

Cochin International Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2023

I. Call to Order

President Gail Carlson called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Directors at 7:00pm on January 8, 2023, by conference call through FreeConference.com.

II. Roll Call

Secretary Micheal Tarvin conducted roll call. The following persons were present: Gail Carlson, Rich Barczewski, Jamie Matts, Micheal Tarvin, Tom Roebuck, Lisa Reardon, George Ade, Christie Ross, Ashley Foutch, Tonya MacRae, Kathy Ashcroft, Mike Becker, and Lacy Michall.

III. Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Reading of the minutes from previous meeting held on August 7, 2022, were waived as none were taken.

IV. Entered into the Minutes:

- a. 8/8/22 – BOD email vote for 2023 Eastern National Judge: 1st Jamie Matts; Alternate Jonathan Patterson.
- b. 11/3/22 - BOD email vote for 2023 Western National Judge: 1st Jonathan Patterson; Alternate Keith Lutz
- c. 12/26/22 - Email resignation from Sarah Balle (North Central Director-elect): “Gail, Please accept my resignation as District Director. Thanks, Sarah Balle”
- d. 1/1/23 - BOD email vote to approve and appoint new Directors; all approved unanimously: Northeast 1: Lisa Reardon / NY, North Central: George Ade / OH, West Central: Ashley Foutch / NE, and Southeast: Tonya MacRae / AL

V. COMMITTEE & CHAIR REPORTS:

- a. Junior Program: Lacy Michall
 - i. Despite having a rough start getting started, Junior Program Chair, Lacy Michall reported having a good past year in 2022. She reported there are 10 juniors that have submitted for points and 1 junior submitted Cochin Cash. Resulting in a total money given out in Cochin Cash of \$503.00, however only \$50.00 have been turned in. Lacy stated she has initiated Junior of the Year awards. This will award the top bantam and large fowl junior exhibitors with belt buckles and certificates, second and third will receive banners and certificates, and everyone else will receive a certificate with their number of points. The chair also brought to attention regarding items in the Cochin Cash program needing to be improved. Gail added that when program was stated it originally was supposed to have sponsors and in recent years the club has been paying out of pocket. The club is needing ideas to improve. Gail also brought to attention the concern of the 30-day requirement for show reports to be turned in. Lacy said she was flexible on the matter.

- ii. Following the conclusion of the Junior report, Lacy was thanked by Gail for her report and then left the call.
- b. Master Breeder: Rich Barczewski
 - i. Rich reported that as soon as he receives a show report, he records it immediately or within 24 hours and the updated points go out quarterly. Rich also questioned if in conjunction with the Junior Program, should the club be also collecting junior reports. Gail also added there is an updated show report on the website. This updated show report has the AOV lines taken off and verbiage stating that show reports must be submitted within 30-days added.
- c. Treasurer's Report: Jamie Matts
 - i. Jamie discussed the purchase of ribbons for the 2023 National Meets. The chair stated for 2022 the club spend about \$1300 for ribbons on the National Meets. He will be looking into an exact cost for 2023. Jamie questioned possibly shopping around and finding a better deal on the ribbons. Both Tonya and Christie offered suggestions and will work with Jamie to get price quotes on the ribbons for the Nationals. Jamie stated he can hold off until March to order ribbons to still be able to get discount from company that has been used in the past.
- d. Membership: Gail Carlson
 - i. The membership chair, Gail, reported there are 288 members. Currently there are 125 left to renew. All delinquent memberships will be purged in March. Gail stated the last time dues increased were 2001. Increasing dues has previously put off. Gail motioned to increase dues for 2024 with the following rates: single/family - \$20.00/year or \$50.00/3 years and juniors \$10.00/year or \$25/3 years. Christie seconded to motion. Discussion following the motion stated dues have not been raised in over 20 years and the cost of doing business for the club has increase creating a need for the increase. Motion passed.
- e. Newsletters: Gail Carlson
 - i. Gail reminded the board everyone is required to do an article for the newsletter but can submit other articles if one desires to. The chair reported that advertising in the newsletter has started. Lastly stated that all ideas are welcome to improve the newsletter.
- f. Breeders Directory: Gail Carlson
 - i. The chair reported that the Breeders Directory is set to go out this year as it is published every two years. She reminded the board that listings are free, and members do not have to place an ad to be in the directory and this needed to be relayed to our members to get more listings. Ads that place however in directory are also published on the website for two years as well. The chair is currently taking ideas for the theme. Gail mentioned as well trying to get the judges of the club to submit articles as to what they are looking for in cochins on show day.
- g. Merchandise: Gail Carlson
 - i. Gail explained to the District Directors that if any need merchandise for a show to just get her a list ASAP and she will send it to them. The chair stated that any merchandise that a member orders from a show due to not having is free shipping. All orders that come in she processes within 24 hours.

VI. DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- a. Northeast 1 / Lisa Reardon
 - i. Lisa is currently working on getting state representatives. She has two possible interested.
- b. Northeast 2 / Open:
 - i. No report as position is currently vacant.
- c. North Central / George Ade:
 - i. George has two new state representatives. He reports shows are requesting meets to be set and he is already contacting shows within district to set meets. George is currently making getting more state representatives involved a priority. The director mention how Wisconsin has been neglected in the past despite having the third highest membership within state, because of this the District Meet will be held in Wisconsin this year. Finally, he is working on improving coverage within the district.
- d. Southwest / Christie Ross:
 - i. Christie is working on determining where to place District Meet. Possibly thinking south but is taking into consideration where the highest number of Cochins are in the district.
- e. West Central / Ashley Foutch:
 - i. Ashley stated there is no update in the West Central district as this time. She is working on reviewing the data about the district. She said she is low on state representative but looking to add more. Lastly is evaluating shows within her district as well.
- f. Southeast / Tonya MacRae:
 - i. In the southeast district, Tonya is preparing for the make up 2022 District Meet coming up. She stated the meet is looking at about 100 cochins. The director has also been working with members to get ideas.
- g. Pacific / Kathy Ashcroft:
 - i. Kathy is currently working on getting more state representatives. Currently no meets have been scheduled so far and she is going to work on contacting shows. The Director is still determining where to place District Meet.
- h. Canada / Mike Becker:
 - i. Mike is thinking about doing an east coast District Meet. He is also looking forward to hosting the 2023 Western National.
- i. International / Open:
 - i. No report as position is currently vacant.

VII. Old/Continuing Business:

- a. 2023 West National: October 21-22 / Ontario Poultry Breeders / Grassie, ON
 - i. Judge: Jonathan Patterson; Alternate Keith Lutz
- b. 2023 East National: November 18 / Anderson Poultry Club / Pendleton, SC /
 - i. Judge: Jamie Matts; Alternate Jonathan Patterson.
- c. 501(c)3 IRS registration
 - i. Gail reported currently nothing has happened on this so far but has not been forgotten about. She will be contacting accountants following tax season, probably around summer.

VIII. New Business:

- a. Bid for the 2024 East (Northeast 1 District) & West (Southwest District) Nationals must be received by July 30th.
- b. Discussion about Nationals & District re-alignments
 - i. Gail explained we are currently locked into our current National Meet step up and the current District lines as per the clubs' bylaws. Rich discussed possibly renaming the district to be more along the lines of the APA/ABA. Gail mentioned that the club would not vote on this until the next election, so the board has some time to work on this. Discussion of setting up a committee for realignment of the districts was also brought up.
- c. Innovating Special Meets
 - i. Gail talked about how special meets are a good way to increase both funds for the club and membership. She mentioned coming up with unique names for special meets, along with awards for a special to attract more cochin entries to a show as this is where more points will come from for the exhibitor.
- d. Discussion on supplementing/expanding/enriching current award programs
 - i. Gail stated current Master Breeder Program is set in stone as per bylaws. Legacy award and exhibitor awards are supplement examples the club is already doing. Needing more ideas, the club can do for awards.
- e. Question regarding about recognizing trios/displays from (SW District) member
 - i. Tom explained how awards for trios and displays are APA/ABA awards, as we are a breed club there is not much purpose in recognizing these, as well as not a lot of return in investment with the club acknowledging these placements. Gail stated that the District Directors could do something for these wins if they so chose to.
- f. Increase presence of State Representatives at shows
 - i. Gail mentioned to keep her posted to any new state representatives coming on board so she can update the list immediately.
- g. Discussion on ways to increase funding/donations/profits at shows
 - i. Gail brought to attention the need to increase funding for the club at the shows. This can be done through selling merchandise, raffles, and silent auctions. Rich and Tom discussed raising money for meets simply by reaching out to members and asking to sponsor. Christie and Gail brought up that for the 2020 Western National Meet sponsorship was achieved through advertising for it through the Facebook group and was able to collect funds of \$1100.00.
 - ii. Gail brought up a possible fundraising opportunity of doing a calendar.
- h. Club Promotions
 - i. Gail stated getting a Club Promotion Committee going for the club. This committee would also take lead on the advertisements in the APA and ABA yearbook.
- i. List of Club Crafters and Designers who can help with awards & promotions
 - i. Gail mentioned trying to compile a list of crafters and designers that can help the club out with awards and designs for promotional material. She said if anyone on the board knows of any of our members doing any such work to make note of it.
- j. Other Discussion
 - i. Extra Rosettes from Nationals

1. Gail explained that the full ribbon cannot be used again as it has the date on the ribbon, however ribbon portion has been cut off and still left with the rosette. If any District Director could use the rosette for awards in their district, reach out to Gail and she will get what the Director needs to them.
- ii. District Facebook Pages
 1. Tonya advocated and explained the benefits of having a district page including: a way to reach members with specific district happenings, raise funds, discuss entries for shows, and more. Gail's only warning was to be careful of the content on the page.
- iii. Miscellaneous notes to the Directors from the President during meeting
 1. The club reimburse Directors up to \$200 for District meets and \$800.00 for National meets once receipts are submitted to Jamie.
 2. Special and District meet awards are up to the District Director.
 3. Directors need to set as many special meets as possible in their district.
 4. Overall placements on show report are required at District and National meets.
 5. Make sure show secretaries have show report if District Director or State Representative cannot attend.
 6. Directors need to make sure to inform Gail when District Meets are.
 7. Directors should remind members they can attend any District Meet even if outside of own district.
 8. When filling out show report, if someone is not a member have membership form ready to give out or get name and address and Gail will mail them membership form and a newsletter.

IX. Adjournment

- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Christie Ross at . Jamie Matts seconded. All were in favor and motion passed.
- b. Next Meeting will be on April 9th.