

American Kennel Club, Inc.
MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC Offices at 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY
October 14-15, 2019

The Board convened on Monday, October 14, 2019 at 8:38 a.m.

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

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman shared out a copy of two toasts made by him at the Board of Directors' dinner on October 13, 2019.

"I did some quick fact-checking before coming here to dinner this evening to find one man who reportedly lived 146 years; and a woman who lived 128 years. So, I think it is fair to say that it is improbable for a human being to live up to 135 years or more."

"It is slightly less improbable that a company will last for 135 years or more. There are a mere twenty companies in the United States that have been in existence for more than 150 years. In the ranks of the Century Club are companies 100 years and older. Let us toast in congratulations to the American Kennel Club, founded in 1884. After 135 years of existence, it shares these rarefied heights of corporate history."

"One reason for the longevity of these companies, including the American Kennel Club, is leadership and employees who function as a family in dedication to their respective missions. This brings me to ask that we raise our glasses a second time in gratitude to Dennis Sprung for giving 30 years of dedication to and leadership of the American Kennel Club."

PRESIDENTS 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 August and September 2019.

FINANCE

Joseph Baffuto, CFO, presented AKC's unaudited financial results for the eight months ended August 31, 2019. Total year to date revenues of \$51.6 million were 2.8% below budget, but 3.5% greater than the 2018 comparative period. Year-to-date Dog Registrations' volume of more than 406,000 is 3% below budget, but 1% greater than the previous year. Total Litters processed to-date were nearly 174,000 and represented a 2% decline from budget, but a 2%

increase from the prior year as well. Total operating expenses of \$48 million were \$3.2 million or 6% under budget as well as remaining 2% below last year's eight months actual. Operating income for the year to date through Aug 31, 2019 was \$3.7 million which was favorable compared to both 2019 budgeted operating income of \$2 million as well as the 2018 mark of \$1 million. Furthermore, our investment portfolio reflects unrealized gains for the year totaling \$11.7 million dollars.

2020 Budget

Joseph Baffuto, CFO, gave an overview of the proposed 2020 budget. The 2020 Budget, as described in Mr. Sprung's introduction to the Budget, is mission driven. Emphasis is on increasing entries, litters and individual registrations, as well as adding more unique breeders.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the 2020 Budget.

AKC Canine Health Foundation

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the Board VOTED (in favor: Directors Biddle, Carota, Feeney, Garvin, Hamblin, McAteer, Powers, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin; against: Directors Cruz, Davies, Smyth) to permit, at the request of the AKC Canine Health Foundation (AKC CHF) -to allocate 10% of AKC's 2020 one million-dollar (\$1,000,000) donation to be used for grant administrative expense rather than exclusively for grants in accordance with the Memo of Understanding. The AKC also will donate an additional \$200,000 in kind for a total donation in 2020 of \$1,200,000. The total donations from AKC to AKC CHF now totals approximately \$29,000,000.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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

Appointment of Trial Board Chairs

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

Following a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Dr. Davies, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the appointments of the following individuals:

Trial Board Member

Kathi Brown

Donna Herzig

Carl Holder

Laurie Maulucci

Hon. James Phinizy

Robert Stein

Sylvia Thomas

Performance Trial Board Member

Joseph Benage, Esq.

Chow Chow Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to *Nose Color* section of the Chow Chow standard as submitted by the Chow Chow Club, Inc. The current standard was approved October 10, 2005.

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve to have the proposed revisions published in the Secretary's Page of the AKC Gazette.

Field Spaniel Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Field Spaniel Society of America, Inc (FSSA) has submitted proposed revisions to the *Color* section of the Field Spaniel standard, specifically to add a disqualification for the sable color pattern. The current standard was approved September 14, 1998.

Following a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve to have the proposed revisions published in the Secretary's Page of the Gazette.

Belgian Laekenois Eligibility to Compete in the Herding Group

The Board reviewed a petition, submitted by the American Belgian Laekenois Association (ABLA), seeking acceptance for the Belgian Laekenois into the AKC Stud Book and for the Belgian Laekenois to be eligible to compete in the Herding Group.

The ABLA was founded in 1996 by a group of breeders and fanciers in order to promote and protect the Belgian Laekenois in the United States. The ABLA has fulfilled all criteria as outlined in the AKC publication "Guidelines—Registering a New Breed."

The Board also reviewed the breed standard submitted by ABLA for AKC Board approval.

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

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (in favor: Directors Biddle, Carota, Cruz, Davies, Feeney, Hamblin, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin; against: Garvin) to approve the breed standard as submitted to be the official AKC Breed Standard for the Belgian Laekenois and to approve the breed to be eligible to compete in the Herding Group effective July 1, 2020.

The breed will be moved from the Foundation Stock Service into the Stud Book of the American Kennel Club on July 1, 2020. The Stud Book will remain open until July 1, 2025.

Standard of the Belgian Laekenois**GENERAL APPEARANCE**

The first impression of the Belgian Laekenois is that of a square, well-balanced dog, elegant in appearance, with an exceedingly proud carriage of the head and neck. He is a strong, agile, well-muscled animal, alert and full of life. His whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness. The male dog is usually somewhat more impressive and grander than his female counterpart. The bitch should have a distinctly feminine look. Both male and female should be judged equally. Faults – Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide: 1. The extent to which it deviates from the standard, 2. The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the working ability of the dog.

SIZE PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE - SIZE

Males should be 24-26 inches in height and females 22-24 inches, measured at the withers. The length, measured from point of breastbone to point of rump, should equal the height. Bitches may be slightly longer. Bone structure should be moderately heavy in proportion to his height so that he is well-balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky. The Belgian Laekenois should stand squarely on all fours. From a side view the topline, front legs, and back legs should closely approximate a square. Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches shall be disqualified. Females under 20.5 inches or over 25 inches shall be disqualified.

HEAD

Clean cut and strong, long without exaggeration and lean. The skull and muzzle are approximately the same length with at most a very slight advantage for the muzzle. Overall size should be in proportion to the body. Expression – should be intelligent and questioning, indicating alertness, attention and readiness for activity. Eyes – are brown, preferably dark brown, medium size, slightly almond shaped and not protruding. Ears – are triangular in shape, stiff, erect, and in proportion to the head in size. Base of the ear should not come below the center of the eye. Skull – is flattened rather than rounded with the width approximately the same, but not wider than the length. The stop is moderate. Muzzle – is moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency to snipiness, and approximately equal in length to that of the top skull. The jaws should be strong and powerful. Nose – is black without spots or discolored areas. The lips should be tight and black, with no pink showing on the outside. Teeth – full complement of strong, white teeth, evenly set. Bite – should be even or scissors. An overshot or undershot bite is a fault. An undershot or overshot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors is a disqualification. The absence of two premolars or molars is a serious fault. The absence of one premolar (PMI) is not to be penalized. Four or more missing teeth is a disqualification.

NECK, TOPLINE, BODY

Neck – is round and rather outstretched, tapered from head to body, well-muscled, with tight skin. Topline – the withers are slightly higher and slope into the back, which must be level, straight, and firm from withers to hip joints. Chest – is not broad, but deep. The lowest point should reach the elbow, forming a smooth ascendant curve to the abdomen. Abdomen is of moderate development, neither tucked up nor paunchy. Loin – loin section when viewed from above is relatively short, broad and strong, and blends smoothly into the back. Croup – is very slightly sloped, broad, but not excessively so. Tail – is strong at the base with the last vertebra reaching the hock. At rest the dog holds it low, the tip bent back level with the hock. When in action he raises it and gives it a slight curve, which is strongest towards the tip, without forming a hook. Cropped or stump tail are disqualifications.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders – are long and oblique, laid flat against the body, forming a sharp angle (approximately 90 degrees) with the upper arm. Legs – are straight, strong and parallel to each other with bone oval rather than round. Development (length and substance) should be well proportioned to the size of the dog. Pasterns – are short, strong and very slightly sloped. Feet – are round (cat footed). Toes – curved close together, well padded. Nails – strong and black, except that they may be white to match white toe tips. Dewclaws – are permissible.

HINDQUARTERS

Legs – are in length and substance well-proportioned to the size of the dog with the bone oval rather than round. Legs are parallel to each other. Thighs – are broad and heavily muscled. The upper and lower thigh bones approximately parallel the shoulder blade and upper arm respectively, forming a relatively sharp angle at stifle joint. The angle at the hock is relatively sharp, although the Belgian Laekenois does not have extreme angulation. Metatarsus – is medium length, strong and slightly sloped. Feet – are slightly elongated. Toes – curved close together, well padded. Nails – strong and black, except that they may be white to match white toe tips. Dewclaws – if any, should be removed.

COAT

The coat must have a texture which is rough and coarse giving a disorderly, tousled look. The coat should be severely penalized if silky or soft or lacking a double coat. The length of the hair should be approximately 2 1/2 inches over the body. A beard must be present on the muzzle and hair on the head should not be in excess so as to hide the eyes nor the lines of the head and skull and make the head appear square or heavy. The tail should not form a plume.

COLOR

All shades of red or fawn to grayish tones are acceptable with traces of black appearing principally on the muzzle and tail. The degree of blackening varies considerably from dog to dog with all variations being equally acceptable. A small to moderate white patch is permitted on the chest and the tips of the toes may be white. White or gray frosting on the chin and muzzle is normal and acceptable.

GAIT

Motion should be smooth, free and easy, seemingly never tiring, exhibiting facility of movement rather than hard driving action. The Belgian Laekenois tends to single track at a fast gait; the legs, both front and rear, converging toward the center line of gravity of the dog. The backline should remain firm and level, parallel to the center of motion, with no crabbing. The dog shows a marked tendency to move in a circle or curve rather than a straight line.

TEMPERAMENT

The Belgian Laekenois should reflect the qualities of intelligence, courage, alertness and devotion to master. Protectiveness of the person and property of his master is added to his inherent aptitude as a guardian of flocks and fields. He should be watchful, attentive and always in motion when not under command. He should be observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive in his relationship with humans. He should not show fear or shyness nor viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. With those he knows well, he is most affectionate and friendly, zealous of their attention, and very possessive. Extreme shyness is not desirable in the Belgian Laekenois and should be severely penalized. Viciousness is a disqualification.

TEMPERAMENT

Drooping or hanging ears.

Cropped or stump tail.

Viciousness.

Males under 23" or over 27" Females under 20.5" or over 25".

Undershot or overshot bite such that contact with two incisors is lost. (Note: loss of contact caused by short center incisors shall not be judged as undershot in an otherwise correct bite.)

*Four or more missing teeth.
Solid white markings elsewhere than on tips of toes, chest, or frosting on muzzle.*

Approved November 10, 2010

Effective June 30, 2011

Public Education Mobile App

Ashley Jacot, Director, Education, participated in this portion of the meeting. AKC Public Education seeks to provide children, parents and teachers a curriculum-based learning app that simultaneously educates about purebred dog breeds and the sport of purebred dogs.

The Staff presented to the Board information about a mobile application that is currently being developed called AKC Math Agility. AKC Math Agility is intended for children ages 5-8 and will introduce users to sixty breeds and the sport of agility through the practice of math facts. AKC Math Agility seeks to provide a useful educational tool that also increases brand awareness among children, parents, and teachers. AKC Math Agility is projected to launch on December 13, 2019 and will be available for purchase through the Apple App Store and Google Play for \$2.99.

The AKC Math Agility app will expose users to the AKC brand, dog breeds, and dog sports in several ways:

1. The game strongly revolves around agility competitions, introducing parents, teachers and children to the exciting world of AKC dog sports.
2. Kids will learn about dozens of breeds as they unlock playable dogs and special breed cards.
3. There is an opportunity to use a variety of language that is associated with AKC.
4. A variation of the actual Agility rules and scoring will be utilized to show kids their final results.

COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events, Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events, and Monica Henderson, Manager, Scent Work participated in this portion of the meeting via video Carrie DeYoung, Director, Agility, participated in this portion of the meeting via teleconference.

Field Trial Rules – Addresses Required in Premium

The Board reviewed a recommendation to clarify the requirement that the addresses for the judges and trial chair which appear in the premium for field trials need only include the city and state, not the street address. Currently the Rules state the premium shall include the judge's address as provided on the event application form. This has traditionally been interpreted to include the individual's street address. Some individuals are concerned about home security. The Beagle Advisory Committee was the first to recommend that this requirement be clarified to only include the city and state for the judges and event chair. The Delegates Field Trial / Hunting Test Committee discussed this idea at their September meeting and is recommending the same clarification be made to the Rules governing all types of field trials.

BEAGLE FIELD TRIAL RULES and STANDARD PROCEDURE

Proposed Regulations
(Line In)

Chapter 6. Field Trial Committee, Field Trial Secretary, Premium Lists
Section 4. The last sentence in this section.

The premium list and/or announcements for each licensed or member field trial shall contain all the information set forth on the official AKC Event Application form as approved by the American Kennel Club, except the addresses for the judges, trial chair and club officers need only include the city and state. The premium list shall be of official size.

This will be discussed further at the November Board meeting.

Senior Earthdog – Giving an Additional Command

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events committee to allow the handler of a dog in the Senior Earthdog test to give one command should the dog exit the den prior to reaching the quarry. Giving the command is at the determination of the handler and does not require the instruction of the judge. Currently in the Senior level test, once a dog is released to enter the den, the handler may not give any commands.

Regulations for Earthdog Tests for Small Terriers and Dachshunds
Proposed Regulations
(Line In)

Chapter 4. Section 12. Senior Earthdog Test – Qualifying Performance. 2nd paragraph.

Timing of the dog for the approach portion of the test shall start when the dog is released by the handler. The dog has 90 seconds from the time of release to reach the quarry, provided that it is continuously searching during that time. The dog may enter and leave the den, provided it has not reached the quarry. If the dog exits the den prior to reaching the quarry, the handler may, on his/her own determination (without being instructed by the judge), give the dog one command without penalty. To earn a qualifying score, the dog must make at least 30 feet of forward progress to reach the quarry. A dog which false marks by vigorously or loudly working in the false den area for more than 15 seconds may not pass.

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

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed regulation change, effective January 1, 2020.

Scent Work Regional and National Championships

The Board reviewed a recommendation for AKC to offer Scent Work Regional Championship events and a National Championship. The winner of the National will be awarded the prefix title Scent Work National Champion (SWNC).

Dogs that place in the Master level at the Regionals will automatically qualify for the National event. Regional Championships will start in 2020 with the first National Championship to be held during the first half of 2021.

Initially there will be five regions. Clubs interested in hosting a Regional will be welcomed to apply. One club per region will be selected to host the event based on proven ability to host a quality trial, and with consideration given to scheduling and venue selection.

The format for Regionals will differ from typical Scent Work trials in that winners will be selected per difficulty level (novice, advanced, excellent, master) in the Odor Search Division across all search elements (container, interior, exterior, buried). This format will be tested at a trial in

California in late October. Regional Championships are not titling events, however winning dogs will be recognized as the Scent Work Novice Regional Champion, Advanced Regional Champion, Excellent Regional Champion and Master Regional Champion for their respective region. Winners will also be determined from the Handler Discrimination Division; the dogs with the best overall performance in their difficulty level will be honored as HD Regional Champions.

Qualifying scores earned at the Regionals will count towards standard AKC titles. Master Regional Champions as well as dogs who placed 2nd thru 4th at each Regional will automatically qualify for the following year's National Championship.

The eligibility for Regionals will be determined based on a dog's level of accomplishment in AKC trials. The format for the National as well as for Regionals will be held as two trials (one on Saturday and one on Sunday) plus a Championship Round comprised of the winner from each class. The Scent Work National Champion will receive the prefix title designation, Scent Work National Champion (SWNC). One dog per year will earn the SWNC title.

This will be discussed further at the November Board meeting.

Refinements to Agility Equipment and Course Design

The Board reviewed recommended changes to the Agility Regulations pertaining to agility equipment and course design. They are brought forward as the result of feedback from Agility judges and/or the Agility Advisory Committee. Specifically, the recommendations address the wall jump, tunnels, weave poles, the obstacle content of the FAST class and requirements to participate in the International Sweepstakes Class.

1. Wall Jump – Addresses the need to clarify equipment design and the correct judging of this obstacle. Requested by staff.
2. Tunnels – The 10-13-foot tunnel replaces the closed tunnel that was removed in 2016 for use in Standard classes. This change allows for more course design creativity. The addition is a common request from Agility Judges and was a recommendation of the Agility Advisory Committee.
3. Weave Poles - Updates the Regulations to make weave pole configuration more consistent, reducing configurations that are seldom encountered. Staff believes less than 5 clubs in the county have 9-11 pole weave sets that would need to be replaced. This was recommended by staff for uniformity.
4. FAST Class – These changes to the obstacle content for the class will allow for increased flexibility in course design. This change was requested by judges and staff strongly agrees with the request.
5. International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) – To allow more participation in this class the Agility Advisory Committee recommended that all dogs eligible to compete at AKC Agility would be eligible to enter this class when offered. The other changes align this non-regular class more closely with the FCI Agility Regulations which it was originally designed to mimic.

This will be discussed further at the November Board meeting.

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events, Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges, 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.

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.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (in favor: Directors Cruz, Feeney, Garvin, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin; against: Biddle, Carota, Davies, Hamblin) to deny the committee's proposal to move Chapter 11, Section 2 of The Rules Applying to Dog Shows to Chapter 17 as a new Section 3.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to delete the following wording from the italicized portion of Chapter 11, Section 2:

Effective for all events held on and after January 1, 2008,

Wickets and Scales - Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 5

The Board reviewed a recommendation by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to modify Chapter 14 Section 5 of The Rules Applying to Dog Shows, which addresses the responsibility of Event Committees to provide for determining eligibility with respect to height and weight (wickets and scales).

The DSRC's proposal if adopted would (1) revise the italics and insert it into the rule, (2) eliminate the reference to specific states and territories, (3) replace the height range for wickets and replace with the generic "complete set", (4) add language pertaining to the expectation of scales that meet all AKC requirements and with platform of sufficient size to safely accommodate all weighable breeds, and (5) insert language concerning the expectation for equipment at specialty and group shows.

Adoption and implementation of the proposal would require the formation of the defined guidelines for scales and what is considered a platform of sufficient size to be included in the AKC Show Manual and disseminated to superintendents.

This will be discussed further at the November Board 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 November meeting.

Junior Eligibility to Participate in the 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition

The Board reviewed a memo based on the proposal from AKC Board member Ms. Patricia Cruz, to modify the Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulations to allow assistants to professional handlers eligible to compete in junior showmanship to personally exhibit dogs in the Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition, consistent with recent revisions to the NOHS regulations related to eligibility within the sport. If approved this would be effective January 1, 2020.

This will be discussed further at the November meeting.

All-Breed Events Held in 2018 and not in 2019

The Board reviewed a Staff memo detailing the conformation clubs that held an event in 2018 that did not or will not hold an event in 2019.

Each year about fifty clubs hold a different number of all-breed shows than they did the year before. Some hold more and some hold less. Club Development conducted an analysis of sixteen clubs that held an all-breed show(s) in 2018, but no all-breeds shows in 2019.

In 2019 there was no net change in the number of all-breed events over 2018.

Mr. Sprung will share this information with our Member clubs.

Show Trial Manual – Listing of Parent Club Titles in Catalogs at National Specialties

The Staff presented the Board with a memo advising the Board of Staff's intent to revise the section of the AKC Show Manual pertaining to titles in show catalogs to the following (underline indicates new text).

Only official AKC titles and AKC recognized titles may be included in the catalog. See the list of Official AKC Titles for Catalog, pp. 13-34 – 13-36. The inclusion of AKC recognized titles is not required and at the discretion of the event superintendent or secretary. A complete and current listing of all prefix, suffix, and recognized parent club titles along with all title recognition programs can be found on the AKC website at <https://www.akc.org/sports/titles-and-abbreviations/>.

For independent parent club national specialties only: parent club titles not recognized by the AKC may be included in the show catalog if (1) the title is not affiliated with a competing domestic registry or event hosting organization, and (2) the non-AKC recognized parent club title(s) may only be listed as suffix titles, and after all AKC titles, and all AKC recognized parent club or other titles.

There was no objection.

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 via video conference.

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 ring steward at an event with a separate catalog prior to completing their entire judging assignment for 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.*

Following a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (in favor: Directors Cruz, Feeney, Garvin, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin; against: Biddle, Carota, Hamblin; abstention: Dr. Davies) to deny the committee's proposal.

Rules, Policies & Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges

The Board reviewed a memorandum provided to inform the Board of two insertions to the *Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges* staff intends to include with the next reprint of the booklet. As the insertions are predicated upon current AKC rules and policy, staff is presenting this information for the Board's information and a formal vote should not be required.

1. To be added to the section “**JUDGING THE DOGS**” – Board policy on **Acceptable Collars and Leashes at Conformation Events** – adopted at its August 2019 meeting. **[P]** 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. 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; this include the use of multiple acceptable collars or lead and collar combinations simultaneously. Judges who encounter unacceptable collars or leashes or multiple leads/collars being used simultaneously at one time, are to require the exhibitor to switch to a proper lead/collar or if not possible, to excuse the entry.
2. To be added to the section “**RULES DISMISSALS**” – Requirement for males to have two normally descended testicles – *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11 Section 8*. **[R]** A male which does not have two normal testicles normally located in the scrotum, may not compete at any show and is to be disqualified; with exception to a castrated male may be entered as Stud Dog in the Stud Dog Class and a spayed bitch may be entered as Brood Bitch in the Brood Bitch Class. Neutered dogs and spayed bitches **may be allowed** to compete in Veterans Classes only at independent specialties and/or those all-breed shows which do not offer any competitive classes beyond Best of Breed; eligibility for altered veterans to compete **must be stated in the premium list.** (*Rules, Chapter 11, Section 8*)

There was no objection.

Listing of Emeritus Judges - Printed Judges Directory

The Staff provided the Board with a memorandum to inform the Board that out of respect for their contributions and to better serve the fancy, Judging Operations has elected to reinsert the list of Emeritus judges in the 2020 printed directory which will be available in December 2019.

Conformation Judging Statistics

Judging Operations provided to the Board statistics related to conformation judging applications considered by the Judges Review Committee in the previous three months, July - September 2019, and the year-to-date summary statistics for 2019.

YTD Approval Statistics

Following are the 2019 year-to-date summary statistics for New Breed and Additional Breed applicants.

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY**2019 NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

	Number of Applicants	Breed Requested	Breeds Accepted	Aps Limited	Aps Fully Approved	Aps Denied	Aps Wthdrn	Aps Held
January	6	18	18	0	6	0	0	0
February	7	11	11	0	7	0	0	0
March	6	13	13	0	6	0	0	0
April	4	13	13	0	4	0	0	0
May	5	9	9	0	5	0	0	0
June	4	5	5	0	4	0	0	0
July	5	6	6	0	5	0	0	0
August	5	5	5	0	5	0	0	0
September	2	5	5	0	2	0	0	0
NB TOTAL	44	85	85	0	44	0	0	0

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY**2019 ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

	Number of Applicants	Breed Requested	Breeds Accepted	Aps Limited	Aps Fully Approved	Aps Denied	Aps Wthdrn	Aps Held
January	32	218	212	2	30	0	0	0
February	31	182	181	0	30	1	0	0
March	37	194	189	2	35	0	0	0
April	27	143	142	1	26	0	0	0
May	30	119	117	1	28	1	0	1
June	29	166	158	3	25	1	0	0
July	27	152	152	0	27	0	0	0
August	45	264	250	1	42	2	0	0
September	24	125	118	1	21	1	0	1
AB TOTAL	282	1563	1519	11	264	6	0	2

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2019 YEAR-TO-DATE

	Number of Applicants	Breed Requested	Breeds Accepted	Aps Limited	Aps Fully Approved	Aps Denied	Aps Wthdrn	Aps Held
NB	44	85	85	0	44	0	0	0
AB	282	1563	1519	11	264	6	0	2
TOTAL	326	1648	1604	11	308	6	0	2

The Board adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 8:33 a.m.

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

AKC Museum of the Dog Update

Alan Fausel, Executive Director, AKC Museum of the Dog, gave an update on the AKC Museum to the Board. He provided information on attendance and Museum Shop revenue as well as the year-to-date donation figures and membership totals.

HUMAN RESOURCES

LB Dean, Human Resources Director, presented "Preventing Discrimination and Harassment in New York, Manager version" training. The interactive e-learning training was presented to the Board of Directors who participated in the question challenges and quizzes. Also in attendance was Jay Waks, Sr. EVP, General Counsel. Following the e-learning conclusion all Board member questions were answered.

CLUBS**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 August and September 2019

Blackhawk Retriever Club, La Crosse, WI (2005)

Garden State All Terrier Club, New Brunswick, NJ (2008)

Great Barrington Kennel Club, Great Barrington, MA (1941)

Magic Valley Kennel Club, Charleston, WV (1954)

Santa Maria Kennel Club, Santa Maria, CA (1980)

Report on Newly Licensed Clubs Approved in June and July 2019

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Hampton Roads, greater Hampton, VA (including communities north to Gloucester, south to Suffolk), 21 total households, 17 local.

Black Oak Beagle Club of Western North Carolina, greater Candler, NC (including communities northwest to Bakersville, north of Interstate 40), 23 total households, 15 local.

Greater Ocala-Gainesville Lure Coursing Association, greater Ocala, FL (including communities north to Gainesville, south to Kissimmee and east/west state borders), 23 total households, 13 local.

Miniature Bull Terrier Club of Southern California, greater Pasadena, CA (including communities south to east to Indio, south to San Diego, north to Santa Barbara, northeast to Bakersfield, 53 total households, 31 local.

Silver Falls Kennel Club, greater Salem, OR (including Marion and Polk counties), 32 total households, 26 local.

COMPLIANCE

David Roberts, Executive, Breeder Development; Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance, participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

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.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to adopt the following policy with respect to the setting and payment of restitution

Setting and Payment of Restitution

Where appropriate, the Management Disciplinary Committee (“MDC”) and the Staff Event Committee (“SEC”) will set the amount of restitution to be paid, to whom the restitution should be paid, and the date by which payment must be made (“Terms of Restitution”). In setting the Terms of Restitution, MDC and SEC will consider the ability of the accused to pay within a set time period as well as the injured party’s ability to function. The goal will also be to make sure that the injured party is compensated as soon as possible. The person required to pay restitution must provide the AKC with proof of payment prior to the person being reinstated or being eligible to have awards recorded. Payment of restitution prior to MDC or SEC reviewing the matter and providing proof thereof will be considered as a mitigating factor and failure to reach an agreement between the parties involved can be considered an aggravated factor in determining the penalty level.

Penalties: Mitigated and Aggravated (November 1994 Board meeting, amended October 2019)

Circumstances that could, but would not necessarily result in an act of misconduct being Mitigated would include, but not be limited to:

1. The lack of any prior offense.
2. The lack of experience as a participant in events.
3. The minimal nature of the offense.
4. Recognition of wrongdoing.
5. The recommendation of the Events Committee.
6. Payment of restitution and proof thereof prior to AKC reviewing the matter.

Circumstances that could, but that would not necessarily result in an act of misconduct being Aggravated would include, but not be limited to:

1. A record of prior offense(s).
2. Extensive experience as a participant in events.
3. The seriousness of the offense.
4. Refusal to acknowledge wrongdoing prior to formal issuance of Charges.
5. The recommendation of the Events Committee
6. The action(s) of the individual resulted in the death of dog(s)
7. The misconduct is directed towards or with a person under 18 years of age.
8. Failure to reach an agreement regarding restitution prior to AKC reviewing the matter.

Setting of Penalties

Staff was asked to review what privileges should be impacted when an individual is suspended.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

CONSENT

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

- American English Coonhound Stud Book
- Hunt Test Titles - Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen
- Lagotto Romagnolo Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Show Secretaries - Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 9, Section 2
- Delegate Approvals
- Retriever Hunting Tests – Increasing Capacity in MH Tests
- Match Regulations Update
- Expanded Mentored Conformation Event Option for Local Specialty Clubs

American English Coonhound Stud Book

The Board VOTED for the American English Coonhound Stud Book to remain open until July 1, 2030.

Hunt Test Trials – Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America (GBGVCA) to allow the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen breed to 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 will recognize Grand Basset Griffon Vendéens who have earned titles in the Basset Hound Club of America's Hunting Performance Test Program. Titles earned retroactively can be recognized per the request of the GBGVCA.

AKC will begin processing title applications effective December 1, 2019.

Lagotto Romagnolo Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to permit the Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America, Inc. (LRCA) to ballot its membership on the proposed revisions to the Lagotto Romagnolo Standard in accordance with the club's constitution and by-laws

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

The Board VOTED to 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.

The proposal (changes underlined below) will be read at the December 2019 Delegates' meeting and voted on at the March 2020 Delegates' meeting. If approved, the effective date would be July 1, 2020.

Proposed Rule Change**RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS****CHAPTER 9 - SUPERINTENDENTS AND SHOW SECRETARIES**

SECTION 2. Any qualified person may make application to The American Kennel Club for approval to act as Show Secretary of a dog show.

There is no limit on the number of Specialty Shows for which an individual may be approved Show Secretary. An individual shall be approved as Show Secretary for the show or shows of only one group or one all-breed club and any group or all-breed show held on the same day and site of the club in a calendar year. An individual must hold a license from The American Kennel Club as Superintendent in order to be approved as Superintendent for more than one group or one all-breed club and events held the same day and site with the club in a calendar year.

Delegates Approved

Jennifer L. Amundsen

To represent Badger Kennel Club

Christine Cone

To represent Kanadasaga Kennel Club

John Cornell

To represent Champlain Valley Kennel Club

Judy McMaster Descutner

To represent Western Pennsylvania Kennel Association

Loretta "Sandie" Friend

To represent Virginia Kennel Club

Leslie Jaseph

To represent Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland

Steven Lisker

To represent Akita Club of America

Susan Olsen

To represent Park Shore Kennel Club

Chris J. Reed

To represent Giant Schnauzer Club of America

Joanne Wilds

To represent Miniature Pinscher Club of America

Retriever Hunting Tests – Increasing Capacity in MH Tests

The Board VOTED to make three changes to Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers, to increase the capacity of the Master Hunter level test and have 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.

These changes are effective for events held after January 1, 2020. Changes underlined below:

Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers,

Chapter 1. Section 3. Limiting Entries to Master Hunter Tests

Clubs may at their option limit the number of entries in their Master Hunter test to either 66, 100, 132, or 200 entries. Clubs may run unlimited Master level tests if they choose. If entries are limited, the number must be stated in the premium and announcements for the event. Entries shall be accepted on a first come, first served basis. The regulations regarding the days required for testing and the splitting of test levels remains the same as explained in Chapter 1, Section 18.

Remaining paragraphs in this section are unchanged.

Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers,

Chapter 1. Section 5. Bitches in Season / Scratches / Refunds.

Bitches in season shall not be eligible for entry in any Hunting Test and shall not be allowed on the grounds. Entry fees paid for a bitch withdrawn because of coming in season or for a dog withdrawn because of injury or illness, or for a dog that dies, shall be refunded in full by the test-giving club. Prior to paying such refund, the club may require an appropriate veterinary certificate. In the event a dog is withdrawn for other reasons after entries have closed, the test-giving club is free to formulate its own policy regarding refunds provided the said policy is fixed in advance of the mailing of the premium list for any particular test.

If a handler knows that a dog will be withdrawn for reasons other than a bitch in season, injury, sickness or death, it is in the best interest of the event that the dog be withdrawn prior to closing so another dog may utilize the slot. Therefore, the club or an entry service employed by the club, may only charge a scratch fee approximately equal to the credit card processing fee that they incurred.

Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers,

Chapter 1. Section 4. Entry requirements.

New paragraph 14.

Efficient Running of an Events. For the efficient running of an event and with consideration for fellow participants, an individual that handles more than 12 dogs in a hunting test (all testing levels) is asked to take responsibility for having assistance at the event in order to take care of the dogs, get dogs to the proper test and get them to the line in a timely manner.

Match Regulations Update

The Board VOTED 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.

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 update makes the Match Regulations consistent with the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. Changes underlined below:

Match Regulations

Chapter 2 Section 7. Ribbons. If ribbons are given at sanctioned matches, they shall be of the following colors:

First Prize — Rose

Second Prize — Brown

Third Prize — Light Green

Fourth Prize — Gray

Special Prize — Green with Pink Edges (includes qualifying obedience score)

Best of Opposite Sex — Lavender

Best of Breed — Orange

Best of Match — Pink and Green

If a ribbon is offered at a Plan OA or OB sanctioned match for the Highest Scoring Dog in the regular classes, it shall be Pink and Green.

If a Plan A or Plan OA match, each ribbon or rosette, if offered, shall be at least two inches wide and approximately eight inches long and bear on its face a facsimile of the seal of The American Kennel Club, the name of the prize, the name of the match-giving club, and the words "Sanctioned Match". Ribbons and rosettes used for regular and non-regular class placements may, but are not required, to bear the date and location of the match on the face, at the option of the club.

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

The Board VOTED 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.

For existing licensed Specialty clubs, significant experience is defined as at least 5 club members with qualifying show management experience. For new Specialty clubs, significant experience is defined as approximately 50% of the members possess qualifying conformation sport experience.

This policy is effective immediately.

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.

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, October 15, 2019 at 12:34 p.m.

Adjourned

Attest: _____

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary