

Southeast Deer Study Group Meeting
Louisville, KY
Deer Committee Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2019
3:00-5:00 PM

Host State Update

- Attendance was reported to be 270 after the pre-registration period.

Committee Membership

- Two new members were added to the committee from state agencies; Eric Ness filled the DE vacancy and Brett Skelly was added as a new and WV 2nd member.
- There are currently 36 members on the committee one of which is vacant until MO fills its Deer Program Coordinator position.
- Chairman will send the revised list to members.

Student Awards

- The Committee decided that the Student Awards Coordinator, Bob Zaiglin, should email judge score sheets to all presentation and poster award participants after the meeting.
- The host state was requested to obtain student email information in the paper/poster solicitation process.
- There was discussion if a process to rotate judges was warranted. There was a motion, second and unanimous approval to keep the current voluntary judge solicitation process in place.
- There was lengthy discussion on how to handle 3rd party donations for student awards. There was a motion, second and unanimous approval to:

- i. Keep the presentation and poster award amounts at the levels posted below:

Place	Presentation	Poster
1	\$500	\$300
2	\$300	\$200
3	\$200	\$100

- ii. Graciously accept all donations and deposit them into the host state meeting account.
 - iii. Donations will help defer costs of awards, but not the obligation of host state to fund the full amount.
 - iv. Host state will pay all student award amounts via check to individual winners.
 - v. All donors will be recognized at the awards banquet, but not the amounts of their donations.

- At the request of judges, Bob Zaiglin will work on refining the poster judge score sheet.

Career Achievement Award

- There was discussion on exploring ways to upgrade the award plaque. There was a motion, second and unanimous approval for the Chairman to explore options and send examples to the Committee via email for review and approval.

Mailing List

- There was discussion on improving and keeping the meeting invitation mailing list up to date.
- Chairman will reach out to last three host states for their lists and send to the 2020 host state for consolidation and merging.
- There was a suggestion on developing a way for invitation recipients to unsubscribe from the list. James Kelly and Steve Demarais volunteered to look into that request. They also will work on creating a Google groups link that could be added to the SEDSG website. They will need to keep Chris Cook informed.
- There was a motion, second and unanimous approval not to share the mailing list with any third parties.

Operational Guidelines Development

- Chairman gave update on the Operational Guidelines draft.
- Chairman coordinated with SE Section on charter development and alignment with TWS policy; a charter was not allowed; however, Operational Guidelines were allowed.
- Chairman discussed progress on the draft Operational Guideline development. The Committee only had a few weeks to review draft prior to the Committee Meeting. However, the Committee had positive discussion on its progress and content.
- There was a motion, second and unanimous approval for the Chairman to update the guidelines with comments made at the Committee Meeting and send back out to the Committee for further review.
- There was discussion on whether there should be a term limit for the Chairman. Currently, no term limit is in place. There appeared to be a consensus that there was value to have a term limit, but no agreement on the length of time. There was a motion, second and unanimous approval for the Chairman to establish a term limit suggestion in the guidelines as a starting point and Committee members could comment on it during their review.

Cervid Working Group

- Gabe Jenkins gave update of 2018 Summer Meeting, King Ranch, TX.
- Group focused on CWD carcass disposal and hunter education issues.

CWD Updates

Committee members of states with a history of CWD gave status updates. Information from status updates are included in Table 1. Additionally, Kentucky reported that they had passed a carcass importation ban for CWD states.

Table 1: Summary of state CWD updates.

State	First Detection	2018 Sampling		Total Positives	Counties Affected	Sampling Methods	New Laws
		Samples	Positives				
AR							
MD	2010	749	10	28	2	A, B	1
MS							
MO							
OK							
TN	2018	17,688	185	185	3	D	2
TX							
VA							
WV	2005	814	27	376	5	A, B, C	1
Total							

Sampling Method Key

- A. Hunter harvested
- B. Select sampling; roadkill, sick
- C. Targeted sharpshooting
- D. Risk based
- E.
- F.
- G

New Law Key

- 1. None
- 2. In Progress
- 3.
- 4.
- 5

Website Update

- Steve Demarais gave an update on the website which is maintained by Mississippi State University.
- Host states should anticipate a bill for maintenance annually in the amount of \$75-150.

Future Meetings

- 2020 meeting will be in coastal region of Alabama. Host city and hotel not confirmed yet.
- 2021 meeting will be hosted by West Virginia.

Other Issues

- Committee members discussed the value of creation of the tri-fold detailed agenda. There was full agreement that host states should develop one and include it in attendee meeting registration packages.

Items that Emerged in Business Meeting

- There was discussion on the value of keeping balance between student research presentations and applied management presentations in the technical sessions. Most liked the short state presentations, followed by a panel discussion. However, 2 technical sessions on applied management in addition to the plenary session may strike the right balance. A suggestion that a portion of the summer meeting will be dedicated to discussing and selecting topics for the applied management sessions.
- There was discussion to develop ways to promote student/professional interaction and networking at the meeting. A special event on the second evening of the meeting that focuses on this goal was suggested.