

# BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB

Annual General Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 at Birches Valley Forest Centre, Birches Valley, Rugeley WS15 2UQ.

## **PRESENT:**

Minna Borsuk (nee Pennanen ) (Chairman), Steve Coles (Secretary), Mark Slaymaker (Treasurer), Helen Coles, Simon Wardle, Tim Lonsdale, Dawn Seago, Helen Clymer

Minna Borsuk (nee Pennanen) (Chairman) chaired the meeting.

Minna Borsuk opened the meeting at 11:00 by welcoming those present and thanking them for attending for the meeting.

### **1. Apologies for absence**

The following members sent apologies for their absence from the AGM: John Derbyshire, Steven Phillips, Paul Wyer, Norman Healy, Neville Black, Dal Borsuk, Andrea Slaymaker, Ann-Marie Hill , Peter Cheeseman, Takako Cheeseman

### **2 . Minutes of the 2018 AGM**

The Minutes of the 2018 AGM were circulated and reviewed by those present.

They were proposed as an accurate record of the 2018 AGM by Steve Coles and seconded by Helen Coles.

A vote was conducted and proved in favour of accepting the 2018 AGM minutes as an accurate record.

The chairman of the meeting Minna Borsuk then signed them.

### **3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising out of the 2018 AGM minutes.

# BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB

Annual General Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

## 4. Chairman's Report

Minna Borsuk presented his report as follows:

2018 has been a busy year.

We have concentrated a lot of effort and resources into health and welfare and this has been slowly but surely bearing fruit.

People are more aware of required health tests as well participating on epilepsy studies.

Our rescue co-ordinator Claire Russell has been busy finding homes for number of Bavarians in need. All credit to Claire as she has found best homes for some very lucky hounds. In 2018 Claire has rehomed 4 hounds, which is about same amount as in 2017.

The society produced a first calendar to be sold in benefit of Rescue and Health. Pictures were all provided by our Facebook members and voted on. The society made a lovely profit of around £400.00 which was divided equally between Rescue and Health funds.

Now that Health Co-Ordinator baton has been handed back to Ann Marie Hill, I am sure we will be going from strength to strength. And with the right support from the committee we can hopefully tackle all the important health issues in the breed.

On behalf of the society I would like to give a very special thank you to the Forestry Commission and its staff, especially their wildlife and recreation rangers around the country for all of their support and assistance with our training areas and help in providing much of our bio degradable training equipment! We fully appreciate all the support they give us and their recognition of what we stand for and do as a society. Without them our training section would not be anywhere near as successful as it is.

Each year the society seems to get busier and stronger, as the current Chairman I would like to give all our committee members a massive thank you for all the help and support you have given me in this role

## BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB

Annual General Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

over the last year We are so fortunate to have such a good mix of people, all with different skill sets and experiences which helps keep the committee and therefore the society firmly grounded and hopefully make the best decisions when required.

The committee applied to the KC in 2018 in order to get our working test an official recognition it so deserves. The proposal was put forward to the Working Test Committee with all the supporting paperwork. We received a reply from the KC on 25<sup>th</sup> February confirming that all tests for Bavarian Mountain Hounds are now run with acceptance and approval of the KC. We are finalising the details and further updates will be given when available. Unfortunately, due to the breed being on AV Import Register, it is not possible for the individual hound's details to be recorded at this current time. But we are hoping that this will change going forward. Further updates will be given when available. It is very important for the breed to keep it's working origins and we are hoping that getting an official recognition would help our cause. Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their help and challenging work as without you all, we would not be in a position we are now.

### 5. Secretary's Report

Steve Coles presented his report as follows:

I would like to start by thanking all of our members old and new for supporting our wonderful breed.

Thank you to Minna Borsuk for being our fantastic hands on Chair Person which is as good as a full-time job, especially her doggedness with pursuing the KC relentlessly and especially acquiring the KC's official recognition of our tests. Thanks also for the work done with the AHT Testing and organising the BMH Calendar which was a great success.

I would like to thank Dr M Slaymaker in his professional handling of our accounts as treasurer and ensuring all expenses are paid promptly. I

## BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB

Annual General Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

would also like to thank my wife and Flower & Company Accounts for the audit of 2018 Accounts.

Splendid work has been achieved by our training officers this year with the number of training participants rising steadily. Our training officers and their helpers are the foot soldiers of the BMHS with their voluntary time and self-expense input.

I would like to thank our committee members for their regular input in keeping the BMHS as professional , democratic and diplomatic as possible.

I would like to thank Kate Kemp for her excellent work as the Membership Co-ordinator.

I would like to thank the FC & their staff and land permissions and supply of equipment.

Last but not least I would like to thank Claire & Chad Russell (Our Rescue Co-ordinators) in their undying passion and love of this breed in placing rescue dogs in their forever homes. I cannot imagine the amount of work, phone calls and liaison these two have to deal with in picking up the tail ends of indiscriminate owners and breeding.

# BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB

Annual General Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

## 6. Treasurer's Report

Mark Slaymaker presented the treasurer's report as follows:

The club made an operating surplus of £2292.43 in 2018. This compares with £4093.25 in 2017.

The surplus can be broken down as:

- The income from membership subscriptions was £1468 in 2018 compared with £1614 in 2017.
- General income was £6627.00 compared with £7856.50 in 2017, which is an reduction of £1229.50 when compared with 2017. This included approximately £800 of rescue income, compared with £1200 for 2017
- Expenditure were recorded as £4334.57 which is a decrease of £1042.68 when compared with 2017. The expenditure included £319.94 of rescue expenses

The balances at the close of business on 31st December 2018 stood at:

- PayPal £8212.82
- HSBC £1640.02
- HSBC Rescue £1017.77
- Cash £63.60
- Stock £393.67

Giving the society as of the 31st December 2018:

Net Assets £11327.88

Some highlights of income and expenditure are:

- The club purchased a TEK 2 GPS system at a cost of £671
- Training and test days ran at a surplus of around £2500
- The WGDS day returned a surplus of approximately £88

## BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB

Annual General Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

- The calendar sales made a profit of approximately £460 split between supporting rescue and DNA health research.

Finally, thanks to Helen for organising the auditing of the accounts.

### 7. Health and Welfare Report

Minna Borsuk also read Ann-Marie Hill's Health and Welfare report as follows:

2018 has been an interesting year for us as we have been able to get some information back from AHT regarding all DNA samples which were sent to them

The total now stands at 75 samples from the breed. And what we can say is that 20 of the submissions report a health issue of some sort, with epilepsy in some form with a varying degree of confidence among 12 cases. There's also hypothyroidism, Addison's disease, hip dysplasia, cherry eye and vestibular disease. Further samples have been sent to Finland and Russia as well as Poland.

As you can imagine, this is invaluable information and we will continue to work with AHT,

If you would like to take part and submit a sample there is still time, please contact myself or Ann Marie for a free test kit. We are still short of UK samples, only a small percentage of samples have been submitted compared to the number of hounds in the country.

All samples are archived at AHT premises and the cost of this is covered by the society. I would like to extend huge thank you to Ann Marie for all the work she has done behind the scenes.

## BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB

Annual General Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

According to the KC's Breed record supplement, there still are a number of litters born in the UK where just one or neither parent has been hip scored. The higher the score, the worse the condition and the current max score set by the society for breeding purposes is 15. This is higher than the mean score recommended by the British Veterinary Association, which is 10.

Alabama Rot has started to rear its ugly head again. This starts as lesions on the feet, legs and sometimes the mouth, and seems to have taken hold with more and more cases having been diagnosed this year. This disease is treatable, but it can be fatal if not treated quickly. It is very unfortunate that it is not possible to make a diagnosis until after the dog has died so it is imperative that vet is contacted asap if in doubt. Most of the reported cases suggests that dogs have been infected while walking in woodland, but no confirmation has been given that this is the only place it can be picked up.

### **Going forward**

Plan for 2019 is to continue the splendid work re DNA samples in order to continue acquiring as many samples as possible for the AHT. Hopefully this will bear fruit and AHT would be able to start conducting studies around the cause of the disease.

The other goal which we will be working on is hip scoring and raising awareness of the importance of this. Breed Record Supplements provided by the KC will be investigated and breeders contacted if necessary.

### **8. Approval of audited accounts**

The accounts being duly approved by the societies auditors it was proposed by Simon Wardle and seconded by Tim Lonsdale

A vote was conducted and proved in favour of accepting the audited accounts as presented.

## BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB

Annual General Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

It was further proposed by Simon Wardle and seconded by Tim Lonsdale that Helen Coles continues to organise the auditing and presentation of the accounts.

### 9. Election of 2017 committee \*

(\*) The following Committee members term expired at the AGM: Minna Borsuk (Chairman), Steve Coles (Secretary), Mark Slaymaker (Treasurer), Kate Kemp, Ann-Marie Hill, Dawn Seago and Simon Powne.

The term of office following committee members expired at the AGM: Minna Borsuk (Chairman), Steve Coles (Secretary), Mark Slaymaker (Treasurer), Kate Kemp, Ann-Marie Hill, Dawn Seago and Simon Powne.

As per the rules of the society, the current committee members are eligible to stand for reelection. Except for Simon Powne, all other committee members indicated that they would be happy to continue.

No other nominations have been received for any of the positions available.

A motion to reappoint the committee members was proposed by Tim Lonsdale and seconded by Simon Wardle. The meeting unanimously carried the proposal.

Due to Simon Powne's resignation from the committee the society is left with a vacancy. As no member came forward to fill this position, the committee will attempt to fill this vacancy as soon as is practicable.

The payment of an Honoraria to the Secretary and Treasurer was raised by the Chairman, in the sum of £100.

The Secretary and Treasurer were asked to withdraw while the meeting considered this.

After due discussion, the payment of a Honoraria was proposed by Helen Coles and seconded by Simon Wardle. The proposal was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

The Secretary and Treasurer were readmitted to the meeting.

## **BAVARIAN MOUNTAINHOUND SOCIETY OF GB**

Annual General Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

The Treasurer has been tasked with arranging the practicalities of the decision

### **10. Any other business (at the discretion of the Chairman)**

A comment was raised about the reassignment of microchips for dogs that have passed through rescue. This is necessary to ensure the return of any lost animal.

The issues will be discussed further with the Rescue Coordinator.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was close by Minna Borsuk at 11:44.