

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 10, 2015

The Board convened on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present except Dr. Battaglia and Mr. Gladstone, who were unable to attend due to the date change. Also present were the Executive Secretary, and the Assistant Executive Secretary.

The July 2015 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were discussed.

Upon a motion by Arnold, seconded by Mr. Dok, the July 2015 minutes were approved as amended.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board Action Items

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

Real Estate Updates

Mr. Sprung gave notice of the due diligence report completed by our consultants for the Real Estate Committee and copied to the Board. The Real Estate Committee will meet over the next few weeks and provide recommendations. This will be an agenda item at the October 2015 Board meeting with the consultants present. The Board will also discuss the topic in December, making a decision at that meeting. This mirrors the timeline presented to the Board in July.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Heather McManus, Senior Attorney, was present for this portion of the meeting. Sheila Goffe, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by teleconference.

Legal Status Reporting

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

Canine Legislation Position on Predatory Pet Leasing Schemes

The Board reviewed a recommendation to update the Canine Legislation Position Statement on *Protections for Puppy Purchasers* to include the issue of commercial leasing/rental arrangements for dogs as pets. It recommends the inclusion of a statement of opposition to predatory pet leasing arrangements in which prospective owners make hefty monthly payments for their pet, but are not given legal ownership of their pet. In recent years, a predatory new model of pet possession has emerged.

The AKC strongly believes that acquisition of a pet should be a commitment for the lifetime of the pet. AKC supports a ban on predatory pet leasing schemes, which victimize potential owners, undermine a lifetime commitment to a pet, and do not confer the rights and responsibilities concomitant with pet ownership.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Arnold, the Board VOTED (unanimously, absent: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Gladstone,) to update the current Canine Legislation Position Statement on *Protections for Puppy Purchasers* to include the statement: **AKC supports bans on predatory pet leasing schemes that victimize potential owners, undermine a lifetime commitment to a pet, and do not confer the rights and responsibilities associated with legal ownership of a pet.**

The position statement will now read:

*The American Kennel Club supports reasonable laws and regulations intended to protect the pet-buying public in obtaining a sound dog of the breed represented. **AKC supports bans on predatory pet leasing schemes that victimize potential owners, undermine a lifetime commitment to a pet, and do not confer the rights and responsibilities associated with legal ownership of a pet.** Breeders and/or sellers should be responsible for providing certain refunds, replacements, or reimbursements should the dog sold become ill or die from a condition contracted prior to the purchase. Such remedies should be conditioned upon the buyer's scrupulous adherence to the care and feeding program prescribed by the breeder and/or seller, as well as a timely examination by a state licensed veterinarian. Breeders and/or sellers should provide buyers with a written bill of sale detailing the responsibilities of both the buyer and seller. This bill of sale should also detail any exclusions to refunds, replacements, or reimbursements.*

COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting. Carrie DeYoung, AKC staff, participated via telephone conference.

Agility Course Test (ACT) Event Regulations

The Board reviewed the proposed regulations for the new Agility Course Test (ACT) event. ACT is an entry level agility event meant to introduce beginning dogs and handlers to the AKC agility program and, in a larger sense, the AKC as a dog sport organization.

There are two levels at ACT events – ACT1 and ACT2. ACT is designed to be used as graduation exercises for agility training classes. The structuring of ACT events resembles the CGC program in a number of ways.

Unique things about ACT events are –

- Can be hosted by an AKC club or an independent training facility provided the event is judged by an AKC agility judge or AKC approved ACT evaluator. Because the ACT is relatively simple, ACT evaluators are not required to obtain the same standard of training required of an AKC approved agility judge.
- Small ring size in order that the event can be held in most training facilities.
- Host organizations may accept day-of-event entries at their option.
- Dogs not yet registered/listing may participate. Results will be recorded by assigning the dog a temporary recording number. In essence the registration/listing process will be started with the hopes that the owner will complete the process in order to obtain a title and continue in AKC agility.
- No event application is required.
- Event recording fee is \$5.00 per entry.

Following a motion by Mr. Wooding, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously, absent: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Gladstone) to approve the regulations for a new beginning level agility event called Agility Course Test (ACT). These will become part of the *Regulations for Agility Trials – Chapter 12*. Hosting organizations may start offering ACT events on January 1, 2016.

Regulations for Agility Trials
Chapter 12
Regulations for Agility Course Test (ACT)

Section 1. Purpose.

The Agility Course Test (ACT) is an entry level agility event to introduce beginning dogs and handlers to the sport of agility and the AKC agility program.

Section 2. ACT Event.

There are two levels of ACT events – ACT1 and ACT2. ACT 1 is designed for the beginning level dog to show beginning sequencing and performance skills. ACT2 requires an increased skill level shown by the additional obstacles to be performed.

Section 3. Eligibility of Dogs.

All dogs fifteen (15) months of age or older may enter a test. Dogs must be physically sound as described in Chapter 1, Section 3, Paragraph 7 of the *Regulations for Agility Trials*. In order to acquire the title certificate and have the title added to a dog's record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC. Canine Partner applications may be accepted at the test by the judge/evaluator and submitted with test results. Dogs that are not AKC registered/listed may participate and their performance will be recorded by the AKC under a temporary recording number. This temporary recording number will be e-mailed to the owner and must be used when entering subsequent ACT events and when the owner registers/lists the dog. **Note:** Temporary recording numbers may only be used to enter ACT events.

Section 4. Holding ACT Events.

Any AKC club licensed to hold agility trials may hold an ACT event, either in conjunction with an agility trial or as a stand-alone event. An ACT event held in conjunction with an agility trial may be noted in the premium. In addition, any AKC agility judge/ACT evaluator may hold a stand-alone ACT event. The event does not have to be held by an AKC licensed club. No more than two ACT1 and/or two ACT2 events may be held per day.

No event application to the American Kennel Club is required. ACT events may be held as the graduation exercise for training classes provided they are judged by an AKC agility judge or ACT evaluator. See Section 8 for information about ACT evaluators.

Entries may only be accepted if the exhibitor has filled out an ACT entry form. The form must meet all requirements as set forth in Chapter 1, Section 11. Entries may be accepted prior to the event with a predetermined opening and closing date and/or they may be accepted on the day of the event.

All applicable regulations in *Regulations for Agility Trials* will govern the conduct of ACT events. They will apply to any person and dog entered, unless this chapter states otherwise.

Section 5. Ribbons, Rosettes and Awards.

Ribbons, rosettes and awards may be awarded at the club/evaluators' discretion. Ribbons must bear a facsimile of the seal of the American Kennel Club, the words "ACT Event." A label may be used to identify the Judge/Evaluator, Class, date of event and be placed on the back of the ribbon. Ribbons must be at least 2 inches wide and 8 inches long. Ribbons shall be the following colors:

- First PlaceBlue
- Second Place..... Red
- Third Place..... Yellow
- Fourth Place..... White
- Qualifying Score..... Dark Green

Certificates, toys or other awards may be used in place of ribbons to recognize dogs that qualify.

Section 6. Submission of Results and Reports.

Results must be submitted as noted in Chapter 1, Section 28. The judge or an ACT evaluator must submit the Test Report in place of Trial Chair and Trial Secretary Reports noted in Chapter 1, Section 28. No event kits will be mailed for ACT events. All forms must be downloaded from the AKC website located under downloadable forms. (www.akc.org/downloadable-forms/)

Section 7. Jump Height Divisions.

Dogs may be entered at any of the following jump height divisions: 4, 8, 12, 16, 20 or 24 inches. There is no Regular or Preferred distinction in the ACT program. A jump height card is not required to enter an ACT event, but handlers are encouraged to have their dogs measured if a VMO is available.

Section 8. Judges/Evaluators.

Approved AKC Agility Judges or ACT Evaluators may judge ACT tests. Evaluators must have earned a minimum of an AX title with one dog and pass an ACT Evaluator written test administered by the American Kennel Club.

Section 9. Course Size, Suitability and Facilities.

Course areas must be a minimum of 3,500 useable square feet. The course area must be moderately level and clear, and be a minimum of 40 feet wide. Refer to Chapter 4, Sections 1 and 2 for additional information.

Section 10. Course Requirements.

All courses must have clearly designated start and finish lines and all obstacles/jumps must be clearly and sequentially numbered. The course layout must be available prior to the walkthrough either by posting it and/or supplying course copies to the exhibitors. Course designs must comply with the current edition of the AKC Agility Judges Guidelines and be submitted for approval to the AKC Agility Department. Courses may be reused by Judges/Evaluators at their discretion.

Section 11. Obstacle and Jump Positions.

Refer to Chapter 4, Section 3. The following exceptions are in place for ACT1 and ACT 2:

- Obstacles may not have adjacent entrances in ACT1 and ACT2.
- A course may have less than 50% winged jumps.

Section 12. Approach Angles.

Approach angles are determined based on the anticipated path of a 20-inch high jumping dog through the obstacles. Approach angles shall generally not exceed 90 degrees, but must not exceed two times at 135 degrees. Additional consideration for safety maybe needed based on the obstacle being approached and the running surface.

Section 13. ACT1.

ACT1 is an entry level test that is open to all dogs that have not earned a title in any AKC Agility class and that meet the age and physical requirements for a regular AKC agility trial (Chapter 1, Section 3). Dogs must have two passing ACT1 scores in order to earn the ACT1 title. Both passing scores may be obtained under the same judge/evaluator. To receive the title certificate and have the title added to a dog's record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC.

ACT1 Performance Standards:

- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Performance will be judged as set forth in Chapter 5, Sections 4, 5 & 6 with the following exceptions:
 - Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged
 - More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle (ascent side of contacts) will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an "F" by the judge/evaluator.
 - The 4 –Paw rule is not in effect

ACT1 Standard Course Time:

The time for all jump heights is 60 seconds. This is also the maximum course time.
The course must be completed in less than 60 seconds.

ACT1 Minimum Obstacles Requirements:

- Quantity =10-12
- Obstacles required, allowed and not allowed - refer to section 12 for chart.
- All obstacles must meet AKC equipment regulations in Chapter 3

Section 14. ACT2.

ACT2 is the second level Agility Course Test that is open to all dogs that have not earned a title in any AKC Agility class except an ACT1 title and that meet the age and physical requirements for a regular AKC agility trial (Chapter 1, Section 3). Dogs must have two passing ACT2 scores in order to earn the ACT2 title. Both passing scores may be obtained under the same judge/evaluator. To receive the title

certificate and have the title added to a dog's record, the dog must be registered/listed with the AKC.

ACT2 Performance Standards:

- Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 85
- Performance will be judged as set forth in Chapter 5, Sections 4, 5 & 6 with the following exceptions:
 - Run-outs and Refusals will not be judged
 - More than 3 attempts at the next correct obstacle (ascent side of contacts) will result in a Mandatory Elimination and will be signaled with an "F" by the judge
 - The 4 –Paw rule is not in effect

ACT2 Standard Course Time:

The time for all jump heights is 70 seconds. This is also the maximum course time. The course must be completed in less than 70 seconds.

ACT2 Minimum Obstacles Requirements:

- Quantity =11-13
- Obstacles required, allowed and not allowed – refer to section 12 for chart
- All obstacles must meet AKC equipment regulations in Chapter 3

Section 15. Obstacles for ACT1 and ACT2.

OBSTACLES	<u>ACT1</u>	<u>ACT2</u>
Dog walk	N	A
A-frame	R(1) set at 5' for all heights	R(1) set at 5' for all heights
Seesaw	N	R (1)
Pause Table	R (1)	R (1)
Weaves Poles	N	R (1) 6 poles

Open Tunnel	R Max (3)	R Max (3)
Closed Tunnel	N	A (1)
Bar Jump	A	A
Double Bar Jump	N	A (1)**
Panel Jump	A	A
Tire Jump	A	R
Broad Jump	N	A (1)**
Triple Bar Jump	N	A (1) **
One Bar Jump	R	R
Number of Obstacles	10-12	11-13

R = Required Obstacles

A = Allowed Obstacles

N = Not Allowed

**A maximum of one spread jump required on the course.

Staff was directed to look into the possibility of an owner being able to complete the registration process for a dog at an event.

Allowing Deaf Dogs to Participate in Agility, Rally and Tracking Events

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Agility Advisory Committee and the Sports and Events Department to allow deaf dogs to participate in Agility, Rally and Tracking events.

All Agility Advisory Committee recommendations were provided to the fancy for comment and polling. With 952 participants in the poll, the recommendation to allow deaf dogs to participate received the highest approval rating of any recommendation (93% love it/like it rating).

At the previous Board meeting Staff was directed to contact The Kennel Club in the UK regarding their experience with deaf dogs competing in Agility as well as with veterinarians, so that this input was available to the Board at the September 2015 meeting. The Board discussed this input, all of which was in favor of permitting deaf dogs to compete in Companion Events.

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Arnold, the Board VOTED (affirmative: Dr. Davies, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Menaker, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Powers, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Dok, Mr. Kalter; opposed: Dr. Garvin; abstaining: Mr. Wooding; absent: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Gladstone) to allow deaf dogs to participate in Agility, Rally and Tracking events effective October 1, 2015.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

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

COMPLIANCE

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

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

CONFORMATION

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

Standing Approval of Sweepstakes (Including Futurities and Maturities)

The Board reviewed a recommendation from Staff to grant standing approval for Sweepstakes (which includes futurities and maturities) once a club acknowledges on their event application that the Sweepstake will be held in accordance with AKC rules, regulations and policies.

Following a motion by Mr. Kalter, seconded by Mr. Ashby, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Gladstone) to approve the following Board Policy:

Sweepstakes

Sweepstakes (which includes futurities and maturities) held in accordance with AKC rules, regulations, policies, and procedures are considered in compliance with Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2, Section 13, and are granted standing approval by the AKC Board of Directors. Clubs complying with this Board policy by checking a box as part of the event application process are not required to submit a separate sweepstakes event application or sweepstakes judge panel to AKC.

AKC NOHS Judges Book

Following a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Ashby, the Board VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Arnold, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Wooding, Mr. Dok, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Feeney, Dr. Davies, Mr. Powers; opposed: Dr. Garvin, Mr. Menaker, Ms. Cruz; absent: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Gladstone) to approve a procedural change so that all dogs entered as eligible to compete in the National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) are to be indicated by an asterisk (*) in the judges' book, effective January 1, 2016 (to coincide with the new judges' books format).

Bred-by-Exhibitor Medallions

There was a review of the criteria for the earning of a Bred-by-Exhibitor medallion. Currently, all points for a dog's championship had to be earned from the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class. Staff proposed that the criteria be changed so that up to three points could be earned in the Puppy Class. The discussion centered on the intent of the medallion and the decision was made to not change the current criteria.

CONSENT

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

- **Delegate and Club Approvals**
- **Retired Kennel Name Request for Barwood**
- **Pumi Eligibility to Compete in the Herding Group**
- **Junior Showmanship, Novice and Open Class Criteria**
- **Fast CAT - A New AKC Sport**
- **BPUP Entry Deadline Change**
- **Allow Group & Specialty Clubs to Hold All-Breed Obedience/Rally A Matches**
- **Retriever Field Trials-Allowing the Same Club to Hold Back-to-Back Stand-Alone Derby/Qualifying Trials**
- **Beagle Two-Couple Pack National Championship**
- **Rally Regulations Affected by Approved Obedience Regulation Changes**

Delegates Approved

Sonja J. Ostrom, Denver, CO
to represent Terry-All Kennel Club

Stanley Saltzman, Westport, CT
to represent Longshore-Southport Kennel Club

Richella M. Veatch, Crossville, TN
to represent Tennessee Valley Kennel Club

Retired Kennel Name Request for Barwood

The Board VOTED to approve a request from The American Shetland Sheepdog Association to retire the kennel name "Barwood" which was used by the late Barbara Thompson.

Pumi Eligibility to Compete in the Herding Group

The Board VOTED to approve the Standard submitted by the Hungarian Pumi Club of America (HPCA) as the official standard of the breed. The Pumi will be eligible to compete in the Herding Group July 1, 2016. The breed will be moved from the Foundation Stock Service into the Stud Book of the American Kennel Club on June 29, 2016. The Studbook will close on June 29, 2016.

Junior Showmanship, Novice and Open Class Criteria

The Board VOTED to approve a revision to the Regulations for Junior Showmanship, Section 5. Classes and Divisions regarding the description of the Novice Class and Open Class to make the description consistent with how the regulations are currently being enforced. The criteria for the Novice and Open Class will be effective October 7, 2015.

Section 5. Novice Class

This shall be for boys and girls who are at least 9 years old and under 18 years old on the day of the show and who at the time entries close have not won three (3) first place awards, with competition present, in a Novice Class at a licensed or member show.

Junior Handlers who win a third Novice Class with competition present after the closing of entries for a show are required to transfer their entry from the Novice Class

to the Open Class by notifying the Superintendent or Show Secretary at least one-half hour prior to the scheduled start of Junior Showmanship judging at the show.

Fast CAT - A New AKC Sport

The Board VOTED to approve a new AKC sport called Fast CAT. Fast CAT is a straight race of 100 yards where a dog chases a lure. Dogs are run singularly and earn points based on their handicapped speed. There are no placements. Titles are issued at designated benchmarks. The event will be open to all breeds and Canine Partners. Dogs must be registered/listed with the AKC. Fast CAT is meant to be a fun and healthy activity for dogs and their owners. One unique feature of Fast CAT will be a Top 20 Fastest Dogs by Breed by Year national standings, which will be posted on the AKC Fast CAT website. Clubs may start applying to hold Fast CAT events on February 1, 2016.

CHAPTER XVI Fast CAT Regulations

Chapter 16 of the AKC Regulations for Lure Coursing Tests and Trials

Section 1. Purpose/Description. The purpose of the AKC Fast CAT event is to provide all dogs and their owners an enjoyable, healthy activity in which they can participate. Dogs run singularly. The dog's time to complete the 100 yard dash is converted into MPH. Dogs earn points based on their handicapped speed. Titles are awarded when a dog has accumulated a given number of points.

Section 2. Regulations. All applicable administrative regulations governing Lure Coursing Tests shall apply to Fast CAT events unless specifically addressed in this chapter.

Section 3. Eligibility to Enter. Fast CAT events are open to all dogs at least 12 months of age that are individually registered with the AKC, recorded in the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) program, individually registered with a foreign or domestic registry organization whose pedigrees are acceptable for AKC registration, dogs granted a Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) number, dogs with AKC Limited or Conditional Registration, or dogs enrolled in the AKC Canine Partners program. Females in season may not enter. A dog may enter only once per event. (An event is defined by an event number.)

Section 4. Entering an Event. All participants must fill out an entry form as provided in the club's premium list. A club may accept entries prior to the event and/or a club may accept day-of-event entries. The specifics of how entries will be accepted must be explained in the premium. If a Fast CAT event is held in conjunction with a Lure Coursing event or Coursing Ability Test, the club may use the same premium however both event numbers must appear on the entry form.

A club may limit the number of entries it will accept in a Fast CAT event. Additional "stand-by" entries above the limit may be taken at the discretion of the event committee and these dogs will be allowed to run if time permits. Owners of stand-by dogs must be informed that they are on the stand-by list and may choose not to participate.

Section 5. Earning Points.

- A. The dog's time to complete the 100 yard dash is converted into MPHs. Please see table in Section 17.
- B. A handicap system is applied to a dog's MPH to determine the number of points earned. The handicap system is based on the height of the dog at its withers:
- 18" or greater = handicap is 1.0.
 - 12" up to less than 18" = handicap is 1.5.
 - Below 12" = handicap is 2.0.
- C. Points = MPH multiplied by the dog's handicap

Section 6. Titles. Titles are earned by accumulating points. The following titles will be awarded: DCAT = 500 points, FCAT = 1,000 points, and FCAT followed by a number (e.g. FCAT2) for every additional 1,000 points. These suffix titles will appear on a dog's pedigree, with a higher level title superseding a lower level title.

Section 7. Top 20 Dogs by Breed by Year. National rankings showing the top 20 fastest times in MPH by breed for a calendar year will be maintained on the Fast CAT website. These rankings will be automatically updated as results are processed.

Section 8. Ribbons and Awards. A club holding a Fast CAT event may offer a participation ribbon or award to each dog that completes the 100 yard dash. The ribbon, if offered, shall be at least two inches wide and eight inches long and shall bear on its face a facsimile of the seal of The American Kennel Club, the words "Fast CAT", and the name of the test-giving club. Ribbons shall be light blue in color.

Section 9. Hosting Fast CAT Events. Any club licensed to hold AKC Lure Coursing Trials or Coursing Ability Tests are automatically licensed to hold Fast CAT events. A club is limited to twelve Fast CAT events per year. A club may not hold more than two Fast CAT events on the same day. A Fast CAT event must start and conclude on the same day. A club may limit the number of entries it will accept. Additional "stand-by" entries above the limit may be taken at the discretion of the event committee and these dogs will be allowed to run if time permits. Owners of stand-by dogs must be informed that they are on the stand-by list and may choose not to be placed on the stand-by list.

All-breed and group clubs that are currently licensed to hold conformation, agility or obedience events and have the interest and resources within the club may apply to the Performance Events Department to become licensed to hold Fast CAT events. The Performance Events Department will also consider special requests to hold Fast CAT events on unique occasions. Contact the department may at PerformanceEvents@akc.org.

Fast CAT events can be either a stand-alone event or may be held in conjunction with other AKC events. In all cases the Fast CAT must be applied for as a separate event with its own event number.

Section 10. Course/Equipment.

- A. **Safety:** Safety is of utmost importance. It is the responsibility of the event committee to insure the safety of the course, the equipment and the conduct of those involved with the event. It is recommended that the event committee run a test dog prior to the start of the event to ensure that the equipment functions properly and all personnel understand their jobs.
- B. **The Start:** Dogs may start up to 10 feet behind the starting line.
- C. **The Finish:** The club must provide enough room for a safe run-out area. It is suggested this be a minimum of 30 yards, however this is up to the decision of the club given the specifics of the setting. The club should consider fencing the end of the course in order to help collect the dogs. It is recommended that an owner or someone familiar with the dog stand at the finish in order to catch the dog once the course has been completed.
- D. **Timing Devices:** The time to complete the 100 yard dash is recorded to the nearest 1/100th of a second (e.g. 9.11). The club may use stopwatches or break-the-beam equipment to obtain the time. If stopwatches are used, there shall be two timers positioned at the finish line. An individual at the start line shall signal with an arm drop the moment the nose of the dog crosses the start line. The timers shall start their stopwatches at the bottom of the arm drop. The timers shall stop their watches when the nose of the dog crosses the finish line. The times from the two stopwatches shall be averaged to determine the recorded time.
- E. **Lure Equipment:** Clubs may use either a drag or continuous loop system. If a continuous loop system is used the "return" string must be set outside of the running course. The lure operator and the lure equipment shall be safely positioned in a manner that does not interfere with the retrieval of the dog at the end of the course.
- F. **Lure:** A white plastic bag or a squawker may be used for the lure.
- G. **Course/Fencing:** The course must be essentially flat. The club should consider fencing the course area, however this is up to the decision of the club given the specifics of the setting. The premium should state if the location of the event is enclosed with fencing.

Section 11. Huntmaster. Because Fast CAT is a timed event, there is no judge. The huntmaster has control of the course. The huntmaster's responsibilities are detailed in the Lure Coursing Regulations, Chapter 3, Section 5. In summary, the huntmaster is in charge of all dogs and handlers on the field, shall ensure handlers understand safe release and retrieval procedures, shall ensure the lure is properly positioned, shall ensure the lure operator, timers and starting line signal person are ready, shall signal the lure operator to start the lure and shall give the verbal signal "tallyho" to release the dog.

Section 12. Inspection Committee. An inspection committee consisting of at least two persons who are members of the field committee shall inspect each entry for lameness, fitness to compete and females in season. Inspection shall take place prior to any form of wrapping being applied to the dog. In the opinion of the inspection committee, any entry found to be lame, unfit to compete or a female in season shall not be allowed to enter and entry fees shall be refunded. If necessary, the inspection committee is responsible for measuring dogs to determine their height at the withers.

Section 13. Collars/Paraphernalia. Dogs may wear any type of collar except choker collars, a collar with prongs or an electronic training collar. The collar should be snug to minimize the chances of catching on something during the run. Clubs may, at their option, require that tags hanging from the collar be taped up. Owners may have their dog wear a muzzle if they desire. Owners may use clips or rubber bands to hold the dog's hair. The owner assumes responsibility for the safety of the dog with regard to the dog's collar and paraphernalia on the dog.

Section 14. Making Event Application.

- A. Licensed clubs may apply for Fast CAT event by using the on-line event management feature located on the AKC website. Paper or e-mailed event applications will be accepted. Application forms will be downloadable from the AKC website – www.akc.org/downloadable-forms. Applications should be submitted three months prior to the event. Approval correspondence will all be done via e-mail. Event secretaries will need to provide an e-mail address on the event application form. Approved events can be found on the AKC website at "Events and Awards Search."
- B. Event kits: No event kits will be mailed to clubs. All necessary forms are downloadable from the AKC website. Approval correspondence will be done via e-mail. Event secretaries will need to provide an e-mail address on the event application form. Event forms/booklets that are not easily downloadable can be requested by e-mail to the Performance Events Department – PerformanceEvents@akc.org. In many cases clubs will have these forms/booklets as a result of holding lure coursing events.

Section 15. Submittal of Results. Clubs must mail the event Secretary Report and (name of results form once finalized) to the Performance Events Department within 7

days from the completion of the event. All necessary forms for submitting results are downloadable from the AKC website.

Section 16. Posting of Results. Fast CAT event results will be posted on the AKC website at (add link to webpage once finalized).

Section 17. 100 Yard Dash time Converted to Miles per Hour.

Seconds to Complete

100 Yd Course	Miles per Hour
Less than 5.00	41
5.00 – 5.50	37
5.51 – 6.00	34
6.01 – 6.50	32
6.51 – 7.00	29
7.01 – 7.50	27
7.51 – 8.00	26
8.01 – 8.50	24
8.51 – 9.00	23
9.01 – 9.50	22
9.51 – 10.00	21
10.01 – 10.50	20
10.51 – 11.00	19
11.01 – 11.50	18
11.51 – 12.00	17
12.01 – 13.00	16
13.01 – 14.00	15
14.01 – 15.00	14
15.01 – 16.00	13
16.01 – 17.50	12
17.51 – 19.50	11
19.51 – 21.50	10
21.51 – 24.00	9
24.01 – 27.00	8

Points of Reference

A fast Greyhound = 40 mph

A fast Whippet = 35 mph

Speed of a squirrel = 12 mph

Speed of a chicken = 9 mph

27.01 – 31.50	7
31.51 – 37.50	6
37.51 – 45.50	5
45.51 – 58.50	4
58.51 – 60.00	3

A person's leisurely walk = 3 mph

BPUP Entry Deadline Change

The Board VOTED to amend the *Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulations* to allow clubs the option to accept entries for Beginner Puppy competition beyond the traditional closing date and time and even up until the day of the show. This change is effective January 1, 2016.

FOUR-TO-SIX MONTH (BEGINNER PUPPY) COMPETITION REGULATIONS

Section 2 – Entry and Eligibility

Entry and eligibility requirements include:

- The Four-to-Six Month Puppy event may be offered at licensed or member dog shows at the option of the show giving club.
- Four-to-Six Month Puppy Competition must be listed in the premium list, entry form and judging schedule, if offered.
- Closing date and time for this competition may be listed as any date and time prior to the event including the same day as the event and must be listed in the premium list, entry form and judging schedule.
- AKC registration number or an AKC litter number will be required for entries of an AKC recognized breed as listed in Chapter 3, Section 1 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows.
- A foreign born dog may enter this class if they are registered in the country of origin.
- FSS number or FSS registered litter number will be required for Miscellaneous and FSS breed entries.
- All entrants are to be vaccinated (including rabies) in accordance with their veterinarian's protocol.
- Dogs that are owned or co-owned by a professional handler may compete in this class, but must be handled by a non-professional handler. Professional handlers are defined as any person who belongs or has belonged to a professional handlers' organization, distributed rate cards, or otherwise advertised or represented themselves as handling dogs for pay. Dogs may not be exhibited by current assistants and household members of a professional handler.

Allow Group & Specialty Clubs to Hold All-Breed Obedience/Rally A Matches

The Board VOTED to clarify the Match Regulations Chapter 2, Section 1 to allow Group and Specialty clubs to offer all-breed Sanctioned A Matches in obedience and rally at their option.

Retriever Field Trials - Allowing The Same Club to Hold Back-to-Back Stand-Alone Derby/Qualifying Trials

The Board VOTED to approve a clarification to allow a club licensed to hold Retriever Field Trials to hold back-to-back stand-alone events consisting of a derby stake and a qualifying stake. This is effective January 1, 2016

Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers Chapter 14

Section 11. Number of Trials/Stakes.

Starting with paragraph #5.

A club may hold up to three Derby stakes and three Qualifying stakes (any combination of Qualifying and Owner-Handler Qualifying) per calendar year. These may be held in conjunction with an all-age trial or as stand-alone trials. No more than one Derby stake and one qualifying stake may be offered at any one field trial. An Owner-Handler Qualifying stake may be held in conjunction with a Retriever Hunting Test that includes a Master level test. *The same club may hold back-to-back stand-alone Derby/Qualifying trials (two separate event numbers).*

Beagle Two-Couple Pack National Championship

The Board VOTED to approve the idea of offering a new AKC National Championship event for the Beagle Two-Couple Pack sport. The sport of Beagle Two-Couple Pack (TCP) was introduced in 2005. A two-couple pack is made up of four dogs that are judged on their ability to chase a rabbit as a team. The sport has grown at an annual rate of 18% per year for the past five years. In 2014 the number of entries reached the level of the Beagle Large Pack sport, which has a National Championship event. This is the threshold that staff has said should be achieved to warrant creating a TCP National Championship event. This will require an addition to the Beagle Field Trial Rules. It will be read to the Delegates in December for a vote in March 2016.

Rally Regulations Affected by Approved Obedience Regulation Changes

In April, the Board approved changes to the Obedience Regulations based on the recommendations of the 2014 Obedience Advisory Committee and staff, effective December 1, 2015. Nine of the approved changes in the Obedience Regulations are also cited in the Rally Regulations. The Board VOTED to amend the following items in the Rally Regulations:

1. Rally Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 3. Premium Lists and Catalogs. Require clubs to publish, in the premium list, if two trials in one day will be held concurrently or consecutively.

2. Rally Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 13. Transfers. Clarify transfer verbiage to make it clear that clubs have the flexibility of accepting transfers prior to the day of a trial (but must be completed at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each trial as it is currently worded).
3. Rally Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 20. Judging Program. Revise - For all rally classes, the walk through times will be listed and the class time will be stated "class to follow."
4. Rally Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 20. Judging Program. Revise – List classes starting after noon as "After Noon" rather than "to follow."
5. Rally Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 20. Judging Program. Revise – If the judge and ring are available to start earlier than the stated time and all exhibitors have checked-in, and agree, allow the judging to start earlier. (May not start a 2nd trial on the same day before the published start time.)
6. Rally Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 20. Judging Program. Revise – No judge will be assigned to judge for more than eight hours in one day.
7. Rally Regulations, Chapter 3, Section 5. Familiarization Time. Shorten walkthrough time to "up to 10 minutes" (instead of a fixed time of 10 minutes).
8. Rally Judges' Guidelines, Chapter 1, Section 3. Exhibiting. Revise – Judges (including provisional) may not handle dogs that are not owned or co-owned by themselves or a family member at obedience and or rally trials."
9. Rally Judges' Guidelines. Chapter 1, Section 5. Judging Assignments/Assignment Restrictions. Modify the emergency judge policy to allow clubs greater flexibility in finding a replacement judge when a previously approved judge cancels within 72 hours or less; allowing a judge with an event conflict to accept the emergency judge assignment without impacting future assignments.

IT Projects

Michael Basone, Stephen Smith, and Steve Pessah, AKC staff, were present for this portion of the meeting.

The Board was given an update on the status of the AKC website including the fact that traffic is up 90% since the new site launched in February. Staff reported that changes are being tested and rolled out every other Thursday. Several changes had been made, primarily based upon Delegate input, and additional changes were in process. It is being streamlined with emphasis on enhancing the Search function and permitting better image manipulation in Marketplace. There are several navigational changes planned to better meet the needs of our core customers and those will be rolled out during the months ahead. The Board appreciated the efforts made to improve the website as well as the Board's commitment to assure the website meets the needs of our core users. The Board further emphasized its commitment to creating a user experience that both meets the needs of the fancy and that of the general public.

There was also an update on replacement for the Online Breeder Classified application which will be incorporated into AKC Marketplace. The new application was reviewed and it will focus on breeders and include breeder profiles, contact forms, wait lists, etc.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Joseph Baffuto, CFO, presented unaudited financial results through August 31, 2015 which included, total revenues of \$40.1 million. This was within 2% of budget, while being 4.7% above the prior year revenue during the same period. Total expenses of \$34.4 million were 9% below budget and slightly above the amount from the previous year. Operating income was \$5.6 million for the period ended August 31, 2015.

2016 Budget

The Board is taking an active role in assisting staff in setting budget priorities for 2016 to assure revenue growth in order to better support our Clubs and the Sport. Carl Ashby moderated a discussion on the 2016 Budget, which the Board will consider at the October 2015 meeting. Following discussion, there was a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Dok, and it was VOTED (unanimously; absent Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Gladstone) to award \$25,000 in Junior Showmanship Scholarships as part of the 2016 budget.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. Nothing was reported out of this session.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

The items listed below were presented, although they were not discussed because of time restraints.

Canine Legislation Position Statements on Spaying and Neutering

The Board received a report on AKC Canine Legislation Position Statements that address spaying/neutering. This subject will be discussed at the October 2015 meeting.

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. This will be discussed at the October 2015 meeting.

Jagdterrier Eligible to Participate in AKC Earthdog Tests

There was a report on Jagdterriers to participate in AKC Earthdog tests. The Jagdterrier was added to the AKC FSS program in June 2014. The breed originated in Germany and has a reputation as a feisty all-around hunting dog, used to go-to-ground or pursue game above ground when needed. Participation in Earthdog tests is consistent with the function for which the breed was developed. This will be discussed at the October meeting.

Agility Development Plans

The Board was presented with a road map report for the continued development and growth of the sport that was created with input from the Agility Advisory Committee. The program has growth potential at both ends of the current spectrum of classes—new exhibitors and those long-term, highly competitive exhibitors.

Agility Survey Communication Plan

At the request of the Board, the Agility staff in conjunction with the Communications staff has developed a plan to share its survey of agility competitors with clubs and plans to incorporate tips on how clubs can use this information to help entries.

CGC - Explore Incentives for Clubs and Trainers

The staff presented a memo explaining the current initiatives that are being undertaken to provide incentives for trainers and clubs to test more dogs.

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 of the ultimate scope 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.

Hire Content Creation Specialist position when appropriate

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. This will be discussed at the October meeting.

Concurrent Group & All-Breed Events Pilot Program Update

At the June 2015 Board meeting the Concurrent Group & 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. This will be discussed at the October meeting.

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. Clubs will be allowed to apply for up to ten consecutive

years of events. Staff will begin accepting multi-year applications for events on January 1, 2016. 2015. There was no objection.

Standing Approval of Special Attractions - "Top Ranked" Class

The Board was advised that without objection, the Event Operations Department will 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.

It was VOTED to adjourn Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 5:00 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary