February 2002

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.

February 1-28, 2002

98:15 OBEDIENCE COMMITTEE - sits and downs

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, Liaison to the Obedience Committee.

Below please find a recommendation from the Obedience Committee. Kyle Trumbull-Clark

The Obedience Committee proposes the following changes to the Obedience Rules to become effective 6-01-02:

Chapter 1, Section 2, paragraph 2.2 change sentence to read "Obedience Group Exercises shall be performed either first, before the individual exercises, or in groups of up to 12, as the individual exercises are completed, at the discretion of the host club, and so stated in the show/trial flyer or premium list."

Chapter 3, Novice, Section 12, first sentence is replaced with the above sentence. Second sentence is deleted.

Chapter 4, Open, Section 13, first sentence is replaced with the above sentence. Second sentence is deleted.

Chapter 8, Section 3, Grad Novice, add the above sentence to the end of the first paragraph.

Chapter 8, Section 7 Team Class, add the following sentence "Obedience Group Exercises shall be performed either first, before the individual exercises, or in groups of no more than four (4) teams as the individual exercises are completed, at the discretion of the host club, and so stated in the show/trial flyer or premium list."

Comment:

The Committee is responding to the problem we had at the Nationals where one obedience ring read the rules to read like AKC’s rules and like we had intended that you do the sits and downs as you go along. The other ring read the rules exactly as they are written and held the entire class until it was finished to do the sits and downs. Nancy Link

Motion by Link, seconded Case, approved by Bohren, Willems, Cox, White, Burlingame, Link, Case, Hamelin, Cyboron. Nonvoting: Swatko and Mann

Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.
94:01 SDC - Apprentice Judges Letter

Motion by Warren, Liaison to the Stockdog Committee.

I move to accept the following SDC recommendation. KW

Motion by Simmons seconded by Myrick

Letter to be sent out by the Business Office to ASCA Stockdog Judge's when working with an apprentice Judge.

Dear Stockdog Judge,

______________________has requested to Apprentice with you at the upcoming trial in ____________________that you will be judging on the _______________. If there is some reason you will be unable to work with the apprentice, such as having to leave directly after judging, please let us know in advance and we will notify the apprentice. This will be the Apprentice's ______ trial and he will by judging (with you, independent of you). This is a learning experience for the Apprentice. Please help him in any way you can. Things you should cover include:

1. How to use the scoresheet.
2. Discuss what you are looking for in each trial run and explain why you scored as you did.
3. Discuss training vs. natural ability and how to determine each.
4. Talk about the differences in the quality of stock (non-dog broke stock verse dog broke stock, course trained stock, temperament, age and condition of stock.) in a trial from one run to the next, with emphasis on how the dog handles them.
5. Point out handler's that are moving stock for their dog and show the apprentice how to watch for the tricks of the experienced handlers.
6. Visit with the Apprentice on things such as rating the stock vs. down and drift and how you score the same.
7. Go over the rules of trialing, such as handler's lines, attempts, run away lines. What to do if the handler is running the course backwards or gets lost out there.
8. What to look for and how to protect the stock. When to call time for lack of progress.
9. How to help and encourage new trialers and handlers.
10. What to discuss at the handlers meetings with contestants.
Approve: Bailie, Schvaneveldt, Robinson, Holmes, Myrick, Simmons, Baker, Walker, Harris, Mackenzie, Mahoney  Non-Voting: Walter, Sutherland

Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

93:17 STOCK DOG RULES - CH 4 Sec.10, Dogs in Arena

Motion by Warren, Liaison to the Stockdog Committee.

I move to accept the following SDC recommendation, effective June 1, 2002.KW

Motion by Simmons seconded by Walter

CH 4 Sec. 10 Dogs in Arena

Change CH 4 Sec. 10 to read:

No competing dogs will be allowed in the trial arena on the day of the trial except during their run. A non-competing dog may be used to work the stock only at the discretion of the Course Director and the Judge. The trial arena includes all areas where the dogs are competing in and all areas used for handling the trial livestock.

Comments:

I feel this rule should be used as the rule was originally intended. With the wording clarifications made the rule will be easier to understand and not left open to interpretations.

Approve: Schvaneveldt, Robinson, Holmes, Myrick, Simmons, Baker, Walker,

Walter Disapprove: Bailie, Harris, Mackenzie, Mahoney  Non-Voting: Sutherland

Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

97:14 DNA and Genetics Committee - Ballot question

Motion by Gray, Liaison to the DNA & Genetics Committee.
I move to accept the following DNA and Genetics Committee recommendation:

Comment: Lola says "No Problem".

I move the following advisory vote question be added to the ASCA ballot in 2002 and repeated at three-year intervals until and unless a two-thirds majority positive vote is recorded:

Do you feel that parents of ASCA-registered litters should be required to have been tested in ASCA’s DNA program in order to insure the integrity of the ASCA registry?

[ ] Yes  [ ] No

RATIONALE: The membership made it very clear in early 90s when a mandatory DNA program was announced that they did not want such a program. However, since that time people have had an opportunity to learn more about how the process works, what it can and cannot do, and to see at least a couple of high-profile cases where significant registry errors were corrected via testing. It is possible that opinion has changed on this matter or will change in the future as DNA identification procedures become ever more commonplace. If at some point a significant majority of the membership wants a mandatory program, the board and this committee need to be made aware so appropriate steps can be taken to further assure the integrity of ASCA’s registry.

Motion by C.A. second by Kim  Approve:: C.A., Susan, Kristin, Joan, Kim, Marilyn, Sally, Chris, Laura, George and Peter  Disapprove/Abstain: None

97:14 DNA and Genetics Committee - Ballot question Motion to Table

Motion by Gray, seconded by Aufox.

I move to table the following motion from the DNA and Genetics Committee:

I move the following advisory vote question be added to the ASCA ballot in 2002 and repeated at three-year intervals until and unless a two-thirds majority positive vote is recorded:

Do you feel that parents of ASCA-registered litters should be required to have been tested in ASCA’s DNA program in order to insure the integrity of the ASCA registry?

[ ] Yes  [ ] No

Comment: The Committee would like to table the above motion until April 30th so the Board, with the
Committee's assistance, can work on a more comprehensive DNA question to put on the ballot than the question in the motion above. Linda


98:14 DNA COMMITTEE - DNA Kennel Certification Form

Motion by Gray, Liaison to the DNA & Genetics Committee.

I move to accept the DNA Kennel Certification form. Lola has seen it and it will work for her.

Linda (Form is attached)


93:17 STOCK DOG RULES - Stockdog Merit Program CH 12 Section 2.5

Motion by Warren, Liaison to the Stockdog Committee.

I move to accept the following SDC recommendation to go into effect the beginning of the 2003/2004 Merit Program year or if it requires programming when we have additional time banked for the project. KW Patrick would you please give us your take on what this change will involve? KW

Re: Stockdog Merit Program CH 12 Section 2.5

The current Stockdog Merit Program reads as follows:

CHAPTER 12 STOCKDOG MERIT PROGRAM

This program will be to recognize the Top Ten Year End Winners from the Stockdog Program.

SECTION 1: The Top Ten Year End Winners

Winners will be awarded in each of the following areas of competition:

Advanced - cattle, sheep, and ducks
Open - cattle, sheep, and ducks
Started - cattle, sheep, and ducks
Post Advanced - cattle and sheep

SECTION 2: How points are earned

1. A base score will be used. This score will be the highest score received in each area of competition for the year.

2. Class placement points as follows will be added to the base score for each area of competition:
   - first - 5 points
   - second - 4 points
   - third - 3 points
   - fourth - 2 points
   At least one dog has to be beaten in order to receive the points.

3. Plus additional points will be earned for going High In Trial Aussie for each class of stock (cattle, sheep, and ducks) as follows:
   - 10 or less dogs beaten = 5 points
   - 11 - 20 dogs beaten = 10 points
   - 21 - 30 dogs beaten = 15 points
   - 31 - 40 dogs beaten = 20 points
   These points will be added to the score earned from the class of stock the dog competed in.

4. The base score plus additional points earned throughout the working year will determine the Top Ten dogs in each area of competition.

Note: High Combined can’t be used because the scores are only earned for each division and class of stock. Dogs can be eligible for more than one division/class within the year.

I make a motion to add CH. 12 Section 2.5 as follows:

Add to CH 12 Section 2 How points are earned #5.

5. Points for ALL divisions may be earned for the Merit program up to sixty days from receiving the second qualifying score in a division.

Comments:

This change is a suggested change from membership input. This is not my idea but I do like this idea.
This change will spread the Merit program out to the younger upcoming dogs. With this change all divisions will be treated equally in earning their points for the Merit program.

Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

90:38 AGILITY COMMITTEE - remove NADAC jump height chart from ASCA rulebook

Motion by Trumbull-Clark, Liaison to the Obedience Committee.

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

Motion by Bryant, seconded by Fickett.

The recommendation is as follows:

Remove the NADAC jump height table from section 2.3 of the ASCA rulebook. Effective June 1, 2002.

Reasoning: Since NADAC rules supersede ASCA rules when a trial is dual sanctioned, this table is redundant. There are two jump height tables currently in the ASCA rule book. One for ASCA and one for NADAC. The NADAC one is currently outdated.

Also, to keep from having to change the ASCA rulebook to keep up with NADAC changes, it will be easier not to include this table in the ASCA rulebook and instead have the competitors refer to the most recent NADAC rules for jump height specifications when a trial is dual sanctioned NADAC and ASCA.

This is a "house keeping" measure for the rule book. The ASCA agility rulebook should be a "stand alone" document and should include all ASCA rules to be followed in a trial that is ASCA only sanctioned (such as the Nationals). ASCA should not start including NADAC only rules as it will provide unnecessary information and will force us to keep updating our rule book each time NADAC makes a change.

Votes in favor: Allison Bryant, Lynne Fickett, Kent Mahan, Marj Vincent, Shelley Malan, Pete Dolan, Judy Boone, Jean Janotta, Pamela Kaye
Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

96:17 JR SHOWMANSHIP - Finals

Motion by Berryessa, second by Warren

I move to pay the following for the National Junior Handling Finals:

All Judge's expenses and $480 for ribbons and trophies for a total of: $998.25.

Note: Section 18 of the National Specialty Guidelines states that a total of $480 will be paid for awards and ribbons for the National Junior Handling Finals. The $148.50 that was billed for the building was not an extra expense that the Host Club had to pay. ASCA's support of the Finals is limited to paying only actual extra expenses that are caused by requiring the Host Club to hold the Finals and the above stated amounts for awards.

Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

99:02 HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE - Members

Motion by Toft, second by Trumbull-Clark

Due to the resignation of a HOF Committee member; the original requirement of a minimum of 7 members on this committee; and the committee's nearness to completion of their recommendation to the Board, I make the following motion:

I move to allow the Hall of Fame Committee to continue working with less than 7 members until they complete their recommendation to the Board regarding the Hall of Fame program.

I also move to appoint a new member to this committee as soon as possible if one can be found.

Ruled out of order by President Aufox.

98:02 MVA COMMITTEE - MVA- Judges
Motion by Warren, Liaison to the MVA Committee.

I move to accept the following MVA Committee recommendation. Effective date 2002 Nationals. KW

#VC02-01 (Motion by Dee Dee Baldwin/second by Anne Shope)

I move that at cluster shows, including the ASCA Nationals, where MVA is offered, the MVA Evaluator be allowed to show prior or subsequent to the day of the MVA evaluation. Further, any dog(s) owned by the evaluator may compete in any and all venues, other than MVA, on the same day that the evaluations are performed, provided the handler is someone other than that evaluator. Members of the evaluators immediate family may handle the dog. If the evaluator is judging other classes or venues in addition to the MVA evaluation at the cluster, the ASCA rules pertaining to that judging shall take precedence.

PLACEMENT:  Add to 5(A) of the MVA Guidelines.

DISCUSSION: MVA Conformation Evaluation is not a contest between dogs. It's a one-on-one evaluation to the breed standard. It was therefore determined that the Evaluator should not fall under the same rules as the Conformation judge with regard to competing and judging at any given show. This motion is to establish clear guidelines for the MVA Evaluator to follow.

MEMBERS VOTING: Approved: Allison Bryant, Andrea Hoffmann, Anne Shope, Chris Davis, Debra St Jacques, Dee Dee Baldwin, Lori Acierto, Monica Barger, Renee Reschenthaler, Sandra Case, and Terry Tomascik Nonvoting: Sandra Katzen

Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

97:14 DNA COMMITTEE - Resolution Form

Motion by Gray, Liaison to the DNA & Genetics Committee.


90:38 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Recommendation Sec. 2, Ch. 8 (EMERGENCY)

EMERGENCY MOTION BY TRUMBULL-CLARK.

I move to approve the following Agility Committee recommendation. The committee wishes this to be effective June 1, 2002. In order for the information to be presented in the May/June issue of the AUSSIE
TIMES, I further request this to be an emergency motion. Votes to be due on or before February 26, 2002. Kyle Trumbull-Clark

Allison Bryant moved, Annelise Allen second.
Unanimous approval.
To replace Section 2 - Eligibility in Chapter 8 - Agility Finals of the ASCA Agility Rule Book with the following text below. This change will be effective 6/01/2002.

*******************************************************************
Section 2 - Eligibility

1. Eligible dogs will be ASCA registered Australian Shepherds. 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.

2. The Agility Finals will consist of three divisions: Veterans, Juniors and Standard. The qualifying rules will be the same for each division, however qualifying points will not transfer between the divisions. The jump heights will be divided as specified in the ASCA Jump Height Table in Chapter 2, Section 2.3 – Jump Height Table.

3. Qualifying in an Elite Standard division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Standard Division. Qualifying in an Elite Veterans division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Veteran Division. Qualifying in an Elite Junior division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Junior Division. (With the exception of Gamblers where the Junior handler must compete in the Elite Standard or Veteran division to earn qualifying points for the Junior Division)

   The dog does not need to be competing in all Elite level classes before accumulating points towards the finals. The height the dog jumps during the year will not have an impact on the points they accumulate during the year.

4. A dog needs 7 points total to be eligible to compete at the Agility finals. A minimum of 2 points must be from Elite Jumpers, 2 from Elite Gamblers and 3 from Elite Regular during the qualifying period. Eligible points will be those received during the ASCA Agility Finals year. The ASCA Agility Finals year will be the twelve month period from June 1st of the previous year to May 31st of the year the ASCA Agility Finals are held.

5. In addition to the yearly qualifiers, all ATCH dogs get an automatic invitation to compete in all four rounds of the Agility finals. ATCH dogs can compete in the Standard division, or if they are eligible for the Veterans division, they may compete there if the owner so chooses. Dogs with a V-ATCH are automatically eligible for the Veterans division but must qualify with points from the Standard division in order to compete in the Standard division at the Agility Finals.

6. There will be 40 qualifiers for the Standard division (plus ATCH dogs), 20 qualifiers for the Veterans division (Plus ATCH & V-ATCH dogs) and 20 qualifiers for the Juniors division. If there are more than the specified number of dogs meeting the minimum requirements, then the top 40 qualifying Standard division dogs and the top 20 qualifying Veteran and Junior division dogs as ranked by the total number of points accumulated in the qualifying period with the highest number of points ranked first, will be
invited to compete at the finals. If there is more than one dog with the same number of points as the 40th qualifier Standard and more than one dog with the same number of points as the 20th qualifier Veterans & Juniors, then all the dogs with that number of points will be invited to the Agility Finals.

7. Bitches in heat will be allowed to run. They will run at the end of each class. A rug or tarp will be brought out to the start line and the dog will be placed on the rug or tarp to begin her run. Bitches in heat will also wear panties during their run. Bitches in heat must be crated (not in an ex-pen) prior to and during the competition, except when competing, away from the agility ring at a distance or location to be determined by the host club.


Approved:

Affiliate Name Change:

Name change from Wilderness Trace A. S. C. to Kentuckiana Australian Shepherd Fanciers.

ASCA Breeder Judges:

Gemi-Sasson Brickson moving from Non-Regular to Provisional Breeder Judge.

Debra St. Jacques moving to Senior Breeder Judge.

Elizabeth Gibson moving to Approved Breeder Judge.

Kim Cochran moving from Non-Regular to Provisional Breeder Judge.

ASCA Stock Dog Judge:

Roger Stevens moving from Provisional Judge to ASCA Stock Dog Judge.

ASCA Business Office Monthly Report - February 2002

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