

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.

February 1 – 29, 2008

97:14 DNA COMMITTEE - TIMES ad.

Motion by Davenport.

I move the following be published in the next issue of the Aussie Times (deadline 3/15/08):

DON'T DELAY Get it done TODAY!

Please send your dog's DNA to the lab for a Sire and/or Dam at least two months before their third litter is BRED. This will speed the process for your litter registration application.

.....BUT WHY WAIT..... Plan ahead and get it done early. If you're planning on breeding, DNA when you do your other health checkups, heartworm, OFA or other screenings. Be ahead of the game.

Applications for Litter Registrations from Sires and/or Dams producing their third litter WILL NOT be processed until the Sire and/or Dam has been DNA profiled with an ASCA approved lab and recorded as DNA-CP or DNA-VP with the ASCA Registrar. (This became effective January 1, 2006.)

From your DNA Committee

Directors voting: Approve: MacRoberts, McNamara, Hellmeister, Berryessa, Aufox, Davenport, DeChant & Gann.

Abstain: Stevens. Motion is approved.

98:15 OBEDIENCE COMMITTEE - Ch. 2. Sec. 25.

Motion by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the following recommendation of the Obedience committee:

POLL QUESTION: Motion by Uran, second by White

I move the following be added to the obedience rulebook effective June 2008:

Reason for change: Address the issue of fouling the ring.

Chapter 2 Regulations For Performance and Judging

Section 25 Misbehavior

Replace last sentence in paragraph one with the following:

In any ASCA class (regular or non-regular) at any trial (including Nationals and Finals), any dog that fouls the ring while in the ring for judging shall lose all allowable points for that class (sub-novice 160; other classes 200 points.) In the case of Team competition, any dog that fouls the ring will lose the total 200 points while the other dogs will continue to be judged. At the judge's discretion, a dog who fouls the ring may be excused.

CHOICES AND RESULTS - No, 1 votes; Yes, 13 votes

Directors voting: Approve: Gann, DeChant, Aufox, Davenport, Berryessa, Hellmeister & McNamara. Disapprove: MacRoberts. Abstain: Stevens. Motion is approved.

98:15 OBEDIENCE COMMITTEE - Ch. 1, Sec. 21.

Motion by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the following recommendation of the Obedience committee:

Motion by Burlingame, second by White.

Approval: Unanimous

I respectfully make the following motion to be effective June 1, 2008.

Chapter 1, section 21, second paragraph.

Remove the first sentence ("An Obedience Judge may officiate for any ASCA affiliate club once every 30 days") and replace it with:

"ASCA affiliate clubs are encouraged to use a variety of approved judges. Any club is allowed to hire any judge once every 30 days. To clarify, two different clubs may hire the same judge within the same 30 day period even if the clubs are in the same area of the country."

The rest of the second paragraph remains the same.

Also, paragraph 3, replace existing sentence ("At the discretion of the show giving club, non-regular classes may be held before regular classes.")

With the following:

"Non-regular classes will always be held after all regular classes have finished and awards for those classes have been distributed. The only exception to this rule will be when there are multiple obedience rings running at the same time, such as at ASCA Nationals and other large shows. Even in the case of the ASCA Nationals, it is suggested that non-regular classes are run last if possible."

Reasons: To clarify which judges can be hired (also to clarify for judges that it's alright to accept judging assignments) from different affiliate clubs. Additionally due to complaints, we felt it was important to direct clubs to offer non-regular classes last so that the regular classes can be judged first.

Directors voting: Approve: Stevens, McNamara, Berryessa, Aufox, Davenport, DeChant, Gann & Hellmeister. Disapprove: MacRoberts. Motion is approved.

04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Appendix A.

Motion by McNamara.

I move the following. Kristin

This motion passed - 9 yes, 1 non voting (I couldn't find a vote from Andrea).

Motion by Pete, 2nd by Pamela. The effective date would be June 1, 2008.

APPENDIX A

EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS

Section 2 - Weave Poles

2nd paragraph currently reads: Weave poles shall be of rigid construction, no less than 20" from the center of one pole to the center of the next pole and no more than 21" from center to

center. Change to: Weave poles shall be of rigid construction, no less than 20" from the center of one pole to the center of the next pole and no more than 24" from center to center.

Rationale: other venues are allowing weave poles spaced intervals up to 24"

Section 3 - Tunnels

Closed Tunnel:

Current paragraph reads: The closed tunnel is made up of two parts: a solid opening (barrel) and the fabric chute. The rigid opening shall be 30" to no more than 36" in length and shall have a minimum opening of 22" inside diameter in height. The rigid opening shall be supported so as not to sway, the circumference edge of the entrance shall be padded whenever there are sharp edges, and the inside dog running area (normally approximately 24" in width) is to have a non-skid surface. The fabric portion of the chute shall be no more than 8' feet long and flare out over the 8' feet distance to a circumference of 86" inches minimum and 90" inches maximum at the exit.

Clean up the wording and amend to read:

The closed tunnel is made up of two parts: a solid opening (barrel) and a fabric chute. The rigid opening shall be 30" to 36" in length and shall have a minimum 22" inside diameter. The rigid opening shall be supported to prevent swaying, the entrance edge shall be padded and the inside dog running area (normally approximately 24" in width) is to have a non-skid surface. The fabric portion of the chute shall be no more than 8' long and flare out over the 8' distance to a circumference of between 86" and 90" at the exit.

Insert: "The above is preferred, however, a combined barrel and cloth length of 12 feet is also acceptable."

Section 6 Miscellaneous Equipment [insert: (required to host an ASCA(R) Agility Trial)]

Item 3 currently reads: 3. Gamble tape and golf tees - The handler lines for the gamblers class need to be clearly marked and secured.

Change to read: 3. Surveyors tape and securing material – The handler lines for the gamblers class need to be clearly marked and secured. On grass, dirt, and sand surfaces golf tees or roofing retaining nails (nails with a 1" plastic washer retained by the nail head) may be used to secure the handlers line. Indoors, on surfaces that will not accept tees or nails, tape may be used. If tape is not allowed by the facility then a temporary method, such as spray chalk may be used. If this method is used the line from a previous level must be removed before the new line is marked.

Rationale: Indoor facilities are being used to host ASCA agility trials and other methods of marking the gamble lines need to be considered.

Item 7 currently reads: 7. Dog Height Measuring Device - Dogs with a standard jump height of less than 20", but lacking a permanent 'ASCA(R) approved' height card, will need to be measured.

Change to read:

7. Dog Height Measuring Device - Dogs entering the Small and Medium dog classes (i.e., classes in which the dog's wither height is 18" and under) that do not have permanent NADAC or AKC height cards need to be measured. Calibrated wickets are allowed.

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Section 4.1.4.

Motion by McNamara.

I move the following:

Motion by Pete regarding Section 4.1.4. Art gave the 2nd.

The final tally on this motion is: 8 'yes' votes (Sue, Art, Pete, Ally, Cynthia, Justyna, Lisa & Margaret), 2 'no' votes by Pamela & Andrea). The effective date would be June 1, 2008.

Since sections A, E & F had only grammatical changes I have omitted them from this motion and will make the changes in the June rulebook.

Section 4.1.4 Scoring Obstacle Faults

Section B currently reads:

(B) Failure to Complete - 20 faults (Regular Agility and Jumpers Classes)

A dog will be assessed a twenty (20) fault penalty if the dog skips or in any way bypasses any obstacle without reaching a point of completion. The point of completion for the contact obstacles shall be when all four (4) paws are on the descent side of the obstacle. This shall be the descent side of the A-frame, the descent ramp of the dog walk and the point at which the teeter-totter begins to dip downward. Any dog which commits to a contact obstacle by having all four paws on the obstacle, then, for any reason, gets off the obstacle before reaching the point of completion, shall be assessed for a Failure to Complete. Any dog which has been assessed with a failure to complete penalty must go on to the next obstacle in the course sequence. Any attempt to retry a contact obstacle will be a cause for elimination. The judge shall say "Go on" to the exhibitor if they feel the dog has committed a Failure to Complete and should not retry the obstacle.

Change to read:

(B) Failure to Complete - 20 faults (Regular Agility and Jumpers Classes)

The dog is faulted for a Failure to Complete if the dog skips or bypasses any obstacle without reaching the completion point for that obstacle. The completion point for contact obstacles is having all four (4) paws on the descent side of the obstacle. If a dog commits to a contact obstacle by having all four paws on the obstacle, then, for any reason, gets off the obstacle before completing the obstacle, it will be assessed a 'Failure to Complete'. For non-contact obstacles a dog is assessed a 'Failure to Complete' if it runs around the obstacle (or backs out of a tunnel and runs around the tunnel) and continues on course without attempting to complete the obstacle. Any dog assessed a 'Failure to Complete' must go on to the next obstacle in the sequence. Any attempt to retry a contact obstacle is cause for elimination. The judge shall say "Go on" to the exhibitor if the judge assessed a 'Failure to Complete'.

Section C currently reads:

(C) Unsafe Performance of an Obstacle - 20 faults (Regular Agility and Jumpers Classes)

Any dog which executes an obstacle in any manner in which the judge feels that the dog has endangered itself, the handler, or anyone else, shall fault the dog with an unsafe execution. This fault can be assessed even if the dog has executed the obstacle correctly under the rest of the guidelines. All obstacles must be executed in a safe manner. If the judge feels that the dog could have injured itself by attempting an obstacle in a reckless manner shall fault the dog for an Un-safe execution of an Obstacle.

Examples of an unsafe execution could be if a dog leaves the teeter-totter ramp before the ramp

touches the ground (fly off of the teeter-totter), crashing through a jump, or possible a sideways approach or exit off the A-Frame. The judge's decision is final as to whether an obstacle was executed in a safe manner.

Change to read:

(C) Unsafe Performance of an Obstacle - 20 faults (Regular Agility and Jumpers Classes)

Any dog which executes an obstacle in a manner which the judge assesses as endangering itself, the handler, or anyone else, shall be faulted for 'Unsafe Performance'. This fault can be assessed even if the dog has executed the obstacle correctly under the rest of the guidelines. All obstacles must be executed in a safe manner. Examples of unsafe performance are: (a) a dog leaves the teeter-totter ramp before the ramp touches the ground (fly off of the teeter-totter), (b) crashes through a jump, (c) a sideways approach or exit off the A-Frame. The judge's decision about 'Unsafe Performance' is final.

Section D currently reads:

(D) Missed Safety Zone - 10 Faults (Regular Agility Class)

A dog shall be assessed a ten (10) fault penalty for missing a safety zone.

The following safety zones shall be judged for penalties:

The descent ramp of the A-Frame

The descent ramp of the Dog Walk

The descent ramp of the Teeter-Totter

The judge must actually see a part of the dog's paw step into the safety zone prior to the dog leaving the obstacle. The dog will receive a ten (10) fault penalty if it makes only an incidental contact with the safety zone. It will be determined that the dog has left the obstacle when all four paws lift off the obstacle in an attempt to leave the obstacle.

(Example: If the dog were to jump off the A-Frame and land with its front paws in the grass and its hind legs in the safety zone then it would be assessed a ten (10) fault penalty, because the dog's contact with the safety zone would be judged as incidental contact only.) A handler should be faulted for interference if the judge believes that the handler is intentionally blocking the judge's view.

Change to read:

(D) Missed Contact Zone - 10 Faults (Regular Agility Class) A dog is faulted for a 'Missed Contact Zone' if the dog does not have a paw or any part of a paw in the contact zone prior to leaving the contact obstacle or makes only an incidental contact with the contact zone. It will be determined that the dog has left the obstacle when all four paws lift off the obstacle in an attempt to leave the obstacle.

(Example: If the dog were to jump off the A-Frame and land with its front paws in the grass and its rear paws in the contact zone then it would be assessed a ten (10) fault penalty, because the dog's contact with the contact zone would be judged as incidental.)

The following contact zones are judged for penalties:

The descent ramp of the A-Frame

The descent ramp of the Dog Walk

The descent ramp of the Teeter-Totter

Directors voting: Approve: Gann, DeChant, Davenport, Aufox, Berryessa, McNamara, Hellmeister & MacRoberts. Abstain: Stevens. Motion is approved.

04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE- Section 8.4

Motion by McNamara

I move to approve the following:

Motion by Pete, 2nd by Sue. Effective date would be June 1, 2008.
Pete & Justyna), 4 'No' votes (Sue, Ally, Cynthia & Lisa).

Replace Section 8.4 which reads:

Section 8.4 Fees

1. The entry fee charged for the Agility Finals will be \$80 for all divisions. No entry fees will be refunded. Dogs will be not be allowed to enter a portion of the rounds. If they enter the Finals, they must enter all rounds available for their division. Entry fees will be used to cover any expenses that the host organization may incur while putting on the Agility Finals as well as for awards. The host club will submit their expenses to the ASCA Board of Directors. [When all expenses have been met any additional monies will be used for funding the next year's Finals. Deleted per motion 11-2007, effective 06/01/08.]

2. The ASCA Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Host club(s) of the Finals, the Board of Directors, and the ASCA Agility Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year.

3. Host Club shall submit a proposed budget to the Board of Directors and the ASCA Agility Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.

With the following:

Section 8.4 Fees and Budget

1. The entry fee charged for the Agility Finals will be \$50 for all divisions. No entry fees will be refunded. Dogs are not allowed to enter a portion of the rounds. Entries must be for all rounds available for the specific division. Entry fees will be used to cover the expenses incurred to conduct the Agility Finals including awards. The host club must submit their expenses to the ASCA Board of Directors.

2. The ASCA Business Office will account of all received Finals entry fees.

The Business Office is responsible for informing the Host club(s), the Board of Directors, and the ASCA Agility Committee of the total entry fees received by August 1st of the competition year. Also, the Business Office is responsible for forwarding entry fees to the host club(s) no later than two weeks after close of Finals entries.

3. The Host Club must submit an Agility Finals budget to the ASCA Board of Directors and the ASCA Agility Committee at least six months prior to the Finals

Directors voting: Approve: DeChant, Berryessa & Hellmeister. Disapprove: Gann, Davenport, Aufox, McNamara & MacRoberts. Abstain: Stevens. Motion is defeated.

04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Section 2.3.

Motion by McNamara.

I move to approve the following:

Motion 4-2008 by Sue, 2nd by Cynthia.

This motion passed with 9 yes votes and 1 abstain.

Effective June 1, 2008

Section 2.3 final paragraph currently reads:

A handler may not enter a dog in the Veterans or Junior Handler Division** at a jump height higher than the lowest height the dog is eligible for. However, a veteran handler, a disabled handler, junior handler or a handler of a veteran dog who wishes a dog to jump at a higher height than the dog is eligible for in the Veterans or Junior Handler division may choose to enter the dog in the Standard Division at the higher jump height, with all guidelines and course times of the Standard Division applying. **See chapter 3, Section 3.4**

Change to read:

A handler may not enter a dog in the Veterans Division at a jump height higher than the lowest height the dog is eligible for. Dogs entered in the Junior Handler Division classes may jump at the dog's standard jump height or 4" lower. See Chapter 3, Sections 3.3 and 3.4.

Rationale: The committee missed amending this paragraph when the motion allowing the Junior Handlers to choose their jump heights was passed.

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

98:05 CONFORMATION COMMITTEE - Breeder judge Requirements

Motion by Gann.

I move to approve the following:

Motion as Follows by Liz Gibson, Seconded by Mary Hellmeister

NON-REGULAR BREEDER JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

Before applying for Non-Regular Breeder Judge status, the following requirements must be met:

- A. Must be a **Full** member of ASCA® in good standing for at least eight (8) years.
- B. Must be at least twenty-six (26) years of age.
- C. Must have bred three (3) ASCA® Champions of Record and handled three (3) ASCA® Champions of Record to their title. Applicant must have placed all points on each Champion. **(The three (3) Champions fulfilling the handling requirement can be within the three (3) bred Champions or in addition to these)**
- D. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA® Australian Shepherd Breed Standard.
- E. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA® Approved Conformation Show Rules and Regulations.
- F. Must have evidence of a strong background and involvement in ASCA® and its programs developed for the Australian Shepherd, such as membership and participation in Affiliate clubs, and putting on ASCA® events such as Show Secretary, Steward, Scorekeeper, Timekeeping, etc. **Proof of membership totaling five (5) years or more with an ASCA affiliate club or clubs must accompany application.**

G. Must have served as a steward in the conformation ring at **five (5)** or more ASCA® sanctioned events. Must have served as a Show Secretary at **three (3)** or more ASCA® sanctioned events. **Documentation of stewarding and show secretary duties must accompany application.**

H. **Ringside Observations: Applicant must mentor with an approved Breeder Judge or a Senior Breeder Judge at three (3) conformation shows. The conformation shows must be major pointed. Documentation must accompany application. Any dog owned or co-owned by the applicant cannot be shown to the mentoring judges for a period of 12 months.**

I. Must be willing to abide by ASCA Conformation Judges Code of Ethics.

THESE ARE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLYING AND EACH APPLICANT WILL BE EVALUATED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS BEFORE ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PROGRAM. APPLICANT MAY EXCEED THESE REQUIREMENTS FOR THEIR BENEFIT.

The previous wording:

NON-REGULAR BREEDER JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

Before applying for Non-Regular Breeder Judge status, the following requirements must be met:

A. Must be an adult member of ASCA® in good standing for at least eight (8) years.

B. Must be at least twenty-six (26) years of age.

C. Must have bred five (5) ASCA® Champions of Record or be a breeder of three (3) and handled two (2) ASCA® Champions of Record to their title. (The applicant must have placed all points and majors on each Champion.)

D. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA® Australian Shepherd Breed Standard.

E. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA® Approved Conformation Show Rules and Regulations.

F. Must have evidence of a strong background and involvement in ASCA® and its programs developed for the Australian Shepherd, such as membership and participation in Affiliate clubs, and putting on ASCA® events such as Show Secretary, Steward, Scorekeeper, Timekeeping, etc.

G. Must have served as a steward in the conformation ring at three (3) or more ASCA® sanctioned events. Must have served as a Show Secretary at three (3) or more ASCA® sanctioned events.

H. Must be willing to abide by the ASCA® Conformation Judges Code of Ethics.

THESE ARE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLYING AND EACH APPLICANT WILL BE EVALUATED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS BEFORE ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PROGRAM. APPLICANT MAY EXCEED THESE REQUIREMENTS FOR THEIR BENEFIT.

Committee voting: AFFIRMATIVE: Liz Gibson, Mary Hellmeister, Peter Kontos, Heather Herron, Glenda Stephenson, and Nadia Schlapp. OPPOSED: Janet White, David Clayton NON VOTING: Denise Creelman

Note: A formal consensus and vote from all members, excluding Nadia Schlapp (non-voting), that these Breeder Judge Requirements become effective on: June 1, 2008. Currently enrolled judges at any level who have received a judges' number before this date are grandfathered to follow the old rules and procedures.

Directors voting: Approve: Stevens. Disapprove: Berryessa, Gann, DeChant, Davenport, McNamara, Aufox, Hellmeister & MacRoberts. Motion is denied.

98:05 CONFORMATION COMMITTEE - Section 7.6.

Motion by Gann.

I move to approve the following:

Motion by Mary Hellmeister, Seconded by Liz Gibson

[Reads now:](#)

SECTION 7.6: A Conformation Judge shall not pass judgment on:

A: Any dog he, or a member of his immediate family or household owns, co-owns, bred or co-bred.

B: Any dog he, or a member of his immediate family or household has owned, co-owned, held under lease, boarded, regularly trained, instructed or handled (more than twice) in the conformation ring in the preceding twelve months.

C: A handler he, or a member of the immediate family or household has trained or instructed on more than two occasions in the preceding twelve months. "Trained" or "Instructed" applies equally to judges who train professionally or as amateurs. The judge's immediate family or household includes: spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandparent, grandchild or any combination of the preceding by marriage, or any person residing with the judge.

[Will read: changes in pink](#)

SECTION 7.6: A Conformation Judge shall not pass judgment on:

A: Any dog he, or a member of his immediate family or household owns, co-owns, bred or co-bred.

B: Any dog he, or a member of his immediate family or household has owned, co-owned, held under lease, boarded, regularly trained, instructed or handled (more than twice) in the conformation ring in the preceding twelve months.

C: A handler he, or a member of the immediate family or household has trained or instructed on more than two occasions, **mentored once** in the preceding twelve months. "Trained" or "Instructed" applies equally to judges who train professionally or as amateurs. The judge's immediate family or household includes: spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandparent, grandchild or any combination of the preceding by marriage, or any person residing with the judge.

Committee voting: APPROVE: Liz Gibson, Mary Hellmeister, David Clayton, Peter Kontos, Heather Herron, Glenda Stephenson, and Nadia Schlapp OPPOSED: Janet White NON-VOTING: Denise Creelman

Directors voting: Approve: DeChant & Stevens. Disapprove: Berryessa, Gann, Davenport, Aufox, McNamara, Hellmeister & MacRoberts. Motion is denied.

Approved:

Approved as a Junior Showmanship Judge - [Sabrina Bogdanski](#); 22 Years old; former Junior membership number as: 402029. Was a junior from 1999- 2004.

Approved as a Junior Showmanship Judge - Corey Norman, 6490 Van Buren, Hudsonville, MI 49426, 616-889-8656 (cell)

616-875-7446 (home) Junior Number 400171 DOB 10/1979

Approved as Provisional Breeder Judge - Jillian Ward, 2803 Danaha St, Torrance, CA 90505, (310) 200-2152, Judge #4586

Approved as an Approved Breeder Judge - Kym Base, 2572 S. 27th Ave, Gypsum, KS 67448, (785) 254-7360, Judge #4013

Approved that Litter number 78045 be corrected to reflect 4 BM and one Black (with copper and white) instead of 5 BM.

Approved appointment to the Conformation Committee:

Leah Swatko – Region 6

Regi Gravette – Region 2

Debbie Martin – Region 1

Gail Karamalegos – Region 5

Cynthia Clark – Region 3

Luc Goossens - Region 7

Approved appointed to the Nationals Committee: Betty Jaco, 1420 Milwaukee St., Delafield, WI 53018, 262-646-3940

sailherd@yahoo.com

Disapproved:

Re-instatement for exhibition privileges for dog # E145368, Fly By Nite Fancy Dancer.