

January 2017 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. This report is respectfully submitted by Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.

New ASCA Judges

Senior Breeder Judge Peter Hellmeister (California)

Senior Breeder Judge Joyce Siddall (Colorado)

Approved Agility Judge Jeff Hayes (Texas)

Board Email Motions

BD.17.01 2016 Host Club Reimbursement (Revised)

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Kissman, Roberts, Silveira, Vest

Oppose: None

Abstain: Wesen

Motion carries.

Motion by Wesen

I, Jan Wesen as Treasurer make the following motion. I move to reimburse the 2016 National Specialty Host Club \$3992.70, as reimbursement for 2016 Finals costs.

Total actual expense for Finals minus income \$45,237.00 minus the amount received from ASCA for Finals \$41,244.30 = \$3,992.70

Reimbursement will come from the Finals account.

Effective Date: Upon approval of the ASCA Board of Directors.

Rationale: This will complete reimbursement for the 2016 National Specialty and close out the financials between the 2016 Host Club and ASCA.

BD.17.03 Obedience Committee Mission Statement

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Vest

Second by Wesen

We motion to approve the ASCA Obedience Committee's Mission Statement as provided by the Committee:

Mission Statement: To maintain a highly regarded competitive obedience program that encourages human-canine teamwork and showcases the Australian Shepherd's natural intelligence.

Comment: The Mission Statement will be displayed at the top of the Obedience Committee information on the ASCA website. The Mission Statement will also be added to the top of page 1 of the Obedience Rulebook at the next printing date.

Effective Date: Upon approval of the ASCA Board of Directors.

BD.17.04 Publishing Names of New ASCA Judges

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by DeChant

Second by Roberts

I move that ASCA provide space in the Aussie Times and the ASCA Website to publish a list of new judges for all programs. Their names will be published in every issue and remain on the Website for 1 year from the time they are approved by the Board of Directors. The ASCA Office will add judges at time of their approval and remove them after their year is up. Sections will be created so that it is clear what level and what program they are qualified to judge.

Effective Date: Upon approval of the ASCA Board of Directors.

Rationale: Publishing the names of new ASCA judges for one year will bring to the attention of the Membership and the Affiliate Clubs the names of new Judges who are beginning their journey through the process to becoming seasoned and experienced judges. This is being done to help new judges to obtain assignments in a manner that is approved by ASCA. Solicitation for assignments is not allowed in ASCA's Rules for any judge of all ASCA Programs. The ASCA Board would like to see these Judges get off on the right foot.

BD.17.05 Conformation Committee Mission Statement

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, King, Kissman, Roberts, Silveira, Vest, Wesen

Oppose: None

Abstain: Gray

Motion carries.

Motion by Vest

Second by DeChant

We motion to approve the ASCA Conformation Committee's Mission Statement as provided by the Committee:

Mission Statement: The Australian Shepherd Club of America's Conformation Committee exists to promote good sportsmanship and the welfare of the Australian Shepherd. Our focus is adherence to the Breed Standard and the rules governing conformation shows, as provided by the parent club.

Comment: The Mission Statement will be displayed at the top of the Conformation Committee information on the ASCA website. The Mission Statement will also be added to the top of page 1 of the Conformation Rulebook at the next printing date.

Effective Date: Upon approval of the ASCA Board of Directors.

BD.17.06 History Committee Mission Statement

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, Gray, Kissman, Vest, Wesen

Oppose: King, Roberts, Silveira

Abstain: None

Motion carries.

Comment from Roberts: The last sentence does not belong in a mission statement.

Comment from Silveira: As discussed during the discussion period, I asked the word protect be removed as that it not a Committee function. I also asked to have one of the Committee's duties removed from their Mission Statement, i.e. recommending a Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

Motion by DeChant

Second by Vest

I move to approve the Mission Statement approved by the History Committee:

Mission Statement: The Mission of the History Committee is to preserve, protect and document the heritage of ASCA and the Australian Shepherd. The Committee is also responsible for the recommendation of the ASCA Lifetime Achievement Award recipient each year.

Comment: The Mission Statement will be displayed at the top of the History Committee information on the ASCA website.

Effective Date: Upon approval of the ASCA Board of Directors.

Committee Recommendations

Rally Committee

RA.17.01 Timeframe for Completing Rally Judge Application Process

Approve: Gibson, Gray, King, Kissman, Roberts, Silveira, Vest, Wesen

Oppose: DeChant

Abstain: None

Motion carries.

Comment from DeChant: I don't think we need to limit the time for the judge to complete the process.

Motion by Wesen

I move to accept this motion from Rally Committee.

Effective Date: June 1, 2017

Motion by Karen Black

Second by Corinne Shanks

I move to establish a length of time allowed for Rally Judge Applicants to complete the application process and to correct the wording for how to get the link for the online judges' seminar.

Rationale & Effect: We currently have applications from people who want to become ASCA Rally Judges that are dated 2 years ago, or more. Establishing a period of time for completing the application process

will help streamline the process, which will benefit the prospective judge, the affiliates, and the exhibitors.

The current rulebook has incorrect instructions for how to access the online judges' seminar, so it needs to be corrected.

Prospective judges will be affected because they will have to complete sections of the application process in a timely manner. Rally Course Reviewers will be affected because they will have to complete reviews and turn them around in a timely manner. The Business Office will be affected because they will need to let the Rally Committee know when applications are received, send out the open-book test, score the open-book test and get it turned back around if it wasn't 100% accurate, all in a timely manner so as not to delay the process.

Business Office approved on 11/29/2016.

Results of the committee vote:

Approve: Unanimous

Comment from Leah Swatko: It is reasonable to set a realistic timeline for applicants to move through the procedure of becoming an ASCA Rally Judge. Leaving it as it was, open ended, did not result in all applicants following through on the path towards accreditation. It also left unfinished applications on the agenda of the office and the Rally Committee.

PROPOSED WORDING

Section 1: Licensed Rally and Obedience Judge Qualification Requirements

15.1.3 Application Process

- a. Applicants must be at least 21 years old.
- b. Submit an application to the ASCA Business office. Upon verification of qualifications, the applicant will be sent an Open Book test and a request for a complete set of Rally courses (one for each level).
- c. Pass with 100% the ASCA Rally Open Book Test. The test may be retaken until all questions have been answered correctly.
- d. Submit a complete set of courses (one for each level) and have them approved. A completed ASCA Rally Course Checklist (available on the ASCA website) must be submitted with the courses.
- e. Complete the Judges Education Seminar, available free online at <http://www.asca.org>, or submit proof of attendance at a live Judges Education Seminar within the preceding 12 months. To get the link for the online seminar please contact the ASCA Business Office or the ASCA Rally Committee Chair.
- f. Once all steps above are completed within the timeframe outlined in 15.1.4, the ASCA Business Office will forward the applicant's information to the Board of Directors for approval.

15.1.4 Timeframe for Completing the Application Process

Rally judge applicants will have six months to complete steps b. through e. outlined above in the application process. The time clock will start when the application is received in the Business Office. It is recommended the set of course maps be submitted for review within the first two months of the application process. There is no minimum length of time to complete the process, only that all steps must be completed within six months of the date the Business Office receives the application. Applicants must wait one year to reapply if sections b. though e. are not completed in the six-months timeframe.

Section 2: Other Person Rally Judge Qualification Requirements

15.2.2 Application Process

- a. Applicants must be at least 21 years old.

- b. Submit an application to the ASCA Business office. Upon verification of qualifications, the applicant will be sent an Open Book test and a request for a complete set of Rally courses (one for each level). Include with your application ~~e. Show proof of completion of four ASCA Rally stewarding assignments, at least two of which are serving as Table Steward for all classes at a Trial, signed and dated by the Judge(s) for whom they you stewarded. The other two stewarding assignments must include time split between acting as a timing steward, and gate steward.~~
- ~~e. Show proof of completion of four ASCA Rally stewarding assignments, at least two of which are serving as Table Steward for all classes at a Trial, signed and dated by the Judge(s) for whom they stewarded. The other two stewarding assignments must include time split between acting as a timing steward, and gate steward.~~
- c. Pass with 100% the ASCA Rally Open Book Test. The test may be retaken until all questions have been answered correctly.
- d. Submit a complete set of courses (one for each level) and have them approved. A completed ASCA Rally Course Checklist (available on the ASCA website) must be submitted with the courses.
- e. Complete the Judges Education Seminar, available free online at <http://www.asca.org>, or submit proof of attendance at a live Judges Education Seminar within the preceding 12 months. To get the link for the online seminar please contact the ASCA Business Office or the ASCA Rally Committee Chair.
- f. Once items a- b. through e. above are completed and approved, the applicant must complete the Apprentice Judge requirements, below. The timeframes for completing steps b. through f. and the Apprentice Judging are found below in section 15.2.4.
- g. Upon completion of all steps above, the ASCA Business Office will forward the applicant's information to the Board of Directors for approval.

15.2.4 Timeframe for Completing the Application Process

Rally judge applicants who enter the program as an Other Person, will have six months to complete steps b. through e. outlined above in the application process. The time clock will start when the application is received in the Business Office. It is recommended the set of course maps be submitted for review within the first two months of the application process. Applicants will be allowed an additional twelve months, if needed, from the time they complete steps b. through e., to finish their Apprentice Judge requirements. There is no minimum length of time to complete the process, only that steps b. through e. be completed within six months of the date the Business Office receives the application and the apprentice judging be completed within twelve months following the timely completion of steps b. through e.

Applicants must wait one year to reapply if sections b. through e. are not completed in the six-months timeframe and if the Apprentice judging is not completed within twelve months of the timely completion of steps b. through e.

CURRENT WORDING

There currently is no wording in the Rally Rulebook regarding a timeframe for completing the process.

15.1.3 Application Process

- a. Applicants must be at least 21 years old.
- b. Submit an application to the ASCA Business office. Upon verification of qualifications, the applicant will be sent an Open Book test and a request for a complete set of Rally courses (one for each level).
- c. Pass with 100% the ASCA Rally Open Book Test. The test may be retaken until all questions have been answered correctly.

- d. Submit a complete set of courses (one for each level) and have them approved. A completed ASCA Rally Course Checklist (available on the ASCA website) must be submitted with the courses.
- e. Complete the Judges Education Seminar, available free online at <http://www.asca.org>, or submit proof of attendance at a live Judges Education Seminar within the preceding 12 months.

15.2.2 Application Process

- a. All applicants must be at least 21 years old.
- b. Submit an application to the ASCA Business office. Upon verification of the qualifications, the applicant will be sent an Open Book test and a request for a complete set of Rally courses (one for each level).
- c. Show proof of completion of four ASCA Rally stewarding assignments, at least two of which are serving as Table Steward for all classes at a Trial, signed and dated by the Judge(s) for whom they stewarded. The other two stewarding assignments must include time split between acting as a timing steward, and gate steward.
- d. Pass with 100% the ASCA Rally Open Book Test. The test may be retaken until all questions have been answered correctly.
- e. Submit a complete set of courses (one for each level) and have them approved. A completed ASCA Rally Course Checklist (available on the ASCA website) must be submitted with the courses.
- f. Complete the Judges Education Seminar, available free online at <http://www.asca.org>, or submit proof of attendance at a live Judges Education Seminar within the preceding 12 months.
- g. Once items a through e above are completed and approved, the applicant must complete the Apprentice Judge requirements, below.
- h. Upon completion of all steps above, the ASCA Business Office will forward the applicant's information to the Board of Directors for approval.

RA.17.02 Change to 17.3.1.f. Defining "Significantly Different"

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Wesen

I move to accept this motion from Rally Committee.

Effective Date: June 1, 2017

Motion by Karen Black

Second by Heidi Iverson

I move to specify what differences and changes must be made between the Excellent and Masters courses to ensure those two levels of courses used at the same trial will be "significantly different" as required by the ASCA Rally Rulebook at sanctioned ASCA Rally trials.

Rationale & Effect: The purpose of this motion is to clearly describe the steps necessary to create courses for Masters and Excellent that meet the criteria for being significantly different.

Judges will be affected because they will have guidelines to ensure their Masters and Excellent courses are significantly different. Course reviewers will be affected because they will be required to make sure the guidelines ensuring Masters and Excellent courses are significantly different are followed.

Results of the committee vote:

Approve: 8

Oppose: 0
Abstain: 0
Non-voting: 5

PROPOSED WORDING

17.3 Design Requirements

17.3.1 General Requirements

- a. Safety and flow are required on all courses.
- b. The distribution of stations should balance the area given for the ring. L patterns or other patterns that leave large blocks of ring space empty do not meet this requirement.
- c. Sign icons and station numbers shall appear on the map in the order the exercises are to be performed.
- d. Courses at all levels will have 16 to 19 stations with enough star stations for the course to have a starting value of 200 points.
- e. Courses must be designed in a manner that dogs of any size and handlers with mobility aids can perform the stations with adequate space to do so.
- f. There should be significant differences in the signs used for Excellent and Masters; both to provide course variety and to prevent a distinct advantage for exhibitors competing in both classes over exhibitors competing in only one level. At a minimum, to reach the level of significantly different, any excellent level signs used on the Masters course (except for the jump exercise), must be moved to a different location on the course or replaced with a different exercise. If a stay exercise is used on the Excellent course, it must be different than the one used on the Masters course. The Jump exercise may remain in the same location, however moving the jump to a different location on the Excellent course further increases the difference between the Masters and Excellent courses. Switching out other signs to make the two courses even more different is strongly encouraged. (Effective June 2017)
- g. Courses should be designed and laid out in a way that all teams, even those whose handlers miss the walk through, have a reasonable chance of qualifying.
- h. Sign selection should be made so that courses are challenging but fair at all levels.
- i. The selection of signs should demonstrate a variety of behaviors and provide an opportunity for teams to demonstrate teamwork and proficiency.

CURRENT WORDING

17.3 Design Requirements

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- f. There should be significant differences in the signs used for Excellent and Masters; both to provide course variety and to prevent a distinct advantage for exhibitors competing in both classes over exhibitors competing in only one level.
- g. Courses should be designed and laid out in a way that all teams, even those whose handlers miss the walk through, have a reasonable chance of qualifying.

- h. Sign selection should be made so that courses are challenging but fair at all levels.
- i. The selection of signs should demonstrate a variety of behaviors and provide an opportunity for teams to demonstrate teamwork and proficiency.

Board Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2017

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray, Director Preston Kissman, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: None

There is a quorum with 9 voting members of the Board present.

- *Gibson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm Central Time.*

Items in Executive Session:

There were three items that were discussed in Executive Session below. The times are marked for when ES was entered and exited. There was no disciplinary action taken.

Ratification of December Email Votes

BD.17.08 Ratify December BOD Email Votes

Motion by DeChant to ratify the email votes for December. Second by Wesen.

Approve: Unanimous; *motion carries.*

December Treasurer's Report

Wesen gave the report. Ending balance for period ending December 31, 2016, is \$153,655.03. Finals account balance is \$39,161.97, following reimbursement to the 2016 Host Club.

BD.17.09 December Treasurer's Report

Motion by Vest to accept the Treasurer's report as read. Second by Gray.

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Kissman, Roberts, Silveira, Vest; Oppose: 0; Abstain: Wesen; *motion carries.*

System Upgrade

Vest gave the report. The contract with FrogSlayer was terminated on December 20, 2016, and we are working with them to complete the remainder of the project. FrogSlayer will be conducting an audit of the entire project, which will be presented to Fryar, Gibson, and Vest in a meeting. This requires us to retain ADMS for a little longer, until the project and transfer has been completed. FrogSlayer sent us an SOW to continue the additional work, but at this point in time we are not inclined to do any other updates until we allow the website to operate for six months unchanged. We will retain the maintenance agreement with FrogSlayer, which is only for the cloud server and related maintenance.

- *The Board was in Executive Session from 6:25 – 6:34 pm to discuss a complaint against a judge. No disciplinary action was taken.*

Junior Judge Approval

King will bring several issues to the Junior Committee for solution, such as the creation of an application and test for those wishing to become Junior Showmanship Judges.

Definition of Positions/Contact with Judges

DeChant and Silveira will have a motion for the February voting cycle. They have defined positions such as Show Secretary, Show Chair, and Show Coordinator, and designated the Show Secretary as the point of contact for judges.

Barn Hunt/Nose Work

The Board would like to conduct a membership survey to determine interest and solicit feedback on the best way to move forward with these new activities.

Nationals Site Survey

Gibson presented a list of Nationals site suggestions from the membership survey. The Board went through the list and eliminated those sites that were obviously not suited for our purposes.

Director's Handbook

The Board would like to clean up the Director's Handbook and add as an addendum to the Policy Book. Gibson, Roberts, DeChant, and Jaco will schedule a conference call to work on this and report back for the February Board meeting.

Code of Personal Conduct Revisions

The Board received a suggested revision to the Code of Personal Conduct which was placed in all program rulebooks in 2016. The revision is considered housekeeping, and Jaco will make the changes to the program rulebooks.

Code of Personal Conduct

According to ASCA's By-Laws, one of the objectives and purposes of the Club is to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the Australian Shepherd as a purebred dog and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at ~~dog shows, working and obedience trials, tracking tests/trials and~~ all ASCA sanctioned or sponsored shows, trials and tests as well as at any other event where Australian Shepherds participate. Contestants, event workers, judges, and visitors are expected to maintain a family-oriented, sportsmanlike atmosphere. Judges and workers are expected to exhibit professionalism and courtesy. Competitors are expected to conduct themselves at the highest level of sportsmanship.

- *The Board was in Executive Session from 6:56 – 7:00 pm to approve Counsel's retainer for 2017.*

2017 Animal Planet Puppy Bowl

There will be an Australian Shepherd puppy featured in the 2017 Puppy Bowl on the Animal Planet television channel during the 2017 Super Bowl. The puppy is mostly white, as well as deaf and blind. The Board discussed concerns about possible backlash or misguided public interest in white Aussies.

Committee Goals and Function

ASCA's committees were given the task of choosing three goals to focus their work on for the year. Those goals are all that the committees will work on, unless assigned additional work by the Board.

The Board discussed adding language to the Committee Procedures regarding committee member conduct, as well as a process for dealing with unprofessional behavior.

- *The Board was in Executive Session from 7:25 – 7:45 pm to deliberate on a complaint appeal. No action was taken.*
- *The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.*

January 19, 2017

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray, Director Preston Kissman, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Treasurer Jan Wesen (unable to connect due to technical issues with GoToMeeting)

There is a quorum with 8 voting members of the Board present.

The Board met in Executive Session from 6:00 – 6:03 pm Central Time to delay decision on a complaint appeal until February, approved by vote.

- *The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 pm.*