



# SECRETARY'S PAGES

**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.

8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617  
101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178

Raleigh, NC Customer Call Center .....(919) 233-9767  
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## ATTENTION DELEGATES NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, September 12, 2023**. 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.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Barbet Club of America

## DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

**Alfred Ferruggiario**, Burtonsville, MD,  
National Capital Kennel Club  
**Leslie C. Gelesh**, Akron, OH,  
All Breed Training Club of Akron  
**Teresa Nash**, De Soto, KS,  
American Belgian Tervuren Club  
**Helen Norton**, Fredericksburg, VA,  
Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club



# gazette

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**Claire Parker**, Nashville, TN,  
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club  
**Joan Payton**, Bakersfield, CA,  
German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America  
**Elisabeth Szymanski**, Milford, PA,  
Wallkill Kennel Club

## 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:

Ms. Cristine Cameron (Sedro Woolley, WA)  
Mr. Matthew Perry (Berkeley, IL)  
Ms. Jacqueline Rickards-Pomper (Silverdale, PA)

## NOTICE

Mr. Eduardo Lima (Orlando, FL). Action was taken by the Valdosta Kennel Club for conduct at its April 14, 2023 event. Mr. Lima was charged with public criticism of a judge, not disruptive, but demonstrating a lack of sportsmanship. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and a \$50 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

## NOTICE

Ms. Chris Matthews (Strafford, MO). Action was taken by the Agility Club of Suburban St. Louis for conduct at its July 30, 2023 event. Ms. Matthews 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 a \$200 fine. (Brittanys, Poodles)

## NOTICE

Ms. Sue Nilson (Ravenna, MI). Action was taken by the Lima Kennel Club for conduct at its July 1, 2023 event. Ms. Nilson 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 a \$200 fine. (Bullmastiff, Chinese Shar-Pei)

## NOTICE

Ms. Marian Panter (Carson City, NV). Action was taken by the Klamath Dog Fanciers for conduct at its May 14, 2023 event. Ms. Panter was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language directed personally to a judge. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a two-month event suspension and \$100 fine, effective July 1, 2023. (Smooth Fox Terriers)

## NOTICE

Ms. Marnie Polivka (Spring Green, WI). Action was taken by the American Belgian Tervuren Club for conduct at its May 12, 2023 event. Ms. Polivka was charged with physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature and inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalties to be served concurrently as a three-month event suspension and a \$500 fine, effective June 28, 2023. (Belgian Tervuren)

## NOTICE

Ms. Yolanda Quintero (Sanford, MI). Action was taken by the American Belgian Tervuren Club for conduct at its May 12, 2023 event. Ms. Quintero was charged with physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature and inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalties to be served concurrently as a three-month event suspension and a \$500 fine, effective June 28, 2023. (Belgian Tervuren)

## NOTICE

Ms. Amanda Verdoorn (Seal Beach, CA). Action was taken by the Southern California Portuguese Water Dog Club for conduct at its May 29, 2023 event. Ms. Verdoorn 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 a \$500 fine, effective July 8, 2023. (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, All American Dogs)

## NOTICE

Ms. Sandee Yacklin (Canton, OH). Action was taken by the Heart of Ohio Great Dane Club for conduct at its June 24, 2023 event. Ms. Yacklin was charged with inappropriate public criticism of a just, not disruptive, but demonstrating lack of sportsmanship, and inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month suspension of AKC event privileges and a \$500 fine, effective June 24, 2023. (Great Danes)

## NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Ms. Alexis Hale (Weaver, AL) and imposed a \$100 fine, for signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing properly completed Power of Attorney Form. (Australian Shepherds)

## NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary



# SECRETARY'S PAGES

Committee has reprimanded Ms. Birgit Hall (Reidsville, NC) and imposed a \$100 fine, for submitting an online application without written permission from the owner. (Belgian Malinois)

## NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals for all AKC privileges for five years and imposed a \$1,000 fine, for refusal to make their dogs and records available for inspection when requested:

Effective August 8, 2023:

- Ms. Linda Johnson (Maricopa, CA)  
Dachshunds
- Mr. Randell Johnson (Maricopa, CA)  
Dachshunds

## Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Jacqueline Englert (Spring, TX) from all AKC privileges for a lifetime and imposed a \$10,000 fine, effective August 8, 2023, for violation of AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy. (Multiple Breeds)

## NOTICE

### REPRIMANDS AND FINES

Notification of fines imposed on clubs for late submission of event records,

*Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 17, Section 2

- Cocker Spaniel Club of Western Pennsylvania..... \$25
- Golden State Chinese Shar-Pei Club.... \$50
- Missouri Rhineland Kennel Club  
.....\$125

Notification of fines imposed on a performance club for late submission of results, *Regulations for Lure Coursing Tests and Trials*, Chapter 10

- Bluegrass Coursing Club (Lure Coursing)  
..... \$100

## OFFICIAL STANDARD OF THE ENGLISH COCKER SPANIEL:

**General Appearance:** The English Cocker Spaniel is an active, merry sporting dog, standing well up at the withers and compactly built. He is alive with energy; his gait is powerful and frictionless, capable both of covering ground effortlessly and penetrating dense cover to flush and retrieve game. His enthusiasm in the field and the incessant action of his tail while at work indicate how much he enjoys the hunting for which he was bred. His head is especially characteristic. He is, above all, a dog of balance, both standing and moving, without exaggeration in any part, the whole worth more than the sum of its parts.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** *Size*-Height at withers: males 16 to 17 inches; females 15 to 16 inches. Deviations to be penalized. The most desirable weights: males, 28 to 34 pounds; females, 26 to 32 pounds. Proper conformation and substance should be considered more important than weight alone. *Proportion*-Compactly built and short-coupled, with height at withers slightly greater than the distance from withers to set-on of tail. *Substance*-The English Cocker is a solidly built dog with as much bone and substance as is possible without becoming cloddy or coarse.

**Head:** General appearance: strong, yet free from coarseness, softly contoured, without sharp angles. Taken as a whole, the parts combine to produce the expression distinctive of the breed. *Expression*-Soft, melting, yet dignified, alert, and intelligent. *Eyes*-The eyes are essential to the desired expression. They are medium in size, full and slightly oval; set wide apart; lids tight. Haws are inconspicuous; may be pigmented or unpigmented. Eye color dark brown, except in livers and liver parti-colors where hazel is permitted, but the darker the hazel the better. *Ears*-Set low, lying close to the head; leather fine, extending to the nose, well covered with long, silky, straight or slightly wavy hair. *Skull*-Arched and slightly flattened when

seen both from the side and from the front. Viewed in profile, the brow appears not appreciably higher than the backskull. Viewed from above, the sides of the skull are in planes roughly parallel to those of the muzzle. Stop definite, but moderate, and slightly grooved. *Muzzle*-Equal in length to skull; well cushioned; only as much narrower than the skull as is consistent with a full eye placement; cleanly chiseled under the eyes. Jaws strong, capable of carrying game. Nostrils wide for proper development of scenting ability; color black, except in livers and parti-colors of that shade where they will be brown; reds and parti-colors of that shade may be brown, but black is preferred. Lips square, but not pendulous or showing prominent flews. *Bite*-Scissors. A level bite is not preferred. Overshot or undershot to be severely penalized.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** *Neck*-Graceful and muscular, arched toward the head and blending cleanly, without throatiness, into sloping shoulders; moderate in length and in balance with the length and height of the dog. *Topline*-The line of the neck blends into the shoulder and backline in a smooth curve. The backline slopes very slightly toward a gently rounded croup, and is free from sagging or rumpiness. *Body*-Compact and well-knit, giving the impression of strength without heaviness.



Chest deep; not so wide as to interfere with action of forelegs, nor so narrow as to allow the front to appear narrow or pinched. Forechest well developed, prosternum projecting moderately beyond shoulder points. Brisket reaches to the elbow and slopes gradually to a moderate tuck-up. Ribs well sprung and springing gradually to mid-body, tapering to back ribs which are of good depth and extend well back. Back short and strong. Loin short, broad and very slightly arched, but not enough to affect the topline appreciably. Croup gently rounded, without any tendency to fall away sharply. *Tail*-Docked or undocked. Set on to conform to croup. Ideally, the tail is carried horizontally and is in constant motion while the dog is in action. Under excitement, the dog may carry his tail somewhat higher, but not cocked up.

**Forequarters:** The English Cocker is moderately angulated. Shoulders are sloping, the blade flat and smoothly fitting. Shoulder blade and upper arm are approximately equal in length. Upper arm set well back, joining the shoulder with sufficient angulation to place the elbow beneath the highest point of the shoulder blade when the dog is standing naturally. Forelegs-Straight, with bone nearly uniform in size from elbow to heel; elbows set close to the body; pasterns nearly straight,

with some flexibility. Feet- Proportionate in size to the legs, firm, round and catlike; toes arched and tight; pads thick.

**Hindquarters:** Angulation moderate and, most importantly, in balance with that of the forequarters. Hips relatively broad and well rounded. Upper thighs broad, thick and muscular, providing plenty of propelling power. Second thighs well muscled and approximately equal in length to the upper. Stifle strong and well bent. Hock to pad short. Feet as in front.

**Coat:** On head, short and fine; of medium length on body; flat or slightly wavy; silky in texture. The English Cocker is well-feathered, but not so profusely as to interfere with field work. Trimming is permitted to remove overabundant hair and to enhance the dog's true lines. It should be done so as to appear as natural as possible.

**Color:** Various. Parti-colors are either clearly marked, ticked or roaned, the white appearing in combination with black, liver or shades of red. In parti-colors it is preferable that solid markings be broken on the body and more or less evenly distributed; absence of body markings is acceptable. Solid colors are black, liver or shades of red. White feet on a solid are undesirable; a little white on throat is

acceptable; but in neither case do these white markings make the dog a parti-color. Tan markings, clearly defined and of rich shade, may appear in conjunction with black, livers and parti-color combinations of those colors. Black and tans and liver and tans are considered solid colors.

**Gait:** The English Cocker is capable of hunting in dense cover and upland terrain. His gait is accordingly characterized more by drive and the appearance of power than by great speed. He covers ground effortlessly and with extension both in front and in rear, appropriate to his angulation. In the ring, he carries his head proudly and is able to keep much the same topline while in action as when standing for examination. Going and coming, he moves in a straight line without crabbing or rolling, and with width between both front and rear legs appropriate to his build and gait.

**Temperament:** The English Cocker is merry and affectionate, of equable disposition, neither sluggish nor hyperactive, a willing worker and a faithful and engaging companion.

**Approved August 8, 2023**  
**Effective November 1, 2023**

## OFFICIAL STANDARD OF THE ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL

**General Appearance:** The English Springer Spaniel is a medium-sized sporting dog, with a compact body and a docked or undocked tail, both are given equal consideration. His coat is moderately long, with feathering on his legs, ears, chest and brisket. His pendulous ears, soft gentle expression, sturdy build and friendly wagging tail proclaim him unmistakably a member of the ancient family of Spaniels. He is above all a well-proportioned dog, free from exaggeration, nicely balanced in every part. His carriage is proud and upstanding, body deep, legs strong and muscular, with enough length to carry him with ease. Taken as a whole, the English Springer Spaniel suggests power, endurance and agility. He looks the part of a dog that can go, and keep going, under difficult hunting conditions. At his best, he is endowed with style, symmetry, balance and enthusiasm, and is every inch a sporting dog of distinct spaniel character, combining beauty and utility.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** The Springer is built to cover rough ground with agility and reasonable speed. His structure suggests the capacity for endurance. He is to be kept to medium *size*. Ideal height at the shoulder for dogs is 20 inches; for bitches, it is 19 inches. Those

more than one inch under or over the breed ideal are to be faulted. A 20 inch dog, *well-proportioned* and in good condition, will weigh approximately 50 pounds; a 19 inch bitch will weigh approximately 40 pounds. The length of the body (measured from point of shoulder to point of buttocks) is slightly greater than the height at the withers. The dog too long in body, especially when long in the loin, tires easily and lacks the compact outline characteristic of the breed. A dog too short in the body for the length of his legs, a condition which destroys balance and restricts gait, is equally undesirable. A Springer with correct *substance* appears well-knit and sturdy with good bone, however, he is never coarse or ponderous.

**Head:** The *head* is impressive without being heavy. Its beauty lies in a combination of strength and refinement. It is important that its size and proportion be in balance with the rest of the dog. Viewed in profile, the head appears approximately the same length as the neck and blends with the body in substance. The stop, eyebrows and chiseling of the bony structure around the eye sockets contribute to the Springer's beautiful and characteristic expression, which is alert, kindly and trusting. The *eyes*, more than any other feature, are the essence of the Springer's appeal. Correct size, shape, placement and color

influence expression and attractiveness. The eyes are of medium size and oval in shape, set rather well-apart and fairly deep in their sockets. The color of the iris harmonizes with the color of the coat, preferably dark hazel in the liver and white dogs and black or deep brown in the black and white dogs. Eyerims are fully pigmented and match the coat in color. Lids are tight with little or no haw showing. Eyes that are small, round or protruding, as well as eyes that are yellow or brassy in color, are highly undesirable. *Ears* are long and fairly wide, hanging close to the cheeks with no tendency to stand up or out. The ear leather is thin and approximately long enough to reach the tip of the nose. Correct ear set is on a level with the eye and not too far back on the skull. The *skull* is medium-length and fairly broad, flat on top and slightly rounded at the sides and back. The occiput bone is inconspicuous. As the skull rises from the foreface, it makes a stop, divided by a groove, or fluting, between the eyes. The groove disappears as it reaches the middle of the forehead. The amount of stop is moderate. It must not be a pronounced feature; rather it is a subtle rise where the muzzle joins the upper head. It is emphasized by the groove and by the position and shape of the eyebrows, which are well-developed. The *muzzle* is approximately the same length as the skull and one half the width



of the skull. Viewed in profile, the topline of the skull and muzzle lie in approximately parallel planes. The nasal bone is straight, with no inclination downward toward the tip of the nose, the latter giving an undesirable downfaced look. Neither is the nasal bone concave, resulting in a “dish-faced” profile; nor convex, giving the dog a Roman nose. The cheeks are flat, and the face is well-chiseled under the eyes. Jaws are of sufficient length to allow the dog to carry game easily; fairly square, lean and strong. The upper lips come down full and rather square to cover the line of the lower jaw, however, the lips are never pendulous or exaggerated. The nose is fully-pigmented, liver or black in color, depending on the color of the coat. The nostrils are well-opened and broad. Teeth are strong, clean, of good size and ideally meet in a close scissors *bite*. An even bite or one or two incisors slightly out of line are minor faults. Undershot, overshot and wry jaws are serious faults and are to be severely penalized.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** The *neck* is moderately long, muscular, clean and slightly arched at the crest. It blends gradually and smoothly into sloping shoulders. The portion of the topline from withers to tail is firm and slopes very gently. The *body* is short-coupled, strong and compact. The chest is deep, reaching the level of

the elbows, with well-developed forechest; however, it is not so wide or round as to interfere with the action of the front legs. Ribs are fairly long, springing gradually to the middle of the body, then tapering as they approach the end of the ribbed section. The underline stays level with the elbows to a slight upcurve at the flank. The back is straight, strong and essentially level. Loins are strong, short and slightly arched. Hips are nicely-rounded, blending smoothly into the hind legs. The croup slopes gently to the set of the tail, and tail-set follows the natural line of the croup. The *tail* is carried horizontally or slightly elevated and displays a characteristic lively, merry action, particularly when the dog is on game. A clamped tail (indicating timidity or undependable temperament) is to be faulted, as is a tail carried at a right angle to be the backline in Terrier Fashion. An undocked tail may have a slight upward curve but never curled over the back.

**Forequarters:** Efficient movement in front calls for proper forequarter assembly. The shoulder blades are flat and fairly close together at the tips, molding smoothly into the contour of the body. Ideally, when measured from the top of the withers to the point of the shoulder to elbow, the shoulder blade and upper arm are of apparent equal length, forming an

angle of nearly 90 degrees; this sets the front legs well under the body and places the elbows directly beneath the tips of the shoulder blades. Elbow lies close to the body. Forelegs are straight with the same degree of size continuing to the foot. Bone is strong, slightly flattened, not too round or too heavy. Pasterns are short, strong and slightly sloping, with no suggestion of weakness. Dewclaws are usually removed. Feet are round or slightly oval. They are compact and well-arched, of medium size with thick pads, and well-feathered between the toes.

**Hindquarters:** The Springer should be worked and shown in hard, muscular condition with well-developed hips and thighs. His whole rear assembly suggests strength and driving power. Thighs are broad and muscular. Stifle joints are strong. For functional efficiency, the angulation of the hindquarter is never greater than that of the forequarter, and not appreciably less. The hock joints are somewhat rounded, not small and sharp in contour. Rear pasterns are short (about 1/3 the distance from the hip joint to the foot) and strong, with good bone. When viewed from behind, the rear pasterns are parallel. Dewclaws are usually removed. The feet are the same as in front, except that they are smaller and often more compact.

**Coat:** The Springer has an outer coat and an undercoat. On the body, the outer coat is of medium length, flat or wavy, and is easily distinguishable from the undercoat, which is short, soft and dense. The quantity of undercoat is affected by climate and season. When in combination, outer coat and undercoat serve to make the dog substantially waterproof, weatherproof and thorn proof. On ears, chest, legs and belly the Springer is nicely furnished with a fringe of feathering of moderate length and heaviness. On the head, front of the forelegs, and below the hock joints on the front of the hind legs, the hair is short and fine. The coat has the clean, glossy, “live” appearance indicative of good health. It is legitimate to trim about the head, ears, neck and feet, to remove dead undercoat, and to thin and short excess feathering as required to enhance a smart, functional appearance. The tail may be trimmed or fringed and may have wavy feathering. Above all, the appearance should be natural. Over-trimming, especially the body coat, or any chopped, barbered or artificial effect is to be penalized in the show ring, as is excessive feathering that destroys the clean outline desirable in a sporting dog. Correct quality and condition of coat is to take precedence over quantity of coat. **Color:** All the following combinations of colors and markings are equally acceptable: (1) Black or liver with white mark-

ings or predominantly white with black or liver markings; (2) Blue or liver roan; (3) Tricolor: black and white or liver and white with tan markings, usually found on eyebrows, cheeks, inside of ears and under the tail. Any white portion of the coat may be flecked with ticking. Off colors such as lemon, red or orange are not to place.

**Gait:** The final test of the Springer's conformation and soundness is proper movement. Balance is a prerequisite to good movement. The front and rear assemblies must be equivalent in angulation and muscular development for the gait to be smooth and effortless. Shoulders which are well laid-back to permit a long stride are just as essential as the excellent rear quarters that provide driving power. Seen from the side, the Springer exhibits a long, ground-covering stride and carries a firm back, with no tendency to dip, roach or roll from side to side. From the front, the legs swing forward in a free and easy manner. Elbows have free action from the shoulders, and the legs show no tendency to cross or interfere. From behind, the rear legs reach well under the body, following on a line with the forelegs. As speed increases, there is a natural tendency for the legs to converge toward a center line of travel. Movement faults include high-stepping, wasted motion; short, choppy stride; crabbing; and moving with the feet wide,

the latter giving roll or swing to the body.

**Temperament:** The typical Springer is friendly, eager to please, quick to learn and willing to obey. Such traits are conducive to tractability, which is essential for appropriate handler control in the field. In the show ring, he should exhibit poise and attentiveness and permit himself to be examined by the judge without resentment or cringing. Aggression toward people and aggression toward other dogs is not in keeping with sporting dog character and purpose and is not acceptable. Excessive timidity, with due allowance for puppies and novice exhibits, is to be equally penalized.

**Summary:** In evaluating the English Springer Spaniel, the overall picture is a primary consideration. One should look for the type, which includes general appearance and outline, and also for soundness, which includes movement and temperament. In as much as the dog with a smooth easy gait must be reasonably sound and well-balanced, he is to be highly regarded, however, not to the extent of forgiving him for not looking like an English Springer Spaniel. An atypical dog, too short or long in leg length or foreign in head or expression, may move well, but he is not to be preferred over a good all-round specimen that has a minor fault in move-

ment. It must be remembered that the English Springer Spaniel is first and foremost a sporting dog of the Spaniel family, and he must look, behave and move in character.

**Approved August 8, 2023**  
**Effective November 1, 2023**

## 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](mailto: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

### Mr. Mike Bennett (112839) OK

(918) 760-6456

[darlinmikey@libertyakitas.com](mailto:darlinmikey@libertyakitas.com)

Whippets, Akitas

### Mr. Jerome A. Elliott (112895) PA

(717) 884-2297

[hautek9@gmail.com](mailto:hautek9@gmail.com)

Brittanys, Afghan Hounds, Salukis, English Toy Spaniels, JS

### Mrs. PJ Harrison (112845) CO

(720) 205-2038

[pjharrison3691@gmail.com](mailto:pjharrison3691@gmail.com)

Alaskan Malamutes

### Jody (Jo Ann) Hill (112835) FL

(407) 353-6275

[findjody2@gmail.com](mailto:findjody2@gmail.com)

Great Danes

### Lisa M. Pruka (100701) IL

(815) 494-0384

[czechmatebc@gmail.com](mailto:czechmatebc@gmail.com)

Border Collies, JS-Limited

### Rebecca S. Smith (112841) WI

(920) 484-6443

gwpgal08@gmail.com

Vizslas

**Mr. Gary Wimberley (112803) MO**

(314) 201-2339

garywimberley@yahoo.com

Afghan Hounds

**ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

**Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez (97321) FL**

(954) 434-0318

minsmere954@yahoo.com

American English Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

**Mr. John Arvin (57337) NJ**

(609) 891-0417

ridgebacks@mysticrrs.com

Basenjis

**Mrs. Stephanie Hamblin Barnhill (47317) KS**

(785) 764-1536

nykiskas@sunflower.com

Balance of Working Group (Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Portuguese Water Dogs), Whippets

**Mrs. Janet Bodin (101381) WI**

(414) 614-7822

jbodin@wi.rr.com

Australian Cattle Dogs

**Dr. Alisha Brotherhood (103359) TX**

(281) 989-3130

touchstone0525@att.net

Akitas, Boerboels

**Ms. Anna May Fleischli Brown (6300) IL**

(217) 415-2176

stedelweis@aol.com

Biewer Terriers, Italian Greyhounds, Miniature Pinschers, Pomeranians, Poodles

**Mr. Richard (Ric) Brown (108381) MI**

(248) 514-9655

ricbulldog@aol.com

Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs

**Ms. JoAnne M. Buehler (22770) FL**

(301) 590-9056

joanneb@his.com

Keeshonden, Beaucerons, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Briards, Old English Sheepdogs

**Ms. Kimberly Cardona (110939) FL**

(407) 460-0089

vomdrakkenfels@gmail.com

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Boxers, Chinooks, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Great Danes

**Mr. Cesar Cortes (110553) NY**

(917) 635-7128

cecordog@hotmail.com

English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Pekingese, Pomeranians

**Mrs. Nancy Eilks (23143) WI**

(920) 650-2299

eilks@gdinet.com

English Setters, Irish Setters, Irish Red



and White Setters, Vizslas, Miniature Schnauzers

**Ms. Marie Ann Falconer (51642) TN**

(413) 433-6474

mylaone10@aol.com

Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, English Toy Spaniels, Russian Toys, Yorkshire Terriers), Bloodhounds, Borzois, Greyhounds

**Mr. James A. (Jim) Fehring (90519) OK**

(918) 630-9229

jimfehring@olp.net

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Boerboels, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Kuvaszok

**Mrs. Emily Fish (92354) WA**

(630) 904-5765

emilypawcific@yahoo.com

Bracci Italiani, Gordon Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, English Cocker Spaniels

**Ms. Grace Fritz (21887) KS**

(913) 706-5365

fritzgm77@gmail.com

American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Dachshunds, Plott Hounds, Salukis, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

**Gigi Griffith (109593) TN**

(760) 908-8188

terranova57@gmail.com

Akitas, Bullmastiffs, Cane Corsos, Samoyeds, Australian Shepherds, German Shepherd Dogs

**Mrs. Debra Long Gschwender (18252 ID)**

(208) 477-3925

dlgschwender@gmail.com

Lagotti Romagnoli, Golden Retrievers, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

**Ms. Cheri Hollenback (71029) ID**

(509) 993-4504

cascadesamoyeds@aol.com

Bullmastiffs, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Kuvaszok, Newfoundlands

**Mr. Ronald V. Horn (65755) CO**

(303) 797-8642

vnnewf@gmail.com

Vizslas, Beagles, Bloodhounds, Borzois, Greyhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds

**Mr. Jamie Hubbard (80432) IN**

(812) 322-7978

ozjamiehubbard@gmail.com

Beaucerons, Bouviers des Flandres, Collies, Norwegian Buhunds, Pyrenean Shepherds, Spanish Water Dogs

**Mr. Patrick D. Jones (95071) MT**

(406) 855-5940

ravindals8@gmail.com

Bulldogs, French Bulldogs, Xoloitzcuintli

**Mr. Gregg G. Kantak (94772) MD**

(301) 392-3646

greggkantak@yahoo.com

Bichons Frises, Chinese Shar-Pei, Cotons du Tulear, Finnish Spitz, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Shiba Inu, Xoloitzcuintli

**Ms. Dianne Kroll (44743) OR**

(971) 221-7623

dianne.kroll@frontier.com

Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Sheepdogs, Bouviers des Flandres, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Mudik, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pulik, Pumik, Shetland Sheepdogs, Spanish Water Dogs

**Mr. Jeffrey Langevin (93425) NH**

(207) 735-5004

jeffreylangevin@hotmail.com

Dachshunds

**Miss Mary Lee (103048) MS**

(901) 268-2410

maryflee7@gmail.com

American Foxhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Sloughi, Kuvaszok, Neapolitan Mastiffs

**Mr. John S. Lucas (7444) TX**

(512) 422-2625

john.lucas@zambar.net

Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Gordon Setters, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Border Collies, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Miniature American Shepherds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

**Ms. Kathryn Madden (92226) NY**

(516) 885-4860

madterv@gmail.com

Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, English Setters,

Irish Setters

**Mr. George E. Marquis (5789) FL**

(603) 770-9830

chiens@prodigy.net

Chinese Shar-Pei, Norwegian Lundehunds, Shiba Inu, Xoloitzcuintli

**Ellen Joan Migliore (6182) MI**

(989) 640-2966

ejmgsd@gmail.com

Chinese Cresteds

**Mrs. Chris Ann Moore (108927) AR**

(479) 221-0555

bisacd@aol.com

Cane Corsos, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Standard Schnauzers, Schipperkes

**Mrs. Patti Widick Neale (6097) FL**

(352) 359-0912

oisrus@netzero.net

Havanese, Maltese, Miniature Pinschers, Shih Tzu

**Ms. Lew Olson (24173) AR**

(713) 303-5639

lewolson@earthlink.net

Airedale Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Welsh Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

**Sheila Dee Paske (46304) CA**

(530) 306-8889

sheila@storybookdachshunds.com

Boerboels, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Dogues de Bordeaux, Portuguese Water Dogs, Samoyeds, Boston Terriers

**Mrs. Sherry Patton (110239) TX**

(318) 518-6542

4everbts@gmail.com

Chinese Shar-Pei, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Poodles, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

**Adrienne Perry (18741) AL**

(520) 214-4648

allegrolagotto@gmail.com

Rottweilers

**Ms. Deirdre Petrie (63937) PA**

(610) 763-8976

deirdrepetrie@yahoo.com

Boston Terriers, Schipperkes, Tibetan Spaniels

**Dr. LeeAnn Podruch (106234) WI**

(802) 238-0755

lgpodruch@gmail.com

Irish Water Spaniels, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Havanese

**Dr. Tracy Powell (101481) CT**

(203) 631-7110

dulcedanes@yahoo.com

Afghan Hounds, Azawakhs, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Dachshunds, Otterhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

**Mrs. Linda Riedel (2775) WA**

(509) 547-4823

ramblewood.ess@gmail.com

Boston Terriers, French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos, Norwegian Lundehunds, Poo-

dles, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers

**Mrs. Patricia D. Robinson (7518) AL**

(251) 633-5319

robinhausgsd@aol.com

Dachshunds

**Dr. Vicki Sandage (98425) KY**

(606) 922-9552

sandfoxdvm@gmail.com

Dachshunds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Standard Schnauzers

**Ms. Karen R. Scheiner, Esq. (103945 NJ)**

(856) 428-3745

doxyladynj@gmail.com

Curly-Coated Retrievers, Afghan Hounds, Pugs, Poodles, Pulik

**Ms. Ellen W. Schultz (110815) TX**

(713) 899-2418

apollogoldens@att.net

Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers

**Inge Semenschin (27410) CA**

(510) 620-9688

ingeakc@gmail.com

Basset Hounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Otterhounds, Redbone Coonhounds

**Mr. Channing Sheets (99781) CA**

(415) 254-2582

cashe90@hotmail.com

Berger Picards, Border Collies, Briards, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheep-

dogs, Miniature American Shepherds,  
Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pumik,  
Swedish Vallhunds

**Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq. (6347) CA**

(609) 351-3647

danieljsmythesq@aol.com

German Wirehaired Pointers, Boxers,  
Dogues de Bordeaux, Pumik

**Dr. Jerry Sulewski (93475) WI**

(920) 833-2242

collieknutt@yahoo.com

Samoyeds, Shetland Sheepdogs

**Catherine E. Urner (107392) PA**

(484) 252-9263

cat@noncharmdanes.com

French Bulldogs

**Mrs. Cindy J. Valko (110124) PA**

(412) 780-6129

somersetsts@comcast.net

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Bullmastiffs,  
Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes,  
Mastiffs, Newfoundlands

**Ms. Cynthia Woodward (105631) TX**

(501) 425-3454

cyndrwood@yahoo.com

Boxers, Dogo Argentinos, German Pin-  
schers, Great Danes, American Hairless  
Terriers

**Mr. Wood Wornall (95931) DE**

(805) 264-3304

woodwornall@hotmail.com

Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei,  
Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Schipperkes,  
Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING  
APPLICANTS**

**Mrs. Claudette DuPont (112807) NC**

(336) 380-6317

claudettedupont@gmail.com

JS

**Ms. Karen Marie Duprat (112779) MA**

(413) 569-2029

kduprat@aol.com

JS

**Kimberley M. Dye (110679) NJ**

(609) 420-3746

doglover4life@comcast.net

JS-Limited

**Mrs. Jackie Esperance (112827) OR**

(636) 219-7189

ross.jackie79@gmail.com

JS

**Mr. Matthew Fox (112833) NY**

(716) 961-8048

matthewfoxtrail@gmail.com

JS

**Mr. Mitchell Fox (112834) PA**

(716) 698-4290

mitchellfoxtrail@gmail.com

JS

**Mr. Joao Machado (110191) TX**

(832) 339-6926

joao.machadoTX@gmail.com

JS

**Miss Kathryn Markey (112850) CT**

(860) 839-5234

kam0131@comcast.net

JS

**Ms. Rebecca A. Nunes (112752) CA**

(714) 401-6471

atumnhaze@gmail.com

JS

**Mrs. Maricel Torres-Young (110183)**

**OR**

(503) 297-3020

conquest.cockers@comcast.net

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

**Mrs. Sara Black (112313) TX**

(903) 530-7989

seblack2222@gmail.com

Bulldogs

**Mr. Michael R. Deer (112419) TX**

(847) 910-9905

privacylawyer@hotmail.com

Dalmatians

**Ms. June M. Dennis (112533) CA**

(209) 808-3123

marendaknls@gmail.com

Pointers, English Setters, Cocker Spaniels, JS

**Mrs. Cathy M. Driggers (112496) FL**

(386) 846-7175

driggers@nottinghampoms.com

Pomeranians, JS-Limited

**Dr. Alan Hargrave (112433) IN**

(765) 730-3828

ahargrav@bsu.edu

Border Terriers, Russell Terriers

**Mr. Jeffrey Margeson (112361) VA**

(240) 674-7158

jmargeson70@gmail.com

Chinese Cresteds, Xoloitzcuintli, Australian Shepherds, Border Collies, Miniature American Shepherds, JS

**Ms. Robin Mathews (110537) NJ**

(723) 501-9581

bisdogs@aol.com

Dachshunds, JS

## ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

**Mr. Richard D. Albee (57263) AL**

(334) 821-7829

albeerd@charter.net

Balance of Hound Group (Bloodhounds, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Norwegian Elkhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Sloughi)

**Ms. Anne Barlow (18397) TX**

(512) 423-4500

anne7836@yahoo.com

Barbets, Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels

**Mr. Douglas E. Broadfoot (96999) NC**

broadstrider@gmail.com



Black and Tan Coonhounds, Sloughi

**Dr. Lisa Costello (101255) CO**

(630) 625-2019

mtncow100@gmail.com

Balance of Hound Group (Basset  
Hounds, Bloodhounds, Irish Wolf-  
hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds)

**Ms. Karen A. Dumke (7168) WI**

(920) 279-4519

karenadumke@gmail.com

Cairn Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers,  
Miniature Schnauzers, Scottish Terriers

**Mr. Rick Fowler (105295) TX**

(214) 914-9335

richf45882@aol.com

Kerry Blue Terriers, Norfolk Terriers,  
Norwich Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

**Mr. Duff M. Harris (91790) CA**

(714) 425-0454

allegro6@ix.netcom.com

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Bernese  
Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers,  
Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pin-  
schers, Rottweilers

**Mr. Steven Herman (6305) FL**

(813) 973-3153

ljlucin@gmail.com

Doberman Pinschers

**Dr. Vandra L. Huber (6857) WA**

(425) 881-5809

vlhuber.88@gmail.com

Balance of Herding Group (Pyrenean  
Shepherds)

**Shari Kirschner (97107) IN**

(219) 331-9493

smkirschner@comcast.net

German Shorthaired Pointers, English  
Springer Spaniels, Vizslas

**Ms. Pamela S. Lambie (96227) AZ**

(760) 272-0625

pam@pamlambie.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boerboels,  
Chinooks, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

**Ms. Sandra Moore (40375) TN**

(931) 657-8102

avalonborzoi@benlomand.net

Azawakhs, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds,  
Pharaoh Hounds

**Mrs. Angela Pickett (100269) FL**

(407) 252-3111

pickettpap@aol.com

Barbets, Bracci Italiani, Brittanys, Point-  
ers, German Shorthaired Pointers, Ger-  
man Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake  
Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrie-  
vers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador  
Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling  
Retrievers, Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas, Wei-  
maraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons,  
Wirehaired Vizslas

**Mr. John C. Ramirez (1814) CA**

(310) 991-0241

jrami68620@aol.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terri-  
ers, Finnish Spitz, Norwegian Lunde-  
hunds, Schipperkes, Xoloitcuintli

**Mr. Gary C. Sackett (96555) NV**

(702) 351-5566

gcsackett@yahoo.com

Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Skye Terriers, Welsh Terriers

**Ms. Pamela Schroeder (108285) WA**

(778) 834-0059

pam@schroeder.bc.ca

Vizslas, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, French Bulldogs

**Mr. Robert E. Stein (37717) TX**

(210) 725-0661

topwinn@gmail.com

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers

**Pamela Wilson (64914) TX**

(512) 280-3103

wilscot@sbcglobal.net

Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Silky Terriers

**Mrs. Lisa Young (43070) AZ**

(605) 390-1135

youngsongbeagles@gmail.com

Plott Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES**

**Miss Hadley George (112559) OH**

(740) 485-5057

hadleynicole04@gmail.com

**Tanya Tresino (112535) AK**

(907) 232-3171

tanyasueak@hotmail.com

**Jackie Wooden (112543) CA**

(661) 589-8457

regaldalmatians@gmail.com

**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.

**Mr. Brian C. Bogart (100059) NY**

(716) 984-0012

sumerwyndb@aol.com

**Ms. Beth Downey (102539) MS**

(410) 829-2455

bethdowney539@gmail.com

**Mr. Edward A. Fojtik (104757) IL**

(847) 245-6166

efojtik@aol.com

**REINSTATED JUDGE**

The Judging eligibility of the following person has been reinstated.

**Ms. Kathy L. Wilkins (6799) GA**

(770) 315-4452

lochlynfarm@gmail.com

Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Collies, Old English Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Shetland Sheepdogs

## RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Roy Cone  
Mrs. Karen Ropp

## EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Michael A. Brophy  
Ms. Susan C. Catlin  
Mrs. Marcia Feld  
Ms. Syla Hammarstrom  
Mr. Dick Jones

## DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Dr. David H. Abraham  
Mrs. Carolyn I. Alexander  
Ms. Elizabeth "Lani" McKennon  
Mrs. Beverly M. Nosiqlia

## 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 Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary.

ANGEDOR- Golden Retrievers- Laurie Grall  
APEX- Cane Corso- Wendy Burns  
AZURE- Papillons- Kathy E. Patterson  
2BLUE BAYOU – Australian Cattle Dogs- Dawn R. Carr & Thomas N Carr  
BEAR CREEK- Giant Schnauzers – Victoria G. Kallett

BONNIE BRAE- Golden Retrievers- Susan J. Wilcox  
CRAFT-ED- Miniature Schnauzers- Julie E. Craft  
DOG LAWZ- Labrador Retrievers- Joy D. Lucero & Dave M Lucero  
ENCANTOS- Poodles- Vimarie Monge Pagan  
FOG HOWL- Border Terriers- Ivan Hudak & Carol Yarbrough  
FOREBEAR- Newfoundlands- Ivy C. Surdi  
GRAVES FARM- Mudik- Denise Graves  
GREEN GABLES- Havanese – Lisa B. Minshull & Collin W. Minshull  
GOTTA GO- Australian Cattle Dogs- Nancy L. Hansen  
KARDROVI- Siberian Huskies- Sandra Alvarez  
KNOCKOUT- Miniature American Shepherds- Matthew M. Reed & Gennefer L. Reed  
LAW DOGZ- Labrador Retrievers- Joy D. Lucero & Dave M Lucero  
PROVIDENCE- Doberman Pinschers- Tamara L. Young  
QUAIL RUN- Flat-Coated Retrievers- Amy D. Petti  
SKY BLUE- Collies- Johanna M. Lance  
SPOTLIGHT- Dalmatians- Connie M. Wagner  
SPRUCE RUN- Wire Haired Pointing Griffons- Cindy V. Grodkiewicz & Jeffrey P. Grodkiewicz  
WESTVIEW- Dalmatians – Debra Bennett

## REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted.

BRIOPANACHE- Poodles- Shanon Ryan

BYMYSIDE- Miniature American

Shepherds – Annette M. Duguay

CAPROCK-Golden Retrievers &

Shetland Sheepdogs -Jennifer Harper

CINEALTAS-Labrador Retrievers-

Samantha E. Grubbs

COMPASS- Wirehaired Vizslas- Belinda

J. Perry & Jeff M. Gowen

COVEY FLUSH- English Cocker

Spaniels- Phil D. Gray

CRYSTAL CREEK- Poodles- Bonnie M.

Winings

DUCAT American Eskimo Dogs, Golden

Retrievers & Whippets- Helen Dorrance

EMBER- Pugs- Barbara C. Johnson

GDR- Labrador Retrievers- Chris E. Hall

LOTSOFDOTS- Dalmatians- Deanna

M. Lombardo & Sean L. Lombardo

MOONSTONE- Australian Shepherds-

Alicia Campbell & Morgan Campbell

NEWBLISS- Lagotti Romagnolo-

Kimberly D. McGurk & Hugh A.

McGurk

NORTHERN SEAFOG- Nova Scotia

Duck Tolling Retrievers- Debbie L. Smith

OSDABOX- Boxers- Billie M. Samuelson

POLAR LIGHT- Great Pyrenees-

Patricia L. Schremp

PRAIRIE FIRE- Vizslas- Russell J.

McKay & Chalea R. Walters

SAGE BROOK – Australian Shepherds –

Autumn Stanley

TWERKSWERKS- Parson Russell

Terriers- Denise M. Tschida

UTOPIA- Dalmatians -Willo Carter

WILLOWLAKE- Australian Shepherds-

Heather Smith

WISE'S – Chihuahuas- Gale L. Wise



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC.  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS  
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVE-  
NUE, NEW YORK, NY  
AUGUST 7-8, 2023

The Board convened on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

All Directors were present in the New York Office except for Dr. Tom Davies who participated via video conference call. The Executive Secretary was also present.

Copies of the July 10-11, 2023, Board Meeting minutes had been previously provided to all Directors for review.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the July 2023 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Sprung updated the Board on several business matters as well as on past action items.

Registration - litters remain 2% above budget while individual registration is below by 14%. Revenue remains at budget.

Events and Entries are both positive, with a 6% increase in events and a 3% increase in entries.

Last week AKC Staff had a two-hour videoconference with The Royal Kennel Club's IT and Customer Service management to exchange ideas and best practices. In the July issue of the *Kennel Gazette*, the flagship publication of The Royal Kennel Club, the AKC Board Resolution that was sent in honor of their 150th Anniversary was published.

Also, last week was Mr. Sprung's quarterly affiliate meeting, and for the first time Dr. Stephanie Montgomery joined us on behalf of AKC CHF.

Economic Impact – AKC's most recent work to quantify the economic impact of AKC events resulted in a projection of \$2.723 billion annually nationwide. If we included the estimated value of other AKC generated business, that would be an additional \$3.835 billion.



## **Legal Update**

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of July 2023.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **FINANCE**

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented preliminary financial statements (unaudited) as of June 30, 2023.

### Unaudited Financial Results for the 6 months ended June 30, 2023

Net Operating Income is \$7.8 million.

#### **REVENUES:**

Total Revenues of \$53.2 million are lower than budget by <1%, excluding Interest & Dividends.

Registration Fees excluding Registration related revenues, total \$20.1 million, and trail budget by 1%.

Registration-related Revenues exceeded budget by \$236k or 3%.

Recording & Event Service fees, Title Recognition, and Event Application fees total \$8.5 million and are higher than budget by 4%.

Product & Service Sales total \$6.2 million

are lower than budget by 8%.

Advertising, Sponsorship, and Royalties total \$9.5 million are lower than budget by 2%.

#### **EXPENSES:**

Controllable Expenses total \$39.8 million and are lower than budget by \$3.5 million or 8%.

Non-Controllable expenses are higher than budget by \$138k or 3%.

### Non-Financial Statistics for the 6 months ended June 30, 2023

Registrations: 2023 YTD Litter

Registrations are 3% ahead of budget, and 7% lower than 2022 YTD. 2023 YTD Dog Registrations are trailing the budget by 7% and are 14% lower than 2022 YTD.

### Events & Entries

Compared to the same period in 2022, Events & Entries were up by 6% and 3% respectively.

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary and Brandi Hunter Munden, Vice President of Public Relations and Communications participated in this portion of the meeting. Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President of Sports Services; Sheila Goffe, Vice

President of Government Relations; and Ashley Jacot, Director of Education participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article XII, Section 1**

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend the wording in Section 1 of Article XII to make the complaint process easier and uniform for all individuals by removing the requirement of an oath and replacing it with an affirmation.

At its July meeting the Board was in favor of additional changes to the wording submitted by the Bylaws Committee and asked staff to bring back its suggestions.

The Staff revised recommendation follows:

**ARTICLE XII, SECTION 1.** Any club or association or person or persons interested in purebred dogs may make a complaint against any other club or association or person or persons for conduct alleged to have been prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, purebred dog events or the AKC, which complaint shall be made in writing setting forth the circumstances. 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 complaint shall then be sent to the AKC, (ATTENTION: Executive Secretary) with a deposit, the amount to be established annually by the Board of Directors. The deposit shall become the property of the AKC if the Board of Directors does not exercise jurisdiction; or in the event the Board of Directors exercises jurisdiction and the complaint is not sustained to any extent. The deposit will be returned if the Board of Directors exercises jurisdiction and the complaint is sustained to any extent.

The Board of Directors has the authority to determine whether the AKC shall exercise jurisdiction.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the Staff's suggested wording and to send it back to the Bylaws Committee for its consideration.

## **American Bolognese Club – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board of Directors approved the Bolognese to be eligible for recording in the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) program with a Toy designation in 1999.

The ABC has met the requirements of the Recognition of New Breeds Board Policy approved in February 2017.

Requirements include an active Parent Club, with serious and expanding breeding activity over a wide geographic area, and documented club activity.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the Bolognese to advance to the Miscellaneous Class effective June 26, 2024.

### **German Spitz – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board of Directors approved the German Spitz to be eligible for recording in the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) program with a Non-Sporting Group designation in 1996. The German Spitz Club of America has met the requirements of the Recognition of New Breeds Board Policy approved in February 2017. Requirements include an active Parent Club, with serious and expanding breeding activity over a wide geographic area, and documented club activity.

The membership of the German Spitz Club of America voted favorably by 99% to submit a request for the German Spitz be approved to move into the

Miscellaneous Class.

Sport Services Staff recommends that the German Spitz be approved to advance to the Miscellaneous Class effective June 26, 2024.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **AKC Communications Q2 2023 Report**

Clips Evaluated in Q2: 5,946 (+26% from 4,684 in 2022)

Q2 Estimated Audience Reached: 7,983,532,381 (+30% from 6,127,083,376 in 2022)

### **Media Coverage Highlights Resulting from Proactive Pitches:**

Date	Media Outlet	Subject
4/16	<i>Great Pet Care</i>	Dr. Klein expertise
4/28	<i>The Healthy</i>	Dr. Klein expertise
4/28	<i>Modern Dog</i>	Gina DiNardo expertise
5/9	<i>SB Nation</i>	AKC Diving Dog Challenge
6/7	<i>The New York Times</i>	AKC expertise regarding air quality
6/28	<i>The Gazette</i>	500th Adopt A K9 Cop grant

### **2023 Q2 Highlights**

- 8.62% increase in media relations and press coverage in Mandarin language and Spanish language publications.
- Consistent increase in the media visibility of experts including Dr. Klein,

Dr. Burch and Tom Sharp.

- Sentiment over time – AKC maintained a 96.4% positivity rating.
- Aggressive PR Campaigns for ACE Awards, Heat Stroke, and Adopt a K9 Cop 2023.

- Borzoi
- Bracco Italiano
- German Shorthaired Pointer

## **AKC Education Q2 2023 Review**

### **Online Education**

#### ***Breed-Specific and Breeder Courses and Exams***

A total of 64 breed-specific courses and 27 breeder courses, webinars, and exams are now available on Canine College. In Q2, three courses were completed and launched, three courses are under final Parent Club review, and seven breed courses are under development.

Breed-Specific Courses Launched for the Golden Retriever, Lhasa Apso and Shih Tzu.

Breed-Specific Courses under Parent Club Committee Review are:

- Pembroke Welsh Corgi – ETA Q3
- Manchester Terrier – ETA Q4
- French Bulldog

Breed-Specific Courses in Development:

- Alaskan Malamute
- Beauceron
- Beagle
- Biewer Terrier

### **Breeder Education**

*Dog Breeding Fundamentals Course* – By streamlining multiple eLearning courses into one, AKC Canine College learners experience a more cohesive and interconnected learning journey, including a self-paced interactive game designed so they can earn digital badges, receive game points, and unlock achievements as they advance through the course. Future additions and media will be added to the course throughout 2023 and 2024.

Additional enhancements and benefits include:

- Peer discussion boards organized by topic.
- New breeder advice videos from Parent Club selected representatives.

### **New “Read with Bailey” Videos Released**

During Q2, four new “Read with Bailey” videos were released with each celebrating a different holiday (Earth Day, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Corgi Day, and Canada Day) and related resources were also provided. The videos released reached a total audience of over 1,200.

## Major Updates to the Canine Ambassador Program

### AKC Education Webinar Series

In Quarter 2 of 2023, AKC Education hosted 10 webinars for 4,347 participants, bringing the total number of participants to 62,772 since March 2020.

### Government Relations (GR) Monthly Update TOTALS:

Sheila Goffe highlighted priority legislative issues that AKC Government Relations (GR) is actively working on and a status update on current department initiatives, major projects, and legislative successes. She noted that additional information is available on the AKC legislative action center microsite: [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org).

### YEAR TO DATE 2023 UPDATE (AS OF JULY 17, 2023)

Legislative/Regulatory Tracking: As of July 17, 2023, Congress and legislatures in 11 states are in session. Three are in special session. Legislatures in 36 states have already met and adjourned.

The AKC GR team has been monitoring more than 1,400 legislative bills this year that could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the sport and The American

Kennel Club.

To date, we have published 199 legislative alerts online and via geo-targeted emails to impacted constituents and social media. This number is consistent with 2022 (189 were published in the same period last year).

GR is also monitoring approximately 835 actively pending proposed regulations (administrative or implementing changes) at the state and federal level.

AKC GR also tracks administrative (implementing) regulations and rule changes. Through the second quarter of 2022, AKC GR monitored a total of 834 active regulatory proposals: 115 from the federal government and 719 at the state level. The most common type of regulations impacting dogs and AKC events continues to be changes in hunting/land use policy.

The most common categories of regulatory proposals impacting dog ownership in Q2:

- Hunting/Land Use (266)
- Veterinary (124)
- Other (112)
- COVID-19 impacts (78)
- Breeder Regulations and Restrictions (64)
- Dogs in Public (60)



Other Project and Program Highlights  
New Legislative Advocacy and  
Educational Resources. AKC GR works  
to continuously update, improve and  
create new high quality advocacy con-  
tent to educate and empower the public,  
dog enthusiasts, and lawmakers. All of  
these materials are available in the AKC  
Legislative Action Center, [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org).

Legislative Seminars and Training  
Events. Staff presented a number of  
webinars and in-person seminars on  
legislative advocacy and strategy plan-  
ning. This includes hosting state feder-  
ation meetings and strategy meetings,  
as well as advocacy presentations for:  
Austin Kennel Club, the Connecticut  
Federation of dog clubs and responsible  
dog owners, Doberman Pinscher Club of  
America, The Doberman Pinscher club  
of Dallas, The New Jersey Federation  
of Dog Clubs (full-day seminar), The  
Florida Association of Kennel Clubs,  
the Massachusetts Federation of Dog  
Clubs, Travis County KC, and Virginia  
Federation of Dog Clubs.

## **MARKETING**

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President of  
Marketing, participated in this portion of  
the meeting.

Brand Positioning Statement Final Update  
During a January board meeting discus-  
sion of brand awareness planned and  
potential programs for 2023, the group  
discussed the need for an aligned internal  
AKC brand positioning statement.

Since then, the following milestones have  
been accomplished:

- January – cross-functional team of  
AKC Staff developed multiple brand  
positioning statements.
- February – AKC Staff presented  
brand positioning statements to the  
Board and refined them based on  
feedback.
- March – Marketing conducted a con-  
joint study (consumer research) to  
determine the best combination of  
“point of difference” and “end bene-  
fit” within the brand positioning state-  
ment
- April – Marketing presented findings  
from the conjoint study to the Board.
- May-June – Marketing conducted addi-  
tional research study (concept test) to  
evaluate full brand positioning state-  
ments (including point of difference,  
end benefit and reasons to believe).

The Board reviewed the three (3) concept  
statements that were tested, and there was  
agreement with Staff on which will be used  
going forward as an internal guide when

developing a marketing strategy, communications, and value proposition. Further, the Board asked the Marketing Department to review the current Brand Position Statements to determine if they need updating.

## **Marketing – Q2 Digital Performance**

The Board reviewed a memo summarizing the Q2 2023 performance for AKC.org, AKC Marketplace, and Shop.akc.org.

[AKC.org](#) continues to retain a portion of the gains realized during the pandemic with all measures of Q2 2023 traffic above pre-pandemic levels of Q2 2019.

## **Marketplace.akc.org**

Marketplace traffic, stabilized in 2022 and is growing in 2023 versus 2022.

## **Q2 2023 Report – Marketing Social Media**

Highlights of our social media strategy in Q2 2023 included promotion of the AKC National Agility Championship, AKC National Obedience Championship, AKC Rally National Championship, AKC Diving Dogs Challenge on ESPN, AKC Disc Dog Challenge on ESPN, early summer safety/grooming, and Westminster Kennel Club's show.

## **Total Social followers:**

Total\*: 5,168,767 followers

6.7% total follower increase YOY

1.5% total follower increase vs. Q1 2023

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **CONFORMATION**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Tim Thomas, Vice President of Conformation; Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support; Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services and Alan Slay, Director, Event Programs, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **Limited Number of Events Policy – Limited Breed Shows**

The Board continued with its discussion of a request, originally submitted by the Big Apple Working Group Club to modify the Limited Number of Events Policy to allow all limited-breed clubs to hold up to four Conformation dog shows in a calendar year. Staff suggests modifying the allowance for limited-breed clubs in a similar fashion to the prior policy for specialty clubs such that limited-breed clubs would be permitted to hold two shows or two days of shows in a calendar year. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, there was a VOTE

to approve the Staff recommendation to modify the *Limited Number of Events Policy* to allow limited-breed clubs to hold up to four shows in two days per calendar year. The Motion failed with 5 in favor, 7 opposed and 1 abstention. (In favor: Davies, Garvin, Hamblin, Powers, Wallin. Opposed: Battaglia, Biddle, Knight, McAteer, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro. Abstained: Carota)

There was a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Ms. Biddle to modify the Limited Number of Events Policy to allow limited-breed clubs to hold up to four shows in three days per calendar year; with the exception of limited-breed clubs in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico who may hold up to four shows on up to four days, and limited breed clubs assigned isolated status may hold up to four shows on no more than three days. The motion passed with 11 in favor and 2 against. (In favor: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, Hamblin, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin. Opposed: Davies and Garvin)

The policy is effective January 1, 2024.

### **Catalogs - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 12, Sections 1 & 4**

Pursuant to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* (“Rules”), **Chapter 12, Section**

**1 and Chapter 12, Section 4**, dog show catalogs must publish the names and addresses of the owners for all dogs entered. This Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to modify the Rules removing the requirement to publish the owner’s complete address and replace it with the publication of the name, city, and state of the owners for all dogs entered.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **Junior Showmanship Regulations - Junior Showmanship Judging Guidelines**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to revise the *Regulations for Junior Showmanship, Guidelines for Judging Juniors in Conformation* to clarify and specifically state that dogs with breed disqualifications may be shown in Junior Showmanship competition.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **Sweepstakes Age Limit**

Currently, The AKC Show Manual restricts sweepstakes to dogs less than 18 months old. The Staff recommends updating the guideline to allow dogs less than 24 months old to compete in sweepstakes.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

## **Dog on Dog Attacks**

At the May 2023 Board meeting, Staff was directed to “Look at dog on dog attacks and clarify so that even without damage the action is addressed.” The Staff provided a summary of the applicable rules and policies related to dog aggression at AKC events and the history of most recent effort to modify current rules. It was the decision of the Board to forward the question to the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee for its feedback on how this should be addressed. Some options include an amendment to **Chapter 11, Section 8-A** of the Rules or an alternative whereas multiple incidents addressed by Event Committees by a dog would cumulatively result in a dog being disqualified.

The Board adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

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The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, August 8, at 8:37 a.m. All Directors were present in the New York office, except for Dr. Davies who participated via video conference call. The Executive Secretary was also present.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **Parent Club Permission**

There was a memo presented and discussion of the long-standing rule which requires local specialty clubs to obtain permission from the breeds Parent Club prior to holding a show.

The rule also provides a process for appeal if the Parent Club unreasonably denies permission.

No Board action emanated from this Memo.

## **Review of Composition of Division 4 for the Points Schedule**

Based on a request from Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Staff provided the Board with background information about Division 4, which is composed of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina, in the Conformation points schedule.

AKC periodically reviews the composition of the points schedule division to determine if changes should be recommended. Guidelines used when reviewing the composition of the divisions include the number and size of all-breed shows in each state as well as geography. The

most recent review and realignment of the points schedule divisions was implemented in the points schedule that became effective in May of 2018. Division 4 has been composed of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina since 2012.

Both Florida and Georgia have experienced an increase in the number of larger shows and the average number of entries for their all-breed shows. The average number of entries at All-Breed shows

in Georgia is greater than the shows in Florida. There was a discussion about removing Florida from the point schedule and making it its own division. The data does not support such a change. In fact, removing Florida from Division 4 and making it its own division would actually cause the points schedule for the remaining states in Division 4 to go up.

No Board action emanated from this Memo.

### 2019 – Number of All-Breed Shows by Entry Size

	2000+	1500-1999	1000-1499	LT1000	Total
FL	0	9	24	33	66
GA	1	2	18	5	26
SC	3	1	2	4	10

### 2022 – Number of All-Breed Shows by Entry Size

	2000+	1500-1999	1000-1499	LT1000	Total
FL	6	8	36	29	79
GA	2	8	12	4	26
SC	2	2	2	4	10

### 2022 vs. 2019 Difference

	2000+	1500-1999	1000-1499	LT1000	Total
FL	6	-1	12	-4	13
GA	1	6	-6	-1	0
SC	-1	1	0	0	0

### 2019 vs. 2022 Entry Comparison

	2019	2019 Avg	2022	2022 Avg	2022 vs. 2019 Change in Size
FL	67,565	1,024	93,726	1,186	+162
GA	32,772	1,260	36,247	1,394	+134
SC	13,019	1,302	13,063	1,306	+4
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,356</b>	<b>1,111</b>	<b>143,036</b>	<b>1,244</b>	



## **Westminster Banners & Signs**

AKC continues to work with Westminster Kennel Club to add appropriate AKC signage to the televised group and Best in Show ring.

## **COMPANION and PERFORMANCE**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Diane Schultz, Director of Obedience, Rally and Tracking; and Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **\$3.50 Recording/Service Fee for all Entries**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to adopt a consistent recording/service fee of \$3.50 per entry across all sports. Currently all Performance Events are \$3.50 per entry while Conformation and Companion Events are \$3.50 for the first entry and \$3.00 for all subsequent entries of a dog at the same event.

The change would result in consistency across all sports. Since July 1, 2013, all Performance Events have had a \$3.50 fee for every entry of a dog in the event. If the \$3.50 fee implemented in 2008 for Conformation was adjusted for inflation, it would be \$4.76 today.

This will be discussed further at the

October Board meeting.

## **Catalog Class Order – Obedience**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to modify the Obedience Regulations to state that the Regular and Preferred Open and Utility class entries may be listed together in the catalog, the same as they are in the judging program and judge's book.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

## **Employee Participation in AKC Sports**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to amend the Employee Participation in AKC Sports policy to allow part-time employees to participate in the AKC's Sports.

There was a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Battaglia and it was VOTED (unanimously) to consider this matter at the meeting waiving the normal notice procedures.

There was a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers to approve the policy change, effective immediately. The change was approved by a unanimous VOTE of the Board.

## **Awarding a Fifth Placement – Beagle Field Trials**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow judges to award a fifth placement rather than an NBQ designation for the next best qualified hound per class in beagle field trials except brace trials. This placement would award 1/5 of a champion point for each starter (minimum six required) which would be applied towards a Field Champion title. The Beagle Advisory Committee voted unanimously for this change.

This is a change to the AKC Beagle Field Trial Rules. If approved by the Board, this addition would be read at the December 2023 Delegate Meeting to be voted on in March 2024. Once approved, this would become effective May 1, 2024.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

## **Remove 30 Day Restriction – Beagle Field Trials**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to remove a 30-day waiting period that restricts a Beagle Field Trial Club from holding their second trial in the same year.

Currently, Beagle Field Trial Clubs can

hold a maximum of two trials per year and are required to space trials out a minimum of 30 days. The 30-day restriction has been in the regulations for over 20 years and was originally intended to spread trials throughout the calendar.

At the recent Beagle Advisory Committee meeting, a vote was conducted with the majority in favor ten to one. Almost all members of the committee believed this change would improve participation at events and make it easier for clubs to plan trials. This would also allow clubs to work together and take advantage of hosting back-to-back trials if desired.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

## **Parent Club Beagle Hunt Test Titles – Title Recognition**

The Board reviewed a request from the National Beagle Club of America to offer two Beagle Hunting Test titles. The National Beagle Club of America has taken the initiative to develop a Beagle Hunt Test Program in hopes of encouraging more beagle owners to work with their Beagles in the field. The Parent Club recognizes there has been no dual champion Beagles in over 20 years.

The Parent Club is requesting AKC rec-

ognize two titles under the Parent Club Title Recognition Program – 1) Hunting Beagle Novice (HBN) and 2) Hunting Beagle Advanced (HBA). A Hunt Test evaluates a dog's abilities against a standard of performance. It is a pass/fail event, there are no placements.

The Board reviewed the recommendation, and it will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **Existing Retriever, Spaniel & Pointing Breed Clubs Becoming Licensed for the Other Type of Field Event**

In July, the Board approved a staff recommendation to streamline the event licensing process. In that policy, there is a provision which states – existing field trial or hunting test clubs are automatically approved upon request to hold the other type of field event (either field trial or hunting test). In order to make clubs aware of this provision over time, the Performance Events Department feels it is appropriate to include the following sentence in italics in the applicable Rule or Regulation book.

The following wording is an example of what will appear in the Retriever Hunting Test Regulations –

*“Active licensed Retriever Hunting Test clubs that desire to hold Retriever Field*

*Trials should contact the Performance Events Department at [performanceclublicenses@akc.org](mailto:performanceclublicenses@akc.org) in order to become licensed for Retriever Field Trials.”*

The wording will be changed as appropriate for the sport. This sentence will be added to the Rules or Regulations pertaining to Retriever Field Trials or Hunt Tests, Spaniel Field Trials or Hunt Tests, and Pointing Breed Field Trials or Hunt Tests.

### **Meet the Breeds in the Field Video – Demonstrating Form and Function**

The MTB in the Field video was filmed in November 2022. It is an educational video that demonstrates both the form and function of the 15 most popular pointing breeds. The Parent Clubs selected their breed representatives. Karolynne McAteer and Michael Faulkner explained the major characteristics of the breeds, and then the dogs were filmed hunting and pointing birds. While interesting and educational, there are some deeper messages.

- To understand the interdependence of form and function is to understand the value of purebred dogs. This concept is the foundation of an important part of AKC's Mission – “promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function”.

- While Conformation and Field Events are usually thought of as two separate sports that are enjoyed in their own right, they are linked together in a higher purpose – the preservation and enhancement of purebred working dogs.
- When AKC was founded in 1884, its first two sports were Conformation and Field Trials. This was driven by the desire of owners/breeders to have a structured way to evaluate form and function.
- Understanding the history of these breeds allows us to appreciate that thoughtful owners and breeders have been working to enhance these dogs for hundreds of years, and we are the lucky ones that are benefiting from their work.
- Considering the breeds in the context of time serves to remind us that today we are the keepers of these treasures, and we have a responsibility to the future of our breeds.

Uses for the video include:

- Provided to all Pointing Breed Field Trials and Pointing Breed Hunting Test clubs to be shown at club meetings and outdoor expos where the club has a booth.
- Posted in Canine College. Judges Operations has informed all judges of

its availability for their education. It has been viewed 2,700 times.

- Posted on the AKC.TV website.
- Provided to Dr. Marty Greer for use in continuing education classes for veterinarians.
- Government Relations will use the video when appropriate at legislative sportsmen caucuses.
- It was shown to AKC employees for their education at the May 2023 Employee Roundtable.

The Board viewed an abbreviated version of the video that featured 6 breeds. This version will also be shown at the September 2023 Delegate Meeting.

## **COMPLIANCE**

Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance; Jessica Lopez, Compliance Specialist and Marcus Bach, Director of Investigations & Inspections, participated in this meeting portion via video conference.

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

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **CLUBS**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, of Sports & Events; Glenn Lycan, Director of Event Operations Support; and Lisa Cecin, Director of Club Relations participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED ADDING JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP**

Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Fresno, CA (1949)

## **REPORT ON MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY**

Carolina Working Group Association, greater Charlotte, NC (2017)

## **REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUB APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY**

Midwest International Agility Club, Madison, WI (including communities north to DeForest, south to Platteville, west to Stitzer and east to Sun Prairie (no further east than Interstate 73), 62 total households, 14 local.

## **CONSENT**

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent items:

## **Delegates Approved**

Rebecca Barber  
To represent Ozarks Kennel Club  
Published June 2023, July 2023

Kristen L. Burgoyne  
To represent Providence County Kennel Club  
Published June 2023, July 2023

R. Scott Dove, DVM  
To represent Scottish Deerhound Club of America  
Published July 2023, August 2023

Debbie Hockaday  
To represent Gloucester Kennel Club of Virginia  
Published June 2023, July 2023

Patricia Jason  
To represent Poodle Club of America  
Published May 2023, June 2023

Pamela A. Langstein  
To represent Yorkshire Terrier Club of America  
Published June 2023, July 2023

Kate McCallum  
To represent Alaskan Malamute Club of America  
Published June 2023, July 2023



David Todd McDonald

To represent Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America

Published July 2023, August 2023

## **American Eskimo Dog Stud Book**

The American Eskimo Dog Club of America (AEDCA) has submitted a request to the Board of Directors to open the Stud Book for the Breed. The Board approved the American Eskimo Dog Club of America to ballot its membership in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws to open the Stud Book to United Kennel Club registered dogs.

## **Ballot Results**

81 Ballots were returned, 3 were determined to be invalid.

77 Ballots in Favor

1 Opposed

This meets the 2/3 approval required to Open the Stud Book.

The Board VOTED to approve the opening of the American Eskimo Dog Stud Book to United Kennel Club dogs until September 1, 2028.

## **English Cocker Spaniel Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to approve the proposed revision to the Tail section of the

English Cocker Spaniel Breed Standard to include a description of an undocked tail.

## **Tail**

Tail-Docked or undocked. Set on to conform to croup. Ideally, the tail is carried horizontally and is in constant motion while the dog is in action. Under excitement, the dog may carry his tail somewhat higher, but not cocked up.

## **English Springer Spaniel Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The English Springer Field Trial Association. (ESSFTA), has submitted proposed revisions to the breed standard, specifically to include an undocked tail. The breed standard was last revised in 1994 with an effective date of March 31, 1994. The ESSFTA submitted the results of the ballot to revise the breed standard. The Board VOTED to approve the proposed revisions to the standard as balloted by the membership of ESSFTA in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws with an effective date of November 1, 2023.

## **Beagle Bench Shows**

The Board VOTED to amend Standard Procedures for Beagle Bench Shows to create an AKC Beagle Bench Show to be

held in conjunction with Field Trials at the club's option. The purpose is to bring focus and emphasis to both form and function at the same setting. Any licensed club for Beagle Field Trials or two-couple pack events can hold a Bench Show. A Beagle Bench Show will utilize the Conformation Assessment (CA test) format that AKC has approved for the Golden Retrievers, West Highland White Terriers, and Leonbergers. This is a pass-fail test where the dog is evaluated against the major characteristics as identified in the AKC Breed Standard. The combination of three passes of the CA test and three placements in field events would result in a Bonafide Hunting Beagle (BHB) title. (See Appendix A for all changes)

Bench Show applications will be accepted on January 2, 2024 for events held after March 2024.

### **Pointing Breed Hunting Tests – Master Hunter Excellent Test**

The Board VOTED to amend the Pointing Breed Hunting Test Regulations to add a fourth testing level to the Pointing Breed Hunting Test program called the Master Hunter Excellent test. The purpose of the Master Hunter Excellent test is to recognize the most accomplished dogs in the Pointing Breed Hunt Test (PBHT) program and provide

experienced owners with an additional activity to strive toward.

An initial licensed MHX test will be held this November to evaluate the format and gain feedback. Clubs may start applying for the MHX test in January 2024 for events to be held after March 1, 2024. (See Appendix B for all changes)

### **Czechoslovakian Vlcak Club of America – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board VOTED to approve the request from the Czechoslovakian Vlcak Club of America to move the Czechoslovakian Vlcak into the Miscellaneous Class effective June 26, 2024.

### **Pyrenean Mastiff Association of America – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board VOTED to approve the request from the Pyrenean Mastiff Association of America (PMAoA) to move the Pyrenean Mastiff into the Miscellaneous Class, effective June 26, 2024.

### **Yakutian Laika Club of America – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board VOTED to approve the

request from the Yakutian Laika Club of America (YLCA) to move the Yakutian Laika into the Miscellaneous Class effective June 26, 2024.

## **AKC Agility League Regulations Revisions**

The Board VOTED to approve updates to the Agility League Regulations to (1) provide clarification and align nomenclature across the document and (2) update the scoring calculations. (See Appendix C for all revisions).

These regulation changes go into effect for the Fall 2023 AKC Agility League Season.

## **Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article XIII, Section 2**

The Board VOTED to approve a proposal amendment from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend the wording in Section 2 of Article XIII to add clarity to the Trial Board process and bring it in line with current practices.

SECTION 2. When charges have been filed and referred to a Trial Board, a notice which shall state that such charges have been filed and a copy of the charges shall be sent to the club or association, or person or persons against which or whom said charges have been preferred which club or association, or person or

persons herein shall be known as and called the defendant. The club or association or person or persons which or who shall have filed the complaint leading to the charges shall be known and called the complainant.

Such notice shall state that the defendant may attend the hearing and present a defense or written answer and may be represented by counsel and that the time and place of a hearing shall be determined by the Trial Board Chair in consultation with the parties. If the complainant shall fail or refuse to cooperate with the AKC in the prosecution of said charges, without giving reasonable excuse for such failure or refusal, the AKC or the Trial Board presiding may suspend said complainant for a period of six months or until such time as the party is prepared to cooperate with the AKC. Appeals to such suspensions shall be to the Appeals Trial Board.

If the complainant shall fail or refuse to cooperate with the AKC, the defendant may submit a written request to the Trial Board to dismiss the charges. The Trial Board shall permit the AKC to submit a written response to the defendant's request to dismiss the charges or the AKC may proceed to a hearing without the complainant's testimony. The Trial

Board shall issue a determination based on the defendant's written request to dismiss and the AKC's response.

If the defendant shall fail to appear at the hearing, without giving reasonable excuse for such failure or refusal, the complainant's evidence may be heard and the defendant's written answer, if any, will be considered. The record of the hearing shall also include a statement by the Trial Board Chair of any conversations with the defendant concerning the failure or refusal to appear. In such cases, the Trial Board may make a finding. The Trial Board may also suspend the defendant for six months or until the party is prepared to present a defense.

This will be read at the September Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the December Delegate Meeting.

### **Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article XIII, Section 7**

The Board VOTED to approve a Bylaws Committee proposal to remove the italics and parenthesis from the words, (*except where it is acting as the appellate body for an Event Committee appeal, where its decision is final*) in Article XIII, Section 7. This does not change the meaning of the section.

**SECTION 7.** An appeal may be taken

from any decision of a Trial Board, except where it is acting as the appellate body for an Event Committee appeal where its decision is final. Notice in writing claiming such appeal together with a deposit, the amount of which is determined annually by the AKC Board of Directors, must be sent to the AKC (ATTENTION: Executive Secretary) within thirty days after the receipt of the notice of the decision of the Trial Board. A three-member Appeals Trial Board shall hear said appeal on the record.

This will be read at the September Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the December Delegate Meeting.

### **Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article XIV, Section 1**

The Board VOTED to approve a proposal from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend the wording in Section 1 of Article XIV to add clarity to the Event Committee process and bring the wording more in line with current practices.

**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 of the penalty for the offense as set forth in the guidelines authorized by the Board of Directors pending a final determination by the AKC.

Notice in writing must be sent within five (5) business days by the Event Committee by certified mail 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. At the time the appeal is filed, the appellant may request the Trial

Board to stay any disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension, until such time as the appeal is heard and decided by the Trial Board. The decision by a Trial Board is final. The deposit shall become the property of the AKC if the decision is upheld in whole or in part or returned if not upheld.

This will be read at the September Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the December Delegate Meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. It reported out of this session that the format for the Conformation Judges Recertification Test will be revised for clarity.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 12:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary



## Appendix A

### Standard Procedures for Beagle Bench Shows – New Sections

Section 1. Purpose. A Beagle Bench Show utilizes the Conformation Assessment (CA) test format. Dogs are evaluated against major breed characteristics as identified in the AKC Breed Standard. It is a pass-fail test where the dog must score 70 or greater out of a possible 100 and score no less than 50% in each breed characteristic, in order to pass. In addition, at the discretion of the host club, the judge may be asked to select the top dogs in each class (divided by gender and size). The host club may also ask the judge to select Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, and Best of Breed. The Beagle Bench Show provides feedback to owners and breeders regarding adherence to the breed standard.

Section 2. Clubs That May Hold a Beagle Bench Show. All clubs that are licensed for Beagle Field Trials or Beagle Two-Couple Pack events are allowed to hold a Beagle Bench Show. The Bench Show is considered another stake that clubs may hold at their events. Holding a Bench Show is at the option of the club.

Section 3. Dog Eligibility. To enter a Beagle Bench Show, a dog must be registered with the AKC and be six months

of age or older on the day of the show. This includes dogs on AKC Limited Registration and dogs that are spayed or neutered.

A hound that is individually registered with a foreign or domestic registry organization whose pedigrees are acceptable for AKC registration may be entered in a show that is held not later than 30 days after the first AKC event in which the hound was entered.

A hound is not eligible to enter a show if the judge or any member of the judge's immediate family or household has owned, sold, held under lease, boarded, trained the dog for any sport, or handled the dog in any sport within one year prior to the date of the show. Immediate family is defined as husband, wife, father, son, daughter, brother, or sister.

Section 4. Structure of a Beagle Bench Show. A Bench Show can be held in conjunction with a Beagle field event or as a stand-alone event. It is expected that most will be held in conjunction with field events, therefore clubs have flexibility in how it is structure.

- Who May Enter. At the host club's discretion, Bench Shows held in conjunction with field events may only be open to dogs that enter the field event,

or they may be open to all beagles.

- **Entry.** Dogs enter the Bench Show on the morning of the day their field class is to be run.
- **Testing and Placements.** The host club can conduct the Bench Show strictly as a pass-fail Conformation Assessment Test, or the club can ask the judge to also place the top five dogs in each of the classes (divided by gender and size), and further select Winners Dog, Winners Bitch and Best of Breed.
- **No Interference with the Field Event.** The Bench Show shall not interfere with the field event to the extent possible. Clubs shall designate a location and starting / closing times for the Bench Show. Dogs that are entered in the show can present themselves singularly to the conformation judge for evaluation either before or after they have run in the field. If the judge is going to award placements, the judge will call dogs back at a designated time (at lunch time for example) in order to select the top five in each class. If the format of the event allows, the club may also ask the judge to select WD, WB and BOB.
- **Entry Fees.** The host club can charge whatever entry fee they want for the show. At the discretion of the club, there can be a different fee for dogs

that are entered in the field event and dogs that are only entered in the show.

- **Measuring.** The conformation judge shall not measure the hounds. The conformation judge must accept the measurement done by the field event judges or the AKC Measurement Card presented to the field secretary at the time of entry. Otherwise, the dog shall be placed in the same height class as it entered in the field event. If the Bench Show is a stand-alone event, the show secretary shall accept the class provided by the dog's handler.

## Section 5. Ribbons and Awards.

- Offering ribbons/rosettes to dogs that pass the Conformation Assessment Test is at the discretion of the club. If ribbons/rosettes are provided for passing the CA Test, they shall be bright green in color. Offering additional ribbons/rosettes or trophies for class placements is at the discretion of the club. If offered, they may be any color the club desires.
- Each ribbon or rosette shall be at least 2 inches wide and approximately 8 inches long and shall bear on its face the seal of The American Kennel Club, the words Bench Show, the name of the prize and the name of the event giving club. Larger ribbons/

rosettes may be provided at the discretion of the club.

- Clubs may award additional awards, such as for combined best in field and show, at their discretion.

## Section 6. Beagle Conformation

**Assessment Test.** The Conformation Assessment (CA) Test is a pass-fail conformation test where the dog is evaluated against the major characteristics of the breed as identified in the AKC breed standard. The Beagle standard lends itself to a CA test since the standard assigns weight to twelve major characteristics of the breed. To pass the test, a Beagle must –

- Not be measured at more than 15 inches at the withers by the field event judges.
- Receive a total score of 70 or more out of a possible 100.
- Not receive a score below 50% of the total possible score in any category.

Passing the Conformation Assessment Test three times under three different judges is one of the requirements for a dog to earn the Bonafide Hunting Beagle Title (see Section 9). Beagle Bench Show judges must retain the CA Test forms for one year.

**Section 7. Event Application.** Bench Shows held in conjunction with a field event will be considered a stake held at

that event. Holding a Bench show is at the option of the club. Stand-alone Bench Shows will be assigned their own event number and shall appear on the Event Search website. If a Bench Show is held as a stand-alone event, it will not count against the club's limited number of field trials or two-couple pack events.

- Bench Shows held in conjunction with AKC licensed field event – no application fee.
- Stand-alone Bench Shows - \$35 event application fee.

**Section 8. Judge Qualifications.** A list of individuals approved to judge Beagle Bench shows will be provided on the AKC website. The list will consist of the following:

- AKC Conformation Judges - Individuals who are approved AKC Beagle Conformation Judges.
- AKC Beagle Bench Show Judges - Individuals who have taken the anatomy course (free) and have passed the Beagle Breed Standard exam (\$35) that is available in AKC's Canine College. Upon successfully taking both these courses, the individual can apply to be an AKC Beagle Bench Show judge. The application is free. The Beagle Bench Show Judges Application form is posted on the AKC website.

## Section 9. Bonafide Hunting Beagle

**Title.** The AKC Bonafide Hunting Beagle (BHB) Title is awarded to Beagles that have demonstrate both proper form and function. It is a suffix title.

- To earn the BHB title, a dog must (1) pass the Beagle Conformation Assessment Test three times under three different judges, or be an AKC Show Champion, and (2) on three occasions, place first thru fourth in an AKC licensed SPO, Gundog Brace or Large Pack field trial or two-couple pack trial. No more than one placement can come from a licensed derby stake. Note: Field trial placements earned prior to the launch of the BHB title will count toward the title.
- The dog owner is responsible for maintaining the official AKC Bonafide Hunting Beagle title application form. If a dog passes the CA Test, the owner shall provide the judge the BHB title application form at the conclusion of the test. The judge records the dog's overall score, the host club, location, and date of the test.
- After a dog has meet the above criteria, a dog's owner, at their discretion, may submit the AKC Bonafide Hunting Beagle title application form to the AKC Performance Events Department along with a fee for placing the title on the dog's record. Upon

verification, a BHB title certificate is issued. The title appears on the dog's pedigree. The individual CA Test passes do not appear on the dog's AKC record.

## Section 10. Results Submitted by Club.

Recording the results of a Beagle Bench Show is structured to minimize the burden on the host club/event secretary.

- The Bench Show results submitted by the event secretary only includes the number of dogs that entered the CA Test and the name of the judge. This one line of information is included on the standard Event Secretary's Report that is submitted along with the field trial or 2CP results. No Bench Show service fee is submitted (no \$3.50 per entry).

**Section 11. Default Regulations.** Should issues arise that are not covered by these Regulations, an event committee should consult the Rules and Standard Procedures that apply for the format of the field event being held in conjunction with the Bench Show. If it is a stand-alone bench show, the Rules and Standard Procedures that apply to the club's normal field event shall apply.

## Appendix B

### Regulations for AKC Hunting Tests for Pointing Breeds – New Sections

#### Chapter 1, Section 4. **Entry**

##### **Requirements.** New second paragraph.

A dog must have previously earned the Master Hunter (MH) title to be eligible to enter the Master Hunter Excellent test.

#### Chapter 1, Section 6. **Judges' Eligibility and Approval.** New fifth bullet.

- A MHX judge must have previously judged a minimum of five MH level tests and must pass the on-line MHX judges' test. It is expected that MHX test judges will judge appropriately in order to maintain the standard of performance expected for this testing level. The Performance Events Department reserves the right to rescind an individuals' privilege to judge if, after discussions and suggestions from the Performance Events staff, a lack of correct judgement persists.

#### Chapter 2. New Section 6. **Master Hunter Excellent (MHX) Title.**

A dog must have earned the Master Hunter (MH) title to be eligible to enter

the MHX test. The MHX test is a two series test. A dog must receive a passing score in both series to pass the MHX test. Dogs with an average score of 8.0 or greater in each of the two series shall pass the MHX test.

In order to be recorded as a Master Hunter Excellent, a dog must acquire qualifying scores in three MHX tests. Upon completion of this requirement, an AKC Master Hunter Excellent (MHX) certificate will be issued. The MHX title will supersede the Master Hunter Advanced (MHA) title on a dog's pedigree.

A dog that has been recorded a MHX may continue to enter the MHX test. Each time the dog passes the MHX test after earning the MHX title, the dog is eligible to earn the MHX# title. The number (#) indicates the number of time the dog has passed the MHX test starting with the number 4. The MHX# title is issued upon the request of the owner by submitting a MHX title application form. Typically an owner will apply for the MHX# title at the time the dog is retired or prior to being bred so the title appears on the dog's pedigree.

A dog that passes the MHX test will receive two passes toward its Master Hunter Lifetime Achievement (MH#) title.

A dog that has earned the MHX title may continue to enter lower level tests.



No further JH, SH or MH certificates will be issued.

## Chapter 4. New Section 13. **Format of the Master Hunter Excellent Test.**

1. The MH Excellent Test is a two series test. A dog must receive a passing score in both series to pass the MHX test.

Dogs that do not pass series #1 may run in series #2 but shall not pass the MHX test.

2. Clubs may hold the MHX test over two days (the equivalent of one MH test per day) or they may hold one MH test in the morning and one in the afternoon depending on the number of entries, the weather, and how the MHX test fits into the club's overall event schedule. If a club chooses to run the MHX test over two days, then all dogs must run once in each day. If the club chooses to run the MHX test in one day, then all dogs must run twice in that day.

3. Clubs may limit the entry in the MHX test but in no case shall the limit be less than 20 entries.

4. Handlers are not required to carry and shoulder a long-barreled gun in the MHX test.

5. The MHX test consists of two 30-minute series which may be held with or without a bird field. The back course must be of logical hunting cover and the course shall not cover the same ground twice. If held with a bird field, the grounds must allow a minimum of a 22-minute back course prior to entering the bird field. This is a minimum of a one mile back course. MHX grounds must be approved by the AKC Performance Events Department. If time in the back course takes longer than 22 minutes, the dog shall still be allowed 8 minutes in the bird field.

6. Clubs with approved grounds may hold two MHX tests per calendar year. The MHX test may be a stand-alone test if the club desires. If it is held as a stand-alone test, it will not count as one of the club's normal number of tests.

7. If a bird field is used, a minimum of three birds (three separate locations) shall be released in the back course prior to the first brace. After the first brace, a minimum of one bird shall be released in the back course prior to every brace.

In the bird field, a club shall release a minimum of three birds per brace. For the first brace, extra birds shall be released in the bird field.

If no bird field is used, a minimum of six

birds shall be released on course prior to the first brace. After the first brace, a minimum of three birds shall be released prior to every brace.

As the event proceeds, clubs should monitor the amount of bird work. The number of birds may need to be increased or decreased depending on conditions in order to provide every dog a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate its bird work without providing so many birds that a dog's hunting ability cannot be properly evaluated.

## Guidelines for Pointing Breed Hunting Tests. New Part III. **Master Hunter Excellent Test Categories.**

### Introduction

The purpose of the MHX test is to recognize the most accomplished dogs in the Pointing Breed Hunting Test program. The MHX dog is expected to consistently give a finished performance. The MHX test consists of two series, and a dog demonstrates its consistency by passing both series in order to pass the MHX test.

There is a slight shift in emphasis compared to the Master Hunter. There is greater emphasis placed on the dog's hunting ability – its desire and intelligence. A MHX dog's manners around birds should be held to the highest stan-

dards. When evaluating handling for a MHX dog, the handler sets the general direction (course) and the dog should use its initiative, instincts, and intelligence within the context of the course.

A MHX dog shall not pass the test due to (1) failure to find a bird, (2) interference with its brace-mate, (3) being gone for more than five minutes as determined by the judge, and (4) failure to honor a clear opportunity (blinks the back).

A dog in a MHX test shall only be picked-up for interference or an extreme breach of manners that, in the judge's opinion, could interfere with its brace-mates opportunity to demonstrate its abilities. An extreme breach of manners includes a dog that breaks and chases a bird. Interference can include aggression, ongoing harassment, ongoing playing, or stealing point. The judges decide what is "ongoing" given the nature of the interference.

### Scoring

The description of what is expected of the dog is often stated as the ideal performance. Judges may have the ideal performance in their mind. However, very few dogs achieve perfection. In assessing a dog's performance, faults shall be scored lower to the extent of the fault.

Scoring in the MHX test shall be done to the half point (for example 7.5). To pass the MHX test, a dog must not receive less than a 5.0 in any category and receive an overall average of 8.0 or greater in each of the tests that together make up the MHX test.

Only experienced MH level judges are allowed to judge the MHX test. MHX judges should be prepared to assign scores based on their previous judging experience. They should not worry about scoring the first couple of dogs too high out of concern that better performances might follow.

Unique situations will occur in the field. Judges need to apply their experience and common sense on how to handle these occurrences. When in doubt, a judge should consult with their judging partner. Knowledgeable judges can view a dog's performance differently. It is perfectly acceptable for judges to assign different scores. The event secretary will average the scores when presenting the results to the handler. However, judges must agree on whether or not a dog will receive an overall qualifying score.

### MHX Test Categories

MNX Scoresheet. The scoresheet for the MHX test has five scored categories.

Compared to the MH scoresheet, the MHX categories place more emphasis on a dog's hunting ability, treats trainability as a means to an end such as bird work and handling, and eliminates honoring as a scored activity.

1. **Hunting Desire** – The MHX dog shall demonstrate a keen desire to hunt, boldness, and initiative. The dog shall demonstrate its stamina by maintaining a reasonable pace during the full time under judgement. Speed shall not be considered an indicator of a dog's desire to hunt. Breeds have different ways of going and this should be a consideration when evaluating a dog's desire.

2. **Hunting Intelligence** – The MHX dog shall intelligently apply itself to the course, demonstrating a useful pattern of hunting, and using the wind and terrain to its best advantage while searching likely objectives. A MHX judge must consider and recognize the quality of the find. A dog that digs birds out of off-the-path locations shall be appreciated and given extra credit for its efforts. The number of birds found is not necessarily an indicator of a dog's hunting intelligence.

3. **Handling** – When evaluating handling for a MHX dog, the handler sets the general direction (course) and the dog should

use its initiative, instincts, and intelligence within the context of the course. A MHX dog's willingness to be handled does not necessarily equate to obedience. The judge shall take into consideration the likely cover and terrain, not being too quick to fault a dog that does not immediately respond to its handler if it is hunting likely objectives.

The MHX dog should stay reasonably to the front, and not range out-of-sight for a length of time to detract from its usefulness as a practical hunting companion. Regarding "length of time to detract," once the handler is informed that in the judge's opinion the dog is "gone," the handler has five minutes from that point to show the dog. At the end of the brace, if the clock has started due to the dog's absence, the handler shall be given the remaining time to show the show. A dog shall not pass the MHX test if it is gone for more than five minutes.

4. **Bird Work** – Bird work means the dog's manners around birds. It encompasses a number of behaviors. Style should be evaluated in terms of the dog's intensity and staunchness while on point. A high head and tail should not necessarily be considered good style. Different breeds were developed to point birds with different head/tail positions. However, in

all cases a dog should exhibit good intensity and staunchness while on point.

The handler may gently caution a MHX dog on point. Cautioning shall be quite and infrequent. No intimidation or blocking shall be permitted. Loud and excessive handling on birds shall be scored lower to the to the extent of the fault.

A MHX dog must demonstrate that it is positively steady to wing and shot on all pointed birds. If the find is not a retrieving situation, the handler must fire a blank pistol. If the bird is shot, the dog shall not be sent to retrieve until the bird is on the ground and the dog has positively demonstrated its steadiness. Faults shall be scored lower to the extent of the fault.

A MHX dog should demonstrate its ability to pinpoint birds with confidence. A dog should be scored lower if it exhibits uncertainty in locating birds, especially if this occurs repeatedly. Judges should consider if this behavior is caused by birds that are moving in front of the dog.

If a handler cannot locate the bird when a dog is pointing, the dog may be relocated on command. Relocations are evaluated as part of bird work.

A MHX dog must stop on a wild flushed

bird without being given a command to do so. The handler shall fire a blank on a stop-to-flush bird and the dog shall be heeled off before it is cast to continue its hunt.

A MHX dog shall not delay chase a flushed bird. Faults shall be scored lower to the extent of the fault.

The MHX dog shall be heeled away after its bird work is complete before it is cast to continue its hunt.

Handlers do not need to carry a long-barreled gun in the MHX test.

5. Retrieving – The perfect retrieve consists of a good mark, where the dog goes directly to the downed bird; quick pick up; brisk, direct return to the handler; with a tender delivery to hand. There should not be excessive commands on the retrieve, with consideration for the difficulty of the situation. Anything short of perfect shall be scored lower to the extent of the fault.

In the MHX test, only the first shootable bird is required to be retrieved. The handler or the judge may request additional retrieves at their discretion.

If the dog is not able to retrieve during

the 30-minute brace, retrieving shall be done in a call back situation. In the call back, a live bird must be planted, the dog must point the bird and demonstrate steadiness to wing and shot. In no case may a dead bird be thrown for the dog. Two gunners must be used whenever a dog is called back to retrieve.

Conditions such as the type of cover where the bird fell, the terrain and condition of the downed bird sometimes makes a retrieve impossible. If the judge determines the retrieve is impossible or extremely difficult, the dog shall be given another opportunity to retrieve.

Safety is of utmost importance. Everyone involved in situation where live ammunition is being used must wear blaze orange clothing. The amount of blaze orange required will be determined by the State hunting laws where the test is being held.

Honoring – Honoring is not a scored category, however, a dog that encounters its brace mate on point must honor throughout the entire flush, shot, and retrieve.

The honoring dog may be heeled off and sent on at the discretion of the judge if the pointing/retrieving dog is taking overly long. A dog that steals point shall be picked up. A dog that totally fails to honor (blinks the back) when presented



with a clear opportunity shall fail the test.

All dogs that are eligible to enter the MHX have repeatedly demonstrated their ability to honor when earning the MH title. Therefore, if a dog does not have an opportunity to honor, it shall not be penalized. This will eliminate the “please remain on point while the other dog is called over here” situation. There shall be no call backs to honor.

## **Appendix C**

### **AKC Agility League Rules and Regulations – Revisions**

#### Chapter 2

##### Section 3. Dog Skill Levels.

Dogs will be categorized according to skill level for team and individual dog rankings in the following categories:

- Senior for those with Excellent or Masters titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Sophomore for those with Open and Novice titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Freshman for those without titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Ph.D. – For all levels of dogs; courses will be International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) style, but will be judged under the League time/fault rules.

#### Chapter 2

##### Section 4. Team Skill Levels.

Teams will be categorized according to skill level for team. All dogs on a team must compete at the same skill level.

- Senior for those with Excellent or

Masters titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;

- Sophomore for those with Open and Novice titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Freshman for those without titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Ph.D. – For all levels of dogs; courses will be International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) style, but will be judged under the League time/fault rules.
- Handlers may elect to compete in a higher skill level. Dogs will be judged and ranked at the skill level of the team.

## Chapter 2

### Section 5. Jump Height.

Dogs may jump at:

- Regular jump height (8, 12, 16, 20, 24 or 24C inches) – See AKC Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT), Chapter 2, Section 4.
- Preferred jump height (4, 8, 12, 16 or 20 inches) – See AKC Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT), Chapter 8, Section 9.

- Veterans jump height - For dogs 10 years and older. Veteran dogs may jump up to two levels lower than their jump height (4, 8, 12, or 16 inches). Four-inches is the minimum jump height for all dogs in League competition.

## Chapter 2

### Section 6. Field Size Divisions.

In an effort to make sure all participants have the appropriate field size, there are three League divisions that will run different courses. The divisions will be based on the size of their training field or room. Team organizers must submit a ring map, showing dimensions of their competition area and that accurately shows any columns (poles) and column sizes. AKC reserves the right to reject facilities that do not meet certain specifications.

**Extended:** Those facilities that are 100 X 100 feet or greater will be classified in the Extended field size division.

**Regulation:** Those facilities that are 70 X 100 feet or greater will be classified in the Regulation field size division.

**Limited:** These facilities that are less than 70 X 100 feet, but more than 50 X 70, will be classified in the Limited field size division.

## Chapter 2

Section 7. Special Classes – Junior Handlers.

The League will offer a Juniors class for junior handlers who are younger than 18 years of age. Junior handlers will compete on teams based on their skill level (Senior, Sophomore, Freshman or Ph.D.), but will receive a separate ranking that will spotlight the top junior handlers in the program.

## Chapter 4

### Section 1. Courses.

Courses will be designed by AKC Agility Field Representatives and/or approved AKC Agility Judges. Courses will be released at the start of each two weeks of the Season, resulting in a total of six unique courses each League Season. Each course will be run only once by each team for score. Courses will vary and will include those in the style of standard, jumpers with weaves, hybrid and premier. Standard courses will not include the pause table. Teams in the Ph.D. skill level will run courses that adhere to the style of the ISC.

## Chapter 4

### Section 5. Competition Sites.

Competitions may be held at any location that the team chooses. The location may change during a season, but the Field Size Division must remain the same and field diagrams should be submitted for AKC Agility League review. Refer to Chapter

2, Section 6 for Field Size Divisions and requirements. Course areas must be moderately level and clear and set up on non-slip surfaces.

## Chapter 4

### Section 6. Course Access.

Teams may practice the courses before running for a score. In addition, clubs and schools may allow any students or members to run the courses for practice and are welcome to use the courses for classes, in addition to team League competition.

Treats and/or toys may be used when practicing the course, with the permission of the host facility and Captain. Treats and/or toys may not be used or carried on the body when a dog and handler are running the course for an AKC Agility League score.

## Chapter 4

### Section 10. Calculation of Scores.

Individual scores for each dog will be calculated based on course time, total faults, jump height, jump class (Regular, Preferred, or Veteran), and course type.

## Chapter 4

### Section 10. Calculation of Scores.

Regular and Preferred Jump Class Scoring

Score = course yardage / ((time \* jump

handicap) + faults)

## Veteran Jump Class Scoring

Score = course yardage / ((time \* jump handicap) – 2sec + faults)

## Chapter 4

### Section 10. Calculation of Scores.

Jump handicaps are based on a dog's measured/true AKC jump height, not the height at which the bar is set (with the exception of 24C).

### STD/Hybrid Handicap

8"	0.846
12"	0.915
16"	0.965
20"	1
24"	0.972
24C	0.972

### JWW Handicap

8"	0.854
12"	0.910
16"	0.924
20"	1
24"	0.985
24C	0.985

## Chapter 5

### Section 1. Team Rankings.

At the end of each two-week round, AKC will publish the rankings for the teams in each field size division and skill level, based on the average of the overall point

accumulation of each League-Registered Dog on that team.

## Chapter 5

### Section 2. Individual Dog Rankings.

At the end of each two-week round, AKC will publish the rankings for the individual League-Registered Dogs in each Skill Level, Field Size Division and jump height class. Each round's rankings report will include the placements that week, as well as the cumulative rankings for that League Season. To qualify for end-of-season awards, individual League-Registered Dogs must run in four of the six rounds of the Season.

## Chapter 5

### Section 4. Regional Awards.

The League will be a non-titling AKC program. But, at the end of each Season, a winning team may be named in each Skill Level by region and Field Size Division, and a winning individual League-Registered Dog may be named in each Skill Level by region, Field Size Division, Jump Class, and Jump Height. Teams must compete on all six courses to be eligible for the end-of-season awards. Individual League-Registered Dogs must compete in at least four of the six courses to be eligible for final season awards. Regional Awards are subject to the size of team entry.

## Chapter 5

### Section 5. National Awards.

The League will be a non-titling AKC program. But, at the end of each Season, the top teams and individual dogs will be named for the overall national results. A winning team will be named in each Skill Level by Field Size Division, and a winning individual League-Registered Dog will be named in each division by Skill Level, Field Size Division, Jump Class, and Jump Height. Teams must compete on all six courses to be eligible for the end-of-season awards. League-Registered Dogs must compete in at least four of the six courses to be eligible for final season awards.

## Chapter 5

### Section 6. Regional Championship.

The AKC may host one competition annually in each region, or combination of regions, to bring teams together for fellowship and friendly competition. The same Skill Levels and scoring system will be in place for the regional competition. Acceptable team names and shirts are encouraged. Both individual and team winners will be named in each Skill Level. A percentage, to be named at a later date, of the placing teams and dogs will advance to the National League Agility Championship. Regionals qualifying criteria will be determined by AKC on an annual basis.