

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
February 8-9, 2018

The Board convened on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 8:04 a.m. All Directors were present. Also present was the Executive Secretary.

The January 2018 Board minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were discussed. Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Dok, the January 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung reviewed Action Items, and reported on Staff initiatives.

Legal Status Report

Jay Waks, Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel, and Heather McManus, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, presented a status report on pending litigation and other Legal activities for the months of November and December 2017. It was reported that the Legal Department worked on 892 agreements in 2017, a 47% increase from 2016 and 224% increase from 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. There was nothing reported out of this session.

AKC Humane Fund Update

Daphna Straus, Vice President of Business Development and Secretary of the AKC Humane Fund (HF) gave a review of the Funds 2017 activities. Doug Ljungren, AKC Humane Fund President was present for this portion of the meeting. AKC HF Programming consists primarily of grant-making and provides no direct services. Charitable and educational activities include Breed Rescue Grants, Grants to Domestic Violence Shelters, Scholarships, Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE Awards) and funding the AKC Library.

The majority of Grants in 2017 were made in the Domestic Violence program area.

53 Domestic Violence Shelters successfully applied for HF grants to care for and improve infrastructure for pets. Total grant awards were \$51,750 plus an additional \$39,000 in future grant commitments. Programs have been funded in 37 out of 50 states since the inception of the program.

The AKC Humane Fund through its Sandy Fund donated \$10,000 to each of the following Organizations:

- The Houston SPCA
- Napa Humane
- Sonoma Humane Society
- The Sato Project (Puerto Rico)

The John D. Spurling Scholarship supports diverse academic pursuits. Five (5) scholarships are awarded per year totaling \$10,000 to full-time students enrolled in courses of study that contribute to the well-being of dogs and responsible pet ownership.

In 2017, AKC HF was accepted to the portfolio of Survey Monkey charities. The public fuels Survey Monkey's donations to charities by taking surveys. Survey Monkey donates \$0.50 per survey, donated to the charity of the respondent's choosing. In 2017, HF successfully lobbied to become part of the Survey Monkey Contribute roster. To date, \$27,303 has been contributed from 14,772 people.

In 2017, a Juniors Scholarship was endowed in the name of GCHP Hill Country's Let's Get

Ready to Rumble. A \$5000 annual scholarship will be awarded to the winners of the Junior Versatility Awards 1st and 2nd place in memory of Rumble. Junior Versatility recognizes Juniors who compete in at least 3 AKC Sports.

AKC Canine Health Foundation Update

Diane Brown, DVM, PhD, DACVP, Chief Executive Officer of the AKC Canine Health Foundation provided an update on the Foundations work in 2017.

Key Foundation activities for 2017 included:

- Achieved GuideStar Platinum rating for the first time
- Key Investments were made in:
 1. Research programs funding growth
 2. First AKC CHF veterinary student intern
 3. Catalogued all CHF-grant scientific publications - >680 publications, cited >23,000 times
 4. AKC CHF National Parent Club Canine Health Conference
- New Corporate Support and Partnerships:
 1. Elanco Animal Health
 2. Merck Animal Health
 3. Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research
- An updated investment strategy and policy

In 2017 \$1.94 million was awarded for 43 grants. The CHF is currently managing \$10.79 million in 140 active research grants. For 2017, AKC offered \$1,000,000 in matching pledges. CHF match donations raised were \$861,742.

Smart Pet Technologies Update

Michael Basone, COO of Smart Pet Technologies, Herberto Calves, VP Marketing Smart Pet Technologies and Anthony Saracco, Vice President, Fredericks Michael & Co. gave an update on the LINK Collar by AKC.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. There was nothing reported out of this session.

AKC Museum of the Dog Update

James Crowley, AKC Consultant, participated in this portion of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive personnel matters. It was reported out of this Executive Session that Alan Fausel has been designated as the Director of the AKC Museum of the Dog to take effect when it relocates to New York. Until the relocation takes place, Alan will be an AKC employee in the New York Office, with the title of Director of AKC Cultural Resources. He will work on all aspects of the relocation leading up to the opening of the AKC Museum of the Dog in New York, anticipated to be in January 2019. He will work closely with Steven George, who will remain the Director of the Museum while it continues to operate in St. Louis. This decision and course of action was approved unanimously by both the AKC Museum of the Dog and the AKC Boards.

AKC TV Update

Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary, Russell Quy, CEO of B Live Productions and Todd Galloway, Chief Digital Officer of BLive gave an update on the status of AKC TV. Doug

Ljungren, Executive Vice President Sports & Events and Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President Sport Services were present for this portion for the meeting.

On Saturday February 10, 2018 AKC will launch its brand new digital-first cable network called AKC.TV. This new joint venture with B Live productions is an OTT (Over-the-top) digital channel that can be accessed via a new innovative web-based platform www.akc.tv or from akc.org.

Dog lovers will be able to connect to AKC.TV from any device including computers, tablets, phones, set-top boxes, and AppleTV with additional platforms to come. Viewers can browse the on-demand content library of dog training videos, puppy and breed videos, original programming, live coverage of AKC events and our brand new weekly TV show, AKC Live! which covers all that is new or noteworthy in the world of AKC and Purebred Dogs.

This modern platform allows AKC to broaden its audience, helps to expand the awareness of the AKC mission, and promotes the value of purebred dogs as pets and in society. AKC.TV will bring dog lovers into the world of the AKC through entertaining and educational content that they can access 24/7. New content will be uploaded weekly to keep the network fresh for viewers and give them insight into all aspects of our community including responsible breeders, our Parent Clubs, AKC events, AKC's unique charitable affiliates and anything imaginable to celebrate purebred dogs and their owners.

This digital-first approach is in line with the national trend; approximately 20 million consumers a year have "cut the cord" and are choosing streaming services over traditional cable services. It also allows for us to have complete control over our message while getting maximum visibility. Videos can be easily shared across social media platforms and embedded into your websites.

AKC Pet Care Update

Jim Tysseling, COO of AKC Pet Care gave an update on 2017 and plans for 2018.

AKC Pet Care offers a wide range of services delivered with the highest standard of care.

Besides 24 Hour and Day Care offered is dog jogging by high-caliber athletes, dog walking, dog training utilizing programs of behavioral experts and specialized grooming. All locations have completed AKCs Safe Grooming and Safe Salon certification. Five of the six locations are in the process of rebranding – including coordinated interior design, consistent signage and the addition of upgraded floors and kenneling.

2018 goals include the expansion of amenity partnership programs to new and existing residential buildings, increasing brand awareness and optimizing grooming and training opportunities. New client programs within the locations and the addition of a dedicated social media representative will facilitate unique growth platforms.

AKC REUNITE

Tom Sharp, AKC Reunite CEO, gave a presentation on AKC Reunites activities in 2017. Mark Dunn, AKC Reunite Managing Director was present for this portion of the meeting. Reunite has had excellent revenue growth over the past three years, with total revenue of almost \$9 million in 2017, which equates to 22% year over year topline growth. In 2017 AKC Reunite enrolled 460,000 pets, bringing total enrollment in the recovery service to 6.6 million pets, representing 35 different species. In addition, 430,000 microchips were sold in 2017.

Since 2002, AKC Reunite has awarded over \$7 Million towards:

- Pet-related disaster preparedness / relief grants
- Matching grants for purchasing police dogs
- Microchip Scanner donations to shelters

The AKC Pet Disaster Relief Trailer project which launched in September 2013 has raised over \$1.6 million with 65 trailers donated across the country.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President Sport Services, participated in this portion of the meeting by videoconference.

Azawakh Eligibility to Compete in the Hound Group

The Board reviewed a petition from the American Azawakh Association requesting acceptance for the breed into the AKC Stud Book; and asking that the breed be eligible to compete in the Hound Group. Following a motion by Mr. Menaker, seconded by Dr. Davies, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the standard for the breed and to move the Azawakh from the Foundation Stock Service into the Stud Book of the American Kennel Club on January 1, 2019. The Stud Book will remain open until January 1, 2024. The breed will be eligible to compete in the Hound Group on January 1, 2019.

Great Dane Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the Great Dane Breed Standard as submitted by the Great Dane Club of America, Inc. (GDCA). The GDCA made additional revisions to the standard based upon comments received from publication in the Secretary's Page. Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to permit the Great Dane Club of America to ballot its membership on the proposed Standard changes, in accordance with the GDCA's Constitution and Bylaws.

Canine Legislation Position Statement on Dog Training

The Board reviewed a newly proposed Canine Legislation Position Statement on Dog Training. The proposed position statement provides a basis for AKC to provide legislative comment on the value of dog training for dogs, their owners, and the communities in which they live. It notes that there are numerous accepted perspectives and approaches to dog training, and no one preferred protocol for training all dogs. Finally, it states that AKC opposes arbitrary government restrictions on accepted standard training practices.

AKC is concerned by a disturbing new class of legislative proposals at the state and local level that are aimed at arbitrarily restricting standard accepted training methodologies and approaches, and placing regulatory oversight of trainers and their professional practices in the hands of animal control or non-professional animal protection boards that may have little experience or expertise in dog training.

The purpose of the proposed position statement is to encourage dog training for all dog owners and to recognize the value of preserving a range of training options so that the training needs of all dogs, their owners and their particular circumstances can be met.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Canine Legislation Position Statement on Tethering

The Board reviewed recommendations for a new canine legislation position statement regarding the tethering of dogs. This position statement provides a basis for AKC to comment, where appropriate, on proposed bans that have the potential for unintended harmful consequence for responsible dog owners.

In recent years the AKC Government Relations Department (GR) has tracked numerous legislative proposals that arbitrarily equate tethering to animal cruelty and establish bans or severe arbitrary restrictions on tethering. Such measures fail to recognize that responsible tethering may provide an option for restraining a dog in cases where other methods of restraint are inappropriate or ineffective. Arbitrary anti-tethering laws may also undermine positive canine activities such as field trials, conformation dog shows, dog training, grooming and other examinations that are part of responsible dog ownership and AKC events.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Government Relations 4th Quarter 2017 Update

The Board viewed an update on the Government Relations (GR) Department for the fourth quarter of 2017. The memo provided a status update on current department activity, major projects, significant legislative issues and accomplishments in 2017.

Legislative/Regulatory Tracking: At the end of 2017, the AKC GR team had reviewed, monitored and taken necessary action on approximately 2,000 pieces of legislation that could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the American Kennel Club. AKC GR had also monitored approximately 4000 proposed regulatory changes at the state and federal level.

Detection Dog Project: GR staff and AKC's federal lobbyist have worked with key members of Congress to develop appropriate legislation requiring expanded transparency in how federal agencies make detection/military working dog purchasing decisions, the full cost for producing a deployment-ready dog, and success rates of domestic-bred versus foreign-bred dogs, and other factors that illuminate causes of, and solutions for the shortage of domestically-bred detection and military working dogs. This proposed language and required reporting were incorporated into HR 2810 the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act, passed by Congress and signed into law (PL 115-91) in mid-December.

GR staff and AKC's federal lobbyist also worked with Congressman Mike Rogers and his staff in the development of language for HR 4577, the Domestic Explosives Detection Canine Capacity Building Act. This establishes a public-private working group to assist in the development of a domestic canine breeding network to produce high quality explosives detection canines and modernize canine training and selection standards. HR 4577 has passed the House in December and is currently in the Senate.

Congressional Testimony: In October, Sheila Goffe provided testimony as an invited expert witness before joint subcommittee hearing of the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform; and the House Committee on Homeland Security on the importance of making domestically-bred dogs more readily available to serve as explosives detection and working dogs.

FINANCE

Joseph Baffuto, CFO, presented AKC's unaudited year-end financial results for 2017. Total operating revenues of AKC for the 2017 year were \$73.5 million which was equal to Budget and 10.5% higher than the 2016 year. Overall operating expenses of \$67.5 million were below Budget by 5.4%, approximately \$3.9 million, but 9% or \$5.7 million above 2016 actuals. Operating income of \$6.1 million outperformed the 2017 Budget of \$2.1 million in operating income as well as last year's comparison of \$4.8 million through December 31, 2016. Additionally, investment performance results in 2017 yielded \$11.6 million in unrealized gains versus \$6.0 million in unrealized gains during 2016. The quarterly report will be presented at the March Delegates Meeting.

AKC Matching Grants for AKCCHF 2017

In 2017, the AKC Board made three matching pledges. One for \$500,000 and two for \$250,000, for a total of \$1,000,000 in matching fund opportunities for AKC CHF in 2017. The CHF was able to earn pledges towards these three programs in the amount of \$861,742. Following a motion by Ms. McAteer, seconded by Dr. Battaglia the Board VOTED (unanimously) to fund the

gap in the 2017 matching funds pledged and donate the balance pledged to CHF - \$211,092 for 2017.

The Board adjourned at 4:40p.m.

Meeting reconvened on Friday, February 9, 2018 at 8:09 am.

All Directors were present except for Harvey Wooding. Also present was the Executive Secretary.

COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President Sport and Events, and Mari-Beth O'Neill Vice President Sport Services participated in this portion of the meeting. Stephanie Kennerley, Sports Development Manager and Caroline Murphy, Director of Performance events participated in this portion of the meeting by videoconference. Dr. Mary Burch, Director of CGC participated in this portion of the meeting via telephone conference.

AKC Trick Dog Elite Performer Title

The Board reviewed a recommendation to add a new more advanced title called Trick Dog Elite Performer (TKE) to the AKC Trick Dog program. The routine will consist of at least 10 tricks, with a minimum of 5 tricks at the Performer level. Novice and Intermediate tricks will not count toward the total of 10 tricks. The distinguishing characteristic of the Trick Dog Elite Performer is that the dog must perform a routine that has a theme or tells a story. Props, music and narration are allowed. Additional information will be posted on the Trick Dog website. Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Wooding) to approve the new advanced title. The Trick Dog Elite Performer (TKE) title will be launched on June 1, 2018.

American Belgian Malinois Club - Temperament Test Title

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the American Belgian Malinois Club requesting that the AKC acknowledge the Temperament Test title (TT) awarded to the Belgian Malinois by the American Temperament Testing Society. Recognition of this title has already been approved by the AKC Board for two other breeds. The title would be handled through the Parent Club Performance Events Titling Program. Owners must apply to the AKC on a form developed by the Performance Events Department, submit documentation proving the dog has passed the ATTS test and pay a processing fee. All dogs must be AKC registered or listed in the PAL program.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Addition to Non-AKC Events Policy - New AKC National Championship Events Cannot be Dual-Licensed

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Performance Events Department to amend the current **Non-AKC Events** policy by specifying that no AKC National Championship event may be dual-licensed with another organization except those that were dual-licensed as of January 1, 2018.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Fast CAT - Modify Top 20 Dogs by Breed Display

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Performance Events Department to change the "Fast CAT – Top 20 Dogs by Breed" ranking list to display an average of each dog's top three fastest runs. The ranking lists currently display the single fastest run speed for each dog. There have been concerns from the sport that due to variation in Fast CAT courses, the single fastest run speed may not be representative of which dogs are actually fastest. The surface,

materials and grade of the courses can vary. If approved these changes would become effective June 1, 2018.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

AKC Family Dog Program

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Sports & Events Staff to launch a new program entitled AKC Family Dog Program. This name will help bring public recognition and focus to AKC's efforts to develop activities and provide information of interest to family companion dogs. The program will provide activities that encourage training, socialization, and responsible dog ownership and advocate for the benefits that dogs bring to their families and society in general. AKC currently provides Family Dog activities through the CGC/Trick Dog program and include Canine Good Citizen, STAR Puppy, Therapy Dog and Trick Dog programs. The new name reflects AKC's Mission to advocate for dogs "as a family companion" and one of AKC's Core Values – "We cherish dogs as companions" and more clearly conveys to the dog owning public AKC's interest and intent. With the launch of the Family Dog Program, AKC Sports & Events can be thought of in terms of four major types of activities – conformation, companion events, performance events and family dog activities.

Without objection the Sport & Events department will launch the AKC Family Dog Program and Dr. Mary Burch will be the Director of the AKC Family Dog Program. A new Family Dog webpage should be launched around April 1, 2018. There was no objection.

Emotional Support Dogs on Airplanes

Mr. Ljungren advised the Board that Dr. Mary Burch had been contacted by a major airline that is seeking help in defining requirements for emotional support dogs on airplanes. The Board was advised that AKC is planning to work with the airline to help develop a recommendation. Staff will develop a good manner test for emotional support dogs flying in the passenger cabin test.

CONFORMATION

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

Two Shows in One Day Policy - Managing Special Attractions

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to make approval of future two shows in one-day special attraction events dependent on a club's ability to manage these events with special attractions. Clubs have successfully been hosting two all-breed/limited-breed shows in one day since 2014. Occasionally, the clubs offer special attractions at both events which result in numerous groups being judged in a single day and can significantly extend the day. In order to keep the day to a reasonable length and still allow the clubs flexibility, staff recommends making the approval of future events dependent on a club's demonstrated ability to manage past events. Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Dok, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Wooding) to add to the policy (underlined)

Multiple All-Breed or Limited-Breed Shows in One Day Program (January 2017, amended February 2018 Board meeting)

The shows may be held by the same club or multiple clubs. The number of point shows for an individual breed is limited to two per day. Club(s) may hold two all-breed shows in one day, two group shows of the same group in one day, or a combination of all-breed and group shows. Consecutive days of multiple shows in one day are allowed.

The following limitations are placed on this program:

- Clubs that had a show of 500 entries or less the previous year are eligible for the program. Appeals for exceptions will be reviewed on an individual basis.

- All-breed shows must offer group and best in show competition. Group shows must offer group competition.
- The use of multiple group rings at all-breed shows is encouraged.
- No concurrent or evening specialties may be held in conjunction with the shows.
- Junior Showmanship competition is allowed.
- Obedience and Rally competitions are allowed, and encouraged, but must have their own ring(s) for competition.
- Ownership of the corresponding date must be agreed upon in writing and submitted to AKC prior to event approval if two clubs are holding the same type of events on the same date and site.
- Approval of events that feature special attractions will depend on the club's successful history managing such events. Unsuccessful management of special attractions could include, but is not limited to, such things as conflicts between the special attraction and regular group times and extended delays for the event.

Catalog Sales at Events

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to change the Catalog Sales Board policy to allow clubs flexibility in when they may begin selling catalogs. Current Board policy requires that catalogs not go on sale until one hour before the judging of the first event included in the catalog. Many times, exhibitors arrive at the show site and immediately request a catalog. If it is more than one hour prior to the start of judging, the club must refuse the exhibitor's request and ask that they come back later. Staff recommends changing this policy to allow clubs to sell their catalog at any time on the day of the event. This will allow clubs flexibility to run their event in a way that best meets the needs of their exhibitors. This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Junior Eligibility to Participate in NOHS

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to change the eligibility of Junior Handlers working for professional handlers to allow them to participate in the National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS). Currently, Junior Handlers are not eligible to participate in the NOHS at shows/weekends/clusters where they are assisting professional handlers. This conflicts with the intent of Junior Showmanship and the learning AKC wishes to encourage. Staff is recommending that Junior Handlers be eligible to participate in NOHS so long as they maintain their Amateur Status as outlined in the Junior Showmanship Regulations, Section 2. This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Summary of All-Breed Events Offering NOHS in 2017

Staff provided an update on the number of all-breed events offering the AKC National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) in 2017. 66% of all-breed events offered NOHS in 2017. This is an increase of 14% over 2016.

Pee Wee Special Attractions in 2017

Staff provided a status report on Pee Wee special attractions offered in 2017. The Pee Wee special attraction has continued to grow in popularity. It was offered at 92 events in 2017 versus 57 in 2016. The average number of entries in 2017 was 8 versus 6 in 2016. The clubs have reported very positive experiences for the children and their parents. Upon approval of the special attraction, Event Operations provides the club tips and guidelines to make the experience successful. After the special attraction, we ask the club to provide a summary report

and (optional) contact information of the entrants, as well as images. Contact information provided by the clubs is forwarded to the Juniors department and they reach out to the families and provide them additional information about opportunities within the sport. If the clubs provide images from the special attraction, the Juniors department publishes those images on our website, after the receiving the necessary permission/waiver. Overall the special attraction is doing very well and is a good addition to the options available for clubs.

B Match Review

Staff provided an update on the conformation B-Match program ~~match~~. In 2017, 59% of the clubs reported an increase in entries, 32% reported a decrease and 9% reported no change. In 2017 there were 538 events, a drop from the 631 held in 2016. Since 2016, Sports and Events sends promotional email blasts in support of approved AKC B-matches. In April of 2017, AKC provided flexibility to clubs wishing to hold a match concurrently with a conformation dog show. Based on the need for entry level activities, coupled with the success of the match email promotion in terms of entries, and the new flexibility provided clubs, Club Development plans to actively promote the holding of B-matches by clubs. Club Development will communicate the success of the email program and the importance of providing beginner level competitions such as B-matches to conformation Clubs.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Tim Thomas, Vice President Dog Show Judges, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Judging Conflict of Interest Policy

A Board member received a request for an exception to the Judges Conflict of Interest Policy. In response to this inquiry, Staff provided information on the policy for discussion. The current policy, adopted at the May 2006 Board meeting, and amended at the Board's January 2007 meeting is:

No AKC judge may have a significant interest in a dog registry or dog event-governing organization deemed by the AKC Board to be in competition with The American Kennel Club. Significant interest would include, but not be limited to an ownership, an interest in, employment by, a directorship in, and holding office in.

Following discussion, it was the sense of the Board that they did not want to make an exception to the policy nor change the policy at this time.

Canine Breed Courses for Judges

Staff presented a memo concerning AKC's extended learning program for current and prospective judges. There are breed exams for all seven groups and 13 breed courses are available in the course catalogue with many additional breed courses in various stages of development. The breed courses are intended to expand the opportunities available for current and prospective judges to educate themselves, and are developed collaboratively with the parent club for that breed. Cost to enroll in a breed course is \$50.

Consistent with the responsibility of judges to know and to judge by the current AKC approved breed standard and to accentuate the importance of ongoing study for judges in breeds approved to judge; Staff recommended that effectively immediately the breed courses will be available upon request for judges currently approved to judge the respective breed for a reduced cost of \$20. There was no objection from the Board.

Low Entry Breed List

The Board reviewed the 2018 Low Entry Breed list which will be published on the AKC website by January 30, 2018 and effective March 1, 2018. Judging Operations publishes the Low Entry Breed List annually for reference by current and prospective conformation judges. Under current

policy, the Low Entry Breed List impacts educational requirements for those seeking judging approval of the breeds that appear on it, as well as the requirements for permit status judges to advance to regular status in a breed. Breeds whose total numbers of dogs in competition from the previous year were under 3500 are categorized as a Low Entry Breed.

The 2018 Low Entry Breed List displays an increase of six breeds from the previous year. Two breeds, the Nederlandse Kooikerhondje and the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen, appear as newly recognized breeds. Four breeds – Wirehaired Pointed Griffons, Bull Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, and Manchester Terriers return to the Low Entry Breed List in 2018 after a brief hiatus from it in 2017. All breeds on the 2017 Low Entry Breed List remain in 2018.

Mr. Wooding participated for the remainder of the meeting.

COMPLIANCE

Jay Waks, Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel and Heather McManus, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. Wanda Forlines, Director of Compliance, and Marcus Bach, Director of Investigations & Inspections, participated by videoconference.

Adding Section on Minors Participation in Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events

Following the Compliance Department's presentation at the June 2017 Delegate's Forum, entitled "How to Hold an Event Committee Hearing", a question arose concerning minor's participation in investigations and hearings. The Legal Department and its Compliance group have received requests to provide guidelines to club Event Committees regarding a minor's participation in disciplinary actions.

Minors may become involved in Event Committee disciplinary matters as a witness, complainant or accused, just as an adult may. The proposed section will standardize the requirement of adult participation with minors in these situations.

Legal and Compliance recommend that an additional section be added to *Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events* to guide the clubs in addressing a minor's involvement in disciplinary matters and, if needed, at Event Committee hearings.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Davies, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the addition of a new section of *Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events*.

NEW

Section V

MINOR'S PARTICIPATION

IN DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

Investigation

If a person involved in the incident is a minor, a parent or legal guardian of the minor must be notified prior to interviewing the minor. The interview of the minor may proceed only with the consent, in writing or orally, of a parent, legal guardian or an adult authorized in writing by a parent or legal guardian to accompany the minor ("Authorized Adult"). Any such interview must be conducted in a manner consistent with and sensitive to the circumstances of the situation and the age, understanding and intellectual capacity of the minor, and in the presence of the Authorized Adult.

Hearing

A minor may be called to testify and asked to swear or promise to tell the truth only with the consent of an Authorized Adult noted in the record. If a person participating in the hearing is a minor, the Authorized Adult accompanying the minor is allowed to remain with the minor during the minor's participation in the hearing.

Record

If a person participating in the interview and/or hearing is a minor, it must be noted in the Event Committee's hearing record and report. The record of consent must be submitted to the AKC in the Event Committee Report. Written consent may include an email. Be certain to include the name of the Authorized Adult who accompanied the minor during the hearing and the record of permissions that are required in this Section.

Definition of Minor

State law controls who is a minor.

Compliance Statistics - Fourth Quarter 2017

The Compliance Department and Investigations & Inspections Department reported its statistics for the Fourth Quarter of 2017 and full year 2017.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

CLUBS

The Board reviewed a report on the prospective Delegate credentials to be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette, applications for AKC Membership and newly licensed clubs.

Delegates

DELEGATE FOR PUBLICATION

Jacque E. Glenn, Raymore, MO

To represent Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America

Susan Werner, Haymarket, VA

To represent Middleburg Kennel Club

Gale K. Cummings, Norton, MA

To represent Ladies' Dog Club

Linda C. Foiles, Louisburg, NC

To represent Tibetan Spaniel Club of America

Clubs

REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUBS APPROVED IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of the Susquehanna Valley, greater Carlisle, PA

St. Claire County Coonhunters Association, Ragland, AL

BUSINESS UPDATE

Alexandra Aleskovsky, Executive Vice President & Chief Growth Officer, was present for this portion of the meeting. An overview of 2017 was presented:

- Dog and Litter Registrations ended FY17 ahead of both prior year and Budget.
- Strategic marketing continued to support Sports & Events entries through multiple marketing channels.
- Staff is in the final phases of the new AKC.org website relaunch after executing successful Delegate Orientations and addressing key internal stakeholder feedback.
- There is an opportunity to focus on Casual breeders (They bred 58% of Total Litters registered in 2017 and the only segment to experience registration growth). They also represented the fastest growing segment in Marketplace (represented 70% of listings with 88.5% listings growth). The Board agreed to focus on this initiative.
- Continuing aggressive pace of Technology advancements in Application Modernization, Data Center Migration, Risk Mitigation and Core Web and Application support.
- Grew digital audience 35% YOY to over 7.5MM monthly unique visitors generating over 24 million-page views monthly.

AKC Logo

In January 2018, the Board voted to revert back to the old AKC logo (pre-2015) as the only official logo of The American Kennel Club. The Marketing, Creative Staff as well as AKC's Digital Agency indicated that the new logo rendered better on digital platforms and mobile devices. A recommendation was made to utilize the new logo for digital communications and platforms where the old logo cannot be used, and continue to use the old logo for Offline materials and Sports & Events. Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. McAteer it was VOTED (affirmative: Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Biddle, Mr. Carota, Mr. Dok, Mr. Feeney, Dr. Garvin, Ms. McAteer, Mr. Powers, Ms. Wallin, Mr. Wooding; opposed: Ms. Cruz, Dr. Davies, Mr. Menaker) to adopt the recommended dual logo usage.

AKC Detection Dog Task Force Update

Mark Dunn, Senior Vice President Registration and Customer Development, gave a presentation to the Board. Sheila Goffe, Vice President Government Relations, was present for this portion of the meeting. This presentation was given on the AKC Board-created committee known as the AKC Detection Dog Task Force.

The Committee is involved in determining feasible methods for helping to improve the domestic supply of explosives detection dogs for the U.S. Background information about the state of detection dog demand and supply in the United States was provided to the Board as well as an update on the work of Government Relations and the task force.

Background: Experts recognize that there is no better or more efficient way to detect explosives than using high quality, specially trained scent detector dogs. Since the terrorist attacks on 9-11, and subsequent attacks worldwide, global demand for high quality explosives detection dogs has skyrocketed," Goffe said. "A shortage of appropriate, domestically-bred dogs available for work as explosive detection dogs presents a significant threat to U.S. security."

The most sought-after breeds for explosives detection work in public areas are Sporting dogs that are developed from field/working lines.

The preferred breeds include:

- Labrador Retriever
- German Shorthaired Pointer
- German Wirehaired Pointer
- Vizsla
- Other retriever breeds including Golden Retrievers and Flat-coats

According to various sources within and outside the government, 80% to 90% of the dogs purchased by Homeland Security and DOD are from foreign vendors or domestic vendors who import from foreign sources.

Government Relations

- **HR 2810 Update** – HR 2810 passed with the language that AKC Government Relations submitted to increase accountability regarding the purchase of European dogs by the US Government. This means the Department of Defense must provide regular reporting on numerous questions related to the sourcing of military working dogs, including the number of dogs purchased from domestic vs. non-domestic breeders, the costs associated with each, information on the difference in accounting for domestic vs. European dog purchases; and how they determine which dogs to get. By March, a report should be made to Congress on all the information that AKC requested.
- **Senate Testimony** – AKC VP of Government Relations Sheila Goffe testified on Oct. 3 before a joint house/senate oversight committee, along with Dr. Cindy Otto of the Penn Vet Working Center and an Orlando police dog handler. She discussed the AKC committee's research and addressed the concerns about the lack of pedigrees and lack of demonstrable traits with dogs in Europe. Sheila provided follow-up to questions from the chair, regarding the problem with lack of pedigrees and lack of demonstrable traits with dogs from Europe, and the positive aspects of developing a domestic breeding program.

AKC US Detection Dog Conference

The AKC Detection Dog Task Force will hold the second AKC US Detection Dog Conference on Tuesday-Thursday, Aug. 28-30 in Durham, NC. This year will feature an expanded format and an open invitation to breeders and AKC clubs. The goal of this year's event is to bring together not only the key stakeholders leading academics, trainers, AKC breeders together with the key stakeholders for networking and information gathering on what is involved with producing dogs for detection work. Speakers will include Dr. Cindy Otto of Penn Vet Working Dog Center; Scott Thomas, former director of the TSA Canine Performance Breeding Program; Dr. Matthew Breen of NC State University; and Dr. Paul Waggoner and Pam Haney of Auburn University Canine Performance Department.

CONSENT

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Jim Dok it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent Items:

Delegate and Club Approvals

Spinone Italiano Proposed Breed Standard Revisions

Eliminating Requirement for New Clubs to Hold a Fun Match

Clean Up Italicized Sections of Rules Applying to Dog Shows

Adding Collar Policy to Rules Applying to Dog Shows
Moving Chapter 8 in Rules Applying to Dog Shows
Event Committee Authority to Deny Entries
Change NOHS Points Awarded at the National Specialty
Provide Clubs Flexibility when Holding Evening Specialty Shows
Black Russian Terrier Club of America - Temperament Test Title
Making Agility Friendlier
Amendments to Regulations for AKC Scent Work
Sweepstakes Guidelines

Delegate Approvals

Karen Cottingham, Salisbury, MD
To represent Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club

Elizabeth J. Faber, Winchester Center, CT
To represent Northwestern Connecticut Dog Club

Eileen Boyer Narieka, Leesport, PA
To represent Berks County Kennel Club

James "Jim" M. Talbert, Poquoson, VA
To represent Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America

Spinone Italiano Proposed Breed Standard Revisions

The Spinone Club of America, Inc. (SCA), requested that the AKC Board permit the SCA to ballot the membership on its proposed breed standard revisions in accordance with the SCA Constitution and By-Laws. The Board VOTED to approve this request.

Eliminating Requirement for New Clubs to Hold a Fun Match

The Board VOTED to approve a Staff recommendation to eliminate the requirement for New Clubs to hold a Fun Match prior to applying to the AKC to become an accredited club. This Policy change is effective March 1, 2018 and will remove one step in the process for clubs to be admitted to AKC.

The changes to "*How to Form an AKC-Accredited Dog Club*" appear on page 5 and are as follows:

Part I. AKC's Basic Club Policies. (page 5)

Continuity: ~~We expect~~ Prospective new clubs are expected to demonstrate ongoing viability by establishing a record of meetings, elections and activities before coming to the AKC for accreditation. If clubs have held fun matches or other activities, a brief description should be provided. ~~Clubs should provide a detailed account of fun matches and activities, documented with flyers, catalog covers, newsletters, programs, etc.~~

Part III. AKC Accreditation. (page 7)

After holding an organizational meeting, electing temporary officers, drafting a set of bylaws, scheduling a date for the first annual meeting, and establishing a schedule of meetings/events/activities until the first annual meeting ~~and holding at least one "fun"~~

match, your club will be eligible to apply for accreditation at the AKC, and to be approved for the holding of sanctioned match shows, and/or trials and tests.

Clean Up Italicized Sections of Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board reviewed many recommended changes to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee.

Board VOTED TO APPROVE the recommended changes to *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 6, Section 2 and Chapter 7, Sections 2, 12 & 19 for clarity and updated language. These proposed Rule changes will be read at the March Delegate meeting for a Vote at the June Delegate Meeting.

RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS CHAPTER 6

PREMIUM LISTS AND CLOSING OF ENTRIES

SECTION 2. The premium list shall contain the following: a list of the officers of the show-giving club with the address of the secretary, a list of the members of the Event Committee (there must be at least five) together with the designation of "Chairman" and the Chairman's address (and "Obedience Trial Chairman" if an obedience trial is being held by a club in connection with its dog show), the names of the veterinarians (or name of local Veterinary Association) and, for an unbenched show, whether the veterinarian will be in attendance throughout the show hours or "on call," the names and addresses of the judges, together with their assignments, and the name and address of the superintendent or show secretary who has been approved by The American Kennel Club. The premium list shall also specify whether the show is benched or unbenched, and shall give the exact location of the show, the date or dates on which it is to be held, and the times of opening and closing of the show.

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

RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS - CHAPTER 7

JUDGES

SECTION 2. The application for approval to judge must be made on a form which will be supplied by The American Kennel Club upon request and when received by said club will be placed before the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club who shall determine in each instance whether an approval shall be issued.

SECTION 12. Any club or association that holds a dog show must prepare, after the entries have closed and not before, a judging program showing the time scheduled for the judging of each breed and each variety for which entries have been accepted. If a substitute or additional judge has been approved Chapter 7, Section 8 or Chapter 7, Section 13, as appropriate, will be quoted listing the changes. The judging program shall indicate the number of dogs entered and state the time for the start of group judging, if any. The program shall be based on the judging of about 25 dogs per hour by each judge. Each judge's breed and variety assignments shall be divided into periods of about one hour, except in those cases where the entry in a breed or variety exceeds 30. The total number of dogs assigned each judge will be indicated. Forty-five minutes to one hour must be allowed for rest or meals if a judge's assignment exceeds five hours. A copy of the program and identification slip for each dog entered shall be mailed, published or made available to the owner no later than one week before the date of the event. Two copies of the program shall be sent to the Show Plans Department at the same time they are published or made available to exhibitors. Printed documents may be utilized at the exhibitor's request. The judging program shall be published in the catalog. No judging shall occur at any show prior to the time specified in the judging program.

SECTION 19. Only one judge shall officiate in each Group Class and only one judge

shall select the Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show.

~~The Board of Directors suggests that whenever possible the Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show be determined by one who has not already judged any breed or group class of said show.~~

~~Except in hardship cases, when an exception may be approved for a specific show, a judge will not be approved to judge a breed and, at the same show, the Variety Group of which the breed is a part and Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show.~~

The Board VOTED NOT TO APPROVE the recommended changes submitted by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 3, Sections 13 & 16.

Adding Collar Policy to Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to add a new section 16 to Chapter 11 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows to address the use of inappropriate collars and leads at dog shows. The Board VOTED NOT TO APPROVE the recommended changes.

Moving Chapter 8 in the Rules Applying to Dog Shows

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to move Chapter 8, to become a new Section 17 in Chapter 2, in the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. The Board VOTED NOT TO APPROVE the recommended changes.

Event Committee Authority to Deny Entries

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to expand the authority of the Event Committee to decline entries for its events in Chapter 11, Section 15 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. The proposal from the DSRC would expand the authority given within the Rules Applying to Dog Shows to the Event Committee to deny entries to include for "threatening, violent, or disruptive behavior...which is contrary to the American Kennel Club's Code of Sportsmanship." The Board VOTED to deny this proposal as there is currently a means to deny entries and hold persons and dogs accountable for their behavior at AKC events.

Change NOHS Points Awarded at the National Specialty

The Board VOTED to change to the number of National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) points awarded for a NOHS Best of Breed/Variety win at the National Specialty.

Effective with the start of the 2018-2019 Qualifying period (October 11, 2018), the NOHS Points Scale is:

Award	Points
NOHS BIS	100
NOHS RBIS	75
NOHS Group 1	30
NOHS Group 2	20
NOHS Group 3	15
NOHS Group 4	10
National Specialty BOB	10
NOHS BOB	5

This will recognize the importance and prestige of this win for an Owner-Handler.

Provide Clubs Flexibility when Holding Evening Specialty Shows

The Board VOTED to approve a Staff recommendation to change the Evening Specialty Shows Policy to allow specialty clubs more flexibility for their shows. The new Evening Specialty show policy limits an evening specialty to 50 entries per ring, per judge concurrently.

New Board Policy:

Evening Specialty Shows (December 2005 Board meeting, amended January 2018)

Effective March 1, 2018, evening specialties will be permitted following all-breed shows. Evening specialties are limited to 50 entries per ring, per judge for all AKC approved competitions, provided the rings are run concurrently.

Black Russian Terrier Club of America – Temperament Test Title

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Black Russian Terrier Club of America for the AKC to acknowledge the Temperament Test title (TT) awarded to Black Russian Terriers by the American Temperament Testing Society (ATTS). ATTS is a national not-for-profit organization founded in 1977. ATTS provides a uniform temperament evaluation open to all dogs over 18 months of age. The test involves ten components which test for behavior toward strangers, reaction to auditory stimulus, reaction to visual stimulus (the umbrella pop), reaction to unusual footing, and reaction to an unusually dressed threatening stranger. A dog fails if it shows panic, strong avoidance without recovery or unprovoked aggression. The title is handled through the Parent Club Performance Events Titling Program. Owners must apply to the AKC on a form developed by the Performance Events Department, submit documentation proving the dog has passed the ATTS test and pay a processing fee. All dogs must be AKC registered or listed in the PAL program.

Making Agility Friendlier

The Board VOTED to approve four recommended changes to the Agility Regulations that are meant to bring greater consistency to the sport or make it easier for clubs to prepare for events. These recommendations come out of discussions held at the 2017 Agility Field Representatives meeting where four issues were identified that clubs had repeatedly brought to the Field Reps' attention or judging issues the staff had seen out in the field.

The recommended changes are to:

1. Allow Judges to send equipment maps out 48 hours in advance (currently 24 hours).
2. Change the judging of the table from a Failure (a non-qualifying fault) to a Wrong Course if the dog engages another obstacle then comes back to finish the table count.
3. Clarify that handlers will receive a non-qualifying score if they touch any piece of equipment during a run.
4. Remove the "4-Paw Rule."

REGULATIONS FOR AGILITY TRIALS

Chapter 4. General Course and Trial Requirements

Section 6. Preparing a Ring for Agility. The judge is allowed to send a diagram showing the positions of all the obstacles no more than 48 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 48 hours ahead if requested by the club. The Judge may send a diagram more than 48 hours ahead showing position of the contact obstacles and a list of the other obstacles that may be grouped together (bunched) in different areas of the ring. Once the obstacles are set no dogs may train or practice on the obstacles.

Chapter 5. General Scoring Criteria

Section 5. Mandatory Elimination (NQ). The following individual faults call for Mandatory Elimination which shall be marked as an "F" on the scribe sheet resulting in a non-qualifying score (NQ). The dog/handler may continue their run except as may be noted elsewhere in these Regulations:

1. Handler or dog knocking down any obstacle or jump that is either presently being performed or will be performed. Handler jumps over, goes under, or steps on top of any obstacle. (If excessive the judge may excuse the handler for their own safety.)
2. Displaces the top bar(s) or panel of a jump or breaking apart the tire jump.
3. Failure to clear the span of the Broad Jump.
4. Missing a contact zone (except missing the upside of the A-Frame or Dog Walk is not faulted).
5. Seesaw fly-offs.
6. Failure to complete all obstacles that are part of the course as described in Chapter 3.
7. Running the wrong course and not correcting the run before crossing the finish line.
8. Handler touching any obstacle prior to completion of the course.
9. Contact between the handler and the dog that aids the performance of the dog.
10. Any contact of dog and handler at the Pause Table, Weave Poles, and contact obstacles.
11. Exceeding the refusal maximum for a given class.
12. Exceeding the wrong course maximum for a given class.

Section 6. Mandatory Excusals.

Handlers can be excused by the judge at any time for inappropriate actions including, but not limited to those listed below. The following faults call for mandatory excusal. The scribe sheet shall be marked "E" and the dog and handler are excused from the ring.

1. Handler continuously or conspicuously leads the dog through the course (excessive handling), uses harsh commands, or corrections.
2. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
3. A dog that leaves the course area and/or discontinues working and/or is unresponsive and/or out of control.
4. Exceeding the maximum course time.
5. Dogs fouling (includes vomiting) the ring at any time.
6. Inappropriate collar on dog discovered after the dog has started its run.
7. A handler that runs the course with handling aids.
8. Training in the ring including corrections, purposefully touching the dog in order to get it to perform an obstacle or petting the dog on the Pause Table or contact obstacles to reinforce a behavior.
9. Dogs biting handler, beyond playful nipping.
10. Exceeding the fault limit of the class. Fault limits may be applied only if both the judge and the Trial Chairman agree that it is in the best interest of the trial to do so. If applied the fault limit shall be either three (3) or four (4) separate faults that would normally result in a non-qualifying score. When a dog has reached the established fault limit the dog shall be excused from the ring and the handler should endeavor to exit the ring in the most expedient manner possible. Fault limits are allowed only in the Excellent and Master Agility Standard and Excellent and Master JWW classes.
12. Failure to comply with judge's verbal instructions.
13. Lead out advantage violation. Refer to Chapter 5, Section 4e; Lead Out Advantage.
14. Any dog that does not enter or exit the ring on leash. On leash is defined as having the leash attached to the dog's collar or harness, or in the case of a slip lead, having the noose completely around the dog's neck.

16. If the dog gets tangled up on the Closed Tunnel fabric, gets hung up going through the Tire, or falls off the ascent side of the Dog Walk, A-Frame, or Seesaw, the handler has the choice to immediately reattempt the obstacle once and then leave the course. Alternatively, the handler has the choice not to retry the obstacle the dog had trouble with and continue running the course.

Amendments to Regulations for AKC Scent Work

The Board VOTED to approve the Staff's suggested changes to the current Regulations for AKC Scent Work. This changes will become effective March 1, 2018.
See Attachment A.

SWEEPSTAKES GUIDELINES

The Board VOTED to amend a Board Policy regarding Sweepstakes.
The new Policy which is effective immediately will read:

Show Manual: *The club may retain, for expenses, up to 50% of the sweepstakes entry fees collected. The club should only retain enough of the entry fee to cover the expenses of the competition.*

This change will allow clubs the opportunity to hold sweepstakes without exposing themselves to a loss.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman's Committee

The Chairman reported that he had appointed a committee to review the election process for AKC Board of Directors and to make recommendations to the Board on that process. The Committee members are: Ron Menaker, Dr. Tom Davies, Gretchen Bernardi, Jack Cadalso and Dan Smyth.

It was VOTED to adjourn Friday, February 9, at 12:23 p.m.

Adjourned

Attest:

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

Attachment A**REGULATIONS FOR AKC SCENT WORK**

Chapter 1, Section 2. Overview. ... The dog is the star of the Scent Work trial—the handler guides the dog's search only when necessary and lets the judge know when the dog has found the scent. ...

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 2, Section 2. Class Eligibility.

- Novice A Classes are open to dogs who have not completed any title for that particular element, who have not completed a comparable title with another organization, and whose handlers are neither Scent Work judges, nor have ever worked as professional detection dog handlers.

... Dogs are able to enter up to two (2) difficulty levels in each element, in each trial. Dogs may only enter classes for which they are eligible, according to the above guidelines.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 2, Section 11. Sections A and B of Novice Classes. Novice A and Novice B are different sections of the same class. The hide location does not move between Novice A and Novice B. Teams are judged under the exact same criteria in Novice A and Novice B.

The sections in the remainder of this chapter will be renumbered to reflect insertion of this section.

Chapter 2, Section 12. Entering Under a Judge. ...Stewards and timers may compete in the trial if it does not conflict with the completion of their assignments. A person may not be the timer for a class in which they are directly competing.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 3, Section 1. Clubs Eligible to Hold AKC Scent Work Trials. Any club or association that meets the requirements of the American Kennel Club may be licensed to hold AKC Scent Work trials. Scent Work trials must be open to all breeds and to mixed breeds registered with Canine Partners, except that Specialty clubs and Group clubs may choose to limit entries to the breed or group applicable to their club, and clubs may exclude up to five (5) specific breeds to alleviate conflicts. Specialty clubs holding a limited Scent Work trial for all AKC recognized breeds may accept entries of dogs of their own breed first, then accept entries from all breeds and dogs listed with AKC Canine Partners until the entry limit specified in the premium list is reached.

Chapter 3, Section 7. Order of Classes. The order in which classes will be run at trial is at the club's discretion. Once an order of classes is published though, the classes may not be rearranged, unless all exhibitors are present and consent to the change.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 3, Section 12. Event Committee. A club that has been granted AKC permission to hold a trial or match must appoint an Event Committee, which will have complete responsibility for planning and conducting the event. The Committee shall be composed of at least five (5) club members (including the Chairperson), and shall ensure the safe, efficient, and orderly conduct of the event. Individuals who are judging

at the event may not serve on the Event Committee. The Committee must have on hand, on the day of the trial, sufficient assistance and equipment, and must ensure that the area is free of dangerous materials or conditions.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 3, Section 14. Premium List. ...

- Names and cities of residence of judges, including their assignments

... The premium list must be submitted via e-mail to ScentWork@akc.org prior to publication. The premium list must be made available by paper and/or electronically to prospective entrants a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the opening date for acceptance of entries for the event.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 3, Section 18. Waiting List. ... The club must establish a maximum number of entries that may be placed on the wait list. Whether a club is offering a wait list, how many entries are being accepted on the wait list, and the closing date/time of the wait list must be published in the premium list. On the day of the trial, the club may assign entries for absent individuals to those on the wait list who are present at the trial site. If multiple waitlisted individuals are present at the event site, the runs must be assigned in wait-list order. A full refund is to be reimbursed to any entrant whose entry is replaced by a wait-listed entry.

The remainder of this section is unchanged

Chapter 3, Section 20. Judging Limits. At no time may a club exceed the judging limits as specified in Chapter 4, Section 3 of these regulations, except that the club may assign an overage of up to 15 dogs per judge, with the explicit written permission of the affected judges. After the entries have closed, if any judge exceeds the limit established in these regulations, the club will immediately secure the approval of the AKC for an additional judge, or for reassignment of its advertised judges, so that no judge will be required to exceed the limit.

Chapter 3, Section 21. One Judge Per Class. Each class has only one assigned judge; classes cannot be split between judges, with the exception of the Novice class. Clubs are able to assign one judge to the Novice A section and a judge to the Novice B section if that is required for balancing of judging limits.

The sections in the remainder of this chapter will be renumbered to reflect insertion of this section.

Chapter 3, Section 23. Entry Acceptance Methods. ... *Guaranteed Entries for Show Workers:* The club may guarantee entry spots for show workers who have agreed to work at the trial. Alternatively, clubs may choose to grant vouchers to workers for entries into future trials. Entry spots for show workers are part of the total entry limit stated in the premium list.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 3, Section 25. Armband Numbers. An armband number shall be assigned to each dog in a trial and is used to determine the running order of dogs as well as to help judges and trial officials identify dogs in their records. The running order may be modified for the smooth running of the trial. For example, clubs can choose to run

volunteers first, regardless of their armband number. The armband number need not be physically displayed on the dog or handler.

Chapter 3, Section 31. Recording of Results. ... For each dog entered in the class, the marked catalog must display the 1) Armband number, 2) Dog's AKC number, 3) Registered name of the dog, 4) Call name of the dog, 5) Name of the owner, 6) Address of the owner, 7) Name of the handler (if different from the owner), 8) Official time, 9) Number of faults, 10) Result. At the club's discretion, the address of the owner may be omitted from the class pages and presented in an index at the back of the catalog. Recorded adjacent to each entry of each dog must be one of the following: Qualified (Q), Did not qualify (NQ), Absent (ABS), Excused (EXC), Disqualified for attack (DQ), Withdrawn- in season (AIS), or Withdrawn due to Judge Change (AJC). If marked "EXC" or "DQ," a brief description must also appear in the catalog. If a dog earned a placement (1 through 4) for the class, that must also be denoted adjacent to the dog's entry.
The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 3, Section 32. Submittal of Results. An official marked catalog bearing the above required information, and with each page initialed by the individual who judged each class, must be sent to the American Kennel Club so as to reach its office within seven (7) days after the event. Included in this packet must be the judge's certification pages and Trial Secretary certification, the Trial Secretary's report, and payment of recording fees. Clubs may incur fines for catalogs received after this deadline.
The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 4, Section 3. Judging Limits. The limit for each Scent Work judge is 125 entries per day. With the express written consent of the judge, the club may assign an average of up to 15 entries per day.

Chapter 4, Section 8. Confirmation of the Alert. When the handler calls Alert the judge is responsible for confirming whether the alert is correct or incorrect. If the dog is clearly indicating the source of the scent, the judge should respond in the affirmative when the handler calls Alert.
The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 4, Section 9. Alert Confirmation for Accessible Hides. If the dog is near the source of the scent, but it is not clear to the judge that the dog has communicated the exact location to the handler, the judge should ask "where?" The handler must then indicate the source of the scent by pointing or gesturing. If the area that the handler indicates includes the hide location or the location where the odor would have settled in the judge's expert opinion, the alert should be considered correct and the judge should respond in the affirmative.

Chapter 4, Section 10. Alert Confirmation for Inaccessible Hides. For inaccessible hides, the dog will not be able to pinpoint the exact location of the hide, so the judge will be looking for the dog to get as close as possible to the inaccessible hide location. If the dog is clearly indicating this area, the judge does not need to ask "where?" If the dog has not indicated clearly or seems to be indicating in multiple differing locations, the judge should ask "where?" If, in the judge's expert opinion, the area that the handler indicates includes one or more of the locations where the dog would have encountered the escaping odor from the inaccessible hide, the alert should be considered correct and the judge should respond in the affirmative.

Chapter 5, Section 3. Placement of Odors. The scent aid must always be placed inside a scent vessel, which is then hidden in the search area. Only one (1) scent aid may be used per scent vessel, and only one (1) scent vessel may be used per hide. The scent vessel may be any small object that prevents the scent aid from coming into direct contact with any object or surface in the search area, and that allows scent to escape. Some examples of a scent vessel include a plastic straw, empty lip balm tube, or a metal tin with holes. Due to safety concerns, scent vessels may never contain glass. The scent vessel may be affixed to an object or surface with tape, adhesive putty (such as QuakeHold) or by any other method, so long as it does not harm the object or surface.

Chapter 5, Section 4. Hides on Boundary Markers. The hide may never be placed on or inside an object that is put in the search area to denote the boundary (such as a cone or flag). However, the hide may be placed on a wall or structure that is natural to the search area and is used as the outer limit of the search area. For example, the side of a building may be used as the edge of a search area, and the side of the building may be in play.

The sections in the remainder of this chapter will be renumbered to reflect insertion of this section.

Chapter 5, Section 8. Collars, Leashes, and Harnesses. ... No special training tools, such as electronic collars, prong collars, head halters, or no-pull harnesses will be permitted during the search. Martingale collars are permitted. No odor-emitting collars (such as no-bark collars that spray citronella, or DAP calming collars) may be worn or present in the search area. A wearable camera such as a Go Pro may be mounted to the dog's harness, if desired.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 5, Section 10. Start Line. For each search area there shall be a start line that the dog and handler must cross. The start line may be a maximum of five (5) feet long. If the dog or handler fail to cross the start line, the judge will record a fault for handler error.

The sections in the remainder of this chapter will be renumbered to reflect insertion of this section.

Chapter 5, Section 12. Incorrect Calls. If the handler makes an incorrect "alert" or "finish" call, the search is over. Teams do not proceed to the remaining search areas after an incorrect call.

The sections in the remainder of this chapter will be renumbered to reflect insertion of this section.

Chapter 5, Section 15. Distraction Items.

- **Non-Food Distraction:** A non-food distraction may be any item, other than food, that might be enticing to a dog. A used tennis ball is a prime example. The non-food distraction may not contain any artificial scent (such as another essential oil, a perfume, or a scented lotion), but it may contain the scent of another animal (such as a cat toy).

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 5, Section 21. The Hide Steward. For each search, one individual, the hide steward, is in charge of placing the scent in the hide location designated by the judge. Having only one individual in contact with the scent will minimize the chance of contamination. The hide steward should wear latex, nitrile, or vinyl gloves when setting the hides, and should not handle or move any other items.

Chapter 5, Section 15. Residual and Lingering Odor. If search areas are reused during the course of the trial, the judge must inform teams during the handler's briefing (and may remind them on the start line) of the prior hide locations, to warn of possible residual or lingering odor. These areas may also be marked with stickers or tape.

The sections in the remainder of this chapter will be renumbered to reflect insertion of this section.

Chapter 5, Section 12. Rewards and Reinforcers. Food or toy rewards may be used by the handler at any time during the search (for example, to calm and focus a nervous dog.) However, these items may not be used to bait the dog toward a specific location to search. When a dog correctly finds the scent, the handler may reward the dog with a food or toy reinforcer, which may be delivered at or away from source. The handler must take care not to contaminate the search area with food particles or saliva. Toys may be thrown, but if the toy or the dog causes disruption to the search area, the team may incur a fault. Toys that make noise are not allowed.

Chapter 6, Section 4. Non-Qualifying Faults. ...

- (f) The handler allows the dog to disrupt the search area unduly. This includes excessive food residue, or intentional biting, hard scratching, pouncing or other by the dog that causes damage to the container/object/area. Cases in which a dog's nose or feet get caught on containers or other objects shall not be considered a disruption of the area.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 7, Section 3. Container Searches. The Container search element mimics the work of detection dogs to search packages for contraband. In the Container classes the dog must locate the target odor(s), which is/are hidden in one or more containers within a search area, and communicate the find to their handler. A container can be a cardboard box, a back pack, a briefcase, a storage bin, a piece of luggage, etc., as required by difficulty level. Container searches may be conducted either inside or outside.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 7, Section 6. Buried Searches. The Buried search element simulates the task of Human Remains Dogs to search for scents that have been buried under the ground. The Novice and Advanced classes use containers filled with store-bought soil (see Chapter 5, Section 7 above for size requirements), and may be conducted indoors or outdoors.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 8, Section 11. Handler Discrimination Advanced. ... There is one hide at this level, which must be accessible and may not be located higher than 24 inches off the floor.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter 8, Section 13. Handler Discrimination Master. Combined search. At this level, the search area presents the team with two or more elements (container, interior, or exterior) within one search. For example, the search area may span indoors and outdoors, may be an indoor search that includes containers, or any other combination. The handler scent may not be buried. Three handler-scented articles are hidden in two or three distinct search areas. The total space of all search areas must be not less than 300 and not more than 800 square feet. Each search area will be worked independently, with a separate time limit. One search area will have 1 hide, the other will have 2 hides; none of these search areas may be blank. None of the hides may be inaccessible, and none may be located higher than 24 inches above the ground. Also hidden on the course are two additional scent-aids, one scented by the judge, and one scented by a steward. There are one or two distractions at this level, which may be non-food, food, visual, auditory, human, or mimic. The dog must find the handler scents and communicate the finds to its handler. The handler must call "Alert" when the dog indicates each find. In each search area, the handler must call "Finish" to indicate that all hides have been found and to stop the time. The time limit is set by the judge and must be between 2 and 3 minutes for each search area. The Handler Discrimination Detective Class is open to dogs who have earned the Handler Discrimination Excellent (SHDE title).

Table following this section will also be modified pursuant to these changes.