

Idaho Retriever Club 3/14/2016 Board Meeting & Minutes
(DRAFT, pending approval at subsequent Board Meeting)

President George Rogers called the meeting to order at 7 pm at his home in Meridian. Also present were VP Ben Echevarria, Treasurer Chuck Kiehn, Secretary Brett Crow and Board members Willie Alderson, Mike Wheeler, and Cheri Shanahan. Board members Jack Smith, Pat Kilroy, and Chris Merrill were absent. Blaine Hyde and Pete Eromenok also attended.

Willie A. moved, and Mike W. seconded, that the reading of minutes from the 01/22/16 Board Meeting be waived. A voice vote affirmed the motion.

Chuck Kiehn presented a financial update: about \$12,500 in checking (also checks not cleared, about \$500 total), \$15,600 in the Blackrock account, and about \$9700 in the Invesco account. Chuck presented some investment account history (nearly 6% compounded returns, though higher early on and lower of late) that is prompting him to consider reallocating the funds. The Board considered a potential investment time frame of 3 to 5 years with up to 20% volatility to be appropriate. Chuck will continue his research, with the intent of a future proposal. Chuck also noted the recent purchase of a club freezer (roughly \$450) for birds, which has been delivered and installed at Pete Eromenok's place.

The Board approved certain equipment purchases suggested by George: six (6) chairs of reasonable quality for judges, and up to \$300 for two canopies (one canopy in inventory is broken). Chuck will see to the purchases. Missing equipment (two chairs and a radio at a 2016 picnic trial, for example) was also discussed. The Board's advice is for event chairs to either be or specifically designate an equipment person at events—a person charged with monitoring what items go where, and with whom, and then ensuring the return of said items.

The Club had recently received a nomination form for judges of the 2017 Master National. Upon review of the eligible persons, the Board selected Laura Foster, Dale Langhorne, and Gary Kavan. Brett will complete and submit the form.

The Board discussed the use of pigeon flyers vs. duck flyers at the next (and last for 2016) picnic trial, thinking both of members with upcoming licensed events in their plans and of retaining once-retrieved flyers as once-frozen starter birds for upcoming licensed IRC events. Duck flyers were eventually settled on, together with an entry fee bump of \$5, in the Open, Qualifying, and Derby. Brett will notify Club members in the upcoming picnic trial mailing.

A workday for grounds was scheduled at the Pete C. property south of Fruitland, for Friday 08 April. The main effort is burning of cattails and tules to improve our ability to use the ponds. Please touch base with George if you are able to assist. This is definitely a case of many hands making light work.

Planning matters were discussed for the last picnic trial and for the April Hunt Test with OH Qualifying. Brett will handle toilet deliveries and basic motel arrangements. Pete is both bird steward and event chair in April, so providing adequate help is very important. Please volunteer through either Pete or George.

Willie provided an update about the Sunday 03 April retriever demonstration at Eagle Island State Park. The needed permit is in the works (at under \$100), advertising/sponsorship discussions are underway with Zamzow's, and some publicity may occur through Cabela's and the Statesman as well. George said his primary concerns are for success and for adequate publicity, and Willie said that he and Pat are diligently working on those aspects of the demonstration day.

Finally, Willie brought two discussion items. One was a discussion of bird boy use and payment at picnic trials. Willie's experience with the Treasure Valley club is that such use and payment has become nearly mandatory—participant volunteerism is too scarce and too difficult to maintain through a full day. At least for the final 2016 picnic trial, we will employ a bird boy tip jar at the event sign-up (total divided between bird boys), together with a nominal Club payment per bird boy.

The second item was for some thought about a possible IRC Hunt Test in the McCall/Donnelly area for 2017, on the July weekend following the TVHRC doubleheader. That TVHRC event has been quite successful, and Willie reports that at least two professionals have expressed an interest in making two subsequent area weekends a part of their event circuit. In addition, local resident and Club member Dave Alexander suspects that sufficient grounds might be found.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.