



**The English Setter Association of America
Board of Directors
Videoconference
December 10, 2024**

In attendance: Kristen Apodaca, Colleen Bell, Julie Brimble, Lynda Chase, Leslie Crawford, Kathy Cunningham-Roy, John Fabelo, Rachel Fraser, Judi Hunter, Joanne Mistler, Julie Quirk, Coleen Raber, Cindy Rice, Roxanne Seale, BJ Parsons. Anna Quigley joined late.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM ET.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the in-person Board meeting in Virginia Beach 2022, the new National Specialty Coordinator presented a two page report that contained **3 recommendations and 2 suggestions.**

The first recommendation was to form a National Specialty Committee to host all of our future Nationals that do not already have a regional club with an approved bid to host. Discussion resulted in a Chase/Mistler motion to create the new Standing Committee and was passed by the Board.

The second recommendation was to transition the National to three set locations under the current rotation. No action was taken on this recommendation.

The third recommendation was contingent on the Board having approved recommendation number 2 since it proposed a membership vote on the permanent locations. No action taken on this recommendation.

The first suggestion was to list some cost-saving measures for the National and ways to make it more accessible for regional clubs to hold a specialty after the National. There were several subparts to this suggestion.

- (a) "ESAA could assume all the expenses for the National, including the superintendent/secretary fees, site fees, A/V fees and combined catalog expenses. If the National makes a profit then ESAA can give the Regional Club(s) 10% to 20% (suggested) of the profit for providing the volunteers for that year's National. Regional clubs would only be responsible for their own trophies, ribbons and judges' expenses. They would keep all the profit made from their Specialty. Implementation of this item would be on a trial basis with a target start at the 2024 National scheduled for the Midwest." No action was taken on this suggestion.
- (b) Reduce the number of judges hired for the National. No action was taken on this suggestion.
- (c) Have Veteran Sweeps and Top Twenty on the same night. No action was taken on this suggestion.
- (d) Encourage donations from local vendors to the hospitality suite. No action was taken on this suggestion. However, Board discussion segued into the subject of raffles. This resulted in a

Miller/Mistler motion to combine the ESAA and Top 20 raffles beginning in 2023 and was passed by the Board. [Note: rescinded at a later meeting]

- (e) Apply \$10 from each membership yearly dues to the trophy fund rather than seeking donations. Discussion resulted in a Goldberg/Mistler motion for \$10 from each household and individual membership fee to go to the National trophy fund and was passed by the Board. [Note: rescinded at a later meeting.]
- (f) Standardize grooming spaces to a minimum of 8x10 and maximum of 10x10. No action was taken on this suggestion.
- (g) Hire Show Secretaries rather than Superintendents. No action was taken on this suggestion.
- (h) Going with a standardized catalog option that includes advertising but eliminate full bleeds and card stock dividers. No action was taken on this suggestion.
- (i) Pre-order catalogs and have only a small number of extras available for general sale at the National. No action was taken on this suggestion.
- (j) Have an all-breed Hunt Test and Supported Agility in regions where there are not enough entries to support a setter only event. No action was taken on this suggestion.

The second suggestion was to have the Publicity Chair of the National help with more attendance and public education about English Setters. There were two subparts to this suggestion.

- (a) Get a contract with AKC TV for our National every year. No action was taken on this suggestion.
- (b) Work with local TV stations to do an interest piece on our National when we are in town. No action was taken on this suggestion.

A Quigley/Fabelo motion was made to accept the report.

THIS IS WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES TODAY

It was assumed that the following suggestion from the 2022 report was to be implemented for 2024 - **ESAA could assume all the expenses for the National, including the superintendent/secretary fees, site fees, A/V fees and combined catalog expenses. If the National makes a profit then ESAA can give the Regional Club(s) 10% to 20% (suggested) of the profit for providing the volunteers for that year's National. Regional clubs would only be responsible for their own trophies, ribbons and judges' expenses. They would keep all the profit made from their Specialty. Implementation of this item would be on a trial basis with a target start at the 2024 National scheduled for the Midwest.**

The Ohio, Buckeye and Denver clubs all signed on to hold their specialties on the Saturday and Sunday following the ESAA run National at the Roberts Centre in 2024 with the understanding that their only expenses were their own trophies, ribbons and judges and they could keep any profit made. Here is the financial breakdown and result of this model:

At this time we have been billed the following amounts:

Saturday:

3 Boxed Lunches on Saturday:	\$66.18
Hard Wired Internet for Live Streaming their Specialty:	\$132.99
Pat Shaw Show Secretary Onsite Fee:	\$100.00
Facility Charge which was originally 1,000 reduced to	\$500.00
Service Charge	<u>\$105.00</u>
Total Charges:	\$804.17
Hoping Ohio & Buckeye Clubs will pay:	\$299.17

ESAA will end up paying the balance of: \$505.00

Sunday:

4 Box Lunches	\$88.25
Hard Wired Internet	\$132.99
Pat Shaw Show Secretary Onsite Fee \$100	
Facility Charge which was originally \$1000 reduced to	\$500.00
Service Charge	<u>\$105.00</u>
Total Charges:	\$926.24
Hoping Denver Club will pay:	\$321.24
ESAA will end up paying the balance of:	\$605.00

The question to discuss at this meeting is what are the expense arrangements to be for 2025. This is once again an ESAA run National with two regional clubs holding their specialties on the Saturday and Sunday after. Do we continue what was done in 2024 at the Roberts Centre and provide a subsidy or do we return to the standard practice of splitting expenses pro-rata with regional clubs holding specialties before or after the National. The 2025 weekend clubs need to know our decision sooner rather than later in order to set their budget and figure out if it is cost effective for them to hold their show.

Reminder: Splitting expenses was always done when regional clubs hosted the National. It was also done in 2019 the first time ESAA ran the National and Denver and Minnesota held specialties afterward. It was also done in 2022 the second time ESAA ran the National and Central Carolina held its specialty before the National.

Reminder: The 2025 National is at the same location as the National in 2021 which was hosted by Puget Sound. In 2021, ESAA split expenses as usual with Puget Sound and had a loss of \$1065.

Discussion:

The reconciliation from the 2024 National in Ohio is under review with the Finance Committee and will be sent to the Board once it is final.

There was discussion on steps ESAA would take to renegotiate the 2025 hotel contract if the weekend clubs decide not to hold their shows, and it was noted that the hotel contract does not have a daily charge for the atrium event space.

There was discussion as to whether it is time to negotiate future National Specialty contracts without the extra days for the weekend regional specialties since it has become unaffordable for ESAA and the clubs.

A Raber/Mistler motion was made to create an ad hoc committee of Kathy Cunningham-Roy, Janet Gray, Colleen Bell, Lynda Chase, and Roxanne Seale to come up with guidelines that explain the cost sharing arrangements done in 2019 and 2022 with clubs holding shows before or after an ESAA run National and what those arrangements would look like for 2025. This guidance will be sent to Puget Sound and Willamette Valley for their consideration. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Financial Status

General Account:	\$4,599.43
Money Market	\$76,958.49
Memorial Account	\$4,153.70
Futurity & Maturity	\$12,693.45

A Raber/Mistler motion was passed to adjourn at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Coleen M. Raber

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ESAA Secretary