

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
August 8 – 9, 2011

The Board convened on Monday August 8, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary. Copies of the July 2011 minutes were made available to all Directors. The Board reviewed the minutes of the July 11 - 12, 2011 meeting. Upon a motion by Dr, Newman, seconded by Mr. Arnold, the July 2011 Board minutes were unanimously adopted.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Board Action Items**

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

**Events and Entries Update**

Mr. Sprung reported that for the first six months of 2011 aggregate Entries were up by 2.47% and Events were up by 1.05% compared to the same period in the previous year.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

**LEGAL REPORT**

Margaret Poindexter, General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. She presented a status report on pending litigation and other activities during the month of July 2011.

**AKC IT Department - Cost Analysis**

Charley Kneifel, AKC Staff, was present during this portion of the meeting. Staff presented a breakdown of costs associated with the IT Department. There was in-depth discussion of this analysis and opportunities.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Jim Stevens, Chief Financial Officer, participated in this portion of the meeting. Total revenues in the month of July 2011 were 4% lower than the prior year. The month's total operating expenses were 3% less than 2010. Our investments absorbed an unrealized loss during the month due to the poor performance of the stock markets.

**Event Service Fee**

Staff presented a plan to offset a portion of the operating losses in the Events areas. This was undertaken due to the fact that in 2010 AKC's events incurred an operating loss of more than \$11 million. Since registrations generated an operating profit of only \$7.5 million in 2010, there was a first time shortfall of more than \$3.5 million in the annual events subsidy from registration revenue. It was proposed that the Event Service Fee be raised to \$5.00 for all AKC Events and that the AKC concurrently cease collecting the \$.50 Recording Fee. Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Ashby, its was VOTED (unanimously) to table this proposal.

**Minimize Cost of Delegate Meetings**

Based on a request from the Board, Staff looked into various ways to reduce the costs associated with the quarterly Delegate meetings. Currently, the annual cost to AKC is approximately \$425,000.

Options explored included, not serving meals, renting a facility other than a hotel space for the meetings, reducing the number of meetings and holding all March and September meetings in Raleigh to reduce travel costs associated with Staff presence at the meetings.

Research indicates that the current structure of the Committee and Delegate meetings makes it virtually impossible to affordably use any type of facility besides a hotel due to the meeting space requirements for Committees and Delegate meetings. Staff is already negotiating the best rates and most bare-boned agreements that it can, while still providing a high quality venue that meets all of our unique requirements.

In the interest of cost containment, it was the sense of the Board that AKC Management, beginning with the September 2011 meeting, should significantly reduce AKC Staff presence at the Delegate Meetings and eliminate Staff liaisons to Delegate Committees and Staff attendance at these meetings. Management was also directed to eliminate the mailings made to Delegates prior to each meeting, including *Perspectives*, substituting electronic communications. This information will also continue to be published on the Delegate Portal. Notice of the date and location for all meetings will still be sent by mail.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Delegates**

The following Delegate was approved:

Joseph B. Franklin, Raleigh, NC  
to represent Pekingese Club of America

**Havanese - Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to approve breed standard changes to the Havanese breed standard as proposed and voted on by the membership of the Havanese Club of America, Inc. with an effective date of September 28, 2011.

**Revision to Obedience and Tracking Training Regulation**

The Board VOTED to approve suggested revisions to Chapter 1, Section 14, of the *Obedience Regulations* to clarify that showing under a judge is not allowed when a student /teacher training relationship exists (with or without compensation), and to place a responsibility on the judge to report such violations.

**German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Vizslas and Weimaraners -- Eligibility for Retriever Hunting Tests.**

The Board VOTED to approve a request made by the respective parent clubs to allow the German Shorthaired Pointer, German Wirehaired Pointer, Vizsla and Weimaraner to enter the Retriever Hunting Test. Titles earned by these breeds in Retriever Hunting Tests will be designated with an "R" to differentiate the title from those earned in Pointing Breed Hunting Tests (example: JHR).

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT****"In Good Standing"**

The Executive Secretary reviewed AKC's definition of "in good standing" with the American Kennel Club. There are a number of AKC privileges which may be suspended including Registration, participation in events and judging approval. A person may be suspended from any one of these AKC privileges while maintaining other privileges.

There was a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, and it was VOTED (affirmative: Dr. Garvin, Dr. Battaglia, Dr. Newman, Dr. Smith, Mr. Menaker, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Davies, Mr. Goodman, Ms. Scully, Mr. Amen, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Ashby; opposed: Mr. Gladstone) to define "good standing" as a person who has not had any AKC privileges suspended. This clarification will be added in italics to the first sentence of ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5, of the *AKC Bylaws*.

**Nominating Committee**

Following discussion, the Board elected the Nominating Committee, which is to select candidates for positions on the Board of Directors, Class of 2016, which are to be filled at the March, 2012 Delegate Meeting:

**Nominating Committee**

Harold Miller, Chair  
American Foxhound Club

Erik Bergishagen  
Detroit Kennel Club

James S. Corbett  
Tualatin Kennel Club

Dr. Patricia Haines  
Cincinnati Kennel Club

Ruth Winston  
Ladies Kennel Association of America

**Alternates**

Gretchen Bernardi  
Mississippi Valley Kennel Club

James Efron  
Nashville Kennel Club

David Roberts, and Mari-Beth O'Neill, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Miniature American Shepherd– Request to Enter Miscellaneous Class**

The Board reviewed a request, from the Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA, to approve the move of the Miniature American Shepherd into the Miscellaneous Class. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

**Proposal to Reduce Number of Delegate Meetings**

The Board reviewed a proposal, from the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee, to reduce the number of Delegate meetings from four to three per year. The proposal suggests that two of these meetings be expanded from two days to three days in order to enable increased attendance at the various Delegate committee meetings. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

**New Delegates' Orientation Program**

Staff advised the Board that the September New Delegates' Orientation Presentation is being reformatted to offer new Delegates the opportunity to learn about the AKC organizational structure, financials and future business direction as well as meet current Board members. A new briefer 30-minute format will accommodate the four executive officers' presentations, introduction of the Board members in attendance, and a brief Q&A session with the executive officers. Cocktails and dinner will follow the presentation at 6:30 p.m.

**MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Lisa Gonzalez, David Roberts, Mark Dunn, and Michelle Baker, AKC Staff, participated via video conference, while Charles Kneifel, AKC Staff, was present. There was an update on the various initiatives and programs instituted to reduce the rate of decline in registrations.

**CONFORMATION**

Robin Stansell, Bobby Birdsong, and Bri Tesarz, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Concurrent Specialty – Update**

The Board reviewed a request, from the Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon, to increase the limit on concurrent specialties (independent specialties being held concurrently with an all-breed show) from three to four concurrent specialties.

There was a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Kalter, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the usual advance notice requirement.

Mr. Stansell gave a report on the concurrent specialties given to date. The format has worked well, providing a boost in entries for the all-breed show.

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Dr. Smith, it was VOTED (Dr. Davies, Dr. Smith, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Menaker, Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Newman, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Amen, Mr. Arnold; opposed: Dr. Garvin, Ms. Scully) to end the trial period for concurrent specialties and to permit independent specialties to be held concurrently with an all-breed show with the following limitations:

1. The specialty club must obtain permission from the all-breed club in order to apply.
2. The maximum number of independent specialties will be determined by the Event Operations Staff, considering the adequacy of the all-breed show's facility.
3. The specialty must be held on the same grounds as the concurrent all-breed show (i.e. the same physical address).
4. The entry on the Specialty breed(s) is limited to 100 entries in both the specialty & all-breed club events.
5. The ownership of the corresponding date must be agreed upon in writing prior to event approval.
6. The all-breed class must be held prior to the independent specialty in order to accommodate the Group judging.

7. Evening specialties will be permitted for breeds that are not holding concurrent specialties with the all-breed show.

### **National Specialty Catalog Sales**

The Board reviewed a request from Staff to change Board policy to permit National Specialties holding consecutive days of AKC events to sell catalogs one hour prior to judging of the first regular class at a National Specialty. This will allow National Specialties that offer multiple event types to have a combined catalog. Current policy prohibits sale of show catalogs until one hour prior to regular judging of the specific event. The discussion centered on also changing the policy to encompass other events and to eliminate the regular class restriction. This will be considered at the October 2011, meeting.

### **Request from Catonsville Kennel Club**

The Board reviewed a request, from the Catonsville Kennel Club, for an exception to the Board Policy which mandates that all-breed dog shows, held on the same date, must be at least 200 miles away from each other.

This will be discussed further at the October 2011, meeting.

There was a report on event-related fines and reprimands, which will be published on the September Secretary's Page.

### **COMPANION EVENTS**

Curt Curtis, Julie Eagle, and Carrie DeYoung, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference. The Board Appeals Committee (Dr. Newman, Chair, Mr. Arnold, and Ms. Scully, were not present for this item.)

### **Basset Hound Club of America – Lower Jump Height in Agility**

Staff requested that the Board permit Staff the time to research and discuss the request of the Basset Hound Club of America internally and externally with resources among the sport fancy, along with giving the OTA Sub-committee a chance to make their recommendation to AKC Staff.

An AKC Staff recommendation will be made to the AKC Board of Directors at the October meeting.

### **COMPLIANCE**

Margaret Poindexter, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting, and Jack Norton, AKC Staff, participated via video conference.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

### **PERFORMANCE EVENTS**

Doug Ljungren, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

### **Conditionally Registered Dogs - Eligibility to Compete in Field Trials**

The Board reviewed a request from the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America and the Vizsla Club of America. The request is to make conditionally registered dogs ineligible to participate in AKC field events where prefix titles are earned. This will be discussed further at the November meeting.

**CLUBS****Delegates for Publication**

Juxi Burr, Albuquerque, NM  
to represent Rio Grande Kennel Club  
no current Delegate

Kim Demchak, Mayer, AZ  
to represent Giant Schnauzer Club of America  
currently represented by Robin Greenslade

Raymond P. Harrington, Venetia, PA  
to represent South Hills Kennel Club  
currently represented by Kathleen Parks

Stephen Owens, Cumberland, RI  
to represent Providence County Kennel Club  
currently represented by Kerstin Thell Ottmar

Shirley Ray, Corpus Christi, TX  
to represent Corpus Christi Kennel Club  
currently represented by Joan Urban

Cathleen Rubens, Apex, NC  
to represent Fayetteville Kennel Club  
currently represented by Arlene Harris

**JUDGING OPERATIONS**

Darrell Hayes, and John Wade, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Judging Fees**

There was a discussion on providing judges with the opportunity to list their fees on the AKC Online Directory as a service to clubs. The Board reviewed a letter and a questionnaire that was being sent to all conformation judges. Judges were to be requested to return the questionnaire by September 26, 2011.

**Regular Status Request & Single Entry Breeds**

Staff presented a memo to clarify the requirements for regular status as outlined in the Board-approved Judging Approval Process, effective January 1, 2007. The policy statement and the clarification appear below.

**Policy Statement:**

Complete five assignments in each provisional breed, demonstrating sufficient competence in the breeds. Unlimited assignments may be accepted. Additional provisional assignments may be required. Must have been observed for a total of three times by different Field Representatives. (Judging Operations Staff may reduce this requirement in breeds with consistently small entries).

Additional provisional assignments may be required. Following a Marginal or Does Not Meet evaluation at least two additional evaluations on that breed will be required.

Clarification:

“An entry of one dog in a breed, not on the Low Entry Breed List, **may not** count towards the required five provisional assignments. This single entry does not provide you with an opportunity to make a decision based on the merits of at least two dogs for comparison to determine the quality of each exhibit. Under our current policy, you must complete five judging assignments with dogs present. A single entry does not comply with this policy with the exception of those breeds on the current Low Entry Breed List published by the Judging Operations Department.

**Event Analysis**

The Board continued its discussion on the state of conformation shows, as whether or not there were too many events. Charles Kneifel, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting and Robin Stansell, AKC Staff participated via video conference.

Mr. Kneifel presented an analysis of shows considering such things as the distance exhibitors travelled. A large sample size of all-breed shows was considered and the effect of the size of clusters, new dates, specialties with all-breed shows and specialties that conflict with all-breed shows, etc.

In October, Staff is to present the Board with its conclusions and recommendations based upon the information reviewed at the July and August Board meetings.

Meeting adjourned on Monday August 8, 2011 at 5:20 pm

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Meeting reconvened on Tuesday August 9, 2011 at 8:00 am. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

**Judging Approval**

Darrell Hayes and Katie Rudolph, AKC Staff, participated via video conference. Edd Bivin and Rosalind Kramer participated in this portion of the meeting and James Smith participated by telephone conference. These were members of the committee that developed a proposal to change the conformation judging approval process. Dr. Robert Smith, the chair of this committee, explained that the committee tried to simplify and streamline the process, while creating a greater opportunity to identify and advance talented judges.

After considerable discussion and input, there was a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Dr. Davies, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to support the concept of the proposed procedures. The committee is to consider the Board's input and to bring back a final proposal to the Board.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, August 9, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.

Adjourned

Attest:

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James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary