Amateur Gun Dog Championship Qualifications Page 84:

Current

6. All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile, either permanent or temporary, on record with the AKC. DNA number must be included on all entry forms. All placed dogs shall be required to have DNA on file.

Change to:

All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile on record with the AKC. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms.

American Derby Invitational Page 87:

Current:

2. All dogs entered in the ABC Derby Invitational must have a AKC DNA profile on record with the AKC. The DNA # must be included on the event form or if placing will submit to the Field Trial Secretary within six (6) weeks.

Change to:

All dogs entered in the ABC Derby Invitational must have a DNA profile on record with the AKC. The DNA number must be included on all entry forms.

Proposed Motion: Review and approve all current compensations/stipends/contracted positions (Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Statistician, Webmaster, Dates Coordinators, Editor) for 2024-2025.

Proposed Motion: Reimburse the 3rd VP for travel and lodging expenses up to \$1000 to attend the National Specialty Show in the event their dog is not competing in the event.

Proposed Motion: Helen Riggle, West Coast Director

1) In light of the move made by AKC to no longer dual sanction the combination of FDSB/American Field & AKC Field events, updating the **ABC DNA requirements for all events** to align with the old standing FDSB DNA requirements is necessary.

Currently this FDSB DNA requirement states:

The Field Trial Stud Book informed of the determination that all dogs winning a Championship Placement Open or Amateur (Winner or Runner Up) shall be required to have DNA on file with the FDSB. That requirement has now been extended to all dogs winning Open stakes earning points toward the Top Shooting Dog and All Age Dog of the Year awards.

Also within the DNA rules for FDSB : DNA test is required for: Semen Collection

All Pointing dogs that win Championship Placements in Open an Amateur stakes, and all Llewellyn Setters.

Proposed Changes to the ABC DNA Policy:

Since ABC is an AKC sanctioned Parent Club, the wording on our DNA policy needs to be cleaned up and changed from its current wording:

"All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have a DNA profile, either permanent or temporary, on record with the AKC or the DNA number must be included on all entry forms. All placed dogs shall be required to have DNA on file."

TO:

All dogs entered in the ABC National Championships must have an AKC DNA profile on record with the AKC and/or the AKC issued DNA number must be included on all entry forms. All placed dogs shall be required to have DNA on file."

Additionally, expanding the ABC DNA requirements should be done to include:

- a) ALL Regional and Wild Bird Classics & Championship events,
- b) All dogs placing in Open and Amateur LIMITED and Grand Limited stakes,
- c) as well as all Sires and Dams of Futurity Nominated litters

Rationale: This is housekeeping and in line with the long-standing DNA rules of the FDSB, which has been place for years. This helps to keep the playing field the same across all field trial venues as well as their sanctioning organizations.

Proposed Motion: Leslee Masolotte, Futurity Chair

Proposed Motion: That this sentence regarding placement without bird work be deleted or rewritten as it was left from the former American Field guidelines. The sentence would be "Finding birds on the course is the primary objective". A call back to point birds after the running can be at the Judge's discretion.

Rationale: Policy Book Page 117 and 118 Standards of Performance For the ABC Futurities/The judging of the ABC Field Futurity "Finding birds on the course should be a primary objective, however as these field events are conducted under rules of the ABC Futurity, a placement without bird work on the course is permissible." This contradicts the next wording in standard of performance which already states that "when birds are located, the dog should point birds staunchly and with style."

Proposed Motion: The litter nomination and final forfeit fee be raised from \$40 to \$50 or more to commence in 2024. The final forfeit fee be increased from \$30 to \$40, commencing in 2024.

Rationale: Policy Book Page 112 – Litter Nomination and Final Forfeit ABC Litter Nomination Form. The Futurity fees have not been raised for several years in spite of an increase in fees for birds, meals, trophy/ribbons, ground fees etc.

Proposed Motion: Futurity Event Entry Proposal - the event entry fees be increased – Gun Dog and All Age from \$60 to \$70 or more. The show entry fee be increased from \$40 to \$50 or more to commence with the 2024 running as printed in the 2024 event premiums. Update fees in Policy Book Page 113 of policy book

Proposed Motion: The Futurity gun dog field run-off to be at the Walking Gun Dog Championship at Ionia, Michigan. The Futurity All Age Run-off to be at the National All Age Championship to be at Booneville, Arkansas. The Futurity Show Run-off to be during the NSS at Fort Smith, Arkansas.

The four money futurity field placements for the Gun Dog and All Age Eastern, Central and Western sections would qualify. A dog that ran in a futurity section but did not place can qualify with two AKC derby firsts or an AKC adult placement with 13 or more starters would be eligible for the field run-off.

For the show run-off, the six money winners, Best in Futurity Show and Best of Opposite in Futurity Show plus the Dual Dog winner would be eligible. Or, any dog that showed in a sectional show, and did not place but received a 3-point major or better in an AKC show is eligible.

Rationale: The first year of the Futurity run-off was 1986 and last year of run-off was 2002) History of the Futurity Run-Off on www.theamericanbrittanyclub.org

Proposed Motion: Leslee Masolotte, Midwest Director

Proposed Motion: –ABC President should appoint a new insurance committee member to replace Tom Milam. Address concern if the amount of liability coverage is adequate at \$500,00.

Rationale: Several members have asked about host club insurance coverage. Are there any revisions with the change from American Field events to American Kennel Club events? Page 69 of the policy book briefly states “that insurance should be obtained. To receive permission for your trial, proof of insurance should accompany your Permission for Field Trial Form. Each club must carry \$500,000 liability insurance coverage (1988)”. Page 114 of the Policy Book states that “Sectional futurity host clubs must provide their own insurance. Page 161 of the policy book contains a similar statement of regional clubs required to carry \$500,000 liability insurance. Is that coverage adequate for today’s standard of events? Tom Milam no longer will be available to be chairman of the Insurance Committee. Tom has asked that a new person be appointed.

Proposed Motion: Clarify the line in item #9 of the ethical code to recommend dew claws should be removed soon after birth, but not holding the breeder as unethical if the procedure is not done as per Veterinary recommendations.

Rationale: American Brittany Club Code of Ethics adopted November 30, 1996 item #9 states “Have tails and dew claws removed soon after birth”. The Brittany Standard states under the Forequarters/feet heading “dewclaws may be removed”. Recent Veterinary articles have expressed concern that removing dew claws can lead to activity related lameness. Whether we agree or disagree with the latest articles of research, the breeder should not be held unethical by not removing dew claws soon after birth as per item #9 in the ethical code. The Breed Standard Committee may want to address this item.

Appendix A

2023 ABC National Specialty Budget					
Income:					
	Based on 2022 entry				\$ 8,245.00
Entries Sweeps and Breed					\$ 950.00
Obedience/Rally - Entries					\$ 1,137.00
Obedience/Rally - Raffle					\$ 3,600.00
On-Line Raffle - 2022 number					\$ 5,300.00
Show Sight Raffle - Silent Raffle					\$200.00
50/50 raffle (net half pay out)					\$ 4,200.00
Banquet based on 120 people					\$ 185.00
Puppy Match entries					\$ 1,100.00
Grooming Space					\$ 4,750.00
Trophy Donations					\$ 1,000.00
Texas Coastal Donation from 2022					\$ -
25% OF NSS LOSS OF \$110821.11 JOURNAL ENTRY ???					\$ 1,000.00
Corporate Sponsor Based on 2022 totals (2021 and 2020 was \$3000)					\$ 31,667.00
Total Income					0
Expenses:					
Facility - Estimated (\$1,000 DEPOSIT PAID 2022 TO BE CONFIRMED)					\$ 10,000.00
Judges - Breed 2022 totals (Fees, Expenses and Gifts of \$866)					\$ 2,682.00
Judges - Obedience 2022 totals					\$ 892.00
Ribbons (\$5400-\$1974) Quote received					\$ 3,426.00
Superintendent Fees \$100 base fee plus \$2.75/entry(2022- 281 entries)					\$ 873.00

Sweeps Purse based on 70 entries 65% payout					\$ 1,137.50
Ring Equipment - Open item/buy/rent					
AKC FEES					\$ 600.00
Bank Fees/Postage ESTIMATE					\$ 250.00
					\$ 3,000.00
Top 20 Banquet costs					
Raffle Supplies					\$350
					\$ 2,000.00
Miscellaneous Expenses					
Storage					\$ 480.00
					\$ 4,000.00
Trophys - estimate					
Top 20 Banquet costs RSVP linen, wares, equip rent					\$ 1,212.00
Hospitality Bags					\$ 750.00
					\$ 31,652.5
Total Expenses					0
2023 PROJECTED Budget Gain (loss)					\$ 14.50
Possible Grants: Fort Smith and Good Dog					
NEEDED INFO					
QUOTE RECEIVED					