September 2017
Executive Secretary’s Report

Judge Approvals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Regular Breeder Judge</th>
<th>Approved Breeder Judge</th>
<th>Senior Breeder Judge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Julie Ostberg (Wisconsin)</td>
<td>Betsy Atkinson (New York)</td>
<td>Susan Harris (California)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rescue Grant Recipients

Aussie Rescue SoCal
Contact: Karyl Heathman, California
Email: aussierescuesocal@gmail.com
Website: www.aussierescuesocal.com

Motions originating from the Board

BD.17.170 Intro to Stock Feedback Form
Approve: Gibson, Kissman, Silveira, Vest, Wesen
Oppose: DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts
Abstain: 0
Motion carries.

Letter of Dissent from DeChant: I am opposed to this program, and am therefore opposed to any evaluation form.

Letter of Dissent from Roberts: This form should be developed in consultation with the SDC.

Motion by Vest
Second by Wesen
I move to approve the attached document which will be provided to attendees at Introduction to Stock Events upon completion of their dog's introduction to stock. The document details the response of their dog to the stock.

See form at the back of this report.

Comments: Required per the Introduction to Stock rules.

Parties affected: Affiliates hosting Introduction to Stock events require the Feedback Form.

Effective date: Upon BOD approval.

BD.17.171 Intro to Stock Handout (Amended)
Approve: Gibson, Kissman, Silveira, Vest, Wesen
Oppose: DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts
Abstain: 0
Motion carries.

Letter of Dissent from DeChant: I am opposed to this program, so I oppose elements of it being brought forward after the fact. I am not opposed to education about working stock and terminology used while doing it. I would support efforts to educate which are well thought out by our SDC.

Letter of Dissent from Gray: Not following RRO again. This motion was not amended, it was revised, to revise a motion you withdraw and resubmit with changes/additions/deletes. To amend a motion is a separate motion and must be voted on first and then the original motion voted on.
Letter of Dissent from Roberts: The handout, and the intro program, should come from the SDC.

Motion by Vest
Second by Wesen
I move to approve the attached document which will be provided to attendees at Introduction to Stock Events. The document details the most commonly used commands used when working a dog and meaning of the commands.

See handout at the back of this report.

Comments: Required per the Introduction to Stock rules.

Parties affected: Affiliates hosting Introduction to Stock events require the handout/document.

Effective date: Upon BOD approval.

BD.17.172 Change to Policy 8.12.10.5 Exceptions
Approve: Unanimous
Motion carries.

Motion by Roberts
Second by Gray
I move to approve the following change to Policy 8.12.10.5 Exceptions from the current policy:

Current wording:
8.12.10.5 Exceptions
a. Any situation deviating from policy 8.12.10 will be brought to the Board of Directors for consideration thirty (30) days before the meeting.
b. A Board Member may be allowed to attend a Board Meeting telephonically due to a medical reason for themselves or their immediate family.

Proposed changes:
8.12.10.5 Exceptions
a. Any situation deviating from policy 8.12.10 will be brought to the Board of Directors for consideration thirty (30) days before the meeting.
b. A Board Member may be allowed to attend a Board Meeting via electronic means.

Rationale: Illness of the member or in the family may not be the only reason a Director is unable to travel.

Parties affected: Board of Directors.

Effective date: When passed.

Withdrawn Motions
BD.17.173 Directive to Stockdog Committee
Motion by Silveira
Second by Vest
I move the following directive be sent to the Stockdog Committee.

The Board of Directors request the ASCA Stockdog Committee develop educational materials to support the Introduction to ASCA Stockdog Program.

It is hoped four months’ time will be sufficient to create such educational material. We request monthly updates as to the progress of this effort.
If more time is needed, please request the specific need.

Effective date: This directive shall be effective immediately upon the approval of the Board of Directors.

BD.17.174 Change to Bylaws 6.3 Section 3 Evidence of Membership
Motion by Silveira
Second by Vest
I make the following motion to change the wording in the following sections of the Bylaws and add new descriptive language. I further move that such motion be submitted to the full voting Membership as required to change the By Laws at the next schedule Election of Directors in 2018.

Current wording:
6 Article VI Voting
6.1 Section 1 Closing of Membership Books or Fixing of Record Date
For the purpose of determining members entitled to notice of or to vote at any meeting of members, or in order to make a determination of members for any purpose, the Board of Directors may provide that the membership books shall be closed for at least ten days immediately preceding such meeting. In lieu of closing the membership books, the Board of Directors may fix in advance a date as the record date for any such determination of members, such date in any case to be not more than sixty (60) days, and in the case of a meeting of members not less than fifteen (15) days, prior to the date on which the particular action requiring such determination of members is to be taken. The Board of Directors may determine that the members entitled to notice of or to vote at any meeting of members shall be the current membership list of the date fixed for the record date for such determination. When a determination of members entitled to vote at any meeting of membership has been made as provided in this section, such determination shall apply to any adjournment thereof.

6.2 Section 2 Voting Entitlement Record
The officer or agent having charge of the membership books shall make a complete record of the members entitled to vote at each meeting of the membership or any adjournment thereof before such meeting. Such record shall be produced and kept open at the time and place of the meeting, and shall be subject to the inspection of any member during the whole time of the meeting for the purposes of determining the qualifications of members to vote.

6.3 Section 3 Evidence of Membership
The original membership books shall be prima facie evidence of the person or clubs entitled to examine the record or transfer books or to vote at any meeting of the membership. However, in order to vote, an individual or dual member must present his or her membership card and identification in order to cast a ballot.

6.4 Section 4 Quorum
Five percent (5%) of the members of the Club entitled to vote, represented in person or by proxy pursuant to provisions of the Washington Non-Profit Corporation Act, shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the membership for all matters presented at the meeting. A response by five percent (5%) of the membership entitled to vote, either in person or by proxy, is necessary to validate any membership vote conducted by mail. For the purposes of this section a vote by proxy is authorized only as set forth in Section 8 of this Article VI below.

Proposed changes:
6.3 Section 3 Evidence of Membership
The original membership books shall be prima facie evidence of the person or clubs entitled to examine the record or transfer books or to vote at any meeting of the membership. However, in order to vote, an individual or dual member must present his or her membership card and identification in order to cast a ballot.

A. Membership shall be verified by presentation of a valid photo identification issued by the Government each Member resides within.

B. Each Affiliate will have one vote at each Membership Meeting where a quorum is established provided the vote is cast by a duly appointed representative of that Affiliate who provides credentials signed by the President of
said Affiliate. Such Credential shall be in the possession of the Member casting the vote for the Affiliate and shall be presented to the Officer checking the Official Roll to establish a quorum and to admit the Affiliate as present to vote.

Rationale: It has come to the attention of the Board of Directors, the By-Laws, as they reference the possession of a signed Membership card for voting at the Nationals General Membership Meeting has become more restrictive than necessary given modern technology. The By-Laws in, 6.3 Section 3 Evidence of Membership, already speak to the fact that a Members name on the official roll is sufficient to admit Members to the meeting as well as to view the Books and any other official ASCA document as well as to cast a vote. The additional requirement found in the second sentence that a Member must have in their possession a signed membership card is contradictory to the wording in the first sentence. Such a contradiction is an unfair restriction and impediment to allowing ASCA Members the opportunity to assist in conducting ASCA Business.

As well, Affiliates count as one vote towards establishing a quorum and are entitled to one vote at each General Membership Meeting where a quorum is present. There is no provision in the By Laws for how each Affiliate is to officially assign a representative to vote for the Affiliate.

Effective date: To be effective upon passage of the ASCA Board of Directors.

BD.17.175 Question to Membership - Dock Jumping
Motion by Silveira
Second by Kissman
I move the following question be submitted to the full ASCA Membership at the next scheduled Directors election of 2018.

Shall ASCA continue with the Dock Jumping Program as formulated by ASCA’s Dock Jumping Committee and approved by the ASCA board of Directors?

If the Membership approves dissolving the Dock Jumping Program, the effective date shall be May 31, 2019.

Rationale: Some ASCA Members have voiced discontent with the decision to establish a Dock Jumping Program.

Effective date: This motion shall be effective immediately upon passage.

Motions originating from the Committees

DNA Committee

DN.17.03 ASCA DNA Brochure
Approve: Unanimous
Motion carries.

Motion by Roberts
I move to approve the ASCA Parentage Verification Explained brochure, designed by the DNA committee, to be used by ASCA for educational purposes.

See brochure at the back of this report.

Comments: The initial distribution of this brochure will be at the 2017 ASCA Nationals. It will be placed in the welcome bags and be available at the ASCA booth. The committee is requesting a printable version of this educational brochure be placed on the ASCA website. The Office Manager gave an initial estimate of $100 for 600 brochures. We may need an order that is slightly larger once we confer with the host club.

Rationale: As part of the strategic plan the committee was to develop educational material about ASCA’s DNA Program. This brochure fulfills that goal.
Parties affected: ASCA Membership.

Effective date: When passed by the Board.

**Rally Committee**

**RA.17.07 Course Map Required Information**

Approve: Unanimous

*Motion carries.*

Motion by Wesen

*I move to accept this motion from the Rally Committee.*

Subject: Course Map Required Information

Motion by Karen Black
Second by Corinne Shanks

I move the rules for Rally Maps be updated to reflect inclusion of the Exercise List, with required elements including sign number.

Current wording:

17.2.2 Map Basics

a. Judge's name
b. Date of the trial; if there is more than one trial on that date, further identification such as Trial #1, Trial #2, or A.M., P.M. must be included on each map
c. Affiliate club hosting the trial
d. Course level
e. Ring size
f. ASCA sign icons
g. Station numbers
h. Star indicators, enough to have a total of 200 points available on the course
i. Cone icons, if any cone exercises are used. (No more than 7 cones may be used on a course.)
j. Separate entrance and exit gates
k. Leash location indicator for courses that utilize a Stay exercise requiring the handler to retrieve a leash as part of the exercise

Proposed changes:

17.2.2 Map Basics

a. Judge's name
b. Date of the trial; if there is more than one trial on that date, further identification such as Trial #1, Trial #2, or A.M., P.M. must be included on each map
c. Affiliate club hosting the trial
d. Course level
e. Ring size
f. ASCA sign icons
g. Station numbers
h. Star indicators, enough to have a total of 200 points available on the course
i. Cone icons, if any cone exercises are used. **Food or toy icon for exercises that include distractions.** (No more than 7 cones may be used on a course.)
j. Separate entrance and exit gates
k. Leash location indicator for courses that utilize a Stay exercise requiring the handler to retrieve a leash as part of the exercise

l. List that includes:
   1. Station # to match that on course
2. Class (i.e. M, E, A, N) for all level specific exercises, based on the lowest class in which they can be used
   Signs 1-24 can be used on all levels, no class designation on the list
   Signs 100-105 are novice only so N would be listed under Class on the list
   Signs 120-125 can be used for Novice and Advanced, no class designation on the list
   Signs 200-226 are for Advanced, Excellent & Masters, so would be marked A on the list
   Signs 300 - 315 are for Excellent & Masters, so would be marked as E on the list. Sign 316 is not
   designated as E on the list
   Signs 400-412 are for Masters only, so would be marked as M on the list

3. Stationary (S or blank)

4. Exercise Name

5. Name of Jump to match icon shown on course

6. Stars, where needed

7. Sign Number to match that on course

8. "Finish" with no number, before the Stay exercise, when applicable.

Comments/Rationale: Consistency is needed on course maps to aid the competitor, the judge, the affiliate, and the
stewards setting up courses. Maps are often difficult to read. Inclusion of the exercise list, as can be found on the ASCA
Course Template, with columns completed provides additional information to the competitor and judges prior to, and
during, the trial. Inclusion of the Sign # on the list saves considerable time for the competitor who wants to look up the
sign for correct performance, and for the person(s) pulling signs for each course. Each of the columns on the ASCA
Course Template list can be completed by copying the complete line from the available Signs to that course level. Adding
these requirements will not require additional time on behalf of the judge creating the course.

Parties affected: Judges will need change their process for map creation to include required elements, if they do not
already include required elements. Competitors, affiliates and trial stewards will be impacted by not having to look up
sign number based on the exercise description on the map.

Effective date: On approval by BOD.

Results of the committee’s vote:
Approve: 9
Oppose: 4
Abstain: 0
Non-voting: 1

Comment from Joan Skinner: My concerns duplicate Pat Pierce's. In addition it is starting to feel that the rules are nit
picking. If we changed the numbers of the signs to reflect which course they are for there is no need now to indicate
by a letter what course they are for. And icons of any kind can indicate distractions.

Comment from Sandy Walroth: I feel that this motion goes too far, and puts unnecessary requirements on the course
maps. I do agree that the sign number and jump type are needed - it does help course building significantly. A while
back, the exercises were put in an order by level, and the exercise numbers changed to reflect the level. Thus, having
the level listed is unnecessary. Whether the exercise is stationary or not is also unnecessary. The description, which
is already required, tells you what kind of exercise it is. There should be some kind of distinction between cones and
distractions on those exercises, however, requiring a specific toy or food icon isn't needed. First, the handlers see
what is being put down during course building and see it during the walkthrough. Second, the description already
tells the handler that there will be distractions. Third, if you planned on toys and the club only has food bowls, the
map is incorrect. In the rationale, it states that it's not a problem for the judges, as all that information is already on
the course design template. However, not all judges use that template. This would put an undue burden on those
judges who will have to either change their methods yet again, or move to using the Excel template. This would be a
problem for those who either don't know or don't like Excel, or don't have the Microsoft Office Suite, which is
expensive. For all these reasons, I am against the motion as presented.

Comment from Pat Pierce: While I agree with the majority of these requirements, I find two items on the list to be
unnecessary duplicates of information already required for course maps with exercise lists. I also would prefer using
any symbol or shape that clearly is not a cone, to be useable for marking the distractions - not just a required food
bowl or specific toy.

L.2 - We renumbered all of our signs, so it would become immediately obvious what the minimum level was for any sign. This duplicates L.6 requirement of including the sign number on the exercise list.

L.3 - "S" for stationary is not really necessary, when maps are required to use our sign icons (which nearly all include a Stop sign or similar picture in the design), and the sign/station number is included (L.1 in the proposed requirements list).

Map Basics i) does not need to be so specific, in the style of distraction indicators on a map. Any symbol that takes the place of a cone, should be allowed. In practical terms at a trial, conditions and equipment might warrant using a toy where the map indicates a food bowl, or a specific pictured distraction isn’t available. As long as the distraction is marked with something clearly not identical to a cone indicator, this should be acceptable.

Comment from Ann McCabe: Whereas I agree that a list should accompany a course map, I do not believe that the level (M, E, A, N), or the type of distraction, or an S for stationary exercises needs to be included.

Comment from Karen Souza: I am voting to approve this motion because I feel that it will serve to bring more consistency to Rally maps. Many judges already supply this information. Maps containing the information are easier to read by all and insure requirements for each level have been met.

Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray, Director Preston Kissman, Director Jean Roberts, Director Elect Liz Busquets, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Director Ken Silveira, Director Elect Denise Creelman

There is a quorum with 6 voting members of the Board present.

➢ Gibson called the meeting to order in Executive Session at 6:03 pm Central Time.

Executive Session
The Board started their meeting in Executive Session to discuss two topics. They are summarized below.

August Treasurer’s Report
In anticipation of her absence at tonight’s meeting, Wesen sent out the Treasurer’s Report for period ending August 31, 2017, via email. Ending balance is $188,804.24.

BD.17.176 August Treasurer’s Report
Motion by DeChant to approve the August Treasurer’s Report. Second by Roberts.
Approve: 6; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: Silveira, Vest, Wesen; Motion carries.

Business Office Staff
The Office Manager proposed a reorganization of Business Office duties, due to the upcoming retirement of Susan Byrne. Currently, Ms. Byrne’s duties are Front Desk/Membership/Bookkeeper. The Office Manager proposes that Sarah Jackson take over the book-keeping duties, in addition to her current duties as Assistant Manager, but instead of her duties as Registrar. This would open the positions of Front Desk/Membership and Registrar to two new employees.

➢ Silveira joined the meeting at 6:19 pm.
➢ Office Manager Ray Fryar called Gibson at 6:19 pm to answer several questions. He left the meeting at 6:21 pm.
➢ The Board exited Executive Session at 6:29 pm. The remainder of the meeting was conducted in Open Session.

Open Session

August Email Business
The Board voted to ratify all business conducted over email in August.

BD.17.177 August Email Business
Motion by DeChant to ratify the August email business. Second by Gray.
Approve: 7; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: Vest, Wesen; Motion carries.
Vest joined the meeting at 6:30 pm.

System Report

Vest reported on the ongoing progress of the Business Office system upgrade. ASCA’s contract with FrogSlayer for hosting on their cloud ends on September 30, 2017. Once Mr. Jackson finishes his analysis, the Board will discuss bids and an emergency motion will be brought forward to contract with a new vendor.

Creelman joined the meeting at 6:34 pm.

Links on Website

A member requested that the link to www.aussieinfo.org be added to the ASCA Website. Before adding external links to the website, the Board needs an approval policy in place. A disclaimer is also required. The Board will revisit this topic after Nationals.

Member Access to Monthly Board Meetings

The topic of allowing members access to the Board’s monthly meetings has been ongoing for 2+ years. This month’s meeting audio will be uploaded to ASCA’s YouTube account to be provided to the membership.

Red Roof Inn Discount

The Board discussed an email from Christina Miadich, Digital Marketing Specialist for Red Roof Inn, offering a 15% discount for ASCA members who choose to stay with them. Pets stay free at all locations. The Office Manager will finalize the agreement.

Floor Plans for New Business Office

The Office Manager has been working with Mike Black on the preparations necessary to begin work on a new building for the ASCA Business Office. The Board discussed proposed floor plans. The current building is ~3000 square feet; the new building will be ~5000 square feet.

Oil Pipeline Project

The Board discussed a letter from Universal Field Services, Inc. which requests permission to conduct studies and surveys across our property in Bryan, TX, in preparation for a proposed oil pipeline project called the East Houston to Hearne Pipeline. The Office Manager will investigate further.

Introduction to ASCA Stockdog Program Handout

Motion BD.17.171 Intro to Stock Handout is currently before the Board for vote over email in September. Vest is open to amending the motion, based on member and Director feedback.

2018 National Specialty Premium

The first draft of the 2018 National Specialty Premium was submitted on September 1, 2017. The Board has 30 days to respond.

Stockdog Finals courses: Ducks & Sheep – H, B, and C; Cattle – D, B, and C
Stockdog Nationals courses: Ducks – B, Sheep – H, Cattle – D

Strategic Plan

The Board discussed the notice to committees to re-evaluate the Strategic Plan, that was scheduled to go out on September 1, 2017.

For 2017, the Committees are to set 3 – 5 yearly goals to establish priorities for the Committee, and work on those throughout the year. If issue(s) are brought forward by the Membership/Committee, the Committee’s efforts can be redirected from their work on the goals and address the issue(s). Likewise, with a BOD directive, yearly goal effort would be redirected to answer the directive. Employing this methodology to work through the yearly goals, while still supporting Membership/Committee ideas/issues will provide flexibility to Committees.

Deadline for yearly goals – October 20, 2017.
Wesen joined the meeting at 7:19 pm.

**Voting at the General Membership Meeting**

The Board discussed what is needed for members to be able to vote at the General Membership Meeting held at the annual National Specialty. It was agreed to draft a change to the related Bylaws, to be presented to the membership for a vote on the 2018 ballot.

The Board decided the protocol to follow for allowing members into the meeting and for conducting the meeting if a quorum is achieved and voting takes place.

For 2017, any member listed in the membership list may join the meeting. Be prepared to present photo identification. Members must present their membership card to receive a colored index card, which denotes their ability to cast a vote, in the case of a quorum. If a vote is called for, members will hold up their card to be counted. Affiliates may vote the same way, so long as the Affiliate President has designated an Affiliate Member authorized to represent their interests at the meeting. That designated Affiliate Member, the President, or the Affiliate Representative must indicate which Affiliate they represent when checking in and they will receive an additional differently-colored index card.

Silveira left the meeting at 7:40 pm.

**Stockdog Committee Survey**

This survey is intended to be shared with ASCA Stockdog Judges and competitors in the Aussie Times, targeted emails, and various locations on-line.

**BD.17.178 Stockdog Committee Survey**

Motion by DeChant to approve the Stockdog Committee’s survey to be sent out however the Stockdog Committee has planned. Second by Roberts.

Approve: 8; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: Silveira; Motion carries.

**Website Forum & ASCA Discussion Lists**

The new ASCA discussion list on groups.io and the new forum on the ASCA Website are ready to be launched.

Vest made a motion, seconded by Wesen, to request the Office Manager set up the new discussion list on groups.io, but it was withdrawn to be put on the agenda for October’s meeting.

Gibson adjourned the meeting at 8:17 pm.
**Australian Shepherd Club of America**

**Introduction to the ASCA Stockdog Program Event Feedback Form**

Dog’s Registered Name__________________________ Sex____ Registration # __________

Dog’s birthdate______________________ Prior experience with stock? __________________

Name of Owner__________________________ Phone__________________________

Address ________________________________  

*****************************TO BE FILLED OUT BY INSTRUCTOR************************

Event location ____________________________ Date__________________________

Stock used for this introductory session: __________________

**Regarding working style and characteristics, the following best describes this dog on this day:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEREST:</th>
<th>EYE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_______ showed sustained interest in stock</td>
<td>_______ shows strong eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_______ showed limited interest in stock</td>
<td>_______ medium eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_______ showed little to no interest in stock</td>
<td>_______ loose eye</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STYLe:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______ shows preference to gather (fetch)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ shows preference to drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ shows no clear style preference</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPROACH:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______ runs wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ runs wide through training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ runs close</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEARING:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______ shows wearing to keep stock grouped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ shows a little wearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ shows no wearing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BARK:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______ works silently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ force bark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ barks a good deal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESIRE TO CONTROL STOCK:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______ wants to keep stock together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______ shows no thoughts of grouping</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AGGRESSIVENESS:**

| ______ forceful without excessive aggression |
| ______ uses excessive force for the situation |
| ______ shows no force |

**TEMPERAMENT:**

| ______ appears readily adjusted |
| ______ easily distracted |
| ______ frightened of the situation |

**BIDDABILITY:**

| ______ accepts pressure from handler and continues to work |
| ______ is unaware of the handler |
| ______ quits with pressure |

**CONFIDENCE TO MOVE STOCK:**

| ______ adequate |
| ______ lacking |

**COMMENTS:**

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Instructor’s Name: ______________________________  Signature:______________________

The Introduction to ASCA Stockdog Program Event is for educational purposes, and ASCA and its Instructors make no certification as to the inherent ability of the participating dog to work stock.
The purpose of a stockdog is to control and move stock at the request its handler, without causing undue stress on the stock. The Introduction to Stock Event was created as an educational event for individuals who are just beginning to learn the basics of working stock with their dog.

**Basics for a dog to successfully work livestock**
- **Interest** – dog displays in interest in stock and desire to work for you.
- **Outrun** - the dog moving freely to the left and right around the stock, stopping on **Balance**.
- **Balance** – is the point in an outrun at which the dog turns in on the stock and brings them to the handler.
- **Fetching**: the dog bringing the stock to the handler after the dog has moved to the point of **Balance**.
- **Drive** – the dog moves the stock away from the handler and towards a specific destination. This may be a gate in a pasture or an obstacle in an arena.
- **Wearing** – when a dog moves behind the stock from side to side to move the stock forward. This is a known Australian Shepherd trait and is sometimes used by other herding breeds.

**Commands to move the dog around the stock**
- **Come/Here**: a recall command for the dog to come directly to you.
- **Stop/Stand/Down**: a command to stop/stand/down the dog immediately regardless of their activity while still focusing on the stock.
- **Go-Bye**: to send the dog to his left, in a clockwise direction around the stock.
- **Away-to-me**: to send the dog to his right, in a counter-clockwise direction around the stock.
- **There**: the point in an outrun at which the dog turns into the stock and begins the fetch.
- **Walk-up**: a command for the dog to walk directly up to the stock
- **Out**: the dog turns off the stock and increases his distance from the stock.
- **That’ll do**: to call the dog off the stock when the work is completed.
ASCA DNA PARENTAGE VERIFICATION EXPLAINED

HISTORY OF THE DNA PARENTAGE PROGRAM:

The Australian Shepherd Club of America started its pilot DNA program in 1994 after a presentation to the Board of Directors given by Dr. Jerry Caldwell of ImmGen, Inc. The purpose of the program was to develop a DNA genetic database to create and maintain an accurate registry. The program began with processing of 130 samples from members who volunteered their dogs’ blood.

In 1996, the Board of Directors announced there would be a 3-year phase-in of mandatory DNA profiling for parentage verification of all breeding stock. However, there were a lot of misconceptions among the membership about what DNA profiling would accomplish and what kind of information could be obtained from such profiling. The phase-in of mandatory DNA profiling of all breeding stock was later rescinded in an official announcement in the November/December 1996 Aussie Times, however, the voluntary program would continue for those members who wanted their dogs profile added to ASCAs growing DNA database. In the same issue of the Times an announcement regarding the establishment of the DNA Committee was made. The mandate of the committee was to formulate policy regarding the voluntary DNA program for parentage verification of all breeding stock and to educate the membership on the benefits of DNA by writing articles for the Aussie Times.

By the summer of 1997, the members of the Committee had been chosen and work had already begun. In the Committee report in the June/July 1997 Aussie Times, the Committee stated it had prioritized several issues of immediate concern regarding the DNA Program. Later that year, the Aussie Times featured advertisements promoting the DNA Parentage Verification Program.

In 1998, after approval by the ASCA Board of Directors, Certagen became the first approved DNA lab in Europe. With the help of a breeder in Germany and after some initial bumps in the road, the lab was able to certify parentage for the first Aussies in Europe. Since then Certagen is the only ASCA certified lab in Europe and outside the United States.

The mission of the DNA committee was and continues to be the development of policies and procedures for the implementation our DNA Parentage Verification Program and with educating the membership on the benefits of DNA profiling for parentage verification.

WHY DNA PARENTAGE CERTIFICATION IS IMPORTANT:

When breeders consider dogs for breeding they research the pedigrees of the potential parents. Some of the things that are looked for in the pedigree are specific traits, structure, working styles, temperament and health issues. Breeders are trying hard to screen pedigrees for health issues before making breeding decisions.

In the long run, DNA-VP can become very important to the health of bloodlines of dogs from breeders who use health information before breeding a litter.

HOW DNA PARENTAGE TESTING WORKS:

The ASCA parentage verification test is an exclusionary test (the word match does not apply). If a given offspring exhibits two or more genetic markers that do not appear in the DNA profile of either the alleged sire or dam (numbers are exact) then one or both of the alleged parents are “excluded” as being the true parents(s). Note: one marker difference in the offspring is not considered an exclusion as it could be a mutation. The alleged parents are said “to qualify” as the true sire and dam if less than two exclusionary markers are exhibited in the offspring.

A standard DNA test is used by Therion and ASCA to DNA identify (register) individual dogs and verify parentage. A set of 11 genetic sites (loci) are screened on the DNA chromosomes of each dog resulting in a DNA profile. Since chromosomes are found in pairs
this test results in a DNA profile for each dog of
a set of 22 “alleles” or genetic markers. These
11 loci were chosen because they show variable
alleles possible at each locus, i.e. chosen
because there they show genetic variability
among most dogs. Please note that if a cheek
swab or FTA blood card sample is not collected
correctly or handled properly or if not enough
cells are deposited this will result in fewer
genetic markers being assayed. This is why
Therion recommends using whole blood to DNA
your dogs.

Each dog/puppy receives half of its genetic
markers (11 markers) from its dam and half of
its genetic markers (11) from its sire. Therefore
if all of the genetic markers appearing (as
numbers) in the DNA profile of a given puppy
also appear in the DNA profile of either the
alleged sire or alleged dam then the puppy is
determined to qualify as the offspring of the
indicated sire and dam. However if the DNA
profile of the puppy contains genetic markers
that do not appear in the DNA profiles of either
the sire or the dam then the puppy cannot be a
product of the mating of those two dogs and
either the sire and/or the dam is excluded (based
on the non-matching numbers).

PROCEDURE WHEN THERE IS A
DISCREPANCY IN THE PARENTAGE:

ASCA informs the Owner and Breeder of the
dog that has had the exclusion. We try to
identify other possible sires that are on the
premises and find out if they are DNA profiled.
We then have a new sample submitted if
necessary for comparison to the new dogs.
The ASCA Office Manager is the main point of
contact between ASCA and Therion. The DNA
committee is informed if there are cases that
cannot be resolved.

HOW TO AVOID COMMON
PROBLEMS THAT CAUSE
REJECTION ON SAMPLES
SUBMITTED:

Rejection of samples is usually a matter of the
quality of the sample. Such as not enough blood/
cells collected, too much blood on FTA card so
some contamination exists, etc. If a sample
doesn’t work well the first time we will rerun it
either (1) using more of the sample and/or (2)
run the sample by itself or run the missing
markers individually to maximize the chance of
success.

BLOOD TUBE-Whole blood is the most
reliable method of submitting a DNA sample. It
is important to ensure proper blood collection
technique is used to prevent sample errors.

BLOOD CARD- Too much blood or not
enough blood will cause rejection. In addition,
if the card is not allowed to thoroughly dry,
mold can become a problem. Please let the card
air dry completely. In humid areas, it is
suggested to let the card dry longer than the
recommended time.

CHEEK SWAB-Read the directions included
with the swabs, BEFORE you start collection.
Not enough cells collected or contamination
(including mold) of the swab is the usual reason
for rejection.

After removing the swab from its package, make
sure you do not touch the tip or allow it to come
in contact with anything that could cause the
DNA to be compromised. To collect your dog’s
DNA, lift your dog’s upper lip and insert the
swab between the cheek and gum line. Using
gentle outward pressure, swab the inside of the
cheek in a back and forth motion, turning the
swab occasionally to coat the entire tip with
cells. Keep the swab in the mouth of the
dog for a slow count of 60. The longer you
are able to keep the swab in the dog’s mouth the
better chance you have of collecting more cells. DO NOT soak the swab in the dog’s saliva
as that washes the DNA away.

After you have completed the collection of cells,
make sure you do not let the tip touch anything,
such as counter/table tops, your skin or anything
that could contaminate the sample.

MULTIPLE SIRED LITTERS-WHY
MANDATORY EXTENDED MARKER
SET IS REQUIRED WHEN SIRES ARE
CLOSELY RELATED:

If there are multiple sires to a litter (either by
choice or chance) that are closely related (father,
sons, siblings or uncle) the ASCA registry rules
require the use of the extended marker set (12
markers). This is in addition to the standard set
of 11 so a total of 23 markers are used for
closely related breedings. This is because of the
high probability of corresponding genetic
markers between the possible sires. The standard
marker set would not be able to exclude sires so
the extended marker set would be needed.

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