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FOR THE
LOVE OF THE
BREED

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

VIDEOS

BREED COLUMNS

Toy Group

Brussels Griffons	Italian Greyhounds	Pomeranians
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels	Japanese Chin	Shih Tzu
Chihuahuas	Maltese	Toy Fox Terriers
Havanese	Papillons	
	Pekingese	

Non-Sporting Group

American Eskimo Dogs	Chow Chows	Schipperkes
Bichons Frises	Dalmatians	Shiba Inu
Boston Terriers	French Bulldogs	Tibetan Spaniels
Bulldogs	Lhasa Apsos	Tibetan Terriers
Chinese Shar-Pei	Poodles	

Herding Group

Bearded Collies	Canaan Dogs	Old English Sheepdogs
Belgian Malinois	Cardigan Welsh Corgis	Pembroke Welsh Corgis
Belgian Sheepdogs	Collies	Pulik
Belgian Tervuren	Finnish Lapphunds	Spanish Water Dogs
Briards	Norwegian Buhunds	Swedish Vallhunds

BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

Sporting and Working Groups January, April, July, and October issues	Hound and Terrier Groups February, May, August, and November issues	Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding Groups March, June, September, and December issues
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FEATURE
DANDIE ROADTRIP

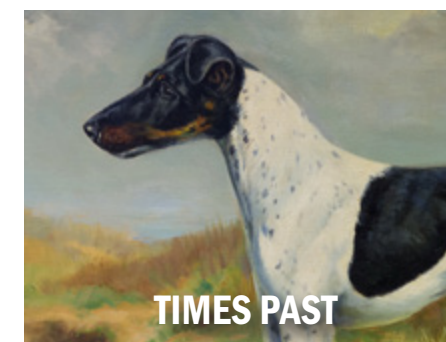


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FEATURE
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As a champion agility trainer and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Maria Badamo, DVM knows a thing or two about high-performance canine nutrition. And whether she's preparing her dog, Kenobi, to bring home another title on the agility course or fueling his best in-between events, there's only one food she trusts — Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20.

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For the Love
of the Breed

Richard, 10th Duke of Buccleuch, is seen here at Bowhill House, his ancestral estate in Scotland. The duke's family connection to the Dandie Dinmont Terrier goes back to Henry, the 3rd Duke, who raised Dandies at Bowhill in the 18th century. In Richard's arms is Lucy, one of the Dandies currently in residence at Bowhill.

Behind the duke is a portrait of Henry, the 3rd Duke, painted by none other than Thomas Gainsborough in 1770—that's 45 years before the breed's name was coined in a popular novel by Sir Walter Scott. Henry, too, holds a Dandie, "varying hardly at all from the present-day type," according to 20th-century breed authority John F. Gordon.

This consistency of type over 250-plus years is a testament to the stewardship of the modern-day Dandie fancy, which, like the breed they love, is small but hearty,



persistent, and immensely charming. A leading citizen of Dandie Nation is Sandra Stuart. We are pleased to present in this issue Sandra's travel journal of the Dandie fancy's pilgrimage to the Scottish Borders to walk in the historical pawprints of the long, low earthdog they love. After reading it, you will have the feeling that the devoted lovers of this low-population "vulnerable breed" will keep it viable and true to type for another 250 years.

See "Third Time's the Charm" on page 16.



On Our Cover: Shetland Sheepdog, David Woo ©AKC

COURTESY SANDRA STUART

Fall Ahead!

September leads us into the fall and right into one of our favorite events. After two years of postponements, we are thrilled to once again hold our flagship AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day in person. AKC RDO Day will return on Saturday, September 17, in Raleigh, at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds.

Dogs and their owners will be able to enjoy a day of dog-sport demonstrations, giveaways, games, in addition to a microchipping clinic and more. [Bailey's Book Club](#) staff will also be on site collecting books for their program, designed to provide dog-themed books to Title 1 schools, grades K-12, while also teaching children about the human-canine bond. Additionally, dogs can achieve their Canine Good Citizen title at this action-packed event.

[AKC Pet Insurance](#), administered by PetPartners, Inc., returns this year as the presenting sponsor of AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day, as well as YuMOVE, the official joint supplement of the American Kennel Club. If you are interested in having

your club host an RDO Day of its own, please visit [akc.org](#).

And not long after our wonderful RDO Day event, we are headed to Columbus, Ohio, with AKC Meet the Breeds! After successful events in Tampa and Dallas, we are excited to head to the Greater Columbus Convention Center to educate the public about our wonderful breeds and responsible dog ownership. This one-day canine extravaganza gives attendees the unique opportunity to meet and play with a variety of different dog breeds while learning about responsible pet ownership and how to find the best breed(s) for their lifestyle straight from many parent-club breed experts. We also have secured demonstrations in rally, obedience, scent work, agility, disc dog, and more, to showcase the skill and athleticisms of our canine companions.

AKC Meet the Breeds is made possible by the support and participation of our clubs, which we deeply appreciate. The energy and excitement they share with attendees about their breeds, along with their beautiful dogs,



drives the event and makes it memorable for everyone involved. There is still time to sign up to ensure your breed is represented, for questions or information, contact meetthebreeds@akc.org.

As we enter the fourth quarter of the year, we are in heavy preparation for our 22nd AKC National Championship. It is our favorite time of year, and we truly cannot wait to gather

with you in Orlando. Until then, have a safe wind down to summer and we will see you in the fall!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dennis B. Sprung".

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO



Service Dogs Reduce Veterans' PTSD Symptoms

A new analysis dives into the use of service dogs by U.S. veterans who have post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), illuminating factors and mechanisms that may underlie the mental health effects of these relationships.

Previous research suggests that pairing a veteran with

a service dog is associated with lower severity of PTSD. However, the mechanisms underlying these potential benefits are unclear.

To improve understanding, Clare Jensen, of Purdue University, led a study of 82 military members or veterans and their PTSD service dogs. The researchers first analyzed

results of surveys and records related to personal characteristics of the service dogs and veterans, and the closeness of their bond. They found that most of the dog characteristics evaluated were not associated with better or worse veteran mental-health outcomes, except for lower dog excitability, linked to lower severity

of PTSD symptoms and to a closer veteran-dog relationship.

Next, the researchers probed potential mechanisms underlying alleviation of mental health symptoms by analyzing the results of surveys and observations that captured dog behavior, training methods, and the use of specific trained tasks.

Better mental health was

associated with a number of factors, including perception of the dog's care as being easy and a closer veteran-dog relationship. The analysis also found a link between worse depression and more frequently asking service dogs to initiate the social greeting. Veterans who more frequently asked their dogs to alert them to a human approaching from

behind were more likely to have greater anxiety but less severity of PTSD symptoms.

Jensen says, "This study provides new information about how and why service dogs may improve mental health for some veterans with PTSD. We are especially grateful to the military veterans who made this possible by sharing their time and experiences with us."

Vets' Service Dog Award to AKC

Earlier this summer, the AKC, received the Leashes of Leadership Award from the [Association of Service Dog Providers for Military Veterans](#) (ASDPMV).

The ASDPMV is a coalition of nonprofit service dog providers for military veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, and military sexual trauma working together to prevent suicide and improve military veterans' mental health. The ASDPMV ensures that qualified organizations pair veterans with the most beneficial service dogs; increases awareness and understanding of the medical evidence that supports the use of service dogs; and advocates for the

expanded use of service dogs.

"AKC has been pleased to work with the association since its inception. We are proud to work together in development of the [Service Dog Pass](#) and look forward to working together for many years," AKC Vice President Sheila Goffe says.

ASDPMV Executive Director Jeremiah Blocker says the award was given in recognition for the many years of AKC partnership with his organization. "Their partnership has made an important difference in savings lives," he says.

Bonus Video
[Introducing Service Dog Pass](#)

UPDATES

Wiley Named DNA Director



The AKC has named Claire Wiley, VMD, DACVIM, executive director of the [AKC DNA program](#). She will be working out of the AKC's Raleigh office.

"Now in its third decade," Executive Vice President Mark Dunn says, "the AKC DNA program is well positioned to leverage new and emerging technologies to assist dog owners and breeders better understand the health of their dogs. Dr. Wiley will accelerate our forward progress and enhance our ability to support academic researchers as well."

With nearly 1,000,000 dogs profiled, 300,000 canine DNA samples in storage, and more than 250,000 active breeders, the AKC remains a leader in this important field.

Wiley did her undergraduate work at Yale University and graduated from the University of

Pennsylvania veterinary program as a VMD. Wiley was most recently a clinician investigator in a combined board-certified small-animal internal medicine residency and Ph.D. program at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She has also served as a consultant for the AKC DNA program.

In her studies at NC State, she investigated the genomic profile of canine bladder and prostate cancer and used molecular diagnostics as screening tools for early diagnosis. Wiley provided expertise in clinical trials and citizen scientist engagement. Wiley has over 30 years' experience breeding, showing, and training Portuguese Water Dogs.

"I am excited to expand AKC's DNA program to serve our fundamental mission: to help breeders breed better dogs," she says.

Obedience and Rally Update

At the August 2022 meeting, the AKC Board of Directors voted to make the following COVID provisions permanent.

Qualifying Scores for Obedience & Rally Titles: In all obedience and rally classes that require three qualifying scores to earn a title, the three scores may be earned under the same judge.

Assignment Limitations: There are no mileage restrictions for judging obedience or rally trials; and there are no restrictions on the number of times an individual can judge a class at obedience or rally trials in a cluster.



ROBERT YOUNG ©AKC

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Photos from the *Irish Setter Club of America's AKC Archives Project*

Cover slide, 1976: Am./Can. Ch. Tirvelda Blarney O'Elvatoirne, a specimen of typical high quality from Ted Eldredge's famous line of setters.

c. 1910: Ch. Pat-A-Belle and Ch. Drug Law, c. 1910

1937: Ch. Milson Top Notcher, son of Mrs. Cheever Porter's immortal Ch. Milson O'Boy, is BIS at Trenton KC under judge William Smalley, handled by Harry Hartnett. (William Brown photo)

1946: Ch. Tyrone Farm Malloy, from Jack and Evelyn Spear's Tyrone Farm Kennels in Tipton, Iowa; Tyrone's most famous dog was Clancy, who took BIS at Morris & Essex in 1950 over an entry of 2,263. (Percy Jones photo)

1950: Litter brothers Ch. Mahogany Knight O'Aragon and Red Knight of Aragon. H. Jack Cooper, the "Old Maestro" of Aragon Kennels, was the father

of eminent dog man Dick Cooper. (Frasie Studio photo)

1951: Ch. Coppercountry Trilby and Ch. Waterford's Sally, Best Brace, ISC of Southern California specialty show, under judge Dr. R.B. Foster (Joan Ludwig photo)

c. 1960: Irish Setter Ch. Draherin Auburn Artistry, bred by Lucy Jane Myers.

1962: Western Irish Setter Club members attend the Chicago premiere of Walt Disney's production of Big Red. The film would spark a new wave of Irish Setter popularity.

1968: Ch. Verbu Maureen, CD, was a daughter of Register of Merit sire Knockcross' O'Boy (William Brown photo)

1969: President Nixon's Tirvelda King Timahoe on the White House lawn, c. 1969. (Official White House photo)

1983: Am./Can. Ch. Sardonyx Free 'n' Easy wins a Group II at



Genesee Valley KC under judge Michele Billings (Callea photo)

1996: Four generations: Nancy Godbey's Ch. Pin Oak Vicksburg,

JH; Ch. Shangrila Wyndchime; Pin Oak Heart a Fire; and Am./Can. Ch. Pin Oak Robert E. Lee, JH (Tatham photo)

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RINGSIDE

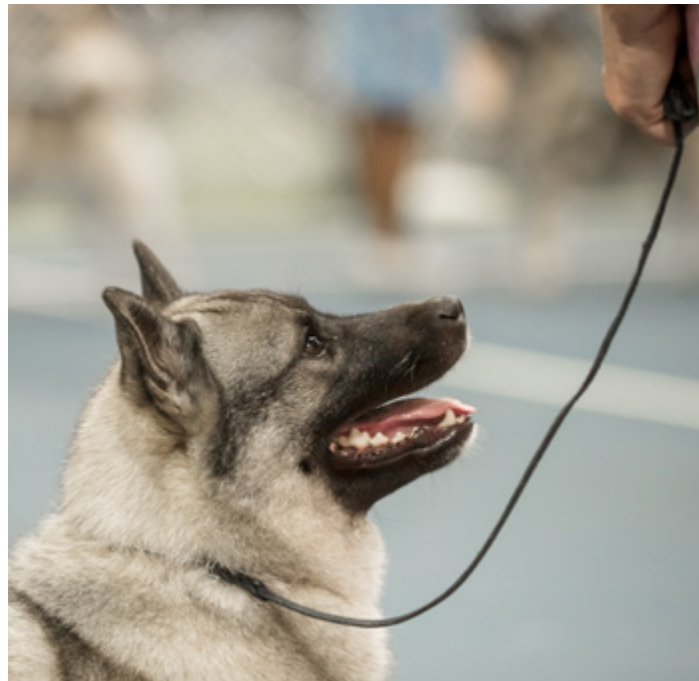
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS NORWEGIAN ELKHOUND ASSOCIATION, JULY 2 AND 3



Photos by [Lynda Beam](#)

WHEATON, ILLINOIS—The [Northeastern Illinois Norwegian Elkhound Association](#) held back-to-back regional specialties, July 2 and 3, at the Dupage County Fairgrounds. The NEINEA's 46th annual conformation weekend was judged by Ronda Bermke, Jean-Christophe Bouliguez, Carlin Rasmussen-Johnson, and Jeanne Nonhof.

Lynda Beam was ringside and filed this photo journal.



PHOTOS COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

RINGSIDE

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS NORWEGIAN ELKHOUND ASSOCIATION, JULY 2 AND 3



Photos by [Lynda Beam](#)



PHOTOS COURTESY LYNDY BEAM

FEATURE



The AKC Agility League gives teams a fun way to run locally but compete nationally.

By Penny Leigh

A League of Their Own

From the Windy City Weavers, Italian Greyhound GCh./MACH4/PACH2 Diavolino's Il Re Leone, RA, MXC, MJG2, MXP5, MXPS, MJP9, MJPG, PAX2, OF, CGC (Tate)

CATHI WINKLES, COURTESY OWNER

FEATURE



Not long after 9-year-old Amanda Swanson got a new puppy, she joined the local 4H dog club.

Swanson learned how to train Lacy, an Australian Shepherd, and loved it. She wanted more.

“My involvement quickly expanded to the world of AKC dog shows as a junior handler, and I was instantly hooked,” Swanson said. “Dog shows were a family affair. My parents had no prior experience but were avid supporters as my brother and I immersed ourselves in the show scene. I cherish the memories spent packing up the family camper and hitting the road as a team.”

The family co-bred a litter and kept a male puppy, Smokin. Breeder-owner-handler Swanson finished his conformation Grand Championship while still in high school. When she went to college, Smokin went with her. They continued



Breeder-owner-handler Amanda Swanson finished Smokin's Grand Championship while she was still in high school.

training and showing, and the blue merle dog became the first Aussie in the country to earn the AKC Rally Championship (RACH).

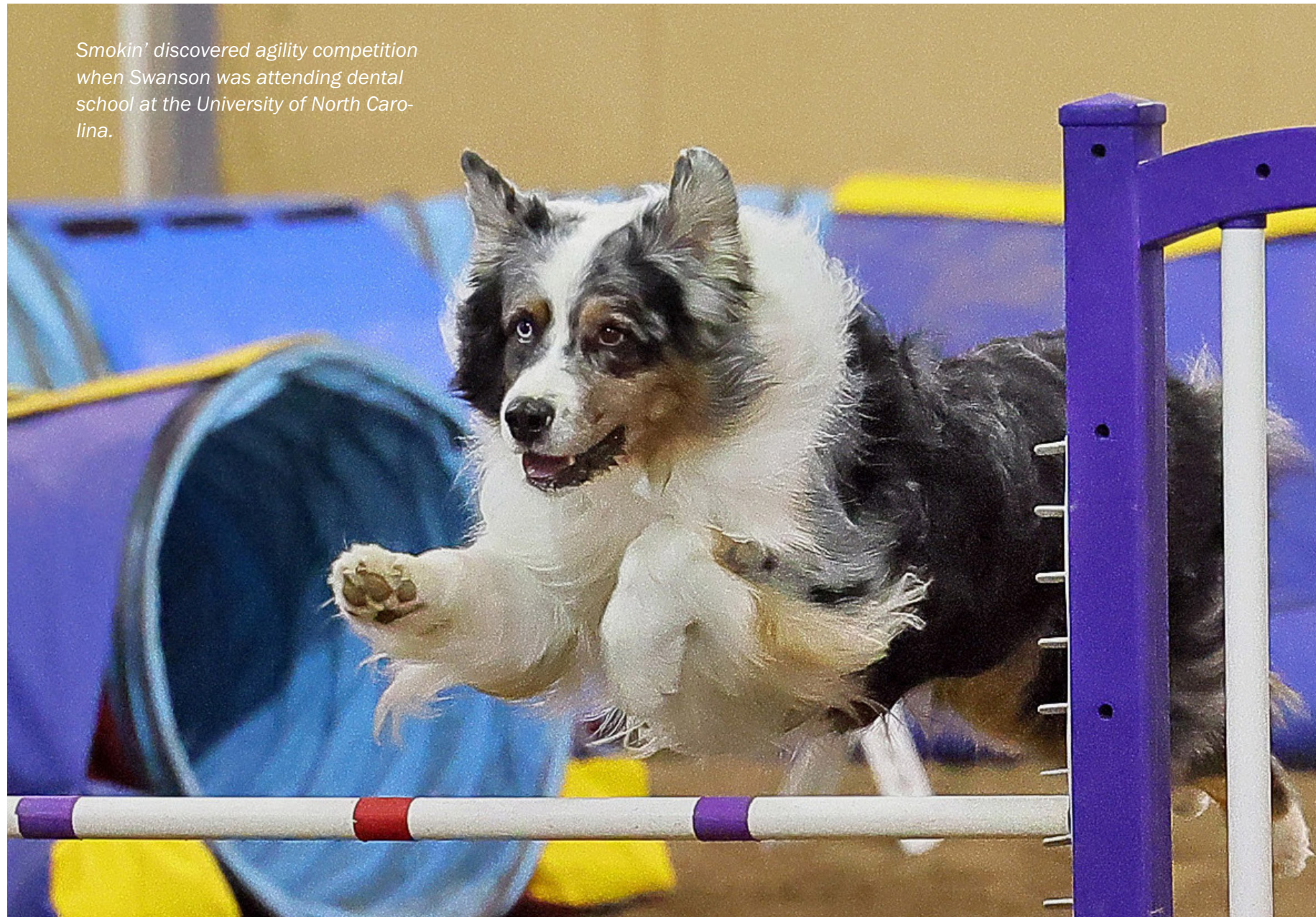
When the pair moved from New York so Amanda could start dental school at the University of North Carolina, they discovered another sport—agility. Even though Smokin was a veteran at age 7, they plunged into this new adventure and soon advanced to the Excellent class.

But her stringent schedule as a graduate student cut into the time that they could travel to trials. Then she heard about a new opportunity—the AKC Agility League, a fun way for agility competitors to run locally, but compete nationally.

The league launched as an AKC pilot program on May 30 with a limited number of agility groups spanning the country from New Hampshire to Alaska. The league season lasts 12 weeks, and the 40 teams run the

COURTESY OWNER

Smokin' discovered agility competition when Swanson was attending dental school at the University of North Carolina.



same six courses with a new course released every two weeks.

Swanson and Smokin joined the team First in Flight, based

at [Durham Kennel Club](#).

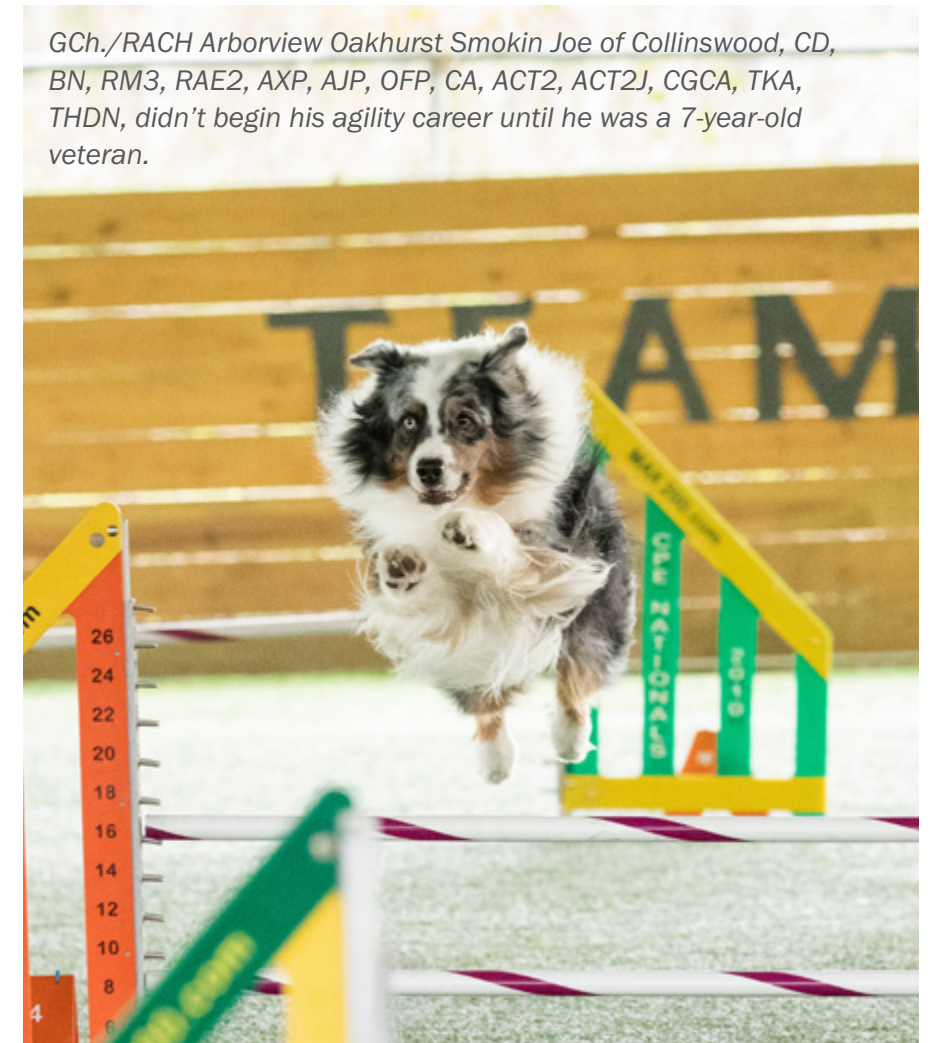
“It sounded like a great opportunity to stay involved, spend time with fellow agility enthusiasts, and continue

fine-tuning my handling skills in a structured yet informal environment,” Swanson says. “In my opinion, the pilot program has been a huge success,

and we are excited to have been a part of it.”

The teams consist of three to eight dogs, and, at the end of each two week round, rankings

GCh./RACH Arborview Oakhurst Smokin Joe of Collinswood, CD, BN, RM3, RAE2, AXP, AJP, OFF, CA, ACT2, ACT2J, CGCA, TKA, THDN, didn't begin his agility career until he was a 7-year-old veteran.



are released with the top placing teams and dogs. At season's end, the overall winning teams and dogs will be announced.

A SKEPTIC CONVERTED

A top contender to win his jump-height division is Tate, a fast Italian Greyhound who is ranked number one in the

8-inch Preferred class.

Tate is nearly 12 years old and was semiretired from agility until his owner, Jennifer Graves, was persuaded to join the team Windy City Weavers in Chicago.

“I was one of the early skeptics of the agility

LEFT: PIX 'N PAGES; COURTESY OWNER; RIGHT: DIRTY PAWS PHOTOGRAPHY; COURTESY OWNER



Tate, nearly 12 years old, is ranked number one in the League's 8-inch Preferred class.

league. We joined and participated at the urging of our coach and friend Dee Corboy-Lulik,” Graves says. “And we have discovered that we are having a great

deal of fun—fun with agility and fun with friends.

“The agility league has enabled Tate and I to continue to play together and have fun on the agility field in a low-

pressure environment. We also enjoy participating with our other dogs, some young (great for experience and to practice handling on all sorts of courses), and our seniors

(again, great practice, keeps them engaged, low pressure, preferred option). My husband and I agree: The league has renewed our enjoyment of agility in unexpected,

The Name Game

Part of the fun of the AKC Agility League is the creativity behind the team names. Some are clever takes on common agility terms, others refer to the team’s home region, while others are just plain whimsical. Here are a few favorites of GAZETTE staff, in no particular order.

- Bar Hoppers (Rocky Mountain)
- Pizza the Action (North Central)
- Team2Beat (Southeast)
- 40 Below—Let’s Go! (Alaska)
- Pole Benders (Rocky Mountain)
- First in Flight (Southeast)

unanticipated ways.”

The pilot season concluded on August 21, and the fall season is scheduled to start on September 12. The league enables agility fans to compete on their home turf but share the experience with others around the country. Team spirit abounds with groups adopting creative team names and even designing shirts and banners.

“The sense of camaraderie has been wonderful, not only amongst our team but also with others across the country

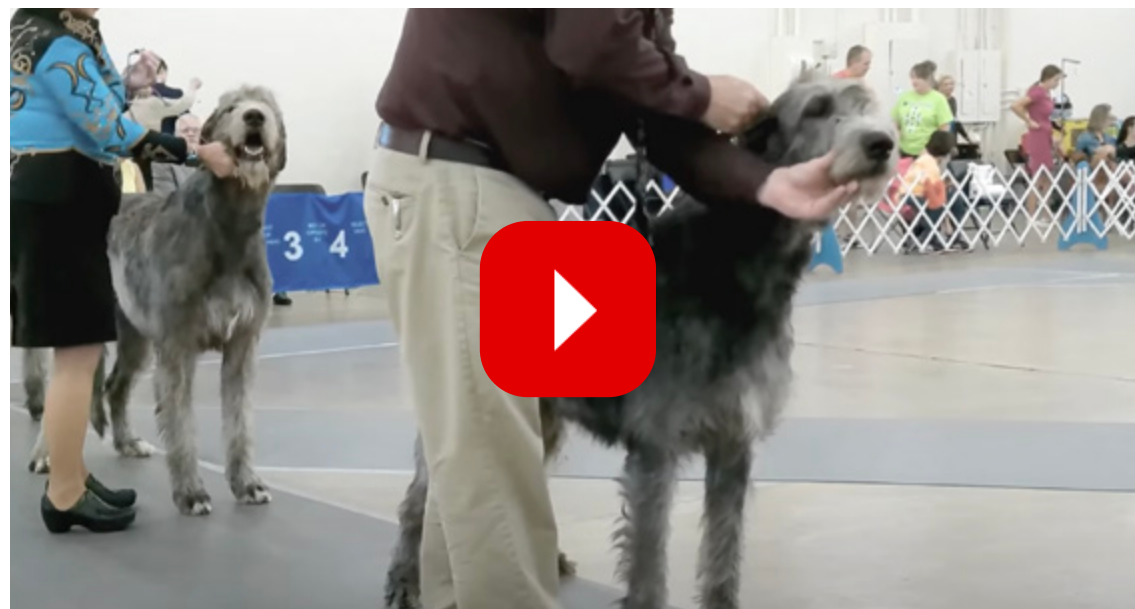
via the Facebook group,” Swanson says. “The league has proven to be a clever twist on what has historically been a largely individual sport. It’s neat to be a part of something larger than just yourself.”

For information about forming a team, write to AgilityLeague@akc.org.

—P.L.

Penny Leigh is the program manager of AKC Canine Partners and an avid competitor in dog sports with her canine team.

GREAT DANE PHOTO, COURTESY OWNER



The Mighty Irish

Joe Walton runs the Irish Wolfhound ring at the August [Arkansas KC](#) all-breed show. 10:53



Pointing, Italian Style

The Bracco Italiano, the Sporting Group's newest breed, shows high style pointing birds in the field. 1:58



Straight Scotch

Here's another look at this month's featured breed: Dandie Dinmont judging at Westminster 2022. 10:48



Sky King

Austin Butler played Elvis to acclaim in a movie bio this summer. Here, enjoy the real deal serenading a helicopter full of purebreds.



Bowhill, ancestral home of the 10th Duke of Buccleuch, once again welcomed the Dandie fancy.

The international Dandie Dinmont fancy converged on Scotland to walk in their breed's historical pawprints. By Sandra Stuart

And a charmed time it was. Back in 2015 and 2017, the first two Dandie Dinmont Terrier gatherings were held. While the third and final one was to be in 2019, COVID had

other ideas. After three postponements, about 100 people from 12 countries gathered once again at Dryburgh Abbey Hotel on the banks of the Tweed River in Selkirk, Scotland. With around 80

Dandies in attendance, it was a remarkable sight to see so many of this rare breed in one place.

On Thursday, July 21, about 4:00 in the afternoon, we all met for the initial

meet-and-greet. Paul Keevil, coordinator for the event, went over plans for the next three days, then answered questions. Afterward there was a barbeque held on the grounds of the hotel. Seeing

old friends and meeting new ones was the order of the day.

Bowhill, ancestral home of the 10th Duke of Buccleuch, once again welcomed us on Friday. Duke Richard came out to receive us car-

rying his first edition of Sir Walter Scott's *Guy Mannering*.

A farmer in the book called Dandie Dinmont raised "mustard and pepper terriers." These dogs later were given the name of this farmer,

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY SANDRA STUART



The weekend adventure began with a train trip from Edinburgh.

making them the only breed to be named after a literary figure.

His Grace's ancestors back to the 3rd Duke had raised

Dandies and have kept a connection to them down through the years. In fact, there are two Dandies now residing on the Bowhill estate

with Calum Flanders, who oversees the property. Lucy and Clementine made an appearance and they were also primary characters in a

book, *Sir Walter's Magical Well*.

There were tours around the estate showing the kennels still in use today and the gamekeeper's cottage where

James Keress lived. He found Old Pepper caught in a trap on the grounds and this dog became the father of Old Ginger, the first purebred registered Dandie. Every Dandie alive today can be traced back to Old Ginger through tail male lineage.

Keevil, an art dealer, gave a talk on the Gainsborough portrait of the 3rd Duke with his Dandie. It is unusual in many ways since most portraits of the time had a dog sitting on the ground as just part of the scenery, but the duke is holding his Dandie with great affection.

I had met and corresponded with the 9th Duke and he admitted to me that he questioned whether the dog in the portrait was a Dandie because of the long legs. I explained that there was no standard at that time to specify all aspects of the breed. I sent him some literature, and he then wrote to say that he had been convinced that it was indeed a Dandie

in the portrait.

Another afternoon activity was seeing the Bowhill fox-hound pack. Beautiful dogs, and the Bowhill Hunt is still active today.

A MOMENTOUS DAY

Saturday was Selkirk Dandie Day and many shopkeepers were "Dandie friendly," with Dandie signs in the windows or water bowls out front. Three Hills Coffee has created a roasted blend called "Old Ginger," so many came home with this unique souvenir.

At noon a crowd formed outside The Fleece, a restaurant well known in the history of Dandies. In 1875 the [Dandie Dinmont Terrier breed club](#) was formed at The Fleece, and there is a plaque inside from 2000 when the 125th anniversary was being celebrated. But this time there was something even more exciting.

If you have traveled in the U.K., you will surely have

FEATURE

seen blue round plaques on houses and businesses that have historical value. Since the Dandie club is the second oldest breed club in Britain (second only to the English Bulldog), a blue plaque was unveiled near the front door of The Fleece by Paul Eardley, chairman of the DDTC. The only blue plaque in the world to celebrate a breed, it is also the only Blue plaque in the whole of Selkirk, so a momentous day for this small town in the Borders of Scotland.

Tracy and Trevor own this incredible restaurant, voted the number-one eatery in Scotland. Trevor's cooking is out of this world and Tracy keeps everything running smoothly. For our gatherings, they make up a menu with names significant to the breed and it is always fun to see what they have come up with. If you find yourselves in this area, do yourselves a favor and try some of the best food you will ever taste.



Richard, 10th Duke of Buccleuch, welcomed his guests carrying his first edition of Sir Walter Scott's Guy Mannering.

AT THE HAINING

Back we went to [The Haining](#) where we gathered around the statue of Old Ginger done by Alexander Stoddart, the Queen's sculptor in ordinary for Scotland. It was unveiled in 2018 and has become well known throughout the Borders. There, Stoddart gave a talk on creating this masterpiece. He told us that he had some very large works underway in his studio but almost everyone who visited would always ask to see the "wee doggie."

For the first time ever, Stoddart agreed to have small replicas made of his beautiful statue. So we went to the marquee, where all who had ordered a statue received it along with a certificate of authenticity signed by Stoddart.

The head of the Board of Trustees for The Haining is Michelle Ballantyne, formerly a member of parliament for Scotland. She deserves a big thank-you for all the work

she put into our time at The Haining. She was handling banquet reservations as well as any other job that needed help. Her dedication to restoring this beautiful Georgian mansion is inspiring.

Michelle said during the banquet that when she became a trustee, she had no idea what a Dandie Dinmont was, but her learning curve had been very fast. Plans are in the works for those who have cremated their Dandies to be able to scatter the ashes in or around the kennel area. It completes the circle of life to bring our dogs back to the place where they originated.

For the banquet there were round tables accommodating eight persons. Two head tables were placed at the front for the two coordinators of the event, Paul Keevil of the U.K. and Mike McBeth of Canada. My husband and I were at Paul's table as we had a small part to play in the evening events. Paul first presented Old Ginger

An extra added attraction for visitors was an appearance by the Bowhill foxhounds.



awards to those people who had gone above and beyond to promote the breed. Only 200 to 300 Dandies are born each year around the world, so it becomes imperative that there are people who are

dedicated to the breed.

THE ART OF THE DANDIE

Next, Paul and Sheila Keevil presented a lovely painting of Sir Walter Scott. Then my husband Winston

and I made a presentation 26 years in the making. Our mentor and dear friend Mary Scott died in 1996, leaving her collection of paintings to us. She asked that we enjoy them then take them

back to Scotland to be given to a place significant to the Dandie breed. In 2000 we presented the 9th Duke of Buccleuch with a painting by J.J. Glass. His Grace hung it with the family pet portraits.

But we had two other paintings of significance but were not sure what to do with them. Until about 2014 the connection of The Haining to the Dandie was not known. An auction of a painting of

five Dandies at The Haining Loch caused Paul to research this and it was found that Old Ginger, father of all Dandies, was born here. His owner died soon thereafter, and Old Ginger was acquired by



On Saturday the Dandie contingent gathered at the Fleece, "Scotland's number-one eatery," to see the newly installed "blue plaque" dedicated to their breed.



another breeder. This led to Paul and Mike visiting The Haining and finding that the original kennels still existed. Since then, the trustees have been generous in welcoming us and welcoming their connection to the Dandie.

As all this information came to light, I began to think that this was the place for the paintings.

Mary Scott had loved Scottish history. She also had the first international champion Dandie, in the early '70s. After working in England for



Sandra and Winston Stuart display the paintings they donated to The Haining. Also pictured: Neil and Michelle Ballantyne.

about eight years then taking early retirement, she lived with us for a year in Atlanta, Georgia. Then she enrolled at Edinburgh University, majoring in Scottish studies. Sadly,

she did not complete her courses due to cancer. But I talked with Paul back and forth over a couple of years, and he then became liaison with Michelle and other

trustees about taking the paintings. Michelle told us that the paintings will hang in the library as soon as restoration is completed. Our hope is that both Dandie and other dog

people will enjoy seeing this artwork by John Emms and Sir Edwin Landseer.

John Nichol is an actor who has portrayed Sir Walter Scott many times for us in the past. He is a lovely man, and he and his players then put on an original play, naturally about two Dandies

and their unplanned liaison. Much laughter and enjoyment was had.

Then it was time for the night to end. Everyone departed the marquee except for Michelle and her husband, Neil, along with my husband and myself. It is a wonderful time when you

meet people with whom there is never a quiet moment. After a couple of hours the four of us left, but we hope to keep in touch.

GOODBYES

Sunday, the final day of the gathering, saw most of the group boarding the train to Edinburgh where Alexander Stoddart led a tour of some of his major works around the city. A highlight was visiting **Greyfriar's Bobby**, the little dog famous for spending 14 years lying on his master's grave. Claimed to be a Skye Terrier for many years, there is now another theory that he was indeed a Dandie. There were many articles in the papers about this after all the Dandies were there. I have long contended that same theory and there is only one actual photo of Bobby which looks like a small Dandie whereas Skyes are much larger.

A train ride back to Selkirk and it was time for goodbyes.



The Haining, with the event marquee beside it. At left is a stable block with apartments above.

The Haining

The Haining is a country estate at Selkirk in the Scottish Borders. The house, built by the Pringle family, dates from the 1790s. In 2009, the house and grounds were bequeathed to the public. The Haining Charitable Trust has developed the building as a center for exhibitions and events. Old Ginger, father of all Dandies, was born here, and Alexander Stoddart's statue of the breed patriarch is located in the kennel yard.

This was the final gathering and it is impossible to count the number of hours and amount of work Paul and Mike extended to make these possible. Now only time will tell if the publicity brought to this rare breed will help to save it for the future.—**S.S.**

Sandra Stuart (Win.San Dandies) has bred and shown Dandies for almost 40 years. An AKC Breeder of Merit, she also has won two Maxwell awards from the Dog Writers Association of America. Stuart has made 25 trips to Scotland and has worked tirelessly for the breed, being involved in rescue for 30 years.



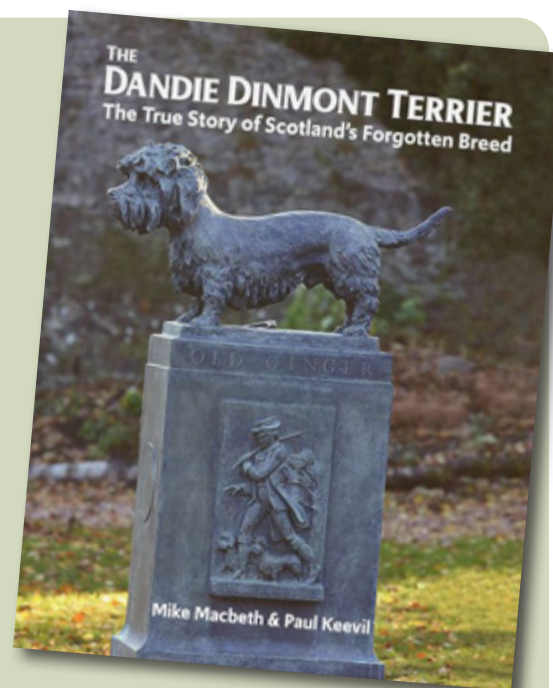
Further Reading

A brand-new book made its appearance at The Haining event. Paul Keevil and Mike McBeth have just published *The Dandie Dinmont Terrier: The True Story of Scotland's Forgotten Breed*, beautifully done with 270 color pages with new information and theories on the breed.

Contact

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TIMES PAST

Saddler's *Image Makers*



The GAZETTE manages a comprehensive collection of work by master photographer Rudolph Tauskey, and we have presented it here in many ways. An aspect of Tauskey's fabled career not much discussed, however, is how often his distinctive photos were used as models by portrait painters and illustrators commissioned by the great kennels. Among those artists was Edwin Megargee (1883–1958). If any artist could claim the title “The Fancier’s Painter,” it was Megargee.

A skilled and well-trained artist, Megargee was also a respected AKC judge. Indeed, he painted like a judge. For instance, even when the dog in one of his portraits stands in a field of grass the feet are plainly visible, assuring the viewer that the dog’s feet and pasterns were well-formed and properly angulated. “Not of a romantic temperament, Megargee created animal portraits

which truly reflected how the animals looked,” writes canine-art dealer William Secord. “Megargee’s dogs are typically posed to show off how they conform to the standard of the breed. Megargee also depicted sporting dogs in the field, or pet dogs relaxing at home, but the vast majority of his canine works were of commissioned purebred show dogs.”

Here we see Megargee’s oil portrait Smooth Fox Terrier Ch. Nornay Saddler, widely known as one of the great show dogs of all time. Owner James Austin donated the painting to the AKC in 1940, and it remains a mainstay of the AKC collection.

Tauskey’s photo of Saddler, also seen here, first appeared in the GAZETTE not long before Megargee executed his painting. In this side-by-side comparison, it is obvious that Megargee relied on Tauskey’s work as his reference model.

Rudolph Tauskey’s photo of Nornay Saddler inspired a celebrated painting by Edwin Megargee.



“He has all the determination and the stamina, and the high, flaming spirit that go toward making

greatness,” Arthur Frederick Jones wrote of Saddler in our December 1937 issue. “In addition, he has about every point of physical perfection that one could hope to find in a single dog. He has few rivals, whether he is

viewed from front, side, or quarters.”

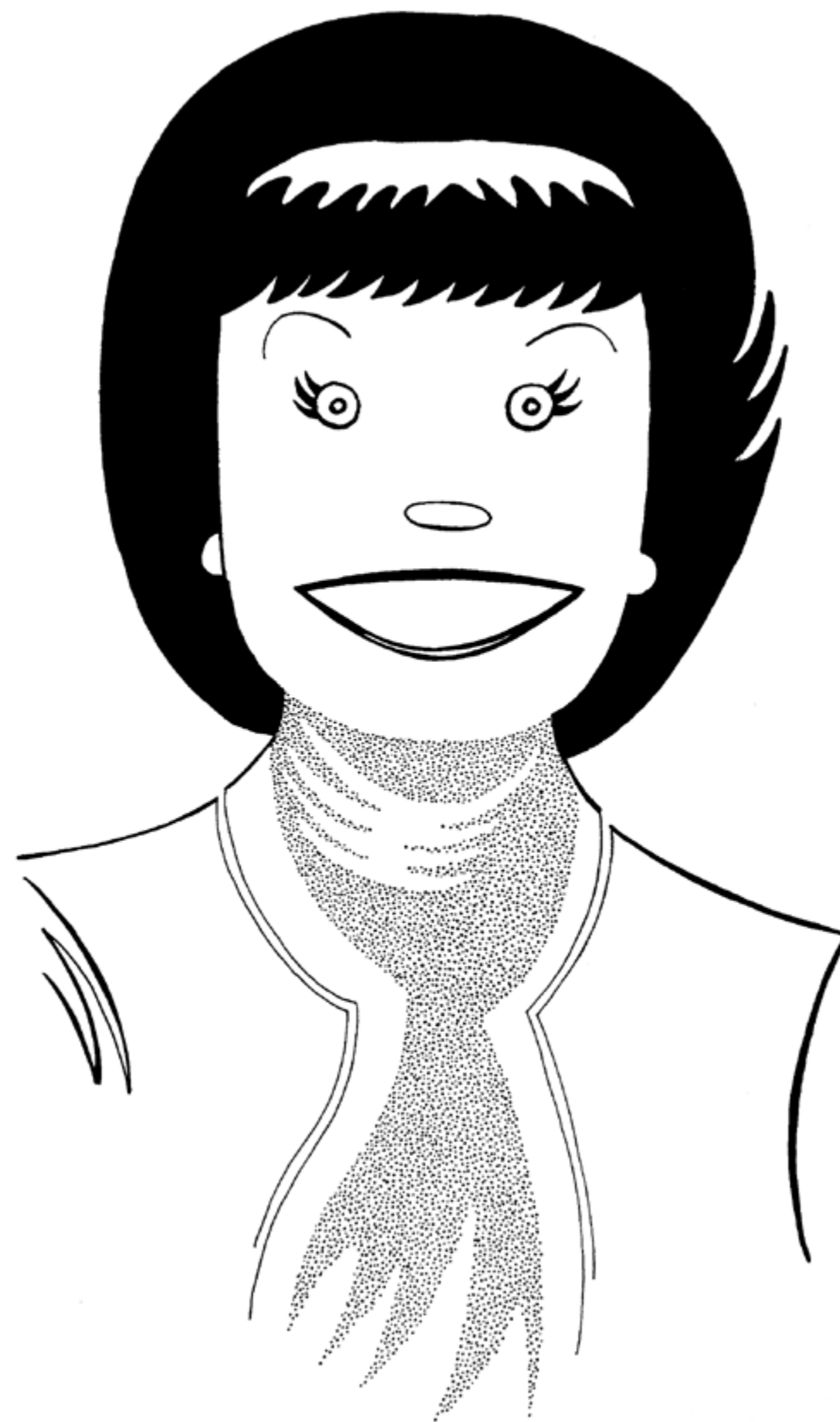
Thanks to the combined efforts of two painstaking craftsmen, Saddler’s “physical perfection” lives on to delight and educate the fancy now and for years to come.

PHOTO/AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION; PAINTING/AKC COLLECTION

Mrs. Alderman (1940–2022)

barbara Dempsey Alderman died on July 31 at age 82. She acquired her first Afghan Hound when she was a teenager, and during her lifetime in dogs Mrs. Alderman checked all the boxes: successful breeder-exhibitor, AKC-licensed handler, hardworking club member, distinguished all-rounder judge.

The full measure of her soul, however, cannot be captured on a résumé. In the weeks since her death, her fellow fanciers have remembered her as a “classy lady” and a “great companion” with a “dazzling smile” who was “fair,” “funny,” “patient,” “warm,” “spirited,” “sparkling,” and “caring.” And, no doubt, as this tribute is being written, her friends and colleagues are still groping for just the right adjectives to recall the uniquely marvelous Mrs. Alderman.





In this month's American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club column, Mary Hanus reminds us that the ultimate "comforter spaniel" is not just another pretty face. (Lynda Beam photo)

About the Breed Columns

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by the breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's traits, history, care, and training. A national parent club is made up of dedicated breeders and fanciers and represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to serious dog fanciers in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate quarterly by group so that each breed's column can appear four times a year. Information and opinions expressed in the breed columns represent the views of their authors, not necessarily those of the breed's parent club or the AKC. For questions about the breed columns, e-mail Arliss.Paddock@akc.org.

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TOY GROUP

Brussels Griffons

THE DANGERS OF USING RETRACTABLE LEADS

Retractable leads have been around for over 20 years. At their inception, many thought they were the best thing since sliced bread. But while a retractable lead may look like a great way to give your Griff a bit more freedom on a walk, allowing them to explore a greater area without excessive pulling, this is not a good idea. That freedom is a danger. I know of *two* different occasions where Brussels Griffons were killed when, while out on a walk, they darted between parked cars into oncoming traffic. It is just not possible to pull a dog back quickly enough in that situation. You can put on the brake, but the dog is still out there, and you cannot pull it back with the string. On the other side of the story, my own Griff was attacked by a large dog in the potty area of a dog show. The other dog was on a flexi, and too fast for the owner. That Griff was never the same at a dog show. She lost her showiness when all she needed was two points. It wasn't until she was returned to the ring after a litter that she got those two points—and that was by the skin of our teeth, as her tail went down the minute we entered a show site.

The AKC does not allow retractable leads at their sanctioned events. This may not always be listed in the premium list, but it is true.



The button on the lead's handle which is supposed to act as a brake is not always enough, or it may malfunction. It is impossible to pull a dog back by the "string" without injuring one's hand. Most of us were born with leashes in our hand and are extremely adept at sending signals down that lead, both encouragement and correction. This is nearly impossible on a flexi.

Here are a few possible scenarios when your Griff is on a retractable lead:

Out on a walk, he finds a delectable piece of

dog poop—or even better, cat poop. You haven't even seen it yet. Eaten!

Hiking, Griffy winds himself around a tree or shrub.

Hiking, Griffy goes ahead and scares a skunk—not going to be a good night.

Hiking, Griffy goes ahead and meets something bigger and more dangerous.

Being walked by a child (children and flexis are not a good combo), the dog sees something he has to go after. He gets up a good head of steam, and the handle of the lead is yanked out of the child's hand, or the child falls face-first.

In the vet's office, Griffy goes through the door ahead of you and into the space of a none-too-friendly other dog. A fight ensues before you're even in the room. For this reason, many veterinarians, grooming shops, and pet-supply stores forbid dogs on retractable leads.

Get rid of your retractable leads, or confine their use to your own backyard. Find a cotton or nylon web lead—or my favorite, a leather, four- to six-foot long lead in a width suitable for your dog. A six-foot leather lead can give your dog a little more room to explore without being out of control.

Keep your companions safe!—*Anne K. Catterson*

[American Brussels Griffon Association](#)

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Our column this month is in two parts. First is *"More Than a Pretty Face,"* by guest contributor Mary Hanus, Statistics Chair for the American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club.

The second part is *"Colors and the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel,"* with information from Mari-Beth O'Neill.

MORE THAN A PRETTY FACE

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels are well known as loyal, loving companions and the bedwarmers of English nobility. They are truly the ultimate "comforter spaniel." With their soft and gentle disposition and those beautiful, melting eyes, they usually charm their owners into doing things on their terms. Many may underestimate their potential. What you might find interesting is that they can also be wonderful, focused obedience and performance dogs.

The first titled Cavalier recorded by the AKC was on January 1, 1995, when a Blenheim boy named Dreamridge Dear Hobson, CDX, MX, NAJ, earned his Novice Agility title. The first AKC conformation championship title was earned on January 7, 1996, by Ch. Wye Rebound of Rattlebridge. Since January of 1995 through December 31, 2021, Cavaliers have obtained 26,954 AKC titles. Of these, 6,637 were Champion con-

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

TOY GROUP



formation titles, and 1,275 Grand Champion conformation titles. The remaining 19,042 titles include everything from Canine Good Citizen, Trick Dog, Therapy Dog, obedience, agility, and rally to Scent Work, flyball, Barn Hunt, jumper titles, and even 15 dock diving titles. Some of these dogs have been taken to the top levels in their respective areas of competition.

In 2020 Cavalier King Charles Spaniels had their first Obedience Trial Champion title, and this dog has gone on to obtain the OTCH4 level. He is Kimark Take It to the Max, UDX6, OGM, BN, GO, owned by Michael and Rita Bode and bred by Kim and Mark Baillie (Kimark). An OTCH title is one of the highest performance achievements awarded by the AKC. Dogs with Utility Dog



titles must win 100 points and a first-place in Utility B and Open B, plus a third first-place win in either class, under three different judges. Max and Michael have met these thresholds four different occasions. This is an impressive achievement for any breed.

My deepest respect goes out to Michael and to all who endeavor to explore new avenues with their dogs. The degree of time and dedication it takes to elevate a dog to its highest potential has to be an extremely rewarding



Smart, versatile, and always eager to please, Cavaliers excel in many companion and performance events. Accepted colors for the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel are Blenheim, Ruby, Black and Tan, and Tricolor.

experience. Those of us who are exclusively conformation trainers (myself included) feel that we are accomplished if we can school our dogs to walk a straight line, submit quietly to an examination by a stranger on a table, and stand for long periods of time focused on a piece of bait while happily wagging their tails. Cavalier King Charles Spaniels have proven that they can be so much more.

The AKC has expanded the opportunities for exhibitors to compete against other dogs or fulfill their own personal experience with titles such as Therapy Dog, Trick Dog, and Canine Good Citizen. Whether Cavaliers are bringing contentment to someone in a nursing home or running and obstacle course, I think that we should be very proud of the versatility of our amazing little breed. They are as brainy as they are beautiful—so much more than a



pretty face.—Mary Hanus, Mary Charter, mmhanus@charter.net

COLORS AND THE CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL

The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is an elegant, graceful, well-balanced toy spaniel blessed with a happy, loving temperament and an equally beautiful and silky coat. The Cavalier comes in four coat colors:

- There is the *Blenheim*, named for Blenheim Palace, with rich chestnut markings well broken up on a clear, pearly white background. The ears must be chestnut, and the color evenly spaced on the head and surrounding both eyes. In the center of the forehead, there may be a chestnut spot, or “Blenheim spot,” which is unique to the Blenheim color.
- There is the *Black and Tan*, which is jet

COURTESY MARY HANUS (AGILITY) / COURTESY AKC/SC

TOY GROUP

black with rich, bright tan markings over eyes, on cheeks, inside ears, on chest, legs, and on underside of the tail.

- We have the *Ruby*, which is a whole-colored, rich red.
- Finally, there is the *Tricolor*, with jet-black markings well broken up on a clear, pearly white background. The ears must be black, and the color evenly spaced on the head and surrounding both eyes, with a white blaze between the eyes, and rich tan markings over the eyes, on the cheeks, inside the ears, and on the underside of the tail.

These are the four accepted colors of the CKCS and the only four accepted colors based on the history of our breed, beginning with its country of origin, England, and the 1600s.

Like so many breeds today, the CKCS is subject to attacks from “breeders” offering what I might call “designer dogs” or “other-colored Cavaliers.” These may range from chocolate, black, black and white, white, or even merle. While these breeders may suggest laudable points such as hybrid vigor, these colors bring with them the possibility of genetic defects.

Other colors in the CKCS are nothing new, and an attempt was made by the AKC parent club to exclude these other colors from AKC registration when the breed was accepted in 1995. That exclusion was and still is denied,

opening the door to problems.

To understand the issue of colors requires some knowledge of Cavalier history. After the death of Charles II in 1685, the King Charles Spaniel began to change from a longer-muzzled dog to what we now call the English Toy Spaniel. In an effort to regain the longer muzzle and features of the original dogs featured in the paintings of Van Dyck and others of that period, various breeds were introduced.

These “Other-Color Cavaliers” may reflect the history of introduction of those breeds including Papillons, Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, and even the now-extinct Pyrame, Norfolk Spaniel, and Toy Trawler breeds. The last three breeds are known only to very educated Cavalier lovers and historians.

These Other-Colors may also be achieved by present-day out-crossing. There is concern that accepting Other-Colors brings with it the genetic defects associated with “dilutes.” Deep in the history of CKCS are diseases like curly coat and dry eye, which have been essentially eliminated. Will these and other health issues re-emerge with the Other-Colors? The merle color has never been part of the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, in history or in any country, and can only occur as an outcross.

The American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club has taken the bold step to revise

its breed standard to make clear to judges of the breed that there are only four acceptable colors in our breed and that all non-allowed colors should be disqualified.

If there are any questions or concerns, you may contact me at the address below.

—Dr. John V. Ioia, MD, Ph.D.,
bonefixr@gmail.com
 American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club

Chihuahuas

ELEMENTS OF TYPE

“Are all those dogs the same breed?” When walking into the Chihuahua show ring, you’ll see a variety of dogs who are so visually different, it’s no wonder judges are having a hard time choosing the best dog of the day.

Because interpretation of the standard leaves a lot of leeway to the individual breeder, we must breed for *type*. By doing so, we would see less variance in our dogs.

Coat, head, movement, silhouette, and character are some of the elements of type as described in our breed standard.

On these points:

Coat “should be of a soft texture, either flat or slightly wavy, with undercoat preferred.” Today it appears that the long-coated Chihuahua



is “preferred” to have a very full and heavy coat, straying from the original intent of the standard. One dog will have a full, heavy coat, while the dog next to him may have a flat or slightly wavy coat. This tends to confuse judges and ringsiders alike. Sometimes the dog of better conformation, soundness, and type is overlooked for a luscious coat.

Head is defined as having a “well-rounded, ‘apple dome’ skull with a saucy expression.” To some, the head is the all to end all, while to others, it simply sits at the top of the neck. The correct head highlights the dog, and the expression projects the essence of what we look for in our Chihuahuas. It’s the first

TOY GROUP

impression and the final brush-stroke in painting the picture of a Chihuahua.

Movement is to be swift, with firm, sturdy action and good reach in front equal to the drive from the rear. From the rear, the hocks remain parallel to each other and the footfall of the rear legs follows directly behind that of the forelegs. There is no hackney gait or high lifting mentioned in our standard.

Many believe that a toy dog cannot move like a sporting dog. Over the years, quality breeders have made huge improvements in the structure of their dogs, and indeed, a Chihuahua can and does move with grace and ease around the ring. This correct movement denotes correct conformation, yet it goes unrewarded at times for a pretty face in a fur coat.

Silhouette is the physicality of the breed. It is everything that is required by the breed standard. An accomplished groomer can hide a multitude of sins, creating an illusion. A correct outline should denote correctness in parts, so it is important to be sure that what we are looking at is real.

Character is the sum total of the dog's mental and physical characteristics. It's the immediate impression of the dog at first sight. It is expressed in not only what the dog looks like but also in how it conducts itself. Breeders need to develop an ability to recognize the ideal Chihuahua character in order to

establish a vision of excellence for the breed.

"The pendulum of type swings to and fro, but those remaining true to the standard triumph in the end."

—Virginia (Jenny) Hauber,
wynjynchis@yahoo.com
Chihuahua Club of America

Havanese

THE WORDS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Week after week, month after month, year after year, and decade after decade, I have had the privilege of having a front-row seat watching and participating in Havanese being judged in the conformation ring, in this country and in England.

Without question, the three most misunderstood aspects of the breed appear to be coat, gait, and topline. Judges, breeders, and exhibitors continue to be confused about these most basic three elements of Havanese breed type.

Coat: What could possibly be perplexing (wink)? The complexity of the standard regarding coat is not to be taken lightly nor without study and discussion. The standard allows for coats to be "brushed or corded" or brushed with braids over the eyes, which are specifically described but rarely done correctly.

The coat is "silky to the touch," so how can it cord? And if it is "silky," how can it "stand



Havanese

off the body slightly?" Because the coat must be a "double coat," where the "outer coat carries slightly more weight" than the undercoat and it is "wavy," the outer coat, if not brushed, can naturally form cords by winding and weaving through the softer undercoat. "Silky to the touch" does *not* mean straight. Silky is how things feel, not how things look.

Best to check the feel of the coat near the skin to assess coat texture. Close to the skin, the coat hasn't been flat-ironed or chemically straightened or merged into cords. It is new

coat growth, and touching it at the base gives you the real feel of the hair. For us old-timers, it is a continuing heartbreak to see coats that have a beautiful wave be mechanically transformed to look like other "drop-coated" breeds.

The coat should never be trimmed or sculpted, except for minimal trimming around the anal and genital areas, the feet, and between the pads. A natural and correctly presented Havanese coat is breathtaking, corded or brushed. Anything else should not

COURTESY HOT DOG PHOTO

TOY GROUP

merit being rewarded.

Gait: As a result of having a short upper arm, “the Havanese gait is springy.” The gait is also reflective of the dogs’ playful, spirited personalities. The standard specifically says that they “should be presented at a natural speed on a loose lead.” So why are people interpreting that to mean that the fastest dog wins? Invariably these days, I see that the dogs being rewarded in the ring are the ones who hit the end of a six-foot lead with handler in tow. Flashy for some breeds; wrong for Havanese.

Ironically, that leads me to my last concern: topline. It is very evident to anyone with a basic knowledge of physics and planes that if a dog hits the end of the leash and the handler pulls back on the lead, the head comes up and the croup drops down! It is like a playground teeter-totter: One end goes up, and the other end goes down. So what wins is a fast-moving, flashy dog with a topline opposite to what is correct for the breed!

Topline: Havanese should have a “straight topline that rises slightly from the withers to the croup.” Couldn’t be more straightforward ... right? Well, these words are too often not understood. The trick is to understand the word *straight*. No bend or roach should be evident. Go back to my teeter-totter analogy above. The teeter totter is a flat board. Tip

one end down, slightly off level, and there you have a perfect Havanese topline. So why on earth are we seeing dogs being rewarded with top lines so bad, they actually tip downward? Level would be bad enough, but a reverse topline that goes down instead of up? Shameful for a judge to overlook that, and embarrassing for a breeder to allow that be exhibited in the ring.

Coat, gait, and topline are essential elements of breed type. Any confusion on this should be studied to the point where it is clear. Take a photo and video of your dog in the ring and say, “Does this presentation reflect the words in the standard?” For exhibitors and breeders, it is really not about just collecting wins; for judges, take an extra few minutes to read the standard, and think about the words.

Let’s all take pride in what we are doing. Our breed type is too wonderful and special to be just another generic little dog.

—Alice L. Lawrence,
pulifuzz@aol.com
Havanese Club of America

Italian Greyhounds

OLDER CAN BE BETTER

I’d like to have a dollar for every prospective owner who contacts me for a breeder-referral and either wants to know



Italian Greyhound

Lynda Beam

where to get a 6- or 8-week-old puppy, or poses a complaint that breeder they’ve been referred to would not let them have one so young.

People still think they have to have such an immature baby in order to be able to form a really strong bond and to properly train the youngster.

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

TOY GROUP

In the “old days” of dog ownership, many so-called authorities did proclaim that the younger the puppy when acquired, the easier it would be to integrate it into one’s household. More recent research and experiences have proven otherwise, however.

In fact, it now is believed that a puppy should remain with its dam and littermates until at least 10 weeks of age—and preferably longer—in order to learn how to be a proper dog of its particular breed. Simple behaviors such as bite inhibition are much more easily learned by a puppy from its canine family than from a human instructor. In fact when a puppy is taken away too soon, some things can never be properly assimilated.

In my personal experience during 46 years of living with Italian Greyhounds, I’ve found that several of my closest bonds have been with dogs who were acquired at a later age. A good example is PePa.

PePa was obtained from my Brazilian breeder-friend Elias P. Duarte, Jr., at 6 months of age. PePa had been trained with commands given in Portuguese, a language with which I am not at all familiar, and the pronunciation of which is quite difficult. I asked Elias to teach me a few words, particularly the ones for *stand* and *stay*, which I started to use with PePa.

Somehow, PePa did understand what I wanted her to do, and even our first show

weekend together less than two weeks after she had arrived was very successful—although I got the distinct impression that she was quietly laughing at me when I told her *parada* or *parou*.

Mispronounced words and humor aside, PePa fit into our routine within days of her arrival. She bonded with me almost immediately, following me everywhere, and she started her second morning in our house doing exactly what the other dogs did. She chose her own spots on the sofa and in bed and quickly learned the proper place to go to relieve herself. She also bonded right away with Diva, the closest resident IG to her age, to the extent that we started referring to PePa and Diva as “the twins.”

There are many bonuses to acquiring an older puppy or young adult. Often these are already trained, especially if they are destined for the show ring. PePa, for instance, arrived accustomed to riding quietly in a crate while traveling in a car and content to be confined to an exercise pen when necessary.

Probably one of the biggest advantages over a very young baby is that an older one is much less likely to have separation anxiety, a difficult-to-manage characteristic common in many breeds, especially the more affectionate ones—which, of course, includes the IG.

—*Lilian S. Barber, 2012*

[Italian Greyhound Club of America](#)

Japanese Chin

FINDING THE BEST COMPANION HOMES FOR PUPPIES

How do you measure success in placing puppies?

I never knew that my many years in corporate human resources and operating my own management and career counseling practice would help me in my dog show venture. Many years ago, in my past life, I was in human resources management with Fortune 500 companies. The first thing you learn is a very effective way to both identify and employ the best candidate for the vacant job position. The method involves a series of steps, or “gates,” through a list of questions that help to identify both strengths and weaknesses.

What happens when a breeder has a litter and picks the most promising puppy from that litter? Unless it is a singleton litter, you eventually will face the issue of placing the remainder of the puppies in loving homes. As a reputable breeder, you most certainly want the best homes for your puppies.

There are a number of resources to help place these innocent little creatures. If you are a member of a breed club, the club might have a breeder referral list or a person responsible for helping puppy buyers hook up with a responsible breeder. There is also the AKC breeder referral list. If you are a Breeder of

Japanese Chin



Merit, you can list your litter on the AKC Marketplace for free. There is usually an informal network of breeders in your particular breed through which you can announce your puppies, and in return assist other network breeders in finding potential homes for their litters.

If you have a website, you are able to put information there, consisting of not only

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

TOY GROUP

information about you and your puppies, but adorable pictures which most people find irresistible. I also keep a potential puppy list of inquiries. If you keep this list, you can go back and contact these people to see if they are still interested. Last, but not least, there is word of mouth, which I find quite reliable.

In the process of finding excellent homes, I find myself tracing back to my old tried and true ways of discerning an excellent home from a list of interested people. In the human resources interviewing process, these are referred to as “knockout questions.” First, I find out exactly what this person is interested in. Some interests could be a male or female, puppy or young adult, highly active dog, or a passive, quiet soul.

Next, my questions focus on the people and their environment. Do they have children? If so, how many, and what are their ages? Are they living in an apartment, or a home with a yard? If they have a yard, is the yard fenced, with slats close enough to keep a puppy confined? What kind of home do they have—two story with steep stairs, or a one-level home? Do they have any other pets? If so, what breed and age, and are they neutered?

If a person passes these “knockout questions,” we continue onto a more formal selective interview. Questions as to the sincerity of homing, loving, and caring for a puppy begin.

I am very interested to see if this potential home is familiar with the breed, so questions and discussions regarding the positive and negative issues with Chin are discussed. What is their timing as to acquiring a puppy? Are they willing to wait for a healthy puppy, or do they want a puppy right now? If you don’t have one available, will they just move on to the next breeder? I am also very careful to assess and match the puppies and their temperaments with their potential homes.

As we continue the discussions, I take that time to explain how my timing regarding weaning, socializing, and health necessities are done. That would involve the time it takes to wean a puppy, socialize, and also begin inoculations.

The next step is about a pet/companion contract. If you don’t have one, get one. This will spell out in writing both the breeder’s assurances and the potential owner’s obligation. We review the contract in detail so there aren’t any misunderstandings for either party. If all goes well here, we move on.

The final step is the most rewarding: the day the new owner/family comes to get their puppy. I have a packet all ready. In their packet will be the AKC registration papers, health records, signed contracts by both parties, a bag of special chewies, a favorite toy, and a list of places to get them. Next they will

also receive a small container of food and a sample of the puppy’s special treats. Most people have already purchased the same food, but I include it in their puppy bag. Next is a business card with my contact information. The new parents now have a breeder. They are told if they have any questions, day or night, I am available to assist them in their new life with their new addition.

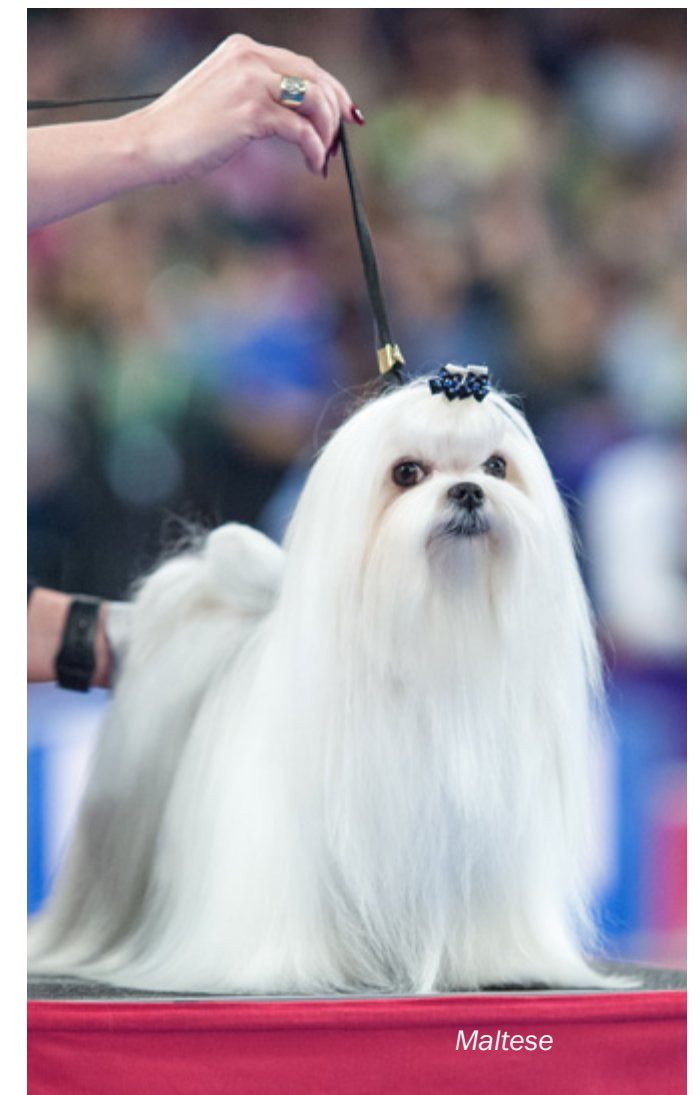
I have been able to successfully place many puppies by using this step-by-step interviewing and placement process. The measure of success is simple: Through the process, you establish yourself as a trusted resource and are rewarded by the happy faces, pictures, and thank-you notes from new proud parents—not only on their first day, but days and years after!

—Cese Resnick, 2017
[Japanese Chin Club of America](#)

Maltese

WE MUST STAND FIRM AS KEEPERS OF THE BREED

We are keepers of our breeds and should be breeding to American Kennel Club standards. Pretty pictures of dogs from around the world on Facebook are great, but most of the countries that are prominent in cute or pretty pictures have different standards than ours. For the newer people, many of those



Maltese

countries are very new to showing and breeding our breed. I realize it is hard to get into the breed with the many contracts everyone issues these days, but are they really helping our breed or its future?

When breeding good dogs, you need work with families of dogs that have the same traits

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TOY GROUP

over and over again. Outcrossing or bringing in all the dogs from other countries is not going to help create a line unless you breed consistently back into a solid line. However, as I just stated above, very few of the foreign kennels have solid lines, and most are relatively new in breeding, so you have no idea what you are breeding.

Our standard discusses everything as *moderate*, from head to toe. I do not understand why so many people are trying to change our dogs and breed for extreme qualities such as Shih Tzu—or Chihuahua—type heads; long, long necks; long backs; or tight, tight tails! Our breed, with their topknots, is starting to look like they have globe heads, with long backs and very tight, low-set tails. This is not a Maltese! Maltese are a white breed, where only a light lemon is permissible on their ears—so why do we have dogs with so much color in their beautiful white coats?

I know styles change, but we as preservation breeders better re-read our AKC standard and pay attention to our dogs we breed or put in the ring. As Richard Beauchamp said, if you like doll faces, or tight tails and color in the coat, find another breed, as that is not what a Maltese is!

—Daryl Martin,
daryldmartin@sbcglobal.net
American Maltese Association

Papillons

A DROUGHT I NEVER COULD HAVE IMAGINED

In my entire lifetime, and it is a long one, I never could have imagined experiencing such an awful drought. We haven't had any significant rainfall in New Jersey for months, and I now have a new job, which is to make sure I water my garden daily! This includes my perennial garden, as well as flowering trees, shrubs, and forsythia bushes, so they all won't shrivel up and die from lack of water.

Unfortunately, I don't have a sprinkler system as many of my neighbors do, but I wouldn't want to waste the water frivolously on my grass, since we have a limited water supply. Our town's well is near rock bottom, and we soon will have to boil the water to make sure it is safe to drink.

The naysayers had scorned at those who claimed "climate change," but sadly, it is already here. We silently sweat in this sweltering heat with days on end without a drop of rain. But I am a faithful gardener who can't neglect my plants—and most of all, my sweet, precious Papillons! They all need me. Help!

There is a creek that usually flows in the far corner of my home, which has been really very dry now. The deer and other animals usually drink from it, but I haven't seen them at all. They must have traveled elsewhere to find some refreshments. I also haven't seen



Papillon Ashley loves to romp in the yard.

those pesky groundhogs lately, which have been a destructive menace! They sneak into my perennial garden, at a time when I don't see them, and help themselves to my flowers. One of them made a home under my deck by breaking through the latticework on the side of the steps to my deck, where I found a huge hole. This groundhog must have been very pleased with himself, as he made tunnels

under the grassy yard where my dogs play.

My Papillons are up early with me at the crack of dawn, between 5 and 6 a.m. every day, and they go out in their fenced-in yard to run around and play in the grass several times a day. My sweet puppies love to run and wrestle with each other in their yard, while the adults would rather chew on blades of grass and weeds. We have a generous supply of

COURTESY ROSEANN FUJILLO

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

these—dandelions, vines, groundcovers, and some that even resemble tiny strawberries.

I now make sure to bring bottles of cold water with me, so my Papillons can play and not get overheated in this dry, hot weather. I also have to worry that since our water supply is so low, it could be contaminated. Our local paper said we should now be boiling the water. I certainly don't even trust my refrigerator water filter anymore either, my Papillons are too precious to me, so they also indulge in bottled spring water too.

Be safe!

—Roseann Fucillo,

cilloette@yahoo.com

Papillon Club of America

Pekingese

PCA 2022 NATIONAL SPECIALTY

The Pekingese Club of Texas hosted the Pekingese Club of America's national specialty on July 6 and 7, in Dallas. Don Sutton made all the hotel arrangements at the MCM Elegante Hotel and got the ball rolling prior to his passing. Dr. Steve Keating was generous enough to pass the torch to me as show chair for both clubs. I knew that we needed to make it spectacular, as that was what Don would have done. With that in mind, I recruited Stephanie Hill to be the



The Pekingese Club of America celebrated the breed's national specialty in Dallas on July 6–7, hosted by the Pekingese Club of Texas. Pictured: Best Veteran GCh. Palacegarden Selma, with Aileen Thomson; BISS GCh. Aslan Enticing Eros; highlight of the décor was the 40-foot silk Chinese dragon; Best Junior, Lily Alexander; Elizabeth Tilley Poole judging Pekingese on the table during the PCA specialty; Stephanie Hill with BOS Ch. Xela's Rolling on the River; Tara Martin and Susan Shephard; Winifred Mee judging the Pekingese Club of Texas show on July 6; Tom Curley in the grooming area.



TOY GROUP

Décor Chair. With her team of Gary Cathey and Justin Normand, they exceeded all expectations. Everywhere you looked there were beautiful things, with the 40-foot silk Chinese dragon as the focal point, guarding it all. Don would have loved it!

The evening prior to the shows, a group of generous supporters, the Association of the Gold Dragon, provided an extravagant “Meet and Greet” buffet and bar. There was entertainment from the Chinese Children’s Dragon Dance. The buffet was served on beautiful blue and white china that matched all of the trophies that were on display and the dozens of fresh-flower-filled vases. Every chair had a black seat-cover with a gold dragon on the back, and the trophy table display was “guarded” by the 40-foot silk Chinese dragon.

On Wednesday, July 6, the Pekingese Club of Texas held back-to-back shows. The Sweepstakes judges were “Texas royalty”: Jackie Breazeale and Tara Martin. Regular class judging was Winifred Mee of the Pekehuis Kennel in England and Gordon Gault from the Moonwhispers kennel in Northern Ireland. Both Winifred and Gordon found their Best of Breed in Mark and Lori Stephen’s dog, GCh. Aslan Enticing Eros.

Wednesday evening was the PCA banquet and auction. The banquet room was done in all white, and the white-covered chairs had

the show logo on them. The center of the table had a round, dark red placemat with gold dragons and a fresh flower arrangement. There was an extravagant buffet followed by the auction. For the Pekingese enthusiast, there were many treasures to be had!

Thursday started early with judges’ education. Sadly, only one person showed up, but what a person: Westminster Best in Show judge Donald Sturz! It was a great one-on-one session, and Mr. Sturz enjoyed it, as did I!

We started the judging with juniors, where Dr. Steve Keating found his Best Junior Handler in Lily Alexander. Colleen Skinner judged Sweepstakes. Elizabeth Tilley-Poole, of Pleiku Pekingese, judged the regular classes and found her Best of Breed also in Mark and Lori Stephen’s dog, GCh. Aslan Enticing Eros.

Overall, it was a wonderful show. Camaraderie and good sportsmanship were evident at all times. Every small detail was attended to, including corsages and boutonnieres for the judges, flowers in the judges’ rooms, a greeting committee headed by Tom Langham in the lobby to help exhibitors when checking in, several “selfie” areas set up with stunning Chinese vases and fresh flowers, and more.

The hotel was a dream to work with. During setup they assigned an employee to work with

us and to give us whatever we needed. The rooms were immaculate and spacious, with ice-cold AC. The showroom was beautiful, and while probably not big enough for a large specialty, it is perfect for 100 or fewer small dogs. The restaurant food was good; your room comes with a great breakfast buffet. Every employee had a smile and was eager to take care of your needs.

If you have not attended one of our specialties, look for us next year in December at Royal Canin.

—Susan Shephard, 2022 Show Chair

[The Pekingese Club of America](#)

Pomeranians

EXAMINING THE POMERANIAN

The Pomeranian is a short-backed, double coated, animated toy dog. Observing the Pomeranian on the ground while standing and moving is the best way to judge the overall outline and carriage of the dog, but as with any coated breed, the examination is key to evaluating the structure and soundness of the dog.

As a judge, when approaching the dog for examination, pause briefly to view the dog from the side. This is another chance to view the silhouette of the dog, this time at eye level, and can confirm or reinforce what you

saw when the dog was on the ground. Be sure to finish approaching the dog from the front so they can see you as you walk closer. With so much coat, sometimes approaching them from the side will place you in their blind spot.

I see many judges make sounds or squeak a toy as they approach the table or after they have finished the exam. Judges should not evaluate expression in this manner while the dog is standing on the table. Unless a dog is more mature and more trained, like some seasoned champions, many will not use their ears on the table. Instead, use the table to feel the shape of the muzzle under the coat, feel the stop, feel the shape of the back-skull, feel where the ears are set on the head, and feel the length of the ear. You can observe the shape, color, and placement of the eye as well as pigment of the eye-rims and the nose. Once the dog is on the ground, then you can evaluate their expression with erect ears and compare what you see to what you felt during the exam.

In addition to the basics of evaluating the bite and checking for testicles on males, the examination must be thorough enough to feel the structure of the dog under the coat. This includes feeling the front construction of the dog, the shoulder layback, the topline, length of body and loin, set and carriage of the tail,

TOY GROUP



Pomeranian: Skylark, 1944 (Joan Ludwig photo)

the angulation of the rear, and straightness of the legs.

It is important that the Pomeranian be a sound and sturdy dog. Structure can be further evaluated while the dog is moving, but coat and trimming can be deceiving. Be sure to use the time on the table to complete a gentle yet comprehensive exam of what lies under the coat.

This is also the time to evaluate the density, texture, and condition of the coat. This is a spitz breed of Nordic descent and should have a harsh double coat that is capable of protecting them from the snow and cold. Incorrect “cotton coats” lacking guard hairs

or a soft, flat, or open coat should be faulted in adults. The coat must be in good condition and should not be severely trimmed, especially the rear skirt, tail, and undercarriage. Puppies are allowed to have a shorter coat that lacks guard hairs.

A Pomeranian should be sound, proportionate, and balanced both standing and moving. While breed type and overall appearance are an essential part of judging this breed, making

effective use of the examination will help you to fully evaluate what lies under the coat.

—Stephanie Hentschel,
darrightpoms@gmail.com
[American Pomeranian Club](http://AmericanPomeranianClub.com)

Shih Tzu

Our guest columnist for this issue is Judith Bell, whose two Shih Tzu—Junjie, MX, MXJ, MJB, MXP2, MJP5, MJPS, NF, and Stars End Legend of Awesomeness Call Me Mr. Ping, MX, MXJ—received the 2021 ASTC Agility awards as Top Preferred Shih Tzu and Top Regular Shih Tzu.

SHIH TZU AND AGILITY

In 2015 I had only heard about the Purina Incredible Dog Challenge. I didn’t know anything more about agility. When my husband gave me a 4-month-old Shih Tzu, I decided it was time to do some training. After a puppy class, I was referred to a local training facility for agility. Junjie was then 6 months old.

Junjie had so much fun in the agility class. He was smitten by Rosie, a Chinese Crested. He followed her all over the field. She encouraged him to tackle the small obstacles that were set out—even the tunnel. He took to her first, and then the sport!

With my second dog, Mr. Ping, I started differently. We began with a puppy foundation class and took it seriously. Foundation teaches the basic skills that bond a dog to you: listening, focus, come, stay, eye contact, following, reliable recall, exposure to noise and uneven footing, grass versus pavement, hind-end awareness, foot placement. With Mr. Ping I began at 4 months to train body awareness, so he would be safe on the equipment. He sat on “peanuts” that wobble so he would learn body placement. We never want to see a dog fall off the dog walk. They need to understand exactly where their body is. The foundation class gave us a faster learning curve and greater early success.



This sport can be just for fun, or you can get the competition “bug.” I got the bug. I set goals—first our Novice titles in Standard (which is the game with the contact obstacles), and then JWW, which is jumps with weaves and a tunnel. I got hooked on getting those green “Q” ribbons.

The Shih Tzu who is a candidate for this

TOY GROUP

sport must be sturdy and athletic. You will want to watch for the “stutter step,” which indicates they are having difficulty with extending their front end over the bar. Be sure their breathing is easy. Watching other breeds, particularly herding breeds, can feel discouraging. Always, always remember this is just a game and the ultimate goal is not ribbons, or titles, or even championships; the goal is the bond between you and your dog.

Final words of advice for anyone who wants to get started: Take it slow, and be mindful to keep it happy, upbeat, and fun.

Each dog will be motivated by something different: Mr. Ping loves to tug, Junjie wants to fetch a ball. Your dog may be motivated by treats. I never correct with an “uh-oh” ... I always say “good boy,” and then we try again to get it right.

A Shih Tzu can be easily demotivated if he thinks he has disappointed you. They love you so much, they want to enjoy life with you however that is. It could be sitting on the couch or on the agility field.

I was given good advice by two wise women, Terri Lynn Jenkins and Malari Howell-Smith. Malari says: “If you are not doing it for fun, you are doing it for the wrong reasons.” Terri says: “It’s a game, a game we play with our dogs,” and “Don’t take yourself too seriously—don’t lose your

sense of humor.”—J.B.

Thank you, Judith.

—Jo Ann White,

joawhite@juno.com

[American Shih Tzu Club](#)

Toy Fox Terriers

BETWEEN LOVE AND MERCY: WHEN TO LET GO

Tootsie was my first Toy Fox Terrier, a tricolor with a heart-shaped spot on her side—surely a good sign, I thought, as I chose her from the litter. Incredibly intelligent, she mastered all the usual tricks at an early age and quickly progressed through advanced obedience, including hand signals, at 4-H obedience classes. She was a precious member of our family, not just a pet, and we were inseparable. As my childhood friend, she was the best.

I liked to get away to read by sitting up in our backyard peach tree. Tootsie was there too, springing to the first branches and climbing up to perch next to me. My sister often teased me about this, as sisters will. I had mischievously taught Tootsie to leap up and bump people, as they bent over, with her four feet. One day I spied my sister picking flowers. I waited patiently, strategically aimed Tootsie at her posterior as she bent down, and launched my little canine missile with a command of “Get her!” Tootsie hit the target squarely, and

my sister rolled down a little hill. It was worth all the punishment I got for that.

Several dogs in the neighborhood became ill with an unknown infection. Vaccines didn’t prevent it, and medications didn’t cure it. My neighbor’s beloved Poodle died, as well as another friend’s retriever mix. Then Tootsie got it. Similar to distemper, the virus progressed quickly. I was determined to save her, however, and pleaded to take her to the vet. It was in vain though; he couldn’t help her.

In my desperation to keep her alive, I hand-fed her, gave her water with an eyedropper, kept her warm, and bargained with God about how good I would be if she survived.

She improved for several days, then she suddenly worsened. As I cradled her, she trembled. My mother told me gently and kindly that if I truly loved her, I would let her go. I sobbed and resisted, but in my heart I knew she was right. My father drove us to the vet as I held my little dog close. When the vet administered the drug, Tootsie raised her head and looked at me, as if to say goodbye, and then she was free. Through my own tears, for the first time ever, I saw my father crying too.

This conflict between love and mercy prepared me for a greater loss. Our second son, Matthew, was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer at 19 years of age. It overwhelmed him within months, despite having the best care.



Toy Fox Terrier

Although there was no hope of survival, the doctors wanted to place him on life support and treat him with radiation. They promised it would extend his life a couple more weeks. The experience of Tootsie’s death helped us to overcome that natural temptation to hold on. Her short life showed us that when there is no hope, and treatment becomes more of a burden than a benefit, mercy is love. We let our son go to where I believe a little dog with a heart-shaped spot greeted him.

Good girl, Tootsie!—*Beverly E. Stanley, 2013*
[American Toy Fox Terrier Club](#)

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NON-SPORTING GROUP

American Eskimo Dogs

AROUND TOWN WITH A SPECIAL DOG

My dear friend Cathy once had an Eskie named Schmoopy. He was like no other dog—a true sweetheart, and an all-time heart dog—who quickly became the love of Cathy’s life. Like all Eskies, Schmoopy always garnered lavish praise and attention wherever he went—so much so that extra time was allotted on outings for those frequent times when passersby just *had* to stop, stoop down, and shower Schmoopy with love and affection as he gave back sweet Eskie kisses.

Mostly subdued in nature around strangers, Schmoopy was never content to be excluded from any aspect of his outings with Cathy. He built upon experience, though he always demonstrated an uncanny ability to “track” Cathy, even in novel situations.

Such was the first case when Schmoopy was just a little over a year old. They drove to a nearby dog-friendly town to meet a friend for dinner. Schmoopy expected that he would experience the local restaurant scene with Cathy; however, the gentleman working the bar that night quickly turned Schmoopy away. You can only imagine how disappointed Schmoopy must have been. Cathy parked in front of the restaurant, leaving Schmoopy to the routine, dog-relegated vehicle-watch.

The only problem with this practice was that



American Eskimo Dog Schmoopy was smart, devoted, and full of personality—“heart dog” to his owner, Cathy.

Schmoopy was not a “routine” kind of dog. It was a frigid evening. Though Schmoopy had a warm, thick coat, Cathy wanted to make sure the car would be comfortable, so she left the heated car running, with the doors locked to keep him safe.

Inside the restaurant, Cathy was seated at the end of the wraparound bar with her back to the front door. Her friend was seated so that she faced Cathy but could also see the front door. As they waited to order, Cathy noticed another bartender had taken over. She had

never been comfortable knowing Schmoopy was alone in the car, and she mentioned to her friend that she was going to discreetly bring him in.

Much to Cathy’s surprise, her friend, glancing toward the entrance, replied, “Well, you

COURTESY OWNER

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don't have to do that. He's right here."

Cathy quickly shifted her position to gain visibility of the front door. Lo and behold, there was Schmoopy, patiently seated outside the front door awaiting an opportunity to join them. Cathy could not believe her eyes. Immediately she made an urgent rush to Schmoopy, whose quiet and unassuming demeanor switched to very happy, animated, and energetic. Schmoopy had managed to open the driver's side window, seized the opportunity, and "Voila!"

Then there was the other time when Cathy and her mom went to the same dog-friendly town—only this time, a wine bar for lunch (it was their favorite because the owners granted Schmoopy special privileges to the establishment). But when Cathy's friend mentioned a special sale at a nearby boutique, Cathy asked Schmoopy to remain at the restaurant with her mother while she checked out the sale. Within minutes of entering the boutique, Cathy froze as she heard her mother shouting her name in distress, "Catherine! Catherine! Call Schmoopy, so he can hear your voice." He had escaped her mother's grip and ran out of the wine bar when someone opened the door. The moment Cathy ran out of the boutique, she noticed Schmoopy moving at rocket speed towards her. Once close enough, he leapt into her arms.

Schmoopy always made it a point to make his wishes for constant, close proximity to Cathy a well-known need and expectation. Throughout his life, Schmoopy continued to bring cheer, an aura of excitement, and fun times together. RIP Schmoopy (March 30, 2007–May 31, 2017).

—Stella Brown

[American Eskimo Dog Club of America](#)

Bichons Frises

TRAINING FOR CONFORMATION

I got a chance to go to the Westminster Kennel Club show many years ago and sit in an excellent box seat—and so I went, of course! That experience got me to thinking about how only one dog wins Best in Show, when every single dog out there is practically perfect. Needless to say, there is the careful breeding, but it goes way beyond that, as any experienced exhibitor can tell you.

When a lovely German Shorthaired Pointer bitch stepped out after her exam by the judge, I leaned over to my friend sitting next to me and said something to the effect that I wouldn't be surprised if that dog went Best in Show.

What set her apart from all the rest? In a word: *training*. She was obviously at home and happy in the ring. She didn't move a muscle after being



Bichon Frise

set up in her hard stack. The down-and-back was done at just the right speed on a loose lead. The *pièce de resistance*, however, was her free-stack. At first, she was not quite stretched out perfectly, then, at a barely recognizable signal from her handler, she corrected to a gorgeous stretched-out stack. That dog's eyes never left her handler's hand except to make eye contact while being deftly guided to look in the judge's direction as the judge moved

around to get different angles.

You could feel the electricity! On the order to go around, the entire audience in the Garden roared with approval.

Two Bichons Frises have won Best in Show at Westminster, and, although I was not present for their wins, I know they were just as outstanding as the German Shorthair I saw when I went. Even on the television, they stood out. They took my breath away when I saw them come into the group ring, and I knew they were in the running even then. I stood up and cheered for them in my living room, as I know many of you did also.

How does your dog perform, in comparison? If this were your puppy's first time in the ring, would she be used to being on a show lead? Would she have learned how to gait properly? Would she focus on you, and not on other distractions? Would she have been socialized so that she loved everybody—especially the judge who would be going over her? Would she know the stand/stack command? Would she be comfortable on the table? Would she be used to having her teeth examined? Would she hold still for the rest of the exam? Would she keep her tail up happily over her back? Would the show ring be one of her favorite places to be in the whole wide world?

If you can't answer yes to most if not all of these questions, you have some work to do. It

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is a mistake to expect any dog to walk into a show ring and *have a good experience* unless many hours of work have been done in preparation.

Watch the professionals with their dogs. Ask them to help you. Most of them are more than happy to give you some hints. Stack the deck in your favor, and watch your dog stack herself into a win!

—Mayno Blanding,

maynob@gmail.com

Bichon Frise Club of America

Boston Terriers

EXTRA THINGS TO LEARN ABOUT THE BREED

STANDARD

When buying a pet or a show dog, please read the breed's AKC standard before buying. In earlier days the larger 20- to 25-pound Boston Terrier was proportioned correctly and had the type head of the smaller competitors winning today. As times passed, however, they became more “bully” and coarse-looking, more like a miniature Boxer.

With proper breeding, a larger dog can win if well balanced, like in the past. I showed and finished many larger Bostons. Judges that normally didn't put them up would say, “He is larger than the other dogs,” and my reply was that he is correct—good front, eyes, head, and can move.



Boston Terrier

Knowledgeable judges recognize a well-balanced, good-moving dog, whether big or small. The standard says one thing should not stand out over another.

When the muzzle is too short and wrinkled, the nostrils can become pinched, which can affect the breathing. Always have a veterinarian check for this before buying. You can take a small mirror and let the puppy breathe on it to see if it fogs up, which shows air is flowing.

The dog should have catlike feet and nails groomed short. There are judges who won't put up a dog with long nails because it throws

off the shoulders, front feet, and gait. If two good Bostons are showing and the judge can't decide, sometimes the handler loses because of the nails. I learned that the hard way!

Our breed is lively and highly intelligent, taking control of the ring with self-consciousness. They are there to win.

The Boston is definitely a “head breed”: the skull is square, flat on top, and free of wrinkles, which is also true of the muzzle. Ears are carried erect, situated as near the corners of the skull as possible. Look for a lazy eye, too much white, blue coloring, or too small. Eyes

should be wide apart, large, and round, and dark in color, which convey expression and intelligence. The bite can be even or of sufficient degree undershot, to square the muzzle.

One of the faults seen today in the ring is roach, sway, or high-back topline; the topline should be level, with the rump curving slightly.

The correct colors of the breed were discussed in a past column.

Dogs need exercise, walking, and a crate big enough for them to stand in without ears touching the top, as well as room to move.

People buy dogs from great bloodlines and completely ruin them, blaming the breeder. Just buying a good puppy doesn't mean it will be a champion; it takes hard work.

The cost of a show prospect is just a down payment; the work has just begun. Hearing from people complaining about new judges not learning the standard is mainly because we as breeders need to help them learn. When most of the dogs showing are not correct and maybe one is right, that makes it hard to know what to put up.

Old-time breeders like Andy Turner took copies of the AKC standard to every show. If there was bad judging, he would wait until the afternoon when that judge had finish all their obligations for the day and respectfully hand them a copy of the standard, then walk away. (His Tops Again bloodline produced over 200

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BREED COLUMNS

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champions.) Clubs may consider seminars at all-breed shows to help new people and judges learn more about our breed.

Most new judges want to do a good job, and we need to help them, instead of being rude. When exhibitors don't like the judge, they don't enter that day. If enough people don't enter, then show chairs will ask why and can voice an opinion.

In the past, Boston Terriers sometimes won group placements at Westminster. Wouldn't it be nice to do it again? Let's go back in time and figure out how to do it. Learning the standard is a good start.

—Patricia S. Johnson, BTCA and DWAA,
patsgrooming@gmail.com
Boston Terrier Club of America

Bulldogs

THE BULLDOG CLUB OF AMERICA AND BULLDOG HEALTH

The Bulldog Club of America (BCA) has been very proactive in the way of Bulldog health for many years. Developed mainly by Russ Thomas in the 1980s, the BCA Health Committee continues to be an active entity within the BCA.

Following shortly after the Health Committee's creation was the establishment of the BCA Charitable Fund (BCACF). The



Bulldog

BCACF has funded several health studies, most notably the trachea measurement study in cooperation with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA).

Along with cardiac and patella testing, the OFA trachea measurement is part of the CHIC requirements for the Bulldog. (CHIC is the Canine Health Information Center, which is a health database associated with the OFA.)

The BCA introduced its Ambassador for Health program in 2011. The program has five levels of recognition; Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. The Diamond level was added in 2017.

Passing results are required on all eligible certifications except DNA-based health screenings (passing results eligible for certification are defined by OFA). Any result will be accepted for DNA based health screenings. All results, however, must be submitted to OFA and be verifiable in their public database.

Eligible certifications include OFA Congenital Cardiac (all cardiac certifications accepted, although echo is preferred); OFA Patellar Luxation, OFA Tracheal Hypoplasia, OFA Thyroid, OFA Elbow Dysplasia, and OFA Hip Dysplasia.

Eligible DNA-based health screenings are

for hyperuricosuria and Type 3 cystinuria.

The requirements for each level are:

Bronze—Successful completion of any four of the eligible certifications/DNA screenings.

Silver—Successful completion of any five of the eligible certifications/DNA screenings.

Gold—Successful completion of any six of the eligible certifications/DNA screenings.

Platinum—Successful completion of any seven of the eligible certifications/DNA screenings.

Diamond—Successful completion of *all* of the eligible certifications/DNA screenings submitted to the OFA public database.

As of 2021 there are over 500 BCA Health Ambassadors, with 156 Platinum and 34 Diamond-level Ambassadors. It is interesting to note that several of our Platinum and Diamond-level Health Ambassadors are also top-winning show dogs. Nearly 20 Platinum and Diamond-level dogs are multiple Best in Show and Best in Specialty Show winners, including national-specialty winners.

In honor of Russ Thomas, the BCACF established the Russ Thomas Health Award. This award, plus \$100, is presented to the BCA national Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex winners if they happen to be Platinum or Diamond-level Health Ambassadors during the national award banquet held during national week. Several dogs



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qualified prior to this award being created, but 2021 saw the first dog officially recognized.

The Platinum and Diamond Health Ambassadors are also honored at our national awards banquet during national week. We feature a running slide show of these dogs, plus the slideshow video is shared on our social media outlets and displayed on the official BCA website.

The BCA strongly encourages the breeding of healthy Bulldogs. The available health tests are easily performed by local veterinarians. These test results are excellent tools for breeders to utilize in order to select outstanding individuals for their breeding programs. Unfortunately, the emphasis in the media has been on the sickest dogs who frequent the veterinary clinics. There is an entire population of Bulldogs who rarely need to visit a veterinarian office for anything other than shots. It is exceedingly important for these healthy, normal Bulldogs to stay in the conversation and not be dismissed or forgotten.

The BCA feels that showcasing the healthiest dogs is an outstanding way to educate the public to not accept unhealthy dogs as somehow normal. What is normal for the breed is to be healthy and to achieve the highest levels of the Health Ambassador program.

—Elizabeth Milam,
celticdogges@me.com
Bulldog Club of America

Chinese Shar-Pei

JUDGES' EDUCATION part two

One of the best parts of a seminar is the back-and-forth, question-and-answer section with prospective judges, while there are dogs present. We've had the good fortune over the years of having owners willing to bring us their dogs and willing to say what the best feature of their dog is, and one thing they would change. At the national with performance dogs and rescue dogs, we often had dogs with major faults and disqualifying faults that judges should not see in the show ring, but they get to SEE what we mean by spotted or flowered, for example, and what we mean by bear coat, or maybe prick ears.

One of the bigger positive impacts of the in-person dog portion of the seminar relates to the difference between our horsecoats and brushcoats. Once the breed went AKC, and the judges new to our breed preferred the brushcoats, we nearly lost our horsecoats! So, we incorporated that into the education. Horsecoats are *not* lighter, whispier versions, and brushcoats are not preferred. And it's hard to understand that a quarter- or half-inch of hair can make such a difference, but it does!

There was one seminar where we had good littermate examples of horse and brush, both champions. We stood them side by side. We let the judges "take them in." The judges felt



Chinese Shar-Pei:
AKC Meet the
Breeds

the brushcoat was heavier, bigger boned, and taller. Then we shared these brothers' stats. The horsecoat was heavier than the brush, and they were both wicketed at 19¾ inches! But the *illusion* of substance and height that the small amount of hair can make was eye opening!

Another positive about judges' education is that it can be done for other people as well, not just for future judges of the breed. Much of my early learning was through my all-breed club, when the late Bill Usherwood would find breeders of different breeds to put on educational portions of our monthly meetings. I

learned much about breeds I would never own or would never judge, but the things I learned helped me find the words, the images, that could help potential judges more familiar with those breeds understand my breed! There is judging language, terms that are used in standards, things that may not mean the same thing in every breed. As we learn how other breeds are described, we can use this to better describe our breed to judges from other breeds.

At one seminar a judge pointed out that most breeds have this very small window of "perfection" in their standard, but that we

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seem to have a very big window! I loved that comment, because we *do!* Horse or brush, big head or small, curly tail or not so curly, any solid color and dilutes. There are qualities all good examples must have (harsh coat, hippo shaped head, good movement, proper topline, and so on), but those qualities can be found in a multitude of packages. And Shar-Pei breeders prefer it that way!

Judges also learn from the history of a breed. For example, as an oriental breed, Shar-Pei are naturally aloof and standoffish. Judges of other oriental breeds get that; judges of more personable breeds may not understand that. Judges need to understand that just because a dog didn't seem thrilled to see them, didn't want to play and be buddies, was *not* a bad temperament! It was the correct old temperament. But many who like happy, easygoing dogs have slowly had an effect, and we see fewer aloof dogs now. But we would stress in seminars that aloof is *still* proper and should not be penalized. Aggression or unwillingness to be examined are not the same as aloof and should not be allowed.

Judges' education and breeder education are vital to the sport, and I would encourage all fanciers to attend and participate!

—Karen Kleinhans DeSilva,

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Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America

Chow Chows

CHOW CHOW FAULTS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

The AKC breed standard for the Chow Chow is very definitive and categorizes the many faults and disqualifications that you may find in our breed. These are in addition to the problems that may be found in any breed, such as monorchism.

Faults shall be penalized in proportion to their deviation from the standard. In judging the Chow, the overall picture is of primary consideration. Exaggeration of any characteristic at the expense of balance or soundness shall be severely penalized.

Type should include general appearance, temperament, the harmony of all parts, and soundness especially as seen when the dog is in motion. There should be proper emphasis on movement, which is the final test of the Chow's conformation, balance and soundness.

Disqualifications:

Please notice that all of the defined disqualifications are on the head of the Chow Chow.

- Drop ear or ears. A drop ear is one which breaks at any point from its base to its tip or which is not carried stiffly erect but lies parallel to the top of the skull.
- Nose spotted or distinctly other color than black—except in blue Chows, which may have solid blue or slate noses, and cream Chows



Chow Chow

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which may have a range of nose colors. Reds, Blacks, and Cinnamons must have a solid black nose. (Effective July 29, 2020)

- The top surface or edges of the tongue red or pink or with one or more spots of red or pink.

Serious faults:

- Size, Proportions, Substance—Profile other than square.
- Eyes—Entropion or ectropion, or pupils wholly or partially obscured by loose skin.
- Body—Labored or abdominal breathing (not to include normal panting), narrow or slab-sided chest.
- Hindquarters—Unsound stifle or hock joints.

Objectionable:

- Size, Proportions, Substance—Equally objectionable are snipy, fine boned specimens and overdone, ponderous, cloddy specimens.
- Ears—An ear which flops as the dog moves is very undesirable.
- Head—Excessive loose skin is not desirable. Wrinkles on the muzzle do not contribute to expression and are not required. Coat and loose skin cannot substitute for the correct bone structure.
- Head—The muzzle should never be so padded or cushioned as to make it appear other than square in shape.

- Coat—Obvious trimming or shaping is undesirable.

Must-haves:

- Proportions—Square in profile and close coupled. Distance from forechest to point of buttocks equals height at the highest points of the withers. Distance from tip of elbow to ground is half the height at the withers. Floor of the chest level with tips of the elbows. It is these proportions that are essential to true Chow type. In judging puppies, no allowance should be made for their failure to conform to these proportions.
- Eyes—dark brown, deep set and placed wide apart and obliquely, of moderate size, almond in shape. The correct placement and shape should create an Oriental appearance.
- Size, Proportions, Substance—Width viewed from the front and rear is the same and must be broad.
- Forequarters—Length of upper arm never less than length of shoulder blade. Elbow joints set well back alongside the chest wall, elbows turning neither in nor out. Forelegs perfectly straight from elbow to foot with heavy bone which must be in proportion to the rest of the dog.
- Forequarters—Wrists shall not knuckle over.
- Hindquarters—The hock joint must be

strong, well knit and firm, never bowing or breaking forward or to either side.

- Gait—Proper movement is the crucial test of proper conformation and soundness. It must be sound, straight moving, agile, brief, quick, and powerful, never lumbering.
 - Gait —To transmit this power efficiently to the front assembly, the coupling must be short and there should be no roll through the mid-section.
 - Gait—The stifle joints must point in the line of travel, not outward resulting in a bowlegged appearance nor hitching in under the dog.
 - Gait—The front legs must not swing out in semicircles nor mince or show any evidence of hackney action. The front and rear assemblies must be in dynamic equilibrium.
 - Temperament—Displays of aggression or timidity are unacceptable.
- Love Banghart,
Lkendr4300@aol.com
 Chow Chow Club, Inc.

Dalmatians

MENTORING—EASY AS A, B, C

Once upon a time, long, long ago, we got our first show dog, and how exciting it was as we learned to handle. We went to training classes, entered matches, and learned to groom. Then, one day, we found ourselves at

our first dog show as an exhibitor. Remember? The butterflies in your stomach. The sweaty palms.

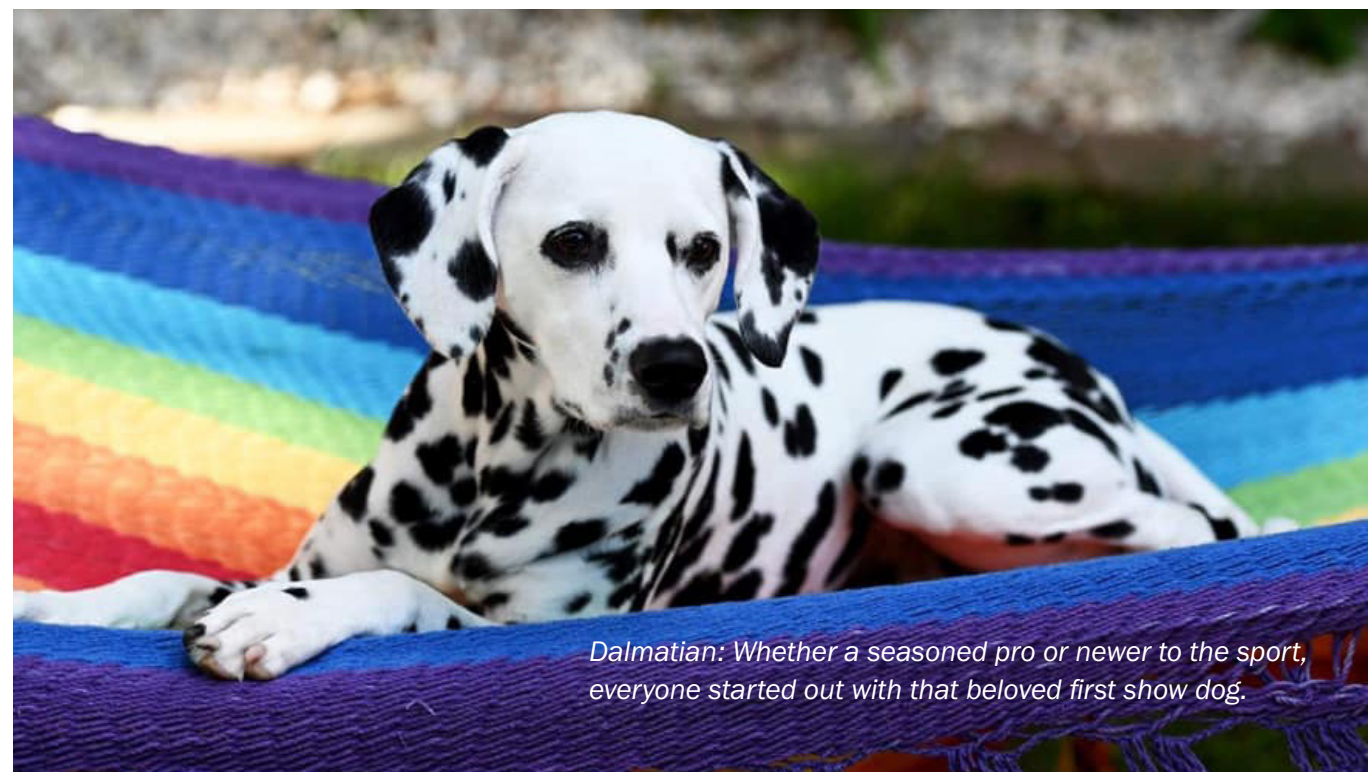
How in the world did we ever survive? More than likely it was with the help of a mentor. Maybe it was your dog's breeder, maybe your obedience class instructor. Regardless of the identity of your guardian angel, there was someone there to get you into (and out of) the ring when required, someone with "what not to wear" suggestions, someone with handling tips.

Now many years and titles later, those memories have faded. We are confident and sure as we approach the next show. We've been there, done it, and have the T-shirt. (Those vendors have one for *every* occasion!) Why, we even know enough to start sharing that knowledge with someone else who is taking those first tentative steps into the dog show world. Perhaps you sold someone a show-quality puppy, or someone has approached you with a question after watching you run an agility course. You are now in a position to start giving back to the sport that has given you so much.

But before you do, please review the ABC's of Mentoring:

- A—Accurate advice only
- I've seen many so-called mentors dole out well-meaning information that is just dead wrong. Be absolutely sure of your facts before offering them up as gospel. Whether you're

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Dalmatian: Whether a seasoned pro or newer to the sport, everyone started out with that beloved first show dog.

referencing an aspect of a breed standard or calculating points, you better have accurate information. If the information you give is inaccurate, not only could you inadvertently lead someone down the wrong path, you're also probably going to end up with egg on your face and a diminished reputation as a mentor.

- **B**—Behave yourself

Your student is looking to you for advice on all fronts, including proper decorum. Mentoring sportsmanship is as important as instructing in which hand to hold the lead. Let them see you congratulate the winners sincerely or accept your white ribbon graciously.

Also, please remember that most beginners are very self-conscious. Don't embarrass them by shouting instructions from outside and across the ring, publicly drawing attention to their mistakes in front of other exhibitors and maybe even the judge.

- **C**—Criticism should be constructive

When you do find a private moment to review a ring performance, make certain you share your evaluation in a constructive manner. Tell them what they did right before you tell them what they did wrong, offering suggestions for improvement rather than expounding on mistakes. And *never* "threaten" to take their

dog home to your personal training camp. I've yet to understand how this fosters learning in a novice. Let them do it. Practice makes perfect, and how they can practice and learn when you have their dog is beyond me.

Mentoring is an honor and a responsibility that should not be undertaken lightly, as your words and deeds may have a lasting aspect on the sport we love. That novice exhibitor you befriend and encourage today may be the judge, instructor, or breeder of tomorrow. Pay it forward, but make sure you don't short-change anyone when you do.

—Jan Warren Linné,
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Dalmatian Club of America

French Bulldogs

TO BOARD YOUR FRENCHIE, OR NOT?

Recently my daughter's family went to Europe and left their two dogs with me. She was merrily singing my praises and saying that her dogs will feel like they are on vacation and will make new friends with my dogs.

That is not exactly what came down. She left me with Bunny, the 13-year-old Brussels Griffon, and Bart, the 6-pound Japanese Chin. Both dogs turned out to be Houdini proteges. One climbed the ex-pen, and the other flattened himself and slid under the gate. My

nerves were shot.

Halfway through their stay, they both stopped eating and developed diarrhea and quivered all over when my Frenchies barked. Does this happen with all dogs that are boarded? I decided to ask a few breeders with experience to share theirs with me. Mainly, how to choose a good boarding situation.

Nicholle Hoke, of Halloridge Show Dogs, ran a kennel for 11 years that typically boarded 140 dogs on the weekend. She provided a checklist of observations to make and questions to ask.

1. Visit the kennel unannounced to view and watch.
2. Check for cleanliness, clean water bowls, and temperature of the facility.
3. Are the employees observing the dogs? Do they have video cameras on all the dogs?
4. If one opts for extras, does the dog receive an extra walk or a larger suite?
5. Is someone paying attention as to whether each dog has produced a stool daily?
6. Is the dog eating?
7. Is there a veterinarian available?
8. Are the employees mostly high-school students, and are they paying attention to the dogs?

Nicholle also had a list of pros and cons for boarding.

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French Bulldog

Pros:

1. Certain breeds must be kept confined and kept safe—no other option.
2. It is possible to keep your dog separate from other dogs.
3. You can watch your dog on your cell phone through their video cams.
4. You can set up a three-hour session for your puppy and then pick them up, to judge how well the kennel and the dog performed.

Cons:

1. Barkers are destructive, chaos reigns, and the dog stops eating and develops diarrhea.
 2. Often there may not be anyone there at night.
 3. If you board with your vet, they are usually alone at night.
 4. Stress can really harm your dog.
 5. Brachycephalics should not be put in a run where they can overheat.
- I have asked longtime breeder Shelley St.

John, of Robobull Frenchies, how she deals with travel. This is her direct quote:

“Sorry to say, I am one of those that doesn’t trust anyone to care for my dogs, so I don’t go away! A friend of mine, who I did trust, used to move into my home when I travelled, but due to her own circumstances now, she is unable to do it anymore. Now, I am waiting for the time when I am down to only a couple of dogs, then I might be more comfortable with someone else caring for them. I would *never* be comfortable with a boarding kennel, regardless of how great the reputation.”

Denice Ray, longtime vet tech and personal assistant at Fabelhaft/Robobull, has this to say:

“When it comes to boarding ... know your dog. I personally would board my dogs if I wasn’t in the situation I am in. Though not all dogs can handle the stress of being in a different environment with strangers then it’s best to have a dog sitter. One of my friends travels for business, and their dog is a frequent flyer at the local boarding resort. The dog loves it and cannot wait to run in to see all his friends. Another friend has a feisty terrier who was asked not to return, since it was too much impulse for the dog. He would fire up at all the dogs, making it a hostile environment for all. Know your dog to ensure a good outcome for all.”

Hopefully we can use a lot of these suggestions to guide us in making the right decision

for our dogs’ care when we travel without them.

—Sande Abernathy,

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French Bull Dog Club of America

Lhasa Apsos

THE THRILL OF DEFEAT

“Winning isn’t everything, it’s the only thing.” No one like to lose. From candidates seeking high office to young kids playing games, it’s in our DNA to aspire to be the first, the best, the foremost—the winner! Adrenaline is the most powerful drug on the planet, and winning fuels it. Not winning brings disappointment, anger, feelings of failure and sometimes even despair, depending on the mental attitude of the person.

People participate in the sport of showing dogs because they want to have fun. Translate that: to win. But only one dog of hundreds, even thousands, takes home the Best in Show ribbon. For each of the seven groups, only one dog out of hundreds is awarded first in the group. And at the breed level, only one is chosen Best of Breed.

Deep within each of us is an abiding belief that we can do it—be the best. But how does one sustain interest when the odds of losing are overwhelmingly higher than winning?

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This question may be at the heart of why we lose so many newcomers to the sport. Like any serious endeavor, planning is essential.

Goals. Whether you're new to the sport or a seasoned pro, it helps to have a plan. The first goal should be to have fun – both for you and your dog. Setting realistic goals and expectations defines what you will consider success. Take whatever small success you can achieve then use it as a stepping-stone to bigger gains.

Commitment. How much money and time are you willing and able to commit? Hard work can compensate for some of the financial resources, but someone without talent who works hard will beat lazy talent every time. Establish a budget and stick to it. Put grooming and training requirements on your calendar and keep those appointments as you would an appointment with your boss. Keep your goals for success within the level of your commitment.

Learning. Part of success is learning. Find a good mentor. Watch, listen and learn. Set a goal to learn something new at every dog show. It might be about your dog, your breed or yourself. Find any opportunity to expand your knowledge base. Knowledge is power and leads to progress. You might watch a handler manage a particular problem with a dog and incorporate that technique into your training protocol or observe a master groomer



for a few minutes and determine whether you can improve your technique. Don't be afraid to ask questions, just do it at a time when the person you're asking is not rushed. The best approach is to ask when it would be a good time to ask questions.

Expectations. Long-term goals keep you going. Short-term expectations are what get you there. Short-term expectations require redefining success – making losing worthwhile. Your long-term goal might be to finish the dog you are showing. In the short-term, identify what is

impeding progress. Perhaps your dog needs to improve ring behavior. If, on a given day, your dog behaves better but does not win, don't consider that a loss. Rather, you have successfully taken an important step toward fulfilling your goal.

Reassessment. Goals and expectations aren't cast in stone. They should be revisited periodically to determine whether they need revision upward or downward. Goals met too easily were too low; consistently hitting a brick wall might signal it's time to reevaluate things. It might be the dog, conditioning, presentation or bad timing.

When we learn from our losses, we have not failed; we only fail if we quit. Adversity is opportunity in work clothes. It's time to get to work and experience the thrill of winning – and defeat.

—Cassandra de la Rosa,

dlrcas@msn.com

[The American Lhasa Apso Club](#)

Poodles

ACCEPTABLE TRIMS FOR POODLES

As we all know, Poodles come in three sizes/varieties; but also, when watching Poodles in the ring, you will notice different trims on different dogs. The purpose of this article is to explain the differences and set

forth what trims are acceptable in the show ring and various rules regarding these trims. Below is an excerpt from the the AKC breed standard, setting forth a description of acceptable trims for Poodles competing in AKC conformation shows. As with so many things in life, styles have changed throughout the years, and some trims have become more dramatic in their execution, but there are certain rules regarding the Poodle trims allowed in the show ring that have remained steadfast.

One of the main rules is that the lines of the trim must be unbroken. A second, easy-to-spot rule is that only a Poodle under 12 months of age can be shown in the Puppy trim.

From the breed standard:

Coat:

(b) Clip—A Poodle under 12 months may be shown in the “Puppy” clip. In all regular classes, Poodles 12 months or over must be shown in the “English Saddle” or “Continental” clip. In the Stud Dog and Brood Bitch classes and in a non-competitive Parade of Champions, Poodles may be shown in the “Sporting” clip. A Poodle shown in any other type of clip shall be disqualified. (4) “Sporting”—In the “Sporting” clip, a Poodle shall be shown with face, feet, throat, and base of tail shaved, leaving a scissored cap on the top of the head and a pompon on the end of the tail. The rest of the body, and legs are clipped or scissored to follow the outline of the dog leaving a short blanket of coat no longer than one inch in length. The hair on

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the legs may be slightly longer than that on the body. (AKC, 1984) In all clips the hair of the topknot may be left free or held in place by elastic bands. The hair is only of sufficient length to present a smooth outline. “Topknot” refers only to hair on the skull, from stop to occiput. This is the only area where elastic bands may be used.

For many judges and exhibitors, they are seeing Poodles in the show ring in what has been referred to as the Modified Continental (MC). It is important to note, however that this trim has always been allowed as an acceptable trim—that is, the Continental. Why the MC stands out, and the first thing people notice about it, is that the length of the dog’s hair is shorter than that of dogs shown in the traditional clips. It is important to note that nowhere in the AKC breed standard does it state how long the dog’s hair must be. So a Poodle being shown in the modified Continental should be given the same consideration as any other Poodle

Acceptable show trims for Poodles: The English Saddle trim; the Continental trim on a Toy Poodle; the Modified Continental, with hair trimmed somewhat shorter; another example of Modified Continental; Puppy trim; Sporting trim, allowed in certain non-regular classes at specialties. For all, the lines of the trim must be unbroken.



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competing in the conformation ring. The topknot of the MC is scissored into shape, and the jacket is scissored much tighter—again both of which are allowed.

Regardless of which trim you have your dog in, remember the one absolute rule, and that is: *The lines of the trim must be unbroken.* Therefore, for all of the trims, including the MC, there should not be a broken line between the topknot and the top of the ears. Moreover, to keep the line of the trim unbroken with the Puppy trim, for example, the line from the front of the dog to the back should be one smooth line. There should not be a break in the trim between the hips and the jacket.

Other, more minute details, regarding acceptable trims include, for both the Continental and the MC, the rosettes over the hips are optional. With the English Saddle trim, however there must be a “kidney bean” cut out on each side of the dog, behind the ribs.

The topknot of a Poodle in the conformation ring gives the dog a very distinctive look. With any of the above trims, the topknot may be shaped and scissored to present a smooth, unbroken appearance. On the other hand, the topknot can be left longer; it is allowed to be held in place by elastic bands. The only place where elastic bands are allowed is from the stop on the muzzle to the occiput.

Finally, a fourth trim, only allowed at Poodle

specialties, is the Sporting Trim, which is allowed for dogs entered in Stud Dog and Brood Bitch classes and the noncompetitive Parade of Champions. The face, feet, and around the tail are shaved, and the body is scissored or shaved close (no longer than one inch). The hair on the legs can be the same length or slightly longer than the length of the body. The topknot and tail are scissored into a round cap and pompom, respectively. The Sporting Trim, however, is not an acceptable trim for a dog competing in the regular classes at a conformation show.

The pictures accompanying this article represent correct versions of some of the acceptable trims discussed within.

—Patricia Jason

[Poodle Club of America](#)

Schipperkes

SCHIPPERKES AND VON WILLEBRAND'S DISEASE

Schipperke breeders and owners here in the U.S. (as well as reports from abroad) have become aware of von Willebrand's disease (vWD) detected in our dogs. This is based on genetic testing as opposed necessarily to dogs with actual “bleeding issues.” As the collection of genetic material becomes larger, we are learning more each year about our dogs' genes. Rather than “throw the puppy out with the bathwater,” let's go to an expert

for a scientific explanation. Schipperkes have a relatively small gene pool, and we need to be informed and prudent when it comes to breeding forward. It is important to be armed with knowledge and embrace science rather than rumor or myths.

Following is my interview with Embark Veterinary Geneticist Jenna Dockweiler.

Are there different types, or levels, of von Willebrand's disease?

There are three types of vWD, each defined by either a lack of vWF or poorly functioning vWF. Type I is the most common, particularly in Dobermans, and it is characterized by a partial deficiency in vWF, which causes a mild-to-moderate bleeding risk.

Although less common and more breed-specific, Types II and III are associated with more serious bleeding risks. Dogs with Type II vWD have a low concentration of vWF, as well as an abnormal structure, whereas dogs with Type III may have a complete absence of vWF.

Von Willebrand's disease can be caused by several different genetic variants in the VWF gene. Type I vWD, which is the most common, is found in many breeds, and it has one known variant in the VWF gene.

While not all causative variants for every predisposed breed are known, genetic testing is available for different variants in many

breeds predisposed to specific types of vWD. Some of the breeds predisposed to vWD include, but are not limited, to:

Type I: Doberman Pinschers, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Poodles, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Irish Setters

Type II: German Wirehaired and Shorthaired Pointers

Type III: Scottish Terriers

What is the type(s) of vWD being found in your testing of Schipperkes? What are we dealing with here?



Schipperke: October 1994 (Creativity Plus photo)

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

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Embark currently provides results for Von Willebrand Disease Type III, Terrier Variant (VWF Exon 4), Von Willebrand Disease Type III, Shetland Sheepdog Variant (VWF Exon 7), Von Willebrand Disease Type II, Pointer Variant (VWF), and Von Willebrand Disease Type I (VWF).

In Schipperkes, only the Von Willebrand Disease Type I variant has been returned with a result other than wild-type (i.e. the causative variant for Type I vWD has been found in the Schipperke).

What are your suggestions going forward in breeding Schipperkes who are tested showing carrier or even afflicted status for vWD? Should breeders be careful not to breed carrier to carrier? Should afflicted dogs not be bred?

For individual dogs, a veterinarian may perform a simple test that times how quickly a blood clot forms (the buccal mucosal bleeding time, or BMBT). The dog may also be tested for the amount of vWF present in their bloodstream (vWF:Ag level) to better characterize the severity at that point in time. If a dog is a carrier for vWD (with only one copy of the variant present), a veterinarian may also recommend testing vWF levels, especially if there are concerns that another clotting disorder may be present.

Because vWD is inherited, dogs with one or

two copies of the variant should not be used for breeding without genetic testing, additional testing to better phenotype, and careful consideration of mate selection.

Important to the decision of how to use dogs with the variant in a breeding program is how the presence of the variant actually impacts the breed clinically and the frequency of the variant within the breed. If indeed, dogs with (one or) two copies of the variant consistently have normal vWF:Ag levels (see below), then the presence of the variant should not play a major role in breeding decisions. If dogs are clinically impacted, then it is recommended to only breed a dog with one or two copies of the variant to a clear dog (also taking into consideration the clinical risk of breeding/whelping to the sire/dam). As the percentage of Embarked dogs with one copy of the VWF variant is not low, it is not recommended that these dogs be removed from a breeding program because that could cause other health concerns and/or a decrease in breed population diversity.

Additionally, when looking at breeding decisions, other things to consider are temperament, adherence to the breed standard, non-genetic health testing, predicted litter COI, and health and longevity of the lines.

What is the explanation for a Schip testing by Embark as “affected” but shows no clinical symptoms

and his primary vet’s tests come back normal?

Because genetic testing is an assessment of risk and not a clinical diagnosis, the term at-risk is often preferred to affected when describing a dog based solely on genetic test results.

Of the hundreds of Schipperkes that Embark has tested, only a small percentage (less than 2.5%) have tested with two copies of the vWD I (VWF) variant. As carriers can also have reduced vWF:Ag levels but not have clinical bleeding, it is important that breeders and owners work with their veterinarians to perform vWF:Ag levels in Schipperkes with both one and two copies of the variant to better quantify how this variant impacts the breed phenotypically. At this time, Embark has not received comprehensive clinical data from dogs with two copies of the variant.

Additionally, plasma vWF levels fluctuate daily in normal, healthy dogs. In affected dogs, buccal mucosal bleeding times (BMBTs) should be prolonged, whereas results of coagulation screening tests such as prothrombin time (PT) and activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT) and platelet count are normal. It is therefore important to understand which “regular vet tests” are coming back negative as well as if the vWF:Ag levels are being performed at one point in time or have been within the normal reference range (typically

greater than 70%) at multiple points in time in dogs with two copies of the VWF variant.

Of note, typically, vWF:Ag activity $\leq 49\%$ is consistent with a diagnosis of vWD, with less than 35% being at risk of hemorrhage. Therefore, certain populations of “at-risk” dogs may not have clinical bleeding issues.

It is possible that genetic breed background plays a protective role in “at-risk” Schipperkes. Breeds have distinct genetic backgrounds because haplotypes (a set of alleles that are frequently inherited together) tend to be long, few in number, and conserved.

When a genetic test is designed for a disease detected in one breed, the results may not be clinically relevant to a different breed. This is because of intrinsic differences in genetic background that can influence the consequences of the causal variant.—J.D.

We sincerely thank veterinary geneticist Jenna Dockweiler for her time and informative responses. As lovers of Schipperkes, and certainly those of us who breed, we have a fiduciary responsibility to educate ourselves regarding potential health challenges. Being informed and proactive towards heading off any potential issues is a big part of preserving a breed. Things are never a “problem” and “no big deal” until they are.

And now you know some answers to questions regarding vWD in Schipperkes.

NON-SPORTING GROUP

—Virginia Larioza,
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 Schipperke Club of America

Shiba Inu

Patricia Doescher wrote the following for this column in 2011.

INTRODUCING A SECOND DOG

The Shiba Inu isn't usually a dog who loves other dogs at first meeting; he needs to first establish where his "place" is within the family and among other pets. Neither becoming territorial and aggressive toward the other dog nor being extremely shy, trying to avoid confrontation, are unusual behavior for a Shiba while first adapting to a new home.

Following a few basic rules can ease the adjusting process for both dog and owner when bringing home the second Shiba.

It should not be totally unexpected if the established dog is more dominant and wants to fight or hoard the toys and human attention. After all, you brought a total stranger into the household! However, confrontational behavior such as approaching each other with looks of wariness, a growl, or a lowered head and stare with hackles raised should be stopped well before the situation escalates into a full-fledged fight.



Shiba Inu: June 1993 (Mari Nakashima photo)

A short lead attached to each dog's collar gives you the ability to redirect without touching the dogs. You can grab the end of the leads and get between them, herding the offending dog away. Using your body to block the view to the other dog, as though you were a cutting-horse sorting cattle, is a technique that will work well in a variety of situations.

Going for walks together is critical to the bonding process. Expecting the dogs to walk nicely at your side puts you in control, leading the pack. After a long walk the dogs should be

allowed to interact for a time, but always with supervision.

Always crate both dogs when you are gone. It's not fair to crate one while allowing the other to sniff and walk about. This might turn into a fight between the wires of the crate, resulting in broken teeth and bad feelings between the dogs.

Always feed separately! And for a time, always keep toys and chews away while the dogs are together. Only giving chews in their crates is a great idea for the first few months. Spend time individually with each dog, and keep all "together time" supervised.

If a fight breaks out, do *not* reach into the fight to stop it. Tails are great handles for pulling the dogs apart. Do not panic, and remember that screaming only adds to the bedlam. Stay calm, but with authority ease them apart, focusing on the more aggressive Shiba first. After they are separated, use a soothing tone of voice to praise them for listening to you (even if they didn't), and crate them for a while. Then start over later in the day, beginning with the walk.

Shibas seldom cuddle up with each other or hang out together. Normally they will play together for a while, then go their separate ways and for the most part just pretend the other one is not there. This doesn't mean they don't like each other or aren't bonding; it just

means they are Shibas.

Remember to take it slowly, and don't give up too soon. The dogs need time to work it out in their minds. The new dog has left his previous home and will be feeling lost and unsure. He is learning to trust his new owners, and this bonding takes time. Both dogs need guidance through this initial introduction period so they will live happily together—at least until Shiba number three arrives!—*P.D.*
[National Shiba Club of America](#)

Tibetan Spaniels

A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

I recently went to an all-breed show in North Carolina. At the last minute I asked a friend if she would like to attend a dog show with me, since I had a hotel room and it would not cost her a thing to go with me. She was thrilled since she knew I showed dogs, and she had never attended a dog show.

I have been showing dogs since 1974, beginning in the rare-breed days, into the Tibetan Spaniel becoming recognized in 1984. In the early days at the rare-breed shows, it was such a small group, we chatted with each other and I got to know many people in other breeds and a lot about the different rare breeds.

When I bought my first Tibbie, joining the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America as a member

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Tibetan Spaniel

was pretty much a given. My dog's breeder Joan Child signed me right up, and from that day, I became involved in the club. Though the years I made many friends while serving on various positions.

Within the world of all-breeds, I was and still do, read catalogs. I could connect kennel names

to the different breeds and always thought it interesting to see who shows which breed. Sometimes I would put a face to the name, but I never really approached the exhibitors.

I read all the magazines, and know the faces of handlers, judges, and many exhibitors, but over the years I have kept to myself. I would chat with

Tibetan Spaniel exhibitors, but not as much as I used to.

So off to the shows my friend Tina and I go. Tina has no idea what breed is what, who anyone is, nor what happens at dog shows. We get inside and find a spot to put my equipment and dogs. Several Tibetan Spaniel friends are there, and we chat, and I introduce Tina. Off Tina goes to check out the show. Next thing I know she comes back and points out a young lady with Standard Poodles, and Tina asks me, did I know that that young lady has been showing dogs since she was very young, and that is her dad, and they are from Florida? Well, no, Tina, I have seen them but really didn't know much about them. Throughout the weekend, Tina went and chatted with many exhibitors, professional and owner-handlers, and got to know them and their breeds. By the second day, several came by and spoke to Tina and asked was she enjoying herself, and said enjoyed meeting her.

Tina really made me open my eyes, and learn something that weekend, and maybe that is what is wrong with dog shows today. Yes, we "know" people, but do we take the time to share and get to really know the other exhibitors in other breeds? I think even within Tibetan Spaniels, I have made the mistake in recent years of not reaching out as I would have in the past. Thank you Tina, you offered me a learning experience.

I hope others who read this, will consider starting to reach out, and make dog shows a place where people can share their breeds, their experiences, and the fun. I hope our new Tibetan Spaniel exhibitors will be warmly welcomed, knowledge of our wonderful breed taught, and invited to the regional Tibetan Spaniel club and Tibetan Spaniel Club of America events.

—Mallory Cosby Driskill,

Ambrier@aol.com

Tibetan Spaniel Club of America

Tibetan Terriers

ALL GOOD THINGS ARE WORTH WAITING FOR!

The Tibetan Terrier Club of America (TTCA) held its 44th annual national specialty this June in Tampa, Florida. Originally scheduled to take place in 2020, as one might imagine, this was a long-awaited event! The days were packed full of events, seminars, and other fun activities.

The first day began with the obedience and rally trials, and culminated with a wonderful Invitational Evening of Champions Top 20 and dinner. The winner of the Top 20 was Reagan, GCh.P Barnstorm Blue Blood Royalty By Dzine.

Agility trials were held on the second day. The star of the agility trials was most surely Wolfie, a 15-year-old male who traveled all

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Fanciers of the Tibetan Terrier gathered in Tampa this June to celebrate the TTCA's 44th annual national specialty. Shown are Best of Breed winner, Zen; Best of Opposite Sex, Raven; and Top 20 winner, Regan.

the way from Alaska! That evening's auction dinner was a festive event, raising funds for next year's national, which will be held in Maryland.

The TTCA national specialty took place on the third day. It was a total joy to see so many Tibetan Terriers together in the ring. Apart

from Beginner Puppy, Futurity, Sweepstakes, and those in the regular conformation classes, there were 32 TTs entered in Best of Breed. These were fairly evenly divided between 15 dogs and 17 bitches. The Best of Breed winner was Zen, GCh. Corsair's Drop and Give Me

Zen, and Best of Opposite Sex was Raven, Ch. Tripitaka Bulletproof. The Breeders class was won by Sean and Cathy Lydon, of Tripitaka.

This event was well planned and flawlessly executed. Congratulations to the show chair, Fran Kridakorn, and her wonderful group of

volunteers for creating an event where we could all gather and celebrate the love of our "Little People."

—Sonam Kushner,
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 Tibetan Terrier Club of America

HERDING GROUP

Bearded Collies

THE CHALLENGE OF KEEPING WHITE MARKINGS WHITE

“With or without white markings,” the Bearded Collie standard states. When was the last time you saw a Bearded Collie *without* white markings? Way back in the 1950s and through the 1970s, there were a few around. Quite possibly dog shows played a part in their eventual disappearance. Today, plain, unmarked Bearded Collies are as rare as snowflakes in Florida. Let’s face it, white markings are flashy. As long as they conform to the accepted placements as described in the standard, they may be subtle or splashy. Predominantly white Bearded Collies also exist and are not disqualified but are frowned upon as mismarks. The white beard, muzzle, collar, chest, paws, and tip of tail provide a striking contrast to the basic body color. They add to the expression, delineate the length of neck, and show off the breadth of chest as well as make it easier to assess gait with the gleaming paws in action.

There’s really only one major drawback to white markings: They don’t stay that way! Keeping them white is the catch.

Sometimes it’s a matter of environment. A Bearded Collie who doesn’t have the opportunity to wade in mud puddles, excavate subway systems in the yard, or romp in a swamp is going to stay cleaner than those who do.

Sometimes it’s just the nature of the beast. A few Bearded Collies can be downright fastidious. Bounce, one of my early Bearded Collies, wouldn’t even leave the front porch to relieve herself if it was raining. Once at an outdoor obedience trial in the rain, she got around the problem of sitting on the disgusting, soggy ground by parking her rear on my foot whenever the judge called “halt.” On the other hand, there are dogs like Pigpen in the Peanuts cartoon, who can get dirty in a snowstorm.

It’s not just the paws. While those are the most likely to collect unwanted coloration, the beard is another culprit. Saliva stains are the most common problem. (Here’s a hint: Don’t feed your dog spaghetti sauce. That’s one of the foods that can leave stains in the beard. There are numerous others.)

The rest of the white markings are relatively safe from color contamination thanks to their placements. Though now that I think of it, one of the gang stretched out on a wet rug and ended up with a blue chest.

The first line of defense against stained whites is to not let them occur in the first place. Bearded Collie booties are a great invention to keep paws clean. Lacking this footwear, it’s possible to slip socks or plastic bags over paws when the going gets messy. As for the beard, cleaning it nightly with waterless shampoo is a good idea. An alternative is to brush



Bearded Collie Sage has her Utility Dog degree.

cornstarch into the beard each evening or as needed.

Now we come to the heart of the matter, which is how to return stained white markings to pristine, glowing white. Almost every line of grooming supplies includes a whitener shampoo. Some are more efficient than others.

But what happens when the whitener shampoo just can’t cut it? In the show ring, exhibitors are looking for every advantage. Just “white” won’t do when there’s the possibility of shining, glimmering, *shimmering* white with the right product.

One of the Bearded Collie groups on the internet asked readers what they used when faced with

stubborn stains. One exhibitor wrote of first using a waterless shampoo and while the legs were still damp, brushing in Faultless Blued Dry Starch, then brushing it out before ring time. A handler suggested loading up the damp beard and paws with baby powder and allowing it to dry before brushing. A prominent breeder told of putting diluted Calgon on the legs about 10 minutes prior to bath time.

Two other breeders recommended using Tide Free on the legs and face. They opted for this approach after reading in Consumer Reports that Tide was top of the crop in stain removal, and while it didn’t completely remove the stains, it was said to reduce them by half.

Next, the aforementioned cornstarch works as well on paws as on beards, with the added advantage of drying damp white paws.

Finally, a pharmacist came up with the idea of combining equal parts Clairol Crème Developer and Milk of Magnesia. Applied to the coat, it should be left to dry before brushing out.

Please remember that some of these concoctions may dry out the coat and make it porous, meaning it may be more likely to soak up dirt and stains in the future. A crème rinse or conditioner after any such treatment can help counteract this.

So far, there’s been only a brief mention made here about bluing and its various uses.

COURTESY SANDY WEISS

HERDING GROUP

It's known to take the yellowish tint from white hair, but use it carefully. One Samoyed breeder elected to remove urine stains from her dog's legs with bluing. In this case, blue plus yellow equaled green—not an accepted color for show ring Sams, she found to her dismay. Also, in my childhood, a few centuries ago, I had a crossbred who was part rough Collie and part Eskimo Spitz, as they were known in those days. (Today they're called American Eskimo Dogs.) She was primarily white with brown around her eyes and ears. My grandmother decided she could be whiter and turned to the bluing she used to get rid of the yellow out of her gray hair. I believe she calculated how much she used on her own hair and tripled it. As it turned out, my dog was a lovely shade of blue. So take warning and use bluing with care if you must.

When you consider what it takes to keep those markings white, maybe breeders shouldn't have been in such a hurry to get rid of the unmarked Beardies.

—Alice Bixler,
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[Bearded Collie Club of America](#)

Belgian Malinois

The day that Tasha Mesina and I finished the March 2022 column on the Farm

Dog Test, she was also busy competing in a French Course Herding Trial. This event was developed by the Belgian Sheepdog Club of America to give the Belgian breeds a chance to be tested in ways that were a close match to their original use as herding dogs. Her running commentary gave me a good idea what “a day at the herding trial” is like from inside the pasture—close enough to feel the hot breath of the sheep on your thighs. I thought that maybe you, too, would enjoy a day at a French Course Herding competition, seen through Tasha's eyes. Her account follows.

HOPE IS MY SHEPHERD

I unsnap the leash, take a deep breath, and enter the sheep pen. My Malinois and I circle the stock, checking the sheep for injuries, getting a feel for the flock. They're fine. It's show time.

To get the sheep out of their familiar pen, I need the dog's help. “Go bye!” “Out!” “There!” “Lie down!” Hope threads her way around behind the sheep and pushes them out of the pen. I send her around to the free side of the flock, to hold them while I shut the gate. Then, I take my place at the front, and Hope goes to the rear to keep them bunched and moving.

We head for the first obstacle: a bridge that separates us from the rest of the course. The



Belgian Malinois

dog must stop the sheep before they cross the bridge. Hope places herself between bridge and flock. They stop. Now I ask her to return to the rear of the flock to persuade them over the bridge. I follow behind.

My dog drives them straight up the fence row, but now we need to turn right, into the field. “Come by!” She moves to a position that convinces the sheep to turn. So far, so good.

I'm focused. My whole world has collapsed to the dog, the sheep, and the course. I lead

the sheep into the next field, with Hope moving them along calmly from behind.

Our next task will be challenging: the sheep can see a favored grazing area, but we must push them past this “draw,” through two open gates and a Y-shaped chute. I send Hope to the left side of the flock to block their access to the draw, and the sheep turn quietly into the gates. Hope gently drives them through the gates and the chute by ones and twos, just the way we like it.

DAVID WOO ©AKC

HERDING GROUP

Now we head for “the graze,” where the sheep will stop for a brief snack. This integral part of the French Course simulates a shepherd taking his sheep out to graze in a specific spot, with well-marked boundaries. To keep the sheep inside, the dog may circle continuously outside the boundary markers, or sit and watch the stock, moving only when the sheep approach the boundary. Hope combines these strategies, alternately patrolling the edge and lying down, ever watchful for potential escapees.

During the five minutes of the graze, I’ve got my own chores to do. First, I must catch and hold a sheep to simulate a shepherd checking or doctoring an animal. I walk into the graze area, quietly touch a sheep’s back, then wrap my arm around its neck for the hold. The judge acknowledges the hold. Nothing unexpected so far.

To demonstrate the dog’s ability to work independently, I am asked to leave the graze area to do a made-up task: Take a pinecone out of one bucket and carry it to another bucket on the far end of the arena. Fortunately, this location sets me up well for the next exercise, the fetch.

I call Hope from the graze area, and she reaches me in a flash. I send her out to bring the flock to me. This is Hope’s favorite exercise, and she does it so enthusiastically that the sheep end up pressed against my bad knees.

“Lie down!” The onrush slows. “Here to me!” Hope circles back to me, and her presence makes the sheep retreat. My knees breathe a sigh of relief. We’ll get a big point deduction for that stunt, but there’s no time to dwell on it now. We still have work to do.

I lead the flock to the left of the gate at the end of the arena, then call the dog to me to hold the sheep off the gate. I open it, and with Hope pushing from behind, I let in exactly three sheep, then slam the gate. I put these three into a small holding pen, while the dog controls the main flock in the arena. Now I re-open the gate, and the rest of the sheep flow in. When the last one’s in, I shut the gate once more, and release the three penned sheep.

Our last big challenge is to take the sheep past an aisleway that leads to their living area—a very strong draw! Predictably, they bolt, but I send Hope to block their escape, and a heartbeat later they are under control. We all walk calmly down to the exhaust pen. Gate open, sheep through, gate shut.

We were on course for thirty-six minutes. We scored 124/150, qualified, and took third place in the class. That will do, Hope! Good dog!”—T.M.

Thank you, Tasha.

—Carilee (Cole) Moran,

colemich@sbcglobal.net

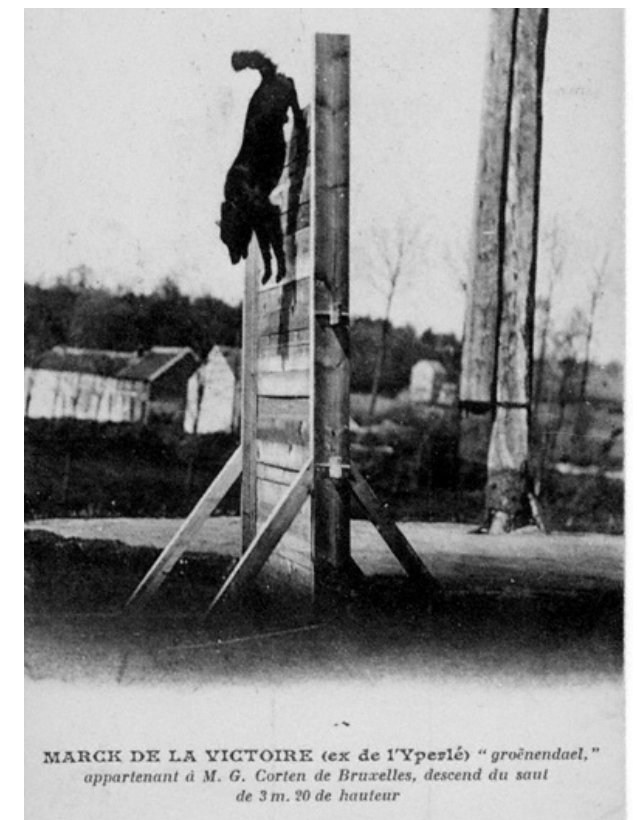
[American Belgian Malinois Club](#)

Belgian Sheepdogs

WORKING AND SHOW LINES: SPACE FOR BOTH

“The Belgian Sheepdog Club of America was formed in 1949, and since then this noble breed has done it all: show dog, athlete, police officer, soldier, service dog, searcher and rescuer, watchdog, and tireless backyard tennis-ball fetcher.”—History of the Belgian Sheepdog, AKC website

What a profound statement that highlights the versatility of our breed. Most of us found our way to this breed initially in search of a breed that is highly trainable, of moderate size, and beautiful but without excessive grooming requirements. Today, about 400 Belgian fanciers are members of the Belgian Sheepdog Club of America.



MARCK DE LA VICTOIRE (ex de l'Yperlé) “groënendael,” appartenant à M. G. Corten de Bruxelles, descend du saut de 3 m. 20 de hauteur



MARCK DE LA VICTOIRE (ex de l'Yperlé) chien de Berger belge “groënendael”, appartenant à M. G. Corten de Bruxelles.

The Belgian Sheepdog’s extraordinary athletic and working abilities are a key aspect of the breed’s heritage. Two antique postcards (circa 1911): Belgian Sheepdog Marck de la Victoire ex de Yperlee (born February 23, 1908) descends a wall 3 meters 20 cm. high. According to his listing in a Belgian show catalog, Marck was awarded the Certificate of Aptitude for Championship. (“Groënendael” is the breed’s alternate name.)

COURTESY BSCA

HERDING GROUP

When I first got into Belgians, my thoughts included trying obedience, conformation, and maybe some agility. Over the years, I have learned about so many other venues our versatile breed excels in. At our national specialty, titling events include tracking, herding, rally and obedience, agility, scent work, and conformation. Various seminars and health clinics attract fanciers from all parts of the country to join in the celebration of Belgian Sheepdogs.

This past April our national specialty was held in Olympia, Washington. I am an East Coast person, so I jumped at the chance to head to Washington to see more of the West Coast Belgian Sheepdogs.

It was there I found myself fascinated. Standing ringside was this dog full of character with his handler waiting to go into the obedience ring for their turn at the exercise. It was my first time meeting a working-line Belgian Sheepdog. The dog did not disappoint, with focus and precision in his every move. Many breeds, including Belgian Sheepdogs, have developed distinctly differences between lines bred primarily for work or show. Debates can get heated at times, with concerns including incorrect temperaments or varying coat length. It is important to note the AKC Belgian Sheepdog standard does not differentiate working and show lines. Coat length and temperament are among many factors influ-

enced through selective breeding. You can find quality AKC Belgian Sheepdogs in the U.S. of working line or show line heritage.

The BSCA has worked with the AKC, the Bernese Mountain Dog Club, and the American Working Malinois Association so that our dogs can trial in their Draft and IPO events. As of June 2012 any Belgian Sheepdog earning titles at these clubs' events may add the title to their dog's names and will be included on all future registration papers. As of October 1, 2018, the AKC also recognizes the ATTS Temperament Test title for Belgian Sheepdogs. Lorra Miller, former president of the BSCA, notes that an interest in protection sports and a dog they can hike or go dock diving with finds appeal with a younger demographic of puppy buyers.

When I started dock diving in 2018 with NADD (the AKC-recognized dock diving organization), there was one Belgian Sheepdog jumping. It was a working-line dog whose average distance jump was 21 feet. To date, the breed's average distance jump for dock diving is 16 feet, and we have a mix of both working and show dogs competing at the regional- and national-level events. Both through AKC parent club programs and partnered organizations, opportunities for new types of competitions are added, and established programs continue to flourish.

The versatility that was a hallmark of the early Belgian Sheepdogs is still represented today in the accomplishments of our breed across a wide variety of venues. That said, I encourage you to go out and learn about other sports our breed is participating in. You might just find a new venue to try with your Belgian. Lastly, the Belgian Sheepdog Club of America welcomes all fanciers regardless of their chosen sport(s). Diversity in breeding lines and interests help to ensure our breed will be preserved for future generations.

Stay safe, friends.

—Susan Reed Davis,

sreedsreed@gmail.com

[Belgian Sheepdog Club of America](#)

Belgian Tervuren

A "BAD MOTHER," OR ECLAMPSIA?

Normally when I have a litter, I put the whelping box in my guest room for the first week, and I sleep in there so I can initially keep an eye on the puppies and mom. I actually find those soft, snuffling sounds of puppies soothing.

Several years ago I had an alarming situation with a dam and her new litter. On day 5 of the litter, it was around midnight, and I was reading a book and just about to call it a night. I thought I heard a low growl. Had my other



dog snuck into the room, and my girl was just giving them a small "keep out" warning? Getting up, I found my other bitch snoozing in the hallway. Then I heard it again. It definitely came from the whelping box. As I turned around, I saw my new mother muzzle-punch a puppy! What was going on? This sweet, even-tempered girl had been an outstanding mother for five days. Mystified, I'm thinking this was a fluke. So I go to bed and read a little more. An hour later it happens again. Now worry and a little panic ensue.

Was she rejecting them?

Let's be logical, I thought to myself. I took her

DAVID WOO ©AKC

HERDING GROUP

temperature. I checked to be sure no glands were hot or had any unusual discharge. The top two mammary glands had very little milk in them, so I wondered, was it painful if a puppy tried to nurse from them? But really, everything was normal.

Cell phone in hand, I started texting—a repro vet I knew, my own vet, and another Belgian vet. Explaining my situation, I prayed for morning. It's 2 a.m., and I decide I am spending the night in the box with her. If I stroked my girl's head, she calmed down and let her puppies nurse. So that's what I kept doing, waiting for morning to come.

Everyone I had texted answered me by early morning. The consensus seemed to be eclampsia—it would be a very noticeable fix if that diagnosis held up. I needed reassurance, so I was at my vet when they opened that morning. We did some in-house blood work to check numbers. The blood work looked fine. Go home, I was instructed, give her some Tums twice a day—you will see a difference in a few hours. I was a wreck.

A quick trip to WalMart, and I had Tums and fenugreek (an herb to increase milk supply). I gave her Tums in the car on the way home. All was quiet till late afternoon, when I heard another growl. So the second Tums was given early. To top things off, now she did not want to eat. Well, this was not going to happen

on my watch. I ended up giving Tums three times a day, hand-feeding and stuffing her. No food seemed to interest her past one meal. I also added a loose-fitting silicone muzzle that allowed her to eat, drink, and clean pups while wearing. I cried when I put it on her the first time. She accepted the muzzle with no problems, like she had worn it her whole life, and I was able to sleep for more than two hours that night. Thank goodness for my InstaPot, in which I made batches of chicken and rice, which she grudgingly ate. My vet loaned me a DAP diffuser. I kept sleeping in the room with her. The puppies gained weight steadily, were active, and content. I once again, had the sound of silence and content puppies.

One afternoon I missed the midday Tums, and within two hours there was another growling incident. For me, this signaled that it was the calcium drain and eclampsia. My girl also went down in pastern drastically. Mom always wanted to be with them all the time.

By the time the pups were 3 weeks, all signs of growling ceased. By 4 weeks, her appetite came back, and she went back to being the kind mother she was before this incident. She let the pups nurse up till almost 8 weeks, constantly played with them, and was as gentle as could be.

One of the vets mentioned that when a bitch rejects puppies, it happens almost from birth,

and often there are targeted pups. She wondered how many bitches have been mislabeled “bad mothers” when it really was eclampsia. If I had not had such compassionate and knowledgeable vets helping me through this, I would have labeled my girl a bad mother. She was far from that.

In reality, however, this was one of the scariest times I have had in breeding. Will I breed her again? Yes. Will I be more prepared for her dietary needs? Yes.

—Dana B. Mackonis,

cachetnoir@yahoo.com

[American Belgian Tervuren Club](#)

Briards

TIME FOR A CHANGE

Nothing is as constant as change. Or so I've been told. That's especially true when it comes to the governing bodies of the dog world. They seem to love change. Perhaps the idea is to make the sport more inclusive, to draw in more participants, in some cases to lower the bar so more can be deemed “winners”—and while they're at it, to add more funds to the coffers. No matter the reason, something is always changing: rules, regulations, standards, procedures, and so on. And on.

So while we're on the subject, there are a few changes I'd like to suggest. Let's start with

conformation. Racking up points is the name of the game. A dog's wins can provide points to make him a champion and move onward to lofty heights such as tops in breed, group, show, country. Perhaps even a niche in history. To infinity and beyond? Like most things these days, it costs money. That's where the playing field is definitely not level. It's more like mountainous. There are those fortunate folks who can afford to fly their dogs from coast to coast to shows, entrust them to the capable care of a top-notch handler, and take out glorious spreads in gleaming color to advertise their wins. At the other end of the spectrum are those folks who skip meals just so they can afford entry fees. The rest fall somewhere in between.

So how about if a dog's rankings are calculated by its top *twelve* performances for the year? That's it. Just 12 shows. Enter as many shows as you want, but the only ones that count are the dozen where the dog has done his or her best winning. Keep it simple. It doesn't matter where the shows are located (as long as they're within the U.S.), when the dog is shown, or who does the handling. The only thing that counts are the points collected at any 12 shows.

Not a perfect solution to evening up the odds, but it just might help.

Onward to obedience. It also could stand

HERDING GROUP

some improvement. Things aren't always fair in this sport. Let's imagine a run-off for High in Trial between a Sheltie and a Briard: The judge calls "halt," and both dogs sit. The quickest sit wins. Whose butt is closest to the floor? The Sheltie can be sitting and checking out its pedicure while the Briard is still folding its hind legs into position. Clearly there should be some sort of handicap in play here. Big dogs may be at a disadvantage in obedience, since any mistakes they make are much easier to see. Not to knock any breeds, but some are just easier to train than others. Maybe Border Collies, Golden Retrievers, and Shelties should just be awarded CDs with their registration papers so they don't clutter up the Novice classes and embarrass everyone else.

Obviously all breeds aren't equal when it comes to obedience, so here's a suggestion to even things out a bit. Judges will be given ten extra points to distribute in any of three designations. They will be Degree of Difficulty, Intelligent Approach, and Creativity/Comic Relief. The Degree of Difficulty points would be given to bolster the scores of breeds whose physical or mental capabilities put them at a disadvantage. Let's face it, there are some dogs who should be given extra points just for being able to find the ring entrance. Worthy of those points would be the Basset Hound who whipped his head around just before aiming to



Briard

pick up a dumbbell and retrieved his left ear instead. I would also have appreciated those extra points for my beloved Briard, Max, who lost me on the Heel Free exercise and frantically circled the ring looking for me until the judge commented, "Would you please tell that poor dog where you are?" A couple of times

I've seen determined dogs do an amazing job of extricating dumbbells wedged in ring fencing. Now that's difficult! Surely they deserve those extra points.

The Intelligence category would recognize canine competitors who use their brains to overcome problems in the ring. There can be

no better example of this than Jessie (AKA The Briard Who Ate Ontario), who was taking part in the Novice class at an outdoor trial on a hot summer day. We had positioned our dogs for the Long Sit in a line that started just past the tent and extended to the end of the ring. Jessie was last in the line. On command, we left our dogs and walked to the other side of the ring to turn and face them. But when I turned, no Jessie. I got a glimpse of her tawny coat as she ambled behind the lineup until she came to the other end. She sat where the shade from the tent started and remained there till the end of the exercise. Long Down, same thing. She walked behind the others and downed in the shade at the end of the line.

"I have to fail her," the judge said almost apologetically, "but I have to give her credit for being the only one smart enough to do the exercises out of the hot sun."

When it comes to the Creativity/Comic Relief, there was a friend's Beardie who managed to take the High Jump in every exercise in Open. He sailed over it while heeling, popped over while retrieving, and even managed to work it into the Drop on Recall.

Another worthy recipient of the Creativity/Comic points would have to be the Lab who was sent to retrieve. Spotting a fluffy orange thing in the next ring that looked just like his favorite toy, he detoured into the

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

HERDING GROUP

adjoining ring and brought it back neatly to hand. Unfortunately, it wasn't his toy but a Pomeranian, followed by its hysterical owner. Fortunately, the Lab had a very soft mouth, and the Pom was perfectly fine. The high point of the action was when the Lab sat in front of his owner with the Pom in his mouth and the judge instructed, "Take it."

The final instance of Creativity (or was it Intelligence) happened at the Obedience Classic in Orlando a few years ago. I believe it was a Border Collie doing Scent Discrimination in Utility. He checked over the collection of scent articles, selected one, and started back to his handler. Halfway there, he had second thoughts, dropped the article, went back to the pile, picked up another article, and started back. When he got to the dropped article, he put down the second article, picked up the dropped dumbbell, and returned it to the pile. Then he returned to pick up the second article and carry it back to his handler. Now that's certainly deserving of extra creatively points, as well as a point or two for neatness.

OK, now what other canine competition could be improved with a few creative changes?

—Alice Bixler,

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Briard Club of America

Canaan Dogs

CANAAN DOGS' COATS OF MANY COLORS

The Canaan Dog comes in one of two coat patterns—either a predominately white coat with colored patches and matching color mask or hood, or any solid color with or without white trim.

The breed standard says:

"Color may range from black through all shades of brown—sandy to red or liver. Shadings of black on a solid brown or tan dog are frequently seen. The trim on a solid-colored dog may include chest, undercarriage, feet, and lower part of leg and tip of tail. In all color patterns self-ticking may be present. Disqualifications—(a) Gray and/or brindle. (b) All white."

For breeds with few or no variations in coat color, a breeder can reasonably expect a litter of puppies to be of similar color as the parents and previous generations. For Canaan Dog breeders, it's quite often a toss of the proverbial coin, as the genes for coat color are not fixed.

For example, I bred my white and black-patched bitch to a solid cream male in the hopes of getting a white and red or tan-patched puppy but ended up with one solid-black with white trim, and three white and black-patched pups. I bred my solid-colored liver-red bitch to a different cream male, and



Canaan Dog

that breeding also yielded four puppies: one brown, one red, one cream, and one black.

To further emphasize the toss of the coin, in the next generation, the cream male from that liver and cream breeding eventually sired his own litters—one with a cream bitch, where

the litter was entirely cream colored, and another with a white and black-patched bitch that produced both solid cream and red pups and white pups with patches of cream, brown, and red. In both cases there were solid-black Canaans within two generations of both sire

COURTESY HOTDOG PHOTO

HERDING GROUP

and dam.

To add to this thought-provoking color scheme, there are very few truly black Canaans, either solid or patched, so breeders who mate black or black-patched white dogs and bitches to produce black or black-patched white pups will often find a hint of mahogany-red or bronze blended with the black.

So, when a potential puppy buyer asks for a specific color such as cream or red from an upcoming litter, a breeder must explain the realities of Canaan genetics and emphasize that type, health, and temperament are more important than color. Since white and black-patched Canaans are predominately seen on televised dog shows or in advertisements, an owner of a Canaan Dog of another color can also take the opportunity to explain that we breed for health, type, and temperament and enjoy whatever colors we get. Additionally, our judge's education coordinators and presenters encourage owners and handlers to bring their solid and patched Canaans of many colors to the hands-on portion of the seminars to acquaint the judges with the variety of breed colors as well as type and temperament that they will see in the ring.

Just as Canaans are not just a one-dimensional dog, neither are they a one-color-fits-all breed.—Denise A. Gordon

[Canaan Dog Club of America, Inc.](#)

Cardigan Welsh Corgis

COLOR IS NOT STRUCTURE

Back in the 1990s, I was asked to present a judging seminar in concert with Jean York, a longtime Pembroke Welsh Corgi breeder/exhibitor and former GAZETTE columnist. I talked to Jean about making sure we included a red Pembroke and red Cardigan.

We each handled individual breed presentations, and then we put the red Pem and red Cardi up on tables set up one in front of the other. I turned to the audience of established judges and those preparing to apply for both Corgis and asked them to take a good look at the two breeds in silhouette, as that of course is the position most often seen in the conformation ring.

They looked at the red Pembroke, and looked at the red Cardigan, and I then asked a very important question: “Does the Cardigan look like a Pembroke?”

And I watched as the lightbulb turned on.

No, red Cardigans do not resemble red Pembrokes. But red Cardigans, no longer common in the ring, are still labeled by some judges as “too Pemmy.”

Red is a color, not a structural feature.

At the Cardigan national specialty we offer a competition called The Megan, named after the first Cardigan champion in the U.S. This is a champions-only competition divided by



Male and female red Cardigan Welsh Corgis



color, so at the start, you will see a class of red dogs and a class of red bitches compared one against the other, not against any of the other colors. It's a perfect opportunity to see a correct Cardigan silhouette without the red color subliminally affecting a judge's internal “eye.”

No one would mistake any of these red dogs for Pembrokes. They are clearly Cardigans, with longer, heavier bodies; broader back-skulls, and somewhat more substantial heads (the correct Cardigan head is not “foxy,” as the Pembroke's head is); round bone, as opposed to the oval bone of the Pembroke; considerably larger ears; a rounder eye; and, of course, the classic Cardigan front turnout, which should be no more than 30 percent.

Forty-plus years ago, it was far more common to see red Cardis in the ring. Slowly, however, the popularity of the color eroded. When

asked by others why they aren't showing red Cardis, or aren't keeping a red puppy, the common answer is “You can't win with a red.”

Oh, they may eventually finish their championships. But competing as a special in Best of Breed? “Too difficult,” many say. Including pro handlers.

No one ever says a brindle Cardi is “too Pemmy.” Or a blue merle is. Or a tri. This label is reserved for reds (and sables) alone.

Suggestion: Print online silhouette photos of red Pems and red Cardis, then place them side by side. Do the same with Pem and Cardi faces. I think many will realize just how different the two breeds are despite identical color.

Faults must be faulted, of course. But the red color, in Cardigans, does not a Pembroke make.

—Jennifer Roberson

COURTESY CWCCA

HERDING GROUP

Jennifer Roberson has been showing and breeding Cardigans for over 30 years. She has served as an officer on the Board of the CWCCA, and as chair of Breeders Education.

[Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America](#)

Collies

FUTURE FORECASTS

Remember the 1962 TV show *The Jetsons*? They were a futuristic cartoon family who lived 100 years into the future. Many of the gadgets the Jetsons used in daily life became a reality: video calls, robotic vacuums, smartphones, flat screens, and tablet computers, to name a few. It's pretty amazing what was considered "futuristic" that we take for granted now.

Paradoxically, the Collie community has recently been doing a lot of looking back. Just this year we have lost too many of our Collie greats.

It's bittersweet to reminisce about their accomplishments, but a little question nags at me: Where will we be in 50 or 100 years? I can only imagine what showing and breeding dogs will be like in 2072 or 2122.

In 1922, one hundred years ago, life looked promising. The Great War had ended, technological advances flourished with more cars and conveniences, and train travel was still popular



Collie

and got you there easily and efficiently. The stock market crash was seven years away, and nobody was thinking about that.

Will we revert to some "old-fashioned" ways? Maybe we'll have super-fast trains, and

shows will be in large complexes. We'll take the train to the complex, robot porters will help us unload, and hotels and restaurants will all be within walking distance.

Will entries be larger because there are fewer

shows, and clustered together because of mass transportation? Since exhibitors will be there two or three days without a car, will they socialize more? Go to dinner, make future breeding plans, share their knowledge? Will there be handlers, or will people have so much free time thanks to huge advances in automation that they are looking for hobbies and something to do? Or will people be so insular at home that they send the dogs out with their handlers?

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, the majority of those in the dog world were of the wealthy class, but in the years following WWII many more people had the money to indulge in hobbies, and dog shows exploded. Will we return to only the wealthy again since, as of today, the middle class is shrinking and aging? Perhaps young people will be looking for something beyond staring down at their phones and will enjoy a foray connected to animals—a novelty. Or perhaps as more people move away from rural into suburban and urban environments, no one will have more than two or three dogs.

How will they compete 100 years from now? The musical group ABBA is giving sold-out virtual concerts with avatars. They look exactly like ABBA from the 1970s, but they're not physically present. Maybe we'll show our dogs virtually with avatars; dogs from all over the world could compete from their own

DIANE LEWIS FOR AKC

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

backyard. No more worry of dogs catching kennel cough or flu at the shows, and no risk of COVID's future variants to the human exhibitors.

Scientists predict that AI will read our brain waves, and all we'll have to do is give a command telepathically. By then maybe we can enter day of the show simply by thinking it, instead of weeks away. We might even be able to know who is entered so we can decide to compete or not.

Or perhaps we'll have individual autonomous flying machines. Since these will be faster, we can stay late for the groups, because the flying car gets us safely home, no problem.

Science can already remove "bad genes," so 100 years from now, will we and our dogs be healthier and live longer? Through DNA testing, required for all people and animals, will all the bad genes be gone? We will certainly live longer, and so will the dogs. Meat will be a luxury item, especially for feeding dogs, no one will know what real beef tastes like; perhaps the same for chicken and seafood.

I can't predict what the future holds. But one thing I can predict is it won't be like it is today. Nothing stays the same forever!

What are your predictions?

—Marianne Sullivan, Charlottesville, Virginia

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[Collie Club of America](#)

Finnish Lapphunds

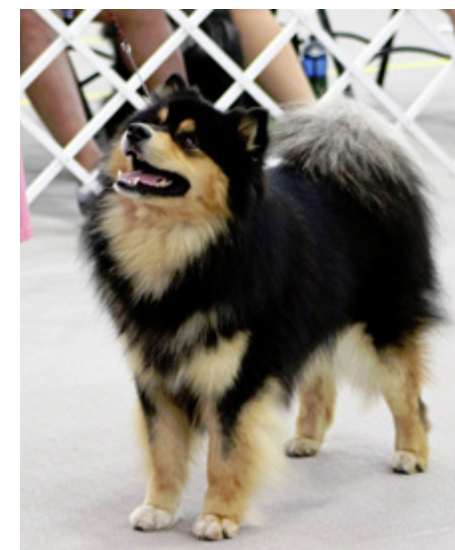
FLCA 2022 NATIONAL SPECIALTY: A MIDWEST ADVENTURE

The Finnish Lapphund Club of America's 2022 national specialty took place at Purina Farms in early June. The FLCA rotates the nationals each year around three regions—from East, to Midwest, to West—and this was the third time the club has held the event at Purina Farms (2015, 2018, 2022). Kudos to our dedicated team of club members and Lappy owners for organizing another great specialty, and to everyone across the country who donated prizes.

There were 35 Finnish Lapphunds entered in the national specialty, 37 in the regional specialty, and 10 in sweepstakes. There were higher entries across the classes, and more dogs than bitches were entered. The coat colors represented were black and tan, brown and tan, sable, wolfsable, and cream.

The national specialty on Friday was judged by Toni Jackson, who came all the way from the United Kingdom. Mrs. Jackson gave an evening presentation after the specialty and the next day did one-on-one written evaluations. The regional specialty was judged by Kristen L. Francis, who joined us from Canada.

The 2022 FLCA National Specialty Best of Breed winner was Bandit (GCh.S Lapinkaunis



The Finnish Lapphund Club of America celebrated its 2022 national specialty in early June. Shown: Purina Farms welcome sign; national specialty BB winner Bandit; Bandit in the ring; regional specialty BB winner Micce in the ring.

I Want It All). Bandit is currently ranked number-one in both breed and all-breed rankings for Finnish Lapphunds and is ranked number 15 Top 100 Dogs in the Herding Group. This is a truly special dog who, at only 2 years old, is living up to his name and exceeding all expectations his owners and breeders had for him. Micce (GCh.S/Can. GCHX



COURTESY HOUNDS IN MOTION, SARA ALBERTSON, LINDA GUELKER, ALYSSA JANISZAK, MARIA SWARTS

HERDING GROUP

Peikkovuoren Talviturkki) won Best of Breed at the regional specialty, and this veteran dog is proving that the breed holds up very well indeed.

The FLCA has an active Facebook group, and when the request was made to livestream the show, I found a post in the AKC Club Development Facebook group on this topic. I sent an e-mail to AKC TV Broadcasting and got a quick reply. After answering a few questions, approval was granted, so my cell phone tripod and extra battery packs were added to my packing pile. At the show grounds, I tested going live on Facebook with my friends, and the signal was good. Before ring time, I set up my tripod and phone, attached a backup battery, and let the chatty ladies sitting nearby know that we were going live. As the first Lappy entered the ring I started the livestream, and when judging was done, I retrieved my set up and published the video.

The feedback was very positive, the video clarity was excellent, and there were no internet glitches. People who were not able to attend loved being there virtually and chatted with each other while watching. For next time, we hope to have someone sit by the camera and identify the dogs in the ring.

After the show, one of our club members posted over 250 photos to our Facebook group, and what was even more spectacular is

that she painstakingly added the names of the dogs to each picture!

This was my first time to attend a show at Purina Farms, and a bucket-list trip for me is now in the books. It was quite the adventure getting to the show—I caravanned with three people, nine dogs, and two minivans across five states and through some spectacular storms.

The next FLCA national specialty is being planned for Spring 2023 in the Pacific Northwest, and as always, I look forward to the next adventure. We hope to see you all there!

—Maria Swarts,
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Finnish Lapphund Club of America

Norwegian Buhunds

HIKING WITH NORWEGIAN BUHUNDS

Fall is the perfect season to go on long hikes, explore the woods and fields, and appreciate the glorious colors of nature. And hiking is much more enjoyable with a Norwegian Buhund or two at your side. Buhunds are excellent hiking companions, with the ability to keep up on long hikes, especially in cooler weather. After all, this is a breed meant to herd sheep all day for days at a time.



When first introducing Buhunds to the joys of hiking, I prefer to start with short one- or two-hour hikes and then gradually increase the time and distance as the dogs build up their stamina and strength. All my Buhunds progress to engaging in daylong hikes until well into their senior years.

Unlike human hiking companions, Norwegian Buhunds never complain about our choice of hiking trail or get upset if we get lost exploring an unknown trail. Hiking with Buhund companions might, in fact, make

it easier to explore overgrown trails, because they can scent the path underneath all the vegetation.

Buhunds also make it simpler to explore new trails without memorizing all the choices that we make at intersections and being concerned about finding our way back. Our Buhunds can lead us back to the main trail—if they choose to!

One of my Buhunds, Finna, sometimes pretends to listen to my “Let’s go back” cue and instead delights in leading us further into the woods. After following her for a while, I often

COURTESY LYNDY BEAM

HERDING GROUP

come to the realization that we are getting lost and have to insist on her taking us back to the main path. It is almost as though she is saying, “Oh, you want to go back? I thought you wanted me to track—I’m busy tracking this herd of deer for you. Are you sure you don’t want to find the deer?”

Although Buhunds love to hike in both wooded and open areas, they definitely prefer the woods in summer when the trees provide shade from the sun. Since they are a double-coated breed, we have to make sure that they do not overheat in the summer months by carrying sufficient water and avoiding very hot days. Some Norwegian Buhunds can become used to walking in the heat; mine (raised in air-conditioned comfort) prefer the cooler days of fall or spring—or even winter.

Winter hiking is easier on Buhunds, although their feet are still exposed to the ice. I try to make sure that their feet are protected with paw wax, and even purchased boots for their feet (which they managed to take off in less than five minutes). Thankfully, they have not yet figured out how to remove their orange-blaze jackets during hunting season. However, since Buhunds are a herding breed, some of them tend to be sound-sensitive and are less interested in romping in the woods when they hear gunshots.

Some Norwegian Buhunds carry well-fit-

ted backpacks while hiking; these packs can include a few small items such as water bladders, food, and poop bags. And a few Buhunds have even earned Pack Dog and Trail Dog titles for hiking and backpacking.

Hiking with Norwegian Buhunds has made me so much more aware of all the wildlife that lives in our woods—from foxes to weasels and otters and, of course, plenty of rabbits, deer, and coyotes. I am always amazed how many tracks Buhunds can see and scent early in the morning, especially after an overnight snowfall. I am sure that they would have intriguing stories to tell about all they see and scent.

—Jasmine Tata,

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Norwegian Buhund Club of America

Old English Sheepdogs

PERILS OF THE SEASON PART 2

With summer sliding into fall for most of you and your Old English, hopefully you have avoided the hot-weather perils covered in my June column. These included not running away during your neighborhood’s 4th of July barrage and only snitching one burger during your Labor Day bash.

The passing of Labor Day means it is time to begin preparing for the fall and winter perils your sheepdog will be facing. If you are a long-

time breeder or owner, most of these won’t be new. However, a quick review can’t hurt.

One group of perils includes a variety of holidays and special days. These start with Halloween and its doorbell-ringing trick-or-treaters. Then it doesn’t end until you’ve ushered in 2023. These perils pretty much affect all parts of the country about the same.

The other class of perils is just the opposite: the weather.

This can vary widely from

ice and snow, to rain and mud, to warm and sunny in the retirement meccas. However, just because you live in one of the latter, don’t think that bad weather is out of the question. Remember the polar vortex that turned Texas into a block of ice from the Oklahoma border to the Rio Grande Valley.

Weather

The weather issues are addressed first. Even during the winter if you are enjoying hot, sunny weather, leaving your dog in a closed vehicle can lead to heatstroke. Since this was covered in the previous column, the focus here is on cold situations that may lead to hypo-

thermia or other problems.

The most serious issue would be having a dog in full coat get completely wet under subfreezing conditions. One way this could happen is for your dog to venture onto an ice-covered waterway and then break through the ice. Recovering the dog and getting it to solid ground can be a challenge, as the ice will also be unable to support an adult attempting the rescue. Particularly if the water is flowing, the rescue may require assistance from first responders. Once the rescue has been made, the dog needs to be quickly transported to a place where warming and drying can begin.

Fortunately other winter perils involve snow



Old English Sheepdog with Julie Andrews and the original Broadway cast of Camelot, 1960

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and ice or rain and mud, making doggy boots the first line of defense. Unless you have completely covered indoor-outdoor runs, boots and some sort of coat are essential if you are keeping the dog in show condition. The typical boots are essentially tubes of some waterproof material that are closed at one end and secured with ties around the dog's legs. However, depending on the material, these may not provide good traction, so that the dog can slip and slide and perhaps fall.

An alternative may be the type of boots used for sled dogs. These have leather coverings over the pads to protect them from sharp ice, but they also have holes for the dog's nails to provide better traction. Either type should prevent the painful buildup of ice between the dog's pads.

Holiday Perils

Turning to the holiday perils, Halloween is the first chronologically. Nobody wants to hear Bean barking every time the doorbell rings. If you cannot send him to the country with friends, maybe you can include him in your trick-or-treat crew. Just drape a sheet over him and make him a wraith, then keep him behind the rest of the group. In the extreme you could even consider boarding him for the night.

One last Halloween tip: Don't let the dog go

fishing for goodies in the trick-or-treat bags. Chocolate, especially dark chocolate, may cause vomiting and diarrhea, and ingesting large amounts of some types of chocolate can be life-threatening. The artificial sweetener xylitol can cause your dog's blood sugar to drop to a dangerously low level and can also be fatal to dogs.

After Halloween come the year-end holidays. My take is that at least half the problems our OES have during this period are of our own making as owners. We humans become so distracted with all the holiday festivities that we are not aware of the potential problems our dogs may encounter.

A good rule is to forego people food for your dogs. During the holidays table food is often high in saturated fats and cholesterol, along with salt and other spices. Grapes and raisins can cause kidney problems and garlic and onions may damage red blood cells. Your guests should also be asked not to feed your dog, no matter how woebegone his or her expression.

Like holiday foods, some holiday plants can be toxic. Poinsettias, mistletoe, and holly may be beautiful to look at but are toxic and can cause vomiting and diarrhea. If your OES has a cat for a pet or companion, you need to avoid lilies, as these can lead to kidney failure in cats.

Of course it wouldn't be the holidays with-

out lots of decorations, the main one being the tree. Due to their size, an OES can easily bump into a tree sitting on the floor, knocking off some ornaments, or worse. One option is to leave it to the Joneses to have the biggest tree while you place a smaller tree on top of a sturdy table. This will also keep your glass ornaments and electrical cords out of your dog's reach. The top of the tree can even be attached to the ceiling for added stability. Having presents sitting under the tree may look great, but they can make tempting chew-toys. With the tree on the table, the presents can go under the table and be closed off, for example by placing an ex-pen around the outside of the table legs. Candles are another common decoration, but should be of the electrical variety. With all that fur, use of candles with flames should be limited to the dinner table or mantle, if used at all.

A couple final points. You should consider providing your dog with its own space, one that is a quiet refuge from all the commotion around the holidays. You should also make sure your dog's IDs and vaccinations are current. With people coming and going and doors opening and closing, your dog may slip outside. Having the updated ID and shot record should help facilitate its return.

Hopefully you and your OES can side step most of these perils and be prepared for the

others. The result should be a pleasant and enjoyable winter and holiday season.

—Joe Schlitt,

wylecotejs@earthlink.net

Old English Sheepdog Club of America

Pembroke Welsh Corgis

The Judges Education committee of the Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America (PWCCA) recently released the information below for judges. All fanciers should be aware of this information, shared here with the permission of the PWCCA.

JUDGING THE PEMBROKE WELSH CORGI

The Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America would like to answer questions and address any confusion that may exist concerning the areas of tails, coat trimming, and color when judging our breed. As events in which judging in conflict with the AKC-approved breed standard have been brought to our attention, the PWCCA would like to take this opportunity to clarify these aspects.

Tails

The American Kennel Club standard for the Pembroke Welsh Corgi states:

“Tail—Docked as short as possible without being indented. Occasionally a puppy is born with a natural dock, which if sufficiently short,

HERDING GROUP

is acceptable. A tail up to two inches in length is allowed, but if carried high tends to spoil the contour of the topline.”

The bobtail/docked tail on the Pembroke Welsh Corgi has deep historical significance to our breed. The docked outline is a *hallmark and identifying characteristic, essential to breed type*. The standard is specific in stating a tail *up to two inches* in length is allowed. As characteristics not consistent with the standard are to be weighted to the extent of their deviation, a tail significantly more than two inches in length would be a serious deviation from the standard and breed type and should be factored accordingly in one’s judging.

The PWCCA recognizes AKC Rules assign full discretionary power to the judge in the determination of awards, and that judges should award on the total assimilation of an entry’s positive attributes. At the same time, the PWCCA wishes to preserve the history, heritage, and essence of our breed and urges judges to consider that characteristics not allowed within a standard have purposely been identified and thus would logically be weighted heavier than a characteristic that simply is a “deviation from standard.”

Trimming of the coat (“topiary” Pembroke Corgis)

The breed’s AKC standard says:

“The Corgi should be shown in its natural



“The Corgi should be shown in its natural condition, with no trimming permitted except to tidy the feet, and, if desired, remove the whiskers.” —Pembroke Welsh Corgi AKC breed standard

condition, with no trimming permitted except to tidy the feet, and, if desired, remove the whiskers.”

Our standard is perfectly clear that *no trimming is permitted* (apart from the feet and whiskers). We have witnessed an increasing number of Pembrokes exhibited and rewarded who have been very obviously trimmed/sculpted.

This is of serious concern to the PWCCA, and the practice could be a result of overzealous grooming by the exhibitor, or an effort to disguise a *Fluffy*—a condition specifically defined as a serious fault within the standard.

We ask all judges to be mindful of this in their judging and apply appropriately in their judging if they should encounter an entry which has been excessively trimmed.

Coat color

This subject of color was previously addressed, but the PWCCA would like to reinforce to all judges that the only acceptable colors in Pembrokes are *red, sable, fawn, and black and tan with or without white markings*.

There is no preference among the four allowed colors. Fawns and reds run from light

tan to a rich dark red. Sables range from light to very heavy black “penciling.” Black and tan may present as a red-head tricolor (red on the head and typically a “saddle” pattern on the body) or as a black-headed tricolor (black encompassing the top of the head and more widespread on the body).

Red, sable, fawn, and black and tan, with or without white markings, are the *only* acceptable colors in the Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America Breed Standard. Brindle and merle, in either red or blue, are *not* naturally occurring or accepted colors for a Pembroke Welsh Corgi.

The PWCCA encourages and appreciates judges who will keep in mind these important factors when judging the Pembroke Welsh Corgi. If you are presented with a Pembroke with a tail, an exhibit that has been trimmed inappropriately or sculpted, or is a brindle or merle coat color, we respectfully request that you withhold a ribbon or place the exhibit such that no championship points may be awarded.—PWCCA Judges Education Committee

Thank you to the PWCCA Judges Education Committee for providing these guidelines. For more information, please see <http://www.pwcca.org/>. For information on this month’s national specialty, please consult <http://www.pwccanational.com>.

—Lynda McKee,

TifflynLDM@aol.com

Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America

COURTESY ANN BOWES

HERDING GROUP

Pulik

PULI AND BABY LIVING TOGETHER

In this column, I asked two Houston-area Puli owners who also are moms to share with us what their experience was with (A) introducing a new baby to an existing household with Pulik, and/or (B) introducing a new puppy *and* a new baby to an existing household with a Puli.

Some dogs whether or not they were exposed to children at an early age can be wary of children. A responsible dog breeder introduces their puppies to many and varied experiences to make their introduction to their forever homes easier. But it's really up to you, the new parent(s), to really facilitate a good introduction and relationship between Puli and your baby.

The AKC has useful information on introducing your dog to your new baby at <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/introducing-dog-to-baby/> and <https://www.akcpetinsurance.com/blog/8-ways-to-prepare-your-dog-for-a-new-baby>. The American Humane Association has a downloadable free book with good tips: <https://www.americanhumane.org/publication/pet-meets-baby/>.

First, new mom Christina Solis shares her experiences (and those of her husband, Graham) with the addition of son Kanan to two Pulik, who were introduced by their

breeder as puppies to small children.

“For the arrival of Kanan, we knew we had two Pulik with very different attitudes about children. Celosa (age 13) has been a fan of small children since she was a puppy. She loves kids of all shapes and sizes (and has since she was a puppy). Before my son came along, we used to joke that we needed to have a baby for our Puli. Celosa had been known to alter her play based who she was with, slowing down for toddlers and sitting very still for babies. Fusilli (age 9) is a much more cautious fellow. Sudden movements or noises my startle him. He can be aggressive toward other dogs and has indicated that loud, quick-moving children are a cause for concern. With both of them, we knew we would have to monitor them around Kanan at all times.

Before Kanan's birth, we changed the living space to ensure that our dogs did not associate changes in the home with the baby in a negative way. These changes included new/moved furniture (and other alterations of their home). We also started



Baby Kanan contemplates Celosa the Puli; Celosa and her charge; Kanan and Fusilli; both Pulik and Kanan.

working on making strange noises and startling the dogs from time to time so that they could become somewhat accustomed to what

was to come. Still, all of the preparation is no match for the reality of bringing home a baby. “When Kanan came home, we were

COURTESY CHRISTINA SOLIS

HERDING GROUP

shocked to find that at first Fusilli (rather than Celosa) was much more interested in the baby. Maybe Celosa was feeling a little displaced. It could also be that a newborn isn't all that interesting compared to the other small kids Celosa has been around. Fusilli, on the other hand, stuck very close to Kanan at the beginning, and we decided that he'd sworn a blood-oath to protect him. On his first walk with the new member of the family, Fusilli refused to leave the flank of the stroller, when he usually goes to inspect every single blade of grass in the neighborhood.

"Over time (Kanan is just shy of 5 months now), the dogs' attitudes have shifted. Kanan is more interactive, and Celosa comes over to shower him in kisses from time to time. She also is more likely to be by his side, stationing herself under him (especially if he is with one of us). Fusilli is still protective of Kanan in the abstract, but he also steers clear whenever there is a loud sound (crying) or sounds he can't understand (the ridiculous noises his parents make in singing or otherwise interacting with the baby).

"Neither Puli is ever unsupervised around the baby. One of the two of us is nearby at all times to monitor the interaction and pull them away if it gets to be too much for any of them. As he's grown older Kanan is more aware of the Pulis, and he's reached for their cords a

few times. So long as he's not pulling and the Puli is not upset, we will let him hold them for a short while. Most of the time they do not notice, usually because Celosa is too busy kissing his leg or hand or top of his head.

"While the first few months were pretty hectic, we have done our best to go back to old routines. Fusilli has a short walk in the morning with just me (and sometimes Kanan in a carrier). The whole family has a nighttime walk after dinner. Everyone has one-on-one time with each other, without the baby, but we also are working to establish new, fun routines *with* Kanan, so he is associated with good things rather than a total disruption of their lives. The Pulik now get excited when they see Kanan's carrier being pulled out, because it's very likely that their leashes will come out too.

"We are all still learning how to be a Puli family with a little one, and so far everything has gone well. We are embarking on new territory, though, since Kanan is starting to move on his own. When he's independently crawling, walking, running, we will need to watch very carefully how the Pulik react and we will have to put up boundaries, both physical and through training, to ensure everyone remains safe."—C.S.

It is a two-fold challenge to not only have a new baby in the home *but* to also introduce a new puppy at that same time. Tracy Finn

shares her perspective (and that of her husband Kelly) with a puppy also introduced by my mom to small children previously:

"It may seem crazy to bring home a new baby and a puppy a week apart. We didn't really plan it that way. We would have had a few weeks alone with Boris to focus on potty training and snuggles, but our first daughter came early. Instead, our 1-week-old Dagny made the trek with us for puppy pickup.

"The biggest challenge was potty training. Living in a townhouse, we didn't have a yard. Going outside meant walks on leashes. As a new mom, after dad went back to work, I remember asking myself, 'Can I leave a baby asleep in the pack and play on the second floor and walk outside with the puppy? Is this even legal?' What can I say? When you haven't slept in days, you start questioning everything. We relied heavily on puppy pee pads during that time.

"Our older Puli, Natasha, was 8 years old at the time. She had a personality that could best be described as diva-drama queen-evil genius. In the best possible way!

We worried a little that her feisty personality would not be accepting of a tiny human, but she fluctuated between oblivious and protective. I expected a little jealousy since she had a habit of emitted a low gentle growl when people would stop petting her. But we saw none

of that. Natasha still understood that she was the master of the house, so all was well.

"Meanwhile, Boris developed the sweetest, most patient demeanor. To this day, he still sits quietly next to his bowl when he needs a refill. He just looks at us as if to say, 'If it's not too much trouble, when you get a chance, I'd like some more please. No rush!' Of course, it's impossible to know if he developed that trait as a result of be raised alongside a newborn or if it is part of his nature, but he is the most 'lovey' of the three Pulik we've had.

"Can you have a newborn and a puppy at the same time? Absolutely! Ideally, getting those first few weeks of potty training out of the way first would definitely help your stress levels and floors, though."—T.F.

The before examples are Puli owners and moms who have shown great wisdom and common sense in how they handled bringing children into the lives of their Pulik. To recap:

Before your baby comes home:

Change your pet's environment gradually

Create barriers to areas of the home

Prepare your pet for baby sounds

Prepare the pet for baby smells

Start training when you know your baby is on its way (you have 9 months of pregnancy to prepare for your new arrival)

After your baby comes home:

Try to keep your pet's schedule intact

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Always supervise and be vigilant. This is especially important when kids are learning to walk or crawl around dogs, because even the most patient dog can become stressed with little humans who don't understand that grabbing and pulling isn't acceptable.

Show love to your pet(s) and make time for them. If you have multiple pets, individual attention is key.

I thank Christina Solis, Tracy Finn, Gin McDaniel Martinez, and Patty Anspach for taking time to provide input to this column and proofing the content.

—Dagmar Fertl,
dfertl@gmail.com
[Puli Club of America](#)

Spanish Water Dogs

ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SWD

The Spanish Water Dog Club of America continues to do ongoing judges' education, and significant elements of our judges' presentation seem to be logical "fodder" for this column.

As foundation information early in the presentation, we describe the "essential characteristics" of the breed—that is, traits that we would want to see present in any dog being considered for recognition in the ring and in a breeding program.

Distinctive rustic coat

The breed's coat has been addressed in previous columns, but it continues to require emphasis for many judges and others new to the breed. The term "rustic" *cannot* be over-emphasized; aesthetic brushing, grooming/scissoring is always incorrect and should not be rewarded in the ring. While wide variation in coat length is very acceptable, the tips of the curls, no matter their length, should show a thin "fishhook-like" curl. Correct cords, not more than 6 or 7 inches in length, are never flat but are rather pencil-like in diameter, with the curl of the coat evident throughout the length of the cord and then tapering to the tip.

Medium-sized, moderate in all ways

The versatility of this breed, both now and historically in the country of origin, demands a hardy dog of medium size with considerable stamina. Due to variations between early dogs in the north and south of Spain, the standard does allow for quite a broad range in height. With correct proportions (see below) and the solid build of a good specimen, dogs who are much beyond the maximum height will become cumbersome and lack the nimble and surefooted ability required to manage goats on uneven terrain. (More than one judge has commented on the importance of not "growing" this breed.) Conversely, dogs lacking sub-



Spanish Water Dog: AKC Meet the Breeds

stance would not be able to fulfill all of their duties, particularly in the water and retrieving game. Moderation in build as well as in angulation and stride are necessary for maintaining the pace of a steady day of moving stock

along roads to seasonal pasture.

Slightly longer than tall (9:8); 50 percent body, 50 percent leg

Because of the variation that will appear

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in coat and tail length, the eye can be fooled when assessing proportions across an entry of Spanish Water Dogs. Thorough and perceptive “hands on” is essential. After one’s hands have determined the volume of coat, standing back and assessing profile as it exists under the coat is likely to give the best understanding of a dog’s length and height proportions, remembering that too long and too short in the body are equally incorrect.

Of equal importance to the length-to-height ratio is the amount of body to leg. Again, coat can appear to “shorten” leg and/or “add depth” to the chest. It is essential to see past these appearances and determine whether the dog truly has sufficient chest capacity, as well as enough leg to move effectively and maintain stamina on rugged land and/or to carry objects through water.

Tail traditionally docked (all lengths acceptable)

There is no “wrong” tail for a Spanish Water Dog at this time. A natural bobtail gene exists in the breed, and in Spain puppies born with full tails were traditionally docked. Recent legislation in many parts of the world disallowing docking, however, has resulted in dogs now being seen with tails of varying lengths and carriages, and no clear direction from Spain to address this circumstantial change in the breed. So, while tail carriage and length

and slope of croup are not described, these features should still be moderate and integrate smoothly with a strong back end demonstrating proper rear angulation, a well-let-down hock, and free, but not excessively extended movement.—Marnie Harrison

[Spanish Water Dog Club of America](#)

Swedish Vallhunds

SVCA HOSTS AKC FIT DOG EVENT

On July 17, the Swedish Vallhund Club of America (SVCA) hosted its first AKC FIT DOG event. The club chose to become a FIT DOG club in order to help fulfill its mission of public education. Not only were we looking to bring together Vallhund owners that may not be club members, we were also hoping to educate the public about our breed.

The first step toward these ends was to gain Board approval to apply to become a FIT DOG club. After hearing a short presentation about the goals of FIT DOG and the ways in which a club could meet its responsibility to the program, the Board voted to give approval. The next step was to promote FIT DOG to the membership. We accomplished this by posting news of the program to the club member groups.io platform, Vallhund Facebook sites, and publishing information about the program in our national newsletter. Two Board members volunteered to



On July 17, the Swedish Vallhund Club of America hosted its first AKC FIT DOG event.



COURTESY SVCA

HERDING GROUP

chair the inaugural event.

Preparations

Site assessment was our first task. The co-chairs each selected venues that they thought would be appropriate. Considerations included available parking, potential contact with the public, dog-friendliness, and available shade and water, among others. The route was also important: Rather than a one-way walk with a turn-around point, we chose a circular paved route in a park/sports complex. This provided a handicapped accessible path, other activities nearby that could provide people interested in our dogs, and access to other dog-friendly folks who may not be aware of the FIT DOG program. For these benefits, we eliminated a rails-to-trails route that had limited shade, and a river walk with somewhat uneven terrain (and *giant* mosquitoes!).

We chose the date we did because there were all-breed conformation shows being held across the road at the county fairground on that weekend. Again, this provided a potential audience of dog-friendly folks. Also, by scheduling an early-evening time, we encouraged participants to bring a picnic dinner and stay to chat and meet other SV owners and their pets. There are also a number of takeout options nearby, for those who

would prefer to buy dinner and return with it to the park.

The heat of the day would be waning, but there was still daylight, and if we needed to cancel due to severe weather, the plan was preannounced that we would meet at 8 a.m. the following morning.

The next consideration: goodie bags! A list of local pet-supply facilities was generated, as well as grooming parlors and dog daycare facilities. Then the legwork began, calling on each facility with a letter of introduction and a suggestion of how each business might choose to participate. Two pet food and supply companies that are not local but deliver locally were contacted by phone, with email follow-ups containing additional information about the sponsoring club, the nature of the FIT DOG program, and the benefits of sponsorship to the business.

The two remote businesses responded immediately in the affirmative. One sent samples of products, already individually packaged, and a coupon for free delivery. The other requested that I come pick up samples. This time of year it is a pleasant drive; a late fall or early spring trip would certainly be subject to the vagaries of northern Illinois weather! The local pet food and supply store required a return visit to confirm her commitment. But when I came to pick

up her donation, she had packaged three types of treats, a coupon/business card for free shipping, and even a roll of poop bags, in individual brown lunch bags. What a pleasant surprise! The locally owned grocery provided plastic shopping bags to contain all our goodies, and our local butcher (yes, really—we live in an ag area!) donated paper-board “boats,” the type that ground beef is packed in, as disposable water bowls.

Day of the event

All participants were advised by text earlier in the week that if weather was anticipated to interfere with our event, they would receive a text a minimum of two hours before step-off time. Who can predict the weather? Two club members were asked to come 30 minutes early to help me set up. This included:

- Erecting the pop-up tent and registration table
- Posting the AKC FIT DOG banner
- Posting the “Thank You to Our Sponsors” sign
- Putting bottled water in the ice-filled cooler
- Stuffing the goodie bags
- Putting out the sign-in sheet, club membership applications, and “What is AKC FIT DOG?” information sheets

As the walkers arrived, they were encour-

aged to take a goodie bag to their cars before starting the walk. After brief introductions all around, they were off on their walk. Several passers-by asked what was going on and were given “What is AKC FIT DOG?” sheets with the link to the program page on the AKC website.

At the end of their walk, several participants helped take down and load our set-up. The general tone of the conversation was that this was a fun event, and we were thanked for holding it.

After the event

Participants who indicated an interest but did not attend were contacted to determine why they did not attend. (Illness and dog injury topped the list of causes.) All attendees were sent a follow-up survey and email to thank them for their participation and ask them to evaluate the event. All sponsors were sent personalized thank you notes for supporting the event.

Hopefully, other groups will choose to promote a local event of this type. The goodwill that well-behaved dogs create is priceless, and the opportunity to introduce the AKC FIT DOG program to the public is well worth the effort.

—Laura Kiedaisch,

lkiedai@gmail.com

[Swedish Vallhund Club of America](#)



MISSION STATEMENT The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function.

Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

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ATTENTION DELEGATES NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, September 13, 2022**. For the sole purpose of conducting the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees, the meeting will be called to order at 9:00 a.m. After those present at that time have voted, the Delegate Meeting will recess to begin the Forum (approximately 1 hour in duration). The Delegate Meeting will reconvene following the conclusion of the Forum at which time anyone who had not yet voted will have the opportunity to do so, then the polls will be closed.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Gloucester Kennel Club of Virginia

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

Lori A. Carver, Belchertown, MA,
Field Spaniel Society of America

Penny DiSiena, Ocala, FL,
Greater Ocala Dog Club

Sally Green, Terre Haute, IN,
Terre Haute Kennel Club

Timothy Gulley, Santa Rosa, CA,
County-Wide Dog Training Club

Corey Heenan, Colonie, NY,
Albany Kennel Club

Agi Hejja, Gum Spring, VA,
Kuvasz Club of America

Jennifer Martin, North East, MD,
Weimaraner Club of America

Rachann Mayer, Mount Airy, MD,
Carroll Kennel Club

Karen Rooks Nauer, Colorado Springs,
CO, German Shorthaired Pointer Club of
America

NOTICE

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual's suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

Mr. Philip Boyce (Waxhaw, NC)

Ms. Stephanie Curtis (Carbondale, IL)

Mr. Dale Hunsburger (Turney, MO)

Ms. Courtney Kiser (Wytheville, VA)

Ms. Pat Weber (Juliet, IL)

Mr. Trent Wilkinson (Stanley, NM)

NOTICE

Ms. Kylie Higgins (Anaheim, CA) Action was taken by the Orange Empire Dog Club for conduct at its May 22, 2022 event. Ms. Higgins was charged with neglect of a dog at or in connection an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a six-month suspension of all AKC privileges and imposed

a \$1,000 fine. (Australian Cattle Dog)

NOTICE

Ms. Elizabeth Jefferis (Chicago, IL) Action was taken by the No-Z K9 Scent Work Club of Northwest Indiana for conduct at its June 12, 2022 event. Ms. Jefferis was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and imposed a \$200 fine. (Papillon, German Shepherd Dog)

NOTICE

Mr. John Pace (Norco, CA). Action was taken by the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Southern California for conduct at its February 12, 2022 event. Mr. Pace was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event and violation of AKC rules/regulations or club regulations. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the combined penalty at a three-month suspension from all AKC privileges and a \$500 fine, effective April 20, 2022. Mr. Pace appealed the decision to an AKC Trial Board. The Trial Board denied his appeal. (German Shorthaired Pointers)

NOTICE

Mr. Carlos Puig (Round Lake, IL). Action was taken by the Minnesota Dachshund Club for conduct at its August 27, 2021 event. Mr. Puig was charged with improper treatment in con-

nection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee’s report and set the penalty at a six-month suspension from all AKC privileges and a \$1,000 fine, effective September 6, 2021. Mr. Puig appealed the decision to an AKC Trial Board. The Trial Board modified the penalty to a four-month suspension from all AKC privileges and a \$500 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Mr. Vincent Mulligan (Petaluma, CA) Action was taken by the Lost Coast Kennel Club for conduct at its July 9, 2022 event. Mr. Mulligan was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and imposed a \$500 fine. (Great Danes)

NOTICE

The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Juan Bruna (Hialeah Gardens, FL) from all AKC privileges for six-months and imposed a \$500 fine, for non-compliance with AKC’s record keeping and dog identification requirements, effective August 9, 2022. (Bulldogs, French Bulldogs)

NOTICE

The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Sherlinda Price (St. Joseph, MO) from all AKC privileges for a life-

time and imposed a \$10,000 fine, for violation of AKC’s Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy, effective August 9, 2022. (Dachshunds, Great Danes)

NOTICE

REPRIMANDS AND FINES

Notification of reprimand imposed on a superintendent for incomplete information on ribbons, Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 5, Section 2

Foy Trent Dog Shows.....Reprimand

Notification of fines imposed for improper entry modification, Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 11, Section 6

Nina Fetter\$200

Town and Country Toy Dog Club of Eastern Massachusetts.....\$100

Notification of reprimand imposed for late submission of event applications, Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 2, Section 4

Greater Monroe Kennel ClubReprimand

Notification of reprimand imposed for late submission of judges panels, Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 4, Section 1

Greater Monroe Kennel ClubReprimand

Notification of reprimand imposed for late publishing of a premium list, Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 6, Section 2

Greater Monroe Kennel ClubReprimand

Notification of fines imposed on performance clubs for late submission of results, Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers, Chapter 1, Section 21

Susquehanna Retriever Club\$100

Notification of fines imposed on performance clubs for late submission of results, AKC Herding Regulations, Farm Dog Certified (FDC) Test Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 17

Cahaba Valley Kennel Club\$75

PROPOSED ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL

STANDARD FOR COMMENT:

In accordance with the Guidelines for Breed Standard Revisions this is being published to receive any comments prior to the balloting of the club membership. Any comments may be forwarded directly to:

Mari-Beth O’Neill
VP Sport Services
mbo@akc.org

General Appearance: The English Springer Spaniel is a medium-sized sporting dog, with a compact body and a docked or undocked tail, both are given equal consideration. His coat is moderately long, with feathering on his legs, ears, chest and brisket. His pendulous ears, soft gentle expression, sturdy build and friendly

wagging tail proclaim him unmistakably a member of the ancient family of Spaniels. He is above all a well-proportioned dog, free from exaggeration, nicely balanced in every part. His carriage is proud and upstanding, body deep, legs strong and muscular, with enough length to carry him with ease. Taken as a whole, the English Springer Spaniel suggests power, endurance and agility. He looks the part of a dog that can go, and keep going, under difficult hunting conditions. At his best, he is endowed with style, symmetry, balance and enthusiasm, and is every inch a sporting dog of distinct spaniel character, combining beauty and utility.

Size, Proportion, Substance: The Springer is built to cover rough ground with agility and reasonable speed. His structure suggests the capacity for endurance. He is to be kept to medium *size*. Ideal height at the shoulder for dogs is 20 inches; for bitches, it is 19 inches. Those more than one inch under or over the breed ideal are to be faulted. A 20 inch dog, *well-proportioned* and in good condition, will weigh approximately 50 pounds; a 19 inch bitch will weigh approximately 40 pounds. The length of the body (measured from point of shoulder to point of buttocks) is slightly greater than the height at the withers. The dog too long in body, especially when long in the loin, tires easily and lacks the compact outline characteristic of the breed. A dog too short in the body for the length of his legs, a condition

which destroys balance and restricts gait, is equally undesirable. A Springer with correct *substance* appears well-knit and sturdy with good bone, however, he is never coarse or ponderous.

Head: The *head* is impressive without being heavy. Its beauty lies in a combination of strength and refinement. It is important that its size and proportion be in balance with the rest of the dog. Viewed in profile, the head appears approximately the same length as the neck and blends with the body in substance. The stop, eyebrows and chiseling of the bony structure around the eye sockets contribute to the Springer's beautiful and characteristic expression, which is alert, kindly and trusting. The *eyes*, more than any other feature, are the essence of the Springer's appeal. Correct size, shape, placement and color influence expression and attractiveness. The eyes are of medium size and oval in shape, set rather well-apart and fairly deep in their sockets. The color of the iris harmonizes with the color of the coat, preferably dark hazel in the liver and white dogs and black or deep brown in the black and white dogs. Eyerims are fully pigmented and match the coat in color. Lids are tight with little or no haw showing. Eyes that are small, round or protruding, as well as eyes that are yellow or brassy in color, are highly undesirable. *Ears* are long and fairly wide, hanging close to the cheeks with no tendency to stand up or out. The ear leather is thin and approximately long enough

to reach the tip of the nose. Correct ear set is on a level with the eye and not too far back on the skull. The *skull* is medium-length and fairly broad, flat on top and slightly rounded at the sides and back. The occiput bone is inconspicuous. As the skull rises from the foreface, it makes a stop, divided by a groove, or fluting, between the eyes. The groove disappears as it reaches the middle of the forehead. The amount of stop is moderate. It must not be a pronounced feature; rather it is a subtle rise where the muzzle joins the upper head. It is emphasized by the groove and by the position and shape of the eyebrows, which are well-developed. The *muzzle* is approximately the same length as the skull and one half the width of the skull. Viewed in profile, the topline of the skull and muzzle lie in approximately parallel planes. The nasal bone is straight, with no inclination downward toward the tip of the nose, the latter giving an undesirable downfaced look. Neither is the nasal bone concave, resulting in a "dish-faced" profile; nor convex, giving the dog a Roman nose. The cheeks are flat, and the face is well-chiseled under the eyes. Jaws are of sufficient length to allow the dog to carry game easily; fairly square, lean and strong. The upper lips come down full and rather square to cover the line of the lower jaw, however, the lips are never pendulous or exaggerated. The nose is fully-pigmented, liver or black in color, depending on the color of the coat. The nostrils are well-opened and broad. Teeth are strong, clean, of good size and ideally meet in a close scissors

bite. An even bite or one or two incisors slightly out of line are minor faults. Undershot, overshot and wry jaws are serious faults and are to be severely penalized.

Neck, Topline, Body: The *neck* is moderately long, muscular, clean and slightly arched at the crest. It blends gradually and smoothly into sloping shoulders. The portion of the *topline* from withers to tail is firm and slopes very gently. The *body* is short-coupled, strong and compact. The chest is deep, reaching the level of the elbows, with well-developed forechest; however, it is not so wide or round as to interfere with the action of the front legs. Ribs are fairly long, springing gradually to the middle of the body, then tapering as they approach the end of the ribbed section. The underline stays level with the elbows to a slight upcurve at the flank. The back is straight, strong and essentially level. Loins are strong, short and slightly arched. Hips are nicely-rounded, blending smoothly into the hind legs. The croup slopes gently to the set of the tail, and tail-set follows the natural line of the croup. The *tail* is carried horizontally or slightly elevated and displays a characteristic lively, merry action, particularly when the dog is on game. A clamped tail (indicating timidity or undependable temperament) is to be faulted, as is a tail carried at a right angle to be the backline in Terrier Fashion. An undocked tail may have a slight upward curve but never curled over the back.

Forequarters: Efficient movement in front calls for proper forequarter assembly. The shoulder blades are flat and fairly close together at the tips, molding smoothly into the contour of the body. Ideally, when measured from the top of the withers to the point of the shoulder to elbow, the shoulder blade and upper arm are of apparent equal length, forming an angle of nearly 90 degrees; this sets the front legs well under the body and places the elbows directly beneath the tips of the shoulder blades. Elbow lies close to the body. Forelegs are straight with the same degree of size continuing to the foot. Bone is strong, slightly flattened, not too round or too heavy. Pasterns are short, strong and slightly sloping, with no suggestion of weakness. Dewclaws are usually removed. Feet are round or slightly oval. They are compact and well-arched, of medium size with thick pads, and well-feathered between the toes.

Hindquarters: The Springer should be worked and shown in hard, muscular condition with well-developed hips and thighs. His whole rear assembly suggests strength and driving power. Thighs are broad and muscular. Stifle joints are strong. For functional efficiency, the angulation of the hindquarter is never greater than that of the forequarter, and not appreciably less. The hock joints are somewhat rounded, not small and sharp in contour. Rear pasterns are short (about 1/3 the distance from the hip joint to the foot) and strong, with good bone. When viewed from behind, the rear

pasterns are parallel. Dewclaws are usually removed. The feet are the same as in front, except that they are smaller and often more compact.

Coat: The Springer has an outer coat and an undercoat. On the body, the outer coat is of medium length, flat or wavy, and is easily distinguishable from the undercoat, which is short, soft and dense. The quantity of undercoat is affected by climate and season. When in combination, outer coat and undercoat serve to make the dog substantially waterproof, weatherproof and thorn proof. On ears, chest, legs and belly the Springer is nicely furnished with a fringe of feathering of moderate length and heaviness. On the head, front of the forelegs, and below the hock joints on the front of the hind legs, the hair is short and fine. The coat has the clean, glossy, “live” appearance indicative of good health. It is legitimate to trim about the head, ears, neck and feet, to remove dead undercoat, and to thin and short excess feathering as required to enhance a smart, functional appearance. The tail may be trimmed or fringed and may have wavy feathering. Above all, the appearance should be natural. Over-trimming, especially the body coat, or any chopped, barbered or artificial effect is to be penalized in the show ring, as is excessive feathering that destroys the clean outline desirable in a sporting dog. Correct quality and condition of coat is to take precedence over

quantity of coat.

Color: All the following combinations of colors and markings are equally acceptable: (1) Black or liver with white markings or predominantly white with black or liver markings; (2) Blue or liver roan; (3) Tricolor: black and white or liver and white with tan markings, usually found on eyebrows, cheeks, inside of ears and under the tail. Any white portion of the coat may be flecked with ticking. Off colors such as lemon, red or orange are not to place.

Gait: The final test of the Springer’s conformation and soundness is proper movement. Balance is a prerequisite to good movement. The front and rear assemblies must be equivalent in angulation and muscular development for the gait to be smooth and effortless. Shoulders which are well laid-back to permit a long stride are just as essential as the excellent rear quarters that provide driving power. Seen from the side, the Springer exhibits a long, ground-covering stride and carries a firm back, with no tendency to dip, roach or roll from side to side. From the front, the legs swing forward in a free and easy manner. Elbows have free action from the shoulders, and the legs show no tendency to cross or interfere. From behind, the rear legs reach well under the body, following on a line with the forelegs. As speed increases, there is a natural tendency for the legs to converge toward a center line of travel. Movement faults in-

clude high-stepping, wasted motion; short, choppy stride; crabbing; and moving with the feet wide, the latter giving roll or swing to the body.

Temperament: The typical Springer is friendly, eager to please, quick to learn and willing to obey. Such traits are conducive to tractability, which is essential for appropriate handler control in the field. In the show ring, he should exhibit poise and attentiveness and permit himself to be examined by the judge without resentment or cringing. Aggression toward people and aggression toward other dogs is not in keeping with sporting dog character and purpose and is not acceptable. Excessive timidity, with due allowance for puppies and novice exhibits, is to be equally penalized.

Summary: In evaluating the English Springer Spaniel, the overall picture is a primary consideration. One should look for the type, which includes general appearance and outline, and also for soundness, which includes movement and temperament. In as much as the dog with a smooth easy gait must be reasonably sound and well-balanced, he is to be highly regarded, however, not to the extent of forgiving him for not looking like an English Springer Spaniel. An atypical dog, too short or long in leg length or foreign in head or expression, may move well, but he is not to be preferred over a good all-

round specimen that has a minor fault in movement. It must be remembered that the English Springer Spaniel is first and foremost a sporting dog of the Spaniel family, and he must look, behave and move in character.

CONFORMATION JUDGES

Letters concerning judges and provisional judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received regarding their judging qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge or judge applicant.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and Junior Showmanship judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges’ record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations by email at judgingops@akc.org.

APPLICANTS

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified *but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.*

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Retha Eleanor Cable (111333) TX

(361) 658-8173
rcable@co.kleberg.tx.us
Collies

Mrs. Lou Ann King (111051) IA

(319) 624-2798
bispaps@aol.com
Miniature Pinschers, Papillons

Pamela J. Rhyner-Hirko (93132) TX

(361) 331-0030
dediciwhippets@yahoo.com
Cirneci dell'Etna, Harriers, Pharaoh Hounds, Whippets

Mr. Landon Richards (111342) CO

(719) 349-4613
n2bulldogs@me.com
Bulldogs

Sonya Sanchez (111278) GA

(404) 409-9227
dasodaer@aol.com
Great Danes

Beth Wilder (108923) VA

(703) 608-3441
mary.wilder@vca.com
Cairn Terriers

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Nichole Barlett (108924) AZ

(952) 215-6803
brandsbmw@yahoo.com
Afghan Hounds, Ibizan Hounds, Doberman Pinschers, JS

Mr. Rick Blanchard (90228) RI

(401) 623-1475
nixbmf@aol.com
Australian Shepherds

Mr. Brian C. Bogart (100059) NY

(716) 984-0012
sumerwyndb@aol.com
Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Great Pyrenees, Leonbergers, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards

Ms. Bridget J. Brown (102665) AL

(205) 515-8753
jackeye@bellsouth.net
Great Pyrenees, Leonbergers

Mr. Andrew Carter (22708) PA

(917) 977-0721
saddlelane@aol.com
Golden Retrievers

Mrs. April Clyde (52836) DE

(302) 542-3033
laprilclyde@gmail.com
Affenpinschers, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Bichons Frises

Mr. Alfred Ferruggiaro (7410) MD

(301) 421-1930
alferrug@gmail.com

English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Irish Red and White Setters

Ms. Denise Flaim (100561) NY

(516) 509-5214
revodana@aol.com
Balance of Working Group (Alaskan Malamutes, Black Russian Terriers, Chinooks, Komondorok, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Standard Schnauzers), Bulldogs, French Bulldogs

Miss Elizabeth F. Greenfield (65122) NY

(315) 363-0012
grnelzb@aol.com
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers

Miss Evalyn Gregory (6130) KY

(502) 777-1969
evjudge@aol.com
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Great Danes

Mr. Steve Hayden (6674) IL

(217) 725-3647
hybrkl@comcast.net
Mastiffs, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards

Dr. Cynthia Hutt (95461) CO

(720) 933-8328
lapicfern@gmail.com
Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Dogues de Bordeaux, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Portuguese Water Dogs,

Saint Bernards, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mr. David Kirkland (6340) NC

(919) 495-2382
rokirk@windstream.net
Balance of Hound Group (Afghan Hounds, American English Coonhounds, Azawakh, Basenjis, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, Dachshunds, English Foxhounds, Greyhounds, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Salukis, Sloughi, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Whippets)

Mr. Richard Lashbrook (7340) IL

(217) 622-6687
rel50@comcast.net
Bulldogs

Dr. Camille McArdle (66682) MN

(612) 743-7329
camillemca@gmail.com
Bracci Italiani, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Shalisa D. Neely (98547) CA

(707) 834-3672
shalisaneely@gmail.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Fox-

hounds, Basenjis, Beagles, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Ms. Donna R. O'Connell (81640) TX

(214) 724-6629
tuscanydoc@comcast.net
Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, American Water Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels

Mrs. Betty Nelson Pollock (39858) TX

(903) 684-3091
avalonkennel@aol.com
Balance of Herding Group (Bearded Collies, Beaucerons, Berger Picards, Bouviers des Flandres, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Mudik, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pyrenean Shepherds, Shetland Sheepdogs), German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Ms. Cynthia L. Pagurski (93923) IL

(773) 416-7871
di_amores@att.net
Boxers, Brussels Griffons, Pugs, Chow Chows

Mrs. Carlin Rasmussen-Johnson (103975) WI

(715) 424-5561
carlinrasmussen@yahoo.com
Curly-Coated Retrievers, Chinese Cresteds, JS

Dr. Stephen J. Schellenberg (42891) MN

(651) 338-9311

paradocskerries@gmail.com
Vizslas, Cesky Terriers, Rat Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

Mrs. Wendy Sorrell (75680) TN

(865) 900-2112
sorrellwendy2@gmail.com
Doberman Pinschers

Mr. Harold Tatro III (317708) TX

(817) 320-8737
hredtatro@gmail.com
Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Chinese Cresteds, Havanese, Japanese Chins, Maltese, Miniature Pinschers, Pugs, Russian Toys, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers), Standard Schnauzers

Mr. Cledith M. Wakefield (80829) MO

(573) 760-3616
n2rotts@yahoo.com
Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Maltese, Pomeranians, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers

Mrs. Janet Warner (103607) NM

(253) 255-6796
janagram@aol.com
Barbets, Brittanys, German Shorthaired Pointers, English Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels

Mr. George Wright (105383) NJ

(908) 996-3024
georgewright221@gmail.com
Balance of Terrier Group (American Hairless Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Rat Terriers, Skye Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers), Affenpinschers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Ms. Anneka Dahle (111343) TX

(210) 574-5931
tuckerdahle1@yahoo.com
JS

Mrs. Rebecca Haberbush (111309) IL

(815) 910-2327
quiltaholic2327@comcast.net
JS

Ms. Joyce Siddall (98695) CO

(303) 548-1125
catalinakennels@yahoo.com
JS-Limited

PERMIT JUDGES

The following persons have been approved on a **Permit** basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. *They may now accept assignments* and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

NEW BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Dr. Julia Brady (107775) TX

(972) 838-8921
brady.julia@gmail.com
Leonbergers

Ms. Kimberly Cardona (110939) FL

(407) 460-0089
vomdrakkenfels@gmail.com
Rottweilers, JS

Mr. David Fitzpatrick (27307) PA

(717) 586-0961
dcfitz7@aol.com
Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Italian Greyhounds, Japanese Chins, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Poodles, Pugs, Russian Toys, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers, JS-Limited

Ms. Nicholle Hoke (103545) OK

(405) 765-7990
nicholle@haloridge.com
French Bulldogs

Mrs. Pamela Oxenberg (110817) FL

(561) 251-1421
jepgr@aol.com
Golden Retrievers

Maggie E. Peat (6409) CA

(415) 309-0103

maggiepeat@gmail.com
Dachshunds

Ms. Gwendolyn Wells (111049) NC
(336) 207-8391

lowesbunny@aol.com

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Mr. Patrick D. Wentworth (111011) CO
(303) 709-1938

patrickwentworthd@gmail.com
Collies, JS-Limited

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Dr. Joyce Dandridge (62237) DC
(202) 726-9155

justuschows@verizon.net

Balance of Working Group (Mastiffs),
Papillons, Pomeranians, Collies

Ms. Denise Dean (7044) AZ

(928) 635-2931

dean7044@gmail.com

Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons

Mrs. Nancy J. Eilks (23143) WI

(920) 650-2299

eilks@gdinet.com

Balance of Working Group (Akitas, Black Russian Terriers, Chinooks, Dogo Argentinos, Tibetan Mastiffs), German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wire-haired Pointers

Debra Ferguson-Jones (95483) WA
(206) 612-2381

debrafergusonjones@gmail.com

Balance of Terrier Group (Cesky Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Norwich Terriers, Scottish Terriers, West Highland White Terriers)

Mr. Nichols Frost (6726) NC

(828) 691-3175

dehra@aol.com

American Staffordshire Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Welsh Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Mr. Patrick D. Jones (95071) MT

(406) 855-5940

ravindals8@gmail.com

Poodles

Mrs. Linn Klingel Brown (23263) AZ

(651) 226-9080

linnkling@aol.com

Airedale Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Border Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Scottish Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Tina Leininger (101522) PA

(717) 865-6055

whytewynd@gmail.com

Alaskan Malamutes, Leonbergers

Mr. Dale A. Meyer (6655) WI

(715) 654-5330

meyerd@tds.net

Lagotti Romagnoli, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, Irish Red and White Setters, Cocker Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Ms. Denny Mounce (7050) TX

(281) 468-6484

denny7050@aol.com

Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

Mrs. Barbara Pessina (7372) NY

(845) 528-9350

moonshadowpulik@aol.com

Balance of Terrier Group (American Hairless Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Rat Terriers, Russell Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers)

Mrs. Angela Pickett (100269) FL

(407) 252-3111

pickettpap@aol.com

Balance of Hound Group (Afghan Hounds, American Foxhounds, Borzois, Plott Hounds, Salukis), Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Golden Retrievers

Dr. Tracy Powell (101481) CT

(203) 631-7110

dulcedanes@yahoo.com

Balance of Working Group (Alaskan Malamutes, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Giant Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees, Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Rotweilers, Saint Bernards, Standard Schnauzers)

Mr. Gary Sackett (96555) NV

(702) 351-5566

gcsackett@yahoo.com

Airedale Terriers, Bull Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers

Ms. Joyce Siddall (98695) CO

(303) 548-1125

catalinakennels@yahoo.com

Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Saint Bernards, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers

Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esquire (6347) CA

(609) 351-3647

danieljsmythesq@aol.com

Balance of Toy Group (Brussels Griffons, Japanese Chins, Russian Toys, Shih Tzu, Yorkshire Terriers)

Mrs. Vicki Seiler-Cushman (100265) OH

(513) 638-1585

seilerva@yahoo.com

Australian Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren,

Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Canaan Dogs, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Collies, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, German Shepherd Dogs, Old English Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pulik, Pumik, Shetland Sheepdogs

Mr. Joe C. Walton (5144) NC

(919) 545-0078

jwalton30@nc.rr.com

Balance of Working Group (Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Leonbergers, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Saint Bernards)

Ms. Liz Wertz (77455) OH

(440) 226-0229

liz@vonwertz.com

Great Danes

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGE

Ms. Georgeann Reeve (105346) VA

(703) 450-2236

geebryteh20@gmail.com

JS-Limited

BEST IN SHOW

The following person, having successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they were **approved**, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Mr. Duff M. Harris (91790) CA

(714) 425-0454

allegro6@ix.netcom.com

RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Steve Allmand

Mrs. Sally K. Berger

Ms. Judi Boston

Mr. Duane H. Peterson

Mrs. Linda M. McCarty

Mr. Kenneth Vagt

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. George E. Gordon

Mrs. Jean Hetherington

Mr. Audie Howe

Ms. Betty Regina Leininger

Mr. Ralph M. Lemcke

Mrs. Lorene Vickers-Smith

Mrs. Judith Voran

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mrs. Barbara Dempsey Alderman

Mr. Charles A. Baris

Mrs. Marilyn Ellis

Mrs. Barbara A. Finch

Mrs. Edith Tichenor Hanson

Ms. Sheila Miller

Mrs. Miriam Lisker

Mrs. Janet H. Robinson

REGULAR STATUS APPROVED

OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES

The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of **regular approved** judges for the class indicated.

Mrs. Dee Dee Anderson (50143) CA

(209) 727-5321

dd@ddsdogtraining.com

Obedience - Utility

Mrs. Dee Dee Anderson (50143) CA

(209) 727-5321

dd@ddsdogtraining.com

Rally – All Classes

EMERITUS OBEDIENCE AND RALLY JUDGES

Harlow Jahelka – TN

Obedience

DECEASED OBEDIENCE, RALLY & TRACKING JUDGES

Aline Brisendine – FL

Rally

APPLICATION FOR BREED-SPECIFIC REGISTERED NAME PREFIX

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club.

Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to Gina DiNardo,

Executive Secretary:

AVARI- Poodles- Janith S. Wright

BELLAROSE- Cavalier King Charles

Spaniels- Jasmin L. Becker

COAST2COAST- Labrador Retrievers-

Danna L. Mosley

CRYSTAL VISION-Yorkshire Terriers- Re-

becca J. Hughes

DAYTONA'S – Poodles- Christie A. Baich

& John T. Franks

DIAMOND SPRINGS- Yorkshire Terriers-

Galina Eliashberg

DIAMOND VIEW- Labrador Retrievers-

Anna R. Brown & Jerry H. Faucett

EIDERDOWN- Labrador Retrievers- Owen

V. Davis & Maureen H. Davis

FINNABAIR- Glen of Imaal Terriers- Mary

A. McDaniel DVM & Margaret M Ewald

DVM

HDH- French Bulldogs- Heather D.

Halperin

HILLTOP- Parson Russell Terriers- Tom

Duling & Ruth Duling

HORIZON- Keeshond- Teresa M Craig

INFINITO'S- Cane Corso- Timothy J. Foister

IVYFARM- Australian Shepherds- Jennifer

M Smail

KISMET- Belgian Tervurens- Angela M.

Ernst

LONESTAR-Cane Corso- Leyla D. Kluck &

Jacob E. Shears

MARTTELL-Boxers- Marina Trough

MISCHIEF- Standard Schnauzers- Jennifer J. Kimberlin
PATSY HEAVEN- Australian Shepherds- Patrycja Danuta Palicua
PISTEUO- Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Sandra Vandergriff
RMFG- Golden Retrievers- Steve L. Pitts
ROSEHILL- Mastiff- Talia S. Gunter & Ted A. Picard
SMG- Golden Retrievers- Jenica A Belsha & Kelly J. Sisco
TAG HOLLOW- Labrador Retrievers- Kristin S. Conroy & Mark V. Ricci
TINY DREAMS- Chihuahuas- Ashley D. Thomas
VALOUR'S- Giant Schnauzers- Jessica Olefir & Aleksandr Olefir
3 KING- Labrador Retrievers- John M. King

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

ADORABULL- Staffordshire Bull Terriers- Lorene Wilson
AMORELLO- Papillons- Robert S. Mairunteregger & Martin Amado
CHAHAR- Australian Shepherds- Stephanie D. Hollis
ELITE SPARTAN- Cane Corso- Clint Ingram
FAIRFAX PINES- Labrador Retrievers- Tammy J. Boudrea & Grant E. Boudrea

FOXBRIAR- Norwich Terriers- Marilyn L. Jacobs
HOYTT- Doberman Pinschers- Barrie Hoytt
KINGDOM- Saint Bernards- Elizabeth H. Crook
MOONSHADOW- Miniature Schnauzers- Peggy J. Ambrosch & Walter Ambrosch
PETIT BIJOU- Biewer Terriers- Julie Parham
PUGDASHIANS- PUGS- Lori J. Sirois
RENEGADE- Irish Red and White Setters- Lisa Montgomery
SHAMROCK- Chesapeake Bay Retrievers- Terrence P. O'Loughlin
SOLITARE- French Bulldogs- Johannes J. Botes
VAE VICTIS- Cane Corso- Michael P. Conely
VANDELAY CREEK- Golden Retrievers – Lance D. Lerum



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY AUGUST 8-9, 2022

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

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

The July 11-12, 2022, Board Meeting minutes, copies provided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the July 2022 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Sprung reviewed the status of the action items from the past Board meetings.

Mr. Sprung reported that supply chain issues, while still the reality, have been ad-

ressed with advanced planning and ordering of needed products to outmaneuver the problems.

AKC is preparing for two postage increases next year, one in January and another in July, each with a 7% increase.

We continue collaborating with The Kennel Club (UK), CKC, and Brazil to share ideas and develop joint business opportunities.

Bailey's Book Club:

The number of schools participating in the program continues to grow, as does the need for books. AKC will purchase 1,000 books in 28 different titles for grades 8-12 and some in Spanish. In total we will reach over 300 schools. This investment in Bailey's Book Club will ensure the program's success and bring positive attention to the AKC brand. Clubs can participate by donating money or buying books directly. Book lists are available through the Education Department.

Newsletters:

Mr. Sprung began AKC's first e-newsletter entitled "YOUR AKC" 19 years ago. It is now called "The NIBBLE" with three other offshoots newsletters, "NIBBLE HEALTH," "NIBBLE LIFESTYLE," and one on

“TRAINING,” the monthly circulation being 1.5m, 500k, 500k, and 180K, respectively.

He will begin another that will update our core constituency on AKC subjects in a factual manner, named “To the Core”.

Training:

We continue our training of Staff on numerous topics. In two weeks, The Safe Sport course training will commence for Field Staff; the course addresses issues such as mandatory reporting, sexual misconduct awareness education, and abuse prevention in sport.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Legal Update

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of July 2022.

AKC Canine Health Foundation Funding Report

The Board reviewed a report from Dr. Darin Collins, AKC Canine Health Foundation Chief Executive Officer.

FINANCE

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, pre-

sented preliminary financial statements (unaudited) as of June 30, 2022.

Unaudited Financial Results for the five months ended June 30, 2022

Net Operating Income is \$13.8 million due to higher revenue and lower controllable expenses.

REVENUES:

Total Revenues of \$54.3 million exceed the budget by 15%, led by online registrations.

Registration Fees total \$22.6 million, exceeding the budget by 16%. Recording & Event Service fees, Title Recognition, and Event Applications fees total \$8.1 million, exceeding the budget by 9%.

Product & Service Sales total \$6.4 million are higher than budget by 16%.

Advertising, Sponsorship, and Royalties total \$9.4 million exceeding budget by 11%.

EXPENSES:

Controllable Expenses total \$35.3 million are lower than budget by \$2.8 million or 7%.

Non-Controllable expenses were lower than budget by \$510k or 9%.

Non-Financial Statistics as of June 30, 2022

Registrations

Registrations: 2022 YTD Litter Reg. 19% ahead of budget, 2% ahead of 2021 YTD. 2022 YTD Dog Reg. 16% ahead of budget, 9% lower than 2021 YTD.

Events and Entries

Compared to the same period in 2021, Events & Entries were up by 27% & 24%, respectively, vs. prior YTD.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting. Mari-Beth O’Neill, Vice President of Sports Services, and Ashley Jacot, Director of Education, participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

English Springer Spaniel Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed proposed revisions submitted by the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association. Revisions were submitted to the “General Appearance” and “Neck, Topline, Body” sections of the English Springer Spaniel breed standard, specifically to include an undocked tail. There is also a proposed revision to the “Coat” section of the standard to add - “The tail may be trimmed or fringed and

may have wavy feathering.”

The current English Springer Spaniel Standard was approved in 1994.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed revisions to be published in the September 2022 Secretary’s Page in the *AKC Gazette*.

AKC-AKCCHF-TF Theriogenology Residency Program 2024-2026

Since 2014, the American Kennel Club (AKC) and AKC Canine Health Foundation (AKC CHF), in consult with the Theriogenology Foundation (TF), have identified a need to invest in the training of future veterinary specialists in the medical and surgical management, treatment and research of canine reproductive health and disease and genetics to ensure the health and well-being of purebred and purpose-bred dogs.

Based on successes, AKC Sports Services and AKCCHF recommend continuing funding for the AKC/AKCCHF/TF Theriogenology Residency Program for an additional three years, from 2024-2026.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED

(unanimously) to fund the AKC/AKC-CHF/TF Theriogenology Residency Program for an additional three years, from 2024-2026, funding two new residents per year at an increased amount of \$150,000 per residency program awarded.

Economic Benefits of Dog Shows and AKC Impact on State Resources

Sheila Goffe addressed the Board on the Government Relations Department's work to update and expand AKC Economic Benefits of Dog Shows information and introduced the AKC Impact by State – 2021 report, which provides resources to demonstrate the positive impact AKC brings to the communities it touches.

In late 2021, GR conducted new surveys of dog show participants about expenditures they make in the communities they visit as part of a dog show weekend. Survey results revealed that exhibitors spend an average of approximately \$863 in a local community during a dog show weekend. This is an increase of approximately \$200 over previous, similar surveys conducted in 2012 and 2015.

The new spending data is incorporated into several new resources, including a new one-page flyer, available online on the AKC GR Legislative Action Center (www.akcgr.org), and a new report, also

available online, that provides updated information highlighting the multitude of good things AKC does around the country and provides one-page downloadable tear sheets with state-by-state information on:

- The number of AKC dog clubs and shows by state
- AKC Reunite disaster relief trailer and K-9 Officer donations by state
- AKC CHF Research grants and dollars by state

Information obtained from the 2021 surveys has allowed GR to expand the project scope for a second phase. Phase 2 of this project, currently underway, conducts a new series of surveys to explore the changes above, as well as the impact of inflation, participation in companion and performance events, participation in multi-event/ multi-day specialties, a more comprehensive range of events, club expenditures, and other variables.

Government Relations Q2 2022 Update

Sheila Goffe presented an update for the second quarter of 2022 and a status update on current department activity, major projects, significant activities, and legislative successes.

In the second quarter, GR monitored approximately 2,100 legislative bills that

could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and the interests of the sport and the American Kennel Club.

GR prepared and published 84 geo-targeted legislative alerts and provided direct advocacy to lawmakers or written and oral testimony or official comments on the same. This volume of advocacy is approximately 10% lower than in Q2 of 2021 but represents a significant increase over the past three years.

AKC GR also tracks administrative (implementing) regulations and rule changes. Through the second quarter of 2022, AKC GR monitored 586 active regulatory proposals: 94 from the federal government and 492 from the state level. The most common type of regulations impacting dogs and AKC events continues to be hunting/land use policy changes.

COVID-19-related regulations impacting events and dog ownership are declining compared to the past quarters. Still, they remain common due to the use of the regulatory process to repeal executive emergency health rules implemented over the last two years. Regulations regarding veterinary medicine, breeder regulations, and dogs in public are also common.

The most common categories of regulatory proposals impacting dog ownership in Q2:

- Hunting/Land Use (179)
- Covid -19 (85)
- Veterinary (79)
- Other (62)
- Breeder Regulations and Restrictions (44)
- Dogs in Public (25)

Education Q2 2022 Review

Ashley Jacot presented a Q2 overview.

Breed and Breeder Courses - 59 breed courses have been developed. The new Affenpinscher course was launched in May of Q2.

Under Review/In Development:

- o Scottish Terrier – Under final review, ETA Q3
- o Pembroke Welsh Corgi – Under SME review, ETA Q3
- o Shih Tzu – In development
- o English Setter – In development
- o Ibizan Hound – Updating to reflect revised breed standard, Q3
- o Bergamasco – Updating to reflect revised breed standard, TBD
- o Lhasa Apso – Interview at ANC, release date Q1 2023

Canine College is actively collaborating

with Parent Clubs on the development of future breed courses for 2022/2023 to include, but not limited to: Akita, Beagle, Bearded Collie, Biewer Terrier, Bracco Italiano, Canaan Dog, French Bulldog, German Wirehaired Pointer, German Shepherds, Golden Retriever, Komondor, Leonberger, Manchester Terrier, Mudi, Old English Sheepdog, Puli, Russian Toy, and Spinone Italiano.

Puppy Prep and Training

Before you get a puppy and Puppy Preschool – first 8-12 weeks home.

Ms. Jacot presented a new online training program that is being developed to serve the needs of puppy owners. This program will provide quality online education to support puppy owners from the research stage through 12 weeks and beyond.

Public Education

In April, AKC Public Education launched Bailey's Book Club. This program provides Title 1 schools nationwide with dog-themed books and resources. The Title I program is a federally supported program that aids educationally and economically disadvantaged children to help ensure they receive an equitable, high-quality, and well-rounded education.

This program is intended to increase liter-

acy skills amongst underserved students and foster in them a love for reading and dogs. In its first month, the program received requests for books from more than 40 schools. Since its launch, more than 100 schools have requested to join the program. To date, AKC Public Education has sent over 1,000 books and resources to schools in cities all over the country. Eight clubs have signed up to participate in collecting books at their local events to be donated to their communities. AKC Public Education offers to help clubs participate by creating fliers, researching, and communicating with local Title 1 schools in their area, as well as providing information about the program for their Premium List. The program will soon benefit over 300 schools nationwide.

AKC Education Webinar Series

In Quarter 2 of 2022, AKC Education hosted 12 webinars for 1,304 participants, bringing the total The number of participants to 56,660 since the Series began in 2018. Those webinars include:

- “2022 AKC Rally National Championship Draw” in collaboration with Companion Events.
- “Review and FAQs on Conformation Judging Procedures, Policies, and Guidelines.”

- “AKC DDTF Webinar Series: Impacts of COVID-19 on the Working Dog Industry
- “Defending the Rights of Responsible Breeders with AKC Government Relations.”
- “2022 CHF Canine Cancer Webinar Series Presents: Predicting Lymphoma in Dogs.”
- “2022 CHF Canine Cancer Webinar Series Presents: Luteinizing Hormone Receptor Activation in Lymphoma and Hemangiosarcoma.”
- “2022 CHF Canine Cancer Webinar Series Presents: Towards Curative Outcomes in Canine Hemangiosarcoma”
- “2022 CHF Canine Cancer Webinar Series Presents: Live Panel Discussion.”
- “Judges Education Webinar: Irish Terrier.”
- “AKC DDTF Webinar Series: 9-12 Month Puppies, Getting Started Right for Detection Work”
- “AKC Canine College Webinar: Matrix FAQs.”

MARKETING

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice Presiden, Marketing; Melissa Olund, Director, Digital Marketing; and Meghan Prince, Brand Marketing Senior Associate, participated in this por-

tion of the meeting.

2022 Q2 Digital Report

The Board reviewed the Q2 2022 performance for AKC.org, AKC Marketplace, shop.akc.org and Email/Newsletters.

AKC.org continues to retain a portion of the gains realized during the pandemic with all measures of Q2 2022 traffic above pre-pandemic levels of Q2 2019. Q2 subscriptions for Marketplace were at an all-time high. AKC Shop continues to upgrade the visual appeal and back of the house functionality of the website. Q2 page views, sessions and users are all above Q2 2021. Email marketing staff sent 34 million emails in Q2 of 2022 down versus 2021 but generated more clicks than Q2 2021.

AKC Marketplace 2022 Campaign

The successes of an advertising campaign to promote AKC Marketplace were reviewed,

Q2 2022 Social Media Update

Highlights of AKC's social media strategy in Q2 2022 included promotion of AKC National Championship on AKC.tv and ESPN, AKC Flyball Challenge on ESPN, and Westminster Kennel Club's show.

Q2 2022 TOTALS:

Facebook: 4,008,647 followers
Instagram: 375,937 followers
Twitter: 99,808 followers
TikTok: 213,286 followers
Pinterest: 64,187 followers
Total*: 4,761,865 followers
2.5% total follower increase YOY
1.5% total follower increase vs. Q1 2022

Recap Of Brand Campaign (If It Barks) Performance

The Board was presented with an overview of the If it Barks Brand Campaign.

The goal of the If It Barks campaign is twofold:

1. build AWARENESS for the AKC brand through targeted video ads
2. drive traffic to the AKC website to provide EDUCATION on responsible dog ownership.

The campaign ran from February - May and successfully delivered over 39 million impressions, 6.1 million video views, and 324 thousand clicks to the AKC website.

COMPLIANCE

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

Ms. Mary Wild - Request for Early Reinstatement

The Board reviewed a request from Ms. Mary Wild. Ms. Wild has requested reinstatement of her AKC privileges pursuant to Article XV, Section 7 of the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc.* On August 9, 2010, Mary Wild was suspended for a lifetime from all AKC privileges and fined \$3,000 for violation of the AKC's Cruelty Convictions (now called Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy) policy.

The Board VOTED to deny this request.

Stopping Payment on Event Entries After Closing

At the July Board Meeting, the Board voted to create a new offense and penalty to address intentionally stopping payment of an event entry after entry closing. Staff presented the proposed penalties for the Mitigated, Standard and Aggravated penalties for this offense.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

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

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE

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

Public Service Dog Titles

The Board reviewed a recommendation for the AKC to publicly acknowledge and honor dogs that work for a government agency to keep our communities safe by awarding titles to Public Service Dogs. There would be three titles depending on the working skill of the dog – Public Service Detection Dogs (PSDD), Patrol Dogs (PSPD), and Tracking Dogs (PSTD). This new titling program is consistent with AKC's mission of promoting purpose-bred dogs.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve three Public Service dog titles. This addition to the Title Recognition Program will become effective on November 1, 2022.

Modified Point Schedule for Lure Coursing

Based on a request from the Board at a previous meeting, the Staff presented a memo on possible modifications to the Lure Coursing championship point schedule.

Championship points may be earned by winning at the breed-specific class level, the BOB level, and the Best in Field level. The same breed-specific point schedule applies across the country. The point schedule has not been modified since AKC Lure Coursing started in 1991.

Alternative #1 – Use a Regional Point Schedule

Alternative #2 – Decrease the Point Schedule where warranted. Do not increase the Point Schedule. Keep one Point Schedule that applies throughout the country.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

English Springer Spaniel Eligibility – Retrieving Hunt Tests

The English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association (ESSFTA) is requesting AKC allow English Springer Spaniels to be eligible to participate in Retrieving Hunt Tests.

The history of the English Springer Spaniel can be found throughout the 16th and 17th centuries in Britain, where they were used to flush or spring game, hence the name, Springers. Early breeders importing the breed to America were selective in developing breeding programs where dogs met conformation standards

and could work in the field. It has been documented that the original purpose of the English Springer Spaniel was to serve as a companion gun dog, whether for upland game or waterfowl. It is clear that Springers were used for both flushing and retrieving and are a very capable and versatile breed for those who spend time with their Springer in the field.

Currently, there are fifteen breeds such as the Airedale, Standard Poodle, Spinone Italiano, and various spaniel breeds that are not classified as “retrievers” but are eligible to participate, all of which have relatively low participation numbers. Based on the Springer’s history of being a versatile hunting breed, the Performance Events Department believes the English Springer Spaniel should be allowed to participate in retrieving hunt tests.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board Voted to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the routine notice procedures. (Dr. Gavin was opposed, and all other members voted in favor).

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association’s

request to allow English Springer Spaniels to be eligible to participate in Retrieving Hunt Tests, effective November 1, 2022.

Retriever Hunt Tests – Amateurs and Blind Retrieves

The Board reviewed a recommendation proposed by the Retriever Hunt Test Advisory Committee (RHTAC) to clarify two items in the Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers:

- 1) Provide a consistent definition of what it is to be an amateur for both retriever hunt tests and field trials.
- 2) Clarify that when a dog is sent on a blind retrieve and does not proceed in the general direction of the line given by the handler, the dog will be eliminated from the test unless there are extenuating circumstances.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

Fast CAT® – Enticement & Recalling

The Board reviewed a recommendation to clarify two items in the Fast CAT® Regulations: 1) A handler cannot travel down the course to the finish line in preparation for their dog to be released at the start line. 2) A handler has the option to recall their

dog from the start line if they are without the assistance of a catcher.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

CONFORMATION

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

Judges Appeal Committee

It was reported by Mr. Smyth, Chair of the Board Appeals Committee that the Committee considered two matters at its most recent meeting on August 4, 2022.

The Board Appeals Committee received an appeal request from the Blue Grass Boxer Club pursuant to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 2, Section 8. Following review of the documentation submitted by the involved clubs the Board Appeals Committee voted unanimously to grant permission to the Blue Grass Boxer Club to hold their 2023 event.

The Board Appeals Committee received

an appeal request from the Jesse James Kennel Club and Greater Emporia Kennel Club pursuant to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 2, Section 3. Following review of the documentation submitted by the involved clubs the Board Appeals Committee voted unanimously to grant site permission to the Jesse James Kennel Club and Greater Emporia Kennel Club for their 2023 event.

Sports & Events Mid-Year Review – 2022 vs. 2019

The Board reviewed a report on activity level in sports. In the first half of the year, 2022 entries are 75,000 above 2019. The number of unique dogs participating in AKC events is greater than in 2019. The all-time high for AKC Sports & Events activity occurred in 2019.

The number of events held in the first half of 2022 has exceeded 2019 by 1,000. Sports & Events 2022 activity easily outpaces 2021 – up 340,000 entries and 2,600 events in the first half.

CONSENT

Following a motion by Mr. Carota, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent items:

Delegates Approved

Karyn Byrd

To represent Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club of Georgia

Published June 2022, July 2022

Mallory Cosby Driskill

To represent Tibetan Spaniel Club of America

Published July 2022, August 2022

Sarah Ford

To represent Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club

Published July 2022, August 2022

Nancy Nelson

To represent Hungarian Pumi Club of America

Published July 2022, August 2022

Ann Wallace

To represent Talbot Kennel Club
Published July 2022, August 2022

Request for AKC Membership Approved

Baytown Kennel Club

Focal Point: Baytown, TX (including Crosby, TX and Highlands, TX)

First License Trial: April 3, 1976

43 Households/10 Local

Bylaws: Acceptable

Parent Club Designation for German Spitz

The Board VOTED to designate the German Spitz Club of America as the AKC Parent Club for the German Spitz Breed, allowing them to hold FSS Open Shows.

Parent Club Designation for Kromfohrlander

The Board VOTED to designate the Kromfohrlander Club of America as the AKC Parent Club representing the Kromfohrlander breed.

Dogs Disqualified for Aggression

The Board VOTED to establish by a policy that dogs disqualified more than once under the provisions of Chapter 11, Section 8-A of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* are ineligible for reinstatement.

Dogs disqualified more than once under the provisions of Chapter 11, Section 8-A of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* are ineligible for reinstatement. (By judge for attacking a person in the ring, by Event Committee for attacking and injuring a person or a dog, or administratively barred due to multiple excusals for aggression).

Emergency Procedures at Dog Events

The Board VOTED to modify the Emergency Procedures at Dog Events Policy to:

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AT DOG EVENTS POLICY

3. All clubs are strongly encouraged to have a qualified emergency medical technician (CPR certified) or CPR-certified qualified healthcare professional (QHP) in attendance at each event.

4. At group and all-breed conformation events, clubs are required to have a qualified emergency medical technician (CPR certified) or CPR certified qualified healthcare professional (QHP) in attendance from one hour prior to the start of judging until completion of all judging.

Brussels Griffon Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to permit the American Brussels Griffon Association to proceed to ballot its membership on the proposed revision to the “Tail” Section of the breed standard to describe an undocked tail.

Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article VIII, Section 1

The Board VOTED to approve a proposal from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend Article VIII, Section 1, of the AKC Bylaws, to specify that two alternates should be named to the Nominating Committee in addition to the five-member committee. This is what has been done in

practice for over 25 years.

SECTION 1. The Board of Directors before August fifteenth of each year shall designate five Delegates to serve as principal members and two Delegates to serve as alternates to be a Nominating Committee. No Delegate designated to serve on the Nominating Committee may be an officer of the AKC or a member of its Board of Directors. The duty of the Nominating Committee is to nominate candidates for vacancies on the Board of Directors, which are to be filled at the next annual meeting of the AKC. The names of the Delegates on the Nominating Committee and their roles as either principal members or alternates are to be published on the Secretary's Page of the September *AKC Gazette*.

This will be read at the September 2022 Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the December 2022 Delegate Meeting.

Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article X, Section 1

The Board VOTED to approve a proposal from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend Article X, Section 1, of the AKC Bylaws, to specify that the CFO oversees the day-to-day financial operations of the organization, which is the current practice.

This will be read at the September 2022 Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the December 2022 Delegate Meeting.

AKC Agility League Pilot

The Board VOTED to permit the AKC Agility League to be launched nationwide to all Agility enthusiasts in the Fall of 2022. This follows the successful Agility League Pilot Program that concludes on August 21, 2022, with 40 teams participating in a 12-week season.

AKC Agility League Regulations

The Board VOTED to approve the proposed AKC Agility League Regulations. (See Appendix A)

COVID Provisions Set to Expire at Year-End 2022

The Board VOTED to make permanent the following provisions that are due to expire at the end of 2022:

Conformation

By modification of Board Policy, allow for three opportunities for Championship points in a day.

Companion

1) Remove the two-judge requirement to Title. Previously, the normal provision required a dog to receive three passes under

two different judges.

2) Remove the date/mileage restrictions for judging assignments in Obedience and Rally and reduce the limitation for Agility from 30 days/200 miles to 30 days/100 miles.

3) Eliminate the restrictions on how many times an individual can judge a class at a cluster of Obedience and Rally events.

Scent Work

Eliminate the provision that restricts Scent Work judges from accepting assignments that are 30 days and 100 miles from another assignment so that there are no date/mileage restrictions for Scent Work judges.

Leonberger Certificate of Conformation Assessment (CCA) Program

The Board VOTED to recognize the Leonberger Club of America Certificate of Conformation Assessment Program by awarding the suffix CCA title to any dog that passes the evaluation under three different judges. This is a non-competitive event where dogs are evaluated against the breed standard. A passing score is a minimum of 75 out of 100. The program provides both an assessment of the dog and an educational opportunity for owners

and breeders. The Leonberger program was modeled after the Golden Retriever Club of America's CCA program, which the AKC has recognized since October 2018. Owners must apply to the AKC for the title.

Discipline Information – Fast CAT,® CAT, Lure Coursing, Scent Work

The Board VOTED to include information in the regulations for Fast CAT®, CAT, Lure Coursing and Scent Work, to better assist clubs and exhibitors in understanding the AKC processes for complaints and discipline and to make the information more accessible.

The Performance Events Department will communicate this change by updating the regulation books, web pages, and emails.

Changes to AKC Discipline Guidelines

The Board VOTED to add a fine to the mitigated penalties in the Discipline Guidelines as follows with an effective date of August 31, 2022:

VI. e-3) Refusing to continue to compete: adding a \$50 fine to the mitigated penalty of a reprimand.

VI. e-4) Failure to follow a judge's instruction: adding a \$50 fine to the mitigated penalty of a reprimand and revising the standard penalty from 45 days/\$150 to 1

mo./\$100 to provide more consistency with other similar offenses.

VIII. c) Benching violations (per dog): adding a \$100 fine to the mitigated penalty of a reprimand.

VIII. h) Gun safety violation (by gunner): adding a \$200 fine to the mitigated penalty of a reprimand.

VIII. k) Modifying "Misuse of a tracking device in connection with a Field Event" to "Misuse of a tracking/training device in connection with an event".

IX. e) Submission of an online application without written permission from the co-owner or co-litter owner: adding a \$100 fine to the mitigated penalty of a reprimand.

IX. f) Signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney form: adding a \$100 fine to the mitigated penalty of a reprimand.

The Board adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, August 9 at 8:30 a.m. All Directors were present in the New York office. The Executive Secretary was also present.

CLUBS

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

Membership Lists

An Action item emanated from the July 2022 Board meeting regarding how and when AKC acquires club membership lists and the content requested, if the information may be validated and whether requests are duplicated during the year. Also of interest is whether an alert is made to clubs when a total membership falls below a specific level or number.

The Board reviewed a memo on these issues. An automated email from Raleigh is sent to club officers annually in accordance with each club's annual meeting month, requesting that club officers use an officer access code to update membership information via an electronic membership list upload. This is only sent once per year, and we request first and last names, telephone numbers, and emails in CSV, XLS, or XLSX formats. If clubs have difficulty uploading, they may contact clubmemberlists@akc.org for assistance.

Since 2018, Club Development has reached out to All-Breed Clubs based on their membership total. This project is conducted in the first quarter of every year. In 2022 Club Development sent an email to All-Breed Clubs with less than 20 members per AKC records. The Club Development email offers assistance to these clubs in growing their membership. Clubs with five members or fewer are placed on referral and notified; they are advised to contact Club Development to assist with membership growth.

Parent Club and Local Specialty Club Collaboration Efforts

The Board discussed a memo on the relationship between Parent Clubs and Local Specialty Clubs.

The AKC will continue to process prospective new club accreditation requests following current procedures. The AKC reviews all documentation submitted to determine if a prospective club meets the criteria for accreditation, including notifying the Parent Club in advance and reviewing their commentary if offered. To further enhance the collaboration between Parent Clubs and local Specialty Clubs, Parent Clubs will be sent a mailing **when they become** the AKC Parent Club designated to represent a

breed, to encourage any clubs that the Parent club recognized as "regional" clubs to apply for accreditation to become local specialty clubs. The AKC does not recognize regional clubs that may be designated as such by a Parent Club. The mailing to all Parent Club officers and Delegates will indicate the requirements for achieving AKC status as a local specialty club. This will begin in September 2022.

Delegates and Member Clubs

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

REPORT ON MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS
APPROVED IN JUNE and JULY
Greenville Kennel Club, Greenville, SC (1950)
Northeastern Indiana Kennel Club, Allen County, IN (1936)

REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUBS
APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY
Island Lake Retriever Club of North Dakota, Spiritwood, ND (including communities north to Devil's Lake, south to Jamestown), 22 households, 12 local.

Lincoln County Coonhunters Association, Lincoln County, WV (including Logan, WV), 15 total households, 8 local.

Lone Star Chinese Shar-Pei Club, greater Dallas/Fort Worth, TX, 21 total households, 12 local.

Staunton River Beagle Club, Randolph, VA (including Saxe & Wylliesburg; east of Staunton River), 19 households, 8 local.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Brandi Hunter Munden, Vice President of Communication and Public Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Q2 Report
TOTALS:
Clips Evaluated in Q2: 4,684
Q2 Estimated Audience Reached: 6,127,083,376
Publicity Value for Q2: \$5,676,203.38
*Numbers and values provided by media monitoring platform Cision

Media Coverage Highlights Resulting from Proactive Pitches:

Date Media Outlet Subject
 4/21 FOX 13 Tampa Bay AKC Meet the Breeds in Tampa
 5/3 Style Blueprint - Southern dog breeds/AKC expertise
 5/6 Daily Paws - Large dog breeds/AKC expertise
 5/18 WJLA - online Pet theft/AKC Reunite expertise
 6/14 Fort Worth Star Telegram - AKC Meet the Breeds in Dallas

Ongoing media pitching executed to key audiences with stories that speak to positive qualities of AKC purebreds and breeders. Distributed 18 press releases to appropriate media outlets.

- Continued raising the visibility of the Chief Veterinary Officer as an expert in an increasing number of media requests.
- Created and implemented a PR plan to announce AKC's 200th breed on July 6th, as to not get lost in the holiday that immediately followed recognition.
 - o Engaged with an agency to execute a satellite media tour
 - o Secured a broadcast exclusive on Good Morning America
 - o Secured an online exclusive with the Associated Press
- Continued the PR campaign for the 2022 AKC Meet the Breeds tour, including aggressive pitching media for the Tampa and Dallas events, and preparing for the

- Columbus event in Q4.
- o Tampa broadcast/radio coverage included FOX 13 Tampa, WFLA-TV, WLFA-FM, CBS 10, and ABC Action News
 - o Dallas broadcast coverage included WFAA Good Morning Texas, FOX4 Good Day Dallas, and CBS11
 - Continued positioning The American Kennel Club and its spokespeople as the expert on all things dog.
 - Weekly "AKC Tips" articles written for McClatchy-Tribune reaching 600 newspapers, including the Chattanooga Times Free Press, Dayton Daily News, Duluth News-Tribune, Fresno Bee, Idaho Statesman, Kingsport Times-News and Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, among others.
 - o Estimated reach for each outlet:
 - Chattanooga Times Free Press: 68,387
 - Dayton Daily News: 81,830
 - Duluth News-Tribune: 21,107
 - Fresno Bee: 64,734
 - Idaho Statesman: 36,328
 - Kingsport Times-News: 26,292
 - Rochester Democrat and Chronicle: 70,661
 - Offered outreach assistance to clubs hosting matches, clusters, and other events to get the word out about events that have resumed safely amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Worked with AKC Reunite to create press materials promoting the 200th grant awarded through their Adopt a K9 Cop program.
- Worked with AKC Reunite to create promotional materials to announce \$1 million in donations toward their Adopt a K9 Cop Program
- Promoted AKC Reunite's Pet Disaster Relief trailer donations in Texas and Maryland.
- Continued to collect 2022 ACE Award nominations and sent e-blasts to registered dog owners soliciting nominations for all five categories. Closed out the 2022 ACE Awards with more than 800 nominations.
- "AKC Communicates" newsletter distributed weekly with pertinent information and updates from the AKC

NEW BUSINESS

Artwork Loan Request from AKC Museum of the Dog

The AKC Museum of the Dog, in collaboration with the National Sporting Library and Museum in Middleburg, VA and the Pebble Hill Plantation in Thomasville, GA, will be participating in a traveling exhibition devoted to the history of dog collars called Identity and Restraint. The schedule of the exhibition is as follows: The National Sporting Library and Mu-

seum, Middleburg, VA October 6, 2022 - March 2023
 The AKC Museum of the Dog, NYC April 5, 2023 - September 4, 2023
 Pebble Hill Plantation, Thomasville, GA October 2023 - April 2024

Alan Fausel, Adjunct Curator of The AKC Museum of the Dog, requested that the AKC Board approve the loan of 8 AKC-owned works of art.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the lending of the following eight works of art:

John Sergeant Noble, *Pug and Terrier*
 Frank Paton, *Salvo*
 Maud Earl, *I Hear a Voice* (NSLM and MOD only)
 William Frank Calderon, *Orphans*
 Percival Rosseau, *Leda*
 Conradyn Cunaeus, *Scottish Deerhounds in an Interior*
 After Landseer, *Alexander and Diogenes*
 Carl Reichert, *French Bulldog*

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, August 11, 2022, at 12:30 p.m. Eastern Time.
 Adjourned
 Attest: _____
 Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

Appendix A

AKC Agility League Regulations

Chapter 1 – Purpose and Overview

Section 1. Purpose. The AKC Agility League (the “League”) is an exciting way for agility enthusiasts to practice, compete and earn regional and national recognition in their sport. The League gives agility enthusiasts a platform for competing locally in smaller competitions that have a more laid-back atmosphere and are great training opportunities for newcomers. The League allows clubs, schools and/or individuals to form teams and compete on a date that they select at their local facilities. The League gives the opportunity to compete on a national level and earn regional and national rankings for individual members and their teams. The League will culminate with annual regional competitions with winners progressing to an annual national championship.

Section 2. Overview. Clubs, training schools and/or individuals can organize a team or teams to compete in the League. The competition calendar is organized into three 12-week seasons for the calendar year. During each season, the AKC will

release six course maps, one every two weeks, for a total of six Rounds. Each team will compete on these courses and submit scores to the league administration. Every agility skill level may compete, with lower levels being allowed more penalties. The teams may choose the date and location of their competitions. The AKC will publicly release the rankings of both teams and individual dogs on a regional and national basis every two weeks at the conclusion of play on each course, as well as the overall rankings for each complete season. The League calendar year will culminate with a regional championship and a national championship at which the League champions will be crowned. All applicable regulations found in Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT) will apply to the League unless the League regulations state otherwise. The League is a non-titling AKC program.

Chapter 2 – Dog Eligibility & Class Structure

Section 1. Dog Eligibility. All participating dogs must be AKC registered; FSS registered; or listed with the AKC Canine Partners or AKC PAL program prior to competing. Dogs must be at least 15 months old. Dogs must be physically sound

as described in Chapter 1, Section 3, Paragraph 7 of the Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT).

Section 2. Bitches in Season. Bitches in season may compete in local league play at the discretion of the owner of the facility where the team is competing. Bitches in season will not be allowed to compete at the AKC Agility League regional and national championships.

Section 3. Team & Dog Competition Divisions. Dogs will be categorized according to skill level for team and individual dog rankings in the following divisions:

- Senior for those with Excellent or Masters titles as of the first day of the League season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Sophomore for those with Open and Novice titles as of the first day of the League season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Freshman for those without titles as of the first day of the League season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Ph.D. – For all levels of dogs; courses will be International Sweepstakes Class

(ISC) style but will be judged under the League time/fault rules.

Handlers may elect to compete in a higher skill level but may not compete in a lower level than the dog’s titles.

If a dog earns a higher-level title during a League season, they may complete that season at the lower level at which they enrolled.

Section 3. Jump Height Divisions. Dogs may jump at:

- **Regular jump height division** (8, 12, 16, 20, 24 or 24C inches) – See AKC Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT), Chapter 2, Section 4.
- **Preferred jump height division** (4, 8, 12, 16 or 20 inches) – See AKC Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT), Chapter 8, Section 9.
- **Veterans jump height division** - For dogs 10 years and older. Veteran dogs have the option of jumping up to two levels lower than their jump height (4, 8, 12, or 16 inches). Four-inches is the minimum jump height for all dogs in League competition.

Section 4. Field Size Classification. In an

effort to make sure all participants have the appropriate field size, there are three League classifications that will run different courses. The classifications will be based on the size of their training field or room. Team organizers must submit a ring map, showing dimensions of their competition area and that accurately shows any columns (poles) and column sizes. AKC reserves the right to reject facilities that do not meet certain specifications.

- **International:** Those facilities that are at least 100 X 100 feet will be classified as International and qualify for all League competition courses, including the Ph.D. international division.
- **Regulation:** Those facilities that are at least 70 X 100 feet will be classified as Regulation and can be used for courses for the Senior, Sophomore and Freshmen divisions. International division (Ph.D.) courses are not allowed on fields less than 100 X 100.
- **Limited:** These facilities that are less than 70 X 100 feet, but more than 50 X 70, will be classified as Limited and will run courses designed for these sized spaces.

Section 5. Special Classes – Junior Handlers. The League will offer a Juniors class for junior handlers who are younger than 18 years of age. Junior handlers will com-

pete on teams based on their skill division (Senior, Sophomore, Freshman or Ph.D.), but will receive an additional ranking that will spotlight the top junior handlers in the program.

Chapter 3 – League Structure

Section 1. Team Formation. A team or teams may be organized by a club; a training school; or an individual. Organizers must register the team with the League and enter information including team name, team competition level, roster, field size and primary competition field/ring (city/state and training facility). While unique and creative team names are encouraged, teams should refrain from using explicit language or registered trademarks. The AKC reserves the right to reject a team name and require the team to provide an alternate acceptable name.

A minimum of three dogs and two handlers is required to form a team. A maximum of eight dogs may be registered to a team. All handlers on the team must be registered with the League. Clubs, schools and individuals may field more than one team per League season. A dog may run on more than one team per League season, but must run for each separate team to be eligible for end-of-season awards and regional and

national event competition. A single run may not be attributed to multiple teams.

Section 2. League Registration.

- Organizers must register the team with the League prior to any competition (“League Team Registration”).
- All participating individuals must register as handlers with the League on an annual basis (“League Handler Registration”). They will be issued a handler number for that year (“AKC Agility League Handler Number”).
- Each individual must then register their dog(s) with their team, using their AKC Agility League Handler Number and the dog’s AKC registration number, AKC PAL listing number, or AKC Canine Partners listing number.
- All teams must register at the start of each League season to compete in that Season.
- All dogs must be register with a team at the start of each League season to compete in that Season (“League-Registered Dog”).
- It is not mandatory to compete in every Season of the year.

Section 3. Geographic Organization. For ranking purposes, teams will be organized into regions according to the location (state)

of the team’s primary competition field:

- Northwest**
- Washington
 - Oregon
 - Idaho

- Western**
- California
 - Nevada
 - Utah
 - Arizona
 - New Mexico

- South Central**
- Texas
 - Oklahoma
 - Kansas
 - Missouri
 - Arkansas
 - Louisiana

- North Central**
- Montana
 - Wyoming
 - Colorado
 - North Dakota
 - South Dakota
 - Nebraska

- Great Lakes**
- Minnesota
 - Michigan

- Iowa
- Indiana
- Illinois
- Wisconsin
- Ohio
- Kentucky

Southeast

- Florida
- Georgia
- South Carolina
- North Carolina
- Alabama
- Mississippi
- Tennessee

Mid Atlantic

- New York
- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- Delaware
- Maryland
- West Virginia
- Virginia
- Washington, DC

New England

- Maine
- New Hampshire
- Vermont
- Massachusetts
- Rhode Island
- Connecticut

Alaska

Hawaii

Section 4. Scheduling.

- The League Season will be organized into 12-week Seasons, held three times a year.
- Course maps will be released every two weeks, and each team has a two-week time frame (“Round”) in which to run that course, for a total of six courses per Season.
- Courses will be released on Monday mornings. They will be emailed to team captains and posted on designated social media sites and the League website.
- Scores for each course must be reported by 11:59 pm EST on the Sunday before the next Round’s course map is released.
- If a team cannot compete on the designated course during the two-week round due to an unforeseen circumstance, such as inclement weather, they must notify the AKC within 48 hours of the unforeseen circumstance. The team captain must apply for an exception to run that course during a different two-week round.
- The Exception Application must include the reason for the delay and give

the date that the team will make-up the missed date. AKC will consider the Exception Application and at its sole discretion AKC may either grant or deny the request. AKC will notify the team captain of AKC’s determination and the date by which the course may be run. if the application is approved so the team can run that course at a later date.

Section 5. Fee Structure (subject to change without notice).

- League Handler Registration (annual fee) - \$30
- League Team Registration - free
- Registration of League-Registered Dog to Team - \$20 (due per Season)

Chapter 4 – Competition Structure

Section 1. Courses. Courses will be designed by AKC Agility Field Representatives and/or approved AKC Agility Judges. Courses will be released at the start of each two-week Round, resulting in a total of six unique courses for each League Season. Courses will vary and will include those in the style of standard, jumpers with weaves and premier. Standard courses will not include the pause table, and multiple passes of obstacles will be allowed in the course design. The Ph.D. division will run

courses that adhere to the style of the ISC.

Section 2. Captains. Each team must appoint a team captain (“Captain”). The Captain is responsible for forming the team(s), scheduling competitions, arranging a judge and other crew, communicating with team members, and inputting the scores of each competition. Captains may not be minors.

Section 4. Other roles. Teams may appoint co-captains to assist the captain with duties. Other jobs that should be assigned include timer, scribe and ring crew. All ring crew members may be team members and compete with their dogs.

Section 5. Competition Sites. Competitions may be held at any location that the team chooses. The location may change during a season, but the Field Size Classification must remain the same. Refer to Chapter 2, Section 4 for Field Size Classifications and requirements. Course areas must be moderately level and clear and set up on non-slip surfaces.

Section 6. Course Access. Teams may practice the courses before running for a score. In addition, clubs and schools may allow any students or members to run the courses for practice and are welcome to

the use the courses for classes, in addition to team League competition.

Section 7. Judges. Approved AKC Judges and anyone who has earned a Master Excellent (MX) and/or a Master Excellent Jumpers with Weaves (MXJ) title is eligible to judge at League competitions. If a team does not have anyone that meets those qualifications, the Captain may apply for an exception to the League department. Judges' dogs may be run by the judge if there is another person of sufficient experience to judge them. Judges' family members also may participate in League competition and/or may run the judge's dogs, but judges should not judge their own dogs or members of their immediate household. Judges do not have to be team members; guest judges are allowed. Judges' responsibilities include supervising the building of the course, measuring the course yardage, judging the dogs' performance, and reviewing and approving score sheets.

Section 8. Scoring. Dogs will be scored based on time and faults, according to their levels, with advanced dogs subject to more penalties than novice dogs.

Section 9. Faults. Faults will be deducted according to level as follows:

- a. Senior & Ph.D.
 - Knocked Bar – 5 pts.
 - Missed Contact – 5 pts.
 - Refusal/run-out – 5 pts.
 - Wrong Course – 10 pts.
- b. Sophomore
 - Knocked Bar – 5 pts.
 - Missed Contact – 5 pts.
 - Refusal/run-out – 2 pts.
 - Wrong Course – 5 pts.
- c. Freshmen
 - Knocked Bar – 1 pt.
 - Missed Contact – 5 pts.
 - Refusal/run-out – No penalty
 - Wrong Course – 5 pts.

Section 10. Calculation of Scores. Individual scores for each dog will be calculated based on course time, total faults, jump height, jump class (Regular or Preferred), and course type. Team scores will be calculated by averaging the individual scores of all team dogs who ran the course. Teams must have a minimum of three dogs run the course for the Team to be eligible for scoring.

Regular Jump Class Scoring
 $Score = (course\ yardage) / ((time * jump\ handicap) + faults)$

Preferred and Veteran Jump Class Scoring
 $Score = (course\ yardage) / ((time * jump\ handicap) - 5\ sec + faults)$

Jump Handicaps
Jump handicaps are based on a dog's measured/true jump height.

STD/Premier/ISC	Handicap
8"	0.806
12"	0.871
16"	0.919
20"	1
24"	0.935

JWW	Handicap
8"	0.813
12"	0.867
16"	0.880
20"	1
24"	0.947

Section 11. Score Sheets. The AKC will make available scribe sheets for teams to download, as well as other paperwork needed for League participation. Score sheets must be signed by the judge and the competitor at the team competition. Score sheets must include the Course Map ID, course yardage and dog jump height, as well as the total faults and dog time (sec.ms recorded to two decimal places). Time may be recorded with automatic timers or hand-held devices, such as stop watches or cell phones. Captains must retain score sheets for at least two months after the Season's end. No event kits will be mailed for League competitions. All

forms must be downloaded from the AKC website under downloadable forms (www.akc.org/downloadable-forms/)

Section 12. Score Submission. Captains will enter their League scores online by 11:59 pm EST Sunday of each two-week Round. Scores will be entered into the League website. Information required at the time of score input will include Team Name, Team Number, Field Size Classification, Course Map ID, course yardage, judge name, as well as the following for each team member:

- Registered League Handler Name
- League Registered Dog Name & Number
- Dog Call Name
- Dog Breed
- Dog Jump Height & Regular/Preferred/Veteran
- Dog time (time in seconds and milliseconds to two decimal places)
- Total dog faults

Chapter 5 – Rankings

Section 1. Team Rankings. At the end of each two-week Round, AKC will publish the rankings for the teams in each Competition Division and Field Size Classification, based on the average of all scores of the League-Registered Dogs on

that team and that completed that Round. Each Round's rankings report will include the placements for that week, as well as the cumulative rankings for the Season. To qualify for end-of-season awards, teams must run in all six rounds of the Season with a minimum of three League-Registered Dogs.

Section 2. Individual Dog Rankings. At the end of each two-week round, AKC will publish the rankings for the individual League-Registered Dogs in each Competition Division and jump height class. Each round's rankings report will include the placements that week, as well as the cumulative rankings for that League Season. To qualify for end-of-season awards, individual League-Registered Dogs must run in four of the six rounds of the Season.

Section 3. Absences or loss of members. Teams that lose members during a Season are allowed to replace those members if they so choose. Captains should report the dog that is leaving the team and the replacement dog to the League Department at AgilityLeague@akc.org. If a loss occurs to a team with the minimum number of three dogs, the dog must be replaced in order for the team to continue to qualify for team rankings and awards. The remaining members may continue to

compete for individual rankings and awards if they cannot re-establish a full team. A team that has more than three dogs and has an absentee for one or more courses during a Season may still compete for rankings since the team score is an average.

A team of three dogs that has an absentee for a round during a Season will no longer be eligible for end of the Season awards since a full team must run all six courses. The Captain should report this to the AKC Agility League department before the submission of scores. The Captain can apply for an exception to run the round later once the third dog returns. This should be reported to the League department before the submission of scores. The Exception Application must include the reason for the delay and give the date that the full team will make-up the missed date. AKC will consider the Exception Application and at its sole discretion AKC may either grant or deny the request. AKC will notify the team captain of AKC's determination and the date by which the course may be run, if the application is approved so the team can run that course at a later date.

Section 4. Regional Awards.

The League will be a non-titling AKC

program. But, at the end of each Season, a winning team will be named in each Competition Division by region and Field Size Classification, and a winning individual League-Registered Dog will be named in each Competition Division by region, Field Size Classification, Jump Class (Regular, Preferred or Veteran), and Jump Height. Teams must compete on all six courses to be eligible for the end-of-season awards. Individual League-Registered Dogs must compete in at least four of the six courses to be eligible for final season awards.

Section 5. National Awards.

The League will be a non-titling AKC program. But, at the end of each Season, the top teams and individual dogs will be named for the overall national results. A winning team will be named in each Competition Division by Field Size Classification, and a winning individual League-Registered Dog will be named in each division by Field Size Classification, Jump Class (Regular, Preferred or Veteran), and Jump Height. Teams must compete on all six courses to be eligible for the end-of-season awards. League-Registered Dogs must compete in at least four of the six courses to be eligible for final season awards.

Chapter 6 – Regional Championship

The AKC will host one competition annually in each region to bring teams together for fellowship and friendly competition. The same Competition Divisions and scoring system will be in place for the regional competition. Acceptable team names and shirts are encouraged. Both individual and team winners will be named in each Competition Division. A percentage, to be named at a later date, of the placing teams and dogs will advance to the National League Agility Championship. Regionals qualifying criteria will be determined by AKC on an annual basis.

Chapter 7 – National League Championship

A National Agility League Championship event will be held annually for teams and dogs that meet qualifications at the regional events. Qualifying criteria will be determined by AKC on an annual basis.

Chapter 8 – Complaints

Section 1. Scoring Disputes. Handlers must sign their score sheets, along with the judge, to indicate agreement with the score. Score sheets must be signed on the date of the League competition. If there is an issue, the handler should discuss with the judge and the captain to resolve.

Section 2. Other Complaints. All other issues will be addressed in accordance with AKC Rules, Regulations, and published policies and should be communicated to the League department at AgilityLeague@akc.org.



SPORTING GROUP

American Water Spaniel	Barbet	Boykin Spaniel	Brittany	Chesapeake Bay Retriever
Clumber Spaniel	Cocker Spaniel	Curly-Coated Retriever	English Cocker Spaniel	English Setter
English Springer Spaniel	Field Spaniel	Flat-Coated Retriever	German Shorthaired Pointer	German Wirehaired Pointer
Golden Retriever	Gordon Setter	Irish Red and White Setter	Irish Setter	Irish Water Spaniel
Labrador Retriever	Lagotto Romagnolo	Nederlandse Kooikerhondje	Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever	Pointer
Spinone Italiano	Sussex Spaniel	Vizsla	Weimaraner	Welsh Springer Spaniel
Wirehaired Pointing Griffon	Wirehaired Vizsla			

HOUND GROUP

Afghan Hound	American English Coonhound	American Foxhound	Azawakh	Basenji
Basset Hound	Beagle	Black and Tan Coonhound	Bloodhound	Bluetick Coonhound
Borzoi	Cirneco dell'Etna	Dachshund	English Foxhound	Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen
Greyhound	Harrier	Ibizan Hound	Irish Wolfhound	Norwegian Elkhound
Otterhound	Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen	Pharaoh Hound	Plott	Portuguese Podengo Pequeno
Redbone Coonhound	Rhodesian Ridgeback	Saluki	Scottish Deerhound	Sloughi
Treeing Walker Coonhound	Whippet			

PARENT CLUB LINKS



WORKING GROUP

Akita	Alaskan Malamute	Anatolian Shepherd Dog	Bernese Mountain Dog	Black Russian Terrier
Boerboel	Boxer	Bullmastiff	Cane Corso	Chinook
Doberman Pinscher	Dogo Argentino	Dogue de Bordeaux	German Pinscher	Giant Schnauzer
Great Dane	Great Pyrenees	Greater Swiss Mountain Dog	Komondor	Leonberger
Kuvasz	Mastiff	Neapolitan Mastiff	Newfoundland	Portuguese Water Dog
Rottweiler	Saint Bernard	Samoyed	Siberian Husky	Standard Schnauzer
Tibetan Mastiff				

TERRIER GROUP

Airedale Terrier	American Hairless Terrier	American Staffordshire Terrier	Australian Terrier	Bedlington Terrier	Border Terrier
Bull Terrier	Cairn Terrier	Cesky Terrier	Dandie Dinmont Terrier	Fox Terrier (Smooth)	Glen of Imaal Terrier
Irish Terrier	Kerry Blue Terrier	Lakeland Terrier	Manchester Terrier	Miniature Bull Terrier	Miniature Schnauzer
Norfolk Terrier	Norwich Terrier	Parson Russell Terrier	Rat Terrier	Russell Terrier	Scottish Terrier
Sealyham Terrier	Skye Terrier	Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	Welsh Terrier	West Highland White Terrier
Wire Fox Terrier					

PARENT CLUB LINKS



TOY GROUP

Affenpinscher	Biewer Terrier	Brussels Griffon	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	Chihuahua
Chinese Crested	English Toy Spaniel	Havanese	Italian Greyhound	Japanese Chin
Maltese	Manchester Terrier (Toy)	Miniature Pinscher	Papillon	Pekingese
Pomeranian	Poodle (Toy)	Pug	Shih Tzu	Silky Terrier
Toy Fox Terrier	Yorkshire Terrier			

NON-SPORTING GROUP

American Eskimo Dog	Bichon Frise	Boston Terrier	Bulldog	Chinese Shar-Pei
Chow Chow	Coton de Tulear	Dalmatian	Finnish Spitz	French Bulldog
Keeshond	Lhasa Apso	Löwchen	Norwegian Lundehund	Poodle (Miniature)
Schipperke	Poodle (Standard)	Shiba Inu	Tibetan Spaniel	Tibetan Terrier
Xoloitzcuintli				

PARENT CLUB LINKS

HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Laekenois



Belgian Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher Mountain Dog



Finnish Lapphund



German Shepherd Dog



Icelandic Sheepdog



Miniature American Shepherd



Mudi



Norwegian Buhund



Old English Sheepdog



Pembroke Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Puli



Pumi



Pyrenean Shepherd



Shetland Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



Swedish Vallhund



AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/>

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics

<http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/>

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/>