

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 9-10, 2014

The Board convened on Monday, June 9, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, and the Assistant Executive Secretary. The April 2014 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were discussed. Upon a motion by Mr. Menaker, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the April 2014 minutes were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on previous Action Items assigned to the Staff as well as an introduction of new initiatives.

Events and Entries Update

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on entries and events though April 2014. Entries were flat with a 0% change and Events were up by 3% compared to same period in 2013.

LEGAL REPORT

Margaret Poindexter, General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. She presented a status report on pending litigation and other activities for the months of April and May 2014.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There was a discussion on a number of issues regarding judging, which were raised at the Delegate Parent Clubs Committee meeting in June. They included the increase in the number of low entry breeds; ideas of acceptable education and training for judges; the process of ringside observations by AKC Field Representatives to evaluate placements; Parent Club input on breed standard tests; the demeanor of some judges and the possibility of some type of Low Entry Breed Institute.

JUDGING TASK FORCE

Dr. Garvin updated the Board on the work of the Judging Task Force, including ongoing projects and a review of areas where improvement was needed and areas where further discussion was needed.

He outlined a pilot program to develop online breed specific judge's education, referred to as the Canine College. The Parent Clubs for Basenjis, Lhasa Apsos and Dalmatians were taking part in the pilot program.

Chris Walker, AKC Staff, reported on a platform that could be purchased, which would enable AKC to develop software to deliver the Canine College. Following a motion by Mr. Amen, seconded by Mr. Ashby, it was VOTED (unanimously) to authorize staff to purchase the platform and to develop the software necessary to do this.

The Board also considered what education experiences were really pertinent and should be included as necessary preparation for judging applicants which would instill confidence by exhibitors that each individual is knowledgeable about the breed.

It was suggested that there be an additional survey of judges, The Judges Review Committee and exhibitors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

February 2015 Board Meeting

It was pointed out that the dates for the February 2015 Board Meeting were set prior to the Westminster Kennel Club changing its dates in 2015. Without objection, the dates for the meeting were changed to Thursday/Friday, February 12-13, 2015.

The Doberman Pinscher Club of America

The Board reviewed a report on alleged Bylaw violations on the part of the board of the Doberman Pinscher Club of America (DPCA). Article III, Section 4 of the DPCA bylaws specifically provide that the Board may fill any vacancy in officer or board positions only until the Annual Meeting. While being advised of this by AKC, the Board of the DPCA insisted on filling the vacancies for president and first vice president for the remainder of the unexpired term of the individuals previously holding these positions rather than until the next annual meeting. The DPCA membership was not afforded the opportunity to submit nominations for the two vacancies. There was a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Amen, to reprimand the Doberman Pinscher Club of America, and to impose a staff-recommended fine of \$500 for the known violation of its bylaws.

There was a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Cruz, and it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Powers, Ms. Cruz, Dr. Garvin, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Amen, Mr. Dok, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Menaker, opposed: Mr. Feeney, Mr. Wooding, Mr. Gladstone) to increase the fine to \$2,500.

The main motion, as amended, was then voted (affirmative Mr. Powers, Ms. Cruz, Dr. Garvin, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Amen, Mr. Dok, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Menaker, Mr. Gladstone; opposed Mr. Feeney, Mr. Wooding).

FCI

The Board discussed a request from the FCI to provide it with a list of all dogs it registers based on a National General Kennel Club pedigree, so that it can prevent them from being registered by any FCI member based on its AKC registration. In addition the FCI general Committee asked that AKC Global definitely not approach non FCI member clubs in countries establishing a business relationship. FCI had declined to cooperate with AKC Global in countries with FCI clubs for a portion of any revenue earned.

The Board did not direct or authorize AKC and AKC Global staff to comply with either request. Staff was directed to relay that to FCI.

Meeting adjourned on Monday June 9, 2014 at 5:30 pm

Meeting reconvened on Tuesday June 10, 2014 at 8:00 am.

All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

AKC Canine Health Foundation

Duane Butherus, the AKC Canine Health Foundation Board Chairman, updated the AKC on a number of matters, including staff changes, fundraising efforts, and procedures for making research grants.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY cont'd

Margaret Poindexter, AKC Staff, was present for this portion of the meeting.

Trial Boards

There was a discussion on the reappointment of Trial Boards. The Executive Secretary had communicated with current members to determine which of them wished to continue as Trial Board members. The only current members who declined to be reappointed were Edd Biven and Donald Booxbaum. Staff was directed to extend the Board's sincere appreciation to both for their years of service.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, it was VOTED (unanimously) to appoint the following Trial Board members:

Appeals Trial Board

Ralph Del Deo, Esq. Chair
Barbara W. Meiner, Esq.
Martha Feltenstein, Esq.

Trial Board Chairs

Laurie Raymond, Esq.
Daniel Smyth, Esq.
Rita Biddle, Esq.
Theresa Dowell, Esq.
Jan Ritchie, Esq.

Trial Board Members

Dr. Klaus Anselm
Charles Foley
Roger Hartinger
Medora Harper
Dr. Robert Myall
Bernard Schwartz
Betty-Anne Stenmark
James White

Performance Trial Board

David Hopkins, Esq. Chair
Tim Carwile, Esq.
John Russell

Alternates:

Mike Necaise
Bill Teague

Boykin Spaniel Stud Book

The Board reviewed a request from the Boykin Spaniel Club & Breeders Association to allow the Boykin Spaniel Stud Book to remain open until January 1, 2025. Currently, the Boykin Spaniel Stud Book is scheduled to close January 1, 2015. This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

Miniature American Shepherd Eligibility to Compete in the Herding Group

The Board reviewed a request from the Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA. The club seeks acceptance into the AKC Stud Book and requests that the Miniature American Shepherd be eligible to compete in the Herding Group. This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

Bluetick Coonhound and Redbone Coonhound

The Board reviewed a request from the Sport Services staff to allow the Bluetick Coonhound and the Redbone Coonhound Stud Books to remain open until January 1, 2025. Currently, the Stud Books are scheduled to close January 1, 2015. This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

Registered Kennel Name Fee

The Board reviewed a proposal to increase the fee for registering a kennel name with AKC from \$100 for five years to \$150 for five years. This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

New Breed for Foundation Stock Service® - Jagdterrier

The Board was advised that the Staff Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) Committee recently approved a petition for the Jagdterrier to be accepted into the FSS program with a Terrier Group designation.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

There was a presentation on new business initiatives given by Chris Walker, AKC Staff. The discussion covered a multitude of areas including the redesign of AKC's website to make it more user friendly, AKC's numerous social media advances, and the plans to market the sport.

REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT

Mark Dunn participated in this portion of the meeting. There was a review of registration numbers and revenue over the year.

New Breeder Program

The staff presented an overview of a program currently in development designed for all breeders. This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Alan Slay, Bri Tesarz, Mark Dunn and Amy Chou, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by telephone conference.

Exhibitor Convenience Issues

Based on a request from the Board at the March meeting, Event Operations staff provided a copy of a letter that was sent to clubs regarding best practices for Superintendents. The letter was originally mailed to all Conformation club presidents in November 2007 via an all clubs mailing. The purpose of the letter was to point out scheduling options that are available to a club that if utilized could make the running of a dog show more convenient for exhibitors. Staff was directed to survey exhibitors and judges regarding the concept in the 2007 letter.

Streamlining the Event Application Process

Based on a request from the Board, the Event Operations staff identified and presented ways to streamline the event application process and make the process easier for both the AKC customers and the Event Operations staff.

A number of short-term actions were presented and accepted by the Board. The Event Operations staff will be notifying the clubs of the improvements prior to the next Board meeting.

4-6 Month Puppy Update

Based on a request from the Board, Event Operations determined how many 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy exhibitors are truly new to conformation. It was determined that 26% of 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy exhibitors are new to conformation. 65% of these new exhibitors continue on to show dogs in regular classes. Therefore, of all the 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy exhibitors, 17% are new exhibitors that continue to show beyond the 4-6 month class.

Staff was directed to emphasize to clubs that the 4-6 Month Puppy competition is a special event and not a special attraction. Thus, a club holding a 4-6 Month Puppy Competition would not be required to have a NOHS.

Territoriality

Based on a request from the Board, a Staff Committee was created to evaluate the issue of territoriality strictly from a best business practice view, using the clean-slate approach. Staff presented recommendations to the issue strictly from the point of view of how would a club's territory be defined and what restrictions would be put into place if we were creating a new club and event structure for the first time today.

The Board was aware that a sub-committee of the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee was working on a Territoriality proposal. It was suggested that the committee be contacted to forward that proposal to the Board for consideration, after it has been approved by the committee.

National Owner Handler Series

There was a discussion on the NOHS.

There was a motion by Ms. Cruz to again make it an opt-in program which would enable clubs to offer Special Attractions with group competition without having NOHS. This motion was not seconded.

The Board discussed the apparent confusion of the applicability of the Board decision requiring a club to hold a NOHS event if they chose to hold any other competitive Special Attraction. It was not the Board's intent to include Specialty Clubs in the decision. Therefore, the Board decided a clarification was needed and there was a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Powers and it was VOTED (unanimously) to make this clarification in a formal manner.

COMPANION

Doug Ljungren, Pam Manaton and Carrie DeYoung, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by telephone conference.

Special Event Agility Trials

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Agility Staff to allow clubs licensed for agility to hold one Special Event Agility Trial per year. A Special Event Agility Trial is defined as one where the club proposes a unique mix of regular AKC classes or a unique eligibility criterion. A Special Event Agility Trial must be open to all breeds, including Canine Partners. Regular classes held at Special Event Agility Trials will count toward titles. A Special Event Agility Trial must be approved by the Agility Department and will count as one of the club's 12 trials per year. In addition, clubs may make up unique non-regular classes to offer at their trials. A clear and complete description of the eligibility and performance requirements for a non-regular class must appear in the premium.

This will be considered further at the July Board Meeting.

History of Agility

Based on a request from the Board, Staff presented an overview of the history of Agility. The Board believes that, as this program has been very successful, reviewing its evolution might

provide insight for the development and/or growth of other sports. There was discussion on the history of Agility, how the sport became an AKC event, the evolution of the sport, the staff's philosophy used when adding new classes and titles.

Day of Show Entries

Based on a request from the Board, staff conducted research to determine if it would be advantageous to allow day-of-show entries in conformation, obedience and/or rally events. It is the staff's conclusion that day-of-show entries do not make sense for these AKC events, and the Board concurred.

Companion Events open to Canine Partners

Staff presented a memo based on a Board request to develop a plan to increase the number of all-breed Companion Events open to Canine Partners. In 2013, 98% of Agility, 95% of Obedience and 96% of Rally events were open to Canine Partners. Given the high level of participation, staff recommended maintaining the status quo and to continue allowing clubs the option to decide if they want to offer classes for Canine Partners.

New Events

Staff gave an update to the Board on three new activities that are being researched to enhance AKC's existing portfolio of sports.

COMPLIANCE

Margaret Poindexter, AKC staff was present for this portion of the meeting.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

CONSENT

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

Delegates Approved

Warren Cook, Eagle Point, OR
Southern Oregon Kennel Club

Rhoda T. Ezell, Cincinnati, OH
Queen City Dog Training Club

Harvey Goldberg, Warren, NJ
Somerset Hills Kennel Club

Claudia M. Grunstra-Pierro, Waldwick, NJ
Yorkshire Terrier Club of America

Linda Hattrem, Sparta, WI
American Water Spaniel Club

Vivian A. Hogan, Damascus, MD
Miniature Pinscher Club of America

Douglas R. Lehr, Pennellville, NY
North Country Kennel Club

Victoria Ann Marks, Jacksonville, FL 32224
Jacksonville Dog Fanciers Association

Raul J. Peralta, Trinity, NC
American Brussels Griffon Association

Harold Tatro III, Crowley, TX
Ft. Worth Kennel Club

Susan G. Thrasher, New Castle, IN
Muncie Kennel Club

Karen M. Williams, Crestview, FL
Okaloosa Kennel Club

Modification of the Clusters and Back-to-Back Policy

The Board VOTED to modify the current policy pertaining to the length of clusters to exclude National Specialties and associated events and to clarify that this applies to conformation shows. The revised portion of the policy follows (Revisions underlined)

- Approval of more than four days of unique AKC conformation events is contingent upon exceptional site capabilities, Executive Field Staff recommendation, and subsequent site approval by Event Plans. There is a checklist for site inspection. Clusters of more than five days of unique AKC conformation events will not be approved except in the case of National Specialties and associated events hosted by the Parent clubs or specialty clubs of the same breed.

Lagotto Romagnolo Eligibility to Compete in the Sporting Group

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Lagotto Club of America to 1) approve the breed standard submitted as the official breed standard for the Lagotto Romagnolo, 2) move the Lagotto Romagnolo from the Foundation Stock Service into the Stud Book of the American Kennel Club on June 1, 2015, and 3) approve the Lagotto Romagnolo to compete in the Sporting Group, effective July 1, 2015.

Miniature Pinscher in AKC Earthdog Tests

The Board VOTED to allow Miniature Pinschers to be eligible to participate in AKC Earthdog tests.

Match Regulations

The Board considered a number of modifications to Chapter 2, Section 1, of the *Match Regulations*, based on input from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. They were intended to:

- Make FSS breeds eligible for breed and group competition.
- Remove the requirement that the FSS breeds be listed on the Match Application and in the advertising for the Match.

- Providing that breed standards could be available at the Match, either digitally or on paper.

Following a motion by Mr. Wooding, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, it was VOTED (unanimously) to amend the last two paragraphs of Chapter 2, Section 1, of the *Match Regulations* to read as follows:

Conformation competition is for breeds which are registrable, eligible for Miscellaneous Class, or FSS breeds. Such dogs would be eligible to compete in the respective group competition and eligible for Best in Match level. FSS breeds and dogs with an AKC Canine Partners listing number are permitted to compete, at any level for which they meet the necessary requirements at Obedience, Rally, or Agility trials if such classes are offered. A club wishing to accept entries for FSS breeds would be required to indicate that at the time that the match application is submitted to The American Kennel Club for approval. The club will be required to have a breed standard for FSS breeds, approved by a foreign registry or a national breed club in the United States, available at the match on paper or viewed digitally.

New Business

The Board discussed the policy prohibiting a professional handler from showing under a judge for four months before and after handling a dog for that judge. There was no action taken to change that policy.

The Board Adjourned 3:50 p.m.

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary