



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB™

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Performance Events

Date: March 16, 2010

To: Presidents, Secretaries and Delegates - Clubs Holding Parent Club Performance Events

Subject: **PARENT CLUB PERFORMANCE EVENTS**

In February the AKC Board approved a recommendation for a program designed to acknowledge breed specific performance events that are administered by AKC Parent Clubs. A performance event tests for the skills required to perform the historic function for which the breed was developed. The development and administration of performance events was one of the original functions of the AKC. Performance events provide valuable feedback for the furtherance of the breed by identifying individual dogs and family lines that excel at the breed's purpose, thus providing valuable information to the serious "form and function" oriented breeder. Today the AKC Performance Events Department administers 14 different types of events that are open to 126 breeds. There are over 255,000 entries per year in these events.

Despite the breadth of AKC's current program, there are additional, legitimate performance events that are currently being held by Parent Clubs. These events are typically very narrow in their application, perhaps being relevant to only a single breed or a small number of breeds. While not large in terms of participants, these events are meaningful to the breeds involved. Parent Clubs have developed these events due to their love of the breed and vested interest in testing for the skills needed to maintain and enhance the breed's function.

The program approved by the Board allows the Performance Events Department to work with Parent Clubs to acknowledge accomplishments in breed specific Parent Club performance events. If the event is approved, the AKC will issue a title certificate and place the title on the dog's pedigree for a nominal fee. To learn more about the eligibility and administrative process, please see the attached write-up entitled [\*Parent Club Performance Event Program – Criteria & Process.\*](#)

If your Club is administering a breed specific performance event and would like to have the event considered for this program, please contact the Performance Events Department at [PerformanceEvents@akc.org](mailto:PerformanceEvents@akc.org) or 919-816-3595 (NC).

The Performance Events Department feels this program provides an unprecedented opportunity to apply the concept behind performance events in a more refined and detailed manner. We look forward to working with those Parent Clubs for which this program applies.

Sincerely,

Doug Ljungren