

# Cochin International Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2023

## I. Call to Order

President Gail Carlson called to order the special meeting of the Board of Directors at 7:00pm on April 30, 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, Tonya MacRae, and Mike Becker. Persons were not present included: Ashley Foutch and Kathy Ashcroft.

## III. April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 AOV Referendum

a. President Gail Carlson began the special meeting by explaining the pushback the current referendum was receiving the Board voted on April 16, 2023. The referendum being to amend the constitution to be able to earn 1 Master Breeder point or every 5 birds at the District and National Meets for AOV and RAOV awards. Gail outlined what the Boards options could be with rectifying this with the membership. She stated the Board could leave the referendum as is, change the current referendum, and/or change to a multiple-choice option. Gail Carlson then began with asking for the input of each Board member.

### i. Kathy Ashcroft:

1. Kathy was absent however thoughts submitted via email prior to meeting.

a. "My opinion on the AOV awards is that we should honor what the majority of the membership wants. If that means putting the Special meets on the ballot, then that's what we do. Let the members decide."

### ii. Mike Becker:

1. Believes AOV should be at special meets
2. Could increase points at district/nationals, as to not diminish
3. Don't disqualify show reports that do not have AOV awards listed
4. Believes in only giving AOV giving to recognized varieties

### iii. Lisa Reardon:

1. Reached out the members of her district with their thoughts and did not receive any response.

### iv. George Ade:

1. No words from the members in his district
2. Did attend the recent Greenville show and reported the top breeders there don't care either way
3. Worried that judges will not pick AOV birds for BB and RB if AOV award is an option

### v. Tom Roebuck:

1. If in the best interest of the club, he is fine with the amendment
2. Members will be given the option to vote on this and they will decide

### vi. Jamie Matts:

1. Thinks Cochin International could go in the direction like the silkie club and have a Non-Standard Variety placement.
2. As a judge is in practice of already doing so at meets

### vii. Rich Barczewski:

1. Explained only a small group of people voicing
  2. Questioned how we go forward
  3. Thought to give the membership options how they would like this to go
  4. Does see where the referendum cheapens the points
  5. Data shows not a huge number of points would be gained if allowed for all shows
- viii. Micheal Tavin:
1. As there is little input aside from just a small group of membership, thinks to just to leave referendum as is and membership can decide to vote to approve or deny
  2. Believes this referendum should however include for recognized varieties only and for AOV points to only be calculated on recognized varieties
- b. Mike Becker motioned to cancel the referendum and have a straw poll instead.
- i. Rich Barczewski seconded the motion.
  - ii. Discussion:
    1. Jamie Matts asked if the Board did a straw poll how would it be done Facebook vs mail.
      - a. Gail Carlson stated it would have to be done through mail.
    2. There was further discussion about it needing to be done in writing, who would tally poll and how much the straw poll would cost the club.
    3. Tom Roebuck thought to just change the current standing referendum to the different choices the Board knows the membership wants and if it doesn't pass then it doesn't pass
      - a. Following that idea Gail Carlson thought the results from that could be used as straw poll as well and asked the owner of the motion on the floor, Mike Becker, what he thought the difference of three options to vote on versus a straw poll?
      - b. No answer from Mr. Becker
    4. Rich Barczewski retracted his second to the motion on the floor.
    5. Tonya MacRae questioned if each option only received 1/3 of the votes?
      - a. Gail Carlson stated nothing would pass then.
    6. Gail Carlson reminded the board that there was still motion is on the floor and asked if anyone wanted to second?
      - a. No second from board.
      - b. Mike Becker withdrew is motion.
- c. Tom Roebuck motioned to change the current AOV points referendum to the three choices for recognized varieties only as follows:
- One point is earned for every five Cochins of Recognized Varieties exhibited for Best and Reserve AOV\* at all meets.
  - One point is earned for every five Cochins of Recognized Varieties exhibited for Best and Reserve AOV\* only at District and National meets.
  - No points shall be earned for Best and Reserve AOV\* at any meet. (No change to Constitution.)
    - i. Mike Becker second the motion.
    - ii. Discussion:
      1. Gail Carlson asked if the Board should allow an option for write in?
        - i. Tom Roebuck thought this would water down the results.

2. Gail Carlson questioned if Cochin International's definition of AOV needs to be added to ballot to be included in constitution.
  3. Tom Roebuck stated that Non-Standard Varieties should not be considered in the same as AOV.
    - i. Several agreeances from members of the board followed statement.
    - ii. Jamie Matts asked what the current constitution state is AOV.
      1. Gail Carlson mentioned there are no specification between NSV and the recognized varieties that would be considered AOV.
  4. Gail Carlson stated to clarify the current discussion that there would be no change to AOV definition but the motion at hand was for only awarding AOV points for recognized varieties only.
    - iii. All members of the Board were in favor, none opposed.
    - iv. Motion carried
- d. Implementing amended referendum
- i. Gail Carlson detailed the constitution says to give 30 days written notice, currently how the standing referendum has been presented to the membership was ballots go out June 1<sup>st</sup>.
    1. Tom Roebuck suggested to do an email and post in members only Facebook page that the Board has heard the membership and after holding a Special Board of Directors Meeting, this amended referendum is what the Board decided on.
  - ii. Gail Carlson stated she will draft something the night of the meeting of what will be going out to the membership and send it to the Board for review.
- IV. Final Thoughts
- i. The President also reminded the Board to urge members to vote, stating that not even 40% of ballots returned in last elections.
    1. Tom Roebuck did assure that even the APA/ABA don't have that great of results either.
  - ii. Tom Roebuck stated by the evidence of the few responses of members views sent in that this would mean that most of the membership does trust the board and it is only a small fraction that do not.
  - iii. Gail Carlson encouraged the Board to keep plugging away and keep trying to do our best by first and foremost our breed and secondly out membership.
- V. Adjournment
- i. Rich Barczewski motioned to adjourn this Special Board of Directors meeting.
    1. Christie Ross second the motion.
    2. All were in favor.
    3. Meeting concluded at 8:30 PM.