

Motion by Warren, seconded by Gray.  
Directors:

Voting on the enclosed motion went as follows:  
Approve: Kathy, Linda, Michelle, Phil, Lori, Kyle.  
Abstain: Jane, Terry & Gary.  
Motion is approved.

Thanks,

Jo

I move to accept the following 1998 General Membership Meeting Minutes. KW Second Linda

Comments: These minutes are long over do. Linda and I worked on incorporating all the changes and omissions needed. We believe they are accurate and complete. KW

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB of AMERICA, Inc.  
Meeting of the General Membership  
September 17, 1998, Greeley, Colorado

The meeting was called to order by President, Sandra K. Tubbs, at 8:15 p.m.

The President introduced each of the officers and Directors present. She also introduced the new incoming Directors, Michelle Berryessa, Washington and Kathy Warren, California.

Affiliate Clubs donating funds to the National Stock Dog Finals were also named:

ASC of New England - \$500.00  
SEMASA - \$137.75 plus the High Combined Silver Buckle  
Texas ASC - \$50.00  
ASCSC - \$320.00  
Silver Bullet ASSA - \$300.00  
ASC of Washington - \$248.00  
COAST ASC - \$984.14

The Secretary had no minutes available from the last General Membership meeting 1997 at Red Bluff, CA.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Director, Phil Wildhagen, California. Income for the previous year was \$43,700, expenses \$376,000, cash reserves \$109,000. Charts describing "limited data" were available. More detailed information will be published in the AUSSIE TIMES as a complete report did not reach Phil before he left for Colorado. (Note: The following figures were furnished by the Treasurer but arrived to late for the meeting and are printed here for your information. Beginning Balance Jan 98: \$98,661.98. Income Jan 1 - Aug 31, 98: \$406,900.25. Expenses Jan 1 - Aug 31: \$370,386.74. Ending Balance Aug 31: \$135,175.49.)

AUSSIE TIMES Editor, Vicki Rand, Michigan, gave a brief report concerning future plans for the TIMES. Everyone noticed and applauded

the improvements Vicki has already made which were visible in the September/October issue.

Conformation Committee Chairperson, Laura Shivers, California, reported there are 181 new Conformation Champions. She also reported the Committee is hard at work on some much needed show rule revisions, judge and breeder education and a breed standard descriptive letter.

Obedience Committee Chairperson, Bonnie Heitz, California, had no report.

The Stock Dog Committee report was given by outgoing chairperson Kathy Warren, California. She stated there were 8,920 entries, 737 Aussies received titles, with 38 new WTCHs; 791 other breeds received titles and 32 of them received their WTCHs.

Agility Committee report was given by chairperson Paul Kirk, California. There were 63 Agility trials, 330 titles earned by Aussies. There were 144 Agility entries in the ASCA Nationals indicating a great growth in the program since its inception in 1995.

The ARPH Committee report was given by interim chairperson, Kay Marks, Pennsylvania. Kay introduced the new committee members and informed the membership the committee was in the process of revising the adoption rules, regulations, etc., not only to make the program more user friendly to the reps and foster homes but also to the new adoptive homes as well.

The DNA Committee report was given by chairperson, Ann DeChant, Michigan. There are presently 525 dogs in the DNA program. ImmGen, ASCA's current lab, is considering a price break for litters and a certain number of dogs to be tested at the same time. They have not yet determined the specific number. There is also some discussion concerning different methods of testing, i.e. puppy tails, cheek swabs, hair, etc. Due to the availability of DNA testing, ASCA will now permit the registration of multiple sired litters.

Peter Hellmeister, Germany, reported changes in German law soon to take effect will prohibit the docking of tails in Germany. Furthermore, the law may even go so far as to prohibit the importation of any dogs with docked tails. Peter suggested possible changes to the ASCA show rules as well as to the ASCA breed standard to make allowances for dogs with tails. There was lengthy discussion regarding the implications of these changes. It was reported to the membership the Board is aware of the proposed law changes and has asked the Conformation Committee to begin work on possible show rule amendments to address those foreign bred dogs with tails.

There being no additions under Old Business, the President asked for New Business.

The President reported the ASCA Board voted to postpone the implementation of the Dispute Rule changes passed by the Board pending the selection of a Bylaw Committee and input received from that committee. Resumes due to Jo Kimes on September 18, 1998.

Laura Cox, California, stated one day to prepare a resume was not fair

and asked they be given two weeks. Therefore, the deadline for the resumes was moved to September 30, 1998. Much discussion followed. It was also suggested the make up of the Committee, as well as the committee recommendations, should be put on the ASCA web site.

Carol Ernest, California, asked the name of the ASCA Attorney and wanted to know who chose the attorney. It was explained ASCA is fortunate to have the availability of several, excellent, Attorneys - Jim Mullins, a non-profit corporate Attorney in Washington, Rick Larson, a Texas-based Attorney specializing in trademark law and Stephanie Chilton, an ASCA member. It was also pointed out the Board of Directors chooses and hires the ASCA attorney.

The President announced there was a quorum present.

Peter Adolphson, Washington, introduced a handout which had been circulated and posted throughout the show grounds explaining a motion to give the power of changing the ASCA Bylaws back to the members. A motion had to be made to change the Articles of Incorporation, not just amending the Bylaws.

Motion by Peter Adolphson, Washington, seconded by Ammie Ewing, California. I move to modify the second sentence of Article 4.1 of the Articles of Incorporation to read, "The power to alter, amend, or repeal Bylaws or to adopt a new set of Bylaws, shall be reserved to the membership." Motion passed unanimously.

Ted Ondrak, California, brought up the need to allow substitution of dogs in the Nationals trials. One of his dogs broke a foot at a trial in August and had to be withdrawn. Mr. Ondrak wanted his money refunded since another dog who had been on the waiting list, whose owner was thereby paying an entry fee for the same slot at the trial, took Ted's dog's place in the competition. He was told there were no refunds after the close of entries. Board member-elect, Michelle Berryessa, pointed out the changes to be made to Stock Dog Rules, Chapter 5, Section 4 and also the Stock Dog Committee will address these needs.

Paul Kirk, California, made a motion, seconded by Peter Adolphson, Washington: I move a Bylaw Committee be established to review all the Bylaws and report their findings to the ASCA membership. Jerry Aufox, Michigan, amended the motion, seconded by Kaye Harris, Colorado, as follows: to have the committee review the Dispute Rules in the Bylaws and within 60 days propose an alterations or changes to be adopted by the membership. The original motion as amended was passed unanimously.

John Harvey, California, made a motion, seconded by Jerry Aufox, Michigan, to set a fourteen (14) day period to establish a committee. Motion carries. Original motion as amended carries.

Ammie Ewing, California, asked that some thought be given to establishing guidelines for awarding premier ribbons at Nationals and pre-National shows. However many premiers are advertised will be awarded. WD & WB will not be included. Laura Shivers stated that the Conformation Committee will address this issue.

The next topic at the meeting was a discussion regarding a problem with this year's Affiliate meeting at the Nationals. Cindy Taylor, California, pointed out the meeting was not adequately announced, the time and place of the meeting were changed shortly before the meeting was held, the way this announcement was handled gave the appearance the Board had little concern in meeting with the Affiliates, and consequently the meeting was poorly attended. She requested the Affiliate meeting be held in the evening at a time well publicized in advance.

Moira Cornell, California, requested there be some consistency to the Obedience competition regarding the group exercises and that these be standardized as well. The matter was referred to the Obedience Committee.

Jodie Seidel, Germany, brought up the issue regarding tails again.

Jeanne Roberts, Texas, pointed out no one could possibly write a standard on tails since none of our dogs had tails and not been studied.

Al Della Rocco, New York, wanted a "Code of Ethics for Directors" developed.

An inquiry was made regarding the cost of legal fees for this year. Phil Wildhagen reported that prior to Sept 1997 they ran approximately \$1,000 per year except for a \$45,000 fee in November 94. Fees to date for 1998 were approximately \$24,000.

A question was asked why the Board had engaged the large expenditure of finances in the Silveira matter. Terry Martin presented the Board's reasons. Ken Silveira gave a reply responding to Ms. Martin's assertions.

It was suggested by a member that procedures for impeaching ASCA Directors be added to the bylaws.

It was noted that the Aussie Times is a censored publication.

A request was made to the Board for a copy of the arbitrator's ruling in the Silveira/ASCA arbitration and the resignation of Board members Terry Martin and Jane Harrell was called for by Boyce Baker, California.

A motion to adjourn was made by Robbi Norman, Michigan and seconded. Motion failed.

Diane Cline, Minnesota, asked if ASCA was going to accept STAAR as its new rescue program since as reported in the Aussie Times the membership who responded to the poll heavily supported that. The ASCA President responded by stating that ARPH would remain ASCA's rescue program.

Heidi Mobley, Texas, told the remaining members to stop bashing the Board in response to a complaint regarding bashing of Board members, it was pointed out disagreement in a civil manner was never to be considered "bashing". We did vote these people into office and to work

as a team to solve our problems.

Kirk Rand, Michigan, stood and thanked the ASCA Board for all the many hours of hard work put in by all.

A request was made regarding the status of issuing registration number on pedigrees. The Board responded saying numbers will be issue on certified pedigrees beginning January 1, 1999.

It was moved and seconded to have 3 of the 5 Bylaw Committee members elected by the membership. The motion was ruled out of order as our current Bylaws require all Committees to be appointed by the Board. A suggestion was made to appoint a nominating committee made of members for choosing the Bylaw Committee.

A call for civility, Board and Members, for civility.

A motion was made to empower the membership to elect the new President of ASCA. The motion was ruled out of order due to being in violation of Article VIII of the current Bylaws. The issue would be referred to the new Bylaw Committee for review.

Robbi Norman, Michigan, seconded by Kirk Rand, Michigan, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.