

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 21-22, 2014

The Board convened on Monday, July 21, 2014 at 8:05 a.m. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, and the Assistant Executive Secretary. The June 2014 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were discussed. Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the June 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 report on entries and events though May 2014. Entries were up by 1% and Events were up by 4% 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 month of June 2014.

DOBERMAN PINSCHER CLUB OF AMERICA

Margaret Poindexter, Heather McManus, and Michael Liosis, AKC Staff, was present for this portion of the meeting.

The Board received the history behind the procedures being followed by the Doberman Pinscher Club of America in regard to its 2015 annual election. Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Powers, it was VOTED (unanimously) to rescind the reprimand and fine issued in June. The Board further acknowledged the DPCA's notice to the membership of its intent to proceed with this election by extending the time for additional nominations to August 1, 2014.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Nominating Committee

The Executive Secretary informed the Board that the Nominating Committee for the March 2015 election of AKC Directors must be appointed by August 15, and its report must be received no later than October 15, 2014.

Following discussion, the Board elected the Nominating Committee, which is to select candidates for positions on the Board of Directors, Class of 2019, which are to be filled at the March, 2015 Delegate Meeting:

Nominating Committee

Wayne Boyd, Chair
Bayou Kennel Club

Connie Clark
American Fox Terrier Club

Linda Ayers Turner Knorr
Greenville Kennel Club

Gail LaBerge
Atlanta Obedience Club

Steve Schmidt
Texas Kennel Club

Alternates:

Anne Bowes
Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America

Andrew G. Mills
Del Sur Kennel Club

Mari-Beth O'Neill, AKC Staff, was present for the remainder of the Executive Secretary section.

Kooikerhondje - Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous

The Board reviewed a recommendation from Sport Services that the Kooikerhondje be approved to advance to the Miscellaneous Class effective January 1, 2015. This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

FSS Breed Progression

Based on a Board request, Staff presented information about the path from FSS to full recognition, and discussed ways to provide judges with increased opportunities to become knowledgeable about these breeds before they are asked to judge them in AKC events. Some breeds have remained in FSS for many years and may not ever satisfy the criteria to move into the Miscellaneous Class and eventually full recognition due to a lack of dogs in this country and/or having a club to represent the breed that fulfill the membership requirement. It was noted that even if these breeds never achieve Miscellaneous status, maintaining these breeds in the AKC's FSS program provides a service to those who own the breed and allows these dogs to compete in AKC Companion Events, Performance Events, Open shows and Match shows, which is a benefit to the breed and additionally generates revenue through recording fees for AKC.

Currently, when a breed moves to full recognition, those approved to judge all breeds within the group in which the breed will be eligible to compete are required to take an open book test on the breed standard and submit a processing fee. Ideas were discussed to offer judges the opportunity to better educate themselves on these new breeds. Additional methods to test for competency in the new breeds were also discussed.

Acceptance of Breeds into the AKC's Foundation Stock Service®

An overview of the breeds accepted into the AKC FSS program since 1995 and their progression to full recognition was presented. Data about the number of entries generated by FSS breeds in AKC Conformation Dog Shows was also reviewed.

There was discussion on recognizing a new breed whose country of origin would be considered the United States versus a breed whose country of origin was a foreign country. The Biewer Terrier was discussed specifically in this regard.

The Board discussed the discrepancy that exists between how breeds developed in the United States are considered as opposed to breeds developed in other countries.

In the former, AKC will not consider the acceptance of breeds created by crossbreeding two existing breeds, making the development of new AKC breeds in the United States impossible. However, when a breed is developed in another country, and then breeds true for a number of documented generations, it would be considered for acceptance into AKC's FSS after being recognized by an approved foreign registry.

Staff was directed to seek the input of the AKC Health and Welfare Advisory Panel on the question of what constitutes a purebred dog, considering how current AKC breeds were developed, and how more recently developed breeds should be handled.

FINANCE

Peter Farnsworth, Chief Financial Officer, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Farnsworth provided a six-month review of the finances which showed that, in aggregate, the operating income is less than last year but better than what was planned. We anticipated continued erosion in dog registrations for 2014, however the decline has been less than expected and better than recent years. The balance sheet continues to show substantial cash and investments, even after allowing for Board-designated reserves for emergencies and other contingencies.

DELEGATE MEETING

There was a discussion on possible Delegate meeting sites in Manhattan. The staff had explored all available options as an alternative to meetings in New Jersey. Hotel rates would be considerably higher for attendees, and the most reasonable hotels could accommodate Committee meetings and the general meeting, but with only one ballroom, could not also have a luncheon. It was the sense of the Board that Delegate input would be sought before considering such a change.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

There was a presentation on new business initiatives given by Chris Walker, AKC Staff.

COMPANION

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

Tracking - Making Life Easier

The Board reviewed nine (9) recommended changes to the *Tracking Regulations* that are meant to reduce the administrative burden on clubs holding tracking tests. The recommendations originate from a Tracking Focus Group formed in the fall of 2013 by the Companion Events Department. Most of the recommendations are technical in nature, allowing clubs to more efficiently use the available land by providing flexibility in the planning of tests. This will be discussed further at the September meeting.

Capturing Agility Entries

Staff presented details regarding identifying the number of unique dogs competing in agility. Currently, given the manner that results are received, it is estimated that 86% of the unique dogs are identified. The Board felt this was enough information to be representative of trends in the sport.

Required Printed Documents - Recommendations for Publications

Following the June Board Meeting, the Staff was instructed to review the requirements for clubs to publish printed materials for their events, specifically premium lists, judging programs, and catalogs. Staff was asked to consider changes that can reduce the administrative burden on clubs while still meeting the needs of exhibitors. The Staff has sought input from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and the Companion Events Delegate Committee and requested a response from the committees no later than September 15th. It will also be sent to the Delegate All-Breed Clubs committee for its input. A recommendation regarding possible changes to the current requirements will be presented to the Board in October.

Judges Task Force Report

The Board discussed the report of the Judges Task Force. The discussion was to be continued on the second day of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned on Monday July 21, 2014 at 5:30 pm

Meeting reconvened on Tuesday July 22, 2014 at 8:00 am.

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

REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT

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

Global Services

There was a general discussion on the current status of and the future plans for Global Services.

New Breeder Program

Mr. Dunn presented an overview of a program currently in development designed for all breeders. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren and Tim Thomas, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by video conference.

Judging Approval Process Survey III

Staff presented the results of the third survey conducted by the Judging Operations to obtain feedback from judging applicants concerning the current process of applying for additional breeds which became effective March 1, 2012. This survey was conducted one year from the date of a previous survey on the same topic to obtain additional feedback.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business and personnel matters.

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Alan Slay, Tim Thomas, and Bri Tesarz, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by video conference.

Overview of Judging Eligibility

The Board approved the distribution of a chart that shows in one easy-to-read document, the eligibility criteria for judges of the 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy competition, the AKC National Owner-Handled Series, Sweepstakes and Futurities and FSS Open Shows. The final version of the chart will be posted on the AKC website.

Points Schedule Analysis

Based on a Board request Staff presented an overview on how the points schedule is set as a whole and looked at potential changes that would improve the points schedule for the sport. The points schedule is based on the number of competitors in the previous calendar year for each division, breed/variety, and sex. The points-calculation process considers only the number of dogs that actually competed (not those that were entered) in regular class competition during the previous year. This included comparison of the number of majors now as compared to 10 years ago; the effect on majors if all specialty shows were removed from the points-schedule calculation process; the effect of combining the sexes in class competition on some low-entry breeds; and a review of the effect of non-parent club breed/variety competition adjacent to (+/-3 days) of Parent Club competition for the breed/variety and a review of the percentage of shows with majors for low-entry breeds.

Changes to which shows are included in the point schedule calculation and the percentage of shows projected to carry major points based on prior competition would involve AKC Board policy which any changes involving the mechanics of awarding points would entail an amendment to the Rules. Staff was to bring back a formal proposal for consideration at the September meeting.

AKC NOHS Program Changes

Staff presented input on the AKC National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) based on the responses to a survey of clubs, judges, exhibitors, and superintendents to better understand the perceived benefits and limitations of the existing program. Also considered in this review are the phone calls and emails received by Event Operations Staff. The review of the NOHS resulted in three recommended program changes which the Staff planned to implement, unless there was any Board objection.

There was no objection and effective October 9, 2014, the changes below will apply to NOHS:

1. The limitation that dogs co-owned by a professional handler are not eligible to be exhibited in the NOHS is removed. Professional handlers would still be prohibited from handling the dog in the NOHS.
2. Definition of professional handler is:
Professional Handlers are defined as any person who belongs or has belonged to a professional handlers' organization, distributed rated cards, or otherwise advertised or presented themselves as handling dog for pay within the last five years.
3. Entries into the Amateur-Owner-Handler class are automatically entered into the AKC NOHS.

The NOHS Requirements

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Ashby, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Powers, Mr. Amen, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Feeney,

Mr. Dok, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Wooding, Mr. Arnold, opposed: Ms. Cruz, Mr. Menaker, Dr. Battaglia) to amend the NOHS policy for clubs:

- All-Breed and Group Clubs that hold at least two shows per year and offer a special attraction with group competition must offer the NOHS at a minimum of 50% of their shows in the calendar year.
- The NOHS does not have to be offered at the same show as the special attraction with group competition.
- Any All-Breed or Group Club that holds only one show per year is not required to hold NOHS competition in order to hold another special attraction with group competition.

There was a motion by Ms. Cruz, seconded by Mr. Menaker to eliminate the NOHS requirement, making it an opt-in program. This motion was defeated (affirmative: Ms. Cruz, Mr. Menaker, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Wooding; opposed: Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Amen, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Dok, Mr. Powers).

Judges Task Force Report (continued)

The Board continued discussion of the Judges Task Force Report. Among the matters discussed was a survey of Parent Clubs to determine what they consider to be important educational components for individuals seeking to judge their breeds. The Task Force Report will be discussed further in September. Whatever changes are ultimately considered will be put out for comment before final adoption.

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 Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Arnold, it was VOTED (unanimously, absent Mr. Menaker, Mr. Powers, Mr. Feeney) to approve the following Consent Items:

Delegates Approved

Steven D. Gladstone, Mt. Pocono, PA
To represent Waterloo Kennel Club

Catherine Iacopelli, East Meadow, NY
To represent Augusta Kennel Club

Patricia Kanan, Santa Inez, CA
To represent American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club

Kathie S. Moulton, Plainfield, VT
To represent Green Mountain Kennel Club

Kathie D. Vogel, Virginia Beach, VA
To represent Tidewater Kennel Club of Virginia
Lori Webster, Amherst, NY
To represent Norwegian Elkhound Association of America

Bluetick Coonhound and Redbone Coonhound

The Board VOTED to allow the Bluetick Coonhound and the Redbone Coonhound Stud Books to remain open until January 1, 2025.

Boykin Spaniel Stud Book

The Board VOTED to approve the request from the Boykin Spaniel Club & Breeders Association to allow the Boykin Spaniel Stud Book to remain open until January 1, 2025.

Miniature American Shepherd Eligibility to Compete in the Herding Group

The Board VOTED to move Miniature American Shepherd from the Foundation Stock Service into the Stud Book of the American Kennel Club on June 1, 2015. The breed will be eligible to compete in the Herding Group July 1, 2015. AKC will maintain an open registry for the breed until July 1, 2020. The Board also approved the breed standard as submitted by the Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA.

Registered Kennel Name Fee

The Board VOTED to increase the fee for registering a kennel name with AKC from \$100 for five years to \$150 for five years, effective January 1, 2015.

Special Event Agility Trials

The Board VOTED to approve 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. Amendments will be made to Chapter 1, Section 3; Chapter 1, Section 31; and Chapter 2, Section 1 as follows (new wording underlined):

CHAPTER 1

Section 3. Eligibility of Dogs

No dog may participate more than once in any type of class (Standard class, Jumpers With Weaves class, T2B class, FAST class, etc.) offered by a club per day, unless they are entered in a single breed specialty that is offering two trials on the same site, same day. If eligible, dogs may participate in additional non-regular classes. If a club has been approved to hold a Special Event Agility Trial, the above participation limit does not apply for the approved Special Event.

Section 31. Judges' Responsibility

(Starting with paragraph #8)

A judge may not accept an assignment that is within 30 days and 200 miles of a previously accepted assignment. This requirement does not pertain to sanctioned trials, breed specialties where only one breed is exhibited, or non-regular classes.

CHAPTER 2

Section 1. Classes. All agility classes held on the day of a member club or licensed trial must have prior approval by the AKC Secretary. Only approved classes such as the Standard (Std) Agility class, the Jumpers With Weaves class (JWW), Time 2 Beat class (T2B), FAST class and other approved non-regular classes are allowed. A dog may be entered in only one Standard Agility class, one Jumpers With Weaves class, one Time 2 Beat class, and one FAST class offered by a club per day. This shall not preclude eligible dogs from competing in additional prior-approved non-regular classes on the same day. If a club has been approved to hold a Special Event Agility Trial with the same class offered multiple times, the above participation limit does not apply for the approved Special Event.

A licensed or member agility trial need not include all of the regular agility classes, but a club will not be approved to hold the Open Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class unless it also holds the Novice Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class. A licensed or member agility trial will not be approved to hold Excellent and Master Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class unless it also holds the Open Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class. If a club has been approved to hold a Special Event Trial, the above limitation on how classes may be offered does not apply for the approved Special Event.

Clubs are eligible to hold an all Standard class trial or an all Jumpers With Weaves class trial. A club may be approved to hold an Excellent/Master Standard and/or Excellent/Master Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class unless it also holds the Open Standard/Jumpers With Weaves/FAST class. Clubs are eligible to hold an all Standard class trial or an all Jumpers With Weaves class trial. A club may be approved to hold an Excellent/Master Standard and/or Excellent/Master Jumpers With Weaves only trial on the day preceding, or the day after a minimum of a two-day trial in which all levels of agility classes are offered. In addition a club may offer all levels of the FAST class and the T2B class on the day preceding, or the day after a minimum of a two-day trial in which all levels of agility classes are offered.

The licensed or member agility trial may also offer the T2B class and Excellent/Master FAST classes, and/or the non-regular International Sweepstakes (ISC) class in conjunction with the Regular and Preferred classes on the Excellent/Master trial day. Any licensed or member club that has been approved to hold an agility trial may offer additional optional non-regular classes. The non-regular class must be submitted on a special non-regular class application form and approved by the AKC. If a non-regular class is one that is not defined in these regulations, a clear and complete description of both the eligibility and performance requirements must appear in the premium list.

Retriever Hunt Test – Six Events Per Year

The Board VOTED to increase the number of Retriever Hunting Tests a club may hold from four to six per year.

Retriever Field Trials – Allowing Amateur All-Age Only Trials

The Board VOTED to allow clubs licensed to hold Retriever Field Trials, at their option, to hold an Amateur All-Age only trial once every other year provided that the club has held two all-age trials consisting of both Open and Amateur All-Age stakes in the previous calendar year. The Amateur All-Age stake must be accompanied by two minor stakes.
This will be read at the September 2014 Delegates meeting and be voted on at the December Delegates meeting.

The Board Adjourned 4:00 p.m.
Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary