

# Bracco Italiano Club of America General Membership Meeting

**DATE: January 20<sup>th</sup> (Monday)**

**7:30 Eastern Time**

**Attendees:** Jennifer Caban, April Burchfield, Lisa Montgomery, Amanda Inman, Lisa Moller, Kathy Inman, Gary Lewis, Courtney Bastian, Jessie Freese, John Kavalier, Lance Olson, Claire Philpott, Bobbi Benson, Jack Hague, Marilyn Vinson

Meeting called to order 7:32pm EST

## Items for discussion/review:

**Welcome from President** and introduce who the new/changes in Board Members are

*Amanda Inman- New President welcomed all to meeting and introduced herself from Florida as New President, Gary Lewis from Indiana as VP, and Courtney Bastian from MT as new Board of Director*

## 2020 National Specialty-

Premium has been released and posted online and FB. If anyone has any questions feel free to email Jennifer, no questions posed on the call

- *We need to already be thinking about the 2021 specialty. Any suggestions can be emailed to Katherine Inman at [keysparrot@aol.com](mailto:keysparrot@aol.com) (location, events etc.)- would like to form a planning committee*

## Formation and Expansion of Committees

If anyone is interested in helping on a committee, please email Jennifer or the whole board *After the call a survey will be sent to all members to get interest in serving on committees to help spread the workload and get other members involved in helping BICA business*

- 1) Expanding those qualified to hold Judges Education *Currently Amanda and Kathy Inman- need to formalize the judges ed program through AKC, lots of work to do over the next 12 months to include Meet the Breed documents and presentation materials and AKC Canine College Videos to be created*
- 2) Expand the rescue committee to have regional contact to help coordinate rescues as they arise *Deanna is the current chair- will be a separate survey to try to expand regional contacts, transports and possible fosters. Would like to streamline the adoption process and how/what is coming in considered a rescue. Try to develop fund raising efforts for rescue before we grow in popularity and need them more. Gary Lewis asked how they were currently coming in. Amanda said typically they come in via email, or FB messages to Deanna. Valerie has done the last few on her own, not with Deanna. Claire mentioned she had helped with rehoming a Bracco recently, and we need to have definition between rescues and rehoming situations. Rehoming can still utilize the network of volunteers to transport etc. as needed. Hopefully if rehoming goes through the proper channels with breeders the club may not even need to be involved. Kathy asked how to get involved in the resource network- Jennifer will send out a survey to all members. Lisa Moller also suggested that everyone can reach out to their local shelters to build a connection and foundation of support for future need. Let the shelters know if they think they get a Bracco in that you are there to help on behalf of the breed, establish contacts for rescue up front in case they get a dog in.*

- 3) Reevaluate Historian committee- see how we can better develop this *This committee has not been active in the past- possibly can be absorbed into other committees or removed from need.*
- 4) National Specialty Planning Committee- add additional workers to plan regional and national Specialties *There needs to be a committee formed to plan the 2021 specialty. This will also be sent in the survey after this call. Nothing has been set yet for 2021.*
- 5) Review/Updates to the bylaws (would be put to a vote after revision) *Survey will be asking for a few people with experience in bylaws to assist in reviewing and cleaning up any inconsistencies in our current bylaws. Any potential changes will be presented to the club for a vote. We would like to have this cleaned up before moving into AKC full status.*
- 6) International Committee- *Amanda mentioned we need to establish a chair to have contact with other clubs around the world, Italy, UK etc. This committee would monitor patterns of change- standard changes, health patterns etc. Keep a pulse on what is going on with the breed outside the US possibly 2-3 people to communicate with other clubs.*
- 7) *Hunting Committee- would like to establish a committee with a few hunting folks to assist with setting up regional events/hunts/get together. Educate members and people interested in the breed on ways to maintain the dual dog. Help organize fun hunts to get experienced hunters together to hunt as well as introduce newbies and their dogs to birds to experience what the dogs are bred for. Claire mentioned there were a lot of good grounds up north and depending on the area it would be a good way to involve the Canadian owners as well.*
- 8) *Health Committee- Amanda stated there is not currently a health committee, all health is covered under BIHF (Health Foundation). Some clubs do health separate from the rest of club business. If we set a health committee it can be a good way to help with fund raising efforts for research. Claire asked where the data for the health database goes after being collected. Ericka maintains the database and wasn't on the call but Amanda (on HF board) mentioned it is "self-contained" in that it doesn't go anywhere but access to information can be granted for research purposes. It is helpful to try to look for trends. It is not exported anywhere. It was asked Whose decision it is to grant access to the data. Ericka would need to be the one to answer this as President of the Health Foundation (not on call). If someone is interested in the data, they would need to work through the Health Foundation to obtain access – they are a separate entity than BICA.*

#### **Brief Update on AKC Status and what this means for members- Amanda Inman- AKC Liaison**

Jennifer and Amanda are working to create a listing of the requirements and where we stand to be posted to the website- working out formatting issues then it will be finalized

*Amanda gave this update: The goal will be 1-2 years to meet the requirements set forth by AKC to move to Full Status. This gives up the time to establish a strong, active club.*

*On the # of litters to be registered (requirement to move up) Courtney asked how many litters we show as registered average per year. Amanda said she wasn't sure, but we have had 2 in the last 6 months. There are about an average of 5-6 litters per year here in the US but not all are being AKC registered.*

*Judges Ed requirements to move up- Claire asked if the event in MI has been stopped as that was a good opportunity for Judges Ed. Kathy mentioned the AKC had changed the way it would be hosted, possibly in conjunction with a show the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in July. BICA will continue to host and develop the required Judges Ed materials. We will be hosting a Judges Ed seminar at Nationals.*

*Dogs earning CM requirement- Lisa Moller asked how many we have? Is it over the required 10? Amanda will check with AKC, but the requirement is 10 dogs from Misc. Class, who did not have a CM previously- in other words 10 NEW CM dogs while in Misc. is what they are requiring.*

*Number of dogs with a 3-generation pedigree- we should be at the required 300 mark currently.*

*Lisa Moller mentioned BICA needs to do their own tracking of things such as CM, Litters bred/registered so that we can be sure the data AKC has is accurate.*

*There will be a spreadsheet posted on the members site of the website tracking where the club is with the AKC requirements. We will keep this updated as we accomplish the tasks set forth.*

**Reminder to all Associate members that you can apply to move up to full status (which includes voting rights) after 1 year of Associate membership. If you have any question as to membership status you can email Membership Secretary Kim Caudill. *Kim is sending the info to Associate members as they reach their 1 year, so they can apply for full status if interested.***

**Website/ Facebook-** what other items would members like to see posted or promoted? Please feel free to send member brags to Jennifer Caban for the website. *Jenn will try to create the ability to do online membership renewals, entries etc. however this would require a whole new level of security to the website if we were to accept online payments for anything.*

**Newsletter-** The newsletter is now being created by Katherine Inman please send all submissions to her at [keysparrot@aol.com](mailto:keysparrot@aol.com) this can be accomplishments, recipes, fun stories from the field, suggestions for informative articles. All suggestions are welcomed! *Please send any and all ideas, photos, articles, brags, hunts etc. to Kathy for inclusion in quarterly newsletters. Kathy mentioned she liked the printed newsletters, but we must see if this option is financially worthwhile vs the emailed versions. Claire mentioned the Annual Yearbook that they produce in the UK. This could be a nice way to do a once a year printed summary of everything that dogs have accomplished as well as a great way to gather photos and pedigree info on all dogs owned by club members. Jessie Freese asked Claire if she would please bring a copy to nationals for us to look through. Claire said she would.*

*No other business brought up for discussion*

*Meeting adjourned 8:21pm EST*