

**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
Delegates Meeting
March 12, 2024**

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. ET.

Mr. Sprung: The meeting will come to order. Please stand for the National Anthem.
(National Anthem played.)

Delegates were reminded to check in at the reception desk for attendance purposes. When Staff prints the yellow-colored badge, the Delegate is automatically marked as present.

The Chair introduced the persons seated on the dais: Chairman, Dr. Thomas Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Joan Corbisiero, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary; Shari Cathey the Court Reporter.

Condolences were offered in the recent passing of Jack G. Smith on January 27, 2024. He was the Delegate for the Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California from 2007 to 2014, and again, from 2020 until 2024.

The Chair announced that it was the annual election of the Directors.

The Executive Secretary read the report of the Nominating Committee.

Ms. DiNardo: Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Patti Strand, Chair – Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon
- Marilyn DeGregorio – Taconic Hills Kennel Club
- Florence Duggan – Sussex Hills Kennel Club
- Don James – Leonberger Club of America
- Barbara Shaw – Greater Collin Kennel Club

and Alternates:

- Terrie Breen – Farmington Valley Kennel Club
- Douglas Johnson – Colorado Springs Kennel Club

appointed by the Board of Directors at its July 2023 meeting have nominated the following Delegates as candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 12, 2024. There are 3 vacancies for the Class of 2028.

Nominees for the Class of 2028 are:

- Dr. Carmen Battaglia – German Shepherd Dog Club of America
- Sally Fineburg – Hatboro Dog Club, Inc.
- Dr. Michael Knight – Texas Kennel Club, Inc.

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 4, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the following Delegate has been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as a candidate for the vacancies on the Board of Directors for the Class of 2028, to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 12, 2024:

- Laurie Maulucci – South Windsor Kennel Club

Mr. Sprung reported that the Bylaws state that nominations may not be made from the floor. Nominations, therefore, closed on November 15, 2023. Delegates were reminded that elections, in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*, require a majority vote to elect.

The election procedure was overseen by the accounting firm of KPMG. The ballots were scanned and tabulated electronically. All candidates were offered the opportunity to observe the election procedures. (Recess for voting.)

The Executive Secretary read the names of Delegates seated since the last meeting:

Robin Barkhaus, Hartford, WI to represent Kettle Moraine Kennel Club
Angela Boeske, Plainwell, MI to represent Kalamazoo Kennel Club
Vincent Chianese, Port Saint Lucie, FL to represent Ashtabula Kennel Club
Wendi Freedman, Milford, NJ to represent Old English Sheepdog Club of America
Cindy Grodkiewicz, Glen Gardner, NJ to represent American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association
Jason Hoke, Madison, WI to represent Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club
Laura Johnson, Shelton, CT to represent American Toy Fox Terrier Club
Mike Kriegel, Stanwood, WA to represent Bell Vernon Kennel Association
Margaret "Maggie" Kudirka, Ellicott City, MD to represent Dog Owners' Training Club of Maryland
Kathleen M. Kurtz, Mohrsville, PA to represent Berks County Kennel Club
Jane Messineo Lindquist, Blairstown, NJ to represent Bull Terrier Club of America
Marjorie Martorella, Millstone Township, NJ to represent Staten Island Kennel Club
Karen Park, Layton, UT to represent Mount Ogden Kennel Club
Julie Poulin Siefert, Neenah, WI to represent Newfoundland Club of America
Ann Yuhasz, Chagrin Falls, OH to represent Western Reserve Kennel Club

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting since being officially seated, were introduced from the floor:

Robin Barkhaus to represent Kettle Moraine Kennel Club
Angela Boeske to represent Kalamazoo Kennel Club
Wendi Freedman to represent Old English Sheepdog Club of America
Cindy Grodkiewicz to represent American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association
Jason Hoke to represent Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club
Laura Johnson to represent American Toy Fox Terrier Club
Mike Kriegel to represent Bell Vernon Kennel Association
Maggie Kudirka to represent Dog Owners' Training Club of Maryland
Kathleen M. Kurtz to represent Berks County Kennel Club
Jane Messineo Lindquist to represent Bull Terrier Club of America

Marjorie Martorella to represent Staten Island Kennel Club
Helen Norton to represent Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club
John Schneider to represent Middlesex County Kennel Club
Julie Poulin Siefert to represent Newfoundland Club of America
Ann Yuhasz to represent Western Reserve Kennel Club

The minutes of the December 15, 2023 Delegate Meeting were published in the online January 2024 *AKC Gazette* and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections, and the minutes were adopted as published.

Dog Obedience Club of Hollywood was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas Davies delivered the Chairman's Report as follows:

Good morning, everyone, and welcome back to Newark. We last saw each other in Orlando, where we gathered for the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin.

I'd like to share with you some of the wonderful results from that amazing and fulfilling weekend.

By now we all know, a beautiful Shih Tzu was awarded the coveted title of National Champion. He defeated nearly 6,000 other exhibits to take home the title. All 200 AKC recognized breeds were present for a total entry of 5,762 dogs.

The class that represents the backbone of our sport, the prestigious Bred-by-Exhibitor competition, hosted 1,272 entries. Thank you to our breeders who joined us to exhibit the very best of your breeding programs.

Our National All-Breed Puppy and Junior Stakes saw 1,717 entries, and our National Owner-Handled Series Finals hosted 875 competitors who represented 209 different breeds and varieties.

I am also delighted to report that the Junior Competitions at the AKC National Championship this year had record entries.

153 Juniors were entered on Saturday of the AKC National Championship. AKC offered \$22,000 in scholarship money to the 12 finalists.

The Junior Agility Competition included 43 Juniors with 77 dogs from 23 states. 24 breeds participated as well as Canine Partners. 27 dogs in 14 breeds were piloted by Junior handlers in Obedience. There were also 17 Junior Rally Showcase entries.

A reception for our Juniors took place on Saturday afternoon during which we presented the AKC Junior Versatility Scholarships to the Top Ten Juniors competing in a minimum of three different titling events within the year timeframe. \$12,000 in scholarships was awarded for young people who competed in various combinations of Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Agility, Hunt Tests, Field Trials,

Fast CAT® and Scent Work. It is wonderful to know that our young people are keen to participate in all aspects of AKC Events.

The AKC Agility Invitational hosted more than 700 entries from 41 states, again proving the overall popularity of the sport. With 170 breeds represented, we are reminded that Agility is a sport that all breeds can enjoy.

The AKC Obedience Classic celebrated its 10th anniversary in our venue. 217 dogs representing 55 breeds with handlers from 35 states came together to showcase the powerful bonds that come with AKC Obedience training.

Marking its 4th year in Orlando, the Fast CAT® Invitational hosted 430 entries with people hailing from 40 states, including Alaska. Fast CAT® attracts a multitude of breeds, with 186 breeds attending in 2023. But it's not just the "usual suspects." Competing there for the first time were a Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka, Norwegian Lundehund, French Spaniel and Estrela Mountain Dog.

The AKC National Championship remains fertile ground for continuing education. For the 12th consecutive year, AKC Judging Operations co-hosted the AKC/ Dog Judges Association of America Advanced Judging Institute over four days at the OCCC. More than 250 people attended Judges Education Seminars for 62 breeds from the Sporting and Terrier groups delivered by Parent Club approved presenters.

We want to thank each and every one of the members of our Delegate Body who came to Orlando to attend our most important set of events in AKC's calendar, and to especially thank Royal Canin for their ongoing support. We are very fortunate that we recently renewed our sponsorship agreement so that we can continue to present the highest level of competition in AKC events for devoted dog enthusiasts for several more years to come.

Another very important flagship event came together in top form just 6 weeks after we returned from Orlando – the incredibly successful 2024 AKC Meet the Breeds® at the Javits Center in New York City.

More than 30,000 people, a new record, purchased tickets to experience this all-breed extravaganza over two days during the last weekend of January. Exhibitors, club members and breeders shared nearly 3000 purebred dogs with their adoring public. In addition to 130 breeds to captivate the public's attention, a demonstration ring at the center of the venue provided continuous entertainment including Agility demonstrations, police K-9 presentations, canine conditioning education and more. It was a special joy to see so many thousands of happy, smiling folks petting dogs and learning all about our breeds, our sports and our organization.

We are so grateful for Purina Pro Plan's generous sponsorship of this event. It is one of the most effective ways in which we advance our message and AKC's mission. In addition to underwriting the event, Purina provided free gifts and dog food for more than 1,000 VIP ticket holders and our breed booth ambassadors.

Let's take just a few moments to watch a video that captured some of the fun at AKC Meet the Breeds® this year.

(Video played.)

A big thank you to everyone who participated in putting that delightful video together, I suspect it is available on AKC.org if you would like to watch it again.

This year's AKC Meet the Breeds® was our best attended event ever. We achieved record attendance by implementing an advertising campaign that yielded well over half a billion media impressions.

We advertised on Fox 5 TV, on the radio during traffic and weather reports, in New York City taxis and in some of the busiest New York City transportation hubs including Grand Central Terminal and the Times Square and Herald Square subway stations. Several local TV stations and websites covered Meet the Breeds® as well.

Our ad campaign generated nearly 10,000 tickets, and the remainder of the ticket sales came from the promotions we ran on our own platforms, such as our website, our e-newsletters, emails, social media and through word of mouth.

We know that AKC Meet the Breeds® has become one of the most anticipated events at the Javits Center, and we heard many visitors say they never miss a year with us in New York City.

We thank and congratulate all of the Parent Clubs who sent delegations of owners and dogs to make our weekend at Meet the Breeds® a special experience. You helped AKC educate thousands of dog lovers and prospective dog owners by providing a truly special experience.

Showing the public the love and care that we put into our dogs is the best way we can model the meaning of responsible dog ownership and the advancement of purebred dogs.

One example of extra care that we can provide for our dogs is worth noting. You may see on AKC's website or in our newsletters an advertisement for an insurance product called the Loyal Legacy Plan that comes from our sponsor, New York Life. New York Life is offering a policy that comes with a pet trust so that you can leave funds for the care of your dogs should they outlive you. I encourage you to consider getting a quote if you are under age 65. To do so, visit the website loyallegacyplan.com or contact AKC Customer Service for more information.

The Board and Staff are grateful to you for supporting our flagship events with your presence and participation. All of our clubs, your members and our dogs make AKC the most incredible community in which to connect, grow and thrive.

Lastly, I would like to thank Dennis and the Museum of the Dog Staff for the great evening last night. It's always such a pleasure to enjoy the wonderful history of our sport and our organization. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President's Report as follows:

In addition to our dogs and one another, we have a great deal to be thankful for.

2023 was no exception. For the second consecutive year, the Sports & Events department set a record for the number of entries with 3,682,000+ and almost 27,000 events. Amazing department leadership by Doug and Tim. We currently offer 28 sports, literally something for every lifestyle with numerous opportunities to welcome newcomers into our world.

This growth is paralleled by the strength of our clubs, currently at 5,037. A review of the past 5 years demonstrates a net gain of 185 clubs or 3.8%. In fact, we just proudly commemorated 6 clubs who reached their 100-year AKC milestone, bringing the total number of Centennial Clubs to 122.

The wide breadth of our offerings is prospering in the educational department with AKC Canine College having over 68,000 learner accounts, including more than 9,500 new ones that were added in 2023. We offer 445 courses and exams comprising 1,021 different modules accessible to breeders, show chairs, judges, stewards, exhibitors and the public. This array of knowledge includes 70 breed-specific courses developed in collaboration with our Parent Clubs. Thank you, Ashley.

Our media footprint continues to increase with Good Dog TV. Every week we dedicate this 30-minute program featuring "life with your dog." TV viewers experience the full range of the human-canine bond. From AKC events our programming reflects the proud traditions of our unique breeds and responsible dog ownership. On the heels of this country-wide rollout, we launched AKC NFL Dog Plays of the Year. More on this later today. Congratulations Gina, Ron and Bill.

Into the new year we proceed with enhancing our well-respected brand in multiple other manners. For National Purebred Dog Day on May 1, AKC is hosting a reception in Washington, DC with elected officials to meet winners of the AKC National Championship. This will be followed up by our Detection Dog Conference on July 23-25 in Wilmington, Ohio. This AKC conference brings together experts speaking about the cutting edge of canine detection research, training, breeding and handling as AKC contributes to the protection of our country. Attendees will include members of the armed forces, USPCA, Secret Service, FBI, CIA and local police departments. Both initiatives are brought to us by Sheila and the Government Relations department.

Lastly, in addition to Tom's comments about Meet the Breeds®, thanks once again for the collaboration of hundreds of Parent and local club volunteers plus dedicated Staff led by Gina, Michael, Amy, Brandi, Anita, Joe, Melissa, Wlad and Kerri and our Board of Directors we successfully shared the ability to reach and educate 30,000 people about purebred dogs, responsible breeding and pet ownership.

In summary, our AKC Universe is doing well, and I thank each of you and your club members for this passion and participation.

Now if our Vice Chairman would please join me in the presentation of two special awards for exceptional service to the American Kennel Club as 50-year Delegates. I believe this is the first time these awards have been given in 140 years.

Mr. Carota: Good morning, everyone. I am honored to present two individuals with 50-year medallion plaques as a thank you for a lifetime of dedication to purebred dogs and passion, knowledge, and leadership of the American Kennel Club.

- Mr. William Tabler, Long Island Kennel Club
- Chairman of the Board, Dr. Tom Davies, Farmington Valley Kennel Club & Springfield Kennel Club

Ted Phillips, CFO, delivered the Financial Report as follows:

Good morning. Thank you, Dennis. To all Delegates, thank you for attending today's meeting. We appreciate your time, your support, and your dedication to the American Kennel Club.

Today I'll present key performance indicators, both nonfinancial and financial results unaudited, and results of operations for the year ending December 31, 2023. This slide sets the annual totals for litter and dog registrations. Litter registrations in blue total 294,932, as compared to 326,945 in 2022. Dog registrations shown in pink totaled 608,990, that's compared to the 715,874 last year in 2022. Online litter and dog registrations exceeded 86 percent of all registrations in 2022. In summary, we thank our breeders, the entire Delegate Body, the Board of Directors, and the AKC Staff for these results.

The next slide shows events and entries as of the end of 2023. Events totaled 26,742, which was 6 percent higher than the prior year and entries totaled \$3.7 million which is 4 percent higher than the prior year. We continue to look forward to success in these areas as we see more events coming online.

Let's look at the overall financial operating results for the year ending December 31, 2023. Net operating income less expenses was \$9.2 million. The key driver of this is shown on this slide, which is operating revenues of \$101 million for the year ending 2023. This is combined with registration and events service fees which total \$69.3 million, or 69 percent of operating revenues. The second line is advertising sponsorship and royalty revenues which total \$19.7 million or 20 percent of operating revenue, and finally, product and service sales round out the mix and total \$12 million for the rest of the revenue lines. Operating expenses total \$95.5 million for 2023. These expenses are primarily comprised of Staff costs, of \$46 million; professional fees of \$18 million, and product fulfillment of \$12 million. AKC continues to support our charitable affiliates for donations and that totals \$5.5 million or 6 percent of expenses.

As required by the Bylaws Article 7, Section 11, the total cost to the Board of Directors expenses in 2023 is \$427,370.

As of the end of 2023, total assets are \$260 million which increased over the prior period principally due to net operating results and investment values that have increased. The annual investment return on the reserve funds held by the AKC Investment portfolio was 13.5 percent which was 1.7 percent ahead of its benchmark. This portfolio produced interest and dividend income of \$3.7 million. Please remember the liability section of balance sheets is comprised of lease and retirement obligations.

In summary, thank you for your time. I appreciate your dedication. We look forward to serving you, and as always, I'm available to answer any questions at your convenience. Thank you.

The first vote was an amendment to **Article XII, Section 1**, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which makes the process of administering oaths easier and uniform for all individuals. It also clarifies the decision to entertain jurisdiction that is under the authority of the AKC Board of Directors. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee endorsed by Staff and brought forward with approval by the AKC's Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote is an amendment to **Chapter 12, Section 1 and Section 4**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – The Catalog*, which deletes the requirement to publish the complete address for judges, replacing with city and state. It also deletes the requirement to publish the address of all exhibitors, replacing with city, state and email if provided. Finally, it replaces the address of the owner with city, state, and if provided, email address, removing the requirement to publish the full address of the owner in the show catalog. This amendment was suggested by Staff, endorsed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee, and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Cindy Miller, Delegate from the Waterloo Kennel Club, who spoke as follows: Cindy Miller, Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee. I move that we make a change to Chapter 12, Section 1 and Chapter 12, Section 4, and that would be to delete the comma, "and if provided e-mail address," comma, from those sections. I would like to note that we did listen to the people on the Google e-list. There was much concern about the email addresses, and we think that this change will address that.

There was a motion and a second to make the deletion to the amendment.

There was a vote in the majority to amend the amendment.

There was no further discussion.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative and the amendment as amended was adopted.

Mr. Sprung informed the Delegates that the rule changes to **Chapter 3, Section 1** of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Large Pack Field Trials* and to **Chapter 3, Section 3** of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two-Couple Pack Hunting Tests* will be voted as one amendment. Delegates were given the opportunity to discuss each rule change.

The amendment to **Chapter 3, Section 1**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Large Pack Field Trials*, removes an unnecessary restriction when hosting trials. This amendment was suggested by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There were no questions or discussion.

The amendment to **Chapter 3, Section 3**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two-Couple Pack Hunting Tests*, removes an unnecessary restriction when hosting trials. This amendment was suggested by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There were no questions or discussion.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative and the amendments were adopted.

Mr. Sprung informed the Delegates that the proposed rule changes to **Chapter 4, Sections 1 and 3**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Large Pack Field Trials* and the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two-Couple Pack Hunting Tests* will be voted as one amendment. Delegates were given the opportunity to discuss each rule change.

The amendment to **Chapter 4, Sections 1 and 3**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Large Pack Field Trials*, instructs the judge to use the Next Best Qualified (NBQ) designation for brace and gun dog brace trials. It also adjusts the description for placement ribbons and removes the mention of the NBQ designation unless the format is brace or gun dog brace. Finally, it instructs the judge to use the NBQ designation for brace and gun dog brace trials. This amendment was suggested by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There were no questions or discussion.

The amendment to **Chapter 4, Sections 1 and 3**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two-Couple Pack Hunting Tests*, instructs the judge to use the Next Best Qualified (NBQ) designation for brace and gun dog brace trials. It also adjusts the description for placement ribbons and removes the mention of the NBQ designation unless the format is brace or gun dog brace. Finally, it instructs the judge to use the NBQ designation for brace and gun dog brace trials.

This amendment was suggested by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There were no questions or discussion.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative and the amendments were adopted.

Mr. Sprung informed the Delegates that the proposed rule changes to **Chapter 9, Section 5**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Large Pack Field Trials* and to **Chapter 9, Section 6**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two-Couple Pack Hunting Tests* will be voted as one amendment.

Delegates were given the opportunity to discuss each rule change.

The amendment to **Chapter 9, Section 5**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Large Pack Field Trials*, allows judges to award a fifth place which would provide $\frac{1}{5}$ championship point to the winner for each starter for all hunt formats except the brace and gun dog brace. This amendment was suggested by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There were no questions or discussion.

The amendment to **Chapter 9, Section 6**, of the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option Field Trials and Two-Couple Pack Hunting Tests*, which allows judges to award a fifth place which would provide $\frac{1}{5}$ championship point to the winner for each starter for all hunt formats except the brace and gun dog brace. This amendment was suggested by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

There were no questions or discussion.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative and the amendments were adopted.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to **Article VII, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to **Article VII, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, removes the two consecutive term limit for AKC Board Members.

This amendment was proposed by Greater Clark County Kennel Club and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the June 2024 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair recognized Karen Burgess, Delegate from the Greater Clark County Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Karen Burgess, Greater Clark County Kennel Club. Greater Clark County Kennel Club has always instructed me to vote against term limits. Our membership felt strongly that we as a club submit the amendment for a vote once again. They also ask that I share the reasons, it is the responsibility of our Delegate to be present. The AKC Board of Directors are elected by the Delegate Body from the Delegate Body. We know or should know who we are electing. It is important to elect people that share our philosophy. We need to know our leadership. As Delegates we have an obligation to represent the best interest of our clubs. Have a voice, have an opinion – and those of you who know me know I have both. A Delegate must know what is being done, who is doing it or not and how it affects our clubs. Be an active participant in the future of the AKC. When a Board member terms out our short-term loss outweighs long-term gain. Our voice and our vote is our power, not term limits.

The Chair recognized Mary Lou Olszewski, Delegate from the American Bloodhound Club, who spoke as follows:

Mary Lou Olszewski, with the American Bloodhound Club. Also Chair of the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee. The committee looked at the term limit situation, there are a few things that came to mind. One was as Delegates who are on committees, there is no gap between terms. Looking at it from a Board perspective, I'm using a baseball analogy, to take someone and have them leave the Board when they're very valuable could be akin to it's the ninth inning, it's tied, your heavy hitter is up, and you make a change. That could be detrimental to the AKC. The other thing would be to not have a vote on the actual candidates for the Board is disenfranchising us as Delegates. Our votes are important to us, we speak for our clubs, we speak for the Delegate Body, we speak for AKC. We encourage you to think more about what this means to the AKC, to the Board and our future. Thank you.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to **Chapter 14, New Section 36**, of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds*.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to **Chapter 14, New Section 36**, of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds*, which allows for a National Walking Gun Dog Championship for English Setters.

This amendment was proposed by the English Setter Association of America and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors.

It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the June 2024 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair recognized Marcy Zingler, Delegate from the Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, who spoke as follows:

I would like to go back to the last question about term limits. Most of us in this Delegate Body now and always in one form or another have been involved in education. Without changing the Board for any reason, terms go on and on, and none of the rest of the Delegate Body is getting much of an education. All that we are doing is being educated to those who are on the Board for long periods of time. It's just something to think about, and I thank you for letting me go back on this amendment.

The Chair called on Ron Furman and William Ellis to provide an update on AKC Media Productions, who spoke as follows:

Mr. Furman: Hello and good morning. Thank you all. Ron Furman along with Bill Ellis. We're going to give you a brief update on the growth of our AKC content and broadcasting and media. We were here last year and two years ago to share some of the projects that we were working on then. I just want to point out the three logos that are on screen today. AKC.tv is the core of our content. Our initial launch was an opportunity for many club shows around the country to be seen, viewed and enjoyed for the first time ever and it gives us the basis for everything that we do. Second is AKC on ESPN. That's our relationship with the Disney company, an opportunity to expand beyond just conformation, show a number of our dog sports but also it is the home for our National Championship broadcast on ABC

television network as well as ESPN. AKC Good Dog TV, Bill will talk about that in depth. I just mentioned it, but this is the outset of our programming every week that we can now consume in local television stations and on cable around the country. We are very proud of this content. It's viewed by millions of people every year. It's a profitable business for the American Kennel Club, but it's core to our mission that drives our values. I would like to turn this over to Bill Ellis.

Mr. Ellis: Good morning. I'll start here with some updates about AKC.tv which I'm hoping most of you in this room have enjoyed at one point or another. In 2023, our AKC.tv property exceeded a 100 million video plays which was a big moment for us and that was due in large part an extensive redesign of the web site and app.

As a consumer if you go to the AKC.tv website or app, there are a number of beneficial user experience functions that are available, like being able to mark video as a favorite and continue watching later on. For us, the update allows a lot more flexibility to make changes and make updates in a very timely manner. We also extended and expanded distribution for AKC.tv. in a number of ways in 2023, both as a FAST channel and as a syndicated property.

A FAST channel is a relatively new term that's emerged in the last few years as a response to people who cut the cord, you probably heard of cord cutters, right? Those are people who have moved away from traditional cable subscriptions, and they seek to watch television and videos in other environments, and varying streaming platforms now make FAST channels available, free app-supported television. There are apps and web sites where you can consume television without the traditional subscription that you would experience at a cable company.

At AKC.tv we have the channel that we program 24/7 and that channel is now available on a number of different platforms as a FAST channel. You can see a couple of examples like Plex TV, Hulu TV and Sling TV. This means that we're bringing that channel and that content to an audience that maybe hasn't been to the AKC.tv website previously or to the AKC.tv app. If you're enjoying a live stream dog show over the weekend, know that it's available to this extended audience.

Good Dog TV is our flagship weekly show that we produce and premiere every week on AKC.tv. Dennis mentioned this earlier. Ron mentioned this as well. We have a video here are some of our favorite moments from the show, but before we show the video to you, I'll just set it up this way. The show underwent some pretty significant formatting upgrades within the last year. We extended it to be a traditional 30-minute show, upgraded the look of the show with various graphics and animations. I'll let you enjoy a few minutes of some of our favorite moments from the show.
(Video played.)

Mr. Ellis: The show premieres every week on AKC.tv and in July of last year, it became available as a syndicated show to local networks. Normally you start on off Broadway, and work your way to New York, but we did the opposite. The show premiered in July on two networks here in New York, on Channel 5 and Channel 9, and it's seen on both of those channels every weekend, and since the July premiere in New York, the show has expanded to over 90 markets across the country which represents over 41 million homes. Think about that, American Kennel Club television in all of those markets and all

of those homes, and it's seen on a variety of networks depending on the local market. It could be your local NBC station, local CBS, a variety of networks that carry the show, but as we mentioned, we also have a very specific relationship with networks that Disney owns, the ESPN and ABC networks, and this is a relationship that started back in 2019. After a very successful few years, we were able to extend that relationship with ESPN, ABC and the Disney Corporation for an additional five years, which will take us through 2028. We have a lot of support from the ESPN corporation, but specifically Burke Magnus, who is the President of ESPN content, Labrador owner and big supporter of content that they have had a lot of success with. In 2023, we produced 16 brand new shows that premiered across the ESPN networks. On the main ESPN channel, we grew 150 percent over the previous year's broadcasts, we grew 79 percent on ESPN2, and that represents 251 hours of AKC Sports and programming across ESPN networks and ABC. December was the busiest month for us with 52 hours of broadcasts in the month of December, which of course culminated in the AKC National Championship, the fourth year in a row that the show premiered on the ABC network. This past show premiered on New Year's Eve, and the premiere on ABC was seen by well over 1 million people, but one of the great benefits about this past show is that there was an encore broadcast on ESPN2 that same evening after the ABC premiere. You may wonder, okay, great that's on ABC, who's going to watch on ESPN2? Well, we know from the ESPN research department, as well as Nielsen, there is less than a three-percent overlap between those two audiences. So having the show live in both places plus that New Year's Eve landscape was a huge success, and we reached well over 1 million people. A number of highlights in 2023 on the ESPN networks, including our highest cable rating ever, which was on the 4th of July for the AKC Diving Dogs Challenge. Of course, 4th of July, Diving Dogs. It's not rocket science, right? Lots of viewership. July was also our most viewed month with five broadcasts in July, which averaged 244,000 viewers. Viewership for the entire year increased 21 percent and one of the key things that we look for with every show is how did our show perform versus the lead in and the lead out, the show before and the show after? Did people come and seek out our content? Did they stay and watch until the end? What happened when our show ended? We increased the lead in and the lead out on average two to three times with our shows. We know people are seeking out our content, they're staying to watch until the end.

Dennis mentioned this show earlier, so I'll just tell you, Monday morning after the AKC National Championship, a small group of us got up very early and via planes, trains, automobiles, or all three, we made our way to Miami to film a show with the NFL. A collection of current players and NFL legends came together in Miami to celebrate their love of dogs, learn a little bit about our dog sports, watch some highlights from shows, and react to them. We convinced Santana Moss to learn a little bit about Agility with one of the Agility National Championship handlers and her dog, who were kind enough to join us. The show was hosted by Carolyn Mano, who does a lot of our work on AKC.tv and AKC on ESPN, and she was joined for the first time by Jesse Palmer who did play in the NFL. Some of you might know him from the Food Network and probably most people know him as the host of *The Bachelor*. It was a great opportunity for us to introduce some new talent and bring in a new audience with Jesse's collaboration. When we think about the NFL, a few weeks ago there was a football game in Las Vegas that 123 million people tuned in for. If we could collaborate and work with the NFL on some programming together and carve out just a little bit of the 123 million people that viewed the Super Bowl, I think it's a big win for the American Kennel Club, our dogs, breeders and the sports that we love.

I'll leave you with one last video. This is a highlight video from the AKC on ESPN Dog Sports Series, and I'll set it up for you. Most of our events are attended by Phil Murphy, who is a reporter and a host for ESPN, and the first event that Phil came to was a Fast CAT® event. For television purposes we call it Fastest Dogs USA, and we asked Phil who was a college athlete, will you run the Fast CAT® track? We want to include it as a feature on the show. He's a great sport, he's very athletic, so of course no hesitation at all. Will you do it against one of the competitors, one of the dogs? He reluctantly agreed. That's the first moment of this and then some great highlights from the show.
(Video played.)

I'll just mention as we wrap up, building these relationships with these networks and athletes takes a lot of time. It took years of brainstorming with ESPN to launch that relationship, and the same is true for the NFL. Keep in mind that was the culmination of over two years of conversations to get to that point with the league, so it doesn't happen overnight. It takes a lot of time and a lot of Zoom meetings and a lot of conversations to get there. We're thrilled to have launched with the NFL and have our first show under our belts and eager to do more. Thanks everyone.

The Chair called on the Chair of the Teller's Committee, Ernest Obubah from KPMG to give the results of the balloting for the Class of 2028.

Mr. Obubah: Good morning, Ernest Obubah, KPMG, with the Teller's report. The number of ballots cast, 309. Invalid ballots, 0. Majority votes necessary for election, 155. Here are the results: Dr. Carmen Battaglia, received 227. Sally Fineburg received 211. Dr. Michael Knight received 234. Laurie Maulucci received 142. Thank you.

The Chair declared that Dr. Michael Knight, Dr. Carmen Battaglia and Sally Fineburg have been duly elected as Members of the Class of 2028. Congratulations.

The Chair called on Mark Dunn to present an overview of the new AKC Rx pharmacy service, who spoke as follows:

Good morning everybody hello again to all of you. I'm going to talk a little bit about AKC Rx, which is a topic that we talked about in December. It was introduced at the December Delegate meeting. We soft launched it in December and starting marketing in February.

But I want to go back to the genesis of the project. About a year ago Dennis pulled me into his office and gave me a challenge, with some of my team: we need to find a new business line that will generate significant revenue to support AKC programs but with no investment. I was like, okay, Boss. At the same time, I was, as always, on the hunt for things that we could bundle with dog registration to make registration more valuable to pet owners. People who are not going to breed, who are not going to show, why register, right? This is why we bundle services or value into registration.

We kicked off the search looking at a few different things and one of the things we started exploring pretty quickly was pet meds. What's interesting about pet medicine is that everybody needs it, right? Every responsible dog owner is going to have a relationship with a vet and almost all of them will have some sort of maintenance drug at some point in the dog's life or other drugs may be required. It's

something that we thought would resonate with all of our pet owners, something that could add value for everybody. By doing this we create value for dog owners who register their AKC puppy. Specifically, right now, when you register a dog you get a free month of flea and tick. We have other manufacturers that are very interested in working with our pharmacy partner to do the same sort of introductory offers along with registration. The other part of this is to support breeders and dog owners. One of our real goals was to make sure that we were a good source, a reliable source, at low cost, for the pet meds people need and we're really happy with what we have created.

I will go into some more detail later, but if we can save pet owners and breeders money, that's good for our world. That's good for all of the things that we're trying to accomplish.

There is also a piece here about improving the quality of life of dogs by, again, helping connect pet owners and breeders with lower cost meds. By lowering their costs they're more likely to comply with the regimens that they need to have their pets on.

Finally, and back to Dennis' initial challenge, you know, we found a way by working with a very well-established pet pharmacy that already worked at that point with Walmart, Tractor Supply, PetSmart and some other big brands to be our pharmacy. We were able to come up with a cost-effective way to drive some revenue to AKC that we could then apply to all of our programs, to all of the things that we care about, whether it's to a charitable affiliate or an AKC program like Government Relations or Education that are so important to our mission.

I know that you all have a choice. Almost everybody in this room or at least your co-owner or close friends spend money on pet meds. Some of you spend a lot of money on pet meds, and you have a lots of choices. There are some great choices out there. You may be buying it from your veterinarian, you maybe going to Petco, PetSmart, Chewy. There's alot of great companies that are very reliable that can deliver this for you. But I want to challenge you today, you as a group of influencers, to take a look at what AKC is doing really closely. Because if AKC can deliver the same medicine at the same or better price with the same or better shipping, and the same or better reliability, why would you not want that money that's left over at the end go to the Museum or to CHF or to Government Relations or to all of the good things that AKC does? If you don't, that's okay. If you would rather that it go to private investment, private equity, Wall Street or really big corporations – because even if you're working with your local vet, we all know this, we have lots of vets in the room that will tell you this, 75 percent of specialty veterinary, is now owned by large corporations or private equity. In fact, I think the number is 15 to 20 percent of all vets now work for private equity or big corporations.

What I'm asking you to do today, and I'm going to give you a discount code to do it, is to give this a try, and then get your friends to give this a try. Because that's our biggest challenge right now: Driving Awareness. We were able to get this out the door really quickly.

We did about three months of work on how and who. We looked at some different providers – which pharmacy we wanted to work with – and then in about 90 days, 90 days of actual project work, we went from contract to launch last December. Now back to the part about saving money. I'm going to read this quote to you that is on the screen right now. This is a quote from one of our AKC employees who

started to use the service in December. She wrote: "I currently pay \$69.75 for a two-month supply of Gabapentin, 50-milligram tablets from Wedgewood Pharmacy, my vet's online pharmacy, this amounted to 58 cents per tablet. My cat needs a tablet twice a day costing \$1.16 daily. However, with AKC Rx they offer a one hundred milligram capsule for 9 cents each with autoship. The cost dropped to \$9.65 for a two-month supply, saving over \$60." Now I don't know if her cat needs to take that for a year, but that's \$360 savings a year! We know AKC Pet Rx is delivering savings. We have lots of similar testimonials from our early adopters.

The next thing we want to talk about though is how we're communicating. We really just started doing some of the marketing, but we have developed regular everyday discounts for breeders. All breeders get five percent off every day. We just launched, thanks to the great work of the marketing team, organic and paid media campaigns, and we're adding more product.

The best part is you all get a discount. Everybody gets something here. I think somebody asked me for this yesterday when you were talking about DNA, that we need to give all of the Delegates a discount. We did it on Rx. You're not supposed to take any photographs in this room so, I know that discount code slide begs you to take a photo. I wasn't trying to get you in trouble I swear. I have some copies at the back of the room. I'll also give this to a couple of Delegates and make sure it is posted to the Delegate e-list.

Back to my pitch earlier. I think you'll find that if you've ever done any online pet meds, or even if you have always just bought them from your vet, our pet meds website and ordering process are easy. You can give this a try. The process that our pharmacy and that we've developed with them, is very intuitive, very simple. It's very easy, if you have a prescription, even if you don't have a physical prescription in your hand. If you go to the AKC website, AKC.org, look at the top of the page for AKC Rx. Or you can go directly to [AKCPetRx.com](https://www.akcpetrx.com) to find the drug you want to buy. If it is a prescription medication, the site will ask you for your vet's information. We have a great lookup service even if you're not exactly sure of your vet's address off the top of your head, you should be able to find your vet on the website and then you'll go in, put your information in. Then our pharmacy does all of the work to get your vet to approve that prescription, if needed. And of course, with over-the-counter drugs, those are all added right in your cart, and you purchase them. Their success rate of getting vets to respond to the request for prescription is about 80 percent. Our pharmacy is very good at this. They have excellent customer service. AKC prides itself in customer service, and one of the big things that we expected from our pharmacy partner was excellent customer service. And I think you'll find that they do a great job. Also, I know a couple of you do everything by phone. You'll need to go to the website or send me an email to get the phone number. You can do all you AKC Rx purchasing right over the phone if you prefer.

I just want to thank a few people. Again, I mentioned how quickly we executed this, going from idea to something that's out there for people to use very quickly. It takes a huge cross functional team to get something like this done, especially Registration and Marketing. Marketing is now especially crucial to this service just to drive awareness. Also, big thanks go out to IT and Legal. Yes. Legal was crucial. This is a scary thing, you know, we're going to sell drugs, and there were lots the questions...like, can we do this? I have to say Legal was very diligent and also crucial was our Business Intelligence

department, led by Seth. But I want to give a special shout out to C.T. Giese and Sierra Ziegler, who were the co-principals on this. Sierra works in Marketing. C.T. works in Registration. They really made this thing happen.

If you have any questions – if you go to the website and we don't have the drug you want, or if you don't like the price, anything: send me an email. Any issues at all. We need your help in making this a success. I appreciate your time today.

The Chair called on Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota to present medallions to two additional AKC Delegates who have served 25 years.

Mr. Carota: Good morning again. We will now honor two Delegates who have achieved 25 years of service but were not previously recognized. The medallion represents these Delegates meritorious and long-term contributions to the Sport:

- Dr. Suzanne H. Hampton, Kennel Club of Northern New Jersey
- Marcy L. Zingler, Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno

The Chair called on Gail LaBerge, Delegate from the Atlanta Obedience Club to provide an update on the AKC PAC, who spoke as follows:

First, I want to thank all of those who participated in our sweepstakes, that cumulated in the giving of the sweepstake prizes in Orlando. I have to say that I sold the winning ticket at a Field Trial. The woman forgot she had bought the ticket from me in October, and when she got the phone call, she didn't know what they were talking about. Marietta Singleton. A lot of you already know Marietta. It was kind of humorous when she finally figured out what she won. I'm going to read something that is on a card that's out at Sheila's Legislation table. The American Kennel Club Political Action Committee (PAC) works with AKC Government Relations to protect the rights of all dog owners promote responsible dog ownership and ensure that laws governing dog ownership and breeding are reasonable, enforceable, and nondiscriminatory. If you were in Legislative Caucus this morning, you heard some horror stories and we're facing that all over the country. Now, you know I'm always going to ask you for money because the PAC can't do what we do to work with GR and support them without your money, but also want your thoughts on some issues. These cards are out front. You can scan it, or you take it with you, we do ask kindly that you answer the survey by April 1st. We really want your opinion and your thoughts. So please go by and get this or go by and scan the QR code so that we know what you think of what we're asking you. Thank everyone.

The Chair called on Mark Dunn for a presentation on AKC Reunite, who spoke as follows:

Dennis said I'm back by popular demand. By next March, I'm going to learn how to juggle. Instead of juggling today I'm going to present something I'm really proud to be a part of and that's AKC Reunite.

AKC Reunite has a great Board and a great Chair in Rita Biddle, and Ann Wallin is our Vice Chair. I'm the Managing Director and Ted Phillips is our Secretary. The rest of the Board is made up of Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Karolynne McAteer and Dan Smyth. It's a great Board and AKC Reunite is a really important part of the AKC and all we do. Especially how we interact with pet owners and also what I

was talking about earlier: driving significant revenue that we then can use to do good things in the world of dogs.

The staff of AKC Reunite, who are not AKC Staff, they work for the affiliate. That's why I'm doing this presentation today. People you may know, Tom Sharp, who is the President and CEO. Tom is doing a fantastic job with Reunite, and his VP of Sales & Marketing is Dallas Harsa; and Carol Gambrell runs the Call Center. It's a great team, and they do some amazing work, by the numbers if you think about what they accomplish. They have over 6 million microchips that are out there in the world and over ten million enrollments now. They've helped reunite over 690,000 pets with their owners, and every month AKC Reunite has about 29,000 contacts with customers. A lot of those are people changing their address. You know, one of the great benefits of AKC Reunite is the lifetime benefit. A lot of their competitors are one-year services, or they're just internet only services. There's really no service. There's no Call Center. When you work with AKC Reunite as a pet owner or breeder, and you're going to be on vacation here for two weeks, you're going down there for a month, and you're a snowbird and you're going to go to Florida for two months, you can call AKC Reunite and change your address as often as you need to so that you get the best protection if your pet goes missing.

One of the things I know this Delegate Body likes to talk a lot about and where Reunite comes up the most is in giving back. Today, since 2002, Reunite has donated more than \$14 million to the causes that we care most about; \$4.8 million has gone to pet-related disaster preparedness and relief grants; 4,535 microchip scanners have been donated to shelters; and one of my favorite things, over \$4.4 million has gone to 592 Adopt a K-9 Cop grants. I want to give a shout out here to Chris Sweetwood, who is not on the Reunite Board, but he is the ambassador for the Adopt a K-9 Cop program, and has really helped us take this idea of collaborating with police agencies around the country and helping them, connecting them with clubs to get them a dog, and we're really, really happy as to how much we've able to get them. Most of that \$4.4 million has just been in the last two years.

\$4.4 million given to help police get dogs, but over 75 AKC clubs have played a role in this and in those matching grants, which is amazing. Tom Sharp and the Board wanted to give special thanks to these five clubs: the Baytown Kennel Club, Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Lost Coast Kennel Club, Trap Falls Kennel Club and the United States Police K-9 Association for donating multiple grants over the last couple of years.

Also, as far as trailers, you've all seen the map, and we always talk about this at every Parent Clubs Committee meeting. In fact, there was a question yesterday in one of the committee meetings about this map. It does exist on the AKC Reunite website. You can actually click on the pins, and it will drop you into the county or city where the trailer is stationed and from there you can usually also find out what club was involved.

Finally, I just want to finish up, one of the really great things about Reunite is it's something that resonates across the spectrum of pet ownership. Reunite is a way that AKC has authority outside our base around breeding and exhibiting purebred dogs. If we can get pet people, any kind of pet they have, even it may be an iguana or turtle, there's all sorts of pets that we can put a microchip in, but having relationships with them, and now, thanks to the work of Brandi Hunter Munden and the AKC PR

Department, we are getting some really great media opportunities. Tom Sharp has been on quite a few television broadcasts, doing news talking about this issue which isn't always a happy thing, right? Someone's Frenchie has been stolen, again. But AKC Reunite is becoming the go-to source regarding how to handle those news stories and to give pet owners good advice about how to get back their pet, and what they need to do upfront to get their pet back. Again, I wish Tom was here to speak to you himself today, because he's done an amazing job, but then again, go to the AKC Reunite website. I think you'll find a clip or two. Thank you.

The Chair informed the Delegates that the Tuesday, June 11, 2024, Delegate Meeting will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel. More detailed information will be emailed as soon as it becomes available.

The Chair reminded the Board to convene immediately following the meeting across the hall in the Salem/Warren room. Lunch was served following the meeting's conclusion.

Delegates did not have to return the badges; new badges will be printed at every meeting. Delegates were given an option to recycle the lanyards.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Harvey Wooding, Delegate for the San Mateo Kennel Club, congratulated the AKC Board, AKC Staff – Government Relations, Public Relations, AKC Media with AKC.tv; the Delegate Body and AKC PAC on the progress made changing the narrative in comparison to the animal rights people. He specifically applauded Gail LaBerge's on the ground legislative accomplishments in Georgia making a day in May purebred dog day.

Jan Ritchie Gladstone, Delegate from the St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association, praised the efforts AKC has made with the Meet the Breeds® events, and the alternative vision of having a regional competition for NOHS. She encouraged AKC to continue to explore programs for breeders as they are the backbone of the organization.

Sylvia Arrowwood, Delegate from the Myrtle Beach Kennel Club and Coordinator for the next issue of *Perspectives*, asked the Delegates to submit to the newsletter and offered assistance if needed.

Joyce Rowland, Delegate from the Australian Cattle Dog Club of America, advised the Delegates that Purina Farms is either considering or has decided to eliminate their Herding program activities after 2025. Since many of the Parent Clubs hold either their annual National Specialty or rotate frequently to Purina Farms, she asked for Herding breed Parent Clubs and AKC support in reviewing this change.

Duane Butherus, Delegate from the Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club, announced that Dr. Charles Garvin stepped down as the Chair of the AKC Canine Health Foundation after eight years. Under Dr. Garvin's competent leadership, the foundation is in an excellent financial position, with an efficient staff, and a stellar scientific reputation.

Marc Crews, Delegate from the Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa, asked the Board to evaluate approving show sites and locations by using an actual distance measured by a map program rather than the distance of “as the crow flies.” His club in Tulsa, Oklahoma experienced a conflict with a show in Southern Illinois and has learned that other clubs have had similar issues.

Larry Sorenson, Delegate from the Dachshund Club of America, gave a farewell and thank you to the Delegate Body and AKC Staff at his last meeting as an AKC Delegate.

Connie Butherus, Delegate from the Afghan Hound Club of America, spoke on behalf of the Parent Clubs Committee regarding the Pat Laurans Difference Maker Award. This quarter’s recipients in recognition of excellence in the Sport were Anne Bowes, David Helming and Claudia Orlandi.

Katie Campbell, Delegate from the Basenji Club of America, relayed a message from her club in response to the Secretary’s Pages. They noticed a real shift at dog shows with the attitude and the comfort of the families and guests attending because those people who behave poorly are now getting reprimanded for it. She thanked the Dog Show Rules Committee for bringing the sportsmanship back to the Sport.

Sally Fineburg, Delegate from the Hatboro Dog Club, reported that the AKC and the Juniors Committee are actively seeking Junior breeder mentors in two ways:

1. Juniors who are already active in breeding that will be willing to advise and mentor other Juniors.
2. Breeders of all ages willing to advise and mentor Juniors who are interested in breeding.

Clubs should send volunteer names to juniors@akc.org.

Kelly Lease, Delegate from the Clumber Spaniel Club of America, gave condolences in the passing of Dr. Bryant Freeman, on February 3, 2024, at the age of 92. He was a founding member of the Clumber Spaniel Club of America, her mentor, a scholar, a wonderful man and dog person.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

(One sharp rap of the gavel.)

(Proceedings concluded at 11:24 a.m. ET.)

The opinions expressed by the speakers may not necessarily reflect those of The American Kennel Club.