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Ring Time!

At the recent AKC Meet the Breeds held in New York, romance—mingled with the distinct aroma of a thousand dogs under one roof—was in the air.

Our love story unfolded in the demonstration ring. The officers of the US Police Canine Association were putting their dogs through their paces, to the delight of an enormous crowd. Volunteers from the audience lined up single file in the ring, and a police dog got the command to find the “contraband” hidden on one volunteer. The dog sniffed his way down the line until he got to a man with a backpack. The dog indicated on the man. The backpack—surprise!—contained an engagement ring. The young swain dropped to one knee and popped the question to his dearly beloved. She said yes, and they sealed the deal with a lip-lock that would put Scarlett and Rhett to shame.

Congratulations to Madison Snyder and Michael Nauman on their engagement. And if they decide to marry in the ring at next year’s Meet the Breeds, remember: Throttle kibble, not rice.
Last month the American Kennel Club hosted the most successful AKC Meet the Breeds to date. Taking place in the Jacob K. Javits Center on January 25 and 26, this educational pet extravaganza provided the public with the opportunity to meet and engage with breeders and their dogs (and some cats) in person. We welcomed thousands of visitors over the course of the two days, each of whom were excited and enthusiastic to learn about purebred dogs, their purpose and responsible pet ownership. We also featured demonstrations in obedience, agility, dog detection, and scent work, several vendors as well as an art contest and a patch program for children.

Every year, AKC Meet the Breeds exceeds our expectations, and this year was no exception. The program gives us the opportunity to educate dog lovers and engage with the public and elected officials. This is all made possible through the commitment and volunteerism of our highly dedicated and knowledgeable parent clubs. I want to express my deep thanks to each parent club, their volunteers, and their fabulous dogs who make this initiative an annual success. Your time and energy are thoroughly appreciated.

To that point, we are thrilled to inform you that, in conjunction with GF Sports, we will be taking AKC Meet the Breeds on the road in 2020. The first two dates are Oaks, Pennsylvania (June 6 and 7), and Nashville, Tennessee (September 26 and 27). These events will expand the brand imprint of the AKC, introduce the AKC to new audiences, and allow us to further our mission of education, responsible pet ownership and the breeding and preservation of the purebred dog.

Ticket sales information for Philadelphia and Nashville will be released in the coming months.

This new venture allows AKC to provide additional support and resources to its knowledgeable breed clubs who work to continually educate the public about purebred dogs, dog sports and the AKC.

For details on the event, including future cities and dates, click here. We look forward to this new opportunity to grow Meet the Breeds and seeing you out on the road.

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO
ANC Judges Panel Announced  

NEW YORK—Jim Moses will judge Best in Show, and Patricia Cruz will judge Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show, at the 2020 AKC National Championship Presented by Royal Canin, scheduled for December 12 and 13 in Orlando, Florida.

Judges for the variety groups and the Miscellaneous classes are Jon Cole (Sporting), Doug Johnson (Hound), Dr. Tom Davies (Working), Elliot Weiss (Terrier), Rosalind Kramer (Toy), Robin Stansell (Non-Sporting), William Stebbings (Herding), and Johan Becerra-Hernandez (Miscellaneous).

“We are thrilled to have such an incredible roster of judges this year, with Jim and Pat heading the panel,” AKC President and ANC show chairman Dennis Sprung says.

“The 2020 event is sure to be an exciting competition.”

The 2020 event will showcase the top national and international canine athletes and will also include the AKC National Owner-Handled Series Finals, the AKC Royal Canin National All-Breed Puppy and Junior Stakes, AKC Agility Invitational, AKC Obedience Classic, and a full slate of Juniors events.

Link
Full Judges Panel

In Memorium: A. Nelson Sills

MILFORD, DELAWARE—Long-time AKC Board member and past AKC Delegate from the Labrador Retriever Club A. Nelson Sills died on January 24. He was 95 years old.

Mr. Sills served as AKC treasurer from 1992 through 1995 and sat on the AKC Board of Directors for 15 years, beginning in 1980. He founded the AKC Retriever Hunt Test program and the Master National Retriever Stake.

Mr. Sills acquired his first Lab in 1957. He won the 1964 National Amateur Retriever Championship and went on to judge both the 1967 and 1975 National Opens. The Professional Retriever Trainers’ Association voted him 1974’s Judge of the Year.

A Navy veteran of World War II, and an engineer by profession, Mr. Sills was general superintendent at Delavalle Park Racetrack for 19 years. He was president of the Labrador Retriever Club for nearly 20 years, and also served as president of the National Retriever Club and Del Bay Retriever Club.

Mr. Sills was a member of the Bird Dog Hall of Fame, and a recipient of the Master National Retriever Club Vision Award and the AKC Lifetime Achievement Award.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years Nancy (Jones) Sills, and their four children, 15 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

The family suggests donations to the Labrador Retriever Club or the Del Bay Retriever Club.
From Donna Somers: “I got my first Harrier from the Harrier Club of America’s rescue program. Sam was turned in due to family illness at just under 2 years of age. I wanted a hiking buddy and companion. He certainly fit that bill and we hiked for several years together.

“I was at a dog event that had agility equipment to try out. We loved it, and from that moment on, we were hooked on agility. Sam was 6 years old when we went to our first agility class. He earned his MACH at 10! Sam earned his PACH in 6 months! Along the way, he became the first Harrier to earn the RA, RE, RAE, T2B, PACH, PAX2 And CA!

“Sam is MACH/PACH Matilija’s Play It Again, CD, BN, RAE2, MXS, MJS, MXP6, MXPS, MJP6, MJP5, PAX2, OF, T2B, CA, CGC.”

If your dog has achieved some notable first or milestone in its breed, send your brag and photo to gazette@akc.org.

Play Your ACE

Nominations are now open for the AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE). The awards honor dogs who do extraordinary things in the service of an individual or community in the categories of Uniformed Service K-9, Exemplary Companion, Search and Rescue, Therapy, and Service Dog. Nominations close on July 31, and the names of the five recipients will be announced in the fall.

Link
Make a nomination

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GET A QUOTE
For those who love both dogs and history, it’s frustrating how even the most painstaking biographers gloss over their subject’s relationship with the canine race, even when the subject led a decidedly doggy life. One searches in vain for a detailed discussion of Theodore Roosevelt’s keen knowledge of dogs in Edmund Morris’s three-volume life of TR. Franklin Roosevelt biographer James MacGregor Burns gives us the obligatory Fala stories, but neglects to mention the German Shepherd Dog exhibited by FDR and his daughter, Anna, at dog shows in the 1920s.

Joseph Ellis on George Washington barely notices the great man’s kennel and the role he played in the development of the American Foxhound. Surely, knowing how people relate to their dogs can provide insight into their temperament and character. (That Washington named his favorite hound Sweet Lips, for instance, suggests a glimmer of mischief behind the general’s granite façade.)

We can learn much about historical figures by seeing them as their dogs saw them, as is demonstrated by Stanley Coren’s biographical sketches of famous dog owners. Brian Duggan’s twin biography of General and Mrs. George Armstrong Custer, however, takes it to the next level.

With General Custer, Libbie Custer and Their Dogs, Duggan delivers a well-researched and elegantly written work of “cynobiography.” (I coin a word here because there is no existing label for a book of this kind.)

In Duggan’s 300 pages, the usual practice of mainstream biographers is reversed: Custer’s hounds, instead of being shunted into the footnotes, are front and center, brought vividly to life by a careful historian who is also an authority on sighthound breeds—and the GAZETTE’s longtime Saluki columnist. Duggan delights in describing the general’s ever-evolving canine clan, by the time of Custer’s 1878 date with destiny at Little Bighorn, included some 40 hunting hounds.

Custer’s is among the most documented American lives—Duggan’s bibliography runs eight and a half single-spaced pages—but Libbie Custer was a revelation to me.

Smart, literate, and beguiling, Libbie did not start life as a dog lover. She caught the dog bug from her adored “Armstrong” and became a devoted fancier as she helped to advance the career of her dashing but difficult husband.

After Little Bighorn, Libbie assumed the role of caretaker of the general’s memory and through her books and lectures burnished the Custer legend handed down to generations of Americans. Among its charms, Duggan’s book is a love story: Man loves woman, woman loves man, and both love dogs.

The Custers lived in momentous times and rubbed elbows with celebrities whose fame still endures. Buffalo Bill Cody, Ulysses Grant, and even P.T. Barnum in all his bombastic glory are a few Custer contemporaries who round out Duggan’s supporting cast.

To the author’s credit, no matter how crowded the narrative gets with people, events, and historical asides, the focus remains firmly, lovingly, and knowledgably on the Custer hounds and the constant attentions of their childless owners.

The field of Custer scholarship has been enriched by Duggan’s work, and it is hoped that future biographers of history’s heroes and rogues will learn from its example. Dogs do speak, the old saying goes, but only to those who listen.—B.B.
Another Oscar night has come and gone and, as you might have noticed, not a single dog trotted off with a golden statuette. This is nothing new. The Academy has been snubbing *canis familiaris* since the first Oscars, given in 1929. In her biography of Rin Tin Tin, Susan Orlean wrote that “according to Hollywood legend, Rinty received the most votes for best actor. But members of the Academy, anxious to establish the awards were serious and important, decided that giving an Oscar to a dog did not serve that end.”

By 1929 Rinty had long been among the world’s top box-office draws, responsible for saving the failing Warner Brothers from bankruptcy. But nonetheless, the award went to the runner-up, distinguished German actor (and, as it turned out, devout Nazi) Emil Jannings.

For decades, there would be no more talk about canine Oscars. And then in 2011, Uggie, a charismatic Parson Russell Terrier, became the breakout star of the movie *The Artist*. “Oscar for Uggie” campaigns sprung up around the world, but the major film honors—the Oscars and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) awards—slammed the door in Uggie’s adorable kisser. In a letter to its members, BAFTA sniffed: “Regrettably, we must advise that as he is not a human being and as his unique motivation as an actor was sausages, Uggie is not qualified to compete for the Bafta in this category.” Uggie’s trainer Omar Von Muller shot back, “People say that dogs in films are just doing what they are told. But an actor is just following the director’s orders. They say that a dog is only working for sausages, but an actor is only doing it for his paycheck.”
An AKC Delegate’s tips on how to avoid Heartbreak Hotel and other national-specialty pitfalls

By Don James, Delegate from the Leonberger Club of America

Your Best National Ever
FEATURE

Any of you who have chaired or co-chaired a national specialty probably have a pretty good idea how much work goes in to making your show a success. There are any number of landmines out there that must be negotiated. The goal is to ensure that your attendees leave already anticipating next year’s show and your club logs the specialty as an aesthetic success, and a financial one as well.

For this article, I spoke with specialty chairs and others who have been involved with planning and staging specialties. Based on my own experience, I can tell you there are details, large and small, that are an integral part of ensuring a well-run, successful, and truly memorable specialty.

NEVER FORGET: YOU ARE THE CUSTOMER

You have negotiating power over certain portions of your specialty. For that reason, it’s very helpful to maintain data about your previous two or three nationals. Historical data can be invaluable. If your club rotates its shows around to three or more time zones, it is especially helpful to retain data about the last time you staged a show in the region where this next show will be staged.

While it is not etched in stone that your attendance and entry will be equal to what it was that last time (remember, entries are declining everywhere), it helps to have that data from the last time to use as a jumping off point for negotiations for an upcoming specialty. This data will also give you a look at how attendance figures may vary based on the region of the country to which you are traveling. It is a general rule that West Coast shows draw fewer entries than shows staged in the Midwest or on the East Coast, so you must take that into consideration as well.

Any specialty hotel is going...
to provide your club a number of rooms (room nights) and food and beverage (F&B) services, meeting rooms and a show sight. So, given that, which of these items is negotiable. Here’s the skinny:

F&B is not a money maker for the hotel. At best, it will provide a 15 percent profit margin for the facility. If your club sponsors two banquets at the hotel, your F&B minimum should be no more than $10,000 to $12,000 (adjust if you have a third formal event like dinner at the Top 20). If you have a cash bar (and you should have one every night), make sure the money taken in by the bar is included toward making your F&B minimum. When meal prices are quoted, are they inclusive? In other words, do the prices being quoted include gratuity, taxes and service charges because, if they don’t, that can add as much as 25 percent to the overall cost of the meal. Attendees will not be happy if that $35 banquet winds up costing them $45.

NEGOTIATE!

Rooms, on the other hand, are a major profit center, sometimes garnering as much as a 65 percent profit for the host hotel. So, if you’re thinking (and you should be) about negotiating one or the other, negotiate on room prices because there’s a lot more head room there than with F&B. If you do decide to guarantee room nights, then a clause should be included that spares your club of any penalties so long as 80 percent of that figure is achieved. A 20 percent attrition clause is standard operating procedure for hotels so don’t let anyone try to tell you otherwise. On the positive side, you should make sure if you exceed your negotiated room nights, the hotel is willing to add to the previously negotiated block.

If a certain number of room nights are guaranteed, you should also negotiate on meeting rooms and, especially, ballroom rates.”
rooms and especially the actual show site charges will be pro-rated based on the number of room nights your club achieves. Don’t forget to negotiate comp rooms (rooms that are free to the club based on a contractual agreement). Most hotels will comp one room night per 50 room nights reserved. However, this is negotiable. Some will take that down to one per 45, and I’ve heard of a couple that went to one per 25. You can negotiate comp rooms for:
- judges,
- a hospitality suite (where you are able to bring in your own food),
- show chair,
- show secretary or superintendent.

These rooms should be outside the one comp room per X number of night negotiation.

Do everything you can to encourage your attendees to sign up for meals that will go against your F&B minimum. People who eat outside the hotel or who use other food outlets within the hotel are only hurting your club’s ability to make its F&B minimum.

DEPOSITS AND HOTEL STAFF

Now, what about pet deposits? Again, negotiable. It’s OK for a deposit to be nonrefundable but the amount negotiated should not be on a per day basis. It should be for the length of the show and it should not exceed $25. If you make the deposit refundable, that’s going to require significant negotiation about how room inspections are going to occur and, given that most attendees are checking out at roughly the same time, that type of inspection requirement can create a hot mess and a lot of very upset club members. $25 is a small price to pay to avoid leaving a bad taste in the mouths of those who are leaving.

You should require a pre-specialty meeting with all hotel department heads to meet face-to-face so you can recognize and find each other as needed during the specialty. Always come to the hotel with a stack of your own business cards to give to each department head. If you do not have cards, Vista Print will create 250 custom cards for less than $10. You should provide the department managers with cellphone numbers of your key personnel, and the managers should provide you with the same.

Settle up financially every day, not just at the end of the show. At the end of each day, your
show chair or show/club treasurer should meet with the hotel’s accountant to set up for those day’s charges. Waiting until after the show has completed gives the hotel a lot of opportunities to add charges to your bill that you are unaware of because the entire specialty bill was not reviewed until after the show.

TALK TO THE BOSS

Lastly, and potentially most importantly, you should be negotiating with the hotel’s sales manager, not an underling. Sales managers tend to remain at hotel properties much longer than those who are part of the sales staff. Every hotel contract includes a penalty clause should a club have to cancel its event. That charge is based on the length of time between the scheduled event and the official notice of cancellation.

This, however, works both ways. What happens if the hotel changes hands between the signing of the original contract and the time of the show? A clause should be included in the contract which holds any potential new owners to the stipulations in the original contract. If your host hotel goes belly up, AKC Event Ops does have a group that has expertise in locating another nearby location should your hotel no longer be operational. (Write to clubdevelopment@akc.org.)

These are just a few ideas of what your club can do to make your specialties as special as they should be. Keep an eye out for the parent club specialty survey and don’t forget to input data from your shows to that database. If there’s no input, there’s no output and we will lose what we think could be a very valuable tool to help our clubs in planning a national specialty.

This article first appeared in Perspectives, the AKC Delegate newsletter.

7 More Tips for a Trouble-Free National

1. Hotels with three or fewer floors are way more convenient than staying in a tower.
2. Have cleanup kits available by the elevator for every floor on which dogs are staying.
3. Make sure the hotel has adequate grass for exercising the dogs. A concrete paradise might look good on their website, but it can ruin your show. And, it certainly doesn’t hurt if your club has some prebuilt potty stations they can distribute around the grounds prior to the show.
4. Nickle-and-dime items like tables, chairs, and draping are all negotiable.
5. If your club can afford it, the more audio-visual equipment you can provide, the more money you will save. Hotels that have in-house A-V staffs can charge as much as $300 a day for a computer-connected projector. You can buy a quality machine for about the same price. This is just an example. The A-V prices you’ll pay if you rent equipment are draconian ($50 each time you rent a projection screen when you can buy the same size screen on E-Bay for 10 bucks).
6. Negotiate prices for RV parking. You can add on to the rate if you lowball the negotiations and make that a mini profit center for your show.
7. Most specialties will offer some types of health testing and most also do a blood draw for health studies. Make sure those activities occur as close to the show ring as you can get them. Your participation will be severely impacted if they have to walk any significant distance to have these things done.—D.J.
2020 Cocker Futurity
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE—Here’s Joan Stallard judging and critiquing the American Spaniel Club’s Best in Futurity Cocker Spaniel lineup at the recent Flushing Spaniel Show. 11:51

Best of the West
INDIO, CALIFORNIA—We found this nicely produced video from the Empire Polo Grounds, site of the KC of Palm Springs show, the traditional kickoff event of the West Coast season. 6:49

Meeting Meet the Breeds
NEW YORK—Fox5NY ran this wonderful special about AKC Meet the Breeds on the eve of the big event. It features familiar fanciers and AKC staff. 20:18

Where Were You in ’72?
Westminster KC unearthed this time-capsule video of their 1972 show, featuring scores of famous dogs and fanciers. Commentary by Elsworth Howell. 29:11
Seventeenth-century Amsterdam was a pretty bustling place! It was during this period that the city was shaped to the one we know today. Amsterdam was originally surrounded on all sides by a large canal, and no one was permitted to build beyond this canal. At the same time, industry was flourishing in the city, attracting new people—and there was no room to put them. The city solved this issue in 1613 by expanding beyond the border canal, building three more smaller canals. This granted more room for the growing population to live as well as creating a wider harbor front.

Just like the city of Amsterdam was bursting with people in the 17th century, Abraham Hondius’s “The Amsterdam Dog Market,” new to the AKC Museum of the Dog collection, is similarly overpopulated with dogs. Painted at the end of the 17th century, this piece has long been associated with the city of Amsterdam. Ironically, there actually isn’t any record of such a dog market actually existing during this time.
Regardless, the painting is still a fascinating glimpse at this period in time. Not only does it mirror the growing human population in Amsterdam, it depicts the increased interest in dog breeding among the upper classes, and it functions as a catalog of dogs of the day. William Secord, of the William Secord Gallery, has estimated that there is a minimum of 16 different breeds depicted in the piece.

This sheer volume of dogs sets this painting apart from other dog portraits of the 1600s. Unlike portraits that just feature one or a few dogs, there are upwards of 50 in this painting. Hondius created a kind of Kunstkammer painting. (Kunstkammer is a German word roughly translated as “cabinet of curiosities.”)

Other Dutch artists were creating similar works in the 17th century such as David Teniers II, who painted the art collections of his patrons—resulting in paintings of paintings! Other Dutch artists painted collections of tulips, which were highly valued at the time. Instead of art or tulips, Hondius has painted a collection of dogs! It is possible that the piece was commissioned by a dog breeder to showcase what kinds of animals would be available to the dog-loving public.

While some of the dogs in the painting appear to be generic, there are a couple that stand out as individual dogs, such as the white Mastiff in the center of the piece. This Mastiff was the subject of the only known study completed by Hondius of “The Amsterdam Dog Market,” and it is also in the AKC Museum collection. A few months ago, the study was clearly in need of a little TLC—the varnish on the painting had yellowed considerably, making the Mastiff look more beige than white. The study was recently cleaned, retouched, and re-varnished to bring it back to form. The difference can be seen here: On the left is the piece with the discolored varnish, on the right is the final product after cleaning. This Mastiff is placed in the center of the composition, in front of a set of stairs that recalls a stage setting. Below is the kennel where masses of dogs are in a frenzy of activity. Above is the “showroom” where an elegant woman picks out a small lapdog with her servant. Meanwhile, a gentleman is in the center of the “stage” deliberating between three sighthounds.

REMEMBERING WALTER

“The Amsterdam Dog Market” was donated by Robert Flanders in memory...
of Walter F. Goodman, a breeder-owner-handler of Skye Terriers and an AKC Lifetime Achievement Award recipient for his contributions to our sport.

Goodman handled his first champion in 1947, after four years of Army service during World War II and his graduation from Yale University. He finished 35 champion Skyes, garnering 99 Best in Show awards and more than 300 group firsts. In 1969, he breeder-owner-handled Ch. Glamoor Good News to Best in Show at Westminster.

Goodman served as the president of the Montgomery County KC for 28 years, sat on the AKC Board of Directors for 24 years, and was a founding member of the AKC Museum of the Dog—J.W.

“The author is the executive administrator of the AKC Museum of the Dog.
To become a member of the museum, click here.”

Editor’s Picks: 3 You Should See

Along with such new acquisitions as “The Amsterdam Dog Market,” the AKC Museum of the Dog exhibits many old favorites that have long captured the imagination of dog people. Here are three classics now on view at the museum that greatly reward an in-person visit.

“The Falconer,” by Donald Grant, gift of the estate of Cynthia S. Wood, AKC Museum of the Dog Collection

A great favorite of the AKC Museum’s visitors is this 24x36-inch canvas that vividly reminds us of the Saluki’s ancient role of hunting companion to Bedouin chieftains.

In his book about the AKC art collections, A Breed Apart, William Secord describes how hounds, falcons, and horses would work together on a hunt:

“The speed of the dogs and the talons and beaks of the birds were vital in capturing their prey. The hunter held his dog on leash and carried his dog on his wrist. When the gazelle were sighted, the hawk was flown and the Salukis were slipped free to run forward. When the hawk struck its prey, the Salukis held it down until the hunters arrived on horseback.”

Saluki studies made by the artist in preparation of “The Falconer” are exhibited alongside the finished painting.
“Lady with a Whippet,” by F.R. de Leub, gift of Mrs. Paul R. Willemsen, AKC Museum of the Dog collection

Among the AKC Museum’s most fascinating exhibits is “Lady with a Whippet,” an oil-on-canvas by F.R. de Leub, one of those shadowy figures of art history who executes a superb painting or two, then vanishes without a trace.

We don’t know de Leub’s nationality, when he was born, or when he died. In fact, we don’t know if he was a he. (Female artists of the 19th century often signed their work with initials.) The name of the sitter is likewise unknown.

And even the breed of dog as given in the painting’s name is in doubt: Anne Rogers Clark took one look at this picture and noted that the hound isn’t a Whippet but an oversize Italian Greyhound.

“The curves are wrong and the feet are wrong for a Whippet—but correct for an Italian Greyhound,” the revered allounder said.

De Leub’s exquisite craftsmanship draws the eye to “Lady with a Whippet,” but it is the picture’s aura of mystery that stirs the imagination.

“Portrait of Bea Godsol,” by J. Dwight Bridge, gift of Ronald H. Menaker, AKC collection

This life-size canvas is one of the very few works in the AKC art collection to depict a member of the dog fancy. Godsol is pictured with her Sealyham Terrier house dogs, but it was with Newfoundland dogs that she and her husband, Major Godsol, made their considerable reputations as exhibitors.

The Godsols are best remembered today as judges. Walter Fletcher, who covered dog shows for the New York Times for more than 60 years, wrote: “[They were] two of the most sought-after arbiters in the country. Both were all-rounders and were active judges for 25 years. Bea was only the second woman ever to name Best in Show at Westminster. It was in 1957, and I remember her doing the unexpected: she put up an Afghan, Ch. Shirkhan of Grandeur, the first time an Afghan had taken that exalted show.” Amazingly, Shirkhan’s first career BIS was his win under Mrs. Godsol at the Garden.

Mrs. Godsol memorably summarized her approach to judging by saying, “All dogs have faults. The great ones carry them well.”
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE—It was a spectacular gathering of spaniels on January 10–12, as the American Spaniel Club celebrated the beginning of the second century of its annual Flushing Spaniel Show. Once the parent club of all of the sporting spaniels, the American Spaniel Club continues its tradition of hosting this special show.

Best in Show judge Terry Stacy awarded the top honor at the 101st Flushing Spaniel Show to ASCOB Cocker Spaniel GCh.G Foley’s Frat Party, CGC. “Charlie” was selected from a lineup that included the nation’s number-two Clumber Spaniel in 2019; the number-six sporting dog, GCh.S Foxwoods Ivywoods All Hallows Eve, a blue roan English Cocker Spaniel; and the top sporting dog of 2019, the English Springer Spaniel GCh.P Brightwater Gilchrist Dreaming Out Loud.

The show also featured one of the largest entries of Welsh Springer Spaniels of the year—a total of 74, with five brace entries!

While spectators enjoyed the judging, they were also treated to a Fab Bake Sale, with proceeds going to the American Spaniel Club Foundation’s Eye Support Cockers research project. The project, being conducted by Dr. Gustavo Aguirre at the University of Pennsylvania, is designed to isolate the genetic factors responsible for cataracts in Cocker Spaniels.
NEW YORK CITY—AKC Meet the Breeds returned to the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center for what was widely considered the best-ever edition of the city’s popular expo. Once again, The International Cat Association joined the family-friendly, educational extravaganza that showcased almost 200 canine and feline breeds.

Volunteers from AKC breed clubs in elaborately decorated booths gave visitors a chance learn from experts about the breeds. In the demonstration ring, members of the Port Chester Obedience Training Club and the U.S. Police Canine Association presented non-stop action to the thousands of visitors who were still streaming into the Javits center late Sunday afternoon.

Our own David Woo was in the house and filed this photo essay.
RINGSIDE
AKC MEET THE BREEDS, JANUARY 25 AND 26

Photos David Woo
RINGSIDE
AKC MEET THE BREEDS, JANUARY 25 AND 26

Photos David Woo
I have known a number of Irish Water Spaniels over the years, but none that I had came as close to me, or meant as much to me, as Dugan. And although my husband, Bill Trainor, had a great fondness for the majority of the dogs that he agreed to show, he had very deep feelings for certain individuals among them. But there is little doubt in my mind that none surpassed his genuine love for and devotion to this extraordinary dog.

Long before the AKC had given their approval for the use of frozen canine semen, I took Dugan to Baylor College of Medicine at Texas A&M in Houston, where we had made arrangements to have Dugan’s semen collected and frozen. We had no commitments other than our appointments at the university. I found a lovely park in Houston where we took long walks each day. That was the first time I really got an insight into his marvelous Irish Water Spaniel personality and could at my leisure enjoy his company, as he began to enjoy mine.

But Bill was his greatest love. The bond they shared was a marvel to behold. This bond, with which an
Irish Water Spaniel can connect with the one person he loves more than anyone else, is something mystical. The way he responded to Bill in the show ring was a matter of mutual trust and mysterious understanding. They seemed to read each other’s thoughts and moods.

And Dugan had a sense of humor. He would act as serious as he could, standing posed, or letting the judge go over him without moving a muscle, his eyes and his attention focused totally on Bill. After the judge had moved on to the next dog, or whenever there was a pause in the serious business of showing, Bill only had to turn his hands over silently, and Dugan would jump with joy. More often than not, he would land unceremoniously on Bill’s head or shoulders. Photos taken after his exciting Westminster win, showing him leaping up with all four feet off the floor, spoke of his sense of glee that he shared with Bill, because he was aware that they, together, had done something especially good!

The plaque on his crate, which I still treasure today, describes not only Dugan, but all good Irish Water Spaniels: “From the crown of his head to the sole of his foot, he is all mirth.”

—E.T.

Elisabeth “Betty” Trainor, VMD (1927–2018), was an AKC judge of several breeds, including Irish Water Spaniels.
The sprawling AKC National Championship is all things to all dog lovers. For a caricaturist, the big event in Orlando is a happy hunting ground for future subjects: lots of well-known “big” personalities dressed to the nines and surrounded by gorgeous show dogs. Among the dashing figures who caught our eye was Hound Group judge Guy Jeavons. The Grandgables Kennels that Jeavons operates with Mark McMillan has been a fixture on the Canadian show scene since 1972. Jeavons is a commanding, authoritative dog judge—and, happily for this artist, he looks like one.
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 AVP@akc.org.

THIS MONTH

HOUND GROUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Breed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Afghan Hounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Basenjis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Basset Hounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Bloodhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Borzoi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Dachshunds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>English Foxhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Norwegian Elkhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Otterhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Petit Bassets Griffons Vendéens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Pharaoh Hounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Rhodesian Ridgebacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Salukis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Scottish Deerhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Whippets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TERRIER GROUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Breed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Airdale Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Australian Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Border Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Bull Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Cairn Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Dandie Dinmont Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Wire Fox Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Glen of Imaal Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Irish Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Kerry Blue Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Lakeland Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Norfolk Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Norwich Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Scottish Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Sealyham Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Skye Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Soft Coated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Staffordshire Bull Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Welsh Terriers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BREED COLUMNS

HOUND GROUP

Afghan Hounds

SIZE

For as long as I can personally remember in more than 40 years in the Afghan Hound breed, there has always been a greater range in size than our standard discusses. This has been justified by the fact that in their original state of being, these dogs were used for a range in purpose.

The Afghan Hound standard defines dogs and bitches by weight and a recommended height: The males are preferably 27 inches at the withers, and the bitches are 25 inches at the withers. The standard further describes a leeway of one inch above and one inch below each recommendation.

I can assure you that these height recommendations are smaller than what the average eye might judge them to be. In general, it is more likely to see dogs (and bitches) who exceed the preferred size. However, what is most important when size is considered is the certainty that basic elements are not compromised.

At whatever height an Afghan Hound stands, the overall balance must be proper. The square proportion of the breed should be evident. There should never be any signs of plainness or coarseness.

I must also point out that the masculinity or femininity of an individual may not be determined by size alone. This is important to know, because a proper, standard-sized Afghan Hound male should never be deemed less than masculine and faulted thereof because the rest of the entry of dogs stand well above the preferred range in size.

Inversely, the same should be considered regarding the femininity of that bitch who stands higher than the rest of a standard-sized entry. We want our males to look like males, and we want our bitches to look like bitches, and we certainly appreciate this when it is inclusive with size.

—Harry Bennett,
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Afghan Hound Club of America

Basenjis

BASENJI PSA: BEWARE THE BUNGEEES

Bungee cords have always been a dog show essential, whether for tying-down crates and other items on a dolly or for securing crates in place in the car. In the past, the only issue I have had with bungee cords is not having enough of them, or not having one of those reassuringly heavy-duty long ones that will fix any precarious situation. It’s true that one episode of operator error (mine) resulted in a cord nearly taking out my niece—but, thank goodness, it didn’t go beyond being one of those “could have been really bad” incidents.

And then I had a bad incident. Last September, my Basenji Lilikoi had a vet appointment, and I decided to take my other two Basenjis along for the ride. The blue sky and orange leaves that day had me hoping we could take a walk somewhere new.

The appointment was with a neurologist at a
24-hour veterinary specialty/emergency center. Lanikai and Chloe waited in the car in Vari Kennels set on top of the flat, folded-down second-row seats of my Suburban. Because of the tipping danger, I had secured the kennels in place with bungees. I had tried putting unsecured crates on those high seats in the past, and more than once, while driving down the freeway to a show, I had heard a thump and a strangle of surprise only to realize that the crate had toppled sideways onto the floor. Fairly distracting.

After the appointment, when Lili and I made our way to the car, I could hear Chloe shrieking. I gave her a reassuring, somewhat annoyed shout. “Chloe, I’m coming! Knock it off.” Over the past few years, Chloe had become increasingly demonstrative about her dislike of being crated. When she was in a plastic kennel in the car, she sounded like a 20-lb., squalling popcorn kernel ricocheting off the walls of a microwave.

I opened the back passenger door, and she should have been facing me, anxious to get out. I opened the crate door—she wouldn’t turn. Puzzled, I climbed into the driver’s seat to look back into the crate and was horrified: The bungee cord that was hooked onto the side grate was now embedded in her lower jaw. I could see the hook trying to poke out the bottom of her jaw. Blood was everywhere, and she was fighting that hook like a fish battling for its life—she wanted free of it even if that meant ripping off part of her face. She was screaming. And I had so much fear and adrenaline that I swear I felt my body composition change.

I ran into the ER lobby. “I need help now!” The vet tech followed me running to the car while I filled her in. A three-person transport to the rear entrance of the ER was a slow and awkward procession. I returned to the front lobby to wait and shake.

A bit later, the vet came out to ask if it was okay to give a sedative. Absolutely. I waited. The vet came out again. They got her separated from the crate, but he wanted to know if she could be anesthetized so they could remove the hook. Yes.

Three hours later. After a consultation with me about the antibiotics and pain pills Chloe would need, they brought her out on a leash. She had a large pouch under her jaw where the hook had stretched it out, making her profile very flabby and un-Basenji-like, and she was protesting and whining and scrabbling to get out the front door. The team that worked on her understood why she’s called Crazy Chloe. One of the vet techs handed me the bloody crate and wanted to know if I cared to keep the bungee. The hook was black plastic, mangled, with a rusty metal core. Yes.

In true Basenji style, the injury didn’t even slow down Chloe’s eating that night, nor did she develop an abscess. Her dislike of crates, however, is now so astronomical that we adhere to a restraining order of one-foot distance for all objects. Her bedding is restricted to paper towels.

I’ve heard other stories of Basenjis getting stuck on bungee-cord hooks, including one from fancier Pat Wand, who is “very careful with bungees now” after her bitch BobbiSox pulled one in that had been left on top of the Vari Kennel. Poor Pat was at home and had to free her dog from the crate, and the hook from her dog, with the help of her son and daughter. At least I was in the parking lot of an ER.

Educational message: Watch your bungees. As they say in some PSAs, “The more you know …”

—Marcia Woodard, marcia@barkless.com
Basenji Club of America

Basset Hounds
FINDING NEW BASSET BREEDERS TO MENTOR

Breeding Basset Hounds is not for the faint of heart. Basset are hardy adults, but they are a challenge to breed. They usually do
not breed naturally. The bitches can have a hard time carrying puppies (think of their belly size and those short legs), the puppies chill and die easily, the mothers can get sick with mastitis or an infected uterus resulting from retained placentas, the puppies have to be taught how to nurse and often require supplemental feeding, and the dams can be clumsy—stepping or rolling onto a puppy. More than one Basset breeder has had a puppy named Pancake because it was flattened by its mother before the breeder found and revived it. All Basset breeders live 24/7 with their dam and newborn puppies for the first two weeks to prevent problems. It can be exhausting.

So what keeps Basset breeders going, and why would anyone want to pursue this life? For Basset, breeders the answer is simple: It’s the puppies. You have not known absolute cuteness until you see and hold a 2- or 3-week old Basset puppy, or watched a 6-week old Basset puppy trip over its ears. When they are old enough to walk, they start following their human pack leader as a group. We often play this Pied Piper game to move a litter of puppies from one location to another. Their pack behavior starts young. Basset puppies define cuteness.

However, I do not know many young people who want to live the kind of life it takes to get a litter of Basset puppies through their first two weeks. I don’t know too many people who are willing to give up their annual vacation to be a full-time Basset nanny, and there are not many careers that will allow a breeder to bring a dam and puppies to work every day. All hobby breeders have other careers to support themselves, or they live with a partner who makes enough money to support the household. Is the absolute cuteness of the puppies enough of an incentive to lure more people into becoming breeders?

As I look around, I see that many AKC Basset breeders are approaching retirement age, and few have mentored new breeders into the AKC arena. I don’t know if our system of breeding and showing AKC dogs is losing its appeal to young people, or if we have merely become invisible to them. In this climate of animal-rights activism, dog breeding has become a tarnished avocation. It’s time to start turning that around. It’s time to reclaim our virtue and recruit new breeders—before the knowledge and wisdom of our retiring breeders is gone for good. —Jacquelyn Fogel, 2012

Basset Hound Club of America

Perhaps a place to begin looking for new Basset breeders is among the kids who are already showing an interest in animals in school. Perhaps breeders need to start talking to the kids in 4-H programs and FFA programs in high schools. Perhaps we can introduce our purebred, absolutely cute puppies to kids taking classes on small animal care in school and ask if they’d like to work with us or come to shows with us. In this climate of animal-rights activism, dog breeding has become a tarnished avocation. It’s time to start turning that around. It’s time to reclaim our virtue and recruit new breeders—before the knowledge and wisdom of our retiring breeders is gone for good. —Jacquelyn Fogel, 2012

Basset Hound Club of America

Bloodhounds WHY DIDN’T I WIN?

We’ve all been there. A tank of gas and several hour drive to a show where there are finally points, motel room for two nights, and meals, not to mention the $60 entry fees for the weekend plus parking, and your Perfect Dog leaves the ring with no points. If this happens several weekends in a row, it can be very discouraging, especially for a novice. There is a temptation to blame it on politics or color bias, but let’s look at all the...
reasons you might not have considered and can do something about!

**Conditioning.** As an owner-handler, you might think your Bloodhound is ready to show, but they might not be in the best weight or coat. They might need to gain or lose a couple of pounds or just develop a bit more maturity. One or the other of you (or both!) might need more ring experience to cope with unexpected sights or sounds. Young dogs can go through several startle periods where they just have a hard time focusing if there is too much distraction, and, if the handler is not completely familiar with ring procedures, there are some minor things that can trip you up and fluster you so that you are also not focused. It helps to video the classes and look objectively at how your dog compares with the competition.

**Ability.** The ability to show a dog to its best is an art form. Watch the people who possess it, and try and imitate their skills. Far too many people think there is no training involved in conformation. Just put the dog on the lead and jog him around! But you should know the correct speed for your dog to move properly, and know how he likes that lead held. Some dogs like a taut lead, while others will fight that lead unless it is loose. Again, know your dog! Did you have him in a stack every time the judge looked? Was the stack flattering to him? Or was he posting, cockeyed, or with his ears on the top of his head? Were your hands quiet, or constantly fluttering around your dog’s worst feature? Videos can be painful to watch, but they are certainly educational.

**Attitude.** Does your dog enjoy the ring? I am currently working a bitch who does everything I ask but makes it clear with her body language that she hates every second of it. As a result, I have lost the points more than once to a dog who might not be as correct in structure, but has her tail up and draws the eye of the judge. My girl is getting better about understanding her job, and I believe she will finish, but I won’t bother trying to special her when she just doesn’t want to play. Amazing show dogs are born with a special sparkle that can’t be trained. However, you can work on making the job more enjoyable for a dog who just doesn’t see the point of it all. Teaching confidence and poise is something that takes repetition and a wide variety of motivators.

**Locale.** Bloodhounds within our standard have a wide variety of styles which are all correct. However, if you have a sporty, athletic dog and everyone else in the ring is blocky and wide, your dog will stand out, for better or worse. If you are traveling to an event where you know most of the dogs will be from the same lines, consider whether your dog will fit in or stand out. Is it worth spending your money on shows with typically large entries like specialties, where the points are high? Or going to smaller shows where there are only a couple of points, but also a greater chance of placing? Talk to friends and see if there is a middle ground where you can all drive a little less and still put together a major of four or five dogs.

**Show grounds.** Does your dog do better indoors or out? On grass or concrete? Again, video your dog on leash at home on a variety
BREED COLUMNS

HOUND GROUP

of surfaces, and be critical. This goes back to knowing your dog’s faults and strengths. No dog is perfect, and you can’t work around faults if you don’t acknowledge they exist. This is also true of weather conditions. Does your dog melt in the heat? Shut down in the cold? You might want to plan a hiatus during the worst weather, or be specific about the locations. If the show is indoors at a fairgrounds in mid-August, is there air conditioning? Or if you are outdoors in Western New York in May, is there shelter from rain?

Judge selection. This is the least of my considerations for a show, but it needs to be taken into account. All judges should be able to find a good dog, but, since they are human, they have preferences. Some look at side gait versus down and back, or place more emphasis on topline, or a good front, or outline or rear. Some like a bigger dog, some don’t. You can keep track of judges you have shown under or ask fellow exhibitor’s opinions. There are several social media groups dedicated to this, as well as places to look up judging results. Remember that the information on all of these is biased and completely based on who their competition was! If Fluffy X11 was the best dog last Tuesday, he might not even make the cut on Wednesday if he’s in with a different group of dogs. However, don’t make the judge the only factor in your decision to attend unless you know for a fact that he hates your dog and would rather put up a three-legged cat. (In that case, skip that day—don’t waste your money.)

Calculate the odds in your favor, and then add in the other factors. Sometimes you just want to get a young dog out to a show environment for practice. Sometimes there is one judge you really respect and are willing to take a chance on the rest of the weekend. And sometimes you are meeting friends and helping to support a major for someone else, hoping they will do that same for you. But when searching for points, taking everything into consideration will help save time, money, and disappointment.

—Betsy Copeland,
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American Bloodhound Club

Borzoi

UNDERSTANDING Sighthound 101

Borzoi specialize in hunting by sight and working in teams at speed, not unlike so many other sighthounds. So what does that have to do with anything? Think about the Borzoi standard, eyes never round, full nor staring (inessence almond shaped) and somewhat obliquely set. The result creates a larger field of vision versus a dog with more close-set, forward-facing eyes. Borzois have to be aware of other dogs on the field, working in teams and still see straight ahead to follow the game. Add a high prey drive and laser focus and you a have a hound that will follow their quarry once sighted with intensity. They are bred to hunt in pairs or teams with other Borzoi to bring down their prey. It is a virtue to work in tandem. Borzoi need to be keenly aware of what their teammate is doing, and all this done at great speed. Selected over years for this drive and work ethic, it is no wonder that eyes have been a focus for breeders. Round, forward-facing eyes set closely were never a virtue for the founders. With a long, narrow head and good fill in front of the eyes, the eventual rotation to an obliquely set eye was coveted, and a round, forward-facing eye was discarded.

So what is Sighthound 101? When judging, do not approach a sighthound from behind. Walk up to them from the front or from a forward angle. Do not bring your hand down over the eyes when examining the head. Palms should be up and brought up under the jaw.

Borzoi: “A far-seeing, far-focusing hound”
HOUND GROUP

Next, feel along the sides and move on to the back-skull. If you decide to open the mouth, never cover the top of the head, blocking the vision, while opening the mouth. A sure way to ruin a Borzoi is to approach them from behind. Remember to a Borzoi in the field it could be foe or friend. In general, most dogs do not tolerate being startled from behind their field of vision. The concentration of a Borzoi is far seeing. Sometimes the dog may be focusing on something at a great distance, and they are startled when they see movement at the rear of their field of vision. Once they are comfortable with your presence in their sight, you are free to do as you choose in the examination of the rest of the dog.

Some dogs with temperament requirements in the standard are expected to look you in the face or lean forward to greet you upon examination. A sighthound is a far focusing, far seeing hound who may be concentrating on something at the other end of the showgrounds. It is this singular focus that makes them successful in the field. These dogs do look at their environment from a history of breeding for a specific eye placement, focus, and drive.

Please remember Sighthound 101. It is not only the dogs who will respond better to your approach, but also the exhibitors will thank you for your recognition of this breed characteristic.

—Jon Steele,
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Borzoi Club of America

Dachshunds

MY DOG CAN DO THAT!

If you watch the obedience trials at Crufts or the agility trials at Westminster, you will see dogs doing amazing things, virtually on their own with only the slightest direction from their handlers. Dachshund owners are particularly apt to say, “My dog can’t do that!” After all, Dachshunds are reputed to be stubborn, willful, and have a mind of their own. They are hounds, of course, and are bred to think for themselves in the hunting field. But this year, 28 Dachshunds from across the country proved “My dog can do that!” by qualifying for the AKC’s Rally National Championships for 2020.

Rally is a dog sport that combines the movement and variety of agility with the precision and attention of obedience. A team of dog and handler negotiates a course of from 10 to 20 signs with commands like “Sit & Down,” “360 Turn Left,” or “Call Front and Finish Right.” The team is scored on how well they execute the signs (perfect is 100 points), and how quickly they complete the course. Any team earning 70 or more points qualifies for the class and the four fastest teams win rosettes and placings—first through fourth.

To earn a rally title, you need to qualify three times under at least two different judges. The entry level is Rally Novice, where the exercises are done on lead. Rally Intermediate presents more difficult exercises but is still on
lead. With Rally Advanced, Excellent, and Master, all exercises are off lead.

Unlike agility, in Rally the handler does not have to sprint across a large field or arena, and the dog does not have to climb an A-frame or run a four-foot-high dog walk. And unlike obedience, in rally you can talk to your dog, praise them, give hand and voice signals, and otherwise cheerlead for the entire course. You just cannot touch them. Rally is quick and fun, and dogs love the verbal praise while working.

To qualify for the AKC Rally Nationals, a dog needs to have earned its title, whether Rally Novice (RN), Intermediate (RI), Advanced (RA), Excellent (RE), or Master (RM), by the end of the qualifying period. For 2020 the qualifying deadline was November 30, 2019. In addition the team must have a score of 93 or higher in three different trials. The only exception to this is the championship division, where the team must have earned a score of 93 or higher in three classes—Advanced B, Excellent B, and Master—at the same trial three different times.

On the day of the National competition, each team competes twice in two different rings with two different judges. The Champion level requires competition four times in four rings to complete two Master courses, one Excellent course, and one Advanced. That’s a lot of effort and concentration for both human and dog, and by the end of the day both are tired. Dachshunds are tough little dogs and generally do well, but it is hard to earn placings at the National, as the bigger dogs are usually faster.

In 2018, competing against whip-smart Border Collies, clever Poodles, obedient Labrador Retrievers, and happily biddable Goldens, a black and tan smooth miniature Dachshund named Nilsson, owned by Cathy MacCarthy of Pennsylvania, took sixth place out of over 40 Novice Rally qualifiers.

So keep your eyes on the AKC National Rally Championships in Ohio this June. Those 28 Dachshunds are ready to Rally.

—Trudy Kawami, salixbrooklyn@aol.com

Dachshund Club of America

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**English Foxhounds**

Donna Somers wrote the following for this column in 2010.

**WALKING-OUT**

When you hear the word foxhound, the typical English hunt scene immediately comes to mind, with a pack of hounds giving chase and horse and rider following behind. This is only a snapshot into the complex foxhound, however. Bred for centuries to be a specialist on foxes, he is also a cooperative worker with humans!

From the time the pup can toddle about in the yard until his entry into the pack, he has to learn to work, live, and interact with people. Young pups are put out “at walk” during this first year. This is done to socialize the young hound and to teach him the basics, such as accepting a collar and lead. The huntsman makes the matches between the pups and their foster homes, sending pick pups to the homes that consistently turn out good, socialized hounds. During this year the huntsman does not forget them but makes inspections to see to the pups’ progress, giving encouragement and advice if needed.

The foster homes are expected to socialize the pups, including interaction with both animals and humans. The puppies are expected
to learn not to chase poultry or sheep. If the home contains children, they are allowed to play with the pups. In this way, the hound learns to trust the people that take care of him. This is the most important thing a puppy can learn.

This system still exists, and in fact several guide-dog programs use this approach to raise their young hopefuls. Unfortunately, however, today some hounds have lost this important part of growing up. Often relegated to kennels, the pup is left to his own devices, which isn’t a good thing if you want a cooperative, working hound. Pack life is very regulated. Not only is there a top dog, but the master is the top dog! The foxhound must trust his master in all things. When a hound, or any dog for that matter, can trust the master, he no longer has to worry about survival. The hound simply knows that the master would not do anything to hurt him.

When this changing of the trust from one’s self to the master takes place, then you see extraordinary things. Large packs can live together in harmony, even feed together! They can hunt together, travel miles on the roads following the master’s horse, and be packed into vans and driven to the hunt. They stand about quietly waiting until the field is ready to go. Hounds allow a detailed physical examination following every hunt, which is actually done to every hound who hunted on that day. Where does that leave us in today’s modern world? We need to be reminded that the foxhound can be a companion animal. He was bred to be a workable hound. The home that he is placed in must be willing to set limits.

The foxhound is a dog who loves and needs rules, and he likes routine. He needs to know how this human pack works! This entails effort, but the end result is a confident, willing hound who will leave a favorable impression on all who meet him. —D.S.

Norwegian Elkhounds

Dr. Nina P. Ross wrote the following for this column in 2012.

**BEST IN THE RING**

The perfect Elkhound has not yet made an appearance in the show ring. Or, perhaps, we did not recognize it. There are some undeniably good dogs being shown. Visualize the Elkhound with dark ears of good leather, a tightly curled, center-set tail, strong, arched neck of good length, short loin, and movement correct coming and going as well as viewed from the side. Ask yourself if the dog’s true beauty and character would shine through without the bait thrust in front of him. Take a good look at the dog who was placed at the end of the line because he was so different from the others. Maybe that was the perfect Elkhound.

Elkhounds are sometimes judged against the winning dog, not the breed standard. Too often a bitch is bred to a winning dog with total disregard for the standard. Success breeds success—or does it? For the most part, the winning dog is the best dog. The point remains that the standard for the breed, the blueprint for the perfect Elkhound, is the basis for the ideal breeding plan. A discerning breeder takes into account the possibility or probability of unforeseen factors that exists in every breeding. Breeding based solely on show wins can be venturesome.

On the flip side of the coin, the original standards were descriptions of the best dogs available at the time—or of dogs owned by those who were writing the standard or by breeders who dreamed about the one that got away. Breeders may have etched in their minds the ideal Elkhound and interpret the standard to match what they are producing. As long as breed characteristics are preserved, with emphasis on structure and function, there is no requirement that every Elkhound must fit into the same cookie-cutter mold.

The Elkhound is foremost a hunter, a multi-purpose dog endowed with stamina, athletic prowess, and intelligence. Even though he often is bred for other purposes, his breed characteristics must be maintained. Leg length is important for providing the agility to maneuver rocky terrain and to outmaneuver the moose or other prey. Elkhounds tend to become couch potatoes and put on more that the suggested weight for their frame. Ideally, they are kept in lean, hard condition, ready for the hunt.

The Elkhound breed is not immune to trafficking. An occasional Elkhound gets into the wrong hands and is used to produce puppies for dog traffickers. There are enough reputable Elkhound breeders that it is not neces-
BREED COLUMNS

HOUND GROUP

BREED COLUMNS

It is sad and embarrassing when the pedigree of a pet-store puppy lists the name of an honorable, well-known breeder who had no intentions of being involved in such a situation. It is advisable to use judgment in placing Elkhounds with unknown buyers.

There is no unwritten rule that implies all Elkhounds must be shown. However, they do need the tender, loving care of their owners. After all, you may have the perfect Elkhound.

—Dr. Nina P. Ross

Norwegian Elkhound Association of America

Otterhounds

Our guest columnist for this month is Gerdy Mertens, an Otterhound fancier from the Netherlands who hunted with the De Kweb pack in the Netherlands. She writes the newsletter of the Netherlands Otterhound lovers.

DE KWEB KENNELS AND PACK

In 1981 the first two Otterhounds came to the Netherlands. Ria and Tini v.d. Broek sr had a kennel called De Kweb and bred spaniels as well as PBGVs. They had seen old prints of Otterhounds hunting the British rivers, and they were determined to find them.

A long story short: They got in touch with Captain John Bell Irving of the Dumfriesshire pack in Dumfries, Scotland, U.K. And with a lot of effort they got permission to import one pregnant bitch called Dumfriesshire Caramel and a bitch called Nanhelen Yasmin. These two became the founding stock of De Kweb.

(In 1983 I saw them at the Winner dog show in Amsterdam and fell in love. It took another few years before we could afford our Flabbergasting Flubbertigibbet of De Kweb, called Flobbe in daily life.)

The average number of hounds at De Kweb was soon to be around 20. Fresh blood came from the U.K. regularly, and the club started in 1983.

A yearly event was the Otterhound day on the kennel grounds, with fun and lots of laughter. We Dutch Otterhound people have never been into showing, so in order to give the breed more publicity we always looked for ways and means. In 1991 one of our committee members, Annelies Vael, started again about hunting these hounds, a lifelong passion of hers that she once hoped to achieve with her beloved Otterhounds. And then suddenly we got an invitation to present the breed at the country’s largest game fair—a great opportunity to get public attention, as the visitors there are outdoor people and people who like
game-shooting and hunting. We were supposed to parade them in a regular breed presentation, but we started working on the idea of presenting them as a pack.

And that idea became reality. We had to get costumes: knickerbocker, white blouse and a blue jacket (made by one of the members), and of course a classic hunting bow-tie, coat, and cap. And we had to start training the hounds. Tini by then was delegating much of the hound jobs to his son Wiljan, who took it upon himself to act as Master of Hounds and huntsman, in a red coat. He picked six hounds to start with, and we started exercising and grooming them weekly.

We had a few months to get ready, and on the big day itself we were very, very nervous. We had to walk them through the public area, food stalls, other animals, and so on. Into the great demonstration ring ...

It went rather well, however, and we got an invitation to come back the following year. So the next two-three years were used to build a pack and a team of skilled whippers-in. On a training (and later on, a day out hunting) we needed at least six people to help Wiljan, six so-called whippers-in—with one far in front, to close off escape routes and to open gates or remove fences, two on either side of the water we hunted, and one in the back to close gates and reset fences. Usually there were more
HOUND GROUP

than six, and up to nine or 10 sometimes. We needed people who could run if needed and who were not afraid of getting muddy, as it is a water hunt.

In the meantime Wiljan expanded the pack. In its best years he had around 40 hounds in kennels, including youngsters and oldies. The puppies went to puppy-walkers and came back a year old.

Also we had to get in touch with landowners. Luckily one of our whippers-in was the financial director of a big dairy cooperation, and he knew a lot of farmers. So we had contacts, and we got permission to hunt on their land, if it had water. We trained the pack for more than two years before we took them out on a real hunt (muskrat was the prey here). In the meantime we gave demonstrations with them on all sorts of fairs and shows. The whippers-in got their travel costs paid for, and the extra money we got went into the pack, for grooming tools, new clothes, real traditional hunt buttons, and so on.

But then we could hunt them, and for 12 years we did—up to 8 to 10 days out hunting per season, I think. It was great to see the hounds do what they are bred for. Wiljan used to bring out about seven couple (which equals 14 hounds).

In 2008 it came to an end. We lost more and more terrains due to nature preserve, and we did not get enough people as whippers-in. Also, Wiljan had three young sons by then, and he had taken over his parents’ business (animal-supply shop, grooming parlor, boarding kennels for up to 100 dogs, fish ponds, and garden plants), so it became very difficult for him to find the time to go out with the pack and train and hunt them. And by then he had many hounds getting old, and due to lack of time the young ones were not properly introduced into the pack. So we had to call it a day, and a very hard decision was made: The pack was no longer there. Of course the kennel still was, and also the love for the breed. But numbers were to be lowered to keep it workable and affordable.

Wiljan slowly went back since then to the present number of around six to eight hounds, max. De Kweb has been lucky so far. No epilepsy at all, and no other major disasters. They focus on black and tan for character reasons. The blonds and tricolors come from the Grand Basset Vendéen, the Welsh Foxhound, and so on—wonderful hounds, but sometimes a bit fierce. As they should be, looking at the jobs they did. But the black and tan comes from Bloodhounds and from Dumfriesshire foxhounds (big black and tans, too), and these characters are more laid back and friendly. (We think; opinions differ on this.) We still see that in our hounds too. Of course you have to look at the whole picture but if they could afford it, the choice they went for was the black and tan. And as far as breeding program is concerned, they have always worked closely with Judith—getting stock from her, sending stock back, and so on. And advice of course, on every subject. Recently Houndville, the Bramalls in Germany, have asked for cooperation, and of course that is great. There is an exchange and cooperation now, as well as with Snoopertine and Beate Feldmann, also in Germany.

My job over 30 years is to keep in touch with “the world” on behalf of De Kweb and the club, and to make sure we keep up with news, get in touch with whoever seems of importance, give information, and support the breed however we can.

We have had Otterhounds since 1983. Most of them came to us from the pack at the age of 5 or 6, to retire. The last one, Dibbes, came as a puppy again. I forgot how much hard work that is! The pack ones were so easy! Still, we love this one very much too. He has company of Bor, the Spinone. — Eibhlin Glennon, Riverrun Otterhounds

Petits Bassets Griffons Vendéens

Our guest contributor is Deborah Savage.

MEET THE BREED

It was wonderful, as always, participating in the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen booth at AKC’s Meet the Breeds in New York City again this year. Moving back to the Javits Center for the two-day event seemed daunting, but all of us, with Sue Smyth as our team leader, stepped up to the challenge. Our PBGVs did an absolutely awesome job meeting and greeting thousands of people coming at them from every direction. My two PBGVs, Ch. Lacey’s Batteries Not Needed, call name Not, and Lacey’s Her Hold My Rab’t ’n Watch This, call name Uncle Fester, were happy, extroverted ambassadors of our breed.

On Saturday, along with Not and Uncle Fester, the pack included Nick and Pat Reading’s Ch. Gebeba’s Goliard Je M’Appelle Jenette, call name Jeni; Ch. Gebeba’s Goliard Triste Souvenirs De Margeau, call name Margeau; and Ch. Gebeba’s Goliard Notre Nouvel Espoir Camille, call name Cami—and on Sunday, Shelley Barclay and Mona Stile’s Mirepoix’s Every Vote Counts, call name Archie, who all charmed the crowds. Our PBGVs truly captured the hearts of all who
At Meet the Breeds, PBGVs captured the hearts of all who met them.

interacted with them.

I spoke to some incredibly fascinating people who were truly interested in our breed. It was surprising to still find how many people had never seen or heard of PBGVs and were amazed when I told them about their history, their origin and that they can be traced back to the 16th century. A large number of people walked up and asked in their own words if a PBGV was a cross between a Basset and a Griffon. All of us did our best to educate that the name Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen describes and reveals a great deal about our rough-coated, independent French hound that was recognized by the AKC in 1991.

One of the funniest things that happened was when a woman came up to talk to me after hearing Not “sing.” She couldn’t believe he would just start singing on his own or sing along with you. I told her his favorite song was the “Star Spangled Banner.”

She started to sing, “Oh, say, can you see …” and sure enough, Not threw his head back and sang right along with her. Her expression was priceless! I told her that at summer outdoor musical concerts in my community, Not sings along with the band and has been affectionately nicked “SiNOTra” by folks in attendance. For two days at Meet the Breeds, Not sang his heart out and gave High Fives to children and adults alike, and Uncle Fester sat up on his hind legs on the grooming table and waved with his front paws to people for hours on end.

Veronica Sheer joined us on Sunday and did a terrific job answering questions and taking fabulous pics and videos of our booth’s activity. Sue Smyth, as always, took the lead and expertly managed all logistics for the booth. It was a wonderful and extremely rewarding experience for all in attendance. I’m grateful that we had the opportunity to participate, and we look forward to being part of the AKC Meet the Breeds’ PBGV Team going forward!

— Deb Savage, a Proud PBGV Person!

Thank you, Deb.
— Sue Smyth,
oldyork2002@aol.com
Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America

Pharaoh Hounds “WHY DIDN’T YOU CALL?” REVISITED

I received a phone call from a lady who owned one of my Pharaoh Hounds. She had Cairo since he was a pup, and he was now going on 14 years. She had called a few times a year, keeping in touch, and also whenever she had a problem concerning Cairo. When this happened, sometimes I told her to call her vet, and at other times I told her what I would do to solve the problem. But mostly we ironed out the wrinkles of daily life with an active dog.

She had so much pleasure from this dog and intended to keep him at his best as long as possible. On this latest call I was able to immediately make a positive suggestion, since one of my old ladies once had behaved the same way. Cairo’s owner was amazed that she had never thought of the same simple solution.

What struck me was how easily Cairo’s problem was solved, only because his owner has kept in touch with me. And then I thought about the many dogs who suffer because their owners do not keep in touch with their breeders. I thought about those dogs whose owners simply give up and bring the dogs to shelters.

Years ago my daughter rescued an old Pharaoh Hound bitch from a shelter some distance away from us. The hound had been turned in by an elderly couple who gave no information about her. With help from PHCA Rescue, we were able restore Goldie’s health, but placing an elderly dog is not easy, and we ended up keeping her as one of our own.

Goldie lived out her life with us. What bothers me is, why didn’t her owners call her breeder?

Then there is the story about a pup I had sold and whose owner I had kept in touch with. When he was 2 years old, I checked to see how he was doing, and she told me he was just fine. However, a few months later, a veterinarian called me to tell me that the dog had been brought to him to be euthanized.

Thankfully he called me instead, and I placed the dog in a new home within 48 hours. He became a much-loved housepet, and a certified therapy dog as well. He lived a long and happy life. As for his former owners—why didn’t they call?

Just recently, we were informed that an 11-year-old male whom we had bred was in terrible condition and in desperate need of a new home. He was still owned by the people we had sold him to, and while they had kept in touch with us while he was young, when they
had their most recent problems, they did not call us until his situation had become awful—and they still never told us how bad it was. Regardless, we offered to take him back, and yet then we heard nothing more from them. Since he was living thousands of miles from us, we called PHCA Rescue for a local contact and got immediate cooperation. Thanks to the coordinated efforts of several Pharaoh Hound rescuers, he was placed in a safe, loving home.

There are many stories I could tell which involve other breeders as well as me, but I think I have made my point. What we all cannot understand is why, when we make ourselves available to assist in problems that might arise, do so many people not call for help or advice? In most cases, they have paid a considerable price for the dog, and still they are willing to lose out by not seeking the assistance of knowledgeable, experienced people. Economic reversals are to blame in some cases, and we can understand the reasons for giving up a family pet of long standing. What we cannot understand is the lack of communication between a pet owner and the responsible breeder who would be willing to help if only he or she knew of the problem. —Rita Laventhall Sacks, 2013

Pharaoh Hound Club of America

Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Our column this month is by Linda Costa.

BLACK AND TANS, HISTORICALLY

I have neither seen photographic evidence nor heard anecdotally of black and tan-colored Ridgebacks in the formative days of our breed, nor any discussion of that possibility from the longstanding African breeders. Certainly there was talk of “blue” Ridgebacks sometimes occurring unexpectedly during the 1960s. (From a historical perspective, I have never heard of a “blue” either in the very early days.) Unlike the brindle patterning of some of the early Ridgebacks, I am not convinced that black and tan was a color originally seen in our breed.

In the early breeding days, from the 1920s through to the 1940s, it was not at all common to see extremely close inbreeding in the pedigrees of our dogs for successive generations. I have not heard of one instance in this resulting in a “black and tan” Ridgeback when we might expect it to do so.

It has been said that van Rooyen used an Airedale Terrier in his pack, and speculation exists that this explains—and justifies—why “black and tan” purebred Ridgebacks are sometimes seen in closely bred lines today. (For the record, it was not Cornelius van Rooyen who stated this; it was his son.)

The only verified picture I have ever seen of any dog with Cornelius van Rooyen shows a broken-colored dog not unlike a rough Whippet, with no evidence of a ridge. I have never seen a broken-colored Ridgeback—and it doesn’t follow that we should, either. Many breeds and crossbreeds, as well as the early settlers’ dogs, were used to make up van Rooyen’s breeding pack; need we pay lip service to the feathered coat of a setter, the ticking of a Pointer, the bobtail of a Bulldog, or the ruff of a...
BREED COLUMNS

HOUND GROUP

Collie if we find it, because we believe all contributed to the foundation of the Ridgeback?

There is little more I can add to this but to say I accept that from time to time “unusual” colors may be produced in Ridgebacks; however, the vast majority are born wheaten. From the 1945 minutes we can see that this term encompasses a large range of colors, all equally correct. My personal opinion is that there is no place for these unusual colors to be included in a breeding program, any more than a faulty ridged or ridgeless pup. […]

There is no description of a black-and-tan-colored Ridgeback in any of the early dogs in either the north or the south of the country that I have seen.—L.C.

Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States

Salukis

FEET …

“And forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair.”—Kahlil Gibran

“Where the rubber meets the road.”—Firestone advertising slogan

Saluki feet must be strong and flexible to enable them (or indeed any sighthound) to run down quarry over varied terrain. This quality is addressed twice in the Standard—first, directly:

“Feet—Of moderate length, toes long and well arched, not splayed out, but at the same time not cat-footed; the whole being strong and supple and well feathered between the toes.”

—and then at the end of the standard, indirectly:

“General Appearance: The whole appearance of this breed should give an impression of grace and symmetry and of great speed and endurance coupled with strength and activity to enable it to kill gazelle or other quarry over deep sand or rocky mountains” (my emphasis).

Those passages from the breed’s AKC standard (unaltered since its adoption in 1927) have their antecedents in the first Western Saluki standard, created by Florence Amherst in 1907:

“Feet: Hare footed. Open to enable the dog to gallop on the sand. Webbed and with slight feathers between toes.”

A “hare foot” is a long-boned one, particularly in the two middle toes, so both the 1907 and 1927 standards tell us that the Saluki footprint should be a slender, elongated egg shape as opposed to the those of the terrier or cat foot who have shorter toe bones. The physics of “long and well arched” toes are those of shock absorption (exactly like a car’s suspension system) and giving purchase and traction over difficult ground at speed. A slight amount of toeing-out in the front feet is perfectly acceptable (dancers and practitioners of martial arts naturally stand with toes out for balance). Of course, the “well feathered between the toes” does not apply to smooth-coated Salukis (more about toe feathering later).

Florence Amherst, who is regarded as the breed’s founder in the West, emphasized in 1907 the toughness of Saluki feet in their various countries of origin—in Kalat (Baluchistan), “galloping over country that was boulder strewn”; in Arabia, coursing hares, “over ground that would have broken every bone in an English Greyhound without hurting themselves”; and finally in “… sand, in which their paws dive heavily.”

Now, Amherst always believed that toe feathering was needed to enable the hound to run over sand (a desert version of snowshoes), but this is a fallacy as the Golden Jackal, the closest, desert-dwelling, Canid analog to a Saluki, manages just fine and with no more hair between its toes than an ordinary dog. Remember I mentioned smooth Salukis? Well, they have no toe feathering at all and run just as well as feathered Salukis do—and this is acknowledged in the final paragraph of the standard:

“The Smooth Variety: In this variety the points should be the same with the exception of the coat, which has no feathering.” By this we know that the construction and shape of Saluki feet, whether feathered or smooth, should be the same, regardless of coat type.—Brian Patrick Duggan, bpduggan@mac.com Saluki Club of America

[Editor’s note: Our review of Brian’s latest book, General Custer, Libbie Custer, and Their Dogs: A Passion for Hounds, From the Civil War to Little Bighorn, appears on page 7 of this issue. Spoiler alert: It’s a rave!]
** BREED COLUMNS**

**HOUND GROUP**

**Scottish Deerhounds**

This month we are privileged to have a guest columnist, Bjorn Fritz, of Fritzen Deerhounds in Germany. Bjorn lived with and worked with Anastasia Noble of Ardkinglas Kennel in Scotland as a young man, and he has agreed to share with us some of his memories of that time.

** OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH DEERHOUNDS**

Would anyone from home or abroad like to come and work with me and my hounds at any time? I have had a number of people over the years and they seem to enjoy it and I enjoy having them.

I can only offer keep and pocket money and a chance to learn my way with Deerhounds and my way of life, and see a lovely part of Britain.

If interested let me know with some reference about yourself.

— Anastasia Noble, Ardkinglas Deerhounds

The Ardkinglas estate in the Scottish Highlands was home to Miss Anastasia Noble and the Ardkinglas Deerhounds. Clockwise from top center: Miss Noble in later years, with five champions; view of Ardkinglas; Miss Noble in the early 1950s; Miss Noble with deerhound and kestrel, 1930s; the estate in winter 1987.

PHOTOS COURTESY BJORN FRITZ
That was the advertisement Miss Noble had in almost each Newsletter. I wrote to her (a letter), and she was looking forward to have me at her place. The part “and my way of life” I had not paid a lot of attention to in her ad. She was one of the most respected ladies in the dog world, with first-class family-background and living where others would love to spend their holidays!

The autumn 1986 was beautiful so I didn’t notice that the cottage, where she had chosen to live on the estate, had no central heating. February taught me a lesson, but that is a different story.

We got on very well, and I got used to her way of life. When she got up at nine or later in the morning I would have done the dogs, painting coat for her walls would be a great idea while I was there, and had not too very much to do. Miss Noble was all for it and off we went to Oban; we didn’t change cloth very often, but the shop assistant replied no. Miss Noble: “Oh … I am only interested in a pair!” That was so much her—loving and enjoying life to the full in any situation.

In those days Ardkinglas was still a rather private estate, with houses and cottages scattered over the 45,000 acres of the original Ardkinglas estate from 1905, where family and former employees lived. I ever so much enjoyed my time at Ardkinglas, a place of dog-world history. Thank you, Miss Noble! —B.F.

Thank you, Bjorn.

—Frances Smith,
dhumohr@me.com

Scottish Deerhound Club of America

Whippets SOCIAL MEDIA

Being a dog person in the age of social media has been both a blessing and a curse. It is an indicator of the world as we know it today. Social media groups reflect the community they serve and the format has both positive and negative attributes. People use it for gossip, for questions, for education, and for self-aggrandizement. There is good and bad in all that it offers, but overall I believe the pluses outweigh the minuses.

With Whippets, as with most breeds, there are groups aimed at general outreach, and groups that cater to certain niches. One can find information regarding events and results, husbandry, veterinary advice, puppy information, rescue contacts, and general news regarding the breed. All one has to do is join a social media site and type in a question, and it will get answered in minutes, if not seconds. This is the value of our technical age.

Our Whippet world has become so much smaller, and we can engage friends from around the globe. The information out there is readily available and endless. Our breed since its inception in the US has been influenced by significant imports from elsewhere, particularly England, our country of origin. But American Whippets were of a type (taller, flashier) that did not win in many other countries. But now many breeders have established international ties that have only been strengthened by the advent of social media and the technical age. This has been a great contributor to communication between breeders, and expanded the genetic diversity of our dogs. More and more, we have a “one world view” of the Whippet. The best dogs can now win anywhere, international pedigrees are more common than ever before, and our gene pool has expanded. The breed is no longer insular. Best of all, Whippet fanciers can now communicate with each other instantly, all for the betterment of the
Another benefit of the era of Facebook and so on is the ability to share health and nutrition information. However, this information can be a double-edged sword. Some people want to rely on “Dr. Facebook” for veterinary advice, which is not a good idea. There are valuable idiosyncratic lessons and experiences that other breeders have had that can be helpful, but this should always be followed up with veterinary and professional consultation. One of the problems with social media is that too many people espouse ideas and treatments that have no basis in science, sometimes to the detriment of dogs and their owners. Some of the so-called “experts” actually have little experience, or relate untested and un-vetted theories that are not sound or suitable for all dogs. Truly knowledgeable and experienced advice on social media can be very helpful, but it is no substitute for first hand professional expertise, especially from a trusted veterinarian, therapist, or trainer. There is much information of value to be gleaned from social media. There are Whippet breeders and veterinarians who have a lot of general advice to offer on that platform, but the questioner must be discerning, and rely on the breeder or vet who is familiar with the individual dog.

So, in short, I believe that social media has provided us with more positive experiences than negative ones. It has given us an easier path for education, outreach, and information about our beloved Whippets. We have become a “one world” breed. But we must be ever vigilant and guard against unfounded gossip, misinformation, irresponsible breeding, and those who do not have the best interest of all Whippets at heart.

Phoebe J. Booth, Shamasan@aol.com
American Whippet Club
When I first became involved in the dog show world, I lived in the last frontier, Alaska. I was very lucky when I got my first “potential” show puppy, because I found two ladies who mentored me and lead me down the right path to my breeding program. These two women were very knowledgeable in the dog world and each had much to offer a newcomer. They taught me to show and groom and allowed me to apprentice with them. I was also involved with each litter they produced. I helped with the temperament testing which they used as a tool to gauge each puppy’s strengths and weakness. I learned how they screened their prospective puppy buyers, and how very important the screening was. I learned about taking into account the temperament, personality, and energy level of each puppy and the importance of placing the right dog with the right owner.

I’ve learned to screen the phone calls and emails I get to help find the right families for each of my puppies. In the past I dismissed emails and phone calls if the first sentence was “Do you have any puppies and how much are they?” I used to think that if money is the first thing they ask about, then my dogs probably are not for them. I am sure every breeder has said or thought this. However, a breeder friend suggested to me that most people don’t know what else to ask when they first contact a breeder. I then started communicating with these people and found that about 80 percent of them are more concerned about health, temperament, and finding a great family member than about the cost of the puppy. I usually write or tell the person more about my dogs and me. I ask them if they are close enough to come and see my dogs in person, or I find out where they live, and if they have not met the breed, I find someone in their area who has Airedales. I will always try to educate anyone who is looking for a puppy.

I do have two hard and fast rules. I don’t sell two puppies to the same family, and I don’t sell
BREED COLUMNS

puppies to people with children under the age of 3.

The final decision as to which puppy goes into which home rests with me. The process to determine which puppy best fits with which family is ongoing as the puppies develop. I watch them to see how the pups handle new things. I watch closely how each puppy reacts to new people, new dogs, new situations and new environments. All these things are observed and noted. If one is a bit sound sensitive, I will slowly expose the puppy to more sounds. I will place that puppy in a home that is not quiet but is also not extremely loud, either, and I will make sure the puppy’s owner continues to expose the puppy to new sounds in a positive way, so the puppy will develop in an adult with no sound-sensitivity issues.

Another determining factor in placement is the energy level of each pup. If a family is very active I look for a puppy that will not be overwhelmed or overstimulated by the level of activity of the family. A puppy who is high energy I place with a active and sports-minded family who will include the puppy in their lifestyle. I will put the calmer puppy with younger children or families with older children. I also put these puppies with older couples who have occasional visits from grandchildren.

If the family has active children, I will place a medium-level puppy with a very stable temperament. That way the puppy will not feed off the children’s energy and become unmanageable.

Even with years of experience in raising puppies and placing each in a home compatible with their personality, I still get the occasional puppy back. This isn’t because of a puppy being a “misfit,” however. Rather it might happen because of an owner’s illness, hardship, or moving out of the country. By taking care to place the right puppy with the right family, the puppy is happy, the family is happy, and I get fewer phone calls for help!

—Dianna G. Fielder, dfkynas@aol.com
Airedale Terrier Club of America

Why Is a Conflict of Interest Policy Important?

The Australian Terrier Club of America, as well as all AKC breed clubs, has an obligation to the public as a non-profit organization and to its members to ensure that decisions and transactions made are in the best interests of the club and its members. The ATCA Board of Directors, its officers, and all members with decision-making responsibilities (such as committee chairs) owe a fiduciary duty of loyalty to the ATCA. This requires they act in the interest of the club and not in their personal interests. A Conflict of Interest (COI) Policy is important, as it provides a framework for all working on club business to ensure that any potential conflict will not have a negative impact on the club’s reputation or on their ability to make a decision that is, first and foremost, in the best interest of the club.

A conflict of interest is when a member—be it a member making a decision for club business, or a member (or family member) acting as a vendor—benefits (or appears to benefit) from the decision or transaction. The existence of such a conflict, in and of itself, is not improper or problematic. Rather, it is how the interest is handled that determines the propriety of the decision, transaction or other arrangement. All potential conflicts of interest, or those that could be perceived as such, should promptly be disclosed to the Board or to the chair of the relevant committee to
BREED COLUMNS

**TERRIER GROUP**

ensure that all relevant decision makers are aware of the conflict of interest prior to further consideration of the transaction.

Before moving forward with the COI transaction, the Board of Directors must decide if it is fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of the ATCA. The person with the conflict of interest, and any other person involved in the transaction, may gather information for any discussion related to the transaction. They should be available to answer any questions the BOD has prior to deliberations and voting. They cannot be present during the deliberations and vote and should refrain from improperly influencing members of the BOD one way or the other. The Board considers the transaction, with a quorum present, to decide if it is fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of the club and its members. If a member of the BOD is involved in the transaction, they should abstain from voting and not be present for the deliberations and vote.

Each year, all members of ATCA should review all transactions they expect to have doing club business. If they stand to benefit (financially or through gifts), or there is a perception that they would benefit from a transaction, the transaction should be reported to the BOD right away. The board can decide if the transaction is of benefit to ATCA. If voted by a majority that it is, then the transaction is no longer considered a conflict of interest.

The most important part of this procedure is the disclosure of the potential conflict. Any violations of the policy, even unintended ones, should be promptly reported, and the board may enforce the policy in the appropriate matter.

—Dr. Grace Massey,
firewalkeraussies@gmail.com
Australian Terrier Club of America

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**Border Terriers**

**DIEHARD BREEDER-OWNER-HANDLERS**

Maybe it’s a terrier thing, or maybe it’s the competitive nature in all of us who show any breed in the AKC ring, but I’ve come to learn there is very little that can interrupt plans to make it to the dog shows. No rain storm, blizzard, family reunion, birthday, or simple ailment will stop a diehard owner-handler from hopping in their van and accelerating down the road toward their next dog show destination. Wedding anniversary? It will have to wait, for nothing is more important than chasing that valued next point toward the championship title.

Most of us over the years have developed close friendships from our dog-show hobby. This adds to the drive and devotion we have in making our show entries, hotel reservations, packing plans, and grooming-scheduling before setting our GPS’s to the next exciting event.

Flat tires, fender-benders, traffic jams, late-night hours—nothing causes us to wonder, “Should we turn around and go home?”

I recall a time when I was traveling with two friends to the national specialty. All of us diehards know that a specialty is “special,” and there is nothing that will keep us from this awesome annual experience.

The three of us had stuffed nine Border Terriers into my tiny Toyota RV and excitedly headed out for the 14-hour drive to Massachusetts. Awaiting us there was a much larger rental RV to share while we stayed for the week.
BREED COLUMNS

TERRIER GROUP

Halfway out on our trip, the front right tire exploded and caught on fire. We were towed to a hotel, and the next morning, we rented a cargo van to stuff and squeeze everything inside, very determined to keep going.

Did we ever consider turning around? Not on your life! Not even after finding out I had hung up on my husband after screaming in the cell, “We’re on fire!” While dialing for help I had no idea the beeps that were interrupting my attempts were from my husband, who envisioned us blown up by the propane tank. This was only the beginning of why he asked me for a divorce one week later.

Fortunately for me, he recanted the morning after my friends and I had finally made it back home!

That particular specialty trip was filled with many mishaps … lost eyeglasses (making my friend totally blind for many hours), the rental RV having no power when we arrived, a horrible storm, and the fact that I could not figure out how to work the RV shower. I am willing to admit I considered running naked outside and diving in to the pond to rinse off my lather, but I chose instead to douse myself with the bottled water—so cold!—for my final rinse. This was very late at night, while my friends were snoring in unison.

I am sure there are many more stories to be told of adventures traveling to dog show after dog show by all of us diehards. I want to thank the AKC for providing us the opportunity to make showing dogs such a huge part of our lives. I am sure my farming husband would rather I stay home, knit, can beans, and match his socks, but I have to admit: I am a diehard breeder-owner-handler, and I love it!

—Lynn Looper, 2014
Border Terrier Club of America, Inc.

Bull Terriers

Our column for this issue is written by Shirley Watkiss, who has been very active in Bull Terrier health and welfare for the last 40 years. Shirley and her husband, James, are longtime Bull Terrier owners, breeders, and club members in a beautiful part of Western Australia. Shirley will be writing several contributions for this column and has prepared her own introduction:

When I met Jamie in 1968, he wanted a Bull Terrier, but we had two small children and a business, so I wasn’t keen on getting a pup. It took him until 1973 to talk me into getting a 12-month-old bitch named Lady. In no time at all she became my faithful companion and was for the next 12 years. We bred our first litter in 1974 under the Westbul prefix. We have enjoyed our success (19 ROM champions) and our Bullies.
BREED COLUMNS

TAIL-CHASING AND SPINNING

My first experience with a young Bull Terrier chasing his tail was in 1980. The spinning started when he was approximately 6 months old and progressively became more frequent until at 10 months, he would become aggressive if his owner interrupted or tried to stop him. We took him in and kept him mostly in the house for the next couple of weeks, but it was impossible to stop the tail-chasing and aggression. Then, he reached a stage where he would play with a ball. His lovely personality seemed to be completely derailed by the spinning.

One night, a 7-month-old bitch was chasing her tail, accompanied by high-pitched yipping. The owner in tears said she just couldn’t stand it any longer. The vet had tried the usual sedatives, suggesting the problem was neurological. Jamie asked her to check the teeth. The vet insisted they was not a problem. Not convinced, Jamie drove up there. As we suspected, the canines were instanding. Our vet removed the lower canines, and the difference was remarkable. She was happy. She never chased her tail again.

If a pup does start to spin, check his teeth and placement of the canines. If left with the puncturing canines, the dog will suffer, and the spinning habit may never be broken. — S.W.

Thank you, Shirley.
—Carolyn Alexander, brigadoonht@aol.com
Bull Terrier Club of America

Cairn Terriers
ON A LOOSE LEAD, NOT TOO FAST

Cairns are supposed to be sturdy little dogs. Well-muscled and properly structured Cairns can trot, run, climb, and dig all day without exerting undue effort. To preserve the physical abilities of the Cairn, we must be able to observe and recognize proper movement. Further, we must avoid improper movement and try to improve upon any flaws. So, how do we being to recognize correct movement?

On a moderately loose lead, the Cairn should move effortlessly. A solid, still topline should be observed while moving and the feet should travel in a direct line. A Cairn should not be intentionally moved too fast in an attempt to hide improper movement. A good judge will recognize incorrect movement. The “down” portion of the “down and back,” gives the judge a chance to see the natural positioning of the rear and how it drives. A strong mover will show parallel, well–let-down hocks that are neither too close together or too far apart. The positioning of the legs and placement of the feet should stay true to how the dog is stacked both on and off the table. On the “back” portion of the “down and back,” the front legs should appear to reach and should be straight columns of bone, with the acceptable slight turn out of the front feet (for digging purposes). The drive of the rear and the reach of the front make up the commonly heard phrase “reach and drive.”

Side movement is also very telling. We must be careful to recognize flashy, improper movement and reward typey, correct movement. Although correct movement can be showy, it is not uncommon for hackney gaits or long legs to be mistaken for reach and drive by an untrained or negligent eye. Further, heads held too high while gaiting can give the illusion of reach. In reality however, a Cairn should hold its head naturally, not too high, nor too low. A helpful way to think about movement is to imagine a Cairn hunting and climbing. Is the dog physically able to perform his job? Is the head held high and upwards or is it held in its natural placement, fluid with his forward movement?

Cairn owners, breeders, and handlers must groom each dog according to its structure and movement. A long skirt or long leg hair can detract from and hide movement. A judge will appreciate it when he or she does not have to imagine what a Cairn’s shape, lines, and movement might look like if the dog had been properly groomed. Further, a properly trained dog will allow the judge to efficiently examine the dog and his movement. A jumping, pacing, pulling, or running Cairn does not allow the judge or breeder to thoroughly evaluate the Cairn’s movement.

At the end of the day, we must adhere to the
breed standard and work to breed Cairns that exemplify the standard. The breed standard, especially the illustrated standard, provides the foundation for how our dogs should look and move. So many different factors play a role in a correctly structured Cairn, including, but not limited to, bone placement, angles, balance, measurements, and bone substance.

Every Cairn is different, and they do not all need to look the same. However, a well-structured Cairn will follow the rules of movement and display effortless reach and drive, on a loose lead, not too fast.

—Abigail Vines,
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Cairn Terrier Club of America

Cairn Terrier

Dandie Dinmont Terriers

Welcome to this year’s DTCA breed columnist, Kay Simpson. Kay has been active in Dandies since 1975. She has been successful in the show ring with multiple BIS Dandies and as a breeder of top-winning dogs. Most recently, in 2018, she showed the number-one owner-handled Dandie. Kay has also been on the Board of the DDTCA for the last five years. She offers breed insight and experience to our Dandie column.

WHY A DANDIE DINMONT TERRIER?

The title of this month’s breed column comes from a Dandie owner. With the Dandie Dinmont being such an endangered breed, this really is the question. And the answers can only come from those who live with and love this breed. So I asked several Dandie owners this question. These are not the facts from a breed standard, nor the verbiage in a promotion for the breed. This column is made up of words from the hearts of those who know and love this breed. These are people who have lived with Dandies for a number of years. The thoughts here are from dog lovers, all of whom have had other breeds of dogs who have shared their lives. And in their words, the Dandie is special. So here is “Why a Dandie Dinmont Terrier?”

Michael and Teresa Radzinski, St. Augustine, Florida:

“At the Westminster dog show, we spent most of our time in the staging area with various breeds, handlers, and owners. We always found ourselves coming back to the Dandie Dinmont.”

“We got our first Dandie in 2012, the second in 2013 and now have a next generation who joined our family the 4th of July this year. Why a Dandie?

“These sweet, tolerant, intelligent, and sturdy little dogs are easygoing, hypoallergenic, and do not shed. They are great with all the family, two- or four-legged. My older two have been to nursing homes, with a tremendous reception and a standing invite back.

“They are lovable, loyal, and have the right amount of energy, whether it be running in an open field or snuggling with you on the couch while watching TV. They exhibit huge personalities and can be spirited (another word for stubborn).

“They are ‘old souls’; one glance into their beautiful eyes, and you will be smitten. They are an ‘everything dog’—affectionate, without being needy. In the end, they always make us smile. Having a Dandie is like waking up to Christmas every day.”

Dave and Ellen Smith, Beachwood, New Jersey:

“Dave and I have often wondered what drew us to the Dandie Dinmont. There may not be...
BREED COLUMNS

TERRIER GROUP

any one answer. However, having lived with two Dandies for the past 24 years, we can say with assurance that there is ‘something different’ about this breed. Their personality is so endearing, mellow, and happy, they engage with everyone they meet.

“Of course, their look is distinctive and their face is so expressive, not to mention that you could get lost in their large, loving, and kind eyes. When all is said and done, we think the real difference is their big, loving heart. They somehow seem to sense when someone needs extra attention, always willing and ready with a kiss. We cannot imagine our lives without a Dandie.”

Joella Mase, Ocala, Florida:

“They are ‘old souls’; one glance into their eyes and you will be smitten. ... In the end, they always make us smile. Having a Dandie is like waking up to Christmas every day.”

Dennis Diamond, Washington, D.C.:

“We can’t wait to welcome a Dandie into our hearts and our home. Why a Dandie? Their expressive faces speak volumes. Listen in for a minute:

Please, let’s cuddle...ok. Let’s go for a walk...sounds great. A healthy snack might be nice...I’d like one, too! I love you...and I love you. How about a hug? Anytime! Isn’t it time for a new toy? ...I’d like a car ride instead. Some water would be nice...I’ll join you. ... It’s so cold tonight, can I sleep in your bed? (Of course you can!)

“In other words, you fall head over heels for this sweet, adorable breed at first sight. Beware: The little charmers will have you wrapped around their chubby little tootsies in no time.”

I think that these Dandie owners have answered the question many times over: The Dandie is your heart and soul. They are a special breed, and that makes this a breed worth saving.

—Anita Kay Simpson (and co-contributors), anitaksimpson@gmail.com
Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America

“Mythical Fox Terriers

Many of us have at one point or other seen Fox Terriers in the ring whose movement begs for improvement and unfortu-
nately, the exhibitor, often a new comer to the fancy, has no clue as to any sort of a problem. The dog is their pride and joy, in their eyes absolutely perfect. This is the perfect time for a mentor to step forward and gently lead them to educate themselves as to what makes a good Wire. Often they do not even understand the standard as some of the wording and phrasing may be strange to them.

When first starting out in a breeding program we read the standard and watch the Wires in the show ring, but we may not really understand all that is stated in the standard. The standard actually is the written specification of the breed and the show dogs in the ring are hopefully the living blueprint. Unless you know the reasons for the specifications, they may not be understandable even if you have been fortunate to see some very good examples of the breed.

Those who wrote the standards were men who had a sound knowledge of horses and dogs and were intent on breeding a dog who could do an efficient job of getting rid of fox and other vermin. Most new breeders will understand that some study is required. Not an easy study, either, since one must learn the various parts of the dog’s skeleton and the required muscles, ligaments and tendons.

A study of the development of the breed is also necessary as it describes the work the dog was bred to do. Our breed, as well as that of most long-legged terriers, was designed with a special front that could accommodate both the longer leg and the need to dig. This specialized front is known as the terrier front, or more commonly as the fish-hook front. This type of front assembly was developed to give the dog freedom of action of the upper arm or humorous for the digging stroke. The elbow had to be set high enough so that the arc of travel when digging is above the brisket line, which is flat on the ground. This requires a well-laid back, normal-size shoulder blade approaching 45 degrees, and a shorter humerus that assumes a more or less vertical position above straight legs. The idea of this design as a foundation for the front is sound, as a 45-degree shoulder layback will enable more reach and enhance the ability to dig. Do not hesitate to learn how to use your hands to confirm what your eyes suggest is present. Finding the center ridge of the shoulder blade and running your hand up to its top will easily give you an idea of just how laid back that shoulder is. It is important in our breeding to be concerned as to how this specialized front will work with the other parts of the dog, especially the rear quarters.

Some of the problems that breeders encounter are due to nature’s attempts to shorten the shoulder blade to conform to the humerus, and to position it more upright closer to 60 degrees—which may very well look OK if the dog has high withers, but in movement you will see the restriction in the animal’s stride. A smaller and more upright shoulder blade will also restrict the amount of dirt that the dog can move when digging out a critter. The normal-size shoulder blade has more room for the connection of muscles, ligaments, and tendons, which deliver more power without the larger cost in energy. The well-laid-back shoulder blade also gives the front more reach, and if the rear assembly is in balance or close to it, the dog will have a smooth stride with good reach and drive. More ground will be covered with each stride in moving, and it will cost them a lot less energy. They really do have to move without getting tired very quickly since when they arrive at the quarry, they still need to go to ground and drag out or kill the prey. And of course the standard says that movement is the crucial test of conformation. The well-laid-back shoulder blade usually lends itself to a very lovely topline if the rest of the body is in balance with it.

Getting the rear angulation that is in balance with that of the good terrier front should be a lesser problem, since there are fewer elements involved then in the front assembly. It is often said that most parts of the dog can be improved in a generation or so, but the front assembly can be lost in one generation and take several generations to be restored. — Virginia Matanic, 2016 American Fox Terrier Club
BREED COLUMNS

TERRIER GROUP

Glen of Imaal Terriers

PRESERVATION

In the last year or so, I’ve been seeing the term *preservation breeder* a lot. It seems to be often associated with another term: low-entry breed.

Now, the term *low-entry breed* has a very specific definition. According to the AKC, a low-entry breed (LEB) is defined as one in which fewer than 3,500 entries of that breed were made at AKC licensed and member dog shows throughout the United States during the preceding calendar year. Glens are one of 98 low-entry breeds, and 20 of those 98 are terrier breeds. I don’t know how many total conformation entries of Glens there were in 2019, but I do know that there were only 102 unique Glens being shown in conformation. This number has remained relatively constant over the last 12 years. In that period (2008 through 2019), the lowest number of unique Glens being shown was 69 (2014). Last year, 2019, saw the highest number, at 102.

Being a “preservation breeder” sounds like a great thing, but what exactly does it mean? Is every person who owns a rare breed and who produces one or more litters worthy of that title? Shouldn’t there be more to it than that?

In the least, I feel that breeders should complete the minimum requirements to become a Breeder of Merit, which are: (1) have at least 5 years’ involvement with AKC events; (2) have earned AKC conformation, performance, or companion event titles on a minimum of four dogs from AKC litters they bred/co-bred in each breed applied for; (3) is member of an AKC club; (4) certifies that applicable health screens are performed on your breeding stock as recommended by the breed’s parent club; and (5) demonstrates a commitment to ensuring 100-percent of the puppies produced are individually AKC registered.

Someone who truly cares about preserving a breed will study canine anatomy and conformation and memorize their breed standard. Does producing the minimum number of champions to be a Breeder of Merit demonstrate an adequate grasp of breed type? Sadly, this is not necessarily so, especially in situations where the owners are new to the breed and all littermates are being shown, show quality or not, until champions are made up. In these cases, it is the judges, not the breeders, who are shaping and potentially modifying breed type.

When there are on average less than 15 litters born a year and so few unique Glens being shown, then conformation judges wield a considerable amount of power to influence Glen breed type. The future of the rare breeds could be dramatically influenced by their Best of Breed and group placements.

I strongly encourage judges to reach out to GITCA Judges’ Education with any and all questions about our breed. You have no control over which Glens will be shown to you, but you can help preserve correct breed type by carefully studying our standard, taking advantage of GITCA judges education and taking great care in making your placements. Preserving a rare breed relies on the cooperation of not only breeders and owners, but terrier judges as well.

—Jo Lynn,
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Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America

Irish Terriers

HUNTING THE ANSWER

“I screwed up,” Harold said. “I shouldn’t have become a judge.”

I looked up from my steward’s table and practically jumped backwards. “Jeez-o-Pete, you look terrible!” I said. He was ash-white and sweating like a pig on a spit. “What’s wrong, Harold?”

“I haven’t got what it takes to be a judge,” he gasped, and collapsed into the judge’s chair.

The national specialty show for Monongahela Brush and Swamp Terriers was about to begin, and Harold was listed as the judge of record, so I stated the obvious. “This is a fine time to decide that,” I rasped, trying not to shout.

Back when Harold was debating whether to apply for his judging license I had tried to warn him off. I told him he had no business besmirching his reputation as a breeder of long standing by making a fool of himself at center stage. And I let him know the old gang would be ticked at him for giving up his role as
ringside critic extraordinaire. Now before it all blew up on me I sailed against the wind.

“Harold, if you’re not qualified to judge this breed, then who on the planet is? Good gosh, you’re breeding them since Saul saw the light, you know every bloodline in the country, and every nuance in the breed, and you’re not beholden to anyone for your good reputation. You’re the perfect person to bring knowledge, common sense, and a high ethical standard to the breed and the sport.”

Harold tried to steady himself by sipping some ice water and wiping his brow. “The problem is, I can see the choices too clearly,” he said.

“Huh?”

“At the end,” he said, “I know what will be out there. It will come down to some beautifully headed, typically coated, sound little paragon of type matched up against a big, flashy show horse begging for the win.”

“And what will you do?”

“I don’t know,” Harold lamented. “I haven’t decided. What if I can’t ever decide?”

The first class came into the ring. Now I was ashen faced and perspiring. Lamely I encouraged him, “Do your best.”

Like a lot of good judges, Harold worked his way through the classes, rewarding virtues and penalizing faults.

The wishbone-stuck-in-the-throat moment came in Best of Breed competition, when the two phantom prototypes appeared one behind the other in the first go-round.

Harold didn’t panic, however. He worked his way through the class and came up with a handy little dog who didn’t stand out too much at first, but later you couldn’t get him out of your mind.

“How did you find that dog?” I asked after the photos were taken.

“I nearly panicked,” Harold said, “but then I began to look at the class like a group of hunting dogs—the purpose for which they were created. I just asked myself which one I’d want to take out on an inclement day and trudge through the fields with, and that vision of a dog appeared.”

“You dodged a bullet today because he was there,” I pointed out.

“Yes,” Harold agreed, “but I have something to look for from now on.”

—Ellis West,
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Irish Terrier Club of America

THE VERSATILE KERRY BLUE TERRIER

In The Curious History of Irish Dogs, David Blake Knox quotes an Irish farmer who had Kerry Blues in the 1920s:

“In the morning they herd the cattle; at noon they come in and tread the wheel to churn the butter; in the afternoon they herd again; and after supper they are turned out to guard the sheep, the chickens and geese and the pigs.”

Kerry Blue Terriers have a natural desire to chase, herd, and work. These qualities make them versatile performance dogs, and many Kerry Blue Terrier (KBT) owners, especially those who perform in competitive events with their KBT, shared some of their thoughts...
about training their dogs as they took them through the difference events. Following are just a few of their musings.

*A KBT* is an independent thinker and a confident dog who does not like repetition. Once they have the behavior down, they want to move on to the next skill, or next job you have for them. This doesn’t mean they won’t repeat the new skill, you just have to change it up once and awhile to keep them interested.

*Keeping your training to a few minutes at a time helps. By keeping it short and rewarding the behavior achieved, you’ll find your dog anticipating the next time they can perform for you.*

*KBTs have an on and off switch.* My Kerry girl can turn it on the minute I pick up the leash, and as soon as I sit down to relax, she will plop herself right next to me on the couch!

*KBTs love to do anything that involves running and spending time with you.* Lure course, agility jumps, tunnel, weaving, and so on. As long as you are there at the end of the task, they are excited to see you!

*Treats are not always the reward your KBT is looking for.* Rewards are not always food, so you have to get creative to find what works with your dog. Toys, praise, a pat on the back or rear end may just do it.

*A KBT can be very stubborn and sometimes don’t want to do what you want them to do.* Be patient,
your dog may need to repeat the class after they have done something else. Checking out online videos of training programs, you might find a new and creative technique may work better with your dog.

Finding an instructor who understands the KBT characteristics can be challenging. Find an instructor who has a large tool box of strategies and who understands that KBTs need for short and nonrepetitive training.

Patti Campbell said it best when she shared her approach to training her KBT for conformation:

“The foundation training for all dog sports includes all the fun things you can dream up to get your dog thinking, including but not limited to socialization, tricks, proprioception, exposure to different sounds/surfaces/locations, shaping, shadow handling, and instilling trust and the joy of working with you. I think it’s a myth that doing obedience or teaching a dog behavior like the automatic sits or heeling required in obedience will ruin your dog for conformation. Give our dogs the credit they deserve—they’re brilliant.”

Spending time with your dog in a training program for performance, conformation, and obedience events, may not be for everyone. You don’t have to go for agility right away, but test the waters in the variety of events offered in your area. I recommend starting with getting your dog through a Canine Good Citizen title. Get ready, as your KBT is a quick learner! Doesn’t matter when you start with a puppy or a senior Kerry, you will find they will want to continue to learn more!

—Connie H. Robbins,
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United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club

Lakeland Terriers
GI ISSUES

When chatting with another longtime breeder recently, the topic of dogs with “sensitive” GI tract issues came up. Both of us have had rare reports of Lakelands with “sensitive stomachs.” These are dogs who left us as adults, and who had never experienced GI issues while they lived with us. Nothing functional was ever found wrong, the conditions were not progressive, and none of the relatives had any GI issues.

A recent scientific article about a study done at McGill University in Montreal made me think of a possible explanation for those dogs that developed sensitive gut. The study involved women with fibromyalgia, a disorder notoriously difficult to diagnose and treat. What the researchers found was a difference in gut bacteria (and their products) between the people affected with the disorder and healthy controls. The researchers found differences in 19 species of gut bacteria. The affected group also had higher levels of butyrate and lower levels of propionate (chemicals that multiplying bacteria in the gut give off). They write, “Evidence is mounting on the critical role of the gut microbiota in a variety of pathologies, including but not limited to, metabolic, cardiovascular, oncologic, neurologic, and psychiatric disorders.”

Perhaps when those dogs my friend and I were puzzled by changed environments, they became colonized with different bacteria that led to the GI issues. Recent research by Purina has led to the development of a probiotic specific for dogs with anxiety. Dr. Barbara Royal in her book The Royal Treatment about her years as a holistic veterinarian talked about her philosophy of looking to the diet first when analyzing any animal illness. She...
BREED COLUMNS

TERRIER GROUP

learned to do so from her years working with zoo animals. The right diet often leads to the right gut microbiome for that animal.

The restoration of the right balance of bacteria heal not only GI issues, but behavioral issues as well. The gut/brain axis is real and is a definite factor in canine as well as human health. When I was starting out breeding dogs, I was convinced that selective breeding could be used to eliminate every health problem. After more than half a century of studying science and accumulating practical experience I’m still learning, still studying and far more humble than when I started out. The elucidation of epigenetics and the importance of the microbiome are game changers. Exciting times for solving some health mysteries!

References:

First evidence links gut bacteria, fibromyalgia—Medscape, July 09, 2019


—Pat Rock, hollybriar@uidomakez.com

United States Lakeland Terrier Club

Norfolk Terriers

THIS IS YOUR CLUB … NOW GET INVOLVED!

Call me old fashioned, but I’m one of those people who feels that voting is not only a right, it is at once an obligation and a privilege. I vote in presidential elections, and I vote for state candidates. Perhaps most importantly, I vote for the hardworking volunteers in my town who agree to run for boards and commissions and who then get to deal with all the “sticky” and uncomfortable issues that arise during the course of their terms of office. I may disagree with them—my letters to the editor of our weekly newspaper are proof of that—but I always appreciate those who are willing to serve our community.

So, what does this have to do with Norfolk Terriers? Well, we recently went through an election where many members of the Norfolk Terrier Club exercised their right to run for office, and many others sent in their ballots so their votes would be counted. This resulted in the election of new president Tom Graham, new vice president Joan Eckert, and new board of governors’ member Jeanne D’Agostino. Congratulations to all three.

This election was important because the responsibilities of a parent club include preservation of the studbook (the repository of registration information for all Norfolks ever registered with the AKC), understanding and preserving the breed standard, working to understand and help solve health issues, selecting judges who have demonstrated real understanding of the breed standard, welcoming and mentoring new members, and standing up for “preservation breeders” as they face continued onslaught from animal-rights groups.

This is important! We all love this breed, and it is tempting to assume that we will always have them in our lives. Unfortunately, with fewer dedicated breeders and diminishing numbers of litters, that isn’t necessarily the case.

The thing is, you can help! You don’t have to be an officer of the club. You don’t have to be a longtime breeder or exhibitor. The NTC leadership wants to hear from members. They want new ideas. They want to answer your questions. They want your contributions to the newsletter. They have stepped up, and now it’s up to the membership to rise to the same challenge.

The NTC website contains all sorts of important information. If you are a breeder...
and/or an exhibitor, you need to make your voice heard. You need to lend your experience and talent towards making the club work.

But what if you are relatively new to Norfolks? What if you don’t (yet) show your dog or participate in performance or companion events? What if you don’t know another single, solitary soul who has a Norfolk and you feel—let’s be honest—just a little left out?

Well, now’s your chance to be included. The email addresses and phone numbers of people who hold positions in the NTC are listed on the club’s website. My contact information is at the end of this column. There are informal groups of Norfolk owners who would welcome you into the fold if you’ve ever thought of doing “dog sports” with your dog, and we can point you in their direction.

Never feel you don’t count. You just have to let us know who you are.

We look forward to hearing from you.
—Sheila Foran, sforan2@cox.net
The Norfolk Terrier Club

Norwich Terriers

Our guest columnist for this issue is Amy Grace Clark. Amy is a student at Purdue University and a member of the Norwich Terrier Club of America.

**Prevention of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning in Dogs**

Carbon monoxide is a deadly, odorless, and colorless gas. In humans, overexposure to this poisonous gas is known to cause flu-like symptoms, confusion, memory loss, and death in severe cases. Like humans, dogs experience CO toxicity and share many of the same defining symptoms of poisoning. For our pets, however, the signs of CO poisoning can be more difficult to diagnose. Because of this disparity, it is crucial for pet owners to monitor their pets exposure to CO, especially if their pet has pulmonary issues, cardiovascular issues, or is pregnant.

**What is the source of carbon monoxide, and why is it deadly to vertebrate species?**

In today’s age, we heavily rely on the use of nonrenewable carbon-based fuels to power our daily activities. In order to utilize this energy source, we use the method of combustion. However, when carbon-based fuels are combusted, this reaction yields carbon monoxide as a byproduct. Some common sources of CO include motorized vehicles, natural gas, propane heaters and stoves, gas-powered generators, and dirty chimneys. Though most people use these CO sources daily without incident, these tools can quickly become deadly if they’re used in areas with improper ventilation and airflow.

Proper ventilation is a key factor to preventing CO poisoning because of the chemical interaction between CO and hemoglobin in our blood. When we inhale CO from the atmosphere, the oxygen atoms contained in atmospheric oxygen gas (O2) and the oxygen atoms contained in CO gas compete with each other for a spot on the oxygen-binding sites of hemoglobin molecules. The hemoglobin then circulates through the blood in our circulatory system to deliver oxygen atoms to our organs and tissues. However, CO molecules bind more tightly to hemoglobin than O2 molecules do, which renders hemoglobin unable to release CO molecules from its binding sites like it releases O2. In this way, CO effectively blocks O2 from binding to hemoglobin and prevents the circulation and release of oxygen that is vital for vertebrate species to function.

**What are the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning in dogs?**

As mentioned above, carbon monoxide inhalation limits the amount of oxygen that circulates in the blood and tissues of an animal. In other words, CO poisoning causes varying degrees of hypoxemia; the severity of this affliction depends on the concentration, duration, and frequency of exposure to CO gas. Exposures at concentrations between 10–99 ppm of CO gas in an unventilated space can be dangerous but still treatable at low frequencies and durations between 1–4 hours. However, if the atmospheric concentration of CO gas reaches 100 ppm or greater, toxicity symptoms will be acute and increasingly deadly. In mild cases of exposure, a dog may display lethargy, weakness, and/or nausea. If the concentration and duration of exposure to CO gas increases, dogs will exhibit uncoordinated movement,
seizures, deafness, and ultimately death. If your pet has preexisting cardiovascular or pulmonary conditions, the onset and intensity of CO poisoning symptoms may increase because the heart and lungs are the first two organs to experience hypoxia from CO gas exposure.

Moreover, dog breeders should take special notice of CO exposure in pregnant animals because the symptoms of CO poisoning can be two times as lethal to a fetus as they are to its mother. A fetus relies on its mother’s blood supply for oxygen, which diffuses across the placenta to bind to fetal hemoglobin. However, CO molecules will also diffuse across the placenta and compete with O2 molecules for fetal hemoglobin binding sites. The binding of fetal hemoglobin and CO molecules is extremely lethal because fetal hemoglobin has a much larger affinity to oxygen atoms than adult hemoglobin does. The fetal hemoglobin will latch onto CO molecules much quicker than the mother’s hemoglobin will, which means the fetus will show signs of CO poisoning much sooner than the mother. Unfortunately, this often results in an abortion of the fetus without any recognizable causes to the breeder.

Treatment and prevention of carbon monoxide poisoning

In the case of a mild CO gas exposure, treatment includes removing the afflicted animal to fresh atmospheric air or applying an oxygen mask with pure O2 gas. Depending on the intensity of the exposure, the animal will have to receive these treatments for varying amounts of time. If the animal experiences an extreme exposure to CO gas, the recommended treatment is placing the animal in a hyperbaric chamber, which is a pressurized chamber with air comprised of pure oxygen gas.

While it is very important to know the causes, symptoms, and treatments for CO poisoning, the most important factor is prevention. CO gas detectors are a great way to prevent poisoning. It is best to place your CO detectors lower to the ground because CO gas is slightly denser than the atmosphere and will hang lower to the ground. Placing your detectors closer to the ground is also a good way to monitor your pets’ exposure to toxic gases. Furthermore, if you’re transporting pets in a motor vehicle, it is a good idea to keep a CO detector in the vehicle, because issues with exhaust fumes in cars and trucks are very common.—A.G.C.

Thank you, Amy! —Jane R. Schubart, ascot.js@gmail.com
The Norwich Terrier Club of America

Scottish Terriers
HOW TO MEET A SCOTTIE

How to meet a Scottie? Sounds like a pretty simple thing. We just walk up, say, “Hello, good pup,” and reach out to pet. Except this isn’t really a good way to approach any new dog including our breed, that is described as “alert and spirited” and nicknamed “Diehard.” How we approach pets or show dogs is important in maintaining a positive view of our breed, especially in these days of anti-dog legislation.

Many of us take for granted that people will know how to greet our breed, so we often forget to advise. We hear stories from vets, neighbors and others about Scotties that bit them. Can we help avoid this? Let’s look at it from three different perspectives.

Breeders:
We owe it to prospective owners to do what we can from the start. Careful consideration is given to parent’s temperaments, but socialization is huge. Keeping pups isolated never works. They need to hear noise and different voices. Bring in family members, and handle repeatedly with soothing strokes, reassurance, and praise. My own “extra” is to never let them use teeth on skin. I make certain that the pups understand a “no” from the beginning and reward them when they stop. This saved me from a serious bite when two of my girls decided to go for a biscuit on the floor. My hand got there before them and ended up in their mouths. The moment they realized it, they stopped.

Owner:
How we instruct someone to meet our Scottie is critical. I always give advice; the simple act of making a closed fist and presenting it palm down to protect the hand is excellent. It allows the dog to smell and accept the approach. Stop people from crouching down to the dog’s level. All that might do is to cause a confrontation with the dog. Give the person a treat to reassure the dog that they mean well. Never snatch the dog away from a new person. You may reinforce possible negative behavior for the future.

Judge:
You have the right to disqualify for menacing behavior; all the more reason to respect Scotties and approach correctly. I was told the best judge’s hands never leave the dog until the exam is completed—and once completed, they do not go back. On the table, approach the Scottie so he sees you. Never lift the head and stare up the nose into the eyes. A simple shape and set of the eye and is less confrontational. The moment they realize it, they stopped.

I have seen Scotties stiffen and bristle when being stared down. Once done with examining
the head, keep your presence known by leaving one hand on the head as you move the other down the neck to the chest. Continue this two-hand movement over the animal until you finish. Never come from behind. It would be a shame to DQ because you startled the dog.

We also ask that you never try to examine a dog on the ground, even if to quickly check a shoulder. Instead, put the dog back on the table. A very important point is if you just sparred some of the dogs, don’t try to handle them. They won’t see you as the judge but instead as an obstacle blocking them from their competition.

These few things seem like common sense but can make a profound difference on how the world will view our breed. These are a few of the suggestions I follow. Others may have more to add, but the best advice is to always meet a breed in an educated manner. — Kathleen J. Ferris, 2014

Thank you to Kathleen Ferris for her years as STCA columnist. We welcome new columnist Pilar Kuhn, whose first column will appear in the May issue.
Scottish Terrier Club of America
http://www.stca.biz

Sealyham Terriers
CHOOSING THE RIGHT PUPPY

You have planned the breeding well in advance, and the bitch has produced a healthy litter of Sealyham Terrier puppies. Both the bitch’s care and yours have come together in nurturing a nice litter of six puppies. They are now 8 to 10 weeks old, and it is time to select the one you want to keep and place the others in good homes.

Choosing the puppy to keep is often a challenge, particularly if the litter is uniformly nice. Hopefully before making the breeding, you made a list of the things that are important from this breeding. Keep in mind that no breeding is a perfect fit, as there is always something you would like to see better about both the dog and the bitch. Also keep in mind that the puppies often reflect the grandparents more than they do the parents. Realize that no dog or bitch is perfect and that, in each case, compromises must be made.

Often it is useful to list the improvements desired before evaluating the puppies. Puppies change so much as they develop, but it has been my experience that what they are at 8–10 weeks strongly reflects what they will be at maturity. What you select should most appear to be the type and structure that you believe to be correct for a Sealy.

As important as choosing the right puppy to keep is deciding which of the other puppies goes in which home. Often this is a difficult decision. It does help if you know some of the prospective buyers beforehand so you have a good idea what they want. However, more important is your ability to determine which puppy’s personality is right for each family.

Asking the right questions is vital. Have they had Sealy’s before? If so, what were the personalities of those Sealy’s? Did the dogs welcome children, and do well with their guests? Was the dog easy to train? Did they find the dog easy to train, or was the dog too active for the owners? What are the goals with the new puppy—do they want to do obedience and rally training? Were previous dogs easy to housebreak? What did they particularly like
Those who previously had Sealys are the easiest people to work with. Unfortunately many first-time Sealy owners are not aware of the activity level of the young Sealy, nor of the work required to maintain the coat, even if it is clipped. Unfortunately many people looking for a companion animal will pick the really active, full-of-himself puppy who is always on the go, not realizing that such a puppy can be too much for most first-time Sealy owners. They don’t realize that they may not be able to handle and train such a dog and would be better with the more mellow puppy who wants to snuggle on the sofa with them, not tear around the house for hours. I have found that after talking to the prospective owners, it is better to show them the two puppies most suitable for them.

There are also times when you must tell the prospective owner that you do not have a puppy for them. Your obligation is to the dog, to make every attempt to place the dog in a forever home with people who will take good care of him and train him properly, and where he will live a long, healthy, and happy life. If you need to tell somebody that you do not have a suitable puppy, by all means do so. Some people need a different breed, not a smart, active, and creative terrier who will out-wit them every time and end up in rescue because the owners did not have the ability and time to properly train the dog.

To be honest, I have turned down placing puppies with families that I knew couldn’t handle them, rather than placing the puppy with a family who couldn’t deal with a dog who was smarter than they are. Frankly there are people who couldn’t handle a guinea pig, let alone an active and very smart Sealyham Terrier.

In the right home, Sealys are wonderful dogs. Be sure you make every attempt to place the puppies in the right homes, and be willing to accept the dog back if the new owners can’t work with the puppy to help him become the great dog he was meant to be.

—Diane Orange,
Diane@counselorwelshterriers.com
American Sealyham Terrier Club

Skye Terriers
AT WITS’ END
Queen Victoria had it made! While balancing the demands of Skye ownership and ruling a country was no easy task, she had the financial and human resources necessary to ensure the well being of both her kennel and career. Such supports allowed her to breed multiple litters each year, win countless shows, and hold court to publicize her suc-
ceses. Though any one of these activities could have served as a full-time job, Victoria’s ability to outsource allowed her much enjoyment inside and a full life outside the ring, all while protecting her back from grooming strain.

Unfortunately most of us are not so lucky. While there are still a few aristocratic folks able to participate in the dog game as if royalty, most of us have to make sacrifices, bootstrap, and just hope that we can “keep the wheels on the bus.” I, for one, cannot count the number of times that I’ve fallen asleep while grooming a dog at 1 a.m. in my basement, flaked on an entry deadline, or chosen to forego a chance at those elusive majors because I just could not afford it.

Trying to balance the demands of building a career and breeding program has, at times, left me at wits’ end. Esteemed breeders often reflect that success has only been built through time (often 40 or 50 years) and through the ensuing mistakes and opportunities. As I start adding years to my present age of 35, I feel panicked that I do not have many left to crank up my dog-show activities, if three decades are required to “make it!”

Similarly, now is the time that I am supposed to be laying the foundation for a successful career. As my department chair frequently reminds me, “Tenure-track is not a 40-hour-per-week proposition.” With graduate-school debt, financial responsibilities, and hopes for a family, sacrifice in this part of my life does not seem optional. Indeed, without financial resources, I would not be able to feed my pack, clothe my vets, and subsidize the college tuition of my midday dog-walker. And all of this is without mentioning the demands of building a solid relationship with my partner, the occasional dinner with friends, or sleep!

Something has to give. Perhaps one of the reasons that many breeds are becoming increasingly rare is that potential breeders and show exhibitors are also an endangered species. I am one of those crazy people willing to attempt the sacrifices, but coat care, dog sitters, and competing financial demands often push me near the breaking point. On those days when a meeting runs late or traffic is jammed—and the dogs are pushed near the end of their bladders—my guilt makes me wonder, “If I can’t even do right by them, why am I doing it at all?”

If the sport is to endure, we must find ways to make it easier for folks “to hang on,” particularly for breeds like Skyes that are rare, grooming-intensive, or have some other natural barrier to entry.—Travis Wright, 2010 Skye Terrier Club of America

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**DOGS NEED TO USE THEIR NOSES FOR MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL ENRICHMENT**

“I never let my dogs sniff,” remarked the gentleman in the tweed blazer, “they are obedience trained.” Sometimes we humans just don’t understand when it comes to the mental and emotional needs of our dogs. Dogs learn about their world through their noses which according to Dr. Alexandra Horowicz, canine researcher, have 50 times as many scent receptors as humans, in addition to an organ called the vomeronasal organ above the roof of their mouths and under their noses. Humans have only six million scent receptors and no additional scent-trapping organs.

A recent article by animal behaviorist Patricia McConnell, Ph.D., referenced a study by Birte Nielsen and colleagues, who published a groundbreaking paper in December of 2015 titled “Olfaction: An Overlooked Sensory Modality in Applied Ethology and Animal Welfare.” They concluded that we humans do animals a disservice by not acknowledging the impact of odor on their behavior and wellbeing. A very good book on understanding the communications barriers between humans and their dogs is *The Other End of the Leash*, by McConnell.

For dogs, going on a walk means getting new information by carefully reading smells, while for humans the focus is on taking in the view...
BREED COLUMNS

TERRIER GROUP

and covering ground quickly. As dog owners we need to be aware of this conflict and the need to provide opportunities either on- or off-leash for dogs to satisfy their need for sniffing.

There are times when we want our dogs to give us complete attention, whether in the competition ring or when training; however, in order for a dog to truly thrive and be happy, we cannot ignore what he was born to do.

For many dogs, especially those with anxiety, exploring new scents can have a calming effect and even improve behavior. Many dogs thrive on the stimulation from being given the opportunity to sniff and have gone on to be Versatility Champions excelling in many AKC performance sports. Barn Hunt and Nose Work both rely on scent discrimination and are challenging and fun for both the dog and owner. When walking if your dog is a continual sniffer think about how you can make the walk more interesting. Why not teach your dog interesting heeling patterns, change your pace, and incorporate recalls, sits, touch, circles, and U-turns? As part of his payoff of treats and praise, incorporating permission to sniff can be enjoyable for him and give you an opportunity to stop and appreciate the view. —D.S.

MENTAL PREPARATION CAN INCREASE PERFORMANCE

What we think, we and our dogs often become. Mental preparation starts with early training, when simple concepts become the foundation for more complex behaviors required in the show ring. Starting in basic puppy competition class, many trainers advocate creating a positive experience when approaching the ring, putting the behavior on cue and praising when the dog is near the gate or entering. This increases motivation.

When training humans or animals, patience and consistency are essential for ourselves and the dogs who are our partners. We cannot expect to excel without allowing the opportunity to learn from mistakes and creating the environment necessary to do our very best. We want to train in multiple settings, allowing time to acclimate to new environments. Most of all, we need to learn to breathe and focus on our mental clarity and create a positive image in our minds of successful outcomes.

I recently taught a therapy class that reminded me of this fact. I was meeting the group and their dogs for the very first time. Everyone was eager to prove their dog could do the obedience requirements. Some dogs needed multiple commands, while others were too busy sniffing, and one even eliminated. Remarks of “he never does that at home” and “she sits on the first command in her CGC Advanced class” were expressed. There were also a lot of physical corrections, pushing rears to the floor, and giving very little praise when the dog got it right. At this moment I realized that the owners were anxious, and so were their dogs.

The first thing I asked them to do was to remain calm and breathe. I then asked them to relax the tension in their leashes, to feel
the soft leather in their hands and focus on their dogs rather than one another. I had them warm up slowly with Look and Touch and to really praise and treat the dogs for getting it right. I asked them to visualize success. After about five minutes they acclimated to the sights, sounds, and smells of the room. They were all successful when they tried again.

When we create structure, routine behaviors become more reliable. Many professional athletes will visualize their performance and even walk through the steps in order to better prepare themselves mentally. As competitors in canine events, we can provide our dogs with the opportunity to learn to become comfortable at the show site prior to competition. We can allow ourselves the opportunity to rehearse briefly what is expected once we are called into the ring. It is also essential that handlers connect mentally and remain focused on their dogs once the moment arrives to compete. It is tempting to speak with others but they can wait. Remember to breathe, visualize success, and enjoy the thrill of competition. It is your moment. Enjoy the ride, and success will follow!

—Dorice Stancher, MBA, CPDT-KA, CTDI (caninescando.com)

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America

**Staffordshire Bull Terriers**

*IT TAKES A VILLAGE*

I’ll never forget the first time I walked into a conformation ring with my 9-month-old Staffordshire Bull Terrier pup, Monkey. It was our breed’s national-specialty weekend in Louisville, Kentucky. We were far from home, and we didn’t know many people there. He was confused. I was nervous. Neither of us had ever shown before. Despite attending a few drop-in classes at our local dog-training club, we had no idea what we were doing. And it showed!

We managed to fumble our way through the weekend, but after it was over, I remember thinking that this sport is way harder than it looks. If I was going to participate, I needed to buckle down—learning the rules, training my dog, talking to more experienced exhibitors, and most importantly, practicing. Since that first show experience, I’ve talked with lots of other newcomers to conformation, and it seems my introduction to the sport was not unique. Tammy Barbour, another new conformation competitor, showed in the same class I did in Louisville. Like me, she felt out of her depth when she walked into the ring with her young dog, Angus.

“I had no idea what I was doing. It was terrifying!” she recalls. “So many dogs, so many people. I had never even been to a dog show. My experience with shows was from watching the *Best in Show* movie.”

Luckily for both of us, the Staffordshire Bull Terrier community is a tight-knit one. By the end of the weekend, I had received advice and encouragement from people I’d never met before who were quick to remind me that everybody has to start somewhere.

“The Stafford community, as a whole, is amazing,” says Tina Vickrey, Area 3 Director for the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America. She started showing her dog, Boogie (Ch. Ciera Homebrewed Sublimely Self-Righteous, BCAT, CGC, TKN, NW3, RATN), in 2015. Her first real show was a
developed over the years,” she says. “The bet-
did not start out being so ring-shy, but it
doesn’t get nervous walking into the ring. “I
only been in the past few years that she
involved in conformation since the 1970s, it’s
She’s not hesitant to reveal that, despite being
major, and her mentor was out of town. “I
walked in not knowing anyone, and everyone
was so helpful and friendly. I knew nothing.
Boogie got Reserve Winners Dog, and I asked
the judge, ‘Is that good?’”

Lorelei Rae Craig, president of the
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America,
started showing dogs when she was 13 years
old. In 2008, she started showing her first
Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Daphne. Over the
years, she says, she has made it a practice to
surround herself with people in the breed
whom she admires and respects, and she sug-
gests that newcomers do the same.

“I do not have one mentor, but many people
to bounce ideas off of,” she says. “I am fortu-
nate to have a working and open relationship
with David Alexander and Jason Nicolai, and
I talk with Jane Lindquist regularly. I have
many peers who I can count on to offer me
sound advice from their own personal experi-
ences.”

And like a lot of people in the Stafford com-
unity, Craig is willing to share her own per-
sonal experience to help newcomers succeed.
She’s not hesitant to reveal that, despite being
involved in conformation since the 1970s, it’s
only been in the past few years that she
doesn’t get nervous walking into the ring. “I
did not start out being so ring-shy, but it
developed over the years,” she says. “The bet-
ter the dog I had or the more I wanted that
win, the more nervous I became.”

When asked for this column to share some
words of advice that could benefit newcom-
ers, she lists both practical and philosophical
suggestions:
1. Stop being in a hurry to finish your dog’s
title. Stop watching all the dogs around you
finish and feeling sad it is not your dog. Every
dog has his day.
2. Don’t play into the ringside habit of judg-
ing other dogs, the judges, or fellow competi-
tors.
3. Take video of yourself. It is by far the
best way to improve.
4. Pick a couple of handlers whom you
admire, and study them.
5. Don’t take it so seriously. Go for the party.
Go for the social life and hobby.
6. Really choose your breeder well. If you
want to be active in the breed, select a
breeder who is active in the areas you want to
participate in.
7. Find friends and mentors in other breeds,
too. They will be your best cheerleaders and
support team.
8. Stay humble, no matter what.
On that last point, it’s hard not to stay hum-
ble when you’re still learning. It’s hard not to
feel like everybody’s staring when you aren’t
sure if you’re following the judge’s instruc-
tions correctly, or you just can’t get your fidg-
ety dog to stack. Or, as Barbour recounts
from a show she entered this past summer,
when your young, exuberant dog catches a
glimpse of trash blowing in the wind that
happens to look a lot like the white bags used
as lures in Fast CAT. “He went berserk, drug
me on the down and back doing the Stafford
scream,” she says. “It was humiliating. But
guess what? We recovered in the afternoon
at the group competition and won second place!”

It’s times like those that you rely on your vil-
lage to give you the courage to keep going.
“So many great folks have just really
boosted me and helped me,” Barbour says.
“They’ve offered advice, tips, given me mini
lessons, sent me links, talked to me on the
phone, in person, via Messenger and
Facetime calls. I couldn’t ask for better sup-
port people and mentors.”
—Erin Sullivan,
erinsullivan66@gmail.com
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America

Welsh Terriers

No matter how long you are in dogs,
there are always things still to learn
from other people. Most of us share our
experiences with others in our breed. All-
breed shows, Terrier Group shows like
Montgomery County, and specialty shows just
for Welsh Terriers all present many opportu-
nities to learn about new grooming tech-
niques, discuss proposed changes in the breed
standard, and learn about ways we can better
decide which dogs to breed to our bitches.
We can also learn more about how to screen
those who wish to use our stud dogs or pur-
chase a Welsh out of our lines that will be
used for breeding.

However, it is easy to overlook one of the
best sources for information: the all-breed
dog magazines, like this one. I have found
some great information on selecting for breed
type in breeds totally unlike a Welsh Terrier.
In a column on Sussex Spaniels, for instance,
I found possibly the best explanation and
advice on understanding the importance of
good feet and explanation of proper foot
structure for a breed totally unlike a Welsh
Terrier, and that explanation helped me eval-
uate form and function of the dogs’ feet,
even though Welsh feet are somewhat differ-
ent from spaniel feet.

I have found very useful information on
building confidence in a young dog from
reading a column on the Italian Greyhound,
and several great columns with helpful infor-
mation on managing allergies or skin prob-
lems in coated breeds by reading an article in
the Collie section, and one on Black Russian Terriers helped me learn how to read dog body language to be able to avoid getting too close to a dog-aggressive dog of any breed. Each issue of the AKC GAZETTE has several articles with helpful advice on everything from screening potential puppy buyers to teaching dogs how to behave around children and handicapped people. Just because they are not specifically addressed to terrier owners does not mean you will not find vital information by reading the articles.

Welsh Terriers: “Each issue of the AKC GAZETTE has several articles with helpful advice. ... Just because they are not specifically addressed to terrier owners does not mean you will not find vital information by reading the articles.”

and other performance events. Even if you are not at this time interested in training your Welsh for performance events, the techniques you might learn could be very useful. After all, the methods used to encourage the dog to show better and focus on winning are much the same as the methods used to keep a dog interested happy and paying attention in the performance events. The techniques used for obedience training are not that different from teaching a dog to be a good show dog—and, of course, you may decide to do obedience training after the dogs show career is done, as many of us do. Yes, a Welsh Terrier can do both, and be successful at both.

The better the connection you have with your dogs, the more enjoyable the relationship will be. Just remember that in addition to getting information from other people and sources, be sure to become a source of information for those who seek your help. Sharing information and making new friends makes all our lives more worthwhile, and “dog people” are among the best and most caring people you will ever meet.

So broaden your contacts, and share your thoughts. You will really enjoy the results.

—Diane Orange,
Diane@counselorcwltserriers.com
Welsh Terrier Club of America
ATTENTION DELEGATES
NOTICE OF MEETING
The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, beginning no earlier than 9:00 a.m. There will not be a Delegates Forum.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Mid-Atlantic Leonberger Club of Virginia

DELEGATES CREDENTIALS
James F. Barron, Redwood City, CA, Contra Costa Kennel Club
Joann B. Beavers, St Michaels, MD, Talbot Kennel Club
Stephanie A. Crawford, Binghamton, NY, Del Oeste Nango Kennel Club
Andrea C. Hesser, Flower Mound, TX, Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa
Tracy Pancoast, Louisville, KY, West Highland Terrier 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. Dennis Witzke (Sherman, CT)

NOTICE
Mr. John Becker (Sleppy Hollow, NY) Action was taken by the Longshore Southport Kennel Club for conduct at its October 13, 2019 event. Mr. Becker was charged with failure to control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty as a 45-day event suspension and $200 fine. (Border Collie)

NOTICE
Mr. Scott Brown (Elyria, OH) Action was taken by the Lorrain County Kennel Club for conduct at its October 27, 2019 event. Mr. Brown was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty at a reprimand and a $100 fine.
NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Ken Fargey (Elk, WA) from all AKC privileges for three years and imposed a $2,500 fine, effective January 13, 2020, for neglect at or in connection with an event. (Poodles)

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Jordan James Johnson (Richburg, SC & Chiang Mai Thailand) from all AKC privileges for a lifetime and imposed a $10,000 fine, effective May 13, 2019, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best interests of The American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC’s Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy. (Doberman Pinscher)

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from registration privileges for six months and imposed a $500 fine, for refusal to make their dogs and records available for inspection when requested:
- Effective January 13, 2020
  - Ms. Audrey Meadows (Bremen, GA)
    Great Danes

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded the following individuals for signing AKC documents, on behalf of others without a Power of Attorney form on file with AKC:
- Ms. Lisa Hedstrom (Wilton, ND)
  Brittanys
- Mr. D. Scott Mirgon (Cabot, AR)
  German Shorthaired Pointers
- Ms. Jessica O’Dell (New Tripoli, PA)
  Chesapeake Bay Retrievers
- Ms. Mary Smith (Palmyra, IN)
  Yorkshire Terriers

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for ten years and imposed a $2000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best interests of The American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC’s Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy:
- Effective January 13, 2020
  - Mr. Gary Felts (Kingsley, IA)
    Rottweilers

NOTICE
Notification of reprimands and/or fines imposed on clubs for late submission of applications, Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2, Sections 4 and 9.
- Boardwalk Kennel Club of Cape May County ................................................. $100
- First Company Governor’s Foot Guard Athletic Assoc...................................... $70
- Golden Gate Kennel Club .................. $200
- Golden State German Shepherd Dog Club of San Jose ................................. $60

- Boardwalk Kennel Club of Cape May County ................................................. $150
- First Company Governor’s Foot Guard Athletic Assoc...................................... $80
- Golden Gate Kennel Club .................. $200
- Golden State German Shepherd Dog Club of San Jose ................................. $60
- Mid-Florida Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club .............................................. $85
- Pilgrim Doberman Pinscher Club ...... $75
Notification of reprimands and/or fines imposed on superintendents for Scheduling an event without AKC approval, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 2, Section 6.

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC ......................... $200

Notification of reprimands and/or fines imposed on superintendents for Cancelling Entries after closing, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 11, Section 6.

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC ......................... $200

Notification of reprimands and/or fines imposed on clubs for starting judging before posted time listed in judging program, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 7, Section 12.

Doberman Pinscher Club of America .......................................................... Reprimand

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS**

CHAPTER 11, Section 8-A – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 11, Section 8-A, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows**, based on a request by Staff to the AKC Board. This will be voted on at the March 10, 2020 Delegates Meeting.

**CHAPTER 11**

**SECTION 8-A. The preceding portion of this section is unchanged.**

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

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS**

CHAPTER 9, Section 2 – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under the Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 9, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows**, based on a request by Staff to the AKC Board. This will be voted on at the March 10, 2020 Delegates Meeting, **CHAPTER 9**

**SECTION 2.** Any qualified person may make application to The American Kennel Club for approval to act as Show Secretary of a dog show. There is no limit on the number of Specialty Shows for which an individual may be approved Show Secretary. An individual shall be approved as Show Secretary for the show or shows of only one group or one all-breed club and any group or all-breed show held on the same day and site of the club in a calendar year. An individual must hold a license from The American Kennel Club as Superintendent in order to be approved as Superintendent for more than one group or one all-breed club and events held the same day and site with the club in a calendar year.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS**

CHAPTER 14, Section 5 – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under the Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to **CHAPTER 14, Section 5, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows**, based on a proposal by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. This will be voted on at the March 10, 2020 Delegates Meeting, **CHAPTER 14**

**SECTION 5.** Event Committees shall be responsible for providing suitable equipment meeting all AKC requirements for determining eligibility with respect to height and weight at every show. Event Committees may delegate this responsibility to Superintendents/Show Secretaries. All-breed shows shall be required to have at least one complete set of wickets (two sets for shows with entries of 1,000 or more) and at least one digital scale with a platform of sufficient size to safely accommodate all weighable breeds. A certified and stamped weight is also required. Specialty Shows and Group Shows where measurable or weighable breeds are entered shall provide the appropriate wicket(s) and/or a digital scale with a platform of sufficient size to safely accommodate all breeds that might be measured or weighed at the event. A certified and stamped weight is also required.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BEAGLE FIELD TRIAL RULES AND STANDARD PROCEDURES FOR BRACE, SMALL PACK AND SMALL PACK OPTION FIELD TRIALS AND TWO-COUPLE PACK HUNTING TESTS**

CHAPTER 6, Section 4 – Field Trial
Committee, Field Trial Secretary, Premium Lists
The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to CHAPTER 6, Section 4, of the Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures, based on a recommendation by the Beagle Advisory Committee and supported by the Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Committee for all types of field trials. This will be voted on at the March 10, 2020 Delegates Meeting.

OFFICIAL STANDARD FOR THE CIRNECO DELL’ETNA

General Appearance: Medium sized hunting dog, elegant, slender build but strong and hardy. Long limbed, of light construction and square outline with a fine coat and erect ears always alert. Honorable scars indicating a working and hunting dog are never to be penalized. The following description is that of the ideal Cirneco dell’Etna. Any deviation from the below described dog must be penalized to the extent of the deviation.


Size, Proportion, Substance: Height - Dogs 18 to 20 inches; bitches 17 to 19 inches. Height not within the stated limits is a disqualification. Length from point of shoulder to point of buttock equal to height at withers.

Head: Expression - Alert expression. Eyes - Relatively small, oval in shape, set somewhat obliquely. Amber or ochre blending with coat. Pigmentation of the eyelid rims corresponding to the color of the nose. Brown or yellow iris is a fault to be severely penalized. Walleye, an eye with a whitish iris or a blue eye(s) is a disqualification. Ears - Set very high and close together, erect and rigid, parallel or almost parallel when alert. Triangular shape with narrow tip. Length slightly less but no more than half the head. Totally hanging ears or bat ears are a disqualification. Skull - Width of skull less than one half the length of the head, in profile almost flat. Lean and well chiseled. Stop - Slight stop. Muzzle - Length equal to, but not less than 80 percent of the length of the skull. Planes - Top of skull and forehead parallel or slightly divergent. Nose - Bridge of nose straight. Nose rather large, flesh colored, blending with coat. Cheeks - Flat cheeks. Mouth - Lower jaw lightly developed with receding chin. Overshot mouth or undershot mouth is a disqualification. Lips - Thin, taut lips, just covering the teeth of the lower jaw. Bite - Regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

Neck, Topline and Body: Neck - Length the same as the head. Strong, clean, well arched and muscular. Set well into shoulders. Topline - Straight topline sloping from withers towards croup. Body - Chest - Reaches to, or nearly to, the elbow, without going beyond. Ribs - Slightly sprung, narrow but never flat. Underline & Tuck-up - Clean, gently rising, lean underline. Excessive tuck-up is a severe fault. Back - Upper profile straight without conspicuous muscles, the length is approximately three times the length of the loin. Loin - Length of loin is approximately one fifth of the height at the withers and its width is nearly the same as its length. Short, slightly developed muscles but firm. Croup - Croup has flat profile, sloping steeply downwards to root of tail. Tail - Low set, fairly thick at base, reaching to point of hock. Of equal thickness for most of its length. Carried high and curved when dog is in action; sabre fashion when in repose. Hair on tail is semi-long and close. Tail curled over the back is a fault to be severely penalized.

Forequarters: Angulation - Shoulder blade (scapulum) to horizontal 55 to 60 degrees. Shoulders - Strong, long, moderately laid back. Shoulder blades - Upper tips close together. Length close to one-third the height at the withers. Upper Arm - Length of upper arm slightly less than length of shoulder blade. Elbow - Level or below the line of the brisket and well tucked in. Legs - Forelegs straight and parallel when viewed from the front. Length just over ½ the height at the withers. Pasterns - Strong and slightly sloping. Dewclaws - May not be removed.

Hindquarters: Strong and muscular. Limbs parallel when viewed from behind. Angulation - Not excessively angulated. In profile a vertical line from rear point of buttock to ground close to or touching the tips of the toes. Angle between pelvis and upper thigh is about 115 degrees. Legs - Upper thigh - Broad, long, upper thigh with flat muscles. Stifle - Moderate bend of stifle. Second thigh - Slightly shorter than the upper thigh. Lean and distinct musculature with light bone structure. Groove at Achilles tendon well marked. Hock joint - Angle at the joint is about 135 degrees. Hocks - Wide outer surface, cylindrical shape and vertical position. Length from sole of foot to point of hock is just over a quarter of the
height at the withers. Dewclaws - Absent. Feet: Strong, well knuckled, firm, slightly oval, turning neither in nor out. Pads - Well padded, hard and of the same color as the nails. Nails - Brown or flesh colored. Black nails are a disqualification.

Coat: Short on head, ears and legs. Semi-long (about 1 inch) on body and tail, but sleek and close, ranging from fine to slightly coarse. No feathering.

Color: Self-colored light to dark shades of tan, with a mixture of slightly lighter and darker hairs, or tan with white blaze or mark on head, chest and/or throat, white feet, point of tail, and/or belly. A white collar is less desired. Total depigmentation; self-colored brown or liver; brown patches or hairs; brindle coat: or any presence of black whether patches, hairs, or pigmentation, black nails, or mucous membranes. Approved January 14, 2020 Effective March 31, 2020

OFFICIAL STANDARD FOR THE LAGOTTO ROMAGNOL 

General Appearance: Small to medium-sized dog, well-proportioned, powerfully built, of rustic appearance, with a dense, curly coat of wooly texture. The dog should give the impression that he has the strength and endurance to work all day in difficult and challenging terrain.

Size, Substance, Proportions: Size – Height at the withers: Dogs 16½ to 19½ inches; Bitches 15½ to 18½ inches. Disqualification - Dog under 16½ or over 19½ inches; bitches under 15½ or over 18½ inches. Substance - Males 28 to 35 pounds. Females 24 to 31 pounds. Important Proportions – The Lagotto is a square dog, measured from the proster-num to the point of ischium and from the highest point of the shoulder to the ground. The length of the head is 40 percent of the height at the withers. The neck is slightly shorter than the length of the head. The length of the skull should be slightly more than half the length of the head. The legs are slightly more than half the height of the dog at the shoulder.

Head: Viewed from above and from the side, the head is a broad blunted wedge. The length of the skull, from stop to occiput, is the same as the width at the widest point of the zygomatic arch. The somewhat arched skull is slightly longer than half the length of the head (56 percent skull to 44 percent muzzle) with unpronounced occiput. Planes of the skull and muzzle diverge slightly - extreme divergence, parallel planes or dish faced appearance are serious faults. Nasal bone is straight. The stop is moderate, with a distinct furrow between the eyes. Frontal sinuses are well developed, giving good fill beneath the eye. Cheeks are flat. The wide robust underjaw defines the shape of the muzzle so that the lips form an upside-down semi-circle. The nose is large with wide open and mobile nostrils and a strongly pronounced median groove. It protrudes very slightly from the front edge of the lips. The nose should be fully pigmented in shades from light to dark brown, varying with coat color. Anything else is a serious fault. Lips are rather tight and not thick. The strong lower jaw determines the profile of the muzzle. The flies are tight fitting and dry. Pigment of the lips varies with coat color from light to dark brown. Well-developed teeth meet, ideally, in a scissor or level bite. A reverse scissor bite is acceptable. Full dentition is preferred. Disqualification - Overshot or undershot bites (where the incisors do not touch those of the opposing jaw). The eyes are set somewhat frontal-obliquely, and fairly well apart. They are large, rounded, fill the sockets, and very slightly protruding. The color of the iris ranges from ochre to hazel to dark brown – no other colors are acceptable. Eyelids are close fitting. Eye rim color will vary with coat color from light to dark brown. Eyelashes are very well developed. The arch of the eyebrow is prominent. The ears are mediumsized in proportion to the head, triangular with rounded tips. The base of the ear is rather wide and is set just above the zygomatic arch. When alert, the top of the ear rises to widen the appearance of the skull, and the front edge of the ear is close to the cheek. When pulled loosely forward, the ear should cover about ¼ of the length of the muzzle. The Lagotto’s expression
should be intelligent, friendly and attentive.

**Neck, Body, Topline:** The neck is strong muscular, thick, and oval in shape. It is lean, well set off from the nape, and slightly arched. The length of neck is slightly less than the total length of the head. Neck should blend smoothly into shoulders. Muscles are extremely powerful. A correct neck is fundamental to function. The Lagotto body is square, compact and strong. The length of the dog, measured from the pro sternum to the point of the ischium, should be the same as the height at the top of the scapulae, which are long and quite high-set, rising well above the level of the back. Chest is wide and well-developed, reaching down to the elbows, but not below them. The ribcage is slightly narrowed in front, widening from the sixth rib back, allowing elbows to move smoothly along the body. Ribs are well sprung (width of ribcage at the widest point is about 30 percent of the height of the dog). Underline is straight, with a slight tuck-up at the flank. The scapulae are set high, back straight, loin slightly arched, croup slightly sloping and tail follows the line of the croup. A line drawn from the top of the shoulder to the hip will be slightly sloping. A dog high in the rear or low in the withers is to be penalized. The Lagotto’s back is straight and very muscular. The loin is short-coupled, very strong, and slightly arched. Its width is equal to or slightly exceeds the length, giving strength for digging. Croup is slightly sloped, quite long, broad, and muscular. It forms an angle of approximately 25 to 30 degrees from the horizontal. Flat or steep croups are to be severely penalized. The tail is set on following the line of the croup. At rest, it is carried scimitar-like, and no higher than the back. When excited, the tail is decidedly raised, and carried in a loose arc above the level of the back. Tip of tail should not be carried further forward than the pelvis. The tail should never be curled or carried straight up. The tail tapers from base to end, and should reach to just above the hock. Ringtails or tails carried over the back are serious faults.

**Forequarters:** The shoulder blades are long (30 percent at the height of the withers), well laid back (yet not too close at tips), muscular, and strong. They are closely attached to the chest, but move freely. The angle formed between the shoulder blade and the upper arm should be approximately 115 degrees. The elbow will fall on a vertical line lowered from the back of the scapula to the ground. The upper arm is as long as the shoulder blade, of light bone structure, muscular, and tucked firmly against the brisket. Legs are straight. The forearm is long, with strong, compact, oval bone. The carpus is fine, robust and mobile, and in complete alignment with the forearm. Pasterns are also in perfect alignment with forearm, and of slightly finer bone. They are moderate in length and slightly sloping. Forefeet are webbed, rounded, and compact, with well-arched, tight toes. Pads have particularly hard soles. Nails are curved and range in color from white to extremely dark brown.

**Hindquarters:** Angulation of the hindquarter is slightly less than the angle of the forequarter (approximately 110 degrees). Legs are powerful and parallel when seen from the rear. The upper thigh is slightly longer than the shoulder (35 percent of height at withers). It is quite broad, convex, and with well-defined muscles. The second thigh is slightly longer than the upper thigh, well boned and strong. The hindquarters must be perfectly parallel to the spine. The angle of the stifle should be more open than the angle at the hip, (approximately 130 degrees). The hock joint is well let down, wide, clean and strong. Pasterns are thin, cylindrical, and perpendicular to the ground when the dog is standing freely. A vertical line from the point of buttocks to the ground will fall slightly in front of the toes. Hind feet are slightly oval, compact, and webbed. The toes of the back feet are not quite as arched as those of the forefeet; thus, the nails may be straighter.

**Skin, Coat:** The skin of the Lagotto is thin, firm and close-fitting all over the body, without wrinkles. Pigmentation of the skin and pads harmonizes with the color of the coat, ranging from dark pink to dark brown. Depigmentation anywhere on the body is a serious fault. Coat is extremely important in this breed. Hair should be of wooly texture, semi-rough on the surface. Topcoat should be quite thick, and undercoat visible. The combination of the two repel water. A correct coat is never luxurious or shiny. The body is covered with tight ring-shaped curls, not frizz. Skull and cheeks are covered with thick hair, and the looser curls of the head form abundant eyebrows, whiskers, and a rather bristly beard. The coat covering the tail is both curly and somewhat bristly. The Lagotto must not be corded. Disqualification - smooth or straight coat. The correct trim must always be unpretentious, and contribute to the natural, rustic look typical of the breed. In a curled state the body coat must be trimmed to no more than 1½ inches in depth (not...
brushed/combed out), and it should be uniform with the silhouette of the dog. Only on the head can the coat be longer than 1½ inches, but should never cover the eyes (should be penalized). The edges of the ears should be trimmed to the leather; the surface of the ear flap should show looser curls, but remain wavy. The area around the genitals and anus may be clipped short. Hair must be of sufficient length that curls and texture can be assessed. Corded dogs or excessively groomed dogs (sculpted or blown out) should be so severely penalized as to be eliminated from competition.

Color: Lagotti can be off-white solid color, white with brown or orange patches, brown roan, orange roan, brown, orange, or sable (in different shades), with or without white. Some dogs have extremities darker than their body color. Tan markings (in different shades) allowed. The colors have a tendency to fade, sometimes to such an extent that the brown areas can appear as silvery/grey roan. All the above colors are equally desirable, including the faded or diluted colors. Disqualification - Black or gray coat or patches; black pigmentation.

Gait/Movement: Lagotti should exhibit an energetic, lively, balanced trot, with moderate reach and drive. Back should remain firm and strong with no tendency to roll. At a trot, the rear foot covers but does not pass the footprint of the front foot. Movement from the front is parallel at a walk or slow trot, never wider than the dog’s shoulder, and tends toward a center line as speed increases. Rear legs are also parallel at a slow gait, converging at increased speed, with hocks staying in a straight line between hip and foot. As the dog increases speed, the neck moves slightly lower and forward. The Lagotto should move with distinction and nobility of bearing. He should not be exhibited in an elongated trot – it is atypical and incorrect for the breed.

Behavior, Temperament: The Lagotto is tractable, adaptable, keen, affectionate, and extremely attached to its owner. He is both highly intelligent and easily trained. He is an excellent companion and a very good watchdog. A natural gift for searching and a very good nose have made the breed very efficient in finding truffles. The former hunting instinct has been modified by genetic selection to avoid distraction by game. This breed should never be aggressive or overly shy.

Faults: Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and to the degree that it will affect the dog’s ability to perform its traditional work, as well as the health and welfare of the dog.

Disqualifications:
Size - Dogs under 16½ inches or over 19½ inches. Bitches under 15½ inches or over 18½ inches.
Bite – Overshot or pronounced undershot bite (incisors of the upper jaw and lower jaw do not touch).
Coat – Smooth or straight.
Color – Black or gray coat or patches; black pigmentation.
Approved January 14, 2020
Effective March 31, 2020

OFFICIAL STANDARD FOR THE NORWEGIAN BUHUND

General Appearance: The Norwegian Buhund is a herding dog. It is a typical northern breed, a little under medium size and squarely built, with a tightly curled tail carried over the back. The head is wedge-shaped and not too heavy, with prick ears. As it is extremely intelligent by nature, consistent training is needed from early puppyhood. The Buhund has a lot of energy, strength and stamina. This self-appointed watchdog is also content lying at your feet at the end of the day. Broken teeth, broken whiskers and honorable scars incurred in the line of herding/working duty are acceptable. The breed is to be shown in a natural state. Any shaving or trimming of the coat or shaving of whiskers, is to be severely penalized.

Size, Proportion, Substance: Size - Height at the highest point of the shoulder blade in dogs, 17 to 18½ inches; in bitches, 16 to 17½ inches. Disqualifying faults - more than a ½ inch under, or 1 inch over the height at the highest point of the shoulder blade. Weight - For dogs 31 to 40 pounds; for bitches, 26 to 35 pounds. Proportion - Square in profile. The height, measured vertically from the ground to the highest point of the shoulder blade, equals the length, measured horizontally from the pro sternum to the rear projection of the upper thigh. Substance - Substance and bone is in proportion to the overall dog.

Head: The size of the head should be in proportion to the body and not too heavy. The skull is wedge-shaped, almost flat, and parallel with the bridge of the nose. The muzzle is about the same length as the skull, with a stop that is well defined but not too pronounced. The nasal bridge is straight and well filled out under the eyes. The lips should be black and tightly
closed. The teeth should meet in a scissors bite, with complete dentition. Disqualifying fault - overshot or undershot mouth. Whiskers serve a function, purpose. Removal of facial whiskers is to be severely penalized. Eyes - Oval shaped, color as dark as possible, black eye rims. Ears - Medium sized, prick ears with pointed tips, carried strongly erect yet very mobile. When relaxed or showing affection the ears go back, and the dog should not be penalized for doing this during the judge’s examination. Nose - Black.

Neck, Topline, Body: Neck - Of medium length, is well set on, with no loose skin on the throat. Topline - The back is level; croup with as little slope as possible. Body - Chest deep, ribs well-sprung; tail set high, tightly curled and carried over the center line of the back.

Forequarters: Shoulders moderately sloping, elbows well set, turned neither in nor out; legs substantial but not coarse in bone, legs seen from the front appear straight and parallel; pastern seen from the side moderately sloping; feet oval in shape with tightly closed toes, feet turned neither in nor out.

Hindquarters: Moderate angulation at stifles and hock, upper thigh powerful, well muscled; lower thigh well muscled, seen from behind legs are straight and strong, feet same as above. Dewclaws are optional. Coat: Outer coat is thick and hard, but rather smooth lying. The under coat is soft and dense. The coat on the head and front of the legs is comparatively short. The coat on the neck, chest and back of thighs is longer. The coat should not be trimmed except for the trimming of feet. Shaving, sculpting, removal of outer coat, should be so severely penalized as to eliminate from competition.

Color: Wheaten - Any shade from pale cream to bright orange, with or without dark tipped hairs; as little white as possible; black mask acceptable. Black - Preferably without too much bronzing; with as little white as possible. Areas where white is permissible: a narrow white ring around the neck, a narrow blaze on the face, a small patch of white hairs on the chest, white feet and tip of the tail.

Gait: The action is free and effortless. The topline remains level while moving. Sound movement is essential for working ability.

Temperament: Self-confident, alert, lively, and very affectionate with people.

Faults: The foregoing description is that of the ideal Norwegian Buhund. Any deviation from the above described dog is to be penalized to the extent of the deviation.

Disqualifying Faults: More than ½ inch under or 1 inch over the height at the highest point of the shoulder blade. Over shot or under shot mouth.

Approved January 14, 2020 Effective March 31, 2020

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

Mrs. Connie Brown (107952) CA (805) 445-9709 spothaven@mac.com Dalmatians, JS-Limited

Mr. John J. Frisby (102043) NJ (862) 268-6733 mullinahonef@hotmail.com Irish Setters

Mrs. Vanessa Giamo (107955) NJ (646) 327-1815 vanessagiamo@gmail.com Bull Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers

Mr. Barry Leece (107256) NM (505) 639-5420 barryleece@gmail.com Affenpinschers, Bouviers des Flandres, JS

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mrs. Connie Brown (107952) CA (805) 445-9709 spothaven@mac.com Dalmatians, JS-Limited

Mr. John J. Frisby (102043) NJ (862) 268-6733 mullinahonef@hotmail.com Irish Setters

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Mr. Barry Leece (107256) NM (505) 639-5420 barryleece@gmail.com Affenpinschers, Bouviers des Flandres, JS
SECRETARY’S PAGES

Mr. Patrick A. Smith (107900) MI
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Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Dr. Jerry Sulewski (93475) WI
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Collies

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Shawn Ashbaugh (98595) CO
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shawnashbaugh@gmail.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs, Schipperkes, Xoloitzcuintli

Mrs. Janet Bodin (101381) WI
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Australian Shepherds, Icelandic Sheepdogs

Ms. Alisa Brotherhood (103359) TX
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Boxers

Ms. Anna May Fleischli Brown (6300) FL
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stedelweis@aol.com
Affenpinschers, Maltese, Papillons, Yorkshire Terriers

Mrs. Robin Casey (92447) WY
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sgborzo@aol.com
Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, Cirneco dell’Etna, Dachshunds

Mrs. Janet Cohen (90134) NJ
(516) 459-0211
newbie219@aol.com
Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians, Lhasa Apsos, Shibas Inu, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Ms. Carol Cooper (68129) MI
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conway.fillacran@gmail.com
Siberian Huskies

Dr. Joyce Dandridge (62237) DC
(202) 726-9155
justuschows@verizon.net
Bullmastiffs, Chinooks, German Pinschers, Kuvaskos, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs, Bouviers des Flandres

Mr. William Daugherty (6220) CT
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zack80@aol.com
Balance of Hound Group (Borzoi, Dachshunds)

Ms. Bonita Fichtenbaum (105541) OH
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bmfichtenbaum@gmail.com
Chihuahuas, English Toy Spaniels

Mrs. Sulie Greendale-Paveza (7516) FL
(813) 973-3153
jlucin@gmail.com
Balance of Hound Group (Azawakhs, Basset Hounds)

Mr. Ronald Hoh (97979) CA
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Glen of Imaal Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Mr. Bradley Jenkins (7469) AR
(870) 219-5525
dbltreechins@hotmail.com
Balance of Terrier Group (Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Irish Terriers, Lake-
land Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, West Highland White Terriers)

Ms. Nancy Smith Hafner (7295) AL
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Alaskan Malamutes, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Rotweilers, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs

Ms. Judith Heller (97763) MD
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American Staffordshire Terriers, Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Rat Terriers

Mr. Steven Herman (6305) FL
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Azawakhs, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Shetland Sheepdogs

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Beaucerons, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

Mrs. Betsey Orman (99925) WI
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bramble@aol.com
Australian Cattle Dogs, Border Collies, Collies, Finnish Lapphunds
Ms. Cynthia L. Pagurski (93923) IL
(773) 416-7871
di_amoress@att.net
Siberian Huskies, Havanese
Mrs. Barbara Pessina (7372) NY
(845) 528-9350
moonshadowpulik@aol.com
Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, West Highland White Terriers
Ms. Carol Pyrkosz (96273) TN
(352) 300-2711
cpyrkosz@yahoo.com
Vizslas, Dachshunds, Whippets
Mr. Benson E. Ray (97179) SC
(843) 558-7360
benson592@aol.com
Azawakhs, American Eskimo Dogs, Lhasa Apso, Lowchen, Xoloitzcuintli
Mr. Cameron Dale Riegel (105311) NM
(505) 362-8781
cameron@cameronriegel.com
Chihuahuas, Havanese, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers, Lhasa Apso, Lowchen
Mrs. Deanna (Dec) Robison (43717) WA
(360) 893-5388
dec@deerun.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Saint Bernards, Tibetan Mastiffs
Mrs. Charlene Rutar (94495) IN
(765) 534-3002
whiteriver.gsp@gmail.com
Pugs, American Eskimo Dogs, French Bulldogs
Ms. Rachal McKe Sager (53911) VA
(804) 357-1875
seaclaed@gmail.com
Brittanys, Labrador Retrievers, Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels
Dr. Alan C. Santos (73979) TX
(504) 232-7316
obanesdoc@aol.com
American Hairless Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Skye Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers
Mr. Karl M. Stearns (101597) PA
(570) 595-3097
ksstearns@knsstearns.com
Airedale Terriers, Irish Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Welsh Terriers, French Bulldogs
Ms. Lisa Toth (94231) MO
(816) 588-5424
sibeshowr@hotmail.com
Samoyeds
Mrs. Joyce Van Kirk (29966) AZ
(602) 694-9512
mijoy65@cox.net
Cardigan Welsh Corgis
Mr. Cledith M. Wakefield (80829) MO
(573) 760-3616
n2rotts@yahoo.com
Black Russian Terriers, Bull mastiffs, Portuguese Water Dogs, Tibetan Mastiffs
Mr. Adrian Woodfork (68777) CA
(916) 942-5818
oswicks@att.net
German Shorthaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, English Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Norwegian Elkhounds
Ms. Linda C. Wozniak (101087) NC
(919) 942-5818
oswicks@att.net
German Shorthaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, Irish Red & White Setters, Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Dalmatians
Mr. George Wright (105383) NJ
(908) 996-3024
georgewright221@gmail.com
Airedale Terriers, Australian Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Russell Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS
Miss. Lilianna Apollos (107915) KY
liliannaapoll@yahoo.com
Mr. Christian Morales-Reyes (107898) FL
(939) 422-2525
cmoralesreyes86@gmail.com
Ms. Treasa Rost (107939) WI
treasarost@gmail.com

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
Ms. Allison L. Bates (107435) MI
(734) 433-9927
ispylabs10@gmail.com
Labrador Retrievers
Ms. Michelle V. Bryant (55089) FL
(407) 375-8454
michelle.bryant2@comcast.net
Staffordshire Bull Terriers
Mrs. Genea White Jones (107472) IN
(317) 752-8801
ashwoodcockers@gmail.com
Cocker Spaniels, JS-Limited
Ms. Jennifer Kelly (107482) CA
(707) 321-2813
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Mr. Ronald Kelly (107484) CA</td>
<td>(707) 483-2738, <a href="mailto:ronald.dba6729@att.net">ronald.dba6729@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Mrs. Sandra K. Nadalin (104545) OH</td>
<td>(614) 877-3047, <a href="mailto:sknadalin@earthlink.net">sknadalin@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Ms. Rachel A. Venier (107592) VA</td>
<td>(415) 516-9248, <a href="mailto:rvenier@yahoo.com">rvenier@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Ms. Peggy Beisel-McIlwaine (6913) MI</td>
<td>(734) 662-0849, <a href="mailto:foxairn@gmail.com">foxairn@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Ms. Mary Kathleen Faeth (101477) CA</td>
<td>(530) 210-7791, <a href="mailto:spinnfandel@yahoo.com">spinnfandel@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Mr. James A. (Jim) Fehring (90519) OK</td>
<td>(918) 630-9229, <a href="mailto:jimfehring@olp.net">jimfehring@olp.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Ms. Linda Fitzmaurice (98271) CA</td>
<td>(925) 548-7653, <a href="mailto:judgingdogs@gmail.com">judgingdogs@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Mr. Kevin M. Flynn (66204) MA</td>
<td>(617) 698-2542, <a href="mailto:kevin.flynn3@comcast.net">kevin.flynn3@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
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<td>(925) 548-7653, <a href="mailto:judgingdogs@gmail.com">judgingdogs@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Dr. Thomas L. Hossfeld (36941) AZ</td>
<td>(520) 297-4227, <a href="mailto:drhoss@aol.com">drhoss@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Dr. John V. Ioia (3948) NY</td>
<td>(845) 338-2121, <a href="mailto:bonefixr@gmail.com">bonefixr@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Dr. Thomas L. Hossfeld (36941) AZ</td>
<td>(520) 297-4227, <a href="mailto:drhoss@aol.com">drhoss@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>Dr. John V. Ioia (3948) NY</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Dr. Oleg N. Voloshin, PhD (101869) MD</td>
<td>(301) 379-8847, <a href="mailto:voloshino@yahoo.com">voloshino@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Mrs. Kathleen J. Brock (47792) WA</td>
<td>(253) 884-2920, <a href="mailto:toccatacockers@aol.com">toccatacockers@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Ms. Sandy Weaver (94535) GA</td>
<td>(770) 310-6932, <a href="mailto:golfndogs@att.net">golfndogs@att.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Dr. Kammi Kai Hefner (80757) PA</td>
<td>(304) 216-3617, <a href="mailto:drhefner@pobox.com">drhefner@pobox.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Ms. Melinda L. Lyon (5917) KY</td>
<td>(502) 608-8147, <a href="mailto:lairolyon@gmail.com">lairolyon@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Ms. Shelley Miller (102995) NB</td>
<td>(919) 525-5001, <a href="mailto:summagicclumbers@gmail.com">summagicclumbers@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Mrs. Abigail (Abby) S. Patrizio (97059) CT</td>
<td>(860) 669-2720, <a href="mailto:caraby@snet.net">caraby@snet.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Mrs. Abigail (Abby) S. Patrizio (97059) CT</td>
<td>(860) 669-2720, <a href="mailto:caraby@snet.net">caraby@snet.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrador Retrievers</td>
<td>Mrs. Heather Brown (107222) OH</td>
<td>(937) 243-6655</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
neverbend48@gmail.com
JS
Ms. Sara Gregware (107599) CT
(860) 689-3934
sargregware@optonline.net
JS
Ms. Sharon M. Padula (96271) NC
(919) 349-7183
sutanasiberians@gmail.com
JS-Limited
Ms. Kristen N. Scott (107675) WA
(253) 820-3504
pinkdiamondks@comcast.net
JS

RESIGNED JUDGE
Mrs. Paula J. Knight

EMERITUS JUDGES
Dr. Robert M. Brown
Mr. Tomas Gomez

DECEASED JUDGES
Mr. Bobby Birdsong
Mrs. Judith A. Franklin
Mrs. Eileen M. Ketcham
Dr. Dana Ann Smith Massey

PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES COMPLETED
The following persons have completed their Provisional judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges.
Ms. Dorrian Clark (101765) WY
(307) 203-7407
tdxhounds@live.com
Tracking – TD/TDU
Ms. Cheryl Tisdale (94543) TN
(615) 653-5523
eqwyn@peoplepc.com
Rally – All
Ms. Linda Unger (99927) FL
(407) 592-5887
lindalu752@hotmail.com
Obedience – Novice

PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES
The following persons have been approved as a judge on a Provisional basis for the class/test indicated in accordance with the Provisional judging system. They may now accept assignments.
Mr. David Brobst (95025) VA
(804) 672-6724
davefromvirginia@verizon.net
Obedience – Utility
Mrs. Laura J Delfino (5212) CA
(925) 917-9008
bgenora@aol.com
Rally – All
Dr. Ronnie Sue Leith (90304) WA
(360) 344-2033
rsleithmd@sbcglobal.net
Rally – All
Ms. Jill Lowry (107353) KY
(502) 671-9966
JudgeJillLowry@gmail.com
Rally – All

EMERITUS OBEDIENCE & RALLY JUDGES
Elmer Willems (WI)

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:
AVANT-GARDE – German Shepherd Dogs
– David C. Malcon
BLACK POWDER – Black Russian Terriers
– Tessa M. Moore
BRIMSTONE – Irish Wolfhounds – Laurie F. Morris
BROKEN-ARROW – Australian Shepherds
– Penny L. Allen & Michael S. Allen
CEDAR LANE - Bulldogs – James R. Armstrong
CROTON PINES – Poodles – Rebecca A. Laing-Austin & Donald E. Austin
CUSHLA MCCREE – Irish Wolfhounds – Sheryl A. England DVM
DUBLINN – Labrador Retrievers – April F. Allison
MOX MOX – Cavalier King Charles

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED
The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:
ABIGAIL’S ANGELS – Australian Shepherds – Teresa E. Petersen
BRAEDEEN – Australian Terriers – Dana A. Dean
COUNTRYSIDE – Pembroke Welsh Corgis – Denise E. Cass
KALINKA – Poodles – Olga Zabelinskaya
LEGACY – Coton de Tulear – Tiffany L. Laitner
MAPLE HOLLOW – Spinone Italiani – Stephen A. Shute & Judy A. Shute
NAISSUR – Black Russian Terriers & Russian Toys – Patty Bartley-Shonts & Jill M. Chase
PISGAH – Poodles – Shirley L. Hergesheimer
PJG COUNTRYLIFE – French Bulldogs – Patricia J. Gibson
PUPPIESUNLEASHED - Labrador Retrievers – Clarence A. Curry
RYANHAUS – Labrador Retrievers – Daniel J. Silva & Paula Silva
SPORTWAFFEN – German Shepherd Spaniels – Connie McCormmach
PA DALE – Shetland Sheepdogs – Patricia F. Gilbert
SKYTRY – Papillons – Joanne Glasow
The Board convened on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

All Directors were present except for Dan Smyth; also present was the Executive Secretary.

The November 2019 Board minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were reviewed. Upon a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the November 2019 minutes were approved unanimously.

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

PRESIDENTS REPORT
Mr. Sprung provided the Board with a high-level recap of 2019 accomplishments.

- Sports and Events revenue was $567,000 above budget and $604,000 higher than 2018.
- Total Entries across all events was 3,300,000. The largest number in AKC history
- 2019 AKC National Championship was the largest event held in AKC’s 135-year history – 11,008 entries
- Registration: Dogs up 1.2% to 587,777. This is the sixth (6th) consecutive year of year-over year increases
- Litters up 3% to 258,362. This is the fifth (5th) consecutive year of year-over year increases
- Unique breeders up 5%
- Registration revenue was $1MM below budget but $1.5MM higher than 2018.
- AKC.org 72 million users, a 10m increase, up 16%. Page views +6% and time spent +7%
- Social Media Instagram up 11.7%
- E-commerce traffic increased by 9.6% traffic and revenue was above budget
- AKC Marketplace 31,600 breeders advertised 55,000 litters vs. 28,200 breeders from 44,700 litters in 2018
- Parent Club tool used by 105 parent clubs
- Public Relations – The PR department obtained more than 2,000 media placements for the opening of the AKC Museum on the Dog in New York City.
- AKC.TV – over 6.5m views with more than 3.5m new users
- 2019 budget of $4.19m net operating will achieve approximately $5.1m.

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

Legal Status Report
The Board reviewed a status report on pending litigation and other Legal activities for the months of November and December 2019.

FINANCE
Joseph Baffuto, CFO, presented AKC’s unaudited financial results for the eleven months ended November 30, 2019. Total year to date revenues of $71.4 million were $2.0 million or 2.8% below budget, but $3.2 million or 4.8% greater than the 2018 comparative period. Dog Registrations YTD are 4% below Budget, but 1% higher than 2018. Litters processed are 3% under Budget levels, but 2% above previous year’s activity. Total operating expenses of $66.7 million were $4.5 million or 6% under budget as well as remaining
$3.3 million or 4.8% below last year’s eleven-month actual. Operating income for the year to date through November 30, 2019 was $4.6 million which was favorable compared to both 2019 budgeted operating income of $2.2 million as well as the 2018 mark of ($1.9 million). Additionally, our operating investment portfolio reflects total unrealized gains for the year of $14.1 million dollars.

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

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Mari-Beth O’Neill, Vice President, Sport Services, and Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

2022 and 2023 Delegate Meetings
For planning purposes, meeting dates should be set as far in advance as possible. Per the AKC Bylaws, the December Delegate meeting date must be set two years in advance. The Board reviewed the dates proposed for the 2022 and 2023 Board meetings and Delegates meetings. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Carota, the Board VOTED (unanimously, absent Mr. Smyth) to approve the proposed schedule for the 2022 and 2023 Board meetings and Delegates meetings.

Canine Legislation Position Statement on Proper Care and Humane Treatment of Dogs
The Board reviewed proposed amendments to the AKC’s Canine Legislation Position Statement on Proper Care and Humane Treatment of Dogs. In recent years, AKC Government Relations has tracked an increasing number of legislative proposals that allow an individual to break into a vehicle if they believe an unaccompanied animal inside is in distress. AKC appreciates the good intentions of these “Good Samaritan” measures but is troubled that many are written so broadly that they remove all liability for breaking into a vehicle and removing a dog, without first requiring certain safeguards to protect the dog and its owner and their property – particularly if the dog was not in distress.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously, absent Mr. Smyth) to the following revised position statement (changes underlined): Proper Care and Humane Treatment of Dogs.

Dog owners bear a special responsibility to their canine companions to provide proper care and humane treatment at all times. Proper care and humane treatment include an adequate and nutritious diet, clean water, safe and clean living and travel conditions, regular veterinary care, kind and responsive human companionship, and training in appropriate behavior. The American Kennel Club® believes that dogs should not be kept in circumstances or numbers where these needs cannot be adequately fulfilled.

No dog should be left in a vehicle if its comfort, health, and safety is in question. Good Samaritan legislation must provide a balanced approach that protects both the health and safety of dogs and the interests of responsible dog owners.

Canine Legislation Position Statement on Rehoming of Research Dogs
The Board recommendations for a new canine legislation position statement regarding legislative efforts to direct the rehoming of dogs used in research. Staff are concerned about the introduction of a new class of legislative proposals at the federal and state levels that mandate that facilities conduct animal research offer animal research subjects to external “rescue” organizations for adoption — without regard to the health of the animal, the appropriateness of placement, or the ownership rights of the research facility.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously, absent Mr. Smyth) to approve the following new canine legislation policy position statement on the rehoming of research dogs:

Rehoming of Dogs Previously Used in Research. The American Kennel Club® (AKC) recognizes that protecting biomedical research practices is crucial to developing new ways to identify, prevent, treat, or eradicate disease, and to improve human and animal health. Where appropriate, retired healthy research and teaching animals should be rehomed, either through rehoming programs at the university/research facility, by groups with special expertise in rehoming research animals, or by qualified outside groups selected by the animals’ owner.

Field Spaniel Proposed Breed Standard Revision
The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the Field Spaniel standard, specifically to add a disqualification for the sable color pattern, as submitted by the Field Spaniel Society of America, Inc. (FSSA). The current standard was approved September 14, 1998.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously, absent Mr. Smyth) to permit the FSSA to proceed to ballot its
SECRETARY’S PAGES

membership on the suggested standard changes in accordance with the club’s Constitution and Bylaws.

Proposed Revision to Color are underlined
Color: Black, liver, golden liver or shades thereof, in any intensity (dark or light); either self-colored or bi-colored. Bi-colored dogs must be roaned and/or ticked in white areas. Tan points are acceptable on the aforementioned colors and are the same as any normally tan pointed breed. White is allowed on the throat, chest, and/or brisket, and may be clear, ticked, or roaned on a self-color dog. The sable pattern, a lighter undercoat with darker shading as tipping or dark overlay, with or without a mask present, is a disqualification.

Disqualifications: The sable pattern, a lighter undercoat with darker shading as tipping or dark overlay, with or without a mask present, is a disqualification.

Parent Club Designation for American English Coonhound
The National American English Coonhound Association (NAECA) is requesting that the AKC Board designate the club as the Parent Club to represent the American English Coonhound with the AKC. The NAECA has been holding meetings since March of 2019 and has established a membership of 70 members, 15 of which were members of the former parent club, the American English Coonhound Association. The membership has extensive knowledge and background in Coonhound events and AKC Conformation events. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE
Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events, was present for this portion of the meeting. Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference, and Pamela Manaton, Director, Obedience, Rally & Tracking participated in this portion of the meeting via conference call.

Fast CAT – Ribbons & Clarification of Course/Equipment
The Board reviewed a recommendation for eight changes to the Regulations for Fast CAT. Two are new requirements – (1) host clubs must award ribbons to each dog that completes the 100-yard dash, and (2) clubs holding a Fast CAT event in conjunction with another event are required to fence the course, including the run-out area. The other six changes are clarifications to existing Regulations pertaining to the course and equipment. All these changes are intended to bring greater consistency between events and address issues that have arisen in the field.

#1 – Clubs must award a ribbon to dogs that successfully complete the course. Currently it is an option.
#2 – Start box – must be marked on the ground.
#3 – Start box – provide enough space behind the start box for the dog’s body.
#4 – Timing – a person cannot time a dog which they or a member of their immediate family/household own/co-own.
#5 – Return string – cannot be run in front of the run-out area exit gate.
#6 – Course – course must be straight, including the start box and run-out area.
#7 – Retrieval devices – for clubs that use retrieval devices to return the drag to the start line, the devices must be located at least 30 yards behind the finish line.
#8 – Fencing – clubs holding Fast CAT in conjunction with another event must fence the course and run-out area. Currently this is suggested but not required. In addition, clubs are advised to provide sufficient distance between events to minimize interference and disruption.

Following a motion by Mr. Carota, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously, absent Mr. Smyth) to approve the eight (8) recommended changes to the Regulations for Fast CAT. These changes will be effective February 1, 2020.

Regulations for Fast CAT (Changes underlined)
Chapter 16. Section 8. Ribbons and Awards
A club holding a Fast CAT event must award a ribbon to each dog that completes the 100-yard dash. The ribbon shall be at least two inches wide and eight inches long and shall bear on its face a facsimile of the seal of The American Kennel Club, the words “Fast CAT”, and the name of the test-giving club. Ribbons shall be light blue in color. Special ribbons or awards may be offered by the host club. If special ribbons or awards are offered, they must be clearly explained in the premium.

Paragraph B. The Start: Dogs may start up to 10 feet behind the starting line. Clubs must clearly mark the 10 feet start box on the ground. A dog may be released from anywhere within the start box, however, at a minimum, a dog’s front paws must be inside the start box when it is released. Enough space must be provided behind the back of the start box to accommodate the dog’s body to be aligned straight down the course.

Paragraph D: An individual may not operate a timing device for any run in which they or a member of their immediate family or household own or co-own the running dog.

Paragraph E. Lure Equipment: Clubs may use either a drag or continuous loop system. If a continuous loop system is used, the “return” string and lure must be set outside of the running course. The return string shall not run in front of the catch area exit gate and shall be located to minimize interference with spectators. The lure operator and the lure equipment shall be safely positioned in a manner that does not interfere with the retrieval of the dog at the end of the course. Clubs may, but are not required to, list the name of the lure operator in their premium list. Clubs are required to be equipped with a backup lure machine should one fail and become inoperable during the event.

Paragraph G. Course/Fencing: The course must be essentially flat and the center of the course must be straight from the back of the starting box to the end of the run-out area. The course can only be measured using a tape measure and no type of measuring wheel. The course must be free of any potential hazards. Pulleys are prohibited from placement inside the course. For clubs using drag lures, retrieval devices used to return the lure to the start line must be located at least 30 yards from the finish line and must be on the side of the course.

Clubs holding Fast CAT events held in conjunction with another event must enclose the entire course with a fence. The fence must be of sufficient height and substance as to prevent dogs from accessing or escaping the course. The fenced area shall include the starting and run-out areas. Clubs holding stand-alone Fast CAT events should consider fencing the course, however this is up to the decision of the club given he specifics of the setting. The premium must state if the course is enclosed with fencing.

Fast CAT is an energizing sport. Dogs watching Fast CAT may become excited. If Fast CAT is being held in conjunction with another event, clubs must provide sufficient distance between events (including the parking areas). Sufficient distance is defined as enough separation to minimize the disruption of dogs that are present for the other event.

Retriever Field Trials – Marking the Blind Retrieve with a Conspicuous Object

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee to clarify that in Retriever Field Trials, the location of the bird in a blind retrieve should be clearly marked with a conspicuous object. This clarification will bring greater consistency between trials. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Dalmatians Request to Participate in Herding

The Board reviewed a request from the Dalmatian Club of America to allow Dalmatians to participate in AKC Herding events. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Lure Coursing – All Whippets Must Be Measured

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the American Whippet Club (AWC) to require that Field Champion (FC) titled Whippets be measured at the time of roll call.

At the time of roll call an inspection committee examines each entry for possible breed standard disqualification(s). Current regulations require all Whippets except Field Champion Whippets must be measured. The measuring of a Field Champion Whippet is only required “on request”. The language “on request” is equated to mean in cases of a competitor protesting a dog, this recommendation which would require that all Whippets be measured at each AKC lure coursing trial. All Whippets would include both Field Champions and non-Field Champions. The Herding Earthdog Lure Coursing Delegate Committee met in December and was unanimously in favor of this recommendation.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Ms. McAtter, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Smyth) to require that Field Champion (FC) titled Whippets be measured at the time of roll call.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded
Mr. Carota, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Smyth) to approve the recommendation from the American Whippet Club (AWC) to require that Field Champion (FC) titled Whippets be measured at the time of roll call.

Revised regulation follows:
Revised Regulations for Lure Coursing Tests and Trials
Chapter III, Section 7. Inspection and Measuring Committee.

5. The procedure for measuring Whippets is as follows:
(Paragraphs (a) through (c) remain unchanged.)
(d) All Whippets will be measured only once at the time of roll call at each and every Field Trial. Whippet Field Champions which are measured out will be barred from running on that day but shall retain the title.

Alaskan Malamute Obedience Jump Height Requirements
The Board reviewed a request from the Alaskan Malamute Club of America, that the jump height requirements in obedience be lowered to three-quarters of the height of the breed at the withers. Under the current regulations, Malamutes typically jump at 22” – 24”. With the recommended change, they will jump at 16” – 18”. The club has submitted the appropriate AKC form to request an exception to the standard jump height along with supporting information. The request is consistent with similar breed adjustments already approved for obedience competition (see Chapter 4, Section 13 and Appendix A of the Obedience Regulations).

This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Pointing Breed Hunting Tests - Three Recommended Clarifications
The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation for three changes to be made to the Regulations for AKC Hunting Tests for Pointing Breeds meant to clarify issues that have arisen in the field. Specifically, (1) better define what is meant by “no training on the grounds”, (2) clarify that when two dogs are on point in close proximity to one another, the judges should take control of the situation by instructing one handler to hold up while the other dog completes its bird work, and (3) clarify how to handle the situation where a Junior level dog catches a bird and proceeds to mouth it excessively.

This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Separate CAT/Fast CAT Regulations Book
Staff advised the Board that it plans to separate the Regulations governing the Coursing Ability Test (CAT) and Fast CAT from the Lure Coursing Regulations book. There was no objection to this plan.

Junior Showmanship Scholarships
The Board approved $30,000 in additional spending in the 2020 Budget for Junior Showmanship scholarships. The $30,000 will be divided equally between companion, performance and conformation event program. A new Companion Events Scholarship Program will receive $10,000, a new Performance Events Scholarship Program will receive $10,000 and $10,000 will be added to the funds approved and allocated for the Scholarships that are offered as awards to the Finalists at the AKC National Championship increasing the amounts offered.

Scholarship Awarded to Junior Finalist at the AKC National Championship:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 amount</th>
<th>2020 amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Place</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Place</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Place</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining Finalists (8)</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$5,700</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
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</table>

AKC Total Scholarship Program for 2020 is $402,700.

AKC Total Scholarship Program - 2020
1. Junior Scholarships (existing program open to all Juniors) $22,700
2. Junior Finalists at AKC National Championship $18,000
3. Companion Events Scholarship Program $10,000
4. Performance Events Scholarship Program $10,000
5. Veterinary Student Scholarship Program $35,000
Total Funded Exclusively by the AKC $95,700
6. Versatility Scholarships offered by donations to the AKC Humane Fund $7,000
7. Theriogenology Residency funded 85% by AKC jointly with CHF a 15% Contribution. $300,000
Grand Total Scholarship Funding $402,700

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

CONFORMATION
Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events, and Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges participated in this portion of the meeting. Mari-Beth O’Neill, Vice President, Sport
Rewording and Reorganization of Chapter 14 Sections 3, 4 and 6 and Chapter 15, Section 2 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows

At the November 2019 Board meeting the Board reviewed a request from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to reword Chapter 14, Sections 3, 4 and 6 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows renaming as Sections 1, 2 and 3 respectively; and in addition, a recommendation to add new section to address a judge’s authority on conditions of class other than color, to be inserted as Section 4.

The Board voted not to approve the rule change as proposed and returned it to the DSRC with comments and suggestions. The DSRC provided a summary of the specific points the Board asked it to revisit in a November 13, 2019 memo and it was discussed at their December meeting. The DSRC unanimously approved the suggested changes.

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to Chapter 14 Sections 3, 4 and 6, and Chapter 15, Section 2 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows. In addition, staff recommended the Board approve the proposed insertion of a new Chapter 14 Section 6-A to address a judge’s authority on conditions of class other than color.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Smyth) to approve the recommended rules changes.

They will be read at the March Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the June Delegate meeting.

**CHAPTER 14 - Measuring, Weighing and Color Determination When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under The Conditions of A Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards**

**CHAPTER 14, Section 3**

**SECTION 3.** In those breeds where certain heights are specified in the breed standard as disqualifications, or in any class specifying height limits, the judge has the authority to determine whether any dog measures within those limits, provided the dog has not been previously measured during any competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities, and other special attractions.

If the judge finds that the dog’s height is within the breed standard or the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge’s book “Measured in.” If the judge finds that the dog’s height is outside the allowable limits of the breed standard, s/he shall disqualify the dog and mark and initial the judge’s book “Measured out – disqualified.”

A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If the judge finds that the dog’s height is not in accordance with the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge’s book “Measured out – ineligible.” A dog thus declared ineligible for its class shall be considered entered incorrectly and cannot be transferred to any other class at that show. A dog thus found ineligible by three different judges may not again be shown in that class.

In subsequent shows, this dog may be entered in another class for which the dog meets the weight limit or transferred to an eligible Open Class per Chapter 11, Section 6.

In all cases, the judge shall use a wicket that meets American Kennel Club requirements.

**CHAPTER 14, Section 4**

In those breeds where certain weights are specified in the breed standard as disqualifications, or in any class specifying weight limits, the judge has the authority to determine whether any dog weighs within those limits, provided the dog has not been previously weighed during any competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities and other special attractions.

If, in the opinion of a competing exhibitor in the ring, the height of a dog in that ring appears to be outside the limits of the breed standard or the conditions of that class, such exhibitor may, before every dog has been individually examined and individually gaited, request that the judge measure the dog and the judge shall comply provided the dog has not been previously measured during any competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities, and other special attractions.

If the judge finds that the dog’s weight is within the breed standard or the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge’s book “Measured in.” If the judge finds that the dog’s weight is outside the allowable limits of the breed standard, s/he shall disqualify the dog and mark and initial the judge’s book “Measured out – disqualified.”

A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If, in the opinion of a competing exhibitor in the ring, the weight of a dog in that ring appears to be outside the limits
of the breed standard or the conditions of that class, such exhibitor may, before every dog has been individually examined and individually gaited, request that the judge weigh the dog, and the judge shall comply provided the dog has not been previously weighed during any competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities and other special attractions.

If the judge finds that the dog’s weight is within the breed standard or the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge’s book “Weighted in.” If the judge finds that the dog’s weight is outside the allowable limits of the breed standard, s/he shall disqualify the dog and mark and initial the judge’s book “Weighted out – disqualified.”

A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If the judge finds that the dog’s weight is not in accordance with the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge’s book, “Weighted out – ineligible.” A dog thus declared ineligible for its class or division shall be considered entered incorrectly and cannot be transferred to any other class at that show. A dog thus found ineligible by three different judges may not again be shown in that class. In subsequent shows, this dog may be entered in another class for which the dog meets the weight limit or transferred to an eligible Open Class per Chapter 11, Section 6.

In all cases, the judge shall use a scale that meets AKC requirements including a platform of sufficient size as determined by the American Kennel Club to safely accommodate all applicable breeds.

CHAPTER 14, Section 6
In those breeds where certain color(s), pattern or markings are specified in the breed standard as disqualifications, or in any class or division of a class where certain color(s), pattern or markings are required, the judge shall determine if a dog is to be disqualified or declared to be ineligible for the class provided that such determination has not been previously made during competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities, and other special attractions.

If, in the opinion of the judge, the dog’s color(s), pattern or markings do not meet the requirements of the class or division of a class in which the dog is competing, the judge shall declare the dog ineligible to compete in that class or division of class, and, s/he shall mark and initial the judge’s book, "Ineligible – Color (or Pattern or Markings)."

If, in the opinion of any competing exhibitor then in the ring, the color(s), pattern or markings of a dog in the ring are disqualifications under the breed standard or do not meet the requirements of the class or division of a class, such exhibitor may, before every dog in the ring has been individually examined and individually gaited, request that the judge render an opinion of the dog’s color(s), pattern or markings, and the judge shall comply provided that such determination has not been previously made during competition at that show. If the judge finds that the dog’s color(s), pattern or markings are disqualifications under the breed standard, the judge shall disqualify the dog and mark and initial the judge’s book "Disqualified – Color (or Pattern or Markings)." A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If the judge finds that the color(s), pattern or markings of the dog do not meet the requirements of the class or division specified by the breed standard, s/he shall mark and initial the judge’s book, "Ineligible - Color (or Pattern or Markings).”

Any dog thus declared ineligible for its class shall be considered entered incorrectly and cannot be transferred to any other class or division at that show. In subsequent shows, this dog may be entered in another class for which the dog meets the requirements or transferred to an eligible Open Class per Chapter 11, Section 6.

CHAPTER 14, Section 6-A
In those breeds where certain physical traits (ear carriage, coat length, etc.) are specified as a condition of a class or a division of a class, the judge has the authority to make a determination as to whether a dog meets those requirements. If the judge finds that the dog does not meet the requirements of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge’s book, "Excused, ineligible for class."

Any dog thus declared ineligible for a class or division of a class shall be considered to have been incorrectly entered and cannot be transferred to any other
class or division at that show. In subsequent shows, this dog may be entered into or transferred to another class for which the dog meets the requirements or transferred to an eligible Open Class per Chapter 11, Section 6.

CHAPTER 15, Section 2
Any person who is handling a competing dog in the ring in any conformation competition may verbally protest to the judge before every dog in the class has been individually examined and individually gaited, alleging that a dog being shown in the competition has a condition which makes it ineligible to compete under Chapter 11, Section 8, or Chapter 11, Section 8C, of these rules or a condition requiring disqualification under the standard for the breed; except that a verbal protest alleging that the height or weight or natural color and markings of a dog requiring its disqualification under the competition has a condition which makes it ineligible to compete under Chapter 11, Section 8, or Chapter 11, Section 8-A, or a condition relating to dogs with communicable diseases. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

NOHS Levels of Achievement
In September, the All-Breed Delegates Committee discussed and supported the idea of NOHS Levels of Achievement in order to provide exhibitors with tangible goals and encourage continued participation. This idea is consistent with what the Sports & Events staff has been considering. Staff shared their general ideas for the structure of the new program with the Board in November 2019 and it was presented to the All-Breed Delegates Committee at their December 2019 meeting. The Board reviewed a Staff memorandum which presented a formal recommendation to implement NOHS Levels of Achievement to include Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum awards to exhibits obtaining a predetermined number of NOHS points based on the current NOHS point system. The primary owner of a dog achieving these levels will receive an appropriately colored NOHS pin and will be emailed a Certificate of Achievement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recognition Level</th>
<th>Minimum Level of NOHS Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platinum</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This will be discussed further at the February Board meeting.

Eligibility to Participate in the 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition
The Board reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee asking the Board to modify the 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competition Regulations to allow minor children of professional handlers with amateur status to participate in the Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition. This idea was originally proposed by Board Member Patricia Cruz. This will be discussed further at the February Board meeting.

Bred-By-Exhibitor Puppy Classes
The Board reviewed a recommendation to create a Bred-By-Exhibitor Puppy (BBEP) class in conformation. This idea was originally proposed in 2017 by Board Member Patricia Cruz. Many exhibitors are motivated to earn the Bred-By-Exhibitor medallion. Currently they are inhibited from showing in the Puppy classes on the chance that they earn Championship points, which would eliminate them from earning the medallion. Offering BBEP classes will be at the option of the host club. The recommendation is consistent with AKC’s focus on the importance of breeders and the Board’s decision to dedicate 2020 as the “The Year of the Breeder”.

This will be discussed further at the February Board meeting.

Limited Number of Events Policy
Starting in January 2019, the Limited Number of Events Policy was changed to provide flexibility across the country. The goal was to assist clubs that might want to hold a third show and provide additional opportunities for local exhibitors without negatively impacting other clubs in the region.

Given one year of experience under the new policy, the staff presented a memo to explore possible additions to the policy that could further assist clubs without negatively impacting other clubs in the area. The goal is to keep the existing criteria plus add additional provisions to provide even greater flexibility. This will be discussed further at the February Board meeting.
Staff Review Process for Dogs Disqualified by Event Committees

The Staff presented the procedures that will be utilized should the change to Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 11, Section 8-A be approved by the Delegates at the March 2020 meeting.

Currently a dog can only be disqualified by an Event Committee if there is an injury to a dog or person. There are cases where a dog attacks but there is no injury due to quick reactions or simply by luck. The recommended change is to allow the Event Committee to determine if a dog that attacks presents a hazard and, if so, it may disqualify a dog for aggression without an injury.

There has been some concern that the revised rule could be misused. To mitigate these concerns, exhibitors need to be confident that the AKC has a solid review process in place to confirm that the Event Committee acted properly, and the facts of the matter support the conclusion of the Event Committee.

Event Committee Review Process

The Review must include written documentation describing the incident along with signed eyewitness statements. This documentation must be submitted to the AKC.

Internal Staff Review Process

The AKC Sports & Events Department will create a Staff DQ Review Committee consisting of three staff members with significant event experience to review the documents submitted, assure that the Event Committee properly investigated the complaint, and confirm that the facts support the conclusion of the Event Committee. The internal review will occur within two business days of receiving the paperwork. In order to fully inform the Delegates of the review process, an article will be included in the March 2020 edition of Perspectives, the Delegates’ Newsletter.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

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

Oregon Dog Judges

In November 2019 the Board reviewed a request submitted by the Oregon Dog Judges asking that it be assigned Advanced Judging Institute designation for its annual seminar series offered in-conjunction with the January Rose City Classic Cluster in Portland, Oregon; and that the AKC will consider requests from other seminar groups for Advanced Institute Designation based on their compliance with the expected conditions and its ability to consistently provide quality educational opportunities and to maintain that level over time.

Conditions that should be expected when weighing applications for Advanced Institute designation would include but not be limited to:

1. Seminars/workshops held in accordance to AKC guidelines
2. Seminars utilizing parent club materials and a presenter approved by the parent club
3. Seminars preferably offering breeds in a complete group or of an equivalent number to meet or exceed
4. Seminars held at facility conducive to learning and of physical space to comfortably accommodate all attendees and ring area sufficient in size to properly evaluate dogs for hands-on workshop portion including gaiting.

5. Seminars held in-conjunction with events of size and magnitude that provide a superior pool of dogs.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Smyth) to approve the Oregon Dog Judge’s request to assign Advanced Judging Institute designation to its annual seminar series offered in-conjunction with the January Rose City Classic Cluster in Portland, Oregon; and that the AKC will consider requests from other seminar groups for Advanced Institute Designation based on their compliance with the expected conditions and its ability to consistently provide quality educational opportunities and to maintain that level over time.

Mandatory Ramp Examination - Cirneco dell’Etna

The Board reviewed a request from the Cirneco dell’Etna Club of America that the Board of Directors mandate the use
of a ramp for all examinations of the breed including during group and Best in Show judging. Currently, Cirneco dell’Etnas may be judged either on the ground or the ramp at the discretion of the judge. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

The Board adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, January 14 at 8:32 a.m.

All Directors were present, except for Mr. Smyth and Mrs. Wallin. Also present was the Executive Secretary.

Mr. Smyth arrived at 8:38 a.m. during the report from the Judges Appeal Committee.

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

Belgian Breeds
Per internal judging policy, the three current Belgian breeds (Malinois, Sheepdogs and Tervurens) are granted together for all first-time judging applications who meet AKC’s requirements to apply for any one of the breeds. This exception is predicated upon the agreement of all affected parent clubs and the close relationship of the individual breeds. The Staff provided the Board with a memorandum to advise the Board of Judging Operations intent to include the Belgian Laekenois in this special provision. Further, current judges who were approved for Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs and Belgian Tervurens on their first application but not yet approved for the complete Herding group will be provided the opportunity to have Belgian Laekenois added to the list of eligible breeds to judge by passing the breed exam and submission of the $35 fee by June 30, 2020. Once the breed enters the group on July 1, 2020 all current judges would be required to apply for the breed under the traditional additional breed application process. There was no objection to this procedure.

Conformation Judging Statistics
Judging Operations provided the Board statistics related to conformation judging applications considered by the Department in the preceding three months; as well as are the 2019 year-end summary statistics for New Breed and Additional Breed applicants.

Sport Demographics
Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events, and Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges participated in this portion of the meeting. Mari-Beth O’Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support; Alan Slay, Director, Event Programs; and Heidi Spaeth, Manager, Dog Show Rules & Programs, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

The Marketing department in conjunction with Sports & Events administered a survey to AKC sport participants to assess and update information regarding demographics of the sports.

The results of this survey indicate that AKC sports are diverse, with each sport having its own demographics and culture. However, in a broader sense, participants in AKC sports do not reflect the diversity of the US population. The survey indicates that AKC’s new sports/activities are attractive to new segments of the dog-owning public. However, there are opportunities to further expand AKC’s reach by developing activities that appeal to dog owners that are currently not engaged. Sports & Events should continue to develop AKC activities that fit the interests, resources and life styles of this underserved segment of the dog-owning public.

The Sports & Events staff believes understanding the demographics across AKC’s wide variety of sports is important to successfully managing and growing these sports.

CLUBS
Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events, and Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Delegates and Member Clubs
The Board reviewed a report on the prospective Delegate credentials to be published in two issues of the AKC GAZETTE, a report on Requests for AKC Membership and a report on Member Club Bylaws approved and newly licensed clubs.

Report on Member Clubs Bylaws Approved in November and December 2019
Australian Terrier Club of America (1977)
Field Spaniel Society of America (1991)
German Shepherd Dog Club of America (1913)
Kalamazoo Kennel Club, Kalamazoo County, MI (1954)
Reno Kennel Club, Reno, NV (1961)
Sioux Empire Kennel Club, Minnehaha County, SD (1968)

**Report on Newly Licensed Clubs Approved in November and December 2019**
Big South Fork Coon Hunters Club, Strunk, KY, 18 total households, 11 local.

Bluebonnet English Setter Club, greater Dallas-Fort Worth, TX (including communities north to McKinney, south to Grand Prairie, west to Azle, east to Terrell), 22 total households, 21 local.

East Howellsville Beagle Club, East Howellsville, NC (including communities north to St. Pauls, south to Bladenboro between Routes 301 and 87), 19 total households, 8 local.

Henagar Alabama Beagle Club, greater Henagar, AL (including communities north to TN/AL state line, south to Route 68, west to Huntsville, east to GA/AL state line), 15 total households, 10 local.

Mid-Atlantic Basenji Club of Maryland, greater Westminster, MD (including communities north to Wormleysburg, PA, west to Winchester, VA south to Arlington, VA and east to Glen Burnie, MD), 54 total households, 17 local.

Papillon Club of the Carolinas, Asheboro, NC (including all communities in North Carolina and South Carolina), 22 total households, 21 local.

Sonlight Agility Club of Brooksville, greater Brooksville, FL (including communities north to Beverly Hills, south to Spring Hill, east to Route33), 46 total households, 24 local.

**COMPLIANCE**
David Roberts, Executive, Breeder Development; Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance, and Marcus Bach, Director, Investigations & Inspections participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference. Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President, participated in this portion of the meeting.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

**REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT**

**Registration Update**
Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President, participated in this portion of the meeting. David Roberts, Executive, Breeder Development; Linda Duncklee, Director, Registration Services and Vanessa Skou, Internal Consultant participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

Staff presented information about AKC’s breeders and breeder initiatives. Those initiatives included the following:

- **Breeder of Merit Registration Rate Improvement Campaign:** This email campaign celebrates the work that Breeders of Merit do. It also encourages all program participants to ensure that the puppies they breed are individually registered, as all breeders promised when they sign up to be a Breeder of Merit.
- **Parent Club Statistics and Data Support:** This on-going effort to supply Parent Clubs with informative data, including ad hoc special requests, will continue in 2020.
- **Parent Club Reproduction Semen Bank Toolkit:** Staff is working with Dr. Gregory and Dr. Greer to document the requirements and best practices to establish a Parent Club Reproduction Semen Bank similar to the Otterhound Club of America’s bank.
- **Best Bred-by Exhibitor Free Litter Registration:** This is a program for breeders where AKC will award a Best Bred-by Exhibitor Free Litter Registration Award to every Best BBE at All-Breed, Group and Parent Club shows. In order to participate, a club must apply, and every winner has 12 months to redeem the certificate.
- **Breeder Development:** Breeder Field Reps will continue to work with breeders to encourage health testing and event participation.
- **Online Breeder Education:** The Registration Department is working with the AKC Education Department to update AKC Online Education Courses available for free in AKC Canine College.
- **AKC Bred with H.E.A.R.T. Marketing Campaign:** AKC Marketing staff is working with the Registration Department to improve awareness and participation in this important program.
- **New Breeder Toolkit:** This initiative will update our Online Record Keeping system, creating a more useful and easily used tool for AKC breeders.
- **Online Foreign Registration:** This initiative will allow dog owners to electronically submit all the documents and pictures required for AKC Foreign Registration, improving the
speed and accuracy of foreign applications. Currently all applications and documents must be physically mailed to AKC.

CONSENT

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

- Delegate and Club Approvals
- Chow Chow Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Cirneco Dell’Etna Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Lagotto Romagnolo Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Norwegian Buhund Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- WHWTCA “Quality Westie” Program - Recognition as CCA Title

Delegates Approved

Karen L. Dewey, Newport, NH
To represent Woodstock Dog Club

Glen J. Lajeski, Cloverdale, CA
To represent Doberman Pinscher Club of America

Jolyne K. Lea, La Center, WA
To represent Vancouver Kennel Club

Arna B. Margolies, Needham, MA
To represent Ladies’ Dog Club

Judy F. Murray, Baldwinsville, NY
To represent Onondaga Kennel Association

Jack Smith, Fallbrook, CA
To represent Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California

Dr. Donald Sturz, Brooklyn, NY
To represent Poodle Club of America

Janet A. Wolf, Lexington, KY
To represent Lexington Kennel Club

Chow Chow Proposed Breed Standard Revision
The Board VOTED to approve the Chow Chow Club (CCC) to proceed to ballot its membership on the proposed revisions to the “Nose” section of the Breed Standard in accordance with the CCC Constitution and Bylaws.

Proposed Revision to Nose Color

Reds, Blacks and Cinnamons must have a solid black nose. Blue chows may have a solid blue or slate nose. Cream chows may have a range of nose color, from dark black/brown solid pigment, fading to pinkish pigment, with or without darker nose rim pigment at the outer edge, as puppies or adults; all of which are equally correct.

Cirneco Dell’Etna Proposed Breed Standard Revision
The Board VOTED to approve the breed standard balloted by the membership of the Cirneco Dell’Etna Club of America with an effective date of March 31, 2020.

(See page 4 of this issue)

Lagotto Romagnolo Proposed Breed Standard Revision
The Board VOTED to approve the breed standard balloted by the membership of the Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America, Inc. with an effective date of March 31, 2020.

(See page 5 of this issue)

Norwegian Buhund Proposed Breed Standard Revision
The Board VOTED to approve the breed standard balloted by the membership of the Norwegian Buhund Club of America with an effective date of March 31, 2020.

(See page 7 of this issue)

West Highland White Terrier Club of America “Quality Westie” Program-Recognition of CCA Title
The Board VOTED to approve the request of the West Highland White Terrier Club of America (WHWTCA) to recognize the Quality Westie (QW) program by awarding the suffix Certificate of Conformation Assessment (CCA) title to any dog that passes the QW evaluation. The owner must apply for the title and pay a $25 application fee. The Quality Westie program is a non-competitive event to evaluate conformation. In the QW event, dogs are judged against the breed standard rather than against each other, and owners receive both verbal and written feedback regarding the traits of their dog.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 12:03 p.m.

Adjourned

Attest:

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary
PARENT CLUB LINKS

SPORTING GROUP

American Water Spaniel
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 Vendeen
Greyhound
Harrier
Ibizan Hound
Irish Wolfhound
Norwegian Elkhound
Otterhound
Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen
Pharaoh Hound
Plott
Portuguese Podengo Pequeno
Redbone Coonhound
Rhodesian Ridgeback
Saluki
Scottish Deerhound
Sloughi
Treeing Walker Coonhound
Whippet
PARENT CLUB LINKS

WORKING GROUP

Akita
Anatolian Shepherd Dog
Bernese Mountain Dog
Black Russian Terrier

Boerboel
Boxer
Bullmastiff
Cane Corso
Chinook

Doberman Pinscher
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

HERDING GROUP

Australian Cattle Dog  Australian Shepherd  Bearded Collie  Beauceron  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  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/