

Affiliate Meeting
2009 ASCA National Specialty
September 29, 2009
Greeley, Colorado

Attendance: Board Members: Michelle Berryessa, Tenley Dexter (Director-elect)Pete Dolan, Rick Gann, Rachel Vest (Director-elect), Mark Westerman

Affiliate Members: Leslie Creelmen, Central Valley ASC – CA; Heidi Erland, ASC of Washington – WA; Melinda Gann, HOTASC – TX; Donna Burdick, Cascade ASC – OR; Sherry Butler, Three Rivers Working ASA – OR; Liz Gibson, Cascade ASC – WA; Glenda Stephenson, Sunshine State ASC – FL; Chuck Klein, First in Flight ASC – NC; Sunday Miles ASC of Michigan – MI; Kim Patterson, Upper Midwest ASC – MN; Karen MacDonald, Upper Midwest ASC – MN; Andrea Bair, West Coast ASA – CA; Trish Alexander, COAST - CA

Michelle Berryessa, ASCA President, called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM, MDT. She introduced the attending Directors and explained that the purpose of the meeting is for Affiliate clubs to bring their concerns to the Board of Directors. She asked for Affiliates to present any issues.

There was a question from the asking when the membership be able to submit show results on line. The discussion which followed noted that there was a priority list for automating submission of information. To date the following function are available on the web site:

1. Individual dog/show results;
2. On-line membership renewal.

The next item on the schedule is on-line litter registration followed by individual dog registration. The registration procedures are at the head of the line because the Registry is ASCA's major income source. On-line results submission is at least a year away. Part of the reason for the slow progress is the economic climate which has resulted in less than expected revenue. Lower than expected revenue has led the Board of Directors to slow the expenditure of funds for web site improvements.

There was a discussion of Merit List updates and how to keep these lists more current. The Business Office Liaison will discuss this with the Office Manager.

A discussion of how to disseminate information to the membership in a timely manner ensued. The Board of Directors had recently discussed this very issue. One step the Board will take is to change the motion handling procedure, decreasing the time for motion submission and extending the motion discussion period. Also, committee liaisons will be tasked to post motions to ASCA-L for member input.

We discussed problems navigating the web site and finding information. Sometimes rule changes appearing on the web site appear to lag because of the show sanctioning timeline. A rule may not have been in effect or passed when the show/trial received sanctioning.

There were no complaints of any weight registered about the performance of the Business Office. There were anecdotal instances of individual items taking longer than normal periods to complete. In general, everyone present was satisfied with the work output of the Business Office. One item of concern noted was the handling/processing of some foreign (predominantly Germany) litter and dog registrations. The main problem noted was differences in the way things are written and follow-up by the applicant. The Treasurer noted that checks and credit cards are processed when received, meaning that there should be no delay in posting to statements. The major problem generator from the Business Office perspective is applicants submitting incomplete/incorrect forms. There was a lengthy discussion of how to solve this problem including providing more timely notification to applicants.

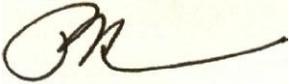
There was a complaint about receiving outdated rulebooks. This may occur because of sanction timeline considerations. Reducing the number of mailed rule books was instituted to reduce printing costs. The up-to-date rule books are available on the web site. Also, an affiliate may request a new rule book from the Business Office at anytime.

There was a question from the floor about involving the committees in monitoring judge performance. The Board is reviewing this with the main issue being the lack of insurance that should be in place if the committees were to become involved in evaluating/disciplining judges. The thrust of the discussion concerning judge performance reports was that the committees could use the information as assistance when crafting judges' education programs.

There was a question concerning the availability of the judge listing electronically. The Business Office will send the listing in CD form upon request. We discussed placing the listing on the web site and cited privacy concerns as the main reason for not doing so. The present were reminded to please notify the Business Office if/when someone notes a judge is no longer available to judge. This is one of the main ways the judges' listing gets updated.

The meeting adjourned at 12:37 PM, MDT.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PD', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right. The signature is set against a light yellow rectangular background.

Pete Dolan
ASCA Secretary