

September Secretary's Report

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

Email Motions

The following motions were brought before the ASCA Board of Directors for vote over email.

Emergency Board Motion: Therion Contract

Approve: DeChant, Gray, Hardin, Kissman, Silveira

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-voting: Bryant, Gann, King, Roberts

Motion carries.

As required, this motion shall be discussed until Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at 5 pm Central Time. The Executive Secretary will call for the vote at the end of the discussion period. Votes shall be sent to the Executive Secretary. Voting will end on Friday, September 5, 2014 at 4 pm Central Time. The results of the vote for Emergency Motion must be sent to the Board of Directors, the Directors elect, ASCA's Attorney, Therion International, the Archive, the Business Office by 5 pm Central Time, Friday, September 5, 2014.

All Directors must acknowledge receipt of these motions to the Ex Sec.

14.58 Emergency Board Motion: Therion Contract

Motion: DeChant

Second: Gray

As soon as possible I move to approve the current Therion Contract to include the following:

A five year contract with the following changes: Therion is requesting an across the board increase of \$3.00 for all testing/sample fees upon initiation of the new contract (note this is less than a 10% increase even after having no recent price increases). In addition we are asking for a subsequent yearly increase of \$0.50 per test/sample for each of the following four years. In total after the five year contract the price per test/sample will have been raised \$5.

In addition Therion would seek an immediate \$100 increase in the monthly database/storage/inquiry fee with a subsequent increase of an additional \$100 at the beginning of year three of the contract.

Comments: The current Therion contract expires on 1 September 2014. In order to retain continuity btwn ASCA and Therion, this is being made an Emergency to get it approved so business can proceed.

Current contract is attached at the end of this report.

Board Motion: Deceased Director Donation

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

14.56 Policy Book: 8.6.4 Deceased Director Donation

Motion: Gray

Second: DeChant

I move to approve the following new Policy.

Policy 8.6.4 Deceased Director Donation

When the Business Office or the Board of Directors is notified that a former or current Director has died, a donation from the ASCA Foundation will be sent in the sum of 250.00 to the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute for use in genetic disease research in the name of the deceased Director. A notice will be sent to the family of the deceased Director informing them of the donation.

Comment: This is a good way to not only honor former/current Directors who pass on but also to help the Australian Shepherd health wise. Since we now get money from the Purina Parent Club Program that goes into the Foundation for research on genetic diseases, the money should come from the Foundation treasury. (Our last check from Purina was over 900.00.)

Board Motion: Memorial Donations

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

14.57 Former Director Memorial Donation: Oliver, Rand, Toft

Motion: Gray

Second: DeChant

I move to approve the total sum of 750.00 (250.00 each) from the ASCA Foundation be sent to ASHGI for genetic disease research/studies in the memories of former Directors Red Oliver, Kirk Rand and Kris Toft.

Comment: Red served 6 years, Kris served 3 and I don't know how long Kirk served. This is a good way to not only honor former or current Directors who pass on but also to help the Australian Shepherd health wise. Since we now get money from the Purina Parent Club Program that goes into the Foundation for research on genetic diseases, the money can come from the Foundation treasury.

Board Motion: Change to Policy Book

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

14.63 Policy Book: Add to Section 19

Motion: Kissman

Second: King

I move to add the following to Section 19 of the Policy Book:

19.10 Disbursing Additional Event Membership Dues

Effective June 1, 2013, the Board of Directors put in place Additional Event Membership Dues in the amount of \$.25 per entry/run for all ASCA programs. The funds generated by this charge are designated solely to defray the cost of all ASCA Finals. Funds collected during a show year but not disbursed for that year's Finals shall carry forward to support Finals in following years.

The amount furnished to the Host Club each year shall be determined as follows:

- a. Using the Board of Directors approved budget submitted by the Host Club, determine the difference between total budget income and total budget expenses for all the Finals.
- b. If income exceeds expenses no disbursing of funds is needed.
- c. If expenses exceed income calculate 90% of that difference to generate the amount forwarded to the Host Club.

The Business Office shall forward a check in the amount determined in c. above along with all Finals entry fees to the Host Club after entries close and all entrants are confirmed.

Effective September 30, 2014

Rationale: This change standardizes the method used to disburse Additional Event Membership Dues to the Host Club.

Obedience Committee Motion: Finals Group Exercise Timing

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

98:15 Obedience: Finals Group Exercise Timing

Motion: Roberts

I move to approve the following motion from the Obedience Committee.

1. Finals Group Exercises timing

Moved by Laurie Rubin, seconded by Katie Van de Sandt. June 27, 2014.

I move to change Obedience Finals rules to alter the timing of group exercises at Finals from after individual exercises to first thing in the morning with staggered times in each ring. Language will be changed in 11.5.5 Division Details and 11.5.8 Running Order of the Entrants.

The Effective Date of the motion will be the date that the next Rule Book is printed following approval by the Board of Directors and subsequent publication in the Aussie Times.

Purpose: To make the Obedience Finals run more smoothly.

11.5.5 Division Details

Current:

Novice

- One novice class per ring
- Group stays take place after individual exercises.

Open CDX

- One open class per ring
- Open B mixed orders used
- Group stays take place after individual exercises.

Change to:

Novice

- One novice class per ring
- Group stays take place first thing in the morning with staggered times for each ring.

Open CDX

- One open class per ring
- Open B mixed orders used
- Group stays take place first thing in the morning with staggered times for each ring.

Current:

11.5.8 Running Order of the Entrants

The Obedience Show Finals Chair determines the exhibitor run order by drawing numbers. Dogs will not run in their order of ranking. The Obedience show Finals Chair will post the exhibitor run order ringside at least one (1) hour before the start of the Finals. Each judge will use the same exhibitor running order.

Change to:

11.5.8 Class Order and Running Order of the Entrants

After receiving the finalist entries from the Business Office, the Obedience Show Finals Chair will plan class order in each ring in a way to minimize conflicts. The ASCA® Obedience Committee Chair or designated Committee member will assist in the scheduling, as needed.

Group stays for the Novice and Open CDX classes will be scheduled before the individual exercises for any classes. The group start times will be scheduled so that no handler is needed in two rings at the same time, all dogs have a minimum of fifteen minutes between the end of their first set of groups and the beginning of their second set of groups, and handlers with dogs in both divisions have at least five minutes between the end of one set of groups and the start of the next set of groups.

The Obedience Show Finals Chair determines the exhibitor run order by drawing numbers. Dogs will not run in their order of ranking. The Obedience show Finals Chair will post the exhibitor run order ringside at least one (1) hour before the start of the Finals. Each judge will use the same exhibitor running order.

Agree: 10

Disagree: 0

Not voting: 1

Obedience Committee Motion: Finals Handler Letter and Briefing

Approve: Bryant, Gann, Hardin, King, Roberts, Silveira

Disapprove: DeChant, Gray, Kissman

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

98:15 Obedience: Finals Handler Letter and Briefing

Motion: Roberts

I move to approve the following motion from the Obedience Committee.

2. Finals handler letter and briefing motion

Moved by Laurie Rubin, seconded by Katie Van de Sandt. June 27, 2014.

I move to add to the Obedience Finals rules that a handler letter to be sent and a handler briefing (optional for handlers) take place before the Obedience Finals. A bullet point will be added after the first two bullets in 11.4.1 Obedience Show Finals Chair Requirements, and 11.5.3 Timeframe will be amended.

The Effective Date of the motion will be the date that the next Rule Book is printed following approval by the Board of Directors and subsequent publication in the Aussie Times.

Purpose: To make the Obedience Finals run more smoothly by making sure all competitors have all relevant information.

11.4.1 Obedience Show Finals Chair Requirements

Current:

- Obedience Show Finals Chair will be familiar with all aspects of hosting an obedience trial.
- Obedience Show Finals Chair will work with the ASCA® Obedience Committee Chair, either by phone or email, to ensure all procedures and requirements are met.
- The Obedience Show Finals Chair and the ASCA® Obedience Committee Chair or designated Committee member will meet with the Finals judges prior to the event to review all rules and scoring procedures used during the Finals competition.
- The Obedience Show Finals Chair will prepare the judges' books in the correct run order. It is recommended that the judges' books be completed once the exhibitor run order is finalized.

- The Obedience Show Finals Chair will ensure the ring stewards are ringside one (1) hour before the scheduled start time and will ensure both rings are set up and ready at least one (1) hour before the scheduled start time.

Change to:

- Obedience Show Finals Chair will be familiar with all aspects of hosting an obedience trial.
- Obedience Show Finals Chair will work with the ASCA® Obedience Committee Chair, either by phone or email, to ensure all procedures and requirements are met.
- The Obedience Show Finals Chair will send a briefing letter to all the Finalists and Alternates for whom the ASCA® Business Office has received Finals entries at least 10 days before the Finals. The letter may be emailed or sent through the mail. The letter will include relevant scheduling information and reminders.
- The Obedience Show Finals Chair and the ASCA® Obedience Committee Chair or designated Committee member will meet with the Finals judges prior to the event to review all rules and scoring procedures used during the Finals competition.
- The Obedience Show Finals Chair will prepare the judges' books in the correct run order. It is recommended that the judges' books be completed once the exhibitor run order is finalized.
- The Obedience Show Finals Chair will ensure the ring stewards are ringside one (1) hour before the scheduled start time and will ensure both rings are set up and ready at least one (1) hour before the scheduled start time.

11.5.3 Timeframe

Current:

The Finals will be held over the course of one day. Up to nine hours should be allowed for judging and for breaks for the judges. The Finals consists of two (2) runs each of Novice, Open CDX, Open ODX, and Utility plus four (4) runs of Super Dog.

Change to:

A short handler meeting will be scheduled before the start of judging to brief handlers on topics such as key differences between Finals and regular trials, scheduling details or last minute changes, judge and steward introductions, and whatever judges want to share about how they run a ring. Attending the meeting will be optional for handlers.

The Finals will be held over the course of one day. Up to nine hours should be allowed for judging and for breaks for the judges. The Finals consists of two (2) runs each of Novice, Open CDX, Open ODX, and Utility plus four (4) runs of Super Dog.

Agree: 10

Disagree: 0

Not voting: 1

Obedience Committee Motion: Finals Ties

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

98:15 Obedience: Finals Ties

Motion: Roberts

I move to approve the following motion from the Obedience Committee.

3. Finals Ties motion

Moved by Laurie Rubin, seconded by Katie Van de Sandt. June 27, 2014.

I move to add clarifying language to the Obedience Finals rules restating that there should be no run-offs in the case of tied scores for individual classes during Finals. Language will be changed in 11.5.9 Scoring & Placement and 11.6 Judging

The Effective Date of the motion will be the date that the next Rule Book is printed following approval by the Board of Directors and subsequent publication in the Aussie Times.

Purpose: To clarify a rule already in place. In the 2013 Finals there were uncalled for run-offs.

11.5.9 Scoring & Placement

Current:

The points lost by each Finalist will be totaled and the Finalist with the least number of points lost is the winner of their class.

Placements are also awarded to second through tenth place and will be denoted as such on the rosettes.

There will be a Finals winner from each of the following divisions: Novice, Open CDX, Open ODX, Utility and Super Dog. The winner will carry the title of (year won) ASCA® Champion (Novice, Open CDX, Open ODX or Utility) Obedience Dog. The winner of the Super Dog category will carry the title of (year won) ASCA® Supreme Champion Obedience Dog and will have its picture on the cover of the May/June Aussie Times.

Change to:

The points lost by each Finalist will be totaled and the Finalist with the least number of points lost is the winner of their division. There will be no placements in the individual rings and no run-offs before the scores from both rings are totaled for all finals divisions. Placements are also awarded to second through tenth place and will be denoted as such on the rosettes.

There will be a Finals winner from each of the following divisions: Novice, Open CDX, Open ODX, Utility and Super Dog. The winner will carry the title of (year won) ASCA® Champion (Novice, Open CDX, Open ODX or Utility) Obedience Dog. The winner of the Super Dog category will carry the title of (year won) ASCA® Supreme Champion Obedience Dog and will have its picture on the cover of the May/June Aussie Times.

11.6 Judging

Current:

- ...
- If there are tied scores, placements are determined by a run-off using the Novice heel free exercise. Runoffs will be done after all dogs have competed; this includes any bitches in season.
- ...

Change to:

- ...
- If there are tied scores within any division, placements are determined by a run-off using the Novice heel free exercise. The only run-offs will be for dogs with tied scores after the scores from both rings are totaled. The run-off judge will be determined by flipping a coin. Run-offs will be done after all dogs have competed; this includes any bitches in season.
- ...

Agree: 10

Disagree: 0

Not voting: 1

Obedience Committee Motion: Finals Alternates

Approve: Bryant, Gann, Hardin, Roberts, Silveira

Disapprove: DeChant, Gray, King, Kissman

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

98:15 Obedience: Finals Alternates

Motion: Roberts

I move to approve the following motion from the Obedience Committee.

4. Finals Alternates Motion:

Moved by Laurie Rubin, seconded by Penny Jameson. July 17, 2014.

I move to amend the Obedience Finals rules to once again allow for alternates to become Finalist competitors in the case of last minute cancelations. Language will be changed in 11.9 Verification of Eligibility

The Effective Date of the motion will be the date that the next Rule Book is printed following approval by the Board of Directors and subsequent publication in the Aussie Times.

Purpose: To keep Finals running as full as possible and to showcase as many teams as possible.

11.9 Verification of Eligibility

Current:

...

- If an exhibitor must cancel they should contact the Business Office immediately. If the Business Office receives the cancellation before the Nationals catalog goes to print, the Business Office will contact the next eligible alternate who sent in their official entry form and offer them the vacancy. If an entered contestant must cancel their entry after the Nationals catalog has gone to print, their vacancy will remain unfilled. Entry fee will not be refunded for cancellations.
- The Business Office will send all confirmed entries for the Obedience Finals to the Host Club by the close of entries for that year's Nationals.

Change to:

...

- If an exhibitor must cancel ~~they~~ he or she should contact the Business Office and the Obedience Finals Chair immediately. The Business Office will contact the next eligible alternate who sent in their official entry form and offer him or her the vacancy. ~~If the Business Office receives the cancellation before the Nationals catalog goes to print, If an entered contestant must cancel their entry after the Nationals catalog has gone to print, their vacancy will remain unfilled.~~ Entry fees will not be refunded for cancellations.
- The Business Office will send all confirmed entries and a list of those alternates who submitted entry forms for the Obedience Finals to the Host Club by the close of entries for that year's Nationals.
- If all 10 Finalists for any class have not checked in by 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time for the first Finals judging of the day, the next eligible alternates who are present may compete. Last minute alternates must pay the entry fee and check in to both rings at least 10 minutes prior to the first Finals judging of the day.
- If an eligible alternate fills the place of a Finalist after the running order has been drawn, that team will take the place in the running order of the team that canceled.
- If the Business Office receives the cancellation after the Nationals catalog goes to print, the alternate dog's name will not be listed in the catalog or on the Finals ribbon.

Agree: 9

Disagree: 0

Not Voting: 2

Rally Committee Motion: Chapter 1, Section 15: Rally Ring Equipment

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

06:05 Rally: Rally Ring Equipment

Motion: Gann

I move to approve Rally motion 14-3.

Committee Voting

Approve: 8

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-voting: 0

Business Office approval: N/A

Discussion Period: 7/28/14 – 8/3/14

Voting Period: 8/5/14 – 8/11/14

Motion 14-3: Chapter 1, Section 15: Rally Ring Equipment

Subject: Chapter 1, Section 15: Rally Ring Equipment, providing better guidelines for size requirements of station numbers and star designators

Motion By: Karen Black

Seconded By: Donna Armstrong

Beginning of Motion: I move to accept Chapter 1, Section 15: Rally Ring Equipment as follows.

Change From:

SECTION 15: Rally Ring Equipment

1.15.1 ASCA Affiliate Clubs hosting a sanctioned Specialty or Show must provide for each ring:

- a. One full set of ASCA Regulation Jumps as defined below
- b. One full set of ASCA Rally signs and holders
- c. Two working stop watches
- d. Seven cones (minimum of 12 inches in height), two food dishes with secure covers, and two dog-safe toys
- e. One full set of Station identifying numbers and four Star designators

1.15.2 Signs and Holders:

- a. A full set of Signs consists of one of each sign except for Right Turn, Left Turn, 270 Right Turn, 270 Left Turn, Normal Pace, and Send over Jump; two each of these must be included.
- b. ASCA approved wording and symbols must be used on all signs.
- c. Signs must be a minimum of 8½ x 11 inches and a maximum of 11 x 17 inches. The Star designators must be a minimum of 2 inches wide and 8 inches long.
- d. Signs must be secured in place to the right of the handler's path unless indicated elsewhere in these Rules and Regulations.
- e. All sign holders must be designed to be properly secured during the Rally class. When designing sign holders, special consideration to weather conditions for outdoor trials should be given.
- f. All sign holders or signs (not including Start and Finish signs and Star designators) should be sequentially numbered on the course, with numbers approximately three inches high.

CHANGE TO:

SECTION 15: Rally Ring Equipment

1.15.1 ASCA Affiliate Clubs hosting a sanctioned Specialty or Show must provide for each ring:

- a. One full set of ASCA Regulation Jumps as defined below
- b. One full set of ASCA Rally signs and holders
- c. Two working stop watches
- d. Seven cones (minimum of 12 inches in height), two food dishes with secure covers, and two dog-safe toys
- e. One full set of Station identifying numbers and four Star designators.

1.15.2 Signs and Holders:

- a. A full set of Signs consists of one of each sign except for Right Turn, Left Turn, 270 Right Turn, 270 Left Turn, Normal Pace, and Send over Jump; two each of these must be included.
- b. ASCA approved wording and symbols must be used on all signs.
- c. Signs must be a minimum of 8½ x 11 inches and a maximum of 11 x 17 inches. ~~The Star designators must be a minimum of 2 inches wide and 8 inches long.~~
- d. Signs must be secured in place to the right of the handler's path unless indicated elsewhere in these Rules and Regulations.
- e. All sign holders must be designed to be properly secured during the Rally class. When designing sign holders, special consideration to weather conditions for outdoor trials should be given.
- f. All sign holders ~~or signs~~ (not including Start and Finish signs holders which are not numbered ~~and Star designators~~) should be sequentially numbered on the course, ~~with numbers approximately three inches high.~~
- g. Station numbers and star designators must be secured and displayed in a manner so the numbers and stars are easily visible to the exhibitors.
- h. Station numbers and stars appearing on the star designators should be a minimum of three inches high.

Comments:

With the variety of sign holders affiliates use, a clearer definition of the size for numbers and stars is important. The current rules do not adequately address the size of numbers and stars leaving too much interpretation and creating confusion for exhibitors and affiliates. This allows the affiliates to use what works best for their conditions and sign holders while still providing consistency for exhibitors, judges and affiliates.

Parties Impacted: affiliates, exhibitors, judges
Effective Date: January 1, 2015

Rally Committee Motion: Clarification of Communication in Masters Rally Classes

Approve: Bryant, Gann, Hardin, Roberts, Silveira
Disapprove: DeChant, Gray, King, Kissman
Abstain: 0
Motion carries.

06:05 Rally: Clarification of Communication in Masters Rally Classes

Motion: Gann
I move to approve Rally motion 14-4.

Committee Voting

Approve: 8
Disapprove: 0
Abstain: 0
Non-voting: 0

Business Office Approval: N/A
Discussion Period: 8/13/14 – 8/19/14
Voting Period: 8/20/14 – 8/26/14

Motion 14-4: Chapter 6, Section 5.3: Masters, Restricted Commands; Proper Heel Position
Subject: Clarification of communication in Masters Rally Classes

Motion by: Karen Black
Seconded by: Corinne Shanks

Beginning of Motion: I move to amend chapter and section 6.5.3 as written below.

From:

6.5.3 Restricted Commands; Proper Heel Position

As in the Excellent level, Rally Masters handlers are not allowed to pat their legs or clap to encourage their dogs. The handler at the Masters level will use a single command and/or signal per element of an exercise to prompt the dog to perform. If both command and signal are given, they must be given simultaneously. Additional communication and signals by the handler not part of each exercise will be a minor deduction. Proper heel positions should be maintained throughout the course.

To:

6.5.3 Restricted Commands; Proper Heel Position

As in the Excellent level, Rally Masters handlers are not allowed to pat their legs or clap to encourage their dogs. The handler at the Masters level will use a single command and/or signal per element of an exercise to prompt the dog to perform. (See Glossary for the definition of an element.) If both a command and signal are given, they must be given simultaneously. ~~Additional communication and signals by the handler not part of each exercise will be a minor deduction.~~

Additional commands and/or signals on an element of an exercise will be a minor deduction for each occurrence except as defined elsewhere in these rules (i.e. Sign #401, Moving Stand, Walk 3 steps, Face Dog, Signals, Return).

A brief word or phrase of praise after the completion of each station is allowed, but the dog must remain under control. Proper heel positions should be maintained throughout the course.

Effective Date: January 1, 2015

Parties Affected: ASCA Affiliated, Rally Judges, Rally exhibitors.

Comments: There has been a lot of confusion among exhibitors and judges regarding the ability of a handler to talk with their dog while competing at the Masters level. Scoring at this level is inconsistent as some judges interpret the rule one way while others a different way. The committee has been asked by numerous judges to clarify this rule so they are clear how this level is to be judged. It will be helpful for the exhibitors as well so they know what to expect from every judge instead of running into many different interpretations from one judge to the next. This motion makes it very clear how commands and communication are to be judged in Masters. The revised section takes into account the rally tradition of handlers having unlimited communication with their dogs, while maintaining the degree of difficulty and expertise required of teams competing in Masters.

Comments from Committee Members:

Pat Pierce - Since our Rally program began, judges and exhibitors alike have not unanimously understood how praise - a cornerstone of Rally Obedience - was to be incorporated in the Masters class. This motion clarifies when praise may be used without incurring a penalty, and clarifies what constitutes an "element" of an exercise, for all parties.

Karen Souza - I strongly support this ballot question and feel that it represents the spirit of Rally (While a team is on the course, they should exhibit accuracy, briskness, and smoothness, as well as enthusiasm and enjoyment.). It also will help to make judging more consistent in Masters by clearly defining the use of signals/commands and praise.

Sandy Walroth - I think this is a good clarification of the intention of Rally. It was always intended to allow communication between the handler and the dog, and this not only maintains that, but also continues the difficulty of the highest level of Rally, Masters.

Agility Committee Motion: Elimination of Veteran Handler Division

Approve: Bryant, Roberts, Silveira

Disapprove: DeChant, Gann, Gray, Hardin, King, Kissman

Abstain: 0

Motion fails.

04:05 Agility: Elimination of Veteran Handler Division

Motion: Roberts

I move to approve the following motion from the Agility Committee.

Motion 8-2014

Motion by Gary

Second by Andrea

For publication in the January 2015 rulebook; effective June 2015 for the 2016 accumulation period for Finals

Eliminate the vet/disabled handler exemption from the Veteran Division. Rationale is that this was a carry-over from the old dual sanctioning days and that there are handlers taking advantage of the exemption so they can run their younger dogs alongside vet dogs to get extra time and lower jump heights which standard dogs of the same age don't get. If handlers want the extra time or want to jump their dogs at a lower jump height, ASCA now has the ACE program that they can run in and get these exemptions.

Section 3.3.2 of the rule book currently reads:

3.3.2 Veterans Division

The Veterans Division is open to any dog age seven (7) or older, or any handler aged 60 or older, or any handler who has a certificate of disability. The dog's age shall be determined by the dog's actual birthday or the closest date as known. The handler's age shall be determined by a birth certificate or any valid document giving date of birth. Disabled handlers shall present a copy of their disabled parking permit or a letter from their doctor.

Dogs entered in the Veterans Division classes will jump 4" (10.2 cm) lower than their standard jump height. Course times for dogs entered in the Veterans Division of the Regular Agility and Jumpers classes shall be 10% greater than the SCT for the Standard Division. The gamble time in the Veterans Gamblers class shall be two seconds longer than the gamble time for the Standard Division. The maximum course time shall remain the same as the Standard Division.

Propose to change section 3.3.2 of the rule book to read:

3.3.2 Veterans Division

The Veterans Division is open to any dog age seven (7) or older. The dog's age shall be determined by the dog's actual birthday or the closest date as known.

Dogs entered in the Veterans Division classes will jump 4" (10.2 cm) lower than their standard jump height. Course times for dogs entered in the Veterans Division of the Regular Agility and Jumpers classes shall be 10% greater than the SCT for the Standard Division. The gamble time in the Veterans Gamblers class shall be two seconds longer than the gamble time for the Standard Division. The maximum course time shall remain the same as the Standard Division.

Committee Vote:

Yes - 11

No - 2

Attached are letters of dissent from Kathy and Janelle; letters of agreement from Sue, Carol, Judy

Dissent from Kathy Fretz:

"The Veteran/Disabled Handler division has been an ASCA division since its inception. I feel removing it is a huge loss for those that need it. I feel it will speak negatively about ASCA and its support for those that have needs. Further I don't see how this division negatively impacts ASCA or its agility program, but I can see its removal doing so.

The division can be easily 'fixed' by removing the jump height exemption mandated by the committee and or separating them from Veteran dogs. The division does not have to be removed.

The people harmed by the removal of this division are all ASCA members many of whom are active, supporting, and devoted members. Most have spent countless volunteer hours representing and growing ASCA and their affiliate clubs. Many have made ASCA and its programs, including the agility program what it is today. Removing it would be a huge injustice."

Dissent from Janelle Farkas:

"To Whom it May Concern:

I voted "NO" on this motion for many reasons. The main reason being that this motion eliminates any verbiage in the ASCA Agility rulebook that protects our older and/or our disabled handlers. In the most recent Aussie Times edition, the secretary report read that the BOD would follow the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that we provide reasonable accommodations to our handlers with disabilities. Reasonable does not mean "no accommodations at all" or separate classes (many committee members felt the ACE division was where they should compete, but that is saying that they feel that disabled handlers are unworthy and incapable of competing for Finals/Merit/HOF, etc.). Reasonable means an accommodation that does not unfairly change the playing field within the same class.

Just because one person with a disability can compete without accommodations, does not mean that EVERYONE with a disability can compete without them. This also means that not everyone with a disability will feel they need to request accommodations, but if they do, the ASCA Agility Program needs to be ready to deal with any such requests.

The ASCA Rally, Obedience, and Conformation rulebooks all have sections in which they describe how their Trial Committees must provide for their disabled handlers. It is my understanding that the Obedience committee is also working to improve this section of their rulebook. It is unacceptable that the ASCA Agility committee throw out handlers with disabilities.

I believe that not having a plan in action to handle requests for accommodations is an extremely poor decision and that it shows that the ASCA Agility program is *too* elitist to even bother with those handlers who may have a disability where they feel they need a reasonable accommodation.

I have proposed a motion to the ASCA Agility Committee to add something to our rulebook in the event that this motion passes; but have been met with resistance and feelings that it is not necessary.

Another reason that I feel the passing of this motion would be a terrible change to the ASCA Agility program is that it shows that we do not care about our older handlers as well. One of the reasons this motion was created is because the ASCA Agility Committee felt that it was unfair for 3 year old dogs with 65+ year old handlers to be jumping the same height as their 12 year old dog counterparts. The easier and arguably more inclusive way to handle this would be to eliminate the jump height reduction for the non-vet dogs, or to create a separate Vet Handler class, as many people on the ASCA Agility Enthusiast List (an email list that we use to bounce ideas off of) were in support of. This would have given an equal and fair playing field to all, instead of now requiring that 70 year old handlers compete against 19 year old handlers.

While some may argue that this is irrelevant because it is the dog running agility, I find that illogical and not completely true. Yes the dog is running, but the handler is ALSO running. According to the ASCA Agility Rulebook, this is a *team* sport, and thus I believe it should be treated as one. Our dogs could not and would not do agility without us, and the people are as important as a part of the team as the dogs are and should be considered in any and all rules the committee puts forward.

In conclusion, I feel the passing of this motion would be extremely detrimental to the ASCA Agility Program. It shows that we do not care about handlers who are older or disabled.

Please feel free to e-mail me with any questions about this letter of dissent."

Comment from Carol McQuade:

"I started my agility 'career' a bit before 60 years old; I am now over 75. My dogs and I ran in Veterans in both ASCA and NADAC for a very short time, until I realized that very young dogs were competing against much older dogs and, personally, I found that grossly unfair....so, I quit entering Veterans BECAUSE ON MY AGE. And I have found over the years that running my dogs in the classes they SHOULD be in was the ethical thing to do, and we did it well!

Agility is about the dogs, about running them in the class that makes the runs fair for all entered. AND, I found that the more I ran and trained to run, the healthier I got and the more fun my team had! Now, I

have a 11 1/2 year old in Veteran DOGS and one 6 year old in STANDARD. I can't imagine running him at a 4" reduction in height - he's way too fast NOW!"

Comment from Sue Graham:

"I would like to add the rationale that no other ASCA venue allows an advantage for dogs being handled by a Veteran. Dogs under the age of 7 entering the Veterans division due to the Handler's age are competing against dogs older than 7 in this division. These younger dogs receive a 20% adjustment in lower jumps and at least a 10% increase in course time than if they would be running in the Standard Division. The Stockdog/Obedience/Rally programs do not give additional time for the dog to perform the course or lower the criteria because the handler is of a certain age. In my opinion, when we consider the ability to earn HOF points, special allowances and advantages should not be awarded to a dog because they are handled by a Veteran.

With regard to the disabled handler aspect of this motion, the agility program allows for disabled handlers to navigate the course by ensuring that there is a sufficient handler path to accommodate wheel chairs and carts. Trial Committees can be asked to accommodate the special needs of any disabled handler and the Agility Committee will work on adding verbiage to the rule book (similar to what is included in the other ASCA venue rule books) to address this."

Comment from Judy Boone:

"As a disabled handler and an almost Veteran handler, I agree with elimination of this advantage.

We do not give qualifying scores to dogs in any other program unless they can meet the criteria of the class. If your stock dog will not go past the advanced handler line without you, we don't say 'It's ok- you're 60+ or you're disabled so your dog doesn't have to do it like the other dogs.'

No.

We say 'Nice try. You need to go home and train'.

I believe the same is true of agility. As a disabled handler, I know dogs can be trained to be competitive without lowering the standards for the dog. I am not an exceptional trainer and I'm a pretty lousy handler but my dogs compete in the class based on their age, not my age or my disability. And they qualify, so I know it can be done by anyone."

Agility Committee Motion: Disabled Handlers

Approve: Bryant, DeChant, Gray, Hardin, King, Kissman, Roberts, Silveira

Disapprove: Gann

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

04:05 Agility: Disabled Handlers

Motion: Roberts

I make a motion to approve the following motion from the Agility Committee.

This motion passed with a unanimous 'yes' vote.

Motion 11-2014

Motion by Janelle

Second by Krystal

Rationale: Other ASCA Rulebooks include a clause on how to provide accommodations for those handlers with physical challenges. We can not ignore disabled handlers in our rulebook. This motion lays out ground rules for judges, trial committees and competitors. The Americans with Disabilities Act mandates that we provide reasonable accommodations when necessary and the ASCA BOD has said in the Aussie Times that we, as a club, will do so.

Section 1.4 (It will be adding a section under General Information)

Handlers with Disabilities: The Australian Shepherd Club of America strives to provide an opportunity for everyone to participate in its events. Judges may make reasonable accommodations to the extent necessary to permit handlers with disabilities to compete. Disabilities are not always apparent and therefore a judge cannot determine if a handler is disabled. It is the handler's responsibility to request accommodations and to let both the judge and trial committee know of these accommodations as soon as possible, preferably before the trial so any accommodations can be discussed before arrival. Dogs handled by disabled handlers shall be required to perform the courses as designed, and shall be penalized for failure to perform as described in these rules.

Reasonable accommodations can include: more time at the start line to remove dog's leash, alternate buzzer or whistle for gamblers classes, and someone to help the handler with taking the leash off and putting the leash on. However, accommodations are not limited to these listed and are on a case-by-case basis due to the vast range of disabilities. Should any handler experience any problems with receiving reasonable accommodations, they should notify one of the members of the trial committee. If the trial committee is unable to reasonably accommodate you, please let the ASCA Board of Directors know.

Agility Committee Motion: Recommendations on Judge Applicants

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

04:05 Agility: Committee Recommendations on Judge Applicants

Motion: Roberts

I move to approve.

This motion has passed.

Yes - 11

Judy, Carol, Sherry, Sue, Gary, Robin, Betty, Krystal, Andrea, Janelle, Michael

No - none

Non-voting - 2

Kathy, Cynthia

Motion by Judy

Second by Carol

I move to add the following to Appendix C - Agility Judging Program

Rationale: The earlier sections do not state clearly what should be done with applications to the judging program. To help serve the Board in our advisory capacity, clarification is needed so applications can be discussed in committee and a recommendation sent to the Board, as stated in section 4.6.:

4.6 Agility Committee Recommendations

The Agility Committee is the advisory body on agility matters for the Board of Directors. The committee will review and make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning qualifications of all applicants to be appointed ASCA Agility Judges.

Current:

1 Apprentice Agility Judge Application Requirements

1.1.6 Application

The applicant must fill out the ASCA Apprentice Agility Judge Application, include the required documentation, and send (mail, email, fax) it to the ASCA Business Office.

1.2.6 Application

Once these requirements are met, the Apprentice Judge may apply to the ASCA Board of Directors for release from supervision. The Apprentice Agility Judge Application for Promotion form must be filled out and sent to the ASCA Business Office. The form must include the documentation required in section 1.2. The form is available at www.asca.org. See Section 4: Acceptance for further requirements

Change to:

1 Apprentice Agility Judge Application Requirements

1.1.6 Application

The applicant must fill out the ASCA Apprentice Agility Judge Application, include the required documentation, and send (mail, email, fax) it to the ASCA Business Office. The office will forward the application to the Agility Committee for comment. The Agility Committee will forward their recommendation to the ASCA Business office, which will include it with all pertinent information to the ASCA Board of Directors when all requirements are met by the applicant.

1.2.6 Application

Once these requirements are met, the Apprentice Judge may apply for release from supervision. The Apprentice Agility Judge Application for Promotion form must be filled out and sent to the ASCA Business Office. The Business Office will forward the application to the Agility Committee for comment. The Agility Committee will forward their recommendation to the ASCA Business office, which will include it with all pertinent information to the ASCA Board of Directors when all requirements are met by the applicant. The form must include the documentation required in section 1.2. The form is available at www.asca.org. See Section 4: Acceptance for further requirements.

Conformation Committee Motion: Update to Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements

Approve: Bryant, Silveira

Disapprove: DeChant, Gann, Hardin, King, Kissman, Roberts

Abstain: Gray

Motion fails.

87:19 Conformation: Update to Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements

Motion: DeChant

I move to approve this motion from the Conformation Committee to update the requirements for Non-Regular Breeder Judge.

Votes are as follows; (comments will be below the results)

Yes - 6

No - 5

Non-voting - 1

Comments for the motion;

Debbie: I vote yes on this motion because I believe continuing education is the key to excellence in judging at every level. I believe that by the time a person becomes a Senior Breeder Judge, they should have years of experience in our breed and have a working knowledge of the breed standard. This knowledge is demonstrated in many ways, including their breeding program and the consistency of their judging. Education is key at every level for judges and I believe continuing ongoing education should be required from the beginning of a judge's career. This is for the benefit of ASCA as a whole. Updating the requirements is something that has been needed for quite some time, IMHO.

Regi Bryant: Over the last few years, it has been brought to the attention of several committee members that the NRBJ requirements are in desperate need of being updated. Many years ago, when we added multiple shows in a day, we overlooked how that would affect the requirements for becoming a judge (since nobody thought about the possibility).

Because of the fact that the requirements haven't been updated since the early 1990's, I feel we are far behind other registries. We have no judges education requirement currently and with this motion, there will be one. Judges Education seminars are held annually at the ASCA Nationals. In addition, many affiliate clubs host them as well. There are many other registries who host them throughout the year, which is quite convenient for education, as each one differs.

Currently, a person can complete their Show Secretary and Ring Stewarding requirements during the course of one weekend. An applicant won't be able to do this with the current motion.

I strongly believe that these requirements will make ASCA stronger.

Liz Gibson: I am in support of this motion. These judge requirements have not been upgraded in a very long time, some since the 1990's. As ASCA has continued to grow with the advent of more shows in a day. It was not thought out how easy it then became to be a ASCA breeder judge. We have records of judges going from Non Regular Breeder Judge to Senior Breeder Judge in three years! Sometimes less! Let's go section by section to see the differences between what we have now and what the new motion is.

Section A; has no change with the exception of adding the word consecutive to the statement. We felt that by requiring 8 consecutive years it showed the applicant was fully involved with ASCA!

Section B; no change. It has always been 26 years of age.

Section C; this section was vague and does it mean breeder of three and handled two for a total of 3 dogs or is it 5 dogs? We felt the change in this new motion now more clearly defines the old section. Yes there is an increase in number handled, but this allows the applicant to show and learn more about how the show ring works. Ring procedure is hard to learn. But by encouraging more time with dogs handled, we felt this would help in this area of needed expertise. We also allowed for other ways to achieve this requirement. As far as tracking where a litter was born and raised, Ray and I talked about this and a very simple way to track is by the address on the litter application. Ray said this is the best way and very easy for the office staff to look up. We have to trust our applicants to be honest in this respect and with facebook and other social medias, folks will know where a litter was raised and can object when an applicants name is put before the membership for comment.

Section D; no change.

Section E; we added the ASCA Code of Ethics to this section, otherwise unchanged.

Section F; we more clearly defined membership and participation in ASCA Affiliate Clubs.

Section G; The old requirements talk about stewarding and secretary requirements. This is where the changes happen. In this section we now more clearly define membership/participation in ASCA Affiliate Clubs.

Section H; The old requirements talked about the COE, we now more clearly define the requirements for ring stewarding and show secretary.

Section I; We now talk about educational requirements needed. It has long been discussed by our breeder judges that more education should be required. By including this step, we are now including that request from our judges. This requirement will be include in the other levels as the CC updates those levels in the future. None of these educational components are hard to achieve in the 8 years an applicant has before eligibility to apply. I personally have been to many educational seminars held at various locations. None were too costly to me. I believe the most I paid was for a Ring Procedure seminar was \$35.00. It was excellent and even after many years of judging for ASCA I learned something new from the seminar.

Most seminars I attended were at no cost held at the local affiliate level.

Section J; Old section was H. This new section goes into more depth of the ASCA Judges Code of Ethics. It also restates a section from Appendix 3, ASCA Conformation Judge Education.

As you can see if you read this letter and the proposed changes, they will only enhance our ASCA Breeder Judges!

Sunday Miles: Yes, all tho there are some things I think are a bit much ... I do think it needs tightening up. Sorry been gone to the Fair Booth all week...

Comments against the motion;

Dorothy A Montano: I vote NO

1.) There is no plan in place on how to track that litters are raised on the applicants premises. There is the potential for non-ethical members to make claims the litters were not raised as claimed, and further clutter the matters, that the BOD has to deal with.

2.) The wording of "b" is exclusionary and needs to be clarified.

3.)

A.) The educational component is lacking. The CC has no plan in place to further Judges Education other than a once a year component, at Nationals. This severely limits participation, to only those who can make it to Nationals. No plan is in place to videotape these educational experiences to make available to aspiring judges.

B.) The other educational components suggested are on a "Hit and miss", basis and usually require a fee to attend, causing a financial hardship on an aspiring Judge.

Susan Harris: It takes years to get to the first level it takes months to get to the next levels that is where this committee should have started. I still vote no

Mary: I vote NO on this motion

Letter of Dissent: I agree with the intent of the motion that the requirements for becoming a non-regular Breeder Judge need to be tightened up. But I do not believe that the motion in front of us is right way to do it.

Just producing puppies to achieve the necessary number of Champions for the application can't be the right direction we want to take our breed. For some breeders that might have the theoretical knowledge but will never breed enough litters to arrive at the number of champions required the chance of becoming a breeder judge will be almost unreachable. It cannot be in the interest of our breed to throw out the baby with the bathwater and eliminate such possible good candidates from the beginning. In some parts of the country, respectively world, it will not be possible for breeders to reach that goal since there aren't enough shows to finish enough dogs to finally be able to apply for becoming a judge. The danger is that the members who are able to become judges will become quickly an elite group that will be more than limited in numbers.

The motion, should it pass, also has another possible negative factor. Since it will most likely reduce the number of applicants it will force ASCA Affiliate clubs to invite judges from other recognized registries that, in some instances, aren't even approved to judge Aussies in their respective registries thus putting the development of our beloved breed at risk.

My suggestion would be to utilize the technical possibilities available to us. Get rid of the current open book test and develop an online test that still has to be passed 100% but that only is available for a limited time, say 30 minutes, to answer the questions.

Do not put the burden of education on the affiliates. These applicants will be judging for ASCA. So ASCA should provide the education possibilities. Keep in mind that not everybody may have the opportunity to travel to Nationals. So do not make it a requirement to attend a seminar held at Nationals. Again, use online capabilities to educate judges, i.e. online seminars, conference calls etc.

Last but not least, I am missing something about education on ring procedure. That to me is very important. Some judges, even "experienced" ones, have some terrible ring procedures that put dogs and exhibitors at risk. With starting at the non-regular level you lay a good foundation for the applicants to get it right from the beginning.

This motion needs some work to be done but I believe we are on the right track, just not with the current proposal.

Motion by Regi, second by Linda.

I, Regi Bryant make the following motion:

Before applying for Non-Regular Breeder Judge status, the following requirements must be met:

A. Must be a Full member of ASCA® in good standing for a minimum of eight (8) consecutive years.

B. Must be twenty-six (26) years of age.

C. Must have bred and raised three (3) or more litters on the applicant's premises. Must have bred five (5) or more Champions and handled five (5) separate Champions for all points. Three (3) of the required five (5) champions bred by the applicant must be from litters whelped and raised on the applicant's premises. Any dog(s) co-owned by this applicant and listed to meet these requirements may not be used to meet

the requirements of any other Breeder Judge or applicant. If a breeder is unable to complete the handler requirement, they may substitute the handling with the following;

Two (2) additional Champions of their breeding and Two (2) additional Ring Stewarding assignment and Two (2) additional educational experiences from the Continuing Educational Component list for a total of six (6).

D. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA® Australian Shepherd Breed Standard.

E. Must have a thorough knowledge and agree to abide by the ASCA® Approved Conformation Show Rules and Regulations as well as the ASCA® Code of Ethics.

F. Must have evidence of a strong background and involvement in ASCA® and its programs developed for the Australian Shepherd. The following is considered evidence of a strong background and involvement:

1) Membership and participation in Affiliate Clubs.

2) Acting as a Show Secretary or Ring Steward at ASCA® sanctioned events.

G. Must be either an active and current member of the sponsoring club(s) for a minimum of two (2) years or show active membership in ASCA Affiliate Clubs totaling at least three (3) years.

H. Must have served as a Ring Steward in the Conformation ring at five (5) or more ASCA® sanctioned events over three (3) or more weekends. Must have served as a Show Secretary at five (5) or more ASCA® sanctioned events.

I. Must have completed the required number of continuing education components from the approved list.

Continuing Education Components

Judge Applicants must complete a combination of at least three (3) of the following continuing education components. Documentation of attendance and successful completion (where applicable) must be submitted with application.

1) Attend a Judges Education Seminar presented by the ASCA Conformation Committee at a National Specialty. A Certificate of Completion is required. (This counts as one (1) component)

2) Attend a seminar put on by ASCA Affiliate Clubs or other canine registry, organization, association, or dog club that cover general movement and structure presented by either judges or well-known experts. A Certificate of Completion and/or documentation of attendance are required. (This counts as one (1) component)

3) Attend a seminar put on by ASCA Affiliate Clubs or other canine registry, organization, association, or dog club that cover judging procedures and ring procedures presented by either judges or well-known experts. A Certificate of Completion and/or documentation of attendance are required. (This counts as one (1) component)

J. Must be willing to abide by the ASCA® Judges Code of Ethics. Failure to do so may result in loss of judging privileges and suspension from ASCA®. Judging is a privilege, not a right. The ASCA® Conformation Judge's conduct must always be impartial, dignified and respectful of the dog and the handler. A Judge's actions and professional comportment must be above reproach.

From the following:

NON-REGULAR BREEDER JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

Before applying for Non-Regular Breeder Judge status, the following requirements must be met:

A. Must be a full adult member of ASCA in good standing for a minimum of eight (8) years.

B. Must be at least twenty-six (26) years of age.

C. Must have bred five (5) ASCA Champions of Record or be a breeder of three (3) and handled two (2) ASCA Champions of Record to their title. (The applicant must have placed all points and majors on each Champion.)

D. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA Australian Shepherd Breed Standard.

E. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA Approved Conformation Show Rules and Regulations.

F. Must have evidence of a strong background and involvement in ASCA and its programs developed for the Australian Shepherd, such as membership and participation in Affiliate clubs, and putting on ASCA events such as Show Secretary, Steward, Scorekeeper, Timekeeping, etc.

G. Must have served as a steward in the conformation ring at five (5) or more ASCA sanctioned events. Must have served as a Show Secretary at three (3) or more ASCA sanctioned events.

H. Must be willing to abide by the ASCA Conformation Judges Code of Ethics.

Purpose: It has come to the attention of several members of this committee over the past several years that the requirements to become a Non-Regular Breeder Judge have become outdated with multiple shows in one day and the smaller point schedules. In addition, this motion was submitted back in 2010 to the Board of Directors, who eventually rescinded the motion. Based on the requests of ASCA members, we are respectfully resubmitting.

The new NRBJ procedure would take effect January 1, 2015. All applicants in process before this date would follow the old procedure. New applicants after January 1, 2015 would follow the new procedure.

Stockdog Committee Motion: Change to Rule 3.12

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

94:01 Stockdog: Change Rule 3.12

Motion: Kissman

I make a motion to change the wording in Rule 3.12. of the Stockdog Rule Book as worded below to make the take pen rule consistent for all courses with a take pen.

8-01 Take pen for DEF and C

Passed Unanimously

Maxine Schvaneveldt move and Dan Sanderson seconded to change the following rules in the rule book to make the take pen rule consistent for all course with a take pen.

The following is housekeeping for the take pens for all take pen courses.

3.12.3 Course C Arena

d. Take Pens: The duck/geese arena take pen shall be a minimum of 8 x 8 feet and a maximum of 16 x 16 feet. The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced handler line where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers must position themselves on the handler's side of the open handler's line or where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. Started handlers may position themselves where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. All take pens shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence opposite the first obstacle whenever possible. The take pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

Change to:

3.12.3 Course C Arena

d. Take Pens: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. All take pens shall be placed on the outside of the arena along the fence on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena it needs to be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two and consideration to the advanced handler's line must be taken into account. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. The take pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

i. The duck/geese arena take pen shall be a minimum of 8 x 8 feet and a maximum of 16 x 16 feet.

ii. For cattle and sheep/goats, a take pen shall be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take

pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.

iii. The take pen gate for cattle and sheep/goats shall be no less than 8 feet.

The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen.

Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced handler line on the take-pen side of the line, where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena.

The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler line. Open and Started handlers may position themselves where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open handlers' line is in effect for the Open division. The take pen and/or re-pen shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence. The take pen and/or re-pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

3.12.4 Course D Arena

d. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced handler line on the take-pen side of the line, where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler line. Open and Started handlers may position themselves where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open handlers' line is in effect for the Open division. The take pen and/or re-pen shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence. The take pen and/or re-pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

Change to the following:

3.12.4 Course D Arena

d. Take Pens: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. All take pens shall be placed on the outside of the arena along the fence on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena it needs to be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two and consideration to the advanced handler's line must be taken into account. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. The take pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

i. The duck/geese arena take pen shall be a minimum of 8 x 8 feet and a maximum of 16 x 16 feet.

ii. For cattle and sheep/goats, a take pen shall be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.

iii. The take pen gate for cattle and sheep/goats shall be no less than 8 feet.

The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen.

Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced handler line on the take-pen side of the line, where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena.

The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler line. Open and Started handlers may position themselves where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open handlers' line is in effect for the Open division. The take pen and/or re-pen shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence. The take pen and/or re-pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

3.12.15 Course E Arena

d. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced handler line on the take-pen side of the line, where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler line. Open and Started handlers may position themselves where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open handlers' line is in effect for the Open division. The take pen and/or re-pen shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence. The take pen and/or re-pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

Change to the following:

3.12.5 Course E Arena

d. Take Pens: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. All take pens shall be placed on the outside of the arena along the fence on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena it needs to be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two and consideration to the advanced handler's line must be taken into account. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. The take pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

i. The duck/geese arena take pen shall be a minimum of 8 x 8 feet and a maximum of 16 x 16 feet.

ii. For cattle and sheep/goats, a take pen shall be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.

iii. The take pen gate for cattle and sheep/goats shall be no less than 8 feet.

The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced handler line on the take-pen side of the line, where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler line. Open and Started handlers may position themselves where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open handlers' line is in effect for the Open division. The take pen and/or re-pen shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence. The take pen and/or re-pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

3.12.6 Course F Arena

d. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen.

Change to the following:

3.12.6 Course F Arena

d. Take Pens: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. All take pens shall be placed on the outside of the arena along the fence on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena it needs to be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two and consideration to the advanced handler's line must

be taken into account. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. The take pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

i. The duck/geese arena take pen shall be a minimum of 8 x 8 feet and a maximum of 16 x 16 feet.

ii. For cattle and sheep/goats, a take pen shall be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.

iii. The take pen gate for cattle and sheep/goats shall be no less than 8 feet.

The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced handler line on the take-pen side of the line, where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler line. Open and Started handlers may position themselves where ever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open handlers' line is in effect for the Open division. The take pen and/or re-pen shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence. The take pen and/or re-pen size and location shall be stated in the sanctioning request form.

Stockdog Committee Motion: Removal of Sentence in Rule 3.12

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

94:01 Stockdog: Removal of Sentence in Rule 3.12

Motion: Kissman

I make a motion to change the wording in Rule 3.12 of the Stockdog Rule Book remove the sentence in describing the Duck/Geese arena since the sentence can create a conflict in setting up certain courses.

Panel 08-02 Panel

Passed Unanimously

Dan Sanderson make a motion and seconded by James Bergert to remove the sentence in describing the Duck/Geese arena, "Panels shall not be closer than 9' to any fence" as this sentence creates a conflict when setting up the course according to the rules.

Change From:

3.12.4 Course D Arena

a. Set-up: The arenas will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in Appendix 3 and described in this section. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility. (Effective 1 January 2014)

Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high. Panels shall not be closer than 9' to any fence. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8' - 12' panels may be used. (Effective 1 January 2014)

Change To:

3.12.4 Course D Arena

a. Set-up: The arenas will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in Appendix 3 and described in this section. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility. (Effective 1 January 2014)

Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high. ~~Panels shall not be closer than 9' to any fence.~~ Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8' - 12' panels may be used. (Effective 1 January 2014)

Change From:

3.12.5 Course E Arena

a. Set-up: The arenas will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in Appendix 3 and described in this section. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility. (Effective 1 January 2014)

Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high. Panels shall not be closer than 9' to any fence. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8' - 12' panels may be used.

Change To:

3.12.5 Course E Arena

a. Set-up: The arenas will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in Appendix 3 and described in this section. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility. (Effective 1 January 2014)

Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high. ~~Panels shall not be closer than 9' to any fence.~~ Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8' - 12' panels may be used.

Change From:

3.12.6 Course F Arena

a. Set-up The arenas will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in Appendix 3 and described in this section. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility. (Effective 1 January 2014)

Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high. Panels shall not be closer than 9' to any fence. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be 4' by 4'.

Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8' – 12' panels may be used.

Change To:

3.12.6 Course F Arena

a. Set-up The arenas will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in Appendix 3 and described in this section. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility. (Effective 1 January 2014)

Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high. ~~Panels shall not be closer than 9' to any fence.~~ Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be 4' by 4'.

Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8' – 12' panels may be used.

Rationale: This is a housekeeping correction. When setting up any of the three courses (D, E, or F), obstacle 3 will always be closer than 9' to the fence based on the percentage measurements listed in the rule book. This simply clarifies the openings and positions of the panels when setting up a Duck/Geese arena.

Judge Approvals

New ASCA Provisional Rally Judge Laurie Rubin

New ASCA Senior Breeder Judge Andrea Armstrong Bair

New ASCA Approved Breeder Judge Joyce Siddall

New ASCA Provisional Breeder Judge Susan Rossy

New ASCA Apprentice Agility Judge Kay Stimson

Committee Appointments

New ASCA Conformation Committee Member Sue Holtz

Disqualification of Dog

Crofter Holding's Rambler E164327 was disqualified by vote of the Board, in accordance with the ASCA Dog Aggression Rules.

Teleconference Meeting Minutes

The following are the minutes of the September 11, 2014, teleconference meeting of the ASCA Board of Directors. These minutes were submitted by the Executive Secretary and approved by the Board.

Attending: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice-president Preston Kissman, 2nd Vice-president Rick Hardin, Director Allison Bryant, Director Linda Gray, Director Cindy King, Director-elect Pete Dolan, Director-elect Jan Wesen, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Ken Silveira, Director Rick Gann, Director-elect Rachel Vest
There is a quorum, with 6 voting members of the Board present.

DeChant called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm Central Time.

Ratification of August Email Votes

Motion: Bryant

Second: Kissman

I make a motion to ratify all August email votes.

All present approve (Absent: Gann, Roberts, Silveira). Motion carries.

ASCA Rescue Grant

An Executive Committee to review rescue grant applications was formed at the last meeting of the Board, made up of Roberts, King, and DeChant. The committee has not met yet, so there is no report.

- Secretary Ken Silveira joined the meeting at 7:04 pm.

Junior Service Award

The Board discussed Junior Service Award nominees Mackenzie Mobley and Megan Churchill. The ASCA Junior Service Award recognizes and rewards ASCA juniors who exhibit good sportsmanship in competition and who serve the dog fancy and the Australian Shepherd in their National and/or local club and in their own community. Any junior who is a member of ASCA is eligible. Juniors do not have to be active exhibitors. Letters regarding the accomplishments and service of the junior must come from someone other than the junior and/or their family. Letters must describe how the junior has contributed to the dog community and cite specific examples of individual sportsmanship.

14.64 Board Motion: Junior Service Award: Mobley

Motion: Kissman

Second: Hardin

I make a motion to select Mackenzie Mobley for the Junior Service Award.

All present approve (Absent: Gann, Roberts). Motion carries.

14.65 Board Motion: Junior Service Award: Churchill

Motion: Silveira

Second: Hardin

I make a motion to select Megan Churchill for the Junior Service Award.

All present approve (Absent: Gann, Roberts). Motion carries.

In cases of exceptional service by more than one Junior, the award can be given to more than one recipient. This year, the award will be given to both Miss Mobley and Miss Churchill, to be presented at the 2014 ASCA National Specialty banquet.

Program Rule Changes

The Board discussed when any rule changes that affect the computer system would be halted. At the 2013 Spring Meeting the Board passed motion 13.13 Motion for Moratorium, which allowed the Board to put any motions that would change the computer program on hold until the new programming is complete. Since then, the Board has realized that the date set at the Spring Meeting was premature.

14.66 Board Motion: Program Rule Changes

Motion: DeChant

Second: Kissman

I move to set aside motion 13.13 Motion for Moratorium, which gave the Board the ability to halt program rule changes if they affected the computer system and was passed at the 2013 Spring Board Meeting. The time schedule for changes to the computer system has changed and the Board would like to allow changes up until the time that a software company is chosen and ready to work.

All present approved (Absent: Gann, Roberts). Motion carries.

- Director-elect Rachel Vest joined the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Junior Scholarship and Booster Committee

King is working with member Brandon Smith to develop a Junior Scholarship and Booster Committee for year-end awards that would benefit juniors competing in showmanship and performance programs. King will check with ASCA's counsel to see if this falls under the umbrella of the ASCA Foundation. Collaboration with the Junior Committee has been suggested.

Disqualification of Dog

The Board discussed a letter from a member regarding her dog's mistaken disqualification. A judge disqualified the dog for a "Dudley nose", but the dog did not actually have the disqualifying feature. When the judge was informed of this mistake the disqualification was changed to an excusal, since the class was already over. No disqualification paperwork was received by the Office and the dog was not disqualified.

- Treasurer Jean Roberts joined the meeting at 7:34 pm.

Complaint against Conformation Judge

The Board discussed a complaint made against an ASCA Breeder Judge. DeChant was assigned investigation and reported on her findings to the Board. There was a family relation between the judge and a handler. The judge excused the handler from the ring to avoid a conflict of interest, but the handler was confused and wrote to the Board for resolution. The judge was doing her best to follow ASCA's rules and it is DeChant's recommendation that this complaint be dismissed.

14.67 Board Motion: Dismiss Conformation Complaint

Motion: DeChant

Second: Hardin

I move to dismiss the complaint filed by an ASCA member against an ASCA judge.

All present approve (Absent: Gann). Motion carries.

DeChant will work with the Executive Secretary to inform involved parties.

Complaint against Affiliates

The Board briefly discussed a complaint made by against two ASCA Affiliates. King is assigned to investigate. This complaint is being handled according to the ASCA Dispute Rules and the process is currently underway.

Electronic Document Backup

The Executive Secretary has been in contact with Kristin Horowitz and the Office to arrange a time for the files in the Office to be electronically scanned for backup. Updates will go to the Board as they occur.

Reduction in Finals Fees

The Board discussed lowering the cost for Finals entries. This topic will be added to the agenda for the Nationals Board Meeting.

Disbursement of Finals Funds

The Executive Secretary will find out if Texas has been sent the money for Finals from the Office yet.

ASCA Brochure

Gray has sent out several working photos that the Board may choose their favorites from. The top photos will be sent to the Webmaster to use in the ASCA Brochure. The Board also directs that the wording in the "Stockdog" section to be changed to what was proposed. The Board will have final approval over the brochure.

Process for Payment to Host Club

The Board discussed outlining a process for disbursing funds to the host club of ASCA's Finals. A consistent process needs to be detailed to be placed in the National Specialty Rules. Silveira has agreed to work on this, with help from Dolan.

Draft Premium for 2015 Nationals

The Board has received the draft premium for the 2015 ASCA Nationals. Dolan has provided a checklist to review the premium. The Board has 30 days from receipt to respond to the host club.

September Motions

The Board discussed several motions currently before the Board in September's voting cycle.

87:19 Conformation: Update to Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements

The Board discussed comments for and against the motion and went over their opinions on it. Some of the requirements were felt to go too far and some were impossible for the Office to track. Several Directors felt that the requirements for moving from Non-Regular to Provisional, from Provisional to Approved, and from Approved to Senior need to be changed before the acceptance into Non-Regular. Concerns were also expressed about the lack of an obvious majority support on the Conformation Committee. Other Directors felt that these changes are necessary updates and long overdue. The Board went on to discuss possible changes to requirements for other registry judges, such as only allowing AKC herding breed judges to be approved for use in ASCA conformation.

- Bryant left the meeting at 8:30 pm.

04:05 Agility: Elimination of Veteran Handler Division

The Board discussed comments for and against the motion and went over their opinions on it. Several Directors felt that the Veteran program should be for the dogs earning the titles, not the people handling them. Those handlers who wish to compete with extra time and lower jump heights, because of their own restrictions, may do so in the ACE program. Agility is the only program that gives the dogs an easier criteria based on their handler. The Board discussed whether eliminating the Veteran Handler Division would violate the Americans with Disabilities Act. Removal of this division would not limit participation in ASCA agility for any disabled competitors. Other Directors felt that there were simpler ways to handle this perceived problem than eliminating the division entirely.

98:15 Obedience: Finals Handler Letter and Briefing

The Board discussed whether the requirements of this motion were doable. If the motion is voted down, it will be sent back to the committee to better outline the process for these letters to go out.

98:15 Obedience: Finals Alternates

The Board discussed concerns over the details of this process. It was felt that some confusion may arise if more than one person is assigned to handle. If the motion is voted down, it will be sent back to the committee for clarification.

06:05 Rally: Clarification of Communication in Masters Rally Classes

The Board discussed the effective date of this motion. They would prefer that rule changes that affect Finals points not be changed mid-year. The Board would like this motion to be sent back to the committee so they may change the effective date.

14.60 Committee Procedures: Change Section 3, Delete Section 5

Several Directors expressed concerns with various parts of this motion. The use of the word "must" concerned some and others felt the intent of the motion needed to be clearer.

Board Directive to SDC Regarding Definition of "Task"

The Stockdog Committee was tasked with clearing up the definition of "task" in the current Stockdog Committee Rulebook, Chapter 11 Farm Trial Program. The committee returned to the Board with a 5-4 opinion that: "A task is any required elements that make up the complete Farm Trial. Those elements are the gather, chute work, sorting, pen work, and additional elements determined by the club and approved by the SDC. Each task has a designated point score:

Gather-20 points, Chute-20 points, Sort-25 points, Pen Work-25 points, and 2 additional tasks worth 20 points each.

Each required task must be attempted during the course of the Farm Trial."

14.68 Board Motion: Clarification of Stockdog Rule 11.6.5

Motion: Kissman

Second: DeChant

I make a motion that the Board supports the majority position of the Stockdog Committee in clarifying Stockdog Rule 11.6.5. If at least one of the parts of a task receives a score greater than zero, the run would qualify if the total score is 70% or greater. If one of the parts receives a score greater than zero, then the task has received a score greater than zero.

All present approve (Absent: Bryant, Gann). Motion carries.

Review of August Financial Reports

Roberts reported on ASCA's financials from January 2014 through August 2014. Net income is \$136,633.83. There is currently \$215,327.06 in the checking account, \$339,837.72 in the savings account, and \$100.00 in the wire account. ASCA's total assets come in at \$786,456.36. Roberts will work with our Bookkeeper to produce a financial report to be published for the membership.

Motion: Kissman

Second: King

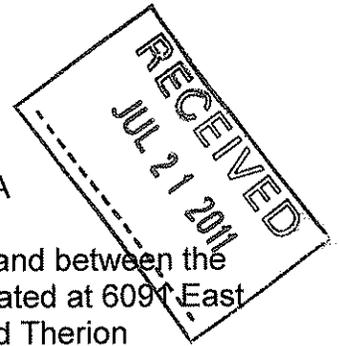
I make a motion to approve the financial report from January 2014 to August 2014.

All present approved (Absent: Bryant, Gann). Motion carries.

At 9:15 pm all present (Absent: Bryant, Gann) approved adjournment of the meeting.

This report is respectfully submitted by Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
Between
THERION INTERNATIONAL, LLC
And
THE AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA



This Agreement is made and entered into this 15th day of July, 2011 by and between the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) with its principal office located at 6091 East State Highway 21, Bryan, Texas (hereinafter referred to as "ASCA") and Therion International, LLC with its principal office located at 109 Caroline Street, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866 (hereinafter referred to as "Therion").

Whereas, ASCA is a single breed registry of a breed of dog known as Australian Shepherd and wishes to enhance its registry and accuracy of breeding and lineage by the use of DNA genotyping; and

Whereas, Therion is in the business of providing reliable and accurate DNA-based testing services of canines including Sire/Dam verification and animal identification; and

Whereas, ASCA and Therion also recognize the contribution that service and research laboratories have made and will continue to make to the animal industry, and further recognizes the importance of DNA typing to the total well-being, the future growth and the continued respect of the Australian Shepherd breed of dog. Both ASCA and Therion also acknowledge the contribution that DNA genotyping can make to the integrity of registry records and proposes its support by providing DNA genotyping, genetic defects and desirable traits testing and research services in keeping with the terms set forth in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and consideration contained therein ASCA and Therion agree as follows:

I. Term. This agreement commences September 1, 2011 and continues through September 1, 2014, and will be renewed each year unless terminated at any time upon one year's notice, in writing, by either party.

II. Charges: The fees for the various services provided by Therion to ASCA and its members are listed in Schedule "A" attached hereto and made a part of this Agreement. The fees shall remain fixed for the initial year of this agreement and shall be mutually agreed to annually by September 1 prior to each year thereafter.

III. Services. Therion agrees to provide the following services to ASCA and its members:

1. Determine the DNA genotypes of tissue samples submitted for identification and parentage (sire/dam) verification determination using ASCA's agreed upon internationally recognized set of public domain canine microsatellite markers ("Markers"). Such agreed upon Markers may also be under consideration by the International Society for Animal Genetics (the International Set of Markers pro tempore).

2. In the event the Markers are insufficient to resolve a specific case, Therion shall then in consultation with ASCA use additional available, public domain markers to resolve the case.
3. Maintain the records of the results of DNA typing as determined from the Markers in the format approved by the International Society for Animal Genetics (ISAG) (the "DNA Records").
4. Therion agrees the DNA Records so maintained by Therion are the exclusive property of ASCA and further agrees to deliver all DNA Records to ASCA upon demand.
5. Upon request of ASCA, provide research capabilities in collaboration with other scientists affiliated with Universities and private institutions and organizations.
6. Provide a tissue storage facility for tissue samples submitted by ASCA or its members for a period of twenty (20) years. All such tissue samples agreed to are the exclusive property of ASCA and further agree to deliver all tissue samples stored to ASCA upon demand.
7. In the future cooperate with ASCA to create and develop genetic testing for desirable traits and genetic defects. Perform such testing for ASCA and its members for a mutually agreed cost, as those tests become available.
8. Report to ASCA at the end of each month the number of samples on which DNA typing were performed, the tissue stored, and owner as well as a complete database with monthly updates.
9. Respect ASCA's proprietary right to the DNA genotype and genetic trait data on each animal, with all reports made to ASCA and to no other party.
10. Therion will do its best to return sample results as soon as possible. Turn-around time for routine, viable samples will be within 21 days once 40 samples of each process are received.
12. E-mail a report to ASCA on DNA results within twenty one (21) working days of the date the 40 samples are received. If unforeseen issues occur additional time is required, Therion shall notify ASCA's Business Office prior to the expiration of the 21 day period and inform ASCA as to when the results will be available.
13. Therion may provide ASCA an online, electronic data retrieval system which may be implemented in lieu of e-mailing.
14. Present an annual report, on September 1st of each year, to ASCA Board of Directors detailing the work performed under this Agreement and new development in DNA testing of canines. The report will also include number of samples tested by breed, special problems encountered, update on research and new procedures.
15. Therion shall also actively participate in an ASCA/Therion DNA discussion list to answer inquiries and inform ASCA's DNA Committee of technical and processing/procedural issues facing Therion in performing services under this Agreement.

16. Therion will notify the Business Office of any dog being DNA certified when it is checked against the database for previously DNA'd offspring and found the offspring need to be upgraded to DNA-VP. Parents and offspring will be required to be profiled by Therion. Therion will e-mail the upgraded DNA profile(s) to the Business Office. Therion will notify the Business Office if the previous offspring are profiled by ImmGen or the German lab but will not certify their results.

IV. ASCA's Responsibilities:

1. Provide the materials (including collection cards or blood tubes or brush swabs and forms) agreed upon by Therion and ASCA for the collection of samples.

2. Provide instructions to ASCA members to assure samples and required documentation, including appropriate forms will be submitted to Therion in the agreed upon manner.

3. Assure the ASCA Business Office is the sole communication conduit between ASCA and Therion.

V. Miscellaneous Matters:

1. Confidentiality. - It is understood in the performance of this Agreement, ASCA and Therion may have access to certain personal canine, technical and business information which the furnishing party considers proprietary (hereinafter "Confidential Information"). Confidential Information shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following types of information:

- (i) All dog specific information as to heredity, pedigree and ownership data of ASCA and its members;
- (ii) All information of Therion with ASCA has access to and knows or has reason to know that Therion considers proprietary;
- (iii) The DNA Records, Tissue Samples and Reports which are the property of ASCA; and
- (iv) Additional information of any party to this Agreement that is disclosed to the other party or parties in written form and marked "Confidential", or is disclosed orally and the disclosing party sends a written summary of such information to the receiving party or parties within fifteen (15) days of disclosure and marks such summary "Confidential".

Each party agrees to exercise its best efforts to prevent and protect Confidential Information from disclosure to any person other than its own employees, contractors and processors and agrees to take reasonable steps to insure that those individuals who have access to Confidential Information are made aware of these confidentiality provisions and do not disclose such Confidential Information or otherwise violate this provision. All tangible items embodying Confidential Information, including copies or partial copies, shall remain the property of the disclosing party and must be returned to the disclosing party or its designee or destroyed upon the termination or expiration of this Agreement or the earlier request of the disclosing party.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned, Confidential Information shall not include information that

- (i) Is generally available to the public at the time it is provided;
- (ii) Was available to the receiving party on a non-confidential basis prior to such Confidential Information being provided or
- (iii) Is independently developed without reference to such Confidential Information.

Confidential Information need no longer be treated as such after it becomes generally available to the public (other than as a result of disclosure directly or indirectly by the receiving party or its agents) or after it becomes available from a source (other than a party to the Agreement) that to the receiving party's knowledge (after due inquiry) is not bound by a confidentiality agreement with a party to this Agreement and is not otherwise under an obligation not to transmit such information to the receiving party. If a party is required (by deposition, interrogatories, subpoena, or any other process employed in connection with a judicial, investigatory or administrative proceeding) to disclose any Confidential Information, that party will give the other parties to this Agreement prompt notice of any such requirement so that such other party may seek an appropriate protective order or other remedy to assure that the Confidential Information will be accorded confidential treatment. No party to this Agreement will oppose such an appropriate protective order or other remedy.

If an appropriate protective order is not obtained in a timely manner, compliance with such requirement shall not constitute a breach of this Agreement. Nothing herein shall prevent disclosure of Confidential Information if such disclosure is required by an administrative or judicial order.

Each party acknowledges the disclosing party will be irreparably harmed if any of the disclosing party's Confidential Information is disclosed by the receiving party to third parties or used by the receiving party except as contemplated hereunder, agrees that any remedy at law would be inadequate in the event of a breach or threatened breach of this Agreement, and agrees that the disclosing party shall be entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, in addition to money damages or any other remedies, in the event of breach or threatened breach of these provisions.

2. Notices. - All notices required by or relating to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent to the parties to this agreement at their address set forth below unless changed from time to time, in which event each party shall so notify the other in writing of such change. All such notices shall be given by registered mail, return receipt requested, and the effective date of such notice shall be deemed to be the date upon which it is received.

ASCA: Australian Shepherd Club of America.
6091 East State Highway 21
Bryan, Texas 77808-9652
Telephone (979) 778-1082
Facsimile (979) 778-1898
E-Mail manager@asca.org

Therion: Therion International, LLC
109 Caroline Street
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866
Telephone (518) 584-4300
Facsimile (518) 584-2310
E-Mail Theriondna@gmail.com

3. Termination for Cause. - If any party shall be in default of any of its respective obligations under this Agreement and the non-defaulting party gives written notice thereof, and if any such default is not remedied within sixty (60) days after said notice of default is given, then the non-defaulting party shall have the right to cancel this Agreement immediately by written notice.

4. Indemnification. - Therion shall and hereby agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless ASCA, its directors, officers, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, losses, damages, causes of action, suits, judgments, contractual indemnity obligations and liability of every kind, including all expenses of litigation, court costs and attorney's fees for, or by reason of any injury to or death of any person or persons, or for damage to any property, arising out of, or resulting from

- (i) The acts and/or omissions of Therion, or
- (ii) Infringement of United States patent, copyright, or trademark or any claimed infringement of any intellectual property rights of third parties, in connection with DNA services performed by Therion for ASCA.

ASCA shall give written notice of any such claim, demand or action to Therion and accord to Therion the sole control and direction of the defense thereof and reasonably consent to any settlement of such claim, provided that such settlement does not admit any wrong doing on the part of ASCA. ASCA shall give Therion full assistance (at Therion's expense) for defense of the same.

ASCA hereby waives, releases and agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Therion, its present and former partners, principals, members and employees from and against any liability, damages, costs, expenses and fees associated with any third-party claim arising from or relating to ASCA's sole act or omissions or the misuse DNA-Records. ASCA shall give written notice of any such claim, demand or action to Therion and accord to ASCA the sole control and direction of the defense thereof and reasonably consent to any settlement of such claim, provided that such settlement does not admit any wrong doing on the part of Therion. Therion shall give ASCA full assistance (at ASCA's expense) for the defense of the same.

5. Assignment. - This Agreement may not be assigned or transferred by any party in whole or in part, either voluntarily or by operation of law, without the prior written consent of the other party, except as part of a transfer of substantially the entire business of the party.

6. Disputes. - All disputes, except as may be specifically provided in this Agreement, concerning this Agreement or related fees that cannot be resolved by mutual agreement shall first be submitted to voluntary mediation in Saratoga Springs, New York, USA. A mediator shall be selected by agreement of the parties, or if the parties cannot agree, the American Arbitration Association shall appoint a mediator acceptable to the parties. The mediation will proceed in accordance with the customary practice of mediation.

7. Severability. - If any provision of this Agreement is held to be unenforceable, such decision shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions.

8. Independent Contractor. - In performing any services to be provided herein, Therion is an independent contractor and is not to be considered agents or employees of ASCA for any purpose.

9. Modifications. - This Agreement may not be modified in any way except by a written instrument signed by a duly authorized representative of each of the parties.

10. Choice of Law. - This Agreement is made under and shall be construed according to the laws of the State of New York.

In Witness Whereof ASCA and Therion have signed and sealed this Agreement by their duly authorized officers on the date first above written.

Australian Shepherd Club of America

By: 
Peter Dolan

Its: President Date: 07/15/11

Therion International, LLC

By: 
Will Gergits

Its: Manager Date: 18 July 2011

Schedule A – Itemized Fees for Services

*M. Ad
18 July 2011
F. Therion*

In order to compute fee schedules for Therion's Services it has been assumed that:

1. A set of 10 - 12 microsattellites will be run,
2. Therion will receive blood samples collected on FTA cards, whole blood or brush swabs,
3. ASCA estimates approximately 2,000 samples annually,
4. Therion will bill ASCA at the same time the results are sent to the Business Office. Payment is net due.

Fee Schedule:

- 1) Routine Registry test for identity and parentage verification - \$32 per blood/FTA sample
- 2) Routine Registry test for identity and parentage verification - \$34 per brush sample
- 3) Routine Registry test for identity and parentage verification - \$75 for semen and tissue samples tissue, other than blood/FTA/swabs, (i.e. teeth, tail docks, exhumed flesh.
- 4) Extended marker test – assumes a set of 10 additional microsattellites will be run - \$50 per sample.
- 5) Certagen Registry updates - \$10 per dog.
- 6) Genotype Profile reconstruction from existing related genotypes - \$100 per dog.
- 7) Fees for record storage, analyses and consultations - \$1,000 monthly billed on the 28th of each month.
- 8) No annual fees to store FTA cards or blood samples except costs to purchase additional dedicated fireproof file boxes or lockable refrigerators when needed – market value.