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.

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ATTENTION DELEGATES NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL on **Friday, December 12, 2025**, beginning no earlier than 10:30 a.m. It will follow the Delegate Forum which will begin at 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Oak Ridge Kennel Club

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

Mark Brandsema, Media, PA, Delaware County Kennel Club

Mary Miller, Lexington, KY, Lexington Kennel Club

Ricki V. Silveria, Mount Pleasant, SC, Siberian Husky Club of America

Alan Welch, Esq., Whitehouse Station, NJ, Kennel Club of Philadelphia

COMPREHENSIVE SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S REPORT

For the year ended December 31, 2024, The American Kennel Club received an unmodified (or "clean") opinion from our auditor, KPMG, which is the most favorable audit result for an organization or company. It confirms that KPMG has examined AKC's consolidated financial

gazette Click here to read the November 2025 issue!

statements and found they are presented fairly, in all material respects, according to U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The Audit Committee appointed by the Board of Directors met with KPMG and management to review the results of the audit and a report of the same was presented to the Board of Directors at its October 2025 meeting. Following that meeting, a complete set of the consolidated financial statements was posted to the Delegate Portal. Posting the consolidated financial statements is intended to provide greater transparency than that required by the AKC Bylaws.

NOTICE
REPRIMANDS AND FINES

Notification of fine imposed on Superintendent for failure to transmit show results in an electronic format acceptable to *AKC Board Policy, Electronic Event Documentation*.

Foy Trent Dog Shows $250

Notification of fines imposed on Superintendent for late publishing of *Premium Lists Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 4, Section 2.

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC $500

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

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC $1050

Notification of fine imposed on Superintendent for failure to supply a judge's book *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 7, Section 17.

Executive Dog Shows, LLC $500

Notification of fine imposed on Superintendent for failure to assign an eligible judge, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 7, Section 8.

MB-F, Inc. $250

Notification of reprimand imposed on Superintendents for failure to obtain AKC approval for a judge change, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 7, Section 8.

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC .....Reprimand

Notification of reprimand imposed on club for late submission of application to hold a *Rally Trial AKC Rally Regulations*, Chapter 1, Section 1.

German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc. .....Reprimand

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

Obedience Training Club of Palm Beach County $100

Great Dane Club of Central North Carolina.....$100

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for late submission of Results *Coursing Ability Test (CAT) and Fast CAT Regulations*, Chapter 2.

Cedar Rapids Kennel Association, Inc. $150

NOTICE

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

Mr. John Bitner (Mechanicsburg, PA)
Ms. Rachael DeSanto (Lake City, FL)
Mr. William McKnight (Ronan, MT)

NOTICE

Mr. Michael Gokey (West Linn, OR). Action was taken by the Pacific Northwest Scent Work Club for conduct at its July 25, 2025 event. Mr. Gokey was charged with disregard of published club regulations (e.g., parking, ex-pens, crates in aisle, unauthorized concessions, selling puppies, etc.). The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and imposed a $500 fine, effective September 2, 2025. (English Springer Spaniels)

NOTICE

Mr. Doug Rapport (Georgetown, DE). Action was taken by the Ramapo Kennel Club for conduct at its September 4, 2025 event. Mr. Rapport was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and imposed a $100 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Mr. Clifford Steele (Carmel, NY). Action was taken by the Ramapo Kennel Club for conduct at its September 4, 2025 event. Mr. Steele was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and imposed a $100 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Ms. Cindy Zavala (Santa Barbara, CA). Action was taken by the Moorpark Kennel Club for conduct at its August 22, 2025 event. Ms. Zavala was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a three-month event suspension and imposed a $500 fine, effective August 22, 2025. (St. Bernard)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary

Committee has reprimanded Ms. Patricia Barnett (Morrilton, AR) and imposed a $100 fine, for inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. (Pomeranians)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Kelli-Ann Feeney (Dayville, CT) for ten (10) years of all AKC privileges, imposed a $5,000 fine, and reinstatement requires proof of restitution paid to the club, for violating *AKC's Unauthorized Use of Club Funds Policy*, effective October 21, 2025. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Judy Lowther (Cleveland, OH) for five (5) years of all AKC privileges, imposed a $2,000 fine, and reinstatement requires proof of restitution paid to the club, for violating *AKC's Unauthorized Use of Club Funds Policy*, effective October 21, 2025. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Jennifer Puhl (Casper, WY) from all AKC privileges for five (5) years and imposed a $1,000 fine, for refusal to make her dogs and records available for inspection when requested, effective October 21, 2025. (Basset Hounds)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FIELD TRIAL RULES AND STANDARD PROCEDURE FOR RETRIEVERS

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **Chapter 14, Section 2** of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers*, proposed by the Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee. This will be voted on at the December 12, 2025 Delegate Meeting.

RULES FOR RETRIEVER FIELD TRIALS CHAPTER 14 SECTION 2.

DQ by Judges. A dog is not eligible to be entered or to compete in any licensed or member retriever field trial or hunt test if the dog has on three occasions been made the subject of the following report: If a dog, while under judgment, attacks another dog, and if the Judges are unanimously of the opinion that such attack was without reasonable cause, the Judges shall identify the offending dog on the judging sheet, and the name of the offending dog shall be listed in the report of the trial sent to The American Kennel Club. A disqualification received in a retriever field trial counts as one disqualification in both field trials and hunting tests.

PROPOSED CAIRN TERRIER STANDARD FOR COMMENT:

In accordance with the Guidelines for Breed Standard Revisions this is being

published to receive any comments prior to the balloting of the club membership. Any comments may be forwarded directly to:

Mari-Beth O'Neill
VP Sport Services
mbo@akc.org

General Appearance: ~~That of an~~ The Cairn Terrier is an active, game, and hardy~~,~~ small working terrier originating in the rocky Scottish Highlands bred to work in packs to control vermin that threaten livestock and crops. Agile and free in movement, the Cairn is strongly but not heavily built, standing over his forelegs with deep ribs and a balanced, medium length back to strong hindquarters. The distinctive double coat protects the skin from cold and wet conditions, as well as the teeth of its prey. With a head short and wide, the Cairn is a natural rugged terrier with keen expression. Friendly, inquisitive, and alert, the Cairn confidently holds his ground against larger adversaries. Moderation in structure and presentation is essential to the breed's function. ~~of the short-legged class; very free in its movements, strongly but not heavily built, standing well forward on its forelegs, deep in the ribs, well coupled with strong hindquarters and presenting a well-proportioned build with a medium length of back, having a hard, weather-resisting coat; head shorter and wider than any other terrier and well furnished with hair giving a general foxy expression~~.

Size, Proportion, Substance: *Size:* Preferred height at the withers is 10 to 12 inches for both males and females. Males may be slightly larger than females. These measurements refer to mature dogs two years of age or older. Only a slight deviation is permissible provided overall balance and correct breed type are maintained. *Proportion:* A Cairn must be rectangular in outline, appearing balanced, proportionate, and medium in every aspect without exaggeration. The length of body measured from the prosternum to the point of buttocks is approximately 1 ½ times the height at the withers. *Substance:* Medium bone with a muscular, agile body; strong without being coarse or heavy.

Head: ~~*Skull* - Broad in proportion to length with a decided stop and well furnished with hair on the top of the head, which may be somewhat softer than the body coat. *Muzzle* - Strong but not too long or heavy. Teeth-Large, mouth neither overshot nor undershot. Nose - Black. *Eyes* - Set wide apart, rather sunken, with shaggy eyebrows, medium in size, hazel or dark hazel in color, depending on body color, with a keen terrier expression. *Ears* - Small, pointed, well carried erectly, set wide apart on the side of the head. Free from long hairs.~~ Proportionate to the body and well-furnished with hair. From the front, the *head* forms an equilateral trian-

gle from the nose through the eyes to the tips of the ears. Ideal skull-to-muzzle ratio is 5:4. *Eyes:* Medium-sized, oval shaped, set wide apart, dark hazel to dark brown in color, and slightly sunken beneath shaggy eyebrows. *Ears:* Small, pointed, and set wide apart on the outer top edges of the skull and carried erect. The top third of the ear is smooth and velvety. *Skull*: Broad in proportion to depth with a pronounced stop and good fill under the eyes. *Muzzle:* Strong and full. Nose: Solid black. Mouth: Scissors *bite*; level bite acceptable. Jaws are strong, and teeth appear large for the size of the dog.

~~**Tail**: In proportion to head, well furnished with hair but not feathery. Carried gaily but must not curl over back. Set on at back level.~~

~~**Body**: Well-muscled, strong, active body with well-sprung, deep ribs, coupled to strong hindquarters, with a level back of medium length, giving an impression of strength and activity without heaviness.~~

Neck, Topline, Body: *Neck:* Medium length, strong, flowing smoothly into shoulders. *Topline:* Level and firm while standing and gaiting. *Body:* Balanced and agile, well-muscled with strong, well-sprung, deep ribs, medium back length coupled with strong hindquarters. Loin is broad, strong, and medium in length providing strength and flexibility. *Tail:* Well set-on at back level, carried upright between 12 and 2 o'clock. Ideally, the erect *tail* length is equal to the height of the ear. Covered in harsh hair but not feathery. Strong, thick, and carrot-shaped, not curled over the back.

~~**Shoulders, Legs and Feet**: A sloping shoulder, medium length of leg, good but not too heavy bone; forelegs should not be out at elbows, and be perfectly straight, but forefeet may be slightly turned out. Forefeet larger than hind feet. Legs must be covered with hard hair. Pads should be thick and strong and dog should stand well up on its feet.~~

Forequarters: Shoulders*:* Sloping, well laid back, with the shoulder blade and upper arm of equal length. Forelegs: Straight, with elbows close to the body. Distance from elbow to withers is approximately the same as the elbow to the ground. Feet: Forefeet are larger than the rear feet, compact and round with thick, strong, black pads. May turn out slightly. Dewclaws may be removed. The dog stands well up on its toes.

Hindquarters: Legs: Strong and muscular, with good angulation at the stifle and hock. Rear Pasterns: Short and perpendicular from the hock joint to the foot when viewed from the side. Viewed from the rear, rear pasterns are straight and parallel, neither too close nor too wide apart. Rear Feet: Smaller than front feet and pointing straight ahead. When standing, the front of the rear feet fall directly below the point of buttocks. Dewclaws may be

removed.

Coat: ~~Hard and weather-resistant. Must be double-coated with profuse harsh outer coat and short, soft, close furry undercoat.~~ A weather-resistant double coat is profuse with a harsh outer coat and a short, soft, and close undercoat. The outer coat is essentially the same length throughout the body and measures approximately 2 to 2 ½ inches in length. A slight wave is permissible. To maintain the proper texture and a healthy layered coat, regular hand-stripping is necessary. The head has a natural, scruffy appearance that is in balance with the size of the body. Furnishings are to be long enough to appear somewhat untidy and not overly manicured. The longer furnishings on the skull and muzzle may be slightly softer than the body coat serving to shield the dog from brush. Sufficient hair on the neck protects this working dog. Scissoring is limited to the upper ear tips and around the footpads.

Color: ~~May be of any color except white. Dark ears, muzzle and tail tip are desirable.~~ Any color except white is acceptable, including cream, wheaten, red, silver, gray, and black. Brindling in any of these colors is typical, and dark points on the ears, muzzle, and tail tip are desirable. No one color is preferred. A small white spot on the chest may occur. Black-and-tan markings are highly objectionable.

~~**Ideal Size**: Involves the weight, the height at the withers and the length of body. *Weight* for bitches, 13 pounds; for dogs, 14 pounds. *Height* at the withers - bitches, 9½ inches; dogs, 10 inches. Length of body from 14¼ to 15 inches from the front of the chest to back of hindquarters. The dog must be of balanced *proportions* and appear neither leggy nor too low to ground; and neither too short nor too long in body. Weight and measurements are for matured dogs at two years of age. Older dogs may weigh slightly in excess and growing dogs may be under these weights and measurements.~~

~~**Condition**: Dogs should be shown in good hard flesh, well muscled and neither too fat or thin. Should be in full good coat with plenty of head furnishings, be clean, combed, brushed and tidied up on ears, tail, feet and general outline. Should move freely and easily on a loose lead, should not cringe on being handled, should stand up on their toes and show with marked terrier characteristics~~.

Gait: The Cairn Terrier moves freely and easily on a loose lead with good front reach and strong rear drive producing a smooth, ground-covering stride, maintaining a level topline. Viewed from the front or rear, legs move straight and parallel with hock joints turning neither in nor out with enough flex to show the pads from behind. As speed increases, footfall may converge slightly, but the straight column from hip to pad remains. The overall impression is of a dog capable of trotting

efficiently all day performing the work he was bred to do.

Temperament: A fearless, confident, and independent thinker, the Cairn Terrier is assertive without being aggressive. Active, curious, and bold when working, the Cairn has a strong hunting instinct and is tenacious, intelligent, adaptable, and fun-loving. The Cairn is a devoted companion—truly the "Best little pal in the world".

Faults ~~1. Skull - Too narrow in skull. 2. Muzzle - Too long and heavy a foreface; mouth overshot or undershot. 3. Eyes - Too large, prominent, yellow, and ringed are all objectionable. 4. Ears - Too large, round at points, set too close together, set too high on the head; heavily covered with hair. 5. Legs and Feet - Too light or too heavy bone. Crooked forelegs or out at elbow. Thin, ferrety feet; feet let down on the heel or too open and spread. Too high or too low on the leg. 6. Body - Too short back and compact a body, hampering quickness of movement and turning ability. Too long, weedy and snaky a body, giving an impression of weakness. Tail set on too low. Back not level. 7. Coat - Open coats, blousy coats, too short or dead coats, lack of sufficient undercoat, lack of head furnishings, lack of hard hair on the legs. Silkiness or curliness. A slight wave permissible. 8. Nose - Flesh or light-colored nose. 9. Color - White on chest, feet or other parts of body.~~

CONFORMATION JUDGES

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

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

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

APPLICANTS

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

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Ms. Valerie Black (118119) WI
(262) 424-2240
valblack4@gmail.com
Berger Picards

Mrs. Eileen M. Indorato (113155) NC
(336) 417-1204
eileeindorato@yahoo.com
Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervurens, JS

Mr. Steve Patton (118081) TX
(318) 655-6392
stevepatton.judge@gmail.com
Italian Greyhounds, Boston Terriers, JS-Limited

Mr. Ron Perry (118093) KS
(913) 405-4944
crimsonacre@me.com
Irish Setters, JS-Limited

Mrs. Kim Russell (101351) CA
(510) 612-6935
bispoodle@gmail.com
Poodles, JS

Elizabeth Summa (118059) NM
(509) 627-9550
info@polarstarsamoyeds.com
Samoyeds

Kimberlie Thomsen (118058) NV
(775) 720-4120
whitepeaksibes@yahoo.com
Siberian Huskies

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Larry C. Abbott (20217) TX
(972) 740-4881
larry@abbottusa.com
American Foxhounds, Beagles, Dachshunds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Whippets

Mrs. Linda Berberich (38418) NJ
(201) 385-1626
vomviraus@aol.com
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Dachshunds

Ms. JoAnne Buehler (22770) FL
(301) 590-9056
joanneb@his.com
Balance of Herding Group (Finnish Lapphunds, Lancashire Heelers, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs)

Mr. Lloyd Constantine-Amodei (95053) FL
(215) 570-6674
ljamodei@gmail.com
American Hairless Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Lakeland Terriers

Mrs. Cathy H. Daugherty (6219) AR
(203) 565-5496
bisgringo1@yahoo.com
Barbets, Brittanys, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Weimaraners

Mr. Edmund Dziuk (26469) MO
(573) 424-2809
eddiedziuk@aol.com
Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chins, Manchester Terriers, Russian Toys, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers)

Ms. Mary Lynne Elliott (100062) CO
(720) 289-2517
ml@vedauwoorr.com
Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs, Poodles, Xoloitzcuintli

Julie Felten (17972) IL
(847) 452-6902
jacfelten@aol.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Pomeranians

Mrs. Emily Fish (92354) WA
(360) 904-5765
emilypawcific@gmail.com
Balance of Toy Group (Chinese Cresteds, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Poodles, Pugs, Yorkshire Terriers), Basset Hounds, Boxers

Mr. Edward Fojtik (104757) IL
(847) 254-6166
efojtik@aol.com
Cairn Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Scottish Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Mr. Steven Herman (6305) FL
(813) 973-3153
ljlucin@gmail.com
Bullmastiffs, Rottweilers, Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Mr. Douglas A. Johnson (17190) IN
(812) 322-0322
clussexx@aol.com
Balance of Terrier Group (Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Rat Terriers, Russell Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers), Beaucerons, Belgian Laekenois, Briards

Ms. Dianne Kroll (44743) OR
(971) 221-7623
dianne.kroll@frontier.com
Shih Tzu, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Tervurens, Berger Picards, Border Collies, Old English Sheepdogs

Jennifer Lazowski (105991) VA
(171) 823-2501
whirlaway12@gmail.com
Bloodhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Otterhounds

Mr. Kevin E. Lind (112598) MD
(202) 440-2225
kevin.e.lind@gmail.com
Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Dogo Argentinos, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Leonbergers, Rottweilers, Samoyeds

Dr. Camille McArdle (66682) MN
(612) 743-7329
camillemca@gmail.com
Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Samoyeds

Mr. Dale Meyer (6655) WI
(715) 654-5330
meyerd@tds.net
Dachshunds, Harriers, Otterhounds, Scottish Deerhounds, Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers

Ms. Kimberly Moshlak (114681) KY
(301) 802-4145
cubruncwc@gmail.com
Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Old English Sheepdogs, Pumik

Dr. Tracy Powell (101481) CT
(203) 631-7110
dulcedanes@yahoo.com
Basset Hounds, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Norwegian Elkhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets

Mrs. Sharon Ann Redmer (2711) MI
(734) 449-4995
sredmer@umich.edu
Kerry Blue Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

Jan Schreiber (17450) WA
(253) 846-7999
ashenafea@msn.com
Barbets, Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, American Water Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Wirehaired Vizslas

Ms. Pamela Schroeder (108285) WA
(778) 834-0059
pamelaschroederakc@gmail.com
Akitas, Saint Bernards

Mrs. Janet M. Schwalbe (48619) GA
(404) 295-4414
jmschwalbe@yahoo.com
Australian Terriers, Border Terriers, Cairn Terriers, West Highland White Terriers, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mr. Robert E. Schwalbe (55062) GA
(404) 403-1564
reschwalbe@yahoo.com
Australian Terriers, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Mr. Robert E. Stein (37717) TX
(210) 725-0661
topwinn@gmail.com
German Wirehaired Pointers, English Setters, Boykin Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Affenpinschers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Russian Toys, Lhasa Apsos

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Bruce Glen Barnes (40890) TX
(817) 235-4274
barnesbarnes465@gmail.com
JS-Limited

Mrs. Karen Burgess (94221) WA
(360) 771-5078
dakaarcsp@msn.com
JS

Mr. Gregory Griner (117577) OH
(330) 268-6814
ggriner33@yahoo.com
JS-Limited

Mrs. Layna L. Landers (118083) KS
(316) 779-6055
firehouse.kennels@yahoo.com
JS

Mr. Draper A. Palmer (118146) GA
(801) 698-7474
draper_p@yahoo.com
JS

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. Jaye Athy (117715) FL
(352) 664-0470
mandalay_collies@yahoo.com
Collies

Mr. Richard L. Austin (117758) IL
(217) 972-7290
rlaustin1993@gmail.com
Bulldogs

Mrs. Lesa Bastow (117881) MI
(810) 278-2406
patientdanes@comcast.net
Great Danes

Megan Esherick (7264) PA
(610) 203-3228
clancypbgv@gmail.com
Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens

Ms. Jennifer Flowers Foster (117941) CA
(805)379-1480
starringcavaliers@gmail.com
Golden Retrievers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Mr. Edward J. Harris (117861) WA
(206) 818-3221
edharris@att.net
Bulldogs, JS-Limited

Beverly Hofschulte (114897) MN
madeecavaliers@gmail.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Mrs. Valerie Metcalf (117897) AZ
(602) 708-9025
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Great Danes, JS-Limited

Shanan L. Streweler (117681) CO
(303) 653-1712
takhari@comcast.net
Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies

Jessica Viera (111633) AK
(719) 322-1397
bjviera@gmail.com
Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Ms. Jane Yates (117813) SC
(434) 470-1671
kaneddc2021@gmail.com
Akitas, Bullmastiffs

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Mrs. Vicki Allenbrand (91374) KS
(678) 429-4609
blackjackdogs@earthlink.net
Afghan Hounds, American English

Coonhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Plott Hounds

Ms. Shira Lee Barkon (108315) PA
(810) 587-5542
snocrest1@gmail.com
Newfoundlands, Rottweilers

Miss Jennifer Bell (109179) LA
(225) 933-6132
mystang50@yahoo.com
Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Portuguese Water Dogs

Mrs. Mary E. Benedict (66054) NY
(585) 747-5380
longacrecollies@yahoo.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, German Pinschers, Tibetan Mastiffs, Xoloitzcuintli

Dr. Albert Bianchi (5459) VA
(757) 672-4868
k4ux@cox.net
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Basset Fauve de Bretagnes, Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Sloughi)

Mr. Brian C. Bogart (100059) NY
(716) 984-0012
sumerwyndb@aol.com
Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs

Louise Brady (67185) CA
(805) 581-1726
starweim@aol.com
Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Wirehaired Vizslas

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

Mrs. Peggy Browne (103759) TN
(770) 655-5757
peggybrowneakcjudge@gmail.com
Shetland Sheepdogs

Marge B. Calltharp (17384) CT
(860) 334-4411
ctmarbo@gmail.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Basset Fauve de Bretagnes, Basset Hounds, English Foxhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Plott Hounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Salukis, Whippets)

Mr. James Conroy (95311) GA
(561) 400-2059
bluedane@mindspring.com
Greyhounds, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Cane Corsos, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Siberian Huskies, Poodles

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

hunds, Schipperkes, Xoloitzcuintli

Ms. Terry Dennison (47424) AK
(907) 775-2913
katagnik@yahoo.com
Balance of Herding Group (Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Canaan Dogs, Lancashire Heelers, Mudik, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds, Spanish Water Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds)

Ms. Mary Dukes (99597) NC
(951) 283-4770
putupyr@aol.com
German Wirehaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, English Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Vizslas

Mr. Don L. Evans (5916) MD
(301) 494-3647
secattorney@msn.com
Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Tibetan Mastiffs, Silky Terriers, Tibetan Terriers

Mrs, Janet L. Fink (6374) WI
(608) 820-1686
janetfink@verizon.net
Barbets, Brittanys, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Bichons Frises

Mrs. Diann Flory (102063) VA
(703) 408-5088
diannflory@gmail.com
Bedlington Terriers

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

Mr. Neal Goodwin (45218) CT
(626) 327-2311
doggone1@mindspring.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Irish Red and White Setters, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Wirehaired Vizslas)

Mrs. Lisa Graser (37267) TN
(608) 655-1993
bluhvns@msn.com
American Eskimo Dogs, French Bulldogs, Lowchen, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Mr. Steve Hayden (6674) IL
(217) 725-3647
hybrk1@comcast.net
Boerboels, Dogues de Bordeaux, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mr. Hector Hector (95831) FL
(954) 593-2324
h2enclave@aol.com
Australian Shepherds

Mr. Fred Hyer (94219) MI
(616) 874-3647
fred@hyerluv.com
American English Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Salukis, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Mrs. Carol Lynn Johnson (108277) MI
(616) 490-5227
bellafleurcavaliers@outlook.com
German Wirehaired Pointers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Chihuahuas

Dr. M. Patricia Joyce (101483) GA
(770) 596-8665
patjoyce1@att.net
Bulldogs, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs, Keeshonden, Shiba Inu

Mrs. Linda C. Krukar (7250) FL
(203) 913-9045
dabneydobes@me.com
German Wirehaired Pointers

Ms. Pamela S. Lambie (96227) AZ
(760) 272-0625
pam@pamlambie.com
Balance of Working Group (Danish-Swedish Farmdogs, Giant Schnauzers, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Standard Schnauzers)

Mrs. Cindy Lane (65098) GA
(864) 316-6351
glane1464@yahoo.com
Balance of Hound Group (Afghan Hounds, Azawakhs, Basset Fauve de Bretagnes, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Dachshunds, Ibizan Hounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds, Sloughi, Whippets)

Mrs. Nancy Lovelady (97313) NV
(510) 502-3708
jwnsl@sbcglobal.net
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Basset Fauve de Bretagnes, Cirnechi dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens)

Ms. Kathryn Madden (92226) NY
(516) 885-4860
madterv@gmail.com
Bracci Italiani, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers

Mr. Bryan Martin (3207) OR
(847) 922-8735
bkmshows@aol.com
Golden Retrievers, Clumber Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Great Pyrenees, Portuguese Water Dogs, Samoyeds, Japanese Chins, Tibetan Terriers, Australian Shepherds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

Mr. John Mayhall (101705) OR
(928) 970-0969
mtndogsrule@live.com
Azawakhs, Basenjis, Beagles, Salukis

Ms. Bonnie Money (105681) IN
(317) 452-2204
blmoney@att.net
Balance of Herding Group (Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Spanish Water Dogs)

Mary B. Napper (62737) TX
(817) 458-1442
mbnapper@gmail.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons Frises,

Boston Terriers, Lhasa Apsos, Australian Shepherds

Dr. LeeAnn Podruch (106234) WI
(802) 238-0755
lgpodruch@gmail.com
English Setters, Gordon Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, Field Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Russian Toys

Mr. Michael L. Savage (111869) WA
(509) 999-1800
irishbrook@yahoo.com
Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds

Ms. Jan C. Sigler (7526) KS
(913) 649-5282
kaleasibes@mac.com
American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Bluetick Coonhounds, Cirnechi dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Scottish Deerhounds

Mrs. Cindy Valko (110124) PA
(412) 780-6129
somersetsts@comcast.net
Akitas

Dr. Oleg N. Voloshin (101869) MD
(301) 379-8847
voloshino@yahoo.com
Lagotti Romagnoli, Xoloitzcuintli

Mr. Cledith M. Wakefield (80829) MO
(573) 760-3616
n2rotts@yahoo.com
Balance of Herding Group (Bearded Collies, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Briards, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Collies, Finnish Lapphunds, Mudik, Norwegian Buhunds, Spanish Water Dogs)

Berna H. Welch (110818) MA
(508) 364-7343
pebwin@comcast.net
Vizslas

Ms. Kathy Wilkins (6799) GA
(770) 315-4452
lochlynfarm@gmail.com
Belgian Sheepdogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs

Ms. Claire Wisch-Abraham (100709) VA
(571) 318-2768
outlawgwp@aol.com
Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Pekingese, Toy Fox Terriers

Mr. Wood Wornall (95931) MO
(805) 264-3304
woodwornall@hotmail.com
Chihuahuas, Italian Greyhounds, Papillons, Pomeranians, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers

ADJUNCT PERMIT JUDGE

The following person has been approved on a Permit basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval system. ***They may now accept assignments***.

Mrs. Nancy Eilks (23143) WI
(920) 650-2299
eilks@gdinet.com
Teddy Roosvelet Terriers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES

Ms. Andrea Albin (117545) MO
(314) 606-4356
blazenecs@yahoo.com
JS

Ms. Myanna F. Blake (117843) CA
(951) 719-5191
myannablake6@gmail.com
JS

Ms. Vikki Jaramillo (117753) NV
(631) 681-4409
pannik7@aol.com
JS

Mrs. Julianne Lopes (117540) FL
(352) 888-2856
juleslopes01@gmail.com
JS

Ms. Ashley Miller (117572) TX
(903) 243-8736
aemillergsd@gmail.com
JS

Ms. Jeanne E. Stiner (103999) PA
(814) 864-0489
busystar@aol.com
JS-Limited

BEST IN SHOW

The following person, has successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they were **approved**, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Ms. Sandy Weaver (94535) GA
(770) 310-6932
sandy@sandyjweaver.com

REINSTATED JUDGE

The Judging eligibility of the following person has been reinstated.

Mrs. Jocelyn M. Barker (6683) MN
(406) 587-0921
mjbarker53@hotmail.com
Chinese Shar-Pei

REGULAR STATUS APPROVED OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES

The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments, and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges for the class indicated.

Sue Snyder (102203) PA
(570) 244-5414
suepeterson@ymail.com
Regular TD/TDU

NEW PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES

The following persons have been approved as a judge on a Provisional basis for the class/test indicated in accordance with the Provisional judging system. They may now accept assignments.

Christine Ward (104367) MO
(314) 402-2619
tina.ward@centurylink.net
provisional Novice

Josie McAuliffe (100665) MA
(301) 467-5285
mere4chien@icloud.com
Provisional Open

Geri Mason (114608) WA
(360) 509-9026
gmason96@outlook.com
Provisional Rally

Ralph Hattox (114009) VA
434-607-5831
brownstonepbgvs@gmail.com
Provisional TD-TDU

Ellen Griffin (117433) VA
315-430-0086
griffinellenk@gmail.com
Provisional TD-TDU

EMERITUS OBEDIENCE/ RALLY/ TRACKING JUDGES

Dian Quist – Tracking/Tracking Urban, NE
Betty Winthers – Tracking/Tracking Urban, Obedience & Rally, WA

APPLICATION FOR BREED-SPECIFIC REGISTERED NAME PREFIX

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club. Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to Sheila Goffe, Executive Secretary:

ADELINE MEADOW – Saint Bernards – Brenda L. Blackburn & Wendy A. Rushing

CHAPPELLE – Whippets – Heather N. Felty

HOUSE SAUVAGE – French Bulldogs – Andrea M. Chavez-Busch & Ryan T. Busch

LEGACY'S – Chihuahuas – Belinda D. McCormick & Craig S. McCormick

OH BOY – German Shorthaired Pointers – Russell J. Brown

PETTIBONE – Old English Sheepdogs – Lauri Youngquist

PLACE2B – Belgian Malinois – Kate E. Leary

RIVERSIDE – Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers – Carla M. Spikberg

SHIREWAY – Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers – Clara Nn Bearshears

SHOWSTOPPER'S – Poodles – Chamellia Lewis

SVF-Border Collies – Thomas D.Koch

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

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

AMANDUS – Standard Schnauzers – Cary L. Geihs

ASHLAN – French Bulldogs – Mary DeLisa

CEMCADE – Dachshunds – Emily A. Goodrich

HETLAND CREEK – Labrador Retrievers – Denise R. Hetland

J&J'S – Vizslas – Joyce A. Jackson

JUSTART – Borzoi – Stuart A. McGraw & Justine S. Spiers

KNUCKLEHEAD – Cane Corso – Julie A. Walker & Nicholas Sculac

MARIKI – Whippets & Greyhounds – Raymond A. Johnson

MICONS – Labrador Retrievers – Constance L. Muellerleile & Tabitha R. Whitaker

MYSTIC ESTATE – Poodles – Helen Khom

POINTER POINT – German Shorthaired Pointers – Lacey N. Atha & Clifton B. Atha

SHEROC – Poodles – Sheryl Bleich

STRONGHEARTS – Bichon Frise – Nancy A. Brown & Gary P. Brown

STORYLINE – Cavalier King Charles Spaniels – Stephanie R. Deaver

TRE RUN – Boston Terriers – Laurie A. Cowhig

TAMALPAIS – Golden Retrievers – Kathy Krebs-Dean

WATERSEDGE – Labrador Retrievers – Kathy R. Weaver

ZABAVA – Borzoi – Kristina Terra & Irina Terra

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVENUE,
NEW YORK, NY
OCTOBER 13-14, 2025

The Board convened on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 8:35 a.m. Eastern Time.

Present at the Meeting: Dr. Thomas Davies (Chairman), Dr. Michael Knight (Vice Chairman), Ms. Gina DiNardo (President & CEO), Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Ms. Sally Fineburg, Dr. Charles Garvin, Mr. Steven Hamblin, Mr. Daniel Smyth, Mr. Christopher Sweetwood, Mr. Harold Tatro, Ms. Sylvia Thomas, and Ms. Ann Wallin. Mr. Robin Stansell and Mr. Eduardo Fugiwara joined via video conference.

The Chief Operating Officer (Mr. Gordon Comfort), Chief Financial Officer (Mr. Ted Phillips) and Executive Secretary (Ms. Sheila Goffe) were also present.

Copies of the August 11-12, 2025, Board Meeting minutes had previously been provided to all Directors for review. Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (In favor: Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Fineburg, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Wallin, Mr. Stansell, Mr. Fugiwara. Absent: Ms. Thomas.) to approve the August 2025 Board Meeting minutes.

PRESIDENT

Budget and Revenue Update

Ms. DiNardo provided the Board with an update on staff's progress regarding the 2026 budget and new revenue initiatives, which will be formally presented at the November meeting. Staff are currently reviewing a preliminary budget to evaluate existing expenses, establish priorities, and determine which programs and services are essential, and which may be reduced or phased out. The review also includes exploring opportunities for cost containment and assessing potential fee adjustments to help balance the budget while supporting AKC's strategic goals and priorities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Legal Status Report

Heather McManus, VP & General Counsel, and Patricia Hines, Corporate Counsel – Litigation, participated in this portion of the meeting.

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of September 2025.

AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) Quarterly Update

CHF's new website launched in May and has already exceeded past engagement benchmarks.

So far in 2025, CHF has awarded new grants and remains on track with its annual funding goals.

A dedicated microsite for Health Liaisons is in development, aimed at enhancing Parent Club collaboration and providing targeted resources. The new Canine Health Discovery Webinar Series is gaining strong momentum, with steady monthly growth in participation. The 2025 National Parent Club Canine Health Conference saw increased attendance and received very positive feedback.

CHF continues to invest in its strategic plan. While there is a modest operating deficit to date, the Foundation's overall financial position remains strong.

AKC/AKCCHF/TF Theriogenology Residency Program

The Board considered a request for continued funding for the AKC/AKCCHF/TF Theriogenology Residency Program. The program provides funding for additional training of specialists in small animal theriogenology (reproductive medicine & surgery) with emphasis on canine genetics. The request would cover the AKC/AKCCHF/TF Theriogenology Residency Program for an additional three years, from 2027 to 2029, supporting two new residents per year.

This program is a collaboration between the American Kennel Club (AKC), AKC Canine Health Foundation (AKCCHF) and the Theriogenology Foundation (TF) and benefits the health and preservation of purebred and purpose-bred dogs.

Staff recommends continued funding for this program, which provides valuable resources for AKC breeders, program recognition for AKC, shares costs with AKCCHF and the Theriogenology Foundation, and streamlines processes and expenditures.

Projected Outcome: Six additional board-certified theriogenologists with expertise in canine reproduction and genetics will be fully trained by 2029, with two completing training each year. Additionally, theriogenology with combined medical genetics programs of excellence will have been identified and/or supported through this mechanism.

This will be discussed further at the November Board meeting.

FINANCE

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer,

presented unaudited interim financial results as of August 31, 2025. Net Operating Loss is $4.3 million, primarily due to lower registration revenue. Operating revenues total $59.5 million, led by registration and event fee revenues which total $42.9 million and trail prior year by 5.5%. Primary revenue drivers of registrations from litters and dogs total $21.9 million. Operating expenses total $63.8 million and exceed the prior year by 2.9%.

COO

Gordon Comfort, Chief Operations Officer, and Tim Pursell, Director of IT, participated in this portion of the meeting.

IT Transformation Plan

AKC's IT Division has completed a comprehensive root cause analysis to guide a multi-year transformation roadmap. Key challenges identified include fragmented strategic priorities, technical debt, process inconsistencies, and execution issues affecting cost, speed, and efficiency.

In response, IT has initiated efforts to modernize its architecture, improve Business-IT alignment, and enhance project intake processes. Quarterly updates will be provided to the Board.

This will be discussed further at the November Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Sheila Goffe, Executive Secretary and VP, Government Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting in person. Mari-Beth O'Neill, VP, Sport Services, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Bracco Italiano Stud Book

The Bracco Italiano stud book is due to close on July 1, 2026. The Bracco Italiano Club of America has requested keeping the Stud Book open for an additional five years to accept dogs from the United Kennel Club and the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association.

Staff recommends that the Bracco Italiano Stud Book remain open until July 1, 2031.

This will be discussed further at the November Board meeting.

Parent Club Designation for Barbado da Terceira Club

The Barbado da Terceira Club USA has requested that it be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed, allowing them to hold FSS Open Shows.

Staff recommends the Barbado da Terceira Club USA be designated as the Parent Club representing the Barbado da Terceira with the AKC.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (In favor: Dr. Davies Dr. Knight, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Fineburg, Dr. Garvin, Mr.

Hamblin, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Wallin, Mr. Fugiwara. Absent: Mr. Stansell, Ms. Thomas.) to approve designation of the Barbado da Terceira Club USA as the Parent Club for the Breed.

Cairn Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Cairn Terrier Club of America (CTCA) has submitted the following revisions to the breed standard. The standard was last approved on May 10, 1938.

Staff recommends the Board approve the proposed revision be published for comment in the November 2025 Secretary's Page of the *AKC Gazette*.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Ms. Wallin, the Board VOTED (In favor: Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Fineburg, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Wallin, Mr. Stansell, Mr. Fugiwara. Absent: Ms. Thomas.) to approve the proposed revision to the Cairn Terrier breed standard for publication. (See Appendix A.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, EVP, Sports & Events, joined this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Retriever Hunting Tests – Added Clarity for Master Level Retrievers

The Board reviewed a recommendation by the Retriever Hunt Test Advisory Committee (RHTAC) and Performance Events staff to give more clarity and consistency in the description of retrieves at the Master level by adding three standards when judging a Master dog.

Specifically, 1) a Master dog should have one clean triple marking series in a three series weekend test, 2) a Master dog that is out of the area of the fall gets scored zero if running at length with no results, and 3) a Master dog should make continuous progress towards a blind retrieve.

The changes were discussed and approved by the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Delegate Committee at their September 2025 meeting.

These are changes made to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers* and may be made by a vote of the Board.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to add the following standards when judging a Master dog. 1) a Master dog should have one clean triple marking series in a three se-

ries weekend test, 2) a Master dog that is out of the area of the fall gets scored zero if running at length with no results, and 3) a Master dog should make continuous progress towards a blind retrieve.

These changes will be effective for events taking place on or after December 1, 2025.

Employee Participation in AKC Sports

The Board considered the following staff recommendations to the *Employees Participation in AKC Sports* policy to update the policy and clarify under what conditions employees may participate in AKC sports and special events.

The recommendation is designed to encourage employees to participate in AKC Sports provided their job responsibilities do not result in a potential conflict of interest. It modifies the existing policy to:

1. Eliminate the "highest title" in a sport limitation.
2. Clarify restrictions on judging.
3. Allow all employees to participate in and act as an evaluator for Family Dog activities and to participate in Fast CAT®, where there is no judge.
4. Allow the President/VP to determine that no AKC employees may participate in National Championship events and other special events.

Many employees are attracted to the American Kennel Club because of their love for dogs. Employees and members of their household are encouraged to participate at AKC events provided their job responsibilities do not result in a potential conflict of interest. The following policies apply to AKC employees and their household members and dogs they own or co-own.

1. Full-time employees may exhibit in AKC sports unless specifically prohibited in the policy outlined below.
2. Full-time employees may not judge AKC sports except as provided for in the policy outlined below.
3. Full-time field staff in Conformation, Companion Events and Performance Events and employees who are involved in the judging approval process, their household members and dogs owned/co-owned by any of these groups, may not exhibit in the sport(s) for which they have administrative responsibilities unless specifically excluded from this provision under certain conditions as identified in this policy. Employees and their household members may exhibit in sports outside their responsibility.
4. Executive Officers, their household members and dogs owned/co-owned by them may not exhibit at AKC events. Vice-Presidents, Sport Direc-

tors and Sport Managers, their household members, and dogs owned/co-owned by them may not exhibit dogs in a sport they administer but may exhibit in any sport outside their area of responsibility.

5. Agility field representatives may participate in AKC Agility events with the following limitations:

   A. A field representative may not participate in an event they are attending as a representative of the AKC.
   B. No field representative may participate under a provisional judge.
   C. A field representative may not participate under a fully approved judge if they have officially observed the judge in the previous three months.
   D. A field representative may not participate if the field representative has reviewed the course design for any class at the event.
   E. Field representatives may not participate in the AKC Agility National Championship, AKC Agility Invitational or any special AKC Agility event.
   F. The Director of Agility may not participate in an AKC Agility trial.

6. Part-time employees are allowed to participate in and judge AKC events with the following limitations:

   A. A part-time employee may not participate in or judge at an event they are attending as a representative of the AKC.
   B. A part-time field representative may not participate under a judge if they have officially observed the judge in the previous three months.
   C. A part-time field representative may not participate in or judge the National Championship or any Invitational event in the sport where they have responsibility.
   D. Due to the variety of AKC sports and types of events, part-time employees have a responsibility to discuss with the Director in charge of the sport their participation, or dogs owned by them or their household members, in special events. The Director must consider the perception of other participants.

7. Full-time employees may participate and serve as an evaluator/judge for Family Dog activities (STAR Puppy, CGC, Trick Dog, Therapy Dog, AKC Temperament Test, Fetch, Fit Dog), Farm Dog Certified test and tests with no judges (Fast CAT®).
8. Juniors who live in the same household as an employee may enter AKC events as a Junior Handler. However, exhibiting may only take place at events in which the employee is not officially assigned.
9. Full-time employees may judge at

non-titling AKC events e.g., sanctioned events, sweepstakes, Futurities, Non-Regular Classes, special attractions and, if invited, at non-AKC events held outside of the United States. Employees may be allowed to judge under the *Parent Club Request for a Non-Approved Individual to Judge a Specialty Show* policy with the approval of the President/CEO.

10. Unusual or special situations may occur. These should be brought to the attention of the Vice President with administrative responsibility for the sport/activity and the President/CEO for consideration and resolution.
11. Employees (part-time or full-time) may be excluded from participating in AKC National Championship events and other special events as determined by the President or Vice President with administrative responsibility for the sport/activity.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board VOTED (In favor: Dr. Davies, Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Fineburg, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Wallin, Ms. Thomas, Mr. Fugiwara. Opposed: Dr. Knight. Absent: Mr. Stansell.) to accept staff recommendations regarding *Employee Participation in AKC Sports*.

This is a change to policy and may be made by a vote of the Board. It is effective immediately.

CONFORMATION

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

Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association 3rd Show Request

Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association requested approval to hold a 3rd show at the WestWorld of Scottsdale site on week 19 (2nd week in May). Westworld of Scottsdale is 295 straight line miles and 363 driving miles from the Del Sur Kennel Club, Inc. shows in Lakeside CA. The distance does not meet the Limited Number of Events isolated criteria.

Staff recommends denying the Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association request to hold a third show with the two shows they may hold on to week 19. An exception may be made by a vote of the Board.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, and seconded by Dr. Knight, the Board VOTED (In favor: Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Fineburg, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Hamblin, Dr. Knight, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Tatro, Ms. Thomas, Mr. Fugiwara, Mr. Stansell. Opposed: Dr. Davies, Ms. Wal-

lin.) to accept staff's recommendation to deny the requested third show.

Regional Junior Showmanship Events

The Board considered a recommendation to conduct Regional Limited Conformation Junior Showmanship events similar to the NOHS Regional model. A regional competition for Juniors would allow those who may not meet the criteria for the AKC National Championship or Westminster an opportunity to compete at event within their region of the United States.

Staff recommends approving AKC Regional Junior Showmanship Competitions at eight shows within the designated regions per year.

Upon a motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to waive regular parliamentary procedures and consider the measure immediately.

Upon a motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve Regional Limited Conformation Junior Showmanship events similar to the NOHS Regional model.

Staff will proceed to announce the program and request interested clubs to submit proposals. An announcement from the Sport Services Department will outline the expectations and procedures for clubs interested in submitting proposals to host an event, with a deadline to submit by December 1, 2025, to identify the dates and locations of the 2026 AKC Regional Junior Showmanship Events by the end of 2025.

AKC Sport Services will collaborate closely with the selected clubs, addressing any queries and actively promoting the events as their respective dates approach. This promotional effort will be facilitated through email blasts and various social media channels.

Alterations to Dogs – *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* – Chapter 11, Section 8 & 8-D and Chapter 3, Section 12

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to amend Chapter 11, Section 8 and Chapter 11, Section 8-D, and Chapter 3, Section 12 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows.* The proposals seek to insert text to clarify that the impact on a dog's eligibility to compete resulting from a disqualification at a Conformation dog show for a condition of the breed's standard or excluding aggression specific to Conformation, and to re-organize the two sections for greater clarity and consistency of subject matter. In addition, the memo provides a recommendation to codify into the rule, the interpretation/policy that event committees may not offer a competitive non-regular

class where the entries must be spayed or neutered (castration or spaying as a condition of class) adopted by the Board at its May 2025 meeting.

Following discussion, it was the decision of the Board to return the proposals to the Dog Show Rules Committee with suggested revisions.

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

Staff provided a memo stating it is withdrawing the proposal to modify Chapter 11, Section 1 of the *Rules Applying to Dogs Shows* to allow Limited Registration dogs to exhibit in Conformation dog shows discussed by the Board at its August 2025 meeting and forwarded to the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee for discussion and feedback at its September 2025 meeting.

Mississippi Valley Kennel Club/ Missouri Rhineland Kennel Club

Heather McManus, VP & General Counsel, joined this portion of the meeting in person. Staff updated the Board on their work with the Mississippi Valley Kennel Club/Missouri Rhineland Kennel Clubs to resolve a conflict between the clubs involving show dates and venues.

Fines and Reprimands

Staff updated the Board on recent fines and reprimands.

(Fines and reprimands are reported on the Secretary's Page.)

Events and Entries

Staff updated the Board on event and entry numbers.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, EVP, Sports & Events and Tim Thomas, VP of Conformation, joined this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Judging Approval Process – Requests to Advance Beyond Two Groups

At the Board's direction at its August 2025 meeting, staff provided a proposed revision to the *Judging Approval Process* to add Requests to Advance Beyond Two Groups to those matters appealable to the Board Appeals Committee, and to modify the acceptable methods of appeal to via video conference or written appeal; with an in-person appeal only available if the applicant does not have the ability to meet via video conference.

This will be discussed further at the November Board meeting.

Recertification Exam Quarterly Update

In November 2020, the AKC Board of Directors approved a modification to the

Judging Approval Process, instilling continuing education requirements for Conformation Judges. Per policy, all approved Conformation Judges are required to successfully complete a re-certification course/exam on current judging procedures and policies every five years. The course/exam is to be completed through AKC's Canine College and includes a $50 fee.

Following the first three years of implementation, the Board at its February 2025 meeting voted to revise the structure of the recertification exam so that all questions will be single answer multiple choice, the passing score will be changed from 85% to 80%, all questions of similar type will be grouped together, and the scenario questions that utilized icons to mimic the Best of Breed class will be updated to use a marked judge's book page.

Notification was sent to 499 active Conformation Judges (Group D) informing them of the need to complete the recertification exam by December 31, 2025. Notification was also sent to all judges marked as resigned or inactive since 2021 inviting them to take the revised exam to restore their judging privileges.

As part of the restructuring of the exam, the Board directed staff to provide the Board with pass/fail rates and other important findings quarterly. To allow time for sufficient data to be collected, staff delayed its initial report until approximately six months after relaunch. **Following is the completion data as of September 17, 2025.**

Since April 22, 2025:

216 judges have completed (pass or fail) at least one version of the recertification exam
138 judges (63.9%) satisfactorily completed the requirement (passed)

Exam	# Passed	Average Score
A	97	83%
B	31	81%
C	10	84%

Part of the exam restructuring included the grouping together of all questions of similar type. For each exam, the questions were grouped into eight categories. Following is the success rate for each:

Category	Exam A	Exam B	Exam C	Overall
Eligibility and Assignments	85.3%	77.7%	89.1%	84.1%
General Procedures	90.9%	91.4%	89.1%	90.5%
DQs/Excusals	86.7%	84.6%	89.4%	86.8%
NOHS	68.3%	65.1%	78.3%	70.6%
Conflicts of Interest	77.3%	86.3%	86.8%	83.5%
Multiple Entries	77.4%	58.7%	76.0%	71.6%
Exhibitor Protests	79.3%	89.2%	84.4%	83.9%
Measuring & Weighing	86.6%	92.2%	83.4%	87.1%

Staff will continue to scrutinize questions and exam results and use this information to determine areas of focus for future judges updates and educational programs. Updates will be provided in future quarterly reports for Board review.

Conformation Judging Statistics

Staff updated the Board on statistics related to Conformation judging applications considered by the Department for the months July through October 2025.

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2025 NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

	Applications						Breeds		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
February	8	8	0	0	0	0	14	14	0
March	14	14	0	0	0	0	20	20	0
April	5	5	0	0	0	0	38	38	0
May	4	4	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
June	3	2	1	0	0	0	6	5	0
July	4	4	0	0	0	0	11	11	0
August	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
September	7	7	0	0	0	1 [d]	14	14	1 [d]
NB Total	49	48	1	0	0	1 [d]	113	112	1 [d]

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2025 ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

	Applications						Breeds		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	8	8	0	0	0	0	33	33	0
February	43	40	2	1	0	0	207	201	0
March	36	35	0	1	0	0	192	189	0
April	43	42	1	0	0	0	183	182	0
May	43	38	5	0	0	1 [a]	203	192	2 [a]
June	30	27	2	1	0	1 [b]	147	140	1 [b]
July	26	24	1	0	0	0	116	115	0
August	43	41	1	1	0	1 [c]	190	185	9 [c]
September	41	41	0	0	0	0	188	188	0
AB Total	313	296	12	4	0	3	1459	1425	9 [c]

[a] *AB application placed on hold in May (two breeds) moved to final review in June.*
[b] *AB application placed on hold in July due to pending disciplinary action returned.*
[c] *AB application placed on hold in August will be included in October final review.*
[d] *NB applicant placed on hold in September as a result of review of correspondence received from the fancy.*

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2025 YEAR-TO-DATE

	Applications						Breeds		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
NB	49	48	1	0	0	1	113	112	1
AB	313	296	12	4	0	3	1459	1425	5
Total	363	345	13	4	0	4	1572	1537	6

CLUBS

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

New Local Club Name Policy

New local club names must reference the geographic locality served and be easily recognizable to fanciers across the country.

Staff reported a trend in new clubs using broader terms in club names with respect to the locality served. Staff updated the Board on the need for interpreting the new club name policy to include more flexibility in the use of broader terms for new local club names. The geographic locality served by AKC local clubs may be easily found by using the Club Search feature on AKC's website.

AKC Internal Club Dispute Resolution Checklist

Club Relations routinely assists clubs and individuals with informal guidance to resolve internal club disputes. *Working*

it Out (revised and published in January 2018) and *AKC Club Governance and Issues Resources* (newly published in April 2024) are available on AKC's website as links and are sent to individuals contacting us for assistance. Club Relations has created a checklist for clubs and individuals to improve usability and implementation of the information in these materials to best resolve internal club disputes.

This checklist will be made available on AKC's website and will also be distributed in a mass mailing to all clubs through the Club Updates Newsletter sent by the Event Operations Department as well as through a separate email blast to all club officers.

Report on Member Club Bylaws Approved in August and September

Basset Hound Club of America (1937)

Cheyenne Kennel Club, Cheyenne, WY (2025)

Dachshund Club of America (1895)

Lancaster Kennel Club, Lancaster, PA (1949)

Rogue Valley Kennel Club, Grants Pass, OR (1995)

St. Bernard Club of America (1898)

Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association, Scottsdale, AZ (1983)

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America (1983)

Staffordshire Terrier Club of America (1940)

Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club, Ottumwa, IA (1948)

Standard Schnauzer Club of America (1927)

REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUBS APPROVED IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Chicagoland Sporting Dog Club, greater Schaumburg, IL (including communities north to Burlington, WI, south to Kankakee, IL, west to Route 47 and 120 in WI), 24 total households, 17 local.

Snake River Spaniel Club, Boise, ID (including communities north to Payette, south to Kuna in proximity to Interstate 84), 22 total households, 18 local.

COMPLIANCE

Heather McManus, VP & General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. Jessica Lopez, Compliance Manager, participated in this meeting portion via video conference.

Changes to the Code of Sportsmanship Enforcement Policy

In August 2025, the Board of Directors approved updates to the AKC's Code of Sportsmanship, including renaming it the *Code of Sportsmanship and Civility* and expanding its core values.

Staff have updated the corresponding

enforcement policy by changing its title to the *Code of Sportsmanship and Civility Enforcement Policy* and revising the language within the policy to ensure consistency with the updated Code's title.

The *Code of Sportsmanship and Civility* is an affirmation of how registrants and participants should behave, and violations will be handled pursuant to the Charter and Bylaws and the Dealing with Misconduct at AKC Events booklet. Complaints will be handled by sending a copy to the subject of the complaint and giving him/her an opportunity to respond. If the number or seriousness of the complaints against a person rises to the level requiring formal discipline (i.e. conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, AKC events or the AKC), AKC will consider preferring charges. Infractions of a lesser degree will be dealt with by an educational letter sent to the parties involved, affirming the Code of Sportsmanship and Civility.

Staff Event Committee Report of Actions Taken
The Board received a report of actions taken.

Summary of Actions by Management Disciplinary Committee
The Board received a report of actions taken.

Summary of Actions by Management Disciplinary Committee – Charges Preferred – Non-Inappropriate Treatment
The Board received a report of preferred charges.

Summary of Finalized Disciplinary Actions as of September 24, 2025
The Board received a report of finalized disciplinary actions as of September 24, 2025.

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

CONSENT
Following a motion by Ms. Wallin, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following consent agenda items:

Retriever Hunting Tests – Timing of Qualifying Ribbons
The Board VOTED to approve a change to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers* that will allow clubs the option to award qualifying ribbons following each dog's run during the hunting test rather than waiting until the entire test has concluded. This change may solely be made by a vote of the Board.

It is effective for events taking place after November 1, 2025

Delegate Approvals
The following Delegate credentials have been published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette*.

Frank E. Lavoie
To represent Ozarks Kennel Club
Published August, September 2025

Cheryl L. Secondo
To represent Tampa Bay Kennel Club
Published August, September 2025

Patricia A. Sosa
To represent Louisiana Kennel Club
Published August, September 2025

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The Board recessed at 4:52 p.m. Eastern Time.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 9:06 a.m. Eastern Time. All Directors were present in the New York office except for Mr. Stansell and Mr. Fugiwara, who participated via video conference.

The Chief Operating Officer, Executive Secretary, and Chief Financial Officer were also present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

It was VOTED (unanimously) to adjourn on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 12:06 p.m. Eastern Time.

Attest:_____
Sheila Goffe, Executive Secretary