

**NPGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND
JUNE 16-17, 2005**

Thursday, June 16th, 2005

President Aaron Esterline called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. Present were President Aaron Esterline, Vice President Ray Hoyt, Treasurer Joyce Hubbard, Secretary Mark Adkins, Directors Lynda Gredin, MaryBeth Guenther, Carol Hepner, Maggie Leman, Tammi Josephson, John Murray, Andy Nash, Scott Noffsinger, Cheryl Rogers, Stetts Stettler, and Susan Seiler, and Business Manager Dori Lowell. Absent: Theresa McPhedran.

Pres. Esterline welcomed Tammi Josephson to the Board and had everyone in attendance introduce themselves and which region they represented.

President's Report

President Esterline had nothing new to report that would not be discussed later during the remainder of the agenda.

Vice-President's Report

Vice-President Hoyt reported on the new paperless committee reports that are now posted on the website instead of being mailed out. Vice-President Hoyt then gave a short summary of the National Animal ID System – the premise ID number is a different ID number than the National Scrapie number.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Adkins reported that all but one director approved the minutes for the January Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Hubbard reported that the May statement is not done yet.

Central Office Report By Business Manager, Dori Lowell

- Handout distributed to Board members with the latest figures.
- This year has been a bit busier than 2004.
- Our numbers are up slightly over last year.
- A significant amount of archives have been moved to the storage unit.
- At this time there are no foreseeable large expenditures for the Central Office.

The Board directed \$10,000 to be taken from checking and put into a CD. This deposit will restore NPGA's CDs back to the position they were in when we withdrew funds in 2003.

The report was accepted.

Certification Report By Dori Lowell

- No animals have been reviewed this period.
- So far for 2005 I have received 4 applications for progeny testing. I have also received several calls from people interested in starting the process before it is closed. One animal has completed the testing and was accepted this year. Our total number of progeny applications is now 204 since 1990. There are 22 applicants, which would be considered active but have not completed the process.

The report was accepted.

Ad-Hoc Linear Appraisal Committee Report By Stetts Stettler

- After receiving feedback on initial informational articles, it seems that what many members, including board members, are really interested in is the specifics of how such a program would work in the NPGA. In order to give specifics, the actual program and scorecard must be created and this requires gathering biological data from the animals to getting some working figures on extremes in the various traits. We need to collect the data and then set up the scoring breakdown accordingly. The discussion necessary to finalize this draft will require the presence of at least two or more committee members and some goats to insure we are all talking about the same traits and evaluating them in the same manner to insure repeatability in actual

trials. Because we have no funds, we are trying to work out a way to make this happen, but our school and family circumstances have not made this possible to date. We are dedicated to insuring a carefully researched process that will eventually lead to a quality program offered to well-educated NPGA members. To that end, we have concentrated a lot of effort toward the recent MEMO article and maintained reader awareness through updates via Regional Reflections.

- We are aware of many of the objections raised to the program. Education will help alleviate some of these concerns, but the ability to demonstrate the practicality is paramount and we request that the NPGA continue their support while understanding that this will not be an overnight or short-term endeavor. Financially, we ask the board to allocate funds of \$600 to offset the cost of a developmental meeting at which a working scorecard can be drafted. The response from the membership has been positive and supportive to a large degree in many areas where I have had the opportunity to explain the concept or where persons are already familiar with linear appraisal.
- Jason Overman has recently joined the committee and will lend his solid voice to the issues.
- We hope the Board of Directors will agree that our low-cost, steady efforts should be continued.
- Appraiser selection procedures cannot be adequately outlined or explained without first completing the scorecard phase of the program and demonstrating the techniques used to determine those scores.

A majority of the Board approved the continuation of this Ad-Hoc committee until January 2006, and the requested \$600 in funding.

The report was accepted.

Closed Session:

Open Session:

H.E.R. Report By Kay Orlando

- HER Committee is now answering health questions via the Internet.
- At least one health related article appears now in each issue of MEMO.
- HER Committee hopes to compile an easy to read and understand basic vaccination schedule.
- Hopefully any new members to the HER Committee will be from regions not currently represented to give the committee increased diversity.

The report was accepted.

Public Relations Report By Bob Flickinger

- The Public Relations Committee has seen several significant accomplishments within the last six months. With exchange ads with most magazines difficult to achieve, we began contacting Internet web sites willing to work out exchange ads with the NPGA and MEMO.
- We have our first such exchange with the Goat Kingdom. We have a 1-year exchange deal with Goat Kingdom where we have received a banner ad on their Home page and their Spot light Mini Market pages. This Banner ad should expose the Pygmy Goat and the NPGA to a whole new audience of people who "surf the web". By clicking on our banner ad you will be directed to the NPGA web site and be exposed to the information our web site provides. In exchange we will give The Goat Kingdom a half page ad in MEMO for 1 year. This will also provide our membership the opportunity to list their farms on their web site for a nominal fee. There is also more information for our membership to explore with other goat resources available on their web site as well.
- We also ran our second ad with Hobby Farms Magazine, which will run in their July/ August issue. With all advertising it takes repetition to achieve the goal of maximum exposure to an audience you are trying to reach. With this issue of Hobby Farms Magazine we have also received a bonus, with the article Your Guide to Miniature Livestock, the pygmy goat received excellent coverage and exposure. The NPGA is also listed as a source of credible information for the pygmy goat.
- Future goals include continue to seek out exchange advertising in print media and with other web site hosts.
- I would like to request an additional \$578 to run our ad for the third time in Hobby Farms for Sept/October issue.

The Board requested President Esterline inform the Public Relations Chair to redirect the focus of the committee to become a more information request supplier and to look at liner ads instead of picture ads, trade website links with goat supplies providers, and provide NPGA brochures to State fairs. The request for additional funds was denied.

The report was accepted

Publications Report By Linda Henwood

- The committee reviewed several articles for MEMO in a timely fashion as directed by the Board.
- As NPGA has been without a MEMO Editor, we are also actively seeking out articles to be reviewed and printed in MEMO.
- There have been no items to review for the web site since January 2005.
- There are no articles or items pending for MEMO or the web site for the committee's review at this time.

The report was accepted.

Webmaster Report By Aaron Esterline

- Breeders listing requests have been added/modified in a timely manner.
- Herdbook data has been updated as new information is received.
- I have added the ability to renew memberships online, charging the \$2.00 fee. This has not yet been widely advertised as Dori and I are still working on separating Merchandise and Central Office in PayPal.
- Assuming my stint as MEMO Editor is over after this meeting, I plan to implement the list of changes, which have been discussed (classified and banner ads, etc). I would also like to look at adding additional content to the site and refreshing the pages.
- I spoke with Jim Huber about offering Christmas specials again this year. We plan on offering several different packages at reduced cost. These Packages will be displayed on the home page, and go on sale shortly after Halloween.

Report was approved.

Affiliated Clubs Report By Susan Seiler

- There are currently 50 clubs on the Affiliated Clubs roster, 2 have been added since the last Board meeting.
- Request for changes in contact information, addresses, etc continue to be updated on the web site and in MEMO on a regular basis.
- The Coordinator maintains a file of information regarding club organization and procedures as a resource for new clubs. The information is available on request.

Discussion on requiring Affiliated Clubs contact person be a NPGA member. Also discussed was what should the Affiliated Clubs purpose be. Susan will bring suggestions back to the Board in January.

Report was accepted.

Motion # 2005 – 13

Passed

Proposed By Nash/Hepner

We add rule F to Section I 1 and 2 of the Rules for Official Shows, National Show and Champion Challenge, Rule F would state that, "The National Champion portion of the show must be conducted before the sanctioned portion of the show begins. i.e. wethers before wethers, does before does, bucks before bucks.

Yes: Adkins, Gredin, Guenther, Hepner, Hoyt, Hubbard, Josephson, Leman, Murray, Nash, Noffsinger, Rogers, Stettler and Seiler. **No:** None. **Absent:** McPhedran.

Closed Session

Open Session

Elections Report By Erin McCarthy

- The following directors are scheduled for automatic re-nomination for their position.
Region 1: Joyce Hubbard
Region 3: Theresa McPhedron
Region 4: MaryBeth Guenther
Region 5: John Murray
Region 7: Scott Noffsinger
Region 8: Andy Nash
- The following directors are subject to term limits and are unable to run again for the Board.
Region 2: Ray Hoyt
Region 6: Carol Hepner
- Michelle Fonda has received three nominations from Region 2 members and Michael O'Kelly has received 3 nominations from Region 5 members. Letters will be sent promptly to these individuals to determine whether they accept or decline their nominations as director. A single nomination has been received for Karen Hepner of Region 6.
- I have been in contact with several people across the country that have recommended people for director or vacancy replacement director or have expressed interest in positions. Nominations have yet to be received for either position from those individuals. I have not been in contact with anyone interested in running for either position from regions 3, 4, and 8 and anticipate those directors will run unopposed.
- Automatic nomination letters will be sent to current directors immediately following Convention 2005 in Maryland by the newly appointed election coordinator.
- There are no budget concerns for this position and am seeking no budget be considered.

Report was accepted.

Show Coordinator Report By Theresa McPhedron

- So far this year there have been 3 PGCH bucks and 5 PGCH does.
- Show income has decreased due to most of the show being in the spring.
- Ribbons need to be ordered, ribbon color choice will be made before September and then recommended to the Show Coordinator.
- There are a few issues that need to be addressed, either Report of Awards are given a 30 day limit to reach the Show Coordinator either with the show chair mailing the information or the judge taking care of it right away. I have been emailing judges after the end of the month or after 30 days of the show requesting the Report of Awards as well as emailing Linda Carpenter with the names of the judges and the number of show that are missing the Report of Awards.
- There have been a couple of issues regarding the time frame of shows being sanctioned and them being listed on the web site, or ribbons being mailed or the mailing of certificates. I have had many show sanction applications that have no Member number on them or they have been so difficult to read that I have had to call to find out exactly what is happening.
- I have gotten into the habit of not mailing out certificates from a show until all of the judges ROA's have been received. I feel this saves time and money for NPGA as there might be multiple wins that can be sent out at one time.
- The other issue has to do with mailing all items to Dori and then having them forwarded to me. It takes considerable time for this process if someone is mailing close to the date of the sanction. It can take up to 5 days to reach Dori and another 5 days to reach me then if any items are not completed then this may delay the show ribbons or sanction approval going out.
- Show packets contain outdated information and need to be updated.

Report was accepted.

MEMO Report By Aaron Esterline

- The 2005 Directory & Membership Roster and Winter 2005 MEMO have been created, printed, and distributed on time.

- The Summer 2005 MEMO was submitted to the printer on May 1st. It is my understanding that they were mailed May 6th.
- The budget for the remainder of the year will depend on the contract signed with the new Editor. The new Editor will be responsible for two additional issues of MEMO in 2005. We should be approximately \$6000 under budget for the Editor Salary in 2005. The other categories should be on or under budget.
- As we begin to work with a new Editor after this meeting, it is important that everyone do his or her part to make MEMO successful. Please remember that, as part of the job description, each Director is to either write a Regional Reflection or submit an article to reprint (with reprint permission) twice a year.
- We should ask the new Editor to evaluate our advertising prices. While many companies could benefit from targeting our very specific audience, it seems that not many people/companies are. This may be due only to the fact that we haven't contacted them, or it could be that they are turned off by the cost per recipient. Either way, we should ask the Editor to take a look and make a recommendation.

The report was approved.

Merchandise Report By Jim Huber

- The Merchandise Department is doing very well. I have sent Dori over \$6500 this year.
- I'm looking forward to another great year. Please keep up your promotion of the Merchandise Department.

A suggestion was made to add a metal license plate frame to the merchandise catalog. Lynda Gredin will send Jim a catalog containing these types of frames for him to review and maybe add.

The report was approved.

Compliance Committee Report By Ray Shipley

- Following the NPGA Board of Directors meeting in Tempe, AZ in January, the Chair appointed the following members of the Board of Directors to the Compliance Committee for the year, 2005: President Aaron Esterline, Vice-President Ray Hoyt, and Secretary Mark Adkins.
- As of the date of this writing, no matters have come to the attention of this committee and no funds have been expended from the current fiscal budget.

The report was approved.

Old Business

- A. Trophy Topper – discussion of NPGA having a trophy topper made and then sold through Merchandise. The cost of this was too prohibitive for NPGA to pursue further.
- B. NPGA Application/Ethics Policy – this item was withdrawn.
- C. Membership Categories – discussion of changing membership categories to reflect those that are currently used and remove those that have never been used. Resulted in Motion # 2005 – 14.

Motion # 2005 – 14

Passed

Proposed By Esterline/Gredin

I move that the Bylaws changes proposed in the Holiday 2004 MEMO (page 8) relating to membership categories be adopted by the Board. The changes are as follows:

1. Revise Bylaws II.2.2 as follows: “The Association shall have the following classes of members: Individual, Family, Youth, and Business.”
2. Remove Bylaws II.2.3 and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.
3. Revise Rules and Regulations 4.M as follows:
 - Membership Fees and Classifications
 1. Individual Member: Annual dues of \$25.00

2. Family Member (all related individuals living in the same residence): Annual dues of \$35.00
3. Youth (any individual under 18 years of age): Annual dues of \$20.00
4. Business Member: Annual dues of \$35.00
5. All membership categories are eligible for contributing status by adding \$20.00 to their annual membership dues. All contributing members shall receive MEMO by first class mail.

Effective January 1st 2006.

Yes: Adkins, Esterline, Gredin, Guenther, Hepner, Hubbard, Josephson, Leman, Murray, Nash, Noffsinger, Rogers, Stettler and Seiler. **No:** None. **Absent:** McPhedran.

D. Herdbook Closing – after considerable discussion this item was withdrawn.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:45 PM

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Meeting Called to Order at 8:03 AM June 17 2005

Breed Standard Report By George Starbuck

- Sharon Perry replaces Becky Conerly on the committee.
- As Chairperson, I'm requesting the Board make an exception in the rotation of my committee. The new rule asks for replacement after 3 years. I'm asking for permission to reappoint active, participating members for an additional 3-year term to assure continuity.
- There have been no written inquiries from members. However, I have had several phone calls and personal contacts questioning the board's action in changing the Breed Standard's wording on frosted areas from 'distinctly lighter' to 'accented in white'. The term 'lighter' has been in the breed standard since the formation of NPGA. The committee's recommendation in January was to add the word 'distinctly' to better define the markings.
- Proposed changes to the Guidelines for Judging Pygmy Goat Wethers: Rearrange columns to match doe/buck guidelines; Add Obesity to Emaciation (Health & Condition); Change Tractable/Showablity to Behavior. Rearrange terms, deleting 'tractable' and adding 'friendly'.
- Members will be needed from Regions 3, 4, 6 and 7 to replace members rotating off.

Receipt of the Breed Standard Report Acknowledged

The Board approved the changes to the Guidelines for Judging Pygmy Goat Wethers.

JTC Report By Linda Carpenter

- I have kept the Judges informed of judging related issues, including a summary of Board actions at the January 2005 meeting. I've sent emails to Judges reminding them of the importance of promptly responding to judging requests. Important items have also been posted on the online judges' portal.
- I have communicated with potential candidates about the requirements for the Judging Exam (JE), including NPGA publications to study. I have also provided a link (<http://www.npga-pygmy.com/resources/showing/thejts.asp>) to MEMO article about attending a JE.
- Provided a data sheet to MEMO for candidates and others who plan to attend the 2005 JE.
- Provided an article on using the Breed Standard for judging to MEMO.
- As approved by the Board in January, I obtained and sent NPGA Judge name badges to Bob Barber, Scott Colwell, and Jennifer Josephson. I also obtained name badges for 3 judges who have moved. The current name badges have only the Judge's name and not home city/state. I will provide nametags to future judges, as they need them.
- At the June 2004 meeting the Board requested Mark Adkins, Judy Starbuck, and myself to check into doing a quality conformation training video. We have nothing to report at this time.

- The Judging Manual (JM) was updated to reflect the changes approved at the January Board Meeting. Aaron Esterline had the JMs printed and shipped to Merchandise. He also mailed a JM to every licensed judge. The JM is currently for sale for \$10 from Merchandise, either by U.S. mail or on the NPGA website.
- I have revised the written test to reflect the current JM, Show Rules, and Rules and Regulations. Every JTC member provided questions. The revised written test was reviewed by the two JTC members who could do so without my mailing, emailing or faxing the test.
- I worked with George Starbuck, Breed Standard Committee Chair, to revise and reformat the current Guidelines for Judging Pygmy Goat Wethers.
- Currently R & R 10.A.3. states that a candidate who fails at the JE but passed the written test with a score of at least 80% need not repeat the written test for 2 additional JE's held at Conventions. In effect, this means that a candidate has an unlimited number of years to attend 3 JE's. A candidate can pass the written test, attend the next JE (or any JE in the future) and then can attend 2 more JEs any time in the future. In other words, a candidate could attend a JE then wait 10 years to attend again and then 15 years. In effect, the current rule infers that the written test and the written information for Judges aren't very important. (See Motion # 2005 – 15).
- I know there have been Board discussions about NPGA providing candidates with special training event's that would be held weeks or months prior to the JE. Exhibit A is my proposal if the Board does decide to implement an official NPGA training program for candidates.
- I estimate there will be 9 candidates at the JE in Hagerstown.
- As decided as the January Board meeting, the non-JTC Judges will participate in a separate CEP facilitated by Andy Nash. The CEP will be Held on Monday concurrent with the JE for candidates. It will be restricted to Judges only. The Judges on the Board who attend the CEP will assist Andy as needed and will help evaluate the CEP activities and consider future changes and improvements.

The report was accepted

Motion # 2005 – 15

Passed

Proposed By: Stettler/Guenther

Rules and Regulations 10.A.3 be revised to state:

Any candidate for Judge's License who passes the written exam with a grade of 80% or more, but fails the practical exam, need not repeat the written portion of the test for the next two sequential JE events held at National Conventions.

Yes: Adkins, Gredin, Guenther, Hepner, Hoyt, Hubbard, Josephson, Leman, Murray, Nash, Noffsinger, Rogers, Stettler and Seiler. **No:** None. **Absent:** McPhedran.

The issue of requiring judges to retake the written test annually was tabled until January 2006.

Director Stettler presented a judge candidate-training program. The details of the program were felt to be too labor-intensive for the JTC to undertake, and had other provisions deemed unworkable by the JTC. The JTC is willing to work with Director Stettler and any other interested parties to develop an alternative program for consideration in January 2006.

Director Adkins asked if there was some way to indicate on the NPGA website an individual judge's availability to judge and any other information helpful to local show chairs trying to hire judges, e.g. fees charged, schedules, etc. The Webmaster affirmed that such a proposal could be done. JTC Chair Carpenter is to write a MEMO article on "How to Get a Judge."

There was no appetite on the part of the Board to make any changes to travel reimbursement provisions currently in the Rules and Regulations for members of the JTC.

Director Noffsinger requested the Board rescind Show Rule B.2.g regarding the prohibition of Judge Apprentices in the ring during shows. The Board indicated some willingness to hear an alternative proposal in January 2006 to current absolute prohibition. Director Noffsinger and the JTC to develop the proposal.

Youth Report By Pat Kaufman

- The scholarship winners from last year were honored and highlighted in the Youth Section of the MEMO this last year. I have worked with Aaron to also put the information out on the NPGA website. We had several good applicants last year and have received several good applicants for this year. We will award two \$500.00 scholarships this year. I am making the copies and getting all entries sent out to the committee members so we can make our decision in the next few weeks for the 2005 scholarship winners.
- The youth members that attended 2004 National Convention were well represented in the MEMO this last year with pictures. I will plan on doing that again this year. I have requested to meet with the youth at Nationals again this year and show them the youth section in MEMO and on the website so they are aware of what articles and opportunities we have for them during the year. Hopefully by doing this in every region at Nationals we can get more and more interest in the youth area.
- The youth committee members have been busy during 2005 getting articles from their youth to put in the MEMO. We have listed several 4-H stories encouraging other youth to send their stories and working with 4-H clubs to include pygmies in their projects. The committee members are also being recruited to write their articles for MEMO. Erin McCarthy submitted her obstacle course article that will be in the current issue of the MEMO. We have also had several contests and puzzles in the Youth Section of the MEMO.
- The coloring book is now ready to go to the Publications committee for review.
- Work with Aaron to add youth to the website youth directory from family membership.
- Develop and implement a NPGA Pygmy Judging class. This will be offered for senior member youth. It will be set up a lot like the horse and beef judging competitions in FFA and 4-H. If it is accepted through NPGA then maybe we can get FFA and 4-H to also incorporate it into their programs.

The report was approved.

January Board Meeting

Location for the January 2006 Board meeting was discussed and Las Vegas was decided on.

Convention 2006

Two bids were submitted for Convention 2006. Carol Hepner on behalf of the Heartland Pygmy Goat Club presented one bid. Cheryl Rogers on behalf of Nancy Simpson presented the second bid.

Closed Session

Open Session

New Business

- A. 6-month Residency Requirement – this was discussed and could not have any action taken at this time due to it being a Bylaws change that needs to be advertised in MEMO first.
- B. Pet Doe Certificate of Recorded Ancestry – after some lengthy discussion this item was withdrawn.
- C. Committee Member Terms – there was no appetite by the Board to make a change at this time.
- D. Photo Size for Registration – after some discussion the Board voted to change the NPGA registration policy to state that: only the goat being registered is to be in the picture, the goat must fill a minimum of 50% of the picture, the minimum picture size is 3”x3”.
- E. Remove Requirement for Registration Measurements – only goats over a year old will now be required to submit measurements for registration.
- F. Whiteout on Registration Certificates – after some discussion this item was withdrawn
- G. Formalize Convention Sites – After some discussion this item resulted in Motion # 2005 - 16.

I move that we modify section 14 of the Rules & Regulations as follows:

14. Convention

- A. At each summer Board Meeting the Board of Directors shall accept proposals, submitted by individual(s) or club(s), to host the next year's National Convention. Those wishing to submit a proposal shall contact the President at least 6 weeks in advance of the Board Meeting to arrange for time on the agenda.
 - a. The opportunity to host the National Convention is given to a different region every year, rotating in the following order: 5, 6, 2, 8, 3, 4, 1, and 7 (Region 5 in 2005, Region 6 in 2006, Region 2 in 2007, etc).
 - b. In the event that a region submits no bids, that region shall be skipped and the next region in line shall have the opportunity to submit a proposal.

- B. The terms of the accepted proposal shall be documented in a contract between NPGA and the Convention Host(s). The contract shall be executed as soon as possible after the proposal is accepted.
 - a. NPGA may assume responsibility for those reasonable and just expenses incurred for official non-show activities held in conjunction with the annual Convention. Said expenses could include, but not be limited to, cost of Board Meeting rooms and equipment for the Judging Exam.
 - b. NPGA will donate the sanction fees to the National Shows. (84-12)

- C. No other show will be sanctioned within a 1000-mile radius of the location of the Convention show on the same weekend. (84-11, 87-03)

Yes: Adkins, Gredin, Guenther, Hepner, Hoyt, Hubbard, Josephson, Leman, Murray, Nash, Noffsinger, Rogers, Stettler and Seiler. **No:** None. **Absent:** McPhedran.

Closed Session

Open Session:

Non-Agenda Item Discussed

There was a short discussion of some general non-agenda items.

Meeting Adjourned 2:43 pm June 17th

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Adkins, Secretary NPGA