

Hunting Retriever Club Inc.
2023 Annual Board of Directors Meeting
June 10, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri

President – Jack Gravely
Vice-President – Glen Scarborough
Secretary -- Elaine Mitchell
Treasurer – Caroline Davis
Parliamentarian -- Joy Freeland

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The annual meeting of the Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. (HRC) was called to order at 8:15 a.m. on June 10th, 2023, by President, Jack Gravely. Jack welcomed everyone, introduced the EC and asked Randy McLean to open the meeting with a word of prayer.
- II. ROLL CALL:** The Executive Committee (EC) made up of Jack Gravely, President, Glen Scarborough, Vice President, Elaine Mitchell, Secretary, Caroline Davis, Treasurer, and past President Glenn Dye was present at the meeting. Joy Freeland was present as Parliamentarian.

Roll call – Elaine Mitchell, Secretary called the roll. 123 of 149 clubs were represented either in person or by proxy. With the 5 EC members and 123 clubs, a total of 128 votes were available and a quorum was satisfied.

- III. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:** A copy of the 2022 meeting minutes was provided in the board members’ packets as well as posted on the HRC Website. Secretary Elaine Mitchell submitted the 2022 meeting minutes for approval.

A motion to accept was made and seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Treasurer’s Reports

HRC Foundation Treasurer, Dorine Reinert presented the Foundation’s Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss statement. A motion to accept was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HRC Inc. Treasurer, Caroline Davis presented the HRC, Inc. Balance sheet and Profit and Loss Statement. After a call for questions, Denise Ferguson inquired as to what the expense item for EC Travel entailed. Caroline explained that EC members were often called upon to travel to new clubs and anniversary hunts. Ms. Ferguson followed up with an inquiry about the ‘net loss’ of \$20,213.31 shown in the report. Ms. Davis responded that the “loss” was a typographical error, and the bottom line was a net profit of \$20,213.31. A motion to accept was made and seconded and with no further discussion, the motion was carried unanimously.

HRC Grand Treasurer, Rita Johnson presented Profit and Loss reports from the 2022 Fall Grand Hunt hosted by Music City HRC and the 2023 Spring Grand Hunt hosted by Old South HRC. Both events operated at a profit. After a call for questions, Glenn Dye inquired as to what the expense for Credit Card Processing Fees

was for. Mrs. Johnson explained that the third-party entry service that collected our entry fees passed their credit card fees along to us as a deduction from the amount owed to us from them. A motion to accept was made and seconded. With no other discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Audit Committee Report – Kristine Odden, Committee Chair

The Audit Committee consisted of Chairwoman Kristine Odden and committee members Marinda Dye and Heather King. The committee reviewed financial records for each of the three accounts for HRC (HRC Inc., HRC Grand and HRC Foundation). The committee found the records of HRC Grand and HRC Foundation to be in order with deposits and expenditures properly accounted for.

The committee reviewed the records for HRC Inc and made the following recommendations:

It was very concerning to find out that financials have not been made available to the Executive Committee throughout the fiscal year.

Financial statements should be provided monthly. This includes printed reports of the monthly Profit and Loss as well as Balance Sheet reports. The current constitution and by-laws state that financials should be provided at request at any time, or at the very least on a quarterly basis. Times have changed and the finances have changed dramatically since the institution of these bylaws. Funds that flow in and out of the books of HRC Inc have increased to the point that the current EC needs to be updated monthly so they can make informed decisions throughout the year. The finances need to be transparent to all EC members all year long.

Checks and cash received must be deposited in a timely manner. It was noted in several bank statements that a time lag between when checks were received and physically deposited at the bank was observed. According to the constitution and by-laws, this should happen within 30 days.

In addition, it was also noted of a time lag of anywhere from 4 to 6 weeks from when expense reports were submitted, and checks issued for those reimbursements. This time lag can affect the P & L reports - specifically, timing of expenses hitting the financials.

Michael Bullen asked the committee to repeat their recommendations. After the recommendations were reread, Mr. Bullen expressed concern and asked how we could rectify those concerns. Mr. Gravely responded that he had asked on multiple occasions for the EC to receive financial updates and had not received them. He indicated the only way he knew to correct the issues would be to replace the treasurer. Treasurer Caroline Davis was given an opportunity to address the audit committee's concerns and after considerable discussion Caroline stated it might be best that we elect someone else to fill the Treasurer's position. A motion to accept the audit committee's report was made and seconded. The board voted to approve the motion.

President Jack Gravely presented the resignation and the withdrawal of nomination for reelection of Treasurer Caroline Davis for the board's consideration. The motion was made and seconded. The board voted to accept the resignation.

Grand Hunt Committee – Tracy Stubbs, Committee Chair

Committee Chair, Tracy Stubbs thanked the EC for their support and reported that the Grand continues to grow and get better every year. He presented a report of the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 Grand Hunts and announced the dates and location of the upcoming events. Fall 2023 will be hosted by the Region 6 HRC Clubs in Paducah, KY Oct 14th – 18th. In Spring of 2024 we will be back in Omaha, GA with Old South hosting from April 20th – 24th. Fall of 2024 will be hosted by Gateway Retrievers October 19th-23rd. Tracy

recognized his Grand Committee members for their dedication and the time invested in the event. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as presented.

Field Representative Committee – Glenn Dye, National Field Representative

Mr. Dye presented a report of the annual meeting of the field representatives. Main thing they worked on in the FR's meeting was a revision and streamlining of the FR's report. Those changes will be implemented in the electronic versions of the report on the website. They suggested making the report available to the Hunt Committee's to be used as feedback. They also spent some time reviewing and updating the Hunt Committee job descriptions to be provided to clubs. A motion to accept his report was made and seconded. The motion to accept was approved unanimously.

Sponsors Committee Report – Lori Greer, Committee Chair

Lori thanked the EC and committee members for their support. She reported that we added Real-Tree as a new sponsor and look forward to growing our relationship with them. She also noted that Garmin had a rep onsite for the meeting and hoped everyone had a chance to visit with him. She reported that we had supported 5 youth events with Freddie King duck calls and encouraged everyone to reach out to her if they were having youth events. A motion to accept the report as presented was made and seconded. The motion to accept was approved unanimously.

Public Relations Committee – Kyle Krause, Committee Chair

Kyle reported on the breakout session that the PR committee presented to the attendees on Saturday. The session was very well received, and they want to continue to provide educational resources to our clubs. He announced new PR reps in the following regions: Region 14, Kate Szilard, Region 14A, Terri Sanders, and Region 15, Jamie Smith. A motion to accept the report as submitted was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Running Rules Committee – Todd Tharp

During their working session, the RR Committee reviewed the rule change proposals that had been submitted for the next cycle. A ballot will be produced from those proposals and will be sent to all Club Presidents for voting by November 1st, 2023. Votes will be due back by April 2024 and announced at next year's meeting. A motion to accept the report as submitted was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HRC Foundation – Roger Davis, HRC Foundation President

Roger presented a report from the HRC Foundation. Roger thanked Glenn Stelly for his years of service as Foundation President. Robert announced the addition of 7 new members to the HRC Foundation Board for a total of 13 Foundation board members. As part of their report, the Foundation announced the award of 19 scholarships and 1 grant. The Foundation received 39 applications, 32 of which were deemed as eligible by the Board. A random drawing was held during the annual meeting to select the recipients of the 19 available scholarships. The grant was awarded to the University of Wisconsin's School of Veterinary Medicine to be used to continue a study on the genetic contribution to CCL injuries in Labrador Retrievers. A motion to accept the report as submitted was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Honorary Lifetime Membership Committee - Tracy Stubbs, Chair

Tracy presented the report of the lifetime member committee. The committee named Robert Hines, Rita Johnson and Pat Johnson their nominations for 2023 Lifetime Membership status. All three nominees were approved by the board of directors for Lifetime Membership status.

IV. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

President's Report – Jack Gravely

Jack reported on HRC's continued growth in members, clubs and events hosted. Clubs were reported at 148 active clubs. Memberships were reported at 5,830 memberships made up of 8827 members. In calendar year 2022, we held 443 UKC licensed events (a new record). The top four states holding the most events were Tennessee, Texas, Georgia and Louisiana respectively.

Jack polled the group as to their opinion of the new venue for this year and received a very favorable response.

Jack reported that UKC will no longer mail out hunt license applications. A .pdf form would be available online and it would be up to the clubs to fill it out and submit it each year.

Jack thanked Elaine Mitchell for her service as secretary and announced the formation of a new Media Committee to manage our website, marketing, and social media presence. The committee will consist of the chairperson, Elaine Mitchell, and members Glenn Scarboro and Kyle Krause.

A motion to accept Jack's report was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice President's Report – Glen Scarborough

Glen thanked the board for the honor of serving them. He reported on attending preliminary and anniversary hunts, representing the EC at Lonesome Dove Youth Camp and running and working at the Grand Hunts. He thanked the Board for their support of the disabilities awareness policy and reported seeing positive changes come out of it. He reported on his interaction with the Field Reps and thanked them for their service. Glenn provided information on the availability of AEDs for weekend rental. Glenn also commented on our growth but expressed concern about the lack of growth in our judge pool.

Secretary's Report – Elaine Mitchell

Elaine discussed some of the projects that she had worked on during her tenure as Secretary. HRC's current files have been transferred to a cloud-based filing system easily accessible by any EC member that wants to see them. We will continue to work toward transferring older files as there is time. Elaine reported that we saw the successful launch of the new website and social media applications and we will do our first major updates to the website this fall. She discussed our online forms entry and having the ability to now take electronic payments for some of our receivables. She thanked the EC for giving her the opportunity to continue those efforts in her new role as Media Committee Chair. A motion to accept her report was made and seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously.

V. OTHER REPORTS:

United Kennel Club – Domenick Muoio

Domenick was unable to attend.

HRC Ambassador, Omar Driskill

Ambassador Driskill was unable to attend but sent his report to be presented by President Gravely. A motion to accept Ambassador Driskill's report was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Ray Caito presented a proposal tabled from the 2022 meeting regarding creating and Upland Hunter Champion title (UHCH) for dogs accumulating 100 championship points in the upland category. The Title would go into effect January 1st, 2024. After that date, UKC would automatically send out a title certificate. For dogs that have already achieved the title, there will be a form made available on the UKC website to

request a title certificate. A motion to accept his proposal was made and seconded. The board voted to approve the proposal.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Constitutional Amendments:

The two proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws originally presented by Todd Tharp were withdrawn to be reviewed and resubmitted at a later date.

Policy Change Proposals:

The following changes to the HRC policy were proposed

1. Fee increase of \$0.50 per dog – Policy Failed
2. Working Dog Shoots all birds – Policy Passed
3. Apprentice must judge 7 dogs – Policy Failed
4. Judges must title Dog – Policy Failed
5. Standardized Opening Date – Policy Failed
6. Single Stake Events – Policy Failed
7. Multiple Staked Dogs for JR Handlers – Policy Failed

Committee Proposals

1. Presented by Todd Tharp, Running Rules Committee: A proposal was brought forth from the committee to amend the Running Rules Committee charter to allow for running rule change proposals to be submitted on an annual basis rather than every two years. The purpose is to reduce the amount of time required (2 years) for changes to be made.

- A question was raised whether there would be an increase in travel expenses by having RR reps present every year (yes it would).

- A question was raised about the effective dates of rule changes. The rules would be effective January 1st of each year, but rule books will still only be printed every two years.

-A question was raised about whether it would be necessary to have a new judges test every year. The answer was no, the judges test schedule would remain the same.

The board voted to approve the change to the RR's Charter to allow for rule change proposals to be submitted every year.

2. Presented by Todd Tharp, Running Rules Committee: A proposal was brought forth from the committee to take the current "HRC UKC Policies and Procedures" document that is currently posted on the website, review it for accuracy and incorporate that information into our current "Policies and Running Rules" book. The purpose is to have all of our policies in one place. The board voted to approve consolidating the old "HRC UKC Policies" document into our current rulebook and doing away with the separate document.

3. Presented by Todd Tharp, Running Rules Committee: A proposal was brought forth from the committee to consider adding a "Glossary of Terms" to be added to our Policies and Running Rules and to the J&H Seminar. The board voted to approve adding a glossary of terms to our rulebook.

Other New Business

Rich Lemmer asked the EC to consider holding off on signing a long-term contract with the hotel until a constitutional change proposal could be submitted to consider changing the dates for the annual meeting. After some discussion, parliamentarian Joy Freeland indicated that the request was out of order.

Ray Caito asked that running rules reps be allowed to host Judges and Handlers Seminars to create additional opportunities to recruit judges. This would be in addition to the Field Reps regular seminars. After some discussion, it was agreed that any knowledgeable/capable presenter, including Running Rules reps could do the seminar with authorization.

Officer Elections

Nominating committee chair Ray Caito presented nominations for officers as follows:

President – Jack Gravely, unopposed, elected by acclamation

Vice President – Glenn Scarboro, unopposed, elected by acclamation

Secretary – Sarah Krause, unopposed, elected by acclamation

With the withdrawal of Treasurer Davis's nomination for reelection, a call for nominations from the floor was made. Kristine Odden was nominated as Treasurer. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.