

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
October 20-21, 2014

The Board convened on Monday, October 20, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, and the Assistant Executive Secretary. The September 2014 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were discussed. Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Arnold, the September 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 August 2014. Entries were up 1% and Events were up by 4% compared to same period in 2013.

**Breeder of the Year**

Based on a request from the Board, staff presented the criterion that is considered in selecting the AKC Breeder of The Year nominees. Criteria considered includes:

- Longevity within the breed: minimum 20 years.
- Success in as many areas that are germane to the breed; this would include conformation champions, obedience titles, agility titles, performance titles, etc. (We weigh percentage of titles in relation to number of litters bred.)
- If they are AKC Breeders of Merit
- Club affiliation: offices held, judges' education, etc.
- Generational involvement in the sport.
- Recommendations from Staff with a personal knowledge of their background.
- Recommendations from Parent Clubs

The Board directed staff to add health testing to the criteria and to require that future Breeders of the Year be Breeders of Merit.

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

There were EXECUTIVE SESSIONS during the meeting to discuss sensitive business and personnel matters. Nothing was reported out of these sessions.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**Bylaw Amendment - Article XIX**

The Board reviewed a proposed amendment to Article XIX of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which was submitted by the Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee. The amendment would change all Field Trial Rules to Regulations. It was adopted unanimously by the Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee. This would make Field Trials consistent with all other Performance Events, which are governed by Regulations. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Menaker, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the Bylaw amendment. This will be read at the December Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the March Delegate meeting.

**Requirements for New Breeds**

The Board discussed the criteria for the acceptance of breeds into the FSS as well as to their advancement to Miscellaneous and to full registration. Staff was directed to add a health

component to the criteria. Prior to accepting a new breed into the FSS, there would have to be a documented health survey of the dogs and the national breed club would be required to outline its plan to address health and other new issues that surfaced in the survey. The same criteria will be placed on breeds for advancement to Miscellaneous and current Miscellaneous breeds prior to advancement to full registration and Championship Competition. Dr. Jerry Bell, a population geneticist was to be invited to address the Board regarding new breeds.

#### **Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee Proposals**

The Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee submitted two papers for AKC Board consideration. One was entitled "A Call to Action: Improving the Effectiveness of the Delegate Body," and the other was "The Future for AKC: an AKC Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee (DAAC) Paper." A number of issues involving all aspects of the AKC governance and the Sport were raised.

The Board discussed the papers, the recommendations, and the areas and documents it would cover which could include the Bylaws as well as the various Rules and Regulations. As the scope of the recommendations exceeded the charge of the Delegate Committee making the recommendations, there was a Board consensus that the papers should first be reviewed by the Coordinating Committee, which is charged with determining the scope of Delegate Committees' responsibilities and with coordinating requests for AKC staff and resources, which would be necessary to facilitate the DAAC recommendations. Staff was directed to advise DAAC that this should be done prior to Board consideration.

#### **Shikoku**

The Board was advised that the staff Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a petition made by the North American Shikoku Club for the Shikoku to be accepted in the FSS program.

#### **LEGAL REPORT**

Heather McManus, AKC Senior Attorney, participated in this portion of the meeting. She presented a status report on pending litigation and other activities for the month of September 2014.

#### **FINANCE**

Peter Farnsworth, Chief Financial Officer, participated in this portion of the meeting. Mr. Farnsworth discussed and answered questions about the proposed 2015 budget.

#### **2015 Budget**

The Board discussed the 2015 Budget. Staff was directed to make a presentation of the Budget to the Board at its December 2014 meeting. The Budget is to be presented in the same format as in past years to facilitate comparisons. Staff did recommend a small individual dog registration fee increase, but was directed by the Board not to include such an increase in the 2015 Budget.

#### **MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Chris Walker, AKC staff, participated in this portion of the meeting. He reported on a number of business initiatives in development.

The Board Adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 8:00 am. All Directors were present, as were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

### **AKC 990**

There was an Executive Session to discuss the AKC's 2014, 990 filing and income tax returns. Kim Johnson, Greg Goller and Nellie So from KPMG were present for this session as were Peter Farnsworth and Joseph Baffuto, AKC staff.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Robert Amen gave the report as the Chairman of the Audit Committee. Mr. Farnsworth, and Joseph Baffuto, AKC staff, was present for this portion of the meeting. A number of AKC financial policies were mentioned, including the circumstances under which there are three bids required on department purchases, and the policies governing who may sign purchase orders, contracts and authorize payments, and when multiple signatures are required.

### **PENSIONS AND INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE**

Dr. Garvin reported the actions of the Pension and Investment Committee's July 2014, meeting. After reviewing management's investigation, the committee recommended that approximately 50% of AKC's Reserves for Future Liabilities (separate from any Pension Reserve funds) be managed by Goldman Sachs. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, Seconded by Mr. Menaker, it was VOTED (unanimously) to adopt this recommendation.

### **MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS continued**

The discussion on marketing and communications continued from the previous day. Chris Walker, AKC staff, was present for this presentation.

### **CONFORMATION**

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

#### **Reinstatement of a Dog Disqualified for Attacking**

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee which mandates a number of additional requirements and procedures for the disqualification and reinstatement of a dog disqualified under the provisions of Chapter 11, Section 8-A, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*.

The proposal would have amended the Rules to require:

1. That the dog has a permanent unique identification (microchip, tattoo, or some visible unique physical feature.) A dog without such unique identification would be ineligible for reinstatement.
2. That the dog remains in the ring until the unique identification is verified and the dog photographed.
3. That the same procedure would apply to dogs disqualified by Event Committees for attacking outside the ring.

The proposal also would have changed the reinstatement procedure to require:

1. That the reinstatement be done by AKC employees rather than judges.
2. That the reinstatement not be done at a show.
3. That the identification and photograph be checked and that the owner produces a rabies certificate and proof of insurance.
4. That AKC must notify all superintendents when a dog is disqualified.

In discussion, it was noted that an average 5/100 of 1% of the unique dogs shown each year are disqualified for attacking. Of the 77 dogs in conformation and obedience combined in 2013, which were disqualified for this reason, only 7 were reinstated, and only 5 of the 7 were shown again. It was also noted that no judge was required to serve on a reinstatement committee. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Cruz, it was VOTED (unanimously) to not approve the proposed rule change or the proposed changes in the reinstatement procedures.

#### **Use of Ramp in Judging Chow Chows**

Following a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Ashby, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the Chow Chow Club Inc.'s request for the Chow Chow to be added to the list of breeds expected to be judged on the ramp in breed, group and Best in Show judging effective January 1, 2015.

#### **Use of Ramp for Basset Hounds, Bulldogs and Chow Chows**

Following a motion by Mr. Dok, seconded by Mr. Ashby, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following revision to the Board Policy concerning the use of ramps.

*"By Board approved policy, Basset Hounds, Bulldogs and Chow Chows are expected to be judged on the ramp in all conformation competition associated with AKC conformation dog shows or at which AKC conformation titles may be earned, effective January 1, 2015"*

This policy extends to Junior Showmanship, the 4–6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition, the AKC National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS), and all other special attractions that offer Group and BIS competitions. Superintendents/Show Secretaries are expected to make available the proper number of ramps to support this AKC Board Policy

#### **Ramp at all Levels of Competition**

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, it was VOTED (unanimously) that effective January 1, 2015:

Designated ramp breeds may be examined on the ground (table if applicable) or on a ramp during breed, group and Best in Show judging at the sole discretion of the judge, not the exhibitor. The entire entry in that breed is to be examined on the ground (table) or on a ramp. Examination for a breed must be consistent; therefore, during breed judging, the entire entry in that breed is to be examined on the ground or on a ramp.

The above does not apply to Basset Hounds, Bulldogs, and Chow Chows, which were required to be judged on the ramp in all Conformation competition.

#### **Ramp Notification to Clubs and Superintendents**

The Board reviewed the communication that will be going to Superintendents advising them of the Board Policy that ramps as noted in the previous section, are to be provided at all levels of competition without exception, effective January 1, 2015.

#### **Prior Notification for the Ramp**

The current requirement for the optional use of a ramp at the discretion of the judge requires the judge to give prior notice of 5-10 business days.

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Powers, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Powers, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Dok, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Menaker, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Amen, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Wooding, Mr. Ashby, opposed: Dr. Garvin) to eliminate the prior notice requirement effective for shows held on and after January 1, 2015.

#### **Letter to Parent Clubs - Ramps**

The Board instructed staff to write to the parent clubs of breeds currently on the "ramp breeds list" and ask them to determine if they want their breed to be judged on the ramp at all levels of competition (breed, group, BIS Jr, Showmanship and 4-6 month competition, and NOHS

competition). Staff will also inquire if the parent club prefers that the ramp remain optional at the discretion of the judge or does the parent club wish that the ramp be expected for their breed. It was moved by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Arnold, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to give clubs until March 15, 2105 to reply with the expected effective date of July 1, 2015. Once a club makes the determination, the Board suggest that there be a period of at least five years before it be changed. The decision of each Parent Club would be implemented with no further AKC Board vote required.

### **Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2 - Territories**

The Board reviewed proposed revisions to Chapter 2, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, that allows a club territory exclusivity for a given period of time around their event(s). This proposal was drafted by a subcommittee of the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) and the Delegate All-Breed committee and approved by the DSRC. Clubs would be required to hold events in their territory to retain exclusivity, and only provides exclusivity for a defined period of time surrounding the show date. The period suggested for exclusivity is ninety (90) days, a period of sixty (60) days before and thirty (30) days after each show.

The proposed rule changes also provide for an appeal process for clubs which have had permission to continue holding shows in the area if the host club withdraws its permission. The AKC Board would make the determination whether such withdrawal was unreasonable or not. Staff was directed to contact the Dog Show Rules and All-Breed Clubs Committees with the final proposal for final input before the AKC Board votes on it.

### **Minimum Event Application Fee for Independent Specialties**

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Sports & Events Department to establish a minimum event application fee of \$25 for independent specialty shows with an entry of 30 or less at the prior year's corresponding event. Currently there is no application fee for these events. For events with more than 30 entries the application fee is \$50. Prior to 2014, this same "low entry—no fee" rate also applied to Companion Events. This was changed to a minimum application of \$25 effective January 1, 2014. This recommendation will make independent specialties consistent with Companion Events. This will be discussed further at the February 2015 Board meeting.

### **Judging Approval Process**

There was a discussion on a revised judging approval process, which a majority of the Board supported.

There was a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Ashby, and it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Kalter, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Wooding, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Powers, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Amen, Mr. Dok, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Menaker; opposed: Dr. Garvin) to distribute the proposal in its present form as widely as possible with a twenty-one day period for input. It will be posted on the AKC website and sent by email to judges, Parent Clubs, All-Breed Clubs, Delegates, and Exhibitors. This will include an Overview, the Proposal and a FAQ on the proposal.

### **The Retirement of a Kennel Name**

In September, as part of the Consent Agenda, the Board had VOTED not to retire the Salilyn kennel name. It was requested that the Board reconsider this decision. The Salilyn, had been registered by Mrs. Julie Gasow, a prominent English Springer Spaniel breeder. Mrs. Gasow had the name from 1951 until 1996 when it was allowed to lapse, making it available for any registrant to use.

Since then many English Springer Spaniels have been registered using this name and since 2007 twenty-one dogs of the twenty-five with the name have been registered to two individuals. Under Board policy, a kennel name no longer registered may only be retired if it has not been regularly used by others in the naming of dogs in the applicant's breed. This will be considered further at a future meeting.

### **Point Schedule Recommendations and Options**

Based on a request from the Board, the Event Operations staff evaluated the current point schedule formulation process and the method of using the point schedule to award points. The staff identified several potential alternatives to the current processes. The Board reviewed a proposal to eliminate from the point schedule calculation the breed judging within fifty miles and plus or minus three days of parent club judging for the same breed. Parent club events are currently not included in the points schedule calculation and the proposed change would eliminate the impact of parent club shows on nearby events. The Board will review this proposal further at the next Board meeting.

Other potential changes were discussed such as removing all specialty events from the points schedule calculation process, allowing different combinations of points and majors to attain a championship, and awarding points for placing in group. Many of the other alternatives focused on changes to enable low-entry breeds earn points in a fair way. One proposal would require a rule change. It would increase the chances of the Best of Winners receiving points in low-entry breeds. Under the proposal, if there was no major in either sex for a breed, the dogs of both sexes which actually competed, would be applied to the point schedule for the breed/variety and sex of the Best of Winners to determine the numbers of points awarded. A maximum of three points would be awarded with this alternative calculation. Staff was directed to contact the Parent Clubs, All-Breed Clubs, and Dog Show Rules Delegate Committees for their input on this proposal.

### **Communications Plan for OCMS**

A new version of AKC's Online Customer Management System (OCMS) is scheduled to launch in January 2015. The plans to promote the release were discussed.

### **Event Applications Submitted on Paper**

Given the roll-out of the new Online Customer Management System (OCMS) in January 2015, the Board requested that staff look into when AKC should start charging clubs an additional processing fee for an event application submitted on paper. This will be considered further after the implementation of the new OCMS.

### **JUDGING OPERATIONS**

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

#### **Breed Exams**

Based on a request from the Board, staff contacted a premier testing service and obtained estimates for the development of comprehensive breed tests for 180 breeds and varieties. This was discussed in detail.

#### **Conformation Judging Application Quarterly Statistics**

The Judging Operations staff provided the Board with statistics relating to conformation judging applications that were presented to the Judges Review Committee between July and September 2014. There were 13 new breed applicants, and 45 additional breed applicants

### **COMPLIANCE**

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

### **COMPANION & PERFORMANCE**

Doug Ljungren, Pam Manaton, and Mari-Beth O'Neill, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference. Dr. Burch and Carrie DeYoung, AKC staff, participated by telephone conference.

## **Tracking**

The Companion Events Staff presented four recommendations that are meant to reduce the administrative burden on clubs holding tracking tests. Following discussion, there was a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Gladstone) to approve the following changes to the *Tracking Regulations*: Chapter 1, Section 8 – to allow participants to wear club clothing, AKC event clothing, and/or clothing with their name or their dog's name. (No titles allowed.)

**Chapter 1 Section 8. Clothing/Identification.** Club clothing or AKC event wear may be worn by anyone exhibiting a dog or by test workers. Clothing may display the person's name, the dog's call name and/or the dog's picture. Dog specific titles may not be displayed. Writing or graphics on the clothing must not be in poor taste or contain profanity. Clothing must not display any information that would be in conflict with a sponsor of the trial. Note: Tracking titles that appear as part of a club logo are allowed

**Chapter 1, Section 17d.** – To simplify the determination of the number of tracks that can be reserved for workers at previous tests.

<b><u># Tracks</u></b>	<b><u># of Workers Tracks Offered</u></b>
1 – 2	0
3 - 5	1
6 – 8	2
9 – 11	3
12 or more	4

**Chapter 2, Section 4** - to reduce the minimum time required between plotting and the running of the track to 12 hours.

**Chapter 2 Section 4.** .....For each dog entered, a separate track will be plotted by one or both judges for a TD test and by both judges for TDU, TDX and VST tests at least 12 hours prior to the running of the track.

**Chapter 2, Section 19** to provide that once the track is completed, dogs are allowed to play with any of the articles and vehicles are allowed to be parked within 30 yards of the completion of the track.

**Chapter 2 Section 19. Food and Other Motivational Items on the Track.** Praise and petting of the dog are allowed after the dog finds the article(s). However, exhibitors will not excessively play with articles as toys, toss them to the dog, or throw them on the ground, which may be construed as a restart. Once the track is complete, playing with any of the articles is allowed.

The only items permitted on the tracking field are those items considered by the judges to be essential to the conduct of the test, and permitted by these *Regulations*. Judges will not allow motivational items for a dog, including but not limited to food, balls, or toys, to be used or carried within 30 yards of any track. The

carrying or use of food or other motivational items for the dog by the handler on a track requires that the dog be failed and excused from the tracking test

### **AKC ROM Type Program**

In June the Sports & Events Department introduced the idea of an AKC Registry of Merit (ROM) titling program. Staff did not recommend adopting the Parent Cub ROM procedures, due to the vast differences in their make-up, but believe an AKC-ROM type program can be of significant value to AKC and AKC breeders. Staff will continue to research an AKC Form and Function ROM-type program which will be given a name other than Rom to avoid confusion with parent club ROM programs.

Mary Burch, AKC Staff, participated in the next portion of the meeting via telephone and Daphna Straus, AKC Staff participated in person.

### **CGC Program Update**

Staff provided an update regarding the CGC program. 2014 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program. Over 700,000 dogs have passed the CGC test.

### **Agility Clubs Becoming Member Clubs**

To date AKC has not received an application for AKC membership from an Agility Club. Feedback from clubs is that the clubs do not see the value of being a member club. While the initial cost is nominal, the cost of sending a delegate to the meetings can be expensive. They do not think it is a good use of their resources. They feel the sport is being well managed as Regulations under the current system. They believe the field reps are approachable and listen to their input, and they feel the periodic advisory committee system process is successful and is a logical and organized way to provide input for change.

### **REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT**

Mark Dunn participated in this portion of the meeting. He updated the Board on the development of a new breeder recognition program with the emphasis on health.

### **CONSENT**

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

### **Delegates Approved**

Carlee McLane, Delray Beach, FL  
To represent Boca Raton Dog Club

Marie Henke, Wadsworth, OH  
To represent Medina Kennel Club

Stephen P. Hersey, Hampton, NH  
To represent Skye Terrier Club of America

Robert Lachman, Norwalk, CT  
To represent Upper Potomac Valley Kennel Club

Kathryn Warner, Kent, OH  
To represent All-Breed Training Club of Akron

Julie A. Wilson, Grimes, IA  
To represent Des Moines Obedience Training Club

### **Club Membership Approved**

Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America  
196 Households, including 2 non-voting Households  
First Licensed Show- May 3, 2013  
Bylaws are acceptable

The approval of membership to be voted on by the Delegates at the December 2014 meeting.

### **Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 1 – Limited Registration**

The Board VOTED to approve the following changes to *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 11, Section 1 – Limited Registration – to change the timeframe of when a limited registration must be removed for a dog to compete in a breed competition. (Changes underlined)

**SECTION 1.** No dog shall be exhibited in a licensed or member dog show, unless it is either individually registered in the AKC Stud Book, or individually registered with a foreign registry organization whose pedigrees are acceptable for AKC registration. A dog with an AKC limited Registration shall be ineligible to be exhibited in a breed competition in a licensed or member dog show.

This will be read at the December Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the March Delegate meeting

### **Match Regulations – Chapter 2, Section 10**

The Board VOTED to revise Chapter 2, Section 10 of the *Match Regulations* to bring consistency to the *Match Regulations*. (Changes underlined)

**SECTION 10. AKC Publications.** All-Breed and Group clubs holding A or B matches must have the latest edition of the *Complete Dog Book* or the most recent set of applicable breed standards electronically or in hard copy at their match. Specialty clubs holding A or B matches are only required to have available a copy of their current breed standard electronically or in hard copy. All clubs holding a sanctioned match are required to have copies of the latest editions of these regulations, the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* and the *Obedience Regulations* if Obedience classes are being offered, and the most recent regulations for any other type of competition offered.

### **Coursing Ability Test Regulations**

The Board VOTED to make four (4) revisions to the *Coursing Ability Test Regulations* based on staff recommendations.

- 1) to increase the number of Coursing Ability Test (CAT) events that a club may hold from eight (8) to twelve (12) per year.
- 2) Allow the event committee, at their discretion, to require that hanging collar tags be taped up for safety.
- 3) Clarify that a dog that relieves itself on course shall fail the test.
- 4) Clarify that time ends when the dog completes the course.

(Changes underlined)

### **CHAPTER 15 of the Lure Coursing Regulations**

#### **Section 6. Making Event Application**

##### **Second paragraph.**

Events may be either stand-alone tests or may be held at the conclusion of a club's Lure Coursing event. In either case the Coursing Ability Test must be

applied for a separate event. If a club is concerned that entries may be more than can be accommodated, the club may state a numeric limit in the premium. The application fee shown on the form must accompany the application. A club may hold up to twelve (12) Coursing Ability Tests per calendar year. A club may hold no more than two Coursing Ability Tests on the same day. A test (as identified by an event number) must start and conclude on the same day.

**Section 10. Collar/Paraphernalia.**

Dogs may wear any collar except a choke collar, a collar with prongs or an electronic training collar. The collar should be snug to minimize the chances of getting hung up on something during the run. Owners should be aware that there is a chance that tags hanging from the collar could become entangled on something during the run. The event committee may, at its discretion, require securing the tags with tape or something similar to ensure the dog's safety. Owners may use clips or rubber bands to hold the dog's hair. The owner assumes responsibility for the safety of the dog with regard to the dog's collar and paraphernalia on the dog

**Section 11. Passing Performance**

Coursing Ability Test is a pass-fail event. In order to pass, the dog must complete the course with enthusiasm and without interruption within the maximum amount of time for the course length. A dog is considered to have failed the test if it relieves itself while on course. The time ends when the dog completes the required course. The judge keeps the official time and decides the merits of the dog's performance.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 4:00 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

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James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary