

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
February 11-12, 2016

The Board convened on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, the Assistant Executive Secretary, the Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel, as well as the Executive Vice President and Chief Growth Officer.

The January 2015 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were discussed. Upon a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the January 2016 minutes were unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was a brief Executive Session with only Board members present. Nothing was reported out of this session.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Office Real Estate Presentation

There was an Executive Session to discuss plans for the locations of AKC's facilities when the current New York and North Carolina offices' leases expire in 2019 and 2020, respectively. Representatives from CBRE, Gensler, and Aequitas gave presentations sharing their respective process in office design and location selections. No actions were taken during this session.

Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung reviewed Action Items, reported on staff initiatives and provided a real estate update.

Education

There was a general discussion on the need for education across the sport, e.g., exhibitors, judges, breeders, stewards, groomers, etc. It was recommended that modules should be created and be made available on the AKC website.

Ms. Cruz suggested that the very well-received show chairmen's seminars, given by Bri Tesarz, Event Operations Program Manager, was the type of presentation that could be made into a model. The idea of having presentations for the Fancy in connection with the AKC show in Orlando were discussed, along with the challenges of trying to add more activities to an already complete schedule.

Mr. Kalter suggested that AKC explore the idea of biennial educational events for Parent Clubs and All-Breed Clubs. They would be patterned after the previously held successful Parent Club Conferences. Staff will report back to the Board on this in April.

Legal Status Report

Ms. McManus, Senior Attorney, presented a status report on pending litigation and other legal activities for the month of January 2016.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an Executive Session to discuss sensitive business matters. Nothing was reported out of this session.

FINANCE

Joseph Baffuto, Chief Financial Officer was present for this portion of the meeting. Mr. Baffuto presented unaudited financial results for the year ended December 31, 2015 which included, total revenues of \$62.2 million. This was within 3% of budget, while being 4% above the prior year revenue. Total operating expenses of \$53.4 million were 9% below budget and less than 1% above the amount from the previous year. Operating income was \$8.8 million.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Breed Standard Revision

The Silky Terrier Club of America, Inc. (STCA), received a petition on December 17, 2015, signed by 20% of the membership
Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President Sport Services, was present for this portion of the meeting.

Silky Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Silky Terrier Club of America, Inc. (STCA), received a petition on December 17, 2015, signed by 20% of the membership requesting a revision to the "tail" section of the standard. Upon a motion by Mr. Kalter, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the club to proceed to ballot the membership, which is in compliance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws.

Canine Legislation Position Statements on Spaying and Neutering

The Board reviewed updates to the revisions for the Canine Legislation Position Statements reference Spaying and Neutering.

Two legislation position statements –the statement on Purebred Dog Rescue and the statement on Spaying and Neutering were cited as possible candidates for revision. A third legislative position statement, Canine Population Issues also touches on the issue of spaying and neutering.

It was recommended that changes in language be made to each of three position statements to reflect and clarify:

- AKC's opposition to mandatory spay neuter policies for purebred dogs
- AKC's particular concern about juvenile spay/neuter in light of recent scientific studies finding long term detrimental impacts caused by the practice
- Retain AKC's position that surgical spay/neuter is an acceptable practice for pet owners wishing to avoid unwanted litters, but the decision to spay or neuter a dog should be reserved for the dog's owner in conjunction with their veterinarian. This position is in line with positions of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American College of Theriogenology (ACT) on this subject.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Canine Legislation Position Statements Supporting Purebred Dog Breeding

At its January 2016 meeting, the AKC Board asked staff for a new canine legislation position statement that would express positive support for purebred dog breeding. The Board reviewed a proposed canine legislation position statement supporting purebred dog breeding.

The proposed statement reflects the AKC's mission and core values, including: promoting the sport of purebred dogs, breeding for type and function, advocating for the purebred dog as a family companion and protecting the health and wellbeing of all dogs

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

BUSINESS

Alexandra Aleskovsky, Chief Growth Officer, participated in this portion of the meeting. There was a review of AKC growth initiatives currently underway. Priorities included:

- Review and optimize existing plans

- Rationalizing the current budget to assure resources are aligned with high value projects
- Focusing and prioritizing AKC's project portfolio
- Reorganization of staff as necessary and building a Project Management Organization (PMO)
- Developing a strategic Plan
- Building the AKC Brand in the Pet Sector

Topline Business Opportunities included increasing advertising sales, e-commerce, and a web site optimization to maximize content and commerce opportunities.

Ms. Aleskovsky outlined a plan to provide the Board with a more detailed report on various areas at each meeting as well as a quarterly overview of the department progress along with a quarterly financial update and year end forecast.

She also informed the Board that Ms. Elizabeth Sorota had joined as Vice President of Marketing and Aiden Colie had joined as Senior Vice President of Information Technology.

COMPANION & PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sports and Events, participated in this portion of the meeting. Mary Burch, Director Canine Good Citizen, participated by telephone conference.

Farm Dog Certification Test - A New AKC Activity

The Board reviewed a proposed Staff recommendation for a new AKC activity called the Farm Dog Certification (FDC) test.

The FDC test has two objectives:

- Promote training and responsible dog ownership for all dogs living in a rural environment.
- Expose a new segment of dog owners to herding events, potentially recruiting new participants.

The FDC test is comprised of 12 pass-fail elements. It may be offered as a class at a herding test or trial. The test is open to all dogs at least nine months of age that are individually registered/listed with the AKC. All clubs currently licensed to hold AKC herding tests/trials will be allowed to hold Farm Dog Certification tests. If a dog passes the test on two occasions, the owner may apply for a FDC suffix title.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Retriever Hunting Tests – Three Recommendations

The Board reviewed recommendations from the Retriever Hunting Test Advisory Committee, for three changes to the *Retriever Hunting Test Regulations*.

Recommendation #1

Allow clubs, at their option, to hold Master level-only tests at their fifth and sixth events of the year provided the club has offered each of the test levels at least once at its first four hunting tests offered in the year.

Recommendation #2

Require clubs to only use fresh birds at their hunting tests.

Recommendation #3

Move up the opening date for events by one day so all events open to the public on Wednesday evening.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Canine Good Citizenship - Title Status Report

Staff presented a memo to update the Board on the on-going progress of the Canine Good Citizen program.

Over the past three years, since CGC became a title, the number of certificates and titles sold per year has increased by 50%. In 2015, 60,141 certificates/titles were sold.

The number of CGC Evaluators is at an all-time high. At the end of 2015, AKC has 11,141 approved evaluators, up 23% over that past three years. CGC is one of the best outreach programs we have to provide value to the general dog owning public.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sports and Events, participated in this portion of the meeting with Tim Thomas, Director Dog Show Judges, and Leslie Fetzer, Education Project Manager, participating by video conference.

AKC Canine College Progress Report

The Sports and Events Department provided the Board with a progress report on the AKC Canine College initiative. Staff advised the Board that the Learning Management System to be used for the AKC Canine College has been selected. This platform will form the backbone of an overall education strategy beyond judges education. This learning tool, coupled with other learning tools, will provide a robust resource for judges education and other AKC initiatives and represents a significant commitment by the American Kennel Club to education.

Conformation Judging Statistics

Judging Operations provided the Board with its quarterly report on the conformation judging applications considered by the Judges Review Committee in the previous three months as well as year-end statistics.

2015 brought a significant increase in the total number of applications for conformation judging approval received and the number of breeds granted compared to the previous year. While there was an increase in both New Breed and Additional Breed applications, the increase was predominately due to a significant jump in the number of Additional Breed applications.

	2014		2015	
	Aps Received	Breeds Submitted	Aps Received	Breeds Submitted
New Breed	72	113	84	106
Additional Breed	197	1548	484	3886
TOTAL	269	1661	568	3992

While the rate of receipt for 2015 was ahead of 2014's pace prior to the implementation of the new Judging Approval Process, there was a dramatic effect as a result of the new approval policy. Judging Operations received approximately 3x the number of applications per month after September 1, 2015. The average number of breeds per application was essentially unchanged (7.58 to 7.64).

2015 YEAR END

The chart below displays the number New Breed (NB) and Additional Breed (AB) applications and the total number of breeds reviewed for final approval in 2015.

	Number of Applicants	Breed Requested	Breeds Accepted	# of Applicants Limited	Full Approval	Number Denied	Hold
NB Total	84	123	115	0	79	1	4
AB TOTAL	311	2553	2192	61	234	16	0
COMBINED	395	2676	2307	61	313	17	4

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sports and Events, and Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President Sport Services, participated in this portion of the meeting. Glenn Lycan, Director Operation Support, Alan Slay, Director Event Programs, and Bri Tesarz, Programs Manager, participated via teleconference.

Educational Credit for AKC Billboard

Currently, there is an option for clubs to receive educational credit for participating in the AKC Classified Advertising Program. Staff presented a memo recommending giving clubs credit for billboards which promote AKC. Without objection the description of the AKC Classified Advertising Program in the Eligibility Requirements to Hold Future Dog Shows will be amended to include billboards and other forms of advertising as listed below.

8. AKC Advertising Program

The AKC Advertising Program entitled "Demand AKC Papers" asks clubs to place classified ads in their hometown papers, magazines, websites, billboards, or other advertising means that direct puppy buyers to www.akc.org. This initiative is to inform puppy-buyers that they should seek an AKC dog when buying a family pet in order to receive the healthiest, happiest dog possible, and to connect people with the information they need to make smart decisions throughout this process. For more info call 212-696-8228 or visit http://www.akc.org/clubs/club_communications.cfm
Please submit documentation about program participation to:

Stephanie Smith
Manager of Club Communications
American Kennel Club
260 Madison Avenue,
New York, NY 10016
or e-mail to: sxs2@akc.org

Following a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, it was VOTED (unanimously) to adopt the staff recommendation.

Junior Showmanship Regulations – Novice Class Criteria

The Board reviewed a recommendation to revise the Conformation Junior Showmanship Regulations and Guidelines for Judging Juniors in Conformation criteria to move from the Novice Class to the Open Class. The recommendation is to allow a Junior who has met the criteria of winning three first places in a Novice Class with competition or a Best Junior with

competition to move to the Open Class. If approved, the recommended effective date is July 1, 2016. This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Closing of Entries on Postal Holidays

The *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 6, Section 9, addresses the schedule of when entries close. Additionally, this section deals with closing dates that fall on a postal holiday:

“...Whenever the closing day noted above falls on a postal holiday, entries received in the first mail only on the following day may be accepted.”

The issue is whether the extending of the closing date includes telephone, fax, and electronic entries or even hand delivered entries received before that drop.

The staff believes all forms of entries should be treated in a similar manner. The Dog Show Rules Committee discussed this topic at their December 2015 meeting and recommended that acceptance of all forms of entries should be extended 24 hours when the published closing date and time fall on a postal holiday.

The recommendation is to amend this section to allow all forms of entries to be accepted for up to 24 hours after the posted closing date and time when the closing date falls on a postal holiday.

If approved by the Board, the amended Chapter 6, Section 9, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Show* will be read at the June Delegates' meeting and VOTED at the September Delegates' meeting. If approved, the effective date will be immediately. This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Making It Easier For Clubs To Hold Events

The Board received an update of some of the changes that were approved or implemented in 2015 to make it easier for clubs to hold events by significantly reducing bureaucracy.

- 1) Revision of event notification messages to provide clubs the URL link to a form when information on the form needs to be submitted for event approval - June 2015
- 2) Modify Event Operations representative assignments to be based more on geographic area. This allows more clusters to communicate with one representative. - October 2015 & January 2016
- 3) No longer require clubs to submit a grooming plan - January 2016
- 4) Event applications can be effective for multiple years - January 2016
- 5) Allow specialty clubs to hold two days of shows per year and one additional show to join national specialties. Provides clubs more flexibility to schedule their shows, opportunity for additional entries, and reduces the instance of local clubs holding shows in the name of the parent club. - January 2016
- 6) At their discretion, allow clubs to utilize electronic documents for premium lists, judging programs, and catalogs - January 2016
- 7) Revision to the Application for Show/Trial
Improvement of layout and consolidation of judges panel for Specialty, Obedience, and Junior Showmanship onto the application. This relieves a club from having to submit another judges panel form with redundant (e.g. secretary, chair, site, etc.) information - January 2016
- 8) Provide clubs more flexibility in hold 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy competition.
Day of show entries are allowed starting in January 2016 and foreign judges are allowed starting April 2016.
- 9) No longer require signatures from each club on Common Site Application (CSA) form (which allows the information to be emailed) and allow any club in the cluster to submit the CSA information. - March 2016
- 10) Check box approval for sweepstakes rather than submitting forms - as of April 2016

All-Breed Events Held in 2014 and not in 2015

The staff provided a report on the number of all-breed events that were held in 2014 that were not held in 2015. The number of All-Breed events decreased in 2015 by 19 events compared to 2014. The reduction of 19 All-Breed events is the net of 42 events not held in 2015 which had been held in 2014 and 23 events held in 2015 which were not held in 2014. The Event Operation staff has documented the clubs reasons associated with the 42 events not held. The most common reasons were site/date and cluster issues.

Conformation Show “Deep” Dive

At the January Board Meeting the Board agreed to begin the process to better understand the trends in conformation events and what actions might be taken to increase participation. The discussion will be held over several meetings and its goal is to result in actions which will boost the number of new participants as well as make shows more “customer/exhibitor” friendly. What follows is the first phase of that discussion. It was agreed that efforts including marketing research on demographics and psychographics had to be made to change the public perception about the desirability of a responsibly bred dog.

There will be further discussion on the subject.

Conformation Shows and Entries Over the Past Ten Years

The staff presented ten-year trend reports on entries by class and on the number of conformation events held annually by event type. The data confirms a significant decline in over-all participation and one that continues today. The Board discussed a number of factors which are impacting participation in those below.

Survey – Why Owners Do Not Continue to Exhibit

The staff presented a summarized version of a memo that appeared in the April 2015 Board Book regarding why owners do not continue to exhibit. 47% of the respondents said they attend fewer shows than they did five years ago. Reasons cited:

1. Costs (includes travel, entry fees, hotels, parking)
2. Issues with judges (breed knowledge, political, favoritism)
3. Time constraints (distance to event, family)
4. Difficulty getting majors

What Motivates People to Participate in Dog Sports

Two studies on what motivates dog owners to participate in sporting events in particular were presented as the reported findings have some relevancy to our dog sport. A recent study, “Dog-Sport Competitors: What Motivates People to Participate with Their Dogs in Sporting Events” explored why people participate in dog sports. The second study, “Exploring the Dimensions of Serious Leisure: “Love me-Love My Dog!” discussed the multiple roles of individuals within dog clubs and the factors related to their involvement. These studies were discussed as background material relevant to a detailed discussion regarding the decline in conformation entries as research is gathered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an Executive session to discuss a sensitive business matter with nothing reported out of this session.

The Board adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Meeting reconvened on Friday, February 12, 2016 at 8:00 am.

REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT

Mark Dunn, Vice President Registration and Customer Development, reviewed AKC registration statistics.

For the first month of 2016, dog registrations were up 4%, all litter registrations were up 3% over the first month of 2015. Registrations in 2015 also posted gains over previous years suggesting we may have turned the corner on registration declines. The Board congratulated Mr. Dunn and his department for the progress made in dog registrations in 2015. Mr. Dunn also explained that the issue with registering a dog that has gone through rescue, even when the identity is known, is the lack of signatures needed to verify the chain of ownership as required by AKC rules.

COMPLIANCE

Heather McManus Senior Attorney, and Michael Liosis, Director of Compliance, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Complaint filed by Ms. Barbara Bachman Barnes against Mr. Gary Steele, Ms. Michelle Steele and Ms. Kimberlie Steele-Gamero

The Board reviewed a complaint submitted by Ms. Barbara Bachman Barnes on December 17, 2013 in accordance with Article XII of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*. After conducting a review of the complaint, staff recommended that jurisdiction over the matter should be denied. The Board of Directors VOTED to deny jurisdiction of the matter.

Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America

The Board of Directors VOTED to deny the Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America's request that AKC approve the applications for the March 31, 2016 to April 3, 2016 National Specialty show.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)

Penalties

Mr. Kalter raised the issue of disparate penalties for the various infractions in the Discipline Guidelines. Some relatively minor infractions seem to have greater penalties than more serious ones involving things like physical abuse of a dog. The penalties in the current guidelines will be reviewed and there will be a staff report to the Board in April with possible changes recommended.

CLUBS

A written report was provided on Member Club Bylaws approved in December and January:

Blennerhassett Kennel Club (1980)

Giant Schnauzer Club of America (1979)

Havanese Club of America (2006)

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America (1983)

A written report was provided on a new clubs licensed in December and January:

American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association
Chino Valley Canine Training Club of Arizona, Yavapai County, AZ,
Gulf Coast Sighthound Club, greater Mobile, AL
Pendleton Gundog Beagle Club (2 Couple Pack), greater Pendleton, SC
Owingsville Coon Club, Owingsville, KY

CONSENT

Following discussion, there was a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent Items:

- **Delegate Approvals**
- **Change to Common Site Application (CSA) Processing**
- **Allowing Obedience and/or Rally Trials to Co-Exist**
- **Retriever Master Amateur Invitational Hunting Test**
- **Beagle Field Trial Procedures - Allowing the Use of Tracking Collars**
- **Agility Single Breed Specialty Trial in Conjunction with All-Breed Trial**
- **Reserve Best Junior Handler**

Delegates Approved

Robert Amen – Stamford, CT
To represent Greater St. Louis Training Club

Martha-Lee Beckington, Alexandria, VA
To represent Mount Vernon Dog Training Club

Noreen Bennett, Belchertown, MA
To represent LEAP Agility Club of Central Massachusetts

Cindy Cooke – Kalamazoo, MI
To represent Kalamazoo Kennel Club

Robert “Bud” Hidlay, Marietta, GA
To represent Kennesaw Kennel Club

Bruce L. Petersen, Bloomington, IL
To represent Corn Belt Kennel Club

Ray J. Spivey III, Marseilles, IL
To represent Chicago Bulldog Club

Change to Common Site Application (CSA) Processing

The Board VOTED to approve a change to the Board policy for clusters and back-to-back shows to allow clubs to submit a Common Site Application (CSA) without the signature of each club in a cluster. This will allow clubs to provide the CSA information in the text of an email, without having to submit the form itself. This change is effective for CSA's received on or after March 1, 2016.

Clubs must agree to the date(s) that they will hold competition and if the site is not an open site, site usage permission must be granted. This information must be submitted to the AKC. The [Common Site Application](#) form provides instructions and options for submitting this information.

Allowing Obedience and/or Rally Trials to Co-Exist

The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation to allow obedience and/or rally trials to co-exist within the conflict distance of 100 miles if the club obtains the written permission of the club with the established date. This makes the policy regarding obedience and rally consistent with the policies/regulations governing conformation, agility and all performance events.

The following are the additions to the Show Distance Conflict Policy:

Obedience trials may not be held less than 100 miles in distance on the same day, except a club may be approved to hold an event in conflict with another club which has established its event on the same date, only if in each instance it obtains the permission of the club with the established date and submits the permission along with its event application.

Rally trials may not be held less than 100 miles in distance on the same day, except a club may be approved to hold an event in conflict with another club which has established its event on the same date, only if in each instance it obtains the permission of the club with the established date and submits the permission along with its event application.

The American Kennel Club will only enforce any agreements between the clubs if they are submitted by officers of the respective clubs. It is the club's responsibility to ensure the length of their commitment to the event location is consistent with the permission they receive from the established club.

This change is effective March 1, 2016.

Retriever Master Amateur Invitational Hunting Test

The Board VOTED to create a new event in the Retriever Hunting Test program called the Retriever Master Amateur Invitational Hunting Test. The purpose of this event is to provide a venue dedicated to and focused on allowing amateur handlers to showcase their hunting retrievers. The Master Amateur Test will be hosted by a new club, the Master Amateur Retriever Club (MARC), whose sole purpose will be to organize and host this once per year event. The event will be open to all breeds eligible to participate in AKC Retriever Hunting tests. Dogs qualify by passing the Master Hunter test at local events a given number of times as established by the MARC during the qualifying period, provided the dog was handled to its qualifying scores by an amateur.

This regulation change is effective March 1, 2016. The first Master Amateur National event will be held in the spring of 2017.

Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers

Chapter 1. new Section 4. Entry Requirements

Definition of an amateur. For the purpose of qualifying and handling a dog in the Master Amateur Invitational Hunting Test:

A person shall be considered an Amateur who during the period of two years preceding the trial in question has not received compensation in any form for the training of a dog for hunting, hunting tests or field trials and/or the handling of a dog in the same, and/or the regular systematic personal instructions of other individuals regarding the above pursuits.

Compensation is defined as money, goods or services to a person or any member of their household. No member of the household of a person who does not qualify as an amateur under this definition can qualify as an amateur.

Any person participating in an occasional organized seminar or workshop to improve the training and handling of field trial, hunting test or hunting dogs will be exempt from the above provision as will a person who receives payment for providing educational material (such as books, videos, etc.) to the public on the training and handling of field trial, hunting test or hunting dogs.

The dog must be handled by an amateur during all series in a given test in order to qualify as being handled by an amateur.

Should a question arise at the Master Amateur Invitational test regarding a person's amateur status, the Event Committee shall decide.

Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers

New

Chapter 7. Master Amateur Invitational Hunting Test

A Master Amateur Invitational hunting test for qualified dogs shall be run not more than once in any calendar year by a club or association formed for that purpose. All dogs must be handled by amateurs at this event. The club shall file an application for permission to run the event under the Regulations and procedures for Retriever hunting tests. The Master Amateur Invitational Hunting Test shall represent the equivalent of two weekend Master level tests. The event shall be run in as many divisions as the hosting organization deems necessary to achieve this end. The club or association may also make special Regulations and procedures as are deemed necessary for the conduct of the test including the qualifications required to enter the test. The qualifying requirements must be achieved when the dog is handled by an amateur. Such special Regulations and procedures as may be made by the club or association are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club.

Beagle Field Trial Procedures - Allowing the Use of Tracking Collars

The Board VOTED to amend the Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack, SPO and Two-Couple Pack Events to allow the use of tracking collars at Beagle field trials and two-couple pack events. This change is effective April 1, 2016.

Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack, SPO and Two-Couple Pack Events

PROCEDURE 4. JUDGING (new wording underlined)

4-D Collars. If a hound under judgment wears a collar, it shall be a well-fitting collar with nothing hanging from it and with no attachments other than tags for identification purposes. Hounds may wear tracking collars at the option of the handler. The collar surface against the dog's neck shall be flat (no protrusions). While the hounds are under judgment, hand held devices must be turned off. Hand held devices may be turned on only after the hound has been eliminated or judgment has ceased. *Special training devices that are used to control and train dogs, electronic collars used with transmitters, muzzles and head collars may not be used on dogs at AKC events.*

Agility Single Breed Specialty Trial in Conjunction with All-Breed Trial

The Board VOTED to amend the Regulations for Agility Trials, Chapter 1 - Sections 2 and 5, (changes underlined below) to allow single breed specialty clubs to have a specialty trial within

an all-breed trial being held by the specialty club. This change will allow the single breed specialty club to embed their breed specialty within their own all-breed agility trial. This change is effective March 1, 2016,

Chapter 1. Section 2. Agility Trials Defined.

Paragraph 7.

An AKC-recognized specialty club may offer a single breed specialty agility trial in conjunction with an all-breed trial, sharing the same date, show site, equipment and judges. Specialty trial participants shall be excluded from competing in the adjoining all-breed trial. Both agility trials may be run together; however, each club is required to maintain separate event records

Chapter 1. Section 5. Making Application.

Paragraph 2.

A club may be approved to hold up to twelve (12) licensed or member events in a calendar year. A club can be approved to hold separate trials on consecutive days. Each day is considered a separate trial. A club shall not be approved to hold more than one trial on any single day except in the case of a specialty club offering a single breed specialty trial in conjunction with their all-breed trial or offering two single breed specialties on the same per Chapter 1, Section 2.

Reserve Best Junior Handler

The Board VOTED to revise Section 5 of the *Conformation Junior Showmanship Regulations and Guidelines for Judging Juniors in Conformation* (revisions underlined below) to include the required awarding of Reserve Best Junior Handler. This will provide consistency at all Junior Handler conformation events. The Board agreed that this should be required for All-Breed/Group Shows but remain optional for Specialty Shows. This change is effective July 1, 2016,

Section 5. Classes and Divisions

F) Reserve Best Junior Handler. An All-Breed club offering Junior Showmanship shall offer Reserve Best Junior Handler, a Group Club or Specialty Club has the option to offer Reserve Best Junior. If a prize is offered, it must be described in the premium list in accordance with Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 5, Section 5. After the judge has awarded the Best Junior Handler, the second place winner from the class that the Junior was awarded Best Junior Handler is to return to the ring to compete for Reserve Best Junior Handler.

NEW BUSINESS

The AKC Canine Health Foundation

Dr. Garvin presented a proposal from the AKC Canine Health Foundation requesting a modification of the funding methodology for the AKC match donation. After discussion, the board confirmed that the \$500,000 donation from AKC to AKC-CHF for 2016 will use the same methodology as 2014 and 2015, matching dollar for dollar any donations from new or lapsed donors (those who had not donated in 2014 or 2015). Further, it was moved by Mr. Ashby and seconded by Mr. Powers, that an additional donation of up to \$250,000 will match dollar for dollar donations to the AKC-CHF Tick-borne Disease Initiative that will be introduced this week. Qualifying donations can come from new donors, lapsed donors, continuing donors, or by moving money from Donor Advised Funds. The AKC donations will be used for canine research broadly. VOTED and passed unanimously.

It was VOTED to adjourn Friday, February 12, 2016 at 2:40 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary