# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

## SECRETARY’S PAGES

## MASTHEAD

This One’s for Dave Helming

## UPDATES

Westminster guide; AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards; Does your club need rescue assistance?

## SLIDESHOW

The charter breeds of the Herding Group

## BREEDER EXCELLENCE

*From CHF: The latest in reproductive health*

## RINGSIDE

Interlocking Shetland Sheepdog Club of Monee

## VIDEOS

## TIMES PAST

Derek Rayne and Rockrose of Wey

## DOG PEOPLE

Westminster flashback

## AKC PARENT CLUBS

## BREED COLUMNS

### Hounds
- Afghan Hounds
- Basenjis
- Basset Hounds
- Bloodhounds
- Borzois
- Dachshunds
- Greyhounds
- Ibizan Hounds
- Irish Wolfhounds
- Norwegian Elkhounds
- Otterhounds
- Petits Bassets Griffons
- Vendéens
- Pharaoh Hounds
- Salukis
- Scottish Deerhounds
- Whippets

### Terriers
- Airedale Terriers

### American Hairless Terriers
- Australian Terriers
- Bedlington Terriers
- Border Terriers
- Bull Terriers
- Cairn Terriers
- Dandie Dinmont Terriers
- Smooth Fox Terriers
- Glen of Imaal Terriers
- Irish Terriers
- Kerry Blue Terriers
- Lakeland Terriers
- Manchester Terriers
- Norfolk Terriers
- Parson Russell Terriers
- Scottish Terriers
- Sealyham Terriers
- Skye Terriers
- Welsh Terriers

## BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sporting and Working Groups January, April, July, and October issues</th>
<th>Hound and Terrier Groups February, May, August, and November issues</th>
<th>Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding Groups March, June, September, and December issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
IN 2023, BUDDY HOLLY WON BEST IN SHOW.
WHO WILL TAKE THE TITLE THIS YEAR?

We’re proud to have helped fuel Buddy Holly’s victory with the advanced nutrition of Purina® Pro Plan® Sensitive Skin & Stomach Salmon & Rice Formula*. Good luck to the outstanding dogs and handlers competing in the 2024 WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW. We can’t wait to cheer you on at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center.

Learn more about Purina Pro Plan dog formulas and find the right one for your dog at ProPlanSport.com

*The handler or owner of this champion may have received Pro Plan dog food as a Purina ambassador. Purina trademarks are owned by Société des Produits Nestlé S.A. Any other marks are property of their respective owners.
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Our Heroes

April is full of news and growth, and I am pleased to share some of it with you.

The AKC recently announced the acquisition of the Professional Grooming Credential (PGC) from the World Pet Association (WPA). Integrating the PGC within the already robust AKC grooming certifications will continue to strengthen the grooming industry and will make the credential available to workforce-development programs and community colleges around the country.

The PGC measures foundational knowledge, safety, and technical skills of groomers, and is the only nationwide grooming industry credential. The successful passing of the PGC exam indicates a groomer has core competency knowledge and skills to offer professional and safe grooming services. We are very happy to expand our program and help ensure that professional groomers have the skills they need to provide the services pets and their owners need.

The AKC DOGNY Paw of Courage demonstrates appreciation for the work that dogs do in the service of humankind.

This award recognizes dogs who serve their communities, making great impacts on the lives of their human counterparts, and these dogs are truly deserving.

We are honored to recognize K-9 Vishu of the Kankakee Sheriff’s Department in Kankakee, Illinois, and K-9 Biza of the Auburn, Massachusetts, Police Department for this award.

Vishu has assisted on open-water searches for drowning victims as well as missing-persons searches for many surrounding police departments. Vishu has assisted multiple agencies in the Midwest to help locate evidence and remains in various states and stages of decomposition.

She has been certified numerous times through the United States Police Canine Association as both a tracking dog and detector dog. Vishu is trained to track and indicate on articles for live persons and find human remains in various stages and states of decomposition.

In February of 2024, Biza and her partner assisted in tracking down a 12-year-old child who had been missing for over two hours. Biza fol-
lowed the child’s scent for two miles, which ended with Biza and K-9 officer David Llunggren safely reuniting the child with their family.

Biza is a dual-purpose K-9 who is nationally certified through the North American Police Work Dog Association on patrol functions and narcotics. Patrol functions include obedience, building searches, area searches, evidence recovery, aggression control/handler protection and human tracking.

Congratulations to these incredible K-9 officers who are going above and beyond to help keep their communities safe.

And speaking of awards, this is a brief reminder that the AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE) is accepting nominations until July 1. The ACEs celebrate the dogs who do extraordinary things in the service of humankind.

One award is given in each of the following categories: Uniformed Service K-9, Exemplary Companion, Search & Rescue, Therapy, and Service.

The 2024 AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence are proudly sponsored by YuMOVE and Eukanuba.

Recipients of the AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE) will receive $1,000 to be awarded to a pet-related charity of their choice and an engraved sterling-silver medallion.

Anyone, including the dog’s owner or handler, may submit a nomination. Past nominations are eligible for resubmission for these awards. For more information on how to nominate a deserving dog, visit AKChumanefund.org.

Until next time,

Dennis

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO
Coastal ProActive
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PERFECT FOR YOUR DOG’S ACTIVE LIFESTYLE

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The 148th annual Westminster KC show is dedicated to the memory of Dave Helming, who died last August. Dave, long one of dogdom’s most esteemed gentlemen, served Westminster as show chairman and secretary.

Dave and Peggy Helming’s Pouch Cove kennel, in Flemington, New Jersey, exhibited such quality Newfoundland dogs as Ch. John’s Big Ben of Pouch Cove, ROM, and 2004 Westminster BIS Ch. Darbydale’s All Rise Pouch Cove, and the peerless Portuguese Water Dog GCh.P Claircreek Impression De Matisse.

Dave will be remembered for his selfless efforts in the service of Westminster and a half dozen other clubs that benefitted from his wisdom, expertise, and boundless energy. And wherever fanciers gather, his kindness and good humor are recalled with a smile.

And now, as Dave might have said on the eve of another Westminster, on with the show!
Westminster

148th annual Westminster
Kennel Club Dog Show
May 13 and 14
USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center
Queens, New York

JUDGING PANEL

Best in Show
Rosalind Kramer

Group Judges
May 13: Hound (entry: 367) Christine Erickson;
May 14: Sporting (entry: 476) David L. Kittredge;
Working (entry: 410) Rick Gschwender;
Terrier (entry: 277) Patricia Anne Keenan.

Breed Judges

Junior Showmanship
Preliminaries: Rebecca Cross, Stacy Threlfal;
Finals: Diego Garcia

Masters Agility Championship (May 11)
Zack Davis, Susan Leitner

Masters Obedience Championship (May 11)
Barbara W. Selton

FOX TV COVERAGE

May 11
Masters Agility Championship preliminaries: 8 A.M.–4 P.M. ET

May 12
11th Annual Masters Agility Championship finals: 2–4:30 P.M. ET (FOX)

May 13
Breed judging (Hound, Toy, Non-Sporting, Herding) and Junior Showmanship preliminaries: 8 A.M.–4:30 P.M. ET.
Group judging (Hound, Toy, Non-Sporting, Herding): 7 P.M.–11 P.M. ET.

May 14
Breed judging (Sporting, Working, and Terrier) and Junior Showmanship preliminaries: 8 A.M.–4:30 P.M. ET.
Group judging (Sporting, Working, Terrier), Junior Showmanship finals, and Best in Show: 7 P.M.–11 P.M. ET.

The event will be livestreamed on FOXSports.com and the FOX Sports app.
Tickets are still available for the AKC Museum of the Dog’s food-and-cocktails fundraiser on Westminster Monday. For tickets and info, click here.

The most successful dog book ever published, with over two million copies sold, The New Complete Dog Book is the American Kennel Club’s bible of dogs, a celebration of every breed—over 200 recognized by the AKC.

This volume offers readers:

• Official standard for every AKC-recognized breed
• Over 800 exceptional color photographs of adults and puppies
• Spotlight on finding well-bred puppies, sports, and activities for dogs and owners

This 23rd edition of The American Kennel Club’s The New Complete Dog Book belongs in every dog lover’s home, the library of every town and institution, and dog club reference section in America.

Available at Amazon or in the AKC Shop at shop.akc.org
Best of the Best  
Meet the AKC’s Lifetime Achievers

We are pleased to acknowledge the recipients of the 2023 AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards: Michael Canalizo (Conformation), Curt Curtis (Companion Events), and Laurie Soutar (Performance).

The awards, created by AKC President/CEO Dennis Sprung in 1999, are presented in recognition of outstanding participation and achievement within the sport of dogs.

AKC member clubs were asked to submit Lifetime Achievement nominees, individuals who have influenced the sport on a national level through club involvement, judging, exhibiting, breeding, and teaching.

For the full stories behind the distinguished recipients, see Lifetime Achievement at akc.org.

Does Your Club Need Rescue Assistance?

The AKC Humane Fund assists groups, such as the AKC Canine Health Foundation and AKC Rescue Network, that protect pets, including those involved in pet welfare, rescue, and health.

The rescue grant program provides financial assistance to not-for-profit canine rescue groups that are taking on significant, rescue-related expenses. Grants are used to help cover the costs of veterinary care, spaying and neutering, vital supplies, and more.

Parent clubs may apply if they have rescue expenses or they can refer a trusted not-for-profit organization that rescues their breed. Grants can be used for the costs of rehabilitating and rehoming dogs, including veterinary expenses.

If a parent club does not perform rescue work, it can enable another organization—such as a specialty club or an independent rescue group—to apply on behalf of their breed.

Grants for parent clubs seeking rescue assistance are sponsored by Pet Honesty.

Rescue Grant Application
Before 1983, the breeds we now designate as Herding were in the Working Group and recognized as working breeds. They comprised a subgroup within the Working Group and were split off as a separate group because it was considered, among other reasons, that the Working Group was too large and unwieldy.

“The German Shepherd Dog,” reported the GAZETTE, “though it is primarily a police and protection dog and has not been used for herding, to our knowledge, for many decades, was arbitrarily included in the Herding Group.”

Our May slideshow salutes the charter members of the newly formed Herding Group of 1983: Australian Cattle Dog, Bearded Collie, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdog, Belgian Tervuren, Bouvier des Flandres, Briard, Cardigan Welsh Corgi, Collie, German Shepherd Dog, Old English Sheepdog, Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Puli, and Shetland Sheepdog.
Breeder Excellence

Canine Breeder Excellence Seminar Tracks: A Comprehensive Overview—January 2024
By Sharon M. Albright, DVM, CCRT
To provide breeders with current information specifically on reproduction topics that will help them achieve success in their breeding programs, the AKC, AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF), and Theriogenology Foundation (TF) sponsor Canine Breeder Excellence Seminars. Speakers are often graduates of the AKC/AKCCHF/TF Small Animal Theriogenology Residency Program—a collaboration designed to increase the number of trained practitioners in companion animal theriogenology and clinical genetics. Visit akcchf.org/therio to support and learn more about this program.

The latest seminar tracks focused on artificial insemination, managing prostate disease in dogs, and maximizing the survival of neonates. This valuable information is summarized here for breeders.
(feature)

SURGICAL VERSUS TRANS-CERVICAL ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION: DOES THE METHOD REALLY MATTER?

Presented by Lily Lewis, DVM

Dr. Lewis began her AKC/AKCCHF/TF Small Animal Theriogenology Residency at Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2022.

Artificial insemination (AI) stands out as a cornerstone practice in dog breeding, especially when a mating pair cannot achieve a natural tie, when using fresh-chilled or frozen semen, or to allow breeding of geographically distant animals. This presentation compared two methods of intra-uterine insemination: trans-cervical insemination and surgical insemination.

Trans-cervical insemination (TCI) marks a significant advancement in canine breeding management. TCI places semen directly into the uterus using endoscopy or a specialized catheter. One benefit of this method is that the clinician can visualize the cervix to ensure correct semen placement. In addition, the procedure is quick, does not require general anesthesia, and can be repeated during a single heat cycle. However, the needed equipment is expensive and requires significant training to operate efficiently, potentially limiting its accessibility.

Surgical AI can be completed through a full abdominal incision or with the help of laparoscopic cameras inserted through three smaller incisions. This method allows bitches with anatomic abnormalities to be bred since it bypasses the vestibule, vagina, and cervix. It also minimizes bacterial contamination of the reproductive tract. However, it does involve the standard risks of general anesthesia and a surgical procedure, has a longer recovery time than TCI, and can only be performed once per heat cycle.

Dr. Lewis’ comprehensive review of the scientific literature comparing pregnancy rate, whelping rate, and litter size illuminates several critical insights into the efficacy of these insemination methods. In summary:

- Frozen semen performed better when deposited directly into the uterus.
- TCI performed better than surgical insemination.
- There was no improved efficacy when one or two inseminations were performed using frozen semen.
- The insemination method did not affect whelping rate.

Some common dog-breeding myths were also debunked by reviewing the scientific literature:

- Placing semen closer to the ovaries will not improve pregnancy rates. The semen will distribute itself
FEATURE

Comparison chart of different insemination methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insemination method</th>
<th>Sedation/ anesthesia required?</th>
<th>Appropriate semen type to use</th>
<th>Repeatable in one heat cycle?</th>
<th>Recovery time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaginal</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Fresh or cool-shipped</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trans-cervical</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Little to none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical</td>
<td>Yes—anesthesia</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>10 to 14 days for incision healing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

throughout the uterus.

• More inseminations are not always better. Repeated insemination is only helpful when the timing of the breeding is not optimal or if using poor-quality semen.

• Elevating the bitch’s hind limbs following insemination does not affect pregnancy rate or litter size.

As the field of canine breeding continues to evolve, staying informed about the latest research and advancements in AI techniques is crucial. By leveraging these insights, breeders can make informed decisions, optimize their breeding programs, and contribute to the health and vitality of future generations.

PROSTATE PEARLS OF WISDOM

Presented by Aime Johnson, DVM, DACT

*Dr. Johnson is a board-certified theriogenologist and Associate Professor at Auburn University specializing in equine and small animal reproductive medicine.*

It is important for owners and veterinarians to understand the prostate gland, as up to 95 percent of intact male dogs will experience prostate disease by the age of 9. This presentation shed light on common prostate diseases, their clinical signs, and the importance of early detection and management strategies.

As the only male accessory sex gland, the prostate constantly secretes a small amount of fluid and adds fluid to the ejaculate to provide transportation and nutritional support for the sperm. The prostate gland responds to the hormone dihydrotestos-
testosterone (DHT), which is created when the 5 alpha reductase enzyme interacts with testosterone (which is important for treatment options discussed below).

Common clinical signs of prostate disease include bloody urine, urethral discharge, and straining to defecate. Dogs can also strain to urinate, have bladder infections, decreased appetite, incontinence, infertility, fever, vomiting/diarrhea, hind limb lameness, or back pain. Breeding dogs are typically evaluated when blood is seen in the ejaculate. A full medical evaluation is needed which may include testing for brucellosis, semen collection and evaluation, palpation of the prostate, radiographs, and/or ultrasound.

Common diseases of the canine prostate include:

**Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)**

This condition causes an enlarged but nonpainful prostate gland. Reducing testosterone levels through castration is the only definitive treatment. However, the medication finasteride inhibits the enzyme that converts testosterone into DHT and can shrink the prostate within 4 to 5 months. Additional medications including oral or injectable progesterone and tamoxifen (which blocks estrogen receptors) can be used if castration must be delayed.

**Prostatitis**

Inflammation of the prostate gland can be acute (rapid onset) or chronic. Dogs with acute disease usually show signs such as fever, lethargy, and abdom-
Prostatic Cysts

Cysts are common with BPH. While benign, these fluid-filled sacs can press on the colon and interfere with defecation. Treatment requires surgery to remove the cystic tissue or draining the cyst with a needle. Treating affected dogs for BPH will alleviate pressure on the colon by shrinking the prostate tissue but will not directly affect cyst size.

In summary, older intact dogs will experience prostatic disease. There are treatment options, but castration is the only long-term solution.

For breeding dogs, semen should be collected and frozen monthly while prostate disease is managed. Once sufficient semen has been collected, the stud should be castrated.

It is recommended that semen be collected and frozen while dogs are still young.

TROUBLESHOOTING THE FIRST 48 HOURS WITH NEONATES TO ENSURE SUCCESS

Presented by Robyn Wilborn, DVM, MS, DACT

Dr. Wilborn is a board-certified theriogenologist, Associate Professor of Theriogenology, and residency mentor for the AKC/AKCCHF/TF Small Animal Theriogenology Resident at Auburn University.

The journey of bringing new puppies into the world doesn’t end with their birth. The final presentation of this series focused on the all-important goal of keeping neonatal puppies alive and healthy! Dr. Wilborn shared a graphic from the Neocare Center
at the Toulouse Veterinary School (https://neocare.pro/) which showed a global mortality rate of 18–22 percent in puppies from 0–2 months of age. Almost half of these losses occur during the first week of life, and most occur during the first 48 hours. Understanding the many factors that contribute to neonatal loss will help inform strategies to mitigate them.

While we often worry about infectious agents, it is important to remember that adverse events in the uterus, dystocia, birth defects, low birth weights, environmental conditions, and the health and vaccine status of the dam also impact neonate survival. For a successful whelping, breeders and veterinary clinics should prepare a whelping kit with all the necessary supplies. Recommended contents include a pediatric stethoscope, suction devices, small syringes, emergency drugs, suture, scissors, and puppy identification materials.

Caretakers should be prepared to schedule an elective (non-emergency) Cesarian section (surgical delivery) for brachycephalic breeds, or if the litter is very small or very large, or if there are large pups in a small dam. Remember that fetal heart rates less than 170 beats per minute indicate distress and should prompt evaluation for an emergency C-section.

**Neonatal Resuscitation**

Once pups are out of the dam, remember the ABCs of resuscitation:

**Airway:** clear mucous from the nose and mouth using a bulb syringe, mucous trap, or the accordion method.

**Breathing:** stimulate neonates to breath with vigorous rubbing, stimulating the nasal acupuncture point with a 25-gauge needle, or umbilical stimulation.

**Circulation:** check the newborn’s heart rate.

Dr. Wilborn recommends the following timeline for neonatal resuscitation:

- Vigorous rubbing for 2 minutes.
- If the puppy is still not vocalizing or breathing, use the acupuncture point for 2 minutes.
- If still not vocalizing/breathing, give oxygen through a facemask for 2 minutes.
- If still not responsive, give naloxone to reverse any opioids given to the dam during surgery or perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation for 2 minutes.
- If still not responsive, consider using emergency drugs like doxopram or epi-nephrine.

Adaptation of the APGAR Scoring tool from human to canine medicine provides a simple, clear grading system for neonate health.

APGAR Scoring evaluates Appearance, Pulse, Grimace, Activity, Respiration.

Charts are available to document the APGAR score for each puppy at
birth, 5 minutes of age, 30 minutes of age, and 2 hours of age. Each pup is scored from 0 to 2 on mucous membrane color, heart rate, respiratory rate, reflex/irritability (do they squirm when the scruff is pinched?), and mobility/muscle tone. Scores are combined to assess puppy distress with lower scores indicating more severe distress.

In one study, puppies with an APGAR score less than or equal to 6 had a mortality rate 22 times higher than those with a score greater than 7.

Neonates should be weighed twice daily using a standard kitchen scale. A rule of thumb is that puppies should gain 10 percent of their body weight every day. In fact, daily weight gain is the single best indicator of neonate wellbeing.

In summary, the most common threats to neonatal puppies are low body temperature, low blood sugar, low oxygen, and dehydration. Caregivers should focus on warmth first, then nutrition. They should also remember to stimulate urination and defecation in the puppies if the dam is not doing so.

Through diligent preparation, vigilant care, and continuous education, the challenges of neonatal puppy care can be met with the tools needed to make a difference.

THE TAKEAWAY
These presentations shed light on the complexities of canine breeding and neonatal care while equipping breeders and veterinary professionals with the knowledge and tools to successfully navigate these challenges. Through continued education and collaboration, there is a shared commitment to the health and well-being of our canine companions, from conception through the critical first weeks of life.

Visit akcchf.org to learn more about the AKC Canine Health Foundation and its educational programs.

Thank-you to the Theriogenology Foundation for their collaboration in providing these valuable presentations.—S.M.A.

Sharon M. Albright, DVM, CCRT, is the AKC Canine Health Foundation manager of Communications & Veterinary Outreach.
LENNOX, ILLINOIS—The Interlocking Shetland Sheepdog Club assembled at the Stone City Kennel Club Building for same-day, back-to-back specialty shows and obedience trials. Lynda Beam was in the house and filed this photo essay.
RINGSIDE

Interlocking Shetland Sheepdog Club of Monee, April 6

Photos by Lynda Beam
RINGSIDE

Interlocking Shetland Sheepdog Club of Monee, April 6

Photos by Lynda Beam
Backstage at Troy KC

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS—The local news crew visits with Dr. John Ioia and Chris Sweetwood at the Troy KC show. 1:23

GSDCA Educational Seminar

The German Shepherd Dog Club of America and the GSD Club of Northern Ohio present Kent Boyles in the first of a series. 1:32:06
VIDEOS

Refresh Your Memory
Relive the judging of the 2023 Westminster KC Best in Show. 24:21

Garden Parties Past
A GAZETTE Gallery slideshow: Golden moments from Westminster history. 0:55
The 1960s were undoubtedly the years in which the Pems and the big kennels were at their height. It was a great education, especially meeting so many of the foremost breeders of the day, including the overseas buyers who came to Wey Farm,” recalled Sue Harrison, of Haresfoot Corgis, who learned the dog game as a teenaged kennel maid at Wey Farm.

Among the distinguished “overseas buyers” who made the pilgrimage to Nan Butler’s Wey Pembroke Welsh Corgi kennel in Surrey, England, was Derek Rayne.

Rayne knew Surrey well. He was born in Surrey and, as a child, showed his first dogs there before his family migrated to America in 1937. His father, Charles, was a partner in the H&M Rayne Shoe Co., “Shoemaker to the Queen.” After settling in Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, the Raynes established Derek Rayne Ltd., an upscale apparel shop. Derek and his younger brother, Clive, operated the lucrative venture until 1995, serving an eclectic clientele that included such notables as Marylin Monroe, Salvador Dali, and Juan Carlos I, king of Spain.

Rayne cut an imposing figure on U.S. showgrounds. He was a big man, always impeccably groomed and attired, with a neatly...
trimmed beard. He and his wife, Gerda, operated their small-scale Pemwelgi kennel for more than 50 years. They maintained an interest in several breeds—and had great success Fox Terriers—but Pemwelgi was best known for top-winning Pembrokes, including the first AKC champion in the breed.

When the Raynes founded their kennel in the 1940s, corgis were still relatively rare in America and would remain so for some time. U.S. exhibitors relied on imports to build and refresh their lines.

Perhaps the greatest Pembroke import in the breed’s U.S. history was Am./Eng. Ch. Rockrose of Wey, a top-winning bitch brought over by Rayne from his native Surrey. Barbara Walker-Smith, kennel manager at Wey, wrote about the breeding philosophy behind Rose: “Mrs. Butler had very strong views on the type, temperament, and showmanship of the dogs. Any that didn’t meet these criteria were removed from the breeding program.

“Mrs. Butler did not believe in overbreeding from a bitch. The maximum number of litters taken was rarely more than three, her opinion being if the bitch had not bred anything decent, why were you breeding from her again? Alternately, if the bitch had produced decent dogs, you had no need to enlarge on those blood lines.”

Rose was America’s top Pembroke of the mid-1960s. A three-time national specialty winner, in 1966 she retired the Welsh Corgi League Challenge Trophy. Remarkable for a dog who seemed to do nothing but win, she did not show particularly well. That’s where a gifted handler came in.

“I remember when Frank Sabella showed Ch. Rockrose of Wey for me, she had a tendency to not put her ears up,” Rayne said. “As he was gaiting her and coming toward the judge, he’d throw a pebble so that she was coming in with this very intense expression using her ears instead of having them flaring back. Now that’s smart handling and realizing the lack of showmanship of the bitch.”
February 2011: Betty Leininger running the Bichon ring wearing a big smile and a festive zebra print; Dr. Robert Indeglia striding decisively across the ring to point out his Hound Group winner, Hickory; equally impressed with the Deerhound was BIS judge Paolo Dondina, of Tuscany, Italy. “This animal is like in the heavens,” he said. “It’s not of this world.”
This month, the Norwegian Elkhound Association of America’s Lisa Peterson presents an eye-opening statistical analyses of trends in her breed.
ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

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

THIS MONTH

**Hound**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Breed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Afghan Hounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Basenjis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Basset Hounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Bloodhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Borzoi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Dachshunds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Greyhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Ibizan Hounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Irish Wolfhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Norwegian Elkhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Otterhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Petits Bassets Griffons Vendéens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Pharaoh Hounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Salukis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Scottish Deerhounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Whippets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Terrier**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Breed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Airedale Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>American Hairless Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>Australian Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
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<td>Border Terriers</td>
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<td>74</td>
<td>Bull Terriers</td>
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<td>Cairn Terriers</td>
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<td>79</td>
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<td>81</td>
<td>Glen of Imaal Terriers</td>
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<td>Kerry Blue Terriers</td>
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<td>Welsh Terriers</td>
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Afghan Hounds

THE TOPKNOT: LONG AND SILKY

The AKC standard for the Afghan Hound is very definite: “The striking characteristics of the breed stand out clearly, giving the Afghan Hound the appearance of what he is, a king of dogs, that has held true to tradition throughout the ages.”

These distinctive breed features are first claimed in the beginning of the AKC breed standard for the Afghan Hound, in the “General Appearance” section, and then further elaborated on in the body of the respective sections. It is so that the standard is written describing the Afghan Hound as a mature dog.

For the Afghan Hound to be a head above the rest, it means having a long, arched neck and high head carriage. This is not attained by a Marie Antoinette bouffant—nor, in present-day terms, a Marge Simpson hairdo. The standard describes a long, silky topknot. The head is surmounted by a topknot of long, silky hair. Listed as a fault is a head not surmounted with topknot.

The judge should be able to examine and to identify and evaluate the quality, amount, and hair texture of the topknot. This head hair may be worn differently on different dogs. In young dogs where there has not been enough length of life for it to grow long, this hair may stand straight up; and then with a little more age, it may fall forward over the face. As gravity will have it, the silky hair grows long, falling to either or both sides of the head. By hand the head hair may be drawn back, or even drawn up, but without help, the silky hair will fall properly.

Please respect and appreciate that this regal breed wears a head of hair that is its “crowning glory”—not a clowning glory, and certainly not a crown of thorns. The latter must be left to the breeds of dogs where manipulation, accessorizing, and adornment of hair are tolerated.
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Basenjis

THE PHOTOGRAPHER WHO TOOK THAT PHOTO OF THE BASENJI IN THE RED CUBE

Some images are unforgettable. For me, this was the case with Janneke de Graaf’s photo of her Basenji puppy surrounded by a red cube. It’s a striking color-saturated photo that I first saw on Facebook. After that, I started checking Janneke’s profile to see her latest Basenji shots, and I knew I wanted to interview her.

Janneke, from the Netherlands, obviously loves her subjects and recently was a finalist and a winner in two photo competitions.

Can you tell me about your recent successes in photo contests? Where did you take that photo with the red cube?

I’m quite new to photography competitions. In 2022, I entered my first three images ever and earned three merits. Last year I decided to enter the International Dog Photography Awards, which is an annual photography competition for dog photographers across the globe. Photographs are entered and judged in four categories: Portrait and Landscape, Action, Studio, and Dogs and People. I had two finalists: one in the Portrait and Landscape category, and one in the Studio category. (All the finalist pictures can be found here: https://www.dogphotographyawards.com/awards-2023/)

The portrait and landscape finalist is the image of the red cube with our “keeper” girl, Isra (Suaralayn Freedom Evolves). I took it at the Kistefos Museum in Norway while we were traveling to attend the Norwegian Basenji Specialty. The artwork where the puppy is placed is named “Free to Frolic,” and the artist is Phillip King (https://sculptureanddesign.com/free-to-frolic/). I titled the photograph “Amour Propre,” [literally, “love of oneself”] referring to both the red color of the frame and the character of the Basenji.

The studio finalist was titled “Stay!” and I took it with a simple home studio set up when the puppy, Manu, Suaralayn Goodness Paradox, was 7 weeks old. The puppies in both of these photographs are littermates and bred by me as well.

I also entered the TOG Awards last year. This is another annual international photo competition, but it is for all types of photography. Eight out of my nine entries (all featuring a Basenji) received a merit, and one was category winner, for which I was awarded the title “Natural Pets PhoTOGrapher 2023.” The photo is of Dexter, Suaralayn Vital Question, who is another puppy from the same litter as the two mentioned above. The picture shows Dexter posing...
A few of Janneke de Graaf’s striking photos of Basenjis: “Amour Propre’ (the “red cube” photo—the artwork the puppy is placed in is Philip King’s “Free to Frolic,” at the Kistefos Museum in Norway); “70 Days”; “Promise of Growth”; and “Stay!”

between snowdrop flowers and is titled “Promise of Growth.”

How and when did you get started with photography?

I’ve always enjoyed taking pictures, but I got my first semi-professional camera in 2010, a few years after we
added our first Basenji to the family. Up until 2021, I mainly photographed my dogs during our hikes, and I photographed them and other people’s dogs during trainings at the racetrack and coursing field. In 2021, I underwent spine surgery, and carrying the camera and documenting the dogs while walking them became impossible. During my rehabilitation, I decided to educate myself on how to work with Adobe Photoshop, and I learned more about photography competitions and what makes a successful image. When I was able to photograph again, I focused on outdoor dog portraiture, and at the beginning of 2023, I started studio photography.

What are your favorite subjects?
Definitely Basenjis. Of course, having four of them at home and having bred six litters provides me with lots of ready subjects at hand. I also still love to bring my camera with me to the racetrack to photograph all types of sighthounds in action.

Why do Basenjis make good subjects? Why do they make difficult subjects?
Basenjis have beautiful, quite serious expressions and very elegant lines, which work really well in photography for competition. They also fit in almost every environment. The difficult part is their obedience, or lack thereof. Letting them pose off-leash in the forest during sunset isn’t the best idea, so a helper is almost always needed.

How do you take photos at home? Do you have a room with a backdrop, or do you just set up in a certain corner of your house?
We just moved to a new home, and unfortunately there isn’t enough space for a room dedicated to photography. If I want to take studio portraits, I set everything up in the living room. I use a 1.4 m or 2.2 m paper backdrop and one to three strobes.

What camera do you use? What’s your favorite lens?
I use a Canon EOS R6. It’s my first mirrorless camera, and it’s an absolute joy to use. It is the perfect size for me, and the quality of the images is stunning. The electronic viewfinder and the option to use exposure simulation make it much easier to get the best shot. And the animal eye focus feature makes focusing on my canine subjects much more precise.

I mostly use zoom lenses with the dogs because it’s easier to change the focal length, and consequently the angle of view, than to get up and reposition myself. Outdoors I favor the RF 70–200 mm f/2.8. It’s really quick to focus, can achieve a nice small depth of field with its aperture wide open, and it gives lovely compression when zoomed in. In the studio I use the RF 28–70 mm f/2.0. It allows me to get closer to the subject, which is really
How long have you owned and bred Basenjis?
I got my first Basenji, Mirtillo, Elegant Elephant Mirtillo, in 2008. We imported him from Sweden. He taught me so much about the breed, as he was a real character. Mirtillo started my love for the breed: for showing, for the racetrack and coursing, for agility, and for photography. In 2012, I added a female, Aoide, Aoide Princess of Burudika, from Poland. I bred my first litter with her and a full African import living in the U.S., Ntomba Mosika, in 2015 under the prefix Suaralayn. I kept a female, Maeva, Suaralayn Chaos Junkie, from that litter. The puppies in the winning photographs are from Maeva’s second, and Suaralayn’s fifth, litter, born December 2022. The photo of the three puppies in the green chair are from our sixth litter, born December 2023. The theme for the 2023 litter was “Photography.”

In our breeding we have focused mainly on using breeding stock with a high percentage of recent African imports to keep the COI [inbreeding coefficient] low without losing breed type.

What’s the name of the town where you live? Can you tell us a little bit about it?
In December 2023, we moved to Amersfoort, which is exactly in the middle of the Netherlands. I was born in a small town nearby, and after ten years on the other side of the country, I felt it was time to move back to live closer to my family and friends. Amersfoort has a very rich history, being more than 750 years old (it was granted city rights in 1259). It has a city wall and a medieval gate, which is probably my favorite part of the city. I’m definitely planning to photograph the Basenjis in that setting this year.

Also, do you have any tips for people who want to shoot Basenjis?
I think the most important thing when working with any kind of animal is to be patient. Make sure they are comfortable and having fun, and don’t get frustrated when the first try isn’t an immediate success. If they know any commands and are willing to work with you, place them in an area without too many distracting elements in the background, ask for a stand/sit/down and stay, take appropriate distance, and get your camera on the dog’s eye level. Leave some extra space in the direction the dog is looking, or the body is facing, for a more balanced composition. If you want the background to be somewhat blurry, make sure there is enough space between the dog and the background. If your camera and lens are capable of it, you can also open up your aperture to achieve this effect.

Of course, Basenjis aren’t the most obedient type of dog, and you might not be able to direct them as much
as you’d like. Then just wait for them to show any of their quirky behaviors, get the camera on eye level, and shoot. Success guaranteed! Thank you, Janneke—what a fun interview. You have a great eye, and I love your approach to photographing our beloved Basenjis. I can’t wait to see your shots at the medieval gate. Be sure to tag me.

You can check out more of Janneke’s photography on her Instagram account, @suaralayn_basenjis.

—Marcia Woodard, marciabarkless@gmail.com
Basenji Club of America

Basset Hounds

Thank you to guest author Randy Frederiksen, of American Basset Hounds, who shared the following from his Basset Hound: A World History.

EARLY BREED INFLUENCE FROM FRANCE AND ENGLAND

While most of the original basset breeds had their beginnings in France and Belgium as achondroplastic mutations (dwarfs) of larger hunting hounds, the Basset Hound, as the breed is known and loved all over the world today, is mostly of British and American influence. In French, the word basset means “low-set” and is a classification as to size of the animal with respect to the other size varieties within a breed, such as Grand, Basset, and Petit. All low-set hounds known as Basset Hounds sprang from two breeds in Belgium and France: the Basset D’Artois and/or the Basset De Normande. While those breeds became extinct, their descendants live on through the Basset Hound breed.

To start, two French bassets of the Count de Couteulx’s strain were sent to Lord Galway as a gift from Count de Tournow in 1866. Lord Galway named them Basset and Belle. They produced the first litter of Basset puppies bred in England. Lord Galway soon tired of the breed and sold them to Lord Onslow. Lord Onslow imported more hounds from the same French kennel to make up a full pack for his hunting purposes.

As an English show dog, it was Everett Millais who imported a hound he called Model, and he was the first Basset to be shown in England at the Kennel Club’s Wolverhampton show in 1874. Eight years later, Lord Onslow sold his pack to Everett Millais (who also later inherited his title of “Sir”) and George R. Krehl. These two men would have a great influence over the breed in different ways: Millais, through his scientific breeding experiments (Basset to Beagle, and years later, Basset to Bloodhound); and Krehl, through his writing and as a breeder who provided H.R.H. the Prince of Wales with a couple of puppies to hunt rabbits in Scotland.

Royal patronage was important, and the breed soon found favor with the show breeders in England as well as the hunting establishment. Historical
male figures deserve much credit; however, it was through the efforts of women such as Mrs. C.C. Ellis, Mrs. Mabel Tottie, and Miss Peggy Keevil for saving the Basset Hound in England from extinction during and after WWII.

The Basset Hound in England was influenced by the original French Couteulx and Lane strains, Beagle crosses (U.K.), Bloodhound crosses (U.K.), imports of the Basset Artesian-Normand breed from France after WWII, and later American Basset Hound imports. The modern Basset Hound strains in America are a mixture of the early French and British breeding, including those of the Basset to Beagle and years later, Basset to Bloodhound crosses; the “Russian” basset ancestry (through the Beagle/Russian Basset crosses in the U.S.); and some English Basset Hounds and French Basset Artesian-Normand in the 1920s.

Acknowledging that the Basset Hound is from within the family of French Basset breeds that may have been bred by monks in the Middle Ages as hunters for heavy covered grounds, the European FCI registry considers the Basset Hound to be an English breed.

The Basset Hound was recognized by the AKC in 1885, and a parent club (Basset Hound Club of America, Inc.) was formed in 1933 and recognized by the AKC in 1937. —R.F.

Thank you, Randy.

—Sylvie McGee, Olympia, Washington, sylvie@sylviemcgee.net

Basset Hound Club of America
Bloodhounds

BLOAT—A SUDDEN KILLER

A major killer in Bloodhounds is bloat, or gastric dilatation volvulus (GDV). Only cancer is more deadly. Bloat occurs when gas forms that, for whatever reason, can’t escape. Within minutes, the stomach swells and gets rock-hard.

An X-ray at this point will show the dog’s stomach stretched from the spine to the bottom of their ribs. As the gas fills the stomach, it torsions, or twists. That shuts off the entrance and exit of the stomach, the gas from digestion expands the stomach, blood vessels to internal organs are compressed, the organs die, and the dog dies.

Start to finish, the entire process from torsion to death is just a few hours. Without prompt intervention, the result is certain death. With intervention in the first hour or so, however, the dog can be saved, although it might need surgery. The key is to be aware, recognize it if it happens, and be prepared to act.

What are the symptoms of bloat? The dog will be restless, wandering around, and unable to sleep. He may try to vomit but will be unable to, or is vomiting foam that looks like whipped cream. He may try to drink but will not be able to. His abdomen will be swollen and hard. Drooling is common, and if the dog does lie down, he does so in an upright, “sphinx” position and very guarded.

Bloat is an all-out, flat-out emergency. You must get the dog to a vet. Right now. There is no time to think, there is no time to wait. You can buy a little time by giving the dog simethicone. (This should be in every Bloodhound owner’s emergency kit!) I prefer the liquid gelcaps, since, if the dog cannot swallow, you can at least pop the capsule and put the simethicone directly on their gums for absorption. You should be calling your vet as you administer this.

Once your dog gets to the vet, they will X-ray him or her and probably try to decompress the stomach with a tube. This is something you can learn to do yourself if you are far from an emergency clinic, but don’t waste time on it if you are by yourself.

What causes bloat? We wish we knew! Personally, I think there are several kinds of bloat. I break it into four categories:

1. “Stupid” bloat!—The dog eats three pounds of food, then drinks a whole bucket of water and runs around the yard. This is the one that is completely avoidable!

2. Stress linked—Just as some humans deal with stress by getting an upset GI tract, so do some dogs.

3. Genetically linked—Anecdotally, bloat seems to follow lines, although this has not been proven. This is bloat caused by structural things such as a significantly deeper chest than waist, a shorter neck, a smaller digestive system, or narrowing of the trachea. These
aren’t things that are easily seen, so this is a difficult area to predict. But if the dam or sire of your dog has bloated, there seems to be a higher probability your dog will bloat.

And finally, 4. This is the hard one … I call it NBTB bloat, for “Nothing better to do”—This is the dog who bloats in his sleep at 3 a.m. on a Thursday. No cause, no reason, just bam!! This, to me, is the scariest one of all.

How can we prevent or at least reduce risk for bloat?

First of all, be sensible. Exercise after a large meal is not recommended for any species. Rest for 30 minutes or so before and after exercise is recommended. Also spread meals out, giving two or three meals a day so that the stomach isn’t stretched out. I try to never give more than three cups at a time, which means that my growing boys sometimes get three or four meals a day. If a dog gobbles their food, use a slow feeder or spread the food out on a cookie tray.

Reduce stress by teaching your dog that meals don’t always come at specific times (my dogs are fed twice a day, but within a four-hour block in the morning and evening). Teach them they can eat comfortably in different locations. (Feeding in a crate works, but occasionally move the crate to a different room, or take a meal along on a long walk, and feed them in their crate in the car on the way home.) Give them minor stresses so they learn how to deal with major household trauma or relocation.
Know your pedigree, and the history of the dogs in it, and talk frankly with your breeder about the chances of bloat. Know that your breeder might be as surprised as you are if bloat suddenly surfaces. I went for 20 years with no direct bloat and then dealt with several dogs, both my own and those related, bloating within a few months.

If there is bloat in your lines, consider a preventative gastropexy, either via a laparoscope or with open-abdomen surgery. There are several methods, but each will basically attach the stomach to the abdominal wall, preventing it from twisting. This is relatively easy to do when a female dog is spayed, but never “waste a trip to the abdomen”! If the dog has to be opened for any reason, consider your vet to do a “pexy” while they are in there. Ideally, the dog should be over a year old, so that most of their growth is done. My show dogs are often gastropexied when I do OFAs.

Finally, and most importantly, know your dog! Not sure if it's bloat? If the dog's stomach is huge and hard, assume the worst! Keep simethicone on hand at all times, and don’t be afraid to give it if your dog is uncomfortable. There are good videos online to help you recognize the symptoms if you are unsure—though everyone I have ever known with a bloating dog knew it was bloat in their gut when they saw it.

All of our dogs will die someday. Let’s hope they do so of old age, lying in our arms, not suffering in pain, during the prime of their lives, of bloat.

—Betsy Copeland, Copelandia@aol.com
American Bloodhound Club

Borzoi

BEAUTY, BALANCE, AND TYPE

Borzoi fanciers fall in love with the breed for different reasons, be it their dogs’ intelligent, calm, and intuitive demeanor, speed and power in the field, or the breed’s romanticized past. However, most newcomers are drawn to the Borzoi because of their undeniable beauty. But what is beauty, and how does the standard describe it? Is it type that defines beauty or does proper structure yield beauty?

Beauty has been praised by poets and debated by philosophers. But you may be surprised that it can be expressed numerically (1.6180339887) and algebraically \((a+b)/a=a/b\) and is known as the golden ratio or divine proportion. Naturally, the equation describing the ideal in such a complex three-dimensional shape as a Borzoi would be infinitely longer than the one for a rectangle shown above, but the resulting value would remain the same.

Luckily, beauty is all about proportions, balance, and symmetry, and we do not need to crack any formulas to know when beauty is upon us, as our eye is naturally
drawn to it.

The AKC Borzoi standard uses the words *graceful*, *grace*, and *elegance* to denote beauty. In the Merriam-Webster dictionary, the word *graceful* means “pleasing or attractive in line, proportion, or movement.” The standard calls for “graceful curves” and uses expressions such as “slightly arched” and “flowing lines.” So, an ideal Borzoi is not only graceful (meaning attractive, proportionate and with good movement) but curvy.

The Borzoi’s curves should not make it fancy but rather make it faster, more agile, and more powerful. A dog that is balanced in structure is both beautiful and powerful; its proportionate and well-placed gentle curves are functional rather than purely aesthetic elements of type. Old Russian books draw a metaphor between a standing Borzoi and an arrow flexed against a taught bowstring. Just like an arrow that is about to be propelled forward, the dog naturally...
stands on its toes, ready to take off, grab the earth with its front paws, and engage its well-muscled and well-angulated hindquarters while flexing the topline in a classic double-suspension gallop.

Borzoi are athletes and swift hunters bred to course across vast snowy fields of their native land. The words describing strength and power appear in the standard as many times as the words alluding to the breed’s beauty. The Borzoi’s gracefulness goes hand in hand with strength; its curves are never abrupt but gradual, and its powerful rear matches its well-angulated front.

The AKC standard mentions the importance of symmetry. The FCI standard calls for a dog that is “harmoniously built.” Dmitry Valtsev, the manager of the Grand Duke’s Perchino Hunt, selected well-constructed dogs and considered unbalance a severe fault. In the end, a dog cannot be beautiful, let alone functional, without balanced proportions of its structural parts: legs to body, body to neck, back to loin, neck to head, pattern or hock to overall leg length, front angulation to rear angulation, and reach to drive. A Borzoi should not be powerful without elegance, nor should it be elegant without power.

A functional and well-constructed Borzoi can be deemed a worthy representative of the breed only when is has type. Elements of Borzoi type include tight hare feet; broad, short hocks, well-bent stifles; effortless movement; and graceful curves through the topline, neck, and underline, as well as the Roman finish to the nose; narrow back-skull; silky coat; small, high-set ears; long, sickle-shaped tail; soft expression; and large, dark eyes that are well-placed and correctly shaped. Some of these attributes are also elements of proper structure, but all contribute to the divine beauty of the Borzoi.

—Kristina Terra, k.terra@mac.com
Borzoi Club of America

Dachshunds

DACHSHUNDS WITH HIGHER ASPIRATIONS

The Dachshund is an earthdog; he loves to go down holes in the ground and seek out hidden quarry. Some Dachshunds have higher aspirations for game as well. This search does not involve just running along a downed log but also can include climbing up into chairs, planters, even the patio table (see photos).

My late beloved standard wire Willow was one of these Dachsies, happy to climb a slanting tree trunk or wide limb if there might be something interesting up there. Needless to say, this aerial behavior produced a lot of stress for me. Willow was not unique in this behavior. Some very game mini long-hairs also like to hunt well above ground, especially gray squirrels (Sciurus carolinesis), whose fluffy tails
Dachshunds seeking quarry—not only down into burrows but across logs and above ground as well, climbing up into chairs, planters, and the patio table, at the bases of trees, and even up into branches!

are so enticing.

Because the Dachshund is a scenthound, he wants to follow a squirrel’s tracks. The squirrel is a nervous animal. While on the ground and vulnerable, it is very alert. It will often forage away from a tree then suddenly run back to the tree trunk and look around for predators. Then it comes back to the ground and begins looking for food again. These kind of short, back-and-forth tracks can confuse a dog. But once they spy a few squirrels, Dachshunds get the idea to stay at the tree with the freshest track going up the trunk. They also learn to listen for a squirrel climbing a tree or rustling on the ground. The dog will stand still and listen in all directions, then take off after the squirrel.

Squirrels often use openings low down in half-dead trees to access the upper branches without being vulnerable to hawks—so these
lower entrances have to be explored as well (see photo). And once in a while a squirrel will run down a tree trunk with a Dachshund waiting on the other side. The result is not a happy one for the squirrel, but a very successful one for the Dachshund.

Dachsie ears are more discerning than human ears and can pick up the faint rattle of dry leaves on the ground or the sound of little claws going up the bark of a tree. My city-reared Dachsies can hear a squirrel on the telephone lines two houses away and will explode from what seems like a deep sleep in the sun to challenge the arrive of the critter. I have no idea how they do it, as the telephone cable is sheathed in a smooth, soft covering, totally different from the rough bark of a tree.

While opportunities for Dachsies to climb are somewhat limited in the city, planters for hedges are often available—and may host a rat or two to provide incentive. More rural venues provide additional opportunities for climbing. Large parks and recreation and wildlife management areas are good places to give your Dachsie a chance to look for quarry above ground as well as below.

—Trudy Kawami,
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— Trudy Kawami, salixbrooklyn@aol.com
Dachshund Club of America

Greyhounds
GREYHOUND JUDGING PRIORITIES

For this column I would like to focus on judging priorities as seen by members of the Greyhound Club of America’s Education Committee. Contributors to this article include June Matarazzo, Pamela Noll, Cynthia Swanson, and myself. These committee members have over 125 years of Greyhound experience combined and have these thoughts to share.

While the term “judging priorities” indicates that this information is for judges, it is also for the benefit of breeders, exhibitors, and members of the public who may be choosing their first Greyhound.

Outline. There was total agreement in the first item to be considered, and that is the outline of the Greyhound. The Greyhound has a distinct silhouette, with smooth, flowing curves from nose to tail including a slight rise over the loin. The Greyhound is both elegant and substantial, with the appearance of great power, agility and speed. This athlete has an overall appearance of balance, with nothing extreme. Said another way, the appearance of a curvaceous body is the hallmark of the breed. Every good Greyhound is a collection of curves and powerful muscling from neck, topline, underline, front and rear angulation, and tail. All must be curved properly and with muscle. A body with curves and muscling in the right places is necessary for this breed to function.
as the fastest sighthound, who courses after all types of game in all types of terrain. What is incorrect and should be considered faulty? Lack of proper curves; ewe neck; completely level topline; flatness across the loin; straight up-and-down shoulder angles; forearm assembly set on forward of the breast bone; straight underline from brisket to loin; straight stifles and hocks; and a stiff, straight tail are all faulty and should penalized according to the severity.

Movement. The Greyhound is as indicated above the fastest of all sighthounds, and as mentioned in the last column, Greyhound movement is characterized by the double-suspension gait, not the trot. That gait is not practical for the ring, so to that end, what should you see at the trot? You should see smooth, long, and low strides, with the appearance of moving effortlessly. Movement in the ring must be purposeful, elastic, and light. The topline is relaxed and not rigid. Tremendous reach and drive should not be rewarded. Incorrect movement that can be seen in the ring today include short, stiff, or choppy strides; pounding on the forehand; single-tracking; hindquarters tucked-under so the dog lacks drive; and a hackney gait.

Balance. Our dogs are called the “long dogs” and said to stand over ground. A Greyhound is a rectangle—slightly longer than tall, but not a lot longer than tall. A Greyhound should be up on leg, with a medium-sized body on long, strong legs. A Greyhound with a very long midpiece, or body mass, compared to his leg length is losing breed type. A well-laid-back shoulder, consistent for a sight-hound, with a humerus of sufficient length to avoid the straight-up look, and balanced angulation in the rear are all necessary components of balance. Greyhound angulation, front and rear, is moderate and should never give the impression of being extreme.

In closing, evaluating the outline, the movement, and...
balance in both what you see on the stack and on the move tells you what you need to know! (November 2020)
—Patti Clark, willomoor@att.net
Greyhound Club of America

Ibizan Hounds
THE IBIZAN HOUND IN PROFILE

Graceful, elegant, and unmistakable, the Ibizan Hound stands out among its peers with its unique profile and distinctive traits. Originating from the Balearic Islands of Spain, this ancient breed boasts a striking appearance. But while his appearance may feel familiar, this is a dog with many key characteristics that can be viewed in profile.

In profile, the Ibizan Hound presents a picture of sleek athleticism and poised intelligence. But the first step in observing the overall appearance should be the consideration of balance. In short, the front should match the rear. Angulation should be moderate, not extreme and in harmony with the animal. Proportionately the dog should be only very slightly longer than tall. A slender, lithe frame is accentuated by a long, elegant neck that flows seamlessly into a flowing topline. The topline can rise slightly over the loin and will flow into a sharply angled croup with defined hipbones. A prominent prosternum without overmuch
The head, crowned by large, expressive ears, exudes an air of alert intelligence and often mischief. Overall head planes should be parallel, with a very slight roman convex to the nose.

Compared to other hounds, the Ibizan’s profile is marked by its unique blend of strength and moderation. While its silhouette shares similarities with other sighthounds, it possesses a distinct lack of extreme features in profile and a poise that sets it apart.

The Ibizan Hound’s coat should appear hard and capable of protecting him while traversing harsh terrain. The wire coat may require a few more moments of reflection to appreciate the profile, especially with dogs possessing a profuse coat. Neither should appear sculpted, as the coat is not stripped.

No thought should be given to markings, so long as they are in red or white.

In essence, the Ibizan Hound embodies an exceptional balance of form and function, with a profile that exudes both strength and capability.

—Meegan Pierotti-Tietje, Heron and Hound Ibizans

http://heronandhound.weebly.com

Ibizan Hound Club of the US

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Irish Wolfhounds

EXORBITANT HEALTH-CARE COSTS FOR GIANT BREEDS

Veterinary bills for giant-breed dogs are daunting. As nearly every ethical giant-breed breeder can attest, veterinary expenses have risen to astronomical levels. These costs can impose significant hardships on breeders while preserving our wonderful giant breeds, but they can also have a sobering impact on companion owners.

Depending on where you live, veterinary costs can make or break pet owners’ bank accounts. This year, I celebrate my 40th year as an AKC breeder-owner-handler. Decades ago, I still recall an ethical breeder’s recommendation to prospective Irish Wolfhound owners. The sage advised to have a reserve fund with at least $5,000 available for extemporaneous medical emergencies accompanying the ownership of an Irish Wolfhound. Beyond essential health and wellness expenditures, a pet owner must have a way to pay for additional unforeseen expenses.

How have times changed? Today, that $5,000 is a drop in the bucket. Future pet owners need to prepare financially for the costs of owning a giant-breed dog. Myriad pet health insurance options cover routine wellness care and accidents and illnesses.

Routine wellness policies cover annual exams, vaccinations, blood tests, fecal exams, flea and tick meds, heartworm meds, dental cleanings, and so on. These plans are affordable to most, at about $50 per month, but they are limited to just that. There is no coverage
for accidental or emergency surgery. These are the high costs incurred when your Irish Wolfhound becomes ill. I will get into these expenses further on.

A comprehensive health policy covering wellness plus accident and illness is an unconditional necessity for giant-breed companion owners—so much so that I require Wolfhound companion owners to carry such a policy for the hound’s life.

Comprehensive policies are abundant, but it would be best that owners do their homework first, which will require a good working knowledge of the breed. Some accident and illness plans cover cancer, hereditary conditions, and congenital conditions. Others do not. Most policies cover hospitalizations and some tests and scans. I caution prospective owners to read all the fine print first. Review policies carefully and know ahead of time if a specific test is covered. If not, you could pay out-of-pocket for a CT scan, costing $1,500 to $5,000 if the test is not covered.

All policies have disclosures that most subscribers need to read. For instance, “insurance policies include deductibles, exclusions, exceptions, reductions, limitations, and terms for keeping them in force.”

Giant-breed pet owners need to understand that different accident and illness policies have varying reimbursement rates based on their chosen deductible and include an annual expenditure limit—for instance, $5,000 or $10,000. A reality check is in order, because a $10,000 yearly cap is adequate for an Irish Wolfhound, but a $5,000 cap is insufficient.

Let’s look at a few of today’s Wolfhound surgical veterinary costs, for example, in upstate New York. Using an adult female Irish Wolfhound weighing 145 pounds, an ovariohysterectomy is approximately $2,100 to $3,000. However, if the procedure is due to an emergency such as pyometra (uterine infection), the cost could be double. An emergency gastric volvulus dilation (GVD, or
bloat) or colonic torsion surgery is roughly $7,000 to $12,000. Prices can be higher for larger males. A New Jersey resident whose 4-year-old male Wolfhound did not survive bloat surgery contacted me, and their bill was $16,000. Tibial plateau leveling osteotomy (TPLO) surgery for torn cranial cruciate ligaments begins at $5,300 per limb for just a large breed, and around $7,000 with a board-certified surgeon.

Routine annual advanced cardiac assessment, including EKG and echocardiograms performed by a board-certified veterinary cardiologist, typically costs $850 to $1,000. Repeat that cost if the hound has an arrhythmia and requires a three- or six-month recheck. Arrhythmias usually require 24-hour ambulatory Holter monitor fees of around $500 to $600 per event.

Do you get the picture? These high fees illustrate why pet health insurance policies are a lifesaver for companion giant-breed dogs whose owners, without insurance, cannot afford critical surgeries, such as for bloat, or casualties such as broken bones and torn ligaments.

Monthly accident and illness premiums vary based on deductibles, copays, and annual coverage limits. Using a male 6-month-old Irish Wolfhound as an example, I found one policy with a Routine Wellness and Accident and Illness plan with a $15,000 annual cap, a $300 yearly deductible, and an 80-percent copay for $101 monthly. Another insurer offered Routine Wellness and Accident and Illness coverage with an unlimited annual cap, a $250 deductible, and an 80-percent copay for $205 monthly. Though extensive, even this top-tier plan limits its wellness coverage to $650 annually. That $650 cap is reduced quickly with just an office visit averaging $75 to $100. If it were an emergency visit with no surgery afterward, that office visit may cost $200 to $270.

Without comprehensive and adequate pet health insurance, the average household generally lacks the disposable income to cover these unpredictable and ongoing expenses. They may think they do, but sadly, most do not, and they learn the hard way. It is the dog who suffers. Either the hound does not receive necessary care, such as annual evaluations to identify early cardiac disease, or cannot have a procedure to relieve significant pain and discomfort such as for a torn cruciate ligament or elbow or hip dysplasia, or perhaps is euthanized rather than receiving life-saving surgical intervention for bloat or intestinal blockage. All of this can happen due to a lack of foresight, ignorance, or an attempt to save a few dollars.

—Lisa Dubé Forman, lisa@lisadubeforman.com Irish Wolfhound Club of America
Norwegian Elkhounds
THE SURVEY SAYS …

As a member of the NEAA Marketing Committee, I’ve been digging into some AKC registration data lately and gathering some information from our parent club members. Our committee is looking at ways to improve our outreach to the public as they reach out to us to find puppies from our breeder members. I wanted to know what the supply and demand was for Norwegian Elkhound puppies.

Numbers can tell us a lot, but it’s not always the whole story. Looking year over year, from 2022 and 2023, I found some startling statistics and alarming trends about Norwegian Elkhounds.

Norwegian Elkhounds (a low-entry breed):

- AKC breed ranking (out of 200 breeds)—2022: #100; 2023: #115
- AKC registered dogs—2022: 526; 2023: 290 (-44.9%)
- AKC registered litters—2022: 1,305; 2023: 918 (-29.6%)
- Litters bred by parent-club members—2022: 24; 2023: 12 (-50%)
- Percentage of litters bred by parent-club members—2022: 10%; 2023: 7% (-30%)

As you can see, every category has a double-digit drop, with litters bred by parent club members topping the list at a whopping 50% less.

To further investigate this trend, our committee pulled together a survey of our members to gather more data. I highly recommend using an easy Google form to create a survey if parent clubs are interested in collecting data from their members. It compiles results into pie charts, graphs, and open-ended question answers. The survey is easy to take, and it puts results directly into a spreadsheet to share with others.

The survey returned 39 responses out of 193 emails sent, or about a 20-percent response rate. Here’s what we learned. Of the 39 respondents, nine had been members for 30+ years, four...
members for 40+ years, four members for 50+ years, and one member for 60+ years. Nearly half (46%) are longtime members. Some of these members may be retiring from active breeding.

We asked whether people were “active breeders,” meaning they had a litter in the last three years. To this question 23 respondents (59%) said yes, compared to 16 (41%). Breeders reported their last litters were: 5 litters in 2021, 10 litters in 2022, and 7 litters in 2023—a total of 22 litters in the last 3 years.

Many respondents, 19 (48.7%) said they were not sure when their next litter would be. There were 9 (23%) respondents who said next year. Only 6 people (15.4%) said in the next two to three years, and 5 (12.5%) said within six months.

When asked how many litters they bred per year, 24 respondents (61.5%) said zero, with 13 (33.3%) answering one litter, and only two respondents (5.1%) saying they planned two or more litters per year. Based on this result, while only a snapshot of 20% of club membership, only 15 parent club members plan to breed a litter within the next year.

Thirty-two or 97% of breeders overwhelmingly advertised their litters by word of mouth, with only seven (17%) on social media and five (12.8%) on the AKC Marketplace. Only five breeders (13.5%) said they had trouble selling their puppies, versus 31 (86.1%) who did not. Interestingly, 66.7% said they do not have a waitlist for puppies, with only 13 (33.3%) saying they do.

What can be gleaned from all this data? Supply is going down, and demand is higher than parent club breeders are currently producing. Many new factors have played into puppy demand in the last few years—most notably, the pandemic (it went up) and inflation (it went down).

As parent clubs work to promote their breeds and help families find quality puppies, having a good data set to understand trends is a solid foundation.

—Lisa Peterson, Newtown, Connecticut, Lisa.peterson@barngirlmedia.com
Norwegian Elkhound Association of America

Otterhounds

THE BENEFITS OF HEALTH SURVEYS FOR RESEARCH

Otterhound owners recently completed a health survey through the Otterhound Club of America. A generation of Otterhounds have been born and matured since our last one. While the results are still being tabulated, we are thrilled that we have health information on 279 hounds. In breeds which register over a thousand litters a year, that may sound like a small number, but it would take Otterhound breeders six years to produce that number of puppies, and the total represents about one-third of the Otterhounds.
BREED COLUMNS

HOUND GROUP

currently alive in the world.

Why write about a survey without the results? A health survey is a tool not an end in itself. It gives breeders information on the prevalence of diseases in the breed and in their line and can alert people to emerging concerns that had not shown up before. It also shows that previous diligent breeding may have reduced the occurrence of some health problems.

Glanzmann thrombasthenia (GT) is a case in point. A genetic defect that affected Otterhounds in the last decades of the 20th century, this hemophilia affected the platelets of Otterhounds, usually appearing when puppy teeth erupted or during play manifesting as internal bleeding and bruising. At the time, the only way to determine which dogs may pass on the defect was to do test litters. Then Dr. Jean Dodds developed an assay that helped in determining carriers. In 1988 she brought her lab equipment to a national specialty to collect blood samples in an effort to understand the genetic inheritance. Once the gene was discovered to be a simple recessive, Dr. Boudreau identified the mutation and was able to test for the gene, allowing us to understand which dogs were clear of the defect and which carried the defect. Test breedings were no longer needed, and a carrier bred to a clear could never produce GT. In two or three generations the problem could be eliminated while still breeding carriers who were otherwise healthy and conformationally correct. To this day, a GT test is a requirement of the OHCA CHIC.

When concerned breeders and a parent club team up with researchers, healthier dogs is the result. We have tests for many of the diseases that have crippled or killed dogs in the past. Still we do not understand many the genetics of many inherited diseases, especially polygenetic ones. The first step in research is always gathering information. And that is the function of a breed health survey.

For years Otterhound owners have been very concerned about the incidences of epilepsy in our breed. Some dogs develop it by 1 or 2 years of age; others may have their first seizures at 7 or 8 years. Using the information gained from the health survey, the OHCA is embarking on a study led by Dr. Karen Munana.
of the University of North Carolina and supported by the Canine Health Foundation. We hope this study will enable us to continue to breed Otterhounds that follow our standard while controlling the prevalence of this devastating neurological disease.

Thank you to everyone of any breed who takes the time to meticulously fill out a health survey on their dogs. Thanks especially are due to the many dedicated Otterhound owners and breeders who participated in our survey, and especially to Marie Lepine, who spearheaded the survey and brought it to light.

Surveys, and the research they yield, make it possible for us to breed healthy dogs without eliminating whole lines—which is most important in a breed with limited numbers and genetic diversity.

—Eibhlin Glemonn, Riverrun Otterhounds, eibhlinglennon@yahoo.com

Otterhound Club of America

Petits Bassets Griffons Vendéens

Our column for this issue is by PBGV Health and Rescue Foundation President Laura Liscum.

SUPPORT FOR CANINE HEALTH RESEARCH

Dr. Cathryn Mellersh is a canine geneticist who had a major impact on Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen (PBGV) health a decade ago. In fact, she has had an impact on the health of many breeds. Now she needs our assistance in order to keep her research going, and the Health & Rescue Foundation of PBGVCA has stepped up to the plate.

Thanks to Dr. Mellersh, glaucoma is a Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen (PBGV) success story. Twenty years ago, we started to hear of cases of primary open angle glaucoma (POAG) in our breed. POAG is a painful, blinding disease. The normal eye has cells that produce fluid and the drainage of this fluid from the eye must match its production in order to maintain normal pressure within the eye. When drainage is blocked, the increased intraocular pressure damages the optic nerve and results in pain and impaired vision.

In the U.K., the Basset Griffon Vendéen Club teamed up with Dr. Mellersh, who was head of the Kennel Club Genetics Centre at the Animal Health Trust. She began a search for the POAG gene. In late 2014, Dr. Mellersh announced that the POAG gene in PBGVs had been found! In March 2015, the Animal Health Trust launched the first DNA health test for canine glaucoma.

This research changed the course of history for our beloved hounds. It was made possible by the dedication and expertise of Dr. Mellersh’s group. But it was also made possible by the Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of Great Britain, the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America, and the Health & Rescue
Foundation of PBGVCA. Our blood collection drives were instrumental in helping the Mellersh lab make their discovery. Glaucoma is no longer a major threat to PBGVs thanks to their work, the subsequent genetic test, and the advice we received from many canine geneticists.

Unfortunately, the Animal Health Trust was dissolved in 2020, its fundraising sharply affected by the pandemic. Dr. Mellersh moved her group to the University of Cambridge, where she now leads their Canine Genetics Centre.

The mission of the Canine Genetics Centre is to “understand the genetic basis of inherited diseases in dogs and to develop DNA tests which, together with breeding advice, will improve the health and welfare of generations of dogs.” Their work is critical to the health of all purpose-bred dogs. Their website notes that they “have identified more than 30 genetic variants associated with inherited diseases that affect around 50 different breeds of dog. Hundreds of thousands of dogs have been screened for these mutations globally, and thousands of dogs have subsequently been born that are free of these associated disorders.”

Sadly, we are experiencing a sense of déjà vu, since the Canine Genetics Centre is now facing a major funding gap that jeopardizes their ability to continue their work. While they are actively working to secure stable
funding, they sent out a call for help—and we responded.

The Health & Rescue Foundation of PBGVCA joined the Basset Griffon Vendéen Club and over 50 (as of April 1) other breed clubs and societies in pledging a donation to the Canine Genetics Centre.

Our pledge is an investment in the PBGV’s future. Among other research initiatives, the Canine Genetic Centre is striving to identify the genetic variants associated with the development of idiopathic epilepsy. We are fortunate that the PBGV is a relatively healthy breed, but epilepsy is a health concern in the PBGV. It is critical that this work continues.

The PBGV community is grateful for Dr. Mellersh’s dedication to canine health. Her past work improved PBGV health, and we support her future work with confidence. *PBGV Health and Rescue Foundation President Laura Liscum*

Thank you, Laura!

—Susan Smyth, PBGVCA GAZETTE column chair, oldyork2002@aol.com

Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America

Pharaoh Hounds

The following was written in 2009 by longtime *Pharaoh Hound* columnist and foundation breeder Mrs. Rita Laventhall Sacks.

“THE JUDGE PUT UP THE WRONG DOG”

Many of us, at one time or another, have commented after judging that the judge “put up the wrong dog.” I have heard this so often, and each time the thought comes to me;”Was there a right dog present?” If so, what made that one the right dog to put up? Did the judge really select the wrong dog, or was there a lack of good dogs from which to choose? Perhaps the judge was faced with having to put up a dog with one serious fault instead of one with another serious fault.

I am not making a case for poor judging, but I think we should acknowledge that there are times when the quality of our Pharaoh Hounds in the show ring is not what is called for in our standard. Sometimes a judge is forced to select his placements not just by comparing each dog to the standard, but by selecting the best of a very mediocre lot in which none compare favorably to the standard.

I wish that the judge would withhold the blue ribbon in such a situation. Not enough judges do that.

By withholding first place, the judge can send a clear message that none of the dogs in that class were sufficiently correct specimens of the breed. It would give breeders and exhibitors a wake-up call. Perhaps they would reevaluate their dogs and conclude that what they are currently breeding is not worthy of being shown or bred. I fervently hope that they might even read the standard and try to apply it to analyze their own dogs. In the long run, the judge would have done a service...
to our breed by not encouraging poor specimens to be shown.

On the other hand, we have judges who put up the wrong dog out of ignorance or lack of concern. The dog wins because he has great ring presence, is flashy, has a string of wins from equally non-caring judges, has had good publicity, or all of the above. He may often win over a better dog that unfortunately is not a showman—never mind that the winner might be overregulated in the rear and unable to move properly. If he looks good from the side while moving, that can make him a winner.

Unfortunately, this kind of judging really harms a breed. It encourages some breeders to overlook faults in their breeding in favor of superficial qualities that they think will help their dogs to win. It can discourage some conscientious breeders from exhibiting dogs that should be shown for a positive effect on the breed.

Protecting the integrity of our Pharaoh Hounds is the shared responsibility of judges and breeders. Respecting the standard of the breed is paramount, but it is often forgotten in the moment. Most show records are forgotten in just a few years, but a line of good, sound Pharaoh Hounds can reach well into the future... as can a line of unsound Pharaohs. Think about it.

—R.L.S.

Pharaoh Hound Club of America

Salukis

EARLY IMPORTED SALUKIS AND THE ELEMENT OF CHANCE

“I have two beautiful Greyhounds of first-rate breed. I wish I could send them to you for with their silky ears and feathered tails they are quite drawing-room dogs. They catch hares capitally, but are too young yet for gazelle.” —Sir Austen Henry Layard, 1849
In this excerpt from a letter to his mother, the excavator of the giant winged lions of Nineveh exemplifies the feelings of the first importers toward their Salukis. They were pets—and hunting hounds.

The first Salukis brought to England and Germany (the two centers of pre-WWI import populations) were adopted pets. While exploring or soldiering with the hounds, travelers had no thoughts of establishing breeding programs, much less importing to augment an existing program in England (with the notable exception of Florence Amherst (Amherstia), and the Lances (Sarona), who were seriously breeding prior to breed recognition).

Early Saluki importers in England connected at dog shows, but new breeds could only be shown in “Any Other Breed or Variety of British, Colonial, or Foreign Dogs Not Classified”—a class in which both sexes of rare dogs such as Afghans, “Esquimaux,” Lhasa Terriers, or Pekingese competed together.

After Salukis were officially recognized in 1923 and gaining popularity, the demand for puppies necessitated new breeding stock. While pet Salukis were still
Being brought in through quarantine by returning soldiers and civil servants, Saluki Club members began to send away for more desert hounds.

With the widespread fraternity of officers serving in Egypt, Iraq, and the Persian Gulf, it was possible to find a connection who could facilitate a Saluki importation—but often one might have to go through a chain of as many as five people before finding the person who could secure one from a tribe.

In those days, there was zero possibility of getting photos of the parents and litter or choosing a particular puppy. Arrangements were made by letter, and the importer had to take potluck. Sometimes the imported Saluki might fall short of the quality wanted and be bred only once as a trial or not at all, even after the considerable expense of shipping and quarantine.

Added to the uncertainties of distance, time, people involved, and disposition of Bedouin breeders, there was always the element of chance playing a hand in whether a hound could be successfully imported. Case in point: It was a very dissimilar imported pair that fledging Saluki fancier Esther Bliss-Knapp inadvertently obtained through a chain of at least four intermediaries.

Sometime in the early 1940s, after Field Marshal Sir Henry Maitland Wilson’s aide-de-camp, Col. Chapman-Walker, admired a particular Saluki’s hunting performance, King Abdul Aziz ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia presented a pair of Salukis to Wilson through Chapman-Walker. That crop-eared, feathered dog would be later named Abdul Farouk, and the smooth female, Lady Yeled Sarona Ramullah. Farouk was a Saudi dog born in Jeddah, while Lady Yeled was from Damascus, Syria. Because of their disparate tribal/geographic origins and types, it is extremely unlikely these two would have been mated in the desert.

The pair traveled with Field Marshall Wilson throughout the Mediterranean and had one litter before he gave them to Chapman-Walker in 1945. In Naples they were registered as British war dogs for importation, but Chapman-Walker couldn’t take them to England because his plane was too small (he did smuggle in one of their puppies, illegally bypassing quarantine).

Chapman-Walker gave the Salukis to Flight Officer Jean Dodge, who accompanied Field Marshall Wilson to Washington, D.C. But now Dodge was due to be transferred to the Far East, so she reached out to Edward Aldrich (Diamond Hill), asking if he knew anyone who wanted the imported pair. Aldrich announced their availability in the October 1945 AKC Gazette.

University student Carol-Ann Lantz (née Paice) agreed to take Farouk and Yeled, but her mother said no more Salukis until she’d
graduated. At Carol’s urging, Esther Bliss Knapp purchased the pair from Flight Officer Dodge in December.

The dice-roll was very lucky for Esther. After five years of petitioning, she was able to register her imports with the AKC, and Farouk would become a champion.

So, after an English officer’s chance sighting, impulsive royal generosity, a too-small airplane, a posting to America, an adamant mother, and four intermediaries, the unalike Abdul Farouk and Lady Yeled became part of Knapp’s Pine Paddocks line, and they are found in many American Saluki pedigrees.

—Brian Patrick Duggan, bpduggan@mac.com
Saluki Club of America

Scottish Deerhounds
FAMILY AFFAIR—2024!

Each year, our Scottish Deerhound Club of America provides a rotating “family reunion” for its members, and this year it’s going to be in beautiful Logan, Utah!

Our national specialty moves from region to region, from east to west. Last year it was in West Virginia, and this year it is being held at Towne Place Suites, in Cache Valley, May 21–25. The specialty will encompass many activities, as usual, so there will be something for every Deerhound taste!

Here’s a short breakdown of the offerings.

Conformation classes are the foundation of our specialties, and this year will be no exception.

We’ll begin with Futurity classes, where breeders have the opportunity to have their breeding programs highlighted. Starting with puppies at 3 months of age, youngsters will get their beginning taste of the show ring, while some of the older hounds, up to 24 months of age, will have the chance to show their quality. It’s a fun time for everyone, with the babies often providing comic relief with their antics!

Stud Dog and Brood Bitch classes are showcases for breeders, where the entrants are judged based on the quality of the youngsters they’ve produced. The intent here is to reward the successes of people’s breeding programs.

We’ll also see the Sweepstakes, where owners, new and experienced alike, have a chance of their dogs winning against others in their age group, up to 18 months. This offers a great start to promising youngsters, who are again judged according to how well they fit the standard.

Capping this off are the classes for our gorgeous veterans. Regular classes will follow, with all the AKC classes making up the bulk of the show entries. Here in the Stud Dog and Brood Bitch class we’ll see another chance of breeders to shine, and our lovely oldsters are honored in the Veteran classes.

Performance dogs get their chance, too, with the Field Trial classes. Then,
in nonregular classes, we’ll have our Three Generations classes, and Special Properties (Best Gait, Best Head, and Best Outline).

Obedience is always offered, too. Many folks think Deerhounds can’t do obedience, but our entries belie that! We have had some very good scores in the past, with a perfect score of 200 last year! We’ve had entries in Rally too. Let’s see what happens this year!

Lure coursing always sees good entries and great runs, with hounds getting the chance to stretch their legs and excited owners cheering them on. Everyone has a good time, and this year will prove to be no exception.

We routinely have health seminars and lots of health testing will be available—echocardiogram, Holter Study, Factor VII, DEPOGEN, eye exams, and research sample collections. We take the health of our wonderful breed seriously and want to do all we can to have the healthiest, longest-lived dogs possible!

This year, for the first time, we’ll be offering a Breeders’ Forum, where experienced breeders will present a dog of their own or of their breeding and pointing out the dog’s strengths and also places where there could be improvement, followed by an informal discussion between breeders and attendees. Should be fun!

We’re excited about being in the mountains this year, and enjoying a great venue. If you can join us, we’d be delighted. More information about our specialty and our breed can be found at the website below.

—Frances Smith
Scottish Deerhound Club of America

Whippets
WELCOME WHIPPETS!

As I write this column, plans are being made and anticipation is building for the largest American Whippet Club national specialty ever held, with over

Scottish Deerhound Ch. Foxcliffe Hickory Wind, 2011
(Ashbey photo)
1,100 entries. Every year the national attracts Whippet lovers from all over the U.S. and Canada, and often a good contingent from overseas as well. This year the destination is Kingsport, Tennessee, and its surroundings. For those of us who enjoy participating in as many events as possible, the celebration in April lasts for nine days.

By the time this column is published, this epic event will be over, but I’d like to add some commentary that is hopefully true for that week, and for the future.

In this era of technology and social media, the excitement of a major specialty event is expressed all over the internet, far and wide. Most gratifying is the number of posts and comments and questions from newer Whippet enthusiasts who are attending their first-ever national. It is fun to read their comments and questions, and their eagerness is palpable.

Advice abounds. We keep telling these folks to be sure to introduce themselves upon arrival, to try to do all the things, to enjoy every moment, to save their pennies for some great shopping, and not to plan on getting much sleep.

Those of us who have been in the breed a long time have our friends and our associates, and it is tempting and comfortable to stay within our “lane,” only socializing with our old friends who we don’t get to see too often. But we owe it to our breed and its future to welcome, encourage, and mentor all of these newer
BREED COLUMNS

HOUND GROUP

folks and invite them into our Whippet family.

Specialties are the best places to reach out, to teach, to learn, and to share experience with both old and new fanciers. If we want our breed and, in fact, all purebred dogs to grow, we will make every effort to include and embrace new friends to the world of Whippets and dog events.

Even though this national is just over, I hope that everyone made new friends there, and that it was the best ever and a most enjoyable and gratifying experience for all. I also hope that all of the first-time participants had a joyous and memorable time and that we, as “seasoned” Whippet lovers, welcomed them with open arms and will continue to do so in the future. In this way, every single one of us can ensure a good future for our chosen breed.

Welcome, Whippets!
—Phoebe Booth, Blandford, Mass., Shamasan@aol.com
American Whippet Club

TERRIER GROUP

Airedale Terriers
THE AIREDALE TERRIER NATIONAL FLOATER SPECIALTY

Springtime is a wonderful time of the year for fellow Airedale enthusiasts. Between the April showers and May flowers, there are plenty of Airedale specialty and supported shows happening across the country. This spring, Airedale lovers had an extra-special treat, with the Airedale Terrier Club of America’s National Floater Specialty and Concurrent Specialty held in Louisville, Kentucky, in mid-March.

A group of Airedale fans from all across the country and Canada gathered in Louisville for the specialty shows, and the events had a strong entry of nearly 50 Airedales. I had the rare pleasure of watching the judging every day, while also enjoying the most agreeable club hospitality and truly exceptional events.

After a weekend rich with discussion about Airedales and meaningful camaraderie with fellow breeders, I took stock of two noteworthy themes. First, our breed is in good shape. Second, investing in the future of our breed is crucial.

I am grateful for the opportunity to observe our breed over the long term, and I have come to the conclusion that our breed is in excellent shape based on feedback from breeders over several decades. When I was a young junior in the late 1960s to the early ‘80s, I would sit ringside and listen intently to the concerns of many breeders. They consistently pointed out three areas that needed improvement in the breed: length of back/loin, size/body substance, and movement. However, as I listened to fellow breeders this past March, I heard no consistent concerns regarding our breed. The absence of recurring concerns among a large number of breeders, coupled with the exceptional quality of the entries, indicates the high caliber of modern-day breeding.

The national-specialty
Fans of the Airedale Terrier convened in Louisville in March for the ATCA’s floating and concurrent specialties. Pictured: National-specialty Best of Breed GCh. Spindletop’s Courtesy of the Red, White, and Blue, “Sibbell”; Sibbell moves out during group judging; Olivia Garner with national-specialty Select Bitch Ch. Meadowaire Joval Lexicon of Love; Jamie Rogers and Carol Scott were among the Airedalers and members of the Wire Fox and Welsh Terrier clubs who gathered for dinner at the Churchill Downs Museum, where some wore Derby-themed attire, including fascinators and hats; Olivia Garner wears her custom-made Airedale hat, “Hat with the Most Votes” in the Kentucky Derby Hat competition; Ric Chashoudian bronze of Ch. Tartan’s Oil Patch Star, generously donated to the ATCA live auction by Scott Sommer. The winning bid went to Jamie Rogers.

Best of Breed winner, GCh. Spindletop’s Courtesy of the Red, White, and Blue, owned by breeder Anne Barlow, is an excellent example of breeding excellence in every aspect. This steadfast and extremely correct bitch with the right type and Airedale attitude showcases the fact that our breed is indeed in excellent shape due to dedicated, meticulous, and mindful breeding.

The second equally important theme is the significance of investing in the future. Specifically, it’s important to invest in youthful Airedale enthusiasts who can carry on the prosperity
of our breed in the future. While Airedales are a fantastic breed, they require hard work and dedication. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to recruit, mentor, and maintain those up-and-coming, stalwart Airedalers.

To this end, I would like to recognize two shining stars who showed their Airedales flawlessly this past March. These two young ladies—Olivia Landgren, who entered the weekend with only one show under her belt, and Olivia Garner, who confidently piloted my special for the very first time—showed their dogs with ease, professionalism, and the utmost self-confidence. They were universally recognized by fellow exhibitors and those ringside as future guardians and promoters of our breed.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of the 2024 National Floater and Concurrent Airedale specialties. Congratulations to all the breeders, owners, and handlers for presenting an outstanding entry, and I am looking forward to the continuing achievements of our rising stars and the future of our breed!

As we move ahead, let’s gear up to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year—Montgomery, which is just around the corner. See you next quarter!

—Nancy Nykamp,
meadowaire.terriers@gmail.com
Airedale Terrier Club of America

American Hairless Terriers

THE AMERICAN HAIRLESS TERRIER: A QUICK HISTORY

The American Hairless Terrier (AHT) is the only hairless breed that is indigenous to the United States. The AHT is a naturally occurring offshoot of the Rat Terrier. The Rat Terrier was originally developed in England in the early 1800s as a rodent exterminator. They worked farms and earned the nickname “feists” due to their feisty temperament. Toward the late 1800s, British miners brought these feists to rural America. They were stabilized as a breed with crosses to the Smooth Fox Terrier and other small terriers. It was President Theodore Roosevelt who coined the name Rat Terrier (he had a beloved feist named Skip).

Fast-forward to 1972 in Trout, Louisiana, when a hairless pup, later named Josephine, was born into a litter of mid-sized Rat Terriers. Granted, Josephine was not the first hairless pup born to these parents. In fact, many theorize that this spontaneous hairless mutation had occurred several times prior. However, hairless pups are born with a “washcloth” vestigial fuzz covering their bodies and a balding head. Imagine being
a farmer and seeing five pups with smooth, shiny, full coats (read “healthy”), and one that looks “motheaten.” Then the soon-to-be-naked pup continues to lose this coat until they are completely hairless save for whiskers, eyebrows, and eyelashes.

It is highly likely that these hairless pups were simply culled for fear that their “illness” may be contagious. However, in this case, the original breeder gave Josephine to his friends Edwin and Willie Scott. The Scott family loved Josephine’s intelligent, lively, and loyal personality. They also saw the benefit of having a completely hairless dog with no flea or shedding concerns. While Josephine needed protection from the sun (sunscreen or clothing), she was perfectly healthy. The Scotts hoped to produce more hairless Rat Terriers, even though they had no prior breeding experience.

When Josephine was 1 year old, the Scotts bred her to her sire. This litter contained four puppies—three coated, and one hairless female, later named Gypsy. In the following years, Josephine had many litters, but none with hairless puppies. However, in October 1981, at the age of 9 years, Josephine was bred to her son. On December 30, 1981, she whelped a hairless male (Snoopy), a hairless female (Jemima), and two coated female puppies (Petunia and Queenie).

The Scotts decided to embark on a full-scale breeding program. When these puppies turned 1 year of age, Snoopy was bred to all of his littermates. Jemima whelped all hairless, and Petunia and Queenie’s litters contained both hairless and coated pups. The Scotts kept every puppy and were on their way to becoming Trout Creek Kennel. Fun fact: the Scotts are also credited with coining the breed name, American Hairless Terrier.

In 1999, the United Kennel Club (UKC) recognized the Rat Terrier with the understanding that their hairless counterpart, the AHT, also received registration papers. Therefore, the breed standard included both the “coated” and “hairless” varieties. In 2004, with sufficient numbers to stand...
on their own, the AHT became a separate breed but retained the two varieties. It is important to note that any Rat Terrier with hairless relatives in the pedigree became AHTs. Despite this separation, the AHT continued outcrossing to the Rat Terrier to improve genetic diversity, structure, and temperament.

It was well known by this time that the hairless gene was a straight recessive trait. That means breeding two hairless \((hh \times hh)\) together will always yield hairless offspring (with no concomitant health risks). Breeding a coated carrier to a hairless \((hC \times hh)\) will produce 50 percent hairless \((hh)\) and 50 percent coated carrier \((hC)\) offspring. Breeding two coated carriers together \((hC \times hC)\) produces 25 percent hairless \((hh)\), 50 percent coated carriers \((hC)\), and 25 percent coated pups that are genetically like Rat Terriers \((CC)\) and will not produce hairless pups across their lifetimes.

To further assist fanciers in making breeding decisions, a regional 501(c)3 club, the Hurricane Alley American Hairless Terrier Association, Inc., worked with Dr. Mark Neff at the University of California–Davis to study the AHT and identify this recessive trait. By 2010, with the full support of the AHT fanciers, Dr. Neff was successful, learning that the SGK3 gene was responsible for hairlessness in the AHT. (Stay tuned for future GAZETTE articles with more information on our unique hairless gene.)

Five years after UKC recognition, key breeders founded the American Hairless Terrier Club of America (AHTCA), Inc. with the goal of moving our beloved breed toward AKC recognition. The AHT breed standard was accepted in 2010, and we obtained Foundation Stock Service designation in October 2011. By January 2014, the AHT began competing in Miscellaneous Class, and a short two years later we were fully recognized as a new member of the Terrier Group.

Yes, you can find the AHT competing in conformation, but AHTs also excel in a wide variety of performance events. Watch for AHTs, including the coated variety, at a trial or show near you!

—Karyn S. Pingel, wmk.ahts@gmail.com
American Hairless Terrier Club of America

Australian Terriers
WHERE HAVE ALL THE AUSSIES (AND PROSPECTIVE OWNERS) GONE?

The Australian Terrier litter and complement (number of puppies born in that litter) numbers have decreased significantly since last year. The AKC recorded only 36 litters and only 163 Australian Terriers born in 2023!

Over the previous five years (2018–2022), the number of litters had been staying steady, with an average of 49.4 litters per year and an average of 247.8
puppies born per year. This
was after a steady decline
from 114 litters (479 pup-
pies) in 2011 to 61 litters
(281 puppies) in 2017.

This is way down from
the heyday of 1,313 pup-
pies registered in one year
(1971)—and this is only a
fraction of the puppies born
that year.

The reduction of litters and
puppies is due to the sharp
decrease in the number of
breeders and the number of
litters they have each year. In
the last year alone, the num-
ber of breeders has dropped
from 37 to only 24. Of these
24, only 11 are members of
the Australian Terrier Club
of America.

These are very scary sta-
tistics! Especially when we
consider that in 2017, the
Aussies born in the U.S.
accounted for 33 percent
of the Aussies worldwide.
Knowing the restrictions of
breeding stock in Europe
and Australia, it is unknown
if we still account for almost
a third of the Aussies born
worldwide, or possibly a
proportionally larger num-
ber. A very scary thought if
we do! We need to increase
our number of responsible
breeders.

While the low numbers
really concern me, it con-
cerns me more that I am
hearing from our breeders
that it is becoming harder
to find homes for their pup-
pies. We need to increase
the number of breeders—but if
they can’t sell their puppies,
they won’t stay breeders for
long.

In the past it wasn’t
unusual for a breeder to
have a waiting list of pro-
spective buyers for litters to
be born, sometimes as long
as two years in the future.
Now, some breeders have
puppies from their last litter as old as 6 months old and still do not have a buyer.

I honestly do not think that our prices are too high for a purebred terrier. I believe the prices asked by our breeders are on par, if not lower than, those of most responsible terrier breeders.

The problem could possibly be that people do not recognize the Australian Terrier, or even know about them.

I just finished placing my last litter of nine puppies in their new homes, thankfully all before they were 12 weeks old. Every home they went to have either had an Aussie before, or someone in their family has. It was nice to see more young owners, one just out of college, for this litter compared to past litters. However, there wasn’t one inquiry from someone who wasn’t previously familiar with the breed. So, how do we get our breed better known?

We have Aussies showing up in commercials, advertisements, and in a new movie. We’ve even had an Aussie show up on a billboard in New York’s Times Square. We have Aussies who are on TikTok under their own name or have a YouTube channel dedicated to the tricks they do. There are even books written where the main character is an Aussie. We have them showing in not only conformation; many more than ever before are performing, and have titled, in every performance and companion event offered by AKC. We have “Ask me about my Aussie” stickers for our cars, and an “Aussie Ambler” program where three or more Aussies go out into public to be seen and educate the public.

What more can we do to prevent our beloved breed from continuing on this path toward extinction?

—Dr. Grace Massey, 4343 Mallard Dr., Gloucester, VA 23061; firewalkeraussies@gmail.com
Australian Terrier Club of America

Bedlington Terriers
WHAT’S IT ALL ABOUT?

While scissoring my Bedlington for the show ring, I overheard a passerby comment on all the coiffing in the grooming area. I laughed when she said, “This is just like Toddlers & Tiaras!” referring to the TV show about child beauty-pageants. As I looked around, I realized it could seem she was not far off in her analogy. Besides the similarities between the hours spent grooming our dogs for the show ring and the hours the subjects of the show spend applying makeup and up-dos to young beauty contestants, there are other similarities. Dog-show handlers use bait, and pageant parents use candy. We stack and move our dogs in front of a judge, while beauty contestants perform dance routines. We compete for the big ribbon, while they vie for the oversized crown.

I put down my scissors to explain that dog shows are not actually “beauty con-
tests” and that conformation showing is a comprehensive evaluation by a judge who determines which dog best meets the written breed standard. I explain that the grooming we do enhances the beauty of a Bedlington Terrier while making sure the judge is still able to see the dog’s correct structure, sound movement, and overall balance.

It wasn’t the first time I have answered questions about dog shows or my dog. The Bedlington is a breed that draws a crowd of never-ending curiosity and questions.

At an event without a Meet the Breeds booth for Bedlingtons, here are five suggested ways to manage the inquisitive:

1. Designate one person in your group to answer questions. Take turns so everyone has time to get her dog ready for the ring.

2. If you are alone, allocate a time after showing when people can return and talk with you and pet your Bedlington.

3. Hand out a breed brochure that answers basic questions. Include your contact information and breed-parent-club information.

4. Allow people to pet your Bedlington—under his chin, around his front, or over his shoulders where they won’t mess up the coat, if they visit before you’re done competing. Remember, the judge is soon to have his or her hands all over your dog, so if you have groomed your dog correctly, the coat should easily comb back into shape.

5. Whenever possible, let people meet your Bedlington who is entered in performance competitions, rather than a dog being groomed for the conformation ring.

Truth be told, many exhibitors do not take the time to talk with spectators attending shows. The repetition of questions, the reaching of hands, and interference in the aisles can get annoying. We need to remember, however, that some of these people are future puppy owners, and we must be good ambassadors for our breed as well as for the fancy in general and the AKC.

As breeders, owners, and handlers, we enter conformation events to show our dogs and win ribbons, but we are also there to educate and
promote the breeds we love so dearly.

I will never forget one young boy who stood wide-eyed with his family, eager to meet my Bedlington. He asked if he could pet my dog, and I said yes. His curiosity led to a series of questions about the breed.

As the family walked away, the boy said, “One day I am going to have a Bedlington Terrier!”

Answering his questions took less than five minutes of my time but obviously made a lasting impression. Now that’s what it is all about! —Laurie Friesen

Bedlington Terrier Club of America

Border Terriers

For this month’s column, two top participants in earthdog events are interviewed by Border Terrier Club of America member Marta Force. Marta is owner of the amazingly talented Border Terrier Bendywood & Bud’s Gold Leaf, FDC, ME, BCAT, SWN, ATT, RATN, AWTA-CG, EE10, VX—who earned the EE10 (Endurance Earthdog 10) title traveling to 10 different states and earning legs under 72 different judges. (To earn the Endurance Earthdog (EE) title, a dog must have already earned a Master Earthdog title, then on five occasions, pass both the Senior and Master classes at the same event. A dog who achieves additional sets of five double-qualifications can earn additional EE titles followed by a number.)

Marta’s interviewees—the “Thelma and Louise” referred to in the article title below—are Lini Federici and Peggy Metcalf.

Special congratulations are in order for Peggy, who was recently named AKC 2023 Breeder of the Year by Sport award for Earthdog (Norfolk Terriers).

**THELMA AND LOUISE** TACKLE EARTHDOG

(or, “How we traveled 232,000 miles, spent $5,000 in entry fees, hauled 11+ terriers through 30 states, earned 61 earthdog titles, and lived to tell the tale.”)

_How did you get started in earthdog?_

**PM:** I bought a Norfolk Terrier for my son, and the rest is history!! I was interested in doing earthwork because I wanted to keep this instinct alive in this breed. There is nothing better than watching your terrier hunting on the Master walkup. They are in their element doing what nature meant them to do.

**LF:** I got my first Norfolk in January 1999. I brought Broady to an earthdog test that spring and I met three ladies who would become my friends and cohorts and we began showing and traveling with.

_Any idea how many miles you have traveled in your earthdog quest?_

**PM:** I kept records starting in 2003 and estimate I have travelled about 232,000 miles for earthdog events since then and spent...
around $2,300+ on earthdog entry fees. Think my terriers have earned about 45 titles. I do it because my dogs and I have a wonderful time and the memories we have created will last us a lifetime.

What qualities do you most appreciate in a travel partner?

PM: Our cross-country trips are usually six or seven days. We try to visit all the national parks, state parks, and national monuments. Lini finds dog-friendly places to hike so the dogs can stretch their legs. We talk, laugh, and enjoy our days on the road.

LF: I prefer someone who I can “talk shop” with before and after the trial, with similar interests, someone who loves earthdog and someone who loves the adventure of traveling as much as I do.

What was your best earthdog test day, and why?

PM: The best was the day Ollie (yes, the naughty Norfolk!) earned his final leg for his Master Earthdog title. This last leg took us four and a half years and 32
tests to earn.

**LF:** I have had lots of good days doing earthdog. Someone’s dog must have finished a Master title because Peggy, Sue, and I had our tents up, we were all sitting in chairs, dogs in ex-pens, and we were having lunch drinking winners Champagne out of dog-crate cups!! Not that passing is what makes a good day, but that day’s celebration sure was tons of fun!

**What was your worst earthdog test day, and why?**

**PM:** The worst was the day Ollie earned his ME—yes, the best and worst day were the same day. Simply put, the judge refused to tell me if Ollie had passed. I walked all the way back to my setup, crying and hugging my dog, not truly knowing if he passed or not because the judge wouldn’t tell me. In the end I learned Ollie had passed when the awards were given out. If it had not been for my friend there to hold me back, I might have said something truly awful to that judge for putting me through that.

**Did any of your terriers surprise you or make “creative adaptations” to the rules?**

**PM:** When released Sallie would run around the liners and run back to me, as though saying, “Hey, you ought to see what’s in the tunnel,” barking non-stop! Then she’d dive into the liners, barking all the way to the rats and do her job. Even with all this drama, she earned her ME last summer 1, 2, 3, 4!

**LF:** My dog Raven came up to the Master den, she saw the rats in the end of the tunnel, saw the bars, and knew she could not get in that way. Well, she got the cage in her teeth, and it was an all-out tug-of-war. Finally when we lifted up the tunnel I grabbed the cage from her, and the judge said, “That was quite a mark—ha ha!”

**What wisdom gleaned from your experiences can you share with those new to earthdog?**

**PM:** Allow the innate instincts in your dog to grow and bloom. Do not rush the process. Stick with it, make it fun. Slow and easy wins the race. I’ve seen too many people rushing their dogs.

**LF:** Do not expect your dog to pick this up in one lesson! It is dark, it echoes, and it takes courage and confidence-building—all of which the dog will need before he or she is ready to commit to this sport. Take it slow.

**Anything else you want to tell readers about your journey?**

**LF:** “Besides the dogs always having a really great time, I, for one, enjoy everything about the sport and I have met some wonderful, welcoming people! I love to see our dogs come alive when they finally figure out the game. I feel because of this, most people I have met at an Earthdog test are encouraging and helpful and root for all the dogs to pass. We visited some lovely sights, parks, and cities along the way and have had some wonderful adventures that I will remember all my life.”
Many thanks to Lin and Peggy for sharing their thoughts and knowledge. Anyone can do this! The top five breeds titling in earthdog (according to statistics from AKC 2021 and 2022 combined) are as follows: Border Terriers 342, Dachshunds 167, Cairn Terriers 55, and Russell Terriers 46. Earthdog tests are occurring at an all-time high nowadays. There are more and more opportunities to travel with your new best friend, carrying your terrier best friends with you and together making some fantastic memories of your own! —M.F.

Thank you, Marta! —D’Arcy Downs-Vollbracht, AKC GAZETTE columns coordinator, Border Terrier Club of America

Bull Terriers

“THE SUREST OF HANDS”: SHAPING A PUPPY INTO A WELL-BEHAVED ADULT

In an episode of the recently released series Gentleman in Moscow, two Borzois break loose from their lady and wreak havoc while running through a crowded restaurant. After Alexander, the protagonist, whistles the dogs to heel, the following exchange occurs between their lady and him:

“I am afraid they are ill bred.”

“On the contrary, they appear to be perfectly bred.”

“What I meant to say is that they are ill behaved.”

“Ah, behavior is a matter of handling, not of breeding.”

“And for that reason, well-bred dogs belong on the shortest of leashes.”

“I always think the best-bred dog belongs in the surest of hands.”

The AKC standard currently reads that a Bull Terrier must be “… full of fire, but of sweet disposition and amenable to discipline”—which is an apt, complete, and poetic description of the desired temperament.

When screening potential puppy people, one of the first questions I ask is “Why do you want a Bull Terrier?” Some responses are “I love Spuds Mackenzie.” “I love the way their heads look.” “My grandfather had one,” and “I love their silly personality.” Not one potential puppy person has ever said, “I love their stubbornness,” nor “I can’t wait for her to hucklebutt and bounce off the walls,” “They seem really easy to train,” or “I want her to dig holes in my yard.”

My point is, there is nothing common about a well-bred Bull Terrier. On the one hand, it has the tenacity, strength, power, and willfulness of its ancestor the Bulldog. On the other hand, it can have a myriad of terrier traits: active, fun-loving, prey-driven, inquisitive, and energetic. Anyone who wishes to invite the potential tomfoolery of a Bull Terrier into their home must be of strong constitution, extraordinarily patient, and have a sense of humor for a dog possessing both a remarkable ability to create mayhem and a profound devotion to lounging around.
BREED COLUMNS

TERRIER GROUP

Misha’s assertion that “behavior is a matter of handling, not of breeding,” certainly has some merit with regard to shaping a puppy into a well-behaved Bull Terrier. From the whelping box until the long sleep, a Bull Terrier must be handled with love, affection, consistency, and a sense of humor, and be provided with boundaries that he has been led to believe are of his own creation. This is the key. As soon as any respectable Bull Terrier gets wind of his person giving him instruction or attempting to teach him anything that has no pay off for him, he will kiss off. His response will be a dull, droll stare or a complete rebellion against the activity at hand.

Yes, indeed, behavior can be “a matter of handling.” It is imperative that responsible breeders discuss the nature of the breed and its gamut of behaviors. These
conversations must be frank and not sugar coated. We live in a time when “designer” dogs are bred and marketed to the public as unique, when in fact they are simply mixed-breed dogs for which little or no thought has been given into competing drives, genetic predisposition to health issues, or temperament.

As responsible breeders of purebred Bull Terriers, we have the advantage of knowing what we can expect from our breed. We owe it to our breed to present them both in light of their fabulous traits such as being silly and sweet in nature, being affectionate and loving with their families and humans in general, and showing a congenial spirit and playfulness. However, we must also discuss and address their shortcomings with their people. Being uninformed or unsupported by breeders is one of the main reasons Bull Terriers land in rescue. We must do everything in our power to ensure that puppies we place are in homes that are committed to developing the “surest of hands.”

—Victoria M. Sottile
Bull Terrier Club of America

Cairn Terriers

THE CAIRN PUPPY COAT

Living with a breed means we may know something so basic that we forget to appreciate the specialness of the detail. A particular feature of the Cairn Terrier known to all breeders is the puppy coat (commonly called the “puppy fuzz”). This special coat is not apparent at birth but grows in over the first weeks. Cairn breeders also know that they will pull the coat at several months of age to allow the hard adult coat to come in and to reveal the adult color of the dog.

A canine hair follicle contains several hair shafts that each grow from separate papillae. These hairs become the hard outer coat and soft undercoat. As the hairs age and die the follicle will release the hair shafts. The dead hair is then “shed” or may be released by the process of hand-stripping. Most terriers and certain other breeds have this special hard coat that requires tugging on the hairs to free them from the skin. The art of hand-stripping is a skill well known to every terrier fancier wanting to keep their dog in healthy coat.

Cairn puppies are born with a short, dense coat covering their body. They grow a second coat, the puppy coat, that begins to appear at 1 to 2 weeks of age. This growth has long, silky black hairs, frequently with gold-tipped ends. The puppy coat will “loosen” and may be able to be pulled somewhere between 4 to 6 months of age, depending on the individual dog. Cairn breeders are so familiar with the puppy coat they assume the first stripping is routine. Pulling the puppy coat is just what is done to Cairns as they grow up.

All puppies are a delight, and everyone wants to know
“What color are they?” right after asking how many boys and girls. Cairn puppies appear darkish due to the puppy coat and may be difficult to identify as to their adult colors. Brindling will be hidden, and the base color of the dog may not be evident. Once the puppy coat is stripped, the colors of the adult undercoat and outer coat are more obvious. Cream and wheaten Cairns will appear markedly lighter-colored after the puppy coat is removed. One technique to guess adult color under a puppy coat is to fold back the hair on the neck behind the ear. The shorter adult coat will be visible under the longer hairs of puppy coat, allowing an adult color to be guessed.

Other terrier breeds also have special luxuriant puppy coats. I am told by mentor friends that Border Terrier puppies also have a thick, soft, and dark coat that hides the hard adult coat until the first stripping. West Highland White Terriers have a soft white puppy coat that blends with the rest of the coat.

While the soft puppy coat is a normal phase of development, it should not be confused with the genetic fault of soft adult coats (“fluffy coats”). Soft- or fluffy-coated adult Cairns are to be faulted. The soft and silky puppy coat will be gone after the first stripping, but a genetically soft coat will not resolve despite grooming.

Every Cairn breeder knows that sad day when it is “time” for the first stripping of a new puppy. The coat will finally be loose enough to come out with mild pulling. The puppy is initiated into the world of adult terrier grooming as the long, silky hairs with gold tips are tugged loose. Done gently and with praise, massage, and treats as rewards, each puppy is trained to expect grooming as routine care.

—Pat Joyce, patjoyce1@att.net
Cairn Terrier Club of America

Dandie Dinmont Terriers
THE GENTLEMAN TERRIER

The question which usually follows “What breed is that?” is “What is a
Dandie Dinmont Terrier like to live with?”

Generally, the short answer is to explain the while the Dandie is more placid and relatively calm and sensible for a terrier, he will show his “terrier” if aroused.

Most importantly, though, the Dandie is a companion dog who loves to be a part of the family. Lock him away or put him out in the kennel, and he will be miserable and will not hesitate to let you know that he seriously objects to your behavior. Integrating the Dandie into the family routine is essential to have a calm, well-rounded dog and reliable companion for life.

Dandies are the head of any welcoming committee, greeting everyone who comes into his home with enthusiasm, which includes vocalizations and lots of tail-wagging. Once the opening display is completed, most Dandies will wander off to a sofa or chair or dog bed and take a nap.

To explain them another way, they are excited and very active for the moment, and then collapse in comfort until you move, which then requires their attention.

It is important to realize that yes, Dandies do snore! They also dream. Although knowing exactly what they are doing in their sleep is not easy, during the night some put on quite a chase of, I assume, vermin. Also, be wary when bringing a new cat or other animal into the household that will run away from the Dandie; the chase will be on in a flash. Having watched several Dandies chasing stray rabbits out of the yard, when excited, the calm and quiet Dandie becomes quite the hunter.

So what is a typical day
in the life of a well-spoiled Dandie Dinmont? The very first task of the day is to wake you up and go outside for the morning exercise time. Playing a little is OK, but just as soon as all business has been completed, the morning meal is expected. Running around the kitchen or any part of the house is par for the course until the meal is served. After breakfast, most Dandies will stick around, just in case part of the family’s breakfast hits the floor. This is especially important when younger children are part of the family.

Morning training or playtime is great, but this is immediately followed by the morning nap. The rest of the morning may be spent lounging in a sunny spot or digging a hole in the newly planted grass. Dandies should not be left unsupervised in the great outdoors!

Lunchtime usually means another walk or more playtime in the fenced yard, and perhaps a treat. A better approach is to merge the treats with a training session to teach the Dandie puppy how to walk on a leash, fetch a toy or ball, and to sit, stay, and lie down on command. All this training takes time and a kind but consistent approach. Dandies are quick studies, but consistency and treats are the keys to success.

The rest of the day includes another nap or two. Watching TV, especially AKC.tv, is always a treat. Do not be surprised if your Dandie goes around the TV looking for the other dogs—or, as my old girl does, growling at the intruders!

Dinner is another family event, and an opportunity for spending time with the family. Do not teach your Dandie to beg at the table unless you want him to always be there begging. Some things a Dandie can learn in record time!

Evening leads to a final playtime, walk, and then off to bed.

Are Dandies fun to live with? Absolutely! They can be the biggest clowns ever, throwing toys, chewing chew-toys, fetching balls or simply jumping up in your lap and licking your face. They live to make you laugh and appreciate their quirky nature. And to bark when someone tried to sneak in the back door quietly!

For more about everything Dandie Dinmont, check out Dandie Dinmont Terrier, by Betty-Anne Stenmark (CompanionHouse Books, 2006).

—Sandra Wolfskill,
DDTCA President
swolfskill@cs.com
Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America, Inc.

Smooth Fox Terriers
TOO MANY CHAMPIONS

The following is a letter to Stanley March, from Emily H. Farrell of Foxden Smooth Fox Terrier fame—a bit of Fox Terrier history from early 1982.

“In your recent letter you expressed concern about the large number of Smooth champions finished in 1981. Others have said 137 champions was ridiculous and that there could
not be that many Smooths worthy of the title. There were 106 champions made up in Wires, which was a definite rise from 1980, but not as great as the rise in Smooths. You also asked about the reasons for such a difference in the numbers of champions here and in England. You asked about the English system of awarding championships.

“There were 9 Smooth and 6 Wire champions made up in Great Britain in 1981. I think the wide spread in number is mainly due to the fact that in this country there were 860 all-breed shows and 9 independent Fox Terrier specialties held last year, while Challenge Certificates were available in Britain at only 27 shows. It is redundant to point out that it is a smaller country with fewer exhibitors. However, the 27 shows brought out larger entries than were had here.

“In the United Kingdom Challenge Certificates are given in each sex at certain shows designated ‘Championship Show.’ It takes three certificates under different judges to gain the title. There is an exception to this. A puppy may win three or as many certificates as judges see fit to bestow upon it—but it may not have the title of champion until it has won yet another certificate after reaching the age of twelve months. The ‘challenge for the certificate’ is comparable to our Winners class. For example, all the undefeated dogs come into the ring and the certificate winner is chosen from amongst them. This is repeated in bitches, then the dog and bitch meet for Best of Breed. (Smooths and Wires are considered to be breeds, not varieties of the same breed). Champions are entered in the Open class, so that the rising star, seeking the title of champion, must defeat the existing titleholders. A really top dog or bitch can easily dominate the breed and garner ten or more certificates in a season’s showing.

“This brings me around to our system of judging, which I think is pretty good one, on the whole. I have
always felt that the one serious flaw is the basic difference between our system and the English system, i.e., that here it is not necessary to unseat the reigning champion in order to have the ‘Ch.’ in front of the dog’s name. Call dog showing a hobby or sport, it still is the only competitive activity where a championship is acquired without defeating another champion. Sometimes a top-quality exhibit will come out and win over those exhibits entered for Best of Breed/Variety competition, but the majority of the 243 Fox Terriers that became champions of record in 1981 did not do it that way.

“Until the mid-thirties champions were entered in the Open class in this country. All of a sudden there was word spread around that it was unfair and un-sporting, and so it went out of fashion. However, it is still within the rules to enter champions in Open. Under our revised rules [the] winners dog and bitch do at least get in the ring with the ‘specials’ and sometimes come out on top. When Best of Winners was judged before Best of Breed, the defeated dog or bitch could accumulate points, be declared a champion, and never meet another title-holder head on.

‘Of all the Fox Terrier champions finished in 1981, only four Smooths and one Wire were group winners. The bulk of such wins went to terriers that had gained their titles in earlier years. I believe there are a number of reasons for this, but time and space do not permit going into that at this point.’

—Judy March Dawson, bjscout90@gmail.com
American Fox Terrier Club

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**Glen of Imaal Terriers**

**ANTIQUE FEATURES, MODERN TIMES**

Glen of Imaal Terriers make wonderful family dogs. They are smart and very trainable. They shed very little and are a nice-sized dog for country or city living, at 35 to 45 pounds on average. They don’t need a lot of exercise. They are not a high-strung or busy breed, at least not in their adult years. They have a big bark, but they use it judicially, not to excess. They are versatile and can be found competing in events including obedience, agility, tracking, scent work, barn hunt, coursing, and earthdog. Those of us who live with them can’t imagine life without them.

This dog with antique features (front legs that turn out very slightly, and a topline that has a slight but perceptible rise) has some wonderful qualities, but they are still without a doubt a terrier.

The AKC website describes the Terrier Group this way: “People familiar with this group invariably comment on the distinctive terrier personality. These are feisty, energetic dogs whose sizes range from fairly small, as in the Norfolk, Cairn or West Highland White Terrier, to
the grand Airedale Terrier. Terriers typically have little tolerance for other animals, including other dogs. Their ancestors were bred to hunt and kill vermin. Many continue to project the attitude that they’re always eager for a spirited argument. Most terriers have wiry coats that require special grooming known as stripping in order to maintain a characteristic appearance. In general, they make engaging pets, but require owners with the determination to match their dogs’ lively characters.

In this short paragraph, three things stand out: “typically have little tolerance for other animals,” “have wiry coats that require special grooming,” and “make engaging pets, but require owners with the determination to match their dogs’ lively characters.”

Early socialization is very important, but even with socialization they might not be the best breed for taking to your local dog park. Going for walks around the neighborhood on a leash is much safer, considering the typical terrier temperament.

Glens shed very little, but they must be groomed or their undercoat will mat. It takes some time to learn to strip, and breeders are happy to teach you—but when buyers live hundreds or even thousands of miles away from their dogs’ breeders, it can be a challenge.

To welcome a Glen into your family is to accept their “terrierness.” It means you’ll need to learn to strip their coat or find someone to do it for you. You may have to skip the dog park and walk on leash instead. You should try to find a puppy obedience class to get your relationship off to a good start.

Owning a rare breed of terrier helps to preserve them for future generations. I am very grateful for all the families who keep a Glen not for breeding or showing, but for the companionship, warmth, and enjoyment this
old Irish breed brings into our modern lives.

—Jo Lynn, irishglen@aol.com
Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of America

Irish Terriers
A CHANCE ENCOUNTER

Had dog shows become passé on that hot August day in 1878? That was a sentiment expressed by the Dublin Freeman’s Journal. After all, this inaugural show of the newly formed Kennel Club, precursor to the Irish Kennel Club, was the second dog show in the last six months held in the Dublin Exhibition Palace and only a week after the “National Dog Show” took place at the Dublin Alexandria Palace. The measly entry of 344 dogs—many of whom were absent—far outnumbered the spectators.

The hot weather didn’t help the situation. It was said that in this heat, “Five minutes were more than enough to enable one to see all that was to be seen … and except to an ‘owner’ exhibiting, or to a desperately enthusiastic fancier, five minutes must appear an age of comparative agony.” The summer sun beating down on the glass walls of the main hall wreaked havoc on the dogs, especially the Mastiffs and Saint Bernards, who were described as a “pitiable sight … lying on the dry sawdust, in the sweltering sunshine, with their great flanks heaving uneasily and their red tongues lolling like raw beef-steaks from their throats.”

The setup was said to have been more appropriate for a display of geraniums than a canine exhibition.

William Graham probably questioned his sanity to exhibit at this show as he made the 102-mile trek to Dublin from his home in Newtownbreda outside of Belfast. He was a small, frail-looking man who walked with a cane. However, his physical challenges were more than compensated for by his warm personality and charm. He was once described as having “the common sense of an
Englishman, the wit of an Irishman, and the shrewdness of a Scotchman.” Irish Terriers were his passion. He was a fixture at many dog shows in all of Great Britain and was called the “Irish Ambassador” not only for his promotion of the breed at dog shows but also for his work securing quality specimens for enthusiasts all over the world. So it was no surprise to see him in Dublin despite the wretched heat.

There were only four Irish entered that day. Mr. Graham and another stalwart of the breed, Dr. R.B. Carey, each had a dog and a bitch entered. First in dogs went to Graham’s Sporter, who was 3 years old at the time, and second went to Carey’s 5-year-old Sport, while in bitches Graham again took first with his Moya Doolan, and Carey was second with his Spuds. All four of these dogs hold an important place in the history of the breed.

While the dogs were preparing to be set up in the “geranium” benching area, Graham noticed a puppy resting in a basket. She caught his eye with her long, clean head, her keen and wicked expression, hard red coat, and beautiful, racy outline. She displayed all the type and character he envisioned in an Irish Terrier. Graham had to have her. We don’t know how he was able to secure her, but she did go home with him to Newtownbreda. Her name was Erin, from Ballymena in County Antrim, and thanks to this chance encounter, she would go on to a spectacular show career, but more importantly, become known as the Mother of the modern Irish Terrier whose name is at the foundation of all Irish Terrier pedigrees.


—Michael A. Kowalczuk, kowalczukm@charter.net
Irish Terrier Club of America

Kerry Blue Terriers
CHARACTERISTICS OF A SUCCESSFUL BREED CLUB

After coming back from a terrier-specific dog show, I started thinking about how much I appreciate the club members who came to show their dogs and help newer members to start their conformation journey. It seemed like we all won something, be it a ribbon, or just the comments made by the people watching; we had them thinking about how beautifully our dogs moved, and quite possibly thinking about their next pet to consider.

So I decided to research the question, “What are key characteristics of members that make a good breed club?” I’ve detailed some characteristics that I agree would ideally be embodied by breed-club members, then followed each with analysis of how our real-life regional club members seem to possess these qualities, and I hope they all think similarly.
Passion for the breed:
Members should have a genuine love and passion for the breed that the club represents. This passion drives their involvement and dedication to the club’s mission and activities.

Without a doubt, I believe my club members have the passion! Some more than others, but a genuine pride in our Kerry Blues, be it in the conformation ring or just walking down the street.

Knowledge and expertise:
Members should possess a strong understanding of the breed’s history, standards, traits, and health issues. They should be knowledgeable about breeding practices, training methods, and care requirements.

We have a few experts whom we rely upon a lot! We need to do more to understand the health issues that arise and work on sharing this knowledge at meetings or in more workshops. We do well in our
grooming seminars every year, but more is needed for all members.

**Commitment and dedication:** Successful breed club members are committed to the club’s goals and actively participate in its activities. They are dedicated to promoting and preserving the breed through responsible breeding practices, education, and community engagement.

There is a strong commitment by all our members to educate the public and to be seen in community activities. We annually participate in the St. Patrick’s Day parade with our Kerry Blues, and some members participate in workshops to hear more about opportunities for growth.

**Collaboration and teamwork:** Members should be willing to work together and collaborate with each other, as well as with other breed clubs and organizations. This teamwork is essential for organizing events, conducting research, and advocating for the breed’s welfare.

We could do more in this area, possibly inviting experts in legislation regarding breeding, and boarding. We need to engage more members in the planning and organizing of our Specialties, parade events, seminars, etc. We have some people with great skills in organization and marketing, artists, teachers, a chef, and many more who by offering their help at events can be helpful to those who are showing and prepping their dogs for show.

**Inclusivity, adaptability, resilience, and supportiveness:** Successful breed clubs strive to be inclusive and supportive of all members, regardless of their experience level or background. They create a welcoming environment where members feel valued and encouraged to actively participate.

I hope others feel as I do, that we welcome people of all levels of experience, however I must state that it is important to add openness to feedback. Our is a complex and a unique dog breed, so it is important to be aware that what you may think you know about a dog’s behavior from previous experience, it may be very different from a Kerry Blue. Members should be adaptable and resilient in the face of challenges or setbacks.

**Integrity and ethics:** Members should uphold high standards of integrity and ethical behavior. This includes transparency in breeding practices, honesty in representing the breed, and responsible ownership and care of their own dogs.

I would also add that acknowledging we don’t know everything is important, and referrals to our long-standing members happens often so that those considering our breed know upfront there are good and bad issues to consider.

**Strong leadership:** A successful breed club requires effective leadership that can guide and inspire its mem-
breed columns

TERRIER GROUP

Leaders should possess excellent organizational and decision-making skills, as well as the ability to motivate and empower others.

I’m working on it, but it would be nice to have others take the lead, and I have seen this more lately in my club, which is reassuring!

Now that we’ve identified some good characteristics, we need to look at how to get more members to breed or encourage Kerry Blue Terrier owners to participate!

—Connie Robbins,
cjhrobbins@gmail.com
United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club

Lakeland Terriers
CAN DOGS IDENTIFY OLDER HUMANS BY SCENT?

Two Lakelands recently earned certification in bug detection from the National Entomology Scent Detection Association—one of them only 7 months old! Both were already trained in rodent detection. I’ve known since I have been involved with the breed that they possess superior scenting ability, in the use of both air-scent and surface-scent detection. Just as every virtue has its downside, our breed is also incredibly accurate when it comes to assessing the scent information available to them from human beings.

Some research by a team of scientists led by Dr. Shinichiro Hoze of Yokohoma, Japan, figured out the origin of “old person smell”: an alteration in body chemicals causing the formation of 2-nonenal from the oxidation of fatty acids. This is not a chemical associated with lack of personal hygiene. It is not water soluble, so it doesn’t wash off.

The scientists feel that this is an evolutionary remnant from our ancestors. The smell allowed our ancestors to determine age and health status of people, and hence the threat they might pose when families or tribes met while traveling or foraging. It makes sense that dogs would be even better at such an assessment, which might have added to the usefulness of dogs to a human “pack.”

So what relevance does this ability to determine age and health status have to do with today’s dogs? It matters in a couple of ways.

First, some dogs, especially those who really want the answer to the question “Who’s in charge?” do not respect older humans. I always thought it was because they might walk more slowly or talk less authoritatively (which may also be true, but is not the whole picture). Since I have had this breed for so many decades, I have noticed that the same owners who had no trouble getting respect from their previous Lakelands sometimes have issues getting respect from a puppy once the owner is older. I haven’t noticed this phenomenon when folks adopt a “retired” showdog, as the dog in this case is well conditioned already to respect all humans.

It is quite rare for a Lakeland to be aggressive or fearful of a judge at a show, but I remember a
handler friend who showed a small herding breed who had a bad experience when a judge tripped and caught herself against the table as she was approaching for the examination. This was a breed that was not known for confidence or boldness. It took the handler months to get the dog to stand steady on the table for elderly judges. It didn’t matter if they were male, female, well-coordinated or not, wore hats, clanky jewelry, soft-spoken or not. Looking back, I wonder if the trigger was scent?

—Pat Rock, Providence Forge, Va.

United States Lakeland Terrier Club

Manchester Terriers

SEASON TO SHINE

In many parts of the country, spring is in bloom and the cold winter mornings are just a memory. In other areas, the temperatures are still dipping into the 40s, while higher elevations continue to get snow. With all the different climates and seasonal changes, many Manchester owners are ensuring their dog’s slick, glossy coat remains in good condition. This can be a challenge when you never know if the heat needs to stay on or if it is time to switch to air conditioning. There are also Manchesters affected by a lack of sunlight in the cold months who need a boost to ensure their skin and coat are healthy and plentiful. Additionally, the sweaters and coats they have worn all winter can rub areas of their coat causing thinning of the hair. There are several methods for keeping a Manchester’s skin conditioned and their coat looking sharp from the inside out while preparing them for the warmer months ahead.

• Feeding—With any dog, the better the quality of food that goes in, the better they
Conscientious care of the Manchester Terrier helps to ensure the dog’s well-being and a shiny, healthy coat.

will look on the outside. Foods that contain the right amount of protein and fat for a Manchester is crucial for reducing dry skin and coat. Many Manchester owners recommend foods with fish—especially salmon, since it contains omega oils. These oils improve balanced hydration and regulate the skin’s oil production, which reduces dryness. These foods can come in many forms and combinations: kibble, freeze dried, canned, or raw.

• Water—There is no question every dog needs fresh, clean water. However, there are healthy additives that can assist a Manchester with hydrating the skin and keeping the coat nourished and shiny. Royal Jelly comes in a paste or powder form that can be added to tepid water for the dogs to drink. This is great for boosting the immune system and soothes and protects the coat. There are also additives that serve multiple purposes including keeping the breath fresh while supplementing the skin and coat.

• Treats—Owners can make homemade treats or buy premade treats that contain salmon/fish, coconut oil, or other skin-nourishing oils. These are great from getting a small amount of these oils into your dog’s diet on a controlled basis. You never want too much of a good thing, but in small doses it can keep their skin hearty and healthy.

• Supplements—There are several available for dogs or human grade that assist
with skin and coat vitality. Manchester breeders and owners recommend fish oil, evening primrose oil, biotin, or melatonin. These come as capsules or in dog-friendly preparations. All of these are known to help humans and dogs cultivate healthy skin and coat/hair. As with any supplement, it is important to look at ingredients and understand dosages before you add anything to your Manchester’s diet. As with food and treats, too much of a good thing is not better. Consulting with your veterinarian can help you make the best decision for your Manchester.

- **Bathing**—Manchester Terriers do not need to be bathed regularly. They are naturally clean, and the minimal oil they do have on their coat should not be regularly washed away with harsh soaps. When you do have to bathe your Manchester, ensure you do not scrub the skin and coat; instead, massage in the direction of the hair growth and keep the water tepid to slightly warm. Their coat is tight and slightly textured, so you do not want to irritate the hair follicle. When you dry a Manchester do the same thing considering the hair growth direction, and only massage gently. When you do need to bathe, use shampoos, conditioners, and treatments designed for a dog’s skin and coat nourishment. This will assist in reducing dryness and stimulating hair growth.

- **Exercise**—Many do not realize how important exercise is to keeping a Manchester’s coat healthful and vital. The toning of their muscles and the movement from regular exercise gets your dog’s heart pumping and increases blood flow. This carries more nutrition and oxygen to their skin and coat resulting in better health overall.

- **Parasites**—While having a short-coated breed is helpful for managing external parasites like fleas and ticks, preventing them is the best way to keep your Manchester healthy and protect their coat and skin. A monthly topical, a pill, special baths, or collars all can be effective. It is best to assess your environment and use the best method for where you live. I am lucky in that I have never had a flea or tick problem in many decades. However, I need to prepare new owners and educate other Manchester owners on managing external parasites and understanding their outside spaces. What works for one may not for another, so having options and consulting your vet is important.

- **Coats, clothing, bedding**—Since Manchesters can get chilled when the air-conditioner is blasting, snow is about, or the wind-chill dips down, owners will often put them in coats or sweaters to keep them warm. They are also a breed that loves to snuggle in a blanket and keep that heat close. All of this is important for warmth but can cause dry skin and hair loss from chafing and getting too warm. Manchesters will just as
soon sit on the heating duct than worry about what it does to their skin—they are heat seeking. Ensuring you are prepared in advance of the season change or maybe even all year long you monitor the impact of the materials and heat against your Manchester’s skin, then you can minimize the impact. Additionally, applying any of the above treatment plans will help to bring the luster back to the coat after the long, dark winter and cool, wet spring. There are Standard and Toy Manchesters living in just about every area and climate of the U.S. From warm, sunny Florida to snowy, cold Alaska, the owners all must take different precautions and prepare for different types of weather. Some are fortunate enough to live in milder areas that allow them to manage their Manchester’s coat and skin easily with a good diet and exercise. There are others who are managing harsh winters, late springs, and wet conditions. They must take much more into consideration as they go from season to season. All of them are a great resource as new owners of Manchesters join the fold and learn all they need to know about keeping their dog’s coat lustrous and nourished. The social media groups often have informative and lengthy discussions about what has worked for them, and this is a chance for these owners to educate themselves throughout the year. Manchester Terriers with healthy, glowing coats that shine like obsidian will turn heads and have passersby asking, “How do you get their coat so beautiful?” Now you know.

—Robin Gates, robingates42@gmail.com
American Manchester Terrier Club

Norfolk Terriers

GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS

There’s good news and bad news for Norfolk Terriers. The good news is that the Norfolk Terrier Club was the recipient of a 2023 AKC Eddy Award for outstanding breeder education. The purpose of the award, which was presented last December, is to encourage parent clubs to provide extensive breeder information to its members and others interested in their breed. Parent clubs are divided into four tiers based on the size of their membership, and last year our club was one of two in Tier 1 to achieve this award. (The American Eskimo Dog Club was the other winner in our category.)

We earned this award for, among other things, our Member Education Zoom meetings and our breeder support package, which is available on our website. Without the hard work of our elected leaders and the enthusiasm of our members, this wouldn’t have been possible. Well done, everyone!

We also had a nice presence at the AKC’s premier Meet the Breeds event at the Javits Center in New York City last January. It is quite
amazing to see how our dogs adjust to the big city and the attention of hordes of people. Our thanks go to all our members who support opportunities to Meet the Breeds across the country.

In the “bad news” department, the Norfolk Terrier is one of 17 members of the Terrier Group to be placed on the AKC’s Low Entry Breeds list for 2024. Being on this list is a sign of low entries in conformation shows, and it means that anyone applying to judge our breed has to evaluate just a handful of specimens in order to become fully licensed.

There are, of course, many other hoops to jump through for anyone wanting to judge a breed, and the NTC’s mentoring program is a great help in judges’ education. But it’s too bad that there are so few specimens being shown in many of the terrier breeds that this special accommodation must be made. (It is interesting to note that our sister breed, the Norwich, is not on this list.)

On the upside, we continue to see Norfolks in many sporting venues, and there is still a demand for puppies. Our breeder-referral process does work, and it is interesting to see matches made when breeders and potential buyers start talking. (Sometimes insurmountable distances seem to vanish when the right puppy is available to the right person.)

—Sheila Foran, Sforan2@cox.net
Norfolk Terrier Club

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Parson Russell Terriers

My name is Janie Smith, and I’ve been involved with Parson Russell Terriers for over 25 years. I breed under the kennel name Ardsley Run Terriers and have been an AKC Earthdog judge for many years, and previously have been a Barn Hunt judge and instructor. I’ve competed in agility, dock diving, and rally obedi-
ence. I’m a member of the Atlanta Kennel Club as well as an officer of the Atlanta Terrier Club. I’d like to recognize the versatility of the Parson Russell Terrier and touch on a few of the disciplines the breed excels in.

**THE VERSATILE PARSON RUSSELL TERRIER**

*Earthdog.* As a keen competitor in AKC Earthdog trials, the Parson instinctively goes after the scent of the quarry—rats safely placed behind wooden dowels—by tunneling underground through a tunnel-liner 9 inches by 9 inches in diameter. As an AKC Earthdog judge myself, it has been my delight to train and encourage Parsons to discover their inner sense of tracking and scent in locating the rats or quarry then loudly announce, “They’re here!”

*Barn Hunt.* In addition to earthdog there is another sport involving scent, seek, and find called Barn Hunt. This sport is open to all breeds and follow the rules and regulations of the Barn Hunt Association. Unlike earthdog, in Barn Hunt the handler takes an active part in the competition by encouraging their Parson to locate the rat, which is safely hidden in a PVC tube. The course consists of hidden rat tubes and tunnels constructed of hay-bales, as well as different levels of hay-bales to climb on.

Both venues involve the dog’s keen desire to identify a scent and be rewarded for doing so.

*Obedience and rally.* AKC obedience and rally competition are enthusiastically received by Parson owners as an outlet to teach new skills while forming a bond with their terrier. The Parson is an intelligent dog eager to learn new commands with lavish praise and treats involved. Beginning with training for AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certification, the Parson pup then builds on the foundation to more intricate levels of training.

*Agility.* Of course I must mention AKC agility as an outlet to channel the energy of the exuberant Parson. Agility training with a Parson is introduced...
slowly and gradually to acquaint the dog to the various pieces of equipment and obstacles. It is best to wait until your Parson has basic obedience commands mastered before starting agility training. Finding a training center or instructor who teaches agility is paramount in your success in this sport. It’s a good idea to pack your patience when training a terrier for agility, and remember to praise and reward their accomplishments, never dwelling on faults or setbacks.

Dock diving. Let me mention dock diving as another outlet the Parson excels in. The Parson is naturally a good swimmer, staying buoyant in the water. Do initially introduce your Parson to the water gradually. Never force or throw the terrier to swim; rather, ensure that being in the water is a safe and trusting experience. As the dog gains confidence in swimming and playing in the pool, then start introducing fetch and retrieve games with floatable toys.

I’ve only touched on a few performance disciplines to try with a Parson Russell Terrier. Of course a good hike in nature is also always time well spent. Happy training! —J.S.

Thank you, Janie!

—Denise Tschida, AKC GAZETTE Breed Content Coordinator,
Parson Russell Terrier Association of America

Scottish Terriers

THE CHALLENGES FOR REGIONAL SPECIALTIES

While serving on the Scottish Terrier Club of America (STCA) Board, occasionally we would receive requests to move a regional club’s specialty dates, often highlighting the ongoing issues of loss of venues and show dates as more clubs formed clusters. The STCA policy is that we do not allow any of the 20 regional clubs to overlap specialties on the same weekend. The precedent had been established before I joined the Board, and while entertaining requests to change dates, the first question we always asked was: Does the new date fall on a weekend where a regional specialty is already scheduled? If so, we declined the request.

This precedent was established to give each regional club the opportunity to attract the best dogs from across the country to their event. Some exhibitors think nothing of flying cross-country to participate in these shows, especially if they like the judge or are vying for an annual award. Fortunately, the Scottie fits in a carry-on bag under the seat.

The standalone regional specialty on a Saturday used to be the norm. Clubs would find a venue, hire a judge, and host the event. This model became expensive and unfeasible when entries dropped to under 20 dogs. Additionally, the clubs needed a membership willing to take on the task of hosting a standalone show. Several clubs continue with this approach,
Regional clubs hope for the opportunity to attract the best dogs from across the country to their event.

holding fundraising events throughout the year to support their standalone show. The Dayton and Michigan clubs successfully follow this model.

Some clubs have joined a nearby show cluster which offers a day of specialties, usually on the Thursday or Friday prior to their all-breed shows, and these clubs may choose to host two shows on the same day to increase entries. The Denver club has adopted this format.

Throughout the country, all-terrier clubs such as the Great Lakes All Terrier Association, Columbia Terrier Association, North Texas Terrier Club, and the Desert Empire Terrier Club work with regional clubs to host terrier specialties. These may be associated with an all-breed cluster (usually the Thursday or Friday before), while others have established a standalone weekend of limiting entries to just terriers. The Chicago, Baltimore, Dallas, and California (in 2023) clubs have hosted their specialties with such clubs.

But most clubs opt for the breed judging at an all-breed show to serve as their event as a designated specialty, or host a second show on the same day for their event as a concurrent specialty; the venue and judges are already provided. The option of having two shows on the same weekend is available, and there is the chance to have a coveted Saturday show date.

One downside to joining a sizable all-breed cluster is that you no longer have control over judges or venue. Clubs usually pick from the judging panel that’s been hired by the all-breed clubs. There is the option of hiring your own judge, but then all their expenses fall on the regional club.

The AKC allows breed clubs to hold up to four shows a year; thus, the opportunity to expand the number of specialties exists. The debate continues as to whether or not this diminishes a specialty win, but you have to look at the reality that these double shows often increase entries, and build those five-point majors we all crave. In truth, it’s a different show, with a different judge.

Another opportunity under discussion is having two regional clubs join forces and host back-to-back shows on their dates, working with a nearby club to have a two-day event (Saturday and Sunday) to build entries, and then potentially repeat on the other club’s date and venue. This could be either a standalone event or with a cluster.

The biggest challenge
clubs face is finding a suitable venue. Clubs cluster for numerous reasons such as shared costs, combined labor, and better venues. Some venues have changed ownership and no longer allow dog shows.

Finding suitable locations for Scottish Terriers is especially challenging in the summer. The breed can easily overheat in outdoor shows, so it’s imperative that there is shade or cover nearby. As the standalone shows have found, there are usually dog-training facilities or large hotel conference rooms within most urban areas that may be used for a specialty.

The STCA Board was recently asked again to grant a specialty date that fell on another regional club’s date. Part of that discussion was the request that we form an ad hoc working committee to update the SOP that guides the Board in making these decisions, including asking if the old rule is still viable in the changing world of dog show clusters. This includes membership input about what they feel are the pertinent facts impacting their regional specialties, and how the STCA can help in facilitating their event. The overall goal is to ensure that the STCA’s 20 regional clubs can continue to successfully host their specialties and attract the breed’s top dogs.

—Richard C. Bumstead, glenclark6517@yahoo.com
Scottish Terrier Club of America

Sealyham Terriers
OUR LOVE OF DOGS MEMORIALIZED

As far back as ancient Greece, Alexander the Great, upon the death of his dog Peritas, founded a city in his name. Peritas having defeated a lion in battle was honored with a monument, to his bravery, in the central square. City and monument have vanished, but the name Peritas still lives on.

One 20th-century owner in the Greek isles memorialized her dog with the epitaph Σ’αγαπώ κακάο — Αντιγόνη (“I love you, Coco. —Antigone”).

By the 1950s, keepers of domesticated pets had become more vocal about their pets’ afterlife, contemplating a possible reunion in heaven at the Rainbow Bridge. Peggy Guggenheim was a believer in the afterlife and looked forward to sharing it with her 14 Lhasa Apsos. When in Venice, I visited the plot in the courtyard of their Venetian palazzo. Her ashes and her dog’s ashes lie side by side, marked by plaques with her name and the names of her fur companions: Cappuccino, Peacock, Pegeen, Toro, Foglia, Madam Butterfly, Baby, Emily, White Angel, Sir Herbert, Sable, Gypsy, Hong Kong, and Cellida.

How to memorialize your pet

How can you honor your pet? You might consider approaches such as installing a bench on your property, a placard, a garden, having paw-prints inked at the time of their
Ways to honor the memory of a cherished pet include memorial gardens, such as have been lovingly established in Maine and New Jersey, where owners install posts with candles and the photos and names of their companions; imprints of the dog’s paws provide another meaningful remembrance.
passing, or by hosting a gathering to celebrate your pet’s legacy.

A gathering is exactly what Pamela Storto did when she moved to Maine. She had lost her 5-year-old Golden, Sierra, to cancer and became part of three online canine cancer groups. In 2003, she hosted one of the first memorial gardens to honor all those she met on the cancer list. People came from Ohio, New York, Canada, Massachusetts, and Maine for the first candle lighting at the gardens. Each year candles were added, and now hundreds are lighted honoring the loss of beloved pets from all over the world.

The Memorial Garden Lighting is now in its 22nd year. Pamela says lovingly, “The candle lighting is always on the Saturday closest to Sierra’s birthday, July 28. This year it will be on July 27. It has been an honor to be able to do this for all of our angels that join us. Every year is magical!”

Linda Rose of New Jersey followed Pamela’s lead in 2009. Her Memorial Candle Lighting has hundreds of memorial stakes with pictures atop each of beloved pups who have passed. Their humans come together to share stories, the candles shining bright in their memory. Rose’s candle-lighting has been going on for over 15 years, with 20 to 30 friends lighting the candles and “keeping watch overnight” while the candles burn. In 2016, Sealyham Terrier Mollie Mae joined the yearly ceremonial light, as an angel.

“We may shed a few tears and smiles as we remember the joy and love these special beings shared with us. Many in our society can’t comprehend the depth of loss we feel,” says Rose, who honors and celebrates the light of her Golden, Maewyn.

Liana Marley Marie shares that same intensity from her first time at the memorial lighting: “It is as though you can feel the energy of those being honored in the garden. I had a hard time leaving at the end because being there, felt like I was connected to those precious souls in a special way.” Marie’s two Miniature Schnauzers, Snickers and Tara Barks, are now part of the angel light.

In recent years, Rose has set up a Memorial Fund Raiser for the National Canine Cancer Fund so people can honor their lost pets and future pets who face this fight. Last year, donations totaled over $13,000.

The loss of a pet can be a terrible heartbreak. Each, in their own unique way, have enhanced and touched our lives—in ways that humans are often unable to do. How will you honor and say goodbye to your best friend?

The best friend that I ever had was Cracker Jack
But he was more than that a playmate, a companion
Love and understanding, that was Cracker Jack
He only lives in memories now,
but often I think back to the days of childhood,
the days of Cracker Jack
—Dolly Parton
BREED COLUMNS

TERRIER GROUP

For a link to a video of Storto’s Memorial Garden Lighting, visit here.
—Bev Thompson
I loved you your whole life. I’ll miss you for the rest of mine.
Thompscom@aol.com
American Sealyham Terrier Club

Skye Terriers
SKYE TERRIERS SOS

The Skye Terrier continues to worry me with its small population. We need more Skyes to maintain the breed. Breeding more dogs is pointless unless people want to own them. Can we do anything to attract people who will provide good homes for Skyes? For years, I have thought, just educate the public about the delights of a Skye and they will come. Well, not so many are coming. Perhaps it is time to take a hard look at our breed. What do others see when they meet a Skye?

The Skye’s moderate size seems to please many until they learn the weight. The heft of the dog puts some folks off who are seeking a dog that they can readily pick up. I had a Skye, “Puff,” as a child, but my mother and I showed Cocker Spaniels and, later, Bichons Frisés in the 1960s. At shows, I often drifted over to watch Skye Terriers, including Walter Goodman’s dogs. Shows were much larger then, and the Skyes were well represented. The Skyes I saw were smaller. A large male would weigh about 30 pounds. Has the larger size hurt the breed’s popularity? Do we need to look at this?

The other reaction we hear is “Too much care!” My own children balk at coat care. I keep thinking, “Build it, and they will come.” However, that does seem to be a dream. Many, perhaps most, prospective dog owners have no interest in a dog who requires too much time or money. Those who love the breed may not find the coat daunting, but that others do. We can lament this, but it is a fact.

We need to look at the coat as a stumbling block to many prospective dog owners. I wrote a column a few years ago about the downside of shaving a Skye or any double-coated breed (May 2019 AKC GAZETTE). I challenge the groomers among us to start thinking of a pleasing trim or cut that would ease coat care. Few people keep a Poodle in show coat. Long ago, groomers started using the “puppy cut.” Can we come up with a “cut” that preserves the look of the Skye without shaving the dog? If so, what if this model were posted on the national club’s website so that a groomer could easily refer to it?

Along with grooming information, perhaps the national Skye Terrier club could schedule and host several regular Zoom meetings throughout the year for people interested in learning more about Skyes—and in meeting people who live with them. Visitors could chat with members who have Skyes that participate in activities other than confor-
Raising the public’s awareness of the Skye Terrier’s wonderful qualities is essential to ensuring the breed’s future.

In the Skye Terrier world, I see a lot of information shows. With so few Skyes in the country, even people who like the breed have no idea where to start. Putting a friendly face on Skye breeders and owners might encourage prospective owners to pursue finding a puppy. Many Skye people I interviewed said finding a mentor was important to selecting the breed. In addition, we need people who understand that they may have to wait for an available puppy.

As I mentioned in my last column, we could use a person among us who can post good videos. My grandchildren regularly watch videos of Goldens and Labs. Guess what breeds of dog they want?

I’m sure many of you reading this think this is not what Skye people are about—we are stewards for this wonderful breed. Agreed, but will future Skye people have a breed to shepherd if we don’t increase our numbers?

—Judith Tabler,
JudithATabler@gmail.com
Skye Terrier Club of America
Welsh Terriers

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC

A couple of months ago I had an inquiry regarding a Welsh Terrier puppy. After several conversations with the prospective purchaser, she told me she had decided to purchase a puppy from a pet shop so she could see and play with the puppy before making up her mind and making a deposit on the puppy. She put some money down on the puppy and went home to prepare for its arrival. When she returned for the puppy, she was told that the puppy was a “registered Welshshell”—a mixture of Welsh Terrier and Poodle, at the price of a purebred puppy. The registering body was a commercial enterprise that would register any dog as whatever the seller claimed it was. She did not complete the sale but did not tell me whether she got her deposit back. Apparently this is a common gimmick in many if not most pet shops. Of course the experience soured her on the concept of dog “breeders.” My question is, just how are we going to be able to educate the public so that people are not duped into this type of fraud or misrepresentation? What can we do to prevent the dishonest pet brokers from foisting off this kind of mix on an unsuspecting public as a purebred puppy? How can we, as responsible dog breeders, get the information out there to the first-time puppy buyers, or to those who do not understand the difference between legitimate breeders and ripoff artists?

Taking our dogs to dog shows and obedience trials doesn’t get the message out there. It is like preaching to the choir. Yes, there are some people who come to dog shows with little prior knowledge about purebred dogs, but even those usually have some idea what a Welsh Terrier looks like and are happy to talk to breeders and ask questions. When they make up their minds that it will be a Welsh Terrier in their home for the next 10 to 15 years, they can make informed decisions about which breeder they want to work with. Keep in mind that if you do an online search on “Welsh Terriers for sale,” you will see photos of black and white dogs that look like Schnauzers, solid tan, short-legged mixed-breed dogs, and some dogs with short coats like a Manchester, as well as dogs who really are Welsh Terriers.

One of the more effective ways to educate the public is to take your dogs to a Meet the Breeds presentation. Tell the public about Welsh Terriers, emphasizing their wonderful qualities as housepets. Another venue we might not think of is public parades, where people can visit with your dogs. Whatever obedience club or all-breed club you belong to should be encouraged to participate in these events. A one- or two-paragraph handout about Welsh Terriers, with your name and address included, should be available to any-
one who is interested in the breed. If you go to nursing homes and VA hospitals with your dogs, the same little flyer should be available to hand out to anyone visiting their friends or relatives in the hospital. Relatives of the patients will often ask questions as they watch your Welsh Terriers charm everyone there.

Many people really don’t understand the concept of “purebred” dog and may honestly believe that a cross between a Greyhound and a Welsh Terrier is a “double purebred” rather than a mixed-breed dog. They can easily be misled into the concept of a “Peke-a-poo” or a “Golden Doodle” or a “Shorkie” being a new breed of dog, not just a mixed-breed. Explain the coat and color of the Welsh, and that the dog is only black and tan or black, grizzle, and tan, not white with tan spots—no matter what the salesman says.

Every time you are out in public with your Welsh Terrier, he is representing the breed to the world. No, he need not be show-ready or recently clipped, but he should not be matted or filthy either. Unless it is an emergency trip to the veterinarian, at least take five minutes to brush the dog. Even when you are taking puppies into the veterinarian to get shots or microchips, they should look presentable if possible. They should also be socialized well enough that they will let strangers pet them. Make sure you have your business card, and hopefully the Welsh Terrier Club of America phone number where you can give them to people who want more information about the breed. —Diane Orange, 2017

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, June 11, 2024**, beginning no earlier than 10:00 a.m. It will follow the Delegate Forum which will begin at 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Big Apple Working Group Club

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

**John Brading**, Pittsboro, NC

**Alyson Casper**, Davie, FL, Dog Obedience Club of Hollywood

**Brenda Dorman**, Norfolk, VA, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club USA

**Anita Forde**, San Luis Obispo, CA, Santa Maria Kennel Club

**Jan Ritchie Gladstone**, Stokesdale, NC, Waterloo Kennel Club

**Chris Murphy**, Elizabethtown, KY, St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association

**Robin Springer**, Klamath Falls, OR, Klamath Dog Fanciers

**Robin Stansell**, Clayton, NC, French Bulldog 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:

Ms. Lauren House (Nevada City, CA)
Mr. Timothy Rahn (Hamburg, PA)

NOTICE
Ms. Paige McCarver (Amado, AZ). Action was taken by the Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association for conduct at its November 25, 2023 event. Ms. McCarver was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty as a three-month suspension of all AKC privileges and a $300 fine, effective February 27, 2024. (Whippets)

NOTICE
Ms. Cynthia Muller (San Jacinto, CA). Action was taken by the Del Sur Kennel Club for conduct at its March 17, 2024 event. Ms. Muller was charged with whelping dogs at an event site. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty as a reprimand and $200 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE
Ms. Alexandra Topole (Stuart, FL). Action was taken by the Palm Bay Agility Club for conduct at its January 12, 2024 event. Ms. Topole was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty as a three-month suspension of all AKC privileges and a $300 fine, effective February 27, 2024. (Kerry Blue Terrier)

NOTICE
Ms. Kimberly Vonk (San Jacinto, CA). Action was taken by the Del Sur Kennel Club for conduct at its March 17, 2024 event. Ms. Vonk was charged with whelping dogs at an event site. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee’s report and set the penalty as a reprimand and $200 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Jarnell Carter (Florissant, MO) for three-months from all AKC privileges and imposed a $100 fine, for harassment, written or verbal, effective April 9, 2024. (Afghan Hounds)

NOTICE
The AKC’s Management Disciplinary
Committee has suspended Ms. Blaire Hall (Warrensburg, MO) for five years from all AKC privileges and imposed a $1,000 fine for refusal to make her dogs and records available for inspection, effective April 9, 2024. (Multiple Breeds)

**NOTICE**

The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Jen Harmon (Fonda, NY) for three months from registration privileges and imposed a $500 fine for signing an AKC document on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney form and submitting an online litter application without written permission from the co-litter owner, effective April 9, 2024. (Labrador Retrievers, Pembroke Welsh Corgi)

**NOTICE**

The AKC Board of Directors has suspended Mr. Gary Hoskins (Girard, IL) from event privileges for one month and imposed a $500 fine per count, for a total of $1,000 for the two counts of inappropriate, abusive, or foul language, and a $100 fine per count, for a total of $1,100 for the eleven (11) counts of conduct alleged to be prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or to the best interests of the AKC for violating the Miniature American Shepherd Club of the United States of America’s Constitution & By-laws, effective April 13, 2024. (Miniature American Sheperds)

**NOTICE**

The AKC’s Management Disciplinary Committee Ms. Angela Powell (Ailey, GA) for a lifetime of all AKC privileges and imposed a $10,000 fine, for violating AKC’s Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy, effective April 9, 2024. (Multiple Breeds)

**NOTICE**

Notification of fines imposed on a superintendent for violation of scheduling of judges, *Multiple All-Breed or Limited Breed Shows on One Day Policy*

BaRay Event Services.......................... $250

Notification of fines imposed on a club for late submission of event records, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 17, Section 2 and *Rally Regulations*, Chapter 1, Section 4

Fresno Dog Training Club................. $25

Notification of fines imposed on a club for late submission of obedience results, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 17, Section 2

Fresno Dog Training Club............... $25

Notification of a fine imposed on a club for late submission of event records, *Beagle*
**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC. – ARTICLE VII, SECTION 1**

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to Article VII, Section 1 of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.*, proposed by the Greater Clark County Kennel Club. This will be voted on at the June 11, 2024 Delegate Meeting.

**ARTICLE VII**

**SECTION 1.** The AKC shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of thirteen (13) voting members, all of whom must be Delegates, except as provided for in Section 3 of this Article. The Board shall be elected as follows:

At each annual meeting the Delegates shall elect Directors from the list of candidates nominated as provided in Article VIII of these Bylaws. The thirteen voting Directors shall be divided into four classes of three (3), three (3), three (3), and four (4) members. Such Directors to hold office for four (4) years or until their successors are elected. At each annual meeting the Delegates shall elect such other Director or Directors as shall be required to fill the place of any Director who has died or resigned before the expiration of the term for which he or she was elected.

Excluding the President, who serves as a non-voting member, no members of the Board of Directors may be employed by the AKC nor may they receive remuneration from the AKC on a consulting or contract basis.

Excluding the President, no members of the Board of Directors are eligible for employment by the AKC or any AKC division or subsidiary for a period of twelve months from the date when they last served on the Board, nor may they receive remuneration from the AKC on a contract or consulting basis for a period of twelve months from the date when they last served on the Board. The President shall serve on the Board as an ex officio non-voting member during his/her tenure as President.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FIELD TRIAL RULES AND STANDARD PROCEDURE FOR POINTING BREEDS – CHAPTER 14, NEW SECTION 36**

The AKC Board has endorsed the following amendment to Chapter 14, New Section 36 of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds*, proposed by the English Setter Association of America. This will be voted on at the June 11, 2024 Delegate Meeting.

**Chapter 14. National Championship Events**

**Section 36. (New Section) A National**
Walking Gun Dog Championship for English Setters may be held not more than once in any calendar year. The stake must be held or sponsored by the Parent Club and must be designated a walking stake. The event shall be for dogs over six (6) months of age. The ESAA may develop entry qualifications that exceed the AKC minimum standard for a National Championship. Dogs placing in this stake shall be credited with championship points in accord with the schedule for Field Championships and the winner shall be entitled to the designation “National Walking Gun Dog Champion of 20__.” (NWGDC)

This addition will be retroactive back to November 2023 in order to acknowledge a Walking Championship stake held by the Parent Club.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DELEGATE STANDING RULE ON COMMITTEES
The Delegate Coordinating Committee has brought forward the following amendments to be voted on at the June 11, 2024 Delegate Meeting.

I. This rule shall be known as “The Standing Rule on Delegate Committees.”.

II. The goals of these committees are:

A. To provide the broad-based independent involvement of the Delegates in matters affecting the dog fancy.

B. To identify and utilize the expertise within the Delegate Body and within the fancy.

III. The Delegates establish the following standing committees and charge them as follows:

Committees have been rearranged in alphabetical order.

A. All-Breed Clubs
   1. To share information and procedures useful to All-Breed Clubs.
   2. To find ways of making All-Breed Clubs and their events more effective and efficient in serving the needs of their members and their communities.

B. Bylaws
   1. To review and make recommendations on proposed amendments to the Bylaws.

C. Canine Health
   1. To gather and share with the Delegates scientific information vital to the improvement of Canine Health.
   2. To recommend to the Delegates educational programs, procedures, and research relevant to Canine Health.

D. Companion Events
   1. To share information and pro-
cedures useful to Obedience, Tracking, Rally and Agility Clubs offering Companion Events.
2. To find ways for helping of making Obedience, Tracking, Rally and Agility Clubs offering Companion Events to make and their events more effective and efficient in serving the needs of their members and their communities.
3. Make recommendations on issues affecting Companion Events.

E. Delegate Advocacy and Advancement
1. To review and make recommendations on issues and proposals affecting the future structure of the Delegate Body, Delegate empowerment, changes relating to Delegate meetings and Delegate eligibility.
2. Delegate mentorship and orientation.

F. Dog Show Rules
1. To review and make recommendations on proposed amendments to Dog Show Rules.

G. Field Trial and Hunting Test Events
1. To share information and procedures useful to clubs holding field trial and hunting test with all local clubs holding field trials and hunting tests current information, procedures, and best practices.
2. To find ways of making field trial and hunting test clubs and their events more provide help to clubs holding field trials and hunting tests be effective and efficient in serving the needs of their members and their communities.
3. To support the role of clubs that hold field trial and hunting test clubs and events in enhancing and preserving the working skills of the breeds involved.

H. Herding, Earthdog, Coursing and Scent Work Events
1. To share information and procedures useful to the clubs that conduct Herding, Earthdog, Coursing and Scent Work events.
2. To find ways of making Herding, Earthdog, Coursing and Scent Work events and the clubs that conduct such events more effective and efficient in serving the needs of their members and their communities.
3. To support the role of Herding, Earthdog, Coursing and Scent Work events and the clubs that conduct these events in enhancing and preserving the working skills of the breeds involved.

I. Parent Clubs
1. To share information and procedures useful to Parent Clubs.
2. To find ways of making Parent
Clubs and Parent Club events more effective and efficient in serving the needs of their members, their breeds, and their local specialty clubs.

**J. Coordinating Committee**

1. To determine the scope and jurisdiction of Delegate committees.
2. To establish procedural guidelines for committee operations.
3. To coordinate, control, and facilitate committee request for staff resources and committee expenses.
4. To ensure the timely submission of committee annual reports.
5. To review committee effectiveness and make recommendations.
6. To review and approve/support “joint” subcommittees.

**IV. The membership of the committees, except for the Coordinating Committee, shall be elected by the Delegates as follows:**

**A.** Elections for standing committees shall be held at the Delegate quarterly meeting in September of each year.

**B.** Members of the Board of Directors are not eligible to serve as voting members on Delegate committees.

**C.** A Delegate may self-nominate for only one committee.

**D.** Each self-nominated Delegate shall submit to AKC a statement of not more than 150 words indicating his or her qualifications.

**E.** AKC shall furnish to the Delegates, with the call for the meeting at which the election will be held, the list of nominees for each committee, the statements of qualification, the record of attendance at Delegate Meetings, incumbents’ attendance records at Delegate Committee Meetings, and the length of tenure of each nominee.

**F.** If the nominations for any committee are equal to or less than the maximum number of committee members to be elected, there shall be no election for that committee and the nominated candidates shall be deemed elected.

**G.** Elections shall be by written ballot at a regular Delegate Meeting.

1. Those nominees receiving the most votes shall be elected.
2. If at any annual election the number of nominees would result in a committee of less than five members, that committee shall not function for that year.
3. Standing committees shall consist of no more than eleven members.
4. In case of a tie for the last position on any committee, the tie will be resolved by a standing vote of the Delegates.

**V. The committees shall be organized as follows:**

**A.** At the conclusion of the Delegate
Meeting at which they are elected, each committee shall elect a Chair, Assistant Chair, then a Secretary. Any Committee without an election can reorganize following their Committee Meeting on Committee Day.

**B.** The Coordinating Committee shall be comprised of the Chairs of each of the other Delegate Standing Committees. The Coordinating Committee shall, at its first meeting, elect a Chair, then a Secretary.

**C.** Committee members shall serve terms determined as follows:

1. Upon initial committee election, committees shall be divided into three classes, as follows:

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2. Thereafter all newly Elected members will serve three-year terms, unless completing a term of a vacant position.

3. Appointed positions will serve until the next Committee election and must self-nominate to run for election.

**D.** From time to time, the Delegate Body may establish and charge additional standing committees. Staffing of additional committees will follow the procedure described in Article IV.

**VI. The Following operating rules shall apply to committees:**

**A.** Committees may, at their discretion, invite non-Delegates to participate in a non-voting capacity.

**B.** Committees may, at their discretion, seek liaison with Board Members.

**C.** All committee reports shall be directed to the Delegate Body with copies to the Board of Directors. Minutes shall be posted on the Delegate Portal within 30 days following the quarterly meeting.

**D.** An annual written report shall be submitted to the Delegate Body by a date designated by the Coordinating Committee.

**E.** Interim oral or written reports may be submitted by committees at their discretion, or as directed by the Coordinating Committee.

**D.** Committees will consider and respond to Board requests for input. In instances where a committee is responding to a Board request, their report will go directly to the Board. The Delegate Standing Committees
may send letters concerning areas addressed by their Committee to the AKC Board of Directors.

E. No committee shall speak in the name of the Delegates or the American Kennel Club without written approval of the Board of Directors.

F. Each committee shall respect the powers designated to the Board of Directors in Articles IX and X of the Bylaws.

G. All committee meetings shall be open to Delegates as observers only unless recognized by the Chair to contribute to the discussion.


I. In the absence of both the elected Chair, and the elected Assistant Chair, the committee members present at the meeting shall elect an interim chair, until the official Delegate meeting is adjourned.

J. Three consecutive absences without the approval of the committee chair shall constitute a resignation from that committee.

K. Vacancies on a committee shall be filled, until the next committee election, by a vote of the committee.

L. Committees shall meet in conjunction with the quarterly Delegate Meetings. Special meetings may only be held at other times with the prior approval of the Coordinating Committee.

M. Committee sign in sheets are at the discretion of Committee Chairs.

VII. None of the above provisions shall be presumed to limit the power of the Board of Directors to appoint committees as specified in Article X, Section 2 of the Bylaws.

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**

(Ms. Paula L. Ayers (115205) GA
(770) 905-5622
playerscav@aol.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Ms. Suzanne Burns (115287) SC
(704) 608-9015
prism_weims@outlook.com
Weimaraners

Ms. Cara Campbell (115211) KY
(859) 259-1835@sbcglobal.net
Wire Fox Terriers

Mr. Dominic Koon (115351) GA
(865) 582-1044
dominic.koon@gmail.com
Boston Terriers

Ms. Jodi Koon (115353) GA
(865) 582-1044
jodi.l.koon@gmail.com
Boston Terriers

Mr. Brian Palmer (115157) MI
(734) 730-5547
bhpalmer@gmail.com
Siberian Huskies, JS

**ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

Dr. Gayle T. Reardon (114889) SD
(605) 335-3726366-2482
gtrdd@aol.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, JS

Mr. Robert J. Urban (31116) OH
(440) 413-1973
foxfirehounds@yahoo.com
Black and Tan Coonhounds

Dr. Azalea Alvarez (97321) FL
(954) 434-0318
minsmere954@yahoo.com
Balance of Hound Group (American Foxhounds, Azawakhs, Borzois, Cir- nechi dell’Etna, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Salukis, Sloughi), Kerry Blue Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Scottish Terriers

Mrs. Elizabeth Crisp Blake (109212) CA
(530) 400-9322
ranthormbts1970@gmail.com
American Hairless Terriers, Australian Terriers, Irish Terriers, Scottish Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Mr. Brian C. Bogart (100059) NY
(716) 984-0012
sumerwyndb@aol.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Cane Corsos, Newfoundlands, Samoyeds

Miss Kelly Kathlyn Boyd (101577) OR
(541) 905-3451
kellybob@tovik.com
Alaskan Malamutes, Beaucerons
Mrs. Kathleen J. Brock (47792) WA  
(253) 988-1764  
toccatacockers@aol.com  
Azawakhs

Ms. Alisa Brotherhood (103359) TX  
(281) 989-3130  
touchstone0525@att.net  
Golden Retrievers, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Cane Corsos, Kuvaszok, Standard Schnauzers

Mr. Richard Brown (108381) MI  
(248) 514-9665  
ricbulldog@aol.com  
Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs

Mr. Dean Burwell (103997) SC  
(803) 628-8323  
dean@pawgate.com  
Skye Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Mrs. Kathleen V. Carter (6164) CO  
(303) 425-6756  
ckathy219@gmail.com  
Bearded Collies, Miniature American Shepherds, Mudik, Old English Sheepdogs

Mr. James Donahue (101625) IL  
(847) 436-0275  
Chicagoflutist@gmail.com  
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Beagles, Bloodhounds, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Harriers, Norwegian Elkhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens)

Ms. Mary Faeth (101477) CA  
(530) 210-7791  
spinfandel@yahoo.com  
Balance of Terrier Group (Manchester Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Skye Terriers, West Highland White Terriers), Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Mrs. Lisa Farmer (95249) GA  
(770) 891-8820  
lisafarmer2013@gmail.com  
Chinese Cresteds, Havanese, Poodles, Russian Toys, American Eskimo Dogs, Lhasa Apsos, Tibetan Terriers

Ms. Kathleen J. Ferris (47953) PA  
(215) 680-1012  
kajalene@gmail.com  
Brussels Griffons, Papillons, Pekingese

Mrs. Emily Fish (92354) WA  
(360) 904-5765  
emilypawcific@yahoo.com  
Balance of Sporting Group (Bracci Italiani, Pointers, Irish Setters, Boykin Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons)

Mr. David Fitzpatrick (27307) PA  
(717) 586-0961  
dcfitz7@aol.com  
American Eskimo Dogs, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Lowchen, Tibetan Spaniels

Ms. Honey Anne Glendinning (6773) AB  
(604) 943-4313  
honeyanneg@icloud.com  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Keeshonden), Azawakhs, Beagles, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds,
Chihuahuas, Manchester Terriers

**Mrs. Nancy Griego (90264) NM**  
(505) 681-8020  
nrgakc@spinn.net  
Beaucerons, Canaan Dogs, Finnish Lap- 
phunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Miniature  
American Shepherds, Pyrenean Shep- 

**Gigi Griffith (109593) TN**  
(760) 908-8188  
terranova57@gmail.com  
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Cane Corsos,  
Dogues de Bordeaux, Portuguese Water  
Dogs, Rottweilers  

**Judy A. Harrington (16665) MA**  
(413) 267-5236  
jahyeesss@comcast.net  
Beaucerons, Belgian Laekenois, Belgian  
Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Old English  
Sheepdogs  

**Mr. Steve Hayden (6674) IL**  
(217) 546-6645725-3647  
hybrk1@comcast.net  
Cane Corsos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs  

**Mr. Jason Hoke (92952) WI**  
(646) 241-5800  
jasonhoke@aol.com  
Lagotti Romagnoli, German Wirehaired  
Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers,  
Irish Red and White Setters, Wirehaired  
Pointing Griffons, Boxers, Doberman  
Pinschers, Rottweilers, Miniature Bull  
Terriers, Pembroke Welsh Corgis  

**Mr. Jamie Hubbard (80432) IN**  
(812) 322-7978  
ozjamiehubbard@gmail.com  
Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Briards, Canaan  
Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Ice- 
lantic Sheepdogs, Mudik  

**Mr. Patrick D. Jones (95071) MT**  
(405) 855-5940  
ravindals8@gmail.com  
American Eskimo Dogs, Shiba Inu  

**Ms. Kathryn Madden (92226) NY**  
(516) 885-4860  
madterv@gmail.com  
Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck  
Tolling Retrievers, Cocker Spaniels, Irish  
Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels  

**Ms. Shelley Miller (102995) NC**  
(919) 525-5001  
sunmagicclumbers@gmail.com  
Barbets, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling  
Retrievers, American Water Spaniels,  
Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels,  
Spinoni Italiani  

**Mrs. Chris Ann Moore (108927) AR**  
(479) 221-0555  
bisacd@aol.com  
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boerboels, Nea- 
politan Mastiffs, Newfoundlands, Pemb- 
roke Welsh Corgis  

**Mr. Richard Mullen (3052) TN**  
(865) 679-9124  
richmullen2@aol.com  
Balance of Non-Sporting Group  
(Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Cottons
du Tulear, Dalmatians, Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds)

Ms. Mary C. Murphy-East (36967) MN
(763) 291-2263
marmcmurph@aol.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Bracco Italiani, Lagotti Romagnoli, Pointers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers)

Ms. Mary B. Napper (62737) TX
(817) 458-1442
mbnapper@gmail.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Bracco Italiani, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Flat Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Gordon Setters)

Ms. Donna R. O’Connell (81640) TX
(214) 724-6629
tuscanydoc@comcast.net
Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Boykin Spaniels, Wirehaired Vizslas

Mr. David J. Peat (6909) AZ
(480) 473-4776
davepeat@cox.net
Balance of Sporting Group (Bracci Italiani, Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired Vizslas)

Ms. Laura Reeves (105393) OR
(541) 761-1867
scotiadawgs@gmail.com
Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Wirehaired Vizslas

Mr. Andrew Ritter (92968) NJ
(908) 996-7355
cerri.bmd@att.net
Balance of Herding Group (Lancashire Heelers, Mudik)

Mrs. Gina M. Schag (108997) IL
(630) 669-1131
chulachis@yahoo.com
Japanese Chins, Papillons, Poodles

Barbara C. Scherer (58838) IL
(630) 388-8290
hairologybk@gmail.com
Golden Retrievers

Mrs. Karen Scholz (100177) WA
(425) 877-9537
a777flygirl@aol.com
Biewer Terriers, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Papillons, Pomeranians, Pugs, Shih Tzu

Mr. Scott Toney (110847) NC
(704) 968-4491
midwoodchin@gmail.com
Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Miniature Pinschers, Pomeranians

Mrs. Cindy J. Valko (110124) PA
(412) 780-6129
somersetsts@comcast.net
Alaskan Malamutes, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Mastiffs

Ms. Judy Wade (99715) OK
(214) 693-4447
wademanordogs@gmail.com
Chow Chows, Dalmatians

Ms. Lee Whittier (18526) WA
(802) 369-0380
leepacnw@gmail.com
American Foxhounds, Basset Hounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, Cirnechi dell’Etna, Harriers, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Scottish Deerhounds, Sloughi

**Ms. Susan Willumsen (52119) NH**
(603) 475-1588
willcare@comcast.net
Lagotti Romagnoli, German Wirehaired Pointers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Wirehaired Vizslas

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS**

**Ms. Joanne Chaplek (97963) NY**
(578) 796-1770
joanne.chaplek@gmail.com

**Mrs. Ashley K. Escobar (110950) FL**
(352) 618-2541
ashley@adogsports.com

**Mrs. Katherine Halton Berns (115217) TN**
khaltonberns@gmail.com

**Regina M. Hess (115215) MI**
(269) 591-0487
hiqscot@comcast.net

**NEW BREED PERMIT JUDGES**

**Mr. James Dean Bullard (112669) MO**
(816) 507-3260
we-da-bulls@sbcglobal.net
Bulldogs

**Ms. Angela Cox (114557) TN**
(901) 485-1475
chesacola@aol.com
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers

**Mr. John R. Dewing (114115) WA**
(206) 371-9742
john_dewing@hotmail.com
Alaskan Malamutes, JS-Limited

**Ms. Kimberly Moshlak (114681) KY**
(301) 802-4145
cubruncwc@gmail.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Papillons, Chow Chows, Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, JS

**Mrs. Debra S. Smith (114274) WA**
(509) 669-0313
monarchcollies@gmail.com
Collies, JS-Limited

**Ms. Beth Wilder (108923) VA**
(703) 608-3441
mary.wilder@vca.com
Cairn Terriers, JS

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 assignment and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.
ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Mrs. Eva E. Berg (5646) CA
(925) 998-6541
eeberg@fire-eng.net
Balance of Terrier Group (Airedale Terriers, American Hairless Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Australian Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Rat Terrier, Russell Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, Welsh Terriers, West Highland White Terriers)

Mr. Todd Clyde (52861) DE
(302) 542-3416
tclyde002@msn.com
Boston Terriers, Cotons du Tulear, Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds

Mr. Cesar Cortes (110553) NY
(917) 635-7128
cecordog@hotmail.com
Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Miniature Pinschers, Shih Tzu

Ms. Kathi Brown (55262) MA
(987) 897-4717
kmbrownscience@verizon.net
Afghan Hounds, American Foxhounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Salukis

Ms. Marcie Dobkin (6442) CA
(858) 748-8848
msdobkin@cox.net
Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, English Setters, American Water Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Karrie Dollar (111131) WI
(715) 213-0017
karriedollar@gmail.com
German Wirehaired Pointers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, Welsh Springer Spaniels

Ms. Helen Dorrance (19022) TX
(512) 964-3294
gdkdogs@gmail.com
Whippets, Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Dogo Argentinos

Ms. Sandra Carter (106237) OR
(407) 509-5109
sandrajeancarter1960@gmail.com
American Staffordshire Terriers, Poodles

Mr. Edmund Dziuk (26469) MO
(573) 424-2809
eddiedziuk@aol.com
Affenpinschers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, Havaneise, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Papillons, Pekingese, Pugs, Shih Tzu, Yorkshire Terriers

**Mrs. Donna Ernst (91808) TN**
(440) 773-5052
anthemkennel@msn.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, French Bulldogs, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

**Mr. James A. (Jim) Fehring (90519) OK**
(918) 630-9229
jimfehring@olp.net
Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Neapolitan Mastiffs

**Bonita Fichtenbaum (105541) OH**
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bmfichtenbaum@gmail.com
Brussels Griffons, Italian Greyhounds, Pomeranians

**Mrs. Diann Flory (102063) VA**
(703) 408-5088
diannflory@gmail.com
Australian Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers

**Mrs. Jan Ritchie Gladstone (96299) NC**
(267) 251-4483
janritchiegladstone@gmail.com
Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers, Maltese, Poodles, Russian Toys, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

**Mrs. Stephanie Kaul (110173) CA**
(408) 242-7990
stephanie@kauls.com
Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, English Setters, American Water Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels

**Ms. Dianne Kroll (44743) OR**
(971) 221-7923
dianne.kroll@frontier.com
Belgian Sheepdogs, Bouviers des Flandres, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Lancashire Heelers, Miniature American Shepherds, Norwegian Buhunds

**Jennifer Lazowski (105991) VA**
(717) 823-2501
whirlaway12@gmail.com
Azawakhs, Beagles, Salukis

**Mrs. Claudia Miller (98859) CO**
(303) 589-9238
edcjmiller@gmail.com
Beagles

**Mrs. Cyndi Myhre (107128) MN**
(763) 229-2707
shamrockess@msn.com
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Gordon Setters

**Sheila Dee Paske (46304) CA**
(530) 306-8889
sheila@storybookdachshunds.com
Balance of Working Group (Akitas, Alas-
kan Malamutes, Giant Schnauzers, Standard Schnauzers, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Ms. Deirdre Petrie (63937) PA
(610) 763-8976
deirdrepetrie@yahoo.com
Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Lhasa Apsos, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Terriers

Mr. Adrian Quesada (96331) CA
(951) 751-4109
aqrexport@aol.com
Bichons Frises, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Mr. Stephen Regan -22219 NJ
(732) 814-8741
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Brussels Griffons, Havanese, Maltese, Silky Terriers

Dr. Vicki Sandage (98425) KY
(606) 922-9552
sandfoxdvm@gmail.com
Azawakhs, Basenjis, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Otterhounds, Pharaoh Hounds

Ms. Ellen W. Schultz (110815) TX
(713) 899-2418
apollogoldens@att.net
Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers

Mr. Gus Sinibaldi (103241) NC
(954) 614-9308
gus.sinibaldi@yahoo.com
American Hairless Terriers, Australian Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Russell Terriers, Skye Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Mrs. Carol Sommerfelt (7007) TN
(865) 986-1614
carolsommerfelt@gmail.com
Balance of Herding Group (Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Lancashire Heelers, Pyrenean Shepherds), Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Manchester Terriers

Ms. Amy Sorbie (36968) CO
(720) 245-5781
amy.sorbie@vca.com
Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervurens, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Mudik, Pulik, Pumik

Mr. Karl M. Stearns (101597) PA
(570) 595-3097
kstearns@kmstearns.com
Wire Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

Mrs. Cindy Vogels (6275) CO
(303) 589-8395
cgvogels@gmail.com
Balance of Herding Group (Australian Cattle Dogs, Bearded Collies, Beaucerons, Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervurens, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Border Collies, Briards, Canaan Dogs, Collies, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, German Shepherd Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Lancashire
Heelers, Miniature American Shepherds, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds, Shetland Sheepdogs, Spanish Water Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds)

**Mr. Cledith M. Wakefield (80829) MO**
(573) 760-3616
n2rotts@yahoo.com
Icelandic Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pulik

**Mr. Joe C. Walton (5144) NC**
(714) 697-4373
jwalton30@nc.rr.com

**Mrs. Janet Warner (103607) NM**
(253) 255-6796
janagram@aol.com
Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Irish Setters, Clumber Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Weimaraners

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES**

**Mrs. Laura Brodigan (104145) AK**
(907) 223-7685
laura.brodigan@gmail.com

**Mrs. Marie Glodowski (114409) MI**
(734) 626-3131
ishowdogs@hotmail.com

**Mr. Marcelo Veras (113963) FL**
(352) 804-9407
marceloveras@aol.com

**BEST IN SHOW**
The following person, having successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they were **approved**, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

**Mr. Joao Machado (110191) TX**
(832) 339-6926
joao.machadotx@gmail.com

**CONFORMATION JUDGES: RESIGNED BREED OR JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP**
The judges below have notified AKC to resign their privileges for the following:

**Ms. Dale Suzanne Tarbox**
Doberman Pinschers, Junior Showmanship

**Mr. John Wade**
Junior Showmanship
RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE
Mrs. Deborah Murmylo

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES
Mrs. Anne Bowes
Ms. Gay Dunlap
Sandra MacIntosh Feret

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES
Mr. James J. Mitchell
Mr. John L. Ronald

REGULAR STATUS APPROVED OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING
The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of regular approved judges for the class indicated.

Michael Scott (109805) OH
(937) 974-6444
mikescott1@aol.com
Rally – All

Julia Johnson (111077) TN
(615) 347-0830
bitbit54@att.net
Rally – All

Lisa Klein (111467) WA
(360) 798-7079
bignlildogs@gmail.com
Tracking – TD/TDU

Anne Rosenberg (103175) NJ
(609) 519-8289
annelrosenberg@hotmail.com
Tracking – TD/TDU

Ellen Lash (100073) KS
(913) 731-0173
ellenlash@gmail.com
Tracking – VST

Dr. Kamrin MacKnight (97565) CA
(650) 823-3235
kamrin01@gmail.com
Tracking – VST

NEW 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.

Tim Tedrow (34235) SC
(864) 616-8400
ttedrow@bellsouth.net
Obedience – Novice

Lorelle Jones (113373) IA
(515) 895-0533
maxgrafin@aol.com
Rally – All

Marian Stone (105505) IL
(217) 550-2766
marian_stone@yahoo.com
Tracking – VST

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.
APEXOK-Cane Corso-Monty Fariss
ARLINIGHT- Siberian Husky-Binh T. Pham
BELLAMOR-Pomeranians-Yuka Goto
CARROTWOOD- Australian Shepherds-Acacia Schendel
CASTLE CREEK- Mastiffs- Valerie L. Thomas
CEILIMOR-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels-Breda McCarty
CHESWYND- Vizslas- Deborah S. Brous-sard
EASY STREET- Miniature American Shepherds-Jamie L. Murphy
ELMWOODE- Labrador Retrievers-Chris J. Rowland
JERDAN- Great Danes- Jose E. Ribo
KELLEY’S- Cavalier King Charles Spaniels-Kristen L. Kelley & Jonathan M. Kelley
LEGACY-Cardigan Welsh Corgis- Sharon M. Wilson & Lee Hardigree
LIONPALACE- Pekingese-Kristina Lysanova
MACPAK- Golden Retrievers – MaryJo A. McCormack
MERAMEC-Golden Retrievers-Kaitlynn L. Myers & Pamela L. Sohl-Myers
NORMANDY-Bouviers des Flandres-Laura L. Bowman & John Bowman
OLVERA- Boxers- Al Olvera & Ivonne Olvera
PARADOX-Vizslas-Nancy Boggs Heinold, DVM
STAND FAST-Basenjis-Nancy K. Gtant
VIGILANTE -Bulldogs- Charles C. Mason & Charles O. Mason
WETLANDS-Labrador Retrievers-Barbara Jorgensen

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED
The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted.
BELLACLAN- Border Collies Mrs. Laura K. S. Wright
BIG THOMPSON- Bulldogs- Karla J. Thompson & John F. Thompson
CROWN JEWELL- Vizslas- Jen Jewell
DUTCH HOLLOW- Labrador Retrievers- Sandy S. McMillan
EARTH MOUNTAIN- Yorkshire Terriers- Linda A. Carter
GOLDENRAE- Golden Retrievers- Allyson A. Tinker
JBK- Border Collies- Jodie Keener
KLEOS- Border Collies- Glenda W. Pate
LAKEWAY’S- Toy Manchester Terriers- Richard Roach & Cheryl Roach
LONG MT- Australian Shepherds- Julie L. Van Der Linden
MALACHITE- Basenjis-Adam Kozikowski
O’HAN- Keeshonds- Christine L. Williamson
ORCHARD HILL- Norfolk Terriers-Erica S Venier & Rachel A Venier
PAWCIFIC CREST - Vizslas - Jennifer A. Knoblich & Brian E. Knoblich
REGALIA - Pembroke Welsh Corgis - Jennifer P. Delmer
RZBK - Labrador Retrievers - James E. Ragsdale, Jr
ROYAL OHANA - Mastiffs - Elizabeth Vilchis
STARKHAUS - Rottweilers - Crystal A. McGrath-Minta
SKYFALL - Lagotto Romagnolo - Olga Ledyan
VINEWOOD - English Springer Spaniels - Kathy A. Patregnani
WINCHESTER - Cane Corso - James Watson
ZUKI - Border Collies - Karen K. Essex
The Board convened on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

All Directors were present in the New York office. The Executive Secretary was also present.

Copies of the February 12-13, 2024, Board Meeting minutes had previously been provided to all Directors for review. Upon a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the board voted to approve the February 2024 Board Meeting minutes.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Sprung updated the Board on action items and several business matters. Litter registrations are down 3% compared to budget and individual dog registrations are down 10%.

Events are up 14% through the end of March; entries are being finalized and look strong.

AKC has secured dates from the Javits Center for AKC Meet the Breeds® in 2025. Additional information will be provided to breed clubs in the near future.

A number of sponsorship agreements have been renewed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss business matters. It was reported out of this session that the Executive Officers were re-elected.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Executive Officers of the American Kennel Club were re-elected to the following positions:

Dennis B. Sprung - President and Chief Executive Officer
Gina M. DiNardo - Executive Secretary
Theodore E. Phillips - Chief Financial Officer

**Legal Update**

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of March 2024.

**AKC Purebred Preservation Bank Update**

Mark Dunn, EVP Registration, participated in this portion of the meeting, and Susan Myers, Sr Breeder Relations Field Rep, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.
The goal of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank (AKCPPB), a 501c3 not-for-profit effective July 28, 2023, is to ensure the viability of purebred dogs by storing semen that may otherwise be discarded. In doing so, AKC can benefit low-entry breeds and prevent breed extinction due to factors such as genetic bottlenecking and disease emergence. Since its inception, the AKCPPB has worked with Parent Clubs, All-Breed Clubs, club members, individual breeders, and storage facilities to uphold this mission.

In accordance with the Bylaws of the AKC PPB, three of its current Directors need to be re-appointed or replaced. AKC PPB requested that the Board reappoint Dominic Carota, Theodore Phillips and Dr. Marty Greer to the Board of Directors of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank.

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, The AKC, acting in its capacity as sole member of the AKC PPB, approves the re-appointment of the following individuals to the Board of Directors of the AKC PPB: a. Dominic Carota as the second AKC Board Director, as defined in the Bylaws, to serve a term of three years. 
b. Theodore Phillips as the second AKC Staff Director, as defined in the Bylaws, to serve a term of three years. 
c. Dr. Marty Greer as the second Community Director, as defined in the Bylaws, to serve a term of three years.

AKC Fundraising Department
Seth Fera-Schanes, Director of Strategic Planning; Daphna Straus, Vice President of Business Development; and Ted Phillips, CFO, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Based on a Board request, Staff presented research around creating an AKC Development Department position, with administrative support, that encompasses
donations to AKC and/or each affiliate. This will be discussed further at the July Meeting.

**AKC Canine Health Foundation Update**

Stephanie Montgomery, AKCCHF Chief Executive Officer, gave a report on Q1 to the Board.

After eight years of serving as Chairman of the CHF Board of Directors, in March 2024, Charlie Garvin, MD, FACS stepped down. Mary Smith, BVM&S, PhD, DACVIM (Neurology), was elected as the Chairman of the CHF Board of Directors. Wayne Jensen, DVM, PhD, MBA, was elected as the Vice Chair of the CHF Board of Directors.

**CHF Scientific Programs & Program Awareness Update**

In January, a series of three webinars were held in the Canine Breeder Education Seminar Track, co-sponsored by AKC, AKCCHF, and the Theriogenology Foundation. Each webinar had over 50 virtual attendees.

The application to award the next AKC/AKC CHF/Theriogenology Foundation Residency is open, as is the inaugural application cycle for the AKC/AKC CHF Canine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency. Several top programs have indicated they will apply for the new sports medicine residency. The application window for both residencies will close in May 2024.

**AKC/AKC CHF: Working Together**

AKCCHF had a very successful booth at Meet the Breeds in January. CHF were very grateful to engage with an enthusiastic public and share CHF’s mission.

**FINANCE**

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented unaudited financial results as of February 29, 2024.

Net Operating Income is $1.2 million.

**REVENUES:**

Total Revenues of $16.6 million are lower than budget by 6%, excluding Interest & Dividends.

Registration Fees, excluding Registration-Related revenues, total $6.4 million and trail budget by 6%.

Registration-related Revenues trail budget by $322k or 13%.

Recording & Event Service fees, Title Recognition fees, and Event Application fees total $2.3 million and are 1% lower.
Product & Service Sales total $2.4 million and are lower than budget by 2%.

Advertising, Sponsorship, and Royalties total $3 million, and are lower than budget by 8%.

**EXPENSES:**
Controllable Expenses total $13.7 million and are lower than budget by $620k or 4%. Non-controllable expenses are lower than budget by $81k or 5%.

Non-Financial Statistics for the two months ended February 29, 2024
Registrations: 2024 YTD Litter Reg. 1% lower than budget, 16% lower than 2023 YTD.
2024 YTD Dog Reg. 7% trailing budget, 14% lower than 2023 YTD.

Events & Entries
Compared to the same period in 2023, Events were ahead by 11% but Entries were lower by 3%.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**
Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary, and Seth Fera-Schanes, Director of Strategic Planning, participated in this portion of the meeting. Sheila Goffe, Vice President of Government Relations; Ashley Jacot, Director of Education; Mari-Beth O’Neill, Vice President of Sport Services; and Penny Leigh, Director of Registration Development, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Karolynne McAteer Resolution**
Following a motion from Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers the Board VOTED unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

**AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB**
Held on April eighth, two thousand and twenty-four, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS,
Karolynne McAteer has been a member of The American Kennel Club Delegate Body since two thousand and eleven; and,

WHEREAS, she was elected to The American Kennel Club Board of Directors at the March Meeting of two thousand and sixteen, serving until March, two thousand and twenty-four; and,
WHEREAS, during her tenure on the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club, she served as Board Liaison to numerous Delegate Committees, including the All-Breed, and Field Trial & Hunting Tests Events, and served on the Board’s Communications Committee, and, additionally, was appointed to serve as a Board member for AKC Reunite, AKC Political Action Committee, and AKC Canine Health Foundation; and,

WHEREAS, In 2019, she was appointed to lead the AKC Chairman’s ad hoc committee on Canine Genetic Testing, which in 2020 produced five papers outlining the future of AKC’s DNA Program and setting the agenda for necessary program enhancements, including canine-health testing and genetic counseling for AKC breeders; and,

WHEREAS, her experience gained during more than forty years as a second-generation Irish Setter conformation fancier and field-event competitor, and her expertise as a breeder, exhibitor, local and national show chairwoman, and professional communicator, have proved to be valuable assets to the Board and the organization; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this distinguished fancier, sportswoman, gentlewoman, and friend; and,

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

2023 AKC National Championship by the Numbers
Based on a Board request Staff presented an overview of the 2023 AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin.

Growth in Event
The AKC® National Championship, presented by Royal Canin, had a new record-breaking entry in 2023. There was a grand total of 5,762 Conformation entries and 9,801 entries across all events. This is compared to 5,376 Conformation entries and 9395 total entries in 2022 and 5051 Conformation entries with a total entry of 8,540 in 2021.
2023 Entries by Events

• **5,762 Conformation entries which includes 8 supported entries and 1 designated specialty.**

• **875** dogs were entered in the AKC National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) Finals.

• **153** Junior handlers, ages 9-17, who have met high academic standards and qualification criteria based on year-round competition, competed in Junior Showmanship.

• **1,717** puppies (6-12 months) and junior dogs (12-18 months) are entered in the AKC/Royal Canin National All-Breed Puppy and Junior Stakes.

• **1,272** Bred-by-Exhibitors in competition.

• **429** dogs entered in the AKC Fast CAT® Invitational.

• **217** dog and handler teams in the two-day AKC Obedience Classic, including 55 breeds from 35 states.

• **9** Junior Obedience entries and **17** Junior Rally entries in the AKC Obedience and Rally Junior Showcase, including 14 breeds and 4 All-American dogs from 10 states.

• **701** entries in the AKC Agility Invitational, including 168 breeds and 6 All-American dogs from 41 states and Canada.

• **74** entries in the AKC Junior Agility Competition (Friday, December 15, 2023).

Broadcast Information

During the course of the week, there were approximately 56 hours of live AKC.tv coverage.

ESPN/ABC

• **AKC Agility Invitational**
  - Premiered December 24, 2023 at 9pm ET, on ESPN2
  - Two-hour show

• **AKC National Championship Dog Show**
  - Premiered December 31, 2023 at 2pm ET, on ABC
  - Re-aired December 31, 2023 at 6pm ET, on ESPN2
  - Three-hour show

• **AKC National Championship Dog Show Highlights**
  - Premiered February 11, 2024 at 7pm ET, on ESPN
  - One-hour show

Orlando Institutes

Since 2011, AKC’s Judging Operations Department has hosted Judges Education seminars in conjunction with the AKC National Championship week in Orlando, Florida. Each year, over 200 attendees have benefitted from the offering of breed-specific education utilizing Parent Club-approved materials presented by Parent Club-approved presenters. 2024
will mark the 12th consecutive year in which the AKC/DJAA Advanced Judging Institute has offered seminars and hands-on workshops for breeds in two complete groups. In addition to the breed-specific Judges Education presentations, Judging Operations has offered the Institute for New and Aspiring Judges on five occasions since 2011 and four Judges Education Coordinator Symposiums, which assist in the development of effective Judges Education Committee and Judges Education materials. The coordination of all the Judges’ Education opportunities in Orlando has provided tremendous benefit to current and prospective judges, and Parent Clubs, which could not be accomplished without the tremendous effort, commitment, and dedication of AKC Staff. In 2023 we had 259 participants.

**AKC Agility League Update**
The AKC Agility League is in the midst of its sixth season of competition with its largest participation rate so far – more than 270 teams and nearly 1,700 dogs competing all over the country, including Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. There are 114 breeds represented in the Winter 2024 season, which will conclude on April 7. Spring/Summer Season enrollment starts on April 11. We continue to receive overwhelmingly positive feedback about the League program with participants expressing how much fun and helpful the program has been to them, their students and club members.

**AKC Education Q1 Review**

**AKC Canine College**
The AKC Canine College (AKCCC) Learning Management System (LMS) now has 450 courses comprised of 1,035 modules. Between January 1 - March 11, 2024 over 10,000 active learners have completed over 95,000 tasks.

A total of 71 breed-specific courses are available on AKCCC. In Q1, the Biewer Terrier course was completed and launched, three courses are under final Parent Club review, and four breed courses are under development.

**Breeder Courses and Exams**
36 breeder courses, webinars, and exams
- M1: Preparing the bitch
- M2: Preparing the whelping room
- M3: Care for the newborn
- M4: Estimate the day of whelping
- M5: Assisting the whelping
- M6: Hygiene and sanitation
AKCCC Puppy Program
- Potty Training – Launched
- Socialization – Launched
- Let’s Play – End of Q1
- Basic Obedience – End of Q1

AKC Obedience Judge’s Education
AKCCC has produced and launched five out of six courses in this comprehensive program. Launched on March 15, 2024, Course 5, Judging Open Classes, is a 2 1/2-hour course featuring over 35 videos throughout 50+ lessons. Current and prospective judges will review judging procedures and positioning, view examples of good exercises, evaluate real-world scenarios, and compare their scores with AKC Judges.

Webinars
In Quarter 1 of 2024, AKC Education hosted 8 webinars for 1619 participants, bringing the total number of participants to 61,669 since March 2020. The following webinars were offered in Quarter 1 of 2024.

Breeder Development Webinar Series:
- “Pyo: the fear-inducing three-letter word”
- “Crash Course in Canine Eye Testing”

Canine Breeder Excellence Webinar Series:
- “CBEST Webinar Series: TCI versus Surgical AI”
- “CBEST Webinar Series: Prostate Pearls of Wisdom”
- “CBEST Webinar Series: The First 48”
* The CBEST series stands for Canine-Breeder Excellence Seminar Track and is hosted in conjunction with The Theriogenology Foundation.
- Two sessions of, “Review and FAQs on Conformation Judging Procedures, Policies and Guidelines”
- “Judges Education Webinar: Lancashire Heeler”

The Evolution of AKC Public Education
2017 to Present
Ashley Jacot presented an update on the evolution of AKC Public Education. This Mission of Public Education is to teach and promote responsible dog ownership and foster participation in the world of purebred dogs. Outreach programs and publications explain how to ever-strengthen the invaluable human-canine bond.

The most successful programs are the AKC Patch Program, AKC Bailey’s Book Club, AKC Pups in the Classroom, AKC PupPals, AKC Art Contest, and AKC Educator Resources. New initiatives include AKC Meet the Breeds with Bailey, an online series teaching children about the different AKC breeds, and a new children’s book about the various AKC Dog Sports.
Priority Legislation Monthly Update
Sheila Goffe highlighted numerous active priority legislation and administrative regulations in Congress and State Legislation. She noted that additional information is available on the AKC legislative action center microsite: https://www.akcgr.org.

New Breed for Foundation Stock Service® - Bouvier Des Ardennes
The Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a petition to accept the Bouvier Des Ardennes into the FSS program.

The Bouvier Des Ardennes originated in the Ardennes region of Belgium in the 17th century. They were developed by farmers and used traditionally for herding cattle; they later were used to track wild boar. The Bouvier Des Ardennes was thought to be extinct when a group of scientists were at a Belgian farm in the 1980s discovered the dogs. They set out to reestablish the breed. There are approximately 20 dogs in the United States that are eligible for recording with FSS.

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE
Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Caroline Murphy, Director of Performance Events, and Mari-Beth O’Neill, Vice President of Sport Services participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Fast CAT® – Event Committee of an AKC Hosted Major Event
The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to add language clarifying that an event committee for an AKC-hosted major event has the authority to make decisions on matters not already addressed in the regulations and use its discretion to interpret existing regulations.

This will be discussed further at the May meeting.

Recognition of Clubs Supporting 4-H and Other Youth Organizations
Starting at the June 2024 Delegate meeting, Staff and the AKC Junior Committee will recognize clubs that have actively supported 4-H Canine Clubs or other Youth Organizations with Canine programs. Recognition of a club will be based upon the club’s conducting activities such as Junior Showcase Events, supporting mentoring by club members, and offering dogs and scholarships.

Recognition Handling Dogs to Titles That They Bred
Staff and the AKC Junior Committee would like to recognize Juniors who handle a dog that they have bred to a title. The Junior will submit the dog’s name and number and the title earned, validated by a parent or co-breeder of the dog. Staff will
verify that the Junior is a breeder and email a certificate to the Junior.

Staff will begin to issue certificates to Juniors on June 3, 2024.

**CONFORMATION**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Tim Thomas, Vice President of Conformation; Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support; and Alan Slay, Director, Event Programs, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**Protests Against Dogs - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 15, Section 1**

Pursuant to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 15, Section 1*, every exhibitor and handler at a show may request a veterinary examination of any dog in the show’s premises they believe endangers the health of the other dogs in a show. This must be in writing and signed by the person making the request to the event chair, whose duty will be to direct the subject dog’s owner or agent to take the dog to the Show Veterinarian if deemed appropriate.

Any dog referred by the event chair for examination is excused from further competition at that event or any associated event, the same day, the weekend, the circuit, or the cluster until the Show Veterinarian examination is completed, indicating the dog’s presence does not endanger other dogs at the event.

*Malicious complaints will be considered conduct prejudicial to the sport.*

This amendment will be read at the June Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the September Delegate meeting.
Show Veterinarians - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 10, Section 5
Pursuant to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 10, Section 5, the event hosting club is responsible for expenses incurred for the examination of a dog it determines requires examination by the Show Veterinarian.

The Board reviewed recommendations by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to modify the Rules, removing the club’s obligation for expenses incurred for dogs it refers for veterinary examination and to assign any expenses that may result to the owner or agent of the dog.

This will be discussed further at the May Board meeting.

Impact of Awarding Championship points for Group 2-3-4 Placements
The opportunity to earn Championship points for placing 2-3-4 in the Group was implemented in January 2023. This change was meant to encourage all exhibitors, but in particular, it was believed that it would assist and retain low-entry breeds (LEBs) that have a challenge earning points due to a lack of competition.

There were 88 LEBs that earned points from Group 2-3-4 placements in 2023. (For reference, there were a total of 101 LEBs.) The Bracco and Wire Fox Terrier had the most dogs benefiting from this change. In 2023, the absentee rate for LEBs decreased by 1.4%. This resulted in approximately 3,000 additional entries being shown.

JUDGING OPERATIONS
Tim Thomas, Vice President of Conformation, and Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President of Sports & Events, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Conformation Judging Approval Process
The Chairman’s Committee and Staff recommends the Board approve proposed modifications to the Conformation Judging Approval Process to modify the requirement for judges approved for four or more complete groups to submit a Request to Advance preceding any application for additional breeds, to judges approved for two or more groups if a request had not been approved in the previous 12-month period.

This will be discussed further at the May Board meeting.

Conformation Judging Statistics
Judging Operations provides to the Board statistics related to Conformation Judging applications considered by the Department.
the preceding three months. Following is
the list of New Breed (NB) and Additional
Breed (AB) applicants whose applications
were presented for final approval in the
months January through March 2024.

**CLUBS**
Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President,
Sports & Events; and Glenn Lycan,
Director, Event Operations Support par-
ticipated in this portion of the meeting via
video conference.

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<th>Applications</th>
<th>Breeds</th>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fully Appr.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>January</strong></td>
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<td><strong>February</strong></td>
<td>5 5 0 0 0 0</td>
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<td><strong>March</strong></td>
<td>7 7 0 0 0 0</td>
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<td><strong>NB TOTAL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
<td>27 22 5 0 0 0</td>
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<td><strong>March</strong></td>
<td>26 26 0 0 0 0</td>
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<td><strong>AB TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>76 69 6 1 0 0</td>
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<td><strong>AB</strong></td>
<td>76 69 6 1 0 0</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>92 85 6 1 0 0</td>
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REPORT ON MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Baltimore County Kennel Club, Baltimore County, MD (1949)
Carolina Dog Training Club, Greensboro, NC (1975)
Keeshond Club of America (1935)
Magic Valley Kennel Club, Charleston, WV (1954)
Tri-City Kennel Club, Davenport, IA (1937)

REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUBS APPROVED IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Biewer Terrier Club of Maryland, greater Baltimore, MD (including all communities northeast to Newark, DE, south to LaPlata, MD, and west to Rockville, MD), 33 total households, 16 local.
South Texas Cane Corso Club; College Station, TX (including communities north to Waco, south to Austin/Magnolia, east to Cleveland and west to Route 281), 22 total households, 12 local.

COMPLIANCE

Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance participated in this meeting portion via video conference.

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

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

Seth Fera-Schanes, Director of Strategic Planning, participated in this portion of the meeting.

AKC Corporate Project Roadmap Review

The American Kennel Club uses a corporate roadmap to prioritize projects across departments. We continually look for ways to improve our process. This year, we are focusing more on forecasting project and program budgets for the roadmap 3-5 years out. In the current year, we are adding goals and key performance indicators (KPIs) to line items in the roadmap. These adjustments will help optimize decision-making and correlate the roadmap with objectives and budgets.

Three presentations will be provided per year. This month’s presentation included a sample of work completed in Q1.

Key Projects in 2024:
• Registration Console Update (RCU)
• Competition Management System (CMS) Update
• Revenue Collection and Reporting System Modernization
• Systems and Security Infrastructure
• Business Continuity
• Customer Relationship Management (CRM)
Completed work January through March 2024:
• Online Evaluator Application
• Title Application Portal (TAP) - Batch 2
  • Fetch Dog
  • AKC Temperament
• Email Service Platform (ESP) Migration
  • Replace Sendgrid (Marketplace), Chargify (Maxio) emails from Marketplace.
• Genetic Counseling Center
• Economic Impact Study
• Detection Dog Taskforce - Phase III
  • Ongoing program and will report directly to the Board
• Email ELK PDFs from BRET

**Markets**

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President of Marketing; Jake Sisskind, Group Product Manager; Somya Udeh, Product Manager; and Meghan Prince, Brand Marketing Manager, participated in this portion of the meeting.

**Elastic Search**

Staff presented an update on the new site search platform for AKC.org, Elastic Search. This platform controls the algorithm for user searches within our own site and allows for full customization of the algorithm, allowing administrators and developers to fine-tune search results.

**AKC Marketplace Homepage: Branding and Launch Updates**

Staff provided an overview of recent updates to the Marketplace homepage.

These changes focus on enhancing the platform’s branding. Key changes include implementing a dynamic video hero image and refining copy in our value proposition and mission sections.

**Consent**

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

**Show Secretaries - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 9, Section 11 and Chapter 11, Section 12**

The Board VOTED to approve changes recommended by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to revise Chapter 9, Section 10, and Chapter 11, Section 12 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, for greater clarity in defining eligibility requirements for one serving as a Show Secretary.

The change deletes “where there is no Superintendent” for greater clarity that Show Secretaries for any event, including one where the services of a Superintendent are also used by the club, must adhere
to the eligibility requirements defined by Chapter 11, Section 12.

“Any person acting in the capacity of Superintendent (or Show Secretary where there is no Superintendent) must abide by the eligibility requirements described in Chapter 11, Section 12 of these Rules.”

These amendments will be read at the June Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the September Delegate meeting. If approved by the Delegate Body, the effective date will be September 18, 2024.

Retriever Field Trials – System of Rotation for All Stakes
The Board VOTED to approve the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee (RFTAC) recommendation to allow judges to use a rotation system for all stakes. Rotation refers to a system used to select which dog runs first in a series. Currently, a rotation is required for major stakes and optional for minor stakes.

This will require changing Chapter 14, Section 4 of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers. This recommendation standardizes running order methods by allowing judges to impose a system of rotation in all stakes.

Chapter 14. Rules for Retriever Field Trials
Section 4.
(2nd paragraph)
In all stakes the judges will impose a system of rotation.

This amendment will be read at the June Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the September Delegate meeting. If approved by the Delegate Body, the effective date will be November 1, 2024.

Scent Work – Allow Fix and Go in Detective Class
The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation to allow a fix and go-on option for teams in the Detective Class that receive an NQ.

There are three main search divisions in Scent Work – Odor Search, Handler Discrimination and Detective Class. Detective Class is the most challenging of the three and most closely simulates real detection work. Detective Class is reserved for the most accomplished Scent Work dog and is where handlers do not know how many hides need to be found. This Class can have the highest number of hides ranging from 5-10, the most time per entry ranging from 7-15 minutes per dog, the most complex hide placement, and the largest square footage of search area rang-
ing from 2,000-5,000 square feet.

In Detective Class, if a handler gives an incorrect alert or finish call at any time, they receive an NQ. This has proven to be discouraging for handlers who may have traveled far to an event only to receive an NQ within minutes and go home. On several occasions, the Performance Events Department has heard the suggestion to make a fix-and-go-on option available to handlers.

CHAPTER 9 – Detective Class

Section 13. (New Section) Fix and Go On.

The fix and go on option is intended to offer a consistent way for teams receiving an NQ to continue to work and achieve a positive find prior to exiting the search area. Once a handler makes an incorrect “alert” call and if search time is remaining, the handler can use the fix and go on option to continue in the search area but must inform the judge. At the time the handler informs the judge that the fix and go on option will be used, the judge will then note the remaining search time and mark “FG” on the scoresheet in addition to the usual NQ and allow the team to continue working. The judge will verbally indicate to the handler the specific location of the nearest unfound hide. If more than one unfound hide could be considered as being the nearest, it is up to the judge to decide which hide will be searched. Only one hide can be searched for the duration of the fix and go on option. The start of the remaining search time begins after the judge has finished giving the first verbal direction to the handler. There are one of three outcomes that can occur during a fix and go on option, they are:

1) If a handler gives a correct “alert” call before the remaining search time ends, the search is over and the team must exit the search area.

2) If a handler makes an incorrect “alert” call and there is still search time remaining, the team can continue searching until a correct “alert” is called but cannot exceed the remaining search time.

3) If the search time expires and no correct “alert” call is made, the team must exit the search area.

The judge shall not judge the dog’s run after the fix and go on option is used but will continue to watch the search. The judge can at any time provide additional direction verbally if in the opinion of the judge it appears the team may not be successful, particularly if time is running out and the team has not yet achieved a correct call.

A fix and go on option cannot be used if search time is no longer remaining or to correct an incorrect “Finish” call.
This change to *Regulations for AKC Scent Work* will be effective May 1, 2024.

**Scent Work – Clarification on Scented Article**
The Board VOTED to amend Chapter 8, Section 2 of the *Regulations for AKC Scent Work* to clarify that when a cotton ball is used as the scented article in Handler Discrimination for Advanced, Excellent, and Master levels, it must not exceed 1.5” in diameter.

**CHAPTER 8 – Handler Discrimination Division**

**Section 2. Scented Article.** The handler is required to provide the scented article for Handler Discrimination Classes. For the Novice Class, the required scented article is a cotton glove or cotton sock. For the Advanced, Excellent, and Master Classes, the required scented article may be a cotton ball not to exceed 1.5” in diameter or a cotton swab. Each article should be thoroughly scented by the handler and sealed in a plastic bag to be given to the hide steward to be removed from the plastic bag and hidden on the course.

This change to *Regulations for AKC Scent Work* will be effective May 1, 2024.

**International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) National Championship**
The Board VOTED to approve the holding of an annual Agility International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) National Championship event starting in the fall of 2024. There will be five jump heights offered and five National Championship titles awarded (one per height).

**Agility Updates**
The Board VOTED to approve several recommended changes to the Agility Regulations that are meant to expand opportunities for exhibitors, make an event run more efficiently, and update technical equipment requirements for safety and to reflect current course designs.

These changes will become effective on July 1, 2024. (See Regulation Changes in Appendix A.)

1. Chapter 1, Section 21 – Allow For Exhibition Only (FEO) in all classes.
2. Chapter 4, Section 7 – Reduce wheeling of Open courses to one time.
3. Chapter 6, Section 4 & 5 – Increase the course yardage allowed for 8- & 12-inch heights (and corresponding Preferred heights) for the Excellent and Master levels.
4. Chapter 6, Equipment Chart –
   A. No longer require the Pause Table
in the Excellent and Master Standard classes.

B. No longer require a “Bar” jump in any courses. This jump type has 2 bars on it.

C. Only allow one time use of the tire. Tires must have a straight approach to them and then on departure.

D. Allow the use of a Wall Jump in Excellent and Master classes to add obstacle variety.

5. Chapter 7, Sections 4 & 5 – Increase the course yardage allowed in Jumpers With Weaves at the Excellent and Master levels for all heights (and corresponding Preferred heights).

6. Chapter 7, Equipment Chart - Notes the same changes as shown in Item 4 – for the “Bar” Jump, Tire and Wall Jump.

**Approval of Annual Fees**

The Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc. require that the Board of Directors set deposits annually for the submission of complaints pursuant to Article XII, Section 1 and deposits for appeals to an Appeal Trial Board pursuant to Article XIII, Section 7.

The current deposit to file a complaint pursuant to Article XII, Section 1, is $625. The current deposit to file an Appeal to an Appeal Trial Board is $250. The Board VOTED that these deposits remain the same for 2024.

**Delegates Approved**

Dr. Yves Belmont
To represent Conyers Kennel Club of Georgia
Published March 2024, April 2024

Eugene R. Biller
To represent Tampa Bay Kennel Club
Published February 2024, March 2024

Sheila Gallizzo
To represent Plainfield Kennel Club
Published February 2024, March 2024

Sue Meachem
To represent Central Indiana Kennel Club
Published February 2024, March 2024

Richard Yoho
To represent Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club of America
Published February 2024, March 2024

**Member Club Approved**

Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America
Households: 144
1st Licensed Show: June 6, 1994
Bylaws: Acceptable
Recommendation: Approve. Published in February 2024 and March 2024 AKC Gazettes
Board recessed at 5:22 p.m

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. All Directors were present in the New York office. The Executive Secretary was also present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss business matters. It was reported out of this Session that:

1) The Board reappointed the Junior Task Force Board Committee to be comprised of all current members.

2) The Board reappointed Christopher Sweetwood to the AKC PAC Board and Dr. Charlie Garvin to the AKC CHF Board.

3) The Board VOTED to approve the Staff proposal on AKC EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS POLICY AND RECOMMENDATIONS effective immediately:

AKC EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS POLICY AND RECOMMENDATIONS
As an additional step in creating a safe and respectful sports environment for all, the AKC Board of Directors approved the following educational requirements policy and recommendations. Effective immediately:

- The AKC Board of Directors, Inspectors, Field Staff across all sports, AKC Registered Handlers, and additional AKC Staff that regularly attend events will be required to successfully complete the Stewards of Children® training from the non-profit organization Darkness to Light once every three years.

- All current and future Junior Showmanship Judges will be required to successfully complete the Stewards of Children® training. AKC will offer the initial course on a complimentary basis and must be refreshed every three (3) years. All current Junior Showmanship Judges must fulfill this requirement in 2024.

- All current and future Club Junior Coordinators will be required to successfully complete the Stewards of Children® training. AKC will offer the initial course on a complimentary basis and must be refreshed every three (3) years.

- Junior participants and their parents will be recommended to take the following complementary courses as applicable from SafeSport:
SafeSport® for Youth Athletes (ages 13-17)
SafeSport® for Kids (5-12)

- All Superintendents, AKC-approved Show Secretaries, and AKC-approved Agility Trial Secretaries will be strongly advised to take the Stewards of Children® course.
- All current and future judges across all sports are required to complete the Stewards of Children® training. The initial training will be provided on a complimentary basis by AKC; this requirement will be phased in.

It was VOTED to adjourn on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 12:23 p.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned
Attest: ____________________________________________
Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary
Appendix A

Regulations for AKC Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Regulation (Line Out)</th>
<th>Proposed Regulations (Line In)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chapter 1. Purpose</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 1. Purpose</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 21. For Exhibition Only</strong> (This is a pilot program) At the option of the club, a handler may choose to change their FAST or Time2Beat entry into a For Exhibition Only (FEO) run. The handler must notify the scribe and the judge as they enter the ring prior to the start of the run that they are doing an FEO run. The scribe sheet shall be marked “FEO”, no time “NT”, and “E” for an excused, non-qualifying run. Allowing FEO runs is at the option of the club. It must be stated in the premium and any pre-trial publications.</td>
<td><strong>Section 21. For Exhibition Only</strong> (This is a pilot program) At the option of the club, a handler may choose to change their FAST or Time2Beat entry any class entry into a For Exhibition Only (FEO) run. The handler must notify the scribe and the judge as they enter the ring prior to the start of the run that they are doing an FEO run. The scribe sheet shall be marked “FEO”, no time “NT”, and “E” for an excused, non-qualifying run. Maximum Courses Time for FEO shall be 45 seconds for all classes, except for FAST which will use the set FAST course times. Allowing FEO runs is at the option of the club. Clubs must allow ALL classes to be run as FEO if they choose to offer this option. It must be stated in the premium and any pre-trial publications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chapter 4. General Course and Trial Requirements</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 4. General Course and Trial Requirements</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 7. Course Times, Distances</strong> Course distances are determined by the judges based on the course as set and approved by the AKC Agility Department. When measuring the course distance, the judge shall use a 12-inch dog’s typical path for the 4-inch, 8-inch and 12-inch height division and a 20-inch dog’s typical path for the 20-inch, 24-inch and 24-inch Choice height divisions. The 16-inch height division will have the course distance based on an average of the 12-inch and 20-inch dog’s typical path. In Novice Standard and Jumpers With Weaves classes the judge will only measure the typical path for the 20” dog. That measurement will be used to calculate all times for the Novice Standard and Jumpers With Weaves classes.</td>
<td><strong>Section 7. Course Times, Distances</strong> Course distances are determined by the judges based on the course as set and approved by the AKC Agility Department. When measuring the course distance, the judge shall use a 12-inch dog’s typical path for the 4-inch, 8-inch and 12-inch height division and a 20-inch dog’s typical path for the 20-inch, 24-inch and 24-inch Choice height divisions. The 16-inch height division will have the course distance based on an average of the 12-inch and 20-inch dog’s typical path. For Open and Novice Standard and Jumpers With Weaves classes the judge will only measure the typical path for the 20” dog. That measurement will be used to calculate all times for the Novice Standard and Jumpers With Weaves classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chapter 6. Standard Agility Classes</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section 4. Excellent Agility Standard Class</strong> The focus of the Excellent class is to provide an opportunity for dogs and handlers to demonstrate their superior skills in agility.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Performance Standards:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85</td>
<td>• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).</td>
<td>• Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Any Refusal/Run-out</td>
<td>– Any Refusal/Run-out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Any Wrong Course</td>
<td>– Any Wrong Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Any Table Fault</td>
<td>– Any Table Fault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Standard Course Time:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Standard Course Time:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– 8-inch Division = 2.50 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table</td>
<td>– 8-inch Division = 2.50 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- 12-inch Division = 2.7 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.85 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.9 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table

- Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time
- Course Time Limits. The following is the greatest allowable Standard Course Time allowed for this class based on jump height.
  - 8-inch Division = 76 seconds
  - 12-inch Division = 71 seconds
  - 16-inch Division = 71 seconds
  - 20-inch Division = 68 seconds
  - 24-inch Division = 72 seconds
  - 24-inch Choice Division = 68 seconds

- Maximum Course Time. The maximum course time will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
- Quantity = 18-20
- Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

Section 5. Master Agility Class. The focus of the Master class is to provide an opportunity for dogs and handlers to demonstrate their superior skills in agility.

Performance Standards:
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 100
- Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - Any Course Faults

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 2.50 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 12-inch Division = 2.7 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.85 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.90 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table

- Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time

- 12-inch Division = 2.7 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.85 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.90 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table

- Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time

- 12-inch Division = 2.7 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.85 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.90 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table

- Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
- Quantity = 18-20
- Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

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Performance Standards:
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- Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - Any Course Faults

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 2.50 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 12-inch Division = 2.7 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 16-inch Division = 2.85 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 20-inch Division = 3.1 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
- 24-inch Division = 2.90 yards per second, plus 5 seconds for the Pause Table
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- Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time
- Course Time Limits. The following is the greatest allowable Standard Course Time allowed for this class based on jump height:
  - 8-inch Division = 76 seconds
  - 12-inch Division = 71 seconds
  - 16-inch Division = 71 seconds
  - 20-inch Division = 68 seconds
  - 24-inch Division = 72 seconds
  - 24-inch Choice Division = 68 seconds
- Maximum Course Time. The maximum course time will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
- Quantity = 18-20
- Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacles</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Nov. Std.</th>
<th>Open Std.*</th>
<th>Excl/Master Std.*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Frame</td>
<td></td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td></td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pause Table</td>
<td></td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (1)</td>
<td>R (4) N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weave Poles</td>
<td></td>
<td>R (1) 6 poles</td>
<td>R (1) 9-12 poles</td>
<td>R (1) 9-12 poles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Tunnel</td>
<td></td>
<td>R Max (3)*</td>
<td>R Max (3)*</td>
<td>R Max (3)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double Bar Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>A (2) **</td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>R (1) A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Bar Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>A (1) A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
<td>A (1) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascending Double Bar Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
<td>A (2) *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1) Premier Only **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qty of Obstacles</td>
<td></td>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>16-18</td>
<td>18-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A minimum of two and a maximum of three spreads must be used and two different types of spread jumps must be used on the course. One of the two spreads must be the broad or triple jump.

**Either the Double Bar Jump or the Ascending Double Bar Jump must be used for Novice Standard. The Broad Jump must be used. No more than three spreads may be taken on a Novice Standard Course.

***Only one wall jump may be used as a spread jump or in place of a Panel Jump in Standard Premier. The Wall Jump may only be used in Premier.

****Tire is optional in Premier

+May only use 3 tunnel passes if one is a 10-13 foot tunnel and not curved more than 45 degrees. Premier class may use up to 3 tunnels and to do so do not need to use the 10' tunnel.
Chapter 7 Jumpers With Weaves Class
Section 4. Excellent Jumpers With Weaves Class.

Performance Standards:
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - Any Course Faults

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 3.05 yards per second
- 12-inch Division = 3.25 yards per second
- 16-inch Division = 3.5 yards per second
- 20-inch Division = 3.75 yards per second
- 24-inch Division = 3.55 yards per second
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.75 yards per second

Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time

Course Time Limits. The following is the greatest allowable Standard Course Time allowed for this class based on jump height.
- 8-inch Division = 55 seconds
- 12-inch Division = 52 seconds
- 16-inch Division = 50 seconds
- 20-inch Division = 48 seconds
- 24-inch Division = 51 seconds
- 24-inch Choice Division = 48 seconds

Maximum Course Time. The maximum course time will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
- Quantity = 18-20
- Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

Section 5. Master Jumpers With Weaves Class
Performance Standards:
- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 100
- Additional non-qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).
  - Any Course Fault including any time fault

Standard Course Time:
- 8-inch Division = 3.05 yards per second
- 12-inch Division = 3.25 yards per second
- 16-inch Division = 3.5 yards per second
- 20-inch Division = 3.75 yards per second
- 24-inch Division = 3.55 yards per second
- 24-inch Choice Division = 3.75 yards per second

Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time

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Section 4. Excellent Jumpers With Weaves Class.

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Time Penalties = 3 faults for every full second over Standard Course Time

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:
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- 20-inch Division = 48 seconds
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**Maximum Course Time.** The maximum course time 59 will be the Standard Course Time plus 20 seconds.

**Minimum Obstacle Requirements:**
- Quantity = 18-20
- Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed – refer to chart at the end of this chapter.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Obstacles</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Novice JWW**</th>
<th>Open JWW*</th>
<th>Exc./Master JWW*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dog Walk</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Frame</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pause Table</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weave Poles</td>
<td>R (1) 6 poles</td>
<td>R (1) 12</td>
<td>R (1) 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Tunnel</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
<td>A (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tire Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Jump</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascending Double Bar Jump</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td>A (1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Jump</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>A (1)*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bar Jump</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Qty of Obstacles:** 14-16 16-18 18-20

*A minimum of two and a maximum of three spreads must be used and two different types of spread jumps must be used on the course. One of the two spreads must be the broad or triple jump.

**A minimum of one and a maximum of two spreads is required in Novice JWW.

***Only one wall jump may be substituted as a required spread jump in JWW Premier. The Wall Jump may only be used in Premier.

+ Premier may use up to 3 tunnel passes.
### SPORTING GROUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American Water Spaniel</th>
<th>Barbet</th>
<th>Boykin Spaniel</th>
<th>Brittany</th>
<th>Chesapeake Bay Retriever</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clumber Spaniel</td>
<td>Cocker Spaniel</td>
<td>Curly-Coated Retriever</td>
<td>English Cocker Spaniel</td>
<td>English Setter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Springer Spaniel</td>
<td>Field Spaniel</td>
<td>Flat-Coated Retriever</td>
<td>German Shorthaired Pointer</td>
<td>German Wirehaired Pointer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Golden Retriever</td>
<td>Gordon Setter</td>
<td>Irish Red and White Setter</td>
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<td>Irish Water Spaniel</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Lagotto Romagnolo</td>
<td>Nederlandse Kooikerhondje</td>
<td>Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever</td>
<td>Pointer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinone Italiano</td>
<td>Sussex Spaniel</td>
<td>Vizsla</td>
<td>Weimaraner</td>
<td>Welsh Springer Spaniel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirehaired Pointing Griffon</td>
<td>Wirehaired Vizsla</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PARENT CLUB LINKS

HOUND GROUP

Afghan Hound    American English Coonhound    American Foxhound    Azawakh    Basenji

Basset Hound    Beagle    Black and Tan Coonhound    Bloodhound    Bluetick Coonhound

Borzoi    Cirneco dell’Etna    Dachshund    English Foxhound    Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen

Greyhound    Harrier    Ibizan Hound    Irish Wolfhound    Norwegian Elkhound

Otterhound    Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen    Pharaoh Hound    Plott    Portuguese Podengo Pequeno

Redbone Coonhound    Rhodesian Ridgeback    Saluki    Scottish Deerhound    Sloughi

Treeing Walker Coonhound    Whippet
WORKING GROUP

Akita
Alaskan Malamute
Anatolian Shepherd Dog
Bernese Mountain Dog
Black Russian Terrier

Boerboel
Boxer
Bullmastiff
Cane Corso
Chinook

Dogue de Bordeaux
Dogo Argentino
Doberman Pinscher
German Pinscher
Giant Schnauzer

Great Pyrenees
Great Dane
Greater Swiss Mountain Dog
Komondor
Leonberger

Kuvasz
Mastiff
Neapolitan Mastiff
Newfoundland
Portuguese Water Dog

Rottweiler
Saint Bernard
Samoyed
Siberian Husky
Standard Schnauzer

Tibetan Mastiff
PARENT CLUB LINKS

TERRIER GROUP

- Airedale Terrier
- American Hairless Terrier
- American Staffordshire Terrier
- Australian Terrier
- Bedlington Terrier

- Border Terrier
- Bull Terrier
- Cairn Terrier
- Cesky Terrier
- Dandie Dinmont Terrier

- Fox Terrier (Smooth)
- Glen of Imaal Terrier
- Irish Terrier
- Kerry Blue Terrier
- Lakeland Terrier

- Manchester Terrier
- Miniature Bull Terrier
- Miniature Schnauzer
- Norfolk Terrier
- Norwich Terrier

- Parson Russell Terrier
- Rat Terrier
- Russell Terrier
- Scottish Terrier
- Sealyham Terrier

- Skye Terrier
- Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
- Staffordshire Bull Terrier
- Welsh Terrier
- West Highland White Terrier

Wire Fox Terrier
PARENT CLUB LINKS

TOY GROUP

Affenpinscher  Biewer Terrier  Brussels Griffon  Cavalier King Charles Spaniel  Chihuahua

Chinese Crested  English Toy Spaniel  Havanese  Italian Greyhound  Japanese Chin

Maltese  Manchester Terrier (Toy)  Miniature Pinscher  Papillon  Pekingese

Pomeranian  Poodle (Toy)  Pug  Shih Tzu  Silky Terrier

Toy Fox Terrier  Yorkshire Terrier
PARENT CLUB LINKS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

American Eskimo Dog  Bichon Frise  Boston Terrier  Bulldog  Chinese Shar-Pei

Chow Chow  Coton de Tulear  Dalmatian  Finnish Spitz  French Bulldog

Keeshond  Lhasa Apso  Löwchen  Norwegian Lundehund  Poodle (Miniature)

Schipperke  Poodle (Standard)  Shiba Inu  Tibetan Spaniel  Tibetan Terrier

Xoloitzcuintli
HERDING GROUP

Australian Cattle Dog
Australian Shepherd
Bearded Collie
Beauceron
Belgian Laekenois

Belgian Malinois
Belgian Sheepdog
Belgian Tervuren
Bergamasco
Berger Picard

Border Collie
Bouvier des Flandres
Briard
Canaan Dog
Cardigan Welsh Corgi

Collie (Rough)
Collie (Smooth)
Entlebucher Mountain Dog
Finnish Lapphund
German Shepherd Dog

Icelandic Sheepdog
Miniature American Shepherd
Mudi
Norwegian Buhund
Old English Sheepdog

Pembroke Welsh Corgi
Polish Lowland Sheepdog
Puli
Pumi
Pyrenean Shepherd

Shetland Sheepdog
Spanish Water Dog
Swedish Vallhund
AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics

http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/

http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/