



## **AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.®**

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### Secretary's Report

November 1-30, 1999

This report details the day to day activities of the ASCA Board of Directors and includes issues before the ASCA Board and communications done by mail, fax, email and/or phone.

#### 90:38 Agility Committee--ATCH Outstanding and Superior Performance

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, second by Gray

I move that the two additional paragraphs be added as per the Agility Committee's recommendation:

AgC99-5 (ATCH Outstanding and Superior Performance). Moved by Carol Maslansky and seconded by Sandra Katzen (approved unanimously 13 yes, 0 no) that the Agility Committee recommends to the Board two additional paragraphs be added at the end of Section 4.5 ASCA Agility Trial Champion (ATCH) of the Agility Rulebook and be published in the Aussie Times and be included in the 1 June 2000 edition of the Agility Rulebook; the proposed amended language is as follows:

Outstanding Performance Agility Trial Champion (ATCH-OP) certificates (in Standard and Veteran Divisions) will be issued upon completion of earning a minimum of four hundred (400) points in Elite Regular Agility after earning an Elite Agility Certificate \*plus\* earning a minimum of two hundred (200) points in Elite Gamblers after earning an Elite Gamblers Certificate \*plus\* earning a minimum of two hundred (200) points in Elite Jumpers after earning an Elite Jumpers Certificate.

Superior Performance Agility Trial Champion (ATCH-SP) certificates (in Standard and Veterans Divisions) will be issued upon completion of earning a minimum of six hundred (600) points in Elite Regular Agility after earning an Elite Agility Certificate \*plus\* earning a minimum of three hundred (300) points in Elite Gamblers after earning an Elite Gamblers Certificate \*plus\* earning a minimum of three hundred (300) points in Elite Jumpers after earning an Elite Jumpers Certificate.

Committee's comments: When the Agility Committee recommended the establishment of the Outstanding and Superior performance titles (see page 11 of the current Agility Rulebook) it was the intent of the Committee that these titles be ones that could be achieved after earning any of the regular titles. In addition to the two sections on page 11 which discuss the Outstanding Performance and Superior Performance titles in relationship to the regular titles, paragraphs discussing the application of the Outstanding and Superior Performance titles to the ATCH should have been included. This oversight is now corrected with the insertion of the paragraphs recommended by this motion.

Voting:

Approve: Unanimous

Motion is approved

#### Agility Rules Changes: Judging Fee (AGC99-8)

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, second by Gray

I move to accept the Agility Committee's recommendation as stated below:

AGC99-8 Amendment to Section 2.6.6. Moved by Paul Kirk, second by Pete Dolan and Elaine McCollough (approved unanimously 13 yes, 0 no).The ASCA Agility Committee recommends to the Board the words "fifty cents" be

deleted and the words "one dollar" be inserted in the last sentence of Section 2.6.6; the amended sentence will read: "The judging fee (one dollar per run listed in the running order catalog...)." After approval by the Board, this amendment shall become effective for ASCA-only sanctioned trials one month after publication in the Aussie Times and shall be included in the 1 June 2000 Agility Rulebook.

Committee's comments: A typical AKC Agility judging fee is one dollar per run. NADAC has given notice that judging fees of one dollar per run will be the required stipend, effective January 1, 2000 and clubs are encouraged to implement it sooner, if possible. While one does not like to see price increases of any kind (some of us still remember the nickel ice-cream cone and the ten cent hamburger), the judging fee of one dollar per run is reasonable in that judges when traveling from one coast to the other usually give up two working days in addition to long Saturday and Sunday judging days plus the eight to twelve hours put in before the trial designing new courses for the trial.

Voting:

Approve: Unanimous

Motion is approved

Agility Rules Changes: AgC99-9 (Revision of Appendix C)

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, second by Gray

I move to accept the proposed revision to the Agility Rulebook as recommended by the Agility Committee:

AgC99-9 (Revision of Appendix C); Moved by Carol Maslansky and seconded by Paul Kirk, approved unanimously (13 yes, 0 no): The ASCA Agility Committee recommends to the Board that Appendix C of the Agility Rulebook be revised in the following manner and that the revisions in the judging program be published in the Aussie Times and be included in the 1 June 2000 Agility Rulebook:

(1) Amend paragraph three of Appendix C to read as follows: "Judges are organized in two major categories: Judges not requiring supervision and judges requiring supervision. Within each of these major categories three levels (L1, L2, L3) are identified for judges not requiring supervision and two levels (S1, S2) are identified for judges requiring supervision. L1 judges are eligible to supervise S1 and S2 judges; L2 judges are eligible to supervise S1 judges."

(2) Delete all paragraphs after paragraph four.

Committee's comment: NADAC has restructured its judging program by reducing the number of categories (from four to three) for judges not requiring supervision and has reduced the number of categories (from three to two) of judges under supervision. Thus, the information in Appendix C needs to be revised to reflect these changes.

Voting:

Approve: Berryessa, Gray, Harrell, Martin, Toft, Trumbull-Clark, Tubbs, Warren

Non-voting: Hawley

Motion is approved

90:38 Agility Committee---Jump Height Exemption List

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, second by Gray

I move the following changes as recommended by the Agility Committee be included in the Agility Rule Book:

AgC99-10 Jump Height Exemption List: Moved by Mary Isenhour-Long, second by Carol Maslansky (committee vote 12 yes, 1 no) the ASCA Agility Committee recommends to the Board that the Agility Rulebook be amended to include the following new paragraphs at the end of Section 2.3 and that these amended changes be published in the Aussie Times and be included in the June 1, 2000 Rulebook:

The following breed dogs \*may\* jump 4" lower than indicated for their wither height in the above chart (no dog must jump at the lower jump height and no dog is excluded from jumping at a higher jump height): Akita, Alaskan Malamute, Basset Hound, Bernese Mountain Dog, Bloodhound, Bouvier des Flandres, Bulldog, Bullmastiff, Bull Terrier, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Clumber Spaniel, French Bulldog, Great Dane, Greater Swiss Mountain Dog, Great Pyrenees, Irish Wolfhound, Kuvasz, Leonburger, Mastiff, Newfoundland, Otter Hounds, Rottweiler, Saint Bernard.

Any other dog which, in good health, weighs as much as, or in excess of three times their wither height \*may\* jump 4" lower than indicated for their wither height in the above chart if the dog is listed on NADAC's exemption list (for consideration for approval to NADAC's exemption list, NADAC requires a letter by a veterinarian with the dog's weight listed in

the letter). It is expected, at all times, handlers will enter their dogs at the appropriate heights, using sound ethics and good sportsmanship.

This height exception is for the health and well-being of the dog, not to give one dog a competitive edge over another dog. It is assumed that any handler who enters a dog at a lower height in accordance with this policy has done so to maintain the longevity and good health of their canine companion.

Dogs that choose to jump 4" lower in accordance with the foregoing provisions, shall be given the SCT of the jump height they are running in and shall be considered for placement ribbons in the jump height they run. Veterans are eligible to jump at an additional 4" lower jump height and shall be awarded Veteran SCT. No dog shall ever jump lower than 4".

Committee's comment: The list of breeds for this Jump Height Exemption and the provision for other dogs to individually qualify to be included in the Jump Height Exemption List, under the rules specified above, has been announced and implemented by NADAC for NADAC trials. NADAC's list of breeds for this height exemption is based upon consideration of the dog's body type as well as a recognition that other sanctioning bodies have already made lower jump height based on the consideration of the dog's body type. The way that ASCA rule is written, it enables ASCA to use the same Jump Height Exemption List that NADAC will be using but frees ASCA from the burden and expense of keeping separate records of the dogs on the exempt list.

Voting:

Approve: Gray, Harrell, Hawley, Martin, Toft, Trumbull-Clark, Tubbs, Warren

Non-voting: Berryessa

Motion is approved

#### 98:02 MVA Rule Change

Motion by Warren, second by Gray

I move to change #3 under Most Versatile Rules:

All stays the same until second to last sentence change which will now read: "...It is the owner's handlers responsibility to check the scores as posted, and report to the MVA chairperson any discrepancy no later than two hours prior to the time scheduled for awarding MVA. Awards for MVA will be final once presented."

Comments: The addition is the phrase "and report to the MVA chairperson any discrepancy no later than two hours prior to the time scheduled for awarding MVA." We feel the addition of this phrase is necessary so contestants take responsibility to check their scores and report possible errors early enough that any changes needed will not have a negative impact on the host club or on the other contestants.

Voting:

Approve: Unanimous

Motion is approved

#### STOCKDOG RULES: Acceptance of Entries

Motion by Warren, second by Toft

I move to accept the following rule change presented by the SDC.

Add to Ch. 5, Sec. 3.4 Acceptance of Entries to read: The Trial Committee may decline any entries or may remove any dog(s) or person(s) from it's trial for cause, but in each instance shall file good and sufficient reasons for so doing with the ASCA Business Office within seven (7) days of the close of the trial.

Effective June 1, 2000

Comments: This was brought to the SDC because our rules do not allow us to refuse any entry. If a club is hosting a trial at a private individuals farm/ranch, it is possible that for some reason with just cause that individual does not want a dog or person on their property. Or a club that has a problem with a dog or individual that would warrant such a call could be removed.

Voting:

Approve: Berryessa, Gray, Hawley, Toft, Trumbull-Clark, Warren

Disapprove: Harrell

Non-Voting: Martin, Tubbs

Motion is approved

#### STOCKDOG RULES: Stock Handlers

Motion by Warren, second by Toft

I move to accept the following rule change presented by the SDC:

Delete Ch. 3, Sec. 20 Stock Handlers No person handling livestock during a trial shall handle the stock in the same class/division that person is trialing in.

Effective June 1, 2000

Comments: It was felt by many that this rule is a hardship to host clubs when putting on trials with a limited amount of help.

Voting:

Approve: Unanimous

Motion is approved

#### 80:33 HOSTING NATIONAL SPECIALTY---National Specialty Finals Info

Motion by Warren, second by Berryessa

I move to add the following to the Rules for Hosting the ASCA National Specialty:

#### NATIONAL STOCKDOG FINALS

1. The following positions need to be filled:

a. Assistants to the Judges--Four Assistants will need to be provided, one to each Judge, each assistant will check to see all blanks on the Scoresheets are filled in. Checks for Judges signature, check to be sure time is filled in. Add the total score or check to see if total score is correct if Judges have already totaled the scoresheet.

b. Two Scorekeepers--Each Scorekeeper will recheck addition of Scoresheets and if an error is found, will contact the appropriate Judge for his/her correction and initials on such correction. Both Scorekeepers will recheck all Finals Form for errors prior to handing out awards.

c. Two Timekeepers---Each Timekeeper will be provided a stopwatch and will keep time on each run independently. At the end of each run, times from both watches will be compared and the time will be announced.

d. One Scoresheet Runner---This individual will pick up Scoresheets after each run is completed and deliver to Scorekeepers.

e. Stock Handlers---A minimum of two stock handlers for each ducks, sheep and cattle.

f. Equipment needed---Arm bands, chairs and tables for each arena, calculators (2), stop watches (2), clipboards (2), stapler and staples, scotch tape, white-out, push pins, broad-tip markers, pads of lined paper (2), pens, medium 3/4' binder clips, scoreboard to post scores, case or box to carry everything in.

g. Shade or covered areas for Judges.

h. Run order for each Judge.

It is recommended contacting the SDC and the ASCA BOD for volunteers for these positions. Please have these above individuals knowledgeable of their duties.

2. Finals Judges or a representative from the SDC will check the arenas prior to the start of Finals, preferably the day before.

3. The ASCA BOD will be responsible for selection of the first place trophies. The Host Club or ASCA SDC may make suggestions to the ASCA BOD. Funding for the Championship trophies may be obtained by the Host Club, the ASCA Education Coordinator, from funds raised for the Finals or from the ASCA General Funds.

4. The ASCA BOD and the ASCA SDC must approve the budget for the Stockdog Finals. The Host Club must provide a budget for the Finals at least 6 months prior to the Nationals and a copy of the sanctioning form must be provided.

Contracts for the show grounds and stock providers must accompany the proposed budget.

5. Livestock provided must be suitable for trialing. The quality of the stock affects the quality of the Finals. Please obtain the best stock possible. After the stock has been delivered, they should be checked to make sure they are appropriately fed and watered. The livestock must be watered throughout the day while they are being used in the trials.

6. The ASCA Business Office will provide the Aussie Times Editor with the Results of the Finals, to be published with the Show/Trial report for the National. Each dog will be listed, with the owner identified and all scores earned.

7. ASCA Treasury will mail finals payback checks after the Finals.

8. Ribbons: The Host Club will be responsible for obtaining the Finals ribbons. The Host Club will be provided with a list of the Finals Qualifiers within 14 days of verification by the ASCA Business Office. For each of the ten Finalist ten dollars will be budgeted for each 3<sup>rd</sup> through 10th placing ribbon, with twelve dollars budgeted for each Championship and each Reserve Champion ribbon. ASCA (year) National Stockdog Finals, Hosted by (Host Club Name) will be on the center and Class of Stock will be on 1 side streamer and the dog's name will be on the opposite side streamer. For the additional ten qualifiers, ten dollars will be budgeted for each of these ribbons. One side streamer will have Class of Stock and Qualifier the rest of the ribbon will be assembled with the same requirements as the Finalist ribbons. Ribbons will be preassembled, with the exception of the dog's names. Name streamer will be added prior to presentation. Name streamers must be provided for all Finals Qualifiers. The National Catalog will contain a list of all Finals Qualifiers by class of stock. The following information must be provided for each dog: sire, dam, owner, date of birth, sex, breeder, and handler.

Comments: These rules were finished up at the National in Sept. I held off putting them before the Board in hopes that the entire update of the National Specialty Rules would come our way quickly. As I have no idea when the updated Rules will be completed I have decided to at least get this section finished up so that we may apply them to the Nationals in Colorado in 2001.

Voting:

Approve: Unanimous

Motion is approved

99:04 Diamond State ASC Bylaws Change

Motion by Tubbs, second by Harrell

I move to accept the proposal from Diamond State ASC to change their bylaws Section 3.2--Types of membership (3.2.1) and Section 3.3--Dues, (3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, and 3.3.4)

Current bylaws:

SECTION 3.2. Types of Membership:

3.2.1 There will be three classes of membership: (1) Individual, which shall be open to any individual meeting eligibility requirements who is eighteen years of age or older, and shall have one vote; (2) Family, which shall be open to any person and the resident members of their immediate family household who meet eligibility requirements; voting shall be vested in members of the family who are 18 years or age or older; and, (3) Junior, open to all persons ages eight to eighteen, and who are sponsored by two individual members of the Club; voting shall be vested in matters pertaining to Junior Showmanship only.

SECTION 3.3. Dues:

3.3.1 Individual Membership dues shall be \$10.00 per year.

3.3.2 Family Membership dues will be \$10.00 per year for the first adult, and \$5.00 per year for each additional adult, up to a \$20.00 maximum.

3.3.3 Junior Membership dues will be \$5.00 per year.

3.3.4 All dues are payable on or before 31 January each year, with no provisions for partial years; annual membership dates run from 1 January through 31 December. Dues shall be considered to be delinquent if not paid by 1 February of each year. Those members whose dues are not paid by 15 February of each year shall be dropped from the club roster.

Proposed changes:

SECTION 3.2. Types of Membership:

3.2.1 There will be [four] classes of membership: (1) Individual, which shall be open to any individual meeting eligibility requirements who is eighteen years of age or older, and shall have one vote; (2) Family, which shall be open to any person and the resident members of their immediate family household who meet eligibility requirements; voting shall be vested in members of the family who are 18 years of age or older; (3) Junior, open to all persons ages eight to eighteen, and who are sponsored by two individual members of the Club; voting shall be vested in matters pertaining to Junior Showmanship only; and, [(4) Non-voting Individual, which shall be open to any individual meeting eligibility requirements who is eighteen years of age or older, and shall have no vote.]

SECTION 3.3 Dues:

3.3.1 Individual Membership dues [both voting and non-voting individual] shall be \$10.00 per year.

3.3.2 Family Membership dues will be \$10.00 per year for the first adult, and \$5.00 per year for each additional adult, up to a \$20.00 maximum.

3.3.3 Junior Membership dues will be \$5.00 per year.

3.3.4 All dues are payable on or before 31 January each year, with no provisions for partial years; annual membership dates run from 1 January through 31 December. Dues shall be considered to be delinquent if not paid by 1 February of each year. Those members whose dues are not paid by 15 February of each year shall be dropped from the club roster.

Comments: Diamond State ASC is requesting this change for the convenience of their membership.

Voting:

Approve: Unanimous

Motion is approved

#### 2001 National Specialty

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, second by Toft

I move that the previous decision approving the Purina site for the 2001 ASCA Nationals be rescinded due to Purina's current lack of accommodations that are required to hold our Nationals

Voting:

Approve: Berryessa, Gray, Toft, Trumbull-Clark, Tubbs, Warren

Disapprove: Harrell

Non-voting: Hawley, Martin

Motion is approved

#### 2001 National Specialty

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, second by Toft

I move to accept the application received from the Colorado Australian Shepherd Association to hold the 2001 ASCA Nationals. The rules for hosting a National Specialty to be followed shall be the new rules if completed and approved by the ASCA Board of Directors by November 30, 1999. If the Board has not completed the approval process for such new rules, the old rules shall apply to the 2001 Nationals.

Comments: This shall give the committee who was assigned the task of revising the Rules for Hosting the National Specialty approximately two weeks (prior to Nov. 19, 1999) to complete their revisions. The ASCA Board requires 8 days for comment and voting, which shall meet the November 30, 1999 deadline.

Voting:

Approve: Gray, Toft, Trumbull-Clark, Tubbs, Warren

Disapprove: Harrell

Non-voting: Berryessa, Hawley, Martin

Motion is approved

#### 1999 General Membership Meeting Minutes

Motion by Toft, second by Gray

I move to accept the minutes of the 1999 General Membership Meeting as reported by Lori Middleton (see full text at end of this report)

Voting:

Approve: Unanimous

Motion is approved

#### Affiliate Policy

Motion by Toft, second by Warren

I move to add the following policy to the ASCA Policy book:

All new Affiliates that are approved in the fourth quarter of the year will have their first renewal date the following year. Payment of initial dues may be delayed until January 1.

Voting:

Approve: Gray, Hawley, Martin, Toft, Trumbull-Clark, Tubbs, Warren  
Non-voting: Berryessa, Harrell  
Motion is approved

Correction: To October Secretary's Report under the minutes of the Oct. 29, 1999 conference call. Motion by Gray, second by Hawley should read:

I move to continue the centralization of all ASCA business to Bryan, Texas by moving all financial transactions, bonding the ASCA Business Office Manager (\$500/three years), hiring a payroll firm (\$120/month plus \$40 and \$2.25/W-2 for year end) and opening a checking and savings account in Bryan, Texas. Completion date of January 1, 2000. Approve: Unanimous. Motion carries

Appointments: Tracking Committee: Chair---Ralph Swingle, Board liaison--Linda Gray

## BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

The Business Office has a new address: PO Box 3790, Bryan, TX 77805-3790. The Business Office has a new e-mail address: [asca@tca.net](mailto:asca@tca.net)

REGISTRY	MEMBERSHIP	SHOW/STOCK
Ind--473	New-Single--72	Sanc. Rec'd--14
NFB--42	New-Dual--20	Sanc. Proc'd--19
Litter--235	New-Foreign--1	Sanc. Pend--3
Trans--78	New-Canadian--0	Results Rec'd--40
Lease--15	Renew-Single--151	Results Proc'd--29
LEP--2	Renew-Dual--54	Results Pend--12
Dups--32	Renew-Foreign--0	S & T Sub.--18
Hardship--13	Renew-Canadian--6	Certificates--422
Pedigree--78	Jr Times--11	
New Ken--7	Aff. Rnw--4	
Rnw Ken--18		

Judge Apps--0	SHOWS HELD
Email--1086	Conf/Obed shows--50
DNA Tests--36	Stock--24
DNA Kits--8	Ranch--4
	Agility --4
	Tracking--1

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Toft, Secretary

voting on this motion went as follows:

Approve: Unanimous  
Motion is approved

I move to accept the minutes of the 1999 General Membership Meeting as reported by Lori Middleton.

--Kris Toft  
second by Linda Gray

The meeting was called to order at 7:46 p.m. by ASCA President, Gary Hawley. Mr. Hawley introduced the current officers and directors along with the newly elected directors.

Phil Wildhagen read the current Treasurer's Report as follows:

Beginning balance January 1, 1999-----	\$138,999.37
Income to June 30, 1999-----	\$336,769.01
Expenses to June 30, 1999-----	\$279,973.92
Total income less expenses-----	\$ 56,795.09
Ending balance on June 30, 1999-----	\$195,794.46

Breakdown of funds as follows:

Savings Account-----	\$3,477.26
General Checking Account-----	\$98,325.75
Central Office Checking Account-----	\$1,000.00
Bank One CD-----	\$43,223.14
Prudential Bank CD-----	\$31,637.14
ARPH checking Account-----	\$5,516.26
ARPH Savings Account-----	\$12,614.91

Agility Committee report was given by Chairperson, Mr. Paul Kirk-"It is a pleasure to report that during the past year (June 1, 1998 to June 1, 1999), our ASCA Agility Program, now completing its fifth year, continued its pattern of remarkable growth. Let me give you a few statistics that highlight the growth of the past year compared to the previous year:

This past year 82 Agility trials were held representing an increase of 0% over the previous year in which 63 were held;

The total number of entries at Agility trials was 12,332 representing an increase of 40% over the previous year in which there were 8,803 entries;

This past year our ASCA Aussies earned 432 Agility titles representing an increase of 31% over the previous year in which 330 titles were conferred on ASCA Aussies.

With an unabashed pride it gives me great pleasure to report to you that ATCH Taycin's Little Zooligan CDX, in March of this year became the second Aussie to become an Agility Trial Champion. The further good news is that at our next General meeting in Atlanta, Georgia we will have several additional Agility Trial Champions to add to this list that is headed by Kodi and Zoo. For you who are not familiar with the requirements for the Agility Trial Champion, let me briefly tell you what they are: Beyond achieving Elite titles in three different areas of Agility (Regular Agility, Gamblers, and Jumpers) and Agility Champion must accrue 200 points in Regular Agility (this is the equivalent of 20 clean qualifying runs), plus 100 points in Gamblers (this represents 10 qualifying scores), plus 100 points in Jumpers (this represents 10 clean qualifying runs). Attaining the Agility Trial Champion is an outstanding achievement.

Now let me tell you about some other accomplishments of our ASCA Agility Program during this past year. This past year marked the completion of our first year for recognizing the top performing Aussies for the year. The rankings in this program are determined in a fashion that parallels that of baseball's batting average. In Agility it is the percentage of points earned compared to the possible number of points that the Aussie could have earned. The ASCA Agility community is highly please and proud of this new program. It is a pleasure for me to report to you that the team of Lake View's Red Hot Morgan GS-E JS-E RS-E with Mike Omartian headed the list of this Agility Program (please see your latest issue of the Aussie Times for the complete list of rankings).

Another important ASCA program that Agility participates in also completed its first year: the Performance Champion and the Supreme Performance Champion. The idea for this program came from the Agility Committee that unanimously recommended its implementation after consultation with the Obedience Committee and with the Stockdog Committee. Both the Obedience Committee and the Stockdog Committee also unanimously recommended to the Board the implementation of this program.

The Performance Champion title requires two ATD titles in stock plus two out of three of the following titles: a) CDX; b) TDX; c) Open Agility titles in Regular, Gamblers, and Jumpers.

Three dog-handler teams have now completed this title:

PCH WTCH Beaurosa's Yoda UD RTDcs GV-E JV-E RV-E  
PCH Oxford's Chantilly Lace UDX ATDds with Shannon & Gayle Oxford  
PCH WTCH OTCH Justus Cheyenne of Ahlarlay GV-O JV-O RV-O with Dee Dee Baldwin.

The Supreme Performance Champion title requires the WTCH plus the UD plus Agility Elite titles in Regular Agility, Gamblers, and Jumpers. One Aussie has now attained this title:

SPCH WTCH Beaurosa's Yoda UD RTDcs GV-E JV-E RV-E with Terry Thomasick.

The Agility Program has had a great year. The Committee welcomes your comments and suggestions. Thank you very much."

The ARPH Committee Report was prepared by Diana Oliver, President and Kari Blackburn, Director, and presented by Laura Kelley, Director and Records Keeper for ARPH.

"Once again, we have exciting news from ARPH!!!

The Aussie Rescue & Placement Helpline has been ASCA's official rescue program for approximately 6 years. Since June of 1998, many changes have occurred, some of which you've already read or heard about. We now have some very exciting improvements to share with you.

It's now official! ARPH, the program of ASCA, has been incorporated in the State of Pennsylvania as a nonprofit, charitable organization. We are now Aussie Rescue & Placement Helpline, Inc. We will still be known as 'ARPH'.

ARPH's incorporation paves the way for ARPH to become a 501(c)3 organization. Once we are approved as a tax-exempt organization, donations to ARPH will be tax-deductible. This will encourage larger donations, as well as enable us to receive matching funds and corporate donations. This in turn will allow us to help more dogs and will be an encouragement to those reps already rescuing aussies. It will be easier to attract new rescue reps and foster homes, since the rescue expenses borne by our volunteers will not be as great.

The process of obtaining 501(c)3 status has begun, with hopes that it will be accomplished by year's end. ARPH's attorney is quite confident that the IRS will grant ARPH tax-exempt status.

Both ASCA's attorney and ASCA's outside CPA recommended the incorporation of ARPH as "imperative" in order to separate the donations received by ARPH from ASCA and to enable ARPH to receive tax-deductible donations. The process to incorporate ARPH began in April. During July, the ASCA Board unanimously voted in favor of ARPH's incorporation (with one Director abstaining.)

Because it was a top priority for those of us in ARPH to remain affiliated with ASCA, we have incorporated under the auspices of ASCA. It is our firm conviction that it is vital for ASCA to have a rescue program. The entire ARPH program was transferred to the new corporation. Under a signed contract between ASCA and ARPH, ARPH will continue to serve as ASCA's rescue organization. ARPH will continue to have a liaison on the ASCA Board to facilitate communication. The ASCA Board will continue to receive quarterly reports on ARPH's finances and dogs rescued and placed. ARPH will advise and consult with the ASCA Board regarding any changes in ARPH's Board or ARPH's Rules and Procedures. ARPH will continue to report our rescue activities in the Aussie Times. We will continue to have a booth at each ASCA National Specialty, and will continue to present a report at each Nationals.

We have a new toll-free telephone number: 1-877-ARPH-779. Please be sure to note the change and pass the information on to everyone who may have reason to contact us, including vets, shelters, friends, etc. ASCA will continue to maintain the 800 number (800-892-2722), which ARPH has used for years as well as ARPH's mailboxes on that number. Any calls to the 800 number will still be picked up by ARPH. So please be assured that if you have an ARPH dog wearing an ARPH tag with the 800 number, the ARPH tag is just as good as it has always been.

ARPH's general mailing address continues to be: P.O. Box 85, Honesdale, PA 18431. ARPH can also be reached via email at [ARPH@mindspring.com](mailto:ARPH@mindspring.com). Our new web page URL is <http://www.aussierescue.org>. Please note that our new website is a work-in-progress. We look forward to giving the website a face-lift soon! Any comments or suggestions for improving our website are always welcome.

Now that we are a nonprofit organization, we no longer have an Administrator. We now have a President. Diana Oliver, an aussie breeder of Gemini Australian Shepherds and long-time ARPH rescue rep, was elected to serve as ARPH's first President. Our most recent Administrator, Kari Blackburn, is now serving as one of our Directors. Unfortunately, given the demands of their respective jobs, Diana and Kari were not able to attend this year's Nationals. They truly regret their inability to be here as they would very much like to meet each one of you.

We are proud to announce ARPH's initial Board of Directors. Our Directors are a great group of people who are truly dedicated to our breed. Our Directors are: Beth Alden, Craig Bohren, Kimi Cousins, Laura Kelley, Dave King, Debi Pedro, Diana Oliver, Kari Blackburn.

We'd like to thank those members of the ASCA Board who have worked with us to accomplish ARPH's incorporation as ASCA's rescue organization. We could not have responded to the directive to incorporate ARPH without your help.

Thank you!

We wish to extend a very special thanks to Phil Wildhagen, who has served as our ASCA Board Liaison during the past year. Phil devoted countless hours to ARPH. He was always there when we needed him. Phil, the ARPH Team and all of the rescued Aussies thank you!

A special thank you to Mark Smith of the law firm of Wolf, Block, Schorr and Solis-Cohen in Philadelphia for handling ARPH's incorporation. It turned out to be more of a project than anticipated, but mark rose to the challenge and has done a marvelous job. He and his wife Sarah have two Aussies, one of which is an ARPH dog.

A huge thank you to all ARPH volunteers for continuing to do such a difficult job so well.

Heartfelt thanks to all of you who donate and who help us in a myriad of ways, whether it's evaluating or transporting Aussies, or just giving us a word of encouragement. Your support helps keep us going.

As of September 1, 1999, we have 146 ARPH volunteers in 38 states and 2 Canadian provinces. We've rescued 263 dogs since June 1, 1998, with approximately 36 available as of September 1, 1999.

We've worked hard, and we're proud of the accomplishments of the past year. We've had many new volunteers join us. The ARPH Team is comprised of people with all sorts of experiences-from breeders to pet owners-and each volunteer brings his or her own individual expertise to the rescue effort.

The ARPH email discussion list has been successful beyond anything we'd expected, and the support and information available there are invaluable to ARPH's volunteers.

If you've already visited ARPH's booth, you know that we've introduced a new concept for ARPH-the annual ASCA National Specialty T-shirt! At each Nationals, we will have a uniquely designed T-shirt depicting the ARPH Rescue Aussie of the Year. Featured this year is U-CDX, CAN/ASCA OTCH Bohren's Sian ARPH 258, UD, NAJ, OA, FD, CGC, TDI. Sian was enthusiastically chosen by a committee of ARPH volunteers. Sian's story is printed in the most recent issue of the Aussie Times. Once you read her story, you'll see why she's our ARPH Rescue Aussie of 1999. Please stop by our booth and support ARPH by buying one of these striking T-shirts!

Stay tuned--we have many more exciting things planned. Later this week, we will conduct our first Cow Pie Bingo fundraiser. And now that we are a nonprofit, charitable corporation, we are working to develop a new logo for ARPH. The ARPH Team has compiled a cookbook, which is currently in printing and should be ready in time for Christmas! Please stop by the ARPH booth and order one or more of these cookbooks with our favorite recipes for people and dogs, too!

We are the ARPH Team...\*T\*ogether \*E\*veryone \*A\*chieves \*M\*ore. We are proud to serve as ASCA's official rescue organization. We're working with all of you to support ASCA and to protect our beloved breed. Together, we will continue to make a difference."

The Bylaws Committee report was given by Kris Toft, Chair. She reported the on the new changes to the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. Kris answered some questions regarding voting by Proxy. Chuck Carnese, ASCA's Attorney, explained further. Kris will be leaving as chair of this committee due to her election to the Board of Directors. The new chair will be Jerry Aufox.

The DNA Committee report was given by Pete Adolphson. To date (as of the general membership meeting) there is 710 Aussies in the database at ImmGen. There are 110 verified parentage (VP) dogs, 600 certified profiled (CP). Of the VP dogs there are 9 Champions and 5 WTCH. Of the 600 CPdogs there are 102 CH., 48 WTCH, 2 VCH, 2 OTCH and 1 SVCH. ImmGen has suggested that tails not be used for DNA testing of litters due to the messiness of this process. Instead they recommend cheek swabs be used. Pete reported that the DNA committee has recently passed a sample transfer policy whereas a dog's stored sample may be transferred to another lab upon consent of both ASCA and the owner(s) of the dog. He requested that members take the time to fill out the health survey that is included in the AT. These must be turned in by the end of 1999. Mail these surveys to CA Sharp. The committee is also working on details for a DNA Certified Kennel.

The Junior Committee report was given by Kristyn Maddox. She reported that there are currently 13 members of this committee with a waiting list. The committee voted on a priority list, an "Above and Beyond" junior, all-around junior rules, ribbon colors-Best Junior Handler would be burgundy, navy and cream; Reserve Junior will be burgundy and cream. Worked on a regional service project which is their committee booth that sells t-shirts and raffle tickets. Some of the profits will be donated to the Cee Hambo Scholarship Fund.

The Obedience Committee report was given by Bonnie Heitz. Bonnie Heitz has resigned as chair of this committee and the new committee chair is Nancy Link. Year-end stats: 485 conformation/obedience show combos; 18 obedience only; aussies-211 CD's, other breeds 293 CD's; Aussies-67 CDX, other breeds-60; Aussies-15 UD's, other breeds 10. There are 2 UDX and 6 OTCH. Obedience Finals will be held for the first time at the Nationals in Georgia in 2000.

Stock Dog committee report was given by Sharon Simmons, Chairperson. Trials held in the 98-99 show year were 151. Number of entries were 8,431. Number of titles earned on Aussies were 725. Number of WTCH's earned on Aussies were 33. Other breeds earned 781 new titles. 32 other breeds earned WTCH's. There have been 8 new apprentice judges approved. The following clubs and/or individuals donated to the Stockdog Finals (both costs and paybacks): ASC of Montana, Silver Bullet Stockdog Association, ASC of So. CA, Central Valley ASC, ASC of NE, Susan Rossy, C.O.A.S.T.; CASA, C.O.A.S.T., Silver Bullet Association and SEMASA donated buckles. ASC of Washington donated Finals Hats.

Versatility Committee-Kathy Warren stated the committee will review how Versatility worked at the Nationals this year and will revise as needed.

NEW BUSINESS: The following people brought up these issues (I apologize in advance for the vague nature of this as the tape was very poor quality and hard to hear).

Cindy Taylor-proposed mandatory eye and hip checks.

Sheri Cannon-daughter still has not received Junior award jacket from last years year-end winner. She also brought up concerns about budget cuts to junior awards.

Marti Parrish-Jr.'s did not receive awards from '93 Nationals (the stock dog award).

Dan Moos-breed standard comparison letter-wants to know progress of revision letter.

Shelly Hollen-Conformation committee member. Communication problem with leadership. Asked for people who will be active to submit resumes to participate on committee.

Kim Cochran moved to adjourn meeting at 9:51 p.m. Lois Odom second.

Submitted by,  
Lori Middleton  
Retired ASCA Secretary