

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
October 28-29, 2013

The Board convened on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present, except Dr. Newman. Also present were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Assistant Executive Secretary. Dr. Newman participated by telephone conference, but under Board policy, was not permitted to vote.

Upon a motion by Ms. Scully, seconded by Mr. Arnold, the September 2013 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were unanimously adopted.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**Strategic Planning**

There was discussion on the need for the Board to address the subject of Strategic Planning. A Special Meeting to cover this topic was scheduled for Monday-Tuesday, January 13-14, 2014. The goal is to basically establish a Strategic Plan for three years with a Directional Plan for two years after that. Daryl Hendricks, COO is to act as the discussion leader on this subject.

**Chairman Pro Tem**

As both Chairman and Vice Chairmen were to be absent for the second day of the October meeting, without objection, the Chairman designated Dr. Garvin as the Chairman Pro Tem for that portion of the meeting.

**Marketing and Communications**

Christopher Walker, Staff, gave a presentation on the status of AKC marketing and communication initiatives.

**Entries Loss Report**

Daryl Hendricks, Staff, gave a presentation on Conformation entries, which analyzed the decline in Conformation entries at All-Breed events over the ten year period 2003 -2012.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Organizational Changes**

The President, Mr. Sprung, reported the following organizational changes:

- Human Resources is to report to the Vice President and General Counsel, Margaret Poindexter
- All Event Departments are to report to Vice President Doug Ljungren. This includes Companion and Performance Events, Event Programs, Judging Operations, Field Representatives and Sport Services.

**Walter F. Goodman**

Mr. Gladstone suggested one of the meeting rooms be renamed to honor Walter F. Goodman. Following discussion, Mr. Sprung suggested that the Board Room be named after Mr. Goodman.

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Arnold, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Dr. Newman) to designate the Board Room as the Walter F. Goodman Memorial Board Room, with that fact commemorated with a brass plaque.

**2014 Budget**

There was a lengthy discussion on the proposed 2014 Budget. Board members had previously submitted written questions, which had been answered. Additional questions were raised and addressed at the meeting.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Cruz, the 2014 Budget was adopted (affirmative: Dr. Garvin, Ms. Cruz, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Scully, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Kalter,

Mr. Wooding, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Powers, Mr. Amen; opposed: Mr. Gladstone; absent: Dr. Newman.)

### **2014 Donations**

There was a discussion on donations to be made during 2014:

#### **AKC Canine Health Foundation**

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Amen, it was VOTED (affirmative: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Amen, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Kalter, Ms. Cruz, Ms. Scully, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Powers, Mr. Wooding; abstaining: Mr. Feeney; absent: Dr. Newman) to approve a matching fund grant of \$500,000 in 2014 to the AKC Canine Health Foundation. The match of up to \$500,000 is to be for funds raised from new sources in 2014, e.g. excluding AKC, Zoetis, Purina, Donor Advised Funds or AKC clubs and others, which have donated to the AKC CHF in the past. The final determination on what consists of "new sources" is to be made by KPMG.

#### **AKC Museum of the Dog**

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Amen, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Dr. Newman) to approve a 2014 grant to cover the expenses of the AKC Museum of the Dog. Per the Financial Support Agreement between AKC and the AKC Museum of the Dog, the AKC Board elected to have these funds taken from the Museum Reserves.

#### **Board Action Items**

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on previous Action items assigned to the Staff.

#### **Events and Entries Update**

Mr. Sprung gave an updated event status report for events through September 2013. Entries were up by almost 1% and Events were up by 1.5% compared to the first nine months of 2012.

### **LEGAL REPORT**

Margaret Poindexter, General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. She presented a status report on pending litigation and other activities for the month of September 2013.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Margaret Poindexter was present for this portion of the meeting. Mari-Beth O'Neill, and Alan Slay, AKC Staff, participated via telephone conference.

#### **Proposed Bylaw Amendment (Delegate Eligibility)**

The Board reviewed a request from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5 of the AKC Bylaws to remove a number of occupations and activities which would make an individual ineligible to become or continue to serve as a Delegate under the current Bylaw.

The recommendation is to remove from the list:

1. Professional judges
2. Professional handlers and trainers
3. Employees of a dog food or dog supply company
4. Publishers and those soliciting kennel ads
5. Superintendents

This subject is to be discussed further at the December 2013 meeting. The section as it would be amended in its entirety follows:

Any person in good standing with the AKC who is a resident citizen of the United States, its territories or possessions, or has permanent resident alien status as defined by the Immigration and Naturalization Act, shall be eligible to become or remain a Delegate, providing this person meets the criteria for occupational eligibility given herein. No person is eligible to become or remain a Delegate if he or she (a) is engaged in trade or traffic in dogs, which includes commercial breeders or brokers of dogs for resale as determined by the American Kennel Club, (b) has a significant interest in a dog registry, dog event giving organization or any organization deemed to be in competition with AKC or in conflict with its objects. Significant interest would include by but not be limited to, ownership in, employment by, a directorship of, and holding an office in.

No person may become or remain a Delegate if convicted of a misdemeanor or felony involving the theft, embezzlement, or misappropriation of funds or property from The American Kennel Club, any AKC subsidiary, or affiliated organization, or an AKC sanctioned, licensed or member club in a civil court action within the previous ten years. No person may become or remain a Delegate if convicted of a misdemeanor or felony animal cruelty in the previous ten years. A conviction or admission of guilt or finding of liability in a court of competent jurisdiction on any of the items in this paragraph within the last ten years, shall be deemed conclusive proof and shall be grounds for the disapproval of a Delegate candidate or the removal of a seated Delegate.

### **Territoriality**

The Board reviewed proposed amendments to Chapter 2, Sections 3 and 7, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which was based on input from the Dog Show Rules Committee as well as AKC Staff. The changes would require a club to hold one "in Territory" show every second year, to maintain its exclusivity. Once a club loses exclusivity, that exclusivity could not be reestablished and the area would be considered open unless in accordance with Chapter 2, Section 7, another club shared concurrent jurisdiction over the area.

There was a lengthy discussion on the subject of show territory and the scarcity of superior show sites. A number of suggestions were received from the Delegate All-Breed Clubs Committee just prior to the meeting. The Board wished to consider these as well as a number of other ideas raised at this meeting. This subject will be discussed further at the December 2013 meeting.

### **Judging On A Ramp**

The Board reviewed a request submitted by the Basset Hound Club of America and the Bulldog Club of America. These Parent Clubs are requesting that the Board policy on the use of a ramp be revised to make it expected that the Basset Hound and Bulldog are judged on a ramp at the Group and Best in Show levels of competition.

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Arnold, Ms. Scully, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Amen, Mr. Powers, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Wooding; opposed: Dr. Garvin, Ms. Cruz; absent: Dr. Newman) to have Basset Hounds and Bulldogs at the Group and Best in Show levels judged on the ramp. This is to be effective for all shows held on and after January 1, 2014

## **JUDGING OPERATIONS**

Tim Thomas, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

### **Group Approval**

There was a great deal of discussion regarding the criteria for granting group approval for American vis-a-vis visiting judges. There was unanimous agreement that the criteria should be similar, with only Ms. Cruz believing it should be identical. After lengthy discussion there was a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Ashby, and it was VOTED (affirmative, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Wooding, Mr. Amen, Ms. Scully, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Powers, Mr. Arnold; opposed: Ms. Cruz; absent Dr. Newman) to adopt the following policy with the effective date to be determined at the December 2013 meeting.

- An AKC judge approved to judge breeds comprising 80% of the entries in a group competition the previous year could be approved for the group after passing the breed standard tests and submission of a \$25 non-refundable processing fee per breed for the remaining breeds in that group.
- The group approval would be for no more than three years, dating from the first group assignment.
- May not be assigned breeds not currently approved on either regular or permit basis constituting the balance of the group.
- Group status removed after three years if judge has failed to gain approval for the balance of the breeds within the group.

Meeting adjourned on Monday October 28, 2013 at 5:25 pm.

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Meeting reconvened on Tuesday October 29, 2013 at 8:00 am.

All Directors were present, except Mr. Kalter, who was absent due to his ongoing service as foreman of a federal grand jury, and Dr. Newman. Also present were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

### **Canine Legislative Position Statement on Service/Assistance Dogs**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to expand the canine legislation policy position statement on The Use of Dogs for Assistance and Service to address specific instances where individuals have fraudulently identified dogs as Service/Assistance Dogs for personal advantage.

This will be discussed further at the December 2013 meeting.

### **Canine Legislative Position Statement on Public Transportation for Dogs**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to expand the canine legislation policy position statement on Air Travel for dogs to encourage public transit authorities to allow people to evacuate with their pets or bring pets onto public transportation during times of natural disaster or other emergency. It also includes language to expand the current statement to include support for allowing dogs on national train services such as Amtrak. It further states that AKC expects all dog owners using public transportation to comply with all applicable laws and carrier policies. This will be discussed further at the December meeting.

### **Canine Legislative Position Statement on Breeding Restrictions and Regulations**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to expand the canine legislation policy position statement on breeding restrictions and regulations by providing greater detail on AKC's perspective on breeding regulations/restrictions. This will be discussed further at the December meeting.

### **Canine Legislative Position Statement on Animal Terrorism**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to expand the canine legislation policy position statement on animal terrorism to clarify AKC's commitment to the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act and to include language that opposes acts including "intimidation" and those directed at "breeders". This will be discussed further at the December meeting.

### **APHIS**

AKC Vice President and General Counsel, Margaret Poindexter, provided a briefing on the status of the USDA/APHIS federal regulations, which narrow the definition of a "retail pet store" with the purpose of bringing internet-based pet breeders and sellers under the regulation of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). She discussed the possibility of AKC's challenging the rule through litigation, and the limited prospects for posing a meaningful court challenge to the rule based on either procedural or substantive grounds at this time. Staff will continue to seek clarifications and carefully monitor how the rule is implemented and enforced, which will be critical to determine the true impact of regulation on breeders and whether further action by the AKC will be necessary to protect their rights. The Board requested continuing updates.

### **Family Dog Circulation**

Based on a Board request, Staff provided an update on AKC Family Dog circulation numbers for 2013. Readership is up over 2012 and is approximately 540,000 per issue.

### **Registration of Lassie Pedigree**

The Board reviewed a Staff report on successfully bringing the Weatherwax Collies back into the AKC Registry. The Weatherwax line produced the famous "Lassie" line of Collies

### **CONSENT**

Following discussion, there was a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Ms. Scully, and it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Kalter, Dr. Newman) to approve the following Consent Items:

#### **Delegates Approved**

Deborah Baker DDS, Westminster, CA  
to represent Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club

Rebecca Campbell, Dublin, OH  
to represent Mastiff Club of America

Barbara Steinbacker Dalane, Sussex, NJ  
to represent Garden State All Terrier Club

Darlene Kelley, Suwanee, GA  
to represent Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia

Janet Van Wormer, Sierra Vista, AZ  
to represent Doberman Pinscher Club of America

### **Proposed Border Collie Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to grant permission to the Border Collie Society of America to ballot its membership on proposed changes to the Breed Standard.

### **Registered Kennel Name – "Treyacres"**

The Board VOTED to retire the kennel name "Treyacres" for Brussels Griffons as requested by the American Brussels Griffon Association.

### **Retriever Hunting Tests Poodles**

Based on a request from the Poodle Club of America, the Board VOTED to add Miniature Poodles to the list of breeds eligible to compete in AKC licensed Hunting Tests for Retrievers. This will become effective January 1, 2014.

### **Lower Entry Fees for Juniors in Field Trials**

The Board VOTED to amend the *Field Trial Rules & Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds*, Chapter 8, Section 9 to allow field trial clubs, at their discretion, to provide lower entry fees for dogs handled by Juniors. A Junior Handler must be younger than 18 years of age. (New wording underlined below). The proposed amendment will be read at the December 2013 Delegate Meeting for a vote in March 2014.

### **SECTION 9. No Special Inducements**

A field trial-giving club shall not accept an entry fee other than that published in its premium list or entry form, or in any way discriminate between entrants. No club or member of any club shall give or offer to give any owner or handler any special inducements, such as reduced entry fees, rebates, allowances for expenses or other incentive of value for a certain number of entries. Except a club, at its discretion, may allow for a reduced entry fee for dogs handled by juniors. The reduced entry fee may only apply to specific stakes or may apply to any stake in the trial. The reduced entry fee shall be published in the premium list. A junior is defined as someone less than 18 years of age on the first day of the event. The junior must handle the dog in the event to qualify for the reduced entry fee. If the dog is entered under this provision but the junior does not handle the dog, the owner must pay the regular entry fee as published.

### **Obedience and Rally Regulation Changes**

The Board VOTED to amend five sections of the Obedience regulations and one section of the Rally regulations to make the events more enjoyable. These changes are effective January 1, 2014.

In summary the changes (underlined below) are:

1. Allow premium lists to measure not less than 5½ x 8½ inches up to 8½ x 11 inches. (*Chapter 1, Section 3*)
2. Require clubs to refund the entry fee for females in season. A processing fee may be retained by the club. (*Chapter 1, Section 14*)
3. Allow clubs, at their option, to establish a wait list to fill openings created by entries that are withdrawn prior to the event closing date. (*Chapter 1, Section 27*)
4. Allow dogs to be picked up by their handlers when they are called back into the ring for the awards ceremony. (*Chapter 2, Section 11 & 22*)
5. Allow rally ring sizes to be determined by square footage (2,000 to 3,000 square feet with a minimum width of 30 feet). This will provide clubs flexibility in determining the location of their rally trial, perhaps allowing them to lower their cost. (*Rally Chapter 2, Section 1*)

**Obedience Regulations – Chapter 1, Section 3**

**Section 3. Premium Lists/Entries.** A premium list must be provided for sanctioned “A”, licensed or member trials. The premium shall be printed and shall measure not less than 5½ x 8½ inches or more than 8½ x 11 inches.

**Obedience Regulations – Chapter 1, Section 14**

**Section 14. Dogs That May Not Compete.**

No dog under six months of age may compete.

No dog belonging wholly or in part to a judge, or superintendent, or any member of such a person’s household may be entered in any obedience trial at which such person officiates or is scheduled to officiate. Nor may they handle or act as agent for any dog entered at that obedience trial.

Females in season are not permitted to compete. If a female is withdrawn from competition because it came into season and the event secretary is notified no later than one half hour prior to the start of the first class in the trial, the club is required to refund the entry fee. The club may retain a processing fee and must publish this information in the premium. Clubs may determine the documentation, if any that is required to confirm the female is in season. This shall be stated in the premium. Note: No fee is paid to the AKC for females in season who are withdrawn.

**Obedience Regulations – Chapter 1, Section 27**

**Section 27. Limitation of Entries.** If a club anticipates an entry to exceed the capacity of its facilities for a licensed or member trial, it may limit entries, not to exceed up to eight hours of judging time per day, per judge. Non-regular classes, however, may be included, if so desired.

Prominent announcement of such limits will appear in the title or cover page of the premium list for an obedience trial or immediately under the obedience heading in the premium list for a dog show. This announcement must state that the entries in one or more specified classes will automatically close when certain limits have been reached, even if this occurs before the official closing date.

However, a club, at its discretion, may choose to establish a wait list in order to fill openings created by entries that are withdrawn prior to the event closing day. If a club is maintaining a wait list, this shall be stated in the premium. The full entry fee shall be refunded to an entrant whose entry is replaced by a wait-listed entry.

**Obedience Regulations – Chapter 2, Sections 11& 22**

**Section 11. Announcement of Scores.** (2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph)

After all the scores are recorded for the class or division of the class, the judge will call the qualifying dogs back into the ring. For the award ceremony, dogs may be picked up and carried into the ring if the handler desires. Before awarding the placements, the judge will inform the spectators of the maximum number of points required for a

perfect score. After scores of each placement have been announced, the judge will tell the handlers their dogs' scores.

**Section 22. Praise.** Praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises, but points will be deducted from the total score for a dog that is not under reasonable control while being praised. There will be a substantial penalty for any dog that is picked up or carried at any time in the obedience ring while under judgment. Note: A dog is under judgment until it leaves the ring.

### **Rally Regulations – Chapter 2, Section 1**

**Section 1. Space Requirements.** The ring sizes for rally shall be between 2,000 and 3,000 square feet with a minimum width of 30 feet. The floor covering or ground surface must be the same as would be suitable for traditional AKC Obedience trials. The size of the ring shall be stated in the premium. In consideration of the judge's course design requirements, they should be informed of the ring size with as much lead time as possible.

### **Agility Regulation Changes**

The Board VOTED to make eleven changes to the Agility Regulations to make agility trials easier to manage and more enjoyable for participants and/or clubs. These changes are effective January 1, 2014.

In summary the changes (underlined below) are:

1. Allow single breed specialty clubs to offer 2 trials in one day. (*Chapter 1, Section 2, Paragraph 8*)
2. Require clubs to refund entry fees for females in season. A processing fee may be retained by the club. (*Chapter 1, Section 3, Paragraph 7 & Section 9*)
3. Recommend that clubs note in the premium list any known breed specific legislation in the city/county/state in which the trial is being held. (*Chapter 1, Section 9*)
4. With the permission of the judge, allow clubs to exceed the current limit of 330 runs per day by up to 20 runs in order to avoid load balancing. This will allow the trial to run more smoothly. The trial may not exceed the maximum entries allowed for the trial. (*Chapter 1, Section 18*)
5. Allow exhibitors to correct their entry after closing if they have entered a higher level class for which they are not eligible. (*Chapter 1, Section 21*)
6. Allow for use of video to determine the running order of dogs in a class if the scoring sheets get out of order. (*Chapter 1, Section 31, Paragraph 9*)
7. Allow clubs to build courses the day before the trial within prescribed parameters. (*Chapter 4, Section 6 & 15*)
8. Recommend that each walk-through group does not exceed 60 handlers. (*Chapter 4, Section 8*)
9. Allow leashes to have a pick-up bag and/or identification tag attached. (*Chapter 4, Section 10*)

10. Clarify what identifying information is allowed on clothing worn in the ring. Currently exhibitors may wear club clothing or AKC event wear. This recommendation clarifies that the clothing may include the person's name and the dog's call name. Titles may not be displayed. *(Chapter 4, Section 16)*
11. Allow clubs to offer Regular and Preferred jump heights in the non-regular International Sweepstakes Classes in addition to the jump height classes based on FCI regulations. (Chapter 13, Section 7 & 12)

## **Agility Regulations – Chapter 1**

### **Section 2. Agility Trials Defined.**

#### **Paragraph 8 -**

An AKC-recognized specialty club may offer a single breed specialty agility trial in conjunction with another club's 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.

An AKC recognized single breed specialty club may offer two single breed specialties in one day on the same show site for their breed. The combined total entry for the two trials may not exceed the judging limits set for AKC Agility Judges in Chapter 1, Section 18 if the club is using two judges and two rings. If only one judge is used, the two trials are limited to a maximum of 250 runs between the two trials. Clubs may run the trials concurrently for efficiency. If trials are being run concurrently it must be noted in the premium list. Each trial must maintain separate trial records and be run on original courses.

### **Section 3. Eligibility of Dogs.**

#### **Paragraph 7 -**

Dogs disfigured as the result of accident or injury but otherwise qualified shall be eligible provided that the disfigurement does not interfere with functional movement. Dogs should be physically sound. Dogs that are blind or deaf shall not be eligible. Blind means without useful vision, and deaf means without useful hearing. No dog shall compete if it is taped or bandaged or in any way has anything attached to it for medical purposes.

Spayed females and neutered males are eligible to participate. Females in season shall not be eligible to participate. Entry fees for females in season must be refunded per Chapter 1, Section 9. The premium list must state refunds will be issued for bitches in season.

No dog may participate more than once in any type of class (Standard class, Jumpers With Weaves class, T2B class, FAST class, etc.) offered by a club per day, unless they are entered in a single breed specialty that is offering two trials on the same site, same day. If eligible, dogs may participate in additional non-regular classes.

**Section 9. Premium Lists.** A premium list must be provided for sanctioned "A," licensed, and member trials. The premium list shall be printed (any printing or copying process is acceptable), and shall state whether the event is "sanctioned" or "licensed by the American Kennel Club" or

held by an "AKC member club." Premium lists shall measure not less than 5 ½ x 8 ½ inches or more than 8 ½ x 11 inches.

The following information shall be included in the premium list:

- Name of club holding the event
- The exact location (name of facility, address, city, state and zip code)
- Date of the event
- Name, address and telephone number of the Agility Trial Chairman
- Names of the Event Committee members (minimum of five including Chairman)
- Event number
- Trial hours
- Entry fees
- AKC recording fee shall be stated
- Classes offered
- Names and addresses of judges including their assignments
- Name, address, and telephone number of the Trial Secretary
- Date and closing time of entries
- A list of the officers of the event giving club with the address of the secretary
- It is recommended that any known breed specific regulation(s) for the city/county/state in which the trial is being held are listed.
- An official AKC entry form.

Premium lists shall also specify whether ribbons or rosettes will be offered, whether trophies will be awarded, and contain an outline of the conditions of any non-regular classes that may be offered.

*Entry Fees/Special Inducements.* A host club shall not accept an entry fee other than that published in its premium list or discriminate between exhibitors by offering certain owners or handlers special inducements such as rebates, prizes or other concessions unless allowed by another section of these regulations. Except a club, at its discretion, may allow for a reduced entry fee for dogs handled by juniors. A junior must have an AKC Junior Handler number and is defined as someone less than 18 years of age on the day of the trial. A trial is defined by a unique event number.

Clubs must specify in their premium list an exact amount and description of any processing fee that will be deducted from refunds. Withdrawals after the event's closing date and time due to a change of judge must receive a full refund (no fee is paid to the American Kennel Club).

Females in season must be fully refunded if withdrawn by the Trial Secretary after closing and no later than one half hour prior to the start of the first class of the day of the trial. The club may retain a processing fee

and must publish this information in the premium (no fee is paid to the American Kennel Club for females in season who are withdrawn). Clubs may determine the documentation if any, that is required confirming the female is in season. Clubs must list this AKC policy along with all other situations for which they will provide a refund in the trial premium list.. Clubs must treat all occurrences of a listed refund equally.

Premium lists must also list entry limits (if any), include the method for accepting entries to a limited entry trial (first received or random draw), location where entries will be taken, indicate the ring size and surface to be used and also state additional information as required elsewhere in these *Regulations*.

**Section 18. Event Limit Options, Judge Assignment Changes and Load Balancing Entries.** The maximum number of runs assigned to any judge in one day shall not exceed 330, except as described within this section and Chapter 1, Section 20.

If a club elects, it may place limits on a judge and/or a club may place limits on a single class or set of classes in the premium list. If a limit is placed on a single class or set of classes, no entries may be accepted beyond this established limit. If a limit is placed on a judge, the club must continue to accept entries and any additional runs beyond the judge's limit shall be assigned to another judge.

At no time may a Limited or Random Draw trial exceed its overall event limit. The premium list must state the overall event limit. If any other limits are established for the judge(s) or class(es), those limits must also be stated in the premium list.

All judges' class assignments must be approved by the American Kennel Club. Once judging class assignments have been approved by the American Kennel Club, any change to assignments for any reason must also be approved by the American Kennel Club prior to publication.

After distribution of the premium list, if a judge assignment changes, exhibitors have the right to request a full refund of their entry fee for any classes affected. Exhibitors must submit requests in writing to the Trial Secretary a minimum of 30 minutes preceding the start of the event on the first day in which the exhibitor is entered.

After entries close and the judging schedule is being prepared, clubs may elect to change the class assignments of the individual judges in order to facilitate the smooth running of the event. Such adjustments can be done for any reason including overloads, low entries, equipment problems, etc. When such judging class changes are proposed, the club must first receive approval in writing from each judge affected and the club must receive final approval from the American Kennel Club prior to the distribution of the judging schedule. With the written permission of the judge, the club may choose to leave an overload of up to 20 runs with the judge they were originally entered under. This does not allow the club to go over the total trial entry limits. It is only for load balancing between judges once entries

have closed. The club should make every effort to affect as few entries as possible while keeping in mind the most efficient running of the events. Clubs are allowed to remove judge(s) from the judging panel if entries are low and both the club and the judge(s) agree to this action in writing.

**Section 21. Change of Entry.** In addition to Move-ups as described in Chapter 1, Section 20 entries may be also be changed as noted in this section.

A dog which has been entered in a Novice "A" class for which it is not eligible to be entered in due to class restrictions on the dog or handler may be moved to the Novice "B" class under the following conditions:

The request for the move must be in writing and presented to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each trial.

The request must state the reason and justification for the move from a Novice "A" class to the Novice "B" class.

If notification has been received in writing from the American Kennel Club after the close of entries that the dog is not eligible for the class(es) entered, the dog may be moved to the correct class(es). The request for the move to the class for which the dog is eligible must be in writing, accompanied by the letter from the AKC and submitted to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the trial.

### **Section 31. Judges' Responsibilities** **Paragraph 9**

Judges shall not review video for determination or explanation of a dog's score. Video may be used in case of a stopwatch malfunction to determine a dog's time. Video may also be used to verify the correct run order of dogs, in the event, score sheets have been used out of order.

### **Agility Regulations – Chapter 4**

**Section 6. Preparing a Ring for Agility.** The judge is allowed to send a diagram showing the positions of the obstacles no more than 24 hours prior to the date of the trial to facilitate course building. This diagram may not show obstacle numbers, start and/or finish lines or the Send Line on the course. The judge may send an equipment list more than 24 hours ahead if requested by the club. The club may build the course the day prior to the trial within the parameters noted above. Once the obstacles are set no dogs may train or practice on the obstacles.

**Section 8. Walk-throughs, Warm-ups.** Handlers are permitted to walk the course, without a dog, prior to the start of the class to plan their strategy. The walk-through is restricted to handlers entered in that class. It is recommended that each walk-through group does not exceed handlers from 60 entered dogs at a time. Umbrellas are not

allowed on the course during the walk-through.

Warm-up jumps are recommended, but only one jump per warm-up area will be permitted. The warm-up jump shall be placed off to the side and not on the course. No other practice equipment is allowed on the grounds.

**Section 10. Leashes.** Handlers shall be allowed to bring their dog to the start line on leash. Handlers shall comply with the judge's instructions for being ready to start their run, having their dog off leash and under control in a timely manner. Dogs shall not be faulted for the act of playing tug on the leash, nor for going to or picking up a leash laid in the ring (usually laid after the last obstacle or near the ring exit). A leash may not have excess material dangling from it, nor may it have any attachments including a fleece or leather wrap. The leash may have a single pick-up bag and/or identification tag attached to it.

Dogs shall be on leash at all times when on the show grounds except in the ring and at the warm-up jump area.

Dogs must enter and exit the ring with the leash attached to the dog's collar or harness, or in the case of a slip lead, with the noose completely around the dog's neck, with the other end of the leash held by the handler. Any entry or exit chutes added to the ring for the ease of getting dogs in and out of the ring are not considered to be part of the ring.

Clubs must provide a leash holder or a container for the leash runner to place the leash in or on, which can easily be located by the handler near the ring exit. Leashes or slip leads may not be hung on the ring barrier nor placed on the ground.

**Section 15. Training on Show Grounds.** No agility obstacle training is allowed on the show grounds except for the use of the warm-up jump. No training is allowed on the trial equipment from 12:00 a.m. the day of the trial. If the club chooses to build the course for the next day per Chapter 4, Section 6 then the restriction on obstacle training goes into effect at the point the course is built. The restriction on training/use of the trial equipment extends to 30 minutes after the completion of the trial (on the last day of any set of trials).

#### **Section 16. Clothing/Identification**

Club clothing or AKC event clothing may be worn by anyone exhibiting a dog or by ring stewards. Clothing may display the person's name, the dog's call name and/or the dog's picture. Titles may not be displayed. Writing or graphics on the clothing must not be in poor taste or contain profanity. Clothing must not display any information that would be in conflict with a sponsor of the trial.

#### **Agility Regulations – Chapter 13**

**Section 7. Jump Heights.** The ISC class shall be split into three (3) separate categories: Small Agility for dogs measuring 13 ¾ inches and/or less at the withers, Medium Agility for dogs measuring 16 7/8 inches at the withers and/or less, and Large Agility for dogs

measuring greater than 16 7/8 inches at the withers. As indicated in the equipment specifications for the ISC class, dogs entered in Small Agility jump 14 inches in height, dogs entered in Medium Agility jump 18 inches in height, dogs entered in Large Agility jump 26 inches in height. Exceptions and/or ranges exist at some jumps, see "Obstacle Specification."

Clubs may offer the ISC classes at heights specified in Chapter 2, Section 4 for Regular classes and Chapter 8, Section 9 for Preferred Classes. All heights must be included if the club offers jump heights in addition to those listed above for Small, Medium and Large Agility at the trial. Jumps must conform to height specifications for the Regular and Preferred Heights. The A-Frame, Dog Walk and Seesaw specifications must conform to those set forth in Chapter 13, Section 7 if these classes are being offered in conjunction with a World Team Qualifier event. If ISC is being offered at other agility trials at the clubs discretion the contact obstacles may conform to the specifications in Chapter 3, Section 3.

**Section 12. Course Distances and Times.** The standard course times are at the sole discretion of the judge, but shall generally follow these guidelines.

Trials including the Regular and Preferred Jump Heights will assign Standard Course Times (SCT's) as follows:

For Regular jump heights:

8, 12 inches will be assigned the SCT calculated for Small Agility  
-16 inches will be assigned SCT calculated for Medium Agility  
-20, 24, 26 inches will be assigned SCT calculated for Large Dog Agility.

For Preferred jump heights course time assigned will use the SCT for Regular heights as noted in above paragraph, plus 5 additional seconds.

### **Sweepstakes Judging Procedures**

The Board considered a proposed amendment to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. It would change the following paragraph in Chapter 11, Section 8, from italics to plain text, this making it a Rule rather than a Regulation. During discussion, it was pointed out that all procedures and requirements for sweepstakes have always been governed by Regulations and policies rather than by Rules.

There was a reluctance to set the precedent of making these procedures rules, potentially removing flexibility from the clubs holding them. Following a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconding by Mr. Arnold, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Kalter, Dr. Newman) to disapprove the following proposal.

When the judge of a sweepstakes or futurity finds that a dog is ineligible to compete under this section, the dog should be excused. A dog may only be disqualified in a sweepstakes or futurity under the provisions of Chapter 11, Section 8-A.

### **Reserve Points at a National Specialty**

The Board considered a proposed clarification regarding the opting out of awarding points for Reserve at a National Specialty. Chapter 16, Section 1, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, does permit a Parent Club to opt out of awarding points for reserve at its National Specialty Show. However, there is no requirement for the club to notify exhibitors of this opt out in the Premium List.

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Ashby, it was VOTED (Affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Ashby, Dr. Garvin, Ms. Cruz, Ms. Scully, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Amen, Mr. Powers, Mr. Arnold; opposed: Mr. Feeney, Mr. Wooding; absent: Mr. Kalter, Dr. Newman) to add the following statement to all Premium Lists not yet mailed for shows held on and after January 1, 2014:

*Notification must be printed in the Premium List only if the club is not offering the three points major to the Reserve Winners at the National Specialty.*

### **CONFORMATION**

Alan Slay, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via telephone conference.

#### **Multiple All-Breed or Limited-Breed Shows in One Day**

The Board reviewed a recommendation for a pilot program which will allow clubs with relatively small entries to hold two shows in one day. This will be discussed further at the December meeting.

#### **Scheduling of Changes**

Staff was asked to coordinate the roll out of changes to breed standards, rules, regulations, and guidelines in all sports on two effective dates per year. This will be implemented.

#### **Inland Empire Kennel Association Request for Policy Exception**

The Board reviewed a request from the Inland Empire Kennel Association for an exception to Board Policy in order to hold three conformation events per year. This club holds events in Coeur D'Alene, ID (29 miles from their territory) and their territory is Spokane, Washington. There was no motion to modify or to make an exception to the current policy.

### **COMPLIANCE**

Margaret Poindexter, AKC Staff, participated in this section of the meeting.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

### **REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT**

Updates were provided on Registration and Canine Partners.

### **JUDGING OPERATIONS**

Tim Thomas, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

#### **Judges Review Committee Statistics**

Staff provided statistics on the number of Judging applications received vs. number approved in the 12-month period before the Judges Review Committee was re-formatted in June 2013 (May 2012 - April 2013) and since June 2013 (June 2013 - September 2013).

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **JUDGING TASK FORCE**

Dr. Garvin gave the internal report of the Judges Task Force, which included a proposal for an "AKC Canine College," which would provide online education opportunity for judges. The draft proposal is attached to these minutes as Appendix A.

Comments from participants in the Sport are welcome and should be directed to:  
[judgingtaskforce@akc.org](mailto:judgingtaskforce@akc.org)

**THE BUDGET PROCESS**

Joseph Baffuto, AKC's Controller, was asked to come into the meeting so the Board could acknowledge his efforts and work on the budget, especially in providing prompt response to Board questions during the process.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, October 29, 2013 at 12:00 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

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James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary

The following Appendix A describes a DRAFT proposal from the AKC Judging Task Force that is being considered and discussed by the AKC Board of Directors. The AKC Judging Task Force is having this draft published with the Board minutes to encourage the fancy to provide comments, suggestions, critiques, and corrections. These will be evaluated by the Task Force prior to the final proposal being presented to the AKC Board for approval. Please send your input promptly to [judgingtaskforce@akc.org](mailto:judgingtaskforce@akc.org). Thank you.

## APPENDIX A

### AKC Canine College\* (temporary name)

#### Introduction

One of the assigned projects for the AKC Judging Task Force is to investigate various distance-learning possibilities. The creation and development of a virtual, computer-based simulation of a judging experience could be of significant value in the education and evaluation of aspiring judges. This document will briefly describe a basic model whose framework could be used for multiple purposes. It cannot replace all the valuable hands-on ways of learning about dogs and judging, but it can be an efficient and effective component of an educational journey.

#### The Basic Model

On a computer screen, the participant is shown a class of six dogs, one by one, with a series of photographs showing side views, front, rear, head, and breed specific examination perspectives, and videos of movement, including down and back and around the ring for each dog. The participant chooses which images to view, and then places the first four dogs in order, first through fourth.

#### Validation

To determine the “correct” answers, the instrument would be given to ten different breed experts (chosen by the Parent Club), and their placings combined to form a consensus ranking of the six dogs. There would not be just one correct answer, rather a range of acceptable placements.

#### Multiple Purposes

The basic model could be used for a variety of functions and multiple options.

1. Judges education

The participant could compare his or her answers to the preferred responses of the breed experts.

The breed experts could be asked to record their explanation for each of their placements, and the participant could learn why the dogs should be placed in a particular order.

2. Judges evaluation

The participant's score – how well his choices matched those of the experts – would be useful data for consideration by the Judges Review Committee for an aspiring or applying judge.

The participant could explain his choices, which would provide evidence as to how well he knows the breed.

3. Judges recertification

Should there come a time when it would be appropriate for a judge to demonstrate his competence, comparing his scores and explanations to those of his peers would provide objective evidence of his breed knowledge – or lack thereof.

A diligent judge may want to self-assess his abilities to evaluate a breed, especially if it has been some time since he judged them, or has a big assignment coming up. (see also 6. Practice sessions below)

4. Field Representative education

This model should help newly hired Field Reps to get up to speed quickly on the large number of breeds that they need to know and understand in order to perform their job well.

5. Breeder education

While most breeders and exhibitors would be interested in knowing what judges are taught, the model could be modified to include validated expert breeder opinions on the reasons for placements from a breeding or breed function point of view.

6. Practice sessions

After increasing the pool of examined dogs in the model to avoid duplication or memorization of the actual evaluation, aspiring judging applicants could test themselves before applying, both to improve their placing abilities and to see whether they are ready for advancement.

7. “You Be The Judge” game

With appropriate simplifications, the model could be a potentially popular game with the public, letting gamers compete and compare their top scores with others on-line.

**Advanced Options**

1. Increasing the number of dogs entered in the class from six to eight would increase the number of different ways four dogs could be placed from 360 to more than 1,600. Validating the ranking would still be straightforward. Obtaining cogent expert commentary with so many choices would be more challenging.

2. Creating of pool of twenty dogs from which six are randomly selected could help mitigate the possible “memorization” or sharing of preferred answers.

3. A time limit in the evaluation mode would come closer to the real world pressures of judging in the ring.
4. In future years, more dog examples could be added and placements and commentary could be updated.

### **Necessary Ingredients**

To make these models work, cooperation and participation of breed Parent Clubs is essential. Here is what would be requested of the clubs:

1. Six (or more) dogs with good quality images, standing and in motion.
2. Similar to the old “Hands-On Test”, prefer two examples of good quality, two of average quality, and two of mediocre quality.
3. Prefer dogs or handlers not be recognizable, or may use one handler for many or all dogs.
4. Dogs are to be in show trim and condition, properly trained and handled.
5. A list of 10 breed expert judges willing to participate.
6. Identify and photograph any breed specific features normally examined in the ring.

### **Known Challenges**

1. This would not duplicate the touch and feel of an actual dog examination, especially in coated breeds.
2. With so many breeds to cover, this will be a large project and potentially very expensive and time consuming.
3. Parent Clubs will vary in their ability to provide dogs, images, and impartial experts in a timely manner.
4. There will be difficulties obtaining uniform presentations of the dogs, both in one breed and across many breeds.
5. We need to avoid promoting recognizable dogs.
6. Who will grade the explanations of placements, and how will that be done?
7. The costs and maintenance of computer services could be substantial.
8. The set of six dogs may be too similar/difficult or too obvious/easy.

### **Summary**

The development of this model could provide an effective educational opportunity by demonstrating preferred judging placements. It could serve as an objective measurement of a judge's ability to properly place dogs in a virtual show ring. The model could be a valuable addition to the judging environment. This model could continue to be developed and improved, and extended to many other uses.

### **AKC Judging Task Force**

[JudgingTaskForce@akc.org](mailto:JudgingTaskForce@akc.org)

Dr. Charles Garvin, Chair

Kent Delaney

Douglas A. Johnson

Daryl Hendricks