April 2005 Secretary’s Report

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

April 1 – 30, 2005

01:10 AUSSIE TIMES - 50th
Motion by Gray, seconded by Bryant.

I move to have an oval with "50th Anniversary" written inside the oval on the cover of every 2007 issue of the Aussie Times. Oval not to exceed 2.5 inches long and 1 inch high.


93:19 BOARD POLICIES –
Motion by Bryant, seconded by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the attached version of the Board Policy Book as the most current one.

Comment: This version has been reformatted to make the section numbering consistent. It also has a table of contents added. There were no actual changes to any policies though.


93:19 BOARD POLICIES – Handbook
Motion by Bryant, seconded by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the attached version of the Board Handbook as the current one.

Comment: I have reformatted the board handbook making the numbering more consistent. I added a table of contents as well. No changes were made to made to the actual content.


99:10 TRACKING COMMITTEE - Motion 5-05
Motion by Gray.
I move to approve the following from the Tracking Committee.

This motion, 5-05 has passed the committee. Here is the motion and the vote tally.

Voting in favor of this motion: Craig Bohren, Anne Hershey, Ralph Swingle, Jane Palmer, Susan Schroeder, Deb St. Jacques, and Celeste Kelly. Not voting: Nancy Boetcher.

Motion 5-05.

I, Anne Hershey move, and seconded by Ralph Swingle, that the ASCA Tracking Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 1.18. Drawing for Entries and Alternates List, paragraph #6, be revised to include the following language in the sentences describing priorities for TD Test entry:

"priority in the draw for test entry shall be given in the following order:

1. non-titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds
2. non-titled dogs with ASCA tracking numbers
3. TD titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds
4. TD titled dogs with ASCA tracking numbers

and for TDX Test entry:

1. ASCA registered Australian Shepherds with ASCA TD titles, which have not earned ASCA TDX titles
2. other dogs with ASCA TD titles, which have not earned ASCA TDX titles
3. ASCA registered Australian Shepherds with ASCA TDX titles
4. other dogs with ASCA TDX titles

and also that this priority order be published in the premium list for the test.

Chapter 1, Section 1.18, paragraph #6 currently states:

"The drawing shall be at random from all entries received, except that for a Tracking Test/TD, priority shall be given to non-titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds, then dogs with an ASCA Tracking Dog title if the test has not been filled with non-titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds. For a Tracking Test/TDX, preference shall be given to ASCA registered Australian Shepherds which have not earned the Tracking Dog Excellent title."

The revised paragraph will state:

"The drawing shall be at random from all entries received, except that for a Tracking Dog (TD) Test, priority in the draw for test entry shall be given in the following order:

1. to non-titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds,
2. to non-titled dogs with ASCA tracking numbers,
3. to TD titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds
4. to TD titled dogs with ASCA tracking numbers

These priorities for the draw order shall be published in the premium list for the Tracking Dog (TD) Test.

For a Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) tests, priority in the draw for test entry shall be given in the following order:

1. to ASCA registered Australian Shepherds with ASCA TD titles, which have not earned the Tracking Dog Excellent title.
2. to other dogs with ASCA TD titles, which have not earned the Tracking Dog Excellent title.
3. to ASCA registered Australian Shepherds with ASCA TDX title
4. to other dogs with ASCA TDX title

These priorities for the draw order shall be published in the premium list for the Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test.

Background discussion:

The present regulation does not specify the order of preference in the draw for TD Test entry, or for TDX Test entry, for dogs with ASCA tracking numbers. It is the sense of the ASCA Tracking Committee that ASCA tracking numbers should be required as prerequisites for ASCA tracking test entry. This proposed revision offers a priority sequence that includes dogs with ASCA tracking numbers while maintaining the current policy of giving first preference to untitled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds.

Second preference is given to untitled dogs with ASCA tracking numbers.

Titled dogs are given last preference.

ASCA TD titles are prerequisites for ASCA TDX test entry. Dogs with TD titles already will have obtained ASCA tracking numbers.


01:13 HARDSHIP/LEP COMMITTEE & 93:19 BOARD POLICIES

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Aufox.

I move to change the board policy book as follows:

Section 18.6 LEP Registration for ARPH
Change the sentence:
"By request of ARPH, ASCA will honor free LEP registration to ARPH adopted dogs as done in the past."

To read:
"By request of ARPH, ASCA will honor free LEP registration to ARPH adopted dogs. When applying for LEP, the owner must include proof that the dog was adopted through ARPH (such as a copy of the adoption agreement.) Should the dog be approved for LEP registration, the LEP fee will be waived. Adoption through ARPH in no way guarantees that the dog will automatically receive an LEP registration number from ASCA."


99:10 TRACKING COMMITTEE - Site Req.
Motion by Gray.
I move to approve the following recommendation from the Tracking committee.

Recommendation to the ASCA BOD of Directors: The ASCA Tracking Committee recommends that the following informational document be added as a .pdf file to the Tracking section of the ASCA website, along with the files for the Test Secretary’s check list and the set of instructions for constructing tracking test flags.

Field Needs

• 1. Good and timely relations with the landowner are critically important for each test. Good introductions, descriptions of a tracking test, insurance coverage, signed waivers, exact time of use, invitation to the event, clean fields after the trial, thank-you notes and thank-you gifts, all help the landowner give approval.

• 2. Try to get land use permits a year in advance. Keep in touch with landowner during the year to monitor possible changes in land use that could affect the number of tracks. (Example: late snow, mud, fertilizing, construction, ownership changes, hunting regulations changes, new fencing). Consider contracting for use of the fields for the following test at the end each event.

• 3. Identify sites well in advance (a year is not uncommon) and determine if the area can hold the number and types of tracks required.

• 4. The judges must be provided with maps (or provisions must be made for a site visit by the judge’s) well in advance of the test (one year is suggested). If maps of the area are not submitted to the judges with adequate time for review before the sanctioning papers are mailed, the number of tracks posted in the premium of the test cannot be guaranteed. If for unforeseen circumstances the fields must be changed after the premium is published, the judges for the test must be contacted to approve
a field change.
Maps for the judge’s must include:
a) Scale of distance indicated on the map;
b) locations of all buildings, fences, obstructions such as paved and unpaved roads, streams, rivers and wooded areas,
c) changes of elevations and contours.

• 5. Check on fenced fields. Are there gates for entrance and exit to get judges and tracklayers safely into and out of the field? Is there enough space for a legal track if you only have one gate?

Field Requirements for the TD...........
Roughly 5 to 7 acres of OPEN land (farm land, land reserve, desert) for each TD depending on access to the tracks.

The ASCA Tracking Regulations require that the TD test track must consist of the following:
A length of 440-500 yards... Having 3-5 turns going both left and right... Have each leg separated by at least 50 yards... Be at least 75 yards from any other track... Must be 15 yards from any boundary... No obstacles...
For example: 2 smaller fields separated entirely by a wood’s line or a fence would NOT work.

Field Requirements for the TDX...........
Roughly 22-27 acres open land (similar to TD) for each track, including areas with obstacles (eg. woods, gullies, fences) as required. Ease of access for tracklayers, crosstracks, and use of obstacles will determine the total area needed for each track.

The ASCA Tracking Regulations require that the TDX test track must consist of the following:
A length of 800-1000 yards... Having 5-7 turns both right and left... Be a minimum of 75 yards from any other track... Have each leg separated by at least 50 yards... Have at least two obstacles (walls, roads, woods, etc.)... Go over varied terrain... Two sets of crosstracks.

Discussion: This document establishes guidelines for tracking test committees to use in choosing and securing test sites that be suitable for tracking test. The document is not controversial among the ASCA Tracking Committee members.

The results of voting on the MOTION, submitted by Celeste Kelly and seconded by Nola Ventura and Jane Palmer, to add the .pdf file of Tracking Test Site Requirements to the Tracking Section of the ASCA website has carried unanimously among the committee members who voted on it. In favor were: Anne Hershey, Celeste Kelly, Ralph Swingle, Jane Palmer, Martha Ho, Susan Schroeder, Deb St. Jacques, and Nola Ventura. Not voting were: Craig Bohren, Nancy Garcia, Joan Armstrong, and Paula Diggins

99:10 TRACKING COMMITTEE - Rev. 6-05
Motion by Gray.
I move to approve the following from the Tracking Committee:

I, Anne Hershey, move, and seconded by Ralph Swingle, that the following new paragraph be inserted in Chapter 1, Section 1.18, "Drawing for Entries and Alternates List," after the present paragraph #6:

When a versatility competition is offered in conjunction with a tracking test, the order of draw shall be:

1. Untitled (in Tracking) ASCA registered Australian Shepherds
2. Titled ASCA registered Aussies who are entered in the versatility competition
3. Untitled dogs with ASCA tracking numbers
4. Titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds
5. Titled dogs with ASCA tracking numbers

Discussion: If adopted, this regulation would give previously titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherds an opportunity to use their tracking skills to obtain versatility points.


Approved:
New Affiliate Clubs
CENTRAL OREGON ASA
COLUMBIA RIVER ASC
Breeder Judges
ASCA Non-Regular Breeder Judge
Amy Burnette, 1108 Pink Goss Rd., Woodstock, GA 30188
Cheryl Padgett, 1050 Bart Manous Rd., Canton, GA 30115
ASCA Senior Breeder Judge
Lynn Hamon, 3327 53rd St., San Diego, CA 92105 Judge #987