



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.®

PO Box 3790
Bryan, TX 77805-3790
www.asca.org

(979) 778-1082
FAX (979) 778-1898
asca@tca.net

Secretary's Report

July 1-31, 2000

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

90:38 AGILITY COMMITTEE--Weave Poles

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, second by Toft

I move to accept the following recommendation from the Agility Committee:

AgC: 00-7 (Weave Poles). Moved by Carol Maslansky and seconded by Annelise Allan (Committee vote 9 yes, 4 no): The Agility Committee recommends to the Board that the first sentence of Section 2 of Appendix A be deleted and that the words "Weave poles shall be..." of the second sentence of Section 2 of Appendix A be deleted and replaced by the words "Weave Poles shall be of rigid construction, ..." (this sentence then will read: "Weave Poles shall be of rigid construction, no less than 20" from the center of one pole to the center of the next pole and no more than 21" from center to center."), and that notice of this change be published in the Aussie Times and that these changes be included in the January 1, 2001 edition of the Agility Rulebook.

Committee's comment: The intent of the current ASCA rules for competition is that Weave Poles be of rigid construction (not poles that move from side to side, or bases built that allow the poles to sway from side to side). The revisions proposed by the Committee are simply clarification in the wording to make the intent of the rule explicit. NADAC has already made this clarification of wording in its rulebook.

Voting:

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

Non-voting: Hawley

Motion is approved

91:07 ASCA BUSINESS OFFICE--Computer Project Team/Team Leader

Motion by Warren, second by Gray

I move to add Aaron Beasecker to the Computer Project Team as liaison between the business office and the ACSI developers; review project milestones; ensure that all contractual obligations meet our standards; provide updates to the ASCA Board and the rest of the project team. All expenses will be reimbursed per ASCA Board policy for travel and directors reimbursements.

Comments: Aaron has volunteered his time for this job. He is a project leader for large development efforts; experienced in Visual Basic; has experience with C; experience in building web-based applications and database back-ends. This job will more than likely require that Aaron spend time in Bryan during the upgrade.

Voting:

Approve: Gray, Hawley, Martin, Rossy, Toft, Trumbull-Clark, Tubbs, Warren ;Non-voting: Berryessa

Motion is approved

97:14 DNA COMMITTEE---DNA Artificial Fertilization/Propagation

Motion by Gray, second by Warren

I move to accept the following from the DNA Committee:

Added to the Registry Rules. Effective date: 30 days after publication in the Times:

ASCA DNA Artificial Fertilization/Propagation Rule:

Rule: All dogs and bitches used in the propagation of litters or individual dogs through any artificial means other than artificial insemination with fresh semen and including but not limited to artificial insemination with chilled or frozen semen, in vitro fertilization, cloning, and/or utilization of surrogate dams and all progeny produced through such means must be DNA verified through the ASCA DNA program prior to issuance of individual registration papers by the ASCA registry office. Artificial insemination and in vitro procedures include but may not be limited to frozen or chilled semen/sperm and/or ova. 1,2,3

1: Although certain forms of artificial fertilization/propagation are currently uncommon in canids, ASCA recognizes the potential of such occurrences in the future and has therefore expanded its policy in anticipation of potential future breeding practices.

2: Nothing in this rule shall be considered to supercede any ASCA rule, policy or regulation which specifically disallows one or more methods of artificial reproduction.

3: This rule must abide by all applicable state, local and federal laws within the United States as well as international laws with which the United States has agreed to abide.

Comments: Current ASCA registry rules require that the sire, dam and any progeny produced through artificial insemination by utilizing frozen semen must be DNAed. This policy was instituted due to the known risks associated with potential mismatches during the sample handling process. With this acknowledgment, consistent application of this policy should also be expanded to other means of artificial reproduction that are now or may someday be possible.

Motion by CA Sharp 6/2/00, second by Peter Adolphson 6/2/00

Voting:

In favor: Susan, Pete, Kris, CA, Ann, Chris, Laura, Sally, Kim, Joan, George

Non-voting: Peter

Board voting:

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

Disapprove: Hawley, Martin, Tubbs

Motion is approved

97:14 DNA Dispute Resolution Rule

Motion by Gray, second by Warren

I move to accept the following from the DNA Committee:

Effective date: 30 days after publication in the Times.

Motion: I move the following be inserted into the current DNA Dispute Resolution Rule after #7 in both the ASCA Initiated Procedure and the Protest Initiated Procedure.

8. When the investigation has been concluded, if changes in the pedigree are required to reflect the correct relationships, whether the change results in an "unknown" parentage or a newly identified parent(s), these changes will be published prominently in the next issue of the Aussie Times for which the publication deadline can be met. The ASCA Business Office Manager will place the following announcement in the Times within the first third of the publication beginning at the top of the page:

Title: [18 point font, minimum] "ASCA Registration/Pedigree Correction Announcement"

Text: [14 point font, minimum] "A DNA parental investigation was conducted involving the below listed dogs. The investigation resulted in the discovery of a registration error. Due to this discovery, these dogs will have their registration papers corrected to reflect their true relationship in order to ensure the integrity of the ASCA registry."

Listing of Corrected Pedigrees: In not less than 10 point font, the listing will include, but is not limited to:

- A. Originally registered parents with registration numbers, B. Correct parents with registration numbers (including "unknown" if applicable)
- C. Date(s) of birth of all litters which have been affected by the error.
- D. Names of all registered progeny affected with registration numbers.
- E. Name(s) of current owner(s) of the dogs with changed pedigrees.
- F. Name(s) of the breeder(s) of record and stud owner(s), where different.

Footnote [14 point font minimum]: "Please contact the ASCA Business Office if you have questions concerning these changes."

Comment: It is important that ASCA inform its members when a pedigree has been corrected, because the correction has the potential to affect the future decision-making efforts of both breeders and competitors. It is also important that ASCA maintain a public record of the correction for documentation purposes. The purpose of this motion is to address these issues. Although not specifically mentioned within this proposed rule amendment, inclusion of corrected pedigree information on the ASCA web site may also be prudent.

Motion by CA Sharp, second by George Johnson

Voting:

In favor: Kris, CA, Pete A., Kim, Ann, Susan, Laura, George, Joan, Chris, Sally

Non-voting: Peter H.

Board voting:

Approve: Berryessa, Gray, Hawley, Martin, Rossy, Toft, Tubbs, Warren

Non-voting: Trumbull-Clark

Motion is approved

96:17 JR. SHOWMANSHIP--Rules

Motions (3) by Toft, second by Trumbull-Clark

I move to accept the following criteria for an award to replace the former "Above and Beyond Award" that the Junior Committee used to sponsor and award. These rules shall be included in the Junior Showmanship rulebook in the section titled "Year End Awards" following the paragraph currently under this heading.

ASCA Junior Service Award

Purpose: 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.

Eligibility: 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.

Awards: The ASCA Board of Directors or a committee appointed by the Board shall collect and review all letters. One Junior will be chosen, based on the criteria set forth, to receive this award at the ASCA National Specialty banquet. The chosen letter will be read at the banquet in honor of the recipient. Additional awards may be given in the case of exceptional service by more than one Junior.

Comments: All letters of nomination shall be submitted to the ASCA Executive Secretary no later than October 1, 2000 (this date will vary from year to year).

Voting:

Approve: Rossy, Toft, Trumbull-Clark, Warren

Disapprove: Berryessa, Gray, Martin
Non-voting: Hawley, Tubbs
Motion is approved

I move to appoint Kristin McNamara to head a committee to accept and review nominating letters for this award for 2000. This committee will consist of Kristin and two other former Juniors and after the closing date for submission will choose a winner and submit their recommendation to the Board for approval.

Comments: Kris has already volunteered to help out in this capacity and has two people who will assist her.

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

I move that a limit of \$50 be placed on the purchase price of the award for 2000.

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

All of the above motions will become effective thirty (30) days after printing in the Aussie Times.

MISCELLANEOUS--Purina letter

Motion by Toft, second by Warren

I move to send the following letter to Today's Breeder magazine in response to erroneous information published in their last issue.

Dear Editor,

We are writing to correct an error in issue 33 of Today's Breeder magazine. The Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc., an independent breed club and registry, instituted the first canine DNA verification system in the United States effective April 1, 1994.

ASCA is proud of this leadership role in the dog world and continues to develop the applications for this technology to safeguard the integrity of the ASCA Registry.

Sincerely,
ASCA Board of Directors

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

MISSION STATEMENT

Motion by Warren, second by Martin

I move to accept the following mission statement:

The Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc. in an effort to achieve the goals stated in the Bylaws, declares the following to be a Mission Statement for the Club:

The Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc. is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the responsible breeding and registering of purebred ASCA Australian Shepherds and to do all in its power to bring their natural qualities to perfection.

The Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc. is dedicated to the preservation of the Australian Shepherd as an intelligent working dog of strong herding and guardian instincts. The Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc. strives to maintain its independent breed club registry and to lead in the adoption of technological developments to protect the integrity of the registry. Innovative programs showcasing the breed and providing expanded opportunities for competition are part of ASCA's service to the breed.

Through education ASCA will promote an atmosphere of good sportsmanship, volunteerism and responsibility for the breed and the breed image to the public. Using only the highest standards, ASCA's registry, performance and recognition programs will strive, through ASCA competition and participation, to showcase the versatility of the ASCA Australian Shepherd.

The Australian Shepherd Club of America, Inc. serves its members and affiliated clubs through its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors' duty to ASCA is an active protectionist role regarding the future of the breed, the registry and the club and to preserve the ASCA Australian Shepherd as defined in the current Breed Standard.

Comments: A mission statement is necessary to define what ASCA is, represents, does and what it strives to accomplish. The mission statement should serve as a guide to planning, board and staff decisions-making, volunteer initiatives and setting priorities among competing demands. The Board should assess program activities against the mission to ensure that the organization is not drifting away from its original purposes.

To my knowledge ASCA has never had a written mission statement. It seems to me that with every major change in boards we can get divergence of goals and priorities change. In order for all boards to remain focused on what ASCA is, what ASCA represents and what ASCA does this should be written down and adopted.

Voting:

Approve: Berryessa, Gray, Martin, Rossy, Warren

Disapprove: Toft, Trumbull-Clark

Non-voting: Hawley, Tubbs

Motion is approved

LETTERS OF DISSENT

>From Kris Toft:

I disapprove this motion for the following reasons.

1. The Bylaws of the club are the ultimate guiding document the Directors are bound to uphold. They clearly state in Article II, Section 1A that a purpose of ASCA is "To encourage and promote the breeding of purebred Australian Shepherds..." The wording of this Mission Statement restricts us to only promoting the breeding of ASCA Australian Shepherds. This is a clear inconsistency with the ASCA Bylaws.

2. This Mission Statement, as worded, excludes Australian Shepherds and their owners if the dogs do not have ASCA papers. I believe this is not only harmful to ASCA, but to the breed. Many of those people might register with ASCA or join ASCA if ASCA portrayed a more inviting attitude. ASCA will die without new people. I do not believe an exclusionary attitude is in ASCA's best interest.

>From Kyle Trumbull-Clark:

I disapprove this motion due to the wording in the second sentence which reads in part: "...dedicated to promoting the responsible breeding and registering of purebred ASCA Australian Shepherds...". The defining word in this paragraph is "promoting" - it states what ASCA will do, which is to "promote". I disapprove specifically to the inclusion of "ASCA" which will exclude ASCA from "promoting the responsible breeding" of any Australian Shepherd which is not registered with ASCA.

ASCA's Mission Statement should show the "big picture" of our goals for the future. ASCA's past, present or future relations with other organizations should have no impact or validity when we are considering our stated goals for our breed, club and registry. By minimizing the larger picture of "promoting the responsible breeding" of our breed to just ASCA Australian Shepherds, we do the breed as a whole a great disservice. We need to expand our role and take into account the "bigger

picture" for the future safety of the breed and promote responsible breeding to anyone with an Aussie, no matter the registered or even non-registered status of the dog.

There is already widespread ignorance among Aussie owners who are breeding or are considering breeding their dogs in regard to such things as the lethal white gene, hip dysplasia, hearing and eye problems and other genetic disorders. By accepting the proposed wording, ASCA removes the ability to send any informational material which promotes good, responsible breeding practices to those who may need it most. By limiting the education of any Aussie owner, we may be losing future members. We may also be neglecting those with poor breeding practices who could benefit from our educational efforts. ASCA should be the leader in caring for the breed as a whole, not just ASCA registered dogs.

Fellow Directors have misconstrued the meaning of "promoting the responsible breeding" to mean "controlling" or "being responsible for" responsible breeding. That is not what is being proposed in this part of the motion. What is being proposed is "promotion" which is not "controlling" or "being responsible for". No one can control or be responsible for an owner's choices for breeding their dog whether it be an ASCA registered dog, a dog registered with another organization, or an un-registered dog. But, ASCA BOULD PROMOTE good breeding practices to all, but not if we accept what is being proposed.

If the second paragraph is accepted by the Board, why is the third paragraph not in line with the second? The third paragraph does not limit the preservation of the breed's working instinct to just ASCA Australian Shepherds. Therefore, we do not have cohesiveness throughout the proposed document.

The proposed Mission Statement can not be reconciled with the wording put forth in our Bylaws Article II "Objectives", Section 1 "Objectives and Purposes", A., which states: "To encourage and promote the breeding of purebred Australian Shpehrds and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection." The ASCA Bylaws do not limit the encouragement and promotion to only ASCA Australian Shepherds, it is open ended to include all Australian Shepherds.

For the above reasons I therefore vote to disapprove this motion and request that this letter of dissent be included in the Minutes.

--Kyle Trumbull-Clark

APPROVED: Bylaws changes for CASA

Contract by ACSI to upgrade Business Office computers
Purchase of copier for ASCA Business Office
Bruce Caldwell as ASCA Non-Regular Breeder Judge
Sharon Hanson as ASCA Non-Regular Judge (Other Person)
Shelly Hollen as ASCA Non-Regular Breeder Judge

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

REGISTRY	MEMBERSHIP	SHOW/STOCK
Ind 570	New-Single 69	Sanc. Rec'd 32
NFB 44	New-Dual 12	Sanc. Proc'd 26
Litter 257	New-Foreign 1	Sanc. Pend 11
Trans 106	New-Canadian 1	Results Rec'd 36
Lease 6	Renew-Single 205	Results Proc'd 28
LEP 5	Renew-Dual 60	Results Pend 13
Dups 20	Renew-Foreign 3	S & T Sub. 19
Hardship 16	Renew-Canadian 11	Certificates 407
Pedigree 75	Jr Times 6	
New Ken 9	Aff. Rnw 0	
Rnw Ken 6		
Judge Apps 4	SHOWS HELD	
Email 1207	Conf/Obed shows 51	
DNA Kits 45	Stock 19	
DNA Tests 49	Ranch 2	
	Agility 10	

Tracking 0

Kris Toft, Secretary