



## AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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## Executive Secretary's Report - September 2018

### Announcements

#### New Judges

Provisional Rally Judge **Jessica Buhlman** (Utah)

Provisional Rally Judge **Margaret Chandler** (British Columbia)

#### New Committee Members

Agility Committee - **Natascha Wagenaar-Herbergs** (Region 7)

Rally Committee - **Jan Wesen** (Region 1)

European Advisory Committee - **Peter Hellmeister** (at-large)

#### ASCA Foundation

New Spirit 4 Aussie Rescue received the ASCA Foundation's Grant for Aussie rescue groups.

#### Miscellaneous

A motion from the Board to send clarification to a committee failed.

The Board voted to dismiss a Request for Conflict Resolution.

### Board of Directors' Email Motions

#### BD.18.113 6-Month Exception to Committee Procedures 2.5 Board Liaison

Approve: Silveira, Vest

Oppose: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Roberts

Abstain: 0

Motion **fails**.

*Comment from Busquets:* While I understand the purpose and rationale for this motion, I'm not certain that this is a good precedent to set. The relationship between the liaison and the committee, and the relationship between committees and the Board are carefully drafted in the rules and procedures. Making any exception could potentially set a precedent for future boards in which the autonomy of the committees could be at risk. I would prefer that the solution to communication problems be reached by other means rather than making exceptions to the rules.

Motion by Silveira

Second by Vest

I move the Board of Directors create a six-month exception to Committee Procedures Rule 2.5 Board Liaison. Specifically, that the Board's Liaison to the Stockdog Committee be allowed to participate in the deliberations of the Stockdog Committee representing the Directors contribution to the discussion for the sole purpose of testing a better way for the Directors to successfully work with the Committee. All other provisions of said rule shall remain in effect.

This trial period shall begin as soon as it is approved by the Board and continue until the Director's 2019 Spring meeting. This test shall be evaluated at the 2019 Spring Board meeting where possible permanent changes to the Committee Procedures will be considered.

Current Wording:

2.5 Board Liaison

A. The Liaison must fully understand the Committee's recommendations, so he/she may help the Board to understand the position taken by the Committee on any issue. **The Liaison is not to participate** or interfere in the deliberations of the Committee and is not allowed to change or alter any of the recommendations made by the Committee but must endeavor to understand the Committee's position and present it to the Board as presented by the Committee.

Rationale: Based on our conversation with Members of the SDC I have prepared a motion for your consideration based on what I heard the consensus to be.

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by the Board of Directors

**BD.18.115 Rescind BD.17.201 Emergency Motion on Non-Regular Dog Classes**

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Busquets

Second by Creelman

I move to rescind BD.17.201 Emergency Motion on Non-Regular Dog Classes.

Wording of Motion BD.17.201 Emergency Motion on Non-Regular Dog Classes from November 2017 (to be rescinded):

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/Rationale: It is not clear whether the membership wants to removal of all Non-Regular puppy classes (2-4 months puppy class and 4-6 months puppy class) from future Nationals. The membership should be surveyed regarding this topic before the Board makes a final decision. Also, the mandate to prohibit any pups younger than 6 months from the Nationals rounds may be too difficult to enforce and the membership should also be surveyed on this topic before any decisions are made.

Affected: All parties who participate and compete in Non-Regular puppy classes at Nationals and/or travel to Nationals with dogs younger than 6 months.

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by the Board of Directors

#### **BD.18.116 Membership Survey - Puppies at Nationals**

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gibson, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest

Oppose: Gray

Abstain: 0

Motion **carries**.

*Comment from Gibson:* I support the motion of surveying the membership, although I personally do not support the prohibition of dogs younger than six months from the grounds of future Nationals.

Motion by Busquets

Second by Creelman

I move to survey the membership using all available ASCA channels regarding the removal of all Non-Regular puppy classes (2-4 months puppy class and 4-6 months puppy class) and the prohibition of dogs younger than 6 months from the grounds at future Nationals.

Comments/Rationale: The membership should be given an opportunity to provide an opinion regarding the removal of Non-Regular puppy classes from competition and the prohibition of dogs younger than 6 months from the grounds at future Nationals.

Affected: All ASCA members, Webmaster, Business Office

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by the Board of Directors

**BD.18.117 Funds for Conformation Education at 2018 Nationals**

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest

Oppose: 0

Abstain: Gibson

Motion **carries**.

Motion by Busquets

Second by Gray

I move to approve the amount of \$300 to print handouts and purchase materials and refreshments for the Conformation Committee to host Conformation Education at Nationals. The Conformation Committee shall provide receipts for expenses.

Comments/Rationale: These funds will provide necessary materials to make the Conformation Seminar at Nationals a success.

Affected: Conformation Committee and all members interested in attending

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by the Board of Directors

**BD.18.118 Upgrading of CRCD3 to CRCD4 for ASCA Agility Course Reviewers**

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, King

Oppose: Gibson, Gray, Roberts, Silveira, Vest

Abstain: 0

Motion **fails**.

*Comment from Gibson*: I support purchasing new software for the Agility Course Reviewers; however, I feel we should ask each reviewer what software is needed, based on that reviewer's needs. The intention of this motion is good but it was not worded well, and it did not come from the reviewers or the committee.

*Comment from Vest*: This motion did not come from the Agility Committee and they were not consulted prior to this motion being brought forward. The discussion surrounding this motion has not fully supported proposed expenditure. This topic needs to be brought to the Agility Comm for their input prior to a BOD vote on the matter.

Motion by Roberts

Second by King

I move to approve a motion to have ASCA pay for the purchase of CRCD3 to CRCD4 for all Course Reviewers.

Comments/Rationale: It was brought to the Agility Committee's attention by the Systems Committee that the Course Reviewers are using 10-year-old software and it needs to be updated, since the old software is no longer supported. The Course Reviewers need to purchase and not simply upgrade their version because there are still judges using Course Designer 2003. While the new software will accept the older version, it changes it to the newer version. The older version cannot read the newer one so there could be problems with showing judges what they are referring to that needs to be changed if that judge does not have the newer version. Judges are not required to purchase or to update to the new software and can still design courses with the old version. There is nothing that demands a current judge needs to update to the new software, but new judges would only be able to purchase the new software. The Course Reviewers are unpaid volunteers and they should not have to pay for the new software that is being requested by the Systems Committee.

It is important that the Course reviewers have this new software because as new judges are approved those judges will only have the new software. An upgrade is not the answer because many of the current judges are still using the old software and the Course Reviewers must be able to use both to accommodate all the judges. The Course Reviewers will not be able to do their job of reviewing courses because the differences in software systems and the fact that some judges are using the old software while others can only purchase the new software.

Affected: 4 Volunteer Course Reviewers and (maybe) judges

Cost: The cost of the new software is \$79.95 per copy. There are 4 Course Reviewers so that final cost would be no more than \$350.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect immediately after the Board approves it and makes arrangements to pay for the new software.

**BD.18.119 Dinner for Stockdog Judge Seminar at 2018 ASCA National Specialty**

Approve: Busquets, DeChant, Roberts

Oppose: Creelman, Gray, King, Silveira, Vest

Abstain: Gibson

Motion **fails**.

*Comment from Creelman:* All venues should be given the same support for their meetings.

*Comment from Gibson:* As the 2018 Nationals Chairman, I have been working with committee representatives to plan this event, so I will abstain.

*Comment from Vest:* There should be no incentive necessary for SD Judges to attend the SD Judges Seminar. The Seminar is conducted to update and educate Judges on changes in the program, not as a dinner event. If the BOD chooses to support this expenditure.... it should do the same for each Program's Seminars. There are 8 Programs, 9 if you count MVA.... for a total cost of \$4500. I consider this a frivolous expense that I cannot support.

Motion by Roberts

Second by DeChant

I move to approve funding to purchase dinner for ASCA Stockdog judges who attend the Stockdog Judge Seminar hosted by the SDC at Nationals. The dinner will be provided by the concessionaire at Nationals and will cost no more than \$500. The SDC shall provide receipts for expenses.

Comments/Rationale: Providing dinner to the Judges is a nice gesture and will help attract participants.

Affected: ASCA, by paying for the meals

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by the Board of Directors

**BD.18.120 Rescind Introduction to Stock Directive**

Approve: Busquets, DeChant, Gray, King, Roberts

Oppose: Creelman, Gibson, Silveira, Vest

Abstain: 0

Motion **carries**.

*Comment from Busquets:* I have considered this very carefully for some time. I'm voting to rescind because, in hindsight, the deadline may not have been as fair, particularly considering all the changes that the committee has gone through in the past few months. This topic has been very contentious and divisive in the last couple of years and it is my hope that, without the pressure of this deadline, the SDC can create a quality product that is acceptable to ASCA's membership and leadership. I still hope that the SDC meets with the Board at Nationals to appraise directors of the committee's progress on this issue and also that the committee realizes the importance of finalizing this item.

*Dissent from Creelman:* The SDC is working positively toward the directive to develop an Introduction to Stock program to present at nationals. If they need more time, this extension can be granted by the BOD during their presentation. No interruption of their progress should be made.

*Comment from DeChant:* I approve this for purposes of removing the deadline of Nationals. I think this will take pressure off and allow the committee to proceed with enough time to fully develop their solution. I believe there needs to be time for the committee to complete this and have sufficient time to get feedback from the Membership. I respect the Committee and their ability to complete their work without a Directive.

*Dissent from Gibson:* We asked that the SDC come up with a proposal, and now that they have done so and are ready to present their first draft to us, I find it strange that we would rescind our directive. The motion makers claim that this is to give the SDC more time, but the committee has not requested more time and are on track to present their proposal at the Nationals meeting.

*Dissent from Vest:* The SDC has made great progress on the Intro program and this motion does not support their efforts. The program they have developed will be a positive step for the SD program.

Motion by King

Second by Roberts

I move to rescind the introduction to stock directive to the SDC.

Comments/Rationale: The turnover in the SDC has not allowed an effective working group to investigate all the potential ways this could proceed.

Affected: The SDC is allowed time to work on this and the membership is allowed more time for feedback as it develops. The deadline has hindered effective communication. We hope that by giving the SDC more freedom, they will work towards the overall goal of bringing new people to ASCA and encourage partnerships between affiliates that will foster sharing of the vast knowledge that stockdog competitors possess. We hope that this will open positive and productive dialogue between all persons involved for the betterment of ASCA.

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by the Board of Directors

## **Emergency Motions**

### **BD.18.128 Emergency Motion: Finals Payment to 2018 Nationals Consortium**

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Silveira, Vest

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-Voting: Roberts

Motion **carries**.

Motion by Vest

Second by Busquets

I move to provide payment to the 2018 Nationals Consortium for the 90% Finals payment that is due upon close of Finals entries per the Policy Book, section 19.10.

#### 19.10 Disbursing Additional Event Membership Dues

...

Funds collected during a show year but not disbursed for that year's Finals shall carry forward to support Finals in following years. The amount furnished to the Host Club each year shall be determined as follows:

- a. Using the Board of Directors approved budget submitted by the Host Club, determine the difference between total budget income and total budget expenses for all the Finals.
- b. If income exceeds expenses no disbursing of funds is needed.
- c. If expenses exceed income calculate 90% of that difference to generate the amount forwarded to the Host Club.

The Business Office shall forward a check in the amount determined in c. above along with all Finals entry fees to the Host Club after entries close and all entrants are confirmed.

That amount due to the 2018 Nationals Consortium is per the following calculation:

Calculation as of August 23, 2018:

$\$71,755 \times .9 = \$64,579.50$

$\$64,579.50 - \$17,820$  (entry fees) =  $\$46,759.50$

$\$46,759.50 - \$6,978$  (additional Finals sponsorship collected since budget submitted) =  
 $\$39,781.50$

$\$39,781.50$  (amount paid from ASCA Finals fees) +  $\$17,820$  (amount collected from entry fees) =  $\$57,601.50$

A check is to be generated, payable to the 2018 ASCA Nationals and mailed to:

2018 ASCA Nationals Entry Clerk

Terri Morgan

P.O. Box 992

Kiowa, Colorado 80117

Affected: 2018 Nationals Consortium

Effective Date: Immediately upon approval by the Board of Directors

## Committee Recommendations

### Stockdog Committee

#### **SD.18.02 Change to Stockdog Rules 28.2.2 Acceptance of an Apprentice Judge**

Approve: Busquets, DeChant, King, Roberts

Oppose: Creelman, Gibson, Gray, Silveira, Vest

Abstain: 0

Motion **fails**.

*Comment from Creelman:* The applicant needs to be given the opportunity to refute any negative comments. No negative comments should be allowed that are not documented.

*Comment from Gibson:* You cannot take away an applicant's due process, which is what this change to the rules does.

*Comment from Silveira:* There is no provision to allow the applicant to respond to negative comments from the Membership.

*Comment from Vest:* 28.8.2 B1 requires that the Applicant be notified of any concerns, etc. of the SDC. But I don't see that the new rule requires that adverse letters from members need to be provided to the Applicant. Per ASCA's Counsel.... this should be added to the rule.... if an Applicant is not approved by the SDC, the reason for disapproval must be sent to the Board along with the vote.

And does not contain the appropriate requirements as per the ASCA policy Book:

#### 10.5 Filing of Conflict Letters

- a. Any communication that requests inclusion of a conflict letter/e-mail in a Judge's or member's file shall also be sent to the subject of the complaint advising him/her that he/she may submit a rebuttal statement that will be placed in the file.
- b. The person requesting the inclusion of the conflict letter/e-mail will be sent a letter advising him/her of this policy. ASCA will disclose the name and identifying information of the author of all written comment letters detailing actions of any of the following individuals:
  1. Judge Applicants
  2. Judges
  3. Officials of ASCA, its affiliates and licensees detailing actions during an ASCA sanctioned event.
- c. If the writer withdraws his/her request, the letter/e-mail will not be included in the Judge's or member's file or be sent to the Judge or member.
- d. Letters/e-mails of conflict will be forwarded to the individual named in the letter/e-mail. The forwarding letter/e-mail will seek a response from the subject of the conflict.
- e. The Board of Directors will take no action on an application to become a judge until completion of the preceding process if a conflict letter has been filed.

Motion by Roberts

I move to approve the below motion from the SDC.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion by Terri Jones

Second by James Bergert

I move to modify the wording 28.2.2 Acceptance of an Apprentice Judge.

Current Wording:

28.2.2

Acceptance of an Apprentice Judge Applicant is made by the ASCA Board of Directors upon receipt of the verified application from the Business Office, recommendation of the Stockdog Committee, and comments from the general membership in the allowed period.

- a. Applications will be verified by the Business Office for accuracy before being forwarded to the Board of Directors and to the Stockdog Committee.
- b. Applicants for Apprentice Stockdog Judge will have their names published in the Aussie Times for comments. The Business Office is responsible for the accuracy and completion of each application.
  1. Once the application has been determined to be complete and accurate, the application submitted to the business office will be forwarded to the Stockdog Committee for review and consideration.
  2. At the time of this submission, the Business Office will include the proposed issue of the Aussie Times in which the name of the Applicant will appear. The Business Office will submit the name and intent of the Applicant in the indicated publication of the Aussie Times.
  3. Comments from ASCA members regarding the Applicant must be submitted to the ASCA Executive Secretary within 45 days of the publication date to be considered.
    - a. Any letters or written comments received within 45 days by the Executive Secretary will be forwarded to the Stockdog Committee within 10 business days of receipt.
    - b. Any letters or comments received during this 45-day period will be considered by the Stockdog Committee when evaluating the application into the Apprentice Program.
    - c. Voting by the committee will not take place until after the 45-day period and all letters have been received and reviewed by the Stockdog Committee.

- d. No letters regarding the Applicant's history, character, or behavior prior to entry into the Apprentice Program will be accepted or forwarded to the Stockdog Committee after this 45-day period.
- c. The Stockdog Committee shall review the application and return any questions, comments, or concerns to the Business Office within 14 days of receipt.
  1. The Stockdog Committee shall notify the Business Office and Executive Secretary if there are no objections to the application.
  2. If concerns or questions are raised by the Stockdog Committee, they shall be forwarded by the Business Office then to the Applicant for clarification. Clarification/explanations from the Applicant must be received by the Business Office within 45 days of the request.
- d. The Business Office will notify the Applicant of their acceptance or denial as an Apprentice Judge. If the application is denied, the reason(s) for denial shall be summarized by the Board of Directors and forwarded to the applicant by the Business Office.
  1. Applicants may appeal their denial to the Board of Directors,
  2. A denied Applicant may reapply no earlier than two years from the date of the initial denial.

Proposed Wording:

28.8.2

Upon receipt of the verified application from the Business Office, recommendation of the Stockdog Committee, and comments from the general membership during the allowed period, the ASCA Board of Directors will vote to accept or deny the Applicant's request.

- A. Applications will be verified by the Business Office to be complete and accurate before forwarding to the Stockdog Committee for a review of additional accuracy.
- B. The Stockdog Committee shall review the application and notify the Business Office within 14 days of receipt if they accept the application as written or return the application with any questions, comments, or concerns.
  1. If concerns or questions are raised by the Stockdog Committee, they shall be forwarded by the Business Office to the Applicant for clarification. Clarification/explanations from the Applicant must be received by the Business Office within 30 days of the request.
  2. Once the application is accepted by the SDC the Business Office will then send the Applicants name and intent to be published in the Aussie Times for Member comment.
  3. At the time of this submission, the Business Office will notify the Stockdog Committee of the proposed issue of the Aussie Times in which the name of the

Applicant should appear and when published will notify the Stockdog Committee of the actual date of publication.

4. Comments or letters from ASCA members regarding the Applicant must be submitted to the ASCA Executive Secretary within 45 days of the Aussie Times publication date to be considered. The ASCA Executive Secretary will forward the comments to the Stockdog Committee within 10 business days of receipt.
  - a. Any letters or comments received during this 45-day period will be considered by the Stockdog Committee when evaluating the Applicant for the Stockdog Apprentice Program.
  - b. No letters regarding the Applicant's history, character, or behavior prior to entry into the Apprentice Program will be accepted or forwarded to the Stockdog Committee after this 45-day period.
- C. The Stockdog Committee will do a full review of all comments, clarifications, and explanations.
- D. Voting by the Stockdog Committee will take place within 90 days of the Applicants intent being published in the Aussie Times but will not take place until after the 45-day period and all comments are received and reviewed.
  1. The Stockdog Committee will make a motion to recommend or to not recommend the applicant. The result of this motion will immediately be sent to the Business Office, the ASCA Executive Secretary, and the ASCA Stockdog Liaison.
  2. The ASCA Board of Directors shall receive and consider the Stockdog Committee's recommendation before making the final vote to accept or deny the applicant.
- E. The Business Office will notify the Applicant of their acceptance or denial as an Apprentice Judge. If the application is denied, the reason(s) for denial shall be summarized by the Board of Directors and forwarded to the applicant by the Business Office.
  1. Applicants may appeal their denial to the BOD.
  2. A denied Applicant may reapply no earlier than two years from the date of the initial denial.

Comments/Rationale: This motion is in response to the Board Motion BD.18.28 Revised Stockdog Judge Applicant Procedure (Revised).

Effective Date: January 2019

Results of the Committee Vote:

Approve: 11;

Oppose: 1;

Abstain: 0;

Non-Voting: 1

Comment from Wesen: There wording for an applicant to respond to negative comments.

## **Tracking Committee**

### **TR.18.03 Beginning Tracking Dog Test**

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Gray

I move to approve the Tracking Committee's BTD.

#### Committee Recommendation:

Motion by Beth MacLehose

Second by Laurie Shuren

I move to approve the creation of an optional titling test of Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD).

#### Current Wording:

No current wording.

#### Proposed Wording:

(This would move the current section 7 to 8 and so forth...)

#### 7 The Beginning Tracking Dog Test (BTD)

The Beginning Tracking Dog Test (BTD) is an optional title and not a pre-requisite for a TD or TDU. The fundamental features of a Beginning Tracking Dog Test (BTD) are the dog's ability to follow a short track laid by a person and find an article dropped by that person. The purpose of this test is to make ASCA tracking more accessible in all parts of the country (world). This test may be held as a tracking test with up to 10 dogs judged in a day and not to exceed 8 total hours judging time by an examiner. However, it was also designed to be flexible enough that it could be held similar to a certification test with a judge/examiner and one or two participants. It may be held in conjunction with other ASCA events (e.g. conformation show on a local fairgrounds) or as a standalone event.

##### 7.1 Eligibility for the BTD Test

The Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD) Test shall be for dogs not less than six (6) months of age that are eligible for entry and have not earned an ASCA TD or TDU.

A dog may continue to participate in the Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD) Test after it has earned the title of BTD but not after it has earned a TD or TDU.

The Tracking Test Secretary shall give dogs not holding a Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD) Title priority for entry in the Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD) Test. A statement to this effect shall appear in the Premium.

## 7.2 The BTD Title

ASCA will issue a Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD) title to:

- a. ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd dogs,
- b. Australian Shepherds with an ASCA LEP number,
- c. And any other dogs with an ASCA Office Tracking Number,

and will permit use of the letters "BTD" after the name of each dog that has been certified by a qualified judge/examiner to have passed a Beginning Tracking Dog Test (BTD).

Any dog that is already holding an ASCA BTD title may re-enter the same test without limit, however, Draw for Test Entry Rules apply.

## 7.3 Requirements for the BTD Track

The following are the restrictions and minimum requirements for a TD track:

- a. The track shall be at least 175 yards and not more than 250 yards in length.
- b. The length of each of the legs shall be at least 50 yards.
- c. The scent on the track shall be not less than 15 minutes or more than one (1) hours old.
- d. The track layer is to be chosen by the participant and may be known to the dog. There is no restriction on the track layer and it may be a member of the family, a member of the examiner's family, a training partner, or a stranger. The tracklayer may not talk with the participant between laying the track and the track being run.
- e. The track does not have to be plotted the day before (but may be). The track may be plotted and then walked by the track layer 2 or more hours later.
- f. A total of two (2) turn shall be used. Both left and right turns must be used. No acute angle turns are to be used. The turn must be more than 30 yards from the second flag.
- g. The turn should be greater than 90 degrees whenever possible.
- h. No part of the track shall follow any fence or boundary within 15 yards of such fence or boundary.
- i. No part of the track may be within 50 yards of any other part of the same track.
- j. Consecutive parallel tracks shall not be used.
- k. No part of any track shall be laid within 50 yards of another track. However, with two (2) tracks going in opposite directions from the same area, the starting flags may be as close as 50 yards from each other.
- l. A track shall not cross a body of water or a paved road.

- m. No BTD track should have changes of cover that would be suitable for a TDX obstacle.
- n. No conflicting (cross) tracks shall be used.
- o. A track shall have a start article at the first flag, and a 2nd article at the end of the track.

If, because of the terrain, the judge/examiner is unable to plot a track that meets all requirements for a Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD) Test, an explanation of the circumstances must be reported in the Judge's Books.

#### 7.4 Articles for the BTM Track

Articles shall meet the same criteria as articles for the TD set out in Chapter 2, Section 6. There will be no penalty for the handler and dog team playing with the end article when they find it. The handler may carry a toy or food and reward the dog upon finding the article. In a Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD) Test there shall be a cloth start article, and the end article shall be a cloth or leather glove or wallet.

#### 7.5 Start of the BTM Track

The start shall have a flag at the beginning, and a second flag, indicating the direction of the first leg, 30 yards from the first flag. The Tracklayer shall start at the first flag and walk the track in the manner specified in Chapter 2, Section 10 with the exception that the track does not have to be plotted the day before. See section 6.3.e for plotting requirements

An article shall be dropped at the start (first) flag. This article shall be Cloth, (such as but not limited to, a Bandana, or a Sock) and close to the same size as the end article, a cloth or leather glove or wallet.

At the direction of the examiner, the handler and dog will approach the first flag.

The handler may use any method, including restraining the dog by the leash as long as no force, directional guidance, or roughness, is used to start the dog at the first flag on the track. The handler may pick up the article at the start flag and use it to give scent to the dog while on the track.

If the article is not at the start, the handler, while controlling the dog at the start flag, may request from the judge/examiner another article belonging to the Tracklayer.

The Beginning Tracking Dog (BTD) Test begins when the dog leaves/passes the first flag. The initial 30 yards between the flags is part of the track and all requirements for the track apply except that during this time the examiner, at their discretion, may give advice to the handler, including letting them know they may restart. The handler does not need to follow the advice and any advice given should be only for the purpose of helping a new handler be comfortable on the track and giving them the best chance possible of passing.

In this portion of the track, the dog may be restrained by the handler. The examiner, during this part of the track, should ask the handler to stop any leading or guiding of the dog but it does not constitute grounds for deeming the handler "off the track" and failing the dog.

Provided the dog has not passed the second flag, the handler may request permission from the judge/examiner for a restart. If approved by the examiner, the handler may restart the dog, either from their present location or after returning to the starting flag. Only one restart is permitted. If a restart is requested, an auxiliary article can no longer be requested.

#### 7.6 Judge/examiner for BTM Track

A person who has put at least one (1) TDX or VST or equivalent title on a dog may be a judge/examiner for the BTM. The title may be a title from ASCA, AKC, or CKC. Other organizations may be approved by the ASCA tracking committee when requested (for example titling organizations in other countries or IPO). When submitting sanctioning paperwork, a photocopy or digital copy of the title(s) the judge/examiner earned shall be included.

(Current section 7 will move to section 8, and this section will be added at the end.)

#### 8.6 Beginning Tracking Judge/Examiner

Anyone who has handled a dog to one (1) TDX or VST or equivalent title from ASCA, AKC, CKC may Judge a Beginning Tracking Dog test.

Applicants who wish to apply to judge a Beginning Tracking Dog test who are not an ASCA approved tracking judge, should fill out the Beginning Tracking Dog Judge/Examiner Form and send it to the ASCA Office with the sanctioning paperwork.

The Form will be forwarded to the Tracking Committee for review if the Judge/Examiner is using a tracking title from an organization other than ASCA/AKC/CKC for review. If the form is completed and a copy of a TDX/VST tracking certificate is included, the business office can approve the examiner without sending it to the Tracking Committee.

Judging an ASCA Tracking Trial is a privilege not a right. Approval to judge Tracking Tests for other organizations is not a guarantee of approval to judge any ASCA Tracking Test. Judges must follow ASCA Tracking Regulations and adhere to ASCA's Code of Ethics. Any documented failure to perform on this level may result in the revocation of judging privileges by the ASCA Board of Directors without regard to any other qualifications or for former service.

### **Beginning Tracking Judge/Examiner Qualification Form**

Please mail a copy of this application with any required attachments to the Business Office.

#### **Part One**

Applicant Information (\*All Applicants must fill out this section.)

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone Number:

ASCA Membership # (If applicable):

Email address:

Do you wish your email to be listed on the ASCA Tracking Judge's list?  Yes  No

Please list all tracking titles you have earned by breed registered name of dog, organization, type of title, and date. (minimum is 1 TDX OR 1 VST or equivalent title) Attach additional paper if necessary.

## Part Two

All applicants: Please read the following carefully, then sign and date below.

1. Judges affiliated with approved outside tracking titling organizations will have their applications processed at the office. The office will send the Committee the names of these applicants.
2. New, unaffiliated, Tracking Judge applications will be reviewed by the Tracking Committee, and the Committee will send recommendations to the ASCA Board for approval. (Note: The Regular co-judge at each assignment will be required to submit a written review to the ASCA Tracking Committee regarding a Provisional Judge's performance. The Committee reserves the right to send a representative of the Committee to review a Provisional Judge at any test.)
3. Applicants who meet with Board approval will be on Provisional status for TD and/or TDX until they have completed the minimum two (2) tracking judging assignments at each level. Once a Provisional Judge has met the assignments requirement, he/she may petition the ASCA Board, in writing, to change from Provisional to Regular status for TD and/or TDX. When the Board is petitioned to move a judge to regular status, the name will be published in the Aussie Times for each level. The Board will move to approve or decline an applicant thirty days after publication.
4. Judging an ASCA Sanctioned Event is an honor and a privilege, not a right. While applicants must satisfy ASCA's stated minimal eligibility requirement to become an approved Tracking Judge, merely satisfying the requirements does not entitle an applicant to become or remain an ASCA Judge once approved. It is expected all ASCA Judges must consistently display the highest level of ethical and professional conduct, impartial demeanor and dedication to upholding ASCA's codes, rules, decisions, and the Statement of Purpose in ASCA's Bylaws. Any documented failure to perform may result in a denial of Application or revocation of judging privileges by ASCA's Board of Directors without regard to any other qualification or prior service.
5. I have read and understand the current ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations and accept all Judges' responsibilities described in the above documents.
6. I hereby hold harmless ASCA's Directors, officers, employees and the ASCA Tracking Committee members from any liability, causes of actions, and damages I may incur as a result of the processing and investigating related to this application. I further certify by

affixing my name to this application all of the information I have supplied in or attached to this document is true and correct in all aspects.

Signature:

Date:

Comments/Rationale: Tracking is not currently a widely used program outside of WA, OR, and CA. We hope that this optional titling test will make it easier for clubs and competitors in other parts of the country to give ASCA tracking a try. Competitors without other ASCA trackers in the area can work towards earning this title with anyone with a more advanced tracking degree. Clubs can practice putting on a “tracking test light” with the BTD and not have to fly in a judge and have two days of hard work putting on a test. Hopefully this program will increase interest in all parts of the country and lead competitors and clubs down the wonderful and challenging road that is tracking.

Affected: I have checked with Ray, and this will work with the current software. The Judge/Examiner will have to be loaded into the data base so that they are recorded as having awarded the title. The updated Judge’s section is below.

Effective Date: June 1, 2019

Results of the Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-Voting: 1

## **Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors**

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (“ASCA”) was held on Thursday, August 9, 2018, via online meeting service, GoToMeeting.

### **Directors 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 (joined at 6:15 pm), Director-elect Judy Boone, Director-elect Rick Gann

### **Also Present:**

Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Counsel Charles Carnese

## **Call to Order**

President DeChant called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm (CDT) and Executive Secretary Jaco recorded the minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

## **Executive Session**

The Board was in Executive Session from 6:01 pm - 7:33 pm to discuss the below items.

### **Pipeline Easement**

The Board unanimously agreed to accept the bid from Magellan Pipeline Company to purchase a pipeline easement on ASCA's property in Bryan, Texas, for the sum of \$16,212.00. The pipeline will run 40 ft. below the surface of the property.

### **Judge Applicant**

The Board followed-up on an application to become an ASCA Judge.

### **Stockdog Committee Chair**

Liaison Roberts reported that the Stockdog Committee voted to remove Jerry Schetterer as Committee Chair. He subsequently resigned his membership on the Committee. The Board thanks Mr. Schetterer for his service.

- Counsel left the meeting at 7:15 pm

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Board approved the Treasurer's Report for period ending July 31, 2018, presented by Treasurer Roberts. Ending balance is \$214,431.95.

### **Junior Service Award**

The ASCA Junior Service Award recognizes and rewards ASCA Juniors who exhibit good sportsmanship in competition and who serve the dog fancy and the Australian Shepherd in their National and/or local club and in their own community.

This year the Board voted to select Breann Ellis and Burlyne Mejeris as the recipients. They will be recognized at the 2018 National Specialty Banquet in Greeley, Colorado.

### **European Advisory Committee**

The Board voted to appoint Peter Hellmeister to the Committee as an at-large member, and to send the Committee a list of instructions detailing their duties.

## **Open Session**

The Board was in Open Session from 7:33 pm - 8:00 pm to discuss the below items. A recording of this part of the meeting may be listened to on ASCA's Website

(<https://www.asca.org/home/news/bod-meetings-audio>) and ASCA's YouTube Channel (<https://youtu.be/AP9IIYnJF24>).

### **Ratification of July Email Business**

The Board voted to ratify all business conducted over email in July.

### **BD.18.126 Ratify July Email Business**

Approve: Unanimous; *Motion carries.*

Motion by King

Second by Creelman

I move to ratify all business conducted over email in July.

### **System Liaison's Report**

Board System Liaison Vest reported on the ongoing status of the ASCA computer system upgrade. The RFP went out to 5 vendors with a response due date of August 31, 2018.

### **Answering Members on ASCA Discussion List**

The Board discussed how best to improve their response rate to Member questions posted to ASCA's official discussion list, ASCMembers. If a question is about a motion, the motion maker should respond. If a question is about a program, that program's Committee Liaison should respond. Other questions should be answered by whomever is best able to answer. President DeChant and 1st Vice President Busquets volunteered to draft a policy for Board review.

### **Research Request for DNA Committee**

There was a motion on the floor, by Silveira, for email voting which requests the DNA Committee research all US laboratories who offer canine DNA parentage verification and create a report for the Board to use in ASCA's upcoming negotiations with Therion in renewing our contract. ASCA's contract with Therion expires on September 1, 2019. The Board decided to vote on the motion sooner than email voting would have allowed for.

### **BD.18.114 DNA Committee Research**

Approve: Unanimous; *Motion carries.*

Motion by Silveira

Second by Gibson

I move to request the DNA Committee to research and locate all Laboratories in the United States who offer DNA Parentage verification for canines.

They must create a list of questions to be asked of each lab related to what services they provide and at what cost. They are to base their questions on ASCA's DNA Parentage verification needs as outlined in relevant policies and procedures. Any issues identified by the

Committee that would benefit from this comparison of Laboratories to improve ASCA's Program may be queried.

The list of questions shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors prior to their approval for use. The Committee is requested to create a report for the Board of Director's use in ASCA's upcoming negotiations with Therion in renewing our contract.

This report needs to be submitted to the Executive Secretary one week prior to the first meeting of the Board of Directors at the 2018 ASCA Nationals. The Committee would please advise the Board of Directors if this completion date is unreasonable or if they have any questions.

Comments/rationale: I am submitting this motion to you in the hope that its implementation will provide the answers to many questions that have only answered with speculation and opinion. Finding and understanding the facts relevant to providing and maintaining a DNA Parentage verified registry is paramount to the future of ASCA.

Effective date: Immediately upon approval by the Board of Directors

### **Cautionary Message Regarding Distemper and Flu**

The Board unanimously agreed to send the below message to members:

To all ASCA Members,

The Board of Directors has been made aware of some cases of canine distemper and canine influenza. Although many of the cases appear to be in the Midwest, all members should use caution to protect puppies and dogs that could be more susceptible to disease such as elderly dogs and dogs that may be immunosuppressed, including dogs that are taking immunosuppressive drugs. ASCA encourages members to consult with their veterinarians as to how best protect their dogs.

Below are a few links that contain general information about these two diseases.

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/canineflu/keyfacts.htm>

<https://www.avma.org/public/PetCare/Pages/Canine-Distemper.aspx>

<https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/Pages/Canine-Influenza-Backgrounder.aspx>

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm (CDT).

Next meeting date: Thursday, September 13, 2018

Respectfully submitted,  
Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary