

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
October 19-20, 2015

The Board convened on Monday, October 19, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present except Mr. Wooding, who participated by phone. Also present were the Executive Secretary, and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

The September Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were discussed. Upon a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Cruz, the September 2015 minutes were approved as amended.

REAL ESTATE

There was Executive Session to discuss the future location for AKC's offices. The meeting was attended by real estate Principals from Aequitas LLC, CBRE and the Gensler architectural firm. A number of alternatives were discussed. It was reported out of Executive Session that AKC planned to maintain facilities in the New York Metropolitan area, and the North Carolina Research Triangle, to ensure business continuity. Efforts will now focus on considering the options available in both markets to provide the most cost effective real estate solution to meet our needs in the future.

Apart from the securing of office space for AKC's operations, the Board agreed to consider the feasibility of investing in event facilities, possibly forming partnerships with other entities as part of an overall investment strategy. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

FIDO TV

Tad Walden, President and CEO of FIDO TV, a cable based network focused on dogs, addressed the Board. AKC has formed a strategic partnership with FIDO TV, which will air AKC provided as well as jointly produced content, including the 2015 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. FIDO is already available on DISH TV and will be available on several other providers by the first quarter of 2016. The FIDO TV web site (www.fidotvchannel.com) will be linked to AKC.org for a number of subjects such as buying a puppy, rescue, and events. Through this partnership AKC expects in the years ahead, to significantly increase our messaging to the general public about our mission and purebred dogs as well as support our fanciers through links to www.akc.org

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on previous staff Action Items.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Heather McManus, Senior Attorney, was present for this portion of the meeting.

Leonberger Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed a request from the The Leonberger Club of America, Inc. (LCA). The LCA submitted proposed revisions to the Leonberger breed standard and are seeking permission to ballot the club membership. The current standard was approved by the AKC Board October 19, 2009. Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Davies, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Wooding) to publish the standard revisions for comment.

AKC Membership Requirements

There was a report on the requirements for membership in the Bylaws that are contained in Article IV as well as additional requirements and procedures followed in processing membership applications.

The requirements for membership in the Bylaws are contained in ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 1, 2 and 3, below:

SECTION 1. All Clubs or Associations which have held at least three Dog Shows, Obedience Trials, Field Trials, or Agility Trials in consecutive years under rules of the AKC and all Specialty Clubs which have been or shall be formed for the improvement of any breed of purebred dogs shall be eligible to become members of the AKC.

SECTION 2. Candidates for membership must apply in writing to the AKC on forms the terms of which shall be approved by the Board of Directors of the AKC which forms will be supplied by the Executive Secretary of the AKC upon request. Each application must be accompanied by a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the applicant and a list of the names of its officers and members. Each candidate also must send with its application a check or cash for the amount of its admission fees and dues for the current year which will be returned to the candidate if and when it shall fail to be elected.

SECTION 3. No Club or Association shall be eligible to be admitted to membership in the AKC unless its Constitution and Bylaws shall provide that among the objects for which said Club or Association has been formed are the holding of annual dogs shows, annual obedience trials, or annual field trial, or annual agility trials, or that said Club or Association was formed for the protection or benefit of purebred dogs.

In a summary, clubs must:

- Have held Dog Shows, Obedience or Agility Trials, or Field Trials for three consecutive years.
- Complete a form “the terms of which shall be approved by the Board of Directors of AKC.”
- Have acceptable Bylaws.
- Provide a list of officers and members.
- Pay a \$250 initiation fee and \$25 for the first dues.

Under SECTION 5 and 6 of the Bylaws

Every applicant must be published twice for comment before being approved or disapproved by the Board. If the latter, the Board is not required to give a reason.

Under SECTION 7 and 8 of the Bylaws

All membership applications approved by the Board are voted on by the Delegates. Those disapproved are reported, but there is no appeal to the Board decision.

Record Retention Policy

Staff reported that the AKC is in the process of updating its corporate-wide Record Retention Policy. The Record Retention Policy includes all departments of the corporation, and must include the Board. The Board unanimously agreed that under AKC policy, Board members are not AKC employees, and should not be required to retain any specific documents or correspondence. That is to be reflected in any AKC Record Retention Policy.

Barbet - Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous

The Board reviewed a Sport Services department recommendation to approve the Barbet to advance to the Miscellaneous Class effective January 1, 2017. This will be discussed further at the December Board meeting.

Mudi - Parent Club Designation

The Board reviewed a request from The Mudi Club of America. The Mudi Club of America requests to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed allowing them to hold FSS Open Shows. There was no objection to this request and the Mudi Club of America shall be designated as the AKC Parent Club representing the Mudi.

Slovensky Kopov - New Breed for Foundation Stock Service®

The Board reviewed a request for the Slovensky Kopov to be approved for recording into the FSS program with a Hound Group designation. The Slovensky Kopov is a medium-sized black and tan hound. The breed originated in Slovakia. The breed was originally developed to hunt wild boar. This persistent hunter will follow a scent for hours. There was no objection to this request.

Legal Status Reporting

Ms. McManus, Senior Attorney, gave a written status report on pending litigation and other legal activities for the months of August and September 2015.

CLUBS

A written report was provided on Member Club Bylaws approved in August and September:
American Lhasa Apso Club (1974)
American Wirehaired Pointing Griffon Association (2010)
Border Collie Society of America (1999)

A written report was provided on new clubs licensed in August and September:
Berger Picard Club of America
Bryan County Coon Hunters Association, Richmond Hill, GA
Greater Omaha Terrier Association

COMPLIANCE

Heather McManus and Michael Liosis, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Compliance Initiative –Inspections Program

Based on a request from the Board, Staff reviewed the current inspection process and presented ideas to change the programs focus, goals, and processes. The current AKC Care and Conditions of Dogs Policy states the "...guidelines are meant as a basis for helping individuals ensure that dog care practices are performed and housing facilities are maintained in a safe, humane and responsible manner."

Changes being considered to the program might include the highlighting of good breeders to educate the public about AKC's inspection policies and procedures. Other features to be

evaluated include the development of an emergency breeder assistance program, and the establishment of a network of volunteers to assist in an emergency situation.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Alan Slay, Glenn Lycan, and Bri Tesarz, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via teleconference.

Match Regulations – Age of Puppies - Housekeeping

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to amend the *Match Regulations* to bring them in compliance with current rules, regulations, and practices pertaining to Dog Shows regarding the age of puppies on show grounds. The language stating that dogs less than 6 months of age are ineligible to be on the grounds of licensed or member shows or trials during licensed or member events would be removed from the regulations. This will be discussed further at the December meeting. If approved, the change to Chapter 2, Section 1, of the *Match Regulations* would become effective January 1, 2016.

Concurrent Group and All-Breed Events Pilot Program Update

At the June 2015 Board meeting the Concurrent Group and All-Breed Events pilot program was approved. Since that time, three clubs have participated in the pilot program. Based on the success of those events, Staff recommends modifying the pilot program to remove the 100 breed entry limit on the number of entries a judge can judge in a day plus provide clubs flexibility in scheduling breed judging. It is recommended that the breed judging at either the all-breed event or the breed judging in the group event may occur first but must be scheduled in order to avoid delays in group judging in the all-breed event. Group judging for the all-breed event must be held prior to the group judging in the group event. Group Judging for the group event cannot conflict with BIS at the all-breed event.

Following a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Mr. Arnold, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Wooding) to adopt the recommended procedures for an eighteen month pilot program, after which, staff will make a recommendation to the Board on whether to make it permanent.

Modification to Grooming Space Policy

In July of 2013, the Board passed a policy that requires clubs to provide a reasonable amount of free grooming space of equal desirability if the club is offering reserved (paid) grooming. Almost all of the plans submitted have been compliant with the Board Policy without any additional changes. Staff believes that at this time the requirement for a club to submit a grooming plan adds very little value and is an unnecessary task in the club's event application process.

Event Operations recommends that Board Policy on grooming space be modified so that clubs are not required to submit a grooming plan. On request, Event Operations staff will counsel clubs on complying with the Board Policy. If Event Operations becomes aware of a club not being in compliance, they will directly address the matter with the club. This will be discussed further at the December meeting.

Concurrent Specialty Policy Change

The Board received a recommendation to modify the Board policy on independent specialty shows held concurrently with all-breed shows so that clubs have more flexibility in the scheduling of the show day. Currently, judging for the breed in the all-breed show must be completed prior to the concurrent specialty. The recommended change is to provide clubs with the flexibility to schedule the concurrent specialty judging to take place at the time that works

best for the club, judges, and exhibitors. The breed judging at either the all-breed show or the independent specialty may occur first, but the scheduling must accommodate Group judging. Following a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Wooding) to adopt the staff recommendation, effective for all shows held on or after January 1, 2016.

Multi-Year Approval of Event Applications

The Board was advised that without objection, Event Operations will simplify the event application process for clubs by allowing them to submit a single application and have it processed as a multi-year submittal, significantly reducing bureaucracy for our clubs. Clubs will be allowed to apply for up to ten consecutive years of events. There was no objection and staff will begin accepting multi-year applications for events on January 1, 2016.

Standing Approval of Special Attractions – “Top Ranked” Class

At the July 2013 Board Meeting the Board established standing approval for the Special Attractions that require no review. The Staff requested that the Event Operations Department be permitted to grant standing approval to requests for Special Attractions whose eligibility requirements are based on a dog’s ranking. The most common example is a Top 20 competition. There was no objection to this addition and the following Special Attraction will be added as one that has standing approval:

Top Ranked (for example “Top 20”)

Match Promotion

The Board reviewed and approved staff-recommended enhancements to help promote participation in AKC match shows.

- A match tab to the event search on the AKC website allowing visitors to search for upcoming match events. This feature will have an effective date of April 1, 2016.
- The event announcement will emphasize that matches are an opportunity to meet with like-minded individuals for an informal social experience.
- Conformation matches will be added to the current list of events that generate an automated email announcement. Criteria for selection will be based on the event email campaign used for the 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy email program but will include a wider age group. An announcement will be issued in Club newsletters indicating an effective date of February 1, 2016. Included in the Club announcement will be ideas to make a match more fun.

Modification to Emergency Procedures at Dog Events

The staff reported on a request from the Durham Kennel Club, Inc., They requested that the Board consider a revision to the Emergency Procedures at Dog Events policy. The Board Policy states:

“4. At group and all-breed conformation events, clubs are required to have a qualified emergency medical technician (CPR certified) in attendance from one hour prior to the start of judging until completion of all judging.”

The Durham Kennel Club, Inc. is requesting a change to the policy to read:

“4. At each group and all-breed conformation event, clubs are required to have a CPR certified, qualified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or qualified Emergency Medical Responder (EMR).”

Staff outlined the different training and certification process for and EMT and EMR and recommended that the EMT requirement remain. There was no motion to change the current policy.

Dog Data Exchange Processes

Staff provided a report that gave an overview of the dog data exchange processes that are currently available to superintendents. The data exchange processes were put in place to assist superintendents in validating entry data and to better serve our customers by assuring entry information is correct to avoid wins/placements being cancelled following an event. The AKC is ready and willing to assist all of the superintendents with using the data exchange processes for the benefit of the exhibitors, the superintendent, and the AKC. Staff will remind superintendents of the availability and benefit of the data exchange processes and offer our support in their use.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, Tim Thomas, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Online Judges Education

Previously the Board approved a recommendation by the Judging Task Force to create and develop a pilot program of a virtual, computer-based simulation of a judging experience for breeds.

Judges Operation has reviewed the previously developed Canine College pilot program. Staff provided its vision for this program and the “next steps” for the Board’s review and discussion.

Next Steps

1. Proceed to hire a Project Manager as soon as possible.
2. Staff and Board reach a common understanding regarding the scope of the project.
3. Technology team research and advises how best to accomplish scope.
4. Present to Board overall cost and time table.
5. Proceed in the development of an educational platform.
6. Hire Content Creation Specialist position when appropriate

The Board Adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at 8:00 am. All Directors were present except Mr. Wooding, who participated by phone. Also present were the Executive Secretary and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

AKC 990 FILING

Representatives of KPMG, AKC’s auditors, gave a presentation on the 2015 990, which AKC is required to file. This was done in EXECUTIVE SESSION. It was reported out of this session that the Board accepted the 2015 990.

JUDGING OPERATIONS, (continued)

Conformation Dog Show Judges Annual Report

The Board of Directors at its July 2015 meeting voted to adopt a new Conformation Judging Approval Process to be effective September 1, 2015. Staff had been directed to provide to the Board an annual report to gauge the impact of the new Approval Process. This report was to be based on a survey of the fancy concerning its perception of the competence of judges and comparisons of certain matrixes.

On August 11, 2015, staff distributed a survey to the fancy to establish a baseline of its perception of judges. This survey was sent to exhibitors who had entered a Conformation dog show in the preceding 12 months. The survey was completed by 10,729 exhibitors prior to it being closed on August 24, 2015.

The survey consisted of ten questions in total, with the first to establish the experience of the individual completing the survey. Approximately 2/3 of all respondents had at least 10 years of experience in the sport of Conformation dog shows. The remaining questions were intended to gauge the fancy's perception of AKC judges. The survey taker was asked to answer each statement specific to their experience participating at AKC Conformation dog shows with one of the following choices; Strongly Agree; Agree with minor exception; Neither agree or disagree; Disagree with minor exception; and Strongly disagree.

The nine statements that were asked to determine the perception of the fancy:

- AKC Conformation Judges give equal consideration to all exhibitors.
- AKC Conformation Judges are courteous to exhibitors.
- AKC Conformation Judges are well versed in proper ring procedure.
- AKC Conformation Judges are knowledgeable in the breeds they are approved to judge.
- The quality of judging at AKC Conformation dog shows has improved.
- The AKC effectively addresses judges who may not meet its expectations.
- Approval by the AKC sufficiently ensures a judge is prepared to judge a breed.
- AKC Conformation Judges possess and project a commitment to integrity.
- I value a judge's opinion of my entry.

In the survey, the lowest level of agreement was with the statement "AKC Conformation Judges give equal consideration to all exhibitors," and the greatest with the statement "AKC Conformation Judges are well versed in proper ring procedure."

The Board was concerned that while there is yet to be any impact from the new process on the perception of exhibitors, it was important to understand why exhibitors feel they are not all receiving equal consideration and the impact that may have on participation in the conformation sport. In order to understand what might be done to improve this aspect of the sport the Chairman designated an Ad Hoc Committee on the Improvement of Conformation Judging to evaluate the responses to the survey to determine where AKC's focus should be to improve judging as well as its perception by participants in the Sport. The committee is to be chaired by Dr. Garvin, who will select two other Board members to serve.

Based on the survey perception that our conformation judges are well versed in ring procedure, staff was asked to review the current policy on procedural observations as outlined in the new judging approval policy and review any proposed changes with the Board in December.

Conformation Judging Application Quarterly Statistics

The Board reviewed the quarterly judging application report provided by Judging Operations. The report provides statistics related to Conformation judging applications considered by the Judges Review Committee at its July 2015, August 2015 and September 2015 meetings.

2016 BUDGET

The Board reviewed the proposed 2016 Budget. There was an in-depth discussion of the budget and staff was directed to make a number of modifications.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters with nothing reported out of the session.

Dr. Battaglia left the meeting after this presentation.

CONSENT

Following discussion, there was a motion by Mr. Ashby, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Powers) to approve the following Consent Item:

- **Delegate and Club Approvals**

Delegates Approved

Bryna Comsky, Hoffman Estates, IL
To represent Chicago Collie Club

Keith Hicks, Stanton, CA
To represent Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club

Celia L. Hoffman, Wind Gap, PA
To represent Plainfield Kennel Club

Julie W. Parker, Erie, PA
To represent Erie Kennel Club

Linda Dugan Reiff, Chalfont, PA
To represent Bucks County Kennel Club

Maria M. Sacco, Bethlehem, CT
To represent United States Lakeland Terrier Club

Barbara Schwartz, Mancos, CO
To represent German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America

Albert Payson Terhune Stamps

Mr. Crowley outline an effort by the Terhune Sunnybank Memorial's effort to have the United States Post Office Stamp Committee create a stamp honoring the late Albert Payson Terhune (1872-1942). Mr. Terhune was a prominent and prolific writer of popular books about dogs in the first half of the 20th century. He was also a prominent Collie breeder and exhibitor as well as the owner of the Sunnybank kennels. Mr. Terhune served on the AKC Board from 1922 until 1925, and from 1928 until 1930. He was an AKC Delegate for 9 years:

- Ladies Kennel Association of America (Massachusetts) 1921 to 1922
- Collie Club of America – 1922 to 1924

- Puget Sound Kennel Club – 1924 to 1930

Mr. Crowley indicated that without objection, an official letter of support from the AKC for this stamp would be sent and assistance in disseminating the support petition would be offered. There was no objection.

2015 BUDGET, (continued)

The Board continued its review of the 2015 budget. The final budget for 2015, incorporating the Board's input will be considered at the December 2015 Board Meeting. Ms. Cruz and Mr. Feeney left the meeting during the discussion.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at 3:47pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary