

Idaho Retriever Club—01/21/2014—Board Meeting & Minutes
(*DRAFT*, pending approval at subsequent Board meeting)

President George Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m., at his home in Meridian. Also present were Treasurer Mary Hanrahan and Secretary Brett Crow, and Board members Chris Merrill, Mike Wheeler, Pete Eromenok, Jack Smith, and Linda Harger. Vice President Rich Charrier and Board member Ben Echevarria did not attend. Tom Shanahan and past President David Morrison also attended.

Reading of the prior Board meeting's minutes was waived on a voice vote (Linda motion, Mike second).

Tom Shanahan provided an update about website matters. He and Cheri are finding the process a bit more complex than first thought and may need to speak with the site's designer. He suggested that a different approach, portal technology, might be more useful, although probably more expensive. David thought such conversion a good idea. Tom will speak with Carolyn (the current site's designer) and report back to George. Change may emerge in the future.

On a related note, George raised the idea of Club sponsorships via the website. Mary wondered about possible tax implications. George and Linda both suspected that donations or sufficiently low dollar amounts would avoid potential problems. Linda volunteered to seek advice and information from the Treasurer of the American Chesapeake Club, who has faced similar concerns.

In old business, George encouraged all Board members to obtain rule and misconduct books (free upon request from AKC), to assist with the event committee roles. Insurance, trailer licenses and registration are current, per Mary. Mary requested and received permission for a pink slip expenditure, if needed, in connection with the hoped-for sale of the Club's old equipment trailer (voice vote George motion, Jack second). George plans to bring the old trailer to his home in town during the picnic trial season, as the new trailer is taken to Pete's.

Brett will obtain the Club's Idaho Fish & Game permit and has updated AKC about members, officers, and bylaws. George noted the paid membership of roughly two dozen, in comparison to the longer list of about 50 members. Brett noted that memberships tend to be paid gradually during the picnic trial season, as events occur and reminders are provided.

George suggested reliance on blank pistols for dead bird stations during picnic trials. The Club has lost its longtime popper supplier, who provided shells for about the price of lead rounds. The loss will approximately double our popper expense, to the price of steel rounds. Also, Danny Kaiser will supply picnic trial pigeons, but that price will be a bit higher (probably \$4).

David has the bird contracts with Collinghams (Northwest Game Birds), but will seek to defer slightly on the hunt test contract.

Event secretary matters were discussed. Brett has not yet heard from Dina Perugini about the position, but expects to hear from her soon. Brett will continue with spring field trial matters, beginning with a different judge pairing: Charlene Koeth and Marilyn Dahlheim in the Open/Derby, and Don Graves with Jim Peterson in the Amateur/Qualifying. Brett will send judging confirmation letters to each.

Linda suggested separate minor stake judges, since large California entries this year and a nearby National Amateur in June suggest the possibility of a large spring trial entry. David suggested Jared Snarr, to start, and Linda will inquire. Linda also suggested that the Club be prepared to use the option of starting the Amateur on Friday with an entry count exceeding 65, per AKC rules. Brett will place the language in the premium.

Thunder Guns were discussed as a popper load replacement. These are seeing broad use by clubs and professional trainers. They can be obtained quickly if ordered and purchased soon; waiting is likely to encounter delays. Rough arithmetic suggests that avoided popper expenses can pay for the guns in one to two years. George has spoken with the company directly about this, and has secured a slight price break if five guns are purchased. A roughly \$1500 expenditure towards that purpose was approved (George motion, Mike second, voice vote).

Per the annual meeting discussion, George proposed a Hunt Test review committee. Suggested members are Dina Perugini, Cheri Shanahan, Chris Merrill, and Diane Mazy, pending their personal acceptances. George would like a fifth person, and Brett suggested Blaine Hyde. George will pursue the matter. The timing of such a committee's report and recommendations was discussed without reaching a resolution: information from the April Hunt Test would be useful but would also be late relative to the next date at the end of May.

George also unsuccessfully sought volunteers for the April Hunt Test chair position. Lacking said volunteers, George will take the task (in addition to the spring trial chair position) but wishes not to then be fall trial chair. Linda volunteered for that position, particularly since the Club hopes to again offer the fall trial in Cascade.

George suggested and the Board approved offering an Owner-Handler Qualifying in connection with the April Hunt Test, both as a potential entry booster and as a field trial offering for those with Master level dogs. Brett volunteered to judge, and to seek Dina Perugini's secretarial acceptance for that field trial.

Mary received permission to pay the A-Company porta-potty rental bill for 2014, on a voice vote (Chris motion, Jack second).

George suggested April 1 as a likely next meeting date, absent intervening issues that prompt a meeting more quickly.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.