American Kennel Club, Inc.
MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC Offices at 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY
February 7-8, 2022

The Board convened on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

All Directors were present in New York except for Carmen Battaglia and Michael Knight who participated via video conference. The Executive Secretary was also present in person.

The January 10-11, 2022 Board Meeting minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the January 2022 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Mr. Sprung reviewed with the Board the status of the action items emanating from the past Board meetings.

Mr. Sprung reported that Registration processed over 325,000 litters for the first time in 13 years and more than 800,000 dogs, the most since 2008. The number of unique breeders climbed 15% to over 180,000, making 2021 our 7th consecutive year of increases.

Sports & Events recovered strongly as the year progressed, ending the year with total entries of 3,201,000, up 73% from 2020. The rebound was led by a Conformation increase of 627,000 entries, Agility up 397,000, Fast CAT gained 82,000, and Scent Work up 80,000. 2021 was the second highest year ever in terms of number of AKC events with 22,413.

Growth of sponsorship continues as an important contributor to AKC along with Registration leading the way for our operating budget.

Marketing is working collaboratively to advance our mission and AKC’s brand health by assisting Registration and Sports & Events. Their year-long calendar is planned with content for social media, newsletters and AKC.org to ensure important messaging to promote the AKC Mission.

Communications/PR and Government Relations continue their responsibilities of protecting the AKC Brand and the rights of breeders and owners respectively.

Current developments: we welcome our newest sponsor YuMOVE, (joint supplement) and we’re working on launching an NFT program and looking at a possible first availability to friends and family.
Today’s preliminary but almost finalized financial report will provide details on this being by far the best of 138 years, for which the Board can take great pride.

Mr. Sprung congratulated AKC’s exemplary Staff.

**AKC Museum of the Dog Update**
At its last meeting, the Board asked Mr. Sprung to look into the Museum process for the collection of donations where pledges are made and collected over multiple years. Mr. Sprung confirmed that during 2021 a series of four invoices were sent addressing outstanding pledges.

**Legal Update**
The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of January 2022.

**FINANCE**
Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented interim financial statements (unaudited) through December 31, 2021.

**Unaudited Financial Results as of December 31, 2021**

Revenues Overview:
- Total Revenues of $105.3 million exceed budget by 25%.
- Led by Registration Fees of $45.1 million.
- Pedigree and Registration Related Fees of $14.3 million.
- Recording & Event Service fees, Title Recognition and Event Applications fees total $15 million.
- Product & Service Sales total $11.4 million are lower than budget by 10%.
- Advertising, Sponsorship and Royalties total $16.5 million and exceed budget by 13%.

Expenses Summary Review:
- Controllable Expenses total $64.5 million are lower than budget by 5% or $3.45 million.
- Non-Controllable Expenses total $11.9 million are lower than budget by 14% or $2 million.

Net Operating Income of $28.9 million due to higher revenue along with lower controllable expenses.

Non-Financial Statistics as of December 31, 2021

Registrations:
- 2021 YTD Litter Registrations Total 325,390 which is 22% ahead of budget, 13% over 2020.
- 2021 YTD Dog Registrations Total 801,985 which is 30% ahead of budget, 14% over 2020.

Events and Entries:
- 2021 YTD Events total 22,411 which is 81% over 2020.
- 2021 YTD Entries total 3.2 million which is 73% over 2020.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**
There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. There was nothing reported out of this session.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Mari-Beth O’Neill, Vice President, Sport Services and Ashley Jacot, Director, Education, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference. Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations, and Brandi Munden, Vice President Communications and Public Relations participated in person in this portion of the meeting.

Japanese Akitainu Club of America – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous
The Board reviewed a recommendation for the Japanese Akitainu Club of America to become the Parent Club for breed and for the Japanese Akitainu be approved to advance to the Miscellaneous Class effective January 1, 2023.

The Board of Directors approved the Japanese Akitainu to be eligible for recording in the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) program with a Non-Sporting designation in 2020. The Japanese Akitainu 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.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Parent Club Designation for Basset Fauve de Bretagne
The Board reviewed a request from the Basset Fauve de Bretagne Club of America (BFBCA). The BFBCA requests to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed allowing them to hold FSS Open Shows.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

AKC Communications Q4 and 2021 Year End Report

Q4 TOTALS:
Clips Evaluated in Q4: 5,391 (+19% from 4,534 in 2020)
Q4 Estimated Audience Reached: 6,346,458,684 (+5% from 6,050,130,256 in 2020)
Publicity Value for Q4: $8,518,423.42 (+2% from $8,364,409.89)

Q4 Totals Clips Comparison Year over Year Evaluated Estimated Audience
2018 4,961 6,195,623,262
2019 5,436 7,648,124,163
2020 4,534 6,050,130,256
2021 5,391 6,346,458,684

Sentiment - There were no negative mentions of the AKC in Q4.
2021 YEAR-END MEDIA COVERAGE ANALYSIS

Total media placements (print, broadcast and internet) qualitatively evaluated in 2021:
Q1- 8,937
Q2- 8,449
Q3- 4,754
Q4- 5,391
Total number of clips evaluated for 2021 was 27,531.

Total audience reached with all clips (including print, online, TV, and syndicated stories):
Q1- 10,481,192,432
Q2- 9,862,945,081
Q3- 8,501,194,293
Q4- 6,346,458,684
Total audience reached for 2021 was 35,191,790,490.

Total publicity value achieved through media placements (print, broadcast and internet) qualitatively evaluated in 2021:
Q1- $9,444,035.22
Q2- $13,610,273.11
Q3- $12,278,294.82
Q4- $8,518,423.42
Total publicity value for 2021 was $43,851,026.57.

**AKC Education 2021 Review**
The Board reviewed a memo which provided an update of department activities and accomplishments for 2021.

**Canine College**
AKC Canine College now has over 44,000 learner accounts, with 10,000 new learners added in 2021. 680 courses and exams are available for Conformation and Performance Judges, Breeders, Groomers, and the general public. Learners spent more than 52,000 hours on AKC Canine College in 2021, a 200% increase from 2020. Over 100 new or current courses and exams were added or revised throughout 2021.

**Breed Courses and Exams**
In 2021, 3,200 breed courses and breed exams were ordered.

A total of 200 breed exams are available on AKC Canine College. In 2021, three new breed exams were released for the Russian Toy, Mudi, and Bracco Italiano. 16 breed exams were also updated per Judging Operations.
Breeder Courses, Webinars and Exams
In 2021, over 20,000 courses and breeder exams were ordered on AKC Canine College. The Genetics course for breeders was remastered and released along with eight new webinars focused on various topics of interest.

Special Projects
AKC Canine College worked with multiple departments to include Government Relations, Judging Operations, Canine Health Foundation, and Sports and Events to create online education for their constituents.

Sports & Events – AKC FIT DOG Level 2 course was development and launched on AKC Canine College.

Obedience Education for Judges is currently under development at approximately 50% complete.

Groomer Education – Disease and Sanitation eLearning Program
AKC Canine College helped to expand the Groomer Education catalog by designing and developing five new courses:
- Course 1: Getting Started/Overview
- Course 2: Pro-Active Approaches
- Course 3: Cleaning and Disinfection
- Course 4: Dealing with Illness and Disease
- Course 5: Keeping Our Pets and People Safe

Patriotic Puppy Program – Confident Puppy eLearning Program
Government Relations and AKC Canine College worked to design and develop a series of six courses to make up the Confident Puppy eLearning Program. Confident Puppy will be the first program released in February 2022 the new Learning Management System, Matrix.

Canine Health Foundation Webinar Series – In coordination with CHF, AKC Canine College has launched a Canine Health page with 11 webinars and a program that features a series of speakers from the NPCCHC Virtual Conference.

Public Education – continues to provide new and engaging resources for teachers to use in their classrooms. AKC Public Education now boasts a library of content that includes more than 70 resources for educators.

AKC Pups in the Classroom – launched in 2021, helping pre-school aged children learn more about purebred dogs and the basic care of and safety around dogs. We have more than 100 schools enrolled in this program and recently expanded to several home school families.

AKC Education Webinar Series – In 2021, AKC Education hosted 157 webinars for 10,510 participants, bringing the total number of participants to 53,501 since March 2020.
Ashley Jacot gave a presentation on the objectives of the AKC Education Department for 2022.

**AKC Government Relations**
Sheila Goffe presented the Government Relations 2021 fourth quarter/year-end review, with an overview of accomplishments, and a discussion of objectives.

A monthly update was also submitted: As of January 13, 32 state legislatures and U.S. Congress are in session. AKC GR is monitoring more than 1,800 pieces of legislation that could impact dog ownership, the wellbeing of dogs or AKC events and operations. This includes positive as well as negative legislation. Many of these bills were carried over from 2021.

Sheila Goffe presented the GR Legislation Monthly Update. As of January 13, 32 state legislatures and U.S. Congress are in session. AKC GR is monitoring more than 1,800 pieces of legislation that could impact dog ownership, the wellbeing of dogs or AKC events and operations. This includes positive as well as negative legislation. Many of these bills were carried over from 2021.

**Government Relations Q4 Update and 2021 Year End Review**
The GR team monitored approximately 3,000 legislative and regulatory proposals on the federal, state and local levels in all 50 states. This number actually represents a decline in the volume of canine legislation (to approximately 2,400) and regulatory proposals (approximately 600) over 2020 numbers; but a slight increase over 2019, which was also a record-breaking year. Although COVID remained a primary focus for many legislatures in 2021, the 2020 spike in COVID-related policy proposals abated, and introduction and advancement of major new animal legislation in 2021 demonstrated significant and ongoing interest among lawmakers in animal policy.

Outreach: AKC GR communicates to dog owners, club members, lawmakers and the public via geo-targeted and online legislative alerts, blogs (90 in 2021, an increase of 15% over 2020) as well as Facebook/twitter and other social media; The Taking Command (monthly advocacy) and In Session (policy) newsletters (https://www.akc.org/clubs-delegates/government-relations/newsletters/); videos, text alerts, Op Eds, as well as through direct one-on-one contact and outreach with club-based legislative liaisons. More details are available online, at www.akcgr.org.

Issue Engagement/Advocacy: Direct issue engagement and advocacy by the GR team continued to expand. AKC GR issued 296 geo-targeted legislative alerts and provided comments and/or in-person and written testimony for more than 270 bills. This represents an increase of approximately 22% over 2021 and nearly 200% over 2019 figures (243 and 100 respectively).

**American Service Dog Access Coalition/Service Dogs Pass**
AKC GR continues to work with colleagues in the service dog, airline, technology, and pet industries (American Service Dog Access Coalition – ASDAC) to lead development of a high quality, verifiable opt-in credentialing system for service dogs acceptable to airlines/access
provider, government and the service dog industry.

Detection Dog Task Force
AKC worked with senior congressional staff to develop language for inclusion in the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 4350). The legislation, also highlighted in the federal updates section, establishes a $5MM Department of Defense (DOD) program to expand and improve acquisitions of U.S.-bred military working dogs.

Breeder Education Highlights included ongoing significant expansion of the Patriotic Puppy Program (PPP), under the leadership of Program Manager Stacey West. The pilot program works to train breeders and trainers to develop skills and a scalable individual program of their own whereby they can produce puppies that the requirements for acquisition as detection dogs by government agencies. Currently, there are 57 program participants training 82 puppies (primarily Labrador Retriever and German Shorthaired Pointers as these are the breed most in demand) across 27 states.

Conferences, webinars, and other outreach also expanded in 2021. The annual DDTF conference was cancelled due to COVID; however, monthly webinars were presented in its place. The highly popular webinars include the following:

- **November 2021** – Dogs That Work Need Diets That Work
- **September 2021** – Release of Promotional Video About the Patriotic Puppy Program, and DDTF
- **August 2021** – 3-6 Month Puppies (part 2) – Getting Started Right for Detection Work
- **July 2021** – Introducing U.S. Police Canine Association & AKC Reunite’s Updated Adopt a K-9 Cop Matching Grant Program
- **June 2021** – Getting Puppies Started Right for Detection: Experts Compare and Contrast Successful Approaches – Part 2
- **May 2021** – In-Person Seminar in Hillsborough NC – “Detection Dog Training Begins with a Responsible Breeder”
- **February 2021** – So Your Dog Isn’t Cut Out for Explosives Detection? Here Are Other Opportunities
- **January 2021** – Getting Puppies Started Right for Detection: Experts Compare and Contrast Successful Approaches

Looking Ahead to 2022
AKC GR expects the volume and fast pace of legislation and regulation to remain similar in 2022 to 2021. We anticipate placing significant emphasis on the following measures again in 2022:

- Breeder regulations and restrictions at all levels of government, but increasingly as related to the federal animal welfare act.
- Costs of care/asset forfeiture.
- Court appointed advocates (“Lawyers for Dogs”).
- Detection Dogs
- Service Dogs/ Dogs in public
• Retail pet sales, sourcing, and consumer protection.
• Arbitrary temperature requirements/animal cruelty.
• Breed specific discrimination.

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE
Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Pamela Manaton, Director, of Obedience, Rally & Tracking; Carrie DeYoung, Director, Agility and Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Fitness to Participate in Fast CAT® and CAT
The Board reviewed a recommendation to define fitness to participate in the AKC Fast CAT® and Coursing Ability Test (CAT) Regulations. In these sports, all dogs must be evaluated by an inspection committee prior to running. The recommendation is to expand on what is meant by fitness to participate in the AKC Fast CAT and Coursing Ability Test (CAT) Regulations. All dogs entered must pass inspection by an inspection committee who determines that the dog is 1) not lame 2) is fit to participate and 3) if female, is not in season. The recommendation is to describe fitness to participate as a dog exhibiting a state of well-being, showing no signs of discomfort and in the opinion of the inspection committee, appears to physically have the potential to safely complete the course.

Fast CAT® Regulations, Section 12. Inspection Committee.
To help all parties, the recommendation is to expand the section of the Regulations providing guidance to the inspection committee.

An inspection committee consisting of at least two persons who are members of the field committee shall inspect each entry for lameness, fitness to participate compete and females in season. Inspection shall take place prior to any form of wrapping being applied to the dog. In the opinion of the inspection committee, any entry found to be lame, unfit to participate compete or a female in season, shall not be allowed to enter and entry fees shall be refunded.

Dogs that are physically challenged due to loss of limbs are eligible to enter and should be given the same consideration by the inspection committee as four-legged dogs. A dog that exhibits a state of well-being at the time of inspection, shows no signs of physical discomfort, and in the opinion of the inspection committee appears to physically have the potential to safely complete the course, is to be considered fit to participate. For safety purposes, any dog requiring an assistance apparatus, such as a wheeled cart will not be allowed to participate.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Pointing Breed Field Trials – 60 Minute Derby Stakes
The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow licensed derby stakes to be run up to 60-minutes at AKC Pointing Breed Field Trials. Currently derby stakes are limited to no more than 45-minutes. These longer derby stakes are occurring at some AKC trials. The length of a derby stake must be stated in the premium list.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Wirehaired Vizsla Allowed to Participate in Retriever Hunting Tests
The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow the Wirehaired Vizsla to participate in Retriever
hunting tests as requested by the Parent Club. The request is consistent with the breed’s history and purpose. The breed was developed to be a versatile hunting dog, capable of hunting both upland birds and waterfowl.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

**Parent Clubs May Hold Up to Two Retriever Hunting Tests Per Year Open to Their Breed Only**
The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow the Parent Club for any breed eligible to participate in Retriever Hunting Tests to hold up to two tests per year that are open to their breed only. This enables a Parent Club to hold single breed hunting tests in conjunction with regional or local special breed events. Under the current Regulations, Retriever Hunting Tests must be open to all eligible breeds, except that tests held in conjunction with their National Specialty may be limited to their breed only. Given the location of a National Specialty, clubs may not have reasonably access to field facilities to hold a hunting test. The Field Trial/Hunting Test Delegate Committee was discussing what could be done to encourage “minor” breed participation in hunting tests. The Performance Events Department suggested allowing Parent Clubs the option of holding breed specific tests in conjunction with regional or local special breed events.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

**COVID Provisions Set to Expire June 2022**
AKC Staff Members Glenn Lycan, Alan Slay, Tim Thomas, Pamela Manaton and Carrie DeYoung participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

The following is a list of all the special COVID provisions that are set to expire at the end of June 2022 along with the staff's recommendation whether to allow the provision to expire, extend it to end of 2022 or make it permanent.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (in favor: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, Davies, Hamblin, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin against: Garvin, Smyth) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to adopt the Staff recommend expiration periods as follows:

1. **Change in Condition Policy - indoor/outdoor requirement**
   This provision allows clubs to move forward with their events knowing they could make last minute adjustments to ring locations without penalty. The action was based on COVID restrictions for inside gathering numbers. These restrictions have largely been eliminated.

   **VOTE: Allow to expire at end of June 2022.**

2. **Three opportunities for Championship points in a single day**
The provision allows shows to add a third Conformation event on a single day provided one of the three events is a Specialty show. The action was based on clubs losing their show sites. Most show sites are now available.

There have been 31 times where a breed was offered three chances for Championship points in a single day since July 2020.

While the lack of show sites is no longer a major issue, the staff would like time to better understand the advantages and disadvantages of this change. This provision may be particularly helpful to low entry breeds.

VOTE: Extend to year-end 2022.

3. Expand the distance All-breed and Group clubs can travel to hold an Event
   
   This Action allowed all-breed and group clubs to travel up to 300 miles out of their territory to hold a show. Normal policy allows clubs to travel 125 miles. The action was based on clubs losing their show sites. Most show sites are now available.

   There were 39 times where an all-breed or group club show was held or is scheduled to be held over 125 miles from their territory since July 2020.

   VOTE: Allow to expire at end of June 2022.

4. Expand the distance Specialty clubs can travel to join another Specialty club of the same breed
   
   This Action allowed specialty clubs to travel up to 300 miles out of their territory to join another specialty club of their own breed. Normal policy allows Specialty clubs to travel up to 200 miles to join another Specialty club of the same breed. This has assisted breeds with fewer Specialty clubs around the country.

   There were 47 times where a specialty show was held or is scheduled to be held over 200 miles from their territory since July 2020.

   VOTE: Make permanent.

Companion Events

5. The two-judge requirement to title
   
   The normal provision requires a dog to receive three passes under two different judges. This was suspended for lower-level classes in Obedience (10 titles), Rally (four titles) and Agility (18 titles). The action was taken due the reluctance of judges to travel, resulting is some clubs having difficulty finding judges. This situation still exists.

   VOTE: Extend to year-end 2022.

6. Date and mileage restrictions for Companion Event judges
The normal provision restricts judges accepting assignments - 30 days and 100 miles for Obedience/Rally; 30 days and 200 miles for agility. This was suspended to help clubs hire judges since many did not want to fly or stay overnight in hotels. This situation still exists.

There are a number of benefits to the restriction on judging assignments, particularly for agility. It prevents permanent “home” judges, which are not healthy for the sport. An additional unintended consequence will impact the sports over time by making it more difficult for Provisional judges to complete the requirements to become fully approved.

**VOTE: Extend to year-end 2022.**

7. **Number of judge assignments during a cluster**

   The normal provision limits an individual from judging the same classes at more than two Obedience/Rally trials over the course of a cluster of no more than five (5) consecutive days at the same site or within a local geographical area. This was suspended to help clubs hire judges since many did not want to fly or stay overnight in hotels. This situation still exists.

   **VOTE: Extend to year-end 2022.**

**Scent Work**

8. **Date and mileage restrictions for Scent Work judges**

   The normal provision restricts Scent Work judges from accepting assignments that are 30 days and 100 miles from another assignment. This was suspended to help clubs hire judges since many did not want to fly or stay overnight in hotels. This situation still exists.

   **VOTE: Extend to year-end 2022.**

**COVID Provisions That Have Been Made Permanent**

The Board was provided with a memo listing the special COVID provisions that have been made permanent.

While initiated to provide clubs, judges, and exhibitors flexibility during COVID, the following provisions have been made permanent enhancements to the sports.

1. **Conformation** – All-Breed Conformation shows with an entry limit are required to publish their premium list at least 72 hours prior to accepting entries.

2. **Conformation** – Individuals judging NOHS groups or BIS only may exhibit in regular competition on the day they judge.

3. **Conformation** – Allow Specialty clubs to hold up to four designated specialties in addition to the independent/concurrent specialties.

4. **Judges Education** – The Breed webinar series was started due to COVID and has now been made permanent.

5. **Obedience/Rally/Agility** – Allow clubs to close no later than midnight seven days prior to the
event (Previously it was 2½ weeks for O/R and 10 days for Agility).

6. Obedience – Modify the Figure 8 exercise to use of cones instead of Stewards. Potentially saves a club two ring stewards.

7. Obedience/Rally – Reduce to 10 days prior to the event the restriction on exhibitors and dogs that participate in a training session taught by a judge (previously it was 30 days).

8. Obedience/Rally – Eliminate the restrictions on exhibitors and dogs exhibiting to a judge when there is an emergency judge change.

9. Rally – Allow clubs to distribute course maps no earlier than 6 PM the evening before the trial. (Previously it was no earlier than the morning of the trial.)

10. Agility – Allow handlers to carry their leash in their pocket or around their waist. Potentially saves the club a leash runner.

11. Canine Good Citizen Test – Eliminated the handshake in the CGC test. Now it is a friendly greeting and simulated handshake.

12. Retriever Hunting Test – Allowed as an option to judges that handlers may place the retrieved bird in a designated container rather than hand it to the judges.

13. Virtual Sports – The following list of virtual activities started during COVID to allow owners to safely engage in AKC sports. These have all been made permanent except Virtual Scent Work, which is currently a pilot program.

A. Trick Dog
B. Rally Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Excellent classes
C. Agility ACT Standard 1 & 2 classes
D. Agility ACT Jumpers 1 & 2 classes
E. Pointing Breed Water Test
F. Virtual Home Manners
G. Obedience Beginner Novice and Novice classes
H. Virtual Scent Work – pilot until the end of July 2022

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

**Transfer Between Classes**
The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to amend *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter
11, Section 6 to allow transfer of dogs after closing within divisions of the Bred-by-Exhibitor and Veteran Classes. Currently transfer after closing is only permitted between divisions of the Puppy Class and between the Puppy and Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Classes, or to the Open Class. This recommendation will provide consistency in the application of the Rules in analogous situations with the recent rule change effective March 29, 2022 to allow clubs to divide the Bred-by-Exhibitor class by age.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposal to modify Chapter 11, Section 6 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows for enhanced comprehension and to allow transfer of dogs after closing within divisions of the Bred-by-Exhibitor and Veteran Classes.

The proposal will be read at the March Delegate Meeting and voted at the June Delegate Meeting. If approved by the Delegate Body, the effective date will be July 6, 2022.

CHAPTER 11

SECTION 6. No entry may be changed or canceled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received in writing by the Superintendent or Show Secretary named in the premium list to receive entries, prior to the closing date and hour for entries, except that prior to the judging:

• a correction may be made in the sex of a dog,
• a dog may be transferred within the divisions of the Puppy Class, the Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class, the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class, or the Veterans Class,
• a dog may be transferred between the Puppy and Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Classes or appropriate divisions thereof.

A dog determined to be ineligible, by its owner/agent, for the class in which it has been entered may be transferred to an eligible Open Class at a show prior to the judging of any regular conformation class within the sex of that breed or variety, and that dogs which according to their owners’ records have completed the requirements for a championship after the closing of entries for a show but whose championships are unconfirmed, may be transferred from one of the regular classes to the Best of Breed or Variety competition, provided this transfer is made by the Superintendent or Show Secretary at least one half-hour prior to the scheduled start of any regular conformation judging at the show; at a single show with multiple days of judging, the transfer must be made at least one half-hour prior to the start of judging on the first day of the show (as defined in Chapter 3 Section 4)

Remaining portions of this section are unchanged.

Selection of Superintendent, Show Secretary and Veterinarians - Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 8
The Board reviewed a recommendation by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to delete Chapter 9, Section 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows and correspondingly amend Chapter 8 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows to add verbiage to address the event committee’s
responsibility to complete arrangements with the veterinarian selected to service its show.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

**Superintendents and Show Secretaries - Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 9**

The Board reviewed a recommendation by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to modify Chapter 9, Section 5 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which specifies the obligation of the Superintendent or Show Secretary related to the furnish of forms pertaining to requested health examinations of dogs.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

**Duties and Responsibilities of Show Veterinarians - Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 10**

The Board reviewed a recommendation by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to modify Chapter 10 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* and to amend Chapter 10 Section 2 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, deleting verbiage that is proposed to be inserted into Chapter 8 of a corresponding proposal, and modify language to clarify the expectation for the Show Veterinarian to be available during show hours, whether in-attendance or on-call.

The Board reviewed a recommendation by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to amend Chapter 10, Section 4 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* by inserting “or veterinary clinics” into the first sentence of that section.

These will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

**Opening of Entries - Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 6, Section 2**

The Board reviewed a recommendation by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to insert italicized language into Chapter 6, Section 2 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* pertaining to the policy recent adopted by the Board of Directors requiring the publishing of premium lists, for All-Breed dog shows with an entry limit, at least 72 hours before the acceptance of any entries.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

**AKC Approved On-Site Show Secretaries**

The Board reviewed a proposal that outlined a plan to create a program called “AKC Approved On-Site Show Secretaries”. Individuals qualifying for this program would have the option to work more than one All-Breed or Limited Breed Club’s shows in a calendar year.

The idea being considered is to create a list of AKC Approved Show Secretaries who would be allowed to perform the function of an On-Site Show Secretary for more than one club when the pre-show role is handled as a package show by one of the licensed superintendents. AB/LB clubs could contact individuals on this list to assist the club by acting as their On-Site Show Secretary.
The Board directed Staff to send the proposal to the Delegate All-Breed Committee and Dog Show Rules Committee for their input.

**Recognizing Centennial Clubs**
The AKC currently recognizes 100-year-old member cubs with a plaque awarded at the September Delegate meeting. To expand the recognition of all clubs affiliated with the AKC for 100 years or more, Staff will create a Centennial banner program.

By acknowledging clubs that have been a part of the AKC for over 100 years we are recognizing their value and contributions to the AKC and the sports they support. Banners will be presented yearly beginning in 2022. An announcement will be made, bringing recognition to the clubs that currently qualify for a Centennial banner. The AKC will continue to recognize clubs reaching this milestone yearly.

**JUDGES**
Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events and Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Conformation Judging Approval Process**
The Chair, at the July 2017 meeting of the Board of Directors established a committee to review the current Board Approved Judging Approval Process adopted by the Board at its June 2015 meeting and effective September 1, 2015, to determine where modifications may be warranted.

Modifications suggested by the committee were presented to the Board and subsequently approved at its November 2017, January 2018, August 2018, May 2020 and November 2020 meetings.

Consistent with the committee’s evolutionary approach to its task, the Board reviewed a memo with additional recommendations brought forth by the Chairman’s Committee on the Judging Approval Process to modify aspects of the Judging Approval Process specific to New Breed Judges, the Advancement of Approved Judges, and Visiting Judges applying under the AKC system. Some of these recommendations have been further modified based on the Board’s feedback at the January Board meeting.

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to (1) modify aspects of the New Breed Application Procedures, and (2) establish a track of advancement for qualified, experienced judges.

I. **New Breed Applicants (first time)**

Two modifications:

1) Increase the maximum number of breeds one may apply for on their initial application from 12 to up to one group or the equivalent number of breeds in the largest group not to exceed a full group.
2) Establish a provision where the department may consider application for a full group by exemplary applicants with extensive experience and abilities in a group, but where they do not meet the experience requirements for every breed in the group. Criteria will include a minimum of 25 years of experience in the group pursued, significant experience and success as a breeder and/or exhibitor for a predominate number of breeds within the group, and that requests for application for a full group under this special provision would be presented by Judging Operations to the Board of Directors for acceptance.

The exact verbiage for the proposed modifications is included in Appendix A.

II. Additional Breed Applicants (approved judges)

The Board approved a new component, Advancement Designation, under the “Application to Judge Additional Breeds” section of the policy. The Staff using an approved process, may identify and nominate judges for advancement based on their experience, history of observation reports, correspondence from the fancy, conduct and demeanor. The policy provides two benchmarks: those approved for at least four groups may be advanced for a full group, and judges approved for at least two groups may be advanced for ½ of a group. Nominees would be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration, those approved would be designated for advancement.

Advanced Judge would remain on permit status for two years (full group) or 18 months (½ group). Judge would be observed by a member of the Executive Field Staff at all permit assignments. Rather than pre-application education, emphasis is placed on the judge’s knowledge gained through experience, their permit assignments, and frequent observation and mentoring with the Executive Field Staff. At the end of the permit period, the department would review the judge’s history of assignments including number of attempts and entries judged in each breed, Executive Field Staff observation reports, documentation of continued education in that group, and any correspondence from the fancy to determine if regular status in group (or breeds) should be granted or if permit status should be continued for an additional six-months. The policy change includes provides a mechanism for advanced judge designation to be removed if an individual experiences consistent difficulty.

In addition to establishing means to advance judges, the committee’s proposal includes modification to the current language pertaining to Requests to Advance Beyond Four Groups for greater clarity.

The exact verbiage for the proposed modifications is included in Appendix A.

Judges Misconduct Policy

The Board reviewed recommended changes to the Judges Misconduct Policy and the procedures for handling complaints. Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to modify the Internal Procedures for the Handling of Complaints.
Concerning Judges' Alleged Misconduct such that a suspended judge who has paid their fine will not be published in AKC’s online directory until the period of suspension expires but may be approved on panels occurring after the end date of the suspension.

**Internal Procedures for the Handling of Complaints Concerning Judges' Alleged Misconduct**

- Judge should be marked inactive during the period of suspension and until receipt of payment of fine. Payment of fine prior to the expiration of the period of suspension will result in the judge being reactivated but will not be published in AKC’s online directory until the suspension has expired. A With a judging referral will be placed until the expiration date of the suspension, as they may not be approved to judge at events that occur during the suspension period. The accused individual has 30 days from the date of the Board’s letter to file an appeal with the Judging Operations, Performance or Companion Events Department. Receipt of appeal will delay any suspension until after the Appeals Hearing.

**Conformation Judging Statistics Annual Report**

The Board reviewed the 2021 Annual Report related to conformation judging applications considered by the Department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ADDITIONAL BREED</th>
<th></th>
<th>NEW BREED</th>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aps Received</td>
<td>Breeds Submitted</td>
<td>Aps Received</td>
<td>Breeds Submitted</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/21 thru 12/21</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>2146</td>
<td>58</td>
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<td>1/20 thru 12/20</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>2282</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>72</td>
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<td>1/19 thru 12/19</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>2497</td>
<td>91</td>
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<td>1/18 thru 12/18</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>1808</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>154</td>
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<td>9/16 thru 8/17</td>
<td>933</td>
<td>5537</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>119</td>
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<td>9/15 thru 8/16</td>
<td>843</td>
<td>6009</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>146</td>
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<td>9/14 thru 8/15</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>1938</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>102</td>
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### ADDITIONAL BREED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># Aps Reviewed</th>
<th># Breeds Requested</th>
<th># Breeds Approved</th>
<th>% Approved</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>1637</td>
<td>1515</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>2032</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>2099</td>
<td>2039</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018*</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>1421</td>
<td>1366</td>
<td>96.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>4928</td>
<td>4775</td>
<td>96.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>749</td>
<td>5036</td>
<td>5004</td>
<td>99.4%</td>
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<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Previous</th>
<th># Aps Reviewed</th>
<th># Breeds Requested</th>
<th># Breeds Approved</th>
<th>% Approved</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>237</td>
<td>1875</td>
<td>1491</td>
<td>79.5%</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Approved</th>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>91.6%</td>
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### NEW BREED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># Aps Reviewed</th>
<th># Breeds Requested</th>
<th># Breeds Approved</th>
<th>% Approved</th>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>98.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>97.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018*</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>97.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>99.3%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Previous</th>
<th># Aps Reviewed</th>
<th># Breeds Requested</th>
<th># Breeds Approved</th>
<th>% Approved</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>98.3%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Approved</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>98.7%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Total events (AB, LB, PS & S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total events</td>
<td>4092</td>
<td>4178</td>
<td>4,349</td>
<td>4428</td>
<td>4464</td>
<td>2043</td>
<td>3960</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total # of individual breed assignments</td>
<td>303,029</td>
<td>301,049</td>
<td>312,263</td>
<td>317,210</td>
<td>321,309</td>
<td>123,163</td>
<td>269,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of dogs in competition (D.I.C.)</td>
<td>1,222,474</td>
<td>1,204,798</td>
<td>1,171,690</td>
<td>1,184,640</td>
<td>1,188,067</td>
<td>606,246</td>
<td>1,093,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # judges w/assignment (AKC + Foreign)</td>
<td>2188</td>
<td>2218</td>
<td>2178</td>
<td>2143</td>
<td>2129</td>
<td>1346</td>
<td>1,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># AKC Judges w/assignment</td>
<td>1872</td>
<td>1873</td>
<td>1856</td>
<td>1801</td>
<td>1793</td>
<td>1252</td>
<td>1637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Visiting Judges w/assignment</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of AKC Judges w/o assignment</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
<td>58.3%</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% D.I.C. Judged by AKC judges</td>
<td>89.1%</td>
<td>90.1%</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
<td>95.9%</td>
<td>97.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% D.I.C. judged by 20% of all judges w/assignment</td>
<td>77.1%</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
<td>77.3%</td>
<td>76.2%</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
<td>74.9%</td>
<td>80.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% D.I.C. judged by 20% of total # of AKC Judges</td>
<td>80.3%</td>
<td>81.1%</td>
<td>80.3%</td>
<td>80.4%</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
<td>90.0%</td>
<td>90.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% D.I.C. judged by 20% of AKC Judges w/assignment</td>
<td>71.2%</td>
<td>72.1%</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
<td>71.2%</td>
<td>72.1%</td>
<td>72.5%</td>
<td>79.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLUBS
Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support and Lisa Cecin, Director Club Relations participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Delegates and Member Clubs
The Board reviewed a report on the prospective Delegate credentials to be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette, requests for AKC membership applications, and a report on Member Club Bylaws approved and newly licensed clubs.

Club Relations 2021 Activity Report
The Board reviewed a status report with information and trends regarding AKC clubs. Club Relations is responsible for the accreditation, advancement, and licensing for AKC’s 15 types of clubs, AKC member club status approvals, bylaw approvals, territory approvals, sanctioned match program approvals, and informal guidance regarding club dispute resolution. In total, Club Relations receives approximately 375-400 emails received per month. It is the goal of Club Relations to make it as easy as possible for clubs to associate with the AKC within the rules and policies established by the Board.

STATUS AND TRENDS

Number of clubs as of January 7, 2022
Member clubs 645
Licensed clubs 4,166
Sanctioned Plan A clubs 95
Sanctioned Plan B clubs 86
Total 4,992

The total number of clubs in 2020 was 4980.

Over the past five years there have been no new Rally or Earthdog clubs

New Parent Clubs in 2021: Kai Ken Society of America; National American English Coonhound Association

New All-Breed Club in 2021: Head of the Lakes Kennel Club

New Group Club in 2021: Sporting Dog Club of Indiana

New Member Clubs in 2021: 8
• American Boerboel Club
• American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association
• Carroll Kennel Club
• Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America
• Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club
• Jackson Tennessee Dog Fanciers Association
• Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA
• Morris Hills Dog Training Club

**Report on Newly Licensed Clubs approved in January 2022**
Sonoran Desert Scent Work Club, greater Tucson, AZ (including communities south to Hereford), 31 total households, 24 local.

Sighthound Club of the MidSouth, greater Memphis, TN, 32 total households, 12 local.

**COMPLIANCE**
Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

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

**REGISTRATION**
Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President, participated in this portion of the meeting in person.

Mr. Dunn gave an update on Registration. 2021 was the 8th consecutive year of increases in Dog Registration, the 7th consecutive year of increases in Litter Registration and the 7th consecutive year of increases in Unique Breeders.

- 2021 Litters were 22% better than budget and 13% better than 2020.
- 2021 Dogs were 29% better than budget and 14% better than 2020.
- The number of unique AKC breeders in 2021 was up 15% compared to 2020.
- Since 2017 the % of Online Dog Registrations has increased 56% up to 82% for Dogs.

Mr. Dunn presented key online Registration Metrics. The department uses a data-centric approach that includes monthly analytical deep-dives, regular test and learn experimentation, cross-functional collaboration between Registration, BI, IT, MKTG, etc., and leadership of the product owners. Mr. Dunn will work with Sports & Events and then other departments to utilize these abilities.

**Registration Return Rates:**
Return Rate analysis reveals that in 12 months we are now seeing a 5% percentage point improvement over 2018 – the best since 2004.

**Additional Accomplishments in 2021:**
Foreign Dogs: Launched Online Foreign Registration in April simplifying application submission and guaranteeing quicker turn-around.

- 74% of applications were online in December 2021.
- Exceeded 2021 Revenue Projections by $847K, or 80%.
- Total Foreign has increased 110% since 2013.

Electronic Litter Kits Launched in May allowing online litter registrants to receive litter kit immediately via digital file, no forms are printed or shipped. 13% of Online Litter registrants chose...
this option in December.

Collaborated with Marketing to update the AKC Puppy Folder product.

Collaboration between Call Center, Business Intelligence and Registration yielded:
  - Enhancements to the online certificate transfer process, reducing customer service questions.
  - Improvements to the messaging people get when they use incorrect online dog registration PIN numbers, reducing online dog registration abandonment.

The Board adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. All Directors were present in New York except for Carmen Battaglia and Michael Knight who participated via video conference. The Executive Secretary was also present in person.

**AKC Contact Center**
Jill Zapadinsky, Director, Call Center & Registration Support participated in this portion of the meeting. Ms. Zapadinsky gave a presentation to the Board on AKC’s Call Center. The Call Center uses robust reporting tools to enable real-time identification of trends, problems, bottlenecks, and necessary adjustments.

Contact Center Metrics:
- Telephone calls: 38,500 calls per month
- Emails 16,500 emails per month
- Live Chats 2,000 chats per month
- Social Media 250 Private Facebook messages per month
- 700 warehouse product orders handled per month

AKC’s Call Center has become a best-in-class service provider. In 2021 the AKC’s Call Center was a finalist for Best Call Center by Customer Contact Week (CCW) the international trade organization for call center and customer service excellence. The mission of the CCW Excellence Awards is to raise the bar for the contact center profession by identifying top practices, superior thinking, creativity, and execution across the full spectrum of contact center functions.

**MARKETING**
Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President, Consumer Demand participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

2021 Full Year Digital Report
  - AKC.org traffic is normalizing from 2020 pandemic highs but remains well above 2019.
  - Marketplace consumer traffic fell versus 2020 but organic began to grow again in the last few months of the year as the first wave of SEO changes began to take hold.
• SEO optimization efforts continue to address recent Google Search algorithm changes which are critical to keeping momentum going for AKC.org and AKC Marketplace.

2021 Highlights for each digital platform:

**AKC.org**
All measures of AKC.org traffic held most or all of 2020 “COVID gains”. Strategic decisions made in 2018 and 2019 enabled AKC to capitalize on COVID growth in 2020 and hold onto it in 2021.

**Marketplace.akc.org**
- Marketplace 2021 traffic measures declined due to several factors.
- Marketing Staff, working with Development, has begun to implement a series of cures.
- Litters listed on Marketplace exceeded pre-COVID levels in the back half of 2021.

**Shop.akc.org**
- All measures of AKC Shop 2021 traffic were below 2020 but above 2019.
- AKC Shop conversion (% of consumers that purchase) continues to climb.
- In October AKC launched a new look for the AKC Shop homepage and other key pieces of the online store. We also updated images with improved photography using more “lifestyle images” and clearer product shots. These changes drove pageviews +11.5% in Oct and Nov.

**Retrievist powered by AKC**
- Retrievist delivered continued returns in affiliate revenue in 2021.
- Beginning in June, Retrievist had consistency in articles published, emails sent and inclusion in newsletters leading to a significant jump in monthly revenue.
- Users continued to grow month over month throughout 2021.

**AKC Email/Newsletters**
- Email marketing sent 33% more emails in 2021 vs 2020 with increase in open rate but decrease in click-through rate.

**Social Media**
2021 Total followers by platform:

Facebook: 3,995,715 followers  
Instagram: 363,399 followers  
Twitter: 98,803 followers  
TikTok: 174,460 followers  
Pinterest: 60,358 followers

Total*: 4,692,735 followers

2.7% total follower increase vs. 2020  
5.9% total follower increase vs. 2019

**Pupdate Newsletter Optimization**
- Cross-Departmental Collaboration Led to a Successful Redesign and Launch of Pupdate. The new design launched in July 2021
• The new design is optimized for mobile display and features enhanced personalization, with breed-specific articles, photos, and fun facts for the top 12 breeds, plus additional personalization based on breed size and group.
• The Pupdate newsletter gained 266,000 subscribers in 2021, the greatest annual list growth since the inception of the program.

Virtual Sports and Programs Marketing
• Marketing worked with Sports and Events stakeholders to create Marketing initiatives to reach users via email, social media, newsletters, in-house advertisement, and content articles.
• Multiple email nurturing campaigns were released for Virtual Events. All showing above industry standards in CTO and CTR.
• Marketing worked collaboratively with Sports and Events to launch a digital campaign for the Virtual Home Manners program in Jan 2021.
• Marketing collaborated with Sports and Events stakeholders to create marketing campaigns to promote the new ACT Jumpers, Virtual Scent Work Test (VSWT), Virtual Obedience, and Virtual Home Manners (VHM) programs.
• Campaigns included email nurturing campaigns sent to key AKC audiences, social media postings and paid social campaigns, AKC newsletter promotions, banner advertisements, AKC.org in-house advertisements, and inclusions in AKC.org content articles.

2021 Bred with H.E.A.R.T. Marketing
• Marketing worked with Registration to modernize the Bred with H.E.A.R.T. program's visual identity.
• Registration and Marketing collaborated on digital marketing initiatives throughout 2021 to drive enrollments.
• Marketing revamped Bred with H.E.A.R.T. promotional collateral.

AKC SPONSORSHIP and MEDIA
Daphna Straus, Vice President, Business Development, Ron Furman, Director Sales and Media Properties and William Ellis, Director, Broadcasting, participated in this portion of the meeting.

AKC Sponsorship and Digital Media Overview 2021
2021 was the Biggest Year in the History of the AKC in terms of media exposure. More American Kennel Club dog events were watched by millions of people on Disney owned networks than ever in AKC’s history!

AKC on ESPN
95 AKC broadcasts aired in 2021 across ABC, ESPN2, Nat Geo and ESPN News. ALL AKC on ESPN programs include features that drive the mission, entertain, educate and introduce audiences to AKC Sports. AKC created dog programs, some that previously were not available on TV to dog loving audiences:

• AKC National Championship
• AKC National Championship Highlight show
• AKC National Championship 30-minutes preview show
• National Agility Championship
• Agility Premier Cup
• Fastest Dogs USA
• AKC Detection Dog Challenge
• AKC Canine Heroes
• ESPN Dog Day Bark in the Park

AKC on ESPN received a total of 168 hours across ESPN networks in 2021. On Christmas Day AKC events were featured for 6.5 hours on ESPN2 from 12:00 pm - 6:30 pm.

**AKC.tv**
AKC.tv provides fanciers and general dog lovers with 24/7 Dog Content with all original programming. 2021 saw record sponsorship and advertising revenue for AKC.tv. In 2022, AKC.tv will broadcast 35+ AKC events.

**JUDGES**
Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Conformation Judging Approval Process - Visiting Judges**
The Board continued its discussion on recommendations to modify aspects of the Judging Approval Process related to Visiting Judges brought forth by the Chairman’s Committee on the Judging Approval Process.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Ms. Biddle the Board VOTED (unanimously) to (1) replace “visiting judge” with “foreign judge” globally through the policy, and (2) amend the policy to allow a foreign judge who has established permanent residency in the U.S. and meets specific experience criteria to apply under the AKC system for up to one complete group.

The exact verbiage for the proposed modifications is included in Appendix A.

**CONSENT**
Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent items:

- Delegate Approvals
- Pointing Breed Field Trials & Hunting Tests – Gunners May Use ATVs/UTVs
- Best Junior Judging Clarification
- Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka – Advance to Miscellaneous
- Bergamasco Sheepdog Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Ibizan Hound Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Rottweiler Breed Standard Revision by Petition
- Sloughi Proposed Breed Standard Revision

**Delegates Approved**
Karen M. Bodeving, Cave Junction, OR
To represent Klamath Dog Fanciers
Janet Boyd, Hokes Bluff, AL
To represent Portuguese Water Dog Club of America

Kerri Dale, Blue Ridge, GA
To represent American Boerboel Club

Jean A. Evanoff, Fargo, ND
To represent Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club

Ruth M. Levesque, Tolland, CT
To represent Alaskan Malamute Club of America

Kevin Lord, Aubrey, TX
To represent Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America

Ann Moore Schultz, Joppa, MD
To represent Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Judith A. Seltrecht, Brandon, FL
To represent Manatee Kennel Club

Matthew E. Townsend, Mebane, NC
To represent Carolina Working Group Association

Pointing Breed Field Trials & Hunting Tests – Gunners May Use ATVs/UTVs
The Board VOTED to amend Procedure 8 of the Pointing Breed Standard Procedures and to Pointing Breed Hunting Test Regulations to allow gunners to utilize ATVs/UTVs in Pointing Breed Field Trials and Hunting Tests when gunning on course is required. This is at the option of the club, provided land use regulations allow ATVs/UTVs.

This change is effective April 1, 2022.

Standard Procedures for Pointing Breed Field Trials


Motorized vehicles may be used in Pointing breed Field Trials for the following purposes at the option of the club, provided land use regulations allow:

1. A motorized vehicle may serve as a gallery wagon or to pull a gallery wagon,
2. A motorized vehicle may serve as a dog wagon,
3. All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) or Utility Task Vehicles (UTVs) may be used for the purpose of liberating birds on course,
4. If the stake calls for gunning on course, ATVs/UTVs may be used by the gunners.
(5) ATVs/UTVs may be used for other unique purposes as approved by the AKC Performance Events Department.

ATVs/UTVs must meet all applicable federal and state government requirements. ATVs/UTVs are not allowed in bird fields.

Operators of motorized vehicles must be aware of their impact on horses and must not endanger mounted participants.

**Best Junior Judging Clarification**
The Board VOTED to add a New Section 10 to the Junior Showmanship Guidelines for clarity.

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING GUIDELINES**

**Section 10. Best Junior Competition**
If the judge assigned to the Best Junior competition had judged all junior showmanship classes, individual examination is not necessary as the judge is only required to do enough procedurally to ascertain who should be awarded Best Junior. If the junior showmanship classes had been divided amongst multiple judges, the Best Junior competition is to be judged as a new and separate class. Judges must be mindful that the Best Junior competition will include competitors from the Novice, Open and Master classes, varying in age and experience. This should be considered in determining the judging procedures and gaiting patterns used. Once Best Junior has been awarded, second place from the class in which it advanced is to be called into the ring for the Reserve Best Junior competition.

**Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka – Advance to Miscellaneous**
The Board VOTED to advance the Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka to the Miscellaneous Class effective January 1, 2023.

**Bergamasco Sheepdog Proposed Breed Standard Revision**
The Board VOTED to approve the Standard revisions approved by a ballot of the Bergamasco Sheepdog Club of America with an effective date of May 4, 2022. See Appendix B for revised Standard.

**Ibizan Hound Proposed Breed Standard Revision**
The Board VOTED to approve the Standard revisions approved by a ballot of the Ibizan Hound Club of America with an effective date of May 4, 2022. See Appendix B for revised Standard.

**Rottweiler Breed Standard Revision by Petition**
The President of the American Rottweiler Club, (ARC) has submitted a proposed revision to the Tail Section of the Rottweiler Standard that was submitted to the ARC Board by a petition of the membership. The Board of the ARC voted unanimously to accept the petition. The Board VOTED to permit the ARC to ballot the membership on the proposed standard revision to the Tail Section of the Standard in accordance with the Club’s Constitution and Bylaws.
**Sloughi Proposed Breed Standard Revision**
The American Sloughi Association, (ASA) submitted proposed revisions to the breed standard. The current standard was effective January 1, 2011. The Board VOTED to permit the ASA to ballot the membership on the proposed standard revisions to the Standard in accordance with the Club’s Constitution and Bylaws.

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

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 11:56 a.m. Eastern Time.
Adjourned
Attest: ________________________________
Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary
Appendix A
Conformation Judging Approval Process

First Time Application to Judge - New Judges

The qualifications for the first-time applicant are specific to breeds in which the applicant has documented hands-on experience in owning, breeding or exhibiting. Eligible fanciers on their first application may apply for up to one complete group or the equivalent number of breeds in the largest group not to exceed a complete group. (i.e., applicant for Toy group limited to 23 breeds). Each breed requested must satisfy the requirements of either the 12-5-4 or New Breed Alternative method for each breed requested.

All New Judge applicants must:

1. Pay a $35 per breed application fee.
2. Pass the Breed Standard Test described in this Policy.
3. Successfully complete the ABCs of Dog Breeding: Canine Anatomy Course in the AKC Canine College.
5. Be interviewed satisfactorily by an AKC Executive Field Representative as described in this Policy.
6. Pass a wicket or scales test administered by an Executive Field Representative if a breed applied for is a measurable breed.
7. Attend an authorized AKC Basic Judging Institute prior to requesting regular status but not earlier than two years prior to submission of initial application.

Exemplary applicants with extensive experience and abilities beyond those points listed above seeking the acceptance of an application for a complete group but do not meet the requirements of 12-5-4 or NB Alternative Method for all breeds may be considered.

- Must have a minimum of 25 years of breeding and exhibiting experience in Conformation in breeds within that group.
- Must have significant experience and success as a breeder and/or exhibitor for a predominate number of the breeds within the group.
- Individuals will be considered due to their commitment and responsibility to the sport.
- Application to include completed 12-5-4 or New Breed Alternative form for each breed in which requirement may be met and a synopsis defining the individual’s experience in the sport and the group sought.
- Requests for acceptance of application for full group under this special provision will be presented by the department to the Board of Directors for acceptance.

Foreign Judges

We invite foreign judges into our system. Foreign judges who have judged breeds and/or groups at AKC conformation dog shows for a minimum of eight years may apply under AKC’s foreign judges’ approval process as follows:
Must have been an approved judge for a minimum of ten years in their own country.
Foreign judges who have established permanent residency may apply for up to one complete group. Should include foreign judge’s “original breed”.
Foreign judges who have not established permanent residency and wish to judge more than eight All-Breed shows per year may apply for up to 14 breeds. Should include foreign judge’s “original breed”.
Must have been assigned breeds requested a minimum of ten times at AKC events. Exceptions may be considered for full group request which includes breeds recently recognized by the AKC and/or not recognized by the foreign judge’s foreign registry.
Applicant must successfully complete open book breed examination and submit $35 fee for each breed requested. Previous fees remitted to complete exams of breeds not recognized by foreign registry do not apply toward this requirement.
Applicant must complete the judging application for submission to AKC Judging Operations Department and be published in the AKC Gazette.
Applicant must successfully complete all Anatomy and Procedural “open-book” exams.
Applicant must speak and read English OR arrange for an interpreter when judging at AKC events.
Applicant must conform to AKC’s occupational eligibility and Conflict of Interest rules and guidelines.
Applicant must successfully pass interview by AKC Executive Field Representative on all requested breeds, AKC procedures and policies, and to include wicket and/or scales test as applicable.
Final approval will be determined by a review of complete file including interview results and history of foreign judge observation reports.
If applicant satisfies all criteria, breeds/group will be approved on regular status.
Foreign judges choosing AKC approval will no longer be approved to judge AKC events using their previous foreign judging qualifications.
Individuals who have judged AKC events with observation in the preceding two years will be immediately eligible to apply for additional breeds under AKC’s traditional process. Those who have not been observed in the preceding two years will be required to complete three assignments with observation before submitting a second application under the current system.
Educational background and preparation in previous registry may be considered on future applications where breed standards are consistent. Applicant will be required to provide documentation of education.

A foreign judge who does not meet the above criteria may apply under AKC’s process for New Judges.
### Appendix B

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<th>Proposed Bergamasco Sheepdog Standard</th>
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**General Appearance:** The Bergamasco, with origins dating back almost 2000 years, is a true heritage breed, which developed unique characteristics without man-made aesthetics.

The Bergamasco Sheepdog is a medium-sized dog of rustic appearance with an abundant coat covering all parts of the body. Strong, sound and brave, the Bergamasco is above all very intelligent, calm and even-tempered. The distinctive flocks (flat woolly strands of felted hair) that cover their bodies protect them from the elements, as well as making them appear larger, with a foreboding appearance warning most predators to stay away. Bergamascos are mountain sheepdogs that are slightly longer than tall. Their unique skeletal structure makes them well-equipped for working in rough terrain. Correct, efficient movement is essential. Owing to the steeper shoulder and pelvis angles, they have a free, low-reaching, extended elastic trot with both front and rear feet remaining close to the ground. Having no need for speed, their gait is a steady, slow trot that can be maintained for long periods without tiring.

There is a fair amount of variation both with respect to size and coat. The variations discussed in detail below are not considered undesirable as they do not affect the working ability of the dog.

The ideal, Bergamasco at any stage in coat development is a well-balanced dog with a rustic appearance. The ideal height ranges from 21 to 25 inches.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** The Bergamasco is ideally suited to move and guard sheep on the alpine rocky slopes and pastures with a body slightly longer than tall. Built for strength and resistance, the Bergamasco has a lean, athletic build on sturdy (but not heavy) bones with a well-developed chest, ample thorax relatively short necks with firm, limber muscles. This framework is well-muscled, without being thick or bulky. The length of body measured from point of shoulder to point of buttocks is 5 to 6 percent longer than the height measured at the withers. (Height-to-length ratio is approximately 10:10.5 to 11.) Measured at the withers, the ideal dog stands 23½ inches.
inches and the ideal bitch stands 22 inches. However, there is a fair amount of variation in the breed with respect to height, and taller females or shorter males are acceptable as long as they are between 21 and 25 inches tall. Males weigh between 70 and 84 pounds. Females weigh between 57 and 71 pounds.

**Disqualification** – Height under 21 inches. Any height over 25 inches must be considered a fault. The seriousness of the fault is equivalent to the extent of the deviation. The minimum height requirement of 21 inches shall not apply to dogs or bitches under twelve months of age.

**Head**: The head is large, roughly proportionate to the size of the dog. The skull and muzzle are of equal length, (parallel to one another) and joined at a pronounced stop. The hair on the head may either be flocked or not. In either case, the typical disheveled appearance is natural and rustic.

**Eyes**: The eyes are large, oval, and set just slightly obliquely. Eye color is chestnut, with the darkness of the color varying from hazel to dark brown. The eye rims are tight-fitting and black pigmented; eyelashes are particularly long so that they can lift the hair falling from the forehead over the eyes. The expression is attentive and calm. **Disqualifications** – Any lack of pigmentation of the eye rims; one (or two) full blue eye(s).

**Ears**: The ears are soft and thin and hang down on either side of the face. The ears are set high. At its widest point, the ear is from 2½ to 3 inches wide. Ear length does not exceed half the length of the head, and shorter is preferred. The top two-thirds of the ear is triangular, with slightly rounded tips. When the dog is alert, the ears prick up at the base, with the top two-thirds semi-drooping. Viewed from the side, the ears appear to be an extension of the curve of the back of the neck. The ears may either be flocked or not.

**Skull**: The skull is slightly domed between the ears and rounded at the forehead. The skull is as wide as it is long and features a prominent occiput and a marked median furrow.

**Muzzle**: The depth and width of the muzzle, measured at midpoint, are each half the length of the muzzle. The muzzle is blunt, tapering only slightly
toward the nose. The upper longitudinal planes of the skull and the muzzle are parallel.

**Nose:** The nose is large and black, with big, well-opened nostrils. In profile, the nose is on the same line as the top of the muzzle and does not extend beyond the forepart of the muzzle. *Disqualification* – Dudley nose.

**Lips:** The lips are tight and black pigmented.

**Bite and Teeth:** The jaw is wide with strong, evenly spaced teeth meeting in a scissors bite. The line of the incisors is straight and perpendicular to the outside lines of the jaw. A level bite is acceptable. *Serious Faults* – Overshot, with a space greater than one eighth of an inch. Undershot bite, such that there is a complete loss of contact by all the incisors.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** **Neck:** The neck is strong, slightly arched, with well-developed muscles. Measured from the nape to the forward edge of the withers, the neck is 20 percent shorter than the length of the head. The neck circumference is at least twice the length of the neck. There is no dewlap. The hair on the neck forms a thick collar with a varying degree of flocks present. In action, the neck is carried forward with its upper profile almost a continuation of the topline, with only a slight angle at the withers.

**Topline:** The stacked side silhouette presents a level topline to a slight rise over the loin with a slightly sloping croup falling off to a low-set tail. While moving, the topline is level.

**Body:** **Chest and Ribs:** The chest is heart-shaped when felt from the front. The rib cage is well-sprung and let down to the elbow. (The depth of the rib cage is equal to half the dog's height at the withers.) **Tuck-up:** Tuck-up is nearly absent. **Back:** The back is straight. **Loin:** The loin is slightly convex, firmly joining the back and the croup. **Croup:** In the Bergamasco, the croup is slightly sloping about 35 degrees downward from the horizontal. **Pelvis:** The pelvis is well-developed. The length is 31 to 32 percent of the height at the withers with a fallaway of 35 to 40 degrees from horizontal. Due to the steeper inclination of the pelvis, the rear extension is lesser than other breeds who work on flat terrain where speed and stride width are more important.
than power. Therefore, at a trot, the Bergamasco’s drive will not be as high and long as other herding dogs.

**Tail:** The tail is natural and undocked, thick at the base, and tapering to the tip, inserted in the lower third of the a steep croup. When in repose, the tail hangs down to the hock and curves slightly outward. While moving the tail flags back-and-forth at a level higher than the topline, but not curling forward over the back outward laterally, as an extension of the topline with the crouch raised above the topline.

**Forequarters:** The legs are straight when viewed from the front and side and well-proportioned in relation to the size of the dog.

**Shoulders:** The shoulders are tightly knit and strong. The shoulder blades are wide and long with a steep angulation, 55 to 60 degrees from the horizontal. The length is at least one-fourth the height at the withers.

**Upper Arms:** The upper arms are strong and well-muscled. They are just slightly longer than the shoulder blades. The angle formed by the upper arm and shoulder blade is about 115 degrees. The ratio between the distance from withers to elbow and from elbow to the ground is 1:1. This is essential for a dog which has to move both up and downhill where extra effort is required.

**Elbows:** Elbows are set on a plane parallel to the body. They are neither close to the body nor jutting out. The humero-radial angle (between upper-arm and forearm) ranges from 150 to 155 degrees. The hair hanging down from the elbows is profuse, long and thick, tending to flock.

**Forearms:** The forearms are strong with lean muscle. They are roughly the same length as the upper arms (1:1) and are placed so that the point of the elbow is on a vertical line falling from the top of the shoulder blade.

**Pasterns:** The pastern joint (carpus) follows the vertical line of the forearm and is very mobile and lean. The pasterns are straight when viewed from the front, and slightly sloping when viewed from the side (about 10 degrees from vertical).

**Dewclaws:** Dewclaws may be removed.
Feet: The front feet are oval shaped, arched with tight toes, well-flocked with hair.

Pads: The pads of the feet are thick and black pigmented with a tight skin.

Nails: The toenails are strong and black.

Hindquarters: The Legs are straight when viewed from the back and well-proportioned in relation to the size of the dog. The femur and tibia are roughly the same length. This, in combination with the 35 to 40 degree slope of the pelvis, make the dog better suited for locomotion over hilly territories.

Upper Thighs: The upper thighs are long, wide, and well-muscled, sloping downward and forward at a 95 to 100 degree angle from the pelvis.

Stifles (Knees): The Stifles are perfectly in line with the limbs, neither turned in nor out.

Lower Thighs: The lower thighs are as long as the upper thighs, with lean muscles. They slope downward and back, forming an angle of about 105 to 110 degrees at the stifle joint (femur-tibia.) There is a well defined faurrow between the tendon and the bone above the hock.

Hocks: The length of the hock The distance from the point of hock to the ground is no less than 25 percent of the height at the withers. Viewed from behind, the rear pasterns are vertical and parallel to one another. Viewed from the side, the rear pasterns are vertical and placed so that the hocks just slightly extend past a vertical line dropped from the point of buttock. The angle of the hock joint (tibio-tarsal) is about 130 to 135 degrees.

Dewclaws: Dewclaws may be removed.

Feet: The back feet are slightly smaller than the front ones. They are oval shaped, arched with tight toes, well-flocked with hair.

Pads: The pads of the feet are thick and black pigmented with a tight skin.

Nails: The toenails are strong and black.
Coat: The Bergamasco is a rustic, working dog with a coat that takes years to reach maturity, and can vary considerably. As discussed in detail below, the distribution, size, texture and thickness of the flocks grow differently in each individual. A young dog's coat goes through a number of stages in the early years. Female coats are subject to change due to hormones and raising pups. These are natural differences and therefore are not to be penalized.

The make-up of the Bergamasco's coat is extremely complex. The hair is composed of three types of hair: undercoat, "goat hair," and woolly hair. The undercoat is short, dense, and of fine texture adhering to the skin forming a protective, waterproof layer. The "goat hair" is strong and rough in texture, as in goats, which stays smooth without tufting together with itself. The third type of hair is woolly hair. This type is somewhat finer in texture and grows together in tufts. The "goat hair" and the woolly hair naturally weave together over time and form the flocks, which have a tight consistency akin to boiled wool. The flocks are somewhat flat, irregular in shape, and sometimes open in a fan-shape at the tip. The distribution of the goat and woolly hair over the body is not homogeneous. Because of this, there is little uniformity in the abundance, size and width of the flocks throughout the body. For instance, from the top of head, continuing over the top of neck and top of withers and often down to the shoulder joint up to the middle of the back, in the saddle area and in the upper top part of the neck "goat hair" predominates, resulting in a smoother texture and less flock formation. However, the complete absence of wool is not acceptable. Below the saddle, from the height of the shoulders down, the woolly hair is more prevalent; thus, has more flock formation. On the back of the body and the legs, the woolly hair is very abundant and mingles with the reduced quantity of "goat hair;" thus, an abundance of flocks form in this region. The hair on the legs also hangs in flocks rather than feathering. The hair on the top of head and ears may either be flocked or not. In either case, the typical disheveled appearance is natural and rustic and hangs over the eyes. The eyelashes are exceptionally long and serve to hold the hair/flocks somewhat away from the eyes. The coat is never shaved or the wool brushed out. Trimming is acceptable for hygienic reasons and the ease of movement around the feet and pads. Also,
the coat may be thinned or trimmed when it becomes too thick and long hampering normal movement and compromises the dog’s welfare. However, it must maintain. Trimming is not acceptable to alter the traditional rustic appearance of the dog.

**Puppies:** From birth to 12 months of age, the coat is soft and short. At approximately 9 to 10 months of age, the goat hair and woolly undercoat begin to grow in. Human intervention is usually required to separate the coat into the beginnings of flocks at this point. This leads to the formation of informal bundles, then eventually to stubby formations that can give an unkempt and messy appearance at this period of the dog’s life. This is natural and unavoidable. It is only at approximately 3 years of age that the flocks will have grown long enough for the unique look for which the dog is known to begin to be achieved. The flocks continue to grow throughout the dog’s life. They may reach the ground at 5 to 6 years of age; hence young dogs must not be penalized for a coat which has not yet lengthened.

**Color:** Only eumelanin, *i.e.*, black melanin is present in Bergamascos. Bergamascos are born solid gray or gradations of gray (including merle) up to and including solid black. Genetically black or gray (blue-merle, black with part of the body diluted into lighter grey). The color often changes to different shades as the dog matures. The majority of dogs born black as well as the black patches of the merle dogs will lighten into shades of grey from light to charcoal due to a “fading black” gene; a few will remain black. A superficial coloring includes shadings of tawny-brown Isabella, and fawn at the lower part of flocks as a result of discoloration of old hair under the influence of sun, water and atmospheric factors in general as well as ageing of the hair. The loose hairs gradually change color: the gray hairs turn yellowish while the black ones take on a tawny hue. The overall look of these may be more reddish brown from a distance. The flocks must be examined at the roots, close to the skin, here the coat must be either black or gray. Solid white is not allowed but white markings are acceptable if they cover no more than one-fifth of the body. **Disqualification** – White coat color on more than one-fifth of the total area of the body.

**Gait:** Bergamascos had to adapt to various ways of moving the sheep, sometimes covering long distances every day to get to the grazing grounds.
while at other times they would only cover short distances within specific areas. The gait must have steady and elastic movement with resistance for efficiency and power. Due to its unique angulations of the fore and hind quarters and compact build, the Bergamasco’s gait is focused on resistance, strength and low center of gravity, with both fore and hind feet closer to the ground. The forward and backward reach, while extended are less than flatland herding breeds. The proportions and angles of the fore and hind quarters provide the needed for strength and resilience in hilly terrain. Their natural gait is slower paced than other herding dogs.

The natural and preferred gait for the Bergamasco to achieve a calm and balance movement while preserving energy in a mountainous terrain is a free, extended, elastic, slow trot with both front and rear feet remaining close to the ground, in order to achieve a calm and balanced movement while preserving energy in a mountainous terrain. The pasterns are supple and flex freely at a 90-degree angle. The head is carried forward with the neck forming a slight angle at the withers. The topline is level, and the tail flags back and forth at a level higher than the topline, but not curling forward over the back, outward laterally with the crook raised above the topline.

Temperament: The Bergamasco is a drover and a guardian. The primary functions of the Bergamasco sheepdog is to move drive and guard herds and livestock. In general, a Bergamasco expresses consummate ability, thanks to its qualities of vigilance, concentration and harmonious build. The Bergamasco’s capacity for learning and strong determination are combined with a calm and patient temperament. They are bred to think for themselves and assess each situation. This does account for some of the stubbornness that runs in them. Bergamascos have a unique ability to size people up and determine the appropriate way to interact with both family members and strangers. While they may appear aloof, they are ever watchful. Just because the eyes are not seen does not mean they are not watching. They have an eager-to-please nature and establish a close relationship with humans. The breed must never be aggressive without cause, or fearful. Bergamascos are highly intelligent and self-possessed and may display indifference to attempts to engage their attention.
Serious Faults – Overshot, with a space greater than one eighth of an inch. Undershot bite, such that there is a complete loss of contact by all the incisors.

Disqualifications – Height under 21 inches. The minimum height requirement of 21 inches shall not apply to dogs or bitches under twelve months of age.

Any lack of pigmentation of the eye rims; one (or two) full blue eye(s).

Dudley nose.

White coat color on more than one-fifth of the total area of the body.

Proposed Ibizan Hound Standard

General Appearance: The Ibizan’s clean-cut lines, large prick ears and light pigment give it a unique appearance. A hunting dog whose quarry is primarily rabbits, this ancient hound was bred for thousands of years with function being of prime importance. Lithe and racy, the Ibizan possesses a deerlike elegance combined with the power of a hunter. Strong, without appearing heavily muscled, the Ibizan is a hound of moderation. With the exception of the ears, he should not appear extreme or exaggerated. In the field the Ibizan is as fast as top coursing breeds and without equal in agility, high jumping and broad jumping ability. He is able to spring to great heights from a standstill.

Size, Proportion, Substance: Size - The height of dogs is 23½ to 27½ inches at the withers. Bitches are 22½ to 26 inches at the withers. There is no preference for size within this range. Sizes slightly over or under the norms are not to be regarded as demerits when other qualities are good. Weight - Average weight of dogs is 50 pounds; bitches, 45 pounds. Proportion - Slightly longer than tall. Substance - The Ibizan possesses clean, fine bone. The muscling is strong, yet flat, with no sign of heaviness.
**Head:** Long and narrow in the form of a sharp cone truncated at its base. Finely chiseled and extremely dry fleshed. **Expression** - The Ibizan has an elegant, deer-like look. The eyes are oblique and small, ranging in color from clear amber to caramel. The rims are the color of the nose and are fully or partially pigmented. The appearance of the eye is intelligent, alert and inquisitive. The ears are large, pointed, and natural. On alert the ear should never droop, bend, or crease. The ears are more wide open than just a tall triangle. The inner edge of each ear is not a straight line but has an obtuse angle or curve between the base and tip which gives the ear a slight inside corner. The overall shape resembles an elongated geometric rhomboid with its bottom third cut-off.

Highly mobile, the ear can point forward, sideways, or be folded backward, according to mood. **Ears that do not show the ability to be erect are a serious fault.** On alert, the lowest point of the base is at level of the eye so the ears are positioned above the eyes, neither off the side of the head nor too high set and coming close to each other.

On frontal examination, the height of the ear is approximately 2½ times that of the widest point of the base. **Skull** - Long and flat, prominent occipital bone, little defined stop; narrow brow. The muzzle is elongated, fine, and slender with a very slight Roman convex. The length from the eyes to point of nose is equal to the distance from eyes to occiput. The muzzle and skull are on parallel planes. The nose is prominent, extending beyond the lower jaw. It is of a rosy flesh color, never black or liver, and tends to harmonize with that of the coat. Pigment is solid or butterfly. Nostrils are open. Lips are thin and tight and the color of the nose. Flews are tight and dry fleshed. **Bite** - The teeth are perfectly opposed in a scissors bite; strong and well set. Any pigment color which is not as described is a disqualification.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** The neck is long, slender, slightly arched and strong, yet flat muscled. The topline, from ears to tail, is smooth and flowing. The back is level and straight. **Body** - The chest is deep and long with the breastbone sharply angled and prominent. The ribs are slightly sprung. The brisket is approximately 2½ inches above the elbow. The
deepest part of the chest, behind the elbow, is nearly to or to the elbow. The abdomen is well tucked up, but not exaggerated. The loin is very slightly arched, of medium breadth and well-muscled. The croup is well-sloped with bone structure visible.

The tail is set low, highly mobile, and reaches at least to the hock. It is carried in a sickle, ring, or saber position, according to the mood and individual specimen.

**Forequarters:** Angulation is moderate. The shoulders are elastic but never loose with moderate breadth at the withers. The shoulder blades are well laid back. At the point of the shoulder they join to a rather upright upper arm. The elbow is positioned in front of the deepest part of the chest. It is well held in but not so much as to restrict movement. Legs -The forearms are very long, strong, straight, and close, lying flat on the chest and continuing in a straight line to the ground. Bone is clean and fine. The pasterns are strong and flexible, slightly sloping, with well-developed tendons. Dewclaw removal is optional. Feet: hare-foot. The toes are long, closed and very strong. Interdigital spaces are well protected by hair. Pads are durable. Nails are white or red.

**Hindquarters:** Angulation is moderate with the hindquarters being set under the body. Legs The thighs are very strong with flat muscling. The hocks are straight when viewed from the rear. Bone is clean and fine. There are no rear dewclaws. The feet are as in front.

**Coat:** There are two types of coat; both untrimmed. Short-shortest on head and ears and longest at back of the thighs and under the tail. Wire-haired can be from one to three inches in length on all or part of the body with a possible generous moustache. Both types of coat are hard in texture and neither coat is preferable to the other.

**Color:** White or red, (from light, yellowish-red called "lion" to deep red), solid or in any combination. No color or pattern is preferable to the other. **Disqualify** any color other than white or red.

**Gait:** An efficient, light and graceful single tracking movement. A suspended trot with joint flexion when viewed from the side. The Ibizan exhibits smooth reach in front with balanced rear drive, giving the
appearance of skimming over the ground.

**Temperament:** The Ibiza Hound is even-tempered, affectionate and loyal. Extremely versatile and trainable, he makes an excellent family pet, and is well suited to the breed ring, obedience, tracking and lure-coursing. He exhibits a keen, natural hunting instinct with much determination and stamina in the field.

**Disqualification:** *Any color other than white or red and any pigment color which is not as described.*