

**American Kennel Club, Inc.  
MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AKC Offices at 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY  
August 12-13, 2019**

The Board convened on Monday, August 12, 2019 at 8:38 a.m.

All Directors were present; also present was the Executive Secretary.

The July 2019 Board minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were reviewed. Upon a motion by Ms. Biddle, seconded by Mr. Powers, the July 2019 minutes were approved unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Board Action Items**

Mr. Sprung reviewed Action Items and reported on Staff initiatives.

**Legal Status Report**

The Board reviewed a status report on pending litigation and other Legal activities for the month of July, 2019.

**FINANCE**

Joseph Baffuto, CFO, presented AKC's unaudited financial results for the period ended June 30, 2019. Total year to date revenues of \$38.4 million were less than 1% under budget, while also being \$1.2 million, or 3.3% greater than 2018. Dog Registrations' volume of greater than 308,000 was 3% below budget, but 2% higher than 2018, along with Total Litters processed of more than 131,500 being 2% below budget and 3% higher than last year. Total operating expenses of \$35.9 million were \$2.4 million or 6.2% below budget, as well as being 1.4% lower than 2018. YTD Operating income of \$2.5 million is significantly exceeding the 2019 budget year to date and is well above 2018's operating income of \$829,000 during the same six-month period in 2018. Additionally, our investment portfolio, with a positive performance in June, now reflects year to date unrealized gains on investments totaling \$12.0 million dollars.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Parent Club request to retire "Tabitha" (Labrador Retriever)**

The Board reviewed a request from the Labrador Retriever Club to retire the "Tabitha" kennel name for Labrador Retrievers. The Labrador Retriever Club wishes to retire the kennel name "Tabitha" to honor the memory of Carol Heidl, who was a longtime friend to the breed and was a conscientious breeder who had a strong influence in preserving the ongoing integrity of the Labrador Retriever. The Labrador Retriever Club wishes to recognize Carol Heidl's longstanding dedication and significant contribution by retiring the well-known kennel name "Tabitha"

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to retire the “Tabitha” kennel name for Labrador Retrievers. The retirement of “Tabitha” will be published in the AKC Gazette and a letter of acknowledgement sent to the parent club.

#### **Appointment of Trial Board Chairs**

Under the AKC Bylaws, Article XIII, Section 1, the AKC Board is to appoint Trial Boards and an Appeal Trial Board from time to time.

Following a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the appointment of Ms. Eugenia Hunter, ESQ. as Trial Board Chair.

#### **Norwegian Buhund Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the Norwegian Buhund standard submitted by the Norwegian Buhund Club of America (NBCA). The current standard was approved February 9, 1991. The NBCA has submitted a revision to the dewclaw description for clarification.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed revision. The NBCA will ballot its membership in accordance with the NBCA Constitution and By-laws.

#### **American English Coonhound Stud Book**

The American English Coonhound Stud Book is scheduled to close July 1, 2020. Currently, AKC will accept dogs registered with United Kennel Club and Professional Kennel Club. The Board reviewed a request, from the National American English Coonhound Association, to keep Stud Book open until July 1, 2030.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

#### **AKC Communication Q2 Report**

The Board reviewed a report from the AKC Communications department highlighting media coverage totals and activities highlights for the second quarter of 2019.

##### **TOTALS:**

|                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Clips Evaluated in Q2:</b>  | 4,375          |
| <b>Q2 Audience Reached:</b>    | 6,546,939,373  |
| <b>Publicity Value for Q2:</b> | \$6,935,261.59 |

\*Numbers and values provided by media monitoring platform Cision

#### **Select Media Coverage:**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Media Outlet</b>      | <b>Subject</b>        | <b>Audience</b> |
|-------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 4/24/19     | <i>FOX &amp; Friends</i> | Agility Premier Cup   | 1,760,769       |
| 5/14/19     | <i>am New York</i>       | Sgt. Stubby unveiling | 460,190         |
| 6/7/19      | <i>MarketWatch</i>       | AKC PuppyVisor        | 16,341,607      |
| 6/11/19     | <i>Pet Product News</i>  | AKC PuppyVisor        | 42,468          |

**AKC Education Q2 Report**

Ashley Jacot, Director, Education, participated in this portion of the meeting. The Board reviewed a report of the work completed by the Education Department in Quarter 2 of 2019.

The AKC Canine College completed seven courses and exams and gathered more than 3,000 assets for courses that will be developed through 2020. Public Education launched one new successful program, while continuously growing longstanding programs and providing additional resources to Clubs. In Quarter 2, Canine College is currently working on six special projects, including courses on Conformation for Beginners, Safe Handling and Scent Work.

**Public Education**

- In Quarter 1, AKC Public Education continued to grow existing programs. 11 Clubs completed the AKC Patch Program in Quarter 2.
- 81 Canine Ambassadors were added to our registry, bringing the total number to 187. A video was created to advertise the AKC Canine Ambassador program to Clubs and the public.
- An advanced version of AKC Canine Clubs launched in Quarter 2. AKC Canine Clubs-Community Dogs is a collaboration between AKC Public Education and Princeton University student Camden Olson. This club is for students in grades 6-12 and focuses on teaching children about dog training and behavior. Camden's research found that children that engage in this program experience a significant improvement in executive functioning skills, allowing for improved academic performance and behavior.
- AKC Public Education now maintains three Facebook groups. Learn about Dogs with AKC Education is marketed towards Club members and the general dog owning public. The purpose of this group is to share about our programs, encourage discussion and to share information that is of interest to dog owners.
- Facebook groups are also available for Public Education Coordinators and Canine Ambassadors, providing support and resources for each. We currently have 418 members across all three groups.

**AKC Education Webinar Series**

The AKC Education Webinar Series continues to serve our club members. Three webinars were aired through the AKC Education Webinar Series. These webinars served 330 club members and garnered an average rating of 4.4 out of 5.

In Quarter 2, the following three webinars aired.

- Archiving
- Juniors
- Digital Marketing 101

**AKC Government Relations Q2 Report**

Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations (GR), participated in this portion of the meeting. The Board reviewed a memo which provided information on the activities of the Government Relations Department. This memo provided an update on the second quarter of 2019 and a status update on current department activity, major projects, significant legislative issues and accomplishments

Legislative/Regulatory Tracking: As of July 16, 2019, Congress and legislatures in 8 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico are in session. Forty-two states have adjourned for the year. The AKC GR team is currently monitoring more than 2,150 legislative bills that could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the American Kennel Club.

In the second quarter, AKC GR published 44 legislative alerts online and through geo-targeted emails to impacted constituents and social media. The GR team provided written or in-person testimony or comments, recommendations, or alternatives for the majority of these measures as well.

AKC GR is also monitoring approximately 775 active proposed regulation changes at the state and federal level, with some 450 actively pending.

National Legislative Conference: The AKC GR team held a two-day national conference in Alexandria, VA and a celebration of purebred dogs at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC on June 23-24.

#### Canines at the Capitol/ State Lobby Days.

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Canines at the Capitol event in Raleigh, North Carolina, on April 10 featured educational and policy information and the opportunity for legislators and staff to meet a dozen different dogs, watch trick dog and agility demos on the lawn of the state legislature. The annual event has continuously been one of the most popular events at the NC state legislature.

Together with the Maine Federation, AKC staff provided resources for and participated in a lobby day at the State capitol in Augusta, Maine.

AKC GR completed planning for the first-ever California Canines at the Capitol event, but inclement weather forced rescheduling. The event is rescheduled for in September in Sacramento.

AKC GR provided planning, talking points, legislative language, material resources and grant assistance to the NJFDC for a lobby/educational day in Trenton, NJ in June.

Auburn University Vet School/Theriogenology Foundation. Staff participated in the 2019 Caine Breeder Excellence Seminar, providing information on the increasing risk of disease transmission associated with imported and transported “rescue” dogs.

Regulatory Resources Center Launched. A new online regulatory resources center (dedicated to implementing regulations —the process of writing, implementing & enforcement of rules after legislation is enacted) was launched. The resource is a new tab on the *akcgr.org* legislative action center. This expands and highlights AKC GR engagement and assistance beyond legislation to the crucial regulatory process. This is important because significant changes to how laws are interpreted or enforced take place through the regulatory process. The regulatory center is designed to educate about the crucial impact that implementing regulations and regulatory changes have on how dog laws are interpreted or enforced. The center provides updates, alerts and information on how to address proposed regulatory changes impacting dog ownership that take place outside or after the legislative process is completed. Information on federal regulations and AKC’s comments on regulatory proposals is now currently available online. The next phase of this project involves providing the same information for relevant state regulations.

Op Eds/external articles published: Albany Times Union, May 22, 2019, *Let Consumer Protection Protect Pets*. This op-ed was published to educate policymakers and the public about AKC’s concerns about a proposed ban on the sale of purpose-bred pets at retail outlets in the state. Among the key points made is that such sales are currently subject to consumer protection laws (puppy lemon laws) which the ban would abolish. The NY Assembly adjourned without further action on the problematic proposal.

Pets as Air Cargo. Sheila Goffe joined the Delta Airlines Animal Advisory Board and is participating in industry meetings working on solutions to improve access and assure safety of air travel for pets as cargo.

### **Parent Club Name Change**

The Board was advised that the Parent Club name for the Plott Hound will be updated to be consistent with the name of the breed. The Board approved the change of the Breed name to Plott Hound earlier in the year.

The name of the Parent Club is now Plott Hound Association of America.

### **COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE**

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

### **Westminster – Special Event Obedience Trial**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow the Westminster Kennel Club to hold a Special Event Obedience Trial on a one-time pilot basis in conjunction with their February 2020 show.

Following a motion by Ms. McAteer, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to allow the Westminster Kennel Club to hold a Special Event Obedience Trial on a one-time pilot basis in conjunction with their February 2020 show. The continuance of this type of obedience trial will be assessed as a regulation change for all clubs following the Westminster trial.

This is a one-time exception to the Obedience Regulations.

### **Draft Dog Titles**

The Board Discussed a request from the Scottish Terrier Club of America (STCA) to have their breed become eligible to earn a Draft Dog (DD) title. The Board requested that staff obtain the input of drafting breed Parent Clubs regarding non-drafting breeds earning such titles. All clubs were appreciative the AKC sought their input. While the majority of clubs are not opposed to the STCA's request, the two in opposition were passionate and felt strongly about their position.

Those opposed strongly believe that the title should only be available for breeds whose function includes drafting. This is consistent with the principal behind Performance Events, which is, the event is a test of the dog's ability to perform its function.

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED to deny the request from the Scottish Terrier Club of America. The motion passed with Directors Biddle, Carota, Cruz, Davies, Feeney, Garvin, Hamblin, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Tatro, Wallin voting in favor of denying the request, and Director Sweetwood voting against.

Scottish Terriers may still compete at drafting events that are open to all breeds but are not eligible to earn an AKC Title.

### **Retriever Hunting Tests – Increasing Capacity in MH Tests**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to make three changes to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC® Hunting Tests for Retrievers*. Two of the changes will increase the capacity of the Master Hunter level test and one change is intended to result in a more efficiently run event.

(1) Increase the entry limit in the Master level test by approximately 10%, (2) limit the scratch fee for dogs that scratch prior to closing to approximately the credit card processing fee incurred by the club or entry service, and (3) request that individuals that handle more than 12 dogs in a hunting test bring along assistance to get the dogs to the proper test and get them to the line in a timely manner.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **Hunt Test Titles - Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen**

The Board reviewed a request from the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America (GBGVCA) asking for the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen breed be eligible to apply for AKC Hunting Hound (HH, SHH, MHH, MHE) titles after having successfully passed a hunt test conducted by the Basset Hound Club of America. AKC currently recognizes these titles for Bassets, Dachshunds, and PBGVs through the AKC Parent Club Title Recognition Program.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **AKC Temperament Test**

Dr. Mary Burch, Director, AKC Family Dog Programs, participated in this portion of the meeting.

In January 2019, the Board approved the idea of an AKC administered temperament test suitable for all breeds.

While the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test assesses trained behaviors related to the dog's manners, the AKC Temperament Test (ATT) will assess the dog's reaction to stimuli. These stimuli will be in the following six categories: Social, Auditory, Visual, Tactile (touch), Proprioceptive (motion) and Unexpected Stimulus.

The ATT will test for fear, shyness, inability to recover, and lack of cooperation. Desired traits are that the dog will be emotionally stable, inquisitive, appropriately social for its breed, biddable, and recovers from a startling situation in a reasonable amount of time. Dogs who show signs of aggression will not pass the test.

The ATT is a pass-fail test. In a test, a dog must pass 3 test items in each of the six categories (total of 18 test items). These are selected from a list of 24 possible test items.

An AKC club licensed to hold any type of event may apply to hold an ATT test. The host club is responsible for the administration of the test. An ATT test may be held as a stand-alone event.. An event application fee will apply. Tests will appear on the Event Search website. Clubs at their option may close entries prior to the event or may allow day of event entries. An entry limit per event may be determined by the club.

Clubs may offer the test twice on the same day (morning/afternoon) or on two consecutive days. When tests are given back-to-back (same day or next day), the order of test items must be changed, one of the three test items within each category must change, and the test layout should be as different as possible from the previous test.

Handlers may talk to and praise the dog during the test, although not excessively. Food or toys may not be used in the test, either as a reward or a lure. Dogs who do not pass the test may retest when ready.

Dogs must be at least 1-year old and must be registered or listed with the AKC prior to taking the test.

### Earning the ATT Suffix Title

The dog must pass the test two times under two different evaluators to qualify for the ATT suffix title. The owner of the dog is responsible for maintaining an AKC official title application form, which the evaluator signs when a dog passes the test. The owner then applies for the title and pays a title application fee.

On September 3, 2019 individuals may start to apply to be evaluators. An approved ATT evaluator must conduct and score the test. Initially, only AKC obedience judges, AKC rally judges, and CGC Evaluators are eligible to be the evaluators for ATT tests. Interested individuals must apply, complete a series of educational activities related to temperament testing and they must pass an online test that will be administered through AKC Canine College. The educational activities will include: 1) watch a video of the ATT in action, 2) watch a webinar on "How to Assemble an ATT test kit", 3) read the ATT Evaluator Guide, 4) review a breed temperament guide and 5) watch a webinar on the ATT that includes how to score the test.

Clubs may begin applying to hold events on October 1, 2019 and Clubs may begin holding events on November 1, 2019.

### **Hydro Dash - A New Activity Offered by North American Diving Dogs**

The Board was presented with a memo to inform them that North American Diving Dogs (NADD) will be adding a new activity called Hydro Dash. NADD's announcement about Hydro Dash could be made as early as October. As part of AKC's association with NADD, Hydro Dash will become a new activity in AKC's title recognition program.

### **CONFORMATION**

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

Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support; Alan Slay, Director, Event Programs; and Heidi Spaeth, Manager, Dog Show Rules & Programs, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

### **Disqualification by Event Committee Rules Applying to Dog Shows**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to amend Chapter 11, Section 8-A of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* to allow disqualification for aggression by an event committee without an injury.

Currently the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 11, Section 8-A indicates that dogs that are aggressive on the show grounds must have caused an injury for an event committee to consider disqualifying the dog. Often it is the heroic behavior of an owner or bystander that prevents the situation from resulting in an injury. In situations where a dog attacked and is believed to be a hazard, but did not cause an injury, the rule does not provide the disqualification option to the event committee.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve modification of *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 8-A* to delete the words "resulting in an injury" from the last paragraph to allow event committees to disqualify dogs that are determined to have been aggressive at an event and that the committee believes is a hazard to people or dogs without the dog having caused an injury.

*Last paragraph to read:*

Any dog, that in the opinion of the Event Committee attacks a person or dog at an AKC event and is believed by that Event Committee to present a hazard to persons or other dogs, shall be disqualified by the Event Committee pursuant to this section, a report shall be filed with the Executive Secretary of The American Kennel Club. The disqualified dog may not again compete at any AKC event nor be on the grounds of an AKC event unless and until, following application for reinstatement by the owner to the American Kennel Club, the owner receives official notification in writing from the AKC that the dog's eligibility has been reinstated.

The rule change will be read at the September Delegates meeting for a VOTE at the December Delegates meeting.

### **Match Regulations Update**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to update the Match Regulations to allow clubs the option of not printing the date of the match and location on the face of the ribbon. Currently the Match Regulations require Plan A and Plan OA matches to include the date of the match and the location of the match on the face of all ribbons. In December 2018, the AKC amended the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, giving clubs the option of not printing the date of the show and location of the show on the face of regular and non-regular class placement ribbons. This will make the Match Regulations consistent with the Rules Applying to Dog Shows.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **Rewording and Reorganization of Chapter 14 Sections 3, 4 and 6 of The Rules Applying to Dog Shows**

The Board reviewed a request from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to reword Chapter 14, Sections 3, 4 and 6 of *The Rules Applying to Dog Shows* renaming as Sections 1, 2 and 3 respectively; and in addition, a recommendation to add new section to address a judge's authority on conditions of class other than color, to be inserted as Section 4.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **Event Service Fees - Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 2**

The Board reviewed a recommendation by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to move Chapter 11, Section 2 of *The Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which addresses Event Fees, to Chapter 17 as a new Section 3 with revisions to the italicized section.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **Show Secretaries - Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 9, Section 2**

*The Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 9 Section 2, addresses who may apply to the American Kennel Club (AKC®) to act as a Show Secretary, and any limitations imposed upon those approved.

Staff received a request from AKC Board member Ms. Patricia Cruz to review Chapter 9 Section 2 with respect to allowing an individual to act as Show Secretary for events held on the same day and same site held by different clubs.

Currently, Chapter 9 Section 2 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* states that Show Secretaries may be approved to service an unlimited number of specialty shows, but will only be approved to act as Show Secretary for the show or shows of one group or one all-breed club in a calendar year. This Section was recently modified by the Delegate body at its December 2018 meeting where it voted in favor to approve the Delegate Dog Show Committee's recommendation to convert the previous italicized portion of this section into the rule, as well as modifying language for clarity.

As the number of multiple events on the same day has expanded with the ability of clubs to hold two all-breed shows, two group shows, or an all-breed and a group show in one day, corresponding reasonable requests have been received for the AKC to modify the limitations for Show Secretaries.

Staff recommends that the Board approve a modification to **Chapter 9 Section 2** of *the Rules Applying to Dog Shows* to allow individuals to act as a Show Secretary for only one all-breed or group club and any additional group or all-breed show held on the same day and site of the club.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **Expanded Mentored Conformation Event Option for Local Specialty Clubs**

Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting.

The Board reviewed a recommendation to expand the eligibility for the mentored conformation event option to include newly accredited local Specialty clubs and existing licensed local Specialty clubs, provided the club has significant member experience in various capacities of holding shows. This is part of our ongoing efforts to simplify procedures by minimizing bureaucracy in numerous areas.

With mentored events, points and titles can be earned. An AKC Field Rep or AKC designated official from a mentoring club will be available to assist the club in planning and conducting the event. A report including details of the mentored event is submitted to Club Relations. If the results are acceptable, clubs are officially licensed to hold that type of competition. For an existing licensed specialty club which, at this time does not hold conformation but does hold AKC licensed events to qualify to hold a mentored conformation show, it must have at least 5 club members with extensive experience in the sport. For new local specialty clubs, approximately 50% of club members must have extensive member experience in the sport. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **Roy Jones Dog Shows**

The Board was provided information regarding Roy Jones Dog Shows (RJDS). RJDS issued a letter to the clubs they currently superintend for, indicating they would work shows through January 2020. RJDS has been in existence since the early 60's and has served various clubs for decades.

### **JUDGING OPERATIONS**

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

### **Judges Who Ring Steward**

The Board reviewed a request, from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee, to modify policy in the *Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges* to allow judges to steward at an event with a separate catalog from the event(s) they will officiate the same weekend/cluster.

Currently the guideline states: *If you are asked to steward, do so only after you have completed your entire judging assignment for the weekend/cluster.*

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **CLUBS**

Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting.

### **Delegates and Member Clubs**

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

**Report on Member Clubs Bylaws Approved in June and July 2019**

American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club (2000)

American Manchester Terrier Club (1938)

American Spaniel Club (1889)

Bell Vernon Kennel Association, Skagit County, WA (2015)

Chow Chow Club (1906)

Columbia Missouri Kennel Club, Columbia, MO (2008)

German Shepherd Dog Club of America (1913)

**Report on Newly Licensed Clubs Approved in June and July 2019**

Sonoran Desert Boston Terrier Club of Arizona, greater Maricopa, AZ (including communities north to Glendale, south to the Green Valley along Interstate 10), 24 total households, 18 local.

Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Club of Northern California, greater Vacaville, CA (including communities north to Colusa, south to San Jose, east to Placerville and west to San Francisco Bay), 24 total households, 21 local.

**COMPLIANCE**

David Roberts, Executive, Breeder Development; Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance; and Marcus Bach, Director, Investigations & Inspections participated by teleconference.

**Timeline to Pay Restitution**

The Board at its July 2019 meeting approved the addition of an Explanatory Note with respect to the payment of restitution in regard to disciplinary actions. The Explanatory Note states "Payment of restitution for damages shall be paid as a condition of any reinstatement of privileges, in addition to any other applicable conditions." language. The Board also asked for staff to prepare a proposed policy on the setting, payment and collection of restitution. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

**SPONSORSHIP, DIGITAL ADVERTISING, and AKC.TV**

Ron Furman, Director, AKC Sponsorship and Broadcasting and William Ellis, Broadcast Manager, AKC.TV participated in this portion of the meeting.

**AKC on ESPN**

In March 2019, AKC broadcasting, as part of its comprehensive programming distribution plan, approached ESPN, the leader in sports televised events, with the intent to interest ESPN in dog action sports organized and authenticated by the AKC. As an outcome to the AKC-led discussions, ESPN will program 6+ hours on Saturday 8/24 to highlight dog programming with featured events from the AKC.

AKC will produce or make available content / programming for 50 % + of the broadcast.

The AKC 2019 programming expansion plan was previously approved but did not include the ESPN Dog Day platform as it is an unbudgeted opportunity that has been developed to take advantage of market timing, the interest of a major distribution network and advancement of the 3-year AKCTV plan.

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

Following a motion by Ms. Cruz, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (Unanimously) to approve effective 8/12/2019 the new, unbudgeted investment of \$250,000 in 2019 to produce a minimum of 2 hours of AKC branded programming for distribution/use during AKC on ESPN Dog Day and in future syndication. The programming being produced is additive to the AKCTV content library and provides content for us on all AKC distribution platforms (current and in the future) while creating revenue for the AKC.

### **AKCTV Programming and Distribution:**

An update was provided on programming, viewership and traffic metrics for AKCTV, as well as a recap of sponsorships across all AKC digital properties as well as Corporate Sponsorship.

#### **Programming**

AKC DogCenter airs live on Tuesdays and Fridays at noon from the AKC Museum of the Dog. The show includes updates on the top dogs, feature stories, and AKC news.

Ask the Expert airs live, every Wednesday at noon. Ask the Expert answers viewers questions live via Facebook and covers topics such as health, training, grooming, and dog sports.

“Meet the Breed” breed documentaries reinforce AKC as the go-to resource for breed information with entertaining storytelling. 6 new episodes have been released to date so far in 2019. Six (6) of the top 10 most watched videos on demand on AKC.TV are the “AKC Meet the Breed” documentaries.

In 2019, AKC.TV will cover 34 live AKC dog events that include, conformation dog shows, national specialties, obedience, agility, and rally trials.

#### **Distribution**

AKC.TV is available on many platforms including Amazon Fire, Apple TV, Roku and on the AKC.TV website. In February 2019, mobile apps were launched for Apple IOS and Android. The Alltice platform launched August 1 and the Xumo platform will be available in the Fall of 2019.

Roku: 57% increase from Q3 and Q4 2018

Amazon Fire:40% increase from Q3 and Q4 2018

Apple: 817% increase from Q3 and Q4 2018

### **MARKETING**

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

Q2 2019 metrics were presented for AKC.org, Marketplace.akc.org, AKC marketing newsletters and AKC Social Media. An update was provided on initiatives to increase Ecommerce, AKC Puppy Pack and registration in cooperation with that department.

#### **AKC.org**

AKC.org traffic is extremely healthy. Positive site traffic growth is attributed to SEO improvements both in site structure and content, content strategy, and improved cross-channel collaboration  
Overall AKC.org traffic

- +24.4% YOY (9.3M vs. 7.4M sessions)
- +14.6% MOM (June vs. May 2019)

#### Marketplace.akc.org

The Marketing Dept. is working on a number of SEO improvements to reverse the month over month downward trend seen for Marketplace. AKC Marketplace Q2 Year Over Year (YOY) results remain strong and AKC Marketplace Listings & Opt-In Continue to Increase Steadily.

#### Newsletters:

Performance of AKC Marketing Newsletters Continue to Exceed Industry Benchmarks. AKC sent over 11 million newsletter emails in Q2.

#### AKC Social Media

Total Q2 AKC Social Media Followers Grew to 4.4 Million.

#### Ecommerce

Q1 2019 represents the first full quarter of AKC Shop's New Strategy and Results Were Outstanding. All AKC Shop Net Profit was up 144% Q1 2019 vs Q1 2018.

#### Registration Initiatives

Marketing is collaborating with numerous departments to increase breeder involvement and engagement with AKC across many customer types as well as working to improve outreach to owners of unregistered dogs.

#### Puppy Pack Season 1

AKC Launched the first Puppy Pack to great success. AKC pack followed the daily lives of 7 puppies, one from each of AKC's seven groups. 304 AKC Puppy Pack Posts Have Reached 10.5+ Million Unique Accounts. AKC Puppy Pack achievements include 4 puppies passed their S.T.A.R. Puppy Class, 1 earned a CGC title, 1 began herding training, 1 began agility training, 1 began drafting and 4 began conformation and have received multiple ribbons.

Puppy Pack Season 2 Launches in October of 2019.

### **CONSENT**

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

- Acceptable Collars and Leashes at Conformation Events
- Retriever Hunting Tests – The Master Amateur Hunter Title
- Weimaraner Club of America National Walking Gun Dog Championship
- Obedience Non-Regular Brace Class Eligibility
- Greyhound Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Lhasa Apso Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Parent Club Designation for Bolognese
- Parent Club Designation for Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka
- Boerboel Stud Book
- Miniature American Shepherd Stud Book
- Spanish Water Dog Stud Book
- Treeing Walker Coonhound Stud Book
- Delegate Approvals
- Wooding Resolution
- Del Deo Resolution

### **Acceptable Collars and Leashes at Conformation Events**

The Board VOTED to amend the current Board Policy on use of training collars at Conformation events so that acceptable collars and leashes are defined.

This revision is effective immediately:

#### **Training Collars**

Special training devices that are used to control and train dogs, including but not limited to, collars with prongs, electronic collars used with transmitters, muzzles and head collars may not be used on dogs at AKC events, except as allowed in the AKC Rules, Regulations, and policies.

The American Kennel Club recognizes that special training collars may be an effective and useful management device, when properly used, for controlling dogs that might be extremely active, difficult to control on a neck collar, or dog aggressive. These collars are also recognized as possibly useful for gaining control at the start of basic obedience training, essential education that dogs deserve and need.

There is a point at which owners should have sufficient control of their dogs to manage them on regular neck collars, without the use of special training collars. This is the point at which dogs are acceptable on the grounds of AKC competitive events and will have the opportunity to participate in those events.

All dogs must be presented on an acceptable collar and lead when competing at conformation dog shows. An acceptable collar and lead is defined as a single lead and collar combination utilized for the presentation of the dog. Examples of acceptable collars and leads include: slip collar plus lead (loop or snap), slide lead (i.e. resco), swivel lead, martingale (one piece), and martingale collar plus lead.

Special training devices and/or devices used to mask deficiencies in training, temperament or conformation are not acceptable and not permitted for use at conformation dog shows; examples include collars with prongs, electronic collars, muzzles, harnesses and head collars. The use of multiple acceptable collars or lead and collar combinations simultaneously is considered use of a special training device and therefore is not permitted.

#### **Retriever Hunting Tests – The Master Amateur Hunter Title**

The Board VOTED to amend *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers*, Chapter 2, to add a new Section 8 to award a dog that has passed the Master Amateur Invitational Hunting Test on three occasions the suffix title of Master Amateur Hunter (MAH).

Dogs that qualify more than three times will have their accomplishment recorded by a numeric designation behind the title.

This amendment is effective November 1, 2019.

Chapter 2. Section 8. Master Amateur Hunter Title (MAH)

New section

In order to be recorded a Master Amateur Hunter (MAH), a dog must pass the Master Amateur Invitational Hunting Test three times. Dogs passing the Master Amateur Invitational Test more than three times will have this accomplishment recorded by a numeric designation behind the title. For example, a dog passing the test six times will earn the title MAH6. The MAH title will be in addition to the MH title of a dog's pedigree. A higher level MAH title will supersede a previous MAH title.

The Master Amateur Retriever Club will notify the AKC Performance Events Department when a dog has qualified for the title. The Master Amateur Retriever Club has agreed to pay for the title application fee. Upon verification of the accomplishment, the title will be placed on the dog's record. The MAH is a suffix title, appearing after the dog's name. Once the title has been placed on a dog's record, it will appear on pedigrees and registration certificates.

### **Weimaraner Club of America National Walking Gun Dog Championship**

The Board VOTED to approve an amendment to *the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds* to add a new Section 20 to permit the Weimaraner Club of America the right to hold a National Walking Gun Dog Championship. The dog who wins the event would be awarded the title NWGDC.

**Chapter 14. Section 20.** A National Walking Gun Dog Championship for Weimaraners may be held not more than once in any calendar year. The stake must be held or sponsored by the Parent Club. The event shall be for dogs over six (6) months of age. The WCA may develop entry qualifications that exceed the AKC minimum standard for a National Championship. Dogs placing in this stake shall be credited with championship points in accord with the schedule for Field Championships and the winner shall be entitled to the designation "National Walking Gun Dog Champion of 20\_\_." (NWGDC)

This will be read at the September Delegate meeting for a vote at the December Delegate meeting.

### **Obedience Non-Regular Brace Class Eligibility**

The Board VOTED to amend Chapter 20, Section 5 of the Obedience Regulations to change the eligibility requirements for dogs participating in the Non-Regular Brace class in obedience, to allow any two dogs of a similar height to be entered as a brace in the class. The change will become effective September 4, 2019.

Section 5. Brace Class. The Brace class will be for two dogs (including dogs listed with AKC Canine Partners) of similar height at the withers that are eligible under these regulations and capable of performing the Novice exercises. The dogs need not be owned by the same person but will be handled by one handler. Dogs may be shown unattached or coupled (the coupling device will not be less than 6 inches in overall length). Whichever method is used will be continued throughout all exercises. A separate official entry form will be completed in full for each dog entered. Exercises, performances and judging will be as in the Novice class. The brace should work in unison at all times. Either or both dogs in a brace may be entered in another class or classes.

### **Greyhound Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to approve a proposed revision to the Greyhound standard to replace the size reference in the standard with height measurements instead of weight. The Greyhound Club of America (GCA) may ballot the membership in accordance with the GCA Constitution and By-laws.

Proposed change:

#### **Size:**

Dogs 28 to 30 inches;

Bitches 26 to 28 inches.

### **Lhasa Apso Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The American Lhasa Apso Club (ALAC) submitted the results of the ballot to its membership. ALAC balloted the membership in accordance with the club's Constitution and By-laws. The following results have been submitted:

#### **RESULTS**

Total number of Members Balloted: 223

Ballots Returned: 177

Valid Ballots: 177

Total Yes Ballots: 124 70.06%

Total No Ballots: 53 29.94%

The Board VOTED to approve the proposed revision with an effective date of October 1, 2019.

#### **The Lhasa Apso Standard:**

**General Appearance:** Reflecting his Tibetan heritage as an indoor sentinel on the Tibetan Plateau, north of the Himalayan Mountains, the Lhasa Apso is a small, sturdy, well-balanced rectangular dog of moderation possessing a level topline and a tail carried well over the back. There should be neither exaggeration of any body parts nor hint of massive bone or body. A distinguishing characteristic of the Lhasa Apso is its heavy, dense, double coat that is parted in the middle from head to tail. In addition, the Lhasa Apso has good headfall and well-feathered feet and legs as these features protected this small dog against extreme temperatures and the rough terrain of his native land.

A Lhasa Apso is subject to the same requirement of soundness recommended for all breeds. Structural faults are undesirable, regardless of whether or not such faults are specifically mentioned in the standard. Any deviation from the ideal described in the standard should be penalized to the extent of the deviation.

**Size:** Variable, ideally between 10 and 11 inches at the shoulder. Bitches may or may not be slightly smaller but should possess feminine characteristics which easily distinguish females from males.

**Head: Expression** - Alert, thoughtful, intelligent. Heavy head furnishings enhance the proper Lhasa expression with good fall over eyes, good whiskers, and beard. Full depth of dark pigmentation on eye rims and lips is essential to achieve the desired softness of expression. **Eyes** - Dark brown, almond shaped. Round full eyes and very small sunken eyes are undesirable. **Ears** - Pendant, set slightly above eye level and carried close to the cheeks, heavily feathered. **Skull** - Narrow, falling away behind the eyes in a marked degree, not quite flat, but not domed or apple-shaped. **Stop** - Moderate. **Muzzle** - Straight foreface of fair length with the length from tip of nose to eye to be roughly one-third the total length from nose to back of skull. A square muzzle is objectionable. **Nose** - Black. **Bite** - The preferred bite is either level or slightly undershot.

**Neck, Topline, Body: Neck** - Moderate in length, blending smoothly into the shoulders. **Body** - Rectangular when viewed in profile, with the length from point of shoulder to point of buttocks being longer than the height at withers. Chest of good depth extending to or slightly below the elbow. Prosternum well developed. Well ribbed up with the ribs extending well back towards hindquarters, strong loin, well-developed quarters and thighs. **Topline** - level from withers to croup, whether standing or moving. **Tail** - Well feathered and set sufficiently high to enable the

tail to be carried well over the back in a curl lying to the side; there may be a kink at the end. Low carriage of stern is a serious fault. This means that when the Lhasa is moving, the tail is carried well over the back. A dropped tail while standing is not to be penalized.

**Forequarters:** Shoulders - Well laid back. Elbows close to the body. Shoulder blade and upper arm are ideally equal in length (i.e., length from point of withers to point of shoulder and point of shoulder to point of elbow should be equal.) Viewed from the front, the rib cage is oval in shape. Legs - Heavily furnished with hair. The legs are straight from elbow to pastern. The vertical distance from the withers to the elbow equals the distance from the elbows to the ground. Pasterns - Strong, perpendicular. Dew claws - may be removed. Feet - Well feathered/heavily furnished, should be round and catlike, with good pads. The hair may be trimmed for neatness.

**Hindquarters:** Well-developed rear assembly. Angulation of hindquarters should be in balance with forequarters to provide equal reach and drive. Legs - Heavily furnished with hair. Hocks - Well let down, set slightly behind the point of buttocks, perpendicular to the ground and turn neither in nor out. Feet – Same as forefeet.

**Coat:** Double coated, heavy, straight, hard, dense, not woolly or silky, of good length.

**Color:** All colors equally acceptable.

**Gait:** The Lhasa Apso gait is smooth and effortless with good front reach and equally strong rear drive without any hint of wasted action. There is no tendency towards hackney, exaggerated lift or rolling. The rear legs reach under the body and push out well behind, carrying the body forward in balance with the front. Going away, the pads of the rear feet give evidence of good follow through, without exaggerated kickup. The legs move parallel coming and going with a tendency to converge to a centerline as the dog increases speed. The topline is level and the tail is carried well over the back and may drape to the side. A Lhasa is shown at its own natural speed, neither raced nor strung-up. It is unacceptable to reward a Lhasa that consistently moves with its tail down.

**Temperament/Character:** Alert and sensitive to their surroundings, Lhasas are usually gay and assertive but may be chary/alooft with strangers. Their regal attitude gives them an air of seriousness. The breed is extremely intelligent, charming and loyal.

#### **Parent Club Designation for Bolognese**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the American Bolognese Club (ABC) to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed which will also allow them to hold FSS Open Shows. The American Bolognese Club has an active membership participating in Companion Events and FSS Open Shows when available. The club provides regular updates on club activities and Board Meetings.

#### **Parent Club Designation for Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka Club of America (RTBCA) to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed which will also allow them to hold FSS Open Shows. The Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka Club of America has an active membership participating in Companion Events and FSS Open Shows when available. The club provides regular updates on club activities and Board Meetings.

#### **Boerboel Stud Book**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the American Boerboel Club (ABC) to keep the Stud Book open for the Breed. The Boerboel Stud Book was scheduled to close January 1, 2020. The Boerboel Stud Book remain open until January 1, 2025.

**Miniature American Shepherd Stud Book**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA (MASCUSA). to keep the Stud Book open for the Breed. Currently AKC will accept dogs registered with the MASCUSA Registry that reviews pedigrees from the Stock Dog Registry Services. The Miniature American Shepherd Stud Book will remain open until January 1, 2025.

**Spanish Water Dog Stud Book**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Spanish Water Dog Club of America (SWDCA) to keep the Stud Book Open for the Breed. Currently AKC will accept dogs registered with the United Kennel Club. The Spanish Water Dog Stud Book remain open until January 1, 2025.

**Treeing Walker Coonhound Stud Book**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the National Treeing Walker Coonhound Association (NTWCA) to keep the Stud Book open for the Breed. Currently AKC will accept dogs registered with United Kennel Club and Professional Kennel Club. The Treeing Walker Coonhound Stud Book remain open until January 1, 2030.

**Delegates Approved**

Mary Grace Buckwalter

To represent Belgian Sheepdog Club of America

Cynthia Meyer

To represent Lehigh Valley Kennel Club

Anne Midgarden, DVM

To represent Lima Kennel Club

Heather Reid

To represent English Toy Spaniel Club of America

Victor Whitaker

To represent Carolina Dog Training Club

**Wooding Resolution**

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF

THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Held on August twelfth, two thousand and nineteen,

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS,

**Harvey M. Wooding**

First joined the Delegate body as the Delegate from the Westminster Kennel Club on June ninth, two thousand and nine, and was elected to The American Kennel Club Board of Directors

on March twelfth, two thousand and thirteen, serving until July fifth, two thousand and nineteen; and,

WHEREAS, during his Board tenure, he served on various committees, such as the Board Appeals Committee, as well as serving as the Board liaison to the Dog Show Rules Committee, as a Board member and Chairman of AKC Reunite; and,

WHEREAS, as a tireless and effective advocate of canine health and well-being, he served as a Board member of The American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation and The Orthopedic Foundation for Animals, and has proved invaluable to The AKC Board of Directors as it addressed issues in the realm of canine health; and,

WHEREAS, as an AKC Delegate and Board Member, and as a member and officer of several AKC clubs, including The English Setter Association of America, the Parent Club of his beloved breed, he has provided forty-five years of dedicated service to our cherished Sport of Purebred Dogs; and,

WHEREAS, we are ever mindful of the substantial contributions he has made to the organization over the past six years; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this distinguished breeder, exhibitor, sportsman, gentleman, and friend;

NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Directors of The American Kennel Club extend to him their most sincere best wishes for the years ahead and their deep appreciation for his past and continuing dedicated service to The American Kennel Club.

---

William J. Feeney

AKC Chairman

**Del Deo Resolution**

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF  
THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Held on August twelfth, two thousand and nineteen,  
The following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS,

**Ralph Del Deo, Esq.**

Was first appointed Appeals Trial Board Chair on March tenth, nineteen hundred and seventy, and served The American Kennel Club and the Sport of Purebred Dogs in that capacity for more than forty-nine years; and,

WHEREAS, as Trial Board Chair he played an integral role in upholding the principals of good sportsmanship and fair play that form the foundation upon which our cherished institution rests; and,

WHEREAS, as Trial Board Chair he brought to bear his invaluable experience as the breeder and exhibitor of Best in Show champions; his many years as a distinguished judge of dogs at the nation's leading venues; and his long experience as a Delegate and dog-club member who served several clubs, including the Parent Club for his beloved Pointer breed, filling every role, in his own words, "from president to parking cars at shows"; and,

WHEREAS, his life experience as a U.S. Navy veteran of the Second World War, as a graduate of Princeton University and Rutgers Law School, and as senior partner in a prestigious law firm uniquely prepared him for the role of Trial Board Chair; and,

WHEREAS, we are ever mindful of the vital contributions he has made to The American Kennel Club and the Sport of Purebred Dogs; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this distinguished attorney, wise adjudicator, dedicated husband and father, Sportsman, and friend; and, NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club extend their most sincere best wishes for the years ahead and their deep appreciation for his dedicated service to the American Kennel Club.

---

William J. Feeney

AKC Chairman

**The Board adjourned at 5:38 p.m.**

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**The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.**

All Directors were present. Also present was the Executive Secretary.

### **COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events, participated in this portion of the meeting Carrie DeYoung, Director, Agility; and Pamela Manaton, Director of Obedience, Rally & Tracking, participated in this portion of the meeting via teleconference.

### **Agility – For Exhibition Only Runs & The Fix and Go On Option**

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve a recommendation to (1) allow dogs to run For Exhibition Only in the agility FAST and Time2Beat classes at the option of the host club, and (2) allow handlers, when their dogs perform an obstacle incorrectly, to “Fix and Go On” (immediately reattempt the obstacle) one time per course. “Fix and Go On” will be allowed at all agility trials. No dog will receive a qualifying score if they are running For Exhibition Only or use the Fix and Go On option. These changes will be done on a one-year pilot basis in order to give staff time to evaluate their impact.

These changes are effective January 1, 2020.

#### **For Exhibition Only -**

Chapter 1, Section 21. New last paragraph.

**For Exhibition Only.** (This is a pilot program) At the option of the club, a handler may choose to change their FAST or Time2Beat entry into a For Exhibition Only (FEO) run. The handler must notify the scribe and the judge as they enter the ring prior to the start of the run that they are doing an FEO run. The scribe sheet shall be marked “FEO”, no time “NT”, and “E” for an excused, non-qualifying run. Allowing FEO runs is at the option of the club. It must be stated in the premium and any pre-trial publications.

Chapter 5. This is a new section.

Section 7. **For Exhibition Only.** (This is a pilot program) For Exhibition Only (FEO) runs are allowed in FAST and Time2Beat classes at the option of the club. It must be stated in the premium and any pre-trial publications. If a team is running FEO, the handler may not use more than the standard course time for the chosen class. Time will be started by the Timer as soon as he handler starts their lead out. If the handler has not told the scribe and the judge prior to the start of the run that it is an FEO run, the judge will judge the run as a scored run and all regulations are in effect. In this case the judge will excuse the team for training in the ring as described in Chapter 4, Section 6.

When running FEO, the handler may use a toy to reward the dog. At no time may the toy leave the handler’s possession or be thrown, or they will be excused from the ring. No food, no toys that make noise and no balls that can roll away may be used. The handler may train any piece of equipment as many times as they would like. Handlers may touch equipment during the FEO run, which includes resetting the bars.

The judge shall not judge the dog’s run but will watch the run to ensure that the handler is not using harsh commands or corrections and that the run is being done safely. The judge will immediately whistle to excuse the team from the ring for any of these infractions. During FEO

runs, dogs may be excused or disqualified for menacing or aggressive behavior as in Chapter 1, Section 23. The judge and ring crew must remain in the ring during an FEO run.

#### For Fix and Go On –

Chapter 5. This is a new section.

Section 8. **Fix and Go On.** (This is a pilot program) At any time during a run the handler may immediately fix a single obstacle one time. The action shall be judged as a Mandatory Elimination, which shall be marked as an “F” on the scribe sheet, resulting in a non-qualifying score (NQ). The handler may go back up to two obstacles prior to the fix. If a jump bar (bar jump or single bar jump) is knocked, the handler may reset it, but the reset is limited to one jump bar. The dog may not be verbally or physically corrected for the error. Weave poles may be immediately re-attempted three times, but if the dog is brought back one or two obstacles prior to the weave poles, it will be considered the one time Fix and Go On attempt. Once handlers have used the one-time Fix and Go On option, they must immediately finish the course or exit the ring.

The judge shall not judge the dog’s run after the fix but will continue to watch the run to ensure that the handler is going on to complete the course correctly, is not using harsh commands or corrections and that the run is being done safely. The judge will immediately whistle to excuse the team from the ring for any of these infractions.

#### **Obedience Judging Assignments & Scheduling**

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve four (4) recommendations to amend the way obedience trial classes are scheduled, to improve the time it takes to complete judging assignments; reducing the burden of extended days for clubs, judges and exhibitors.

- 1) If after entries have closed, for the purpose of balancing the judging schedule among the approved judges, the club may elect to change the class assignments to facilitate a smooth running of the trial. Such adjustments may be completed for overloads, low entries, or to balance the entries between approved judges; affecting as few entries as possible while keeping in mind the most efficient running of the trial. Clubs would be allowed to reassign judges or remove judge(s) from the judging panel if entries are low and only if both the club and judge(s) agree to the change. When such changes are proposed, the club must receive approval from each affected judge in writing and the club must receive final approval from the AKC prior to the distribution of the judging schedule. The judging schedule must clearly identify any changes to the assignments and exhibitors would be entitled to a full refund for entries affected by the change.
- 2) If a judge is scheduled to begin a class in an assigned ring that is not going to be available on time, and by waiting for that same ring would otherwise cause the judging to be delayed, allow the class to be moved to any available ring at the trial site that meets the same requirements as the original ring, and noting at the original ring the assignment has been moved to the new location.
- 3) The *Obedience Regulations* allow clubs the ability to schedule dogs by their jump height and most clubs do arrange entries in jump height order. However, by requiring clubs to do so will allow clubs to combine Regular and Preferred classes for judging; which will save time. Scheduling the dogs in jump height order would allow the club to schedule the Regular and Preferred Open class entries together, and the Regular and Preferred Utility class entries together, allowing one set-up for Open and one set-up for Utility during the day. This will improve the overall time it takes to judge these classes, as the only difference between them is the required jump height for the dog. The classes would be arranged by jump height and class. For example, the schedule would have all dogs in the Open B class jumping 8”

followed by Preferred Open 8" dogs, then Open B 12" dogs followed by Preferred Open 12" dogs, and so on.

- 4) Combine the walkthrough time for classes that require them, when they have similar set-ups. The Beginner Novice A class would be combined with the Beginner Novice B class; and the Novice A class would be combined with the Preferred Novice class. If a judge is scheduled to judge the Beginner Novice A and Beginner Novice B classes, and if there are less than 20 combined entries (2-hours of judging) between the classes, the walkthrough for these classes would be combined to save time. If a judge is scheduled to judge the Novice A and Preferred Novice classes, and if there are less than 20 combined entries (2-hours of judging) between the classes, the walkthrough for these classes would be combined to save time.

## **CHAPTER 1 OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS GENERAL REGULATIONS**

### **Section 3. Premium Lists, Entries, Closing of Entries and Catalog Order.**

*(paragraph 1 following the bulleted list)*

A club will arrange entries according to jump height order in all classes in which jumps are used. It will be stated in the premium list what jump height will begin the class and if the order will be ascending or descending. Handlers with multiple entries in the same class and with the same jump height should be accommodated. The catalog must be prepared in the following class order, regardless of the order in which the classes are listed in the judging program.

- Regular classes
- Preferred classes
- Optional classes
- Non-Regular classes

For all other catalog requirements, refer to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows.*

(The remainder of Section 3 is unchanged.)

### **Section 26. Judging Assignments, Scheduling and Judging Program.** (Beginning at paragraph 5 in this section.)

No judge will be assigned to judge for more than eight hours in one day. This limit includes rally and/or any breed judging assignments. Judges may take 45 minutes to one hour for rest or meals at their discretion.

When the Preferred Open and Utility classes are offered, the Preferred class entries will be judged in jump height order with the same Regular class entries as stated in the premium list. The Preferred class entries will be designated with the letter P in the judging program, catalog, judge's books, and on the exhibitor armband. The awards as described in these regulations, Chapter 1, Sections 19 and 21, will be offered. The awards ceremony for each class must be conducted separately. Dogs may be entered in both the Regular and Preferred classes at the same trial.

The judging program must list the start time for each class scheduled to start before 12:00 noon unless otherwise stated in these regulations. In the case of a licensed or member specialty trial open only to the specialty breed, or a group trial, the start time for only the first obedience class needs to be given.

Classes scheduled to start at, or after 12:00 noon, will be listed to start “after noon” and must be judged in the order listed in the judging program. If a judge is scheduled to begin a class in an assigned ring that is not available, the class may be moved to any available ring at the trial site that meets the same requirements as the original ring. If the published judge is available prior to the listed start time and all exhibitors have checked-in and agree, the judge may start a class earlier than the class time listed in the judging program.

For classes that allow a walkthrough (Beginner Novice, Novice A and Preferred Novice) the listed start time is the time of the walkthrough and judging of the class will follow.

When the same judge is judging Novice A and Preferred Novice, and there are less than 20 combined dogs entered, the same start time will be listed for both classes, and the walkthrough will be combined. When the same judge is judging Beginner Novice A and B, and there are less than 20 combined dogs entered, the same start time will be listed for both classes, and the walkthrough will be combined. The awards ceremony for each class and division must be conducted separately.

If ten or more dogs are entered in Beginner Novice A and/or B, or Novice A and/or Preferred Novice, 10 minutes will be allocated in the schedule for the walkthrough. When there are less than ten dogs entered in those classes, 5 minutes will be allocated in the schedule for the walkthrough.

All trials starting at or after 12:00 noon will list the start time for only the first obedience class in each ring. When there are two trials scheduled for the same day/same site, a start time must be given for each trial. At no time may a second trial on the same day/same site, begin prior to the start time published in the judging program.

Any non-regular class must be judged after the regular, preferred, or optional titling classes if the classes are scheduled to be judged in the same ring.

Contact information, e.g. cell telephone number for at least one committee member that will be present at the trial on the day of the event must be listed in the judging program.

A copy of the judging program will be sent to the owner of each entered dog and to each judge; printed correspondence may be utilized at the exhibitor’s request.

A copy of the judging program will be published in the catalog.

(The remainder of Section 26 is unchanged.)

**Section 28. Additional Judges, Reassignment, Split Classes.** After the entries have closed, if any judge exceeds the limit established in Chapter 1, Section 26 of these regulations the club will immediately secure the approval of the AKC for an additional judge or for reassignment of its advertised judges so that no judge will be required to exceed the limit.

If a judge was advertised to judge more than one class and receives an excessive entry, at least one of the classes shall be assigned to another judge.

Reassignment shall first go to any non-regular classes, then to either the class with the lesser number of entries or those with the lesser scheduled time. This will bring the advertised judge’s schedule as close as possible to the maximum limit.

If a judge with an excessive entry was advertised to judge only one class, the superintendent, show or trial secretary will divide the entry as evenly as possible between the two judges by drawing lots.

After the entries have closed, for the purpose of balancing the judging schedule among the approved panel of judges, the club may elect to change the class assignments to facilitate the smooth running of the trial. Such adjustments may be done for any reason including overloads, low entries, etc. When such judging class changes are proposed, the club must first obtain approval in writing from each judge affected, and then final approval from the American Kennel Club prior to publishing the judging program. The club should make every effort to affect as few entries as possible while keeping in mind the most efficient running of the trial. Clubs may remove judge(s) from the judging panel if entries are low, and both the club and the judge(s) agree to this action in writing.

A notification of any change of judge must be sent to the owner of each entry affected. The judging schedule must clearly state which classes have been changed, and that exhibitors are entitled to a full refund for entries affected by the change. The refund request must be in writing and submitted to the Trial Secretary anytime up until 30 minutes prior to the start of the first scheduled obedience class at the trial.

(The remainder of Section 28 is unchanged.)

## **CHAPTER 2 REGULATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING JUDGING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES**

**Section 11. Notification and Announcement of Scores.** Immediately following the last individual exercise in Novice, the judge will inform the handler if the team may return for the group exercise. After the group exercise the judge will inform the handlers of a qualifying performance. In Beginner Novice, Preferred Novice, Graduate Novice, Open, Preferred Open, Graduate Open, Utility, Preferred Utility and Versatility, the judge will inform the handler immediately following the last exercise of a qualifying performance. After all the scores are recorded for the class, the judge will call the qualifying handlers back into the ring for the awards ceremony. The awards ceremony for each class and division must be conducted separately. For the awards ceremony, dogs may be picked up and carried into the ring if the handler desires. Before awarding the placements, the judge will inform the spectators of the maximum number of points required for a perfect score. After scores of each placement have been announced the judge will tell the other qualifying handlers their scores.

### **UPDATE ON AKC CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION**

Diane Brown, CEO, AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) presented an update.

Since 1995, over 52 million dollars has been invested and 973 grants have been funded on research to cure, prevent and treat canine disease. The research funded may also help people in addition to dogs. AKC CHF is the leading funding organization solely for canine health research.

Currently there are 128 active research grants totaling \$9.9 million. 92% of dollars donated to AKC CHF go to research.

2019 year-to-date grants funding levels are at \$2,762,563 and will exceed \$3 million by year end.

The AKC CHF was deeply appreciative of the AKC matching program that donates AKC funds annually since 2014. Past areas of study include a 2-year match initiative for tick born disease and epilepsy initiatives.

AKC CHF received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 12:34 p.m.

Adjourned

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary