

Secretary's Report

This report details the day to day activities of the ASCA Board of Directors. It includes issues brought before the Board of Directors and mail, fax, e-mail and/or telephone communications.

March 1–31, 2010

Board of Directors Teleconference

Monday March 8, 2010

President Berryessa called the March 8, 2010 Board of Directors (BoD) meeting to order at 8:04 PM CST. Those attending via phone or teleconference were: Rick Gann/Director, Pete Dolan/Secretary, Jerry Aufox/Director, Peter Hellmeister/First VP, Tenley Dexter/Director, Rachel Vest/Second VP, Chris Davenport, Director, and Mark Westerman/Treasurer. Mary Logue/Executive Secretary was unavailable.

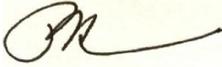
- 1) Old Business
 - a. Confirmation of e-mail/teleconference votes taken in February, 2010 (Berryessa): Motion by Aufox, second by Westerman; Approve: Unanimous; Motion is approved.
 - b. Action on the appeal filed by Ms. Nannette Newbury
Motion by Davenport second by Westerman
I move the approval of Nannette Newbury as a Non-Regular Breeder Judge in answer to Ms. Newbury's appeal to the Board of Directors.
Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Davenport, Dexter, Dolan, Gann, Westerman; Disapprove: Hellmeister; Abstain: Vest.
The motion is approved.
 - c. Action on the appeal filed by Ms. Sheree Sanchez
Motion by Gann second by Westerman
I move that the ASCA BoD approve Sheree Sanchez' judging application as a Non-Regular Breeder Judge.
Disapprove: Unanimous
The motion is disapproved.
Gann and Westerman to draft a letter of notification to Ms. Sanchez. The letter will include Board of Directors suggestions about how to be successful with a resubmission.
 - d. Approved the draft of a letter to Ms. Jean Barrett confirming the disqualification of Find Yourself Wicked, E158450 which occurred at the 2009 National Specialty held in Greeley, Colorado.
 - e. Approved the draft of a letter to Ms. Pamela Bryant-Meeks relating to her judging assignment for the Australian Shepherd Club of South Florida.
 - f. Approved a request submitted by the Australian Shepherd Club Netherlands to use ASCA judge training materials. The approval for use requires attribution to the source for the use of copyrighted material. Executive Secretary to draft and send the response.
 - g. Discussed the response to a request for reinstatement of a dog disqualified for biting. Consensus of the Board of Directors was to notify the applicant as advised by counsel.
- 2) New Business:
 - a. Discussed the Breed Standard revisions submitted in a letter sent by Mr. Ernest Hartnagle. All Directors have not yet received the letter. The discussion included advising Mr. Hartnagle that the Board received his submission and is considering his recommendations. Aufox will send comments to the Executive Secretary to include in the acknowledgement letter.
Motion to adjourn: Hellmeister, second: Dolan; Approve: Unanimous; Motion is approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM CST.

President Berryessa called the meeting of The ASCA Foundation to order at 8:46 PM CST. Those attending via phone or teleconference were: Rick Gann/Director, Pete Dolan/Secretary, Jerry Aufox/Director, Peter Hellmeister/First VP, Tenley Dexter/Director, Rachel Vest/Second VP, Chris Davenport, Director, and Mark Westerman/Treasurer.

The ASCA Foundation received a bequest from the estate of Susan K. Youngblood in the amount of \$68,655.34. Said bequest designated for rescue and health research. President Berryessa will send a note of thanks to the executor of Ms. Youngblood's estate and write a synopsis of the bequest for inclusion in the Aussie Times. Dolan, as liaison for the Health and Genetics Committee and ARPH, will notify these entities of the bequest.

Motion to adjourn: Dolan, second: Aufox. Meeting adjourned at 9:57PM CST. Teleconference terminated at 9:58PM CST.

Next teleconference is scheduled for April 12, 2010 at 8 PM CDT.



ASCA Secretary

03/16/10
Date of Approval

Policy Book Sections 8.1 and 20.2

Motion by Dolan

Second Hellmeister

I move to change the Policy Book requirements for Board of Directors meeting agendas as follows:

Change section 8.1 which currently reads:

8.1 Board Meeting Agenda

All agendas for Board of Directors meetings shall contain the following:

Subject, a brief description of what will be discussed;

Contact Director (Directors responsible for adding the subject and description to the Agenda).

To read:

8.1 Board Meeting Agenda

8.1.1 All agendas for Board of Directors meetings shall contain the following:

a. Subject: A brief description of what will be discussed;

b. Contact Director: The Director responsible for adding the subject and description to the Agenda

8.1.2 The President or a designated Director shall issue meeting agendas using the following deadlines:

a. Regularly scheduled face to face meeting (Spring and National Specialty) – no later than thirty days prior to the meeting start date;

b. Monthly teleconferences – no later than one week prior to the scheduled meeting date.

8.1.3 The Board of Directors meeting agenda (draft and/or final) will be published on the ASCA web site.

Delete section 20.2 Agenda which reads:

20.2 Agenda

The Board of Directors meeting agenda, either partially or complete, will be published, as a minimum, on the web Page.

All agendas for Board Meetings shall contain the following:

Subject, a brief description of what will be discussed

Contact Board Member (Director(s) responsible for adding the subject and description to the Agenda).

Renumber the follow-on sections.

Approve: Unanimous.

The motion is approved.

4:04: Conformation Committee: DQ Reinstatement Procedure w/ Letter of Dissent

Motion: Gann

Motion by the Chair, 2nd by Regi Gravette, to insert the DQ Reinstatement procedure into the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations as a new Chapter. It would be Chapter 11.

Editors note: This rule has been in effect for a decade or more. The rule has not been in writing, in a rule book, and needs to be documented.

This rule was sent to other Committee Chairpersons for input. It has been sent to the membership, via the ASCA-L for input. Input from board members has also been utilized.

Additions made from input are:

- 1) Regions that have shows, but do not have many shows, or are in an area not readily accessible to the usual traffic of Breeder or Stock Judges was added.
- 2) Erroneous DQ's addressed, with a refund option on these.
- 3) Dogs that have bitten someone have the right to an appeal, but if they are reinstated and they do the same thing again, the dog is permanently DQ'd. This was taken under advisement by a P.I. attorney.
- 4) Dogs that are DQ for Breed Standard, have the right to appeal, and can be reinstated, and more has been added: "In the event that a reinstated dog is disqualified by a judge for the same breed standard disqualification at a third event, there will be no avenue for reinstatement or appeal and all Championship points will be removed." This gives the dog a first chance at a bad judge, and a second chance. But if it happens a third time, there is something that is getting by the 6 judges that reinstated it at a appointed inspection. But at that point, if the board feels that the dog is falling into the Erroneous Disqualification area, then the board can use that option.

This Chapter shall be placed after all sections that refer to Disqualifications, as it would be in line with "how to get reinstated after being DQ'd" Since this will be inserted, all Chapters following will be renumbered.

Motion by the Chair, 2nd by Regi Gravettes, to insert the DQ Reinstatement procedure into the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations as a new Chapter.

Voting on the motion as follows:

In favor: Ann DeChant, Mary Hellmeister, Liz Gibson, Debbie Martin, Denise Creelman, Regi Gravette, Peter Kontos, Leah Swatko, Nancy Pelletier.

Opposed: Becky Noe, David Clayton, Gail Karamalegos

Abstain: Ronnie Bates

Non-Voting: Luc Goossens

CHAPTER '11' (NEW CHAPTER) DISQUALIFIED DOG REINSTATEMENT PROCEDURE

Section 11.1: DOGS DISQUALIFIED FOR BITING, ATTACKING OR MENACING: DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR REINSTATEMENT:

To initiate the reinstatement procedure, the owner of the dog in question must request in writing for reinstatement. The letter must include a copy of the disqualified dog's ASCA registration certificate, the ASCA Disqualified or Excused Dog form, and a non-refundable fee as determined by the ASCA Board of Directors, to the ASCA Business office at the following address:

ASCA Business Office
6091 E. State Highway 21
Bryan, TX 77808

The ASCA Business office will forward the Explanation for Disqualified or Excused Dogs form, request for reinstatement letter, entry forms from the event in question, and any other applicable information but not limited to: photographs, witness/victim statements, veterinary/vaccine reports, hospital/doctor reports (HIPAA compliant), all including contact information, to the ASCA Board of Directors within two (2) weeks of receipt of all information.

Upon receipt of the aforementioned documents, the ASCA Board of Directors will review all evidence. The ASCA Board of Directors could require additional information from all parties. In a timely manner, the ASCA

Board of Directors will provide the owner of the dog with its decision to either continue with the procedure, or to deny the application.

The ASCA Board of Directors will notify the owner of the dog of its decision whether to proceed with the reinstatement process or to deny the reinstatement.

EXAMINATION PROCESS:

If the ASCA Board of Directors approves continuation of the reinstatement process, the owner will provide a list of upcoming ASCA events or shows to the ASCA Business Office that the dog and owner can attend for the purpose of hands-on examinations. Location for each examination is at the discretion of the owner. Each examination does not have to occur at the same show/location. The ASCA Business Office will notify the Affiliate show/event giving club of an examination that will occur at their show. The ASCA Business Office will send the ASCA Disqualified Dog Reinstatement Forms to the show/event giving Affiliate club prior to the event. An Affiliate show/event giving club or judge has the right to refuse the examination.

The dog's owner will confirm the scheduled examination with the Affiliate show/event committee. The show/event giving committee will arrange with the judge conducting the examination. The owner of the dog shall not make contact with the judge prior to the examination regarding the examination. Examinations will occur AFTER the conclusion of the show.

JUDGES AND THEIR PROCEDURES:

A panel of three (3) judges is mandatory to evaluate the dog. This panel must consist of at least two (2) ASCA Senior **Breeder** judges and one (1) ASCA Approved **Breeder** Judge. Other registry judges, or other recognized ASCA Judges, as approved by the Board of Directors, can be utilized for: Europe, Alaska and Hawaii. These judges will individually evaluate the dog in similar circumstances to those when it was disqualified. Judges may not confer with each other regarding the examination or the completion of the form. All judges must completely fill out their ASCA Disqualified Dog Reinstatement Form. Each judge will have the responsibility of returning their original completed form to the ASCA Business Office. A copy of the form will be retained by the owner of the dog and the judge. Judge's conducting the examination will follow the ASCA Show Rules and Regulations including the ASCA Guidelines and Code of Ethics for any possible conflicts of interest with the owner of the disqualified dog.

COMPLETION OF EXAMINATION AND NOTIFICATION:

After all required materials, evidence, and forms have been reviewed; the ASCA Board of Directors will notify the owner of the dog in writing about the final determination of the dog's eligibility. **The ASCA Board of Directors has final approval or disapproval on the reinstatement of the dog in question.**

APPEAL PROCESS:

Owners have the ability to appeal. This must be done in writing to the ASCA Board of Directors. An appeal may be considered if there is significant new information or evidence supplied to the ASCA Board of Directors in order to obtain an additional evaluation or hearing.

ADDITIONAL DISQUALIFICATIONS:

In the event that a reinstated dog is disqualified by a judge or a show/event giving committee in like circumstances, there will be no avenue for reinstatement or appeal.

SECTION 11.2: DOGS DISQUALIFIED FOR ASCA BREED STANDARD DISQUALIFICATIONS:

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR REINSTATEMENT:

To initiate the reinstatement procedure, the owner of the dog in question must request in writing for reinstatement. The letter must include a copy of the disqualified dog's ASCA registration certificate, the ASCA Disqualified or Excused Dog form, and a non-refundable fee as determined by the ASCA Board of Directors, to the ASCA Business office at the following address:

ASCA Business Office
6091 E. State Highway 21
Bryan, TX 77808

The ASCA Business office will forward the Explanation for Disqualified or Excused Dogs form, request for reinstatement letter, entry forms from the event in question, and any other applicable information but not limited to: photographs, witness statements, veterinary reports, all including contact information, to the ASCA Board of Directors within two (2) weeks of receipt of all information.

Upon receipt of the aforementioned documents, the ASCA Board of Directors will review all evidence. The ASCA Board of Directors could require additional information from all parties. In a timely manner, the ASCA Board of Directors will provide the owner of the dog with its decision to either continue with the procedure, or to deny the application.

The ASCA Board of Directors will notify the owner of the dog of its decision whether to proceed with the reinstatement process or to deny the reinstatement.

EXAMINATION PROCESS:

If the ASCA Board of Directors approves continuation of the reinstatement process, the owner will provide a list of upcoming ASCA events or shows to the ASCA Business Office that the dog and owner can attend for the purpose of hands-on examinations. Location for each examination is at the discretion of the owner. Each examination does not have to occur at the same show/location. The ASCA Business Office will notify the Affiliate show/event giving club of an examination that will occur at their show. The ASCA Business Office will send the ASCA Disqualified Dog Reinstatement Forms to the show/event giving Affiliate club prior to the event. An Affiliate show/event giving club or judge has the right to refuse the examination.

The dog's owner will confirm the scheduled examination with the Affiliate show/event committee. The show/event giving committee will arrange with the judge conducting the examination. The owner of the dog shall not make contact with the judge prior to the examination regarding the examination. Examinations will occur AFTER the conclusion of the show

JUDGES AND THEIR PROCEDURES:

A panel of three (3) judges is mandatory to evaluate the dog. This panel must consist of at least two (2) ASCA Senior **Breeder** judges and one (1) ASCA Approved **Breeder** Judge. Other registry judges, or other recognized ASCA Judges, as approved by the Board of Directors, can be utilized for: Europe, Alaska and Hawaii. These judges will individually evaluate the dog in similar circumstances to those when it was disqualified. Judges may not confer with each other regarding the examination or the completion of the form. All judges must completely fill out their ASCA Disqualified Dog Reinstatement Form. Each judge will have the responsibility of returning their original completed form to the ASCA Business Office. A copy of the form will be retained by the owner of the dog and the judge.

Judge's conducting the examination will follow the ASCA Show Rules and Regulations including the ASCA Guidelines and Code of Ethics for any possible conflicts of interest with the owner of the disqualified dog.

COMPLETION OF EXAMINATION AND NOTIFICATION:

After all required materials, evidence, and forms have been reviewed; the ASCA Board of Directors will notify the owner of the dog in writing about the final determination of the dog's eligibility. **The ASCA Board of Directors has final approval or disapproval on the reinstatement of the dog in question.**

APPEAL PROCESS:

Owners have the ability to appeal. This must be done in writing, to the ASCA Board of Directors. An appeal may be considered if there is significant new information or evidence supplied to the ASCA Board of Directors in order to obtain an additional evaluation or hearing.

ADDITIONAL DISQUALIFICATIONS AFTER REINSTATEMENT:

In the event that a reinstated dog is disqualified by a judge for the same breed standard disqualification at a third event, there will be no avenue for reinstatement or appeal and all Championship points will be removed.

UNRECOGNIZED DISQUALIFICATIONS:

In the event a dog is disqualified for a disqualification that is not listed in the ASCA Breed Standard, the dog will be reinstated and the reinstatement fee will be refunded. The Reinstatement Procedure must be followed, submitting all required documentation. A refund will be granted if the examining judges find that the cited disqualification is not an ASCA Breed Standard disqualification.

LETTER OF DISSENT:

Mr. Liaison, Please forward the reason for my "no" vote, which was because I object to the following requirement for Breed Standard DQ's: "These judges will individually evaluate the dog in similar circumstances to those when it was disqualified."

First of all, if it's a Breed Standard DQ, why would "similar circumstances" be necessary? A dog with only 1 testicle isn't going to grow another one in another setting. A dog that is overshot won't look any different if the location of the exam is the same or totally different than the ring environment where he was DQ'd. And in

matters regarding color DQ's, sometimes the DQ is done because the existing lighting contributes to misjudging the color of a dog. For example, I DQ'd a young bitch once because some of her merled areas (she was a red merle) looked white. The show was at night and under mercury lights. There was another SBJ in the ring at the time, standing with her own bitch next in line, and she saw my exam. After the show, she told me that she thought I was correct in my assessment. Well, the next day, that same SBJ examined that bitch under NATURAL light, and along with myself and 2 other judges, and it was obvious that those areas were NOT white, but simply pale. That bitch was reinstated. So to require the same dog to be examined under the same or similar lighting conditions is to likely result in another error of judgment, simply because the lighting conditions are poor. Frankly, in all cases regarding issues of color, reinstatement exams should be done in natural light--not artificial light.

Gail Karamalegos
ASCA Senior Breeder Judge
www.callistoaussies.com

Approve: Davenport; Disapprove: Aufox, Dexter, Dolan, Gann, Hellmeister, Vest, Westerman; Non-voting: Berryessa.

The motion is not approved.

4:04 Conformation Committee: Ch. 15, Conformation Finals Statement

Motion: Gann

Motion by Liz Gibson, 2nd by Regi Gravette:

CHAPTER 15 CONFORMATION FINALS

Statement of Purpose:

The Conformation Finals is designed to be a self-supporting event that showcases the highest ranking altered conformation dogs and intact conformation dogs. This event is to be held in conjunction with the ASCA National Specialty as a separate event. The intention of the Finals is to showcase ASCA's finest conformation dogs to the world so that we may share the virtues of this versatile breed with others.

PREVIOUS CHAPTER 15:

CHAPTER 15 CONFORMATION FINALS

Mission Statement:

The purpose of the Conformation Finals is to showcase the Top Thirty (30) Altered Conformation Merit Finalists and the Top Thirty (30) Intact Conformation Merit Finalists. This premier event will allow for those dogs that have competed and placed within the Top Thirty (30) Altered dogs and the Top Thirty (30) Intact Dogs to compete against each other in a Conformation Finals event. The Conformation Finals will be held in conjunction with the ASCA National Specialty. The Conformation Finals is part of the ASCA Finals events and is a separate conformation event from the ASCA National Specialty. The Conformation Finals will be held before Nationals Conformation begins excluding the Junior Showmanship competition.

Voting on the motion as follows: Voting on this motion was unanimously in favor by all committee members: Liz Gibson, Debbie Martin, Mary Hellmeister, Denise Creelman, Regi Gravette, Becky Noe, Ann DeChant, David Clayton, Ronnie Bates, Gail Karamalegos, Peter Kontos, Leah Swatko, Luc Goossens, Nancy Pelletier.

Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Davenport, Dolan, Gann, Hellmeister, Westerman; Disapprove: Dexter, Vest.
The motion is approved.

4:04 Conformation Committee: ASCA Judges Education

Motion: Gann

Motion by Ann DeChant, seconded by Gail Karamalegos as follows: ASCA Judges Education to be added to the (Conformation) Rulebook as an Appendix

I move that the ASCA Conformation Show Rules and Regulations be amended so that in the Table of Contents after Section 16, the word Appendices be added and that the ASCA Breed Standard become Appendix 1, the Judges Guidelines/Code of Ethics become Appendix 2, that the attached EDU Judging Document from the ASCA Website be called ASCA Conformation Judge Education and be added to the Rulebook as Appendix 3. These would be followed by the ASCA DOG BITE POLICY and ASCA DISPUTE RULES.

Appendices

Appendix 1. ASCA Breed Standard

Appendix 2. Judges Guidelines/Code of Ethics

Appendix 3. ASCA Conformation Judge Education

ASCA DOG BITE POLICY

ASCA DISPUTE RULES

Comment: The objective of this motion is to add the ASCA Judge Education content from the ASCA Website into the ASCA Conformation Show Rules and Regulations without making them a rule. This format for Appendices is consistent with the ASCA Stockdog Rulebook, which has Appendix for their Working Description of the Australian Shepherd, their guidelines, course descriptions, etc. Some of the feedback from Members regarding the changes to the requirements for Non-Regular Breeder Judge Applicants was a complaint that we didn't even have anything in the rules about how to be a judge. This content from the website does an excellent job.

Ann

Voting on the motion as follows: Voting on this motion was unanimously in favor by all committee members: Liz Gibson, Debbie Martin, Mary Hellmeister, Denise Creelman, Regi Gravette, Becky Noe, Ann DeChant, David Clayton, Ronnie Bates, Gail Karamalegos, Peter Kontos, Leah Swatko, Luc Goossens, Nancy Pelletier.

Approve: Unanimous.

The motion is approved.

5:02 Changes to National Specialty Rules

Motion by Dolan

Second by Aufox

I move to make the following changes to the National Specialty Rules:

Change 2.5 which reads:

2.5 The first draft of the Premium List, as well as all Judges resumes, (except ASCA Breeder Judges and ASCA Stock Dog Judges), must be received by the Executive Secretary on or before September 1 of the preceding year.

To read:

2.5 The first draft of the Premium List must be received by the Executive Secretary on or before September 1 of the preceding year.

Change 4.2 which reads:

4.2 The following people are REQUIRED on the ASCA National Specialty Show Committee: National Chairperson, Conformation Secretary, Stockdog Trial Course Director, Agility Secretary, Obedience Secretary, and Tracking Secretary.

To read:

4.2 The following people are REQUIRED on the ASCA National Specialty Show Committee: National Chairperson, Agility Secretary, Conformation Secretary, Obedience Secretary, Rally Secretary, Stockdog Trial Course Director, and Tracking Secretary.

Change 5.1 which reads:

5.1 Judges must be approved by the ASCA Board of Directors except Stockdog and Senior Breeder Judges.

To read:

5.1 Judges must be approved by the Board of Directors.

Change 5.4 which reads:

5.4 The Regular Dog and Regular Bitch Judges will be ASCA Senior Breeder Judges. Any other Judges required must still come from the ASCA Approved Conformation Judges List; however it is strongly recommended that Breeder Judges be used exclusively. Provisional Judges are not eligible.

To read:

5.4 The Intact and Altered Dog and Bitch Judges will be ASCA Senior Breeder Judges. Any other Judges required must come from the ASCA approved Conformation Judges list and be approved Breeder Judges.

Delete 5.4.1

Insert:

5.8 Rally Judges must come from the ASCA approved Rally Judges list.

Renumber the current 5.8 and 5.9 to 5.9 and 5.10

In Section 7 part 1 insert “and Rally” following “The Obedience” in the second sentence.

Insert the following as Section 15 and renumber the following sections.

Section 15. CONFORMATION FINALS - Please see the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations for complete rules.

15:1 BUDGET AND FEES

The Host Club shall submit a proposed budget to the Board and Agility Committee at least six (6) months prior to the Finals.

15.2 Funds: Entry fees collected by the Office will be used to cover any expenses the Host Club(s) may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Host Club(s), the Board of Directors and the ASCA Agility Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Host Club(s) will submit their expenses to the Board of Directors.

Renumber the following sections.

Section 20 (formerly Section 19) insert the following between National Junior Handling Finals Participant (Ribbon to all entrants below 4th place) and Most Versatile:

Conformation Finals (ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsors are obtained) Please consult Chapter 15 of the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations for complete details of required ribbons.

Insert the following in Section 20 following the Conformation section:

Rally:

High Scoring Dog in the regular classes

Highest Combined Score in Excellent B and Masters B

Highest Scoring Jr. Handler in the regular classes

Qualifying
X Qualifying
First through Fourth Placements

Change Tracking:
Qualifying Score Ribbons to read:

Tracking:
Tracking Pass Ribbons

In section following ASCA will donate one DNA blood draw kit with test paid for by ASCA, to the following winners of the ASCA Nationals each year:

Insert the following in the list after the Tracking entry:

* High in Rally Trial

In Appendix A insert the following between Obedience Judges Book and Stockdog Score sheet:
Rally Judge's Books
Rally Score Sheets

Comment/Rationale: This change adds Rally and the Conformation Finals to the National Specialty Rules. The change also removes the requirement for judge resumes, incorporates a two year old change mandating the use of ASCA breeder judges, removes the distinctions between Intact and Altered Conformation and updates the awards section and the administrative material appendix.

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

9:05 Legislative Committee: Appoint Jasmine Dillon

Motion by Westerman

I move to appoint Jasmine Dillon to the Legislative Committee.

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

09:05 Legislative Committee: Add link to website

Motion by Westerman

I move to approve the motion below for the Legislative Committee.

I motion to add "<http://humanewatch.org/> site dedicated to keep a watchful eye on the HSUS" , to the links section on the legislative page on the ASCA website.

Without objections, the motion will stand. You have until 3/5/10 to get back to me with objections. If there are no objections by 3/5/10 I will send this motion to our Liaison to present to the BoD.

Approve: Davenport, Gann, Hellmeister, Westerman; Disapprove: Aufox, Berryessa, Dexter, Dolan, Vest.
The motion is not approved.

9:28 History Committee: Move to appoint Helen Wilson

Motion by Dexter

I move to appoint Helen Wilson to the History Committee.

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

10:04 Conformation Judge Applicants Jan-Feb

Motion by Berryessa:

I move we accept the following Judge's applications.

The following persons have successfully satisfied all requirements at their current judge level and are now applying to become approved for the next level.

Non Regular Breeder Judge

Sharon Elkins
12770 Ellicott Hwy
Calhan, CO 80808
(719) 347-2627

Jennifer Hampton
4937 W. Liberty Rd
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(734) 662-4706

Sue Holtz
PO Box 1033
Marsing, ID 83639
(208) 880-9750

Suzanne Ritter
572 W. County Rd
Sugarloaf, PA 18249
(570) 788-1044

Breeder Judge

Summer Jewel Fuls
16267 S. Crossover Rd
Molalla, OR 97038
(503) 759-3647
Judge # 4254

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

10:14 Motion to Suspend Ms. Joan Skillman

Motion by Dolan

Second by Berryessa

I move to suspend all ASCA privileges of Ms. Joan Skillman for life based on her conviction on multiple counts of animal cruelty.

Rationale: Conviction on animal cruelty charges is a violation for the ASCA Registry Rules Section 2.4.

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

10:16 Agility Licensee Program

Motion by Dolan

Second Vest

I move to cancel the ASCA Agility Licensee Program.

Rationale: The two year trial period is ending. During the trial period no licenses were granted and no licensee trials held.

From the 2008 Spring Board meeting:

04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE – Motion by McNamara, seconded by MacRoberts. I move to approve the following:

1. To allow the creation of the ASCA Agility Licensee program, which shall allow such licensees to put on ASCA sanctioned agility trials.
2. ASCA Agility Licensees shall be required to coordinate their trial dates with ASCA Affiliates located within a 250-mile radius of the trial site.
3. No Licensee shall hold an event within a two-week time frame of another ASCA sanctioned Agility Trial, unless Affiliate approval has been obtained.
4. The Licensee sanctioning request will be on a form developed by the Agility Committee developed within 60 days and require the listing of the names, telephone numbers and dates of Affiliates and/or other Licensees who were contacted for the coordination of the event.
5. Affiliates denying approval of trial dates requested by Licensee may deny based solely on approved sanctioning and hosting of a trial within the same region and time frame.
6. Licensee applications shall require a payment of \$250.00 per year to retain Licensee status.
7. This program shall be a trial program, having a life span of two years after which the Board will revisit or cancel.

COMMENT: The ASCA Agility Licensee program is designed to enable individuals and companies who would like to offer ASCA sanctioned Agility Trials in areas underserved by ASCA Affiliate agility offerings to put on trials and continue to grow our program and support the membership's enjoyment of the sport. This is not intended to create competition with Affiliates, but to provide another avenue for trials to be held. If this Licensee program does create competition with the Affiliate, the program will need a review.

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

Approve: Davenport, Dexter, Dolan, Gann, Hellmeister, Vest; Disapprove: Aufox, Berryessa, Westerman. The motion is approved.

10:17 Lasting Impressions: One time use of ASCA Trademark/Logo

Motion by Aufox

Second by Berryessa

I move that ASCA grant a one-time use of ASCA's Logo to Lasting Impressions for use on an Ashcraft jacket and charge fee of twenty dollars fee to cover the licensing and paper work.

Approve: Unanimous.

The motion is approved.

96:02 SDC: Course C Changes

Motion by Vest

I make a motion to approve the following Stockdog Committee motion.

Motion by Baker, second by Schvaneveldt:

I move to make the following changes to Course C to be on the same scale of a trial course in its challenges with the new proposed Courses D,E, and F.

1. The Advanced Handlers line will be moved up to 125', which is the same for Courses D, E and F
2. The Open Handlers line will be moved up to 25' from the bottom inside corner of Obstacle 1 and 2 , which is the same as for Courses D, E and F, and more similar to A and B
3. The chute will be moved down to the Advanced handlers line so that the exit side of the chute sits on the Advanced Handlers line for cattle, sheep and duck arena
4. Minimum size arena for Course C will down size to 150' x 225'

5. 1.5 points earned for a score of 100 points or greater earned towards Finals

Approve: Unanimous

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

96:02 SDC: New Courses D, E, F

Motion by Vest:

I move to approve the following Stockdog Committee motion.

Motion by Baker, second by Schvaneveldt:

I move to accept the new Courses D, E, F and their written course descriptions, diagrams and rule proposals for use with the current ASCA score sheet as new ASCA approved stockdog Courses .

With the following requirements;

1. Provisional for 1 year
2. Use current score sheet with the scoring diagram
3. Points of 1.5 for a score of 100 points or greater earned towards Finals, Scores from sanctioned trials will count for titling within the current titling program.
4. Require feedback from clubs and judges from sanctioned course D, E, or F trials, to be returned with trial results

Approve: Baker, Caldwell, de Jong, Garrett, Harris, Kelly, Kissman, Mahoney, Mason, Padgett, Schvaneveldt, Shope; Non-voting: Hardin

Comment from RV re/the above motion. The PDF drawings of the courses can be accessed after 3/3/10 through the ASCA website on the Stockdog Program links.

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

96:17 JR Committee- Caroline Ginty

Motion by Berryessa

I move to appoint Caroline Ginty to the ASCA Junior Committee from Region 7.

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

98:15 Obedience Committee: Appoint Anne Shope

Motion by Dolan

I move to add Anne Shope to the Obedience Committee.

Comment: Anne Shope will fill an open Region 2 slot.

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

99:10 Tracking Committee: Motion 2-10 Changes to Section 1.9

Motion by Berryessa

I move we accept the following motion from the tracking committee.

This is motion 2-10. It has passed the committee. Michelle, can you put this in cue for next month if it is too late for this month. Thanks.

Voting in favor of this motion are: Anne Hershey, Betty Mueller, Linda Gray, Celeste Kelly, Carol McQuade, Renea Dahms, Jan Wesen, Margaret Abrahamson, Maria Kremers, and Marja Teelgelbeckers.

Not voting: Sue Schroeder and Becky Parker.

Motion 2-10

I, Anne Hershey move, and seconded by Jan Wesen, that we eliminate the language in the ASCA Tracking Regulations, Section 1.9, "Dogs that may not compete," the third paragraph, that prohibits judges from judging dogs that they have instructed, boarded or handled in the ring.

That paragraph currently reads:

"No dog shall be entered or shown under a Judge at any Tracking Test if the dog has been owned, sold, held under lease, handled in the ring, boarded or has been regularly trained or instructed, within one (1) year prior to the date of the test, by the Judge or by any member of his immediate family or household, and no such dog shall be eligible to compete." 'Trained or instructed' applies equally to Judges who train professionally or as amateurs, and to Judges who train individual dogs or who train or instruct dogs in classes with or through their handlers."

When the relevant language has been eliminated, the amended paragraph will read as follows:

"No dog shall be entered or shown under a Judge at any Tracking Test (1-09) if the dog has been owned, sold, or held under lease within one (1) year prior to the date of the test, by the officiating Judge or by any member of his/her immediate family or household, and no such dog shall be eligible to compete."

This motion to be effective on June , 2010.

Comment:

The reason for proposing this regulation change is that the current prohibition severely limits the availability of judges to judge tracking tests offered in their own regions. The regulation also discourages judges from offering tracking instruction because they know that they won't get judging assignments in their own communities and that their students will not be able to enter tests under them. The tracking community is small. The persons most able and most likely to offer tracking instruction are tracking judges. When judges are discouraged from offering instruction, local trainers suffer and tracking programs wither.

Furthermore, with the present prohibition in place, clubs will not hire local judges who also instruct students. So host clubs frequently are forced to hire judges from distant regions. Paying transportation and hospitality costs for out-of-region judges adds an additional major expense to tests that barely support themselves with entry fees.

ASCA Tracking's current prohibitions against Judges judging dogs they have previously instructed, boarded, or handled in the ring are hold-overs from Obedience regulations. These prohibitions are unnecessary for Tracking because the tests already are set up specifically to avoid judging bias:

1. Tracking tests are judged pass/fail, with no point system involved. The tracking dog pits his skills against the weather and terrain, not against the performances of other dogs entered in the test.
2. Both tracking test entries and the assignment of test track numbers are determined by lottery; the Judges do not know who has entered the test or which dog will run which track until after the random draw for track number takes place, just before the tracks are run.
3. Two judges work together to design the regulation test tracks and to judge the dogs' performances on them. When a dog runs a test track both judges must agree on a passing performance; if one judge decides the dog has failed, the dog fails the test.

Approve: Unanimous.

The motion is approved.

99:10 Tracking Committee: Motion 3-10 Changes to Section 1.4

Motion by Berryessa to accept the following motion from the Tracking Committee.

Voting in favor: Anne Hershey, Celeste Kelly, Margaret Abrahamson, Betty Mueller, Jan Wesen, Renea Dahms, Carol McQuade, Maria Kremers, and Maria Teelgelbeckers.

Abstain: Linda Gray. Not Voting: Becky Parker and Sue Schroeder.

Per the Board's request that we port the pertinent Conformation regs into the Tracking regs so that they can be stand alone regs:

I, Celeste Kelly, move, and seconded by, Renea Dahms, that we replace Section 1.4 in the Jan.1, 2010 edition of the Tracking regs to read as follows:

Section 1.4. The Tracking Test Premium

A copy of the premium must be sent to the ASCA Office with the Sanction Request.

A copy of the premium is to be sent to the Judge(s) who are to officiate and should be distributed and/or posted to prospective exhibitors in advance of the proposed test(s) date.

If a Tracking Test is to be held within seven (7) days before or after an Affiliate Club's Show or Obedience Trial, it may be announced in the premium for the show or trial, and the Tracking Test(s) Entries may be included in the Show or Obedience Trial Catalog, otherwise, a separate premium must be prepared.

The Tracking Test(s) Premium shall include the following information:

1. The proposed date(s).
2. A description of the ground cover and topography of the Tracking Test(s) site(s), (i.e. hay, mowed lawn, sagebrush, sand, etc.).
3. A listing of the type and number of all Tracking Test(s) offered, (i.e. TD, TDU, and/or TDX).
4. A listing of entry fees, description of any discounts or price reductions offered, and the refund policy for withdrawals.
5. The date and time for the close of entries.
6. The exact time, location of the "Draw for Entry to the Test(s)", and a notice that this draw is open to the public.
7. The specific draw order, the "Draw for Entry to the Test", for each test to be held as written in these rules and regulations.
8. A description of ribbons, prizes, and awards to be offered.
9. The names of the Judges who are to officiate, and their assignments as approved by the ASCA Office.
10. Any applicable county, state, country or any other bylaws, rules of conduct or associated restrictions regarding dogs, their exhibition and the holding of said event(s) and shall include a list of such rules, bylaws or restrictions must be listed in the premium. Such rules, restrictions, bylaws, etc., shall be printed in English and the language of the country where said event(s) will be held, listing all pertinent information.
11. A description of any restrictions for entry into the test(s).
12. The statement "This Tracking Test(s) will be held under ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations." must be printed on the first page of the premium. "
13. The name, address, and phone number of the veterinarian(s) on call, and the name, and phone number/s, of the nearest hospital and/or emergency clinic.
14. If the Tracking Test(s) is to be more than a one day event, a schedule of the test(s) to be judged each day shall be given.
15. A mappable street address of the location of the Tracking Test(s) with specific driving directions to the site from various directions; and if available, the exact, mappable, location of where the "Draw for Tracks " will be held.

16. The name, phone number, and email address of the Tracking Test Secretary and Tracking Test Chairperson. (The names of the other Tracking Test Committee may also be listed.)
17. The name, street address, phone number, and email address of the person who is to receive entries if other than the Tracking Test Secretary.
18. Include, or state where to find, an ASCA Tracking Test Entry Form, and a copy of the current Service Membership and ASCA Office tracking number Application and current Tracking Rulebook.
19. A statement whether bitches in season will, or will not, be allowed to run.
20. Premiums published prior to approval by the ASCA Office should have the words, "Sanction Pending" on the cover.
21. Specific requirements pertaining to this Tracking Test such as: "dogs must be on leash at all times".
22. If it is posted in the Tracking Test(s) Premium, the Affiliate Host Club may allow those dogs that do not have either an ASCA Registration or ASCA Office tracking number, to enter the Sanctioned Tracking Test(s) to earn ASCA Tracking Title(s) if the handler applies for an ASCA Office Tracking Number concurrently with the submission of their entry.
23. The premium may include other pertinent information. For example: accommodations that allow dogs; maps, and hospitality. (See Appendix G)

To be effective on June 1, 2010.

This is how the section currently reads:

Section 1.4. Premium

For a Tracking Dog (TD) Test, the premium must state that priority will be given to ASCA Registered Australian Shepherds with a Certification or an equivalent title. (Eff. 1-1-10) that do not have a TD Title when drawing for entries at a TD Test.

For a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test, the premium must state priority will be given to ASCA registered Australian Shepherds with a Certification or an equivalent title. (Eff..1-1-10) that do not have a TDU Title when drawing for entries for a TDU Test.

For a Tracking Dog Excellent Test, it must be stated in the premium that priority will be given to ASCA registered Australian Shepherds that do not have a TDX Title when drawing for entries at a TDX Test. The Sanction Grant of the ASCA Office must be published on the first page of the premium stating that permission has been granted by ASCA for the Tracking Test is to be held under ASCA Rules and Regulations, i.e.: "ASCA Sanctioned" and "ASCA Show Rules Apply." (See Sanctioning.)

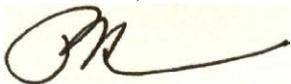
The "Draw for Test Entry(s)" must be stated in any Tracking Test's Premium.

If a Tracking Test is to be held within seven (7) days before or after an Affiliate Club's Show or Obedience Trail, it may be announced in the Show or Trial Premium, and the Tracking Test(s) Entries may be included in the Show or Obedience Trial Catalog, otherwise, a separate premium must be prepared.

In either case, the premium shall include directions to the Tracking Test site(s).

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

Submitted,



Pete Dolan
ASCA Secretary

Appendix 3. ASCA Conformation Judge Education
Content of the pdf which is currently on the ASCA Website at the url:
<http://www.asca.org/Portals/0/EDUJudgingDocument.pdf>

Is as follows:

Introduction:

As an aspiring, newly approved or experienced dog show judge, you are an essential part of the fancy and the job of officiating dog shows carries enormous responsibilities. Before applying to judge or accepting an assignment, you should have read as much as possible about the breed, spent many hours ringside observing, and have done all you can to ensure that you have a good, all around knowledge of the Australian Shepherd. You need to examine your motives for wanting to judge. You should understand canine anatomy and proper gait so that you are able to differentiate between correct and incorrect structure and movement. You must have a thorough knowledge of breed type and be able to identify quality as opposed to mediocrity. You must be able to keep your nerve, maintain a clear purpose and put up only those dogs you feel are the best representative of the breed on that day.

This document has been developed for all ASCA and visiting judges. We hope it makes it easier for you to do your job. You should be thoroughly familiar with this guide, as well as all of ASCA's *Rules* and *Policies* if you:

- are an approved Non-Regular, Provisional, Breeder or Senior level ASCA judge,
- have accepted match, sweepstakes or futurity judging assignments,
- are a visiting judge accepting assignments at ASCA events
- plan to apply for judging approval.

Please be aware that this document cannot cover all situations, nor can it substitute for common sense.

Your Responsibilities and Conduct as a Judge Code of Ethics for Conformation Judges:

1. ASCA Judges are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with these Guidelines set forth by the Australian Shepherd Club Board of Directors. Failure to comply with these guidelines subjects a judge to possible disciplinary action by the ASCA Board of Directors, including the possible revocation of ASCA Judging privileges.
2. ASCA Conformation Judges carry a tremendous amount of responsibility. They function as a guiding voice of the Australian Shepherd and should represent the highest ideals in terms of honesty, integrity, impartiality and knowledge of the sport and the breed.
3. The approval to judge ASCA events is a privilege and is not a right or reward. Suspensions in other registries relevant to the task of judging will be a consideration in the approval and maintenance of judging privileges.
4. All ASCA and visiting judges and judging applicants must agree to abide by the ASCA Judges Code of Ethics.
5. ASCA has the right to refuse, suspend or revoke the ASCA judging license of any person in violation of ASCA rules, or for the failure to comply with the guidelines set forth in the ASCA Judges Code of Ethics. Failure to comply with these guidelines, or any ASCA rules, subjects a judge to possible disciplinary action by the ASCA Board of Directors, including the possible revocation of ASCA Judging privileges. Judges will be notified if such action is being considered, the reason for its consideration, and given the opportunity to reply.

Responsibilities:

1. ASCA Judges should have thorough breed knowledge, understanding of the Breed Standard and full comprehension of the rules concerning ASCA's Conformation Program. They are expected to demonstrate efficient ring procedure and control. It is their responsibility to keep up to date with current changes in both the program rules and Breed Standard.
2. Judges are expected to continue the education process throughout their career.
3. Judges are to be professional in carrying out their duties and must not allow personal preferences to interfere with the stated guidelines upon which they judge animals.
4. It is essential that exhibitors have complete faith in the impartiality of their judges. A judge's actions and decisions should leave no doubt that they were made based solely on the merits of the dogs presented to them on that day.

Conduct, Conflicts of Interest and Common Sense: You must both possess and project an unwavering air of **integrity and ethical behavior** that protects the reputation of ASCA dog shows. With common sense, judges can easily avoid situations which might raise ethical questions. Judges are presumed to be honest, competent and dedicated. Nevertheless, it is all too easy to find yourself in uncomfortable or even inappropriate situations. **No guidelines can cover every situation**, but they can help you avoid improprieties or perceived improprieties.

Conduct:

1. The general conduct of judge, both inside and out of the ring, should be above reproach. Judges should avoid conduct and casual remarks that might be misconstrued or misinterpreted such as expressing favoritism or specific criticism of dogs or exhibitors.
2. Prior to the completion of a judging assignment, a judge shall not act as a spectator at the same conformation event at which he is scheduled to judge.
3. When officiating at a show, the judge shall not:
 - a) Discuss the merits or faults of the dogs with the stewards, attendants, or spectators during the assignment. This does not include overall praise of an entire entry of dogs.
 - b) Address handlers or dogs in the ring by name
 - c) Hold, have control of, or groom any dog on the show grounds during his assignment that is not wholly owned or co-owned by the judge
 - d) While officiating, a judge should not ask individuals:
 - Who owns the dog
 - From whom the dog was purchased
 - What bloodlines the dog is out of
4. A judge shall not personally exhibit a dog in Conformation in the same state as his assignment four (4) days prior to his assignment.
5. When attending social functions organized by the event-giving club where exhibitors are present, a judge is expected to exercise particular discretion in discussing individual exhibitors, dogs or breeders.
6. A judge or their family members should never solicit or promote assignments on the judge's behalf.

Conflicts of Interest and Common Sense:

Although a judge cannot directly control who enters under him, he should advise potential exhibitors not to enter under him when he feels there is a possible conflict of interest to avoid improprieties or perceived improprieties. Examples of such conflicts might be but are not limited to:

- your employer or an employee
- a relative
- a person with whom you co-own dogs
- a person with whom you have a recent business relationship with
- a person who has handled your dogs on a regular basis

These are only examples. The key is to avoid situations that are likely to give the *impression* of impropriety, and you must do everything possible to keep your reputation above reproach.

A Handy Rule of Thumb There will always be those "gray areas" that perplex judges. When faced with such a dilemma, ask yourself whether the situation, however innocent, maintains an outward appearance of propriety. A good rule of thumb is: **If you have concerns about whether something is inappropriate, you probably should avoid the situation.**

Accepting Assignments Never solicit or promote assignments. ASCA will investigate all reports by individuals or clubs that a judge solicited or promoted assignments. Appropriate action will be taken whenever needed. Written Invitations: It is a good idea to require all clubs to send you written invitations for assignments. Their request should clearly specify the date, time, classes and location where you are being asked to judge. Promptly acknowledge all invitations, **again**, in writing, and keep accurate records of assignments you accept. **Avoid Conflicts** You should make every effort to avoid judging conflicts. It is your responsibility to

acknowledge judging invitations promptly. Careful record keeping and prompt acceptance (or refusal) of invitations help eliminate unnecessary confusion and conflict for both judges and show-giving clubs.

Traveling to Assignments You cannot do your best work if you are tired from travel or are rushed to meet a departure flight time. Work out your mode of transportation, arrival and departure times with the club well in advance of your assignment.

You should understand that in accepting an invitation, you are committing yourself to the show-giving club for the entire day. Your travel plans should not be predicated on arriving late or on leaving early to get transportation home or to another show. You should not ask clubs to arrange judging programs to accommodate your travel plans. You should not travel to and from shows or stay with anyone who is likely to be exhibiting or handling under you. **Expenses and Contracts** When you accept an invitation, clearly inform club officials what your expenses and fees, if any, will be, so they will not be surprised by a larger than anticipated bill. This is a contract between you and the club. The more specific the details you and the club should be included in a written contract. Do not accept verbal contracts as there is the potential for misunderstandings to develop. Written contracts are an important consideration and a courtesy to clubs as well as to the judges. **If you sign a contract provided by the club, both you and the club are responsible for abiding by its conditions.**

Fitness to Judge/Illness Fitness to Judge As a dog show judge, you must be capable of performing the functions necessary to properly judge the dogs. You must have:

- the maneuverability to negotiate a ring both indoors and outdoors, with or without mechanical assistance, e.g., a wheelchair, crutches or a cane.
- the flexibility to examine all parts of a dog's anatomy either on a table or the ground
- normal vision (correctable by eyeglasses or contact lenses).
- the capability of doing all the necessary paperwork.

Illness Judges are expected to be physically fit. If you find you cannot fulfill an assignment because of illness or other serious occurrence, immediately notify the Show Secretary and/or the Show Chairperson by telephone, overnight letter, telegram, e-mail or fax. If you are delayed en route to a show, immediately make every effort to contact the Show Secretary or Show Chairperson. If you become ill while judging and it becomes necessary to find a replacement, you may not continue your assignment later in the day if you find yourself feeling better.

Before Entering The Ring Be on Time Allow at least one-half hour to report to the Show Secretary. Take a moment to visit the facilities before entering the ring.

The Show Secretary and/or Ring Stewards will provide you with the judge's book, ribbons and other materials necessary to start judging on schedule to the ring. If not provided, ask for disinfectant wipes or hand cleaner to be provided. **Avoid Contacts** Do not visit the grooming or exercise areas on the day you are judging. Do not carry or examine a catalog, discuss the merits of the dogs you are judging, or talk at length with anyone who may be exhibiting under you. Do not sit at ringside during the conformation events that you are not officiating.

When you have completed all assignments for a show or set of shows, then such contact is permissible, **but be prudent.** Your friends, if they are considerate, should be discreet in making conversation with you prior to judging. It is your responsibility to remind them to do so. **Proper Dress** Avoid inappropriate or outlandish dress. Weather permitting, men should wear business casual to professional attire Women should not wear skirts that are too short or too cumbersome. Shirts and jackets should not be excessively tight or revealing.

Avoid noisy, dangling jewelry or hats unsuitable for the occasion. **Smoking** Smoking is permissible only between classes, provided it does not delay judging. You must comply with any non-smoking regulations of the building or club.

Judging The Dogs You Are in Charge As the judge, you have full authority over all persons in the ring. See Chapter 7, Sections 16 and 17, of the **Rules** for a review of the judge's authority. With this authority comes the responsibility to be thoughtful and considerate. Be as systematic in your ring procedure from dog to dog and class to class **as conditions permit.**

You should avoid theatrical movements or making inappropriate comments to ringside. Be polite, but generally limit your conversation with exhibitors to instructions on positioning or gaiting the dogs. If the age of the dog is required, **ask the steward** to check the birth date. **Check the Ring** Before starting your judging, quickly inspect the ring you have been assigned. Determine how you intend to use the ring and look for unsafe conditions,

whether it is a loose mat or a depression in the grass. If a condition can be corrected, it should be. Moving ring gates, etc., should be discussed with the Show Chairperson.

When judging in sunny weather, assemble the dogs so that the sun is to your back. Do not attempt to judge with the sun in your eyes. On windy days, if possible, line the dogs up facing into the wind so that the coats are blown with the grain of growth. It is difficult to evaluate a topline when the hair is blown straight up and backwards.

Be considerate of your ringside observers. Don't exclude them from the enjoyment of observation or the opportunity to learn by lining up and gaiting dogs where observers cannot watch. **Assembling the Class** Never start judging a breed before the time listed in the premium list. A good steward can be a great help in readying a class for the ring. A steward may tell you when the class is ready and what dogs are absent, but **you** are responsible for marking the absentees. Never ask your steward to page individual dogs or exhibitors on the public address system.

There will be occasions when exhibitors have ring conflicts and you may be asked to wait until the exhibitor can appear. There is no obligation for you to do this, but it is courteous to give an exhibitor five minutes grace. Ask your ring steward to inform the other entrants that there is a hold up and the reason why.

Carefully check for the presence of each dog in every class. Compare the armband numbers indicated in the judge's book with the armband numbers of the exhibitors. It may be helpful to make a small check or dot next to the number in the judge's book for entries present to avoid confusion. In marking dogs present or absent, always be certain that all armbands are worn correctly and the numbers correspond to the entries in the class. Note: It is also essential to verify armband numbers in the Winners and Reserve Winners Classes, and of the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch in Best of judging. Mark absentees in each class

Disabled Handlers ASCA strives to provide the opportunity for all people of various backgrounds and capabilities to participate in its events. In the case of conformation judging, where decisions are based solely on the quality of the dogs, you may modify the regular judging procedure to accommodate a disabled handler. If a modification of normal judging procedure is required, then you need only to determine that it would not inhibit the ability of other handlers in the ring to show their dogs. A disabled handler may compete using a cane, crutch, or electric-powered wheelchair. However, when gaiting the dogs as a group, you should ensure that a handler who cannot maintain a normal gait for the breed being exhibited, be placed in line where it will not interfere with the ability of the other dogs to gait properly. Blind handlers may have a second person assist them in individual and group gaiting of the dogs. If the ring surface or terrain makes it difficult for the assisted handler to gait the dog at a normal speed, you may adjust where the dog is placed in line to give all handlers an equal opportunity to show their dogs. Blind handlers may have the second person assist in placing puppies onto tables. The primary function of exhibiting the dog is the responsibility of the handler and not the second person in the ring.

Change of Exhibitors A change of exhibitor is permitted at your discretion up until the time all dogs in the class have been individually examined and individually gaited. After that, no change of exhibitor is allowed.

Late Arrivals It is your decision to allow a late arrival into the ring. In the strictest sense, a late arrival may be allowed to enter the ring until the judge's book has been marked. However, many judges establish the cut-off point when all dogs have been individually examined and gaited. If a single class entry arrives late, it is your decision whether or not to judge the dog.

Rules and Breed Standards You are responsible for your own interpretation of the *Rules* and the *ASCA Breed Standard* in effect on the day of your judging assignment. If your decision depends on the exact wording of a *Rule* or the *ASCA Breed Standard*, **do not hesitate to refer to these documents**. You may also discuss the *Rules or Breed Standard* with the Show Secretary or Ring Steward but should not rely on their verbal confirmation. Investigate the answer to your question by examining the documents yourself.

Speed of Judging Delays and difficulties sometimes occur. While you should never rush an assignment, your officiating should be conducted with efficiency. Generally, a new judge will be somewhat slower in their job than an experienced judge, so clubs should take this into account when scheduling subsequent or concurrent events. As a Non-Regular or Provisional judge, it is your responsibility to inform the clubs that you may need some extra time to complete an assignment. Conditions may cause your judging to take longer, include:

- judging the breed for the first time

- judging in a dimly-lit building
- inexperienced or no ring stewards
- emergencies such as weather or class conflicts

Take all the time needed to properly judge a class. At the same time, use efficient methods to keep to the schedule. A situation that significantly delays judging should be briefly noted in your judge's book.

Large Entries, Small Rings You may occasionally find yourself with very large classes. Keep only as many dogs in the ring as can be conveniently accommodated for individual examination and gaiting. Divide classes into roughly equal portions.

Divide a Best of Breed class that is too large for the ring by separating dogs and bitches, assuming the entry in each are roughly equal. Otherwise, divide the class into roughly equal groups. In dividing a class, remember it is your responsibility to determine absentees. First have all the dogs assembled in the ring so that preliminary paperwork can be completed, then divide the class, calling dogs into the ring in catalog order. When judging very large classes with many sections, write down the armband numbers of the "keepers," and let them leave the ring while you judge the next sections. Tell the exhibitors you will be calling them back into the ring after you have completed all sections. If a class is divided, it is permissible for a handler to take an exhibit into more than one section. When judging divided classes, other than Best of Breed, you must select a minimum of four dogs from the first section and any number from succeeding sections. There is no point in keeping too many dogs from any section. You have only four ribbons to award. However, never leave yourself with only four dogs. When judging Best of Breed at a National Specialty with a specified number of Premier Awards, keep at least that number of dogs from the first group and any number from succeeding sections. It is important that you keep and award an accurate number of awards to the Premier Dogs/Bitches. Do not forget that Best of Breed, Best Opposite Sex and Best of Winners will also need to be awarded in addition to the Premier Awards.

Judging The Dogs

Step confidently into the middle of your ring and ask that the first class be admitted to the ring. Stand and take a good look at the dogs both in motion and when standing. Observe outline, balance, style and type of the group as a whole before beginning individual examinations. Make a mental note of who the first and last exhibitors are so that you do not lose your place during the examinations. Perform your individual examinations and individual gaiting patterns, and when that is completed, have the exhibitor and dog join the end of the line. Repeat the process until all dogs have been individually examined.

Individual Examination of Dogs Examine every dog in approximately the same systematic manner, even if a poor specimen may clearly be out of the ribbons. Approach dogs calmly. Examine with gentleness of touch and with no sudden, surprising gestures. One satisfactory approach is to begin with the mouth and head, then systematically work

down the neck, front, shoulders, body, and hindquarters. It is not necessary to determine soundness by forcibly raising and dropping front or hindquarters, leaning on the back or applying undue pressure on the spine or hocks. Thorough and complete individual examination is not *excessive* examination. Do as much as necessary and no more. Always judge dogs solely **on the basis of their condition as they are presented in the ring on show day**. Give absolutely no consideration to what a dog's quality may be at some future time, or what a dog's condition might have been were it not for some disease or accident. In reviewing a class, avoid excessive rearranging of a dog's coat, whistling, gesturing or baiting. However, do not hesitate to feel out a suspected fault beneath a highly groomed coat.

When judging Best of Breed, you may give Winners Dog and Winners bitch a cursory examination since they were judged in a more thorough manner earlier.

Evaluating a Dog's Mouth For sanitary reasons, many exhibitors prefer to open the dog's mouth themselves. However, you have full authority to insist on personally examining the dog's bite yourself. Do not forget your personal safety. All dogs are not handled by experienced exhibitors. **Do not kneel in front of a dog.** To the extent possible, examine a dog's mouth, from the side. If personally opening the dogs mouth to examine bite and dentition, clean your hands between individual dogs so as not to spread anything potentially contagious.

Gaiting In the first class in which a dog is judged, you must individually gait and observe the dog going away, from the side and returning. Thereafter, either in evaluating that class or in Winners, regaiting is optional.

Depending on the breed being judged, the ring, weather or other conditions, you may have to vary the way in

which the dogs are gaited. When mats are available, dogs should be gaited only on the mats. Gait all the dogs in a class in the same pattern. Regait only the dogs you actually need to see move again, using the same pattern. Do not allow the dogs to be moved at excessive speed. Do not hesitate to tell an exhibitor exactly how you want a dog moved and controlled. Be sure your instructions to exhibitors on how to gait their dogs are clearly understandable.

It is not recommended that two dogs be moved on a down and back together. Not all dogs get along, not all handlers are equally experienced. Doing this endangers the dogs and exhibitors. A competent judge should be able to recall the movement of a particular dog long enough to compare it to the next dog moved.

Placing the Dogs As you examine and gait the dogs, sort them out and form decisions on exact placements. Some judges rearrange the dogs in a class as they are examined and gaited. In a large class, this is usually the best way to group the dogs you are considering.

Once you have individually examined and gaited all of the dogs in a large class, it is best to **excuse those not under consideration for placement**. There is no point in requiring an exhibitor clearly out of the ribbons to wait while the dogs under consideration are sorted out and final placements are decided. In a very large class, you may have to sort out dogs through two or three eliminations. However, never reduce the number of dogs under consideration in a class to only four, as one of the final four may become lame. Once you have decided on the placements, indicate them clearly to the exhibitors so that each dog placed will be taken to the proper marker. Mark your book **from the armbands** of the exhibitors at the markers and **then** hand out ribbons and prizes.

Designating Class Placements Be especially careful in pointing to your placements. Misunderstood placement indications can result in tangled leads, confusion, etc. The safest procedure is to realign your class, putting the four dogs to be placed in proper order at the front of the line. Do not make placements as the dogs are moving, unless the dogs have been put in placement order. **In judging Best of Breed, you may mark the book before indicating the Winner.** If you use this procedure, do not move the dogs again after marking the book.

Withholding Withholding an award or placement occurs when you are faced with a dog or bitch that fails in many essential characteristics of the breed, such as grossly lacking type, unsound, showing aggression or obviously suffering from some illness. You have the clear authority to withhold any and all awards at any point in the judging process. You may award one placement in a class and no other placement, or you may withhold all awards. You may award class firsts and then withhold the Winners ribbon, and you may excuse any dog for lack of merit. **The decision is yours alone based on the merits of the dogs.** When you withhold or excuse, note the reason in the judge's book and initial your comments. Clearly and diplomatically explain your decision to the exhibitor(s) involved. In Winners competition, if you feel none of the dogs are of championship quality, i.e., deserving of championship points on that day, you should withhold the Winners ribbon. This is also true for Reserve Winners. It is not appropriate to award a dog Winners or Reserve simply because it is the best specimen available on that day. **Impact of Withholding or Excusing** You should not be concerned about the impact of withholding or excusing.

Winners and Reserve Winners Classes Regaiting in Winners and Reserve Winners classes should be kept to a minimum and limited to dogs in contention. Winners and Reserve Winners are two separate classes. Unless the Winner comes from a class of one, the judge's book must be marked and the ribbon and trophies presented to the Winner before judging Reserve Winners. **Best of Breed Judging** After marking the judge's book, do not regait the dogs.

Non-Regular Competitive Classes Non-regular classes often involve puppies under the age of six months, Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, Veterans and Brace classes. The show-giving club has the option of awarding ribbons and prizes for first place only or for four places. The option selected must be indicated in the premium list. The winner of these classes is not eligible to compete for Best of Breed. A champion may occasionally be entered both in a Non-Regular class and Best of Breed. In such cases, if the dog is defeated in the non-regular class, it may continue to compete for Best of Breed or for Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed. If there is a special event for Puppies, Veterans, Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, Brace, or Team Class, it is the responsibility of the show-giving club to advise the judge of the correct judging procedures.

Altered Judging ASCA is unique in offering regular Altered shows in which neutered and spayed dogs compete for championship points. Some of these dogs are neutered for medical reasons, others for the owners convenience and still others are champions whose breeding careers are complete but who are not ready to be

retired from competition. This event is to be judged with the same care and consideration given to the intact dogs. These dogs, although neutered, still represent a breeding program and the potential of their sire and dam. You should adhere to the Breed Standard when judging these individuals and give them the same respect and consideration deserving of any breeding dog.

It is inappropriate to discuss with the exhibitor any reasons why the dogs have been neutered. The information is not relevant to your judgment on that day.

Breed Judge's Book The Judge's Book You alone are responsible for the judge's book. When you finish your assignment:

- sign your book(s).
- fill in the times and dates.
- initial all changes and notations.
- personally return the completed judge's book to the Show Secretary.
- check with the Show Secretary before leaving the show.

Marking the Judge's Book Always be thorough, neat and careful in marking your book. If awards are not correctly marked, the entire purpose of the show is defeated. In all regular classes, mark your placements as first (1), second (2), third (3), and fourth (4), opposite the armband numbers in the judge's book. For Winners and Reserve Winners, as well as Best of Breed, Best of Winners and Best of Opposite Sex, you must record the actual armband numbers of the winning dogs on the appropriate lines. Once the book is marked, the class is over. **Do not re-judge a class.** The full responsibility for the accuracy of the judge's book rests with you. **Never rely on the ring steward to advise you of the armband numbers of your placements.** Any change in the judge's book must be initialed. Only the judge or Show Secretary may make notations in the judge's book; only the Show Secretary may move a dog from one class to another or make corrections to entries. **Double-Checking the Book** Review your book at the end of an assignment to be sure that:

- all placements being awarded are marked correctly.
- all absentees are marked.
- Reserve Winners Dog and Bitch are correctly indicated.
- Best of Winners is either the Winners Dog or Winners Bitch.
- Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex are of different sexes.
- withheld placements, excusals and disqualifications, with the reasons for them, are noted and initialed.

Take the extra time to double-check all markings in your book. Some errors, if not caught on the spot, can never be satisfactorily resolved.

Excusals and Disqualifications Be thoroughly familiar with the current **Breed Standard** and the *Rules*. When called for, you **must** disqualify a dog. When you excuse or disqualify a dog, you must mark your book "excused" or "disqualified," as the case may be. State briefly the condition requiring your action. The notation must be initialed. A dog which has been changed in appearance by artificial means, except as specified in the standard for its breed, may not compete at any show and any awards will **withheld**. A dog is considered changed in appearance by artificial means if it has been subjected to any type of procedure that has the effect of obscuring, disguising or eliminating any congenital or hereditary abnormality or any undesirable characteristic, or anything that improves a dog's natural appearance, temperament, bite or gait. In addition, the insertion of any type of apparatus in the mouth of a dog renders that dog ineligible for competition in dog shows and subjects anyone who exhibits, or causes to be exhibited, such dog to disciplinary action. You have the clear authority under Chapter 7 and 9 of the *Rules* to **remove, excuse or disqualify** a dog from your ring.

Shy and Vicious Dogs Excuse any dog that, in your opinion:

- menaces,
- threatens, or
- exhibits any sign that it may not be examined in the normal manner.

When you **excuse** the dog, mark your judge's book "Excused," stating the reason in the judge's book. A dog so excused shall not be counted as having completed.

Disqualify any dog that, in your opinion, attacks any person or another dog in the ring. Mark your book "Disqualified, attacked." A dog disqualified for attacking may not compete at any future show until the owner officially requests ASCA to reinstate the dog. Reinstatement requires the dog to be examined by a three ASCA Breeder Judges, after which the owner must receive official notification from ASCA that the dog's show eligibility has been reinstated. Be certain to clearly communicate your decision to the exhibitor of the dog using either the word "excused" or "disqualified." After disqualifying a dog for attacking, take a moment to write a short description of the circumstances. The ASCA Board of Directors may contact you at a later date. Disqualifications for attacking are different than being disqualified under the breed standards or other parts of the *Rules*. It is of the utmost importance to use the word "excused" or "disqualified", as appropriate, when dismissing an exhibitor whose dog is shy or vicious.

Disqualifying Faults Each dog must be examined for disqualifying faults as specified in the breed standard, as well as for violations of Chapter 9 and 10 of the *Rules*. **This applies to judging at all regular levels.**

Protests Only exhibitors **in the ring** have the right to protest dogs competing. Protests are not allowed after every dog in the class has been individually examined and gaited and the judges book marked. When a verbal protest is made, it is important to remain calm. If, after examining the dog, it is your opinion the dog does not possess the disqualifying fault, advise the exhibitor who made the protest and mark your judge's book "Verbal protest, (stating the reason for protest), not sustained." On the other hand, if the dog has a disqualifying condition, you are to mark your book "Verbal protest, (stating the reason for the protest), disqualified."

Misconduct Be prepared to deal with any misconduct in a calm, professional manner. Do not engage in arguments or debates over your decisions. Ask the Ring Steward and Show Secretary to remove any exhibitor whose behavior is disruptive to other exhibitors and dogs.

Photographs Try to accommodate exhibitors who want photographs taken; however, judging should not be unduly delayed to take a picture. It is often best to delay picture taking until all judging within a scheduled time period has been completed. There is no need for pictures to actually be taken in the ring. Pictures may be taken in an appropriate area of the show grounds at a time mutually convenient for judges and exhibitors

Judge's Checklist

- Arrive at least one-half hour prior to your judging assignment.
- If you are a new breed judge be prepared to take extra time to complete your assignment.
- Mark all absentees in each class in the book, including dogs entered for Best of Breed.
- Take the exhibits as a class, or individually, around the ring.
- Examine each dog in approximately the same systematic manner. Know and utilize only the **ASCA Breed Standard**.
- You must always make an individual examination of each dog for lameness.
- Be systematic in your ring procedure, but do not be afraid to make adjustments when conditions warrant it.
- Make all your instructions to exhibitors absolutely clear.
- Line up the dogs first, second, third, and fourth in front of the markers before marking the judge's book or handing out the ribbons.
- As a judge, only you may mark your judge's book and hand out ribbons.
- Ribbons must be presented only in the ring. If an exhibitor leaves the ring before ribbons are presented, have the steward call the exhibitor back into the ring. Make a note in the judge's book pertaining to the incident.
- In judging Winners, always double-check armbands. After the ribbon has been awarded, excuse the winning dog. Call into the ring the dog that placed second to the dog awarded Winners, judging Reserve as a separate class.
- In the Best of Breed competition, award Best of Breed, Best of Winners and Best of Opposite Sex.
- Do not forget to sign the judge's books to certify that judging has been completed in accordance with the requirements. Initial all notations you made in the books.