

A CLUB FOR PERSONS INTERESTED IN DOGS AND THE SPORT OF DOGS.

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Information for the newsletter, including brags, needs to be submitted by the first week of the month to be included in the next newsletter. Please email submissions to the editor.

BREED SNAPSHOT: BARBET



There seems to be no shortage of fun-filled adjectives to characterize the Barbet, one of two dog breeds earning full American Kennel Club recognition on January 1, 2020.

For starters, try playful, quirky, goofy, clownish, and loving. According to the biggest Barbet boosters – longtime Barbet Club of America (BCA) officers – "loyal" and "smart"

should be added to the mix as well. For fun, you can toss in "doodle," a common, constant misidentification made by others upon seeing a Barbet. "At one point, I had someone try to convince me that it was indeed a 'Goldendoodle'," recalls BCA club treasurer Lynn Vogt-Kinsey. "I said 'no, it's a rare breed called a Barbet.' He went away confused and shaking his head."

The Barbet was introduced to the United States for the first time in 1994. Today, there are an estimated 500 in the country. The national breed club members number slightly more than 100.

In case you're wondering about pronunciation, it's *Bar-bay*. Appropriately, the name comes from the French word "*barbe*," meaning beard. When the Barbet steps into the show ring officially in 2020, it will compete in the Sporting Group alongside other breeds traditionally developed to hunt and retrieve feathered game. 2020's other newly-recognized AKC breed, the Dogo Argentino, will be joining the Working Group.

While still relatively new in the U.S., the Barbet is one of the original water dogs deployed in France since the 16th century for hunting waterfowl. However, the World Wars wreaked havoc on the breed, nearly leaving it extinct. But thanks to the efforts of a few dedicated fanciers, it was slowly given a rebirth and worked its way to North

NEXT MEETING February 20, 2020

Seward Civic Center 616 Bradford St, Seward, NE 68434 Board Meeting 7:00pm - General Meeting 7:30pm

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Cindy Hill @ 7:55pm Members present Pat Schindle, Diane Nitz, Cindy Hill, Tanya Williams, Linda Soukup, Mary Bristol, Chris Corum, and Morgan Ehers.

Cris was our gracious hostess for SCKC annual Christmas party. Thank you for all the delicious food and gifts!

Motion made by Pat to skip board meeting. Chris 2nd motion passed.

Motion made by Diane to dispense reading of the November minutes. Motion 2nd by Chris and motion passed.

No report from Secretary

Treasure's report was read and third quarter financial report reviewed. Motion to approve treasure's report was made by Chris and 2nd Pat. Motion passed.

Goldenrod nominees include the following: Mary Bristol, Morgan Ehlers, Tabitha Dvorak, Cindy Hill and Linda Soukup. Written votes were completed by members present. Ballets were sealed in an envelope to be given to Kathy Jackson. Results of vote will be announced at Award Banquet in January.

Trophies- Cindy will clarify with Vicki if leashes are for Saturday of show.

Newsletter- Cindy reported that she has renewed the

web hosting for SCKC website. Fee was \$72. Send Cindy pictures so she can put them on the website.

Obedience- Spring classes will start March 9th. Deposit paid for the 4-H building. Diane and Chris will get together to see what forms and brochures are in need. Diane reported that the trick title went up to \$25 instead of \$20.

Nominating committee—Slate is board members to include Tanya Williams, Linda Soukup, Kathy Jackson, and Chris Corum. President Tabitha Dvorak, Vice President Cindy Hill, Treasurer Mary Bristol, Secretary Morgan Ehlers. Nomination from the floor closes in January.

Old business

Bench for the dog park tabled looking into other options besides metal do to cost and installation. Discussion on having a backless bench. Also having slats in the seat so that it doesn't hold water. Nothing decided.

New business

Motion to have Awards Banquet on January 16th, 2020 at La Carreta made by Diane. 2nd by Chris, motion passed. Cindy will call and reservation will be under Seward Kennel Club.

Motion for adjournment made by Linda. 2nd by Pat. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm

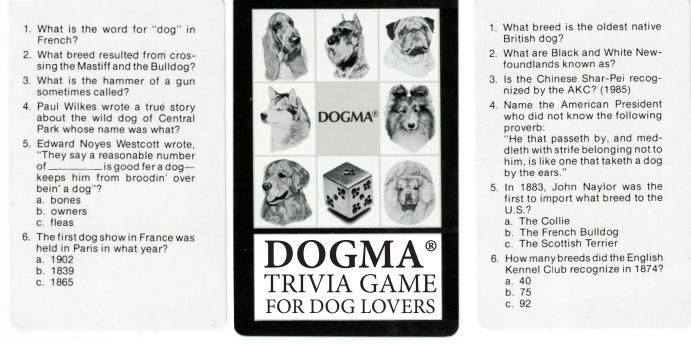


America. Today, there are an estimated 2,000 Barbet across the continent. The chief density of the breed in the U.S. is in New England and the Midwest.

The Barbet, whose weight ranges between 30-60 pounds, is believed to be the ancestor of several of today's popular breeds, including the Poodle, Bichon Frise, Otterhound, Newfoundland, Briard and others.

As you would expect with a Sporting breed, the Barbet is versatile, active, and family-oriented. Their activity wheelhouse includes conformation, agility, dock diving, disc dog, and anything that propels them in motion. They also make terrific therapy dogs. Barbet can thrive in apartments if they receive adequate daily exercise. However, they are not great distance running companions, as they can get overheated. Unlike some other breeds, they tend to love the winter as their curled coats keep them warm.

Club president Barbara Gresham laughs when asked what type of owner best suits a Barbet. "Someone who likes to brush and comb their dog frequently," says Gresham. "And someone who doesn't want to be in the bathroom by themselves."



Answers: Left card 1. chien 2. Bullmastiff 3. Doghead 4. Fitzgo 5. c 6. c. Right card 1. the English Mastiff 2. Landseers 3. no (currently, yes) 4. Lyndon Johnson 5. c 6. a.

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The high-maintenance curly coat is part of the breed's signature. Historically, their hair is to protect and warm them in marshes while retrieving waterfowl. They were not meant to be shaved to the skin, and their shaggy look is one of the breed's charming characteristics. However, as with other breeds, Barbet can be prone to genetic issues, including epilepsy, progressive retinal atrophy, and hip dysplasia. "We are working hard to eliminate those from the genetic pool," says Able. "We have a relatively young population in the United States, so we will have to gather more data as we progress. Breeders on the BCA website are required to test hips, elbows, and eyes."

Males range from 21-24½ inches tall, while females reach 19-22½ inches. In both sexes, weight should be in proportion to height. Coat colors include all shades of black, gray, brown, and fawn, which all may include white markings.

-Randy Green, Dec 31, 2019, akc.org

Seward County Kennel Club

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