**Irish Wolfhound Association of New England**

**Member Meeting Minutes ~ June 11, 2023**

**Showcase for Dogs**

**Call to Order:**

The IWANE president called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00pm. The following board members were present: Karen Eberl (KE), Beth Wimsatt (BW), Joni Light (JL), Janel Milner (JM), Andrea Dormady (AD), Lee Loebelenz (LL). Colleen Brown (CB) was absent.

Members present: Pat Scelso, Mike Meyer, Jen Sula, Donna Sula, Sabine Gannon, Sue Gilson, Judy M, Jane Cottrell, Clary Healy, John Fitzgerald, Kelly Richards, Lisa Dube-Forman, Susan Prokopenko, Pat Campbell, Marc Campbell, Bill Wimsatt, Evie Jimenez, Bev Alba, Valerie Schiller, Carole Silverthorne, Tanya Hart Newkirk

**Agenda:**

A meeting was scheduled in conjunction with the general meeting as per IWANE Bylaws, Article II, Section 3. JL was recording the minutes. IWANE will be referred to as “The Club” henceforth. Agenda items may be in slightly different order than submitted.

**Opening remarks and Election Results:**

AD called the meeting to order in the absence of the president and welcomed all members. JL announced the new board members based upon the Survey Monkey results from voting members: Colleen Brown, President, Andrea Dormady, Vice President, Beth Wimsatt, Treasurer, Joni Light, Secretary, Clary Healy, Board of Director, Lee Loebelenz, Board of Director, Pat Scelso, Board of Director.

AD thanked JM for her volunteer services as treasurer for the past five years.

**Treasurer’s Reports:**

JM reviewed the financials with the board. The statement of accounts is as follows: Operating account balance, $86,261.90 which includes the Janney deposit of $21,606, approved to be withdrawn by the board at the November 27, 2022, board meeting. Of that amount, the membership voted to allocate the proceeds to the IW Database in the amount of $2,000, $7,000 is to go towards the annual heart testing, and the remaining $12,606 is to go to the IWF. The Hick’s Trust (Janney) has a balance of $514,349.59 through the end of May 2023.

**Committee Reports Club Specialty:**

KE informed members that this is her last specialty and the Club is looking for a new chairperson. Additionally, AD noted that the trophy chair position is open. KE added that she and AD will continue to hold onto the challenge trophies and to get them engraved for this year. Lastly, AD noted that the heart testing is managed by the specialty chairperson and it holds a fair amount of responsibility.

**Committee Reports FCAT:**

JL and BW discussed the upcoming FCAT events, one being the Fun Run in Gorham, Maine. The official AKC trials are in September and November in Maine and New Hampshire locations, respectively. Bill Wimsatt added that the FCAT committee welcomes any member willing to volunteer to assist and learn more about the sport. The committee comprises of five IWANE members: Bill Wimsatt, Beth Wimsatt, Andrea Dormady, Sybil Owens, and Joni Light.

**Fun Match 2023:**

JL confirmed that the location voted by members is AD’s home in Duxbury and will be held on September 23, 2023. That will be the next member meeting, as well.

**Sportsman Award:**

AD said the Club is not getting nominations for the award and we need to think of how to renew interest. Bill Wimsatt suggested a performance award and potentially a ringside award and there was a healthy discussion on such ideas. This will be revisited by the board.

**New Business - Judge nominations for 2025:**

The following foreign judge names were put forth to the members for secret balloting for the 2025 conformation assignment: Roger Tebbit, UK Caredig Irish Wolfhounds, Jenny Dove, UK Saringa Irish Wolfhounds, Jocelyne Gagne, CA Starkeeper Irish Wolfhounds.

The following people were put forth for the 2025 sweepstakes assignment: Ewa Boldok, Wolfholm Irish Wolfhounds, Jonathan Harvey, Cualainn Irish Wolfhounds, Linda King.

Votes confirmed Roger Tebbit for conformation judge, and Linda King for sweepstakes judge.

Roger Tebbit and Linda King took the majority of votes.

**Meeting minutes of April 29, 2023:**

JL moved the motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 29, 2023, as written. BW seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

JL shared news of the recent Meet & Greet events from 2022 and was looking for interest in doing more on a regular basis. Sabine Gannon was present and she started discussion on the Meet & Greet in St. Johnsbury, VT at Dog Mountain, as well as discussion on St. Patrick’s Day parade coordination. She and Duncan will continue to coordinate the Boston parade. JL asked if anyone else was interested in coordinating a local parade with hounds and several people showed interest in this and other “Irish” or “Hound” events.

For other event planning, Bill Wimsatt brought up his interest in getting hounds together for Renaissance Fairs in New England and set up fun coursing trials to share in the medieval themed event and educate people to the beauty of hounds in motion. All of these events can evolve to be educational and fun at the same time. Discussion continued around Club events.

A motion was made by KE to adjourn the meeting. JM seconded the motion and the meeting ended at 1:40pm.

Submitted and approved: Approved on December 17, 2023.

Joni Light

Secretary