

## **July 2003 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.

### **July 1 - 31, 2003**

#### **94:16 ASCA INSURANCE - Employee**

Motion by Davenport, seconded by Warren.

That ASCA join Texas Association of Business, a/k/a TAB, for an annual amount of \$260 for up to 5 employees so that ASCA may participate in the group health insurance programs offered through TAB for the Business Office employees.

Comment: As part of ASCA's employee benefits, health insurance is required to be offered to the employees and we have at least one employee presently who needs to have health insurance. TAB offers many services to Texas based businesses in particular group health insurance as well as shipping discounts and credit card processing to name just a few which ASCA could benefit from. I have found TAB personnel to be readily available with information and answers to my questions. The Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan as quoted has a very low deductible and good coverage and is not an HMO policy and is estimated to be \$265 /month per employee, and as long as the employee had a health insurance policy there is no pre-existing condition stipulation. TAB offers a health insurance policy even if ASCA only has one employee participating.

**Board voting:** Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

#### **93:03 ASCA EMPLOYEES - Anne Swaner**

Motion by Aufox, seconded by Warren.

Motion to approve the payment of \$1,817.50 to Anne Swaner in full satisfaction of all unused accumulated sick leave prior to her resignation of her position with ASCA. Further to thank Anne for her dedication and years of valuable service to ASCA and its members.

Dear ASCA Board of Directors:

I would like to propose the following in reference to the subject above:

From my initial employment date in 1991 until October of 2001 (when the rules were changed), I have accumulated 363.5 hours of unused sick leave. I propose that ASCA should reimburse me to the total of \$1817.50 (the total number of hours divided by two at \$10.00 per hour).

Sincerely, Anne Swaner

**Board voting:** Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

#### **98:05 CONFORMATION COMMITTEES - Judges Badge**

Motion by Davenport.

I move the following from the Conformation Committee. This motion was talked about at our April meeting and they have worked out the "bugs" so the motion's intent is the same as we agreed upon in April, just the Business Office is not involved with obtaining a badge.

Chris VT

For: Denise Creelman, Wendy Summers, Wendy Finsterwald, Cochran Joni Johnson, Gemi Sasson-Brickson, Peter Kontos, Margi Floyd, Beth Ellen Peterson, Debbie Collins, Teena Meadors, Liz Gibson. Against: Mary Hellmeister (Comment: all approved judges should be able to purchase the judge's badge. Mary) Motion Is Approved

Motion by Joni Johnson, 2nd by Liz Gibson. (Order form is posted on CC Yahoo site)

REVISED JUDGE'S BADGE PROPOSAL: May 15, 2003

(Comment - this proposal has been updated to remove any involvement with the ASCA Business Office. Orders and purchasing are to be between judges and Cassio Ribbons.)

#### OFFICIAL ASCA JUDGE'S BADGES

All approved ASCA Provisional Breeder, Breeder, and Senior Breeder judges may purchase and wear an official and approved ASCA Breeder Judge's badge to wear while judging at ASCA sanctioned shows.

The badges will have on them the official ASCA logo, the judge's name, and the level at which they judge (Provisional Breeder Judge, Breeder Judge, or Senior Breeder Judge).

\*\*\*ASCA approved judge's will be allowed to purchase the badges directly from the manufacturer, Cassio Ribbons, 243 Synders Rd. E, Baden, ON Canada N0B 1G0 (1-866-9-CASSIO). A copy of the judge's approval letter or copy of the page in the judge's book which lists the judge's name must accompany each order to ensure that only ASCA approved judge's may order them.

Judges are responsible for ordering and paying for both the cost of the badge and shipping.

Non-Breeder judges, Non-Regular Breeder judges or suspended judges may not wear the official ASCA Breeder Judge's badge.

**Board voting:** Approve: Hollen, DeChant, Berryessa, Walter and Davenport.  
Disapprove: Aufox, Hellmeister and Gray. Abstain: Warren. Motion is approved.

#### **99:10 TRACKING COMMITTEE- 5.4 RECOMMENDATION to ASCA BOD for change in Board policy on ASCA Nationals' Tracking Award**

Motion by Gray.

I move to approve the following Tracking Committee recommendation:

Subject: Re: ASCA Tracking Committee in Board policy on ASCA Nationals' Tracking Award

The ASCA Tracking Committee is recommending the following changes in the present ASCA BOD policy 5.4, for determining the recipient of the Nationals' Tracking Award:

1. that the name of the Award be changed from "High Tracking Performance" to "Nationals Tracking Award."
2. That the award be open to all dogs who pass the Nationals Tracking Test, whether or not they have previously achieved their titles.
3. That, in case of a tie, e.g. two or more TDX passes, the recipient be chosen by lottery rather than by judges' opinion.

By custom, and according to its' regulations, ASCA Tracking is a non-competitive sport. Tracking judges evaluate a dog's performance according to a standard. If the dog meets the standard, he passes the test. If he does not meet the standard, he fails. Tracking judges do not compare one performance against another. Regulation test tracks often differ substantially in the types of challenges they present to tracking dogs at the same test.

The ASCA Tracking Committee appreciates the commitment of the ASCA BOD to awarding Tracking at the ASCA National Specialty Shows. In suggesting changes to the present policy, it is attempting to bring the method of determining the recipient of the award into compliance with Tracking regulations and traditions. The suggested new name: "Nationals Tracking Award" is an improvement over the previous name, "High Tracking Performance," because it does not imply competition.

The Committee members believe that opening the award to all passing dogs, with TDX dogs given preference, is more fair to all dogs than the present policy of making the award available only to first-time titled dogs.

Finally, the Committee members agree that the lottery system of determining the recipient in case of a tie, is better suited to Tracking than the current policy, "judges' decision." Tracking folks are accustomed to lotteries, which routinely are used to determine Tracking Test entry, and track order in tests. The present "judges' decision" policy is problematic because it is too vague, and it places an unaccustomed burden on tracking judges.

The Motion the Tracking Committee voted upon is quoted below. The policy changes are written in bold italics.

Votes in favor: Celeste Kelley, Debra St. Jacques, Anne Hershey, Jane Palmer, Nancy Garcia, Nola Ventura, Wally O'Brien, Craig Bohren, and Paula Diggins. Not voting: Audrey Wartman, and Ralph Swingle. In the discussion phase of the ISSUE, both of these members expressed support for the intent of the changes the Tracking Committee is recommending.

I (submitted by Celeste Kelly) move that we change 5.4 board policy to read:

5.4 ASCA will donate one DNA blood draw kit with test paid for by ASCA to the following winners of the ASCA Nationals each year:

Best of Breed  
High in Working Trial  
High in Obedience Trail  
High Score in Agility  
Best Jr. Handler (Nationals, not Finals)  
Tracking

Because Tracking is pass/fail, the recipient of the blood draw kit will be chosen using the following criteria as submitted by the Tracking Committee:

#### NATIONALS TRACKING AWARD

To be given to one Australian Shepherd who passes the Tracking Test offered at the yearly ASCA National Specialty Show. The award will be chosen by lottery and awarded to the Australian Shepherd who has passed at the ASCA Nationals Tracking Test in the following

order of preference:

Lottery drawn of teams earning TDX titles.

If there are no TDX titles, lottery of teams earning TD titles.

If no Australian Shepherd passes the National Specialty Tracking Test (TD or TDX), the Nationals Tracking Award would not be presented that year.

Note: This maintains the spirit of non-competition in tracking for the tracking test at the Nationals. It also allows for Aussies who have already earned a title, but wish to compete for the prize, if they get into the test, to do so.

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This is the present policy:

5.4 ASCA will donate one DNA blood draw kit with test paid for by ASCA to the following winners of the ASCA Nationals each year:

- Best of Breed
- High in Working Trial
- High in Obedience Trail
- High Score in Agility
- Best Jr. Handler (Nationals, not Finals)
- Tracking

Because Tracking is pass/fail, the recipient of the blood draw kit will be chosen using the following criteria as submitted by the Tracking Committee:

#### HIGH TRACKING PERFORMANCE AWARD

To be given to one Australian Shepherd who passes the Tracking Test offered at the yearly ASCA National Specialty Show.

Preference for the award should be given to the Australian Shepherds who achieve their ASCA Tracking Title for the first time and the TDX should be given preference over the TD Title.

Therefore, the proposed order of preference is:

New TDX title.

New TD title.

Previously titled TD dog passing the TD test at the ASCA National Specialty.

In the case of a tie, (two or more dogs passing the TDX) the Tracking Judges who judged the National Tracking Test would select a passing dog for the award. The same for the TD in case no TDX passed.

If no Australian Shepherd passes the National Specialty Tracking Test, TDX or TD, the High Tracking Performance Award would not be presented that year.

**Board voting:** Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

#### **98:11 OBEDIENCE RULES - directed jumping motion redo**

Motion by Hellmeister.

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

Motion by Case, second Waller

The Obedience Committee recommends to the Board of Directors the following motion to

become effective January 2004:

Chapter 5, Section 14, Directed Jumping Scoring:

Make the following addition shown in CAPS

A dog must receive a score of zero (0) for the following: Anticipating the handlers command and/or signal to go out, not leaving the handler, not going out between the jumps, not stopping on command and remaining at least ten (10) feet beyond the jumps, RECEIVING AN ADDITIONAL COMMAND TO STOP OR SIT, anticipating the handler's command and/or signal to jump, not jumping as directed, knocking the bar off the uprights, climbing or using the top of the High Jump for aid in going over.

Approved: Case, Waller, Munson, Burlingame, White, Willems, Link, Bohren, Cox, Mann, Swatko

Comment: This small addition we felt was necessary to highlight the basic premise of this exercise which is for the dog to go out approximately 30' and stop on command, waiting for the next command. Many handlers were giving an extra command when they knew the dog was going to keep right on going out of the ring.

**Board voting:** Approve: Davenport, Gray, Hollen, Hellmeister, DeChant and Berryessa. Disapprove: Aufox & Walter. Abstain: Warren. Motion is approved.

#### **Emergency Motion – Finals Shirts Advertising**

Motion by Warren, seconded by Gray.

The following is an emergency motion due to the Aussie Times Deadline of July 15. Votes due by July 11, 2003.

I move to allow West Coast ASC one full page, black and white ad in the Aussie Times up until the 2004 Nationals in order to promote the selling of ASCA Finals shirts. All profits from these shirts will go towards Stockdog Finals expenses.

Comments: Kathy, West Coast is trying to come up with some creative ways to off set the cost of the 2004 National Stockdog Finals. With this aim, we are planning to begin selling shirts to support the 2004 Stockdog Finals where all the profits on the sale of these shirts will be used to help off set the expenses to ASCA to sponsor the Stockdog Finals. Where I am hoping that ASCA would be willing to help is by giving us free ad space in the Aussie Times. We are hoping to have our first ad in the next Aussie Times - deadline July 15th. Would you please take this to the BOD and see if we have their support. Thank you. Cathe Walker

**Board voting:** Approve: Davenport, Gray, DeChant, Warren, Walter, Hellmeister and Berryessa. Non-Voting: Aufox (vacation) and Hollen (email bouncing) Motion is approved.

#### **Approved:**

Approved Affiliate Bylaw Changes submitted by the Southern Colorado ASC

Appointed Pam Levin to the STANDING EDUCATION

Approved an appeal of removal of CD Leg - Golden Retriever bitch, Edgcombe's Ranaqua Trekker (Kelsey), date of birth 3/28/92. Leg was granted.

#### **Disapproved:**

South Florida ASC Appeal – Upheld decision not to record the results of the May 4, 2003 show in Ocala.

ASCA BUSINESS OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT –JULY 2003					
REGISTRY SHOW/STOCK		MEMBERSHIP			
IND. REGS	569	NEW-Single	105	SANC. PROC.	29
NON BREEDING	56	NEW - Dual	21	RESULTS PROC.	19
LITTERS	274	NEW-Foreign	1	RESULTS PEND.	8
TRANSFER	71	NEW-Canadian	1	S&T SUBSCRIP.	4
LEASE	5	RENEW-Single	248	CERTIFICATE S	553
LEP	7	RENEW-Dual	65		
DUPLICATES	14	RENEW-Foreign	1		
HARDSHIPS	9	RENEW-Canadian	8		
PEDIGREES	59	JR TIMES	6		
NEW KENNELS	12	AFFIL. – New	0		
RENEW KENNELS	31	AFFIL – Renew	0		
		NEW – Service	270		
JUDGES APPS	4	LIFETIME	1		
E-MAIL REQUESTS	2345				
DNA KITS MAILED	51				
DNA TESTS DONE	74				
SHOWS HELD:					
# OF CON	45				
#OF STOCK	21				
#OF RANCH	0				
#OF AGILITY	14				
#OF TRACKING	0				
#OF OBED	29				