

**Texas Gulf Coast BBQ Cookers Association  
Minutes – Regular Membership Meeting  
Tuesday, October 7, 2008 – Valley Ranch Grill & BBQ**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm by President Ronnie Raspberry.

A motion was made by Sandy Babcock and seconded by Roycie Raspberry to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the July 15, 2008 membership meeting. The motion passed.

President Ronnie Raspberry thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Helen Halbison-Treasurer - gave a report to the members present. All bills are paid. The amount in the checking account balance did not include the payment from the VFW 4709 cook-off in Conroe.

Vice President Sandy Babcock reported that at the board meeting it was decided to hold a special meeting in November to have nominations for officers and board members. The final slate will be presented to the members prior to the annual membership meeting in December. The ballot will be posted on the internet. Members will have an opportunity to either vote online or in person at the annual meeting.

There was a discussion regarding the increase in the amount that the IRS allows for mileage. It is now 58 cents per mile. Should TGBCBA increase what our head judges can charge? During the board meeting, a motion was made by Craig Sharry and seconded by Sandy Babcock to increase the mileage charge to 58 cents. The motion passed. This information will need to be updated in the promoter packets.

Bobby Blankenship commented that we need to get more head judges. They (Bobby and Jill) will not be judging as much next year. We are going to have trouble getting folks, so we need to start thinking about some type of incentive to entice folks to want to become Head Judges. There needs to be at least two people working the judging area from TGBCBA.

There was a discussion about possibly raising membership fees. There is a possibility that future cook-offs are going to have smaller amounts of cooks due to the problems with the economy. This is going to affect both established and newer cook-offs.

Vice President Craig Sharry told the members present that the 2009 Invitational will be held in May. As soon as a date and location are confirmed, this information will be passed onto the membership. Craig Sharry informed the members that the contents of the Judges Handbook were now on the TGBCBA website. The section for Head Judges is password protected. Craig will be providing the password to the folks who are head judges.

The TGBCBA website is very nice. Craig Sharry encouraged everyone to take a look. He asked to be notified of any corrections that needed to be made.

Craig thanked Don Canterbury for getting the updated information regarding the Cooker Points to him so that it could be posted on the website.

Lon Babcock shared the following information regarding the Hold'Em & Hit'Em cook-off scheduled for the third weekend in January – there will be prize money for all 10 places in all three categories; as well as, \$1000 for Grand Champion and \$500 for Reserve.

The Annual membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday, December 6th, at 10:00 am at the V.F.W. 10352 Post on Waverly Street in Houston, Texas.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlynn Sharry, Secretary  
Texas Gulf Coast BBQ Cookers Association