

American Kennel Club, Inc.
MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC Offices at 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY
February 12-13, 2024

The Board convened on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 8:31 a.m. Eastern Time.

All Directors were present in the New York office. The Executive Secretary was also present.

Copies of the January 8-9, 2024, Board Meeting minutes had been previously provided to all Directors for review. Dr. Garvin moved to amend the Vlack section of the minutes to delete the last sentence and replace it with: "The Board had no objection."

Upon a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED to approve the amended January 2024 Board Meeting minutes.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Sprung updated the Board on action items and several business matters, including Registration and Events.

A report was presented on AKC Meet the Breeds® along with a video, which will be played at the next Delegate Meeting in March.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Legal Update

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of January 2024.

CMS Upgrade Project

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President of Sports & Events; Keith Frazier, Executive Vice President of Business Support Services; Alan Slay, Director of Event Programs; and Torraine Williams, Director of Engineering, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

The Competition Management System (CMS) Upgrade Project represents a significant investment in AKC's future. Its goal is to allow participants, clubs, judges, and Staff to manage their involvement more efficiently in AKC sports and events. A status report was presented.

2023 Accomplishments include:

- Upgrade to the PowerBuilder Web-Based Platform
- Automated letters for the Companion Event Operations Department
- Upgraded Judge Panel Management (JPM) System, V2
- Conformation Judges Reports

- Modifications to the National Specialty Show Locator Tool
- Webpage to Support Downloadable Invitations to the NOHS Finals
- Online CGC Evaluator Application Portal

FINANCE

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented preliminary financial statements (unaudited) as of December 31, 2023.

Unaudited Financial Results for the twelve months ended December 31, 2023.

Net Operating Income is \$9.2 million.

REVENUES:

Total Revenues of \$101.1 million are lower than forecast by 1%, excluding Interest & Dividends.

Registration Fees, excluding Registration-Related revenues, total \$37.8 million and trail forecast by 4%.

Registration-related Revenues trail forecast by 3%.

Recording & Event Service fees, Title Recognition, and Event Application fees total \$18 million, ahead of the forecast by 4%.

Product & Service Sales total \$12 million, trailing forecast by 2%.

Advertising, Sponsorship, and Royalties total \$19.7 million, trailing forecast by 1%.

EXPENSES:

Controllable Expenses total \$85 million, trailing forecast by 1%.

Non-controllable expenses are lower than forecast by 1%.

Non-Financial Statistics for the 12 months ended December 31, 2023

Registrations: 2023 YTD Litter Reg. 3% lower than forecast, 10% lower than 2022 YTD.

2023 YTD Dog Reg. 2% lower than forecast, 15% lower than 2022 YTD.

Events & Entries

Compared to the same period in 2022, Events & Entries were ahead by 6% & 4% respectively.

Entries were 4% better than the 2023 Forecast.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary, and Brandi Hunter Munden, Vice President of Communications and Public Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting. Sheila Goffe, Vice President of Government Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Appointment of Trial Boards

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss business matters. It was reported out of this session that Vincent A. Indeglia and Robert Newman were appointed as Trial Board members, and Frank Barton was appointed as an alternate to the Performance Trial Board.

Article VII, Section 1 Bylaw Amendment

Greater Clark County Kennel Club (GCCKC) submitted a Bylaw amendment in accordance with Article XX, Section 1 of the AKC Bylaws. GCCKC requests a Bylaw amendment to Article VII, Section 1 regarding term limits. The recommendation is to delete the third paragraph of Article VII, Section 1 to remove term limits. GCCKC believes a change to Article VII, Section 1 is significant to maintain the integrity and consistency of the Board.

Following a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the recommendation from GCCKC.

This will be read to the Delegates at the March 2024 meeting for a VOTE at the June 2024 meeting.

AKC Communications Q4 and Year-End Report 2023

Total Clips:

Clips Evaluated in Q4: 7,233 (+26% from 5,733 in 2022).

Q4 Clips Comparison

Year	Clips Evaluated
2020	4,534
2021	5,391
2022	5,733
2023	7,233

2023 YEAR-END MEDIA COVERAGE ANALYSIS

Total media placements (print, broadcast and internet) qualitatively evaluated in 2023:

Q1- **9,162**

Q2- **5,946**

Q3- **5,890**

Q4- **7,233**

Total number of clips evaluated for 2023 was **28,231 (+12% from 25,188 in 2022)**.

2023 Highlights

- 16.23% increase in media relations and press coverage in Mandarin language and Spanish

language publications (vs. 15% in 2022).

- 21% increase in the media visibility of our Chief Veterinary Officer (vs. 13% in 2022).
- Maintained a 98% positivity rating (vs. 97.4% in 2022).
- Increased McClatchy pick up (up to over 700 newspapers weekly) (on par with 2022).
- There was a 27.1% increase in media coverage of AKC Affiliates (AKC Reunite, AKC MoD, AKC Humane Fund, and AKC CHF) (vs. 19.3% in 2022).

AKC National Championship:

- Executed an aggressive national and local PR campaign for the AKC National Championship.
- Distributed press releases announcing the ABC television network broadcast & record-breaking entry totals.
- Drafted and distributed press releases of the winners of the various competitions in real-time.
- Satellite Media Tour promoting the broadcast.
- Secured a broadcast exclusive with Best in Show winner on *Good Morning America*.

Government Relations Q4 2023 Update and Year-End Highlights

2023 was a busy year for the GR team: Congress, most local councils and all 50 state legislatures were in session. The GR team monitored approximately 2,400 federal, state, and local legislative and regulatory proposals. Although the number of bills pertaining to dogs declined slightly over 2022, many were more sophisticated than in the past. The number of administrative regulations and regulatory changes nationwide impacting dogs and dog events significantly increased in 2023.

Issue Engagement/Advocacy: Direct issue engagement and advocacy by the GR team continued to expand. In 2023, AKC GR issued 270 geo-targeted legislative alerts, 73 blogs and op eds and provided comments and/or in-person and written testimony for more than 225 bills. The most common categories of legislation addressed in 2023 related to: Animal cruelty and breeder licensing (17%); Working dogs (14%); Animal control (12%); Veterinary issues (8%) Hunting/land-use/performance events (7%) and other (7%).

Building influence: Ongoing engagement is bringing new levels of influence, recognition, and success for AKC among government and industry leaders. Specific areas of focus include protecting the rights of breeders and owners, fighting breed specific and phenotypic bans, fighting mandatory sterilization bills; and issues associated with working dogs, canine imports and transportation, pet sales, and other areas. The GR team uses multiple approaches to expand AKC's reach and reputation. GR webinars, resources and videos are making AKC policy resources more accessible than ever.

Regional or field-based Staff positions are improving our ability to provide assistance at the state and local levels, increasing positive outcomes. GR Staff also actively work with federal agencies, members of Congress and other stakeholders to educate, advocate and protect the ability of responsible hobby breeders to raise puppies in their homes and allow breed experts to develop novel approaches that achieve best outcomes for their breed.

AKC policy expertise: Specific areas of focus include protecting the rights of breeders and owners, fighting breed-specific and phenotypic bans, fighting mandatory sterilization bills, and issues associated with working dogs, canine imports and transportation, pet sales, and other areas. The GR team uses multiple communication approaches, including GR webinars, fact sheets, policy analyses, and videos, to make AKC policy resources more accessible than ever. More than 20 new resources of this nature were developed.

Successes: AKC GR recorded dozens of legislative successes across the country in 2023. These include proactive policies to advance dogs and the interests of dog owners, and defensive positions to combat ill-conceived or radical anti-breeder/anti-dog owner policy. A list of 2023 success highlights is available online at www.akc.org/clubs-delegates/government-relations/successes/. **New & expanded economic impact and benefits reports:** In 2023, AKC conducted surveys and completed an expanded AKC Economic Benefits Survey with new, one-page report/tear sheets for all 50 states. Surveys were broadened to include participants in companion and performance events and national specialties (in addition to All-Breed Conformation shows). The greater breadth and depth of surveys and analysis better represent the range of AKC sports and events. Our findings demonstrated that individual spending at all breed shows increased more than 40% over the previous survey year (\$982). Surveys of attendees at national specialty shows found that participants spend, on average, more than \$2,500 at their national specialties.

A third study, utilizing this data and economic calculators, estimated the total impact of AKC events annually at approximately \$2.7 billion nationwide. These important reports demonstrate the real value that AKC brings to communities around the country. The reports are sent to lawmakers and made available to constituents and the public at <https://www.akcgr.org>. The reports push back against anti-breeder legislation and help clubs secure event sites.

Priority Legislation Monthly Update

Sheila Goffe highlighted numerous active priority legislation and administrative regulations in Congress and State Legislation. She noted that additional information is available on the AKC legislative action center microsite: <https://www.akcgr.org>.

MARKETING

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President of Marketing; Melissa Olund, Director of Digital Marketing; Jacqueline Taylor, Director of Marketing; Meghan Prince, Brand Marketing Manager; Kerri Schreiber, Social Media Manager; Nikhil Kanoor, Search Engine Optimization and Gabe Fuller, Social Media Coordinator participated in this portion of the meeting.

Quarterly Social Media Update

Highlights of social media objectives in 2023 included expanding content offerings on TikTok to engage younger audiences, prioritizing tentpole sports and event coverage to engage dog sports enthusiasts (both active participants and people who love to watch), and increasing engagement through dedicated community management.

2023 Total followers by platform:

Facebook:	4,417,588 followers
Instagram:	440,451 followers
X (Twitter):	99,491 followers
TikTok:	352,736 followers
Pinterest:	72,545 followers
Total*:	5,382,811 followers (7.2% total follower increase vs. 2022)

Search Engine Optimization Yearly Review

Highlights of our Search Engine Optimization (SEO) work in 2023 included AKC Marketplace geographic page ranking and traffic improvements, AKC.org content and site speed optimization, and developing a SEO strategy for AKC Shop.

Marketing Social Media Activity Highlights for the AKC National Championship

- Highlights of our social media objectives for the 2023 AKC National Championship included pre-promotion of videos, articles, and photos, our team's live coverage on-site at the event, pre-promotion for the ABC broadcast, and live coverage during the ABC broadcast on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok.
- We were up YOY for our key engagement metrics on posts related to the AKC National Championship.
- We continue to publish content all year long related to the National Championship up to the event, which has increased content in December/January surrounding the event to keep our audience engaged.

Impressions: 40,269,671 (up 527%)

Engagements: 2,712,256 (up 537%)

Engagement Rate (per Impression): 6.7% (up 1.6%)

Post Link Clicks: 33,429 (down 5.2%)

Published Posts: 695 (up 94.7%)

AKC Sports & Events 2023: Marketing Overview

In 2023, Marketing executed an omnichannel strategy that has significantly boosted awareness, participation, and revenue for AKC Sports & Events. This comprehensive approach leveraged email campaigns, SMS outreach, social media, content articles, broadcasting coverage, and insightful research. These combined efforts were strategically implemented to accomplish the following goals:

- The creation of more accessible entry points into AKC Sports & Events.
- The encouragement of AKC Sports & Events viewers to become participants.
- The conversion of sports participants into advocates for AKC Sports & Events.

MEDIA AND SPONSORSHIPS

Ron Furman, Vice President of Broadcasting, Sponsorship and Media, and Daphna Straus, Vice President of Business Development, participated in this portion of the meeting.

2023 Yearly Recap Report on Media and Sales Activities

The AKC's over-the-top video network, AKC.tv, experienced growth in 2023 in plays across all

platforms, including Web plays on AKC.tv via desktop or mobile (+1.1M), AKC.tv app plays (over +1.3M) and plays on AKC.org via our digital content matching system (over +100M). The channel continues to grow in reach, breadth, and scope of content.

The AKC.tv FAST (free ad-supported television) channel was launched in 2023, bringing AKC.tv content to new audiences. The AKC.tv FAST channel is available on Plex TV and Fubo TV and is scheduled to be launched on Sling TV and Anoki TV in 2024. The AKC Media Team continues to work toward additional distribution opportunities for the AKC.tv FAST Channel.

AKC Good Dog TV premiered as a syndicated show in the New York City market on July 8 and 9, 2023 on channels Fox 5 and My 9, respectively. AKC Good Dog TV's syndication successfully expanded in 2023, and by the end of the year included:

- 93 total markets
- 117 total television stations
- 41MM total TV homes

AKC's dog sports programming on ESPN celebrated its most successful year in 2023, premiering 16 new, original shows:

1. 2022 AKC National Championship Dog Show presented by Royal Canin
2. 2022 AKC National Championship Dog Show Highlights
3. 2023 AKC Flyball Dog Challenge
4. 2023 AKC Flyball Dog Challenge Highlights
5. 2023 AKC National Agility Championship
6. 2023 AKC National Agility Championship Highlights
7. 2023 AKC Diving Dogs Challenge
8. 2023 AKC Diving Dogs Challenge Highlights
9. 2023 AKC Disc Dog Challenge
10. 2023 AKC Fastest Dogs USA
11. 2023 AKC Fastest Dogs USA Highlights
12. 2023 AKC Agility Premier Cup
13. 2023 Flyball CanAm Classic
14. AKC Heroes: 2023 Awards for Canine Excellence
15. 2023 AKC Agility Invitational
16. 2023 AKC National Championship Dog Show, presented by Royal Canin

In addition to increasing program hours, viewership for AKC broadcasts has also grown.

REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President of Registration; Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President of Marketing; Linda Duncklee, Director of Registration Services; Jill Zapadinsky, Director of Call Center and Registration Support; Jacqueline Taylor, Director of Marketing; and Sierra Ziegler, Brand Marketing Manager participated in this portion of the meeting.

February 2024 Registration Update

- Litter Registration in 2023 was -2.4% from budget and -9.8% from 2022; but +14.2% compared to 2019.
- Dog Registration in 2023 was -11.4% from budget and -14.9% from 2022; but +3.7% compared to 2019.

There was a discussion of the registration return rates in 2023 as well as the changes in Breeder and Litter segmentation from 2019 vs. 2023.

AKC Registration Initiatives Update

In 2023, the Registration and Marketing Staff created an omnichannel plan to boost awareness of key initiatives and positively impact litter and dog registrations and revenue per registration transaction.

- Revamped the Abandoner email campaign, targeting individuals who initiate dog registration but leave the process unfinished to improve the registration return rate.
- Staff implemented a redesigned Unregistered Dog (URD) email campaign. An “Unregistered Dog” is a dog owner who got their dog from an AKC breeder but hasn’t started AKC dog registration yet.
- Besides the ongoing Breeder Tool Kit feature development led by Registration Staff, the Registration Marketing team led the development and implementation of a comprehensive campaign to drive awareness and use by breeders.
- December 6, 2023, AKC launched its AKC’s online pet pharmacy, AKCRx, in collaboration with Allivet. A marketing plan supported the launch, strategically showcasing the AKCRx offer (Free One-Month of Simparica Trio, valued up to \$32) as an added value to AKC Dog Registration.
- The collaborative efforts of the Marketing, Registration, Breeder Development, and Sport Services teams led to the redevelopment of the Breeder of Merit campaign, aiming to enforce the 100% litter registration requirement for Breeders of Merit.
- We conceived and executed a highly successful new omnichannel strategic marketing campaign for the AKC GoodDog Helpline’s 10th anniversary. The primary objective was to boost awareness and drive sales for GoodDog Helpline (GDH) services.
- We identified the need for on-hold messages in Spanish as an essential service to AKC and its Hispanic consumers. To address this, marketing created a set of on-hold messages in Spanish to complement our optimized English messages.
- Created new explainer videos dedicated to the critical Registration initiatives, Pedigrees, and Why register
- The Registration Marketing team collaborated with Breeder Development in 2023 to help promote their In-Person Breeder Symposium Series.

Customer Service Updates

2023 Customer Service Year in Review

- Handled 445,853 calls (+29k from 2022) with a 7% call abandon rate (Industry-standard between 5% -8%).
- Answered 3,300 Facebook Private Messages (+300 from 2022).
- Continuing to leverage technology and successfully implemented after-hours IVR, a self-

guided and self-paced online dog registration tutorial, and the ability for our agents to co-browse with a client to assist them better.

COMPLIANCE

Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance and Jessica Lopez, Compliance Manager, participated in this meeting portion via video conference.

Approval of Annual Fees

The *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.* require that the Board of Directors set deposits annually for the submission of complaints pursuant to Article XII, Section 1, as well as deposits for appeals to an Appeal Trial Board pursuant to Article XIII, Section 7.

The current deposit to file a complaint pursuant to Article XII, Section 1, is \$625. The current deposit to file an Appeal to an Appeal Trial Board is \$250. Staff recommends that these deposits remain the same for 2024.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Compliance Status Report – Fourth Quarter 2023 & Year-End Review

Staff presented an overview of the 2023 activities of the Compliance Department.

In 2023, the Management Disciplinary Committee reviewed 66 matters. The Staff Event Committee reviewed 80 actions as well as 171 incident reports.

Hearing After Events - In addition to matters addressed at the event, Compliance also assists clubs that must hold an Event Committee hearing after the event. This could be because of a serious procedural error in the first hearing at the event; the club received the complaint after the event but within five days, or the club could not locate and notify the accused of the hearing at the event. Staff participated in 38 after-hearing events in 2023.

Annual Statistics

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Yearly Totals
Article XII Complaints Received	3	0	2	1	5
Event Committee Hearing Reports Received	12	27	20	21	80
Management Disciplinary Committee Charges Preferred	15	18	15	15	63
Code of Sportsmanship Complaints Received	10	13	13	19	55
Other Inquiries Received	8	6	3	5	22

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

CLUBS

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

Centennial Clubs

AKC is pleased to recognize the following Centennial Clubs:

1. Virginia Kennel Club (Virginia)
2. Westbury Kennel Association (New York)
3. Somerset Hills Kennel Club (New Jersey)
4. Cocker Spaniel Breeders of New England (Massachusetts)
5. Kennel Club of Buffalo (New York)
6. San Joaquin Kennel Club (California)

The AKC will add these clubs to the list of Centennial Clubs on our website, and we will provide a Centennial Banner for display at their upcoming club functions. In total, there are 122 AKC Centennial Clubs.

Club Relations 2023 Activity Report

Club Relations is responsible for the accreditation, advancement, and licensing of AKC's 15 types of clubs. Club Relations processes member club status requests, bylaw reviews, territory designations and expansions, sanctioned matches, and mentored programs, and offers informal guidance to clubs concerning internal club dispute resolution.

Status and Trends

Number of clubs as of January 9, 2024:

Member clubs	650
Licensed clubs	4220
Sanctioned Plan A clubs	84
Sanctioned Plan B clubs	83
Total	5037

The total number of clubs on January 17, 2023 was 5020.

New All-Breed Club in 2023: **1**

Lake Norman Kennel Club

New Parent Clubs in 2023: **4**

American Shikoku Ken Club
Czechoslovakian Vlcak Club of America
Pyrenean Mastiff Association of America
Yakutian Laika Club of America

New Group Clubs in 2023: 4

Happy Tails Ranch Working Group Club of Island Lake, IL
Hound Association of Northern California
Iowa Hound Association
Sporting Dog Club of Virginia

New Member Clubs in 2023: 4

American Toy Fox Terrier Club
Barbet Club of America
Chinook Club of America
Gloucester Kennel Club of Virginia

In summary, there were 219 new clubs and 34 dissolved clubs in the past five years, yielding a gain of 185 total clubs over a 5-year period.

The largest club category is local specialty clubs. Over the past five years, there were 80 new clubs and 24 dissolved, yielding a gain of 56 in a 5-year period.

2023 Actions

- Policy implemented for the “Two Path Event Option Towards License Status” for all AKC club types (July 2023 Board Meeting).
- Policy implemented for “Exploring Options for Existing Local Specialty Club Territories” (November 2023 Board Meeting).
- Continued research for 100th-anniversary clubs eligible to receive Centennial Club Banners for events.
- Began developing Club Relations online web portal project for processing status presentations online, including collaboration between vendor, Key Mark, and AKC IT Staff.
- Online payments for Member Club Dues have increased to 68%, up from 59% in 2022.

2024 Initiatives

- Continue to prioritize processing presentations efficiently within an annual average of 4 weeks.
- Enhancing Club Resources AKC web page to assist clubs in managing complex issues.
- Completion of Club Relations online web portal project for processing status presentations online for tracking and improved customer service.

REPORT ON MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Basset Hound Club of America (1937)
Bichon Frise Club of America (1984)
Clarksville Kennel Club, Montgomery County, TN (1999)
Idaho Capital City Kennel Club, Ada County, ID (1981)
St. Bernard Club of America (1898)
Wisconsin Amateur Field Trial Club, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, (1941)

REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUBS APPROVED IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Heart of Illinois Parson Russell Terrier Club, greater Joliet, IL (including communities north to Libertyville, southwest to Astoria and east to Kankakee), 25 total households, 12 local.

Iowa Hound Association, greater Cedar Rapids, IA (including communities northwest to Waverly/Denver, southwest to Oskaloosa/Ottumwa, southeast to Mediapolis, and northeast to Dubuque), 30 total households, 16 local.

Mid-Atlantic Herding Group Club of Maryland, Greater Baltimore, MD (including communities west to Front Royal, VA, south to Etlan, VA, east to Long Beach, MD, and north to the MD/PA border), 27 total households, 14 local.

Mid-Atlantic Working Group Club of Maryland, Greater Baltimore, MD (including communities northwest to Hagerstown, south to Mechanicsville, MD, east to Sailsbury, northeast to Cherry Hill), 28 total households, 13 local.

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club of New England, greater Westhampton, MA (including communities northeast to Haverhill, MA, south to Wyoming, RI, west to Goshen, CT and north to Huntington, MA), 21 total households, 14 local.

Pacific Northwest Japanese Chin Club, greater Olympia, WA (including communities north to Arlington, south to Chehalis, in proximity to Interstate 5), 20 total households, 15 local.

Sunshine State Lhasa Apso Club, greater Winter Haven, FL (State of Florida), 31 total households, 12 local.

CONFORMATION

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

Regional NOHS - Only Events

The Board reviewed a recommendation for a pilot program to allow up to eight Regional NOHS - Only Events to be held by All-Breed Clubs. The events would be structured like the NOHS Championship event in Orlando, except it would not be an invitational. All owner-handlers can participate.

All-Breed Clubs will be advised of the opportunity and asked to submit a proposal to hold a Regional NOHS Only Event. The events will be located around the country.

Clubs will be selected based on the quality of the proposal, the club's history of holding NOHS events, and the date they are proposing to hold the event. Regional NOHS events will be staggered throughout the pilot period. No two events will be held on the same weekend or in the same geographic region.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve a pilot program that will allow up to eight Regional NOHS Only events to be held by All-Breed Clubs.

The pilot program will run for one year, from September 19, 2024 through September 17, 2025.

Exhibition Only Four-to-Six Month Beginner Puppy Competition

The Board reviewed a proposal to amend the Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month Beginner Puppy Competition Regulations to allow professional handlers, members of their household, and current assistants to personally exhibit dogs they own for exhibition only in the Four-to-Six Month Beginner Puppy Competition.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (in favor: Battaglia, Carota, Davies, Garvin, Hamblin, Knight, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin. Abstained: Biddle. Opposed: McAteer) to approve the proposed revision to *The Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month Beginner Puppy Competition Regulations* to allow professional handlers, members of their household and current assistants to personally exhibit dogs they own for Exhibition Only in the Four-to-Six Month Beginner Puppy Competition. The effective date is July 31, 2024.

Show Secretaries - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 9, Section 11 and Chapter 11, Section 12

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to revise Chapter 9, Section 10 and Chapter 11, Section 12 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, for greater clarity in defining eligibility requirements for one serving as a Show Secretary.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Show Veterinarians - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 10, Section 5 and Chapter 15, Section 1

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to modify **Chapter 10, Section 5, and Chapter 15, Section 1** of *the Rules Applying to Dog Shows*.

The recommended modifications remove the club's obligation for expenses incurred for a dog it remands for veterinary examination. They also define the circumstances in which a dog remanded may return to competition.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Executive Dog Shows Superintendent Application

The Board was advised that Executive Dog Shows applied for superintendent licensing. A three-member Staff committee reviewed the application and determined that a limited superintendent license should be approved for Executive Dog Shows.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Tim Thomas, Vice President of Conformation, and Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President of Sports & Events, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Conformation Dog Show Judges Annual Report

The Board reviewed a memorandum that provided data related to Conformation Judges and judging applications as well as an overview of activities of the Judging Operations Department in the 2023 calendar year. Judging Operations continued its efforts to provide resources for judges. The Judges Education Webinar Series first launched in 2020 in a collaborative effort with AKC's Education Department continued. Breed specific presentations continue to be a challenge to arrange, as one breed webinar was offered in 2023 – Sloughi. Since the first webinar was presented on March 30, 2020, a total of 113 breed webinars have been presented with a total attendance of 4,534.

In addition to the breed webinars, Judging Operations has continued the “Review & FAQs on Conformation Judging Procedures, Policies & Guidelines” webinar series introduced in 2021. Seven (7) presentations of the “Review & FAQs on Conformation Judging Procedures, Policies & Guidelines” webinar series were offered in 2023 with an audience of 1,382 attending the live presentations. Links to access the recordings of the procedural webinars are also posted on the AKC website resulting in a total of 786 additional registrations accessing the recording of any one of the 2023 procedural offerings.

The department also provided in-person judges education in 2022. The Institute for New and Aspiring Judges (Basic) was offered at five locations throughout the year. 118 individuals attended the 2023 Basic Institutes. The department continued its collaboration with the Dog Judges Association of America, co-hosting the AKC/DJAA Advanced Judging Institute December 12-15, 2023, in conjunction with the AKC National Championship for the 12th consecutive year, and the 11th year offering judges education seminars for two complete groups, with Sporting and Terriers as the groups offered in 2023. Approximately 250 individuals attended breed-specific Judges Education Seminars over the week.

The report also reviewed initiatives implemented by the department in 2023 including its monthly communication to all Conformation clubs informing of new judge approvals; providing judges access via their MyAKC account to reports supplying historical judging assignment and education records; the development of a list of breeder-judges for all recognized breeds; and the naming of Greg McCarthy as Executive Field Representative/Education Liaison.

APPLICATION DATA: The number of New Breed Applications (first-time applicants) increased for the 2nd consecutive year in 2023. The department believes this is directly attributed to the 2022 policy revisions which increased the maximum number of breeds one could request on their initial application and introduced the ability for exemplary individuals to request the ability to apply for a full group. The number of additional breed applications (current judges) increased, while the number of individual breeds requested decreased slightly when compared to the previous year.

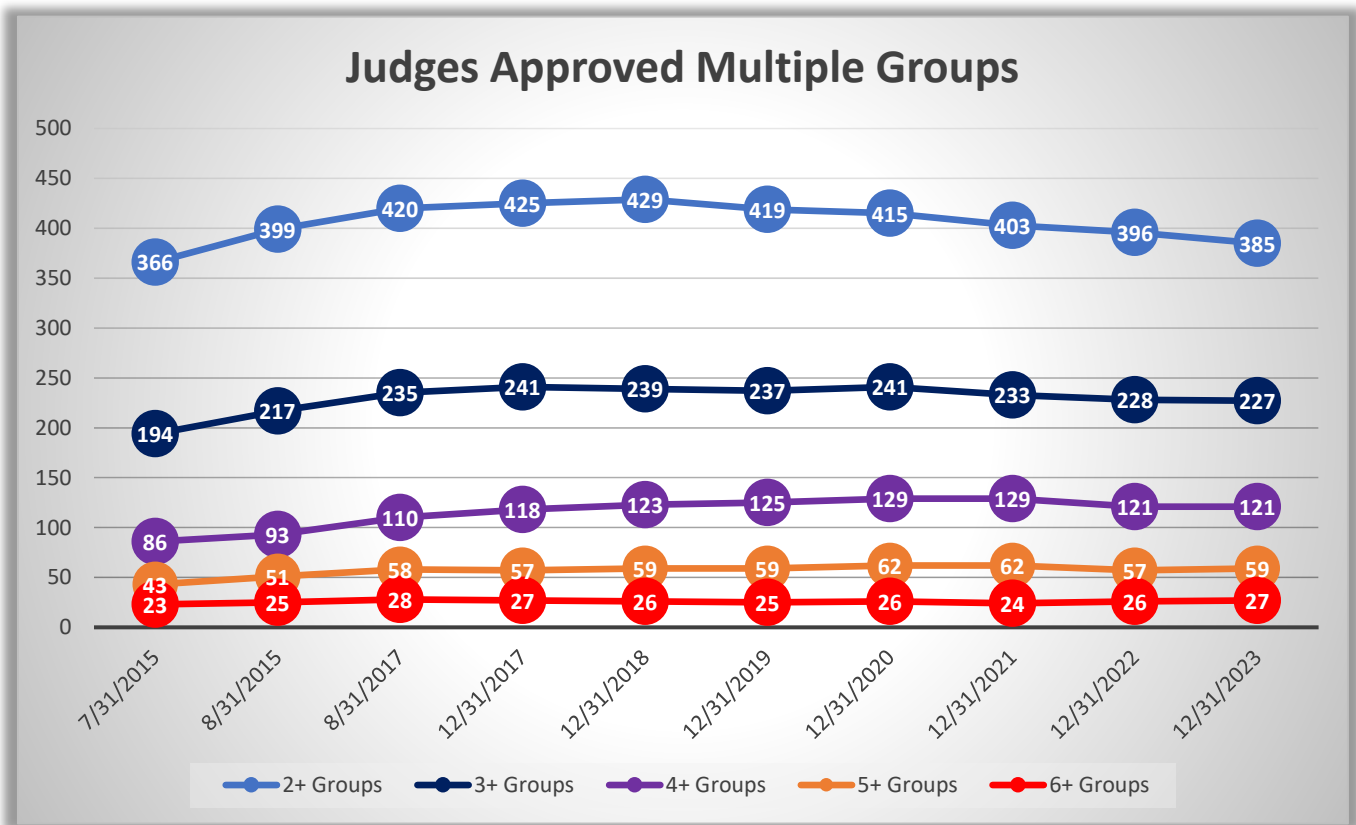
This is likely a result of reduction in the mandatory period between applications which was decreased from six to three months in November 2022.

Staff also provided data related to Conformation judges, which included charts displaying the total number of judges and the cumulative number of groups eligible to judge by all judges over a span of 10 years; and the number of judges approved for 2+, 3+, 4+, 5+ or 6+ groups over a 10-year span.

	ADDITIONAL BREED		NEW BREED	
	Aps Submitted	Breeds Submitted	Aps Submitted	Breeds Submitted
2023	404	2039	101	251
2022	354	2049	74	148
2021	360	2146	58	91
2020	377	2282	61	72
2019	401	2497	91	125
2018 ¹	351	1808	101	154
2017	933	5537	84	119
2016	843	6009	93	146
2015	246	1938	74	102

	Additional Breed				New Breed			
	# Aps Reviewed	# Breeds Requested	# Breeds Approved	% Approved	#Aps Reviewed	# Breeds Requested	# Breeds Approved	% Approved
2023	393	1968	1917	97.4%	81	192	184	95.8%
2022	298	1771	1721	97.2%	58	118	118	100.0%
2021	276	1637	1515	92.5%	28	56	55	98.2%
2020	323	2032	1914	94.2%	53	66	64	97.0%
2019	366	2099	2039	97.1%	65	107	107	100.0%
2018 ¹	293	1421	1366	96.1%	66	89	86	96.6%
2017	875	4928	4775	96.9%	73	88	86	97.7%
2016	749	5036	5004	99.4%	86	145	144	99.3%
Previous	237	1875	1491	79.5%	80	115	113	98.3%
2011	300	1945	1782	91.6%	99	155	153	98.7%

	NUMBER OF COMPLETE GROUPS APPROVED TO JUDGE								TOTALS	
	< 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Judges	Groups
12/31/2023	1934	257	158	106	62	32	14	13	2576	1474
12/31/2022	2175	278	168	107	64	31	14	12	2849	1514
12/31/2021	2258	292	170	104	67	38	9	15	2953	1561
12/31/2020	2288	296	174	112	67	36	10	16	2999	1600
12/31/2019	2289	303	182	112	66	34	8	17	3011	1604
12/31/2018	2262	309	190	116	64	33	7	19	3000	1633
12/31/2017 ²	2242	324	184	123	61	30	7	20	2991	1637
8/31/2017 ²	2293	321	185	125	52	30	7	21	3034	1613
8/31/2016	2512	334	182	124	42	26	5	20	3245	1538
7/31/2015	2527	351	172	108	43	20	6	17	3244	1446



COMPANION and PERFORMANCE

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

English Setter Association of America National Walking Gun Dog Championship

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to grant the English Setter Association of America the right to hold a National Walking Gun Dog Championship. The dog who wins the event will be awarded the title NWGDC. This is consistent with events currently held by six other pointing breeds.

In addition, the recommendation is to make this change retroactive to November 1, 2023, to acknowledge the dog that won the 2023 National Walking Gun Dog Championship held by the Parent Club.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the Staff recommendation.

This will be read to the Delegates at the March 2024 meeting for a VOTE at the June 2024 meeting.

Retriever Field Trials – System of Rotation for All Stakes

The Board reviewed the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee (RFTAC) recommendation to allow judges to use a rotation system for all stakes. Rotation refers to a system used to select which dog runs first in a series. Currently, a rotation is required for major stakes and optional for minor stakes.

This would require changing Chapter 14, Section 4 of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers*. This recommendation would standardize running order methods by allowing judges to impose a system of rotation in all stakes.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Scent Work – Allow Fix and Go in Detective Class

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow a fix and go-on option for teams in the Detective Class that receive an NQ.

There are three main search divisions in Scent Work – Odor Search, Handler Discrimination and Detective Class. Detective Class is the most challenging of the three and most closely simulates real detection work. Detective Class is reserved for the most accomplished Scent Work dog and is where handlers do not know how many hides need to be found. This Class can have - the highest number of hides ranging from 5-10, the most time per entry ranging from 7-15 minutes per dog, the most complex hide placement, and the largest square footage of search area ranging from 2,000-5,000 square feet.

In Detective Class, if a handler gives an incorrect alert or finish call at any time, they receive an NQ. This has proven to be discouraging for handlers who may have traveled far to an event only to receive an NQ within minutes and go home. On several occasions, the Performance Events

Department has heard the suggestion to make a fix-and-go-on option available to handlers.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Scent Work – Clarification on Scented Article

The Board reviewed a recommendation to clarify that when a cotton ball is used as the scented article in Handler Discrimination for Advanced, Excellent, and Master levels, it must not exceed 1.5” in diameter.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) National Championship

The Staff presented a recommendation for AKC to hold an annual Agility International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) National Championship event starting in the fall of 2024. Five jump heights will be offered, and five National Championship titles will be awarded (one per height).

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

RACH Invitational

Staff informed the Board of plans to hold the first Rally Champion (RACH) Invitational event in December 2024 in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the AKC National Championship.

CONSENT

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

Sweepstakes and Futurity Judges

The Board VOTED to modify the exhibiting restriction for Sweepstake and Futurity Judges to prohibit them from exhibiting the same breed on the day they judge that breed. A multi-day specialty is considered one event, and the restriction will apply for the duration of the event.

This will become effective on March 6, 2024.

Sweepstake/Futurity judges may not exhibit the same breed in conformation at events held on the day(s) they judge within 200 miles of their assignment. Sweepstake/Futurity judges ~~will continue to be allowed to~~ may exhibit in the same breed the day before and the day after the event they judge. A multi-day show is considered one event, and the restriction will apply for the duration of the event.

West Highland White Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to approve the revisions to the West Highland White Terrier Standard with an effective date of May 1, 2024. (Appendix A)

Beagle Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to permit the National Beagle Club of America, Inc. to ballot its membership in

accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws on a proposed revision to the Color section of the Beagle breed standard.

Schipperke Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to permit the Schipperke Club of America, Inc. to ballot its membership in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws on a proposed revision to the General Appearance, Neck, and Coat sections of the Schipperke breed standard.

Parent Club Designation for Presa Canario

The Board VOTED to approve the Presa Canario Club of America's request to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed. They may now hold FSS Open Shows.

Delegates Approved

Vincent Chianese

To represent Ashtabula Kennel Club

Published January 2024, February 2024

Wendi Freedman

To represent Old English Sheepdog Club of America

Published December 2023, January 2024

Jason Hoke

To represent Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club

Published January 2024, February 2024

Laura Johnson

To represent American Toy Fox Terrier Club

Published December 2023, January 2024

Kathleen M. Kurtz

To represent Berks County Kennel Club

Published January 2024, February 2024

Marjorie Martorella

To represent Staten Island Kennel Club

Published December 2023, January 2024

Jane Messineo Lindquist

To represent Bull Terrier Club of America

Published January 2024, February 2024

Ann Yuhasz

To represent Western Reserve Kennel Club

Published January 2024, February 2024

Member Club Approved

Dog Obedience Club of Hollywood

Households: 51 Total/31 Local (Hollywood, FL north to Rt 816 (Plantation), south to Rt 824 (Pembroke Pines), and west to Rt 27)

1st Licensed Show: October 26, 1952

Bylaws: Acceptable

Recommendation: Approve – Published in December 2023 & January 2024 AKC Gazettes.

Report of the AKC Retirement Plans Committee

The AKC Retirement Plans Committee met on February 7, 2024. Mrs. Wallin, Chair, asked if there were questions on the written report that the Committee had submitted to the full Board. There were no questions.

Board adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 8:35 a.m. All Directors were present in the New York office. The Executive Secretary was also present.

LEAP GROUP

There was a presentation by LEAP Group, AKC's new Marketing Agency of Record.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

It was VOTED to adjourn on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 12:23 p.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned

Attest: _____
Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

Appendix A

Current West Highland White Terrier Breed Standard	Proposed West Highland Whiter Terrier Breed Standard
<p>General Appearance: The West Highland White Terrier is a small, game, well-balanced hardy-looking terrier, exhibiting good showmanship, possessed with no small amount of self-esteem, strongly built, deep in chest and back ribs with a straight back and powerful hindquarters on muscular legs, and exhibiting in marked degree a great combination of strength and activity. The coat is about two inches long, white in color, hard, with plenty of soft undercoat. The dog should be neatly presented, the longer coat on the back and sides trimmed to blend into the shorter neck and shoulder coat. Considerable hair is left around the head to act as a frame for the face to yield a typical Westie expression.</p> <p>Size, Proportion, Substance: The ideal <i>size</i> is eleven inches at the withers for dogs and ten inches for bitches. A <i>slight</i> deviation is acceptable. The Westie is a compact dog, with good balance and <i>substance</i>. The body between the withers and the root of the tail is slightly shorter than the height at the withers. Short-coupled and well boned. Faults—Over or under height limits. Fine boned.</p> <p>Head: Shaped to present a round appearance from the front. Should be in proportion to the body. Expression. Piercing, inquisitive, pert. Eyes - Widely set apart, medium in size, almond shaped, dark brown in color, deep set, sharp and intelligent. Looking from under heavy eyebrows, they give a piercing look. Eye rims are black. Faults—Small, full or light colored eyes. Ears - Small, carried tightly erect, set wide apart, on the top outer edge of the skull. They terminate in a sharp point; and must never be cropped. The hair on the ears is trimmed short and is smooth and velvety, free of fringe at the tips. Black skin pigmentation is preferred. Faults—Round pointed, broad, large ears set closely together, not held tightly erect, or placed too low on the side of the head. Skull - Broad, slightly longer than the muzzle, not flat on top but slightly domed between the ears. It gradually tapers to the eyes. There is a</p>	<p>General Appearance: The West Highland White Terrier, <u>originally bred to hunt in packs for badger and eradicate vermin in the rough terrain of the Scottish Highlands,</u> is a small, well-boned, <u>hardy-looking terrier, exhibiting confidence and possessed with no small amount of self-esteem. The Westie presents a compact appearance with good balance and substance, and is distinguished by its hard, white, double coat. The breed requires moderation both in structure and presentation, and any exaggerations are discouraged.</u></p> <p>Size, Proportion, Substance: The ideal <i>size</i> is eleven inches at the withers for dogs and ten inches for bitches. A <i>slight</i> deviation is acceptable. The Westie is a compact dog, with good balance and <i>substance</i>. The body between the withers and the root of the tail is slightly shorter than the height at the withers. Short-coupled and well boned.</p> <p>Head: Shaped to present a roundish appearance from the front <u>and in proportion to and balanced with the body.</u> Expression - Inquisitive, <u>intense, keen, intelligent, and alert.</u> Eyes - Widely set apart, medium in size, almond shaped, dark brown in color, and deep set. Looking from under heavy brows, they give a piercing look. Eye rims are black. Ears - Small, <u>prick,</u> set wide apart on the top outer edge of the skull, <u>and carried tightly erect.</u> They terminate in a sharp point; must never be cropped. The hair on the ears is trimmed short and is smooth and velvety, free of fringe at the tips. Black pigmentation is preferred.</p> <p>Skull - Broad, slightly longer than the muzzle, and slightly domed between the ears. It gradually tapers to the eyes. There is a defined stop <u>and heavy brows.</u></p>

defined stop, ~~eyebrows are heavy. Faults—Long or narrow skull.~~

Muzzle - Blunt, slightly shorter than the skull, powerful and gradually tapering to the nose, which is large and black. The jaws are level and powerful. Lip pigment is black. Faults - Muzzle longer than skull. Nose color other than black. **Bite** - The teeth are large for the size of the dog. There must be six incisor teeth between the canines of both lower and upper jaws. ~~An occasional missing pre molar is acceptable. A tight scissors bite with upper incisors slightly overlapping the lower incisors or level mouth is equally acceptable. Faults—Teeth defective or misaligned. Any incisors missing or several premolars missing. Teeth overshot or undershot.~~

Neck, Topline, Body: **Neck** - Muscular and well set on sloping shoulders. ~~The length of neck should be in proportion to the remainder of the dog. Faults—Neck too long or too short.~~ **Topline** - Flat and level, both standing and moving. ~~Faults—High rear, any deviation from above.~~ **Body** - Compact and of good substance. Ribs ~~deep and well arched in the upper half of rib, extending at least to the elbows, and presenting a flattish side appearance.~~ Back ribs of considerable depth, and distance from last rib to upper thigh as short as compatible with free movement of the body. ~~Chest very deep and extending to the elbows, with breadth in proportion to the size of the dog.~~ Loin short, broad and strong. Faults - ~~Back weak, either too long or too short.~~ Barrel ribs, ribs above elbows.

Tail - Relatively short, with good substance and shaped like a carrot. When ~~standing~~ erect it is never extended above the top of the skull. It is covered with hard hair without feather, as straight as possible, carried gaily but not curled over the back. The tail is set on high enough so that the spine does not slope down to it. The tail is never docked. ~~Faults—Set too low, long, thin, carried at half mast, or curled over back.~~

Forequarters: Angulation and Shoulders - Shoulder blades are well laid back and well-knit at the ~~backbone.~~ The shoulder blade ~~should attach~~ to an upper arm of moderate length and sufficient angle to allow for definite body overhang. Faults - Steep or loaded shoulders. Upper arm too short or ~~too straight.~~

Legs - Forelegs are muscular and well boned, relatively short but with sufficient length to set the dog up so as not to be too close to the ground. ~~The legs are reasonably straight, and thickly covered with~~

Muzzle - Blunt, slightly shorter than the skull, powerful and gradually tapering to the nose, which is large and black. The muzzle is well filled below the eyes. The jaws are level and powerful. Lip pigment is black.

Bite - The teeth are large for the size of the dog. There must be six incisor teeth between the canines of both lower and upper jaws. A tight scissors or level bite is equally correct.

Neck, Topline, Body, Tail: **Neck** - Muscular and well set on sloping shoulders. Length in proportion to the rest of the dog.

Topline - Flat and level, both standing and moving. **Body** - Compact and of good substance with defined forechest and buttocks. Ribs extend at least to the elbows. The ribs are well arched in the upper half and taper to present a flattish side appearance. Chest is deep and extends at least to the elbows. Width is in proportion to the size of the dog. Back ribs are of considerable depth, and distance from last rib to upper thigh is as short as compatible with free movement of the body. Loin is short, broad, and strong. Faults - Barrel ribs, ribs above elbows, lack of definite body overhang.

Tail - Relatively short, with good substance and shaped like a carrot. When erect is never extended above the top of the skull. It is covered with hard hair without feather, as straight as possible, carried upright or slightly forward but not curled over the back. The tail is set on high enough so that the spine does not slope down to it. The tail is never docked.

Forequarters: Angulation, Shoulders - Shoulder blades are well laid back and well-knit at the withers. The shoulder blade attaches to an upper arm which is equal or nearly equal to the length of the shoulder blade. Faults - Steep or loaded shoulders. Upper arm too short or upright.

Legs - Forelegs are muscular and well boned, relatively short but with sufficient length to set the dog up so as not to be too close to the ground. The front legs are reasonably straight, and thickly covered with short hard hair. They are set in under

short hard hair. They are set in under the shoulder blades with definite body overhang before them. Height from elbow to withers and elbow to ground ~~should be~~ approximately the same. Faults - Out at elbows, light bone, fiddle-front. **Feet** - Forefeet are larger than the hind ones, ~~are~~ round, proportionate in size, strong, thickly padded; they may ~~properly~~ be turned out slightly. Dewclaws may be removed. Black pigmentation is most desirable on pads of all feet and nails although nails may lose coloration in older dogs.

Hindquarters: Angulation - Thighs are very muscular, ~~well angulated, not set wide apart with hocks well bent, short, and parallel when viewed from the rear.~~ **Legs** - Rear legs are muscular and relatively short ~~and sinewy~~. Faults - Weak hocks, long hocks, lack of angulation, cow hocks. **Feet** - Hind feet are smaller than front feet and are thickly padded. Dewclaws may be removed.

Coat: ~~Very important and seldom seen to perfection. Must be double coated. The head is shaped by plucking the hair to present the round appearance. The outer coat consists of straight hard white hair, about two inches long, with shorter coat on neck and shoulders, properly blended and trimmed to blend shorter areas into furnishings, which are longer on stomach and legs. The ideal coat is hard, straight and white, but a hard straight coat which may have some wheaten tipping is preferable to a white fluffy or soft coat. Furnishings may be somewhat softer and longer but should never give the appearance of fluff. Faults - Soft coat. Any silkiness or tendency to curl. Any open or single coat, or one which is too short.~~

Color: The color is white, as defined by the breed's name. ~~Faults - Any coat color other than white. Heavy wheaten color.~~

Gait: ~~Free, straight and easy all around, It is a distinctive gait, not stilted, but powerful with reach and drive. In front the leg is freely extended forward by the shoulder. When seen from the front the legs do not move square, but tend to move toward the center of gravity. The hind movement is free, strong and fairly close. The hocks are freely flexed and drawn close under the body, so that when moving off the foot the body is thrown or pushed forward with~~

the shoulder blades with definite body overhang before them. Height from elbow to withers and elbow to ground is approximately the same. Faults - Out at elbows, light bone, fiddle-front. **Feet** - Forefeet are larger than the hind ones, round, proportionate in size, strong, and thickly padded. They may be turned out slightly. Dewclaws may be removed. Black pigmentation is most desirable on pads of all feet and nails, although nails may lose coloration in older dogs.

Hindquarters: Angulation - Thighs are very muscular, stifles well bent, and hocks well let down. Not set wide apart and parallel when viewed from the rear. **Legs** - Rear legs are muscular and relatively short. Faults - Weak hocks, long hocks, over or lack of angulation, cow hocks. **Feet** - Hind feet are smaller than front feet and are thickly padded. Dewclaws may be removed.

Coat: The white double coat is hard and weather-resistant, consisting of straight, hard hair and a short, soft undercoat. The longer jacket hair is approximately 1-1/2 to 2 inches of hard hair, plucked and trimmed to blend into the shorter coated side neck, chest, shoulder, and rear. The jacket is smoothly blended into the longer furnishings. Hair is left around the head, plucked and shaped to provide a roundish frame for the face, with the tips of the ears and piercing eyes partially exposed yielding a typical West Highland White Terrier expression. Coat color, texture, and presentation should reflect the breed's purpose and terrain in which they work.

Color: The color is white, as defined by the breed's name. A hard straight coat which has some wheaten tipping is preferable to a soft white coat.

Gait: Movement is free and easy all around; it is a distinctive gait, not stilted. When viewed from the side, the gait is powerful with equally ample reach and drive. The topline remains level. In the front the leg is freely extended by the shoulder. When viewed from the front, the legs do not move parallel but tend to move toward the center of gravity. The hind movement is free, strong, and fairly close, but does not single track. The hocks are freely flexed and drawn close under the body, so that when moving off on the foot the body is thrown or pushed

<p>some force. Overall ability to move is usually best evaluated from the side, and top line remains level. Faults - Lack of reach in front, and/or drive behind. Stiff, stilted or too wide movement.</p> <p>Temperament: Alert, gay, courageous and self-reliant, but friendly. Faults - Excess timidity or excess pugnacity,</p>	<p><u>forward with some force. Faults - Lack of reach in front, and/or drive behind. Stiff, stilted movement.</u></p> <p>Temperament: Alert, <u>confident</u>, courageous, self-reliant, <u>and</u> friendly - <u>Possessing no small amount of self-esteem</u>. Faults - Excess timidity or excess pugnacity.</p>
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