

Minutes of the 2014 Annual Membership Meeting

November 7, 2014

The 2014 HSDAA General Membership meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. on November 7, 2014, at the Wyndham Oceanfront Hotel, Virginia Beach, Virginia, with the president and the secretary in attendance.

Minutes of the 2013 General Membership meeting:

Mary O'Day stated that the minutes of last year's membership were approved by the Board following the meeting and published in the Silk Road, therefore we will dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Secretary's Report

Debbie Ezzell reported that correspondence this year has consisted of sending notices to members, contacting show judges and processing membership upgrade applications.

Treasurer's Report

Sharon Martin reported income and expense from January 1, 2014 through October 13, 2014.

Total income: \$16,718.17

Total expense: \$15,369.62

Net income: \$1,348.55

Total assets \$22,485.38

Total liabilities

Two checking account balances: \$4,166.96 and \$6,066.76 – total of \$10,233.13.

Savings account: \$10,000.54.

There was discussion about including member addresses in the roster. It should be an option. Can we ask members on the membership renewal form if it is OK to list their address on the membership roster.

Committee Reports

Health Committee

Mary O'Day reported that we have several dogs that cannot be admitted into the registry because they are not passing hips. We set a distraction index for PennHip of .62 for our breed based on the Havanese DI of .62 but we need at least 20 PennHip scores for our breed to establish our own DI. Our membership should be encouraged to have their dogs PennHip tested to get a more realistic DI for our breed.

Discussion continued regarding the relationship between low hip scores and dysplasia in our breed. Our breed has a lot of joint laxity which can produce low hip scores, but low hip scores have not proven to result in serious dysplasia issues in our dogs.

A suggestion was made to allow dogs who do not meet the hip requirements to breed with a full disclosure of the health issue in order to keep genetic diversity in the breed. Offspring from these breedings that passed health requirements would be eligible for full registration. Another suggestion was made to require hip testing but not require a pass or fail score.

Mary O'Day asked for a show of hands to get members opinions on the suggestions that were made. She asked for those who do not want to change the health requirements and those who want to require health testing but have no pass or fail score. Approximately 2/3 of the membership chose not to change the current health requirements.

New Business

National Specialty Show Locations

Mary O'Day opened a discussion on locations for future National Specialty shows. She said the Show Committee has made several inquiries at other locations and the result has been that all of the inquiries so far would cost considerably more than we pay at Virginia Beach.

Bob Weikel presented a proposal for a show in Natural Bridge, Virginia. The location is not near a major airport but it is near a regional airport in Roanoke, Virginia. The amenities are equivalent to the Wyndham and the price would be equal or be less than the Wyndham. Discussion included concerns about flying to regional airports due to potential cancellations, delays and higher airfare. Mary O'Day said the show committee was focusing on locations near major airline hubs such as Dulles, but it has been difficult to get quotes from many hotels. Marge Feiner offered to assist in getting quotes from other hotels.

Another concern that was discussed was that choosing locations that are further away from where the largest percentage of our members reside would require more people to fly to shows rather than drive. That may reduce attendance.

Lowering the Certification Age for Foreign Dog Offspring

Currently our foreign dog policy requires foundation pending dogs and their offspring to be two years old before they can be certified. Provisional dogs that are not offspring of foreign dogs can be certified at one year of age. We have received recommendations to lower the certification age for offspring of foreign dogs to 18 months instead of two years. Mary O'Day asked for comments on this recommendation. Comments included:

- The two year age for certification did not have any particular significance relating to health.
- Lowering the age to 18 months would be good because some breeders are electing to breed earlier and retire their dogs at an earlier age.
- A question was asked about the potential for health issues that might arise when the dog is a little older. Doc Baldwin responded that the Board has the option to request additional health testing for foundation pending dogs and foreign dog offspring. Most health issues that would be evident at two years would also be evident at 18 months.

PayPal

Ann Carille said she would like to have a better option for registration and paying for club events other than PayPal. She asked that we look into another type of service that was more secure and had lower fees. Gloria Sharrar said she would check into other options.

Standard Revision

Dionne Franklin discussed recommendations for revisions to our current standard that the committee has been considering.

- Remove the rise in the topline and the shorter upper arm – this was not in the original Cuban breed and it would separate us from the Havanese breed.
- Pigment – differentiate between “snow nose,” where the pigment is originally black but later fades (which usually occurs in colder climates) and pigment that never turns completely black
- Chocolate pigment – allow chocolate pigment and let members make their own breeding decisions about

- Satin coat – there are possible health benefits associated with the satin gene such as tooth bud development. There are people who want the satin coat and would not buy a long coated dog.

Dionne asked for comments about the recommended changes.

- A question was asked about the topline – does form affect function and would leveling the topline improve the function. Doc Baldwin replied that that a rise in the topline is not normal and leveling the topline would improve the function. The rise in topline was not in the original Cuban standard.
- Are there health issues associated with chocolate pigment? There are no health issues that we are aware of with chocolate pigment.

Mary O'Day asked for a show of hands to see how many people would like to include chocolates in our standard. There was a majority show of hands.

Mary O'Day asked for a show of hands to see how many people want to keep the satin coat in the standard. There was a majority show of hands.

A motion was made for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Debbie Ezzell, Recording Secretary