November 2017
Executive Secretary’s Report

Judge Approvals
Stockdog Judge Marie Nagano (California)
Senior Breeder Judge Lindy Patrick (California)
Approved Breeder Judge Lizette Busquets (Georgia)
Non-Regular Breeder Judge Jennifer McKervey (Utah)

Committee Appointments

DNA Committee
Jan Wesen

Judges Education Committee
Jan Wesen

Junior Committee
Deb St. Jacques (region 6)

Legislative Committee
Marianne Kunzmann (region 7)

MVA Committee
Jan Wesen (region 1)

Obedience Committee
Jan Wesen (region 1)
Marianne Kunzmann (region 7)

Stockdog Committee
Jan Wesen (at-large judge)

Tracking Committee
Jan Wesen (region 1)

Board of Directors Motions

**BD.17.191 Changes to 6.14 Breed Standard**

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira
Oppose: Gibson, Vest
Abstain: 0

**Motion carries.**

*Comment from Creelman:* The breed standard and the Working description should be in each rulebook.

*Letter of Dissent from Gibson:* Most stockdog breeds have a working description as part of their breed standard or as a separate document, as we have. I have no problem with a working description. I have no problem with it being published in the Aussie Times. I do have a problem with how it is used to cause divisions within our Club, and the timing of this particular motion seems political to me. The divisiveness needs to stop, and I do not want to be a part of any political statement.

*Letter of Dissent from Vest:* This motion should have been labeled correctly as the Working Description. And as such does not merit the same treatment as the Australian Shepherd Breed Standard. The Working Description was created as a punitive document to punish the Australian Shepherds that did not work as some in the breed thought that they should. This document provided a method by which Judges could penalize dogs that do not work in the same “style” as described in the Working Standard. This document created a divide in ASCA that obviously will never be healed ... since once again the Working Standard is brought up as the only standard by which Australian Shepherds are to work. The history of the Australian Shepherd documents that other working breeds were used to create the dogs that we have today. Yet, the only dogs penalized for their bloodlines are the working dogs. Is it the goal of the Makers of this motion to carry on the divisiveness that we have seen in ASCA in the past few months by once again resurfacing the Working Standard?
Motion by Roberts
Second by Gray
I move to add the Working Description to the policy for the publication of the Breed Standard in the Aussie Times.

Current wording:
6.14 Breed Standard
The ASCA Breed Standard shall be published in every other issue of the Aussie Times within the first 50 pages of the publication.

A prominent icon which links to the ASCA Standard shall be presented on the home page of ASCA.org

Proposed wording:
6.14 Breed Standard and Working Description
The ASCA Breed Standard shall be published in every other issue of the Aussie Times within the first 50 pages of the publication.
The ASCA Working Description shall be published in the Aussie Times in alternate issues.

A prominent icon which links to the ASCA Standard shall be presented on the home page of ASCA.org

Comment: Both the Breed Standard and the Working Description are of equal importance and both should be published.

Parties affected: AT Editor

Effective date: When passed.

**BD.17.192 Affiliate Bylaw Change - Lake Havasu ASC**
Approve: Unanimous
Motion carries.

Motion by Roberts
Second by Vest
I move to approve the requested Bylaw change and name change for Lake Havasu ASC.

Parties affected: LHASC members

Effective date: Upon Board approval

**BD.17.193 Affiliate Bylaw Change – CASA**
Approve: Unanimous
Motion carries.

Motion by Roberts
Second by Vest
I move to approve the requested amendment to the CASA bylaws that was approved by their membership.

Parties affected: CASA members

Effective date: When passed by the Board

**BD.17.195 Eliminate Section 18 Introduction to the ASCA Stockdog Program**
Approve: Busquets, DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts
Oppose: Creelman, Gibson, Silveira, Vest
Abstain: 0
Motion carries.

Comment from Busquets: I agree in spirit with the intention the authors of this section had. ASCA needs to attract new people to ASCA, encourage everyone to put their dogs on stock, and be inclusive. However, I disagree with several aspects of this section and educational materials are inadequate. I think that we need to start from scratch.

Letter of Dissent from Creelman: The Introduction to Stock should not be eliminated. It should be sent back to the SDC to be revised and rewritten to be agreeable to that committee and the BOD. The purpose of Section 18 is to bring new members into the stock program. The program in place should remain while procedures and rules are revised.

Letter of Dissent from Gibson: ASCA needs to actively attract new people to its programs, but especially to its Stockdog program. I do think the current Introduction to the ASCA Stockdog event could be strengthened, and I look forward to seeing the improvements suggested by the SDC; however, the current event is a good step in the right direction, and I would rather see it stay in place until the SDC completes its revisions.

Letter of Dissent from Vest: The comments that supports this motion are not reflected by fact. Accusations that stock would be mistreated and handlers placed at risk are an excuse to end the Intro to Stock.

Motion by Roberts
Second by Gray
I move to eliminate Section 18 Introduction to the ASCA Stockdog Program as it exists from the Stockdog Rulebook and renumber accordingly.

Comment: The Introduction to the ASCA Stockdog Program, as presently written, needs to be revised to ensure the safety of humans and animals and to be made into a document all Affiliates and users of the ASCA Stockdog program, present and future.

Parties affected: Affiliates, members, non-members.

Effective date: When passed. *Revised 11/15 to include the following: Note: Any Intro to Stock event in the sanctioning cycle now or until the Vote is delivered to the board may be sanctioned and held. On that date, if passed, no further Intro to Stock events will be sanctioned.

BD.17.196 Directive to Stockdog Committee
Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira
Oppose: Vest
Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

Comment from Busquets: Since I’m voting to eliminate Section 18 Introduction to the ASCA Stockdog Program, I think this motion places ASCA on a logical, stepwise path to promote the Australian Shepherd breed, introduce new people to ASCA, and encourage competitors in other sports to give working stock a try.

Comment from Creelman: SDC can revise the program already in place to make it agreeable to both the committee and the BOD. Additions can be made and rules for safety concerns put in place. A date to be submitted to the BOD needs to be in place.

Comment from Gibson: I believe this is a broad directive which is actually asking the SDC to work on three different, although related, tasks. I think the phrase "no sanctioning necessary" was unnecessary; I think the SDC can decide for themselves whether sanctioning is helpful or not as they proceed with their work.

Letter of Dissent from Vest: This directive to the SDC will do nothing to bring in newcomers to the program. It was our intent to try and bring in dogs and handlers from the other venues. This directive will not accomplish that goal. And, sorry to say ... but the majority of folks who enter stockdog trials will never own stock ... therefore promoting our dogs as "ranch hands" will disenfranchise many in the SD program. That is a reality. The days of family farms/ranches are long over. Regarding the claim that the current ITS was harmful to stock, that is a false narrative. But I can tell you what harmful to stock is ... turning a green dog loose in a 200 x 100 arena and hoping for success. It saddens me that the ITS was not given a chance to be successful.

Motion by Roberts
Second by Gray
I move to direct the SDC to develop a structured format to focus on 1) bringing new people into the Stockdog Trialing program, 2) produce material that promotes the working Aussie as a ranch hand, 3) help people be successful in SD Trials via training tools, resources, etc., and 4) formalize training clinics prior to a trial or show which helps new people at trialing and new people moving up in a Division. No sanctioning necessary. The SDC will have until the spring board meeting to bring their documents to the board for review.

*Revised 11/15 to change “Judging” to “training” in third line and add “or show” in the fourth line.

Comment: Affiliate Clubs who need help in organizing and running a stockdog clinic will have a tool to use to accomplish their goals. Having a written guide for promoting the Aussie as a ranch hand, helping people be successful trailing in ASCA will encourage people to come to ASCA and stay here.

Parties affected: Anyone interested in learning how to work stock and succeed in ASCA’s Stockdog Trialing program.

Effective date: When passed.

**BD.17.197 ASCMembers.io Group as Official ASCA Communication Tool**

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts
Oppose: Gibson, Silveira, Vest
Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

*Comment from Busquets:* I always thought that this list should remain as ASCA's communication tool with the use of moderators. Since moderators will be in place, I agree to use ASCMembers.io group.

*Comment from Creelman:* As the official tool for ASCA it must be owned by ASCA and be moderated to maintain civil conversation and professionalism

*Letter of Dissent from Gibson:* I do not mind adding ASCMembers as described in this motion as an official communication tool for ASCA. I do mind the political vindictiveness of trying to shut down the other group. I believe this motion was premature since Linda and Jean did not define "lightly moderated atmosphere" or delineate what guidelines would be used to moderate the group. I also think Linda and Jean should have clarified how ASCMembers' ASCA membership will be verified. This topic and the question of moderation should have been presented to the Board and the ASCMember group before this motion was made.

*Letter of Dissent from Vest:* The makers of this motion did not present a moderation plan to ensure that discussion will remain civil and meet the guidelines set for other ASCA social media sites.

Motion by Gray
Second by Roberts

I move to assign the ASCMembers.io group as an official communication tool between the ASCA's Board and its membership and will serve as a place for members to discuss issues pertaining to all things ASCA in a lightly moderated atmosphere. The group will be owned by the (ASCA) Office Manager with Frank Butera and Joyce Charron as the administrators.

Comment: The former ASCA-L is now the ASCMembers.io group and it is where members are comfortable. All archives from the ASCA-L have been transferred over to the .io group so members can go back and research 20 +/- years of ASCA discussion.

ASCA only needs one discussion group. To have more will confuse members as to where they need to be and it is a duplication of effort.

Parties affected: ASCA membership who are on the internet.

Effective date: When passed

**BD.17.199 Rescind BD.17.186 ASCADiscussionGroup on Groups.io**

Approve: Busquets, DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts
Oppose: Creelman, Gibson, Silveira, Vest
Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

Comment from Busquets: It is redundant to have two lists.

Letter of Dissent from Creelman: There have been several positive comments made by new members about this group. Some people may feel more comfortable on one group or the other. I don’t see a problem having two groups.

Letter of Dissent from Gibson: The rationale for this motion, "duplication of effort," is an inaccurate statement since ASCADiscussion Group is ASCA's group, and any other "effort" is done on a voluntary basis. An honest comment would have been, "We promised Frank and our friends on the old ASCA-L/ASCMembers group that we would rescind this, so we are." The politics here is unfortunate. I will be disappointed if this group is shut down, but it will not be the first time in ASCA history that a Board has rescinded things put into place by a previous Board. That is simply the nature of our club, for better or for worse. We just celebrated 60 years, so I think we will be okay. I think the silver lining is that we are finally having discussions about the need for moderation to keep our debates civil and both this group and ASCMembers are in a more user-friendly format than the old Yahoo list ... both good changes.

Motion by Gray
Second by Roberts

I move to rescind BD.17.186 ASCADiscussionGroup on Groups.io

Comment: Duplication of effort

Parties affected: ASCA membership who are on the internet.

Effective date: When passed.

BD.17.186 ASCADiscussionGroup on Groups.io

Motion by Gibson to have Ray Fryar launch ASCADiscussionGroup Groups.io as an official communication tool of the Australian Shepherd Club of America. The ASCA Business Office will be the owner of this lightly moderated group.
Second by Wesen.

BD.17.200 Emergency Motion to Suspend the 30-Day Rule of the Contagious Disease Section

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Roberts
Oppose: Gibson, King, Silveira, Vest
Abstain: Gray

Motion fails.

Comment from Gibson: Although I feel this policy is flawed and needs to be revised, I believe we need to err on the side of caution and uphold our current rule, as we announced. Our legal counsel has advised us against eliminating our policy in this fashion, and I am going to follow this advice. Individuals and Affiliates have already taken action based on our original announcement. To change our decision now is not fair to the Affiliates who were trying to abide by the Board’s decision.

Comment from King: While I understand the hardship on affiliates and exhibitors I want a new procedure in place before removing the Contagious Disease rule regarding exposure.

Comment from Silveira: As an Officer of ASCA, I cannot in good conscience approve this motion. This issue is not an emergency. All organizations conducting dog events have in place a rule addressing contagious disease. If ASCA removes its rule, does ASCA then have a liability should an outbreak occur? I believe this motion exposes ASCA to such liability. This rule has been in place ever since ASCA’s first Rule Book was published. It has protected our Aussies well since then. This motion should be defeated. If there is a better rule to be created, we should immediately attend to that issue. This motion relies on vaccination to protect our Aussies. Those of us in the healthcare field know that vaccination is not a guarantee. When diverse populations gather from around the world, viruses are spread to a non-immune population for which vaccines have not been formulated for. This motion also allows for proof of vaccination to substitute for our written rule. What form will this proof look like to be acceptable? For those of us who do our own vaccines, how do we prove compliance?
Comment from Vest: My concern with the total deletion of this rule is based upon the caution that was issued by ASCA's attorney. In light of that caution and the BOD's statement to Members earlier this week...reminding them of the 30 rule....elimination of the rule may not be judicious at this time.

Motion by Busquets
Second by Roberts
I move to hereby suspend until further notice, Conformation Rule 9.9.b and 9.9.c, Agility Rule 1.3.7.b and 1.3.7.c, Dock Jumping Rule 1.3.6.b and 1.3.6.c, Obedience Rule 1.3.4.b and 1.3.4.c, Rally Rule 1.10.4.b and 1.10.4.c, Stockdog Rule 4.8.c.ii and 4.8.c.iii, and Tracking Rule 1.9.b and 1.9.c. This is effective immediately.

Rationale: This rule needs revision so that it reflects current scientific knowledge and modern testing technologies.

BD.17.201 Emergency Motion on Non-Regular Dog Classes
Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gibson, Gray, Roberts, Vest
Oppose: King, Silveira
Abstain: 0
Motion carries.

Letter of Dissent from King: I support the removal of dogs under six months from our Nationals. But I feel there is enough time before next year to allow this motion conformation committee input and posting and comments from the membership.

Letter of Dissent from Silveira: The issues covered by this motion are not an emergency. I am certain the Committee is aware of this issue and stand ready to fully address it with a reasoned recommendation for the Directors consideration. Telling a Committee to ban non-regular classes or Aussies from the Nationals Show Site is unprecedented and short sighted given the incomplete discussion and analysis that has been given to this subject.

Motion by Gray
Second by Vest
I move to direct the Conformation Committee to remove all reference to 2-4 and 4-6 months puppy classes from the rulebook for all pre-shows and National Specialty. In addition, any non-regular class such as Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, Brace, Breeder’s Showcase, Generations or any other non-regular or regular class that allowed dogs under the calendar age of 6 months will now be limited to dogs over the calendar age of 6 months.

I further move all Committees revise their Nationals rules to include: No dog under the calendar age of 6 months shall be allowed on the grounds of the National Specialty site effective one week before the start date of the first pre-show, during all pre-shows and during the Specialty.

Comments: This Emergency Motion is necessary to remove under age puppies from being on the grounds of pre-shows and Nationals because of the inherent risk of diseases the pup doesn’t have full protection for because of age or lack of vaccination.

Parties affected: All members with underage pups who attend pre-shows and Nationals.

Effective date: When passed.

BD.17.202 Emergency Motion to Grant Exemption to European Dogs that Attended Nationals
Approve: Gibson, Vest
Oppose: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira
Abstain: 0
Motion fails.

Comment from Busquets: I oppose this motion because I don't believe that we should apply rules arbitrarily to some and exempt others. Rules need to be applied to all in the same manner. The rationale for this motion also presumes a difference in the immune status and susceptibility of European dogs as compared to American counterparts after presumed exposure at Nationals. This has no scientific basis. No statistically significant difference
has ever been found between the immunity and vaccine failure rates of European dogs and American dogs. Health certificates and using the SNAP test for Parvo is as good for European dogs as it would be for American dogs. Yet, we’re not allowing American dogs to benefit from the test or certificate. The virus, as strong as it is, could have been transferred through shoes, clothes, crates, equipment. This possibility is the same for European dogs and American dogs. Therefore, we must treat both populations in a similar manner.

Comment from King: Other people in ASCA also follow the same vaccine procedures as members of this affiliate. We should not make exceptions for members because of their affiliate membership. Any exceptions should be available to all members who can meet the requirements.

Motion by Gibson
Second by Vest

I move to grant a 30-day exemption to Conformation Rule 9.9, sections “b” and “c” to the European dogs who attended the 2017 ASCA Nationals and who have returned to Europe.

Rationale: These dogs had to travel under an international health certificate, which verified their vaccination against Parvovirus.

Parties affected: Members and their dogs who reside in Europe, specifically those who attend the Lowlands ASC show in November.

Effective date: Immediately upon passage by the Board.

Committee Recommendations

Conformation Committee

CO.17.02 Changes to Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements

Approve: Silveira
Oppose: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Roberts, Vest
Abstain: 0

Motion fails.

Comment from Busquets: I’ve given this a lot of thought. I believe that the requirements need revision and I appreciate the hard work that the committee put into this. However, the particular problems that the motion attempts to address could potentially be mitigated through other means. I also think that we need to focus on education requirements, materials, and opportunities first. The education requirements may slow down the process under which judges move from one level to another while simultaneously preparing them better.

Comment from Creelman: There are far too many changes. ASCA needs new judges and adding multiple changes is not inviting. Paragraph C has many things that need to be eliminated or changed. There are several situations where these changes are knee-jerk ideas and not in the best interest of ASCA members. Enforcing many of these is not practical.

Comment from DeChant: While I would like all Breeder Judges to be ASCA Members, I do not think we should require it. I would like to see Education be developed for Breeder Judges before working on this. Rather than increase the requirements to enter the program, I would favor higher requirements to move to the other levels. I like clarifying that each applicant must have 5 Champions.

Comment from Vest: There are portions of this motion that I support … such as more than one person using the same dog to become a Conformation Judge … but overall, it still needs work.

Motion by DeChant

I move to approve the Motion below passed by the Conformation Committee.

Motion by Debbie Martin
Second by Mary Hellmeister
After several weeks of discussion with committee members, along with input from the membership, we are updating the requirements for applying to become a non-regular breeder judge incorporating the changes as suggested and highlighted under the New Wording.

I, Debbie Martin, move to approve the following change to Appendix II, Section One of the Breeder Judge requirements, Requirements and Procedures for becoming an ASCA Approved Breeder Judge, Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements.

Current Wording:
APPENDIX II: Judge Requirements
SECTION ONE: Breeder Judge Requirements
REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR BECOMING AN ASCA APPROVED BREEDER JUDGE:
Within the ASCA Approved Breeder Judge Program, there are four (4) levels of expertise, which are as follows:
NON-REGULAR - Allowed to judge only Non-Regular classes at ASCA Sanctioned Conformation shows. May not judge at a National Specialty.
PROVISIONAL - Allowed to judge all Non-Regular and Regular classes at ASCA Sanctioned Conformation shows. May not judge at a National Specialty.
APPROVED - Allowed to judge all Non-Regular and Regular classes at ASCA Sanctioned Conformation shows. Allowed to judge Non-Regular classes at a National Specialty
SENIOR - Allowed to judge all Non-Regular and Regular classes at ASCA Sanctioned Conformation shows. Allowed to judge all Non-Regular and Regular classes (Intact and Altered Conformation) at a National Specialty.

At all levels of the Breeder Judge program it is the responsibility of the applicant to maintain their records and to submit applications for increased levels of approval at the appropriate time. The requirements stated are minimum requirements only and may be exceeded by the applicant if so desired.

*****If five or more years have lapsed from the date of the judge's last ASCA conformation judging assignment, the judge is then required to re-take the judges' test to demonstrate current knowledge of the Breed Standard and ASCA Conformation Show Rules and Regulations. A score of 100% is required to resume status as an ASCA Approved Breeder Judge. No additional requirements will need to be met. A re-applying judge may take the test twice without penalty. Failure after the second attempt would result in a six month waiting period. A failure after the third attempt would result in a denial of the judge's reinstatement.*****

NON-REGULAR BREEDER JUDGE REQUIREMENTS
Before applying for Non-Regular Breeder Judge status, the following requirements must be met:
A. Must be a full adult member of ASCA in good standing for a minimum of eight (8) years.
B. Must be at least twenty-six (26) years of age and must be a member of the sponsoring affiliate club for a minimum of two (2) years before applying to become a non-regular judge. (Effective June 2016)
C. Must have bred five (5) ASCA Champions of Record or be a breeder of three (3) and handled two (2) ASCA Champions of Record to their title (The applicant must have placed all points and majors on each Champion.).
D. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA Australian Shepherd Breed Standard.
E. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA Approved Conformation Show Rules and Regulations.
F. Must have evidence of a strong background and involvement in ASCA and its programs developed for the Australian Shepherd, such as membership and participation in Affiliate clubs, and putting on ASCA events such as Show Secretary, Steward, Scorekeeper, Timekeeping, etc.
G. Must have served as a steward in the conformation ring at five (5) or more ASCA sanctioned events. Must have served as a Show Secretary at three (3) or more ASCA sanctioned events.
H. Must be willing to abide by the ASCA Conformation Judges Code of Ethics.

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

PROCEDURE
Steps in applying for Non-Regular Breeder Judge:
A. Obtain an application and Affiliate sponsorship form from the ASCA Business Office.
B. Both the application and the Affiliate sponsorship form must be completed and returned to the ASCA Business Office by the sponsoring Affiliate Club.
C. Upon receipt of the application and the Affiliate sponsorship form, the ASCA Business Office will verify the documentation is correct and minimum requirements have been met.
D. When the Office determines the minimum requirements have been met they will send the applicant a judge’s test. This test must be completed and returned to the ASCA Business Office within two (2) months. A score of 100% is required to pass. An applicant may attempt the test twice without penalty. Failure after the second attempt would result in a six (6) month waiting period. A failure after the third attempt would result in denial of his/her Breeder Judge Application. The office will also send out, with the Judges test a one page statement with the following to be signed and filled out by the Judge applicant and returned with the Judges test to the office; I __________.(the applicant) understand that I am forbidden from accepting assignments or any offer of future assignments at the non-regular level until I receive notification in writing from the ASCA Business Office via email, USPS or FAX of my appointment to Non-Regular Judge Status and I have been assigned a Judges number in writing. I will inform any club that attempts to hire me prematurely, that I am unable to Judge for their club. Failure to follow this rule will incur an additional forty-five (45) day penalty extension before I can be approved. Signed: ______. (the applicant).
E. Upon passing the judges’ test, the applicant’s name will be published in the Aussie Times for comments from the membership. The membership will have forty-five (45) days to respond. The ASCA Business Office will forward the application, sponsorship form; judges’ test results and comments from the membership to the ASCA Board of Directors. The ASCA Board of Directors will approve or deny the applicant within sixty (60) days.
F. Any properly documented negative comments will be investigated by the ASCA Board of Directors. If this investigation indicates there is probable cause that the applicant should not be approved, the application will be denied. If denied, the applicant will be given an explanation as to the reasons for the denial and may include suggestions or tasks that will help the applicant to be successful in a second application process. If denied, the applicant will have thirty (30) days to appeal the decision. If an appeal has been submitted, the Board will respond within thirty (30) days. If an applicant has been denied approval at the non-regular level, the applicant may reapply after a waiting period of two (2) years and after having satisfied any additional tasks assigned by the ASCA Board of Directors.
G. If the application is approved, the applicant will receive notification in writing from the ASCA Business Office of appointment to Non-Regular Judge and, at that time, will be an ASCA Non-Regular Breeder Judge. The applicant may then accept non-regular level judging assignments. Upon approval, the applicant’s name, address and telephone number will be published in the next issue of the Aussie Times and will be added to the ASCA Approved Judges List as a Breeder Judge with the notation of "NR" beside their name.

Proposed Wording:
APPENDIX II: Judge Requirements
SECTION ONE: Breeder Judge Requirements
REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR BECOMING AN ASCA APPROVED BREEDER JUDGE:
Within the ASCA Approved Breeder Judge Program, there are four (4) levels of expertise, which are as follows:
NON-REGULAR - Allowed to judge only Non-Regular classes at ASCA Sanctioned Conformation shows. May not judge at a National Specialty.
PROVISIONAL - Allowed to judge all Non-Regular and Regular classes at ASCA Sanctioned Conformation shows. May not judge at a National Specialty.
APPROVED - Allowed to judge all Non-Regular and Regular classes at ASCA Sanctioned Conformation shows. Allowed to judge Non-Regular classes at a National Specialty
SENIOR - Allowed to judge all Non-Regular and Regular classes at ASCA Sanctioned Conformation shows. Allowed to judge all Non-Regular and Regular classes (Intact and Altered Conformation) at a National Specialty.

At all levels of the Breeder Judge program it is the responsibility of the applicant to maintain their records and to submit applications for increased levels of approval at the appropriate time. The requirements stated are minimum requirements only and may be exceeded by the applicant if so desired.
If five or more years have lapsed from the date of the judge’s last ASCA conformation judging assignment, the judge is then required to re-take the judges’ test to demonstrate current knowledge of the Breed Standard and ASCA Conformation Show Rules and Regulations. A score of 100% is required to resume status as an ASCA Approved Breeder Judge. No additional requirements will need to be met. A re-applying judge may take the test twice without penalty. Failure after the second attempt would result in a twelve (12) month waiting period. A failure after the third attempt would result in a denial of the judge’s reinstatement.

NON-REGULAR BREEDER JUDGE REQUIREMENTS

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

A. Must be a full adult member of ASCA in good standing for at least eight (8) years.
B. Must be at least twenty-six (26) years of age and must be a member of the sponsoring affiliate club for a minimum of two (2) years before applying to become a non-regular judge. (Effective June 2016)
C. Must have bred five (5) ASCA Champions of Record or be a breeder of three (3) and handled two (2) additional ASCA Champions of Record to their title for a total of five (5) individual Champions of Record (The applicant must have placed all points including majors on each Champion.). Litter owners and Co-breeders may not use the same dog for credit towards their individual breeder judge requirements. Additionally, a dog may be used for either the “Champion bred” or the “Champion handled” requirement, but not both. These stipulations apply only to Breeder Judge qualifications.
D. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA Australian Shepherd Breed Standard.
E. Must have a thorough knowledge of the ASCA Approved Conformation Show Rules and Regulations.
F. Must have evidence of a strong background and involvement in ASCA and its programs developed for the Australian Shepherd, such as membership and participation in Affiliate clubs, and putting on ASCA events such as Show Secretary, Steward, Scorekeeper, Timekeeping, etc.
G. Must have served as a steward in the conformation ring at five (5) or more ASCA sanctioned events. Must have served as a Show Secretary at five (5) or more ASCA sanctioned events. Maximum number of combination of Show Secretary and steward is two (2) per show weekend.
H. Must be willing to abide by the ASCA Conformation Judges Code of Ethics.

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

PROCEDURE

Steps in applying for Non-Regular Breeder Judge:

A. Obtain an application and Affiliate sponsorship form from the ASCA Business Office.
B. Both the application and the Affiliate sponsorship form must be completed and returned to the ASCA Business Office by the sponsoring Affiliate Club.
C. Upon receipt of the application and the Affiliate sponsorship form, the ASCA Business Office will verify the documentation is correct and minimum requirements have been met.
D. When the Office determines the minimum requirements have been met they will send the applicant a judge’s test. This test must be completed and returned to the ASCA Business Office within two (2) months. A score of 100% is required to pass. An applicant may attempt the test twice without penalty. Failure after the second attempt would result in a twelve (12) month waiting period. A failure after the third attempt would result in denial of his/her Breeder Judge Application. The office will also send out, with the Judges test a one page statement with the following to be signed and filled out by the Judge applicant and returned with the Judges test to the office; I _____________(the applicant) understand that I am forbidden from accepting assignments or any offer of future assignments at the non-regular level until I receive notification in writing from the ASCA Business Office via email, USPS or FAX of my appointment to Non-Regular Judge Status and I have been assigned a Judges number in writing. I will inform any club that attempts to hire me prematurely, that I am unable to Judge for their club. Failure to follow this rule will incur an additional forty-five (45) day penalty extension before I can be approved. Signed: ______. (the applicant).
E. Upon passing the judges’ test, the applicant’s name will be published in the Aussie Times for comments from the membership. The membership will have forty-five (45) days to respond. The ASCA Business Office will forward
the application, sponsorship form; judges’ test results and comments from the membership to the ASCA Board of Directors. The ASCA Board of Directors will approve or deny the applicant within sixty (60) days.

F. Any properly documented negative comments will be investigated by the ASCA Board of Directors. If this investigation indicates there is probable cause that the applicant should not be approved, the application will be denied. If denied, the applicant will be given an explanation as to the reasons for the denial and may include suggestions or tasks that will help the applicant to be successful in a second application process. If denied, the applicant will have thirty (30) days to appeal the decision. If an appeal has been submitted, the Board will respond within thirty (30) days. If an applicant has been denied approval at the non-regular level, the applicant may reapply after a waiting period of two (2) years and after having satisfied any additional tasks assigned by the ASCA Board of Directors.

G. If the application is approved, the applicant will receive notification in writing from the ASCA Business Office of appointment to Non-Regular Judge and, at that time, will be an ASCA Non-Regular Breeder Judge. The applicant may then accept non-regular level judging assignments. Upon approval, the applicant’s name, address and telephone number will be published in the next issue of the Aussie Times and will be added to the ASCA Approved Judges List as a Breeder Judge with the notation of "NR" beside their name.

H. An approved ASCA Breeder Judge at any level must maintain full membership in ASCA.

Rationale: The requirements for becoming an ASCA approved Breeder Judge have been unchanged for a many years. With the advent of multiple show weekends, it has been suggested by the membership that it would be beneficial to the program to bring the requirements up to date and in line with the changes created by multiple show weekends.

Parties affected:
- This is the first step to updating the requirements that have not been changed in a long time.
- Some of the resistance from members of the Aussie community and in this committee may be caused by personal agendas. They may be in process of applying or almost ready to apply and these changes will impede what they want. More time is always better to understand judging and procedures.
- The motion in no way impedes the cooperation between breeder and co-breeder. What the motion does ask is that the same dog not be used by both breeder and co-breeder for the judge application process ONLY. Additionally the same dog may not be used for the Bred Champion and the Handled Champion. It must be 5 separate dogs. We already say that if an applicant is using the 5 Bred Champions, that it is a total of 5. This makes the total equal for the requirement. This in no way affects HOF for breeders and Co-Breeders.
- We have increased the show secretary duties to 5 from 3. And also limited to 2 per weekend. This allows a person to also show during a show weekend. We also believe it will give an applicant a chance to see additional judges in action in how they handle their ring and judging procedures. This is also to alleviate any hardship on an applicant to do a whole weekend of shows.
- Failure after the second attempt of the open book written test would result in a twelve (12) month waiting period.

By increasing the wait time between the 2nd and 3rd attempt, we feel this would allow the applicant additional time to study the rules, requirements and procedures in depth and pass with 100% on the 3rd attempt. We want our judge applicant to succeed!
- An approved ASCA Breeder Judge at any level must maintain full membership in ASCA. First and foremost ASCA is a membership organization and a registry second. We already require an applicant to be a member in full standing for 8 years prior to applying. This only affects ASCA breeder judges. If a person has financial concerns, then that person can appeal to the BOD’s for exemption. We did not include inclusive or consecutive in the motion as the board has been discussing this issue. We feel once the board approves one or the other, then it becomes an administrative change to the procedure.
- Education

Education is very important. We have many resources already listed on the website. We intend to complete online modules. A sub-committee will begin working on these. And as completed and approved they will be added to the website to help educate our judges and our judge applicants.

Effective Date: The motion should be effective upon approval by the Board. This is an administrative change.
Results of the committee vote:
Approve: Holly, Liz, Myrjam, Debbie, Mary, Peter, Kathy
Oppose: Svenja, Erin, Ray, Betty, Dorothy

Letter of Dissent from Dorothy Montano: I vote No. Most organizations, these days use Evidence Based Practices to drive the decisions that are made. I began looking for “evidence” of judge applicants moving up through the ranks too quickly. I went to the Aussie Times, where applicants must be published for any phase of the application process. I was thinking I would find page after page of people listed per Aussie times as applying, moving up, etc. I found a smattering of applicants in the process—some only applied to become Jrs Judges, some Non-regular, some provisional and so on. Applicants who were published as applying to “move up” in Jan, were Published as approved by July. Not to quickly in my estimation. The 45 day publication in the Aussie Times gives the membership at large the opportunity to dissent if they feel the applicant would be a detriment to the breed. Then the BOD investigates to ascertain if this complain has any merit. While most people will mumble and grumble, when it comes time to putting pen to paper, they do not complete the process. I would love to see the “evidence” of multiple people co-breeding so they could obtain the pre-requisites for becoming a judge. The office should be able to provide those numbers-real evidence—that this is as widespread as rumored/implied. Not allowing co-breeders on a litter will not be of any benefit to the breed. We all have reasons that we co-breed litters, and it is not for someone to say that this is wrong or should be penalized. Show me the “evidence” that this is hurting ASCA. Show me how raising a litter on my premises, makes me a better Judge. They sleep and eat the first 3 weeks, you chase after them and clean up poop the next 3 weeks. The critical times are proper socialization of young pups and “puppy Evaluations” and that is done week 7-9. The first 6 weeks just proves that puppies are fun, but also a great deal of hard work. I have done co-breedings and we met weekly to discuss puppies, made final decisions and were “partners” in the endeavor from the beginning. It makes no difference who had the puppies and where they lived their first couple of months. “With the advent of multiple show weekends, it has been suggested by the membership that it might be beneficial to the program to take a look at the requirements and tighten them up”. Ok, what part of the membership was polled? What process was used? I would like to see the results. “Suggestions by the membership” could encompass 2 people or 1000 people and if the perception is that only a few people are pushing for an agenda, then it is not evidence based. Basing a decision because the rules have been “unchanged in years” is not based on any evidence that the system is broken. IMO the only things that need to be changed because they have been “unchanged” in a while are one’s underwear and one’s car oil. As Always JMO.

Letter of Dissent from Erin Sumler: I vote no. I vote this way because I don’t think these measures will have the effect we want. We need continued education and adding assignments to better prepare our judges to move up.

Letter of Dissent from Ray Schafer: I’m voting NO. I’ve had numerous conversations with membership since the first draft of this motion was submitted. Almost every member I’ve visited with has had issues with this motion, except one, who is already a breeder judge.

Regarding Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements
Paragraph C.
I’m not interested in being a part of discouraging co-breeding. Individuals who chose to co-breed do so for various reasons, mostly for educational opportunities or families who work together under the same kennel names. There are other/better ways to determine the legitimacy of an applicant.

The continuous membership with no regard to health issues or Acts of God is unacceptable. Additionally, nothing about the eight year membership requirement has been clarified regarding cumulative or consecutive years of membership.

After discussing this with the membership, most actively involved in Conformation, I am compelled to vote no.

Letter of Dissent from Betty Jaco: My vote is NO on the motion. My comments below.

“Must have bred five (5) ASCA Champions of Record or be a breeder of three (3) and handled two (2) additional ASCA Champions of Record to their title for a total of five (5) individual Champions of Record. (The applicant must have placed all points including majors on each Champion.) Litter owners and Co-breeders may not use the same dog for credit towards their individual breeder judge requirements. Additionally, a dog may be used for either the “Champion bred” or the “Champion handled” requirement, but not both. These stipulations apply only to Breeder Judge qualifications.”

I am against this section of the motion.

*Putting a stop to many people claiming awards for a single dog/litter. <<I went thru the most recent nationals catalogue to see how many people are listed on a dog... I found “a few” with 4 and 5 owners listed... IMO this is
wrong, but this is not a topic for the CC it is a business/registry decision... possibly with the input from the CC it could be changed. (Most had 1, 2 or 3) >>
*Changing the requirements to one person/one dog will of course take a longer time in the breeding realm of things and will possibly require more litters bred.

“Must have served as a steward in the conformation ring at five (5) or more ASCA sanctioned events. Must have served as a Show Secretary at five (5) or more ASCA sanctioned events. Maximum number of combination of Show Secretary and steward is two (2) per show weekend.”

I am against this section of the motion.

*Increase this to eight (8) or more events with eight (8) or more Show Sec and eight (8) or more ring stew assignments. Will show affiliate commitment and willingness to learn the duties of Show Sec/Ring Steward and all that is involved in running a show.

“A score of 100% is required to pass. An applicant may attempt the test twice without penalty. Failure after the second attempt would result in a twelve (12) month waiting period.”

I am against this section of the motion.

*Making an applicant wait a longer period of time after the second failed test doesn’t provide any benefit. Leave it at six (6) mos. but require two (2) or more of each. SS/RS requirements with an educational component.

*An approved ASCA Breeder Judge at any level must maintain full membership in ASCA.

I am against this section of the motion.

*Do we require membership in ASCA for other program judges or our AKC, UKC, etc... judges? I don’t see that there is any benefit having judges be members. Better to have a test or educational requirements taken or completed yearly with scenarios via video or discussion on topics, what ifs, this happened in my ring, etc. that come up within the judging program or during judging events.

“Must be at least twenty-six (26 years of age and must be a member of the sponsoring affiliate club for a minimum of two (2) years before applying to become a non-regular judge.”

*Altho this is not being discussed... I don’t agree with this. I would like to see a minimum of eight (8) year commitment to an affiliate before applying to become a non-regular judge.

“A failure after the third attempt would result in denial of his/her Breeder Judge Application.”

*Altho this is not being discussed... I don’t agree with this. I would like to see a 12 month wait period with some educational components to complete.

Comment from Mary Hellmeister: I think the requirements needed to be updated to reflect the changed environment.

Comment from Kathy Peycke: The changes are needed.

Comment from Holly Anderson Clift: After all the discussion I have considered all the facts.

Comment from Liz Gibson: I feel this is the first step to improve our judge requirements. This motion has been well thought out and thoroughly discussed. I feel part of the problem has been that folks do not understand that these requirements were created over 20 years ago with very little change since then. I also feel that personal agendas may have contributed to the No votes. I also feel that increasing the number of assignments at each level will be beneficial to our ASCA Breeder Judge program.

Yes we need education. We already have some on the website. We have a great list of resources listed on the website for those that really want to educate themselves. Education will be brought in as part of move up requirements and should be continued beyond reaching the Senior level.

Education is a project the CC will work on to include as part of the requirements for all levels. This motion in no way impedes breeders and co-breeders working together.

It does clarify how a dog may be used for an individual judge application only. This change in no way impacts HOF or merit credit.

By increasing the wait time between the second and third attempt of the written test will allow the applicant more time to ensure that they pass the test and hopefully it will eliminate any more denials.

The increase in show secretary/ring steward duties will allow a judge applicant to observe how different judges run their ring and how each judge handles his/her books. By limiting the time to 2 shows per weekend still allows a person to show and makes a judge applicant put more effort into the process of how a show works and all it entails. I also feel since ASCA is first and foremost a Membership club and a registry second, that out ASCA Breeder Judges should be required to maintain a full membership.

Comment from Myrjam Langen: I’m fine with all.
Comment from Debbie Martin: This motion appropriately allows co-breeders to meet breeder judge application requirements without using the same dog for the same requirements. It also creates a 12 month opportunity for judge applicants struggling to pass the test to better prepare for their third attempt.

ASCA is a membership organization, not simply a registry. As such, I feel it is important for our Judges to maintain membership after becoming a judge, as they did prior to becoming a judge.

Board of Directors Nationals Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 27, 2017

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant (via phone), 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Director Preston Kissman, Director Jean Roberts (via phone), Director Ken Silveira, Director Elect Denise Creelman, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Member Trish Alexander (via phone)

Absent: Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray, Director Elect Liz Busquets

There is a quorum with 7 voting members of the Board present.

➢ Gibson called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm Central Time.

System Report

The Board discussed bids from several vendors to migrate ASCA’s system to a private cloud. Inventive’s quoted cost was $130k for 3 months work. Fancy Awesome’s quoted cost was $35k for 6 weeks work. FrogSlayer’s quoted cost was $5.8k for 4-5 days’ work.

➢ King joined the meeting at 4:20 pm.

Stockdog/Performance Hall of Fame

Liaison DeChant shared with the Hall of Fame Committee a suggestion to consider creating a Hall of Fame for stockdog or performance only kennels.

Finals Entry Fees

Annually, the Board reviews entry fees for ASCA Finals, which were decreased in 2014. They discussed the cost of the Finals and options for decreasing those costs.

BD.17.203 Finals Entry Fees

Motion by Silveira to leave the entry fees for competition in the Finals unchanged. Second by Wesen.

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

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: Gray

Motion carries.

BD.17.204 Board Group to Study Ways to Decrease Finals Costs

Motion by Silveira to form a Board group to study ways to decrease Finals costs, with the purpose of sending this information to the Finals program committees for their input. Second by Vest.

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

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: Gray

Motion carries.

➢ Members Jacqueline Tinker, Karen Dahle, and Anneka Dahle joined the meeting at 5:15 pm.

4-H

The Board met with members who are active in 4-H and discussed ways that ASCA may reach out to 4-H participants and bring them into the Junior Program.
Junior Committee Chair Andrea Bair joined the meeting at 5:25 pm.
DeChant, Roberts, and Alexander left the meeting (via phone) at 5:28 pm.
DeChant, Roberts, and Alexander joined the meeting (in person) at 5:30 pm.

The 4-H program varies greatly from location to location. It was proposed that ASCA encourage Affiliates to reach out to their local 4-H club and build a relationship. Kids who enjoy their time in ASCA Juniors may choose to get into the breed and become members.

The Board asked the three representatives to get together and create a proposal, perhaps working with Andrea Bair. The Board was receptive, but it was unclear what the group was specifically asking for. Silveira will investigate further and report at the 2018 Spring Meeting.

Gibson suspended the meeting at 6:00 pm until Sunday, October 29 at 8:00 am.

Sunday, October 29, 2017
Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray (via phone), Director Preston Kissman, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Director Elect Liz Busquets, Director Elect Denise Creelman, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco
There is a quorum with 9 voting members of the Board present.

Gibson called the meeting to order in Executive Session at 8:15 am Central Time.

Treasurer’s Report
The Board reviewed and approved the Treasurer’s Report presented by Wesen for period ending September 30, 2017. Ending balance is $161,655.17.

DNA Fees
Annually, the Board reviews DNA fees, which were increased in 2014.

System Liaison Allison Bryant joined the meeting (via phone) at 9:00 am.

System Report (continued)
The Board voted unanimously to accept FrogSlayer’s bid to conduct migration of the ASCA system from the cloud operated by FrogSlayer to a private cloud. Bryant is to be working in an integral fashion on this project.

Bryant left the meeting at 9:10 am.

Reinstatement Request
The Board approved a request to begin the Conformation Program’s reinstatement process.

Secondary Counsel
The Board voted unanimously to begin the process of hiring secondary counsel to serve as a backup for Counsel Charles Carnese. This attorney would not replace Carnese, but would help him when needed and serve the Board in case of an unexpected absence.

The Board exited Executive Session at 10:05 am.

ASCA Regions
The Board reviewed and discussed proposed changes to the regions for committee membership and for judging outside of your region. Current and proposed map of regions are included at the back of this report.

Recording of ASCA Board Meetings
Now that the Board has committed to recording their meetings and providing to the membership, Policy needs to be updated.
Delete Policy 8.7.2 Destruction of Minute Recordings
Motion by Silveira to delete Policy 8.7.2. Second by Wesen.
Approve: Unanimous
Motion carries.

Current wording:
8.7.2 Destruction of Minute Recordings
All recordings of and notes relating to ASCA Board of Directors meetings shall be destroyed after approval and release of the official minutes of such meeting.

Additionally, Jaco will find a way to record the 2018 Spring Meeting and Nationals Meeting. Jaco will research options for livestreaming the General Membership Meeting and Affiliate Meeting.

Publishing Names of New ASCA Judges
The intent of publishing the names of new ASCA Judges on the ASCA Website was to allow them a way to get their non-regular/apprentice assignments without violating solicitation rules. There is some clarification needed as to whether newly approved judges at all levels are to be published, or only new judges that have just entered the program.

Committee Updates
Agility
The committee needs to address several issues such as, adding Agility Licensee procedures to the rules, a final decision on the use of the closed tunnel, and a proposal for paying course reviewers.

Conformation
Completed goal of implementing a random draw for Conformation Finals Judges. They are working on a judge’s book update and changes to the requirements for becoming a breeder judge, as well as discussing online education.

DNA
They are working on more education, Board directives, and questions from the membership.

➢ Member Trish Alexander joined the meeting at 11:30 am.
➢ The Board entered Executive Session at 11:30 am.

Meeting with Member
The Board heard concerns from a member and discussed options for moving forward.

➢ Gibson suspended the meeting at 12:10 pm until Monday, October 30 at 8:00 am.

Monday, October 30, 2017
Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Cindy King, Director Preston Kissman, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Director Elect Liz Busquets, Director Elect Denise Creelman, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco
Absent: Director Linda Gray
There is a quorum with 8 voting members of the Board present.

➢ Gibson called the meeting to order at 8:05 am Central Time.

Committee Updates (continued)
European Advisory
Discussion has been slow. Once they elect their own Liaison and Chair things may come together.

Junior
The committee has limited experience outside of showmanship, so it’s hard to understand the performance aspect of the program. They need juniors and parents from the performance programs to join.
Legislative
This committee typically only works when legislative issues come up that ASCA needs to be aware of or act on.

➢ Gray joined the meeting (via phone) at 8:27 am.

Sponsorship
The Board noted the problematic situation of having a Sponsorship Committee when the auditor has advised us against seeking sponsorships due to our tax status.

Stockdog
They sent out the recent survey and will have a report on the results at the General Membership Meeting. They are working on their goals for the year.

➢ Rally Committee Chair Corinne Shanks joined the meeting at 8:32 am.

Meeting with Rally Committee Chair
The Board met with the chair of the Rally Committee. They have just put out their all-breed flyer which was created by Ann McCabe, and plan to put them in training facilities throughout the country to build support for the ASCA Rally Program. She reported that proposed new signs for use in rally competition will be premiered this week to receive member feedback.

➢ Shanks left the meeting at 8:41 am.

Committee Updates (continued)

Judges Education Committee
Vest will send the committee their directive again and refer them to the online program developed by the Rally Committee.

Directive:
“The quality of ASCA’s programs depends in large part on the quality of its judges. Judge education requirements are not uniform across ASCA’s various programs. The purpose of this ad-hoc committee will be to produce a proposal which will address the logistical aspects of a comprehensive judges’ education program. They will answer such questions as how much educational development should be required and how often should judges be required to retest. If in attendance, should judges be required to attend Nationals seminars? How should judges' education be delivered? How should testing be administered? The content of any tests and seminars will be left to the program committees to decide. This ad-hoc committee will propose a framework for this education.”

Judge Requirements
There is some question as to whether judges apply for move-up according to the rules in place when they were first admitted into the program, or according to the rules in place at the time they submit their application. The Board would like to make a consistent ruling across programs.

BD.17.211 Directive to Committees on Judge Requirements
Motion by Silveira to submit to all the program committees the following directive: We would like to know how they want their judges to progress through their judge’s track. Do you want them to follow the rules when they were initially accepted or to adhere to all rules that may change during their career? We would like to have this back for the 2018 Spring Meeting. Second by Wesen.
Approve: DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest, Wesen
Oppose: 0
Abstain: Kissman
Motion carries.

➢ Office Manager Ray Fryar joined the meeting at 9:10 am.
Meeting with Office Manager

Fryar reported that he has received three bids to conduct a geotechnical study for the proposed new building. JBS Engineering and Environmental’s quoted cost is $3,700. Gessner Engineering’s quoted cost is $2,710 + optional $450. Terracon’s quoted cost is $5,000. It is Fryar’s recommendation that the Board select the bid from Gessner Engineering.

Several Directors expressed concerns about moving forward with this project before completing the system upgrade. The groundwork for this project is going to take months and will still be valid when the time comes to build. The pipeline project is still a concern, as well.

BD.17.212 Vendor for Geotechnical Study of ASCA’s Property

Motion by Vest to approve the bid from Gessner Engineering to conduct a geotechnical study of ASCA’s property, including pavement recommendations. Effective upon Board approval. Second by Wesen.

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, Gray, Kissman, Roberts, Silveira, Vest, Wesen
Oppose: King
Abstain: 0

Motion carries.

➢ Conformation Committee Chair Liz Gibson and Committee Members Debbie Martin and Kathy Peycke joined the meeting at 9:35 am.

Meeting with Conformation Committee Members

The Board and committee members discussed what happens when an applicant fails the Breeder Judge Qualification test for a third time. The rules state that they are denied, but do not address re-application.

➢ Gibson suspended the meeting at 10:05 am until Wednesday, November 1 following the General Membership Meeting.

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Present: Director Liz Busquets, Director Denise Creelman, Director Ann DeChant, Director Laura Gibson, Director Linda Gray, Director Cindy King, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Director Rachel Vest, Outgoing Director Jan Wesen, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Outgoing Director Preston Kissman

There is a quorum with 9 voting members of the Board present.

➢ Gibson called the meeting to order at 9:03 pm.

Election of ASCA Officers

President
Vest nominated Gibson. King nominated DeChant. DeChant was elected by a vote of 5-4.

1st Vice President
Roberts nominated Busquets. She was elected by acclamation.

2nd Vice President
DeChant nominated King. She was elected by acclamation.

Treasurer
Gibson nominated Vest. Gray nominated Roberts. Roberts was elected by a vote of 5-4.

Secretary
Roberts nominated Gray. She is elected by acclamation.

Executive Secretary
Gibson nominated Jaco. She was elected by acclamation.

Election Secretary
Gibson nominated Fryar. He was elected by acclamation.

Membership Secretary
Gibson nominated Fryar. He was elected by acclamation.
DeChant adjourned the meeting at 9:12 pm.

ASCA Foundation Meeting
Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Liz Busquets, 2nd Vice President Cindy King, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Linda Gray, Director Denise Creelman, Director Laura Gibson, Director Ken Silveira, Director Rachel Vest, Outgoing Director Jan Wesen, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Outgoing Director Preston Kissman

There is a quorum with 9 voting members of the Board present.

DeChant called the meeting to order at 9:12 pm.

Election of ASCA Foundation Officers

FD.17.08 2017-2018 ASCA Foundation Officers

Motion by Roberts to accept all Officers of the ASCA as Officers of the ASCA Foundation.

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

DeChant adjourned the meeting at 9:13 pm.

Friday, November 3, 2017

Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Liz Busquets, 2nd Vice President Cindy King, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Linda Gray, Director Denise Creelman, Director Laura Gibson, Outgoing Director Preston Kissman, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Director Ken Silveira, Director Rachel Vest, Outgoing Director Jan Wesen

There is a quorum with 7 voting members of the Board present.

DeChant called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

Members Elke Philippy, Svenja Hagedorn, Melanie Kreutzkam, Mandy Kreutzkam, Simone Wagner, and Conformation Committee Member Peter Kontos joined the meeting at 11:05 am.

Meeting with Members

The Board heard concerns regarding the difficulty of qualifying to become a Breeder Judge if you live outside of the United States, and especially if there is a language barrier.

Vest joined the meeting at 11:13 am.

Silveira joined the meeting at 11:19 am.

Those present spent time discussing issues non-English speaking members may face when taking the Breeder Judge qualification test, and options for alleviating those problems.

Wesen joined the meeting at 11:43 am.

Philippy, Hagedorn, Kreutzkam, Kreutzkam, Wagner, and Kontos, left the meeting at 11:50 am.

Agility Committee Chair Judy Boone and Committee Member Sherry Butler joined the meeting at 11:55 am.

Meeting with Agility Committee Members

The Board confirmed that the committee may choose goals and still work on other items that come up during the year.

They are considering an all-breed advertisement, like the Rally Committee’s flyer, to be published in Clean Run Magazine, which reaches many agility competitors.

If an issue with aggression occurs at a show the Trial Committee needs to deal with it immediately, in accordance with the Dog Aggression Rules. A dog that is excused three times may be disqualified by the Board.

If it’s happening at the show, that’s an urgent complaint and needs to be dealt with by the Affiliate at the time of the incident.
The committee will bring forward a proposal for an all-breed championship, hosted by ASCA. Aussies may compete, and all dogs must be registered or have a QTracker number. The event would be held in spring.

- Boone, Butler, and Wesen left the meeting at 12:20 pm.
- ASHGI President CA Sharp joined the meeting at 12:25 pm.

**Meeting with CA Sharp**

CA Sharp is requesting ASCA’s historic pedigree data (dogs born prior to 1990, or stud books: A, B, C, D, & I) to incorporate into the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute’s database to aid in a longevity study. They would only need dog’s name, ASCA #, parents, gender, and coat color.

She also proposed a partnership with the ASCA Foundation to fund a study on Border Collie Collapse, an exercise-induced neurologic reaction, which is very common in BCs, but also found in Aussies. The study is being conducted by Dr. Mickelson at the University of Minnesota. Phase 1 would cost $7,000. Phase 2 would cost $7,500 (only Aussies) or $13,500. If their approach works, the desire is to try it with epilepsy as well.

CA is requesting ASCA provide $3,500 for Phase 1. She suggested launching a BCC-specific fundraising campaign to help raise money to support this study. This could be a ASCA Foundation/ASHGI partnership in which donors could give a restricted donation to the organization of their choice.

- Gibson left the meeting at 12:30 pm.
- Sharp left the meeting at 12:40 pm.

**System Liaison**

The Board discussed the role of System Liaison.

**BD.17.213 Board Liaison to System Liaison/Project Manager**

Motion by King to appoint Vest as Board Liaison to the System Liaison/Project Manager. Second by Roberts.

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira
Oppose: 0
Abstain: Vest
Motion carries.

**BD.17.214 System Liaison**

Motion by King to appoint Allison Bryant as System Liaison. Second by Roberts.

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

- Gibson joined the meeting at 1:30 pm.

**West Coast Nationals Sites**

The Board heard reports from Creelman on the Bakersfield, California, site and from Silveira on the Redmond, Oregon site. They spent time discussing the pros and cons of each.

The Nationals site rotation schedule is:

- 2018 – Greeley, Colorado
- 2019 – Bakersfield, California
- 2020 – Conyers, Georgia
- 2021 – Bryan, Texas
- 2022 – Greeley, Colorado
- 2023 – Redmond, Oregon
- 2024 – Conyers, Georgia
**BD.17.224 2023 Nationals Site**

Motion by Gray to contract with DeSchutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond, Oregon, to be the site for the 2023 National Specialty. Second by Roberts.

Approve: Busquets, DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Roberts, Vest
Oppose: 0
Abstain: Creelman, Silveira

*Motion carries.*

The Board voted to use DeSchutes County Fairgrounds as a provisional site. It was not voted as a permanent site.

- DeChant suspended the meeting at 2:45 pm until Saturday, November 4 at 8:30 am.

**Saturday, November 4, 2017**

Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Liz Busquets, 2nd Vice President Cindy King, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Linda Gray, Director Denise Creelman, Director Ken Silveira, Director Rachel Vest, Outgoing Director Preston Kissman, Outgoing Director Jan Wesen, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Member Jo Kimes

Absent: Director Laura Gibson

There is a quorum with 8 voting members of the Board present.

- DeChant called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

**Rules Applying to Judge Move-Ups**

The Stockdog Committee has recommended a judge for advancement through the program according to the rules that were in place when the applicant first entered the program. DeChant will make a motion to approve this judge at the Board level and then the application can be discussed.

**Breeder Judge Qualification Test**

A member failed the Breeder Judge qualification test three times. They have submitted a new application. The conformation rules do not address re-application after denial, so there is nothing to prevent their application from being validated by the Business Office and presented to the Board for discussion and vote.

- Gibson joined the meeting at 8:45 am.

Breeder Judge applicants who failed the qualification test three times may submit a new application to the Business Office.

**Deposit for 2021 Nationals Site**

The Texas Consortium put down a $1,000 deposit in 2014 to hold the Brazos County Expo site for 2017. That deposit rolled over to hold the site for 2021. Now that the Board has contacted with the host sites, ASCA will need to reimburse the Texas Consortium for this deposit.

**BD.17.225 Reimburse 2014 Texas Consortium**

Motion by King to reimburse the 2014 Texas Consortium for the initial $1,000 deposit to reserve the Brazos County Expo from October 29 to November 6, 2021. Second by Vest.

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest
Oppose: 0
Abstain: Gibson

*Motion carries.*

**Director’s Handbook**

The Board has been working to revise the Director’s Handbook. Jaco will send out a document comparing the current document with proposed changes, and add to the February Board Meeting agenda.

**Norms**

The Board reviewed their agreed upon norms and renewed commitment to upholding them.
DeChant adjourned the meeting at 11:10 am.

ASCA Foundation Meeting
Saturday, November 4, 2017
Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Liz Busquets, 2nd Vice President Cindy King, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Linda Gray, Director Denise Creelman, Director Laura Gibson, Director Ken Silveira, Director Rachel Vest, Outgoing Director Preston Kissman, Outgoing Director Jan Wesen, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco
There is a quorum with 9 voting members of the Board present.

DeChant called the meeting to order at 11:10 am.

Cee Hambo Scholarship
The Board received an application for the Cee Hambo Scholarship provided by the ASCA Foundation.

FD.17.09 Cee Hambo Scholarship Recipient Katielyn Miller
Motion by Vest to award Katielyn Miller the Cee Hambo Scholarship in the amount of $500. Ms. Miller must notify the Board once she has chosen a school for her undergraduate education and the funds will be given directly to the school. Second by King.
Approve: Unanimous
Motion carries.

Request from ASHGI
The Board revisited the request from CA Sharp to partner the ASCA Foundation with ASHGI to fund a study on Border Collie Collapse. They are requesting $3,500 for Phase 1. Roberts will find out how much money is available to use from the Foundation account.

DeChant adjourned the meeting at 11:17 am.

Nationals Affiliate Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 31, 2017
Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Director Elect Liz Busquets, Director Elect Denise Creelman, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Heidi Mobley, Betty Jaco, Luc Goossens, Lisa Darr, Ray Schafer, Sherry Butler, Judy Boone, Michael Kurdzo, Ann McCabe, Jerry Schetterer, Robbi Norman, Charla Patterson, Dan Cooney, Lee Prager, Jo Kimes
Absent: Treasurer Jan Wesen, Director Preston Kissman

Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm Central Time.

Last Year’s Minutes
Jaco gave a summary of the minutes of the 2016 Affiliate Meeting.

Conflict Resolution Protocol
If someone at a show/trial wishes to file a complaint, it is the Affiliate Club’s responsibility to provide that person with the Conflict Resolution Protocol and Request Form. Most complaints need to be heard by the Affiliate immediately. That may mean stopping a show/trial until the issue is resolved. If you are part of your Affiliate’s Show/Trial Committee, you must familiarize yourself with the Conflict Resolution Protocol and be prepared to handle conflicts that may arise.

Wesen joined the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Members should remember to try and work things out between themselves before bringing to the Affiliate Club. The conflict resolution process is not meant to be punitive, it is a means to resolve conflicts.
Dog Aggression Rules

If a dog exhibits aggression at an ASCA show/trial, it is the Affiliate Club’s responsibility to make sure the Dog Aggression Rules are followed. An accompanying worksheet is intended to guide Affiliates in this process and must be returned to the Business Office.

➢ Member Donna Padgett joined the meeting at 7:50 pm.

Goossens suggested that a form be created for members to fill out when requesting reinstatement of a dog that has been disqualified.

Judge Evaluations/Reports

Affiliate Clubs fill out evaluations of the judges they’ve hired for each show/trial and return to the Business Office with the show/trial paperwork. Agility Judges also fill out reports on each trial and submit to the Office and Agility Committee. Members suggested that other program judges be given this opportunity.

➢ Member Michelle Berryessa joined the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Evaluations/reports that list any issues are shared with the Board. If the issue is determined to be educational, the appropriate committee will be asked to handle. If the issue requires discipline, the Board will investigate.

Proposed Regions

The Board will send out a map of proposed regions and give time for member feedback before any action is taken. The new regions are based on ASCA membership population, by zip code. The purpose is to add more/better representation on the committees. This is also in response to a member survey in which members responded favorably to splitting up region 7, which currently includes all locations outside of the US and Canada.

Schetterer expressed concern about the effect these changes would have on the organization of the Stockdog Committee.

➢ Tom Morarre and Trish Alexander joined the meeting at 8:10 pm.

The current region organization requires that Stockdog Judge applicants from Europe come to the United States to apprentice before being approved. The European Advisory Committee has been discussing this requirement.

Compensation for Course Reviewers

The Board has been discussing compensation for agility course reviewers for some time. Although this idea started off with agility, there are other programs that require course reviewers. The Board would like Affiliate Clubs to weigh in on what they think may be a fair way to compensate them for this service.

➢ Morarre left the meeting at 8:25 pm.

It was suggested that reviewers could be compensated with something other than money, like membership in ASCA or vouchers for other ASCA services. The Board will revisit this issue.

➢ B. Jaco left the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Unfinished Business

Creelman brought up the viability of ASCA’s Altered Program. Those present discussed whether they believed the program has been fulfilling the original intent. Many people get into Aussies and get intact dogs because of positive experiences in the Altered Program. Some expressed concern about the lack of quality in their areas, and the practice of using “filler” dogs to create majors. They suggested eliminating the program, and replacing it with an Altered Class.
Berryessa requested the Board look at the recently passed conformation rule which limited contact with judges. The Board will ask the Conformation Committee to revisit the wording.

Goossens recommended making a tutorial video showing people how to utilize online sanctioning.

➢ Gibson adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

Nationals General Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray, Director Preston Kissman, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Director Elect Liz Busquets, Director Elect Denise Creelman, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Heidi Mobley, Susan Byrne, Ray Fryar, Crystal Aguilar, Tricia Alexander, Andrea Armstrong Bair, Michelle Berryessa, Elizabeth Bird, Karen Black, Judy Boone, Melissa Borde, Heather Borde-Osli, Mark Buehl, Sherry Butler, Holly Clift, Daniel Cooney, Karen Dahle, Judy DeShazo, Neal DeShazo, Kathy Eudy, Patti Fedak, Adriana Franciotti, Sheila Freeman, Rick Gann, Leslie Goncharoff, Susan Graham, Rosalind Hall, Jeff Hayes, Nikki Heep, Kay Herrington, Fiona Hibbard, Darla Huffman, Jean Inman, Betty Jaco, Beth Johnson, Ralph Johnson, Catherine Kenny, James Kenny, Cynthia King, Arthur Landry, Carol Landry, Gina Larson, Deborah Martin, Nancy Martin, Kathy Mathis, Carol McLaughlin, Thomas Morarre, Rick Morgan, Terri Morgan, Marie Nagano, Elizabeth Neuman, Jeff Ngo, Robbi Norman, Becky Parker, Charla Patterson, Ann Pritchett, Jerry Schetterer, Carol Seastrunk, Corinne Shanks, Ken Shoemaker, Linda Shoemaker, Anne Shope, Steve Shope, Anders Sjoblom, Pamela Smith, Elizabeth Stibley, Cynthia Taylor, Glenda Teaff, Larry Teaff, Victoria Tullier, Nancy Watts, Bayley Williams, Betty Williams, Dawn Williams, Claudia Yearsley, Mary Zepeda

There is not a quorum.

➢ Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm Central Time.

Last Year’s Minutes

Jaco gave a summary of the minutes of the 2016 General Membership Meeting.

Treasurer’s Report

Wesen reported that, according to our auditor, ASCA is in the best financial shape it has ever been in. The audit was available for members to review.

System Report

Vest updated the membership on the progress of the new ASCA system. There have been some delays, but ASCA has upheld its part of the contract. Currently, Vest, the Office Manager Ray Fryar, and System Liaison Allison Bryant are working closely with FrogSlayer to migrate ASCA’s system to a private cloud. The goal is to have everything working by the end of 2018.

Committee Reports

Agility

Chair Judy Boone gave the report.

“The dry statistics - we increased our trials by just a couple, but we did increase dog participation by about 100 dogs.

The Agility Committee has nothing really to report. We have done our best to accomplish the three goals as the Board of Directors mandated; however, two of these goals - electronic submission of results and transferring straight across from the Championship program to the ACE program - require computer programming. As the ASCA computer system programming is not yet finished, we aren’t able to find out if either of these issues can be accomplished. Our other goal was judge education, and while we have worked on it, we are hesitant to complete it as the BOD has formed their own committee to address judge education.

Since the BOD has lifted the three goal mandate and we may now address other issues, the committee will get back to work. We had a very good judging seminar today and will consider clarifications to judging calls and course design.
We also have a survey available about possible changes to Finals. We’ve received 60 completed surveys. We will have another survey available online with these and other agility related questions for those who did not attend Nationals. Look for them in the December issue of the AussENews.

**Conformation**

Member Debbie Martin gave the report, written by Chair Liz Gibson.

“Hello from the Conformation Committee. I am sorry I cannot be with you at this meeting this year. That nasty 4 letter word “work” interfered!

I hope everyone is having a great time here and that your wins are what you dreamed of! Hosting an event such as this takes time, dedication and a whole lot of sleepless nights! Please give a round of applause to our hosts for a fantastic job well done!

I would like to introduce our committee to you. Please stand if you are present!

Region 1: Debbie Martin, Kathy Peycke
Region 2: Erin Sumler, Mary Hellmeister, Holly Anderson Clift
Region 3: Ray Schafer
Region 4: no members
Region 5: Dorothy Montano, Betty Jaco
Region 6: Peter Kontos
Region 7: Svenja Hagedorn, Myrjam Langen

We do have openings in the following regions. Please consider applying if you live in these regions: Region 3, 1 opening; Region 4, 2 openings; Region 6, one opening.

We want to thank our liaison, Ann DeChant for putting up with us!

Our yearly title and show report is as follows:

From 6/1/2016 thru 5/31/2107 there were 608 conformation shows held. 32 of these were held overseas. Most within a day’s driving distance for most of our European members. During this timeframe we had 39 new Altered Champions and 223 new Intact Champions. We had an increase of 15 conformation shows! Let’s do more!

Here are some statistics for our shows from 2014 to 2017 show years:

- 2014 - 710 shows, 47 Altered Champions, 293 Intact Champions
- 2015 - 670 shows, 39 Altered Champions, 225 Intact Champions
- 2016 - 593 shows, 36 Altered Champions, 223 Intact Champions
- 2017 - 608 shows, 39 Altered Champions, 223 Intact Champions

Please consider volunteering with your local affiliate club. Without our local clubs we would not have ASCA events for you to participate in!

As always, you, the members of ASCA can help the Conformation Committee with input, suggestions and ideas to enhance and improve our conformation shows.

Have a great time in Texas and I will see you in Colorado!”

**Dock Jumping**

Chair Heidi Mobley gave the report.

“The Dock Jumping committee worked hard this year. The Committee of 10 dedicated members worked to get a set of rules to the Spring Board meeting. The board was impressed and had us continue with our hard work. We worked with Ultimate Air Dogs to have jumps from their trials to count towards ASCA titles. This will allow more ASCA members to have access to pools across the US, and soon Canada and Europe. Heart of Texas ASC hosted the first ASCA sanctioned Dock Jumping Trial at nationals. Besides the mud, the trial was a huge success. We look forward to 2018 and what the future of this program brings to the members.”

**Junior**

Chair Andrea Bair gave the report.

“This year has been about rebuilding the Junior Committee, both in membership and productivity. We have been working on several things this year. The 500 Club got a new tier program to encourage the juniors to reach for higher goals. The committee hopes to extend the 500 Club to performance programs in the future.

Currently we are working on updating the requirements for ex-juniors to become Junior Judges. Yesterday the committee members helped to present the finalist ribbons and 500 Club jackets. After some great feedback we will be adding this to our goal list for next year so that the committee will be responsible for helping to do this in the future.

Thank you to the ASCA BOD, the Affiliates, and the membership for supporting the junior programs.”
Legislative

Liaison Vest gave the report, written by Chair Susan Beals.

“Our Committee Chair is Susan Beals. Our other committee members are, in no particular order, Darcy Gardiner and Sunday Miles.

The new website has been up and running for a year now and is, in our opinion, beautifully done. The Legislative Committee is still working out how to use it to our advantage to get information to ASCA members in a timely fashion. Because our committee is so small, we do not have the manpower to keep an eye on legislative initiatives throughout the country. In an attempt to make our committee more responsive, there is now an email contact form on the Legislative Committee page that goes directly to the chair of the Legislative Committee. If there is something going on in the legislative front at either the state or local level, we urge ASCA members to use this form to alert us. We can then determine if this is something for ASCA to weigh in on as an organization and also provide talking points and information for individual members to use.

One of the issues we are currently keeping an eye on is a new rulemaking initiative by APHIS – the arm of USDA that brought us the Retail Pet Store Rule a few years ago. The comment period has just closed on a proposed rule-making that will change how license renewals are handled. This rule change is aimed at all license holders, not just dog breeders. We decided not to comment on the proposed rule-making.

Rather, we will wait until it has the status of a proposed rule and comment then, but we are watching its progress.

The committee welcomes ideas, comments or suggestions. Please feel free to contact any of the committee members at any time.”

Obedience

Member Rosalind Hall gave the report, written by Chair Laurie Rubin.

“The Obedience Committee is taking time to gather input and discuss these major topics:

1. Promoting obedience. We are looking for input from exhibitors on ways to make obedience more appealing. We have started a discussion on the Obedience Rules list. We would also like to hear ideas from those who compete in other venues but not yet in obedience. What would make obedience more appealing to you?
2. Judge Education. We propose a Judges Continuing Education Requirement, starting in 2018. The draft Judges Education language is posted on the ASCA website. Please read it and share your feedback. We hope to send a motion to the Board in December.
3. Stays. We are monitoring recent CKC changes and proposed AKC changes to stays in the regular obedience classes. After observing the results, we will discuss changes to ASCA classes.

The Obedience Committee noticed this problem and hopes the Board can help resolve it. Even though the ASCA Board voted to encourage the OBIS option at Nationals Pre-trials, the Obedience Committee is surprised that this option was not in place for this year’s pre-trials. Does the Board need to more actively encourage this option, perhaps via direct communication with clubs putting on obedience pre-trials?

Here are some of this year’s accomplishments from September 2016 to October 2017:

1. Put on an Obedience Judging Seminar at 2016 Nationals open to all, videoed it and placed it on the ASCA YouTube site.
2. Created an online OBIS survey for feedback from all attending trials where OBIS are allowed.
3. Created an additional OBIS option, allowing OBIS to run for legs and scores only – 2018.
5. Updated ODX scoring language to include touching cone on DOE2 and/or knocking down cone in either portion – 2017.
6. Updated ODX scoring to make it an NQ not to clearly move toward the cone.
7. Discussed and decided not to allow entries in both CDX and ODX at same trial.
8. Updated ODX judge’s scoresheet with recent rule changes.
9. Updated the ODX education page with rule changes.
10. Created an excel trial report form so secretaries wouldn’t have to handwrite all the trial results and shared it with the BO.

Here are some topics coming up:

1. We are always examining the rules with an intent to clarify them, including:
   a. Adding to Novice A requirements – A handler must own or co-own the dog entered or be a member of the owner’s household or immediate family.
b. Heeling Failure to sit scoring.
2. Judge education
   a. Finalize education requirement to be completed every 3 years, starting with attending or watching the videos of the 2014 and 2016 seminars.
   b. Finish and publish a Web-based educational seminar.”

**Rally**

Chair Corinne Shanks gave the report.

“Greetings on behalf of the members of the Rally Committee.

First, I want to thank Karen Black for her years of service as Chair of the Rally Committee and for her continued assistance to the committee. She is currently putting together judge education and handler education by videotaping correct performance of the different signs. In addition to reading how a sign is correctly performed, everyone will be able to see it performed correctly. She has continued to spend countless hours to help assure that the ASCA rally program is the BEST rally program out there.

On Sunday we complete the 2017 Rally Finals. Congratulations to the 2017 Finals Winners:

1. Debra St Jacques with VCH RTCH2 A-CH Sunpiper Beauwood Flyin' Finish CD RTX ATDd OTDcs RS-E JS-E GV-E
2. Richard Imfeld, Jr with OTCH2 RTCH2 Oxford’s Nine O’Hearts UDXGV-N JV-E RV-O RTX
3. Mary-Lou Trone with RTCH-4 Ravenwynd Pip's Squeek TD II DNA-CP RTX
4. Heidi Iverson with Hifi’s Flower Lei CD RTX RSN JSN GSN
5. Anne Shope with Legends Country Strong Garth ODX CDX REMX DNA-VP
6. Sally Davis with D Bar D’s Petticoats and Pistols
7. Laura Clayton with SVCH SPCH WTCH RTCH2 CH Sunfire’s Red Savina CD RTX RV-E GV-E JV-E OFTDds
8. Dawn Williams with VCH PCH RTCH2 Ch Revealesta State Your Case CD OTDc ATDsd GSE JSE-OP RSE RTX DNA-VP
9. Claudia Yearsley with ATCH-VIII RTCH 3 Dally Up To Hamits Deuces Wild CD RTX CD DNA-VP
10. Mary-Lou Trone with RTCH-2 Ravenwynd Dealers Choice RTX

ASCA Rally continues to grow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Trials in 2016</td>
<td>275</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trials in 2017</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Dogs competing 2016</td>
<td>1304</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Dogs competing 2017</td>
<td>1360</td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titles for Aussies 2016</td>
<td>1109</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titles for Aussies 2017</td>
<td>1191</td>
<td>82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titles for Other Breeds 2016</td>
<td>363</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titles for other breeds 2017</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RTCH Titles 2016</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RTCH Titles 2017</td>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It’s very encouraging to see positive growth in all areas.

The committee has, since April, moved 42 judges from regular status to Senior Judge Status. Based on experience and expertise, these judges are qualified to judge Finals and Nationals.

Last night, the rally committee premiered 31 new rally signs, both moving and stationary, and for all levels. Those who came out to view the signs were given the opportunity to vote on whether to add individual exercises, and to comment on the level they feel most appropriate for each sign. Based on feedback from everyone, the committee will add signs for 2018. We are all very excited about adding these new signs.

ASCA rally has always performed a post-trial review of all courses. We continue to perform such reviews. Judges found to have ongoing issues, will be provided with additional training. A video of how to build courses is in process, that will soon be available to all judges.

A year ago, the BOD tasked us with identifying a way to promote ASCA Rally. We know there are lots of people showing in AKC & UKC rally that are not aware of ASCA rally, where there are more opportunities for titles. We elected to develop a 1-page flier that highlights ASCA’s opportunities. That flier is available this week for the first time. We hope it will soon be posted in every training facility in the country, and in Europe. We provide more opportunities for titles, cost much less, and, we are so much friendlier than the other registries. Everyone on the committee contributed to the final product, but the vast majority of the work was by Ann McCabe.
We invite all of you that have not tried rally, to give us a try. We are currently working on a check list that can be followed from picking a date & location through putting on the trial & submitting paperwork. So, the excuse of not knowing where to start will soon be resolved. In the interim, we are happy to help with the process.

We invite everyone to contact the rally committee if you have any comments, questions or concerns. We are here to help in any way we can.”

**Stockdog**

Chair Rick Hardin gave the report.

“Hello, it is a pleasure to join you this evening to share some of the activities and plans of your ASCA Stockdog Committee (SDC). I took some time off after serving my term on the ASCA Board to enjoy my dogs. We have 3 dogs entered in the National trial in Open and will otherwise be helping as we can. This is without a doubt the best stock presented for any Finals / Nationals. The cattle are fair, test a dog but have been exposed so they will respect a dog with presence. The sheep need a little push but stay together and do not have any suicide thoughts. The ducks... well they are ducks are very workable. I would like for Larry Teaff, Preston Kissman, Ray Fryar, Joe Sherran to stand. Excellent Job getting this Nationals put together with exceptional stock. I know there is a move to have a more stable location for this event and my vote is... TEXAS Forever!

Now on to the business part. I returned to the SDC in April at the Spring Board meeting and was then nudged to take on the Chair position in May. I accepted the role since it was such a Calm Time with No anxiety or conflicts between the SDC and the Board. I honestly don’t know of a time in the realm of ASCA politics that equals the past several months. I am confident that I will be better.

The SDC has completed a survey of ASCA members about the Stockdog program to provide feedback from our membership about Stockdog program demographics and direction. This survey was driven by Jerry Schetterer, (please stand) and it was tailored to take the respondent down a different branch based on their responses. So, ASCA SD Judges were asked to respond to some different question that those who did not judge. New trial competitors were asked to respond to different questions. Jerry will be finalizing the results, but I will share some of his preliminary results.

There were 220 responses to the survey. There was a very even distribution by region in the responses. There were 20 SD Judges and 64 “facility owners” that responded. A “facility owner” is someone that hosts or puts on an ASCA Stockdog Trial. OK... think about our ASCA Stockdog family... who are we. The respondents were 35+ years of age, with the 55 – 64 age group being the largest. The respondents are 80% female and 20% male... shocker... right? One interesting response was to a question about “willingness to participate” in a course that was not the static A-H but something variable or set up the day before. What do you think? 80/220 (36%) were very likely to enter with another 43 as likely. The Farm Trial Program also had a very positive response with 78 (35%) very favorable and 28 (13%) favorable for a total of 48% favorable or above for the Farm Trial Program. The Introduction to Stock Event was another topic of the survey. There were 4/20 (20%) SD Judges likely to participate and 7/64 (11%) “facility owners” likely to host an event.

The SDC will develop the summary of this survey and present follow up surveys to mine more information. The SDC is open to input from the membership and I look forward to helping heal the SDC – Board relationship in an effort to work for the ASCA membership.”

**Tracking**

Liaison Wesen gave the report, written by Chair Beth MacLehose.

“Greetings from your tracking committee!

First off, congratulations to our most recent title earners who earned their titles to kick of this year’s Nationals!

TDX: Istari Mystic Warrior TD & Darla Huffman
TD: My Montana Sky & Jane Trude; Cut'n Loose Harley Tucker & Jacqueline Tinker

Special thank you to the Southwest Tracking Association for your help and support, and the many people from around the country that pitched in to make this ASCA Nationals Tracking Test a huge success. The work could not have gotten done without the experience and organization of Jan Wesen who volunteered to be the Tracking Chair. It was also great to have a junior come out and help as pole carrier and driver. Thanks Jeremy Moyer! Michelle Berryessa did a great job as Chief Track Layer, keeping all the many Track Layers organized and on time and helping out people who had never laid track before. Carol Gerken and Rachel Vest drove everyone around and got them to their tracks on time. Kim Pruitt organized some great facilities and kept everyone fed and happy. And a huge thanks to all the many stinky footed Track Layers and not so stinky footed Cross Track Layers who came out for two days and worked hard to lay perfect tracks.
Your Tracking Committee is currently looking for members to have all areas of the world represented. We currently have openings for committee members for region 3, 5 and one more opening for region 7.

The committee has been working this year on cleaning up errors and points of confusion in the Tracking Rules. Additionally, the committee has been discussion a Beginner Tracking test/title and what they could possibly look like (how many turns, length and article indications). Please contact the committee if you have ideas or suggestions about an Introduction or Beginning Tracking title that you would like to share.

You may also join in the discussion with the Tracking Committee by joining the ASCA Tracking Enthusiasts group. Details on joining are on the Tracking page of the ASCA Website.

Other Reports

Aussie Rescue and Placement Helpline

Crystal Aguilar gave the report, written by ARPH President Linda Gonschior.

“Good afternoon everyone. 2017 marks ARPH’s 24th year rescuing Australian Shepherds in need. In that time we have admitted 10,235 dogs to the ARPH program and adopted out 8,783. The 1452 not adopted were either humanely euthanized for health or aggression, released to an organization better suited to their special needs, returned to their breeders or original owners, remained in foster care due to a terminal condition. We currently have 32 dogs in foster care, one in hospice with her dedicated foster mom.

ARPH’s volunteers are the driving force in rescue. Their hard work has seen a huge increased presence in the Southwest and Pacific Northwest states. The Southeast continues to be a challenge, as numerous smaller rescue groups have developed across the country in the last ten years. Where ARPH does not have a representative, we refer shelters and individuals to rescue groups that we do know share the values and ethics of ARPH.

New volunteers receive introductory training and mentorship from experienced ARPH Reps, foster homes and general volunteers to ensure they know and understand the support our rescue organization provides and the expectations we have of our volunteers. Our training stresses the importance of contacting breeders when known, establishing friendly and respectful relationships with shelters, owners, adopters and all members of the public.

We pride ourselves on doing the best for the dogs in our care, having volunteers who go the extra mile to fundraise, support one another with advice and assistance, and support adopters long after that ‘gotcha’ day. ARPH is there for the life of the dog who has entered our program. Unexpected life changes sometimes result in alumni needing that support, and we have been there for returning dogs.

As you can imagine, in 24 years a great many of the adopted ARPH dogs have passed on. We continue to receive notification from adopters whose dogs have crossed the Rainbow Bridge after a long life with their adoptive families. It is a heartwarming, if bittersweet, communication to receive.

Financially, ARPH remains a stable and viable organization. We thank our volunteers for their efforts in seeking out veterinary discounts, fundraising for dogs requiring extraordinary medical care, coordinating standard expenses (such as microchips) and sharing resources where they can.

Grant money, donations and bequests have allowed the Board of Directors to initiate several new incentives in recent years. MDR1 testing prior to heartworm treatment is strongly recommended. Hearing and vision testing for MxM dogs is not always locally available, so we have a special budget for this. Commercial transport from an area with many Aussies to another with very few, for example Texas to Washington state, has become more frequent.

We could not do any of this without the generous support of donors, many of whom are ASCA members. ARPH, its Board of Directors, volunteers and the Aussies thank you most sincerely for that support.”

Random Draw for 2019 Stockdog Finals Judges

Silveira held the hat while Stockdog Committee Member Jerry Schetterer drew names.

1. David Clayton
2. Rachel Vest
3. Joan Carrillo
4. Russ Ford
5. Robert Myrick
6. Marie Murphy
7. Jan Wesen

The Host Club is provided with the first 6 names.
Unfinished Business
Member Rick Gann asked for the bottom line from the Treasurer’s Report. It is $911,732. He also asked how much it cost ASCA to have an independent audit done on the new system. It cost $8,000. The migration will cost $5,200. He respectfully requested that the Board reach out to the membership for assistance with the project.

Member Jerry Schetterer brought up concerns with the management of the system update project.

New Business
Member Pam Smith expressed concerns with the Agility Finals rounds ribbons being changed from rosettes to flats. The Board did this last year as part of standardizing Finals awards.

Member Crystal Aguilar requested that a box be put on the Nationals entry form to check if the dog is an ARPH rescue.

➢ Gibson adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.
Proposed ASCA Regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>State Abbreviations</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>North California, Nevada, Utah</td>
<td>941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>South California, Arizona</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Oregon, Idaho, Montana</td>
<td>954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana</td>
<td>984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota</td>
<td>996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio</td>
<td>1,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee</td>
<td>1,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee</td>
<td>1,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky</td>
<td>1,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana</td>
<td>1,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida</td>
<td>1,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida</td>
<td>1,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Coastal and Northeast region</td>
<td>1,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>All other regions not listed</td>
<td>1,071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Region 13 = Germany
Region 14 = all non-US, non-Canadian, non-German regions