

May 2016 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 through mail, fax, e-mail, and/or telephone communications.

This report is respectfully submitted by Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.

Board Email Motions

BD.16.55 Change to Policy Book 8.14 Emergency Voting

Approve: DeChant, Dolan, Gibson, Gray, King, Kissman, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: Silveira

Motion carries.

Comment from Silveira: "This motion is being made on the heels of this Board using the Emergency voting procedure for a reason not allowed by said procedure. The stated reason for changing the Emergency voting procedure is a laudable one. Some members felt it wasn't fair to make anyone wait longer for a Board decision that should have been made earlier. There was one person and one Affiliate Club affected by the previous action. There was no explanation as to why the action was required to meet a critical deadline or critical ASCA function. Instead I explained the same issues had plagued ASCA since its beginning. In the past, most especially the recent past. We apologized for missing our deadlines, carrying the business over to the next cycle. I believe, the Emergency voting procedure was created to constrain the actions of the Board of Directors. This motion should not be approved to change the Emergency voting procedures. If passed, this will be a tool for the sitting decision makers to pick and choose what extra ordinary business gets handled a little bit faster. The appropriate action to provide the greatest benefit for ASCA would have been to leave the Emergency voting procedure alone and create two new procedures. The first procedure being one that keeps issues in front of the Board all the way through the original discussion until after its implementation. In this way ASCA will finally have addressed one of its greatest deficiencies. The second procedure would be a voting procedure for errors and omissions. In this way, those issues important to ASCA and its Members can be addressed when the Board misses the mark."

Motion by Vest

Second by Dolan

I move to expand the Emergency Motion Procedure as follows:

Policy Book

Current Rule:

8.14 Rules and Procedures for Emergency Voting

e. Emergency voting procedures are not to be employed frivolously. ~~Only those issues with imminent deadlines or concerning critical ASCA functions shall be eligible for an emergency vote.~~

f. Emergency motions shall require ~~a majority of the Board to approve~~ in order to pass.

Proposed Change:

8.14 Rules and Procedures for Emergency Voting

e. Emergency voting procedures are not to be employed frivolously. Only those issues that a majority of the Board believes are both necessary to ASCA's purposes and time-sensitive may be adopted by emergency motion voting.

f. Emergency motions shall require approval of six Board Members in order to pass.

Rationale: To provide a more viable option to the BOD for matters that are time sensitive, critical to ASCA's functionality, or cause impact to ASCA Judges.

Parties affected: ASCA Secretary for Policy Book update.

Effective date: July 1, 2016.

BD.16.56 Change to Stockdog Rulebook 23.14 & 23.15 Protests/Discipline

Approve: DeChant, Dolan, Gibson, Gray, King, Kissman, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: Silveira

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

Comment from Silveira: "The rationale used to explain the purpose of this motion could have been simplified and to the point. Instead we are presented with ambiguous language casting doubt on whether a Judge in any Program will ever be afforded an opportunity to defend themselves when their decisions are not popular. I have noted many times removing the protections as found in ASCA's only disciplinary procedure from Judges acting during the course of their assignments is unfair and exposes such Judges to arbitrary procedures based on who the decision makers are at the time. Before this motion passes we should develop a policy guaranteeing normal protections for our Judges."

Motion by Dolan

Second by Vest

I move to combine and change sections 23.14 and 23.15 of the Stockdog Rulebook which read:

23.14 Section 14: Protests

Any person wishing to lodge a protest or complaint against a Judge shall do so in accordance with the ASCA Dispute Rules.

23.15 Section 15: Discipline

~~A Judge may be temporarily denied judging privileges for a period of 60 days by the recommendation of the Stockdog Committee while it investigates any allegation of a serious infraction or violation of the ASCA Stockdog Rules and Procedures. Any Judge may be suspended from judging assignments by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the Stockdog Committee, provided the Stockdog Committee has proposed a course of remediation to resolve the rule infraction. If a formal complaint is filed against a Judge concerning a trial, it shall be investigated by the Stockdog Committee and, if the complaint is found to be valid, may recommend the Judge be suspended or have his/her judging privileges revoked. (See ASCA DISPUTE RULES, Section 1.1.2 Complaints against Judges and APPENDIX 6: STOCKDOG JUDGE DISCIPLINE AND PROCEDURE FOR REINSTATEMENT)~~

To read:

23.14 Section 14: Protests/Discipline

Any person wishing to lodge a protest or complaint against a Judge shall do so in accordance with this section. Complaints concerning an ASCA Judge's conduct while acting as a Judge are not subject to the ASCA Dispute Rules. Urgent complaints (remediable during the trial) concerning a Judge shall be brought informally (without filing a form) to the Trial Committee for ruling and appropriate action. Any other complaint shall be sent to the Executive Secretary via e-mail or letter. The Executive Secretary shall advise the ASCA Board. The Board shall use its discretion in determining how to proceed and whether the matter should be referred to the Stockdog Committee.

Rationale: This change brings the Stockdog Committee into line with the other program committees by removing disciplinary powers from the committee and placing this power with the Board of Directors. The motion is a result of Board discussions during the spring meetings.

Effective date: July 1, 2016.

BD.16.57 DQ of Double Destiny's Mysterious PHX Guy

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Dolan

Second by Vest

I move to validate the disqualification of Double Destiny's Mysterious PHX Guy (Dachshund T10175) issued by the Alaska Australian Shepherd Club and direct the Business Office to list the referenced dog as disqualified because of biting a human.

Rationale: An investigation and review of the attached documents yields a recommendation to validate the disqualification action of the Alaska Australian Shepherd Club.

BD.16.58 Change to Policy Book 15.4.2 Board Changes

Approve: DeChant, Dolan, Gibson, Gray, Kissman, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: King, Silveira

Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

Comment from Silveira: "When the By Law Rule change referenced in this motion was being discussed, I asked if the requirement that a rule must be printed in the relevant rulebook before any new rule could be enforced. I was assured the language used still guaranteed this stipulation. This new Rule now before us verifies my concern that the original intent was to remove the qualification that for a rule to be enforceable it must be printed in the applicable Rulebook. The language was ambiguous at that point in referencing "printed rule". Now we are asked to approve the Business Office notifying the Hosting Affiliate as to any new Rules or changes as satisfying the new By Law requirement. This guarantees there will be Members using the Program not knowing beforehand what the applicable Rules are if we do not continue to require only those rules in the Rule Book shall be enforceable."

Motion by Dolan

Second by Gray

I move to change section 15.4.2 of the Policy Book which reads:

15.4.2 Board Changes

The Board of Directors may adopt, amend, cancel or supplement all show, trial, testing programs or other rules and/or regulations for the operation of the Club. All such rules shall be in writing. ~~Rules and regulations, as adopted by the Board of Directors, shall become effective no sooner than thirty (30) days after publication in the Club Newsletter (AUSSIE TIMES); or in the event an emergency situation exists that would be detrimental to ASCA and/or its programs the effective date will be determined by the Board of Directors.~~

The Business Office will be responsible for notifying the Secretaries, Chairs and Course Directors of any up-coming shows/trials that will be affected by the rule changes, ~~if the rules changes have not been published in the AUSSIE TIMES.~~ If this notification is not made, the rule shall not be enforceable.

To read:

15.4.2 Board Changes

The Board of Directors may adopt, amend, cancel, or supplement all show, trial, testing programs, or other rules and/or regulations for the operation of the Club. All such rules or regulations shall be in writing. Such rules or regulations shall be effective on the date designated in such rule or regulation. If no effective date is designated therein, such rule or regulation shall be effective sixty (60) days after adoption by the Board of Directors.

The Business Office will be responsible for notifying Show/Trial Secretaries, Chairs, and Course Directors of up-coming shows/trials affected by the rule changes. The Business Office shall develop a notification procedure to use between rulebook printings. If the Business Office notification is not made, the changed rule is not enforceable.

Rationale: This change brings the Policy Book in line with the August 2015 change to the ASCA By-laws.

Effective date: When approved by the Board of Directors.

BD.16.59 ED Research Committee to evaluate Business Plan

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Silveira

Second by Wesen

I move we request the Executive Director Research Committee to evaluate the existing ASCA Business Plan. Then recommend changes or create a whole new document better suited to ASCA's needs now and into the future. Reporting back to the Board at the Nationals Meeting, September, 2016, with their progress.

Reasoning: While we are waiting to balance our finances with the projects already underway, I would like to give this committee a task to focus on. They have considerable talent and resources relevant to the development of a business plan.

Judge Approvals

Approved Breeder Judge Connie Blowers (Washington)

Non-Regular Breeder Judge Marin Matesic Smith (New York)

Non-Regular Breeder Judge Allison Bryant (Georgia)

Board Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2016

Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Preston Kissman, 2nd Vice President Laura Gibson, Treasurer Pete Dolan, Director Rachel Vest, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Secretary Ken Silveira, Director Linda Gray, Director Cindy King, Director Jan Wesen

There is a quorum with 5 voting members of the Board present.

- *DeChant called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm Central Time.*

Items in Executive Session:

There were three items that were discussed in Executive Session below. The times are marked for when ES was entered and exited. Only the notice of a person's violation and any penalties assessed are published below.

- *Silveira joined the meeting at 6:07 pm.*

Ratify April Email Votes

BD.16.60 Ratify April Email Votes

All present approve (Absent: Gray, King, Wesen). *Motion carries.*

Motion by Vest

Second by Kissman

I move to ratify the Board's April email votes.

April Treasurer's Report

Dolan gave the Treasurer's Report for April. There is \$198,513.87 in the Chase checking account, \$150,462.30 in the Chase savings account, and \$100 in the Chase wire account. There is \$184,571.75 in the Raymond James investment account. The Office Manager has recently moved money from ASCA's checking to savings account, and he is looking into other account options.

There is \$54,026 in the Additional Event Membership Dues account. The Office will be sending a check from this account to the 2016 Host Club as soon as entries close.

There were increases in income from Aussie Times subscriptions (\$1,700), gain/loss on securities (\$2,278.91), member services (\$9,713.88), membership dues (\$3,904), miscellaneous (\$1,192), program income (\$3,719.50), and registry services (\$8,429.14). There were decreases in income from Aussie Times ads (-\$2,095) and bank/investments (-\$100.22). There were increases in expenses for Aussie Times postage (\$6,005.73), Aussie Times printing (\$2,007.25), Aussie Times mail preparation (\$2,732.62), computer (\$64,021.33), credit card (\$761.44), insurance (\$3,662.43), Office expense (\$905.13), payroll expense – temp (\$6,382.38), and utilities (\$796.46). There were decreases in expenses for contract labor (-\$704.75), Director/Officer reimbursement (-\$6,046.2), equipment rental (-\$1,195.08), member service (-\$3,803.51), national ASCA expenses (-\$519.97), payroll (-\$2,416.17), postage and delivery (-\$8,213.15), printing and reproduction (-\$1,884.29), professional development (-\$587.30), professional fees (-\$1,164.99), and repairs (-\$253.18).

Kissman requested that there be a notation on the bottom of the balance sheet that indicates the software will be showing up as an asset.

- *King joined the meeting at 6:12 pm.*
- *Wesen joined the meeting at 6:14 pm.*

BD.16.61 April Treasurer's Report

Approve: DeChant, Dolan, Gibson, King, Kissman, Silveira, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: Dolan

Absent: Gray

Motion carries.

Motion by Vest

Second by Gibson

I make a motion to approve the April Treasurer's report as presented, with a notation to be put on the balance sheet denoting that the system upgrade is to become an asset.

System Upgrade

Vest reported that FrogSlayer is focusing on the logistics of the project. She has asked the Office Manager if we can expect more detailed updates in the future. There is still an end of July goal date to get the prioritized items rolled out.

Email update for the week of 5/2 – 5/7:

Completed:

- Mockups of the login screen, My Aussies screen, 2 versions of the Show Results screens

In Progress:

- Scaffolding the architecture
(From Vest: Scaffolding definition -is a technique supported by some model-view-controller frameworks, in which the programmer can specify how the application database may be used. The compiler or framework uses this specification, together with pre-defined code templates, to generate the final code that the application can use to create, read, update and delete database entries, effectively treating the templates as a "scaffold" on which to build a more powerful application.)

Screenshots:

- We have mocked up the screens for this month. One thing to note is that the navigation on the header isn't correct.

Email update for the week of 5/16 – 5/20:

Completed:

- Setup dev environment
- Scaffold architecture
- Onboarded Jacob Stone
- Onboarded Cody
- Generate data model based on ADMS database

This week:

- Login page
- My Aussies page
- Dog details / show listings / titles
- ATCH agility points calculation
- Setup QA, Staging, Production servers
- Create adms db proxy server

Blocked

- Setup connection to ADMS database [need contact info for McLane]

Email update from 5/31:

This is a list of what was completed last week and what we are working on this week.

Completed

- My Aussies page
- Dog details / show listings / titles

This week

- ATCH agility points calculation
- Login page
- User registration
- Setup QA, Staging, Production servers
- Create adms db data link
- Get new hire Andrew up to speed

Blocked

- Just sent email to McLane for info on connecting to SQL Server, waiting to hear back

We are looking to get a version of the site up this week or next week depending on how fast things get knocked off the list.

Disqualified Dog

Kissman was assigned to make a recommendation regarding a disqualified dog. According to the Dog Aggression Rules, when a dog is disqualified by a judge the Board does not need to take any action to confirm or deny the disqualification. The Board only does this if the dog is disqualified by the Show Committee/Affiliate or if the disqualification is appealed.

- ✚ The Board was in Executive Session from 6:24 pm – 6:37 pm. A complaint against an ASCA Stockdog Judge was dismissed.

Strategic Plan Follow-Up

Gibson wanted to know if anyone had any questions about the duties assigned in the Strategic Plan, or if there had been any feedback from the committees. People like the new format with specific assignments and timelines. The Obedience Committee was not in favor of a continuing education test for judges. A committee can choose not to implement something from the plan that does not work for their program. Other committees had no issues or had not yet looked at the document.

- *Gray joined the meeting at 6:42 pm.*

Rulebook Publishing

Committees may request a January rulebook printing, but they must make a case to the Board why it is necessary. Changes that effect standings or the way the program is run will not be accepted for a January rulebook.

- ✚ The Board was in Executive Session from 6:48 pm – 6:59 pm to discuss allegations against an ASCA Agility Judge. Gibson was assigned further investigation.

Family Members Serving ASCA

DeChant and Gray crafted a motion for the Committee Procedures. The Board would like to post the motion on the ASCA-L to solicit member feedback before voting. The motion will be added to the email voting cycle when ready.

Motion: Add 2.1 Committee Makeup to Committee Procedures

Motion by DeChant

Second by Gray

I move to approve adding the highlighted 2.1 of the Committee Procedures.

Rationale: This will clarify that family members can serve together on ASCA Committees.

ASCA is a family oriented organization; therefore, family members may serve on committees together. Any Board Member may serve as a Board Liaison for a committee on which a family member(s) sits as a committee member or chair.

Non-Recognized Colors

The Board discussed concerns regarding an Aussie of questionable color shown at a recent ASCA conformation event. There was a rumor that the allegedly yellow dog was shown and the judges intentionally did not disqualify it in order to make a major. That is false. On the day of the show, there were five dogs, five bitches, and two specials entered. There must be eight dogs or bitches defeated in order to earn a 3-point major on Schedule 1.

The Board will not question the decisions of the judges that this dog was shown to. The Board has no desire or authority under any of its rules to change the results as determined by an ASCA Judge. A judge's decision is final and, except in specific instances allowed for by our rules, only the judge can change it. The Conformation Committee will be addressing recognized and non-recognized colors in their judge's education at Nationals.

There was also some question as to how a yellow dog could be registered with ASCA. ASCA does not prohibit registration of dogs based on color. If a dog is not eligible for conformation due to a breed standard deficiency that dog may still be exhibited in ASCA's other programs.

- ✚ The Board was in Executive Session from 7:55 pm – 8:05 pm to discuss additional information related to a registry dispute decided on by the Board in March 2016. Silveira will work with Counsel to draft a resolution and report back to the Board for June.

2016 Nationals

Silveira reported that the 2016 Nationals Entry Clerk is still going through the first day of entries and they are close to filling for the Nationals Stockdog Trial. They would like to extend the Nationals Stockdog Trial from 180 to 240 runs, from 3 days to 4 days.

- *DeChant adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm.*