

## **October 2004 Secretary's Report**

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

### **October 1 - 31, 2004**

#### **96:17 JR. SHOWMANSHIP - Page 9**

Motion by Berryessa.

I move that the following motion from the Junior Committee be accepted.

Donna Armstrong made the motion, Kathy Remington made the second I move to: move the section on page 9 titled "Junior Handling Classes" to go between section "Ownership" and "Points".

AND

on Page 8, Section I, section #8, sentence #3 change the word "form" to "from" to read "They may also learn FROM books..." and delete the word "by" and change the word "observing" to "observe so that sentences reads "and observe judging at..."

AND

on Page 12, Section named "Judging Rules & Regulations", Definition & Purpose, 1st Sentence add "regular and" to read "Junior Showmanship classes are regular and non-regular classes..." and in this same section move the heading "Eligible to Judge" (pg 12) to be the 1st heading under "Judging Rules & Regulations"

These changes are to go into the next printing of the rule book and be effect immediately. These changes have no effect on the rules.

The vote was unanimous with 11 yes votes and 1 absent.

The yes votes were Melissa Boarde, Myste Havens, Claire Gustafson, Becky Noe, Carol Power, Kathy Remington, Sherrie Scott, Kalla Jaco, Leslie Creelman, and Katherine Peed. Absent was Cindy King.

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

#### **96:17 JR. SHOWMANSHIP - Purpose**

Motion by Berryessa.

I move to accept the following motion from the Junior Committee, to become effect Jan 1st 2005 (note to the BOD: the passing date of Dec 8, 2003 is due to the earlier committee decision to not send any motions onto the BOD until the entire Junior rulebook had been gone over, but they recently voted to start sending these motions on to the BOD now).

Dec 8, 2003

It has been moved by Claire Gustafson and seconded by Donna Armstrong that we approve the first section of the Junior Rules as follows below.

These ASCA Junior Program Rules are intended to organize the Junior Program, and to establish uniform requirements for the judging and exhibiting of Junior Handlers for the Australian Shepherd Club of America. Whenever a Junior is competing in any of ASCA'S programs, the competitor agrees to abide by all rules and regulations as defined by that program's rulebook as well as the rules and regulations as defined in these ASCA Junior Program Rules.

The purpose of the ASCA Junior Program is to encourage Juniors to become involved with their Australian Shepherds. Because the future of the breed, and the future of ASCA rests in the hands of these juniors, the program exists to allow them to learn about, and become familiar with, all aspects of the breed and the areas of competition available through ASCA. The ASCA Junior program seeks to instill in these, tomorrow's breeders, competitors and judges, the following concepts:

- Pride in the ownership and training responsibilities that go with Australian Shepherds; Appropriate and humane methods of training and handling dogs;
- Patience and perseverance when working with dogs;
- A good work ethic, or in other words, that "hard work pays off";
- Discipline in working to achieve goals, especially those related to accomplishments in the ASCA Junior Program;
- Good sportsmanship, and the sense of accomplishment that goes with winning on a level playing field;
- Pride in competing with a dog whose training has been largely impacted by the junior;

These are opportunities to forge life-long friendships with your competitors.

The ASCA Junior Program, and all its associated areas of competition are intended as amateur-level competitions. In other words, juniors participating in these classes are expected to be doing so as a learning experience, and as such, they should refrain from soliciting or accepting payment or other compensation for training, grooming, or handling services for the duration of their junior career.

<next section in italics>

Special Note to Parents and Mentors:

The parents and mentors of today's junior handlers are essential to the successful participation of juniors in the ASCA Junior Program. They are the guiding force that teaches tomorrow's breeders and exhibitors about ethics and good sportsmanship, and they heavily influence the choices juniors make in these areas. Parents and mentors should do their utmost to ensure that juniors participate in the program in the spirit in which it was designed.

Because juniors sometimes live or train with parents or mentors who have well-trained, even top-winning dogs themselves, parents and mentors are strongly cautioned to

ensure that the dogs used to compete in the ASCA Junior Program have in fact received the majority of their training by the junior.  
<end italics>

ASCA offers year-end recognition to Juniors excelling in Junior Handling, Obedience, Tracking, Agility, and Stockdog Trials; and to encourage these future breeders' interest in the Australian Shepherd as a Versatile dog, ASCA offers a plane ticket or gas money to the National Specialty for the top All Around Junior.

The reader should be aware that throughout the Rules are examples of how the Rules function. These examples are well marked, and will appear as such:

<this section to appear in a different type face or font>  
EXAMPLE: The explanation of the information pertaining to the referenced subject.  
<end the different font>

These examples are to be used only as a tool to help the reader better understand the section that it refers to. Under no circumstances should the reader be lead to believe that the examples are based on real people or events.

Cindy King - I vote yes to the revisions with this comment **Comment:** I think the section from "Junior Program seeks to instill ... Junior Program have in fact received the majority of their training by the junior." should be included in the guidelines rather than the rule book intro. Thanks, Cindy

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

#### **96:17 JR. SHOWMANSHIP - A, B & C.**

Motion by Berryessa.

I move to accept the following 3 motions from the Junior Committee.

There are 3 motions here. Please discuss & vote A, B & C separately.  
Section II A, B & C Motions & Amendment were made by Donna Armstrong and seconded by Claire Gustafson on Sept. 27, 2004. The amendment was only to add the disposition and placement of the motion.

#### **A. ASCA-Sanctioned Junior Program Events Defined**

ASCA-sanctioned Junior Program Events are held in conjunction with ASCA-sanctioned dog shows, obedience, agility and stock dog trials. They are sanctioned by ASCA's regional affiliate clubs, and offer juniors the opportunity to compete against each other for placements and awards. These events are also the venue in which juniors earn points toward year-end awards in the different ASCA Junior Program Events offered.

#### **B. ASCA Junior Merit Program Defined**

The ASCA Junior Merit Program is an annual national merit program. Participants accumulate points based on their participation and success in ASCA-sanctioned Junior

Program events. For more details on the specific awards offered, and the criteria to win them, please refer to Section N "Year End Awards" of these rules.

### **C. Sportsmanship Defined**

Juniors should always demonstrate good sportsmanship when exhibiting in any and all ASCA events. (Conformation, Agility, Obedience, Herding, Tracking) Win or lose, good sportsmanship is always expected.

Good Sportsmanship includes:

- Congratulating the winner.
- Responsibility for your dog(s). (this includes grooming, training, feeding, and clean-up)
- Showing respect for fellow competitors and their dogs.
- Respecting the judge's decision

Bad Sportsmanship shall be considered as but not limited to

Any negative remarks heard at ringside or anywhere on the show grounds including your set-up, the parking lot about the judge or other competitors.

Mistreatment of a dog may be defined by (but not limited to) treating a dog harshly or with a heavy hand, or an over harsh correction. Being cruel to the dog because you lost.

Throwing ribbons or gifts on the table as they leave the ring, NOT to be mistaken as gently donating back the ribbon to the club.

Improper handling/ring procedures such as "up staging", crowding the handler in front of you, stepping on a dog or handler behind you or baiting dogs other than your own. This is not to be held against someone if age or skill is in question.

(amendment:)

This Section should go immediately after the Introduction. This information shall go into effect immediately because it has no bearing on the rules at this time.

Please delete Section IV - Sportsmanship on page 15 in the rulebook dated Jan. 2004

This motion passed unanimously by the committee. Donna A., Melissa B., Claire G., Becky N., Carol P., Kathy R., Sherrie S., Kalla J., and Leslie C. all voted Yes. Absent: Myste H., Cindy K. and Kathrine P.

I vote Yes on C with comments: (NOTE by Michelle: this comment is from Donna Armstrong - she would like an opinion from BOD members as to whether the Junior Committee should work on a way to make regulations setting a punishment for violations of the Sportsmanship rules)

Our committee would like to see Sportsmanship become a rule instead of a "definition". We also would like to would like to set and publish the punishment for this individual rule. At this time we have just made it a definition so juniors may see is in writing. We are aware that this has a potential to become a "he said, she said" type thing and don't want that either. We are looking to you for some guidance in this. Would you entertain this suggestion at all? Donna Armstrong

Directors voting:

A. Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

B. Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

C. Approve: Hellmeister, Warren, DeChant, Berryessa, Davenport, Gray, Hollen & Aufox. Disapprove: Stevens (Disapproved on the punishment rule for C.) Motion is approved.

### **99:10 TRACKING COMMITTEE**

Motion by Gray.

I move to approve the following motion from the Tracking Committee. Linda

I, Celeste Kelly, move, and seconded by Nola Ventura, that we accept the following to be added to the Tracking Rules and Regs:

Note on this motion: The committee previously sent a "code" motion to the board, and the board suggested some reworking. The tracking rules currently have no code of ethics for judges. There has not been much discussion in this period on this issue. I have included one comment below.

Issue 13: Code of ethics

Appendix 4

Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Tracking Judges

Judges shall be professional in their demeanor. They carry a tremendous responsibility. They function as a voice for ASCA and should represent the highest ideals in terms of honesty, integrity. A judge's actions must be above reproach.

It is essential that all exhibitors have complete faith in the impartiality of the judge.

The safety and concern of the dog and handler shall be of the foremost concern in the design of tracks.

Judges should be ever mindful that ASCA tracking trials are staffed largely or entirely by unpaid volunteers, and shall treat tracklayers, secretaries, and other trial personnel with courtesy and consideration.

Conduct

1. Although a judge cannot control who enters under him/her, the judge should advise potential exhibitors not to enter under him/her when he/she feels that there is a conflict of interest to avoid improprieties or perceived improprieties. Examples are:

- a. An employer
- b. A relative
- c. A person living in the same household.

2. When officiating at a trial:
  - a. A judge shall not judge any dog that is co-owned or bred by the judge.
  - b. A judge shall not place himself/herself in positions on the track so as to indicate the correct direction of the track, nor place markers or articles so as to clearly indicate corners.
  - c. A judge shall not run his/her dog in the test. If judging a combined test, the judge may not exhibit in that portion of the test in which he/she is not judging.
  - d. A judge should avoid casual remarks that may be misinterpreted as favoritism or criticism.
  
3. A judge or their family should never solicit or promote assignments on the judges' behalf.

Failure to comply with these guidelines/code of ethics subjects a judge to possible disciplinary action by the ASCA Board of Directors, including the possible revocation of ASCA judging privileges. Judges will be notified if such action is being considered, the reason it is being considered, and given the opportunity to reply.

#### Outside Registry judges

Judging an ASCA tracking test is a privilege not a right. Having other registry credentials does not entitle one to become or remain an ASCA judge. Judges must follow the rules, regulations and code of ethics. Any documented failure to perform on this level may result in the revocation of judging privileges by the ASCA Board of Directors without regard to any other qualifications or former service. Removal or suspension of judging privileges in another registry relevant to tracking judging will mean removal or suspension from the ASCA tracking judges list until reinstatement with the outside registry.

Voting in favor of the motion are: Martha Ho, Nancy Garcia, Nola Ventura, Jane Palmer, Celeste Kelly, Wally O'Brien, Joan Armstrong, Ralph Swingle, Paula Diggins, Deb St. Jacques, and Craig Bohren. Voting opposed to the motion: Anne Hershey

#### Comments:

**Subject:** Re: Issue #13 Code, questions for Sue

Sue, I felt strongly that some of the rules regarding conduct needed to be reinforced and/ or clarified. This is why I liked the Section for Conduct. I noticed that the Show rules have a separate section that has all the code and guidelines for judges separate from the other rules. I think this is helpful to judges and the committee.

It also seemed that some of the language in the regs is unclear.

For example, if you read, for example, Rand R, Chapter 2, Section 7, paragraph 2, Dogs that may not compete, I think it is unclear because of the "old English type" writing. Can you tell from that last sentence whom a judge can judge?

I've broken out the part of the Code below with comments about whether or not those parts are in the regs.

If you all feel that it is too repetitive and should not be in the Code, let me know and I will withdraw this section.

Also, look at paragraph 2 of Appendix 1. Should that be in the proposed Code, or should we leave it where it is?

(part of proposed Code)  
Conduct

1. Although a judge cannot control who enters under him/her, the judge should advise potential exhibitors not to enter under him/her when he/she feels that there is a conflict of interest to avoid improprieties or perceived improprieties. Examples are:
  2. a. An employer
  3. b. A relative
  4. c. A person living in the same household.

*This is in the regs.*

2. When officiating at a trial:

a.. A judge shall not judge any dog that is co-owned or bred by the judge.

*This is in the regs.*

b. A judge shall not place himself/herself in positions on the track so as to indicate the correct direction of the track, nor place markers or articles so as to clearly indicate corners.

*This makes this rule clearer than the regs.*

c. A judge shall not run his/her dog in the test. If judging a combined test, the judge may not exhibit in that portion of the test in which he/she is not judging.

*We have no language in the regs about a judge entering at a combined test.*

d. A judge should avoid casual remarks that may be misinterpreted as favoritism or criticism.

*This is in the regs.*

3. A judge or their family should never solicit or promote assignments on the judges' behalf.

*This is in the regs.*

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Thanks, Sue, for asking the question. Celeste

Directors voting: Approve: Warren, Stevens, DeChant, Davenport, Hellmeister, Gray, Hollen & Aufox. Non-Voting: Berryessa. Motion is approved.

### **93:19 BOARD POLICIES**

Motion by Gray, seconded by Davenport.

I move to add the following to the Policy Book:

#### **6.7.2 New Director Defined**

In the case of an ASCA jacket or briefcase, a "new Director" is defined as one coming onto the board for either their first time or after taking the required time off between elections.

Directors voting: Approve: Aufox, DeChant, Berryessa, Davenport, Hellmeister, Warren, Gray & Hollen. Disapprove: Stevens. Motion is approved.

### **93:19 BOARD POLICIES - ImmGen**

Motion by Gray, seconded by Berryessa.

I move to change "ImmGen" wherever it appears in our Policy Book, Registry Rules and/or other printed media as our DNA Lab to "ASCA's Approved DNA Lab."

Comment: By changing to just ASCA's Approved DNA Lab we won't have to change everything if we have to change Labs again.

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

### **04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Sec. 2.1.1.**

Motion by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the following recommendation from the Agility committee.

#### **1. Section 2.1.1 Applications**

Replace the 5th paragraph:

"Only one type of event may be held in each state or area (in those states divided into areas). A "type of event" is defined as Conformation or Obedience or Stockdog Trial or Tracking or Agility.

Same "type" of events would not be allowed to occur, such as more than one Conformation event per day per area.

- a. California is divided into three (3) areas: from the Mexican border north to the city of Ventura, from Ventura north to San Jose, and from San Jose north to Oregon. Nevada is divided into two (2) areas: From the southernmost border North to Highway 6, and North to the Oregon and Idaho borders.
- b. Alaska Affiliates may have more than one type of event per day from October 1 through March 30. "

With:

"An ASCA affiliate may not hold an ASCA sanctioned Agility trial within 200 miles of another ASCA sanctioned agility trial, on the same or overlapping dates, without written consent from the club who has first right to that date."

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2. Section 2.1.2 Trial Schedule: Insert the following paragraph before the first paragraph appearing in this section:

"Clubs may offer a maximum of 6 ASCA sanctioned classes per trial day in any combination they choose."

3. Section 7.2 Judges Responsibilities (note: this is the number assigned after the Chapter 6 motion passed) Append to the end of this section, the following paragraph:  
"Judges may not judge more than 350 runs per day. The number of runs per day shall be determined by dogs entered in the catalog."

Allison Bryant Moved & yes; Shelley Malan second & yes; Andrea Hoffmann – yes, Pam Smith – yes, Kristi Cetrulo – yes, Cynthia Clark – yes, Frank Butera – yes, Pete Dolan – yes, Sue Graham – yes, Ron Schumann – abstain

Directors voting: Approve: Aufox, Stevens, DeChant, Davenport, Hellmeister, Warren, Gray & Hollen. Non-Voting: Berryessa. Motion is approved.

#### **04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - CH. 8**

Motion by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the following recommendation of the Agility Committee.

Allison Bryant moved, Kristi Cetrulo Second

Voting was as follows: Yes – unanimous

The reasoning behind this motion is that there is already a board policy requiring this. However, it is not in the agility rulebook. We felt that it would be clearer for the competitors to put it in with the agility rules.

Chapter 8-Agility Finals, Section 2

Change item 1 to read:

Eligible dogs will be ASCA registered Australian Shepherds whose owners are ASCA members in good standing during the qualifying period for the finals as well as during the finals. The list of Agility Finals Qualifiers as defined below will be published in the Aussie Times. Those finalists will be invited to compete at the Agility Finals.

Appendix B -- Agility Merit Program

Change Item 5 to read:

Eligible dogs will be ASCA registered or LEP Australian Shepherds whose owners are current ASCA members in good standing during the qualifying period for the current merit program year.

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

**98:05 CONFORMATION COMMITTEE - Ch. 6**

Motion by Davenport.

I move the following motion from the Conformation Committee:

Motion by Liz with a second by Peter.

As reads now;

Ch 6 section 6.5

Prizes must be offered for outright award at a show for the following placings: First, Second, Third, Fourth in the Six to Nine Months, Nine to Twelve Months, Twelve to Eighteen Months, Novice, American Bred, Bred By Exhibitor and Open Classes, or in any division of these designated in the classification. First, Second, Third, Fourth in any non-regular class, which the show giving club, may offer. Winners, Reserve Winners, Best of Winners, Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex. Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex Puppy, Junior Showmanship.

To Read:

Ch 6, section 6.5

Ribbons and /or Rosettes must be offered for outright award at a show for the following placings: First, Second, Third, Fourth in the Six to Nine Months, Nine to Twelve Months, Twelve to Eighteen Months, Novice, American Bred, Bred By Exhibitor or Open Classes, or in any division of these designated in the classification. First, Second, Third, Fourth in any non-regular class which the show giving club may offer. Winners, Reserve Winners, Best of Winners, Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex, Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex Puppy, Junior Showmanship, Reserve Junior Showmanship. Additional prizes or trophies for the above placings are at the sole discretion of the show giving club.

For: Glenda, Liz, Rick, Margi, Peter. Against: Kim, Wendy S, Beth (I vote no.

Comment: Aside from the fact that the motion does not fix the grammatical errors in this rule, it changes, not clarifies, the intent. There is no current requirement for ribbons at a sanctioned Affiliate show.) Not voting; Mary, Denise, Wendy F.

Directors voting: Approve: Hellmeister & Hollen. Disapprove: Gray, Warren, Aufox & DeChant. Abstain: Stevens & Davenport. Non-Voting: Berryessa. Motion is defeated.

**Fw: 98:05 CONFORMATION COMMITTEE - Ch 6. Sec. 6.6**

Motion by Davenport.

I move the following Conformation Committee motion:

Motion by Liz with a second by Peter.

As reads now;

Ch 6, Section 6.6

Prizes for outright award may also be offered for: Best of Novice Classes, Best in Bred by Exhibitor Classes, Best in American Bred Classes. Best in Open Classes and Best in any additional classes, which the show giving club may offer, in which the sexes are divided.

To read;

Ch 6, Section 6.6

Ribbons and/or Rosettes for outright award may also be offered for: Best of Novice Classes, Best in Bred by Exhibitor Classes, Best in American Bred Classes, Best in Open Classes and Best in any additional classes which the show giving club may offer in which the sexes are divided.

Additional prizes or trophies for the above placings are at the sole discretion of the show giving club.

For: Glenda, Peter, Wendy F., Liz, Rick, Margi Against: Beth, Wendy S. Non-Voting; Mary, Denise, Kim

Directors voting: Approve: Hellmeister, Stevens Davenport, Warren, Hollen & Aufox. Disapprove: DeChant. Abstain: Gray. Non-Voting: Berryessa. Motion is approved.

**Approved:**

Kalla Jaco for the Above and Beyond Junior Service Award.

Becky Beckman from Provisional Judge to ASCA Stockdog Judge.

Maxine Schvaneveld from Apprentice to Provisional Stockdog Judge.

Respectfully submitted by.



Ann B. DeChant, Secretary

ASCA BUSINESS OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT –OCTOBER 2004					
REGISTRY SHOW/STOCK		MEMBERSHIP			
IND. REGS	433	NEW-Single	67	SANC. PROC	25
NON BREEDING	47	NEW - Dual	9	RESULTS PROC.	42
LITTERS	205	NEW-Foreign	3	S&T SUBSCRIP.	10
TRANSFER	75	NEW-Canadian	0	CERTIFICATES	464

LEASE	7	NEW - Service	150		
LEP	1	LIFETIME	0		
DUPLICATES	19	RENEW -Single	105		
HARDSHIPS	1	RENEW-Dual	34		
PEDIGREES	67	RENEW- Foreign	6		
NEW KENNELS	7	RENEW- Canadian	8		
RENEW KENNELS	4	JR TIMES	4		
		AFFIL. – New	1		
JUDGES APPS	7	AFFIL – Renew	0		
DNA KITS MAILED	390				
DNA TESTS DONE	69				
SHOWS HELD:					
# OF CONF	89				
#OF OBED	49				
#OF STOCK	41				
#OF RANCH	3				
#OF AGILITY	44				
#OF TRACKING	3				