VERSATILITY, PERFORMANCE, & HALL OF FAME
Rules & Regulations
June 2019

Australian Shepherd Club of America
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These amended Rules and Regulations are effective June 1, 2019, unless noted otherwise. Shaded areas indicate rule changes with effective date listed.

Last updated: 5-1-2019

- Removed highlighting/strike-out of 2018 rule changes
- Formatted for 2019 style
- Added 2019 rule changes

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Individual copies of this rulebook are $2.50 for Full members and $5.00 for Service members.
The following contents are clickable links that will take you directly to that section.

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**Found at the back of these rules:**

- MVA Evaluation Individual Score Sheet
- ASCA Judge’s Code of Ethics
- ASCA Dog Aggression Rules & Affiliate Incident Report Worksheet
- ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol & Request for Conflict Resolution Request Form
1 Most Versatile Aussie Rules for ASCA National Specialties
Approved and effective January 2003.

The Most Versatile Aussie Award is offered to recognize the dog which best combines the attributes of trainability, desire and ability to work livestock, and faithfully represents the breed standard. This dog exhibits the strong working ability that is the basis of the breed by attaining a qualifying score in at least one stockdog trial class. The dog demonstrates trainability and willingness to please by the combination of skill and expertise required to qualify in at least one of the recognized performance events - specifically agility, obedience, rally, and/or tracking. The dog is a true and honest representative of the breed when evaluated against the breed standard. Working ability, performance measurement, and breed evaluation are based on the rules and scorecards established by ASCA for the individual events, and the combined event “Most Versatile Aussie.”

1. A Rule Book for Versatility will be available on request from the ASCA Business Office.
2. The name of the conformation evaluator and decisions optional with the club must be stated in the Premium List. The following may not be changed by any club: Bitches in-heat (See #9 below) must be allowed to compete. LEPs (see #5(C) below) are not allowed to compete. Dogs (see #5(D) below) may be intact or altered.
3. Copies of the approved rules must be available upon request and on the Show Grounds.
4. The person(s) who will be responsible for versatility record keeping for the entire competition will be identified to the ASCA Board prior to the start of the Nationals.

1.1 Most Versatile Aussie Rules

1.1.1 Qualifying Programs
To earn the Most Versatile Aussie Award, each entry must earn a score from the Conformation Evaluation and a qualifying score from a regular Stockdog class. In addition, to remain eligible for the MVA Award, each entry must earn a qualifying score from at least one of the following four performance programs: Agility, Obedience, Rally or Tracking. Program specifics will be mentioned in these rules under each program.

1.1.2 Ties
Ties for awarding the Most Versatile Aussie Award and placements will be broken using the highest Stockdog score as calculated for MVA points. In the case that a tie still exists, the dog with the highest number of qualifying scores in all MVA qualifying events will prevail. If the tie is still not broken, dual placements shall be awarded.

1.1.3 Scores
Computation of all scores for awarding the Most Versatile Aussie Award will be handled by either the Most Versatile Aussie show committee, or by one identified member of the show committee. The Host Club may request assistance in the tabulation and auditing of the MVA scores from the Versatility Committee, or the ASCA Board of Directors. The Host Club will provide a location where all scores will be posted as soon as practicable after each eligible competition is completed. It is the owner/handler’s responsibility to check the scores as posted, and report to the MVA chairperson any discrepancy no later than two hours prior to the time scheduled for awarding MVA. Awards for MVA are final once presented.

1.1.4 Participant Ribbon
All entrants shall be presented with a participant ribbon during the conformation evaluation. The participant ribbon at Nationals is to be given immediately upon completion of the individual conformation evaluation. Immediately thereafter the participant may be allowed to leave the ring. All entrants who successfully earned qualifying scores in the conformation evaluation, stockdog trials and agility and/or obedience and/or rally and/or tracking events as required by these rules shall be presented with a qualifying strip ribbon at the MVA awards presentation with the top ten qualifiers receiving placement ribbons.

1.1.5 Conformation
A. The MVA evaluator must be an ASCA breeder judge; a senior breeder judge is preferred but is not mandatory. An ASCA provisional breeder judge cannot be an MVA evaluator. The MVA Evaluator will be allowed to show prior or subsequent to the day of the MVA evaluation. Further, any dog(s) owned by the evaluator may compete in any and all
venues, other than MVA, on the same day that the evaluations are performed, provided the handler is someone other than that evaluator. Members of the evaluator’s immediate family may handle the dog. If the evaluator is judging other classes or venues in addition to the MVA evaluation at the cluster, the ASCA rules pertaining to that judging shall take precedence.

B. One hundred points are available. The form and point schedule used will be provided to the evaluator.
C. This class will not be placed, and no awards will be given. The score given by the evaluator will be used.
D. Only Australian Shepherds with full registration privileges will be allowed to compete in MVA. No LEP registered dogs will be allowed in MVA. This class is open to spayed and neutered animals as well as intact animals.

1.1.6 Stockdog
A. The highest qualifying score from the Started, Open, Advanced or Post-Advanced will be used to compute MVA points. Highest score is defined as the score that will result in the highest number of MVA points.
B. Additional qualifying scores will earn 5 points each.
C. Points will be computed as follows:
   1. Advanced and Post-Advanced = Score +6% of score
   2. Open = Score
   3. Started = Score
D. Bitches in season entered in Versatility must be accommodated in the Stock Dog Trials.

1.1.7 Performance Score
The dog will receive one MVA score from the four performance categories of agility, obedience, rally, and tracking. The one qualifying score with the highest MVA point value will be used as the dog’s base score. Any and all additional qualifying scores will be valued at 5 points each and added to the base score to get the dog’s total performance score.

1.1.8 Obedience
A. The highest qualifying score from a regular class will be used to compute MVA points. Highest score is defined as the score that will result in the highest number of MVA points.
B. Points will be computed as follows:
   1. Utility = Score plus 15 points (Effective June 1, 2019)
   2. Open (CDX or ODX) = Score plus 5 points (Effective June 1, 2019)
   3. Novice = Score minus 10 points
C. Bitches in season entered in the MVA competition Versatility must be accommodated in the Obedience Trials. They will either run last, or in a special ring. Qualifying scores received will count for the MVA competition Versatility only, unless stated otherwise in the premium. (Effective June 1, 2019)

1.1.9 Agility
A. Only Regular Agility, from the standard, veterans or junior division, will be used for versatility.
B. The highest qualifying score will be used to compute MVA points. Highest score is defined as the score that will result in the highest number of MVA points.
C. Points for MVA will be awarded as follows:
   1. 195 for a qualifying clean Elite run
   2. 190 for a qualifying faulted Elite run
   3. 185 for a qualifying clean Open run
   4. 180 for a qualifying faulted Open run
   5. 175 for a qualifying clean Novice run
   6. 170 for a qualifying faulted Novice run
D. Bitches in heat will be allowed to run at the Nationals Specialty Agility Trial. They will run at the end of each class. A rug or tarp will be brought out to the start line and the dog will be placed on the rug or tarp to begin her run. Bitches in heat will also wear panties during their runs. Bitches in heat must be crated (not in an x-pen) prior to and during the competition, except when competing, away from the agility ring at a distance or location to be determined by the host.
club. All qualifying scores will count toward the trial, as will placements. Failure to comply with this rule will result in dismissal from all agility trials held in conjunction with the ASCA Agility National Specialty.

1.1.10 Tracking
A. Points for MVA will be awarded as follows:
   1. 195 points for a successful TDX track.
   2. 180 points for a successful TD track.
   3. 180 points for a successful TDU track.
B. Bitches in season entered in Versatility must be accommodated in the Tracking Trials. They will run last in Tracking and will be kept away from the tracking area until called. Qualifying scores received will count if the premium list specifically states that "bitches in season may participate."

1.1.11 Rally
A. The highest qualifying score from an A or B Advanced, Excellent or Masters class will be used to compute MVA points. Highest score is defined as the score that will result in the highest number of MVA points.
B. Points will be computed as follows:
   1. Masters = Score minus 5
   2. Excellent = Score minus 10
   3. Advanced = Score minus 20
C. Bitches in season entered in Versatility must be accommodated in the Rally Trial and will run last at the end of the day. Qualifying scores received will count for Versatility only.

1.1.12 Scoring for Versatility Competition
There is an optional Excel program available through ASCA or the MVA Committee that will compute and tabulate MVA scores for you. Please feel free to contact ASCA or the MVA Committee to obtain a copy via disk or CD.

1.1.13 Special Awards
The Host Club for the ASCA Nationals shall include in their flyer any special awards to be given in the MVA competition. A memorial trophy will be awarded to the winner of the Most Versatile Aussie at every ASCA National Specialty in the name of Past President and Director Jean Carrillo (who passed away in 1997).

2 Versatility Champion Requirements
2.1 Eligibility
A. The Supreme and Versatility Champion recognition as described below is open to Australian Shepherds with ASCA individual registration numbers.
B. Minimum Requirements to be met for the VCH (Versatility Champion) title:
   1. CH or A-CH (Regular Class Breed Championship)
   2. Two OTD (Open Trial Dog Sheep & Cattle) and one ATD (Advanced Trial Dog Ducks) in working
   3. One of the following five:
      i. CDX (Companion Dog Excellent in Obedience) or ODX (Open Dog Excellent in Obedience). Only one per dog to count.
      ii. CD/TD (Companion Dog in Obedience/Tracking Dog)
      iii. TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent)
      iv. Three Open Agility titles: Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers (Standard, Junior or Veteran Dog)
      v. REM (Rally Excellent/Masters)
C. Minimum Requirements to be met for the SVCH (Supreme Versatility Champion) title:
   1. CH or A-CH (Regular Class Breed Championship)
   2. WTCH (Working Trial Champion)
   3. One of the following three:
      i. UD (Utility Dog in Obedience)
ii. Three Elite Agility titles: Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers (Standard, Junior or Veteran Dog)

iii. REMX (Rally Excellent/Masters X)

2.2 Recognition

A. A certificate of Recognition will be issued at the ASCA Office once the above-named eligibility requirements have been met. There is no need to complete an application for this title as the ASCA office has in place a computer program that notifies them when the eligibility requirements have been met.

B. Australian Shepherds who have earned the Versatility Champion recognition can be viewed at ASCA’s web site: http://www.asca.org or a list of Versatility Champions may be ordered from the Business Office at a nominal fee.

3 Performance Champion Requirements

Eligibility:

A. The Supreme and Performance Champion recognition described below is open to Australian Shepherds with ASCA individual registration numbers or LEP numbers.

B. Minimum Requirements to be met for the PCH (Performance Champion) title:
   1. Two ATD (Advanced Trial Dog titles)
   2. Two out of the following four:
      i. CDX (Companion Dog Excellent in Obedience) or ODX (Open Dog Excellent in Obedience). Only one per dog to count.
      ii. CD/TD (Companion Dog in Obedience/Tracking Dog) (Effective June 1, 2019)
      iii. All of Open Regular, Open Gamblers and Open Jumpers (Standard or Veteran Dog in Agility)
      iv. REM (Rally Excellent/Masters)

C. Minimum Requirements to be met for the SPCH (Supreme Performance Champion) title:
   1. WTCH (Working Trial Champion)
   2. Two of the following three:
      i. UD (Utility Dog in Obedience)
      ii. All of Elite Regular, Elite Gamblers, Elite Jumpers (Standard or Veteran Dog in Agility)
      iii. REMX (Rally Excellent/Masters X)

3.1 Recognition

A. A certificate of Recognition will be issued at the ASCA Office once the above-named eligibility requirements have been met. There is no need to complete an application for this title as the ASCA office has in place a computer program that notifies them when the eligibility requirements have been met.

B. Australian Shepherds who have earned the Performance Champion recognition can be viewed at ASCA’s web site: http://www.asca.org or a list of Performance Champions may be ordered from the Business Office at a nominal fee.

4 Sire and/or Dam Hall of Fame Requirements

GRANDFATHER CLAUSE 99:02
Any allowed titles earned towards HOF Requirements prior to 1/1/03 will count towards HOF requirements after 1/1/03. Any allowed titles earned after 1/1/03 must be earned under the new HOF requirements.

4.1 Requirements for Sire and/or Dam

A. ASCA recognizes as members of the HALL OF FAME (HOF) those dams and sires who have produced titled Australian Shepherds who have met the HOF requirements and prerequisites as set forth below. Qualifying titles earned by an Australian Shepherd produced by a sire or dam counting towards that sire or dam’s HOF requirements are as follows:
   1. Agility: RS-O (Regular Standard Open) or RV-O (Regular Veterans Open) or RJ-O (Regular Junior Open). Only one per dog to count.
   2. Obedience: CDX (Companion Dog Excellent in Obedience) or ODX (Open Dog Excellent in Obedience). Only one per dog to count.
   3. Tracking: TD (Tracking Dog) or TDU (Tracking Dog Urban). Only one per dog to count.
4. Stockdog: ATDd (Advanced Trial Dog Ducks) and/or OTDs (Open Trial Dog Sheep) and/or OTDc (Open Trial Dog Cattle)
5. Conformation: CH (Conformation Champion), A-CH (Altered Conformation Champion)
6. Rally: RM (Rally Masters)

B. Australian Shepherds produced by the Sire must have earned a combination of twelve (12) of the above-named titles with a combination of three (3) Stockdog or Conformation titles and the remaining nine (9) from any area named in (A.1-6) above.

C. Australian Shepherds produced by the Dam must have earned a combination of eight (8) of the above-named titles with a combination of two (2) Stockdog or Conformation titles and the remaining six from any area named in (A.1-6) above.

4.2 Recognition
A. A certificate of Recognition will be issued at the ASCA Office once the above-named eligibility requirements have been met. The ASCA office has in place a computer program that notifies them when the eligibility requirements have been met; however, completion of the Hall of Fame Application Appendix B will expedite the process of verification of titles. It is recommended you use this form.

B. Australian Shepherds who have earned the Hall of Fame recognition can be viewed at ASCA’s web site: http://www.asca.org or a list of Hall of Fame sires and/or dams may be ordered from the Business Office at a nominal fee.

5 Kennel Hall of Fame Requirements

GRANDFATHER CLAUSE: 99:02
Any allowed titles earned towards HOF Requirements prior to 1/1/03 will count towards HOF requirements after 1/1/03. Any allowed titles earned after 1/1/03 must be earned under the new HOF requirements.

5.1 Breeder and/or Kennel Requirements
ASCA recognizes the kennels/breeders that have produced titled Australian Shepherds that have met the HOF requirements as set forth below.

A. Qualifying titles counting toward a Kennel/Breeder’s Hall of Fame are as follows:
   1. Agility: RS-O (Regular Standard Open) or RV-O (Regular Veterans Open) or RJ-O (Regular Junior Open). Only one per dog to count.
   2. Obedience: CDX (Companion Dog Excellent in Obedience) or ODX (Open Dog Excellent in Obedience). Only one per dog to count.
   3. Tracking: TD (Tracking Dog) or TDU (Tracking Dog Urban). Only one per dog to count.
   4. Stockdog: ATDd (Advanced Trial Dog Ducks) and/or OTDs (Open Trial Dog Sheep) and/or OTDc (Open Trial Dog Cattle)
   5. Conformation: CH (Conformation Champion), A-CH (Altered Conformation Champion)
   6. Rally: RM (Rally Masters)

B. A Kennel/Breeder must have accrued twenty (20) qualifying titles on their progeny as follows:
   1. Ten (10) Stockdog and Conformation titles, with a minimum of three (3) in each, and
   2. The remaining ten (10) in any category named in A.1-6 above.

5.2 Recognition
A. A certificate of Recognition will be issued at the ASCA Office once the above-named eligibility requirements have been met. The ASCA office has in place a computer program that notifies them when the eligibility requirements have been met for HOF; however, completion of the Hall of Fame Application Appendix C will expedite the process of verification of titles. It is recommended you use this form.

B. Breeders and/or kennels who have earned the Hall of Fame recognition can be viewed at ASCA’s web site: http://www.asca.org or a list of Hall of Fame breeders and/or kennels may be ordered from the Business Office at a nominal fee.
6 Hall of Fame Excellent Breeder/Kennel

ASCA recognizes the kennels/breeders who have produced titled Australian Shepherds that have met the HOF requirements as set forth below.

6.1 Breeder and/or Kennel Requirements

20 (TWENTY) QUALIFYING TITLES REQUIRED AS FOLLOWS:

A. SIX MANDATORY STOCKDOG TITLES (individually or combined). Qualifying titles are:
   1. ATDc (Advanced Trial Dog Cattle) (1 pt.) or
   2. ATDs (Advanced Trial Dog Sheep) (1 pt.) or
   3. RTDsc (Ranch Trial Dog Sheep/Cattle) (combined for 1 pt.) or
   4. PATDs (Post Advanced Trial Dog Sheep) (1 pt.) or
   5. PATDc (Post Advanced Trial Dog Cattle) (1 pt.)

B. SIX MANDATORY CONFORMATION TITLES (Titles earned in HOF count towards HOFX). Qualifying titles are:
   1. A-CH (Altered Champion) (1 pt.) or
   2. CH (Champion) (1 pt.)

C. FIVE ADDITIONAL TITLES IN EITHER PERFORMANCE, STOCKDOG, OR CONFORMATION AS NAMED ABOVE. Qualifying performance titles are:
   1. Obedience: UD (1 pt.) (Utility Dog in Obedience)
   2. Tracking: TDX (1 pt.) (Tracking Dog Excellent)
   3. Agility: (must earn ALL THREE Elite titles of Regular, Gamblers, and Jumpers) (1 pt.)
      i. Qualifying Regular titles are: RS-E or RJ-E or RV-E (Regular Standard Elite or Regular Junior Elite or Regular Veteran Dog Elite)
      ii. Qualifying Jumper titles are: JS-E or JJ-E or JV-E (Jumper Standard Elite or Jumper Junior Elite or Jumper Veteran Dog Elite)
      iii. Qualifying Gambler titles are: GS-E or GJ-E or GV-E (Gamblers Standard Elite or Gamblers Junior Elite or Gamblers Veteran Dog Elite)
   4. Rally: REMX (Rally Excellent/Masters X)

D. THREE TITLES OF EXCELLENCE (A dog may earn more than one and two dogs must be titled in this category). Two of the three titles must be titles that include stock and/or conformation. Individual titles making up these specialty titles may be counted towards stockdog, conformation or performance requirements named above. Qualifying titles are:
   1. VCH (Versatility Champion) (1 pt.)
   2. PCH (Performance Champion) (1 pt.)
   3. ATCH (Agility Trial Champion) (1 pt.)
   4. OTCH (Obedience Trial Champion) (1 pt.) or OTCH-O (Obedience Trial Champion-Open). Only one per dog to count. (1 pt.)
   5. WTCH (Working Trial Champion) (1 pt.)
   6. SVCH (Supreme Versatility Champion) (1 pt.)
   7. SPCH (Supreme Performance Champion) (1 pt.)
   8. MTD (Master Tracking Dog) (1 pt.)
   9. RATCH (Rally Trial Champion) (1 pt.)

6.1.1 Additional Requirement

HOF (Hall of Fame) MUST BE EARNED PRIOR TO PUTTING IN FOR HOFX (Hall of Fame Excellent).

6.1.2 Listing of HOFX Kennels/Breeders

Kennels/Breeders will be given a number designating the numeric order in which HOFX was earned.
6.1.3 Grandfathering
For the first year only in which HOFX is implemented, kennels who have earned HOFX will be kept in the same order listing (but not necessarily the same numeric number) in which they earned HOF. This will allow time for all qualifying kennels to turn in their HOFX application for processing.

6.2 Recognition
   A. A certificate of Recognition will be issued at the ASCA Office once the above-named eligibility requirements have been met. Completion of the Hall of Fame Excellent Application, Appendix D is required.
   B. Breeders and/or kennels who have earned the Hall of Fame Excellent recognition can be viewed at ASCA’s web site: http://www.asca.org or a list of Hall of Fame Excellent breeders and/or kennels may be ordered from the Business Office at a nominal fee.
INTRODUCTION: First and foremost, the Australian Shepherd is a true working stockdog, and anything that detracts from his usefulness as such is undesirable. The most important breed characteristics are overall moderation in size and bone, balance with correct proportions, and sound movement.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: The Australian Shepherd is a well-balanced dog of medium size and bone. He is attentive and animated, showing strength and stamina combined with unusual agility. Slightly longer than tall, he has a coat of moderate length and coarseness with coloring that offers variety and individuality in each specimen. An identifying characteristic is his natural or docked bobtail. In each sex, masculinity or femininity is well defined.

CHARACTER: The Australian Shepherd is primarily a working dog of strong herding and guardian instincts. He is an intelligent, exceptional companion. He is versatile and easily trained: performing his assigned tasks with great style and enthusiasm. He is reserved with strangers but does not exhibit shyness. This unusually versatile stockdog works with the power and quickness to control difficult cattle as well as the ability to move sheep without unnecessary roughness. Although an aggressive, authoritative worker, viciousness toward people or animals is intolerable.

HEAD: The head is clean-cut, strong, dry, and in proportion to the body. The top skull is flat to slightly rounded; its length and width each equal to the length of the muzzle. The muzzle is of medium width and depth and tapers gradually to a rounded tip, without appearing heavy or snipey. Lips are close fitting, meeting at the mouthline. The toplines of the muzzle and top skull appear close to parallel. The stop is moderate but well defined.

(A) TEETH: A full complement of strong white teeth meet in a scissors bite. A level bite is a fault. Teeth broken or missing by accident are not penalized. All other missing teeth should be faulted to the degree that they deviate from a full complement of 42 teeth.

Disqualifications: Undershot bite, Overshot bite, Wry Mouth.

(B) EYES: The eyes are very expressive, showing attentiveness and intelligence. They are clear, almond-shaped, of moderate size, and set a little obliquely, neither prominent nor sunken. The pupils are dark, well defined, and perfectly positioned. Eye color is brown, blue, amber; or any variation or combination, including flecks and marbling. All eye colors are acceptable in combination with all coat colors.

Faults: Any deviation from almond-shaped eyes.

(C) EARS: The ears are set high on the side of the head, are triangular, of moderate size and slightly rounded at the tip. The tip of the ear reaches to, but not further than, the inside corner of the nearest eye. At full attention, the ears should lift from one-quarter (1/4) to one-half (1/2) above the base and break forward or slightly to the side.

Severe Faults: Prick ears; overly large ears; low set ears with no lift from the base.

NECK AND BODY: The neck is firm, clean, and in proportion to the body. It is of medium length and slightly arched at the crest, setting well into the shoulders. The body is firm and muscular. The topline appears level at a natural four-square stance. The bottom line carries well back with a moderate tuck-up. The chest is deep and strong with ribs well sprung. The loin is strong and broad when viewed from the top. The croup is moderately sloping. The Tail is straight, not to exceed four (4) inches, natural bobtail or docked.

FOREQUARTERS: The shoulder blades (scapula) are well laid back, with the upper arm (humerus) slightly longer than the shoulder blade. Both the upper arm and shoulder blade are well muscled. The forelegs are straight and strong, perpendicular to the ground, with moderate bone. The point of the elbow is set under the withers and is equidistant from the withers to the ground. Pasterns are short, thick, and strong, but still flexible, showing a slight angle when viewed from the side. Feet are oval shaped, compact, with close knit, well-arched toes. Pads are thick and resilient; nails short and strong. Dewclaws may be removed.
HINDQUARTERS: Width of hindquarters is approximately equal to the width of the forequarters at the shoulder. The angulation of the pelvis and upper thigh (femur) corresponds to the angulation of the shoulder blade and upper arm. The upper and lower thigh are well muscled. Stifles are clearly defined; hock joints moderately bent. The metatarsi are short, perpendicular to the ground, and parallel to each other when viewed from the rear. Feet are oval shaped, compact, with close-knit, well-arched toes. Pads are thick and resilient; nails short and strong. Rear dewclaws are removed.

COAT: The coat is of medium length and texture, straight to slightly wavy, and weather resistant. The undercoat varies in quantity with climate. Hair is short and smooth on the head, outside of ears, front of forelegs, and below the hocks. Backs of forelegs are moderately feathered, and breeches are moderately full. There is a moderate mane, more pronounced in dogs than bitches. The Australian Shepherd is a working dog and is to be shown with a natural coat.

Severe Faults: Non-typical coats such as excessively long; overabundant/profuse; wiry; or curly.

COLOR: All colors are strong, clear and rich. The recognized colors are blue merle, red (liver) merle, solid black, and solid red (liver) all with or without white markings and/or tan (copper) points with no order of preference. The blue merle and black have black pigmentation on nose, lips and eye-rims. Reds and red merles have liver pigmentation on nose, lips and eye rims. Butterfly nose should not be faulted under one year of age. On all colors the areas surrounding the ears and eyes are dominated by color other than white. The hairline of a white collar does not exceed the point at the withers.

Disqualifications: Other than recognized colors. White body splashes. Dudley nose.

GAIT: Smooth, free, and easy, exhibiting agility of movement with a well-balanced natural stride. As speed increases, both front and rear feet converge equally toward the centerline of gravity beneath the body. The top line remains firm and level. When viewed from the side the trot is effortless, exhibiting facility of movement rather than a hard driving action. Exaggerated reach and drive at the trot are not desirable. Gait faults shall be penalized according to the degree of deviation from the ideal.

SIZE: Preferred height at the withers for males is 20 to 23 inches; that for females is 18 to 21 inches, however, quality is not to be sacrificed in favor of size.

Other Disqualifications: Monorchidism and cryptorchidism.
Hall of Fame Sire/Dam Application Form

☐ DAM Requirements: Must have progeny who have earned a combination of eight (8) qualifying titles with a combination of two (2) Stockdog or Conformation titles and the remaining six (6) from any area.

☐ SIRE Requirements: Must have progeny who have earned a combination of twelve (12) qualifying titles with a combination of three (3) Stockdog or Conformation titles and the remaining nine (9) from any area.

GRANDFATHER CLAUSE - 99:02
Any allowed titles earned towards HOF requirements prior to 1/1/03 will count towards HOF requirements after 1/1/03. Any allowed titles earned after 1/1/03 must be earned under the new HOF requirements.

QUALIFYING TITLES
Qualifying titles for the ASCA Hall of Fame (HOF) awards may be earned from five areas of ASCA sanctioned events defined as:

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<td>RS-O or RV-O</td>
<td>CDX or ODX</td>
<td>TD</td>
<td>ATDd, OTDs, OTDc</td>
<td>CH or Alt-CH</td>
<td>RM</td>
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<td>or RJ-O</td>
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Owner(s) Name(s):  
ASCA Member #(s):  
Kennel Name:  
Name of Sire/Dam:  
ASCA Registration #:  
ASCA Registered Names & Titles of Progeny:

Copy and attach another sheet, if necessary.

Signature:  
Date:

MAIL TO: ASCA Business Office, 6091 E State Hwy 21, Bryan, TX 77808  
FAX TO: (979) 778-1898 or EMAIL TO: agility@asca.org

Date received by ASCA Office:  
Hall of Fame Kennel/Breeder Application Form

| Kennel Name: |  |
| Submitted By: |  |
| Address: |  |
| City, State, Zip: |  |
| Phone: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Kennel Owner(s): |  |

Must have progeny who have earned twenty (20) qualifying titles. A kennel must earn a combination of ten (10) titles in Stockdog & Conformation with a minimum of three (3) qualifying titles in each. The remaining ten (10) may be earned from any area.

**Qualifying HOF Titles**
- Stockdog: ATDd OTDs OTDc
- Conformation: A-CH CH
- Obedience: CDX or ODX
- Tracking: TD or TDU (only one per Australian Shepherd to count)
- Agility: RS-O or RV-O or RJ-O
- Rally: RM

### Stockdog

**Minimum of 3 Required**

A dog may earn more than one point.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dog’s Registered Name</th>
<th>Registration #</th>
<th>HOF Titles Earned</th>
<th>Points</th>
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**Total Points**

### Conformation

**Minimum of 3 Required**

A dog may earn more than one point.

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**Total Points**

### Minimum of Four (4) Additional Conformation and/or Stockdog Titles

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**Total Points**
### Minimum of Ten (10) Additional Qualifying Titles

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### Extra HOF Titles Earned

List here any HOF titles earned, but not used in the categories above.

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Copy and attach another sheet, if necessary.

Signature: X

Date:

MAIL TO: ASCA Business Office, 6091 E State Hwy 21, Bryan, TX 77808
FAX TO: (979) 778-1898 or EMAIL TO: agility@asca.org

Date received by ASCA Office:
Hall of Fame Excellent Kennel/Breeder Application Form

| Kennel Name: | |
| Submitted By: | |
| Address: | |
| City, State, Zip: | |
| Phone: | |
| Email: | |
| Kennel Owner(s): | |

Twenty points are required with the minimums met in each category. Prior to submission for HOFX, HOF must have been awarded. Please complete each section with the minimum earned and put the extra qualifying Hall of Fame Excellent titles under Additional HOFX titles earned.

### Stockdog Titles
Minimum of 6 Points Required
Minimum of 2 Dogs Required

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<th>HOF Titles Earned</th>
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Any of the following (1 point each): ATDs or ATDc or PATDc or RTDsc. A dog may earn more than one point.

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### Conformation Titles
Minimum of 6 Points Required

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<th>Dog’s Registered Name</th>
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Any of the following (1 point each): CH or A-CH.

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### Performance Titles
Minimum of 5 Points Required

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Any of following (1 point each): UD or TDX or REMX or all 3 Agility Elite titles (R/G/J-E) – Any combination Standard, Veteran, Junior. NOTE: Additional titles in Conformation or Stock may be substituted. A dog may earn more than one point.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Points</th>
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### Excellence Titles
Minimum of 3 Points Required
Minimum 2 Dogs Required

Any of following (1 point each): WTCH or VCH or SVCH or PCH or SPCH or ATCH or OTCH or OTCH-O or MTD or RTCH. A dog may earn more than one point.

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<th>Dog's Registered Name</th>
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<th>HOF Titles Earned</th>
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### Extra HOF Titles Earned
List any HOFX titles earned, but not used in the categories listed above.

NOTE: These titles may be used if one of the above titles listed fails to qualify (otherwise will not be included on certificate), or if you'd like these simply for your recordkeeping in qualifying titles.

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<th>Dog’s Registered Name</th>
<th>Registration #</th>
<th>HOF Titles Earned</th>
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Copy and attach another sheet, if necessary.

Signature: [X]  Date:

MAIL TO: ASCA Business Office, 6091 E State Hwy 21, Bryan, TX 77808  
FAX TO: (979) 778-1898 or EMAIL TO: agility@asca.org

Date received by ASCA Office:
**AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA**

**MVA Evaluation**

**INDIVIDUAL SCORE SHEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judge Name:</th>
<th>Event Date:</th>
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Please circle one number in each category/subcategory ("1" being the lowest score possible and "10" being the highest score possible). ½ points may be used. Please mark through any mistakes with a "X" and initial.

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Please add the scores marked above to determine the dog’s total score and transfer to the “Total Score” column to the right:

| Total Score: |

**TEMPERAMENT** - At the judge’s discretion, points may be deducted for misbehavior or temperament issues. **POINTS OFF:**

**DISQUALIFYING FAULTS** - If the dog has any of the following, it must receive a "NS" (No Score) for the evaluation; Undershot bite, Overshot bite, Wry mouth, Other than recognized colors, White body splashes, Dudley nose, Monorchidism, Cryptorchidism. Please indicate which fault/s are present.

Judge’s Signature: ______________________ Date: ______________

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| Total Score: |

**TEMPERAMENT** - At the judge’s discretion, points may be deducted for misbehavior or temperament issues. **POINTS OFF:**

**DISQUALIFYING FAULTS** - If the dog has any of the following, it must receive a "NS" (No Score) for the evaluation; Undershot bite, Overshot bite, Wry mouth, Other than recognized colors, White body splashes, Dudley nose, Monorchidism, Cryptorchidism. Please indicate which fault/s are present.

Judge’s Signature: ______________________ Date: ______________
Code of Ethics for ASCA Judges

1. ASCA Judges are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with this Code of Ethics set forth by the Australian Shepherd Club of America Board of Directors. Failure to comply with this Code of Ethics subjects a judge to disciplinary action by the ASCA Board of Directors, including the possible revocation of ASCA Judging privileges.

2. ASCA Judges carry a tremendous amount of responsibility. They function as a guiding voice of the Australian Shepherd and should represent the highest ideals in terms of honesty, integrity, impartiality and knowledge of the sport and the breed.

3. The approval to judge ASCA events is a privilege and is not a right or reward. Suspensions in other registries relevant to the task of judging will be a consideration in the approval and maintenance of ASCA judging privileges.

4. All Judges and applicants must agree to abide by the ASCA Judges Code of Ethics.

5. ASCA has the sole right to refuse, suspend or revoke the ASCA judging license of any person in violation of ASCA rules, or for the failure to comply with the provisions set forth in this Code of Ethics. Failure to comply with the Code of Ethics, or any ASCA Program rules, subjects a judge to disciplinary action by the ASCA Board of Directors, including the possible revocation of ASCA Judging privileges. Judges will be notified if such action is being considered, the reason for its consideration, and given the opportunity to reply.

Responsibilities:

1. ASCA Judges should have thorough knowledge and understanding of the rules and regulations governing the program venue in which they are judging.

2. ASCA Judges should have the safety and welfare of the stock, dog and handler as the judge’s foremost concern in reviewing the trial conditions and in judging a working trial.

3. It is the Judge’s responsibility to keep up to date with current changes in the program rules for which they are judging and are also expected to continue their education process throughout their career.

4. Judges are to be professional in carrying out their duties and must not allow personal preferences to interfere with the stated guidelines upon which they judge the handler (exhibitors) or dogs.

5. It is essential that exhibitors have complete faith in the impartiality of their judges. A Judge’s actions and decisions should leave no doubt that they were made based solely on the merits of the dogs presented to them on that day.

Conduct:

1. The Judge’s conduct must always be impartial, dignified, and respectful. The Judge’s actions and professional comportment must be above reproach. Judges should avoid conduct and casual remarks that might be misconstrued or misinterpreted such as expressing favoritism or specific criticism of dogs or exhibitors.

2. A Judge or their family members should never solicit or promote assignments on the judge’s behalf.

3. When attending social functions organized by the event-giving club where exhibitors are present, a Judge is expected to exercise particular discretion in discussing individual exhibitors, dogs or breeders.

4. When officiating at a show, the Judge shall not:
   a. Discuss the merits or faults of the dogs or handlers (exhibitors) with the stewards, attendants, or spectators during the assignment.
   b. Hold, have control of, or groom any dog on the show grounds during his assignment that is not wholly owned or co-owned by the judge.
   c. While officiating, a Judge should not ask individuals:
      i. Who owns the dog;
      ii. From whom the dog was purchased;
      iii. What bloodlines the dog is out of.

5. A Judge may not judge any dog, which is owned or co-owned, by the Judge.
6. A Judge may not give advice or guidance on how to handle his/her dog to an exhibitor during an event or class the Judge is judging. This does not prevent the Judge from answering appropriate questions, giving course instructions, informing an exhibitor where to go or inform the exhibitor of proper procedures.

7. Any alterations or changes in scores or placements must be initialed by the Judge per the program rules of the venue in which they are judging.

8. Judges shall score a trial/class based solely on the dog and handler’s (exhibitor’s) performance as a team as described in the ASCA Program Rules and Regulations, and in no case shall judging be based (nor any consideration be given) on the identity or reputation of the handler, owner, the breeder, or the dog’s lineage.

9. Judges shall remember that trials are staffed largely or entirely with unpaid volunteers, and shall treat stock handlers, tracklayers, ring stewards, timers, helpers, exhibitors and spectators with due courtesy and consideration.

10. Judges shall be professional in demeanor and arrive appropriately dressed for the judging assignment, with due consideration of anticipated weather, arena and ring conditions.

Special Rules for Conformation and Tracking Judges:

1. When officiating at a trial:
   a. A Judge shall not judge any dog that is co-owned or bred by the Judge’s immediate family.
   b. A Judge, while judging a tracking event, shall not place himself/herself in positions on the track so as to indicate the correct direction of the track, nor place markers or articles so as to clearly indicate corners.

2. Prior to the completion of a conformation judging assignment, a Judge shall not act as a spectator at the same conformation event at which he is scheduled to judge.

3. A Judge shall not personally exhibit a dog in Conformation in the same state as his assignment four (4) days prior to his assignment as a conformation judge.

4. A Judge or their family members should never solicit or promote assignments on the judge’s behalf.

Definitions:

a. Solicitation is the repeated contact and/or the use of influence, persuasion or coercion in an effort to obtain a judging assignment.

b. Promotion is a Judge's or their immediate family member's attempt to sell or popularize the Judge or their judging assignments through verbal or written advertising and/or publicity.
Dog Aggression Rules

1 Disqualified Dogs

1.1 Disqualification
A Judge shall disqualify any dog that such Judge determines has attempted to attack any person in the ring/trial arena where the Judge is judging. In accordance with this rule, the Judge shall mark that dog as “Disqualified” stating the reason for the disqualification on the score sheet, Judge's book, or Judge’s Report depending on the program, shall take steps to inform the owner or owner's agent as soon as reasonably possible and shall give the Show/Trial Secretary a brief report of the dog’s actions using the “Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs”. The “Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs” and entry form shall be submitted to the Business Office as part of the Show/Trial results for any dog which has been disqualified. The Business Office shall send a Notice of Disqualification to the owner of such dog.

1.2 Jurisdiction
The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee has exclusive jurisdiction over an attack on any person which occurs outside of the ring/trial arena as defined below. The Affiliate or Show/Trial Committee shall have jurisdiction if the Judge did not witness the occurrence in their own ring/trial arena. The decision to disqualify a dog shall be based on the incident investigation which shall cover all circumstances surrounding the incident. The Board of Directors will either validate or reverse the Affiliate’s decision, basing its action on the details of the investigation and a recommendation from Counsel. The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee shall take reasonable steps to inform the owner and the owner’s agent of the disqualification as soon as reasonably possible.

1.3 Investigation
The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee must perform an investigation of any incident in which a dog has bitten a person, whether it occurred in the ring/trial arena or on the show/trial grounds. The Affiliate must fill out the Affiliate Incident Report Worksheet.

1.4 Disqualifying an Excused Dog
A Judge or Affiliate, or its Show/Trial Committee, which has excused a dog pursuant to Section 2 (Excused Dogs) below, may further disqualify the dog if, in such Judge's, Affiliate's or Show/Trial Committee's opinion, the attack on another dog was so severe that disqualification is warranted.

1.5 Incident Report
The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee shall submit a report of any such incident to the Business Office including, but not limited to, the following:

- The entry form for any dog which has been disqualified.
- The “Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs.”
- Written statements from:
  1. The person bitten;
  2. The owner and/or the owner's agent of the offending dog;
  3. Any and all witnesses, including Judge/s.
- Supporting photos of the offending dog and the wound.
- Statements describing wound/s, if any, from victim and/or attending medical professionals.
- A summary of the investigation and the findings by the Show/Trial Committee with their recommendations.
1.6 Materials to ASCA Board of Directors
The Business Office shall submit the materials submitted by the Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee concerning any such incident to the Executive Secretary, who shall forward these materials to the Board of Directors and ASCA’s Counsel. The Business Office will provide the report and all supporting documentation to the owner of the offending dog at the owner’s request.

1.7 Review by Counsel
ASCA’s Counsel shall review the materials and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

1.8 Ineligibility
Any dog which has been disqualified by a Judge or Show/Trial Committee under this Rule shall immediately be ineligible to participate in any ASCA event in any discipline unless and until such dog is reinstated by the Board of Directors.

1.9 Appeal
The owner of any dog disqualified under this Rule may appeal such disqualification to the Board of Directors in accordance with the program specific reinstatement process in effect or a process outlined by the Board of Directors. While the appeal is pending, the dog remains disqualified.

1.10 ASCA Board of Directors
The Board of Directors has authority to disqualify any dog whose conduct the Board finds is subject to this Rule or whose actions demonstrate aggressive behavior which the Board finds is likely to cause injury or damage to persons or animals, regardless of whether or not the dog was disqualified or excused from the ring/trial arena by the Judge or Show/Trial Committee.

2 Excused Dogs

2.1 Excusal
A dog which exhibits aggressive behavior towards people or aggressively threatens or attacks another dog shall be excused from the ring/trial arena by the Judge or from the Show Grounds by the Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee. The Judge shall mark the dog “Excused” on the score sheet, in the Judge’s Book or the Judge’s Report depending on the program, shall take steps to inform the owner or owner’s agent of the dog as soon as reasonably possible and shall give the Show/Trial Secretary a brief report of the dog’s actions on the “Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs”, which shall be submitted to the Business Office with the Show/Trial Results.

2.2 Jurisdiction
The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee has exclusive jurisdiction over any dog that threatens or attacks another dog outside of the ring/trial arena as described below. The Affiliate or Show/Trial Committee has jurisdiction if the Judge did not witness the occurrence in their own ring/trial arena. The Affiliate or Show/Trial Committee shall make a decision to simply warn or excuse the dog from further competition at such show or trial. The decision to excuse a dog should be based on the incident investigation which shall cover all circumstances surrounding the Incident. If the Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee decides to excuse a dog, the Board of Directors will either validate or invalidate the Affiliate’s decision, basing its action on the details of the investigation and a recommendation from Counsel.

2.3 Incident Report
The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee shall submit a report of any such incident to the Business Office including but not limited to the following:
   a. The entry form for any dog which has been excused.
   b. “Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs.”
   c. Written statements from:
      1. The person threatened or person owning the dog that was aggressively threatened or attacked.
      2. The owner and/or the owner’s agent of the offending dog.
      3. Any and all witnesses, including Judges.
   d. Supporting photos.
   e. A summary of the investigation and the findings by the Show/Trial Committee with their recommendations.

2.4 Report and Documentation to Owner
The Business Office will provide the report and all supporting documentation to the owner of the offending dog at the owner’s request.
2.5 ASCA Board of Directors
If a dog has been excused for its behavior under this Rule on two separate occasions, the Business Office shall notify the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall take whatever action it deems necessary which may include disqualification.

3 Definitions under the Dog Aggression Rules

3.1 Ring/Trial Arena
The “ring/trial arena” is the bounded area in which judging of an ASCA event occurs and over which the Judge has authority pursuant to the Dog Aggression Rules. The boundary is defined by physical barriers plus a buffer zone extending ten (10) feet from such physical barriers.

3.2 Show Grounds
The “show grounds” are the boundaries of the grounds on which ASCA events are being held. They include, but are not limited to, all areas outside the ring/trial arena (including the buffer zone) set aside for grooming, holding of dogs, and parking of vehicles of the exhibitors.

3.3 Disqualified Dog
A “disqualified dog” is a dog no longer eligible to participate in any ASCA program event from the time of disqualification.

3.4 Excused Dog
An “excused dog” is a dog which has been asked to leave the ring/trial arena for aggressive behavior or instability of temperament. Such a dog is not eligible to compete further in the program from which excused at the event but may participate in other programs at that event. An “excused dog” also refers to a dog that has been excused from an event for aggressive behavior or instability of temperament outside the ring/trial arena by the Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee.

4 Reinstatement of Dogs Disqualified under the Dog Aggression Rules

4.1 Right to Reinstatement
A dog disqualified under the Dog Aggression Rules has no right to be reinstated for competition.

4.2 Reinstatement
ASCA will consider reinstatement of a dog disqualified under the Dog Aggression Rules in accordance with the program specific reinstatement process in effect or a process outlined by the Board of Directors after the dog satisfactorily completes the reinstatement process.

4.3 Documentation for Reinstatement
To be considered for possible reinstatement, documentation showing the dog has attended obedience training, handling classes and/or behavioral therapy with letters from trainers and/or behavioral specialists stating the dog has completed training and/or behavioral therapy and is not a threat must be submitted along when applying for reinstatement.

4.4 Other Considerations for Reinstatement
Successful completion of a reinstatement program is not a guarantee that the Board will reinstate the dog. ASCA’s Board of Directors, in its sole discretion, may consider other conditions before reinstatement. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, requiring the dog's owner to carry a personal liability policy for the dog in an amount determined by the Board. The Board may also require that such policy include ASCA as an additional named insured at such owner's sole cost and expense.

4.5 Eligibility
There are various conditions that lead to disqualifying a dog for biting/menacing. Not all dogs may be eligible for reinstatement as some conduct is so egregious that reinstatement will never occur. No dog is entitled to reinstatement and following the reinstatement procedures is no guarantee the Board will reinstate. While there is no waiting period before an owner may apply to the BOD for reinstatement of a dog, if a dog is denied reinstatement, the owner must wait one year before reapplying.
Dog Aggression Incident Report
Affiliate Worksheet

The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee must perform an investigation of any incident in which a dog has injured a person or another dog, whether it occurred in the ring/trial arena or on the show/trial grounds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Affiliate:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Event:</td>
<td>Location of Event:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where on the show grounds did the incident occur?</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Information on Offending Dog

☐ Excused or ☐ Disqualified

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registered Name:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call Name:</td>
<td>Registration #:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Owner:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information on Dog that was ☐ Attacked or ☐ Injured

(please make appropriate selection)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registered Name:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call Name:</td>
<td>Registration #:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Owner:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Was veterinary attention received? ☐ Yes or ☐ No

If YES, written statement from attending veterinarian must be provided to the ASCA Business Office as soon as possible, preferably included with the incident report.

OR

Information on Person that was ☐ Attacked or ☐ Injured

(please make appropriate selection)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
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Was medical attention received? ☐ Yes or ☐ No

If YES, written statement from attending medical professional must be provided to the ASCA Business Office as soon as possible, preferably included with the incident report.
Incident Investigation

Members of Investigation Committee:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</table>

Witness Statements (If more space is needed, please include additional pages with this report.)

Written Statement from Owner of Offending Dog:

☐ Member or ☐ Non-Member  Signature: X

Written Statement from Owner of Dog that was ☐ Attacked or ☐ Injured: (please make appropriate selection)

☐ Member or ☐ Non-Member  Signature: X

OR

Written Statement from Person that was ☐ Attacked or ☐ Injured: (please make appropriate selection)

☐ Member or ☐ Non-Member  Signature: X

Written Statement from Witness #1:

Name:  
Email:  
Phone:  

☐ Member or ☐ Non-Member  Signature: X
Written Statement from Witness #2:

Name:  
Email:  
Phone:  
☐ Member or ☐ Non-Member  
Signature:  

Written Statement from Witness #3:

Name:  
Email:  
Phone:  
☐ Member or ☐ Non-Member  
Signature:  

Summary of the Investigation:

Recommendation from the Investigation Committee:

Date the Owner of the Offending Dog was notified of the Affiliate’s decision:

Checklist of items that MUST to be sent to the ASCA Business Office:

☐ The entry form for any dog which has been disqualified
☐ The “Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs”
☐ This filled-out investigation report worksheet and any additional pages
☐ Supporting photos of the offending dog (for identification purposes)
☐ Supporting photos of the wound

The Board of Directors will either validate or reverse the Affiliate’s decision, basing its action on the details of the investigation and a recommendation from Counsel.
Conflict Resolution Protocol
EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 2016 | REVISED JULY 2017

This ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol replaces the ASCA Dispute Rules, which are no longer in effect.

The purpose of ASCA’s rules is to protect and advance the interests of the Australian Shepherd as a purebred dog and to encourage sportsmanlike conduct at dog shows, working, agility, rally, tracking and obedience trials and at any other event where Australian Shepherds participate. The purpose of our rules is to ensure fair participation in our program events, civil conduct among our members and integrity in our registry. Sometimes conflicts and disputes will arise, and, in those cases, the following protocol has been established to resolve such conflicts and disputes.

Membership in ASCA is a privilege, not a right. Members may be disciplined, or membership may be suspended by the Board of Directors for cause detrimental to the interest of ASCA or to its programs, policies, objectives or the harmonious relationship of its members, as determined by the Board of Directors.

Questions not answered by this document should be referred to the ASCA Executive Secretary.

The ASCA Conflict Resolution Form is included with each sanctioning packet sent to Affiliate Clubs. Copies of the ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol and ASCA Conflict Resolution Form must be available at all ASCA-sanctioned events.

FIRST DECIDE WHO SHOULD RECEIVE YOUR REQUEST FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

Affiliate Club

It is the duty of the Affiliate to deal initially with conflicts which occur during or in connection with its events.

The Affiliate Club should receive these requests for conflict resolution:
1. Conflicts, complaints or disputes arising from violation(s) of rules at ASCA-sanctioned events sponsored by an affiliate, including violations of ASCA Bylaws, ASCA program rule books, ASCA Policy, or ASCA codes of conduct.
2. Conflicts, complaints or disputes arising from affiliate bylaws or rules.
3. Conflicts arising from the improper actions by a judge which are correctable at the time of the event (not the decision of the judge).

Board of Directors

The ASCA Board of Directors, via the ASCA Executive Secretary, should receive these requests for conflict resolution:
1. Conflicts with a Judge that cannot be mediated at the show/trial.
2. Conflicts or disputes originating with the ASCA Board regarding the ASCA Bylaws.
3. Appeals of decisions by an affiliate.

PROCESS FOR REQUESTING CONFLICT RESOLUTION AT THE AFFILIATE LEVEL:

1. The request for conflict resolution is filed on an official ASCA Conflict Resolution Form. The form must be delivered to the Affiliate President or the Affiliate Member in charge of the event. Ordinarily, requests for conflict resolution must be filed on the day the conflict occurs. If the form is not delivered to the Affiliate President immediately, it must be delivered within 48 hours of discovery of the conflict or 48 hours of the event which incited the conflict. In an extreme emergency, a request may be filed orally. Oral requests must be followed up in writing on the official Conflict Resolution Form. Conflicts filed orally are to be dealt with immediately. In the case of an oral request, the Affiliate President or the Affiliate Member in charge of the event will determine whether immediate action must be taken or whether the request for resolution can be heard later. The decision to entertain or reject requests for resolution made after an event rests with the Affiliate, but in no case should a request be entertained which is not received by the Affiliate within five (5) days of its event.
2. A hearing body with a minimum of three members is chosen. The Affiliate President will determine the hearing body. If the Affiliate President is not present when an oral request is made, the Affiliate Member in charge of the event will determine the hearing body. This is normally either the Affiliate Board of Directors or the event committee; however, other ASCA members (program judge, experienced competitor, etc.) who are on site but who were not involved in the situation may also be appointed to the hearing body, even if they are not a member of the hosting affiliate. No party to the conflict or his/her immediate family may be a member of the hearing body. The person who determines the hearing body will chair the hearing body.

3. The complaint is delivered to the hearing body.

4. In cases involving an accused party, the chair of the hearing body advises the accused parties of their rights: to know of the testimony against them, to rebut such testimony, to question all witnesses through the investigator, to present witnesses on their own behalf and to testify on their own behalf.

5. The hearing body conducts the hearing as soon as possible. Any necessary inquiry will be pursued by the hearing officials.

6. When deciding a case of a conflict involving multiple parties, ALL parties shall be notified of the request for conflict resolution and are to be given copies of the form, ALL parties will be allowed to state their case, and ALL parties should be questioned by the hearing body. The hearing body shall make a good faith effort to obtain factual information concerning the conflict, including obtaining information from persons that witnessed the incident other than the person(s) filing the request for resolution or the person(s) involved in the conflict. This provision does not assume or admit that the hearing body is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process.

7. After all parties have been heard and the investigation is complete, the hearing body will deliberate and reach a decision.

8. The hearing body will announce their decision as soon as possible. Normally this would occur immediately following the hearing. Investigations should be complete within 21 days of the receipt of the request for conflict resolution.

9. If after review and investigation of the conflict or dispute, the hearing body is of the opinion that a rule violation has occurred, the hearing body may take such disciplinary action consistent with the provisions of these rules as it deems appropriate. The hearing body shall refer to the Affiliate Level Disciplinary Guidelines in determining what disciplinary actions to take, if any.

10. All parties involved in the conflict will receive the decision in writing. A copy of this decision, a copy of the request for resolution and a summary of the investigation will be sent to the ASCA Executive Secretary.

11. The decision of the hearing body shall be final and binding unless a written notice of the member’s intention to appeal the decision is received by ASCA’s Executive Secretary within 7 days of the date of the letter notifying said member of the disciplinary action taken against him/her.

**PROCESS FOR REQUESTING CONFLICT RESOLUTION AT THE ASCA BOARD LEVEL:**

1. The request for conflict resolution is filed on an official ASCA Conflict Resolution Form and sent to the ASCA Executive Secretary (asca.execsec@gmail.com). The form must be delivered or postmarked to the ASCA Executive Secretary by email or postmarked within 5 days of the discovery of the conflict or within 5 days of the event which incited the conflict. In the case of an appeal of an affiliate decision, the form must be delivered to the ASCA Executive Secretary by email or postmarked within 7 days of the receipt of the Affiliate’s decision.

   Email address: asca.execsec@gmail.com

   Postal address: ASCA Executive Secretary, c/o ASCA Business Office, 6091 E. State Hwy. 21, Bryan, Texas 77808-9652

2. Upon receipt of the request for conflict resolution, the Executive Secretary will forward the request to all members of the ASCA Board of Directors and will assign a Director to head the investigation of the conflict. All parties named in the request for conflict resolution will be notified by the Executive Secretary and be given a copy of the official Conflict Resolution Request Form.

3. In the case of conflicts involving an accused party, the accused party may file a written answer within 14 days of his/her receipt of the Conflict Resolution Request Form. The Director assigned to investigate the conflict will attempt to contact all involved parties so that they may present their sides of the conflict orally. This provision does not assume or admit that ASCA is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process.

4. The Director will conclude the investigation and will present his/her findings and recommendation in writing to the Board within 21 days of being assigned the request by the Executive Secretary. A summary of each witness’s testimony, including the questions asked, should be part of the written recommendation. The Board of Directors will discuss and vote on the findings and recommendation at the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting following the 21 days.

5. Temporary Measures in Emergency Cases: When necessary, the Board may impose immediate temporary measures to remain in effect pending its decision.

6. The Board, through the Executive Secretary, will deliver dated notice of the decision to both parties within 7 days of the Board vote on the motion. There is no appeal from a Board decision.
TIMELINES FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION:
An Affiliate and the Board of Directors may summarily rule against any party who fails to comply with these timelines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT</th>
<th>WHEN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Filing of Request for Conflict Resolution</td>
<td>A request may be filed immediately for situations requiring emergency action at the Affiliate level. All other requests must be filed within 48 hours of the incident requiring resolution, to the Affiliate (up to 5 days with extenuating circumstances) and within 5 days to the Board, whichever should receive the request.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of Named Parties</td>
<td>Immediately in the case of emergency requests for conflict resolution; before the investigation of the conflict begins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigation by Affiliate-Level Hearing Body</td>
<td>Completed immediately for emergency situations; Complete within 21 days of receipt of Conflict Resolution Form for all others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision by Affiliate-Level Hearing Body</td>
<td>Completed as soon as possible and provided in writing to all parties involved in the conflict.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeal to ASCA Board of Directors</td>
<td>Within 7 days of the date of the letter notifying said member of the disciplinary action taken against him/her.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigation by Board of Directors</td>
<td>Completed within 21 days of being assigned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response from Accused Party</td>
<td>Within 14 days of their receipt of the Conflict Resolution Form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision by Board of Directors</td>
<td>At first Board meeting following the 21-day investigation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AFFILIATE LEVEL DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES:

Statute of Limitations: Three (3) years after disciplinary action, is taken against a member such action shall be considered fully satisfied and absolved and a further infraction of the rules after that three-year period shall be treated as a first offense.

First Offense:
- a. Letter of instruction, reminding member of ASCA's rules, OR letter of reprimand;
- b. Fine not to exceed $100*;
- c. Both of the above.

Subsequent Offenses:
- a. Letter of Reprimand;
- b. Fine of up to, but not to exceed $1,000*;
- c. Referral to Board of Directors for further action;
- d. Combination of a, b, and c above.

*Failure to pay a fine will result in a member not being in good standing with ASCA, which will result in loss of member privileges; see section 14 of the ASCA Policy Book.

BOARD LEVEL DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES:

Statute of Limitations: Three (3) years after disciplinary action, is taken against a member such action shall be considered fully satisfied and absolved and a further infraction of the rules after that three-year period shall be treated as a first offense. The Board of Directors will use the Consequences Guidelines below as a guide when resolving conflicts.

ENFORCEMENT OF BOARD SANCTIONS:

All ASCA Affiliates shall honor sanctions imposed by the Board and shall refrain from taking actions which tend to minimize or lessen such sanctions. For example, if a member is suspended from participating in competitions, Affiliates shall prohibit such participation.

NOTICE OF SANCTIONS:

Final decisions imposing sanctions against any ASCA member shall be published in the official newsletter.
ACTIONS DETRIMENTAL TO THE INTEREST OF ASCA:
The protocols outlined in this document are intended to help parties resolve conflicts associated with their participation and membership in ASCA. It is the duty of the ASCA Board of Directors to be active protectionists regarding ASCA. Membership in ASCA is a privilege, not a right. A member may be disciplined, or membership may be suspended by the Board of Directors for intentional actions taken by such member which are detrimental to the interests of ASCA or its programs, policies, or objectives, as determined by the Board of Directors.

MATTERS NOT SUBJECT TO THE CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROTOCOL:

1. **Breeder-Buyer or Co-Owner Disputes**: ASCA does not resolve Breeder-Buyer disputes or disputes between co-owners of dogs. ASCA will only take action to enforce the judgments or decisions of a court of competent jurisdiction, unless otherwise provided for in the ASCA Registry Rules.

2. **Breeder’s Code of Ethics**: The Breeder’s Code of Ethics is a statement of conduct and principles that ASCA requires all breeders of Australian Shepherds to adhere to in order to maintain the integrity of the Australian Shepherd and ASCA’s registry. Any complaint relating to a violation of ASCA’s Breeder’s Code of Ethics shall not be subject to this protocol.

3. **Registry Issues**: Conflicts or disputes concerning ASCA’s Registry are not subject to this Conflict Resolution Protocol. Conflicts or disputes concerning the Registry shall be presented to the ASCA Executive Secretary who shall then present them to the ASCA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall make a final determination of any such Registry issue presented to it. The ASCA Board of Directors may impose such discipline as it deems appropriate against any person found to have violated ASCA’s Registry Rules, up to and including suspension of membership for up to 25 years and imposition of fines of up to $10,000. Imposition of a suspension of membership privileges for a period longer than 1 year or a fine of more than $1,000 shall require the affirmative vote of at least seven (7) Directors. The Board of Directors retains the authority to handle a registry issue at any time without the filing of a formal request for Conflict Resolution.

4. **Gross Misconduct**: Gross misconduct by a member, including, but not limited to, theft of ASCA property, theft of property of an ASCA Affiliate Club, physical abuse of a member, or intentional criminal conduct at an ASCA event, will not be tolerated. What constitutes “gross misconduct” shall be determined by the ASCA Board of Directors. If the ASCA Board of Directors determines that a member has engaged in gross misconduct, the Board may impose a suspension of membership upon such person of up to 25 years and a fine of up to $10,000. Imposition of a suspension of membership privileges for a period longer than 1 year or a fine of more than $1,000 shall require the affirmative vote of at least seven (7) Directors.
## CONSEQUENCE GUIDELINES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFENSE</th>
<th>CONSEQUENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Violation of ASCA Program Rules / Regulations or Club Regulations</td>
<td>1st offense, letter of education and/or letter of reprimand, depending on offense, intent and whether education seems more appropriate for the situation; in the case of reprimand, a $100 fine may also be assessed; first offenses deemed severe enough may receive second offense consequences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd offense, same or similar offense - 6 months suspension and/or $200 fine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3rd offense, same or similar offense - 1-year suspension and/or a fine up to $1000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4th offense, same or similar offense - 5 years to life suspension and a fine up to $1000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Affiliate Club Regulation offenses are to be dealt with by the Affiliate first. If the Affiliate recommends the ASCA Board investigate and impose sanction, the following will apply.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misconduct against a Judge</td>
<td>1st offense, letter of education and/or letter of reprimand, depending on offense, intent and whether education seems more appropriate for the situation; in the case of reprimand, a $100 fine may also be assessed; first offenses deemed severe enough may receive second offense consequences.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4th offense, same or similar offense - 5 years to life suspension and a fine up to $1000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Including but not limited to attempting to influence a judge, verbal abuse, public criticism of a judge's decision; depending on severity of misconduct and in cases of physical abuse, the consequence will start at the 2nd offense level.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsportsmanlike / unprofessional conduct during an event</td>
<td>1st offense, letter of education and/or letter of reprimand, depending on offense, intent and whether education seems more appropriate for the situation; in the case of reprimand, a $100 fine may also be assessed; first offenses deemed severe enough may receive second offense consequences.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Please refer to the Personal Code of Conduct for additional guidance.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorderly conduct at an event</td>
<td>1st offense, letter of education and/or letter of reprimand, depending on offense, intent and whether education seems more appropriate for the situation; in the case of reprimand, a $100 fine may also be assessed; first offenses deemed severe enough may receive second offense consequences.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Including but not limited to abusive or foul language/ verbal altercations, destruction of property; in cases of physical altercation, the consequence will start at the 2nd offense level.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actions detrimental to the interest of ASCA</td>
<td>Membership suspended no less than 25 years and all associated privileges revoked.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Request for Conflict Resolution Form

If you find the need to file a request for conflict resolution or find that you are involved in a conflict/dispute, please refer to the Conflict Resolution Protocol, at the back of all ASCA program rule books. Please try to resolve problems yourself, without a formal request for resolution, whenever possible. If you are unable to resolve a problem, use this form to file a formal request for conflict resolution with an Affiliate or the ASCA® Board of Directors under ASCA®’s Conflict Resolution Protocol, which must be read and followed in this formal procedure. **If you fail to complete all fields, your request will not be processed.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Name.</th>
<th>Names of parties about whom you are complaining.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>You must serve a copy of this form to everyone you name here.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Today’s Date.</th>
<th>Date of event giving rise to this request for resolution.</th>
<th>Date you first learned of the event.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

**State the grounds for your conflict.** Include reference to ASCA® rules, regulations and bylaws which have been violated. Confine your statement to this space if possible. Lengthy statements are discouraged.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign here. By doing so you certify that you have attempted to resolve this conflict informally and that you have served parties with this form as required.</th>
<th>X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>