

<b>NKC / ARHA Progressive Pack Executive Board</b>		<h1>Executive Board Meeting</h1> <p><b>Minutes of the meeting of Thursday, March 7, 2019 Erie Canal Beagle Club Lynnville, Indiana</b></p>
<i>Del Morgan / Sam Clabo</i>	<i>NKC/ARHA</i>	
<i>Brint Sparks</i>	<i>Chairman of the Board</i>	
<i>Mike Myers</i>	<i>Watch Dog Committee Chairman</i>	
<i>Daron Myers</i>	<i>State Reps Chairman</i>	
<i>Donny Joe Sparks</i>	<i>Rules Committee Chairman</i>	
<i>Anna Sparks</i>	<i>Public Relations Chairman</i>	
<i>Keith Buse</i>	<i>Member At Large</i>	
<i>John Oosse</i>	<i>Member At Large</i>	
<i>Christi Jernigan</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	
<u><i>Non Voting Positions</i></u>		
<i>Glendon Bobo</i>	<i>Watch Dog Committee Alternate</i>	
<i>Eddie Mitchell</i>	<i>Watch Dog Committee Member</i>	
<i>Trey Powers</i>	<i>Watch Dog Committee (Youth)</i>	
<i>Rich King</i>	<i>Watch Dog Committee Member</i>	
<i>Mike Marshall</i>	<i>Rules Committee Member</i>	
<i>Heath Maddox</i>	<i>Rules Committee Member</i>	
<i>Bill Raymond</i>	<i>Rules Committee Member</i>	
<i>Al Taylor</i>	<i>PR Committee Member</i>	
<i>Jerry Borden</i>	<i>PR Committee Member</i>	
<i>Toby Dooly</i>	<i>PR Committee Member</i>	
<i>Matt Aubrey</i>	<i>PR Committee Member</i>	



Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Brint Sparks, Chairman.

Comments / Reminders from NKC / ARHA Representative

Del Morgan, NKC, expressed his appreciation of the board and of the Progressive Pack beaglers. He stated that things are going well, some new clubs are starting up, and there are a lot of good things happening. He said the NKC is rebuilding and upgrading the website, and is excited about the possibilities that come with that. He was pleased to introduce Samantha Clabo, who has taken Joyce Harrell’s place at the home office. Del said that the Rabbit Hunter is working on going digital, and will be an all-digital format in a couple of years.

Financial Report from NKC / ARHA Representative

Del Morgan stated that PP has approximately \$4,200.

Overall Entry Numbers for a 3 Year Period (2016, 2017, 2018)

Brint Sparks reported how the numbers have been looking the last 3 years; from 2016 to 2017, PP was up 208 entries. From 2017 to 2018, PP was down 442 entries, in a time when the economy is good. It is hoped that we can make some improvements to bring the numbers back up and keep them increasing.

### Promoting our Hound of the Year Top Ten

Brint Sparks said we need to do more to promote our top 10 hounds, recognizing that making the top 10 is a big achievement and he wants to put more focus on highlighting those hounds. With the Rabbit Hunter magazine, we could get a full page dedicated to the Hound of the Year and Reserve Hound of the Year, with a write up about each, such as the hound's breeding, its strengths and personality, some history about it, what the owner likes about the hound, and so on. Then additional space can be provided highlighting the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> hounds with some brief information on each one. We can do this beginning with the 2018 set of hounds. Brint made a motion to this effect, Mike Myers seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Rich King suggested that the 3 through 10 hounds should be recognized at the banquet with certificates. Also, along the lines of recognizing the efforts of the top ten hounds, Rich noted that at this year's Runoffs, the 3 through 10 hounds did not receive a bye in the first round, which in effect removes the reward of making the top 10, as those hounds ran with the hounds who entered by wins, with no advantage for making the top 10. Brint explained that the structure and intent is, if feasible, to give a bye to the 3 through 10 hounds, the Reserve HOY, and the HOY, but time may be a factor in giving that many byes; this year, it was decided to make sure the Reserve received a bye. It was discussed that 3 bye rounds could be done if we sent all three classes out at the same time in the first round.

Motion was made by Rich King, and seconded by Mike Myers, that the runoff structure and process go as follows, with a basic (minimum) 4 round framework: The first round, send out open champs and grands at the same time. This first round will be the hounds who are entered by their win slips. Each cast winner from that round will then run in round 2 with the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> place hounds. Each cast winner from that round run in round 3 with the Reserve. That winner (or winners) run in round 4 against the High Point Hound. Having higher numbers of qualifiers can increase the number of early rounds. Motion carried.

### Regional Hound of the Year Structure

People from different areas spoke in favor of either open or closed regions. Brint said that the numbers run higher in years with open regions, and lower in years with closed regions. For those

with a closer geographical area for their region, a closed system is better and encourages more people to run, knowing they have a better chance at Reserve or Regional Hound of the Year. For those with spread out regions, it is difficult to gain point within their own region when it takes many hours to get to the clubs, while clubs in other regions are very close to them. In the end, it was decided to leave the regions closed for now, look at it at the meeting at the Morgan Classic, and let the numbers be the deciding factor.

#### US & Morgan Classic Winners, Magazine Cover

Del Morgan asked the clubs to please send pictures to the magazine. He added that for the larger hunts, the cover is available to showcase the winning hounds. There was additional discussion about space in the magazine for highlighting the top hounds from the US and Morgan Classic with short articles. Brint made a motion, seconded by Christi Jernigan Marshall, for the PR person to take charge of this.

#### Deadline for Requesting Big Hunts (Sept 1)

Every year, there is difficulty in getting hunt request in by September 1 for the Big 6 and state hunts. This deadline is extremely important. It is better to put in a hunt request then cancel it than to try putting one in late, which often cannot be accommodated. Being late turning in hunt dates also affects the abilities of Purina and Garmin to provide prizes.

#### Update Run Off Structure Online

The Run off Structure needs to be brought current on the website, including last year's change to the champs requirements for qualifying by wins.

#### Display of Any Dog Food Other than Purina – Guidelines

Purina's sponsorship is very important to the ARHA. They have been reducing their support of other organizations across the board, but they have not reduced their support for ARHA, which is noteworthy and greatly appreciated. It is incumbent upon the ARHA clubs to do their part when it comes to respecting that sponsorship by making certain that any winner photos that are posted publically or for the magazine or website are NOT shown with a competitor's dog food or banner displayed. It was noted that often, a local feed store provides support for a hunt by donating dog food, and that this is also valuable support. In these cases, a solution is to display a banner for the feed store that is making the donation, but not the dog food that has been donated if it is not Purina. Motion was made by Brint and seconded by Bill Raymond that this information will be distributed to the clubs via Daron Myers, Chairman of the State Reps. Motion carried.

## Discussion about Allowing Judging on Horseback

Some people have been asking about the possibility of judging on horseback, as this would increase the pool of potential judges. Unfortunately, the insurance for covering this is cost prohibitive. While the idea has merit, it would be too costly to make this allowance, thus motion was made by John Oosse and seconded by Eddie Mitchell to prohibit this practice. Motion carried.

## Reports / Updates from Committee Chairs

Mike Myers, Watchdog Committee

No new information to report

Donny Joe Sparks, Rules Committee

Donny Joe Sparks being absent, the Rules Committee report was given by Mike Marshall and Heath Maddox.

The first item of the report related to the issue of carrying handhelds on the cast. It has proven unrealistic for one person to carry all of the handhelds for the entire cast. Additionally, many beaglers with hearing difficulties require the tracking feature of the handheld in order to know where their hounds are. After group discussion, the motion was made by Brint and seconded by Bill Raymond to allow the handlers to carry their handhelds with them on the casts to be used for tracking purposes, and that the handhelds can also be used for handling under particular circumstances, namely during timeouts, or with specific judge permission during running time or if a dog is in danger. Further, a judge has discretion to instruct the beaglers ahead of time as to how and when they may use the training features in the course of the cast in the event the judge is not in proximity to the handlers when specific situations arise. A judge may, at his discretion, DQ a hound if a handler has been judged to use the training features outside of the manner allowed. Motion carried. The announcement was to be made at the start of the US competition, then posted on Facebook by Christi so that clubs are aware of the change for the period of time before an official rule change is put forth.

The second item from the Rules Committee was a need for clarification of a part of the strike and jump rule. A jump cannot be awarded unless a strike has been awarded. If a judge cannot determine which dog got the strike, he cannot award a jump, even if he sees a jump occur. In such a situation, the judge has the option of going for checks or moving the dogs and opening strike and jump back up.

Additionally, if the judge cannot determine which dog struck in first, he cannot award a strike to the next hounds he sees striking in. In this situation, no strike is awarded and the judge has the option of letting the dogs go for checks or moving the dogs and re-opening strike and jump.

Once the clarifications are officially written by the Rules Committee, they will be put online on Facebook and on the website.

Daron Myers, State Reps

Daron Myers was not present; Mike Myers had no report on Daron's behalf.

Anna Sparks, Public Relations

Anna Sparks stated that if people had connections with or ideas for vendors, suppliers, etc who might be willing to donate items for hunts or to set up at the US or Morgan Classic, she can assist by making those contacts if that would be of help.

#### Discussion and Appointment of new Certification Judges (if any)

If a state's certification judges are not current, the state reps should notify Daron Myers, Chairman of the State Reps, about certification judges who are no longer active or if replacements are needed.

Cody Gaston and Josh Hackney were proposed as new certification judges for Arkansas. Motion was made by Brint., seconded by John Oosse. Motion carried.

#### Follow Up and/or Incomplete Items from Last Meeting:

New Field Judge's Test

The new field judges test has not yet been processed through the Rules Committee for approval and distribution; Mike Marshall was asked to draft the new test on behalf of the Rules Committee.

#### New Business (*business that cannot reasonably have been foreseen prior to agenda deadline*)

Del Morgan stated that, for reasons of insurability, a person needs to be 21 years old in order to hold office in a club or to serve as Master of Hounds or Breed Inspector; however, younger people may serve as assistant in any of those capacities. Brint made a motion, seconded by Del Morgan, motion carried.

Eddie Mitchell made a motion for the following changes to be made regarding state reps: John Slaughter for Georgia, replacing Chuck Carter. Jerry Borden for Alabama, replacing Eric Terrell, and Tony Dawson for Tennessee. Approved by the board pending approval by Daron Myers

Brint made a motion to move Glendon Bobo to an alternate position on the Watchdog Committee, moving Rich King to an active Watchdog committee position. Motion was seconded by John Oosse. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Brint to remove Bobby Wilkerson from his position on the Watchdog Committee, and to add a new position of Youth Watchdog Committee Member to that committee, and putting Trey Powers into that position. Motion was seconded by Joyce. Motion carried.

Brint stated that in order to be more effective, the PR Committee needed members, rather than just a chairperson. Motion was made to appoint Jerry Borden from the South, Toby Dooly from the West, Al Taylor from the North, and Matt Aubrey from the East. Motion was seconded by Rich King. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Brint to create an official NKC ARHA Progressive Pack Facebook Page, with members and chairperson of the PR committee, and Christi Jernigan, Secretary, as administrators. Del Morgan seconded, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.