

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 9-10, 2017

The Board convened on Monday January 9, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors, except Dr. Davies and Mr. Kalter, were present.

Also present were the Executive Secretary, the Assistant Executive Secretary, the Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel, as well as the Executive Vice President and Chief Growth Officer.

The November 2016 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were discussed. Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Dok, the November 2016 minutes were unanimously approved, absent Dr. Davies and Mr. Kalter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an Executive Session to discuss sensitive business matters with nothing reported out of that session.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung reviewed Action Items, and reported on staff initiatives.

Legal Status Report

Ms. McManus, Deputy General Counsel, presented a status report on pending litigation and other Legal activities for the month of December 2016.

BUSINESS UPDATE

Alexandra Aleskovsky, Executive Vice President and Chief Growth Officer gave the Board a business update as follows. Dr. Davies joined the meeting during this update.

AKC Website

- Web traffic was up by 32% over 2015 with an average monthly growth rate of 4.7%.
- Marketplace sessions were up by 69% year over year.

Social Media

Social Followers were up 14% from 2015.

- Facebook fans grew by 12% for a total of four million and these fans are driving traffic to akc.org.
- Instagram followers grew by 91% from last January validating a new initiative to reach younger a social media audience.

Digital Advertising

Digital Advertising Maximization has resulted in a 603% increase in monthly programmatic from June to December 2016 with resulting revenue of over \$50,000 per month. December ad space was essentially sold out with many new advertisers seeking to be part of AKC's digital presence.

Com Score Rankings

Com Score now ranks AKC.org the number four pet site and the number two dog site (Pet MD is number one). AKC's November 2016 unique visitor traffic was 6.5 million.

Registration

AKC litter registries were up by 6% over 2015. Individual dog registrations were up by 8%. Individual AKC breeders increased by 6% to 124,000 and the number of litters per breeder stabilized at 1.8. This marks almost 2 years of consecutive monthly growth of registrations of

purebred dogs. This represents the results of AKC's commitment to its mission and the hard work of our breeders, especially our Breeders of Merit, to recognize the importance of making their puppy buyers a part of the AKC family.

AKC National Championship

The AKC Promotional Plan for the AKC Championship drove 27.7 million impressions up 98% from 2015 and Social Media engagements were up 57% from 2015.

E-Commerce

Holiday season revenue for the e-commerce store was up 146% from 2015.

AKC Pet Care

The new name selected for AKC Pet Care business is "AKC Canine Retreat." This name was chosen as the result of measuring consumer response to a number of alternatives.

New Exhibitor Profiling

Elizabeth Sorota, Marketing Vice President, gave a presentation on New Exhibitor Profiling with a goal to attract new participants to the Sport. Doug Ljungren, AKC Vice President, Sports and Events, participated by teleconference.

The process of this project is to identify the first time participants in the past two years in Conformation, Companion Events, Canine Partners, and Junior Showmanship, to uncover their motivation for participating and to utilize these insights to create targeted Marketing Campaigns: It was found that overall, half of all new participants were 55+ years old, 23% are between 26 and 45, and 11% are 26-35 years old. Demographic groups within each segment are being analyzed. Almost all of the younger segment are living in major urban areas. This quantitative information is now driving qualitative research to better understand what motivates participants, what retains them, and how to attract and retain new people. This builds on focus groups that were hosted in the second quarter of 2016. The Staff and Board's commitment to this important part of our mission is driving this important work. Further information will be provided to the Board at the February 2017 meeting.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mari-Beth O'Neill Vice President Sport Services participated in this portion of the meeting by teleconference.

Cesky Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

There was a discussion on the proposed revisions to the Cesky Terrier breed standard as submitted by the American Cesky Terrier Association, Inc. (ACTA). The club specifically addressed issues that were not correctly translated from the FCI standard and the deletion of the color brown from the standard. The AKC Board approved the current breed standard for the Cesky Terrier on October 18, 2010. This will be considered further at the February 2017 meeting.

Lagatto Romagnolo Club of America - Delayed Member Club Approval

The Board reviewed the Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America's (LRCA's) request for approval as a member club. The club's original request for approval as a member club was delayed subsequent to AKC's Board of Directors meeting held in July, 2016. The AKC staff had recommended at that time to delay the LRCA's member club approval until a successful election was held based on evidence of internal difficulties surrounding multiple resignations of the Board of Directors, and lack of communication with the club's membership, including between Board members.

The staff is now recommending that the club's request for approval be granted based on the fact that a successful election was held by the club's membership

Following a motion by Ms. McAteer, seconded by Mr. Ashby, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Kalter) to approve, the Lagotto Romagnolo Club of America's request for approval as a member club. This request will be submitted to the AKC Delegate body for a vote in March, 2017.

FSS Procedures, Parent Club Designation and Requirements for Breed Recognition

The AKC Board requested a review of the procedures in which a breed advances from the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) to full recognition to include a Board Committee review and mentorship by the Parent Club Delegate Committee. Following discussion at the November Meeting, the Board requested that the FSS process be made a Board Policy.

This will be discussed further at the February 2017 meeting.

Dachshund Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board discussed the publication of the proposed revisions to the Dachshund breed standard as submitted by the Dachshund Club of America (DCA). The AKC Board approved the current breed standard for the Dachshund on January 9, 2007. This will be discussed further at the February 2017 meeting.

The club is addressing the Color Section of the Smooth Dachshund only. The proposed revision was published on the Secretary's Page. The DCA Board discussed the verbiage submitted at their October Board Meeting and have made a revision to the initial verbiage submitted.

Chinook Stud Book

The Board reviewed a request from the Chinook Club of America to keep the Stud Book for the Breed open indefinitely to allow the inclusion of Chinook from other registries. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Eligibility to Compete in the Sporting Group

The Board reviewed a request from the Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of the United States of America (NKCUSA). The NKCUSA has submitted a petition seeking acceptance of the breed into the AKC Stud Book and for the Nederlandse Kooikerhondje to be eligible to compete in the Sporting Group. They are also seeking approval of its breed standard as submitted to AKC. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Update Policies for Ineligible Words in Registered Kennel Names

The Registered Kennel Name program provides a means for breeders to protect the usage of their kennel's name in the naming of AKC-registered dogs. The use of a registered kennel name allows breeders to name dogs in an identifiable manner creating a recognizable familial foundation or reputation in a breed. The current policy for ineligible words in registered kennel names restricts the use of family names and city names.

The current policy for ineligible words is:

Ineligible words would include, but are not limited to, conflict either phonetically or in spelling with: the name of a breed, AKC titles, names of cities, family names, corporations or trade names, names of famous and universally recognized persons, living or dead, or words commonly used in the naming of dogs.

Staff is recommending the elimination of names of cities and family names. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Parent Club Designation for Biewer Terrier

The Board reviewed a request from the Biewer Terrier Club of America which is seeking to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed. Sport Services department has worked with this club for the breed, and the registry that is recognized for the breed is affiliated with this club. Granting this club Parent Club Status will allow this club to hold Open Shows in which the breeders and fanciers of the breed may compete.

The Biewer Terrier Club of America has an active membership participating in Companion Events and FSS Open Shows when available. The club provides regular updates on club activities and Board Meetings. The registry that AKC recognizes for the Biewer Terrier is affiliated with the BTCA.

The Board did not object to this and the Biewer Terrier Club of America is designated as the AKC Parent Club for the Biewer Terrier.

Parent Club Designation for the Treeing Walker Coonhound

The Board reviewed a request from the National Treeing Walker Association which asks to be designated as the Parent Club to represent the Treeing Walker Coonhound with the AKC. The Southeastern Treeing Walker Association (SETWA) has been the Parent Club for the breed since January 1, 2012. SETWA has submitted a letter stating it wishes to discontinue its relationship with the American Kennel Club. The National Treeing Walker Association has submitted the required documents and a request to be named as the Parent Club for the Treeing Walker.

The Board did not object to this and the National Treeing Walker Association is designated as the AKC Parent Club for the Treeing Walker Coonhound effective January 9, 2017.

DELEGATES and CLUBS

The following Delegate credentials are to be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette.

Edmond J. Blausten, Glen Allen, VA
To represent Virginia Kennel Club

Jacqueline Carswell, Blackshear, GA
To represent Berger Picard Club of America

Frances Colonna, Lansing, KS
To represent St. Joseph Kennel Club

Mark Francis Jaeger, Mason, MI
To represent American Brussels Griffon Association

Judith Lichtman, PhD Woodbridge, NY
To represent Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of America

Frank Martire, Greenwood, DE,
To represent Mispillion Kennel Club

Susan Marucci, Sandy Hook, CT
To represent Newtown Kennel Club

Christopher Orcutt, Portland, CT
To represent Irish Red and White Setter Association of America

David J. Peat, Scottsdale, AZ
To represent Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club

The following Clubs are requesting membership and will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette.

For Publication:

American Polish Lowland Sheepdog Club

85 Households

First License Show: April 6, 2002

Hungarian Pumi Club of America

120 Households

First License Show: October 16, 2016

A report was provided on Member Club Bylaws approved in November and December:

Colorado Springs Kennel Club, El Paso County, CO (1979)

Dayton Dog Training Club, Dayton, OH (1972)

Gordon Setter Club of America (1924)

Heart of the Plains Kennel Club, Lubbock and Hockley Counties, TX (1991)

Heartland Dog Club of Florida, Sebring, FL (2016)

Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Port Chester, NY (1947)

United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club (1926)

Ventura County Dog Fanciers Association, Ventura, CA (1939)

A report was provided on new clubs licensed in November and December:

Greater Tulsa Non-Sporting Dog Club, greater Tulsa, OK,

Michigan Gazehound Association, greater Detroit, MI

North Georgia Working Group Association, greater Atlanta, GA

A report was provided on a former member club that disbanded:

Chester Valley Kennel Club, West Chester, PA (1950) – Due to non-payment of dues, the club went from Member to License status in May 2016; disbanded June 29, 2016

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an Executive Session to discuss sensitive business matters with nothing reported out of this session.

Mr. Kalter joined the meeting and was present for this session.

Government Working Dogs

Mark Dunn, AKC Senior Vice President, Registration and Customer Development, Sheila Goffe, AKC Vice President Government Relations, and Penny Leigh, AKC Program Manager, Canine Partners, participated in the portion of the meeting by teleconference.

In October 2016, AKC staff was directed to establish a steering committee to do a feasibility study on the concept of assisting Homeland Security (specifically TSA) to assist in determining ways to increase significantly the domestic availability of working dogs such as those used in airports. Working closely with the Penn Working Dog Center and TSA Canine leadership a conference will be held with the key national leaders/stakeholder in this effort in late February in Raleigh. AKC is only acting as the convenor. No such conference has been previously held. Subsequent to that meeting, the subject will be discussed further by the Board.

The Board adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 8:00 am.

All Directors were present. Also present were the Executive Secretary, the Assistant Executive Secretary, the Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel, as well as the Executive Vice President and Chief Growth Officer.

Parent Club Sponsored Semen Bank

Mark Dunn, Senior Vice President Registration and Customer Development and Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services, participated in this portion of the meeting via teleconference.

The Otterhound Club of America requested that the AKC Board allow an entity, such as a LLC, to own and authorize the use of frozen semen to help preserve long-term health and viability of the breed. This will be discussed further at the February 2017 Board meeting.

Board Appeals Committee

Lee Arnold gave the report for the Board Appeals Committee (Lee Arnold, Chairman, Steven Gladstone and William Feeney).

Thompson Stansfield, Jr., was originally denied approval for two breeds. That decision was upheld by the Board Review Committee. He appealed to the Board Appeals Committee which upheld the original decision.

Carol Sommerfelt was originally denied approval for two breeds. That decision was upheld by the Board Review Committee. She appealed to the Board Appeals Committee which upheld the original decision.

COMPLIANCE

Heather McManus, Deputy General Counsel, and Michael Liosis, Director of Compliance, participated in this portion of the meeting. Marcus Bach, Director, Investigations and Inspections, and Wanda Forlines, Manager of Compliance, participated by teleconference.

Events Committee Action

The Board reviewed the Staff Event Committee decision to uphold an action of the Irish Setter Club of Ohio event committee to find Jean Webb guilty of improper treatment in connection with an event. Specifically, it was alleged that when her dog become involved in a dog fight, she

used excessive force when separating the dogs. She was reprimanded and fined \$100. The AKC Board voted to overrule this decision and to vacate the penalty.

Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America

There was a report on the status of the internal dispute within the Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America, which had resulted in AKC suspending its show privileges. The two sides in the dispute negotiated a settlement with final agreement between the parties concluded on December 30, 2016.

Following a motion by Mr. Kalter, seconded by Mr. Dok, it was VOTED (unanimously) to restore the club's show-giving privileges.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sports and Events and Tim Thomas, Director Dog Show Judges, were present for this portion of the meeting by teleconference.

Conformation Judging Statistics

Judging Operations provided the Board with statistics related to conformation judging applications, considered by the Judges Review Committee in the previous three months. The Board reviewed the list of New Breed (NB) and Additional Breed (AB) applicants presented for final approval the months of October -December, 2016.

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sports and Events, Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President Sport Services, Glenn Lycan, Director Operation Support, Alan Slay, Director Event Programs, and Bri Tesarz, Manager Dog Show Rules, participated in this portion of the meeting via teleconference.

Changes to Dogs Counted for Grand Championship Points - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 16, Section 6

Following a motion by Mr. Wooding, seconded by Mr. Ashby, the Board VOTED to approve a request from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee to amend *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 16, Section 6, to include non-regular, single dog entries in the calculation of Grand Championship points. The amended Chapter 16, Section 6, in the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* will be read at the March Delegate meeting and voted at the June Delegate meeting. If approved, the effective date will be November 1, 2017.

(Changes underlined)

SECTION 6. Champions of Record and dogs which have completed the requirements for a championship but whose championships are unconfirmed that are entered in Best of Breed competition are eligible for Grand Championship competition. Grand Championship points may be recorded for: Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Select Dog, and Select Bitch.

Grand Championship points will be recorded according to the number of eligible dogs competing in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes of each breed or variety, as well as dogs competing in Best of Breed competition, according to the Schedule of Points established by the Board of Directors.

- Grand Championship Points will not be awarded for competition beyond Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition.
- Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, and Non-Regular Class winners that are not conformation Champions, are not eligible for Grand Championship points.

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed shall count all eligible dogs of both sexes entered in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes for both sexes in calculating Grand Championship points.

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed shall count all eligible dogs of their sex competing in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points.

A dog awarded Best of Breed will be credited with the number of Grand Champion points calculated for Best of Breed or for the Best of Opposite Sex, whichever is greater.

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Select Dog or Select Bitch shall count all eligible dogs of their sex defeated in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points.

There was a discussion on how the dog who wins select counts in the total. Mr. Ashby proposed that the rule make the point calculation for Select Dog or Bitch consistent with how points are calculated for Best of Breed and Best of Variety. Staff was directed to bring back a proposed amendment to accomplish that at the February meeting for a vote.

Multiple All-Breed or Limited Breed Shows in One Day Pilot Program

Starting May 2014, the Board approved a pilot program for multiple all-breed or limited breed shows in one day, allowing flexibility by the clubs. The pilot program has proven successful for the clubs utilizing this option. Staff would like, without objection, to make this program a permanent option for clubs. There was no objection by the Board.

Uniform Judges Book

The Board voted for a uniform judges book policy. Staff advised the Board that it has provided the superintendents with a template for the judge's sheets to be used at conformation events.

COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sports and Events, Pamela Manaton, Director of Obedience, Rally and Tracking, Carrie DeYoung, Director of Agility, and Mary Burch, Director of CGC, participated in this portion of the meeting by teleconference.

Rally Program Enhancements

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to create two additional Rally classes – the Intermediate class and the Master class. In terms of difficulty, the Intermediate class is between the current Novice and Advanced classes. The Master class will be more difficult than the Excellent class. There will be titles associated with these new classes. In addition, a Rally Championship prefix title (RACH) is recommended for dogs that achieve a given number of triple Qs (qualify in the Advanced, Excellent and Master class at the same trial) plus earn a given number of points from the Master class. If approved, clubs may start to apply for events

with these new classes on August 1, 2017 for events held on or after December 1, 2017. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Updates to Agility Equipment and Use

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to modify some of the equipment used in AKC agility in order to modernize and improve safety. In addition, two new jumps are also recommended to be added to the AKC program to add variety and keep the sport fresh. Also, changes are recommended to the equipment used in the International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) in order to keep this class aligned with the FCI agility program. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

If approved, the equipment changes must be implemented no later than January 2, 2018 by the clubs. All of the equipment changes can be implemented immediately by clubs if they have conforming equipment with the exception of the new pause table heights, which will become effective January 2, 2018. The changes to Chapter 14, of the ISC regulations, are effective April 1, 2017, which corresponds to the start of the qualifying year for the 2018 World Team tryouts.

Change to Premier Jumpers with Weaves Course Time

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to increase the course times slightly for some jump heights in the Premier Jumpers with Weaves class and to refine the jump heights from three to five groupings.

The Premier class launched in October 2015. The initial course times were based on testing prior to implementation, however, given the critical nature of course times to the success of the sport, it was prudent to continue to study this after launch. Based on data collected and input from judges, the staff is recommending a refinement of the jump heights from three to five groupings in both the Regular and Preferred classes and a slight increase in course times in six out of the ten jump heights.

This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Norwegian Elkhounds Eligible to Participate in AKC Herding Events

The Board reviewed a request from the Norwegian Elkhound Association of America to allow the Norwegian Elkhound breed to participate in the AKC Herding program.

Herding is governed by Regulations which may be modified by a vote of the Board. If approved this recommendation would become effective April 1, 2017. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Retriever Field Trials - Allow Optional System of Rotation

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow retriever field trial clubs the option of using a system of rotation for Derby and Qualifying stakes. Currently a rotating system is only allowed in All-Age stakes. Clubs wishing to take advantage of this option would be required to publish advance notice in their premium list.

This proposed rule change originates from the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee after conducting a vote to all licensed retriever field trial clubs. 84% of the clubs voted in favor of this change. Staff agrees with the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee's view that a system of rotation will give all dogs an equal opportunity to run early or late and bring greater consistency for all stakes.

This is a change to the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers. If approved by the Board, it will be read at the March Delegates' meeting and voted on at the June Delegates' meeting. If approved, the effective date will be October 1, 2017. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

AKC Scent Work - A New Sport

The Board reviewed a recommendation for a new sport called AKC Scent Work. Scent Work is a sport that mimics the task of working detection dogs to locate a scent and communicate to the

handler that the scent has been found. This proposal responds to many requests that the American Kennel Club provide such an event. Significant research has been done in developing this program and it is believed it will meet the needs of many dog owners.

Scent Work is a sport in which a dog-handler team must locate hidden scents within a defined search area. The dog uses their sense of smell to locate the target odor, which may be an essential oil or the scent of the handler. Any team who finds and calls all hidden odors within the designated time will qualify. Scent Work is a pass/fail sport, however placements will be awarded for the first through fourth place teams, based on fewest number of faults and then on time. Titles are earned when teams reach a certain number of qualifying legs. The event will be open to all breeds and Canine Partners. Dogs must be registered/listed with the AKC. Scent Work is a fun and engaging activity that taps into the dog's strongest sense.

If approved, clubs may start applying to hold AKC Scent Work events on August 1, 2017. Events may be held starting October 1, 2017. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Licensed Beagle Derby Stakes

The Board reviewed a recommendation for the AKC to license derby stakes held at Beagle Federation field trials. Currently derby stakes are not licensed by the AKC. The Beagle Advisory Committee at their 2016 meeting voted to recommend that derby stakes held at federation events will be licensed by the AKC.

This is a change to the Beagle Field Trial Rules and must be approved by the delegate body. If approved by the Board, it will be read to the Delegates in March 2017 and voted on in June 2017. If approved by the Delegates, federations may start applying for licensed derby stakes after October 1, 2017 for trials held after January 1, 2018. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

Beagle Field Champion Only Stakes and Grand Field Champion Title

The Board reviewed a recommendation for the AKC to license Field Champion only stakes at Beagle field trials and award the title of Grand Field Champion (GFC) to dogs that earn a designated number of wins and points from FC only stakes.

The Beagle Advisory Committee also recommended that AKC award the title of Grand Field Champion to dogs that earn two first places and accumulate 90 points in FC only stakes. Dogs that have earned the GFC title may continue to compete in order to earn GFC numeric titles (GFC2).

This is a change to the Beagle Field Trial Rules and must be approved by the Delegate body. If approved by the Board, it will be read to the Delegates in March 2017 and voted on in June 2017. If approved by the Delegates, clubs may start applying for licensed FC Only stakes after October 1, 2017 for trials held after January 1, 2018. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

New Trick Dog Program

The Board reviewed a recommendation to develop an AKC Trick Dog titling program. If approved, There will be four levels of titles - Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Performer Trick Dogs. The performance of a dog attempting to earn its trick dog title will be certified by CGC evaluators. In addition, titles earned through the Do More with Your Dog (DMWYD) trick dog organization will be acknowledged by the AKC at the request of the owner. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.

This program may be approved by the Board of Directors. If approved, the program would launch on May 1, 2017.

CONSENT

A motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Mr. Arnold, and following discussion, it was VOTED unanimously to approve the following Consent Items:

Delegate Approvals

Donna M. Gilbert, Danbury, CT
To represent Greenwich Kennel Club

Debra H. Owen, Shelbyville, KY
To represent Louisville Kennel Club

Jean Kessler, Nokesville, VA
To represent Norwich Terrier Club of America

Anthony Marques-Christopher, Foresthill, CA
To represent Santa Cruz Kennel Club

Mimi Winkler, Somers, NY
To represent Saw Mill River Kennel Club

Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Eligibility to Compete in the Hound Group

The Board VOTED to approve the breed standard for the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen as requested by the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America (GBVCA).

The Board also VOTED to approve the acceptance of the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen into the AKC Stud Book as of January 1, 2018 and the breed is to be eligible to compete in the Hound Group as of January 1, 2018

Italian Greyhounds Eligible to Compete in Best in Field Competition

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Italian Greyhound Club of America (national club) to allow Italian Greyhounds to compete in Best in Field (BIF) competition. This change to Regulations is effective February 1, 2017.

Revised regulation:

REGULATIONS FOR LURE COURSING TESTS AND TRIALS

Chapter VIII. Section 8. Best in Field.

Best in Field shall be offered. All Best of Breed winners with the exception of Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, and FSS breeds shall be eligible to compete in Best in Field competition.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Herding Clubs Allowed to Hold Twelve Trials Per Year

The Board VOTED to allow clubs licensed for herding to hold up to twelve herding trials per calendar year. Currently the limit is ten. This Regulations change is effective February 1, 2017. (Changes underlined)

AKC HERDING REGULATIONS

Chapter 1. Section 8. Making Application.

Paragraph #5. Applications for licensed and member club herding tests and/or trials must be received by AKC at least three (3) months prior to the closing date. Clubs licensed for herding will be permitted to hold up to 12 licensed trials during a calendar year. A club may hold as many Herding Tests as it desires.

ASFA Certification Test to Count for Open Stake

The Board VOTED to allow either the AKC Qualified Courser certificate or the American Sighthound Field Association (ASFA) Certification Course certificate to qualify a dog to be eligible to compete in an AKC lure coursing trial. Before a dog is eligible to compete in an AKC lure coursing trial it must pass an AKC Qualified Courser test to assure it is safe to run with another dog. The American Sighthound Field Association (ASFA) has an identical test called the Certification Course. This change to Regulations is effective February 1, 2017. (Changes underlined)

Chapter VIII. Section 2. Open Stake. Open to all hounds that have obtained an AKC Qualified Courser certificate or an ASFA Certification Course certificate.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Chapter XII. Section 1B. Qualified Courser (QC) Certificate.

Paragraph #3. Upon successful completion of the Qualified Courser test, the judge completes the certificate and awards it to the handler. This certificate must be submitted to the host club with the hound's first entry in an Open stake. An ASFA Certification Course certificate may be submitted in lieu of the AKC Qualified Courser certificate. The certificate must be included when the results of the trial are sent to the AKC.

Allow Obedience Preferred Class Trials Without Regular Classes

The Board VOTED to allow clubs licensed for obedience to hold trials limited to the Preferred classes without offering the Regular classes. A Preferred class trial is defined as one where the club offers the Preferred Novice, Preferred Open and/or the Preferred Utility classes without the Regular AKC classes. The Non-Regular classes will be allowed to utilize the Preferred class jump heights in all obedience trials.

Clubs still will have the ability to offer the optional or non-regular classes like Beginner Novice and Veterans in addition to the Regular or Preferred class trials.

This Regulations change is effective February 1, 2017. (Changes underlined)

Obedience Regulations

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 4. Obedience Classes Offered. Clubs may elect at their option to apply to hold a licensed or member obedience trial limited to the Regular and/or Preferred classes.

A licensed or member obedience trial need not include all the regular or preferred obedience classes, but a club will not be approved to hold the upper level classes without the lower level classes being offered in the same titling program.

For either the Regular or Preferred class titling path, a club will not be approved to hold the Open classes unless it also holds the Novice classes. Nor will it be approved to hold the Utility classes unless it also holds the Novice and the Open classes.

Any club that has been approved to hold a licensed or member obedience trial for the Regular and/or Preferred classes may also offer a mix of the optional classes and/or non-regular classes upon AKC approval.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Obedience Regulations

CHAPTER 20, NON-REGULAR CLASSES

Section 3. Wild Card Open. The Wild Card Open class is for any dog capable of performing the Open exercises and that is eligible under the Obedience Regulations to compete in AKC events. No title is required to enter and handlers may enter more than one dog. Dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person and may be entered in another class or classes. The Open exercises will be performed and judged as in the regular Open A class except that the minimum jump height a dog must jump is to be set at $\frac{1}{2}$ the height of the dog at the withers, rounded to the nearest multiple of 2 inches. The actual height of the dog shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of 2 inches to determine the minimum jump height, with the exception of dogs eligible for the 4- and 18- inch jump heights. Dogs eligible for the 4-inch jump height must be 12 inches or less at the withers and all dogs over 34 inches are eligible for the 18- inch jump height. Handlers who choose to have their dogs jump more than the minimum required height will neither be penalized nor receive extra consideration.

Additionally, verbal praise during the exercises is to be encouraged and not penalized. (Good, yes, nice, super, great and attaboy are some examples of praise that would be allowed.) Handlers may give additional commands but they will be penalized accordingly. Each handler may choose to select one exercise as a wild card. The exhibitor will have the option of performing the selected wild card exercise but will receive the full point value regardless of how the dog performs. When checking in, the handler must inform the steward or judge which exercise will be used as the wild card. The exercises will be performed in the same order as in the regular Open A class. The point values for the exercises, scoring and maximum total points are the same as in the regular Open class.

Section 4. Wild Card Utility. The Wild Card Utility class is for any dog that is capable of performing the Utility exercises and that is eligible under the Obedience Regulations to compete in AKC events. No title is required to enter and handlers may enter more than one dog. Dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person and may be entered in another class or classes. The Utility exercises will be performed and judged as in the regular Utility A class except that the minimum jump height a dog must jump is to be set at $\frac{1}{2}$ the height of the dog at the withers, rounded to the nearest multiple of 2 inches. The actual height of the dog shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of 2 inches to determine the minimum jump height, with the exception of dogs eligible for the 4- and 18- inch jump heights. Dogs eligible for the 4-inch jump height must be 12 inches or less at the withers and all dogs over 34 inches are eligible for the 18- inch jump height. Handlers who choose to have their dogs jump more than the minimum required height will neither be penalized nor receive extra consideration.

Additionally, verbal praise during the exercises is to be encouraged and not penalized. (Good, yes, nice, super, great and atta boy are some examples of praise that would be allowed.) Handlers are allowed to praise their dogs during the performance of all Utility exercises except the signal exercise. Handlers may give additional commands but they will be penalized accordingly. Each handler may choose to select one exercise as a wild card. The exhibitor will have the option of performing the selected wild card exercise but will receive the full point value regardless of how the dog performs. When checking in, the handler must inform the steward or judge which exercise will be used as the wild card. The exercises will be performed in the same order as in the regular Utility A class. The point values for the exercises, scoring and maximum total points are the same as in the regular Utility class.

Geographically Isolated Show Policy

The Board VOTED to allow the Mount Ogden Kennel Club to hold a third show in a calendar year. Current policy requires an all-breed club to be located in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico or in a geographically isolated area to be able to hold more than two shows in a calendar year. The Board VOTED to add additional criteria to the Board policy defining a geographically isolated show. The additional criteria will allow a club or a group of clubs to be considered geographically isolated if that club or group is isolated based on availability of events in an area: If the average distance to the ten closest shows from a club's show site is greater than 200 miles, the club will be considered isolated. This change will allow approximately 10 additional clubs to hold up to 4 all-breed events in a calendar year.

Agility - Day of Show Entry Change Due To Measurement

The Board VOTED to allow a change in entry on the day of a show when a dog's measurement that day does not support the class in which they are entered. New exhibitors are most prone to making this error and then are often unable to show for that day or set of trials they have entered. This Regulations change is effective February 1, 2017. (changes underlined)

Regulations for Agility

Chapter 1. Regulations for Agility Trials

Section 21. Change of Entry. In addition to Move-ups as described in Chapter 1, Section 20 entries may also be changed as noted in this section. A dog which has been entered in a Novice "A" class for which it is not eligible to be entered in due to class restrictions on the dog or handler may be moved to the Novice "B" class under the following conditions:

The request for the move must be in writing and presented to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each trial.

The request must state the reason and justification for the move from a Novice "A" class to the Novice "B" class.

After the close of entries a dog may be moved down in their class level (i.e., Master to Excellent). The request for the move to the class for which the dog is eligible must be in writing and submitted to the superintendent or trial secretary at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the trial.

If a VMO or Field Representative at a trial measures a dog into a height other than what they entered, the entry may be changed from Regular to Preferred or from Preferred to Regular, as long as the dog has not run any classes that day. If the dog has already run, the change may be made for the next trial day(s).

NEW BUSINESS
Executive Session

There was an Executive Session to discuss sensitive business matters, with nothing reported out of this session.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

Adjourned

A true record

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary