

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 11, 2013

The Board convened on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present. Also present were the Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Assistant Executive Secretary. Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Arnold, the October 2013 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were unanimously adopted.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2014 AKC Canine Health Foundation Donation

There was a discussion on AKC's matching funds donation to the AKC Canine Health Foundation.

AKC will provide a 1 to 1 dollar-amount match for any cash contribution collected from a new donor in 2014 up to \$500,000. AKC matching dollars will be only used for grants, however, regardless of the type of donation made by the new donor. A new donor is defined as a donor who has not contributed to AKC-CHF in the past 2 calendar years (i.e. 2012 and 2013) including their immediate family members or corporations or foundations for which they control or are on the board of. AKC will only match cash contributions or amounts that are readily convertible to cash within 30 days.

The funding will be based on quarterly statements to AKC with payments made each time as soon as possible, except for the last statement which is funded after the KPMG confirmation with a listing of new donors who qualify for the match as of December 31, 2014 together with a report from KPMG verifying the matching criteria was met for the year is received. Costs related to such service will be borne by AKC-CHF.

Therigenology Residency

The Chairman reported that AKC had received proposals for a residency in Therigenology at three veterinary schools at a cost of \$100,000 each. The American Kennel Club will fund this program beginning in 2014.

The universities are:

- Auburn University
- University of California, Davis
- University of Pennsylvania

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was a lengthy Executive Session to discuss sensitive business matters. Nothing was reported out of Executive Session.

APPEALS COMMITTEE

Mr. Arnold, Chair of the Board Appeals Committee, gave the following report:

Elaine Richman, appealed a suspension of AKC privileges for five years and a \$2,000 fine for violation of the AKC's Unauthorized Use of Club Funds Policy. The Appeals Committee determined that Ms. Richman's conduct was prejudicial to the sport of purebred dogs and her penalty was properly imposed. Therefore her appeal was denied.

Charlotte Chauvin appealed a suspension of AKC privileges for ten years and a \$2,000 fine for violation of the AKC's Inappropriate Treatment of Dogs Policy. The Appeals

Committee determined that Ms. Chauvin's conduct was prejudicial to the sport of purebred dogs and her penalty was properly imposed. Therefore her appeal was denied.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Tim Thomas, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Group Judging Policy

The Board adopted a policy at its October 2013 meeting enabling judges approved for breeds comprising of 80% of the entries in the group the previous year the ability to request approval to judge the group competition. An effective date could not be determined at that time as input from ISD was required. Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Wooding, it was VOTED (unanimously) to establish an effective date of April 1, 2014 for the 80% policy adopted by the Board at its October 2013 meeting. After the final calculations have been made for 2013, the percentage of each breed comprised in each group will be made available.

Judges Task Force

Dr. Garvin gave a report on the Judges Task Force. There were over three hundred responses to the previously distributed proposal for an "AKC Canine College," which would provide online educational opportunity for AKC judges. He reported that from 80 - 85% of those responding were positive. The initial bid to create this program was not financially feasible. Staff was directed to pursue this further to find something more cost-effective. A few volunteer Parent Clubs will be sought to help in the development of a small pilot project, which would include submission of photographs, videos, and details on any breed-specific examination techniques. Staff was to explore less costly ways to develop the "AKC Canine College."

Proposed Bylaw Amendment (Delegate Eligibility)

The Board reviewed a request from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5 of the AKC Bylaws to remove a number of occupations and activities which would make an individual ineligible to become or continue to serve as a Delegate under the current Bylaw.

The recommendation is to remove from the list:

1. Professional judges
2. Professional handlers and trainers
3. Employees of a dog food or dog supply company
4. Publishers and those soliciting kennel ads
5. Superintendents

The section as it would be amended in its entirety follows:

Any person in good standing with the AKC who is a resident citizen of the United States, its territories or possessions, or has permanent resident alien status as defined by the Immigration and Naturalization Act, shall be eligible to become or remain a Delegate, providing this person meets the criteria for occupational eligibility given herein. No person is eligible to become or remain a Delegate if he or she is engaged in trade or traffic in dogs, which includes commercial breeders or brokers of dogs for resale, has a significant interest in a dog registry, dog event giving organization or any organization deemed to be in competition with AKC or in conflict with its objects. Significant interest would include but not be limited to, ownership in, employment by, a directorship of, and holding an office in.

No person may become or remain a Delegate if convicted of a misdemeanor or felony involving the theft, embezzlement, or misappropriation of funds or property from The American Kennel Club, any

AKC subsidiary, or affiliated organization, or an AKC sanctioned, licensed or member club in a civil court action within the previous ten years. A conviction or admission of guilt or finding of liability in a court of competent jurisdiction within the last ten years, shall be deemed conclusive proof and shall be grounds for the disapproval of a Delegate candidate or the removal of a seated Delegate.

There was a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Amen, to send the proposal to the Delegates with Board approval. The motion failed with the VOTE (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Wooding, Mr. Amen, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Powers; opposed: Mr. Feeney, Mr. Arnold, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Arnold, Ms. Scully, Mr. Ashby.)

There was a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Mr. Feeney, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to send the proposal to the Delegates for a vote with no Board recommendation.

Criteria for Licensing Specialty Clubs

The Board reviewed a request from the Pekingese Club of New Jersey for an exception to Board Policy in order to progress from Plan A status to Licensed status. The current Board policy does not permit a Local specialty to be first approved for licensed events if it is within a 100 miles of the territory of an existing Specialty Club of the same breed. The Pekingese Club of New Jersey territory is about 30 miles from another Pekingese Specialty club's territory. There was no motion to modify or to make an exception to the current policy

CONFORMATION

Alan Slay and Bri Tesarz, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via telephone conference.

Multiple All-Breed or Limited-Breed Shows in One Day

The Board reviewed a recommendation for a pilot program which will allow clubs with relatively small entries to hold two shows in one day. There was a motion by, Ms. Cruz, seconded by Mr. Powers, and it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Newman, Mr. Amen, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Powers; Mr. Feeney, Mr. Arnold, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Wooding, Ms. Scully, Mr. Ashby; opposed: Dr. Garvin) to approve the implementation of the following pilot program which allows multiple All-Breed or Group shows in one day.

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. After one year of implementation, the success of the pilot program will be assessed and a report will be presented to the Board with a recommendation for future shows.

PILOT PROGRAM

The following limitations be placed on this pilot program:

- Available for shows held after May 1, 2014.
- Clubs that had a show of 500 entries or less the previous year are eligible for the pilot 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 & site.
- Clubs that participate in the pilot program will have the right to return to their original (corresponding) date(s) the following year. Failure to return to their original date the following year will result in forfeiture of ownership of the date. Other clubs may use the dates that are available due to participation in the pilot program, on a one-time approval basis.

CONSENT

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

Delegates Approved

Linda K. Barr, Winston-Salem, NC
To Winston-Salem Dog Training Club

James Duane Ellis, Sr., Cement City, MI
To represent Jaxon Kennel Club

Michael L. McClay, Dalton, MA
To represent Great Barrington Kennel Club

Sue McClure, Pensacola, FL
To represent Pensacola Dog Fanciers Association

John F. McCullagh, Skillman, NJ
To represent Blennerhassett Kennel Club

Geraldine M. Shastid, Amarillo, TX
To represent Panhandle Kennel Club

Marilyn R. Vinson, Glendale, AZ
To represent Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club

Lower Entry Fees for Juniors in Herding, Earthdog and Lure Coursing Events The Board VOTED to amend the *Herding Regulations*, *Earthdog Regulations*, *Regulations for Lure Coursing Tests and Trials*, and *Regulations for Coursing Ability Tests*, to allow clubs holding Herding, Earthdog and Lure Coursing events, at their discretion, to provide lower entry fees for dogs handled by Juniors. A Junior Handler must be younger than 18 years of age. This change becomes effective immediately for events that have not yet published their premium.

HERDING REGULATIONS
SECTION 13. CLOSING OF ENTRIES

A club must treat all entrants in a similar manner. No club or member of a club shall offer special consideration to an entrant. This includes but is not limited to special treatment regarding entering an event, special treatment during the draw or any financial or in-kind incentive. Exception – with regard to entering an event, specialty clubs may give preference to their breed.

Except a club, at its discretion, may allow for a reduced entry fee for dogs handled by juniors. The reduced entry fee may only apply to specific classes or may apply to all classes in the trial. The reduced entry fee shall be published in the premium list. A junior is defined as someone less than 18 years of age on the first day of the event. The junior must handle the dog in the class to qualify for the reduced entry fee. If the dog is entered under this provision but the junior does not handle the dog, the owner must pay the regular entry fee as published.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Christopher Walker, Staff, gave a presentation on a new Marketing initiative.

COMPLIANCE

Margaret Poindexter, and Jack Norton, AKC Staff, participated in this section of the meeting.

AKC Discipline Guidelines

The Board of Directors requested staff review the penalties set forth in the *AKC Discipline Guidelines* for the violation of attempting to influence a judge, in order to make the mitigated penalty less punitive. Staff recommended that the range of penalties for this violation be modified to the following:

Mitigated	Standard	Aggravated
Reprimand/\$200	1 year/ \$500	5 year /\$1000

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Scully, it was VOTED (unanimously) to adopt it.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

BREEDER RECOGNITION

Mark Dunn, AKC Staff, gave a presentation on initiatives being taken to recognize all breeders who complied with AKC best practices, but who might not be able to meet the Breeder of Merit requirements.

Following the Board's request, Mark Dunn, AKC Staff, gave a presentation on initiatives being considered to improve the overall health and well-being of purebred dogs and to increase the chances that a buyer will receive a healthy puppy from an AKC breeder. Staff plans to present a program business case to the Board as soon as February 2014.

REGISTRATION TRANSFER FEES

The Board considered a proposal from the Delegate Parent Clubs Committee to reduce the transfer fee to add or remove a Junior Handler as a co-owner of a dog.

Following discussion, there was a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. Scully, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to make the transfer fee to add or remove a Junior Handler as a co-owner of a dog \$10.00, effective February 1, 2014.

It was VOTED to adjourn Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 5:50 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary