

Secretary's Report

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

October 1 – October 31, 2006

04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - All Breed Merit Program.

Motion by Bryant.

I move to accept the following recommendation by the Agility Committee. I contacted Jean and asked her which 'end date' would be better for the office. She said that there isn't much going on in December, so it would be relatively easy to take this on. The end of May is a very busy time with the other merit programs and finals. When this motion was originally proposed, Jean contacted Agnitek for a programming estimate. They estimated it would be about \$600.

The vote on this motion (presented by Sue and 2nd by Pamela and Andrea) was unanimous.

Effective January 1, 2006, replace the existing Appendix B with the following:

APPENDIX B

AGILITY MERIT PROGRAMS

There will be two separate Agility Merit programs. One merit program will be for ASCA registered Australian Shepherds (Australian Shepherd Agility Merit Program). The other merit program (All Breed Agility Merit Program) will be for all dogs of any breed (including mixed breeds), with an ASCA tracking number or ASCA registration number, competing in ASCA agility.

1. Merit points can come from any level, any division and any of the three titling classes (Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers.)
2. For both Agility Merit Programs, there will be nine Merit lists: one for Regular, one for Jumpers and one for Gamblers, within each level, Novice, Open, Elite. The divisions will be grouped together for each class/level. (i.e., The elite regular merit points can come from the Standard, Veterans or Juniors division.)
3. Points will be earned by earning a qualifying score in the class. A ten (10) point qualifying score will earn one (1) point, a five (5) point qualifying score will earn 1/2 point. The points will only count towards the merit list for the class and level they were earned in. (Points do not transfer.)
4. Dogs can stay at a level and earn points indefinitely.
5. The Australian Shepherd Agility Merit Program will run from June 1st to May 31st of the following year.
6. The All Breed Agility Merit Program will run from January 1st -December 31st.
7. Current standings for both Merit Programs will be published on the ASCA

web page and updated every two months. Current standings for the Australian Shepherd Merit Program will be published in the Aussie Times.

7. Certificates of Merit will be awarded at the end of the merit year to the top 10 dogs on each merit list.

Notes: programming costs of approximately \$650 may be incurred. The Agility program will benefit from the increased run fees (income) if more other breeds are encouraged to 'play' in ASCA® agility. The reward for their continued participation would be the merit program. By having the results posted on the website, more people will access the website and perhaps become interested in the other programs that ASCA has to offer members who own other breeds.

Directors voting: Approve: Bryant, Stevens & Berryessa. Disapprove: Hellmeister, Gray, MacRoberts, McNamara & Walter. Abstain: DeChant. Motion is defeated.

94:01 STOCK DOG COMMITTEE - Working Description.

Motion by Gray, seconded by Bryant.

Ally and I withdraw the following motion and submit the one below.

Linda

Motion #1 - I move to rescind the below motion:

94:-1 STOCK DOG COMMITTEE ^ Motion by Walter, seconded by Stevens. I move the next step with the Working Description is to give it back to the Stock Dog Committee with the direction to come up with the 'pros and cons' and the intent of the Working Description and have those published with the Working Description at the same time as the Board asking the membership to vote on the Working Description with a simple majority for approval needed. Approve: MacRoberts, McNamara, Berryessa, Walter, DeChant, Bryant, Gray & Stevens. Disapprove: Hellmeister. Motion is approved.

I move and Ally 2nds the following:

I move to reconsider the following motion:

94:-1 STOCK DOG COMMITTEE ^ Motion by Walter, seconded by Stevens. I move the next step with the Working Description is to give it back to the Stock Dog Committee with the direction to come up with the 'pros and cons' and the intent of the Working Description and have those published with the Working Description at the same time as the Board asking the membership to vote on the Working Description with a simple majority for approval needed. Approve: MacRoberts, McNamara, Berryessa, Walter, DeChant, Bryant, Gray & Stevens. Disapprove: Hellmeister. Motion is approved.

Comment: Reconsidering the motion will give us all time to discuss what we want to do.

From RRO: Reconsider:

Is the motion which allows a group to reconsider the vote on a motion. It enables a majority of the members, within a limited time, to bring back a motion for further consideration after it has been acted upon. Its purpose is to prevent hasty or ill-advised action.

Directors voting: Approve: Berryessa, McNamara, Bryant, Gray, MacRoberts & DeChant. Disapprove: Stevens & Hellmeister. Abstain: Walter. Motion is approved.

Miscellaneous - Mini Statement.

Motion by Kristin McNamara, seconded by Ann DeChant

I move that the ASCA Board adopt the following statement for immediate placement on the ASCA website and for use as an official response to inquiries from the business office:

"The Miniature Australian Shepherd, North American Shepherd, North American Miniature Australian Shepherd, and/or Toy Australian Shepherd breeds are not recognized as a variety of Australian Shepherd by ASCA. The club considers such dogs to be a distinct and separate breed and will not accept them into its registry.

"Our bylaws state that ASCA's purpose is: 'To encourage members and breeders to accept one breed standard for the Australian Shepherd as approved by the Club as the only standard of excellence by which Australian Shepherds shall be judged.' It is the mission of this club and the mission of its members to preserve the breed rather than change it."

Comment: The club wishes to respond to the breeders of small and tiny dogs resembling Australian Shepherds who claim they are producing a size variety. The Aussie was never intended to be selected for size: it was developed to be a functional working dog capable of handling tough stock and going for miles in the back country or snow drifts. Changing the appearance of the breed to personal aesthetic tastes rather than suitability for work does not fulfill ASCA's mission statement: "to preserve the Australian Shepherd as an intelligent working dog of strong herding and guardian instincts."

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

00:20 REGISTRY RULES - Designation of Assigned Registry Numbers.

Motion by McNamara, seconded by Gray.

I move to add the following line to the Registry Rules, Section 1.2 - Designation of Assigned Registration Numbers:

Prefix "R" Dogs with revoked registration privileges.

Comment: The Business Office recommends assigning a number rather than simply flagging this information in the database or deleting the dog as has been done in the past. The number will enable the dog to stay in the system, thereby eliminating holes in the registry, as well as making it clear the dog has been removed from the database.

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

EMERGENCY MOTION- Miscellaneous: Financial Statement Publication Policy.

Motion by McNamara, seconded by Gray.

I move the following as an emergency motion with a three-day discussion period from the time of dispersal and a five day voting period following discussion:

I move the Board table publication of financial data in the Aussie Times, with the exception of annual audits, until ASCA is in a position to report reliable data according to the advice of our accountant, attorney, and/or assistant treasurer.

Comment: This is an emergency motion so that this decision may be reported in the Times by the Nov. 15th deadline by the Treasurer.

ASCA's financial advisors (its accountant, attorney, and assistant treasurer) do not have sufficient faith in the accuracy of our in-house interim financial bookkeeping output at this time, due to ongoing, unstable financial protocols in the office. ASCA's staff, advisors, and Board are committed to publishing this information bi-monthly once the audit numbers and internal numbers track accurately. It must be made clear that any financial statements desired by individual members of a non-confidential nature shall continue to be released upon request. It is not the Board's intent to hide club financial data, but to only publish (and therefore make official record of) accurate numbers our advisors have confidence in.

Directors voting: Approve: Gray, McNamara, Hellmeister, MacRoberts, Bryant and Walter. Disapprove: Berryessa and Stevens. Abstain: DeChant. Motion is approved.

94:01 STOCK DOG COMMITTEE - Ch. 13, Sec. 1.

Motion by McNamara, Seconded by Roberts.

I move that in accordance with SDC rule Ch 13, Section 1, paragraph 2, which states:

"Mid-term vacancies will be announced in the Aussie Times. Resumes from ASCA members must be received by ASCA's Executive Secretary within a forty-five (45) day period following the publication date of the Aussie Times. All resumes will then be submitted to the ASCA Board of Directors who will choose an applicant to fill the vacancy."

the Board rescind its 9/18/2006 filling of the Region 7 SDC contestant position.

Comment: With apologies to the individual already notified of her appointment, the Board must follow the Stockdog Rules regarding committee appointments and expressly publish the vacancy in the Aussie Times for 45 days before filling the position. The Region 7 position opened mid-term. This policy stands in order to ensure any individual in the vacant region has the chance to submit a resume for consideration for appointment. The Board will continue to collect resumes for committees throughout the year, but appointments may only be made after official notification of vacancies has been made in the official club newsletter.

Directors voting: Approve: McNamara, MacRoberts, Gray, DeChant & Bryant.
Disapprove: Hellmeister, Berryessa, Stevens & Walter. Motion is approved.

DNA Committee - Determination of Deceased Parent

Motion by DeChant.

I move that the following motion from the DNA & Genetics Committee be approved.

Motion by Devona, second by Lori:

I make a motion to accept the following on Determination Of A Deceased Parent

Section 2.2.3 - Determination of a Deceased Parent

The following procedure for determining the genotype of a deceased dog (or otherwise unavailable) as regards to parentage verification will be used. (Note: dog denotes either sex)

In consultation with ASCA's approved laboratories, through ASCA's DNA and Genetics Committee Board Liaison and/or the Board of Directors, the number of tests required by ASCA's approved labs will be based on the ability to establish identity of the unavailable parent to an acceptable standard. The minimum number of parentage verification tests required may change as technology continues to improve. For the current standard, please consult the ASCA Business Office. ASCA will not be a party to any breeder/buyer disputes and this rule is not intended to facilitate any such dispute between buyer and seller.

[Note: The 90% percent rule means by producing a minimum # of offspring (which can vary from case to case) there is a 90% probability all of the alleles of the unavailable dog, for each marker used for Parentage Verification, will be present in the offspring and have been recorded.]

Current rule:

Section 2.2.3 - Determination of Deceased Parent

The following procedure for determining the genotype of a deceased dog (or otherwise unavailable) as regards parentage verification will be used. (Note: dog denotes either sex)

In consultation with ASCA's approved laboratories, through ASCA's DNA Committee/Board Liaison/, eight (8) offspring of the unavailable dog and the mate or mates of the unavailable dog that allegedly produced these offspring must be DNA profiled. If these criteria cannot be met, the party responsible for the unavailable dog must inform ASCA and must also consult with ASCA's approved DNA laboratory through ASCA's DNA Committee/Board Liaison/, so a POSSIBLE alternative plan might be devised. Any alternative plan will have to meet the 90% 5 probability rule. [Note: The 90% percent rule means by producing eight (8) offspring, there is a 90% probability all of the alleles of the unavailable dog, for each marker used for PV, will be present in the offspring and have been recorded.]

Committee vote: Yes: Lori, Kim, Marilyn, Joan, Chris, Devona, Laura, Sandra.
Abstain: Amy Non-voting: Jamie, Liz, Kelli

Directors voting: Approve: DeChant, Bryant & Berryessa. Disapprove: Gray, McNamara, MacRoberts, Walter & Hellmeister. Abstain: Stevens. Motion is disapproved.

EMERGENCY MOTION

EMERGENCY MOTION

03:03 FOUNDATION FOR 501(C)3

Motion by DeChant, seconded by Bryant.

I move that we disperse all the money in the ASCA Foundation earmarked for Epilepsy research to fund the grant application that was received from Dr. Gary Johnson from the University of Missouri on October 19. He is mapping the mutation causing Epilepsy in the Australian Shepherd and has requested a one-time disbursement of \$14,000. I move that any amounts that are received by the Foundation earmarked for Epilepsy research up to that amount be dispersed to UMo as soon as the checks are cleared.

Comment: The ASCA Foundation has an opportunity to directly fund a research project in full that may have a huge impact on the health of the Australian

Shepherd Breed. The Foundation has over \$11000 now, and there are donors who are considering a donation of the rest of the amount in the very near future. There is no good reason to hold the Foundation Funds that are earmarked for Epilepsy when the researcher who has been collecting DNA from our Breed is ready to move forward on this research.

Directors voting: Approve: Berryessa, DeChant, Bryant, McNamara & Walter.
Disapprove: MacRoberts. Abstain: Hellmeister. Non-Voting: Gray & Stevens.

Approved:

Appointment of Becky Parker to the Tracking Committee.

The following Breeder Judge Applicants: (Note: Hellmeister abstained)

ASCA Non- Regular Judge

Sue Fullington, 6224 FM 799, Beeville, TX 78102 (361) 358-4354
Peter Hellmeister, PO Box 2804, Rohnert Park, CA 94927 (707) 584-7576
Clarissa Shank, 3126 E. Wescott Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050 (602) 569-1112

ASCA Provisional Breeder Judge

Andrea Armstrong Bair, 8708 Oak St, Bellflower CA 90706
(562) 630-2048 - Judge # 3940
Regina Blair, PO Box 928, 9080 N Hwy 101, Los Alamos, CA 93440
(805) 736-6030 - Judge #4451
Laura Clayton, 5559 Sycamore Rd, Quincy, FL 32351
(850) 442-3381 - Judge #4216

ASCA Breeder Judge

Mary Hellmeister, PO Box 2804, Rohnert Park, CA 94927
(707) 548-7576 - Judge #4164
Kathy Staten, PO Box 485, Copeville, TX 75121
(469) 855-4323 - Judge #3406
Susan Landry Whiticar, 18289 61st Rd., McAlpin, FL 32062
(386) 963-4494 - Judge #2804

ASCA Senior Breeder Judge

Rick Gann, 3023 Duff Dr, Arlington, TX 76013
(817) 795-9452 - Judge # 3823
Janet White, 9 Allyan Ct, Bluffton, SC 29910
(843) 757-3674 - Judge #3551