

ASCA 2010 General Membership Meeting

October 25, 2010

2010 ASCA National Specialty

Heart of Texas Fairgrounds Waco, Texas

Attendance: Shanti Karinen, Eileen Majarian, Chuck Spriggs, Karen Spriggs, Denise Creelman, Charla Patterson, Jan Wesen, Maxine Schvaneveldt, Linda Barhite, Wayne Kirby, Tom Mhire, Sherry Baker, Stephen Edwards, Kalla Jaco, Marilee Mansir, Judith Myers, Jean Miller, Claudia Yearsley, Marti Parrish, Jenifer Edwards, Marty Strawmier, Robbi Norman, Terry Martin, Susan Harris, Renee Reschenthaler, Melinda Gann, Ann DeChant, Linda Bell, Jackie Oricko, Laura Gibson, Heather Hawkins, Rick Hardin, Cynthia King, Linda Whyman, Linda Gray, Jean Taylor, Mary Burlingame, Trish Alexander, Marsha Westerman, Tori Lewis, Jennifer Rourk, Clarissa Shank, Debbie Martin, Susan Graham, Lori Acierto, Mark Buehl, Tammi Coluccio, Martina Hodkova, Paula Waterman, Tanya Barker, Christine Snoderly, Ray Schafer, Suzanne Scott, Rod Cartmell, Liz Hulley, Greg McClintock, Sandra McClintock, Sal Manna, Dan Sanderson, Becky Parker, Lisa Stirnemann, Manfred Horteis, Elizabeth Jaco, Carol McLaughlin, Rick Pinney, Kathy Reeve, Sheila Polk, Silia Jorsson, Sandra Zilch, Thelma Hickman, Carol Harvey, Sandra Penn, Peter Kontos, Andrea Hoffmann, Fiona Hibbard, Kris Toft, Sharon Peters, Julie Humeston, Jody Faulkner, plus eleven illegible sign-ins.

The President announced that there is not a quorum at this Membership Meeting.

President Michelle Berryessa called the meeting to order at 7:09PM CDT and introduced Directors in attendance: Jerry Aufox, Ronnie Bates Director-elect, David Clayton Director-elect, Tenley Dexter, Pete Dolan, Russ Ford Director-elect, Rick Gann, Peter Hellmeister, Rachel Vest, Mark Westerman, and Mary Logue, Executive Secretary. Absent was Director Chris Davenport.

Treasurer's Report – Mark Westerman

The Treasurer announced that ASCA operated in the black for the 2009 calendar year (~\$40,000) and is operating in the black through the third quarter of 2010.

Michelle Berryessa: For our next order of business I'd like to give our thanks and appreciation for the years of service of our three outgoing Directors, Jerry Aufox, Chris Davenport, and Rick Gann.

Our next order of business is our Committee Reports:

Agility Report – Allison Bryant

The Agility Committee had another busy year with over 20 motions. Most of the motions concerned improvements to the rulebook by clarifying existing rules and tweaking others. Some of our main motions were:

1. No fault for bypassing the last obstacle and crossing the finish line. Now it is a waste of time instead of a 20 point fault.
2. Increasing the sanctioning timeline to 60 days instead of 45. This impacts the club and they should all be aware of it.
3. FEO minimum age is 15 months. Dogs jump 4" lower.
4. Emergency Judges - We now have a procedure and order of ranking to select a new Judge in the event that a Judge's flight is delayed or cancelled or if the Judge cannot complete the assignment due to illness etc.
5. Trial cancellation - We now have a policy regarding how a club should handle a trial if it must be cancelled after entries have been accepted.

We had several motions involving rule clarifications. The general practice was to do things this way, but it just wasn't documented. So we added verbiage to the rulebook to make these rules clear.

1. Novice gamble tests.
2. Required gamble obstacles - We now have a list of the required obstacles that must be available for the opening sequence.
3. How gamblers class is placed - The gamblers class is placed by total number of points, regardless of if a dog qualifies. This has been the practice since the inception of the program. However, it was never documented in the rulebook.

We also had a busy year with apprentice Judges and course reviewers. We have added two new apprentice course reviewers: Richard Pittman and Pam Smith. They will apprentice under our current course reviewers: Sandra Katzen and Judy Boone.

We also approved several new apprentice agility Judges:
Pamelia Hawk
Chet Katwyk

And Chuck Klein from North Carolina became our first Agility Judge to be fully approved using our new Judges Program.

Our program continues to grow. From January 1, 2010 till 9/24/2010 there were 48,759 runs over 275 trialing days. That is an average of 177 runs per day at trials. Our agility finals this year had 101 dogs qualifying.

Thanks to Pete Dolan for being our liaison the past year. He has done a great job helping to facilitate communication between the committee and the Board. It really helps that he has an agility background as well.

Sue Graham will be assuming the duties of committee chair and Pete Dolan continues as the committee's Board liaison.

ARPH Report

No report delivered.

Conformation Committee – Ann DeChant Chair

I'm Ann DeChant, and I am reporting for the Conformation Committee.

A few months ago, Glenda Stephenson resigned after many great years as our Chair. We can't thank her enough for her tireless service to ASCA. She is remaining on the Committee to continue to share her wealth of expertise. I was elected to fill the time until Nationals. Liz Gibson was recently elected to serve as our Chair for the next year. Michelle Berryessa was also elected to serve as our Committee Liaison.

The Conformation Committee had a productive year with the following rules added to the rule book:

Rules that pertained to the Conformation Finals were as follows:

- In an effort to make the Finals be self-supporting, Chapter 15.3 which covers the participant was edited to add alternates to Finals so that there would be 30 entries for Intact and 30 entries for Altered. This rule was effective for the 2010 Nationals Finals.
- We changed the Finals Rules section so that the Mission Statement is changed to a Statement of Purpose.
- In 15.1, the formal tabulation of merit points was added to the rule book. Additionally, the limitation of altered points and intact points were defined and ratified that intact points do not cross over to altered.

After feedback from Members who complained that we didn't have Judges Education, we sent a motion to take the Breeder Judges Education section of the Website into the Rulebook as part of the Appendix. That was approved by the Board. The Committee also defined the appendix as:

- Appendix 1. ASCA Breed Standard
- Appendix 2. Judges Guidelines/Code of Ethics
- Appendix 3. ASCA Conformation Judge Education

The addition of 7.24, states: Any person acting in the capacity of Judge at a show shall not exhibit nor act as agent or handler at the show. This rule clarified many questions regarding Judges exhibiting at events.

Modified Rule 13.1: Added additional documentation, regarding excused and disqualified dog forms that needed to be sent to the ASCA Business office after events in the show report.

Motions on rules and board directives that the committee has completed and passed on to the board are:

- Non Regular Breeder Judge approval process with requirements.

- We have changed our discussion and voting time frame so that our Motions are discussed and approved and forwarded to the Board faster.
- Rule 7.25: The committee reiterated and agreed that this rule should not be changed or modified. 7.25 states that Judges of any level may not solicit. Non Regular judges complete a test, are published, and given a Judges number, therefore, they ARE a Judge. Further discussion on current rules regarding Judges accepting assignments before they are approved was brought forth. The committee feels that the current rule that is in place governs this behavior, but it has to be enforced.
- More work is being done on 13.1: Covers documentation to be sent in with the show report and the addition of the Judge's conduct form which is to be sent from the business office to the Committee so that education can be provided where necessary.
- Disqualified dog reinstatement procedure: Since this rule has been in practice for decades, the rule has never been formally in the rule book. This rule is to ratify the rule that has been in practice.
- We have a motion that just went into the discussion phase to add a list to the Show Rules of what must be included in a show flier. The committee has finalized the template for required items that have to be on show premiums.
- Rule 7.17: Added a section to the rule that defined the reasons that a dog can be excused from the ring by a Judge. This was a board directive.

The Committee is still working on 9.10 A through D: This section defines who can show to a Judge, and who cannot. We have also worked on adding certain parts of the ASCA Breeder Judge Code of Ethics into the Rules to make them enforceable particularly the portion that would strengthen and clarify the Conflict of interest section.

We have been working on a fix for the Conformation Finals regarding when Judges are hired so that people who are campaigning a dog for Finals can know in advance of the show year who the Finals judges will be. We are also looking at how the Stock Dog Finals Judges are chosen as a model of how Conformation Judges could be hired for Finals. Our work on this has not been completed.

We will be losing two of our members, Ronnie Bates and David Clayton, who have been elected to the Board of Directors. We wish them luck. We will have openings on the Committee for Regions 3 and 4. Ronnie and David are from Region 5, but the Committee currently has 2 members from that Region. If you would like to apply to become a Member of the ASCA Conformation Committee, please send your resume to ASCA Executive Secretary, Mary Logue at Executive.secretary@asca.org

We thank Rick Gann for his work as our Board Liaison and to Chris Davenport who has recently become Liaison until Nationals. The Committee appreciates your help and support.

The Conformation Committee welcomes your feedback and your questions. Please send any feedback that you may have to Liz Gibson at coastalrange@embarqmail.com

Conformation Committee --- Liaison: Michelle Berryessa

Interim Committee Chair: Ann B. DeChant, Michigan

New Chair: Liz Gibson

REGION 1: Liz Gibson (OR), Debbie Martin (OR)

REGION 2: Regi Gravette (CA), Denise Creelman (CA), Mary Hellmeister (CA)

REGION 3: Becky Noe (CO)

REGION 4: Ann DeChant (MI)

REGION 5: Glenda Stephenson (FL), Gail Karamalegos (TX)

REGION 6: Leah Swatko (ON), Peter Kontos (NY)

REGION 7: Nancy Pelletier (NZ), Luc Goossens (Belg)

DNA Committee Report – Linda Gray – Committee Member

During this year our primary focus has been to educate the membership on the DNA timeline and what it means to you. So, while I have you all gathered here I want you to know the committee worked diligently to inform you that on January 1, 2011 all sires and dams will need to be DNA'd through an ASCA approved lab in

order to register a litter. The pups from that litter DO NOT need to be DNA'd unless their owner decides to breed them.

We are in the process of clarifying some of the registry rules pertaining to DNA to make them easier to understand and to bring them in line with the current office procedures.

The cheek swab failure rate is less than 2% and most of that less than 2% is due to not following the directions, so please read and follow the directions when you swab your dog's cheek.

DNA Titles for 1/1/2009 thru 12/31/2009

DNA-CP = 674

DNA-VP = 994

DNA Titles for 1/1/2010 thru 10/25/2010

DNA-CP = 668

DNA-VP = 1015

The committee would like to thank Ann De Chant for accepting our plea to become our new Chair. Ann has been involved in the DNA Program since 1996 and we look forward to her experience and expertise.

We would like to thank our board liaison Pete Dolan for accepting the job again. We would also like to thank our former Chair Jamie Burns for her work while on the committee.

Education Committee

No report given.

Health and Genetics – Pete Dolan - Liaison

The ASCA Foundation Board of Directors created a Health and Genetics Committee composed of the same members as the ASCA Health and Genetics Committee. The committee will advise The ASCA Foundation Board of Directors on matters concerning disbursing of Foundation funds to support genetic and health research

History Committee – Robbi Norman – Committee Member

No report.

Juniors Committee – Heather Hawkins - Chair

The committee is working on revising and amending the patterns section of the rulebook. We are also looking at ways to conduct events for Juniors. The committee held a Judging Juniors seminar at this year's National Specialty. Five Judges volunteered their time to conduct this seminar. The committee continues to update and revise the rulebook.

Legislative Committee

No report delivered.

MVA Committee – Andrea Hoffman, Chair

The committee will be working on adding the Rally program to the MVA program.

Nationals Committee – Renee Reschenthaler, Chair

The committee plans to have a draft of the "How to Guide" to the Board of Directors by Thanksgiving.

Obedience Committee Report: - Mary Burlingame – Chair

Presently, the committee consists of 13 members from various regions and overseas.

Over the last year the committee has made some noteworthy changes which include:

An additional ending option for the Broad Jump exercise. After much debate and exhibitor feedback, we have come up with way to end the exercise without the dog performing a sharp turn upon landing. This change is

thought to reduce the risk of injury from dogs slipping while trying to execute the turn. Since some exhibitors didn't agree with this change, the committee left the traditional ending as-is while adding an additional option for the handler.

Then creation of the Open V and Utility V classes allows dogs 7 years and older to jump 4 inches less than the normal. The change was thought to allow older dogs, who are still in good health and physical condition, to continue to show with less stress on their joints. These dogs can now finish their Open and Utility titles, but are not eligible for HIT or HC nor Nationals and Final rankings.

Handlers are now allowed to excuse themselves for any reason. Also, Judges are now required to excuse dogs they feel are out of control or interfere with other dogs such as a dog that gets up and goes to another dog in the line.

Due to the shortage of trials, the amount of time an exhibitor can show in the "A" classes was extended to 180 days.

Clear up the fact that a title 'from ASCA' is necessary before moving to the next level.

Colored dumbbells are now allowed.

Our present focus is on Judge's education. We are discussing many facets for this topic such as a mentoring or apprenticeship program, seminars, as well as other ideas. We are also discussing the idea of changing or removing the group exercises in the Open class. The committee is fairly evenly divided on this topic, as are the exhibitors who have provided feedback so the outcome is unknown.

If you have any comments, suggestions, or want to become a member of the obedience committee, please let us know or submit your resume to the Executive Secretary.

Mary Burlingame
Obedience Committee chair

Rally Committee – Lori Fausett – Chair

The Texas national Specialty successfully completed the first National Specialty Rally trial. The committee continues to address the problem of certifying/approving rally Judges and is examining procedures for certify Judges from additional venues. The committee has scheduled a rally seminar and a Rally seminar for Juniors to be held during this National Specialty. To improve the program the committee is working on improving sign description, developing a course design check-list., improving course design icons, and developing a supervisory/education process for Judges. As the program grows the committee is looking at requesting a dedicated individual in the Business Office to handle the Rally program.

Stockdog Committee Report – Rick Hardin, - Interim Chair

Current SDC Contestant Members did not change

REGION 1: Chris Caldwell (WA)
REGION 2: Sherry Baker (CA)
REGION 3: Stacie Harris (CO)
REGION 4: Sue Kelly (MI)
REGION 5: Cheryl Padgett (GA)
REGION 6: Matt Mason (NH)
REGION 7: Anneke DeJong (Netherlands)

New SDC Judge Members to the right

Robyn Johnson-Garrett	>>
Rick Hardin	>>Rick Pinney
Preston Kissman	>>Wally Butler
Maxine Schaneveldt	>>
Steve Shope	>>Jan Wesen

New SD Judges and current status

<u>Apprentice</u>		<u>Provisional</u>
Allison Bryant - GA		Michael Bryant – GA
David Clayton – FL	>>SDC 10/18	Robyn Johnson-Garrett – UT
Anneke de Jong – NL		Wayne Kirby – GA
Lisa Edwards – NV		Devona Myrick – NM

Fiona Hibbard – CA
Bjintze Jager – NL
Gunnar Larsson – SE
Mark Westerman – TX

Robert Myrick – NM
Michael Tremblay – CA
Jan Wesen – WA
Tanya Wheeler -- CN

SD Rule Update

Trials may be sanctioned where STD classes run on course A/B and OTD/ATD classes run on course C or D or...

h. A Host club may sanction different courses per division of a class of stock per trial. Example: Started and Open sheep can be sanctioned to run on Course B, while Advanced sheep will run on Course C in the same trial, in different arenas or the same arena. **Effective 8/1/10** (3.3.2h – p4)

Course C has some minor changes:

- The length of the arena is down from 250 to 225.
- The scores over 100 now count as 1.5 Finals points
- The exit end of the chute is now set 125 feet from the line between #1 and #2 – and this is now the Advanced Handler Line (across the EXIT of the Chute)
- The latter two changes make C more consistent with D, E, F.

g. Chute: The chute consists of four panels. The duck/geese arena chute shall be two feet wide at the exit. The sheep/goats and cattle arena chute shall be four feet wide at the exit. The wing ends of the chute shall be positioned in a minimum size arena for the sheep/goats and cattle arena 35 from the side fence and in a larger arena up to 50 feet and 12 feet for a minimum size duck/geese arena and for larger duck/geese arenas up to 20 feet. The chute is set at a distance of 125 feet down from the bottom corner of the panel of Obstacle 2 exit end of the chute, for the sheep/goats and cattle arena, 45 feet for the duck/geese arena with the wings positioned at a 45-degree angle to the center of the chute. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed. **Effective 8/1/10**

Note: The distance from the side fence to obstacle 1 and 2 will be the same as the distance from the side fence to the closest chute wing.

h. Handler lines: The Advanced handler line shall be 125 feet for the sheep/goats and cattle arena from the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 1 or obstacle 2 down to the exit end of the chute, and 45 feet to the exit end of the Chute for the duck/geese arena. The Open handler line shall be 25 feet for the sheep/goats and cattle arena, 6 for the duck/geese arena, (3.12.3 -- p10)

Courses D, E, and F were added with diagrams and descriptions.

Scores over 100 on these courses will count as 1.5 Finals points.

(I have a spreadsheet that does the obstacle calculations for different size arenas, if anyone is interested.)

Stock Finals NetZero

The Board of Directors presented a directive to the SDC to develop a plan that would have the Stock Finals Budget net zero. The plan has been developed and sent to the Board. The plan is only a proposal at this point. The SDC has been asked to refine the budget to represent the most accurate information possible. The highlights of the plan are:

- 30 Qualifying Dogs
- 3 Runs on the Qualifying class of stock with NO elimination
- 6 Judges with 2 Judges for each stock
- Judges would rotate to different stock arenas for each run
- High and low score from each stock will be discarded.
- Finals Entry Fee for 3 runs suggested: \$200 – Cattle; \$150 – Sheep; \$100 – Ducks
- Affiliate Fee per stock run during the year moves from \$0.50 to \$1.50

Tracking Committee – Jan Wesen

The Tracking Committee has been working hard to grow our sport and meet the requests of our fancy. Since the last Nationals we have had:

Yearly Title Report for Tracking

9/30/2009 thru 10/20/2010

# of Tracking Dog Tests-----	8
Number of titles earned by Aussies	TD's.....5 TDX's...5
Number of titles earned by Other Breeds	TD's.....4 TDX's...1
Number of dogs competing-----	16

Since the last Nationals we have added a number of new Tracking titles that folks can earn.

First is the TDU. This test is somewhat comparable to a TD, and certification for TD's can be used to enter this test; however, this test is for more urban areas where it has been difficult to find large expanses of field. It can be run on mowed lawn areas, and it crosses a small amount of non-vegetative surfaces. The first of these tests will be happening in the east this October.

Secondly, dogs that pass either a TD, or a TDU, or a TDX, can now run for numerical passes after their title. For example, if a dog passes a TD for a second time, it will have the title of TD2, or for the 13th time, it will have the title of TD13. This goes for each test. Dogs running for these titles will not have first place in the draw. This gives a team a chance to run again and again in Tracking. No tracking test is ever the same.

The third new title is the Master Tracker Title. This gives tracking an upper level award, and it will be well deserved title for any team that achieves it.

This title consists of a dog passing a least 3 times the TD or the TDU or a combination to equal 3, and passing the TDX twice.

The Tracking committee has sent requests to both the HOF and the Versatility committees to consider these new titles for inclusion into those programs. The Tracking committee is waiting to hear from both committees.

As requested by the membership, the Tracking committee has also:

1. Eliminated the requirement for certifications to enter Tracking tests, however, dogs without certifications or an equivalent title will be always drawn last in the Draw for Entry. (Dogs with titles from other organizations that are the equivalent of the TD or TDU can be substituted for a certification).
2. We have removed the dated time limit for use of other title Dogs with tracking titles from other organizations that are the equivalent to the TD or the TDU, If a dog earned a CKC TD ten years ago, that title can be used in lieu of a current certification to enter.
3. We have changed the number of committee members needed at a tracking test from 5 to 3.

We are currently discussing if we should change the rules regarding how many Judges are needed for a Tracking Test. Currently two Judges are required. It is being considered that for smaller tests maybe there could be one Judge. We have a survey on this issue available at the Office Table. Please give us your input.

We would also like to know if folks would be interested in a Search Dog Test/s?

We would like to congratulate those dogs that have passed at the Nationals tests.

The Tracking committee has a group, TC-feedback@yahoogroups.org. Please join us if you have input for the Tracking committee.

We would like to sincerely thank all of the members of our committee for this year: Becky Parker, Anne Hershey, Celeste Kelly, Betty Mueller, Linda Grey, Margaret Abrahamson, Marja Teelgelbeckers, Maria Kremers, Sue Schroeder, and Carol McQuade.

We would also like to sincerely thank Michelle Berryessa, our liaison, for her kindness, good will, and great working relationship with the Tracking Committee this year.

It has been a pleasure for all of us.

If you have input for the Tracking committee, there are a number of us here this week, Linda Grey, Becky Parker, and myself, Jan Wesen. If you have input for us, grab us and let us know what you would like to see us work on for Tracking.

Thanks you for your time.

Sincerely,

The Tracking Committee

President Berryessa announced the National Specialty Locations:

2011 West Bend, WI

2012 Bakersfield, CA

2013 and after- No Applicants

Old Business:

No old business

New Business:

There was an extensive discussion with a lively exchange of opinions relating to the payment of the fine levied by the Board of Directors on the Rowes by third parties. Several person expressed their displeasure with the fine being partially paid by a BOD member.

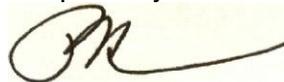
There was an issue raised concerning the registration of a dog with registration revoked relatives in its pedigree. The registration in question fell within ASCA's rules in force at the time. The Board of Directors will closely examine the current rules and close the loophole that allowed this registration to proceed.

There was a wide-ranging discussion of the status and future course of the Breed Standard revision process. Many members felt the version the BSRC completed should go to the membership for a vote.

There was a suggestion from Linda Bell to institute some sort of reward/remuneration for Aussie Times columnist/contributors. In response, there was a suggested idea to award a free ad based on a number of columns submitted.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 PM CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PD', is written over a light yellow rectangular highlight.

Pete Dolan
ASCA Secretary