



AUGUST 2025

gazette

Treasures from
the Archives

National Specialties
Coverage



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As summer begins to wind down, there's still plenty to celebrate in the world of dogs.

Last month, the country's top dogs and handlers came together for an exciting weekend of competition at the 2025 AKC National Obedience Championship and AKC Rally National Championship. Held July 3–7 at the Purina Events Center in Gray Summit, Missouri, these prestigious events drew more than 800 dogs from across the nation.

Congratulations to the 2025 AKC National Obedience Champion, OTCH2 Maranatha's Like A Man Possessed UDX2 OM3—better known as Zesty—a talented Labrador Retriever skillfully handled by Petra Ford of Washington, New Jersey. Also deserving of high praise is the 2025 AKC Rally National Champion, OTCH2 RACH3 Summer

Brook Nothing But Love UDX2 PCDX OM5 RM7 RAE7 AXP OJP CGC—known as Tara—a Golden Retriever expertly handled by Karen Summers of Chelsea, Alabama. Their outstanding performance and teamwork truly reflect the essence of these sports.

To every exhibitor and the incredible dogs who participated—thank you for making the event so inspiring. Obedience and

Rally are shining examples of the special bond and trust between dog and handler, and it's always a joy to witness that connection in action. (See event coverage on page 8.)

Looking ahead, our Public Education department is hosting a free webinar, “How to Run an Open Show,” on August 13. Led by AKC Delegate Nancy Nelson, this informative session will cover everything

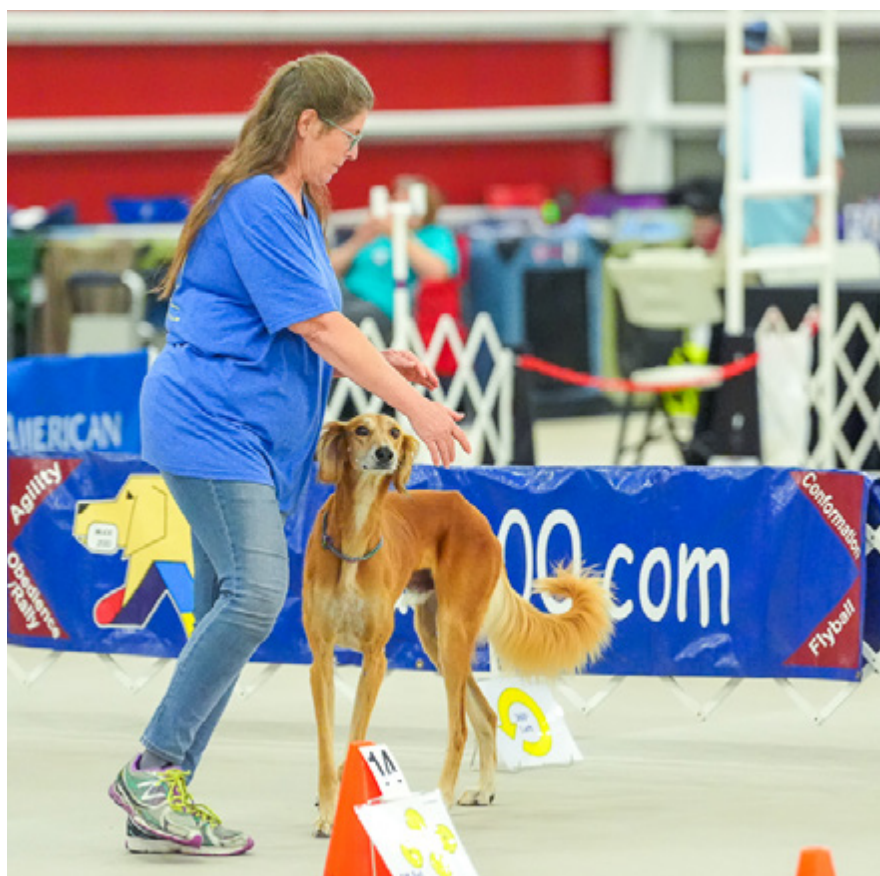


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



you need to know about organizing and managing an open show. You can sign up [here](#). This webinar is just one of many resources offered year-round by our AKC Education team, who provide a wide range of online courses for breeders, judges, trainers, groomers, and dog lovers alike.

Don't forget to explore AKC.tv—our 24/7 digital channel dedicated to all things dog. From live shows and original series to content on training, canine health, breed information, and more, AKC.tv has something for everyone. Whether



you're an experienced exhibitor or a new dog enthusiast, you can stream AKC.tv anytime on your computer, tablet, Roku, or smart TV. To learn more, visit [AKC.tv](#).

As we move into the coming months, there are countless opportunities to learn, connect, and celebrate the extraordinary bond between dogs and their people. Whether you're stepping into the ring or

enjoying time at home with your dog, the American Kennel Club is here to support you every step of the way.

Thank you for being part of the AKC community and for your continued commitment to the sport of purebred dogs.

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Your Memories Are Our History

We recently posted to Facebook an Evelyn Shafer photo from 1950, showing young Anne Rogers at the dawn of her brilliant career as a professional handler. As hoped, the photo, not published in 75 years, released a flurry of comments recalling the great lady.

Olivia, from Migerah Collies, replied with a photo of her own and commented, “I bought this on eBay years ago for \$20 ... It is one of the Best in Shows won by Ch. Pixiecroft Sunbeam, the miniature poodle that Mrs. Anne Rogers Clark was showing the last year of her professional handling career. This one was from March 20, 1964, Durham KC. The Breed Judge was Mr. Alva Rosenberg, Group/BIS Judge was Mr. Phil Marsh. Mrs. Clark was handling ‘Sunnie’ her last show as a professional handler at Westminster 1965,



winning the group under judge Mr. Percy Roberts.”

Several more comments recalled Mrs. Clark as a distinguished judge. This from Roberta Kuhn Loman: “Won my very first BOB back in the late 70s under Mrs. Clark in a strong entry. I was clueless, but she found my dog in spite of me.”

Such firsthand recollections help the GAZETTE write and preserve the history of our sport. Join us on [Facebook](#) and put your memories on the record.



**On Our
Cover:**
Welsh Terrier
Courtesy
[Lynda Beam](#)

Obedience, Rally *Crown* 2025 Champs

GRAY SUMMIT, OHIO—National Champions were crowned from an overall combined entry of 800-plus dogs at the 31st annual AKC National Obedience Championship and AKC Rally National Championship, held July 3–7 at the Purina Events Center.

The AKC National Obedience Championship saw dog-and-handler teams from 32 states, representing 41 breeds. After two days of top-notch competition, Labrador Retriever Zesty, OTCH2, Maranatha's Like a Man Possessed, UDX2, OM3, emerged as 2025 National Obedience Champion, owned and handled by Petra Ford, of Washington, New Jersey.

"I can't even believe it. I'm exhausted—I showed two dogs, but I'm overwhelmed right now. I was absolutely not expecting this," Ford

said with tears streaming down her face.

At 5 years old, it was Zesty's first time at the AKC Championship. Ford was not even sure he would make it to the second day. "He's still young and inexperienced, so it's a bit of a shock—in a good way," the veteran obedience handler said. "He tried his little heart out for me."

Ford is no stranger to the AKC Championship ring: Her Lab Tyler won the event in 2008 and 2009.

In the rally ring, Golden Retriever OTCH2/RACH3 Summer Brook Nothing But Love, UDX2, PCDX, OM5, RM7, RAE7, AXP, OJP, CGC (Tara), took the National Champion crown. "She's already completed a couple of OTCHs, and she loves to do rally," owner-handler Karen Summers, of Chelsea, Alabama, said.

At 9 years old, it may well



Petra Ford and Zesty



Karen Summers and Tara

have been Tara's retirement run. "Next year I'm afraid she's going to be too old," Summers said. "She's already slowing down on the jumps, so really, this was her last chance. It's wonderful to end on such a high note."

Results

UPDATES

AKC.tv Event Roundup

AKC.tv will present livestreamed coverage of the [Greeley KC](#) show on August 16, from 3 P.M. to 8 P.M.

Also at [AKC.tv](#), enjoy the archived coverage of these recent events:

Waukesha KC

Woofstock

Dalmatian Club of America

Lone Star State Classic

AKC Obedience and Rally National Championships



COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

This month: Live from Greeley!

THE ONE BOOK EVERY DOG LOVER NEEDS



The most successful dog book ever published, with over two million copies sold, **The New Complete Dog Book** is the American Kennel Club's bible of dogs, a celebration of every breed—over 200 recognized by the AKC.

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Available at *Amazon* or in the AKC Shop at shop.akc.org

UPDATES

ISCA Goes All In on Canine Health

The AKC Canine Health Foundation has announced a \$170,000 gift from the Irish Setter Club of America Foundation.

The Health Committee of the ISCA, formed to address matters of wellbeing for Irish Setters, conducts surveys to determine prevalent health problems in the breed community and provides research funds for the topics of most importance.

The CHF is the main recipient of this research funding from the ISCA Foundation.

The gift includes full funding of a research grant at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine for water-based cooling strategies to aid dogs experiencing exercise-induced hyperthermia.

The gift is in honor of Sue Mertens, a breeder and



Tatham photo, 1996; ISCA collection/AKC Archives

ardent lover of Irish Setters, who died in 2020. Mertens and her Heartsong Irish Setters excelled in performance and conformation.

“No doubt Sue would be delighted that a study being conducted by Dr. Cynthia Otto, which will have a great impact on how owners can assist their dogs by using cooling strategies, is being supported in her honor,” ISCA Health Committee chair Anne Marie Kubacz says.

The ISCA Foundation was attracted to fully funding this grant because it would give owners techniques they could use if their dogs suffered from hyperthermia at a dog event or at home.

The remainder of the dona-

tion will be put toward eight other grants across multiple research programs. With this donation, the [Irish Setter Club of America](#) has contributed \$1,477,000 to the CHF since 2002.

CHF Chief Executive Officer Stephanie Montgomery says, “We are honored to be entrusted with this incredibly generous donation.

“This gift will be put to good use, funding research that improves the lives of Irish Setters and all dogs everywhere.

“Every donation, big or small, makes a permanent impact on canine health and furthers our vision of a world where all dogs can lead healthier, more vibrant lives.”



“Oil artworks are among the most famous visual arts around the world. Oil paint is created by mixing various pigments with a binding oil such as poppy seed or linseed oil. Many masters created their most famous works using oil painting on canvas as the medium.

“The history of oil painting dates as far back as the 7th century, and since then artists have left behind an admirable legacy of beautiful and famous

oil paintings.”—Isabella Meyer, artincontext.org

Rembrandt, Vermeer, and Velázquez are but a few masters who immortalized their subjects in oils. Within the niche of dog painting, or “sporting art,” such artists as Maud Earl, Gustav Muss-Arnolt, and Arthur Wardle were among the masters of this versatile but demanding technique. Here we present some favorites from the AKC collection done in oils, from 1895 to 1986.

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



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Rocky Mountain High

The 2025 Irish Water Spaniel National Specialty



WC/WCX hunt
test participants

The Irish Water Spaniel Club of America took the show on the road for our national specialty this year. The venue was stunning: Estes Park, Colorado, famous for its surrounding snow-capped mountain peaks and herds of elk claiming the streets and yards as their territory. It was a toss-up whether the out-of-state members who



Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park was a highlight of specialty week.

traveled the shortest distance came from Arkansas

or Oklahoma, but we still had a lovely entry, robust

COURTESY JEREMY KEZER / DANA LOUITT / IWSCA

RINGSIDE



Some of the awards



GAZETTE breed columnist Dana Louttit with her Award of Merit IWS

attendance, and lots of activities to enjoy.

The “big” winners were GCh.B Poole’s Ide By Design, owned by Greg Siner and Stephanie O’Reilly, and bred by Greg Siner, Hannah Loonsk, and Bethany Urban

(national specialty, judge Paula Nykiel); and GCh.B Flintcrest Five Star General, CGC, TKN, owned by Stacy Duncan and Cat Shelby, and bred by Colleen McDaniel and Stacy Duncan (regional specialty, judge Tara Darling-Lyon).

Congratulations to Skeeter and Grant and their teams, and to Greg Siner on his 19th Irish Water Spaniel national specialty win!

The many talents of the breed were showcased throughout the week in agility, scent work, obedi-

RINGSIDE

ence, rally, conformation, and field events. Many IWS were entered in multiple venues. Just a few of many examples of IWS versatility and durability were three

veterans: the conformation Gun Bitch, who took the agility High in Trial award and ran the WCX field test; the IWS dog with the most Best in Shows in his-

tory, who took agility High in Trial Preferred, and the Select Bitch who ran in the WC and WCX tests and served as bye and pickup dog for everyone else.

Of course it was not just the dogs who had fun. The hardworking and imaginative specialty committee put on a smooth four-day party. The highlight was a cowboy-themed regional specialty, with handlers who dressed the part, Western-motif ribbons, spectacular glass trophies by Cat Shelby, and a delicious ringside BBQ dinner. And there was still time for side trips into nearby Rocky Mountain National Park, and s'mores at the hotel fire pits at night.

Too soon, it was time to pack up and head home, inspired to see what else we can do with our dogs while we count the days until the next IWSCA national specialty in Champion, Pennsylvania, May 12–16, 2026. —Dana Louttit, [Irish Water Spaniel Club of America](#)



English Cocker 2025 National

A Merry Time in New England

Tails and hearts were merry as English Cocker Spaniels and their people gathered in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, in late May for the [English Cocker Spaniel Club of America](#) annual national specialty (with working tests held in Barnstead, New Hampshire). [Tanner Congleton of Congleton Photography](#) was ringside and captured many wonderful images; we're delighted to be able to share a few here. Kudos to all the members of the national and regional breed clubs whose hard work made for a very enjoyable and memorable week. —A.P.



TANNER CONGLETON / CONGLETON PHOTOGRAPHY

RINGSIDE



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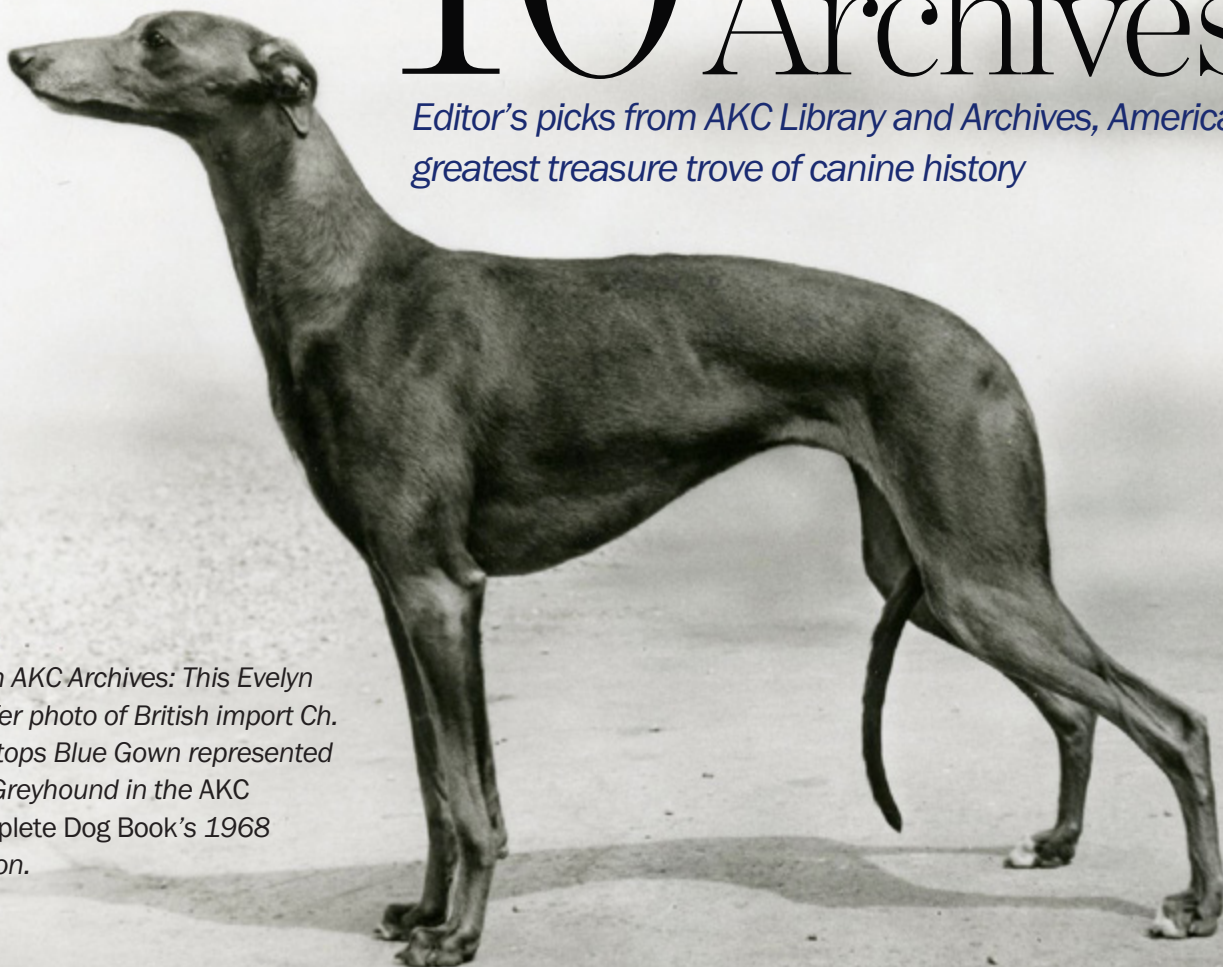
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10 from the Archives

Editor's picks from AKC Library and Archives, America's greatest treasure trove of canine history

From AKC Archives: This Evelyn Shafer photo of British import Ch. Treetops Blue Gown represented the Greyhound in the AKC Complete Dog Book's 1968 edition.



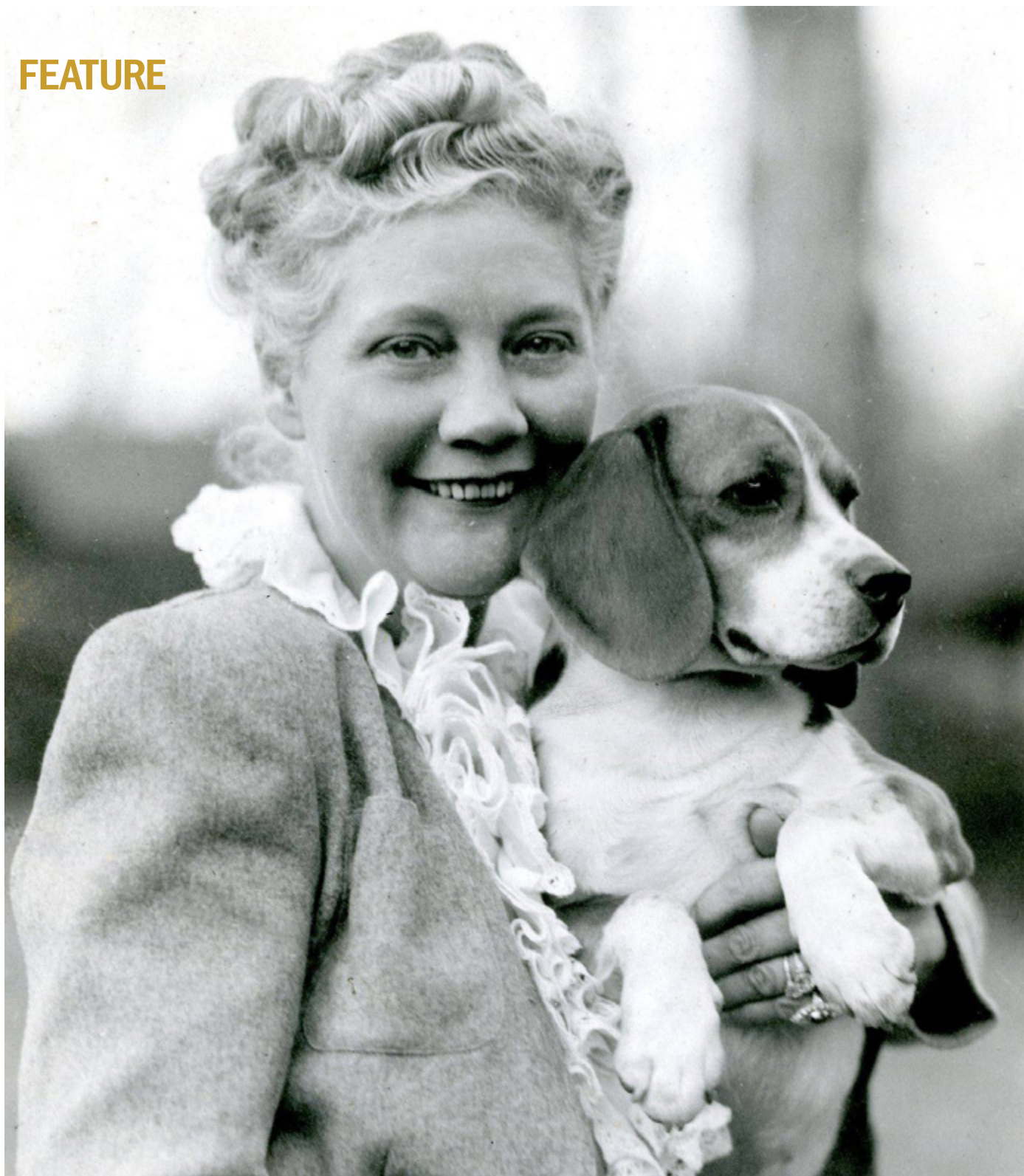
For decades the [AKC Library and Archives](#) has been a go-to resource for GAZETTE writers, editors, and artists working on historical stories.

Usually when searching the Archives photo file, we pull more images than we can use. Here, we present 10 Archives images that were earmarked for recent historical stories but, for purely practical reasons, wound up on the cutting-room floor.

Sinatra: A Very Good Year

Eastern Dog Club, 1947: Beagle Ch. Duke Sinatra won his 35th Best of Breed, eighth group, and a Best in Show over a record entry of 1,350 dogs. To celebrate the occasion, owner Alice

FEATURE



Hess commissioned this Rudolph Tauskey portrait. It is a rarity in the Archives collection: one of the few

Tauskey portraits to depict both dog and owner.

Sinatra was a studly sire and one of his breed's

top winners almost two decades before Beagles became a force in the show ring.

FEATURE

Archives Annie

A highlight of AKC Archives is a file of classic photos from the estate of Anne Rogers Clark, donated by the [Poodle Club of America](#). In this Evelyn Shafer photo we see Annie with Ch. Fontclair Festoon, Best of Breed under Percy Roberts at Westminster, 1959. She would go on to handle Festoon to Best in Show, the second of her three Garden wins.

Annie had made history in 1956 as the first female pro handler to show a Westminster BIS, but she was overwhelmed by this



win three years later. “Hard-bitten professionals can be emotional, too,” she said.

Learning from the Master

From the collection of Tom and Kay Gately, housed in AKC Archives, is a portrait of 1930s champion Sealyham Terrier Ch. Felcourt Memory of Brushwood. This early-career work by William Brown shows the influence of Tauskey, with hand retouching of the background and the lower fringe of the coat. A close look at the neck will show that the lead has been painted out,



FEATURE

another Tauskey touch employed by Brown.

Long, Low Legend

In the grooming area, handler Hans Sachers shows off his Best in Show dog, Am./Can. Ch. Herman

Rinkton, at Mississippi Valley KC, 1939.

The charismatic Dachshund was shown 113 times, taking 100 Bests of Variety, 66 groups, and 9 Bests in Show.

Breed authority Herman

Cox wrote that Herman's record was "of secondary importance when we evaluate its effect on the breed during these formative years. The promotion and publicity generated by Herman Rinkton's sensational



FEATURE

career was responsible for improving the image and public acceptance of the Dachshund in America.”

Newfies Fit for a King

In 1963, this Newfoundland pup and two siblings were acquired from Little Bear Kennels by King Hassan II of Morocco. Before the pups were whisked off to Rabat by private jet, this photo was taken by top fashion photographer Sidney Sokolsky. When not photographing the world’s most elegant models, Sokolsky was an



exhibitor of high-quality Newfoundlands, including

breed legend Am./Can./Berm. Ch. Newton.



With Aplomb

Standard Poodle Ch. Pillicoc Aplomb, following his 1940 Best in Show at Santa Anita KC, sits for Hollywood photographer Lansdowne. The girl is Martha Doerr, whose mother Mrs. Albert Doerr was president of the Junior League of Pasadena, the show’s sponsor.

FEATURE



The Portuguese Lion

In 1992, Int./Am. Ch. Pinehaven's on the Town (Dillon) won the first-ever [Portuguese Water Dog Club of America](#) national specialty—and he won it again as a veteran four years later. He was a sire of champions for breeders Bev and Tom Rafferty.

Dillon is seen here in Estoril, Portugal, modeling the lion clip he popularized in the American show ring.

One for the Books

English Setter Ch. Sturdy Max went Best at Morris

& Essex in 1937 over an entry of 4,104 dogs. He was sponsored by the Sturdy Dog Food company in the years before the AKC

banned corporate ownership of show dogs. Max sired Daro of Maridor, who at 11 months won Westminster's 1938 Best in Show from the classes before a Garden crowd of 15,000.

This Tauskey photo of Max represented the English Setter in every edition of the AKC *Complete Dog Book* from 1941 to well into the '90s.

Ying Ying the Great

Shih Tzu history was made on September 1, 1969, when gold-and-white Chumulari Ying Ying went Best in Show at [New](#)



FEATURE



[Brunswick KC](#) over 970 dogs entered.

What made this achievement truly remarkable was that it was the breed's first day of AKC Toy Group competition. Alva Rosenberg judged the breed, and Jim Trullinger judged both the group and BIS.

The Reverend D. Allan Easton, who owned Ying Ying with his wife, Peggy Easton, wrote in *Popular Dogs*, "We are proud that Ying Ying should have been honored by two judges whom we have long respected for their ability to pick good dogs without fear or favor." **GZ**

Links

- [Archival Collections](#)
- [Digital Collections](#)
- [Reference Requests, Collection Access, Parent Club Submissions](#)
- [Library Catalog](#)
- [FAQs](#)



"The judge should always be courteous, just as the exhibitor should always be courteous, just as people should always be courteous."

Dog-show courtesy was a popular topic with our parent-club breed columnists of the 1990s. Among the many columns of the period to address proper ring decorum was this one, from the July 1990 GAZETTE, by the [Irish Setter Club of America's Mari Silveus](#).

It was the teenage girl's first show with her new show puppy. The puppy was fairly well trained—for a puppy. The girl had worked hard with him. But in the ring, she was obviously new to the sport and a little confused.

When the judge told the

exhibitor to go "down and back," the girl misunderstood and started to follow the exhibitor in front of her. "The judge rudely grabbed her arm," one spectator described, "and looked disgusted, like she had done something inexcusable."

Fortunately, the girl is not

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

TIMES PAST

one easily discouraged. After all, she had done nothing inexcusable. The judge had.

Is it all right for judges to be rude? How many times have you shown under judges who mumble instructions and then seem annoyed when you ask, “Excuse me, did you say *down and back*?” How many times have you shown under judges who seem to think that a twirl of the hand or nod of the head is universal body language? What can exhibitors do about rude judges?

Certainly for a judge who judges every weekend, it is easy to understand how giving the same instructions over and over could become tiresome. But this should not excuse rudeness. Without question, a judge must first possess and apply expert knowledge, but that alone does not make a good judge. Because judging purebred dogs is not just a job dealing with dogs, it is also a job dealing with people, because a dog and his person often one entity,



“The sport should be a fun one, because the very nature of the dogs is fun.”

each an extension of the other’s ego.

And what fun is it to show under a grouchy judge? The sport should be a fun one, because the very nature of the dogs is fun.

Whether it is the exhibitor’s first or fiftieth time in the ring the judge should always be courteous, just as the exhibitor should always be courteous, just as people should always be courteous.

It was the girl’s second time in the ring. She was obviously still new at this, but a little less confused. The judge gave her plenty of time to stack her puppy,

and a smile of encouragement. The girl made a mistake gaiting her dog. But instead of grabbing her, the judge gently laid her hand upon the girl’s arm and explained what she had done wrong, so she would learn from her mistake.

Fortunately, there are more judges like this.

There may be nothing exhibitors can do about rude judges—except not show under them. But what you can do is thank the courteous ones and let them know what a pleasure it is showing under them—even if you lose.—**M.S.**

ROBERT YOUNG ©AKC



The Big Finish

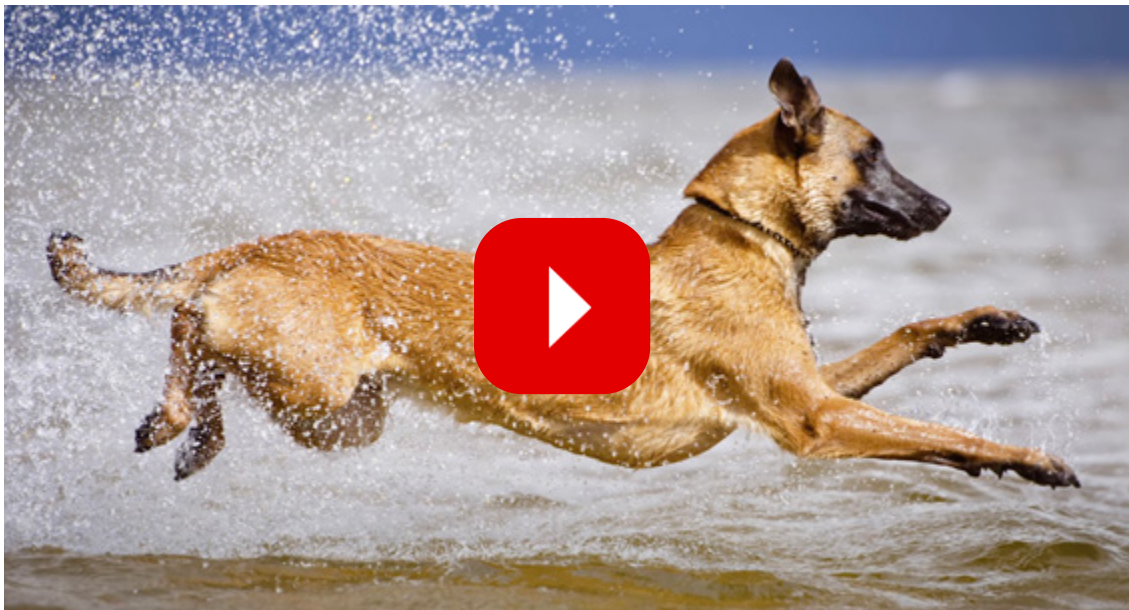
AKC.tv covers the exciting conclusion of the Kentuckiana Cluster, judged by Paula Nykiel.
15:09



Go Get It, Boy!

Paula Ratoza presents a primer on the [AKC Fetch](#) program. 7:00

VIDEOS



Loyal, Devoted, Courageous

"Meet the Belgian Malinois," the latest from the AKC's breed video series. 2:06



A Scottie Was Best

From Historycentral, freshly restored footage of Mamie's BIS at Westminster, 1965. 1:32

VIDEOS



Well-Bred Art

The [AKC Museum of the Dog](#)'s Alan Fausel discusses the history of purebreds, breeding, and registrations as captured in art. 24:38



The Bloom of Youth

Classic breed portraits shot by Mary Bloom in 1996 for the AKC Complete Dog Book for Kids.

Dr. H. Scott Kellogg

Of the first 20 Westminster Best in Show dogs, 17 were terriers. Since those early days, terriers have been a force in the show ring. Among the esteemed judges who specialize in these feisty showmen is Dr. Kellogg, of Maryland, who sits on the Kerry Blue Terrier Club Board of Governors. Kellogg judges the Terrier Group at Devon later this year.

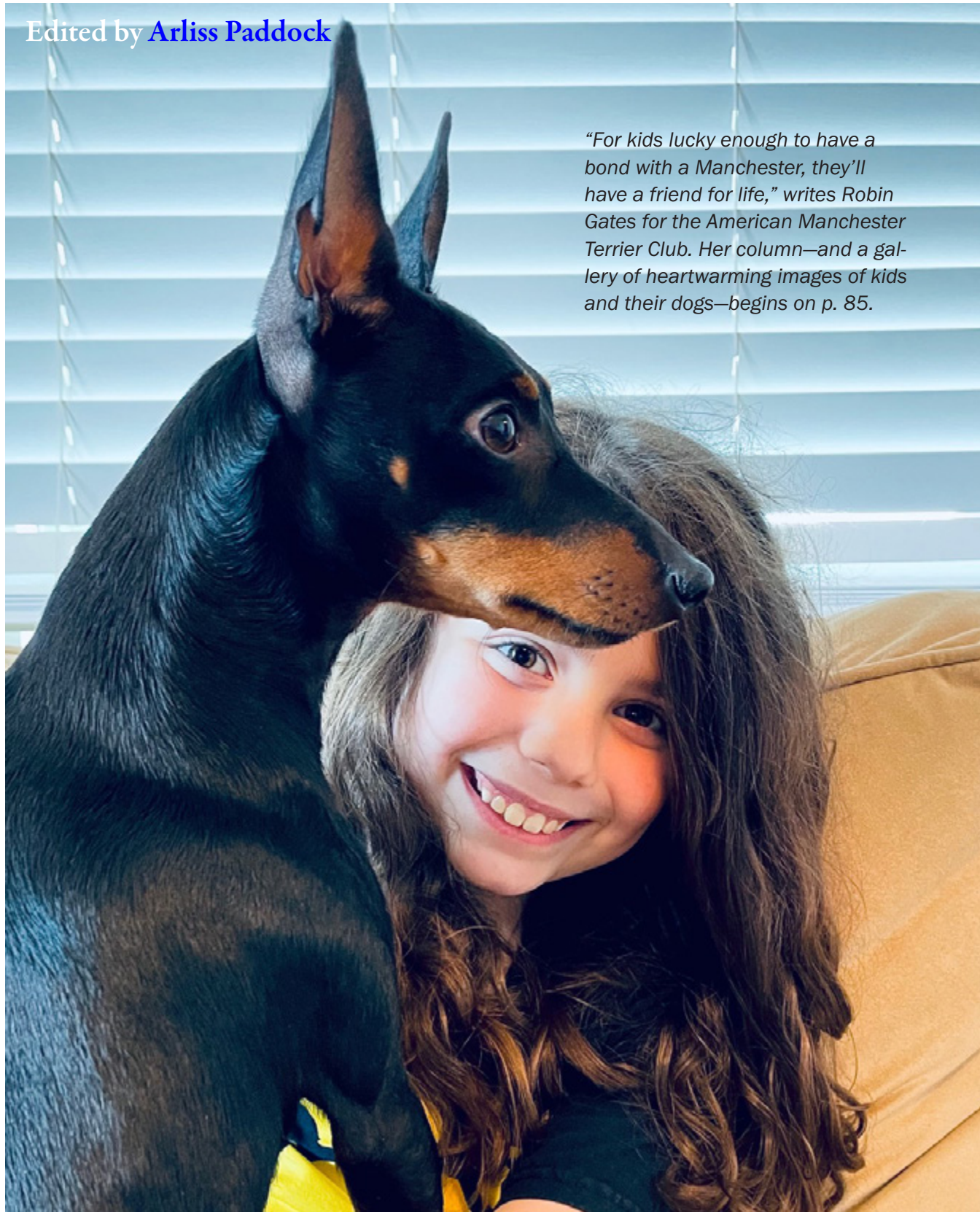


BREED COLUMNS



Edited by **Arliss Paddock**

"For kids lucky enough to have a bond with a Manchester, they'll have a friend for life," writes Robin Gates for the American Manchester Terrier Club. Her column—and a gallery of heartwarming images of kids and their dogs—begins on p. 85.



COURTESY MRS CAT MASTERS

BREED COLUMNS



ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by the breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's traits, history, care, and training. A national parent club is made up of dedicated breeders and fanciers and represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to serious dog fanciers in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate quarterly by group so that each breed's column can appear four times a year. Information and opinions expressed in the breed columns represent the views of their authors, not necessarily those of the breed's parent club or the AKC. For questions about the breed columns, e-mail Arliss.Paddock@akc.org



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- 101 Welsh Terriers

HOUND GROUP

Afghan Hounds

The following was written in 2008 by Georgie Guthrie, who served as this publication's Afghan Hound columnist for many years.

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY SOCIALIZATION

As a breed designed to hunt and make decisions on its own, the Afghan Hound must be socialized from the very beginning. In today's world, an Afghan must deal with many situations besides hunting, and lack of socialization is quickly apparent!

When I first began showing and breeding, the prevailing notion was that you let the bitch do everything for her puppies, and the less you handled them (or were even around), the better. Then breeders began to understand more about the importance of early exposure to a variety of sights, sounds, and experiences, and it became the norm that when the pups' ears and eyes opened, the breeder would have a radio playing near the pups so



Afghan Hound Kabik's The Challenger, 1983 (Joan Ludwig photo)

that they would become used to noise, and especially the hum of voices.

When one of our bitches produced a healthy litter of six and not one drop of milk, things *had* to change, and the dam and I became a team. I bottle-fed the pups four times a day and then handed them to her to clean.

As soon as they were able to suck in tiny meatballs, they were handled even more. This litter turned out to be marvelously habituated and always very friendly with people.

Once I had an experience with puppies sired by a dog I had bred where unfortunately the litter had

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not received sufficient early socialization. At 10–12 weeks, it was quite evident that the puppies had seldom been handled, much less lead trained. (The person explained that they hadn't lead-trained the pups because they "screamed and fought.") When it came time to bring the puppies to the vet for their shots, they were carried to the car.

I acquired a 6-month-old bitch from this litter, and the breeder carried her to my car. At home, I put a show lead on her and walked her to a run with very little trouble. Coming back was far more difficult, however, as she struggled against me for a few minutes before she would let me begin lead training. Fortunately, after that she quickly became quite outgoing. Her brother, whom I bought at a year old, was another story. He seemed to exist in his own world. After many months, with many people spending a lot of time and effort on him, he finally became a champion, showing well and

being friendly with people he knows.

In another instance, when a breeder died and her dogs were placed, some longtime Afghan people took a pair of 11-month-old males. The dogs were somewhat used to grooming and were crate trained, but because the owner had been ill the dogs were under-socialized, and they were initially very fearful at the new owner's home. It took a week of work to bring them around.

By nature, the Afghan is not a wildly outgoing dog, so people raising puppies should give them as much attention and handling as possible. —G.G.

—Harry Bennett,
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[Afghan Hound Club of America](#)

Basenjis

IF THEY DON'T BARK, HOW DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE'S AT THE DOOR?

I am often asked this question by people who have never lived with a Basenji

and appear skeptical of the breed's watchdog capabilities. "Oh, you'll know," I assure them. "They breathe hard and run around." Of course this sounds completely lame, and I've only cemented their doubts.

I need to do a better job of describing the Basenji home-security system, for not only the breed's sake but also my pride, so I solicited details from fellow fanciers.

"You mean when they run up and ricochet off you?" responded fancier Laurie Gregory. "Then ricochet off the door and come flying back to you—is that what you're talking about?" Both the human and the door serve as a backstop in a repeating loop that's a physical interpretation of "Someone's here, someone's here! Door, door, door!" The dogs pant, whine, and squeal, and, if hardwood floors are involved, the scrabbling of toenails to gain traction, especially when drifting around a corner, adds to the drama.

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Sometimes physical injury—to the owner—is a side effect of Basenji security. Brenda Phillips described a common scene on her living room couch with her bitch Lucy sleeping in her lap and her dog Nike curled next to her: “How do I know someone is at the door? I can tell from the burning scratches Lucy leaves on my thighs when she takes off at breakneck speed. If that doesn’t do it, the smack to my chin when Nike’s head pops up surely does. Sadly, they don’t distinguish well between a doorbell on television and a doorbell in real life.”

Some furniture, because of its location, is not safe for occupancy. Fancier Dave McMahon’s couch serves as a viewing perch for the driveway, so if someone approaches the house, “there’s a mad scramble for the couch,” said Dave, “and you’ve got five Basenji butts lined up to look out the window.” (Luckily, Basenjis have cute butts, as the breed is known for this type of



Basenji

“window shopping.”) Dave continued, “Then they rotate down—in a kind of staggered dismount—and race to the front door and

circle back. It’s a hazardous seating area.”

Stranger danger: With Basenjis, you’ll often know if the visitor is friend or foe

DAVID WOO ©AKC

HOUND GROUP

before you answer the door. Fancier Marian Sweeney described her dogs' reaction if the person knocking is an unknown: "After dashing around, they circle in front of the door with hackles up, sniffing and huffing like big silverback gorillas. If one accidentally bumps into another, a major snark-and-snap session breaks out."

At the home of fancier Catherine Charles, her dogs' escalating levels of reaction let Catherine know who's there. The dogs can see the driveway through the big picture-window in the living room, and when someone arrives, two dogs' heads poke past the sheer curtain panels to assess the situation.

Level One—Low: A stranger approaches the front door. The dogs squeak, stand on their hind legs, and scratch and pummel the glass while working their way back and forth on the window. When they take off for the door, they leave the curtain panels fluttering in the wind.

Level Two—Medium: A family friend approaches the front door. Reaction similar to above, except that the paw action and back-and-forthing on the window pick up speed, and the squeaking is augmented by squealing. The curtains are blasted nearly horizontal when the pack speeds to the door.

Level Three—High: Aunt Pam, with Beggin' Strips in her pocket, approaches the front door. In Catherine's words: "Squeaking, squealing, and shrieking, followed by the diva bitch grabbing the bottom of one of the curtain panels, pulling it out across the room, and shaking and killing it until the panel is ripped to the floor." Next comes what Catherine calls "happy laps" and others call the "Basenji 500": an adrenalized circular pattern in which Basenjis move so fast they merely glance off furniture, people, walls, windows, and doors and appear airborne.

In comparison, barking seems kind of one dimensional.

—Marcia Woodard,
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Basenji Club of America

Bloodhounds

THE VALUE OF WORKING ABILITY IN THE SHOW RING

My first exposure to this wonderful breed was on a mountainside in Colorado when I was asked to follow a Bloodhound search team and be responsible for keeping track of where we were and how to get back to base camp. I fell in love that day—not only with the dog who was working, but with the entire concept of scent as a forensic tool to help find missing persons. I was lucky. The handler was knowledgeable and willing to share that knowledge. More than 40 years later, I am still in awe of this breed's nose, but I know a lot more about what it takes to keep that nose on track and get the nose where it needs to go.

The standard is vital to creating the perfect working dog. Those angles, wrinkles,

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topline, neck, and feet are all part of what creates a dog who can go for miles, not one who “runs out of gas” after 4,000 yards.

There was a famous working dog about 20 years ago who was responsible for closing a case involving a child abducted by car. The dog trailed the scent of the child down the freeway, but eventually he had to be lifted off the trail because he could physically go no further.

This dog had a marvelous nose, but his structure simply could not keep pace with the demands of his job.

A working Bloodhound should be a correctly structured Bloodhound, but conformation showing and mantrailing training are both time-consuming and absorbing passions, and you do not get many dogs that cross between the two. This is a shame. For a breed to stay true to its working past, the working dogs must get into the ring to be judged and compared to their peers.

The value of the conformation ring as a socializing



and training tool is also often overlooked. Dog shows are loud, with sounds and smells that can overwhelm a young or green dog. Just the barking of a thousand dogs can be an experience that is difficult to get in the regular world. Walking nicely on a lead past rattling crates or blow-dryers is a valuable life skill. Learning to ignore a feisty terrier, a hysterical sporting dog, or a coy bitch in season are all things that translate to the working realm. Being asked to hold still and be examined by

a stranger? Focusing and concentrating on a single task while other things are happening around you? All good training for a working dog as well as a show dog.

A working dog is likely to be in good shape, muscular, and active. This allows them to contrast nicely against dogs who have been allowed to interpret “stands over more ground” as “fatten then up,” or “elastic gait” to mean “jiggles when moves.” A working dog will not have so much chest as to be mistaken for a Mastiff and will usually be of a reasonable

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

HOUND GROUP

size. They might be more moderate than dogs who never see the inside of a harness, but a judge cannot put up what they don't see. The Bloodhound standard allows for a wide variety of styles within the breed. We are not a "cookie-cutter dog," and I hope never will be.

To keep our breed healthy, we must remove the blinders that can happen if you don't see dogs that actually do their job. The best way to balance the tendency for extremes is to put working dogs into the ring for comparison.

Bloodhounds haven't changed much since the 1890s. Let's keep it that way! —Betsy Copeland,
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American Bloodhound Club

Borzoi

THE BORZOI TAIL

A sighthound's tail is an element of function, since the dog uses it for turning and slowing down when coursing. The

Russian-language term for the Borzoi tail, *pravilo* (literally, "rudder/course corrector"), is different from the word used for "tail" in all other breed descriptions.

The AKC standard says: "Tail: Long, set on and carried low in a graceful curve." The appearance of the tail, or the "graceful curve," completes the look of a typey Borzoi. While a less-than-ideal tail arguably constitutes but a cosmetic fault, a correct tail is a sign of type in Borzoi.

To quote the standard again: "The Borzoi should always possess unmistakable elegance, with flowing lines, graceful in motion or repose." The flowing line of the Borzoi silhouette starts at the nose, which possesses a Roman finish; continues up the head planes and fill; peaks at the arch of the neck; gently flows down into the withers; follows the back; forms the slight rise over the loin; falls away following a gently sloped croup; and ends in a graceful curve of the tail.

As far as the tail's length, many current and historical Borzoi standards from around the world call for the Borzoi tail to reach up to the top of the nearest hip bone when measured between the thighs. Some breeders prefer that the tails on their dogs reach the farthest hip bone. Lorraine Groshans, of Loral Kennels in the U.S., in her iconic 1981 book *The Borzoi* (a must-read for all breed aficionados), called for the tail to fall to the hock or below. However, because Borzoi tails should be well feathered, one must feel them to see where they actually end.

The tail should be set on low. A dog who is high in the rear will sometimes have a higher-set tail, especially if he has a flat croup. A steep croup is undesirable, but it may result in an appearance of a low-set tail, albeit at a structural cost that will undermine the dog's functionality. A gently sloping croup of proper length will yield a good tail-set.

As far as tail carriage, the

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A correct tail carried at the hock; correct saber tail carried low; a correct sickle tail carried low; a faulty curled tail; a faulty gay tail; a faulty ring tail; a Borzoi carrying the tail in a graceful curve.

general agreement is that at its highest, the tail should be carried below the level of the back at a trot. Some breeders prefer their dogs to carry the tail even lower,

COURTESY KRISTINA TERRA

HOUND GROUP

at the level of the hock. Tail carriage may be the result of attitude: More confident or showy dogs may carry their tails higher (you can almost hear them saying “Look what I have!”), as will young dogs who are full of energy, and, especially, silly and playful puppies experiencing the ring for the first time.

The tail’s graceful curve can be very slight, saber-shaped, or sickle-shaped. Curled or ring tails are undesirable in Borzoi. At the end of the 19th century, Russian breeders started a campaign against ring tails, which they considered to be evidence of a throwback to the Saluki-type sighthounds that had been bred into the Borzoi in the early 1800s to increase stamina in the field. What Borzoi breeders strive for is a relaxed and flexible tail with no kinks or rings.

It should be noted that it is not easy to breed away from curled tails, because they only become apparent in puppies as late as 6 to 9 months of age. So, to be able

to select against such tails, one needs to grow the puppies out, which is not easy with any large breed. But, let’s face it, no one really wants to see Borzoi with gay, high-set ring tails, resembling scorpion tails, in the yard or at a dog show.

—Kristina Terra,
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Borzoi Club of America

Dachshunds

OBEDIENT DACHSHUNDS?!

RALLY THOSE DACHSHUNDS!

We don’t usually think of Dachshunds as being an “obedience breed.” They are hounds, after all, and for centuries they have been bred to think for themselves. But there is a type of obedience competition that Dachshunds enjoy: rally (see <https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/>).

Rally is a bit like agility in that there is no single course for each level. Every time you compete, the combination of exercises is different. And of course, there are progressive lev-

els of complexity. Novice and Intermediate are done on lead and feature moves like left and right turns, 360-degree circles, and sits and downs. From Advanced to Master, all exercises are done off-lead and feature progressively more challenging moves, like a down while the handler moves by without stopping, the dog circling to the right around the handler while the handler circles left, and even backing up while in heel position. To qualify, you must earn 70 out of a possible 100 points; to place in the top four, you have to execute the whole course very quickly—time is important here.

Rally is fun for your dog (and less stressful for the human) not only because the team moves quickly, but also because you can talk to your dog all you want. You can be a cheerleader with praise and encouragement—no penalty here, unlike the relative silence of the obedience ring. You can give hand cues; you just

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Rally is a great canine sport for Dachshunds and their owners to enjoy together. Pictured are Ace, April, Bolt, Emma, and Dachshunds and their people at ringside.

cannot touch your dog.

Every year the AKC holds the Rally National Championships, and in 2024, thirty Dachshund-and-human teams qualified. Ten teams actually made it to the Roberts Center in Wilmington, Ohio, for the competition. The humans and the Dachsies were a

diverse bunch, coming from New York, Iowa, Minnesota, Texas, Missouri, and Tennessee. There were standards and minis, longs (Longfellow, Itzy, and Kiss), smooths (April and Bolt), and wires (Ace, Emma, Cherry, and Roulette), and two were also grand champions from the show

ring. All levels of skill from Intermediate (Emma) to Master (Itzy and April) were exhibited—a nice display of our breed's variety.

No, none of us won our divisions, nor even placed—these are Dachshunds after all, not Border Collies. But we had fun, met new friends, showed off some cool moves,

COURTESY OWNERS / TRUDY KAWAMI

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and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Do try rally with your Dachsie, you will both have a good time.

—Trudy Kawami,
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Dachshund Club of America

Greyhounds

The following article was written by Maureen Lucas, of Lochinvar Greyhounds, for presentation to a previously held Greyhound World Congress. Maureen has been an active breeder and exhibitor for over 30 years, producing many top Greyhounds in this country.

THE STANDARD AND PROPORTIONS: A DIFFERENT WAY TO ANALYZE

The long and well-documented history of the Greyhound as the ultimate canine galloping predator paved the way for our breed standard that consistently calls for the elements necessary for those skills. The fact



Greyhound great Ch. Aroi Talk of the Blues (Punky), the top-winning dog all breeds in 1976 and winner of the Hound Group at Westminster. Pictured with her handler, Corky Vroom, and WKC Hound Group judge Mr. Vance Evans.

that the standard is simultaneously concise yet generous enough to accommodate the variation required to hunt different prey on different terrains must never be confused with the lack of essential guidelines. We are not free to construct any Greyhound that suits our fancy or to justify what we

may currently have at home or in our kennels.

Our standard always steers us to the center, asking for a dog “rather this more than that.” That must never be confused with asking for a dog as exotic as possible, devoid of the assets that make the Greyhound the master of the

COURTESY PATRICIA CLARK

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gallop. With an eye toward the great dogs of our past, we see classic type with long legs well-set under the dog, but a dog who also always looks like a swift and capable athlete—neither up in the air like a giraffe, nor low and flat like an alligator.

Looking back at iconic Greyhounds like Ch. Aroi Talk of the Blues or Royaltan, we see that standard illustrated in “upstanding” and with “S” curves that are the hallmark of the breed. Corresponding “S” curves are not an affectation but contribute to the ease of the sustained double-suspension gallop so that the loin can flex again and again. The strong and muscular rear legs can easily tuck up under the dog and explode him forward again.

The working gait of our breed is the double-suspension gallop, and everything must stem from that truth. Of course, we want all Greyhounds with a pleasing, light, purposeful trot, but to judge the breed on huge side-gait is to miss

the point of the breed.

Watching the Greyhound at the gallop, we see the standard come to life. The legs must be long enough to serve as levers that propel the dog effortlessly; too long a leg can be flimsy, and too short a leg will reduce the stride. Neither the front nor the rear can be over-angulated enough to become a hindrance or out of proportion to all other parts of the dog at work. The long, tapered neck also serves as a fulcrum. Feet are open enough to grasp the ground, but not so loose as to flop or flail.

Muscles simply must be present and in good tone. They are asked for multiple times in the standard, and their absence is intolerable. The muscles must be strong enough to be powerful but not cumbersome. The muscles make the dog agile and fast.

The curves of the topline must work together as a coil to fold under the dog when contracted and explode forward. The topline must not be too flat to easily flex, nor

too curved to easily unfold. The body should be like gears of a watch, working together with perfect coordination and timing.

Our breed’s truths are always in the middle between extremes.

The classic Greyhound should never be mistaken for a Doberman, a Ridgeback, or a Pointer if one covered the head of the dog. If we become used to flat backs, no tuck-up at the underline, short legs, keels, or other physical attributes that are not about galloping, we will reach a point where we cannot recover classic type and shape. Better to breed to the standard and find our next show dog than to breed for the show ring and then try to find the standard.

Our standard can be a lighthouse to keep us off the rocks. Our Greyhounds can be extremely beautiful without ever being extreme. —M.L.

—Patti Clark, President and JEC

[Greyhound Club of America](#)

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Ibizan Hounds

THE PLAYFUL PARADOX:

UNDERSTANDING IBIZAN

HOUND TEMPERAMENT

If you've never lived with an Ibizan Hound, the best place to start is to forget what you think you know about hounds. Then forget what you think you know about dogs in general. The Ibizan will rearrange your furniture, your priorities, your

sense of control—and most importantly, your heart.

I've lived with these dogs for over three decades. What I've come to understand, and love most, is that Ibizan Hounds are, at their core, a beautiful contradiction. They are hounds, absolutely—but they are also something entirely their own. And living with them means accepting that

your life will never again be entirely your own, either.

Ibizans do not take life seriously, and they don't believe you should either. These dogs have a sense of humor—a real one. They're pranksters, clowns, and comedians with perfect timing and an impressive flair for the dramatic. If you've never seen a dog fake a sickness to get a snack, or

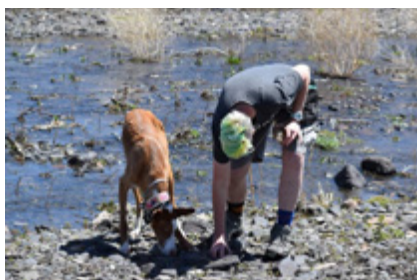
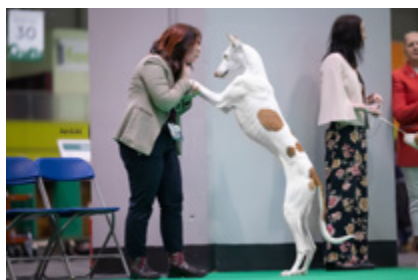


"Ibizan Hounds are, at their core, a beautiful contradiction. They are hounds, absolutely—but they are also something entirely their own. And living with them means accepting that your life will never again be entirely your own, either."

COURTESY MEEGAN PIEROTTI-TIETJE / OWNERS

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stealthily steal your sock just to parade it past you in triumph, you haven't truly experienced the breed.

But what makes it even better is that they want you in on it. An Ibizan never commits mischief alone

COURTESY MEEGAN PIEROTTI-TIETJE / MALWINA PRZYSOWA / YINEPU PHOTOGRAPHY / OWNERS

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if they can help it. They'll bring the other dogs into the act, they'll enlist the cat, they'll rope in your children—and if you're lucky, they'll invite you, too. It's never "Look what I did,"

it's "Look what we can do together!" That's the heart of an Ibizan: community.

These are dogs bred for cooperative hunting, and that shows up everywhere in their behavior. Whether it's

tracking game or figuring out how to open the pantry (yes, they can and will), they do it in teams. They know how to communicate wordlessly. They know how to read a room. And they know when someone's left out—and they don't like it. That includes you. I've often been jockeying dogs to the door and simultaneously dodging their frat-kid smacks, punches, leaps, and pokes—"Oh, thanks for including me in your shenanigans, guys!"

You'll be washing the dishes and suddenly feel a soft muzzle slide under your elbow, or you'll hear a yodel from the other room that clearly means, "Come see what I found!" If you're sad, they'll be nearby. If you're happy, they'll be ecstatic. And if you're angry, well—Ibizans don't really "do" conflict. They'll blink at you with wide, amber eyes, cock their head in confusion, and offer you a toy in truce, or judgmentally give you some side eye, like ... "What's her problem?"

They are deeply sensitive

COURTESY MEEGAN PIEROTTI-TETJE / OWNERS

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dogs. Not fragile—there's nothing timid about them—but emotionally tuned in. They know if something's off. They'll press their body against yours when you're grieving, or bring you a toy when you're tense, or do something absolutely ridiculous to pull you back into the world of joy. And they do want you there. That's part of the magic.

I've often said Ibizans are the joyful philosophers of the dog world. They're elegant, yes—aristocrats of the canine form—but they're also silly. They're capable of spectacular athletic feats, but they'll wipe out leaping off the couch and pretend it was on purpose. They'll run like the wind after a squirrel, and then trip over their own legs in excitement when you call their name.

They are frustrating. They are inconsistent. They are brilliant. They are loving. They are independent yet somehow clingy. And the second you think you've figured them out, they change the rules on you.

But they will always, always remind you not to take yourself too seriously. They remind you to laugh, to go outside, to run fast, to play harder. They remind you to live in the moment, and to find joy in the ridiculous. And they invite you—warmly, insistently, irreverently—to be part of it.

After all these years, I've come to believe that the Ibizan Hound might just be the world's best teacher—if you're willing to be a little silly and learn.

—Meegan Pierotti-Tietje, Heron and Hound Ibizans, <http://heronandhound.weebly.com>

[Ibizan Hound Club of the U.S.](#)

Irish Wolfhounds

QUALITY IS IMPORTANT FOR COMPANIONS AS WELL AS SHOW DOGS

It's becoming increasingly clear that many of today's Wolfhound breeders might not have had the benefit of learning from a seasoned mentor. Imagine the

difference it makes when a newcomer in the breeding world has a seasoned expert by their side, sharing invaluable insights about animal husbandry, canine anatomy, muscling physiology, and inherited health issues.

Unfortunately, many new breeders lack essential guidance today, leading to potential pitfalls that will affect the soundness of future litters. This knowledge gap negatively affects the entire breed, something we see already in competition show rings but, equally or even more importantly, companion homes alike.

So, how did we find ourselves in this situation today? Well, it began with the changing priorities of our society. We now live in a world that often craves instant gratification, a sentiment that spills over into many modern activities.

Some novice breeders view mentorship more as a burden than a beneficial opportunity. Sure, valid reasons like cost, time, and family obligations may

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make mentorship feel out of reach. However, one must realize that without this tutelage and hands-on learning experiences, they would be missing critical elements that impact the health of the hounds they propagate and place in homes.

Some novice mentees are often overly confident, believing their experiences at dog shows and competitive successes have given them enough knowledge to breed dogs independently. They would be mistaken. Understanding anatomical details such as but not limited to shoulder layback

and the slope of the pelvic girdle are crucial aspects for soundness in a Wolfhound breeding program. Overlooking these factors could have significant consequences for the puppies produced by those who haven't sought guidance.

Companion-quality Wolfhounds deserve as much attention to soundness and construction as those destined for the exhibition ring. It may seem improbable to some that a breeder can plan a litter to ensure all puppies are soundly constructed, but it can be achieved.

Regardless of the breed, veteran breeders possess pearls of wisdom. Without proper guidance, would a novice understand that traits are passed down through various modes of inheritance? Would they know how difficult it is to remove a bad front from their bloodlines once it becomes established? The impact extends beyond the current litter. They can set a precedent for future generations of hounds fraught with structural problems and hereditary faults—all of which can lead to costly and heartbreaking medical challenges for companion hound owners down the road.

There are always ripples of cause and effect for an incorrectly built hound stemming from a breeder's lack of knowledge. Poor joint construction can generate added stress on the cartilage, leading to early wear and tear. Weak muscle development increases the risk of bone injuries, making it harder for a dog to stabilize its joints and

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absorb impacts. Consider the implication of effects, such as osteoarthritis, the need for surgery, or a lifetime of pain management.

Whether a hound is over- or under-angled, various issues can arise. Over-angulation raises the risk of injury to a hound's feet, muscles, bones, joints, and connective tissue, which are crucial for overall fitness. Overlong tibias are an engineering fault that weakens the propulsion and overall strength of the hindquarters. Symptoms can develop and worsen as the hound ages.

On the other hand, a giant breed with insufficient angulation will also have less well-developed musculature in their forehand and hindquarters, limiting the hound's flexibility. Inferior angulation can lead to excessive strain on the shoulder, making them susceptible to biceps and tendon tears during everyday activities such as running, jumping, or pulling on a leash. So, too, there is an increased strain on the hip, stifle, and hock joints,

contributing to arthritis and other orthopedic problems. Progressive ligament degeneration is believed to be one of the causes of cranial cruciate disease or rupture occurring in over- and under-angled hounds.

The harsh truth is that poor breeding practices can lead to heartbreaking choices when health challenges arise. No one wants to witness their beloved hound struggling to move or ultimately face the painful decision of euthanasia. Let us take a constructive approach that encourages the sharing of knowledge and skills. By actively promoting a culture of mentorship, we can improve the lives of all Wolfhounds, both companions and show dogs.

—Lisa Dubé Forman,
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Irish Wolfhound Club of America

Norwegian Elkhounds

The following was written in 2012 by Dr. Nina P. Ross.

THE BEST IN THE RING

The perfect Elkhound has not yet made an appearance in the show ring. Or, perhaps, we did not recognize it. There are some undeniably good dogs being shown. Visualize the Elkhound with dark ears of good leather, a tightly curled, center-set tail, strong, arched neck of good length, short loin, and movement correct coming and going as well as viewed from the side. Ask yourself if the dog's true beauty and character would shine through without the bait thrust in front of him. Take a good look at the dog who was placed at the end of the line because he was so different from the others. Maybe that was the perfect Elkhound.

Elkhounds are sometimes judged against the winning dog, not the breed standard. Too often a bitch is bred to a winning dog with total disregard for the standard. Success breeds success—or does it? For the most part, the winning dog is the best dog. The point remains that the standard for the breed,

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the blueprint for the perfect Elkhound, is the basis for the ideal breeding plan. A discerning breeder takes into account the possibility or probability of unforeseen factors that exists in every breeding. Breeding based solely on show wins can be venturesome.

On the flip side of the coin, the original standards were descriptions of the best dogs available at the time—or of dogs owned by those who were writing the standard, or by breeders who dreamed about the one that got away. Breeders may have etched in their minds the ideal Elkhound and interpret the

standard to match what they are producing. As long as breed characteristics are preserved, with emphasis on structure and function, there is no requirement that every Elkhound must fit into the same cookie-cutter mold.

The Elkhound is foremost a hunter, a multipurpose dog endowed with stamina, athletic prowess, and intelligence. Even though he often is bred for other purposes, his breed characteristics must be maintained. Leg length is important for providing the agility to maneuver rocky terrain and to outmaneuver the moose or other prey. Elkhounds

tend to become couch potatoes and put on more than the suggested weight for their frame. Ideally, they are kept in lean, hard condition, ready for the hunt.

The Elkhound breed is not immune to trafficking. An occasional Elkhound gets into the wrong hands and is used to produce puppies for dog traffickers. There are enough reputable Elkhound breeders that it is not necessary to buy from or supply puppies to a pet store. It is sad and embarrassing when the pedigree of a pet-store puppy lists the name of an honorable, well-known breeder who had no

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intentions of being involved in such a situation. It is advisable to use judgment in placing Elkhounds with unknown buyers.

There is no unwritten rule that implies all Elkhounds must be shown. However, they do need the tender, loving care of their owners. After all, you may have the perfect Elkhound. —Dr.

Nina P. Ross

[Norwegian Elkhound Association of America](#)

Otterhounds

NO MEAN FEET

Otterhounds are often referred to as the only hound to have webbed feet. In fact, when judges check an Otterhound's feet in the ring, they are often looking to see that they are fully webbed. All water dogs have webbed feet, which help them paddle more efficiently in lakes and streams. Since pursuing an otter required swimming as well as galloping across fields, they are essential to working Otterhounds. While hounds

may lack some of the ideal characteristic of the standard, I have never seen one without webbed feet. But the webbing is only part of the foot.

According to the breed's official AKC standard, "Both front and rear feet are large, broad, compact when standing, but capable of spreading. They have thick, deep pads. With arched toes; they are web-footed."

Note the webbing is mentioned last. The emphasis is on large, broad feet with thick pads. It is incorrect to see a hound whose legs just seem to stop without those large paws. I have heard people comment "that hound has no feet" because the bottom of those heavy legs isn't much larger than the muscles in the thigh. Another problem is flat or splayed feet, often with thin, flat pads.

So is this an article for foot-fetishists, or is there a point?

Whether the dog is hunting otters or not, a true Otterhound foot needs to function and insulate. The



The AKC standard for the Otterhound says: "Both front and rear feet are large, broad, compact when standing, but capable of spreading. They have thick, deep pads. With arched toes; they are web-footed."

large paw capable of spreading helps dogs move at a steady pace over changing terrain, to climb up muddy banks and navigate rocks on shore or underwater before they must use the webbing to swim. On a hunt, the transition between field and bank and water was often abrupt and taken at a

COURTESY EIBHLIN GLENNON

HOUND GROUP

fast pace. Those large feet with arched toes capable of spreading enabled them to make the transition easily and without loss of speed or threat of injury. They are an essential part of the ability to cover ground effortlessly.

Checking for webbing often means picking up a foot, but checking for thick pads can be done by running hands down the leg to the ground. The arched toes and pads are evident through the hair.

Why thick pads? Again, rambling through tough undergrowth and over stones on feet with thin pads can easily cause a hound to become lame from bloody, cut feet. Carrying a 100-pound hound out the field is a daunting task. In the modern world, those pads enable them to walk on hot sand, cement and asphalt, though no dogs should walk there for long. In the Northern climates those pads enable Otterhounds to walk through salt and into snow and puddles without pulling their feet up from

the stinging chemicals.

Any human podiatrist will tell you how much foot problems affect every step we take. Dogs spend far more time on their feet than we do, and they have four of them. While they are at the bottom of many peoples' lists of important features, correct feet are essential to a happy, active Otterhound no matter where they live and what they do.

—Eibhlin Glennon,
Riverrun Otterhounds,
eibhlinglennon@yahoo.com
Otterhound Club of
America

Petits Bassets Griffons Vendéens

Megan Esherick is the author of this month's column.

TIPS FOR SUCCEEDING IN PERFORMANCE EVENTS WITH PBGVS

Choosing the right dog is important. In most cases you will probably be starting with a puppy directly from a breeder. Having the

best possible genetics, temperament, and structure is important. Most PBGVs have a lot of prey drive, but without a willingness to work closely with a handler, prey drive is not enough to have a successful working dog in most sports.

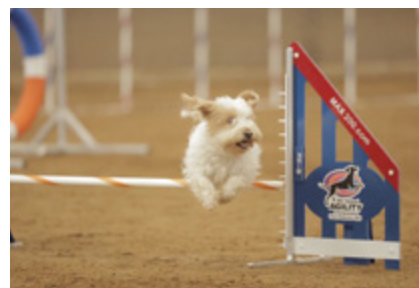
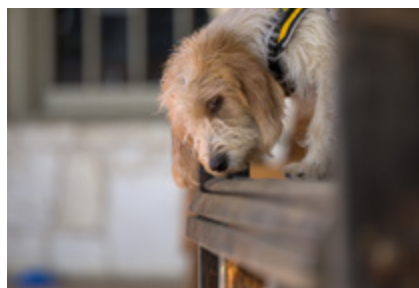
If your puppy's parents don't compete in your chosen sport, look closely at the activities they are doing. A show dog who is confident and happy in the ring in all situations would probably also have the confidence for performance events. A hunting dog who works persistently but also recalls easily and stays close enough in the field not to require electronic monitoring likely has the temperament for other sports. (PBGVs are an extremely rare breed, so if your dog was a rescue and you don't know who his parents are, you should assume that he is an "all-American" dog and not a PBGV.)

For most sports, a PBGV will need as good or better

BREED COLUMNS



HOUND GROUP



Bee at 10 weeks, practicing foundation skills in a city environment; Bee at 10 months, alerting on a scent work hide; Spice competing at the National Agility Championship; the breed's strong natural prey drive is an asset for sports like Fast CAT; handler focus, often difficult to achieve, is key in sports like rally; three PBGVs feeling comfortable with a variety of surfaces and platforms—an important foundation skill.

structure than what is needed for success in the show ring. If competing in agility is your goal, having a dog under 14 inches at the withers is preferable, but since our breed standard is 13 to 15 inches, this can be difficult to select in a baby puppy. Breeders who don't participate in sports other than shows may not understand that a performance

dog is not the same as a pet, so be sure to discuss your goals and needs with your breeder.

When you bring your puppy home, you should start training right away, but not necessarily for your sport of choice. Start with strong foundation skills and teaching the things that your puppy needs to be a good family dog—house-



breaking, crate training, leash walking, car travel, and so on.

For my dogs, foundation skills also include under-standing marker cues and

COURTESY MEGAN ESHERICK

HOUD GROUP

accepting a wide variety of food (and ideally toy) rewards in any location; a solid recall; the ability to work in the presence of distractions, and to stay in the position and spot you were left; and comfort with getting onto a variety of platforms and targets. Once you have these skills, sport-specific behaviors are much easier to teach.

I wouldn't recommend using training techniques that rely on force or compulsion with a PBGV, or any dog at all for that matter.

Training for multiple sports takes time, especially if you have more than one dog. Try to make training part of your routine, and work in very short sessions. Some sports, like agility, may require access to equipment, but for foundation skills and most other sports, you can easily work in a small space in your house or yard. By "short," I don't mean 10 minutes; more like less than one minute. You will get farther if you work in small sessions,

get a few rewards in, and then stop. Having the tools you need—clicker, treats, platforms, toys, and so on—stashed in the parts of the house where you spend the most time can make this easier to do.

It's possible to do "All the Things" with a PBGV, but it's probably best not to do all of them at once, especially with a very young dog. A puppy will likely be ready to compete in conformation and maybe scent work or rally much sooner than they should do more physically demanding sports like hunting or agility. Some sports, like Fast CAT, require little or no training, while others, like agility and obedience, can take years of preparation before it's time to enter a trial. For older dogs, it's nice to have options like scent work or tracking that can keep a dog's mind engaged without asking as much of their bodies. The extreme grooming expected of PBGVs in the show ring may also limit some other

activities during a dog's show career. —*M.E.*

Thank you, Megan.

—Susan Smyth, PBGVCA
Column Chair,
Oldyork2002@aol.com
[Petit Basset Griffon](#)
[Vendéen Club of America](#)

Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Our guest columnist for this issue is Danielle Sand.

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

There is no better time capsule of historic woman's fashion than old dog show photographs. Recently, while sifting through a pile of old win photos I was reminded of the cringe-worthy "Dynasty" shoulder pads and hair-sprayed coifs of the 1980s and early '90s. The 2000s ushered in a more natural look, which, happily, we still embrace today.

When working with puppy people who are interested in showing, address not only the dog's wardrobe (collars and leads) but also the exhibitor's attire. Advise the

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Rhodesian Ridgebacks,
May 2008

new handler that their show outfits should allow them to comfortably walk, run, and bend over to stack their dog. Hemlines of skirts and dresses should not rise too much above the knee. Jackets with capacious and easy-to-access pockets for bait are a plus! Women should choose dresses and skirts that are fitted or A-line, as billowing fabric can interfere with the dog's legs and impair movement. Female exhibitors also have the option of wearing slacks in the ring. Jeans are considered too casual.

Ridgeback exhibitors love thematic dress! There are more African animal patterns in our show rings than there are at the Bronx and San Diego zoos combined. Ideally, the color or pattern worn by the handler should not be so loud as to distract from adjudication of the dog. In addition, let your peeps know that they should save the sequins and satin for evening events like Top 25 at the national specialty or events with evening group judging.

Make sure the newbie has secure shoes suitable for running, that are flat or have a small stacked heel. You never know about the weather, so be sure to remind them to pack their car with rain gear.

Spending just a few minutes to explain wardrobe to the exhibitor can help avoid issues that might undermine their confidence and negatively impact their first experience. —D.S.

[Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States](#)

Salukis

SALUKI COAT VS. STEEL: OVERZEALOUS GROOMING

Nowhere in the AKC Saluki standard is there any language about using scissors or clippers on the coat, grooming and plucking, or that the coat should look a specific way (nor do these appear in any international Saluki standard). Neither should a conformation judge be factoring in a haircut when making placements on our ancient hunting breed. If the coat color and presence or absence of feathering is correctly *immaterial to the Saluki's purpose*, so is hair length on the body. None of these have anything to do with the hound's ability to run fast enough and smart enough to catch speeding gazelles and hares.

I started thinking about this issue after once standing very close to a top-winning Saluki who, like a show Poodle, had been obviously, heavily clipped, scissored, whiskers shorn, and razored to an extreme. So very

HOUND GROUP



A Saluki's coat has no effect on their ability to pursue game. This rare photograph shows three hounds leaping hurdles at the Saluki Racing Club's first competition, Wembley Stadium, London, March 22, 1928. (Photo courtesy author's collection)

disappointing. And folks, a good judge can tell when hair has been trimmed!

Unlike coat-centric breeds, you cannot reshape a Saluki's form with clippers; you can only take hair away from what is naturally there. So why do people remove Saluki coat hair? Possibly because they feel that a little scissor work helps their dog match their mental picture of the standard. Or,

ratcheting up that thinking several notches, feeling sure the dog can't win unless it's been "improved" by hyper-grooming or pressing a naturally gaiting Saluki into TRAD (tremendous reach and drive).

There are, however, a few inconsequential trims that are both pragmatic and acceptable.

- On a veteran, snipping shaggy pad hair to give

better footing on smooth floors.

- Shortening overlong hair on a penis sheath for hygiene.
- Reducing elbow fluff with thinning scissors to avoid the impression of elbowing—assuming your dog doesn't do it in the first place.
- Thinning fuzzy (but cute) topknots on puppies and veterans with a pumice stone.

In my years with Salukis, both showing and judging, I've seen the following two "improved" grooming looks in the ring:

"*Shaved for surgery*," where the flank flap is clipped into a clean arc, the belly shaved and oiled to make it look darker. This sleight of hand tries to make the carefully trimmed tuck-up flap appear to be the actual underline, with the belly receding from view, but it won't fool any judge worth their salt. This is egregiously different from trimming stray hairs. (And there is *no* mention of tuck-up or

COURTESY BRIAN PATRICK DUGGAN

HOUND GROUP

underline in the Saluki standard.)

“Nature got it wrong,” where a Saluki’s natural coat and whiskers are believed to be inadequate to win, therefore every hair and whisker must be “*improved*” by a human with steel blades and a grooming table. This zealous barbering is easy to see and feel.

Which gets back to that extremely barbered Saluki who reminded me of the Poodle standard, where nearly one-third of that text is devoted to coat clipping and trimming; no fewer than 29 words refer to the work of clippers and scissors. There is *none* of that in our standard.

Our breed is meant to be shown in the same condition as they hunt in the field—*au naturel*—which includes intact whiskers, dewclaws,* and “ear-lashes” on smooths.

Salukis, with very few exceptions, are not show Poodles.

(*For the excellent reasons to *not* remove dewclaws,

see my Saluki breed column in the *August 2017 AKC GAZETTE*.)

—Brian Patrick Duggan,
bpduggan@mac.com
Saluki Club of America

Scottish Deerhounds

RAISING A DEERHOUND PUPPY

As breeders we receive questions from the people who have our puppies about the best things to do with and for their puppy so that they grow into their potential, a large part of which centers on their relationship with their human family.

But first, we start with nutrition for a growing puppy who will eventually be bigger than most other breeds. Every conscientious breeder will have recommendations for feeding puppies, and their advice is well worth heeding because they will hopefully have done research and have successfully raised their own puppies.

There are many paths to feeding well, and breeders

have varied approaches to feeding. You will have to see how your breeder’s protocol will fit with your life and make adjustments accordingly. Pay special attention to the brands of food they may recommend, and do ask questions about brands you may have looked at.

Of course, raising them to be strong and healthy adults through exercise is also key to helping them develop their potential. We have a large, powerful breed—developing their bodies well requires attention to their growing needs. A Deerhound puppy will do best when they exercise as much as possible without overtaxing their bodies. How do we know how much is enough but not too much? Some new owners have safely fenced acreage and a companion dog for the puppy to play with until they voluntarily stop—that may be the optimum solution. Many new owners, however, have small yards, and their puppy may be their only non-human

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Scottish Deerhound Ch. Sutherland's Amazing Grace, 1977 (Ashbey photo)

companion. People who are walkers or runners have a situation where they can include their pup. Stopping frequently will show if their pup takes the opportunity to lie down, signaling a stopping point. For those less inclined to vigorous exercise, throwing a ball in the backyard is not enough, so neighborhood walking with added free-running in a safe fenced area may work.

Whatever the program, a good amount of vigorous

free running is imperative to build a healthy, strong companion who will age well and hopefully live a long life.

Building a mutually satisfying relationship with a puppy may start with giving and receiving love, but it also includes helping the puppy understand what living well in a human world requires. Every young being feels joy and exuberance, which is a magical thing about being young. And as they grow up, these beings

will hopefully learn the freedoms and responsibilities that will help them be the best they can be.

Now it may seem like I'm speaking in human terms, but the same terms apply to our canine companions. A dog who understands what things are and are not acceptable will be welcomed wherever they go, and the poor dog who doesn't have these sensibilities will never have that same freedom.

That brings us to the idea of freedom and responsibility, and how the two can coexist. As people we have a certain amount of freedom, but we know that comes along with responsibility and self-control. If we want our dogs to have happy well-adjusted lives, it's important to help them understand that they can have freedom as long as they can develop self-control. Jumping on people, pulling on the leash, chewing on humans, and a whole list of other behaviors are examples of lack of self-control. Starting when they are wee puppies is the

HOUND GROUP

time to teach them about self-control.

—Frances Smith,
Scottish Deerhound Club
of America

Whippets

This month I am pleased to present an important column regarding lure operation by Jeffrey Kimmelman. With coursing events in full season, it is most timely:

Jeffrey Kimmelman, co-breeder of the well-known and very successful Merci Isle Whippets, has bred, shown, coursed, and operated the lure since 1986. The kennel is known for many multi-titled Whippets who excel in several disciplines, especially conformation and lure coursing.

SUCCESSFUL LURE OPERATION

Whippets can compete in a wide variety of performance events. The most exciting of these is lure coursing. Open to sight-hounds, this sport tests the

dogs' ability to chase a lure around a pre-determined course of 600 yards or more. The goal is to simulate the spectacle of a live game hunt. The AKC judge is tasked with scoring each competitor on their overall ability (known as enthusiasm for ASFA) and the four elements of follow, speed, agility, and endurance.

The lure operator performs a critical role to ensure the safety of the runners while setting the stage for them to demonstrate their prowess and athleticism. A good job makes easy work for the judges and a great show for the spectators. So, it's important that the operator understands the rules and principles needed to execute their task. Otherwise, judging becomes difficult, running becomes dangerous, and, most importantly, dogs learn bad running habits.

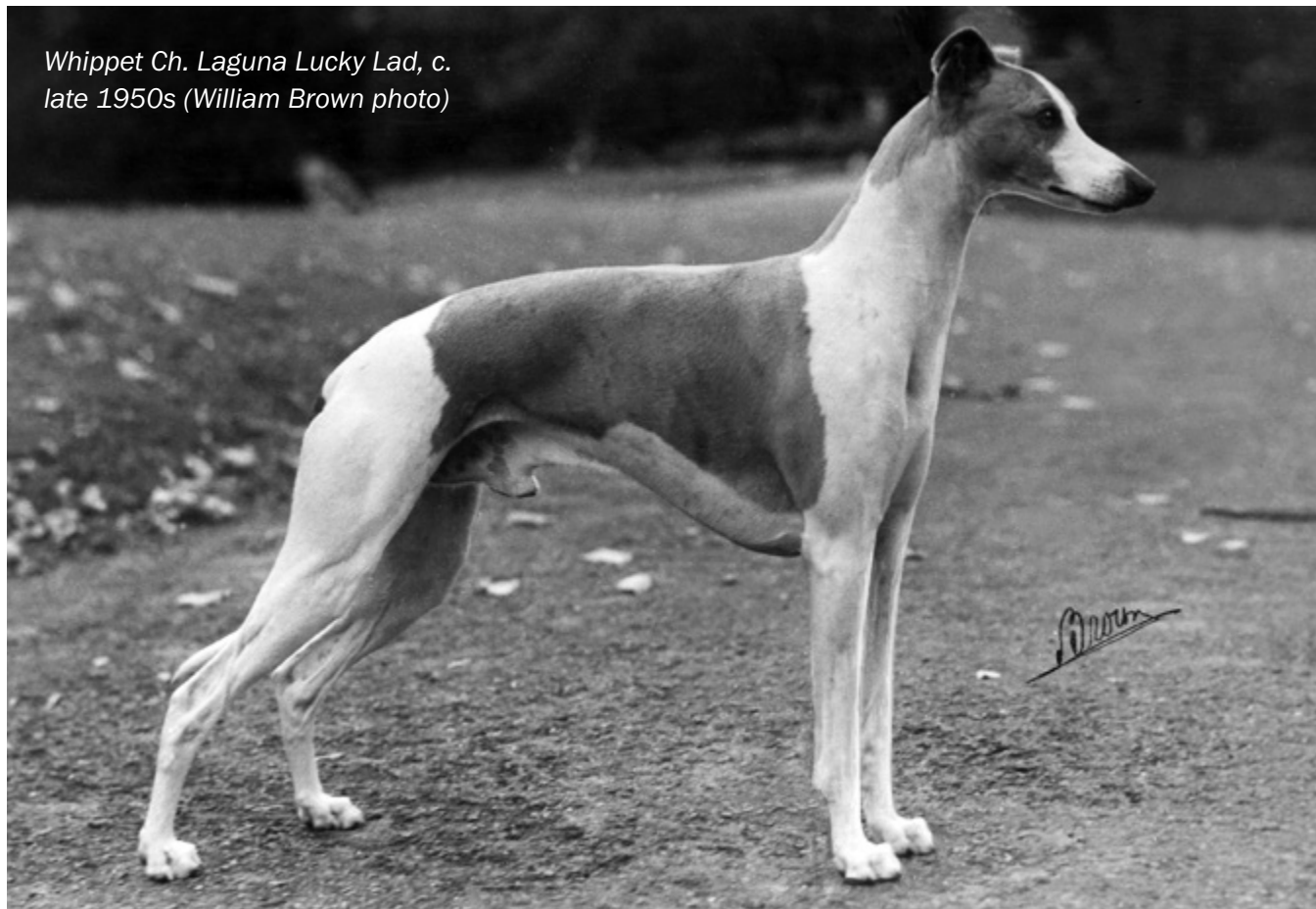
Multiple factors complicate the lure operator's job. Field conditions can vary. Tall grass and other factors can reduce visibility for the competitors and field crew. The

equipment may malfunction. And then, each breed has its own style, and each hound its own capabilities. Some focus on the path of the lure, following it as closely as possible around each turn. Others fan out on the gambit that they can head off the prey as it flees from the followers. The inexperienced dogs may just run into the open field, oblivious to the goal.

Notwithstanding these complications, the most frustrating problem occurs when the operator takes advantage of the equipment's vastly superior speed to zip the lure ahead of a hound running a shortcut—a “cheater.” AKC rules explicitly require the operator to “attempt to keep the lure 10 to 30 yards in front of the lead hound at all times.” Implicitly, the lure should not travel significantly faster than that dog. The operator must not accelerate it to get ahead of a competitor that has cut the corner. Doing so punishes the leader for good follow, gives an advantage to a slower entry

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Whippet Ch. Laguna Lucky Lad, c. late 1950s (William Brown photo)



who runs a shorter distance, and reduces the endurance needed to cover less ground. Many otherwise great running hounds may lose sight of the lure and interest in the game.

Some people raise safety concerns about the cheater turning back across the course in front of the lead dog, possibly resulting in a collision. In fact, that rarely happens. Most collisions

occur in the open, away from the lure. A good lure operator will use a stutter move or brief acceleration to avoid the possibility of hounds converging from different directions while demonstrating their agility.

Things don't always go smoothly on the coursing field. But it's always disappointing when a good-following hound loses out and learns to cheat

because of improper lure operation. Fairness and safety in the field depends almost entirely on the person pushing the button. Every club must ensure that this individual has both the experience and skill to ensure a successful trial.
—J.K.

Thank you, Jeffrey.
—Phoebe J. Booth,
Shamasan@aol.com
American Whippet Club

TERRIER GROUP

Airedale Terriers

THE AIREDALE: FROM WAR DOG TO SERVICE DOG

Many readers are aware of the Airedale's contributions on the battlefield—heroically delivering messages, serving as sentries, assisting in laying wire, and working in search and rescue. The Airedale's intelligence, agility, and bravery made them well-suited to succeed in the demanding and harsh conditions of the battlefield. These same attributes also make them well-suited for the role of service dog.

In this third article written to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Airedale Terrier Club of America (ATCA), I am privileged to interview Draek Brekke, a U.S. Army veteran. I am particularly excited to speak with Draek, as he is a professional canine trainer, and after thoughtful consideration, he selected an Airedale as his service dog. This conversation highlights the attributes of the Airedale breed as a service dog, rein-

forcing the theme that the Airedale is truly a “dog for all occasions.”

Please tell us about yourself.

My name is Draek Brekke. I'm a disabled U.S. Army veteran living in Minnesota. I have been training dogs professionally for 16 years and started my dog boarding, training, and day-care business in 2018. In addition, I have a host of physical disabilities, including fibromyalgia from my time in the Army, in 2023; after being hospitalized for a week, I was diagnosed with celiac disease. That's where Arko, my service dog in training, comes in.

How did you become interested in Airedales as service dogs?

I have always been a terrier person; I enjoy their energy and temperament. I needed a larger dog who would be able to provide light mobility assistance, have the energy and drive to enjoy working, and have a good nose. Airedales made the top of

my list pretty quickly, and ultimately were the choice I went with.

What is the most challenging aspect of preparing an Airedale for the role of a service dog?

While I don't find them to be challenges, and every dog is an individual, some will find the terrier spunk and energy in a big body to be a lot to manage.

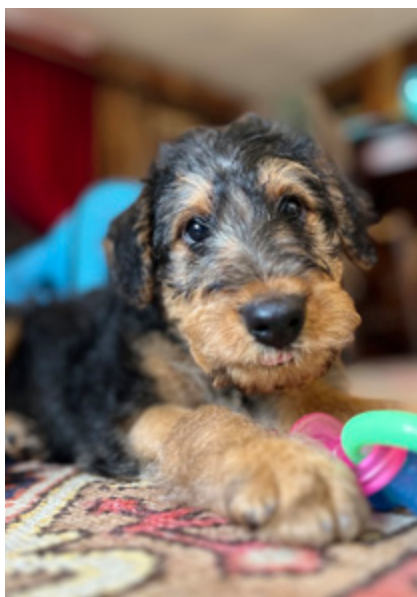
Were there any surprises as you started training?

We haven't had many surprises when it comes to training. Arko has always been eager to learn and is always ready to do more if you are!

What is one of the most rewarding aspects of having an Airedale in service training—or, for that matter, just owning an Airedale?

The most rewarding thing about having a dog like Arko is how well balanced he is. He's happy to be working or hanging out; he truly is a versatile dog with a friendly,

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Draek Brekke and Airedale Terrier Arko, snoozing on Arko's first plane ride; puppy Arko's training started early; Arko's service-dog training began after mastering the basics; training includes diverse settings; even a service dog likes to clown around with his owner.



an Airedale is right for you, an ethically bred, well-bred dog is worth waiting for.

Any recommendations for Airedale breeders who may be considering placing their potential pups as service dog prospects?

Aside from the usual due diligence, what tasks are they wanting the dog to be able to perform, and are these reasonable expectations for the dog? A puppy going

vibrant temperament, and he is maturing into a phenomenal dog.

Do you have any advice for people considering an Airedale as a service dog?

Airedales are amazing dogs. They're also a lot of work. They tend to be higher in drive, energy, and spice than the dogs that are traditionally used in service dog work. If you decide that

COURTESY DRAEK BREKKE

TERRIER GROUP

home with the intention of being a service dog isn't one yet, and any number of things can happen as the pup gets older and matures. If the puppy were not to make it as a service dog, what is their plan?

What was the most rewarding experience since you became involved in Airedales?

The most rewarding experience I've had since becoming involved in Airedales has to be how well Arko fits into our lives. He truly is a versatile dog excelling in the home, training, and every ask sent his way.

Draek, on behalf of the Airedale community, thank you for your service to our country, and a most heartfelt thanks to you for sharing with us Arko's service dog journey.

Next quarter, for the final article during the ATCA's 125th anniversary year, we will highlight the Airedale's progress over the past 125 years. In the meantime, I am looking forward to seeing everyone the first week in

October, for the 125th-anniversary events surrounding our national specialty!

—Nancy A. Nykamp,
meadowaire.terriers@gmail.com

[Airedale Terrier Club of America](#)

American Hairless Terriers

AHT SKIN CARE, PART TWO: LESS IS MORE!

We addressed the science behind skin care in the May issue. This month, we look at what those owning American Hairless Terriers (AHTs) say about skin care.

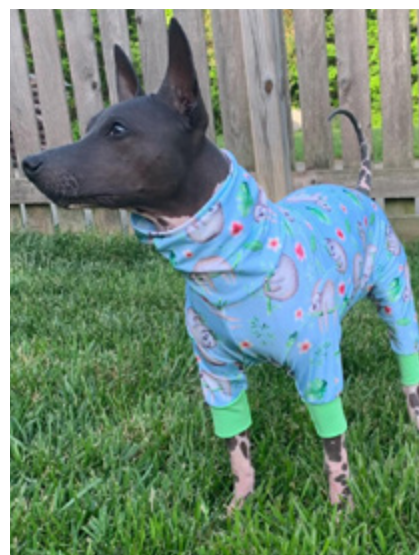
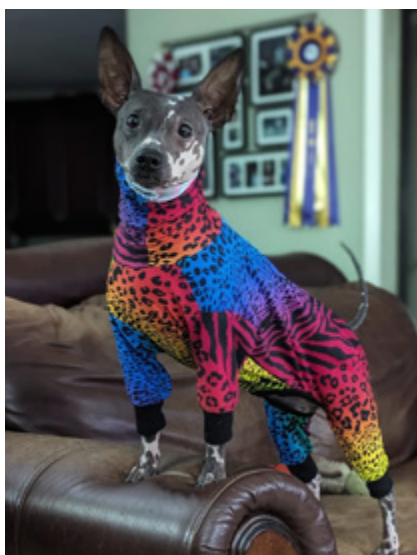
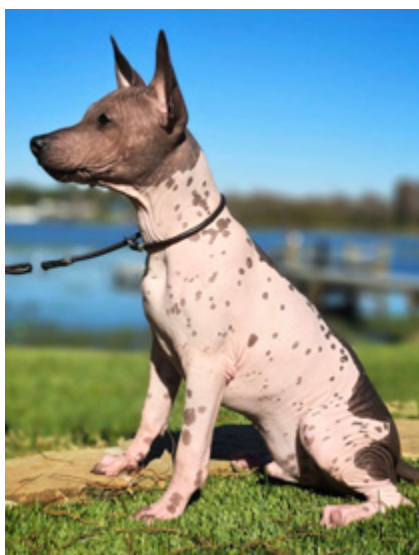
Truly, there is no consensus, and certainly no research to support the following. However, I will share what has worked well for us, living in Florida with the AHT for 26 years, and provide online survey results from AHT breeders, owners, and fanciers.

The bottom line is “less is more” and prevention is key. Contrary to popular belief, the AHT's skin is quite

tough. However, the lighter areas on the AHT (e.g., white, and even those with dilute coloring) are more prone to burning than the dark areas. Because of this, the dog should wear clothing with SPF protection built in and/or a dog-safe sunscreen. Keep in mind that products with zinc should be avoided due to toxicity concerns. It is also important to limit sun exposure during peak hours, as protecting all areas of the head, especially ears and noses, is challenging.

Dogs with repeated sunburns are not only more susceptible to skin cancer but will also have raised red, swollen areas that become leathery. Over time, the damaged areas become more prone to acne and blackheads. AHTs who experienced multiple burns are identifiable by the look and feel of their skin. We have had the most success with custom-made, four-legged sunsuits that have extra-long neck coverage, reaching the base of the ears. Sunscreen has not

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worked well for us for two reasons: (1) Sunscreen must be washed off daily, which can dry the skin; and (2) the sand and dirt that covers our Florida yard clings to the sunscreen and becomes embedded in the skin. Once embedded, the dirt does not come out easily.

In addition to sun protection, it is imperative that the

skin be kept clean. Again, this seems like common sense. However, there is a balance between washing when needed (when the dog is visibly dirty, or for owners with allergies who need to reduce the dander load) and over-washing, which removes essential oils (as described in Part 1). If over-washed, the skin becomes dry and flaky,

Lighter areas on the AHT are more prone to sunburn. Guards against burning include dog-safe sunscreen and “sunsuits”—light dog coats with built-in SPF protection. Sunsuits with extra-long neck coverage to reach the base of the ears are ideal.

necessitating a moisturizer, which can then clog pores and cause breakout.

Again, that brings us back to the sunsuits. The sunsuits not only protect our dogs from sunburn and potential skin cancer, but also keep the dogs clean, reducing the need for washing. I will admit that our solid-patterned AHTs rarely wear

COURTESY KARYN PINGEL

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sunsuits (see photo)!

There is one caveat with sunsuits or any clothing: Less is more. Yes, back to the theme! Clothing wear-time should be limited. Wearing clothes 24/7 also leads to clogged pores and even abrasions on bony areas such as elbows, hips, and knees. Clothing should be cleaned after use, in a fragrance-free detergent and hung to dry. Same goes for bedding or anything the dog lays on regularly. When visibly soiled or after a few days, the bedding needs to be washed and replaced. Keeping surfaces clean really goes a long way in reducing skin issues overall.

A clean environment is particularly important when raising AHT puppies. As the pups' hair begins to fall out, folliculitis is common. People often refer to this as "puppy pimples," and while the pimples are normal, the severity can be reduced significantly by keeping the environment clean. We change whelping pads/bedding as soon as it is wet or

soiled. Early on, this may be every waking hour (we do lots of laundry). The pups are also washed with an antibacterial soap frequently. (Remember the "as needed" rule? Well, it may be multiple times per day for young pups.) By the time pups are 2.5 weeks old, we start introducing a litterbox to reduce the amount of urine in the environment. Clean is key to great skin as pups or adults!

So, what should you use for washing and moisturizing if needed? Good question, but there's not a lot of clarity regarding what is "best!"

Soap

We use either a fragrance-free antibacterial soap or Love Yer Dog shampoo. Our survey revealed the top product used by AHT owners was Johnson's Baby Shampoo (18%), followed by antibacterial soap (16%). The remaining products ranged from four to 10%: Chris Christensen Peace and Kindness shampoo, oatmeal dog shampoo, Burt's

Bees shampoo, and Dawn dish soap.

Moisturizer

We use Clinique Dramatically Different moisturizing lotion when needed. This moisturizer is fragrance free and non-comedogenic and is readily absorbed into the dog's skin with no greasy or oily residue. When in a cold or drier climate (such as on a recent trip to NYC), we apply Aquaphor to combat drying. Dry skin leads to itching and subsequent skin scratches/wounds, which can cause skin infections and/or begets additional itching—a vicious cycle. Again, prevention is key. In our survey, the majority of the AHT owner-respondents use coconut oil (47%). Others prefer Vitamin E oil or Corn Huskers lotion. Sixteen percent of responders said they do not use moisturizer at all.

Ultimately, the products used will vary based on personal preference, what works well for the specific animal, and the owner's

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climate. You may need to try several things before landing on what works best for your dog.

I do want to note that some lines are more prone to skin issues. Thus, despite optimal care, subsurface discoloration, clogging, and even skin infections/cystic areas can occur. However, the “less is more”/“prevention is key” themes still apply, and with consistency, hopefully your AHT’s skin will remain beautiful throughout his or her life.

—Karyn Pingel,
wmk.ahts@gmail.com
American Hairless Terrier
Club of America

Australian Terriers

Our column this month is by guest authors Karen Drumm and Kevin Kitchen, Esq.

BEING PREPARED

Most of us move through our daily routines without thinking about random events that could disrupt our lives. Yet accidents, sudden



Keep a copy of emergency information in your home where it can easily be found—such as on the refrigerator or at an entrance.

illnesses, family emergencies, or even death can have a profound impact not just on us, but also on our dogs, who rely completely on our care. Just as we plan for the well-being of our human

family members, it’s crucial to plan for our dogs’ needs if we become unavailable.

For short-term emergencies, preparation is simple but essential. Identify a reliable pet-sitter you can trust

COURTESY KAREN DRUMM AND KEVIN KITCHEN

TERRIER GROUP

in a crisis, and create a contact list of people willing to step in. Save them as favorites on your phone. If you have a hidden house key, share its location with these contacts. Prepare a clear list of your dog's care routines, including food instructions, medication schedules, and special needs, and update it as needed if anything changes, like the addition or loss of a pet or a change in medication. Keep a copy of this information in your home where it can easily be found—near the entrance or on the refrigerator works well—and include important details like the dog's name, microchip and AKC numbers, your veterinarian's contact information, and your emergency contacts. It's also wise to keep a copy in your car in case you are involved in an accident away from home.

Planning for long-term incapacitation or death requires more formal steps. One important measure is to prepare a durable power of attorney naming a trusted

individual to oversee your dog's care if you are incapacitated. This document can detail your expectations and provide access to a designated bank account to cover expenses.

Another option is creating a pet trust. Unlike a will, a trust allows immediate action without the delays of probate. In a trust, you can appoint a trustee, provide detailed care instructions for temporary and long-term guardians, and specify the kind of home you would want for your dog if rehoming becomes necessary. Avoid placing essential care instructions in a safe deposit box, as access to its contents may be delayed after death.

By taking the time to plan, you ensure that your dog will be cared for no matter what happens. Being prepared protects your beloved companion and gives you and your family invaluable peace of mind. —*K.D. and K.K., Esq.*

Thank you, Karen and Kevin.

—Dr. Grace Massey,
Gloucester, Virginia;
firewalkeraussies@gmail.com
[Australian Terrier Club of America](#)

Bedlington Terriers

ETHICAL CHALLENGES WITH A LOW-ENTRY BREED

The Bedlington Terrier has been classified by the AKC as a low-entry breed for at least a decade. Conformation championship titles and litter registrations in the breed have experienced significant declines. These factors have resulted in some unfortunate compromises made by some breeders and exhibitors.

Low breed-population and great distances between fanciers can result in some expense and difficulty making up championship titles for rarer breeds. Methods employed by some breeders to compensate for this in order to achieve a title can bring the question of ethics to the fore. Disseminating false information about plans to show, perhaps citing

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health or financial problems, and then showing up in an unlikely place with a five-point major built with dogs and bitches all sired by their stud dog results in a pyrrhic victory for the breeder. All they have is a list of titleholders who didn't have to face competition from other dogs of other lines.

Some breeders and exhibitors resort to making up majors by entering finished champions in the Open class. This is acceptable according to the event rules, but what does it really accomplish? Doing this, presumably to make a point for a class dog, is certainly of questionable value. If the titled dog is of good enough quality to finish the requirements of a championship, what does it prove if it is defeated by a class dog who may not be as mature or promising as the titleholder?

While it is admirable on the part of breeders to stimulate increases in breed population and show homes, it has been observed that some breeders aren't as



Bedlington Terrier: Caring, conscientious breeders are especially essential in preserving lower-population breeds for the future.

discriminating as they should be in placing their puppies. This is clearly a disservice to the dogs, the breed, and the fancy. When we hear reports of puppies in less-than-optimal condition returned to the breeder/owner of the dam by the co-owner, one wonders why the breeder placed her dogs in such a situation in the first place. Increasing the breed's population without

regard to careful breeding of quality, health-tested sires and dams and placing dogs in unsuitable homes is counterproductive.

I received correspondence recently from a young woman considering acquiring a Bedlington puppy. She was also researching Poodles. She asked me why there seemed to be less participation by Bedlington owners/breeders in the

COURTESY LUCY HEYMAN

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Orthopedic Foundation for Animals registry and the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) program administered by OFA. By contrast, Poodles have broad representation in these registries. I certainly was at a loss to explain this to her. Bedlington fanciers need to do everything to ensure a legacy of information about our low-population breed. The OFA is far more than a repository of testing information and evaluation of hip and elbow radiographs. The Canine Health Information Center has the means for us to store the DNA information of our dogs. The objectives of the OFA clearly define the benefits:

To collate and disseminate information concerning orthopedic and genetic diseases of animals.

To advise, encourage and establish control programs to lower the incidence of orthopedic and genetic diseases of animals.

To encourage and finance research in orthopedic and genetic disease in animals.

To receive funds and make grants to carry out these objectives.

In order to stimulate healthy growth in any breed requires caring, conscientious breeders who recognize their ethical obligation to leave a legacy of information about the breed's health.

—Lucy Heyman,
Spring, Texas

[Bedlington Terrier Club of America](#)

Border Terriers

This month's column is written by Kara Knox of Hondo, New Mexico. Kara is a gifted trainer and competes in many sports, including dock diving, with her two Border boys, Sully and Wally.

LIKE AN OTTER IN THE WATER

Why dock dive with your Border Terrier? Simply because it's *fun!* Dock diving first appeared as a competition in 1998 as part of the Purina Incredible Dog Challenge. The sport grew

rapidly, with multiple clubs and organizations developing. In 2013 the North American Dock Diving (NADD) was formed, and in 2014 NADD joined forces with AKC to recognize dock titles through the title recognition program.

Our fun-loving, versatile Borders are well suited to excel in this event. Their natural prey drive makes this an exciting outlet for their energy.

Whether you want to compete or just try a fun sport, it's important that you introduce your Border to water gradually in a fun and safe way. Border Terriers are biddable, but if you force them into an uncomfortable situation, they won't forget.

Terriers must be trained in a clear and positive way, using their natural prey drive to encourage water play. It must be a game they can play to win. Winning means getting their favorite toy out of the water.

Once your Border is comfortable swimming, you can gradually introduce them

BREED COLUMNS



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Dock-diving Border Terriers making a splash: Wally, Sully, and Macallan (GCh. Standish's Heart of Gold, DCAT, SCN SIN, SEN, RATO, DS, DJX, TKN, CHC))

to jumping off the dock. A properly fitted dog life-vest can provide extra support and comfort for tentative or lazy swimmers.

With the proper introduction, your Border will typically start jumping in short order. It doesn't take long for our little brown dogs to figure out this game.

There are two different types of docks: stationary facilities, and mobile docks. You can find mobile docks at many of the larger conformation events or as standalone events. If you're lucky you may have a stationary dock in your local area.

As with any sport, the

more you practice, the better your team can become. Dock diving looks fairly simple, right? Dogs run down a dock and jump into the water after their favorite toy. But there are actually many moving parts. While dock diving relies heavily on your dog's natural instinct, there is much more to it.

There are a number of challenges to achieve your best performance: leaving the dock, the jump, the mid-air catch, water impact, and the return swim. Dogs have to learn to gauge their run so that their back feet push off the very edge of the dock in order to most powerfully propel their body forward.



The angle of the jump is also influenced by the handler's throwing skills. Watching dogs hit their mark really redlines the fun meter!

As with all sports, it is the handler's responsibility to monitor fatigue in their partners. Borders are tough by nature and will "power through" fatigue. As their handler, it's your job to step in and enforce breaks during both training and competition.

Dogs under 16 inches at the withers compete in the Lap Dog class. There are

K9 SHOTS BY LISA BATES / COURTESY CAROL NAPIER

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six divisions, based on the distance your dog jumps. It is possible to earn titles in more than one division.

Generally, dogs start with Novice or Junior jumps and move up to higher divisions as they learn to jump farther.

Wilson (Astra Anarchia PSI Mystery), a Czech import, has recorded an 18-foot, 6-inch jump! Mighty impressive for a 13¾-inch-tall dog. Wilson resides in Manitoba, Canada, with her owner, Megan Rai Ferguson, who owns a stationary dock. This gives Wilson lots of pool time to perfect her skills. You don't have to own a dock or pool to excel with your Border, you just have to have the desire.

Carol Napier and her boy Macallan (GCh. Standish's Heart of Gold, DCAT, SCN SIN, SEN, RATO, DS, DJX, TKN, CHC), qualified for the NADD nationals with under a year of training. Macallan managed to perform in a very crowded, loud environment and earned second place in

his division! Remarkable for a completely novice team at their first national dock diving event.

Our breed standard calls for "a head like that of an otter." Given a chance, they can swim like otters too. With effort and dedication, Border Terriers can and will excel at just about anything they think is fun. Do you like to make a splash, meet new people, and watch some truly happy dogs? Give dock diving a chance—your Border Terrier will surely thank you! —K.K.

Thank you, Kara!

—Bobbie Kelley,

bobbie.e.kelley@gmail.com

[Border Terrier Club of America](#)

Bull Terriers

THE NEED FOR MENTORSHIP IN BULL TERRIERS

Mentorship is an ancient tradition, woven into the fabric of every specialized craft, art, science, or discipline. It is no less crucial within the world of purebred dogs.

For novice Bull Terrier owners, the guidance of experienced breeders and owners is invaluable. I would go as far as to say it is a moral imperative to safeguard the health, well-being, and future of our breed.

Mentorship regarding the quality of care, attention, and training for a Bull Terrier aims to enhance the bond between humans and their dogs, thereby reducing the likelihood of the breed being placed in rescue. While mentorship on purchasing a Bull Terrier may seem idealistic, it would be highly practical in the long run, as it can help prospective owners determine if a bull terrier is a good fit for their home.

Having spoken to numerous new exhibitors at recent dog shows, it has become sadly apparent that as stewards of the breed, we must be more present in providing adequate support and mentorship.

There are numerous reasons for this deficit. While we live in the digital age and

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For the future of the Bull Terrier breed, we need to embrace and support our new exhibitors.

there is no lack of accessible information, all too often the information can be incomplete, misleading, or just false. For new pet owners or exhibitors it is crucial to have access to reliable and accurate information. When we are at dog shows, quite simply, we are busy prepping and showing our dogs, celebrating a win or crying over a loss. Taking new exhibitors under our wings may not be on our minds. However, as stewards of our breed we must make the time to connect and build community.

Mentorship from experienced breeders and owners

of Bull Terriers can provide a deeper understanding of the breed history, the breed standard, temperament, and the subtleties of behavior. Evaluating dogs within an established framework, establishing familiarity with the etiquette and sportsmanship of the show ring, fostering a spirit of camaraderie, and learning by studying the breed are essential lessons for all exhibitors. Mentors can serve as role models, providing constructive feedback, answering questions, and hopefully helping to maintain the integrity of the breed.

Mentorship is not relegated to single relationships. It should resonate through educational outreach by the parent and regional clubs, with workshops or discussions presenting relevant, informative, and creative content.

Establishing mentorship programs to pair newcomers with experienced breeders would be beneficial. In this world of immediate gratification, it is essential to create a culture that encourages research, study, observation, dialogue with others, and learning—through both success and failure.

When new exhibitors tell me that they purchased their Bull Terrier from a photo they saw online without really knowing much about the bloodlines, health testing, or the breeder; or that they have been to numerous dog shows, and nobody has taken the time to sit with them and chat casually or at ringside to evaluate virtues and faults of dogs; or that they had no idea of the amount of time and effort

COURTESY VICTORIA M. SOTTILE

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it would take to train their dog to show ... this tells me we need to do better. Much better. We need to embrace and support our new exhibitors so they gain confidence, knowledge, and experience, for they are the future of our breed.

—Victoria M. Sottile,
Bull Terrier Club of
America

Dandie Dinmont Terriers

PUPPIES RULE

Thanks to the advances in technology, especially ultrasound, we know what to expect at least a month before the puppies arrive, and then we do the confirming X-ray on or very close to the due date. That way, our plan is to allow for a natural whelping—but we also are prepared if it looks like there may be a good reason to expect a C-section as the alternative plan. But that is only part of the planning process. The rest concerns the whelping box, extra heating for the puppy



Dandie Dinmont Terrier Ch. Shadowmark's Hit'n the Sauce, 1979, judge Edd Bivin (Ashbey photo)

room, scale, notepad, and the safety ex-pen to keep other residents from going where no sane dog would go (that is, into the den of a mother dog with new puppies).

The most recent additions to our world arrived safe and looking very much like the nondescript newborn Dandie puppies—two mustards and one pepper. The pepper was causing concern; she was considerably smaller than her two siblings, a mustard dog and mustard bitch.

But not to worry; despite her size, she turned out to be a mighty force, crawling right over her larger siblings to the fountain of milk. By the time she left for her new home, she was the same size and weight as her brother, and only slightly behind her big sister. And like the rest, she was not always happy about the daily weigh-in, at least until she matched the rest of the litter.

Dandie puppies are slow and lazy, in my experience.

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To my point: At 3 weeks, Siberian Husky pups are eating you out of house and home, and by 6 weeks, they are chasing down the resident cat and dragging her around by her tail. Pembroke puppies find 3 weeks of age to be a great time to become food fiends and poop-machines, and their mothers are ready to abandon ship at the first opportunity. Dandie puppies at 3 weeks are slugs, perfectly happy to keep right on nursing and not the least bit interested in puppy food. *Yuck!* is the most common reaction. Not that they are not wandering around on four paws—they just like the milk bar better.

But there is some truth to the old saying “Be careful what you wish for.” Your quiet, well-mannered puppies can turn into crazy maniacs chewing everything in sight in the blink of an eye!

By 6 weeks, we drag out the “puppy mobile” and turn them loose. This is a mobile that sits on the floor and has a variety of toys

hanging from it. The gang quickly figured out that that tugging, biting, and dragging it are all fun activities! The exercise helps them develop motor skills, and they love to come out of the whelping area and play.

The other great resources are “the grandmas” who come to visit the puppies several times a week. They have Dandies of their own, but just love puppies! The puppies get to be held by others, get away with wiggling and chewing on chins (not recommended!), and see from an early age that people can be fun. By the time they are ready to go to their new homes, the grandmas are sad to see them go, but the puppies are fearless when it comes to human contact. The grandmas do not go to dog shows, and neither do we when we have puppies, so the risks of anything nasty coming into the house are minimal.

In this last litter it was clear very early on which puppy was staying. The mustard bitch was always first up,

first to bark and yodel, and first to snack on the baseboard moulding. She discovered where the toys went to sleep at night and raids the box every morning. She is totally fearless and thinks nothing about taking a toy away from the resident Bouvier, who has to jump the gates to get away from the land shark who loves to bite her feet. Her most celebrated accomplishment, however, is to hide under the giant sock-bed and then, from below, drag it across the room—to the delight of the humans, who just see this bed sliding across the room!

Nothing fazes her, so we have high hopes that she will just walk into the show ring and strut her stuff. However, we have to train her first—and that could be the challenge of the year!

The moral of this puppy discussion is simple: Plan for everything, socialize them well, and keep the one who not only fits the breed standard but also will make you laugh and is ready to take

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on the world at your side. For this, the Dandie puppy is like no other—in a very good way. —*Sandra Wolfskill, 2017*

Dandie Dinmont Terrier
Club of America

Smooth Fox Terriers

BY A NECK: FINDING ELEGANCE IN THE SMOOTH FOX TERRIER STANDARD

Those seeking a clear picture of what an ideal specimen of an individual breed looks like should first respectfully absorb the written AKC standard for that breed. Using the standard's language as an anchored starting point for learning, one might explore historical artwork and literature for expansion of knowledge on the breed.

The current standard for the Smooth Fox Terrier was approved in July 2002. We are on the hunt for what makes for classic elegance in the Smooth Fox Terrier. The “General Appearance” section of the standard says, in pertinent part: “bone and



Smooth Fox Terriers

strength in a small compass are essential; but this must not be taken to mean that a Fox Terrier should be cloddy, or in any way coarse ...”

So, if appearing cloddy or coarse must not be the appearance, let's look for the alternative, which could be said to be graceful and elegant.

Further down in the “General Appearance” section, the key to this concept may be provided in the sentence that reads, in part, “He should stand like a cleverly made hunter ...”

We know from the standard that a “cleverly made hunter” (that is, a horse) can cover a lot of ground with

the greatest length of stride compatible with a short back. Ask yourself, what else does this description possibly impart to us about elegance in the construction of the Smooth Fox Terrier?

The standard's “Neck, Topline, Body” section provides a clue when it states, in part: “Neck should be clean and muscular, without throatiness, of fair length, and gradually widening to the shoulders.” Another provision in the “Forequarters” section reads, in part, “shoulders should be long and sloping, well laid back, fine at the points, and clearly cut at the withers.” This harkens back

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to the image presented by the statement “He should stand like a cleverly made hunter.”

The neck, to state the obvious, connects the head with the body via the shoulders, and in the concept drawn from the hunter description evokes the idea of properly constructed shoulders enabling balance and movement with elegance. A “hunter” (horse) is known to have athletic ability with additional qualities of style, grace, presence, and beauty. The neck, short back, length of stride, balance, propelling power, and endurance can all be elicited from the descriptions set forth in the standard.

Consider further the “hunter” (horse) picture from this viewpoint: descriptions of the hunter’s neck and proportion of the top of the neck being ideally twice as long as the underside of the horse’s neck.

The keystone of balance is stated in the Smooth Fox Terrier standard. Balance must be attained in all the

dimensions discussed in the standard. The standard depicts a dog with propulsive power in hind leg movement, with proper neck and shoulder construction delivering straight forward movement of the front legs. These construction features are connected with the visual of the “cleverly made hunter” and lead the way to the concept of elegance, rather than cloddiness or coarseness, in looks and movement of the Smooth Fox Terrier.

—Kristi L. Tukua, AKC GAZETTE columnist for Smooth Fox Terriers

[American Fox Terrier Club](#)

Wire Fox Terriers

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FOR BREEDERS—HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY

Why should dog breeders care about and/or participate in scientific research? If we breeders believe in the definition of a purebred dog breeder—that is, to intentionally mate

selected canines with the specific purpose of continuing the lineage of certain breed characteristics—then good health and disposition are key factors to be considered when selecting suitable mates.

It is expected that serious breeders will know about diseases and conditions commonly found in their breed, which should be essential to why they choose to breed dog “A” to dog “B.”

Breeders can certainly base their mating decisions on observation, myth, or the number of show wins. However, breeding practices should be based on scientific evidence that results from collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data.

For example, are there significant blood related abnormalities in your breed, or genetic based neuro/muscular/skeletal abnormalities that need to be identified?

Breeders know how difficult it is to eliminate certain conditions from their litters; how much easier it would be to know what is hidden

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Wire Fox Terrier

behind that gorgeous-looking, top-winning dog and the equally beautiful female being considered to parent a litter.

It is a known fact that breeders are reluctant to provide cell samples (usually blood) to researchers, or even to answer questionnaires about health issues in their dogs for fear of being a marked person. However, researchers at colleges and universities must adhere to stringent criteria when conducting research and take great pains to maintain confidentiality of participants.

The University of Missouri School of

Veterinary Medicine is conducting research to identify more definitive markers for degenerative myelopathy (DM). Canine DM is closely related to human amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Both conditions involve progressive degeneration of motor neurons, leading to muscle weakness and eventual paralysis. Readers will know ALS as Lou Gehrig's disease. Among well-known people with ALS were Stephen Hawking, Roberta Flack, and Senator Jacob Javits.

The average age of first observed clinical signs of DM in dogs is about age

8 to 10 years or older. The dog progresses through all stages within a 12- to 18-month period. The damage to the spinal-cord white matter does not appear until later in the dog's life. By that time, the damage is done, which is why the dog does not respond to treatment.

What are the clinical signs? In the first stage, owners might see weakness in rear legs, along with a slight change in gait. There may be scuffing of rear pawpads. The dog has difficulty rising from a lying position. Weaknesses of the rear limbs eventually ascend to the front limbs in the final stage.

As the damage to the spinal cord continues, owners will see urinary and fecal incontinence. Dogs will have difficulty standing and eventually be unable to walk. Loss of all motor function is the final outcome.

DM has been identified in several breeds, including Boxers, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, and Bernese Mountain Dogs, and has recently been identified as

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a problem in the Wire Fox Terrier. Liz Hansen, DNA Research Information Specialist at the Canine DNA Testing Laboratory at the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine, is looking for Wire and Smooth Fox Terrier participation in their study. Just a sample of your dog's blood is all they need.

She needs clear animals, as well as carriers and at risk/affected dogs. The dogs must be at least 10 years old, male or female or even neutered. Your only cost should be for shipping the blood to Missouri, as most vets will draw blood for research at no charge.

To participate, contact Liz Hansen at hansenl@missouri.edu or (573) 884-3712. Their website is www.CanineGeneticDiseases.net.

This is your opportunity to protect the future of our beloved Fox Terriers.

—Joan Gordon Murko, Woodland Park, New Jersey; donohill@optimum.net

[American Fox Terrier Club](#)

Kerry Blue Terriers

Carolyn Ashe Robinson shares her personal canine journey to find a connection to her Irish heritage.

KERRY BLUE FAMILY CONNECTIONS

I acquired a Kerry Blue Terrier due to my family history. My paternal grandfather came from a farming family in Anascaul, County Kerry, Ireland. The Kerry Blue Terrier was a general all-around farmhand, guarding sheep, controlling vermin (especially badgers), herding, and most of all, a treasured companion.

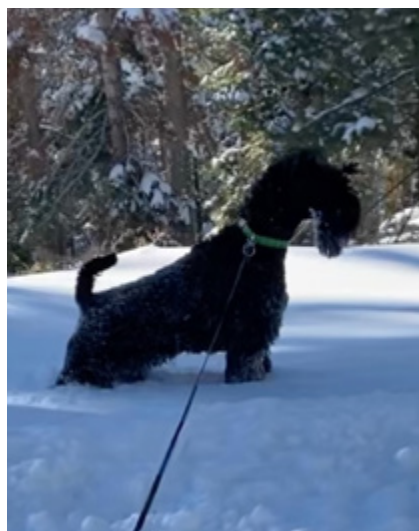
My grandfather immigrated to Boston, Massachusetts in 1902 and quickly adapted to his new home. During the first third of the 1900s he made several voyages back to County Kerry, bringing several Kerry Blue Terriers to Boston, where he bred and showed his dogs in the Northeast. Oddly, I am the first of his descendants to join the Kerry Blue world. I like to think that there is a

bit of Anascaul Kerry DNA in my West Coast-bred dog!

As a relatively new owner of a Kerry Blue Terrier, I am still learning much about my beautiful, intelligent, intuitive, and delightful companion. My most useful reference books have been *The Kerry Blue Terrier*, by Edith Izant; *The New Complete Kerry Blue Terrier*, by E.S. Montgomery, M.D.; *The United States Kerry Blue Terrier Handbooks*; and articles in the USKBTC publication *Kerry Blueprints* and in *Canine Chronicle* and *Showsght* magazines. Conversations with my breeders, trainers, handlers, groomers, and fellow club members reveal gems of invaluable knowledge about diet, training, grooming, showing, and general Kerry Blue Terrier behavior.

My Kerry recently earned his championship in the show ring and triumphed again, the very next day, to be selected Best of Breed! But Kerry Blues are not necessarily just pampered show dogs. He resides in the

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Kerry Blue Terrier at sea; Dugan in Tahoe snow; grooming preparation for the Best of Breed ring

Sierras at almost 7,000 feet above sea level. He is our main coyote deflector, black bear pursuer, squirrel population controller, vigorous Alpine lake swimmer, and backcountry ski buddy—such a versatile breed!

Since our dog is the first Kerry most of our neighbors, family, and friends have ever seen, he has quite a curious and loyal fan club. His handsome looks are much admired wherever we go, although he is often accused of being a schnauzer! Fellow dog lovers like to run their hands through his soft and luxurious coat. Every dog show in which he participates requires a full

and complete report to his fans about his points and ribbons (or lack thereof!).

Since I've owned dogs all my adult life, (mostly rescues), I didn't expect to be surprised by my new Kerry pup. My breeder had prepared him so well that he was housebroken very quickly. He stands on his grooming table without complaint for long sessions. He is a sensitive companion and seems to be aware of the emotional vibe in the room. He discerns the feelings of humans and acts accordingly, almost politely (if that word can be used for a dog). Our Kerry is a "presence," in my opinion, although

I may be biased. He is a higher level of being rather than a mere animal.

In our neighborhood in which almost every home has one or two dogs, our KBT has many friends. His favorite chum is a tall, droopy-jowled coonhound who bays loudly to announce his oncoming walk around the circle. Our dog runs to the storage box on our deck—his "watchtower"—to greet his friend with a chorus of happy barks. On the other hand, there are a few neighborhood dogs he just doesn't like, and that's when the breed's protective instinct kicks in: A fusillade of

COURTESY CAROLYN ASHE ROBINSON

TERRIER GROUP

warning barks ensue.

We have found our Kerry Blue to be a healthy, rugged, affectionate, intelligent, joyful, and most of all versatile breed suited for family life, the show ring, travel, and just about any outdoor activity you can imagine!

Now that I have brought back Kerry Blue Terriers to our family, I reflect on how appreciative I am for all the research, seminars, discussions, guidance, and boundless support provided by my regional club members who encouraged me to choose our wonderful Kerry Blue.

—Carolyn Ashe Robinson,
c.rbnsn@gmail.com

[United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club](#)

Lakeland Terriers

Our column for this issue is an article written some years ago by Dee and Dick Hanna and originally published in the early 1980s in *Terrier Type* (no longer in publication).



Lakeland Terrier

QUALITIES WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN JUDGING

With aspirations ourselves to become judges, we have built over the years lists of things that we have either liked or disliked about how our dogs have been treated by those already licensed to judge by the AKC.

1. That they understand our breed standard (anyone can memorize words), and that they have the ability to apply it and care enough to promote only those dogs worthy of creating others in

that dog's image.

2. That they judge the entire dog (even though he is built of bits and pieces) and not let a quirk of their own making defeat the rest of the otherwise quality specimen. Treat a fault as a fault, not as a disqualification.

3. Be fair to everyone in the ring, be they friend or foe. Forget faces and keep your eyes on what you were hired to do: judge dogs. The best should win every time, not the friend on the other

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end of the lead.

4. Remember to judge the dog's own qualifications as best they can, knowing that manmade ones such as grooming, color, coat, fixed tails, and fixed ears are not carried in the dog's genes. Grooming has come to the forefront so strongly in the last few years that many have forgotten the dog underneath.

5. Enjoy what you are doing—don't just make it a job, make it a pleasurable day's work, giving your honest opinion. Be one of those judges who people brag about winning under because your opinion is so highly valued.

6. Judge which dog is the best dog presented to you—not which dog is presented to you best. Be happy at the end of the day that you truly judged dogs.

7. Do withhold ribbons when necessary—the breeders will love you for it! To honor a poor specimen is an injustice to the breed (and to the wallet of the unsuspecting owner). If the owner

or handler is someone who should know better, then let them know that you will not be a part of promoting inferior dogs. Everyone will respect you for such decisions.

8. Though it may be cold, rainy, windy, hot, and with no tents or cover; through disgruntled owners, a bad lunch, a plane to catch, or the trying of some dog to bite you—remember, you applied to be licensed by the AKC, you accepted the assignment, and you are receiving a paycheck for doing this job. Do it to the best of your ability, and give the game of dog showing a better name. The name of the game is *the best dog won*—honestly.

9. Give everyone who pays an entry to show under you the best they can get. Remember many times where there were such small differences between good dogs, but they both can't be winners on the same day.

—D. & D.H.

—Pat Rock,
[United States Lakeland Terrier Club](#)

Manchester Terriers

KIDS AND MANCHESTERS

PART TWO

This month we continue our look, begun in the May issue, at how Manchester Terriers and kids can be great together. To revisit, in part:

“As with any dog, properly introducing Manchesters to the children is very important, and it is also important that the children are respectful with the dogs. If managed smartly, Manchesters can make excellent family pets. Often people do not think of terriers as family dogs, but they are devoted and determined and can focus their fortitude on loving and protecting their families. For kids who are lucky enough to have a bond with a Manchester, they will have a friend for life.”

When you are ready to bring a Manchester puppy home, gauging when is the best time will ensure your children are prepared for the changes that come with puppy ownership. Being

BREED COLUMNS



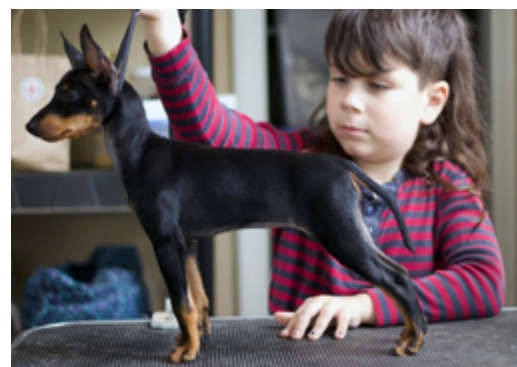
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Manchester Terriers develop a deep bond with their people—including children. Children and Manchesters enjoy playing, running, snoozing, and even doing canine events together.

COURTESY OWNERS

TERRIER GROUP



prepared is key so your puppy will have all of the accoutrements needed to make them feel at home.

Kat Patrick tried her best to surprise her kids with a dog, especially since they had been asking for quite a while:

“We thought we were surprising our kids with a new dog: I’d tried so hard to have all the equipment, toys, food, etc, stored at my neighbor’s house so the kids would have no chance of stumbling onto anything that would give it away, but on the big day when we revealed all the preparations and that we were getting a dog, my kids said they all knew. How could they have

known? Well, one of my kids was in charge of emptying the trash cans each week for trash day, and he found a receipt for 1,000 poop bags! He said, I told the others that I was pretty sure we were about to get a dog.”

It is hard to keep secrets from children, especially when they are determined to get a dog. Note that even an older Manchester can thrive in a family with children if they were raised around them and have the temperament for the busyness of a household with children.

In the end, the children must respect the dog and their signals when they are ready for quiet time. Children “speaking dog”

and dogs learning manners provide the best foundation for success. Educating both the children and the Manchester on being good stewards is the best way to build a relationship that will provide years of valued companionship and loyalty.

—Robin Gates,
forensicbio@yahoo.com
American Manchester
Terrier Club

Norfolk Terriers

**ON BEING NATIONAL-
SPECIALTY SHOW CHAIR:
INTERVIEW WITH CHRIS SMITH**

It’s August, and many of us are enjoying days at the beach or spending time at pristine mountain lakes. Maybe picnics on our decks are in order, complete with s’mores. While we’re doing

COURTESY OWNERS

TERRIER GROUP



this, our Norfolk Terrier Club (NTC) show chair, Chris Smith, is hard at work preparing for our national specialty in Macungie, Pennsylvania, on October 5, in conjunction with the Montgomery County Kennel Club's all-breed show.

Chris was a longtime owner of Weimaraners, and she has owner-handled several dogs to their breed championships as well as handling some top obedience and field dogs. And then? She was bitten by the terrier bug and obtained her first Norfolk in 2019.

Since then, her Finley has earned his breed championship, as well as titles in rally, scent work, Barn Hunt, and Trick Dog. Chris is of the mindset that a well-balanced dog has titles on both ends. The Norfolk Terrier Club has benefited from Chris's expertise and organizational ability, as she has served as show chair for our national specialty for the past four years. We asked her to answer some quick questions about what it's like to fill this incredibly important job.

NTC: What is the hardest part of your job?

CS: For me, nothing is overly difficult in fulfilling the responsibilities of NTC show chair, since I have a number of years' experience assisting clubs with both national and regional conformation shows, as well as obedience, rally and hunt test trials. However, as an individual, you need to stay abreast of changes to AKC show rules and regulations. In addition, you need to remain organized and conscious of deadlines to be successful in receiving show approval. For a small club like ours, this usually means we are not holding independent specialties but instead are working in conjunction with a host club, such as Montgomery County Kennel Club, where we will be holding our national specialty in October. This means we not only need approval from the AKC, but host club approval is also needed, which creates additional deadlines that need to be communicated to other members of the committee, such as the trophy chair.

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

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How can club members (and other exhibitors) make your job easier?

When the show chair notifies members of show activities that include a deadline, such as trophy donations, it's important that they acknowledge it. Otherwise, requested adjustments have to be made with the host club and the specific superintendent's office. Just think, if every terrier breed club made multiple change requests to one show how much work this entails for the host club and the superintendent with regard to typesetting alone.

What advice would you give to people who are contemplating stepping up into this role in the future?

Like most clubs today, NTC's membership is aging. We need young people to become involved, to learn the ropes from experienced people and to move into the position of show chair. This way the NTC will continue its success in offering members wonderful

experiences such as those made during Montgomery Week. Being show chair is a lot of work, but it's also rewarding. You have the opportunity to be hands-on during the show, while you meet lots of wonderful people from all over the country and the world.

Thanks, Chris! We appreciate all you and our other dedicated volunteers do for the NTC. See you in October for "Montgomery Week."

—Sheila Foran,
Sforan2@cox.net
Norfolk Terrier Club

Norwich Terriers

'TIS THE SEASON

As I write this as a hurricane season approaches, those of us who live on the Gulf Coast and East Coast usually go over our "readiness" briefly in our minds—but we don't always mind the details of our readiness for an emergency. Are you prepared?

There is a federal-government website, <http://www.ready.gov>, that provides

excellent preparedness tips and guidance to get through any natural emergency or disaster. It includes readiness tips for all kinds of disasters—from wildfires, to earthquakes, to hurricanes, and more.

I always review my "go kit" for myself and my dogs just prior to hurricane season, ensuring I have what I need for myself and my dogs easily at hand. Since the most common disaster in my area is a hurricane, that situation is what I prepare for. Are you prepared?

I usually go to Ready.gov each year to double-check my kits and documents. This year there is a warning posted on the homepage: "Ready.gov is being updated to comply with President Trump's Executive Orders. Thank you for your patience and understanding." What exactly this is going to mean in terms of available resources is yet to be seen. I feel we must be prepared to have no federal assistance of any kind in a disaster until the dust settles with all the

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restructuring of government agencies and resources.

It makes me feel unsettled as hurricane season approaches. My insurance is updated, and I have an evacuation plan that will be exercised if there is any chance a hurricane will come my way, but I'm unsure how much and what kind of assistance I will have in

the aftermath. A new plan may need to be in place. As with hundreds of others, my claim for damage by Hurricane Beryl has still not been settled, yet the new season is upon us. Are you prepared?

Every year we live with change in our lives. Our personal documents need to be updated with prescrip-

tions, insurance documents, ownership documents, and photos of yourself with each of your dogs, along with their detailed descriptions and medications. Identification documents such as passports and Social Security and bank records. Regardless of the type of disaster that is common in your area, information for you and your household usually changes. Are you prepared?

[Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) includes fillable online forms to help remind you of important details about you and your household that would be common for any disaster. Then, they also have forms to help you build a ready kit which can be placed near an exit of your home. As an aside, I travel to dog shows in a large Class A RV and keep everything necessary for an emergency evacuation near the exit of the RV. Because I travel so frequently, it is easier for me to keep two go-kits—one at home, and one for my RV. Are you prepared?

PHOTO CREDIT HERE

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[Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) has a lot of educational information that all of us would benefit from. From their website: “Disasters don’t plan ahead—you can. Know what disasters and hazards could affect your area and learn what to do before, during, and after each type of emergency.” While tornadoes may not be common in your area, you could be traveling and find yourself in the path of a tornado. Are you prepared?

Finally, whatever plan you make, please, please, *please*, practice your emergency evacuation. Determine how long it will take you to evacuate your household and animals from the area. By practicing your plan you can trim off minutes which can save lives.

For example, it would take five minutes for me to evacuate my home with all my dogs, and three minutes to evacuate my RV. It worries me that it would take five minutes for me to safely evacuate my home, due to where my dog room

is located in relation to the closest exit from my house. For that reason, I’m putting a separate exit door in the dog room. This will trim off at least two minutes in an emergency.

I only know this from practicing my emergency evacuation plan and having put it into practice on the one occasion my RV caught fire on an interstate in the middle of summer. Thankfully, I didn’t have to think but rather just went through the motions of the plan. In three minutes I safely evacuated 13 dogs, one bird, and three people with emergency equipment to keep everybody safe and cool until help arrived.

It’s important to know that an RV will burn to the ground, start to finish, in seven minutes. Had I not acted as promptly as I did, the outcome would have sadly been much different.

Are you prepared?

—Judi Hartell,

DataDawg11@gmail.com
[Norwich Terrier Club of America](#)

Scottish Terriers

BE A GOOD SPORT

Conformation dog shows were established to determine which of our dogs meet the breed standard well enough to be used in breeding programs and therefore continue the breed as we know it into the future. It’s not about who is at the other end of the lead; we are merely there to control the commotion and pay the bills.

But as with most human endeavors, it has evolved to be more about the humans than the dogs, and winning is the sole purpose of the events.

Don’t be confused, we all like the win or we wouldn’t be there, weekend after weekend, but we seem to have forgotten that the focus should be on the quality of the dogs, not the ribbons we win or the brags we can post. As a result, the level of good sportsmanship has suffered and the event’s purpose diminished.

Through the many years I have been involved in showing my Scottish Terriers, I

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usually check the entries and follow the results to see who was entered and who took points at shows around the country. There have been some growing indications of bending good sportsmanship etiquette in order to win awards, finish dogs, and earn bragging rights.

With the online presence of the superintendent's websites, all this information is now readily available. And of course, with social media, this information is often blasted out immediately after the classes are completed or are live-streamed.

So, in an effort to rekindle a level of good sportsmanship, especially among breeder-owner-handlers, and return to the real purpose of why we are showing dogs, here are a few thoughts:

Finding and holding the majors

This has become a big challenge in the dog show world, as entries continue to try and rebound after the pandemic. Not to mention



Scottish Terrier

the fact that litter registrations are dropping for the Scottish Terrier, and fewer people are coming into the sport. But there are two types of occurrences taking place that need to be pointed out:

If a major is built by emptying the kennel, what is actually being achieved? If the only competition is from the same kennel or breeding program, the only thing proven is that one of those dogs is better than the others from that kennel. The purpose of the sport is to compete against other dogs from other kennels and breeders to see if what

is being bred are dogs who conform to the standard. The handler or breeder's opinion doesn't matter in the show ring, the judge's does.

When an exhibitor is at a show site with their dogs and sees who else has entered, breaking the major out of spite or fear is not only unsportsmanlike, it is completely unfair to the other entries who have spent time and money being there with the expectation that the major will hold. Reputations will soon be sullied—and as true terriers, such indiscretions are seldom forgotten.

ROBERT YOUNG ©AKC

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Following judges

We all have favorite judges and love to show to the ones who seem to enjoy the task at hand and whose opinion we respect, and who hopefully have a reputation for being impartial and picking the best dog on the day. Again, the nature of the sport is to receive numerous opinions from various judges as to the quality of our dogs. While the AKC requires that only the first two majors be from two different judges, it provides no guidance regarding the single points. Additionally, it's probably not a good idea to belittle judges on social media when you don't agree with their decisions.

Finished dogs in the classes

Before the internet made such information readily available, exhibitors had to call AKC to verify the points progression of their dogs to determine if they had finished their championship or not. There was always the gray area when entering shows while waiting for the

AKC championship certificate to arrive in the mail, and until that verification arrived, one could technically still enter shows as a class dog; this rule has been frequently sidestepped as we approach the Montgomery County weekend. Now, within about two weeks that information is available on the AKC website. Check the AKC point progression online if you suspect your dog has finished—and if so, move it up as a special. AKC will alert you if you have miscounted points.

Be a gracious loser

We all enter the ring thinking our dogs deserve to be there and hope to walk out with the win, that's why we enter. But often, we have to take the loss, and we all must remember to do it graciously. I recently overheard a judge telling an exhibitor after he lost, "If you aren't happy, you should go home!" Just remember how good it feels when your competition congratulates you on your win ... and

return that feeling. When inside the ring, we are competitors there to go for the win; outside the ring (where we spend most of our time), we should be seen as the stalwarts of our breed.

It's hard not to let the human ego get the better of us sometimes, but the sport of showing purebred dogs in the conformation ring should not be about what we take out of the ring, but about the quality of the dogs we take into the ring.

—Richard C. Bumstead,
glenclark6517@yahoo.com
Scottish Terrier Club of America

Sealyham Terriers

MENTORING MATTERS: BE THE REASON ANOTHER DOG PERSON FEELS INSPIRED

No matter what your age when beginning to breed or show your Sealyham in companion or performance sports, getting support—mentoring—matters.

Mentoring:

- promotes appreciation;

BREED COLUMNS

TERRIER GROUP



Five-year-old Elena Dunlavy shows Sealyham Terrier Jags; sister Kalyn helps Elena with Jags in the ring; Elena with Jags on the table; Meghan Trostle with Winnie, whom she helped whelp and raise, on the show site, and after a win; Meghan and Winnie earning CGC; Meghan taught Winnie to give her paw; Amy Jonas's first mentor, Helen MacPherson; Amy showing Wynston; Amy with Jazz Fitzgerald, whom she is now mentoring, and their Sealyham family.

COURTESY ERICA ERIKSON-GROVE / MEGHAN TROSTLE / AMY JONAS

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- encourages belonging;
- brings clarity; and
- nurtures contributions.

A family affair

“Like all young kids, showing dogs helps them learn about distractions in and outside the ring, take direction, maintain focus, and learn *patience*—lots of patience—and respect for others and their dogs.” —Michelle Erickson-Grove, Ellusion’s Sealyham Terriers

The Erickson-Grove family mentoring began with their daughter, Erica, who passed along her advice showing Sealyhams to her children David, Kalyn, and now Elena Dunlavey, who is 5 years old. Elena has shown Sealyhams at the Amana dog show and Fort Dodge Kennel Club. She is currently showing Sealyham Jags, owned by Theresa Smith. Elena learns from watching her grandmother, mother, big brother, David, and big sister, Kalyn. Kalyn is in the Top 20 Juniors. Elena gets continuous ring advice and pointers

from her big sister, Kalyn: “Remember to keep your head up and follow.”

“Best of Breed at the Fort Dodge Dog Show put a big smile on her face,” remembered judge Pamela Peat. Elena is putting points on Jags—impressive for a 5-year-old. She is following in her mother’s and sister’s footsteps. She loves besting them and now goes to group after winning breed.

Love at first sight

Meghan Trostle got her first Sealy two years ago, when a friend bred her female Sealy to GCh. Goodspice Efbe Money-Stache. Meghan helped whelp and raise an only pup from the litter, Winnie. They’ve been in love and together ever since!

“Having Margery Good as my mentor has been incredible,” says Meghan. “Without her help, I would not have come this far showing or grooming.” Winnie, Thornbury’s Goodspice Winifred of Tegeing, finished her championship by

age 9 months, and her GCh. and Bronze GCh. before turning 2.

Mentoring is key for anyone getting into a breed for the first time. “We need to know what we are doing—you can’t go solo, or you won’t be doing the best for the breed,” Trostle insists. “You need a seasoned mentor to guide you.” (www.goodspicekennel.com/terrier-breeding)

Down Under

Amy Jonas (<http://www.cairnandsealyhamterrier-saustralia.com.au/>) waited eight years and got her first Sealyham, Sybil, in 2018. “After exhibiting and breeding Cairn Terriers since 2001, Sealyhams were of interest for some time,” says Jonas, “but Sealyhams are very few and far between in Australia. Back then, [there were] only about four breeders.”

Jonas’s first mentor was Sybil’s breeder in Queensland, then Helen MacPherson. Helen and her mother before her bred

TERRIER GROUP

and exhibited Sealyhams in Australia for many years. “At my first Sydney Royal with a Sealyham, Helen kindly gave me grooming tips and much more—a generous person, part of the old guard. She recently passed away. When someone so knowledgeable is no longer here, it creates a real gap.”

Jonas reached out to Adrian Walmsley, then others from the U.K. and U.S. “David Winsley (Ireland) was incredibly helpful offering insight into different bloodlines,” reflects Jonas. “My two trips to the MCKC shows in 2022 and 2024 were fabulous. I met the breeder of the dog I imported from Germany, Irene Schotel, and am so grateful she was part of what I’m building here.”

With few people able to mentor the breed in Australia, Facebook chats were a lifesaver. “I’m like a sponge,” Jonas says. “Various mentors have seen or put hands on dogs four to six generations back.”

Mentoring is super important

“When mentoring a new breed, you’re essentially starting blind,” elaborates Jonas. “Mentees have zero knowledge of the pedigrees that shape the future.” When something unexpected shows up, Jonas asks questions: “Where did that come from, and why? Anyone can put two dogs together and breed a litter, but without understanding what came before, or how dogs mature over time,” infers Jonas. “You’re just hoping for the best.”

Jonas is mentoring Jazz Fitzgerald and her bitch, Gigi, Ch Aimfor Border Booty Call, Wynston’s dam. Wynston is Ch. Aimfor D’Opium N Absinth. She is getting inquiries for her next litter from others who have fallen in love with the Sealyham. (Jonas is the sweepstakes judge for the ASTC national specialty during MCKC, on October 5.)

Be that person who roots for others!

—Bev Thompson,

Thompscom@aol.com
American Sealyham
Terrier Club

Skye Terriers

DROP-EARED SKYE TERRIERS

When I recently showed my 10-month-old drop-eared Skye Terrier puppy, the puppy class judge said that she was happy to see “a natural ear.” She wished Skye owners “would stop putting their dogs’ ears up.”

Just a reminder: Skye Terriers come with two types of ears. The breed standard clearly describes the different ear-sets:

“Ears symmetrical and gracefully feathered. They may be carried prick or drop. If prick, they are medium in size, placed high on the skull, erect at their outer edges, and slightly wider apart at the peak than at the skull. Drop ears, somewhat larger in size and set lower, hang flat against the skull.”

Karen J’Anthony once had a judge say that she

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liked Karen's champion in the ring, but she was disappointed that the dog didn't put its ears up. Someone else reported that judges have said they couldn't award the drop-eared dog because it wouldn't use its ears. The basic problem for judges (and people) is they

rarely see Skyes—especially drops. Karen is an advocate of the drop-eared Skye and is happy to have more drops in the show ring. If you are lucky enough to have a drop-ear Skye, show it off. They are special for many reasons.

The early Skyes may have

been all drop-eared. The breed's most famous representative, Greyfriars Bobby (1855–1872), was a drop. However, people preferred the flashier prick ear-set, which was more successful in the show ring.

For many years, the two varieties were separated

Flanagan The Legend, "Teddy" (Best Dog and BIS, UK Skye Terrier Club Championships Show, 2024; European Winner, 2024, 2025); drop-ear Squash Blossom De La Forêt de Carency and prick-ear Salt and Pepper Timut De La Forêt de Carency; drop puppy Tauriel (GCh. Solana Games People Play) and her bestie Regina (Ch. Drytowns McClaren at Utzmoor); Bentley (left), age 14, and Oliver, age 5; two drop-ears; GCh. Buckwheater's Tinker Tailor Soldier Skye, RATO, TKI, CGC, ATT.

COURTESY DANIELA KOVÁČKOVÁ / PATRICIA AND LAURENT VINCENT / SONDRÁ LANGLEY / MICHELLE THOMAS / KAREN J'ANTHONY / MICHELLE SHIUE

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in breeding programs and shown in separate classes. In 1934, the German Kennel Club refused to register puppies from a “mixed” breeding. The two World Wars crippled most dog breeding in Europe and Great Britain. To preserve the Skye, people interbred the two ear-sets. While the prick-eared variety continues to dominate, drop ears persist. Anu-Maarit Jokinen of Skyeluck Kennel says, “The drop-eared gene is like a kangaroo—it can jump from far away.”

Although not all owners agree, many claim there is a personality difference between the ear-sets.

Shal K. Ahula says drops are softer in temperament and calmer. They don’t jump at every sound. Their ears don’t react to anything and everything. They just tilt their head or look in the direction ever so slightly, like they moved—but did they? It’s something she noticed with her first drop Skye and thought it was her “thing.” But after being owned by

three drops, Shah says it’s how they are. They are so uninterestingly interested, and no matter how often she sees them do it, it’s like the first time. It always makes her smile. It’s sad they were “pushed out” of the main gene pool, because they are the “true” Skye Terrier. And they’re so adorable with their floppy ears. She hopes the “original” ear-set isn’t just popping up in breeding programs as a “phase” but really hopes it comes back strong to stay.

Helen Macgregor believes that calmness comes with being more quietly determined, even stubborn, while the prick-ears will be openly naughty. Having owned and bred numerous dogs of both ear-sets, she believes there is a definite difference in personality.

When I walk my drop alongside one of my prick-eared Skyes, I often field questions about the dog “with the ears.” They point to the prick-eared dog. I reply, “They both have ears.” This comment is

followed by a brief tutorial on Skye Terriers, and I give them a “You have met a Skye Terrier” card. The cards show only a prick-eared Skye and don’t mention the drop. Time for an update?

—Judith Tabler,
JudithATabler@gmail.com
Skye Terrier Club of America

Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

THERE’S MORE THAN WINNING: MAKING THE MOST OF SHOWING

I wasn’t able to have pets as a child because my mom was allergic. I’d wanted a dog as long as I could remember, so as soon as I had my own house with a fenced yard—and long before rescuing shelter pets was a thing—I went to the shelter and came home with a terrier-mix puppy.

I took my pup to obedience school and met people with purebred dogs who were training for obedience trials. They welcomed me

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*Soft Coated
Wheaten Terrier*

and my “mutt” but soon informed me that mixed-breeds weren’t eligible for AKC obedience trials (at that time—luckily that has changed!). While all my new friends were going off to dog shows and coming back with ribbons, trophies, and qualifying scores, I was left home—missing girls’ weekend with dogs!

So began my research into purebred dog breeds and

my search for a Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.

When I finally brought my Wheaten puppy home and began puppy kindergarten, I quickly realized she would not be ready for obedience competition for a while. But she was soon to be 6 months old and eligible for conformation shows. How hard could that be? She just needed to walk nicely on a leash and stand still while a

stranger petted her! And we could join girls’ weekends with dogs!

Several of my friends also had new puppies and were giving conformation a try. We traveled together, set up together at shows, and supported each other ringside when we didn’t have ring conflicts. After our breed judging was complete, we met other exhibitors in our breeds, asked incessant—

DAVID WOO ©AKC

TERRIER GROUP

and often inane—questions of other exhibitors, and then shared that new information with our friends in other breeds: “Guess what I learned about my breed! Do they do that in your breed?” “I don’t know, I’ll find out!”

We learned about each other’s breeds together—not only because they were our friends’ breeds, but because we were interested in everything dog. I had a Wheaten Terrier, one of my friends had a Corgi, one had a Golden Retriever, another had a Whippet, and two of my friends had Poodles (miniature and standard). We each wanted to stay to watch our group, so we usually watched all the groups. “What kind of dog is *that*?” We quizzed each other, and each became “experts” in our own groups (sort of) and learned together about the standards, countries of origin, and original purposes of many different breeds.

Perhaps because our primary interest was obedience competition, we were

particularly interested in temperaments and working styles of the various breeds and came to understand the differences between the various groups and appreciate the subtle nuances of similar breeds.

Fast-forward several years. We’ve each taken breaks from competition at various times to focus on families, careers, and other interests or obligations. Some of us have continued to focus on performance events, with our original or different breeds, while others have become more interested in conformation and promoting our chosen breed, but we have all continued to learn about and appreciate a variety of different breeds.

Those of us who have focused on a specific breed have acquired friends and mentors in that breed and even become mentors to novices in our chosen breed. These are important—even vital—relationships and must be fostered. But I am disappointed to see the “silo effect” so common these

days, when fanciers are only interested or knowledgeable about their own breed.

In years gone by, the greatest compliment that could be paid to a fancier was to be considered a “great dog man.” Unfortunately, that term has gone by the wayside, and not because it is not gender neutral. These days, so many fanciers are only interested in their own dog(s) and their own breed. They have no interest in any other breed. They don’t associate with breeders or exhibitors of other breeds. Unless their dog is Best of Breed, they don’t stay to watch the group, much less any other groups or Best in Show.

If your sole interest in competing in conformation is winning, you are likely to be sorely disappointed. Regardless of the entry, there is only one Best of Breed or Variety. Yes, there are other honors and points available along the way: Winners, for points toward the champion title; Best of Opposite and Select, for points toward

TERRIER GROUP

the Grand Champion title and advanced levels of recognition; and Best Owner-Handled, with points toward advanced recognition. But there is only one Best of Breed, only one Group First, and at the end of the day, only one Best in Show.

There is so much more to dog shows than winning. Maybe you'll make a new friend, get a handling or grooming tip, learn something about your dog—or yourself. Maybe the puppy you brought along for a road trip learned to go up and down stairs! Stay to support the breed winner in the group, even if it wasn't your dog or the dog of a friend. Take the time to recognize and appreciate the virtues of the winning team, even if you know your dog is better!

Keep an open mind. Why did the judge put up that dog over yours? Could your grooming be improved? Did your handling show off your dog's best features? Would additional socialization or different training help your

dog be more confident in the ring?

Even if your day wasn't as successful as you'd hoped, you can still celebrate someone else's win. Watch a different group and think about the tasks those breeds were developed to perform. How does that apply to or differ from your breed? Cultivate friendships with those in other breeds. Celebrate successes together, or commiserate losses and strategize for improvement. Ask for their assistance in evaluating your grooming and handling, or your puppies.

Obviously, not everything will apply directly to your breed, but unbiased opinions can be very enlightening. I've actually learned much about my breed from listening to those in other breeds and comparing what they've said to what I know about Wheatens.

We've chosen to spend our lives with dogs. We spend our time—and much of our discretionary income—studying pedigrees, planning

breedings, evaluating puppies, training, grooming, and entering and traveling to shows. Dog shows are our hobby. There's so much more to life with dogs than winning in the ring.

Have fun! Hug your dog. Win or lose, at the end of the day, know you're going home with the best dog at the show. How can you beat that?

—Shelly Sumner,
shelly.sumner@icloud.com
Soft Coated Wheaten
Terrier Club of America

Welsh Terriers

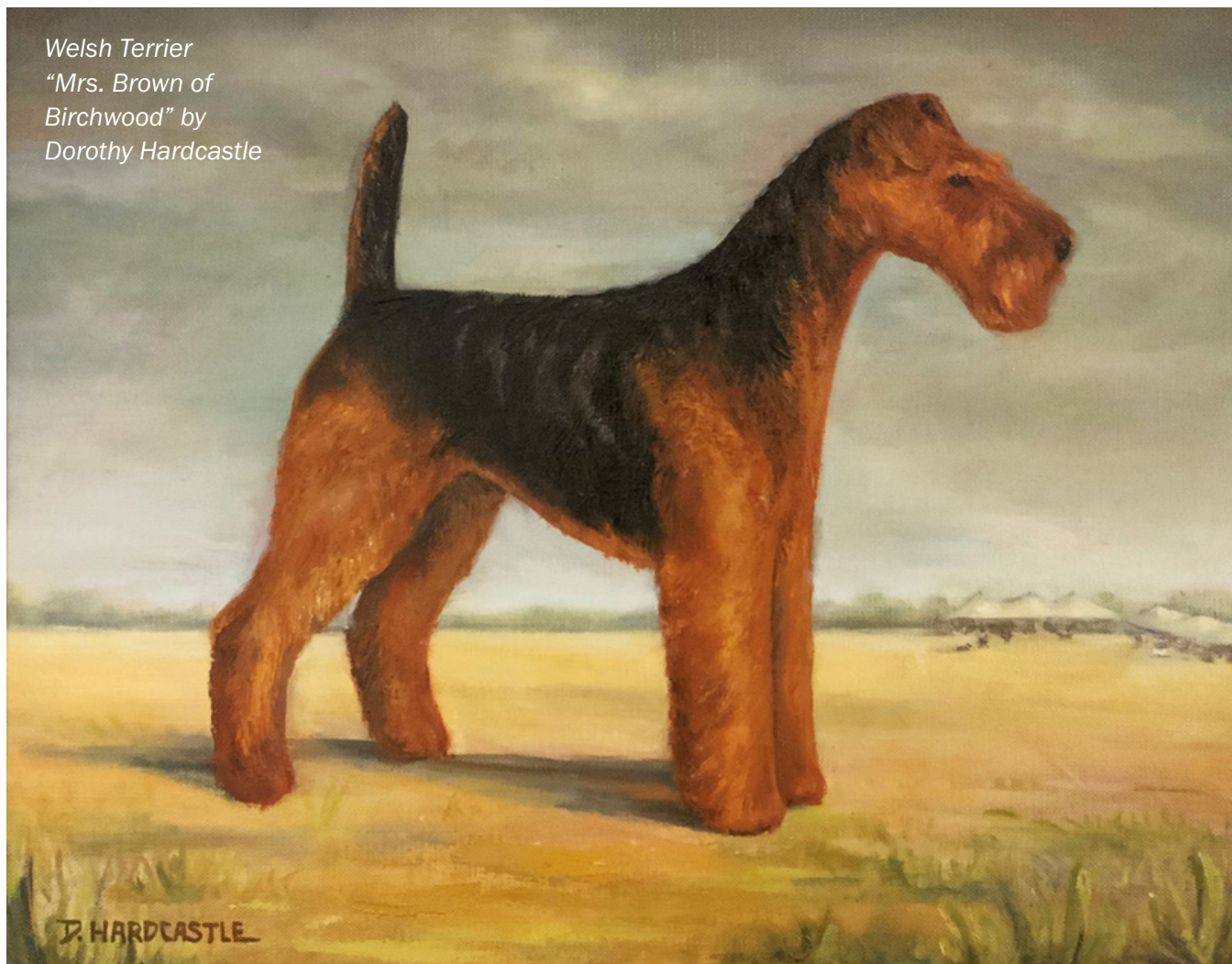
Longtime Welsh Terrier columnist Diane Orange wrote the following piece for this publication in 2014.

PROMOTING THE WELSH TERRIER

Because of our love for the breed and desire to keep it out of the hands of disreputable breeders, Welsh Terrier fanciers have protected the breed by keeping it out of the public eye. We have been

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Welsh Terrier
"Mrs. Brown of
Birchwood" by
Dorothy Hardcastle



exceptionally careful to prevent Welsh from being in great demand, therefore we may have inadvertently discouraged the promotion of our wonderful breed, to the point where few people are even aware that the breed exists or that a Welsh might be exactly what they are

looking for.

Welsh Terriers make great companions and superior housepets. They are wonderful dogs for apartment dwellers because of their size. Welsh can be picked up and carried in elevators, while big dogs need to be on the floor, which may be intimidating

to other people and dogs in crowded spaces. They can be paper trained as well as trained to “go” outdoors, so bad weather needn’t be a problem. Welsh do quite well with two or three walks a day, plus “potty” walks. No need to walk or run for miles each day. Their crates fit nicely

AKC MUSEUM OF THE DOG

TERRIER GROUP

in a corner of the kitchen or bedroom. Properly trained, they needn't be barkers. Yes, when they are at dog shows, like most terriers they bark at dogs going by their crates, but in home situations most Welsh are fairly quiet. When they do bark, the bark sounds like that of a much bigger dog, which can be a plus in an apartment complex.

In a suburban setting and with a fenced yard, Welsh are the ideal housedog. They love older children, can be trained to get along with other dogs, and usually will even tolerate cats they are raised with. More pluses are easy maintenance and limited shedding (no dog is free from shedding unless he is completely bald). Brush dogs and cut nails weekly, have him professionally clipped and bathed every 10 to 12 weeks, and that is all the routine grooming he will require.

Welsh usually are very healthy and handle cold as well as hot weather quite well. The average lifespan is 12 to 14 years, with many

living longer.

We promote the breed by taking our dogs to obedience classes and showing the rest of the world that terriers are indeed trainable. It's always nice (although it doesn't happen regularly) to get a first in an obedience trial full of Border Collies, Tervurens, Golden Retrievers, and other "trainable" breeds.

More people inquire about Welsh Terriers when they see them at obedience trials than they do when they watch them at conformation shows. If you train your dogs in public areas (always on lead, please) you will get a chance to discuss the breed with many people, so always carry your business card when you go out with the dog.

Of course we need to tell prospective owners that the intelligence and activity level of the dogs require training in order to live happily with them.

Older dogs make fine companions for many older people who couldn't cope with a puppy. If our

breeding stock is well raised and trained, placement of 4- to 8-year-old dogs is not difficult and is a plus for everybody. Many of my older dogs go to homes where the people started with a puppy 30 years ago, but, now on their third one, have decided that an older dog would be better this time. These people and their dogs are the greatest salespeople for the breed. Always keep in touch with them, and let them know when there is an older dog available. Chances are they have a friend who has fallen in love with their dog and wants one of their own.

Promoting the breed doesn't mean being careless about placing your puppies. There is a fine line between having people know about how desirable Welsh Terriers are and creating such demand that the disreputable breeders become involved producing Welsh Terriers as just another commodity. —*D.O.*

[Welsh Terrier Club of America](#)

MISSION STATEMENT The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function.

Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

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101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178

Raleigh, NC Customer Call Center(919) 233-9767
New York, NY Office(212) 696-8200
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ATTENTION DELEGATES

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, September 9, 2025**. For the sole purpose of conducting the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees, the meeting will be called to order at 9:30 a.m. After those present at that time have voted, the Delegate Meeting will recess to begin the Forum (approximately 1 hour in duration). The Delegate Meeting will reconvene following the conclusion of the Forum at which time anyone who had not yet voted will have the opportunity to do so, then the polls will be closed.

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

James Conroy, Marietta, GA,
Boca Raton Dog Club

Lisa Giannone, West Milford, NJ,
Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey

Mark Francis Jaeger, Mason, MI,
English Toy Spaniel Club of America

Frank E. Lavoie, Bois D'Arc, MO,
Ozarks Kennel Club

Janine Rose, Bennington, VT,
Parson Russell Terrier Association of America

Cheryl L. Secondo, Brooksville, FL,
Tampa Bay Kennel Club



gazette

Click here to read the
August 2025 issue!

Patricia A. Sosa, Madisonville, LA,
Louisiana Kennel Club

NOTICE

REPRIMANDS AND FINES

Notification of fine imposed on
Superintendent for failure to have accept-
able weighing device available, *Rules*
Applying to Dog Show, Chapter 14,
Section 5.

Rau Dog Shows, Ltd.\$250

Notification of fine imposed on
Superintendent for failure to provide
acceptable Rally signs and equipment,
AKC Rally Regulations, Chapter 2,
Section 36.

MB-F, Inc.\$250

Notification of fine imposed on
Superintendent for failure to distribute
ribbons within 60 days *Rules Applying to*
Dog Shows, Chapter 5, Section 12.

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC\$1050

Notification of fine imposed on
Superintendent for acceptance of entry
of breeds ineligible to compete at the
event, *Conformation Junior Showmanship*
Regulations, Section 7.

Executive Dog Shows, LLC\$250

Jack Bradshaw Dog Shows\$250

Notification of Reprimand imposed
on Superintendent for failure to enforce
all AKC Rules and Regulations, *Rules*
Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 9,
Section 9.

BaRay Event Services, Inc.Reprimand

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLCReprimand

Notification of fines imposed on club
for altering an entry after closing, *Rules*
Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 11,
Section 6.

Cocker Spaniel Club of Western
Pennsylvania\$50

Notification of fines imposed on club for
publishing premium list prior to receiv-
ing AKC approval, *Rules Applying to Dog*
Shows, Chapter 4, Section 1.

Golden Retriever Club of Illinois\$50

Notification of Reprimand imposed
on club for cancelling entries for entries
for Conformation Sweepstakes after
acceptance, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*,
Chapter 11, Section 6.

Gold Country Irish Red & White Setter
SocietyReprimand



SECRETARY'S PAGES

Notification of Reprimand imposed on club for cancelling entries for entries for Obedience Trials after acceptance, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 11, Section 6.

Capitol Canine Training Club of Springfield, IllinoisReprimand

Notification of Reprimand imposed on a club for advertising judges before obtaining AKC approval, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 4, Section 1.

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Central Oklahoma.....Reprimand

Notification of fines imposed on club for late submission of Event Records, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 17, Section 2.

Barbary Coast Samoyed Club\$25

Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of Northern California\$25

Cocker Spaniel Club of Western Pennsylvania\$25

Golden State German Shepherd Dog Club of San Jose.....\$50

Great Dane Club of Maryland.....\$100

Obedience Training Club of Greater Lansing.....\$100

NOTICE

At its July 2025 meeting, the American Kennel Club Board of Directors suspended the judging privileges of Ms. Kimberly

Anne Meredith for a period of six (6) months effective July 15, 2025, and imposed a fine of \$300.00 for unsportsmanlike conduct toward AKC Officials and/or Club Officials, and inappropriate comments on social media/public forums promoting or criticizing dogs or individuals, or that bring embarrassment to the AKC.

NOTICE

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual's suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

Mr. Mark Gustavson (Mexico, NY)

Ms. Nikki Harris (Royce, City, TX)

Ms. Sally Jensen (Wonder Lake, IL)

NOTICE

Ms. Beatrice Bartley (Chester, NH). Action was taken by the Ladies Dog Club for conduct at its June 1, 2025 event. Ms. Bartley was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a three-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective June 1, 2025. (Finnish Lapphund)

NOTICE

Ms. Ashley Felton (Cameron Park, CA). Action was taken by the Shasta Kennel Club for conduct at its March 16, 2025 event. Ms. Felton was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective May 7, 2025. (Cane Corsos)

NOTICE

Ms. Katie Hager (Willis, TX). Action was taken by the Brazos Valley Kennel Club for conduct at its March 15, 2025 event. Ms. Hager was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective May 26, 2026. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Ms. Dale Knight (American Canyon, CA). Action was taken by the Chief Solano Kennel Club for conduct at its April 27, 2025 event. Ms. Knight was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a three-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective April 27, 2025. (Great Pyrenees, Tibetan Mastiff)

NOTICE

Barbara Leytem (McIntosh, FL). Action was taken by the Lakeland Winter Haven Kennel Club for conduct at its February 16, 2025 event. Ms. Laytem was charged with disorderly conduct. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and imposed a \$100 fine. (Great Dane)

NOTICE

Mr. Michael Moore (Elkton, OR). Action was taken by the San Jose Retriever Club for conduct at its April 5, 2025 event. Mr. Moore was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective May 25, 2025. (Labrador Retriever)

NOTICE

Ms. Doreen Palmer (Columbia, CT). Action was taken by the Talcott Mountain Agility Club for conduct at its May 3, 2025 event. Ms. Palmer was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and imposed a \$200 fine. (Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels)

NOTICE

Ms. Jan Paulk (Santa Fe, NM). Action was taken by the Coronado Kennel Club for conduct at its May 25, 2025 event.

Ms. Paulk was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective May 26, 2025. (Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Papillons)

NOTICE

Ms. Michelle Worthington (Blue Springs, MO). Action was taken by the Schipperke Club of America for conduct at its April 22-25, 2025 event. Ms. Worthington was charged with impairing a club's ability to retain a site and disregard of published club regulations. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a four-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine, effective June 8, 2025. (Schipperkes)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Tony Chang (Lakewood, CO) from all AKC privileges for two-years and imposed a \$2,000 fine, for harassment, verbal or written and physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature, effective July 14, 2025. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Mr. Andrew Chriscoe (Boones Mill, VA) and imposed a \$100 fine, for inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Andrew Mansfield (Newberg, OR) from all AKC privileges for a lifetime and imposed a \$10,000 fine, prohibited him from being on the grounds of AKC events, and can administratively remove his name of registrations, for violating AKC's *Personal Conduct Policy*, effective November 12, 2024. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Victor Ramirez (Dayton, OH) for fifteen (15) years of all AKC privileges and imposed a \$5,000 fine, for violating AKC's *Personal Conduct Policy*, effective July 14, 2025. (Rottweilers)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Ian Schuh (Appleton, WI) from all AKC privileges for a lifetime and imposed a \$10,000 fine, prohibited him from being on the grounds of AKC events, and can administratively remove his name of registrations, for vio-

lating AKC's *Personal Conduct Policy*, effective July 14, 2025. (Pulik)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Cally Simpson (Georgetown, KY) for ten (10) years of all AKC privileges and imposed a \$2,000 fine, for violating AKC's *Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy*, effective April 28, 2025. Ms. Simpson appealed this decision to the Board Appeals Committee who denied the appeal. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Ms. Shauna Summers-Goldman (Northridge, CA) and imposed a \$100 fine for signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney Form. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. April Waidman (Beloit, OH) from all AKC privileges for twenty (20) years and imposed a \$5,000 fine, for violating AKC's *Personal Conduct Policy*, effective July 14, 2025. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Mitzi

Walters (Dublin, OH) for three-months from AKC event privileges and imposed a \$100 fine, for impairing a club's ability to retain a site, effective July 14, 2025. (Mastiffs, Bulldogs)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Angela Weaver (Howe, OK) for one (1) year from all AKC privileges and imposed a \$1,000 fine, for non-compliance with AKC's *Care and Conditions Policy* (unacceptable conditions, dogs, and/or facility) and AKC's record keeping and dog identification requirements, effective May 13, 2025. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals for a lifetime from all AKC privileges and imposed a \$10,000 fine, for violating AKC's *Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy*:

Effective July 14, 2025:

Mr. Irina Barrett (Broad Run, VA)
Multiple Breeds

Ms. Kay Conway (Piedmont, OH)
Shih Tzus, German Shepherd Dogs

NOTICE

Correction: The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended

Ms. Tina Frey (Lena, LA) for five (5) years from all AKC privileges and imposed a \$2,000 fine, for violating AKC's *Personal Conduct Policy*, effective February 1, 2025. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Correction: The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Joao Machado (Humble, TX) for one (1) year from all AKC privileges and imposed a \$1,000 fine, for violating AKC's *Personal Conduct Policy*, effective February 1, 2025. (Multiple Breeds)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. – ARTICLE IV, SECTION 5

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **Article IV, Section 5** of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.*, proposed by the Bylaws Committee. This will be voted on at the September 9, 2025 Delegate Meeting.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP SECTION 5.

The name of each candidate and the fact that it has applied for membership must be published in the first issue of the *AKC GAZETTE* which shall be published after the receipt by the Executive Secretary of the AKC of such application, ~~and again in the next succeeding issue of said AKC~~

~~GAZETTE~~ and Such application then shall be referred to the Board of Directors of the AKC for its approval or disapproval.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. – ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **Article VI, Section 4** of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.*, proposed by the Bylaws Committee. This will be voted on at the September 9, 2025 Delegate Meeting.

ARTICLE VI: DELEGATES SECTION 4.

The name and address of each candidate for the position of Delegate, and the fact that application has been made for his or her appointment, shall be published in the first issue of the *AKC GAZETTE* which shall be published after receipt by the Executive Secretary of the AKC of the Delegate's credentials; ~~and again in the next succeeding issue of said AKC GAZETTE.~~ The Delegate's credentials then shall be referred to the Board of Directors of the AKC for its approval or disapproval.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. – ARTICLE VII, SECTION 1

The AKC Board does not endorse the

following amendment to **Article VII, Section 1** of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.*, proposed by the Doberman Pinscher Club of America and pursuant to **Article XX, Section 3** of the **AKC Bylaws**, demanded that it be brought forward to the Delegates. This will be voted on at the September 9, 2025 Delegate Meeting.

ARTICLE VII: BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION, MEETINGS AND QUORUM SECTION 1.

The AKC shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of thirteen (13) voting members, all of whom must be Delegates, except as provided for in Section 3 of this Article. The Board shall be elected as follows:

At each annual meeting the Delegates shall elect Directors from the list of candidates nominated as provided in Article VIII of these Bylaws. The thirteen voting Directors shall be divided into four classes of three (3), three (3), three (3), and four (4) members. Such Directors to hold office for four (4) years or until their successors are elected. At each annual meeting the Delegates shall elect such other Director or Directors as shall be required to fill the place of any Director who has died or resigned before the expiration of the term for which he or she was elected.

No person shall be eligible to serve more

than two consecutive terms on the Board. A Board member who has served more than half a term on the Board is considered to have served a full term. This section does not preclude the reelection of any delegate to the Board of Directors after a ~~one-year~~ four-year (or greater) hiatus from Directorship.

Excluding the President, who serves as a non-voting member, no members of the Board of Directors may be employed by the AKC nor may they receive remuneration from the AKC on a consulting or contract basis.

Excluding the President, who serves as a non-voting member, no members of the Board of Directors may be employed by the AKC nor may they receive remuneration from the AKC on a consulting or contract basis.

Excluding the President, no members of the Board of Directors are eligible for employment by the AKC or any AKC division or subsidiary for a period of twelve months from the date when they last served on the Board, nor may they receive remuneration from the AKC on a contract or consulting basis for a period of twelve months from the date when they last served on the Board.

The President shall serve on the Board as an ex officio non-voting member during his/her tenure as President.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. – ARTICLE XIV, SECTION 1

The AKC Board does not endorse the following amendment to **Article XIV, Section 1** of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.*, proposed by the Bylaws Committee and pursuant to **Article XX, Section 3** of the **AKC Bylaws**, demanded that it be brought forward to the Delegates. This will be voted on at the September 9, 2025 Delegate Meeting.

ARTICLE XIV: EVENT COMMITTEES SECTION 1.

The Event Committee of a club or association shall have the right and responsibility to suspend any person from AKC privileges for conduct prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the AKC, alleged to have occurred in connection with or during the progress of its event, after the alleged offender has been given the opportunity to be heard.

When the penalty for the offense as set forth in the guidelines authorized by the Board of Directors provides for a reprimand in certain instances, the Event Committee shall have the authority to stay the suspension pending a final determination by the AKC.

The complaint shall be verified by the complainant stating that the complainant has read the complaint, has knowledge of the facts stated in the complaint, and affirms and verifies under penalty of perjury that the complaint is true and correct. The Complainant shall furnish a deposit, the amount to be established annually by the AKC Board of Directors. The deposit shall become the property of the Club.

If the Event Committee finds merit in the complaint and exercises jurisdiction in the matter, the deposit shall be returned to the Complainant. If the Event Committee finds no merit in the complaint, the deposit shall be kept by the Event giving Club.

Notice in writing must be sent promptly by certified and by first class mail by the Event Committee to the person suspended and a duplicate notice giving the name and address of the person suspended and full details as to the reasons for the suspension and if applicable, the reasons for the stay of suspension must be forwarded to the AKC (ATTENTION: Executive Secretary) within five days.

An appeal may be taken from a decision of an Event Committee and any subsequent disciplinary action applied by the AKC. Notice in writing claiming such appeal together with a deposit, at an amount established by the AKC Board of Directors, must be sent to the AKC (ATTENTION: Executive Secretary) within thirty days after the date of the suspension.

The appeal shall be determined by a Trial Board whose decision is final. The deposit shall become the property of the AKC if the decision is upheld in whole or in part or shall be returned to the appellant if the decision is not upheld in whole or in part.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. – ARTICLE XVIII, SECTION 2

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **Article XVIII, Section 2** of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.*, proposed by the Bylaws Committee. This will be voted on at the September 9, 2025 Delegate Meeting

ARTICLE XVIII: MEETINGS AND QUORUM SECTION 2.

Notice of the date, time and location of the annual meeting and each regular meeting shall be printed in that issue of the AKC GAZETTE which shall be published next before the date fixed for each said meeting. ~~Mail notice~~ Notice of each such meeting will be sent to all Delegates at least twenty-one (21) days before the date of the meeting.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS – CHAPTER 6, SECTION 2

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **Chapter 6, Section 2** of the *Rules Applying to Dogs Shows*, proposed by the Dog Show Rules Committee. This will be voted on at the September 9, 2025 Delegate Meeting.

CHAPTER 6 PREMIUM LISTS AND CLOSING OF ENTRIES SECTION 2.

Previous portions of this section are unchanged.

- the name and address of the superintendent and/or show secretary who has been approved by The American Kennel Club
- the entry fee(s)
- whether the show is benched or unbenched
- the exact location of the show
- the date or dates on which it is to be held
- the times of opening and closing of the show

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

Notification must be printed in the Premium List for independent specialties and/or all-breed shows which do not offer any competitive classes beyond Best of Breed

only if neutered dogs and spayed bitches are allowed to compete in Veterans and/or any other single entry non-regular classes.

All-Breed Conformation events whose entries are limited must have a defined date and time for the opening of entries that is to be prominently displayed in the premium list. For these events, the premium list is required to be published at least 72 hours prior to the acceptance of entries.

OFFICIAL STANDARD OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER

General Appearance: The Staffordshire Bull Terrier is a smooth-coated dog. It should be of great strength for its size and, although muscular, should be active and agile.

Size, Proportion, Substance: Height at shoulder – 14 to 16 inches. Weight – Dogs, 28 to 38 pounds; bitches, 24 to 34 pounds, these heights being related to weights. Non-conformity with these limits is a fault. In *proportion*, the length of back, from withers to tail set, is equal to the distance from withers to ground.

Head: Short, deep through, broad *skull*, very pronounced cheek muscles, distinct stop, short foreface, black nose. Pink (Dudley) nose to be considered a serious fault. *Eyes* – Dark preferable, but may bear some relation to coat color. Round, of medium size, and set to look straight ahead. Light eyes or pink eye rims to be considered a fault, except that where the coat

surrounding the eye is white the eye rim may be pink. *Ears* – Rose or half-pricked and not large. Full drop or full prick to be considered a serious fault. Mouth – A *bite* in which the outer side of the lower incisors touches the inner side of the upper incisors. The lips should be tight and clean. The badly undershot or overshot bite is a serious fault.

Neck, Topline and Body: The *neck* is muscular, rather short, clean in outline and gradually widening toward the shoulders. The *body* is close coupled, with a level *topline*, wide front, deep brisket and well sprung ribs being rather light in the loins. The *tail* is undocked, of medium length, low set, tapering to a point and carried rather low. It should not curl much and may be likened to an old-fashioned pump handle. A tail that is too long or badly curled is a fault.

Forequarters: Legs straight and well boned, set rather far apart, without looseness at the shoulders and showing no weakness at the pasterns, from which point the feet turn out a little. Dewclaws on the forelegs may be removed. The feet should be well padded, strong and of medium size.

Hindquarters: The hindquarters should be well muscled, hocks let down with stifles well bent. Legs should be parallel when viewed from behind. Dewclaws, if any, on the hind legs are generally removed. Feet as in front.

Coat: Smooth, short and close to the skin,

not to be trimmed or de-whiskered.

Color: Red, fawn, white, black or blue, or any of these colors with white. Any shade of brindle or any shade of brindle with white. Black-and-tan or liver color to be disqualified. Merle pattern does not exist genetically in the breed and shall be disqualified.

Gait: Free, powerful and agile with economy of effort. Legs moving parallel when viewed from front or rear. Discernible drive from hind legs.

Temperament: From the past history of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier, the modern dog draws its character of indomitable courage, high intelligence, and tenacity. This, coupled with its affection for its friends, and children in particular, its off-duty quietness and trustworthy stability, makes it a foremost all-purpose dog.

Disqualifications:

Black-and-tan or liver color and merle pattern.

Approved July 8, 2025

Effective September 30, 2025

**PROPOSED BIEWER TERRIER
STANDARD FOR COMMENT:**

In accordance with the Guidelines for Breed Standard Revisions this is being published to receive any comments prior to the balloting of the club membership. Any comments may be forwarded directly to:

Mari-Beth O'Neill

VP Sport Services

mbo@akc.org

General Appearance: The Biewer Terrier is an elegant, longhaired, ~~uniquely colored~~ tri-colored toy terrier with a ~~distinctive~~, breed signature ponytail. The coat parts down the middle, hanging straight and evenly on both sides of the body ~~as though a comb has been used to part it~~. The back is level, with the height at the withers being equal to the height at the croup. ~~Although the outline of the dog gives the appearance of a square,~~ The body length is slightly longer than tall, ~~although square is acceptable~~ the over-all height. The tail is set high and carried well arched over the body, covered with a long, flowing ~~luxurious~~ plume. The Biewer Terrier is alert and eager ~~has a lighthearted whimsical, childlike attitude. Although mischievous at times, they are obedient and make a loyal companion.~~

Size, Proportion, Substance: ~~Size—~~ The height at the withers is ~~the same as~~ equal to the height at the croup, measuring ~~7 to 11~~ 8 to 10 inches, ~~with weight being 4 to 8 pounds.~~ ~~Proportion—~~ The body length, measured from the prosternum to the ischium, is slightly longer than ~~over~~ all the height, ~~making the dog off square~~ although a square proportion is acceptable. ~~Substance—~~ The body is fine to medium-boned with a level topline. Serious

fault – ~~Over 8 pounds~~ Height over 11 inches.

Head: *Expression* – ~~Is more human than that of a dog, being~~ The expression is engaging, bright and intelligent. *Eyes* – ~~The eyes are medium sized, dark, and expressive, and may be round or almond-shaped with the iris as dark as possible, showing no flecks of blue a crisp, clear countenance. Iris – as dark as possible.~~ *Ears* – ~~The ears are small, upright, erect, V-shaped, set high and moderately wide, set and covered with hair except for the tips being which are shaved. They are set to the back of the skull and the base is level with the eyes.~~ *Skull* – ~~Slightly rounded. The skull is slightly rounded, and the muzzle is one-third the length of the head. The skull and muzzle are on parallel planes and meet at a moderate stop.~~ *Stop* – ~~Moderate.~~ *Muzzle* – ~~One-third the length of the head. The eye rims, nose, and lips are all completely black.~~ *Bite* – ~~The ideal bite is Level or scissor bite, although a level bite is also acceptable.~~ *Teeth* – ~~Straight and even. Serious fault - Incomplete pigment on the eye rims, nose, and lip; ears not standing erect. Disqualifications - Blue eye(s) or blue flecks in the iris; Brown or liver pigmentation of the eye rims, and nose, and lips.~~ **Neck, Topline and Body:** *Neck* – ~~The neck is of moderate in-length, free from throatiness.~~ *Topline* – ~~The backline is level.~~ *Body* – ~~The body is slightly length is slightly longer than the overall height although~~

~~square is acceptable tall, off square, although square is acceptable.~~ *Chest* – ~~The chest reaches Comes to the elbows with a good width, and the ribs are moderately sprung.~~ *Ribs* – ~~Moderately sprung.~~ *Underline* – ~~The underline is slightly tucked up.~~ *Back* – ~~Level topline.~~ *Loin* – ~~The loin is well-developed and strong.~~ *Tail* – ~~The tail is set high when in movement motion, is carried in a well-arched position over the body, in a graceful sickle curve, covered with a long, luxurious flowing plume. Plume lies to either side of the body. Length of tailbone must go to the stifles or longer. When reposed, the tail may be relaxed. A kink in the tail is not to be faulted.~~ *Serious faults* – ~~Roach or rounded back; High in the front or rear.~~ **Forequarters:** ~~The forelegs should be straight, with elbows neither in nor out, set close to the body.~~ *Angulation* – ~~Moderate. The shoulders are well angulated and laid back, nicely laid back the upper arm should be of equal length as the shoulder laid with good return, allowing for good reach and freedom of movement.~~ *Elbows* – ~~Set close to the body. The legs – are straight when viewed from the front are and muscular and covered with hair, and the pasterns are upright - Up and straight.~~ *Dewclaws* – ~~may be removed but are not required. The feet -are round-, with toes = well arched and covered in with hair which that may be is trimmed not to to neither impede movement or trimmed to show~~

the nor obscure the shape of the foot. The pads can be black, and/or flesh-colored, or a combination of both, while the nails can be - black and/or white. Disqualification - Brown or liver pigmentation of the pads.

Hindquarters: In The hindquarters are well-balanced with the forequarters, and the rear angulation matches the front.

Angulation - Rear to match front. Legs - The hind legs are straight and muscular when viewed from behind, muscular and covered with hair with well-bent stifles.

Stifle - Slightly bent when viewed from the side. The hocks are short, well let down and straight when viewed from behind, neither turned in nor out pointing neither in nor out. Dewclaws may be removed, but not required. Feet - Round The feet are round, with: toes -well arched and covered with hair which may be that is trimmed to neither impede movement nor obscure the shape of the foot not to impede movement or trimmed to show the shape of the foot.

The pads -can be black, flesh-colored, or a combination of both, while the nails can be black and/or white and/or flesh. Nails -Black and/or white. Disqualification - Brown or liver pigmentation of the pads.

Coat: The coat is long and flowing with a soft-silky, smooth texture. Hair It is straight, without an undercoat, hang- ing and hangs close to the ground, if not touching it. The coat may be trimmed to floor length for ease of movement. Head- fall is tied up into a single ponytail on top

of the head, hanging loose. Puppy pony- tails may be placed a little lower on the head as to gather the short hairs. A bow is used for adornment; no topknots or rollovers. The fall on the head is tied in a single fall, finished simply and adorned with a single bow. Excessive grooming on the head, such as ratting, teasing, or roll- overs common to other breeds, shall be so severely penalized as to be eliminated from competition. The feet are trimmed for a neat, clean appearance, and the hair around the anus is trimmed. Trim around anus. Eliminating faults - Head falls that display ratting, teasing or roll overs top- knots or roll overs common to other breeds shall be so severely penalized as to be eliminated from competition.

Color: The Biewer Terrier is defined by the placement of tan on the head a unique- ly colored toy terrier. The ideal head color- ing is black or blue, tan, and white in good symmetry - Blue/Black, Gold/Tan and White in good symmetry. However, any combination of the following two colors patterns - Black or blue with tan, or tan and white - is acceptable, (Blue/Black and Gold/ Tan); (Gold/Tan and White) in good symmetry is acceptable. The chin and throat should be white. Disqualification - A head lacking tan. Body Coloring - Hair on back Body coloring is blue/black black or blue and white; a solid dog of either color is undesirable. The chest, legs, and tip of the tail should be white. The white

on the chest must extend up the neck to the chin. The legs must be white from the elbows and stifles to the feet. Amounts of each color are of personal preference with no dominating patterns. No amount of tan hair may be found on the back, belly, chest, legs or feet. A small amount of tan hair may be found around the anus, and trace amounts of tan or black may appear at the elbow, stifle, or on the feet. Any deviation from this is undesirable. Chest, Stomach, Legs and Tip of the Tail - White. The white from the chest should come up the neck to cover the chin. Legs are to be white from the elbows and stifles to the feet. Disqualification – any other color other than the tri-colored pattern described above or combination of colors other than those that are listed.

Gait: The Biewer Terrier moves with confidence and pride confidently with a high head carriage. The movement should be graceful, smooth and straightforward without being stilted or hackneyed. When viewed from the side, the top line back-line remains level, he gives an impression of rapid movement, size considered. The hind legs should track in line with the front legs, going moving neither inside nor outside inward nor outward. The tail must be up when in movement is carried in a well-arched position over the body while in motion. Serious Fault - Hackneyed gait in adults.

Temperament: Intelligent, and loyal, they are affectionate and playful, making them

excellent companions and family dogs and very devoted to their human family. They have a fun loving, childlike attitude that makes them a great companion for all ages. They quickly make friends with animals of any origin. The foregoing description is of represents the ideal Biewer Terrier. Any deviation from the above described dog standard should must be penalized in proportion to the extent of the deviation.

Serious Faults: Over 8 pounds Height over 11 inches; High in front or rear; Incomplete pigment on the eye rims; and nose, and lips; ears not standing erect; Roach or rounded back; high in front or rear; Hackneyed gait in adults.

Eliminating Faults: Head falls that display ratting, teasing, topknots or roll overs common to other breeds.

Disqualifications: A head without tan; any color other than the tri-colored pattern described above; Blue eye(s) or blue flecks in the iris; Brown or liver pigmentation of the eye rims; and nose lips and pads. Any other color or combination of colors other than those that are listed.

CONFORMATION JUDGES

Letters concerning judges and provisional judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received regarding their judging qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge or judge applicant.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and Junior Showmanship judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges' record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations by email at judgingops@akc.org.

APPLICANTS

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified ***but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.***

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mrs. Jaye Athy (117715) FL

(352) 664-0470
mandalay_collies@yahoo.com
Collies

Mr. Richard L. Austin (117758) IL

(217) 972-7290
rlaustin1993@gmail.com
Bulldogs

Ms. Michelle Barlak (117675) NJ

(585) 329-4317
michelle@maximaldog.com
Manchester Terriers

Ms. Hunter Calvelage (111841) OH

(419) 204-7773
carmaque@yahoo.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, JS

Mr. Lukas Cohen (112803) TX

(314) 201-2339
lukascohen80@gmail.com
Afghan Hounds

Beverly Hofschulte (114897) MN

madeecavaliers@gmail.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Mrs. Maureen Schneider (110816) NC

(336) 376-3965
iwcol@aol.com
Collies

Shanan L. Streweler (117681) CO

(303) 653-1712
takhari@comcast.net
Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies

Mrs. Gary Whitmore-Kirshner (15305) WA

garydkirschner@gmail.com
Shetland Sheepdogs

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Dr. Barry M. Baum (105221) CA

(310) 476-9279
csahdogcat@aol.com
Bulldogs

Ms. Sandy Bingham-Porter (94107) IL
 (217) 549-6664
 sbinghamporter@eiu.edu
 Azawakhs, Beagles, Black and Tan Coon-
 hounds, Dachshunds, Grand Bassets
 Griffons Vendeens, Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Miss Kelly Kathlyn Boyd (101577) OR
 (541) 905-3451
 kkb101577@gmail.com
 Portuguese Water Dogs

Mrs. Tami Rose Bradford (110125) TN
 (865) 680-8264
 sibemom2002@gmail.com
 Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Samoyeds

Mrs. Danelle M. Brown (7231) TX
 (254) 498-3417
 nomadcorgis@att.net
 Chihuahuas, Pomeranians

Mr. Joseph Buchanan (104137) PA
 (610) 931-3670
 kennelaleema@gmail.com
 Balance of Hound Group (American
 Foxhounds, English Foxhounds)

Mr. Dean Burwell (103997) SC
 (803) 628-8323
 dean@pawgate.com
 Akitas, Leonbergers

Mrs. Vicky Cook (103755) OR
 (541) 601-5355
 vickycook@mac.com
 Harriers, Doberman Pinschers, Man-
 chester Terriers

Mrs. Wendy Corr (104103) CA
 (925) 844-0802
 onakalmal@aol.com
 Cotons du Tulear, Norwegian Lunde-
 hunds, Schipperkes, Xoloitzcuintli

Mr. Justin Dannenbring (46593) MT
 (951) 733-1618
 justin.dannenbring@gmail.com
 Basenjis, Basset Hounds, Black and Tan
 Coonhounds, Borzois, Scottish Deerhounds

Ms. Karen E. Fitzpatrick (108457) IL
 (815) 932-0860
 janerusr@aol.com
 Airedale Terriers, Australian Terriers,
 Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers,
 Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Soft
 Coated Wheaten Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Ms. Grace Fritz (21887) KS
 (913) 706-5365
 fritzgm77@gmail.com
 Balance of Toy Group (Chinese
 Cresteds, Japanese Chins, Maltese, Min-
 iature Pinschers, Russian Toys, Toy Fox
 Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

Mr. Israel Garcia (111901) TX
 (512) 605-7658
 izzy-garcia@hotmail.com
 Azawakhs, Dachshunds, English Fox-
 hounds, Whippets

Amy Gau (90627) MN
 (507) 254-7839
 amy@anstechnicalventures.com
 Balance of Toy Group (Japanese Chins,
 Yorkshire Terriers), Tibetan Terriers

Mrs. Jan Ritchie Gladstone (96299) NC

(267) 251-4483

janritchiegladstone@gmail.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Dalmatians, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Norwegian Lundehunds

Mr. Steve Hayden (6674) IL

(217) 725-3647

hybrk1@comcast.net

Boerboels, Dogues de Bordeaux, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mr. Hector Hector (95831) FL

(954) 593-2324

h2enclave@aol.com

Australian Shepherds

Ms. Karen Hynek (35536) MO

(636) 219-6991

jokareGS@aol.com

Balance of Terrier Group (American Hairless Terriers, Australian Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Rat Terriers, Skye Terriers, Welsh Terriers)

Mr. Richard Todd Jackson (94771) MD

(202) 491-5513

richardtoddjackson@yahoo.com

Balance of Toy Group (Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Italian Greyhounds, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers), American Foxhounds, Borzois, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds

Dr. M. Patricia Joyce (101483) GA

(770) 596-8665

patjoyce1@att.net

Bulldogs, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Shiba Inu

Ms. Karen Justin (64864) NY

(845) 282-4785

impyrial@aol.com

Alaskan Malamutes

Mr. Gregg G. Kantik (94772) MD

(202) 492-1876

greggkantak@yahoo.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Norwegian Lundehunds)

Ms. Diane Kepley (90370) SC

(301) 305-9986

dkk9judge@gmail.com

Miniature Schnauzers, West Highland White Terriers

Mrs. Linda C. Krukar (7250) FL

(203) 913-9045

dabneydobes@me.com

German Wirehaired Pointers, Greyhounds, Manchester Terriers

Mr. Richard LeBeau (90760) PA

(412) 952-7425

beauprix@comcast.net

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Chinese Shar-Pei, Cotons du Tulear, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli)

Mrs. Chris A. Levy (6368) OR

(503) 569-0147

chris@abiquadogs.com

Pulik

Mr. Dale R. Martenson (111413) OK

(817) 517-3304

castlemar3@hotmail.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Cotons du Tulear, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers

Ms. Susan M. Napady (95639) IN

(219) 762-5203

susan.napady@frontier.com

English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chins, Poodles

Laura Reeves (105393) OR

(451) 761-1867

scotiadaws@gmail.com

Balance of Sporting Group (Gordon Setters, Irish Red and White Setters), Basenjis

Mr. Jeffrey Ryman (93219) WA

(425) 876-2213

jeff_ryman@hotmail.com

Bearded Collies, Belgian Laekenois, Berger Picards, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds, Shetland Sheepdogs, Swedish Vallhunds

Mr. Gray Sackett (96555) NV

(702) 351-5566

gcsackett@yahoo.com

Wire Fox Terriers, Manchester Terriers

Ms. Barbara C. Scherer (58838) IL

(630) 388-8290

hiarologybk@gmail.com

English Cocker Spaniels, Vizslas

Ms. Jan C. Sigler (7526) KS

(913) 649-5282

kaleasibes@mac.com

American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Bluetick Coonhounds, Cirnechi dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Scottish Deerhounds

Mr. Walter J. Sommerfelt (4787) TN

(901) 355-1271

loracvizsl@aol.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Cotons du Tulear, Dalmatians, Lowchen, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels

Mrs. Darlene Steele (109821) VA

(815) 325-2429

927rossans@gmail.com

Gordon Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels

Dr. Jerry Sulewski (93475) WI

(920) 327-9641

collieknutt@yahoo.com

Siberian Huskies, Australian Shepherds, Berger Picards, Old English Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

Ms. Kathy Wilkins (6799) GA

(770) 315-4452

lochlyfarm@gmail.com

Belgian Sheepdogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs

ADJUNCT APPLICANTS

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified under the Adjunct System ***but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.***

Mr. Bill Bates (103321) OH

(513) 713-7877

bill@bearcatboxers.com

Teddy Roosevelt Terriers, Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonkas

Dr. Bev Sigl Felten (65674) WI

(414) 828-2449

beverlyfelten5@gmail.com

Teddy Roosevelt Terriers

Mr. Gregg G. Kantak (94772) MD

(301) 392-3646

greggkantak@yahoo.com

Basset Fauve de Bretagnes, Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonkas

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Ms. Stephanie M. Hawkins (117677) GA

(470) 452-7235

eisahounds@gmail.com

JS

Ms. Vikki Jaramillo (117753) NV

(631) 681-4409

pannik7@aol.com

JS

Ms. Jeanne E. Stiner (103999) PA

(814) 864-0489

busystar@aol.com

JS-Limited

PERMIT JUDGES

The following persons have been approved on a Permit basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. ***They may now accept assignments*** and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

NEW BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Diane Ammerman (108524) DE

(201) 280-4143

casbarlabradors@gmail.com

Brittany's, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Borzois

Sandra Renfro (117405) KY

(606) 872-4260

poplarhillbulldogs@gmail.com

Bulldogs

Ms. Wendy J. Snyder (30049) OR

(541) 520-3533

serenitydachshunds@yahoo.com

Dachshunds

Tami E. Wilson (102049) ME

(207) 584-3380

twilson@gwi.net

Labrador Retrievers

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Maria Arechaederra (110565) CA

(949) 981-7646

ederrakuv@aol.com

Boxers

Mrs. Christine Calcinari (7041) NH

(603) 334-9816

belhaven.nh@icloud.com

Balance of Toy Group (Chinese Cresteds, Japanese Chins, Miniature Pinschers, Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka)

Ms. Kimberly Cardona (110939) FL

(407) 460-0089

vomdrakkenfels@gmail.com

Akitas, Boerboels, Bullmastiffs, Danish-Swedish Farmdogs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Standard Schnauzers

Mrs. April Clyde (52836) DE

(302) 542-3033

1aprilclyde@gmail.com

Balance of Toy Group (Havanese, Japanese Chins, Miniature Pinschers, Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonkas, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

Mrs. Edy Dykstra-Blum (20342) FL

(352) 465-7142

bizzeebootsoes@gmail.com

English Toy Spaniels, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers

Mrs. Emily Fish (92354) WA

(360) 904-5765

emilypawcific@yahoo.com

English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chins, Pekingese, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers

Mr. Edward Fojtik (104757) IL

(847) 254-6166

efojtik@aol.com

Airedale Terriers, Australian Terriers,

Border Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

Mrs. Christine Goodin (113467) VA

(804) 310-5203

deellittlepoms@aol.com

Biewer Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Maltese, Pugs, Yorkshire Terriers

Mrs. Nancy Griego (90264) NM

(505) 681-8020

nrgakc@spinn.net

Balance of Herding Groups (Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Spanish Water Dogs)

Mr. Steven Herman (6305) FL

(813) 973-3153

ljlucin@gmail.com

Boston Terriers

Martha C. Lageschulte (106091) CO

(303) 929-9064

starqst.mcl@gmail.com

Cane Corsos, Leonbergers, Saint Bernards

Tina Leininger (101522) PA

(717) 865-6055

whytewynd@gmail.com

Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Dogo Argentinos

Dr. Camille McArdle (66682) MN

(612) 743-7329

camillemca@gmail.com

Danish Swedish Farmdogs, Dogo Argentinos, Giant Schnauzers, Standard Schnauzers

Ms. Ann C. Meyer (81890) FL

(239) 848-6255

ameyersimbali@yahoo.com

Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Boston Terriers

Ms. Kimberly Moshlak (114681) KY

(301) 802-4145

cubruncwc@gmail.com

Border Collies, Canaan Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Lancashire Heelers, Miniature American Shepherds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pulik, Swedish Vallhunds

Mr. D. Scott Pfeil (35091) IL

(847) 668-8743

wynsyr1@gmail.com

Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Japanese Chins, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Papillons, Pekingese, Poodles, Toy Fox Terriers

Ms. Mary Beth (Betsy) Ross (101591)

CA

(510) 734-8999

nichibei33@gmail.com

Salukis

Mr. John Schoeneman (98359) NC

(704) 363-7238

schohaus1@aol.com

Barbets, Bracci Italiani, Lagotti Romagnoli, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, English Setters, Irish Setters, Irish Red and White Setters

Ms. Pamela Schroeder (108285) WA

(778) 834-0059

pam@schroeder.bc.ca

Boerboels, Dogo Argentinos, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Newfoundlanders

Ms. Kathryn Schwabe (51893) NC

(910) 504-9269

kathryn.schwabe@yahoo.com

Skye Terriers, Briards, Collies, Pulik

Mr. Danny D. Seymour (6346) MD

(724) 454-7795

tapestryhall@aol.com

Bracci Italiani, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Carol Sommerfelt (7007) TN

(865) 986-1614

carolsommerfelt@gmail.com

Brussels Griffons, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Italian Greyhounds, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Poodles, Pugs, Shih Tzu

Marilyn Van Vleit (67040) OR

(503) 510-1332

mvanvleit@gmail.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Bulldogs, Lowchen, Poodles, Schipperkes

Lisa Waldo (110998) AL

(978) 870-8932

kensingtonkennels@msn.com

Miniature American Shepherds

Mrs. Lisa Young (43070) AZ

(605) 390-1135

youngsongbeagles@gmail.com

Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Cavalier

King Charles Spaniels, Japanese Chins

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES

James Dagan (108235) CO

(719) 683-4799

dagan@elpasotel.net

JS-Limited

Lynne Dagan (108236) CO

(719) 683-4799

dagan@elpasotel.net

JS-Limited

Mrs. Rachel A. Howard (117393) MD

(757) 696-1026

rahoward1976@gmail.com

JS

BEST IN SHOW

The following persons, having successfully completed **the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they were** approved, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Ms. Bridget J. Brown (102665) AL

(205) 515-8753

jackeye@bellsouth.net

Ms. Jan Schreiber (17450) WA

(253) 846-7999

ashenafea@msn.com

**CONFORMATION JUDGE: RESIGNED
BREED OR JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP**

The judge below has notified AKC to resign their privileges for the following:

Mrs. Paula Nykiel – Junior Showmanship

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Peter Green

Mrs. Mareth K. Kipp

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Dan J. Harrison

Mr. Edward Coates Goll

Mr. Brian Meyer

Mr. Ronald Reuter

**APPLICATION FOR BREED-SPECIFIC
REGISTERED NAME PREFIX**

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club. Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to Sheila Goffe, Executive Secretary:

ARCANUM – Australian Shepherds –
Jessica L. Todd

B&G – French Bulldogs – Galyna Maier

BLUERAVERN – Giant Schnauzers –

Howard R. Postovit & Bonnie C. Postovit

ELITEGSP – German Shorthaired

Pointers – Justin D. Delinsky

HARBOR HILL – Standard Schnauzers –
Marina Majic & Thea S. Prislín

IRONSTONE – American Staffordshire
Bull Terriers – Catherine A. Collins

MONTBLEAU – Yorkshire Terriers
– Samantha S. Montbleau & Jimi
Montbleau

NORTHERN SKY – Leonbergers –
Diana L. Moe & Richard A. Moe

ONEOAK – German Shepherd Dogs – P.
Ileene Strauss-

REINA DELNORTE – Portuguese Water
Dogs – Clemencia Rasquinha & Cindy
S. McQuinn

SEMPER FI – Standard Schnauzers –
Diana M. Greiner

SILVERCREST – Chinese Cresteds-
Cindy B Jones

TRUEBLUE – Australian Cattle Dogs –
Gail A. Stuart-Bowles & John P. Bowles

VEEVEE – Biewer Terriers – Vanessa
Benditello

ROYAL'S – Australian Cattle Dogs –
Amanda J. Peniston & Bob R. Peniston

SIERRA NEVADA – Saint Bernards –
Melinda James

SPLENDOR – Shetland Sheepdogs –
Dena M. Murnane

TRANSCENDENCE – Australian
Shepherds – Nichole H. Jones

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a
breed-specific Registered Name Prefix
have been granted

DA BOYZ-Cane Corso – William Banks
& Jennifer Banks

ROGUE VALLEY – Cavalier King
Charles Spaniels – Vanessa J. James &
Rheanna J. James



**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RENAISSANCE HOTEL DALLAS
2222 N. STEMMONS FREEWAY,
DALLAS, TX
JULY 7-8, 2025**

The Board convened on Monday, July 7, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. Central Time.

Present at the Meeting: Dr. Thomas Davies (Chairman), Dr. Michael Knight (Vice Chairman), Ms. Gina DiNardo (President & CEO), Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Ms. Sally Fineburg, Mr. Eduardo Fugiwara, Dr. Charles Garvin, Mr. Steven Hamblin, Mr. Daniel Smyth, Mr. Robin Stansell, Mr. Christopher Sweetwood, Mr. Harold Tatro, Ms. Sylvia Thomas, Ms. Ann Wallin.

The Chief Operating Officer (Mr. Gordon Comfort), Chief Financial Officer (Mr. Ted Philips) and Executive Secretary (Ms. Sheila Goffe) were also present.

May Minutes

Copies of the May 12-13, 2025 Board Meeting minutes had previously been provided to all Directors for review.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tatro, and seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board

VOTED (unanimously) to approve the May 2025 Board Meeting minutes.

President's Update

Ms. DiNardo provided a registration update as of May 31, 2025. Litter volumes are 11% below budget and 12% lower than last year. Dogs are 18% below budget and 14% below prior year.

Event update for the five months ending May 2025:

Total events are up by 12,257, which is 3% greater than the same period last year.

Total entries of 1,529,730 are slightly down by less than 1%.

IT modernization is being prioritized for the remainder of this year and a plan is being developed for the next three years. This includes both process and systems improvement. This will be critical to our success. She is working with COO Gordon Comfort to reduce costs, establish project plans and set priorities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Legal Status Report

Heather McManus, VP & General Counsel, and Patricia Hines, Corporate Counsel – Litigation, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of May 2025.

AKC – AKC CHF MOU

The AKC Board discussed a renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the American Kennel Club and the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation (CHF) to replace the current MOU that expired on June 1, 2025. (Dr. Garvin, Ms. Fineburg, and Mr. Hamblin who also serve on the AKC CHF Board were not present for this discussion.)

Upon a motion by Dr. Knight, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED (In Favor: Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Fugiwara, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Stansell, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Wallin. Absent: Dr. Garvin, Ms. Fineburg, and Mr. Hamblin.) to consider action at this meeting, waiving normal procedures.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED (In Favor: Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Fugiwara, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Stansell, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Wallin. Absent: Dr. Garvin, Ms. Fineburg, and Mr. Hamblin.) to adopt a resolution to approve the terms and conditions of the revised MOU with CHF, in substantially the form submitted to and reviewed by the AKC Board of Directors. It further directed Dr. Davies and Ms. DiNardo to

execute and deliver to CHF the revised MOU, in substantially the form submitted to and reviewed by the AKC Board of Directors in the name of and on behalf of the AKC.

AKC CHF Quarterly Update and Financials

Dr. Stephanie Montgomery, CEO of the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF), joined this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Dr. Montgomery provided an update on activities and accomplishments of the CHF.

CHF has been awarded its 7th consecutive Candid (formerly GuideStar) Platinum Seal of Transparency and a four-star (or 100%) rating from Charity Navigator.

Highlights of recent accomplishments include:

- Development of new CHF Branding guidelines.
- Redesigned CHF website: On May 23, 2025, CHF launched a completely new website to improve navigation and user experiences.

These accomplishments are accompanied by a collateral refresh, monthly campaigns aligned with quarterly themes, a new look for the CHF's *Discoveries* Newsletter, new community events, a program highlighting Women Investing in Science for Healthy Dogs, Discovery Webinars, and a new

Discovery of the Year award.

CHF Scientific Programs:

Year to date, 15 grants have been awarded, totaling \$2 million of the \$3.2 million budgeted goal.

CHF Financial Status:

A statement of AKC CHF's financial position, statement of activities, functional expense and strategic outlook was also provided.

In the first four months of 2025, there are some variances, including a decrease in support from AKC and individual contributions slightly behind budget, but favorable variances in donor advised funds and foundations, highlighting shifts in funding patterns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

FINANCE

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented interim unaudited financial statements as of May 31, 2025. On year-to-date revenues of \$38.7 million the organization sustained a net operating loss of \$1.7 million as compared to the same period of the prior year that resulted in net operating Income of \$4 million.

Operating revenues are lower than budget by \$5.2 million or 12% and lower

than prior year by \$2.5 million or 6%.

Registration revenues from litters and dogs total \$14 million trailing budget by 18% and prior year by 7%. Recording & event service fees, title recognition fees and event applications fees total \$7.2 million are lower than budget by 5% and similar to prior year. Advertising, sponsorship and royalties total \$7.2 million are lower than budget by 14% and prior year by 13%.

Operating expenses total \$40.4 million and are lower than budget by \$2.4 million or 6%, but higher than prior year by \$3 million or 8%.

The Board also received standalone interim financial statements as of May 31, 2025 for AKC CAR (d/b/a AKC Reunite), and a statement of activities for the AKC Museum of the Dog.

Chief Operating Officer's Update

Gordon Comfort, COO, provided the Board with an update on the AKC Strategic Plan and Information Technology.

Work continues on the strategic plan, with departments finalizing and refining their key performance indicators to align with Board imperatives and organizational objectives. The Business Intelligence staff, led by Seth Fera Schanes, is progressing on building and populating the Board and Department dashboards to improve visibility into key metrics.

In IT, the focus remains on modernization, efficiency, and accountability. The department is undergoing rightsizing, including contractor reductions and the postponement of certain projects. Planning is underway for budgets through 2026, with insights into 2027 and 2028, alongside efforts to implement project intake and prioritization processes and define accountability metrics.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Sheila Goffe, Executive Secretary and VP, Government Relations participated in this portion of the meeting in person.

2026 Board Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee for the March 2026 election must be appointed by August 15, 2025, and its report must be received no later than October 15, 2025.

The Board appointed the following Delegates to the 2026 AKC Board Nominating Committee

Ms. Gail LaBerge, Atlanta Obedience Club, Chair

Ms. Gretchen Bernardi, Mississippi Valley Kennel Club

Ms. Ellen Hardin, Golden Retriever Club of America

Ms. Barbara Shaw, Greater Collin Kennel Club

Mr. Matthew Townsend, Carolina Working Group Association

Alternates:

Mr. Bob Rynkiewicz, Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club

Ms. Monica Stoner, Saluki Club of America

Mari-Beth O'Neill, VP of Sports Services joined this portion of the meeting by video conference.

Biewer Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Biewer Terrier Club of America (BTCA) has submitted proposed revisions to the breed standard.

Upon the motion of (Mr. Tatro), seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed revisions for publication in the August Secretary's Page of the *AKC Gazette* for comment. ([See Appendix A.](#))

Group Designation Change and Name Change for Shikoku

The American Shikoku Ken Club has submitted a request to change the group designation for this breed from Working to Hound based upon the function of the breed. The Parent Club is also requesting that the breed's name be officially changed to Shikoku Ken, as opposed to Shikoku,

to be consistent with the country of origin and FCI.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (In Favor: Dr. Knight, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Fineburg, Mr. Fugiwara, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Stansell, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Wallin. Abstained: Dr. Davies.) to convert the Shikoku Ken group designation to Hound effective immediately and to change all listings for Shikoku to Shikoku Ken in AKC systems and on the AKC FSS site.

All Superintendents will be notified to phase in this change by October 1, 2025.

Icelandic Sheepdog Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America (ISAA) has submitted the following proposed revision to the breed standard.

Upon a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the ISAA to proceed to ballot its membership on proposed revisions to the breed standard in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws. ([See Appendix B.](#))

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Acceptance of Pedigrees from Canine Owners and Breeders Association (COBA)

AKC has received a request from the Canine Owners and Breeders Association (COBA), Nigeria's national kennel club, to be added to the list of registries with pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration. Staff has reviewed the background information provided by COBA, and recommends that COBA, Nigeria's national kennel club, be added to the list of registries with pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration.

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

2025-2026 Veterinary Student Scholarship Recipients

Mari-Beth O'Neill reported that the Veterinary Student Scholarship Committee has met to select the 2025-2026 veterinary scholarship recipients.

The recipients of the AKC Veterinary Scholarships act as AKC Ambassadors, assisting in coordinating "Meet the AKC" presentations conducted for Veterinary students as well as coordinating tours at local AKC events. These activities have assisted in providing veterinary students with positive experiences with purebred dog breeders and the fancy.

The Kennel Club of Philadelphia contributed \$50,000 to the AKC Humane

Fund designated to award five \$10,000 Scholarships to Veterinary Students at the University of Pennsylvania. The recipients will be invited to attend the Kennel Club of Philadelphia for a presentation prior to group judging, exposing the audience to the support provided by KCP.

Windham County Kennel Club and Springfield Kennel Club donated \$7,000 to the AKC Humane Fund designated to award scholarships to the Veterinary Students at Tufts Veterinary School. The students receiving the scholarship both participated in the Tufts AKC Whelping Selective.

This year's recipients consisted of individuals who are third generation dog breeders, breeders, two individuals who competed on the AKC European Open Junior Agility Team multiple times, and others with Agility experience and new exhibitors.

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, EVP of Sports & Events and Caroline Murphy, Director of Performance Events, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Fast CAT® – Public Display of Run Times

Staff outlined a recommendation to add a regulation to the *Coursing Ability Test (CAT)* and *Fast CAT® Regulations* that requires clubs to publicly post the run time

of each dog during a Fast CAT® event.

These changes may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, the change would become effective October 1, 2025.

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Scent Work – Dogs with Coloring

Staff outlined a recommendation to allow dogs that have been dyed to participate in Scent Work trials. The purpose of allowing dogs to have coat coloring is to add an element of fun to events by allowing clubs to adopt themes or to encourage dogs to “run for the cause” in support of a local cause or activity.

This change would be made to *Regulations for Scent Work* and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, the change would become effective September 1, 2025.

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Scent Work – Revised Specs on Buried Searches

Staff outlined a recommendation to change the specifications on the amount of sand that must be used in Buried Classes as well as to redefine what constitutes a “scent vessel” for Buried Classes where water is required. Specifically, this change would allow Buried Classes where sand is the substrate, to use one inch of sand covering the scent vessel. The scent vessel

can range from one inch to two inches. This recommendation would reduce the weight of the buried container.

These are changes to the *Regulations for AKC Scent Work* and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, the change would become effective October 1, 2025.

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Retriever Hunting Tests – Judges Must Score All Abilities

Staff outlined a recommendation to make a change to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers* that will emphasize that judges are required to assign a numeric score for each of the four abilities – Marking, Style, Perseverance and Training as part of their evaluation of a dog's performance.

These are changes to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers* and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, these changes would become effective for events taking place on or after October 1, 2025.

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Retriever Hunting Tests – Added Clarity for Master Level Retrievers

Staff outlined a recommendation to provide more clarity and consistency in the description of retrievers at the Master

level by adding three standards when judging a Master dog. Specifically, a Master dog should have one clean triple marking series in a three series weekend test, a Master dog that is out of the area of the fall gets scored zero if running at length with no results, and a Master dog should make continuous progress towards a blind retrieve. Staff also recommended a change to the number of years, from seven to four, that a judge must have handled a qualifying dog in advance of their assignment.

These are changes to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers* and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, these changes would become effective for events taking place on or after October 1, 2025.

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

New Scent Work Master National

Staff informed the Board that the AKC will host the first Scent Work Master National on Sunday, October 12 through Tuesday, October 14, 2025 in Wilmington, Ohio at the Roberts Centre.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, EVP of Sports & Events, Tim Thomas, VP of Conformation, Mari-Beth O'Neill, VP of Sport Services, Mark Desrosiers, Director of Event Programs, and Glenn Lycan, Director of Event Operations Support, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulations

The Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulations defines that judges for the Four-to-Six Month Puppy competition must be individuals with an AKC Conformation Judge's number (approved breed or FSS/Open Show Judge). Staff outlined a recommendation to modify the regulations to allow non-approved individuals approved to judge a specialty show, to also judge the Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition when held in conjunction with the specialty show they are assigned to judge. If approved, this would be effective immediately.

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Jackson TN Dog Fanciers Association (JT DFA) 3rd Show Request

The Board reviewed a request from the Jackson TN Dog Fanciers Association for approval to hold a 3rd show at the Jackson

Fairgrounds Park on week 12 (3rd week in March 2026).

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Emerald Coast Dog Shows Superintendent License

Emerald Coast Dog Shows, Paula Vester, applied for superintendent licensing. A staff committee reviewed the application and determined that Emerald Coast Dog Shows should be granted a limited superintendent license.

Junior Task Force Update

Mari-Beth O'Neill provided an update on the activities of the Junior Task Force since the last report provided to the AKC Board.

The Task Force has continued to meet monthly. The Task Force members are Nancy Fisk, Chair; Dr. Michael Knight and Sally Fineburg, Board Liaisons; Mari-Beth O'Neill, Staff Liaison; Doug Johnson, Cindy Stansell, Jane Ruthford, Marlene Groves, Dawn Schroeder, Dan Sayers, Patty Sample, Eddie Dziuk, Blaine Grove, Marjorie Tuff.

At the April 2024 meeting, the Task Force submitted a memo to the AKC Board advising that clubs will be recognized at the quarterly Delegate meetings that have actively supported 4-H canine clubs or other youth organizations. Clubs recognized to date:

June 2024 Delegate Meeting:

Holyoke Kennel Club
Springfield Kennel Club
South Windsor Kennel Club
Windham Couty Kennel Club
Manatee Kennel Club

September 2024 Delegate Meeting:

Anderson Dog Obedience Club
Olympic Kennel Club

December 2024 Delegate Meeting:

Catoctin Kennel Club
Greenville Kennel Club

The Board was also advised at the April 2024 meeting that Juniors handling a dog that they have bred to a title receive a certificate. Juniors may submit the registration number of the dog that has earned a title. Sport Services staff validate eligibility. To date, three certificates have been requested. This is publicized in the Junior Newsletter and on the Junior Facebook page.

The Junior Task Force Committee submitted a request to the AKC Board, approved at the October 2024 meeting, to add a Junior Showcase Event to the list of additional activities that a club must conduct in order to hold a show in the future.

Staff also updated the Board on a number of other activities, including:

- Educational Initiatives
- Junior Clubs
- The Colorado & Surrounding Area – Junior Handlers Education Foundation
- Coverage in Family Dog Magazine and other media.

2025-2026 Junior Scholarship Recipients

The Junior Scholarship Committees met to select the 2025-2026 scholarship recipients.

AKC Junior Scholarship Recipients

\$22,500 Junior Showmanship Scholarship (Total Amount Disbursed)	\$10,000 Companion Scholarship (Total Amount Disbursed)	\$10,000 Performance Scholarship (Total Amount Disbursed)
Kelly Williams	Ashlyn Navis	O'Malley McGee
O'Malley McGree	Isabelle Mckee	Michelle Hartman
Ashley Yoho	Catherine Eychaner	Cadence Manno
Kaitlynn Myers	Calum Morgan	Kaitlyn Myers
Isabella Ruffoni	Kaitlynn Meyers	Allyson Palmer
Brielle Villarreal	Kathryn Doane	Ryan Markey
Mya Welling	Carly Kreiser	Xochitl Berns
Catherine Eychaner	Danielle Wagner	
Carly Satterfield		

Fines and Reprimands

Staff updated the Board on recent fines and reprimands.

(Fines and reprimands are reported on the Secretary's Page.)

Events and Entries

Staff updated the Board on event and entry numbers.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, EVP of Sports & Events, Tim Thomas, VP of Conformation, joined

this portion of the meeting via video conference.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Conformation Judging Statistics

Staff updated the Board on statistics related to Conformation judging applications considered by the Department for the months April through June 2025.

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY									
2025 NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS									
APPLICATIONS							BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
February	8	8	0	0	0	0	14	14	0
March	14	14	0	0	0	0	20	20	0
April	5	5	0	0	0	0	38	38	0
May	4	4	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
June	3	2	1	0	0	0	6	5	0
NB TOTAL	36	35	1	0	0	0	85	84	0

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY									
2025 ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS									
APPLICATIONS							BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	8	8	0	0	0	0	33	33	0
February	43	40	2	1	0	0	207	201	0
March	36	35	0	1	0	0	192	189	0
April	43	42	1	0	0	0	183	182	0
May	43	38	5	0	0	1*	203	192	2*
June	30	27	2	1	0	1	147	140	1
AB TOTAL	203	190	10	3	0	2	965	937	3

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY 2025 YEAR-TO-DATE

APPLICATIONS							BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
NB	36	35	1	0	0	0	85	84	0
AB	203	190	10	3	0	2*	965	937	3*
TOTAL	241	225	11	3	0	2*	1050	1021	3

CLUBS

Lisa Cecin, Director of Club Relations, joined this portion of the meeting via video conference.

REPORT ON MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED IN MAY AND JUNE

Airedale Terrier Club of America (1901)

Del Monte Kennel Club, Monterey, CA (1938)

Fort Lauderdale Dog Club, Fort Lauderdale, FL (1956)

Greater Miami Dog Club, Miami, FL Club (1950)

Greeley Kennel Club, Greeley, CO (2024)

Greenville Kennel Club, Greenville County, SC (1950)

Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut, Durham, CT (1980)

Mt. Bachelor Kennel Club, Bend, OR (2008)

Old English Sheepdog Club of America (1905)

Peninsula Dog Fanciers Club, Kitsap County (Bremerton, WA) (1999)

REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUB APPROVED IN MAY AND JUNE

Alyeska Canine Trainers of South Anchorage, greater Anchorage, AK, 35 total households, 31 local.

Copper State French Bulldog Club, greater Peoria, AZ (including communities in proximity to Route 101, south to Laveen Village/Gilbert, AZ), 31 total households, 18 local.

Inland Northwest Beagle Club, Spokane, WA (including communities north to Deer Park, south to Route 270 in proximity to Route 195, east to Post Falls, ID), 24 total households, 12 local.

North Texas Working Dog Association, Fort Worth, TX (including communities north to Route 82; south to Midlothian, east to DeKalb, west to Poolville), 23 total households, 16 local.

Oklahoma Sporting Dog Club, Chandler, OK (including communities northeast to Tulsa, OK, southwest to Oklahoma City, in

proximity to Interstates 44 and Route 51), 37 total households, 18 local.

San Joaquin Valley Retriever Club, Lodi CA (including communities north to Bangor, east to Interstate 5/Route 99, west to Sutter Creek), 21 total households, 12 local.

Sporting Dog Club of Virginia, greater Fredericksburg, VA (including communities north to Lovettsville, south to Richmond, east to King George, west to Charlottesville), 30 total households, 18 local.

Tusky Valley Beagle Club, Alliance, OH (including communities west to Barberton, east to East Palestine, in proximity to Routes 173/619). 21 total households, 8 local.

Virginia Toy Club, Warrenton, VA (including communities north to Lovettsville, south to Fredericksburg, east to LaPlata, MD and west to Bentonville), 37 total households, 14 local.

Working Dog Club of Oklahoma, greater Tulsa, OK (including communities south to Bixby, north to Sperry, west to Sand Springs and east to Route 364), 22 total households, 13 local.

COMPLIANCE

Mark Dunn, EVP of Registration Development, Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance & Investigations, and Jessica Lopez, Compliance Manager, participated in this portion of the meeting

via video conference.

Staff Event Committee Report of Actions Taken

The Board received a report of actions taken.

Summary of Actions by Management Disciplinary Committee – Changes to Personal Conduct Policy Suspensions

The Board was informed of changes related to the cases of specific individuals who were charged with violation of the *Personal Conduct Policy* where a change in penalty (privileges, suspension term, or fine) has been made based on the *AKC Discipline Guidelines* approved at the May 2025 Board meeting.

Summary of Actions by Management Disciplinary Committee – Charges Preferred – Non-Inappropriate Treatment

The Board received a report of preferred charges.

Summary of Finalized Disciplinary Actions as of June 18, 2025

The Board received a report of finalized disciplinary actions as of June 18, 2025.

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

REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT

Mark Dunn, EVP Registration Development, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Registration of Dogs Born in Russia

Staff provided an informational memo providing background on the current policy related to the registration of dogs born in Russia. Staff initiated this memo to bring the Board up to date by providing context regarding how other countries are handling the situation, estimates of registration impact, and examples of customer concerns. Staff estimates that at least 3,000 AKC customers have been denied or otherwise had to forgo AKC Foreign Registration of dogs born in Russia since March of 2022. Meanwhile, many of the most prominent international kennel clubs recognized by AKC, including those in Canada, U.K., Mexico, Brazil, and France, are accepting dogs born in Russia for registration.

Since the implementation of the Russia policy, staff estimates that AKC has lost approximately 3,000 AKC Foreign Registrations and \$417,000 in associated revenue.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tatro, and seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (In Favor: Mr. Tatro, Ms. Fineburg, Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Dr. Garvin, Ms. Wallin, Mr. Stansell, Dr. Battaglia. Opposed: Mr. Fugiwara, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Smyth. Abstain: Ms. Thomas.) to bring the topic back for discussion in August,

waiving normal notice procedures.

Mid-Year Registration Update – July 2025

Mark Dunn provided an update and analysis of registration statistics as of July 2025. The presentation included comparative registration numbers, updates on new initiatives for 2025, and the outlook for registrations.

He reported that litter registrations are currently 8.2% below budget and 13.6% below the same period in 2024, and individual dog registrations are 16.3% below budget and 19.2% below the same period in 2024. Mr. Dunn further pointed out that several large international kennel clubs have shared data with AKC showing registration declines similar to those experienced by AKC. He also shared pet industry information showing that the sales of pet products such as puppy food are in steep decline.

In addition to declining registration activity, the number of active AKC breeders has fallen to levels not seen since 2017. Mr. Dunn shared breeder counts and segmentation data showing that fanciers have regained some of their relative market share in AKC litters, but that so far this year 79% of AKC litters were produced by non-fancy breeders.

Mr. Dunn also highlighted improvements enabled by the April 2025 launch of

the new AKC Online Dog Registration process, including:

- Greatly improved mobile experience.
- Streamlined process, eliminating steps and improving customer experience related to dog naming and color/marketing selections.
- Greatly improved package and à la carte purchase navigation.
- Improved integration with Customer Service tools, making it easier for customers to get help completing their registration when necessary.

These changes have had immediate positive impact on the percentage of dog registrants completing their online dog registration in the same hour, same day, and to date.

Overall, registration return rates are showing significant improvements from 2023 and 2024, indicating that the new registration initiatives implemented since 2023 are having positive impact on our efforts to register more of the puppies bred by AKC breeders.

MARKETING

Update on Marketing Ad Campaigns

Kirsten Bahlke, VP of marketing and Jacqueline Taylor, Director of Marketing participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

The Board received updates on the recent launch of new advertising and brand

awareness campaigns. In both cases, the campaigns are beating expectations.

Summary – Brand Awareness Campaign Performance (FEBRUARY 17 TO JUNE 14, 2025)

- For the period above with a spend of \$455K, the AKC Brand Campaign garnered 42.3M+ impressions, 14.4M video views and 8.7M video completions across Disney, YouTube, Spotify and social media channels.
- Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for all channels beat the benchmarks/estimates.
- For the main flight (Feb 17 to April 13) the campaign had a video completion rate (VCR) of 78% across all video formats (:06, :15, :30, :60); against a VCR Benchmark of 44% (avg. for above networks).
- As measured via our brand tracker, ad recall for the new AKC brand campaign (“Everything We Do, We Do for Dogs”) improved significantly from the “If It Barks” video across the board and particularly, as designed, with younger more diverse audiences.

Summary – Registration Campaign Preliminary Performance (MAY 27 TO JUNE 14, 2025)

- For the period above on a spend of \$19K, the AKC Registration Campaign garnered 3.3M video

impressions, 500K+ video views and 111k video completes across Google and Meta.

- As this is only two weeks of data it is very early, but signs are positive towards meeting or beating KPIs.

Summary – Q2 Paid Media Performance (APRIL 1 TO JUNE 18, 2025)

- Through not quite a full quarter of data, AKC paid media achieved a 15% improvement in Cost Per 1K Impressions (Q1 \$10.62 to Q2 \$9.01).

This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

CONSENT

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent agenda items:

Rally Judging Program – Entries Per Hour

Currently, the *AKC Rally® Regulations* state that the judging program will be based on the judging of up to 20 entries per hour. The Board VOTED to approve the recommendation to revise the language to state up to 18 entries per hour. This modification was discussed at the March 2025 Delegate Companion Events Committee meeting and was positively received. It is effective November 1, 2025.

Parent Club Request for Three Quarter Jump Height in Obedience – Basset Fauve

de Bretagne

The Board VOTED to approve the request of the Basset Fauve de Bretagne Club of America to have the regular jump height requirement in Obedience lowered to three-quarters the height of the dog at the withers, which is 8-12 inches.

This is a change to the *Obedience Regulations*. It is effective October 1, 2025.

Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulations

The Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulations currently allow for the event to be offered by clubs at a licensed, or member dog show or Conformation B-match.

The Board VOTED to approve the recommendation to modify the regulations to allow AKC licensed and member clubs sanctioned to hold All-Breed Conformation events to offer the Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition at or in-conjunction with any AKC Sanctioned Companion or Performance event. It is effective January 1, 2026.

Pointing Breed Field Trials – Judges Using ATVs/UTVs in Walking Stakes

The Board VOTED to approve the recommendation to allow the judges in walking stakes at Pointing Breed Field Trials to use ATVs/UTVs at the option of the host club provided the rules pertaining to the location allow their use. At the May 2025

Board meeting it was decided this would begin as a pilot procedure and run for eighteen months at which time if successful, it would be considered for a permanent change.

This is a change to the *Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds*. The pilot procedure is effective January 1, 2026.

Retriever Hunt Tests/Field Trials – DQ by Judge Across Both Sports

The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation to count a disqualification given by a judge in Retriever Hunting Tests or Field Trials as one disqualification across both sports as well as in Pointing Breed, Spaniel and Beagle Hunt Tests and Field Trials. This recommendation was agreed upon by the Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Delegate Committee at their June 2025 meeting.

These are changes made to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers*.

This is also an addition to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers* and needs to be voted on by the Delegates.

The proposed change to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers* will be read at the September Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the December meeting. If approved by the Delegates, the change would become effective January 1, 2026.

Spaniel Field Trials – ESSFTA Judging Criteria / Amateur Clarification

The Board VOTED to approve the following three changes to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels* – 1) Clarify that potential judges must follow the Apprentice Judging Guidelines as set forth by the ESSFTA. 2) Increase the required number of combined trials previously judged by both All-Age stake judges from 12 to 20. 3) Clarify that a dog running in an amateur stake must be owned or co-owned by an amateur.

These are changes made to an italicized section of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels*. These items were discussed at the March 2025 Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee meeting. There was no objection. The changes are effective September 1, 2025.

Staffordshire Bull Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to approve the proposed revision by the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America, Inc. (SBTCA) to the color section of the breed standard. Staff received the results of the ballot for the proposed breed standard revision conducted by the SBTCA which was approved overwhelmingly. It is effective September 30, 2025. ([See Appendix C.](#))

Miniature Bull Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America, Inc. (MBTCA), submitted a proposed revision to the standard. The Board VOTED to permit the MBTCA to ballot their membership on the proposed change in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws. ([See Appendix D.](#))

Appointment of Eduardo Fugiwara to AKC PAC Board

The AKC Political Action Committee (AKC PAC) nominated Mr. Eduardo Fugiwara to serve the remainder of an open two-year term (expiring March 2027) on the Board of Directors of the AKC PAC. AKC Board approval is required for all AKC PAC Board appointments. The Board VOTED to appoint Mr. Fugiwara to the Board of the AKC PAC.

The meeting recessed at 4:52 p.m. Central Time.

The meeting reconvened on Tuesday, July 8 at 8:29 a.m. Central Time. All Directors were present at the Renaissance Hotel in Dallas, TX. The Executive Secretary, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Chief Financial Officer were also present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss business matters. Nothing was

reported out of this session.

Limited Number of Events Policy Isolated Criteria

This recommendation amends the Limited Number of Events Board Policy by removing the criteria that isolated clubs must hold their events within 50 miles of their territory.

Upon the motion of Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (In Favor: Mr. Tatro, Mr. Hamblin, Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Fineburg, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Sweetwood, Ms. Wallin. Opposed: Dr. Garvin, Mr. Fugiwara, Ms. Thomas. Abstain: Mr. Stansell.) to approve a change to the limited number of events policy that removes the criteria that isolated clubs must hold their events within 50 miles of their territory. The change is effective immediately.

Delegates for Approval

Upon the motion of Mr. Tatro, seconded by Wallin, the Board VOTED (In Favor: Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Fineburg, Mr. Fugiwara, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Stansell, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Wallin. Abstain: Ms. Thomas.) to approve the following Delegates.

Stacey Able

To represent Barbet Club of America

Published April, May 2025

Richard Alexander

To represent American Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel Club

Published May, June 2025

Sheila Taylor Allen

Spartanburg Kennel Club

Published May, June 2025

Dr. Troy Clifford Dargin, Esq.

To represent Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club

Published May, June 2025

Jennifer Porter Delmer

To represent Bexar County Kennel Club

Published May, June 2025

Kathy Dorwart

To represent German Pinscher Club of
America

Published May, June 2025

Kevin Dryman

To represent Skokie Valley Kennel Club

Published April, May 2025

Jacquelyn Fogel

To represent Reno Kennel Club

Published May, June 2025

Jennifer H. Graves

To represent Italian Greyhound Club of
America

Published April, May 2025

Karen Keagle

To represent Dog Owners' Training Club
of Maryland

Published April, May 2025

Erin Melissa Keen

To represent Myrtle Beach Kennel Club

Published May, June 2025

Maribeth Krzesinski-Roush

To represent Central Beagle Club

Published April, May 2025

Linda A. McGrath

To represent American Water Spaniel Club

Published April, May 2025

Rhonda Peralta

To represent American Brussels Griffon
Association

Published May, June 2025

Tracy Potts

To represent Chihuahua Club of America

Published May, June 2025

Cyndi L. Skinner

To represent Sammamish Kennel Club

Published February, March 2025

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

It was VOTED to adjourn on Tuesday,
July 8, 2025, at 12:29 p.m. Central Time.

Attest: _____

Sheila H. Goffe, Executive Secretary

PARENT CLUB LINKS



SPORTING GROUP



American Water Spaniel



Barbet



Boykin Spaniel



Bracco Italiano



Brittany



Chesapeake Bay Retriever



Clumber Spaniel



Cocker Spaniel



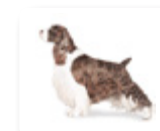
Curly-Coated Retriever



English Cocker Spaniel



English Setter



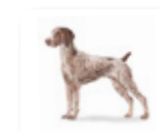
English Springer Spaniel



Field Spaniel



Flat-Coated Retriever



German Shorthaired Pointer



German Wirehaired Pointer



Golden Retriever



Gordon Setter



Irish Red and White Setter



Irish Setter



Irish Water Spaniel



Labrador Retriever



Lagotto Romagnolo



Nederlandse Kooikerhondje



Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever



Pointer



Spinone Italiano



Sussex Spaniel



Vizsla



Weimaraner



Welsh Springer Spaniel



Wirehaired Pointing Griffon



Wirehaired Vizsla

PARENT CLUB LINKS



HOUND GROUP



Afghan Hound



American English
Coonhound



American
Foxhound



Azawakh



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan
Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick
Coonhound



Borzoi



Cirneco dell'Etna



Dachshund



English Foxhound



Grand Basset
Griffon Vendéen



Greyhound



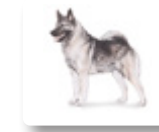
Harrier



Ibizan Hound



Irish Wolfhound



Norwegian
Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset
Griffon Vendéen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott



Portuguese
Podengo Pequeno



Redbone
Coonhound



Rhodesian
Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish
Deerhound



Sloughi



Treeing Walker
Coonhound



Whippet

PARENT CLUB LINKS



WORKING GROUP



Akita



Alaskan
Malamute



Anatolian
Shepherd Dog



Bernese
Mountain Dog



Black Russian
Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman
Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



Dogue de
Bordeaux



German
Pinscher



Giant
Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss
Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan
Mastiff



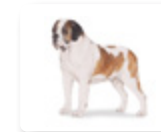
Newfoundland



Portuguese
Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard
Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

PARENT CLUB LINKS



TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American
Hairless Terrier



American
Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



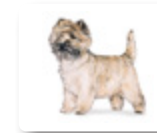
Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont
Terrier



Fox Terrier
(Smooth)



Glen of
Imaal Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue
Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester
Terrier



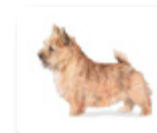
Miniature Bull
Terrier



Miniature
Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



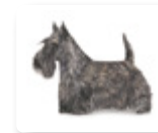
Parson Russell
Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



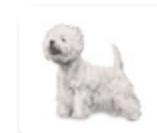
Soft Coated
Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire
Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland
White Terrier



Wire Fox Terrier

PARENT CLUB LINKS



TOY GROUP



Affenpinscher



Biewer Terrier



Brussels Griffon



Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese Crested



English Toy Spaniel



Havanese



Italian Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester
Terrier (Toy)



Miniature
Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

PARENT CLUB LINKS



NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo
Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese
Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



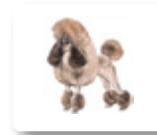
Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



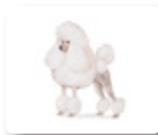
Norwegian
Lundehund



Poodle
(Miniature)



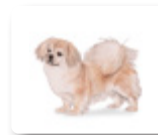
Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

HERDING GROUP



Australian
Cattle Dog



Australian
Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Laekenois



Belgian
Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des
Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh
Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher
Mountain Dog



Finnish
Lapphund



German Shepherd
Dog



Icelandic
Sheepdog



Lancashire Heeler



Miniature American
Shepherd



Mudi



Norwegian Buhund



Old English
Sheepdog



Pembroke
Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland
Sheepdog



Puli



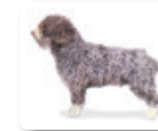
Pumi



Pyrenean
Shepherd



Shetland
Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



Swedish
Vallhund



AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/>

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics

<http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/>

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/>