



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB®

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HARVEY M. WOODING	

DENNIS B. SPRUNG, Ex Officio

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Executive Secretary

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MARK DUNN
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Customer Development

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KEITH FRAZIER Audit & Control	

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BILL TEAGUE

MISSION STATEMENT

The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

ATTENTION DELEGATES NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Saturday, September 12, 2015**, beginning no earlier than 10:00 a.m. It will follow the 9:00 a.m. Delegates Forum.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Pyrenean Shepherd Club of America, Inc.

DELEGATES CREDENTIALS

Harry Booker, Bala-Cynwood, PA
Kennel Club of Philadelphia

Gale Gordon, Marlborough, MA,
Framingham District Kennel Club

Kathleen Gregory, Garrison, NY, Port

Chester Obedience Training Club

Kathy Hawkins, Springfield, MO,
Ozarks Kennel Club

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

Richard Su, Elberon, NJ, Keeshond Club
of America

Proposed Amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, New Section 1 – Championships

AKC Staff has proposed the following amendment to **Chapter 16, Section 1**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, to be voted on at the September 12, 2015 Delegates Meeting.

Chapter 16

SECTION 1. Dogs placing first in each of the individual Puppy Classes (as defined in Chapter 3, Section 4) in each of the individual breed/varieties and sexes will be awarded points towards the Certificate of Merit (CM) title based on the total number of dogs of their sex that competed in the individual class according to the schedule of points established by the Board of Directors.

Upon completion of the CM title a dog may continue to compete in the regular classes so long as they are eligible. The CM suffix title is an introductory title to AKC conformation events and will be superseded

by the CH title when it is earned. The Certificate of Merit title requires 15 points awarded in accordance with the following point structure. Points earned in the Puppy Classes, Miscellaneous Class competition, Four-to-Six Month Competition, and FSS Open Shows will also count towards the CM title.

CM Schedule of Points, effective January 1, 2016

Dogs Competing	Points
1-2	1
3-4	2
5-8	3
9-12	4
13 or more	5

The CM title initials will be followed by a numerical designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the CM title as defined above, e.g., 30 CM points = CM2.

Any dog earning a CM title will also be awarded one (1) Championship point. Only one Championship point will be awarded to a dog for earning the CM title

(This is a new section 1 which will allow the awarding of CM points in the regular puppy classes. All other sections will be renumbered accordingly.)

Dogs that earn a CM title will be awarded one point toward its CH title.)

CONFORMATION JUDGES

As a result of the October 2010 Board Meeting, publication notice in the Gazette was combined into one notice, therefore the judging approval process continues to include an opportunity for the fancy to respond to each permit judge.

Letters concerning judges and permit judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, pro-

vide that individual with copies of letters received by AKC concerning their qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and JS judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges' record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations at (919) 816-3593 or email, judgingops@akc.org.

PERMIT JUDGES

The following persons have been approved on a **Permit** basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. ***They may now accept assignments*** and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

NEW BREED JUDGES

Ms. Molly Bogan (98193) TX

(903) 474-1969
molly@oasislabradors.com
Labrador Retrievers

Ms. Patricia Ann Flanagan (98961)

OH
(330) 272-6601
traeloch15@gmail.com
Golden Retrievers, Skye Terriers

Mr. Theophilus (Phil) Jaspers

(98971) MA
(617) 319-0197
notoriousbts@gmail.com
Bull Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers

Ms. Kathy Kocher (98963) MN

(612) 759-0046
kathykocher@comcast.net
Bullmastiffs

Dr. Marion T. McNeil (99007) CT

(860) 378-0304
sterlingsami@att.net
Samoyeds

Ms. Joyce Siddall (98695) CO

(303) 548-1125
catalinakennels@yahoo.com
Australian Shepherds

Ms. Kristie L. Wheeler (98767) WA

(509) 262-9706
zuran10@gmail.com
Afghan Hounds, Chihuahuas, Boston Terriers

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mr. David Bolus (35586) TN

(423) 344-6125
dabolus@aol.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Coton de Tulear, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels

Ms. Marge B. Calltharp (17384) CT

(860) 873-2572
ctmarbo@gmail.com
Basenjis, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Chihuahuas, Miniature Pinschers, Pomeranians, Yorkshire Terriers

Mrs. Carrie A. Chase (36690) WV

(304) 274-5939
humbird1@earthlink.net
Australian Cattle Dogs, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Border Collies, Canaan Dogs, German Shepherd Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Swedish Vallhunds

Mrs. Carole Corbin (94673) PA

(570) 619-8787
colorblinded@excite.com
French Bulldogs, Collies, German Shepherd Dogs

Mr. Hector Hector (95831) FL

(954) 593-2324
h2enclave@aol.com
Collies, JS-Limited

Mrs. Meredith Hector (95832) FL

(786) 554-2113
meredith.hector@gmail.com
Collies, JS-Limited

Mrs. Elaine J. Lessig (7626) NJ

(908) 713-6205
melessig@att.net
Brittanys, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Gordon Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, Field Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Wirehaired Vizslas

Dr. A. Todd Miller (96991) MO

(217) 213-7363
whippetsofjomyr@icloud.com
Basenjis, Borzois, Ibizan Hounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Salukis, Italian Greyhounds, JS-Limited

Mrs. Erika K. Moureau (31655) TX

(713) 204-6833
texicandog@sbcglobal.net
Boston Terriers

Mrs. Marilyn Y. Pipes (29634) TX

(254) 968-2053
willmarpp1@gmail.com
American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Spinone Italiano

Mr. Del Richards (16761) CA

(408) 848-3336
delrichards@verizon.net
Akita, Portuguese Water Dogs, Siberian Huskies, American Staffordshire Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Mr. Robert L. Robinson (6039) AZ

(602) 253-6260
brobinson4@cox.net
Akita, Alaskan Malamutes, Anatolian Shepherds, Chinook, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Rottweilers, Samoyeds

Mrs. Joan V. Savage (7479) OR

(503) 647-2008
robertsavage5@msn.com
Balance of Sporting Group (Lagotto Ramagnolo, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Spinone Italiano, Wirehaired Vizsla)

Mrs. Janice K. Schreiber (17450) WA

(253) 846-7999
ashenafea@msn.com
Spinone Italiano, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, English Foxhounds, Harriers

Mr. Joseph Smith (95833) GA

(678) 412-2268
rubyd2000@aol.com
Akita, Anatolian Shepherds, Rottweilers, Siberian Huskies

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGES

Mr. Ryan Blanker (99063) MA

(413) 768-9163
ryanblanker1210@gmail.com

Ms. Martha A. Congleton (98917)

KY
(859) 509-0877
macongleton76@gmail.com

Mr. Michael A. Silva (24924) NJ

(908) 996-7766
springdellfarm@embarqmail.com



ADJUNCT JUDGES

Mr. John F. Booth (6914) TX

(210) 487-0805
judgejbooth@gmail.com
Berger Picard

Mrs. Lori McClelland (98967) NV

(775) 240-4341
gottabeminiamerican@yahoo.com
Miniature American Shepherds

PERMIT ASSIGNMENTS COMPLETED

The following persons have **completed** their Permit Judging assignments in the breeds listed, and their names have been added to the list of regular **approved** judges.

NEW BREED JUDGES

Mr. Joey Vaughn Johnson (97689) AL

(256) 820-1436
jdlakewood@aol.com
Whippets

Ms. Sandra London (95561) TX

(817) 295-5532
s-london@sbcglobal.net
Labrador Retrievers

Mrs. Jodi P. Martin (95935) GA

(770) 777-0692
chlabs01@gmail.com
Labrador Retrievers

Ms. Johanna Primeaux (93271) CA

(408) 771-0703
primoprime@aol.com
Dachshunds, Poodles, Shetland Sheepdogs

Mr. John Schoeneman (98359) NC

(704) 455-8113
schohaus1@aol.com
Doberman Pinschers

APPROVED BREED JUDGES

Mr. Howard Atlee (2835) MD

(410) 825-5866
atleebh@aol.com
Anatolian Shepherds, Newfoundlands, Rottweilers, Keeshonden

Ms. Joy S. Brewster (5904) CT

(203) 426-6586
joybrewster@earthlink.net
Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, Havanese, Pekingese, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers, Border Collies, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

Mr. John Constantine (26418) PA

(215) 527-0056
john@adamis.org
Akita, Alaskan Malamutes, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Doberman

Pinschers, German Pinschers, Great Danes, Newfoundlands, Rottweilers, Siberian Huskies, Miniature Pinschers, Boston Terriers

Dr. Norbert Dee (31419) VA

(703) 777-6559
ndeedogs@gmail.com
Golden Retrievers

Mrs. Donna Ernst (91808) OH

(440) 564-9222
anthemkennel@msn.com
Brittanys, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers

Mr. Michael H. Faulkner (5709) VA

(202) 360-3564
woodsptnt@aol.com
Afghan Hounds, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Borzois, Dachshunds, Greyhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets, Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Beaucerons, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervuren, Berger Picard, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Canaan Dogs, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Miniature American Shepherds, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik, Pyrenean Shepherds, Swedish Vallhunds

Ms. Grace Fritz (21887) KS

(913) 706-5365
fritzgm77@gmail.com
Akita, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boxers, Bullmastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Mastiffs, Portuguese Water Dogs, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers, JS

Mrs. Sue Goldberg (6502) NJ

(908) 647-0907
brandongrp@aol.com
Balance of Non-Sporting Group (American Eskimo Dogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Coton de Tulear, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehund, Shiba Inu, Xoloitzcuintli)

Mr. Wayne F. Harmon (18525) MN

(612) 280-0232
wfharm@at@aol.com
Australian Terriers, Chihuahuas, Papillons

Mr. Bradley Jenkins (7469) AR

(870) 219-5525
dbltreechins@hotmail.com
American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniel, English Springer Spaniels

Dr. Steve Keating (6065) TX

(214) 946-2624
suke19@airmail.net
Balance of Herding Group (Bergamasco, Berger Picards, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Miniature American Shepherds, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pulik, Spanish Water Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds)

Ms. Gloria Kerr (17561) AZ

(520) 762-1922
gskerr1@yahoo.com
Whippets, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, French Bulldogs, Schipperkes, Xoloitzcuintli

Mrs. Marianne C. Klinkowski (7135) CA

(408) 446-0604
naharin@comcast.net
Afghan Hounds, Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Scottish Deerhounds, Italian Greyhounds, Norwegian Lundehund

Mr. Jeffrey Langevin (93425) NH

(207) 735-5004
jeffreylangevin@hotmail.com
Doberman Pinschers

Dr. Kenneth H. Levison (7476) AZ

(520) 722-9427
dazdox@yahoo.com
American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Borzois, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Otterhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds

Mrs. Joan Luna Liebes (6515) TX

(281) 239-0905
joanluna@hotmail.com
Balance of Herding Group (Bergamasco, Berger Picards, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Miniature American Shepherds, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds, Spanish Water Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds)

Ms. Diane L. Malenfant (1431) AZ

(928) 442-3629
dmalenfant@att.net
Balance of Sporting Group (Lagotto Ramagnolo, American Water Spaniels,

Boykin Spaniel, Irish Water Spaniels,
Spinone Italiano, Wirehaired Vizsla)

Mr. Dale A. Meyer (6655) WI

(715) 654-5330

meyerd@tds.net

Australian Cattle Dogs, Bouviers des
Flandres, Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Mr. Bradley K. Odagiri (94657) HI

(808) 373-3838

bradodagiri@aol.com

Maltese, Yorkshire Terriers

Mr. Allen L. Odom (5448) CO

(303) 371-9512

backglen@aol.com

Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows,
Dalmatians, French Bulldogs,
Keeshonden, Poodles

Mrs. Monika Pinsker (6522) BC

(604) 391-1490

mephistoboxers@shaw.ca

Newfoundlands, Rottweilers, Siberian
Huskies

Mrs. Dana B. Read (16874) NC

(919) 241-4202

otakalhasas@aol.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Finnish Spitz,
Norwegian Lundehund, Schipperkes

Ms. Barbara C. Scherer (58838) IL

(630) 388-8290

tookerbgl@sbcglobal.net

Bloodhounds

Dr. Clyde E. Shaw (6083) TX

(903) 463-1335

cshaw123@gmail.com

Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds,
Papillons, Pugs, Shih Tzu

Ms. Jan C. Sigler (7526) KS

(913) 649-5282

kaleasibes@mac.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Chinese
Shar-Pei, Finnish Spitz, Norwegian
Lundehund, Shiba Inu

Mr. Fredrick R. Stephens (2156) OR

(503) 632-6075

fncstephen@bctonline.com

Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers,
Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels,
Italian Greyhounds, Toy Fox Terriers)

Mrs. Pamela Waldron (56812) WA

(360) 770-2403

endorgriff@comcast.net

Maltese, Yorkshire Terriers

Mrs. Deborah J. Wilkins (18907) MN

(952) 440-5040

abbeyroadbmd@gmail.com

Balance of Working Group (Boerboel,
Chinook, Leonbergers, Neapolitan
Mastiffs, Saint Bernards, Tibetan
Mastiffs)

BEST IN SHOW

The following persons, having success-
fully **completed** the required Group
Assignments in the first Variety Group
for which they are **approved**, have been
added to the list of judges eligible for
approval to judge Best In Show.

Ms. Nancy Jean Gallant (25394) MI

(269) 275-2074

nancyjgallant@aol.com

Ms. Lew Olson (24173) TX

(713) 303-5639

lewolson@earthlink.net

Dr. Alan C. Santos (73979) TX

(504) 232-7316

obanesdoc@aol.com

Mrs. Patricia A. Sosa (45766) LA

(504) 236-3774

bandog@charter.net

REINSTATED JUDGE

The Judging eligibility of the follow-
ing person has been reinstated.

Ms. Diane Young McCormack

(20415) NV

(530) 559-9600

spirit@telis.org

BREEDS REINSTATED

Ms. Catherine L. Cargo (16668) VA

(540) 635-7751

mybisoes@yahoo.com

Shetland Sheepdogs

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGE

Mrs. Mabel (Jinx) M. Gunville

Mr. Ronald P. Steen

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Donald J. Foral

Mr. Frank L. McCarthy

Mr. Chuck Winslow

PROVISIONAL

**OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES
COMPLETED**

The following persons have completed
their Provisional Judging assignments and
their names have been added to the list of
regular approved judges.

Mr. Thomas Igiel (18999) NY

(716) 861-0897

tigiell@roadrunner.com

Obedience – Utility

Ms. Carla Ogert (95493) IL

(630) 844-0695

kellsridgefarms@sbcglobal.net

Tracking – TD/TDU

Dr. Pamela C Regan (39716) CA

(310) 374-3573

pamelacregan@gmail.com

Obedience – Novice

PROVISIONAL

OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES

The following persons have been
approved as a judge on a Provisional basis
for the class/test indicated in accordance
with the Provisional judging system. They
may now accept assignments.

Ms. Ellen E Beasley (93281) NC

(919) 801-1570

ellenebeasley@gmail.com

Obedience – Utility

Mr. Lee Brannum (59612) NV

(702) 458-5145

lsbrannum@embarqmail.com

Rally – All

Mr. Walter O'Brien (98901) GA

(404) 788-7740

bristacorgi@yahoo.com

Rally – All

Ms. Stephanie Podejko (82518) CA

(315) 436-0599

stonehilldals@aol.com

Obedience – Utility

DECEASED OBEDIENCE JUDGES

Mrs. Donna Ward (2392) CA

**APPLICATION FOR BREED-SPECIFIC
REGISTERED NAME PREFIX**

The following applications for a breed-
specific Registered Name Prefix have
been submitted to The American Kennel
Club. Letters in regard to these applications
should be addressed to James P. Crowley,
Executive Secretary:

AMOUR – Berger Picard – Beverly H.

Conroy

BAYSIDELABS – Labrador Retrievers –

Debra L. Ziegler

BOONEFIELD – Labrador Retrievers –

Peggi Brogan & David Brogan

CK – Vizslas – Ron L. Chenoweth

EVER-READY – Labrador Retrievers –

James A. Trotter & Mary F. Trotter

FRYSKE POINT – Staybyhoun – Alice

Lee Brewer

GRANDVICTORY – Beagles – Chad

Curran

RACEBROOK – Dachshunds – Sharon

L. Budnick

RINGSIDE – Bulldogs – James Ragland

RIVER ROCK – Canaan Dogs –

Christina C. Miller

SUGARLOAF – Cavalier King Charles

Spaniels – Verla M. Kinsey

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

BAYSIDE— Manchester Terriers —
Dianna L. Texter
BEWITCHY — Poodles — Sheryl D. Bleich
BILGAY — Belgian Tervuren — Lynne Wetherell
BLUESTONE — Great Danes — Caron M. Honeck
CAMASAN — Bulldogs — Jose J. Santiago & Arelis Santiago
CASA DERANCHO — Spanish Water Dogs — Sheryl M. Gaines & Samantha B. Gaines
HOPS-N-HOUND — Irish Wolfhounds — Julie Schaeffer & Christopher Howard Schaeffer
INTEGRITY — Chinese Shar-Pei — Michelle E. Clark-Salib & Dianna L. Texter
SCOTCH-N-VIOLET — Cairn Terriers — Roberta J. Goforth & Steve M. Goforth
SOUTHERN STAR — Staffordshire Bull Terriers — Sonya L. Moore
SOUTHERN STAR — Miniature American Shepherds — Leslie Peckham
STONEBRIDGE — Cairn Terriers — Dayle Reynolds
SUNFALL — American Eskimos — Barbara E. Beynon
THORNCREEK — Bernese Mountain Dogs — Dr. Nancy P. Melone
VON HOFFNUNG — German Shepherd Dogs — Elizabeth L. Kohl



BOARD OF DIRECTORS June 8 – 9 2015

The Board convened on Monday, June 8, 2015 at 12:50 p.m. All Directors were present except Mr. Arnold and Mr. Powers. Also present were the Executive Secretary, and the Assistant Executive Secretary. Mr. Powers participated by telephone conference, but in accordance with the AKC Bylaws, he was not permitted to vote. The April 2015 Board minutes, copies of which were made available to all Directors, were discussed. They were amended to reflect that on the vote to reconsider a decision to rescind breeds from Mr. Bengtson, Dr. Davies had abstained. Upon a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the April 2015 minutes were approved and amended.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board Action Items

Mr. Sprung gave a status report on previous Action Items and included Staff reports provided by Michael Basone, Stephen Pessah, Keith Frazier, and Mark Dunn.

Economic Benefit of AKC Events

The Board reviewed a report that covers the findings from an online quantitative survey conducted by the AKC during a one month period from April 10 to May 11, 2015.

The objective of this study was to gather current and relevant information to assess the benefits of AKC events to regional economies. This information will be used to help clubs illustrate the value that AKC dog event participants bring to local communities through significant spending on such services and products as lodging, food, transportation, etc.

Just over 84,000 surveys were emailed. A total of 14,288 respondents who have attended an AKC dog event in the past 12 months completed the survey for a response rate of 17%. Of those respondents, 3,516 say they have chaired an AKC event (25% of the total respondents).

The survey results show that AKC Events generate significant dollars in spending by both Exhibitors and Clubs.

- Events in the Midwest can generate up to \$370 million annually to the Midwest region.
- Events in the Northeast can generate up to \$309 million annually to the Northeast region.
- Events in the Southeast can generate up to \$285 million annually to the Southeast region.
- Events in the West can generate up to \$271 million annually to the West region.
- Events in the Southwest can generate up to \$271 million annually to the Southwest region.

In total AKC events have the potential to generate over \$1.5 billion in spending nationwide every year.

WOOFtale

Michael Basone, Steve Pessah, AKC staff, and Jay Cahill, from Bluefin Technology Partners were present for this portion of the meeting. Mr. Cahill gave the Board an update on the status of WOOFtale.

IT Conversion

Michael Basone, AKC Vice President of Technology, presented a full set of recommendations, budget, and timeline for AKC's Information Technology resources. His ultimate goal is to reduce the overall cost of our information technology operations while providing the level of services that AKC requires both today and in the future.

There was a discussion on the expanded Online Competition Management System (OCMS). Mr. Basone indicated that additional resources were needed in a supplemental IT budget in order to complete OCMS, so that it could be made available to clubs.

Following a motion by Mr. Kalter, seconded by Ms. Cruz, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Arnold, Mr. Powers) to approve an additional \$360,000 to complete the OCMS project.

Mr. Basone explained work that had to be done to maintain the current legacy systems while carrying out the migration to the Cloud technology. He indicated that this would require 2015 expenditure of two million dollars in a supplemental 2015 IT budget.



Following a motion by Mr. Menaker, seconded by Ms. Cruz, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Menaker, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Battaglia, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Dok, Dr. Davies, Mr. Wooding, Mr. Feeney; absent: Mr. Arnold, Mr. Powers; abstaining: Mr. Gladstone) to approve an expenditure of two million dollars in 2015 in the supplemental budget, to initiate the migration and modify the current legacy systems.

Real Estate Committee

Mr. Sprung reported on a survey of AKC's Real Estate Committee (REC) and management that has been completed regarding the anticipated space needs for the future. The REC will receive recommendations from CBRE, the real estate firm AKC has contracted, and the REC will be making a recommendation to the AKC Board.

Registration Development

Mark Dunn, AKC staff, participated in this portion of the meeting.

There was a report on the status of the roll out of the new Bred With H.E.A.R.T (BWH) program. The AKC goal is to encourage breeders to work in tandem with AKC's commitment to dog health, breeder education and dog welfare through health testing of breeding stock and our care and conditions policy resulting in a responsible breeding community. The Breeder of Merit (BOM) and the BWH programs are an important part of our breeder outreach and complement one another. These programs constitute the only programs in the United States which are aimed at the responsible breeding of purebred dogs and provide the tools to do so. BOM and BWH both recognize and support breeders who certify that applicable health screens are performed on their breeding stock as recommended by the Parent Club.

AKC Canine Health Foundation

Mr. Ashby, Vice Chairman, reported that AKC and the AKC Canine Health Foundation agreed to an executed Memorandum of Understanding to replace the previous which had expired. The Board had previously voted to provide a matching grant of up to \$500,000 for new money raised in 2015 under the same conditions that applied in 2014. This grant was contingent upon the executed Memorandum of Understanding. The terms of the grant are that:

AKC will provide a 1 to 1 dollar-amount match for any cash contribution

collected from a new donor in 2015 up to \$500,000. AKC matching dollars will be only used for grants, however, regardless of the type of donation made by the new donor. A new donor is defined as a donor who has not contributed to AKC-CHF in the past 2 calendar years (i.e. 2013 and 2014) including their immediate family members or corporations or foundations for which they control or are on the board of. AKC will only match cash contributions or amounts that are readily convertible to cash within 30 days.

The funding will be based on quarterly statements to AKC with payments made each time as soon as possible, except for the last statement which is funded after the KPMG confirmation with a listing of new donors who qualify for the match as of December 31, 2015 together with a report from KPMG verifying the matching criteria was met for the year is received. Costs related to such service will be borne by AKC-CHF.

AKC Pension Plan

Dr. Garvin, Chairman of the Pension Committee reported on an amendment to the Pension Plan. It would provide individuals, who are neither retired and receiving a pension benefit nor still employed by AKC, but who are vested in a future pension benefit, with the option of taking an immediate lump-sum cash payment in lieu of monthly payments at some future date. Affected individuals will be contacted with the specifics of this option.

This was approved in principle at the April 2015 meeting with final approval contingent upon agreeing to the actual wording.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Davies, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Arnold, Mr. Powers) to adopt the amendment to the AKC Employees Retirement Plan.

The Board Adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 8:00 am. All Directors were present except for Lee Arnold and Tom Powers. Mr. Powers participated by telephone conference, but in accordance with the AKC Bylaws, he was not permitted to vote. Also present were the Executive Secretary and the Assistant

Executive Secretary.

The discussion on the Bred With Heart program continued.

When fully implemented, BWH will support AKC's continued commitment to canine health as well as help the general public identify the most responsible breeders from which to buy a family pet.

New Management Employees

The Board were introduced to the following new management employees, Aimee Ritell, Director of Marketing
Brandi Hunter, Director of Public Relations
Elie Orgel, Marketing Manager

Judging Approval Procedure

There was a discussion on proposed revisions to the Judging Approval Process.

The Board discussed the final version of the proposed Judging Approval Process. This version incorporates changes resulting from the April 2015 comment period.

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Menaker, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Dok, Dr. Davies; opposed: Mr. Feeney, Mr. Wooding, Ms. Cruz, Dr. Garvin; absent Mr. Arnold, Mr. Powers) to adopt the revised Judging Approval Process attached to these minutes.

The revised policy becomes effective September 2015.

Staff was directed to prepare a report for the Board so that the effect of the new policy could be measured. Staff will administer the tracking report and provide the results to the Board on an annual basis. Prior to the start of the new process, staff will provide the benchmark numbers to the Board for each of the five measurements, and the sourcing data used to arrive at these benchmarks. Four of the items are statistical, while the second will require establishing a survey and methodology. The report, based on an annual survey and in-house data, is to track any changes to the following matrixes on a year-to-year basis:

- What percentage of the judges are judging what percent of the dogs competing.
- What is the perception of judging competency among exhibitors.
- What is the number of unique dog show entries.

- What Component Educational Units (CEU's) are being used by applicants and which are not being used.

Invitations to Apply

Pat Cruz pointed out that under the previous judging approval policy there was a provision for extending invitations to individuals to apply for additional breeds. A motion had been placed on that provision which was still in place.

Following a motion by Ms. Cruz, seconded by Mr. Menaker, it was VOTED (unanimously; absent: Mr. Arnold, Mr. Powers) to remove the moratorium as the provision no longer exists in the judging approval process.

CONSENT

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

- Delegate and Club Approvals
- Agility Premier Class Regulations
- Eligibility to Judge CAT
- Employee Participation in the Sports
- Recognizing GCH Levels as Titles
- Concurrent Group and All-Breed Events
- Changes to Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Obedience Regulations, Rally Regulations and Tracking Regulations to Allow for Electronic Documents

Delegates Approved

Karen J. Clausing, El Dorado, KS
To represent Miniature Pinscher Club of America

Josephine De Menna, Wilton, CT
To represent Progressive Dog Club

Mark A. Essary, Edmond, OK
To represent Oklahoma City Kennel Club

Mary E. Gauthier-Teeling, Cofu, NY
To represent Tonawanda Valley Kennel Club

Julie M. Lux, Kearny, MO
To represent Heart of America Kennel Club

Richard Nosiglia, Romulus, NY
To represent Saint Bernard Club of America

Agility Premier Class Regulations

The Board VOTED to approve the recommended regulations for a new higher level class in agility called the Premier class. The class provides more difficult challenges than is currently offered in the AKC agility program.

Clubs may start applying to hold the Premier Class after July 1, 2015. Clubs may start running the Premier class at their agility trials effective October 1, 2015.

AGILITY REGULATIONS

NEW Chapter 11

Premier Championship Classes

Section 1. Purpose. These optional titling classes are designed to challenge dogs and handlers at an increased speed and skill level above those set for the Master level classes. Handlers/dogs will need to negotiate courses that require varied approach angles, spacing, and obstacle discriminations to be successful in these classes.

These classes are offered as separate titling tracks and are not part of the MACH/PACH Championships.

The classes may be offered once per day as an additional class or classes. Clubs may, but are not required to offer Premier Standard and Premier Jumpers with Weaves on the same day.

Section 2. Eligibility. Dogs with an AX title are eligible to enter Premier Standard Regular. Dogs with an AX or AXP title are eligible to enter Premier Standard Preferred. Dogs with an AXJ title are eligible to enter Premier Jumpers with Weaves Regular. Dogs with an AXJ or AJP title are eligible to enter Premier Jumpers with Weaves Preferred. Dogs with Regular titles may crossover to the Premier Preferred level as noted above.

Section 3. Performance Standards

• Minimum allowable score required to qualify = 100.

• The course must be completed before the dog reaches the Maximum Course Time (MCT).

• Additional Non-Qualifying faults (beyond those listed in Chapter 5, Sections 5 and 6).

-Any Course Fault

Maximum Course Times (MCT)

Premier Standard

Regular:

- 55 seconds for the 20 and 26 inch

Regular jump heights.

- 60 seconds for the 16 and 24 inch

Regular jump heights.

- 65 seconds for the 8 and 12 inch

Regular jump heights.

Preferred:

- 60 seconds for 16 inch Preferred jump height.

- 65 seconds for 12 and 20 inch Preferred jump heights.

- 70 seconds for 4 and 8 inch Preferred jump heights.

Note: For timing purposes all Premier Standard classes may have timer set for MCT of 70 seconds.

Premier Jumpers With Weaves

Regular:

- 40 seconds for 20 and 26 inch Regular jump heights.

- 45 seconds for the 16 and 24 inch Regular jump heights.

- 48 seconds for the 8 and 12 inch Regular jump heights.

Preferred:

- 45 seconds for 16 inch Preferred jump height.

- 50 seconds for 12 and 20 inch Preferred jump heights.

- 53 seconds for 4 and 8 inch Preferred jump heights.

Note: For timing purposes all Premier Jumpers With Weaves classes may have timer set for MCT of 53 seconds.

Minimum Obstacle Requirements:

• Quantity = 19-21

• Obstacles required, allowed, and not allowed will be the same as the Master level courses as noted in Chapter 6, Section 5 for Standard; and Chapter 7, Section 5 for Jumpers With Weaves, except that both classes will have a maximum of three tunnel passes and Standard will not have a table.

• In both classes the viaduct jumps, as described in Chapter 13, Section 9, can be substituted for the panel jump or a spread jump, as long as the viaduct jump can be set for all heights.

Section 4. Obstacle and Jump Positions. Shall generally follow the requirements set forth in Chapter 4, Section 4, with the following exceptions:

A Distance of 25 – 30 feet between two obstacles may be approved up to two times on a course.

Distances of greater than 30 feet between obstacles may be approved to allow for turns between obstacles as necessary.

There may be one bi-directional tunnel or bar/single bar jump on the course.

Section 5. Approach Angles. Shall generally follow what is stated in Chapter 4, Section 5, except as detailed in the AKC Agility Judges Guidelines for the Premier Class.

Section 6. Titles. To earn the Premier Agility Dog (PAD), Premier Agility Dog Preferred (PADP), Premier Jumpers Dog (PJD) or Premier Jumpers Dog Preferred (PJDP) titles, a dog must earn 25 qualifying scores with five qualifying scores earned for placing in the top 25% of the dogs that competed in their jump height.

Dogs that are absent or withdrawn will not count toward the number of dogs competing in the jump height. The 25% calculation will be rounded down to determine the number of 25% placements in each jump height. In the case of a tie for the last 25% placement, a run-off will be held per Chapter 5, Section 2. If a class has two or three dogs competing, the 1st place dog will be awarded a top 25% placement qualifying score. If only one dog competes in the jump height, there will be no top 25% placement earned in that jump height.

Lifetime Achievement titles (bronze, silver, gold and century) will be awarded for each additional 25 qualifying scores earned in the Premier class.

Eligibility to Judge Coursing Ability Test (CAT)

The Board VOTED to approve changes to Sections 7 and 8 of the Coursing Ability Test (CAT) Regulations. This is a modification to the eligibility requirements regarding who may judge Coursing Ability Tests.

Changes to Section 7 (underlined) permit anyone with three or more years of experience in the sport of Lure Coursing to judge a Coursing Ability Test (CAT). Section 7.

All AKC approved Lure Coursing event judges are approved to judge a Coursing Ability Test. People who are not Lure Coursing judges may be approved to judge a Coursing Ability Test provided they meet the following minimum requirements: (1) Must be in good standing with the AKC and are at least 21 years of age, and (2) Have a minimum of

three years of experience in the sport of Lure Coursing. It is the responsibility of the hosting club to assure these requirements are met.

Changes to Section 8 (underlined) shift the responsibility for a safe course design from the judge to the event committee.

Section 8. Course Design.

The course shall be designed with safety for non-sighthound breeds as a primary consideration. There shall be no turns more acute than 90 degrees. The total length of the course shall be no less than 600 yards and should be as close to 600 yards as possible. The lure will consist of plastic strips. Depending on the size and type of dog, the dog will run either the full course or a 300 yard course. The 300 yard distance shall be clearly marked. Safety is of utmost importance. Many of the dogs running the Coursing Ability Test will not possess the agility of a sighthound and this must be a consideration in the design of the course.

The event committee is responsible for the safety of the course by ensuring they have experienced, knowledgeable individuals in course design at the event. The judge is responsible for walking the course prior to the start of the event in order to look for hazards.

Employee Participation in AKC Sports

The Board VOTED to amend the policy on AKC employee participation in the sport.

The intent of this change is to give the AKC staff the opportunity to participate in AKC's many event types, providing them a broader understanding of our events and their role in fulfilling our mission. The changes enable Vice Presidents, Assistant Vice Presidents and Field Staff to compete in events for which they have no administrative responsibilities.

Employees will be able to compete for a Grand Championship title, but not for the Gold, Silver, or Platinum levels. Employees will be able to judge any AKC non-titling event. The new policy follows:

Many employees are attracted to the AKC because of their love for dogs. Employees and members of their household are encouraged to compete at AKC events provided their job responsibilities do not result in a potential conflict of interest.

Dogs owned or co-owned by an employee or household members may be exhibited at AKC events unless one of the following conditions apply.

1. Field staff in Conformation, Companion Events and Performance Events and employees who are involved in the judging approval process, and household member of any of these groups, may not exhibit in the sport(s) for which they have administrative responsibilities. Dogs owned or co-owned by field staff or their household members likewise may not be exhibited in these sports. Employees and their household members may exhibit at sports outside their responsibility. However, exhibiting may only take place at events in which the employee is not officially assigned.

2. Dogs owned or co-owned by an employee or household members, may be exhibited until such time as they achieve a title or titles, through the highest title listed below in each category:

ConformationGrand Champion (but not including Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum)
ObedienceObedience Trial Champion(OTCH)
Tracking.....Champion Tracker
Performance.....FC, AFC
Hunting TestsMaster Hunter
Herding Trials.....Herding Champion
Lure CoursingField Champion
EarthdogMaster Earthdog
AgilityAgility Champion (MACH1/PACH1)
RallRally Advanced Excellent (RAE)

After the highest title is achieved in a sport, dogs owned or co-owned may continue to be exhibited in non-regular classes in that sport.

3. Executive Officers and their household members may not exhibit at AKC events. CMC members involved in administering a Sport and their household members may not exhibit dogs in a Sport they administer, but may exhibit in any Sport outside their area of responsibility. CMC members not directly involved in administering events, as well as members of their household may exhibit in any AKC event with the same restrictions as apply to all employees.

4. Juniors who live in the same house-



hold as an employee may enter AKC events as a Junior Handler. However, exhibiting may only take place at events in which the employee is not officially assigned.

5. Employees may only judge at non-titling AKC events e.g. sanctioned events, sweepstakes, Futurities, Non-Regular Classes, and, if invited, at events held outside of the United states.

6. Unusual situations may occur. These should be brought to the attention of the CMC member in charge of the department, who will address the situation in consultation with the head of the Human Resources department.

Any questions or concerns regarding this policy should be referred to a member of the Human Resources professional staff.

Recognizing GCH Levels as Titles

The Board VOTED to modify the Grand Champion program so that the additional achievement levels are recognized as titles. The designations will be GCHB (Bronze), GCHS (Silver), GCHG (Gold), and GCHP (Platinum). This will require an amendment to Chapter 16, Section 7, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* (new wording underlined below) and must be approved by the Delegate body. It will be read at the September Delegate meeting and voted at the December Delegates meeting. If approved by the Delegate, it will become effective on April 1, 2016.

SECTION 7. Any champion which shall have won twenty-five points shall become a Grand Champion of Record, if nine or more of said points shall have been won at three shows with a rating of three or more Grand Championship points each and under three different judges, and some one or more of the balance of said points shall have been won under some other judge or judges than the three judges referred to above and at least one Champion was defeated at three shows. A dog becomes a Grand Champion when it is so officially recorded by The American Kennel Club and shall be entitled to a Grand Championship certificate.

Any Grand Champion which shall have won 100 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Bronze (GCHB). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 200 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Silver (GCHS). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 400 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Gold (GCHG). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 800 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Platinum (GCHP). After earning Grand Champion Platinum title, for each additional 800 Grand Championship points earned the Grand Champion Platinum title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the Grand Champion Platinum title as defined above, e.g., 1,600 Grand Championship points = GCHP2. The AKC will identify dogs qualifying for these titles by the appropriate designations preceding their AKC name in all official AKC records. In each case, the higher title will supersede the preceding title in all official AKC records such that the highest title will be listed.

The change will be retroactive to the beginning of the Grand Champion program and the dog's titled name will be modified to reflect the highest GCH title they have earned. These dogs have already been awarded an achievement certificate and a medallion for each level previously earned, therefore, a title certificate will not be issued as part of the implementation. Dogs that earn a Grand Championship title after the implementation will receive a standard title certificate. Medallions will continue to be issued for winning the Grand Champion title as well as the advanced Grand Champion titles.

Concurrent Group and All-Breed Events

The Board VOTED to approved the Concurrent Group and All-Breed Events Pilot program as described below. It is approved with effective dates of July 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016. Staff will monitor these events and come back to the Board with a recommendation for the future of the program after the 18-

month Pilot program.

Concurrent Group and All-Breed Events Pilot Program

Group and All-Breed events may be held concurrently with the following limitations:

1. Permission must be obtained from the all-breed club in order to apply.
2. The events must be held on the same grounds (i.e., the same physical address).
3. Ownership of the corresponding date must be agreed upon in writing and submitted with the event applications prior to event approval.
4. The breed judging in the all-breed event must be held prior to the breed judging in the group event in order to avoid delays in group judging in the all-breed event. Likewise, the group judging for the all-breed event must be held prior to the group judging in the group event.
5. Any judge who is shared by the two clubs involved is limited to 100 breed entries (for the two events combined) for the day plus any group or Best in Show assignments.
6. Evening or concurrent specialties are permitted for breeds that are not part of the group that is holding an event concurrently with the all-breed event.
7. All-breed events must offer group and Best in Show competition. Group events must offer group competition.
8. The use of multiple group rings is encouraged.
9. Junior Showmanship competition is allowed.
10. Obedience and Rally competitions are allowed, and encouraged, but must have their own ring(s) for competition.

Requests for multiple group events on the same day and site of an all-breed event will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Changes to Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Obedience Regulations, Rally Regulations and Tracking Regulations to Allow for Electronic Documents

The Board VOTED to approve changes to *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 4, Section 2; Chapter 7, Section

12; and Chapter 12, Sections 1, 3, 4, and 6; to allow for publication of electronic documents at the club's discretion.

This recommendation would be read at the September Delegates meeting and voted at the December Delegates meeting to be effective January 1, 2016. The Board also VOTED to approve the changes to the *Obedience Regulations* Chapter 1, Sections 3 and 26, *Rally Regulations* Chapter 1, Section 3 and 20, and *Tracking Regulations* Chapter 1, Section 18, contingent upon the Delegates approval of the change to *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* effective January 1, 2016.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Heather McManus Senior Attorney, participated in this portion of the meeting, and Sheila Goffe, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting by video conference.

Delegate Eligibility – "Professional"

Judge

The Board reviewed a proposal that was submitted on behalf of the Delegate Bylaws Committee. The Delegate Bylaws Committee is proposing an amendment to Article VI, Section 5 of the *Bylaws of The American Kennel Club* that would permit Delegate Judges to charge a fee of up to \$150 per assignment over and above actual expenses.

Following a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Garvin, it was VOTED (affirmative: Mr. Gladstone, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Kalter, Mr. Menaker, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Ashby, Ms. Cruz, Dr. Davies, Mr. Wooding, Mr. Dok, opposed: Dr. Battaglia; absent: Mr. Arnold, Mr. Powers) to approve the addition of the following underlined wording to the first paragraph of ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5 of the Bylaws of The American Kennel Club:

SECTION 5. Any person in good standing with the AKC who is a resident citizen of the United States, its territories or possessions, or has permanent resident alien status as defined by the Immigration and Naturalization Act, shall be eligible to become or remain a Delegate, providing this person meets the criteria for occupational eligibility given herein. No person is eligible to become or remain a Delegate if he or she (a) is a professional handler or trainer of dogs, professional judge of

purebred dog events, a professional judge defined as one who charges a fee of more than an amount of \$150 in excess of actual expenses, (b) is engaged in trade or traffic in dogs, which includes commercial breeders or brokers of dogs for resale, (c) is employed full time in the manufacture or sale of dog food or dog supplies, (d) is a publisher or other person who promotes show dogs/kennels through solicitation or acceptance of advertisements in commercial dog publications, dog show superintendents or his or her employees. (e) has a significant interest in a dog registry, dog event-giving organization or any organization deemed to be in competition with AKC or in conflict with its objects. Significant interest would include but not be limited to, ownership in, employment by, a directorship of, and holding office in.

This proposed change will be read at the September Delegates meeting and voted upon at the December Delegates meeting.

2016 and 2017 Meeting Calendar

In April 2015, the Board VOTED to base the 2016 and beyond calendar on the second Tuesday of the month with the exception of February (Westminster Kennel Club dog show) and December (AKC/Eukanuba National Championship). The Bylaws require that the Delegate Meetings be held in March, June, September, and December or January (based on AKC/Eukanuba being in either month).

The Bylaws also require that there be at least eight regular Board meetings in a year. Beginning in 2016, the Board meetings are to be held in the eight months where there are no Delegate Meetings. The Board reviewed the projected 2016 and 2017 calendars for both the Board and Delegates meetings. Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Dok, it was VOTED (affirmative: Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Dok, Mr. Menaker, Mr. Ashby, Ms. Cruz, Mr. Kalter, Dr. Davies, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Gladstone; opposed: Mr. Wooding; absent: Mr. Arnold, Mr. Powers) to approve the 2016 and 2017 dates indicated with the February 2017 dates contingent on the dates of the Westminster Kennel Club dog show.

AKC Bylaw Amendment - Term Limits

The Board reviewed a proposal submitted by the Clarksville Kennel Club to amend Article VII, Section 1 of the *Bylaws of the American Kennel Club* to eliminate term limits for members of the Board of Directors. It was reported that the Delegate Bylaws Committee voted to endorse and to co-sponsor this amendment.

This will be discussed further at the July Board meeting.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee for the March 2016 election must be appointed by August 15, and its report must be received no later than October 15, 2015. The Board was reminded that as there is no August 2015 Board meeting, the appointment must be made at the July 2015 meeting to meet the requirements of the AKC Bylaws.

Canine Legislation Position on Predatory Pet Leasing Schemes

The Board was given a recommendation to update the Canine Legislation Position Statement on *Protection 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. Predatory pet leasing schemes will lease pets as companions over a multiple-year term for a monthly fee. Even after paying many times the value of the pet, the lessee may not own the pet.

In one model, the leasing company provides open-ended leases that include healthcare, food and other supplies at the discretion of the lessor in exchange for a monthly fee for the life of the pet.

Another model provides a lease for the pet only, which terminates after several years, at which time the individual may have the option to then purchase the pet. In either case, even after paying many times the value of the pet, the lessor may not, and may never, own the pet.

The AKC strongly believes that acquisition of a pet should be a commitment by a future owner for the lifetime of the pet. As legal property, pet "ownership" provides legal rights, responsibilities and liabilities that that are valuable to both



consumers and society, and may not be otherwise available.

Predatory pet leasing agreements allow the leasing company to obtain a significantly higher profit margin while potentially avoiding regulatory oversight and consumer protection laws. At least one state attorney general has looked into the practice after receiving complaints to its consumer protection unit. Lessees can end up making interest payments that may be as much as three times the price of the pet while giving up property rights and consumer protections usually associated with purchase and ownership of a pet.

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. This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

Litigation Against Discriminatory Legislation

Based on a request from the Board, Staff presented information on becoming more aggressive in litigation against “discriminatory laws,” meaning laws that potentially may harm or discriminate against certain dog owners such as breeders, owners of certain breeds of dogs, or individuals with disabilities utilizing a service dog. It might also include issues related to AKC and/or dog owners’ interests such as regulation of pet sales, the role of animals as legal property, and other issues.

This will be discussed further at the July 2015 meeting.

Importation and Interstate Transport of Dogs for Retail Rescue

Based on a request from the Board, Staff provided a report detailing the problems surrounding the importation and interstate transportation of dogs for retail rescue (also known as “dog trafficking”) and resulting public health concerns, and discussed potential public policy solutions to better protect the public health and breeders’ interest.

State governments, particularly those most impacted in New England, have begun looking at the influx of imported dogs and responding to the challenge with regulations requiring quarantines and health examinations of dogs and reg-

istration or licensing of rescue groups that import them.

State federations remain concerned with the impact public health has on dog trafficking, and the lack of public funding available to enforce animal importation laws and regulations.

The Board discussed the fact that opportunities exist for states to better address issues related to dog trafficking. Solutions could be pursued through legislative and regulatory advocacy efforts spearheaded by AKC, state federations, and other allied organizations.

This will be discussed further at the July 2015 meeting.

Legal Status Reporting

Ms. McManus, Senior Attorney, presented a status report on pending litigation and other legal activities for the months of April and May 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

CLUBS

Best Practices for Recruiting Club Membership

The Board reviewed a memo from Staff that provides best practices for recruiting membership into AKC clubs/events. These best practices include input from the All-Breed Clubs and Companion Events Delegate Committees.

The All-Breed Clubs Delegate Committee conducted a survey of all-breed club presidents, secretaries and delegates. They received 879 responses. The survey’s primary findings are:

1. 7% of the all-breed clubs do not desire to increase membership.
2. 65% of the clubs said they have a problem attracting new members.
3. The two primary reasons people join clubs are to socialize and learn about dogs.
4. The four best ways to retain members are to:
 - Hold regular meetings
 - Hold social activities
 - Engage members to work at events
 - Offer educational activities
5. The four best ways to attract new members are to:
 - Offer educational activities

- Hold training classes
- Develop and keep up-to-date a club website
- Use social media to spread the word

After review of the survey, the All-Breed Clubs Committee compiled a list of best practices for recruiting and retaining membership. The complete list will be posted to the AKC website following their June meeting.

The Companion Events Delegate Committee has assembled a list of best practices based on the committee member’s experience. Further, they have been elaborating on some of the best practices and are posting these on the AKC website so they are available to all clubs. (www.akc.org/clubs/promote)

The CE Delegates Committee’s suggestions for clubs to attract new members and retain existing members are:

1. Hold social activities
2. Develop a mentorship program for new club members
3. Offer fun matches the night prior to an event
4. Offer CGC classes and testing
5. Post training videos on club website and social media
6. Actively solicit youth organization participation
7. Spread information about the club through a club website, social media and a club brochure
8. Hold novice only trials, offer free lunch
9. Offer educational seminars, matches, show-and-go events
10. Conduct post-event surveys to gain feedback on what can be done better

COMPLIANCE

Proposed Breeder Assistance Program

The Board was given a Staff report on a proposed program that would assist breeders in need of rehoming dogs. Such a program would benefit those who, because of illness, resources, natural disasters, etc., are unable to care for their dogs and who seek a discreet and confidential program through which to rehome their dogs.

The following AKC Management



actions were reported:

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

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Alan Slay, Tim Thomas, Glenn Lycan, Mari-Beth O'Neill, and Bri Tesarz, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Defibrillators at Shows

The Board discussed the question of having defibrillators at all-breed and group shows. Currently, AKC requires that group and all-breed clubs have a qualified Emergency Medical Technician (CPR certified) in attendance from one hour prior to the start of judging until completion of all judging at group and all-breed conformation events. While Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) are trained in the use of defibrillators, it is not required that they provide one onsite. It should be noted that if the event is held in a public facility (physical structure), these facilities likely will have AEDs onsite in order to be in compliance with state regulations.

Requiring superintendents to provide and operate an AED would necessitate the training of employees, the purchase and maintenance of equipment, and compliance with state requirements for each state where their services are provided.

Given the EMTs' availability, their training, their ongoing need to maintain the AED device and their familiarity with local laws, it is the staff's recommendation that the EMTs should be the ones responsible for providing the AED.

Clubs holding AKC events are required to complete a Disaster and Emergency Plan as part of their application. This provides a vehicle to convey the importance of AED devices.

Following a motion by Mr. Kalter, seconded by Dr. Garvin it was VOTED to approve two changes to the Disaster and Emergency Plan effective September 1, 2015.

- 1) The following wording will be added to the cover letter of the Disaster and Emergency Plan as recommendation number 9
9. Clubs holding group and all-breed conformation events in public facilities must identify the location of all onsite automated external

defibrillators (AED). If the event location does not have onsite AEDs, it is recommended that the club request the EMT in attendance provide an AED.

- 2) On the Disaster and Emergency Plan form itself, the following question with a checkbox should be added:
For group and all-breed shows, does the show location have automated external defibrillators onsite?

This is a modification to Board policy.

Low-Entry Breeds

The Board continued to discuss ways to assist low-entry breeds with regards to earning Championship points. It was agreed that any recommendations should be based upon verifiable statistical information.

Limited Status Junior Judges, Eligible to Judge Group Shows

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow an individual with Limited Status approval for Junior Showmanship for all breeds in a group, to be eligible to judge Junior Showmanship at a Group Show. This proposal is made by staff at the request of the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee. This will involve, if approved, revisions to the Conformation Junior Showmanship Regulations, Sections 2 and 4. If approved by the AKC Board, the effective date will be October 1, 2015.

The Board will discuss this further at the July meeting.

Junior Showmanship, Master Class Criteria

The Board reviewed a Staff proposal to revise the eligibility criteria for the Junior Showmanship Master Class. Staff is proposing the criteria for the Master Class be revised to 10 Best Junior Wins with competition. If approved, the new criteria will be effective on October 7, 2015. The Board will discuss this further at the July meeting.

Addition of the Pee Wee Class to the List of Special Attractions with Standing Approval

The Dog Show Rules Committee proposed the addition of a Pee Wee Class as a pre-approved Special Attraction. Staff has worked with the committee to establish the Procedures and Guidelines for conducting the class. There was still concern among Board members regarding

liability issues associated with the class. Staff was directed to seek advice from AKC's insurance carrier.

PEE WEE CLASS SPECIAL ATTRACTION Procedures and Guidelines

The Pee Wee Class will be added to the list of approved Special Attractions.

The Pee Wee Special Attraction is a pre-Junior Showmanship class. The Pee Wee class is geared for children 5–9 years of age. Safety is a primary concern.

Each Pee Wee unit consists of the child, his/her parent, guardian, or responsible adult, and the dog. Only one Pee Wee unit is in the ring at a time. This is not a competitive class, but rather a fun, learning experience for the child and the adult.

At an All-Breed Event the judge must be an AKC approved All Breed Junior Showmanship Judge. A Group Club or Specialty Club may have a Limited Status Junior Showmanship Judge that meets the criteria. The Judge MUST like children, be patient, kind, and have a sense of humor!

This Special Attraction must be listed as such in the premium list and in any public announcements which will include the following information:

- A dog must be at least four months of age to enter the Pee Wee class.
- Bitches in season will not be allowed to participate. If pre-entered, a dog may be substituted that meets the eligibility requirements as specified by the club.
- All dogs entered must have the proper lead and collar.
- A responsible adult must be present with the child both inside and outside the ring.
- At a Group or Specialty Club Show the dogs must be of the breed(s) eligible for the event.
- At an All-Breed event, all AKC fully recognized and Miscellaneous Class breeds must be allowed to enter, including dogs with a PAL listing.
- At an All-Breed event, it is up to

the host club to decide if FSS breeds not in the Miscellaneous Class and All-American dogs are allowed to enter.

- It is up to the host club to decide if a dog must be registered to participate.
- How entries will be accepted is up to the host club. Clubs may take day-of-show entries if they wish.
- The entry fee, if any, shall be specified.
- Clubs may specify a limit on the number of dogs allowed to enter the class.

The safety of both the dogs and Juniors inside and outside the ring is a primary concern. An additional lead, provided by the Club, should be at the Judge's table. At the Judge's discretion based upon the size of the child and the dog, for safety purposes the adult may be asked to attach a safety lead to the dog so both child and adult will walk the dog together.

It is essential that the club hosting this Special Attraction provide the support and time to greet the participants and make them feel welcome and be able to answer any question that may arise. There should be a minimum of three club members to assist participants, monitor the ring for safety, and one may act as the steward. Club members must be patient, pleasant, and willing to dedicate as much time as needed to create a pleasant experience for the young Junior and his/her adult. **THIS IS VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS PROGRAM.**

Each of these club members assisting should make themselves familiar with the Junior Showmanship Conformation Regulations, Guidelines for Judging Juniors in Conformation, Juniors in Performance Event Regulations booklet. It is recommended that these Regulations be available to those junior entrants at the show along with the Pee Wee class procedures and guidelines. (The club may download the PDF of the booklet or order from the Order Desk.)

Although the word "judge" will be used, this is designed to be a learning

and mentoring experience—no Junior will be "judged" but rather will be mentored with the age-appropriate amount of information to help prepare them for what they will be expected to know about AKC regular Junior Showmanship once they reach 9 years of age. Obviously, the older children can absorb more detail than the younger ones. The children will be mentored one child, their adult, and dog in the ring at a time. Each child will receive a participation ribbon or rosette to commemorate the experience. The club may select the color of the ribbon and may wish to add a small gift for the child or the dog to take home. It would be an added plus if the Judge were to be available for individual photographs with the show or club photographer which would serve as a memento and reminder to both the child and the adult of the fun experience and remind them to return again next year!

The Judge should explain the process of showing the dog to the Junior and the responsible adult in the ring including breed specific presentation. Depending on the size of the dog and the child, the adult may be asked to lift a table breed on or off the table, or the Club may mandate that the adult should do it regardless. Neither the youngster nor the adult should be asked to show the bite.

Consider either holding the Pee Wee Special Attraction at lunchtime, which would give the child and the responsible adult time to get to the show; or the Club may wish to schedule this before the groups, when rings may be available. It is important to maximize spectator attendance as this is a huge crowd pleaser! Ideally, a designated ring for this Special Attraction would allow more time for one-on-one mentoring for each child and adult. If that is not possible, then a ring that is vacant would do, preferably centrally located (perhaps near the Club tent) for maximum viewing by the greatest audience.

Some clubs offer a pizza party or cake in a separate location after the classes are over for the children and adults to

make new friends and share this new common interest.

Concurrent Match

The Board asked Event Operations staff to look into the possibility of matches being held concurrently with dog shows as part of the initiative to attract new participants. After discussing the pros and cons of the idea, staff presented an alternative to holding a concurrent match.

A way to provide a stress-free experience for new exhibitors would be for a club to offer a show-and-go ring. A show-and-go ring could serve three functions during the event. At the start of the event the ring could be used for the New Exhibitor Briefing. This would allow an appropriate segregated location to introduce new exhibitors to the event. For the majority of the day the ring could be used by exhibitors to practice with their dogs. Having practice rings was brought forward by the Executive Field Staff as a positive for exhibitors based on their experience at events that provide practice rings. Exhibitors would have the opportunity to work their dog in an event-type environment without the pressure associated with point competition. Lastly, clubs could offer set time frames throughout the day to provide mentoring; sign-up could occur at the New Exhibitor Briefing and throughout the day as time and slots remain available. Knowledgeable club members would staff the show-and-go ring to assist new exhibitors. The mentoring option also provides the club an opportunity to increase their event revenue if they choose, by offering mentoring at a small fee or donation. Executive Field Staff pointed out that some shows setting up practice rings kept a donation box at the ring entrance.

The goal of the show-and-go ring is to provide an opportunity for new exhibitors to obtain an understanding of the conformation procedure that is unavailable during regular class judging. Members staffing the ring do not have to have specific breed knowledge but participation knowledge to assist with the basics: armbands, lead and collar (could be breed specific), stacking, movement patterns, table or not table, basic grooming tips. Additionally this will provide a focal point for new exhibitors to meet other like-minded individuals. Promoting



the set-up of a practice ring and mentoring ring at events would have a positive impact on AKC conformation events by exposing new dog owners to a user-friendly training experience. Providing a one-on-one opportunity for a new exhibitor can potentially lead to a memorable positive experience with their dog. Some will be inspired to enroll their dogs in classes and become future competitors and potentially future club members.

Without objection, staff will begin to promote the set-up of show-and-go practice rings at events and the use of these rings by clubs to provide New Exhibitor Briefings and stress-free mentoring experiences. This option could be implemented quickly by clubs, giving them the ability to provide a better event experience for new exhibitors. This will be discussed at the July 2015 meeting.

COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Pam Manaton, and Carrie DeYoung, AKC Staff, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

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).

Input from the Companion Events Delegate Committee will be sought in June. This will be discussed further at the July meeting.

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

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Companion Events Department to clarify the Match Regulations to allow Group and Specialty clubs to offer all-breed Sanctioned A Matches at their option. The obedience and rally regulations allow Group and Specialty clubs the ability to offer all-breed licensed trials at their option. The Match Regulations allow Group and Specialty clubs to offer

all-breed Sanctioned B Matches for obedience and rally at their option. However, the Match Regulations do not mention Sanctioned A Matches. The Club Relations Department has interpreted this as meaning Sanctioned A Matches held by Group and Specialty clubs must be restricted to their breeds only.

The purpose of Sanctioned A obedience/rally matches is to ensure a club is well prepared to run a licensed event prior to becoming licensed. Allowing a club to offer an all-breed Sanctioned A Match will only further prepare them to produce the required event materials correctly by having more entries and additional repetition of processes at their Sanctioned A events.

The Companion Events Department is requesting that the Match Regulations be clarified by adding a provision that specifically states the Obedience and Rally Sanctioned A Matches may be open to all breeds.

These sports are governed by Regulations and may be modified by a vote of the Board. If approved, the change would become effective September 1, 2015. This will be discussed by the Board further in the July meeting.

What Motivates People to Participate in Dog Sports

The staff presented a memo that outlines information from two reports; one that looked into What Motivates People to Participate with Their Dogs in Sporting Events and a second study discussed the multiple roles of individuals within dog clubs and the factors related to their involvement. The majority of dog sport participants are motivated by the gratification they receive from the activities associated with developing their skills and their dog's skills, achieving their personal goals and the pleasure of social interactions associated with a sport. The degree of involvement is limited by the costs associated with their participation.

Why Do People Participate in Agility

The Board reviewed a memo that outlined the major findings of a survey conducted to gain insight into the question—Why do people participate in agility? Six motivational factors were noted.

- Building a Relationship with their Dogs
- The Challenge of Improvement
- Physical/Mental Activity
- Social Interaction

- Participant Feels a Sense of Control – less subjectivity than obedience or conformation.
- Recognition

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 1:00 pm.

Adjourned

Attest:

James P. Crowley, Executive Secretary



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AKC Board of Directors Judging Approval Process

Effective: September 1, 2015

This newly stated judging approval process (the Policy) replaces any and all prior policies, practices and requirements that are inconsistent with any of its terms and conditions. This Policy relies on the prospective judge fulfilling mandatory as well as optional requirements chosen by the prospective judge to request Permit status. It is intended to simplify and quantify the process while giving significant objective guidance to all who desire to be approved to judge at AKC conformation events. It is recognized that education in each breed is an ongoing process but differs for the newly approved judge or the long time experienced judge.

The progression process is designed to consider the experience of the judge and to provide flexibility in which optional requirements (Qualifying Components) may be chosen to achieve Permit and ultimately group status. It is intended to assure an even playing field with clear guidelines for those aspiring to judge.

THE REQUIREMENT MATRIX

Below is a Judge Education Component Requirements Chart that shows the requirements both for the first time applicant and additional breed applicants. The Chart is divided into 4 sections:

1. The first section is required of all applicants to obtain their first breed
2. The second section has the mandatory requirements for judges depending upon the number of groups they currently judge for both

regular and low entry breeds. (For purposes of this Policy a Low Entry Breed (LEB) is defined to be one in which fewer than 3,500 entries of that breed were made at AKC Licensed and Member Dog Shows throughout the United States during the preceding calendar year. The Judging Operations Department (hereafter: the Department) shall publish a list of LEB annually).

3. The third section contains the specific breed Qualifying Component education experiences from which the applicant can choose in order to qualify for Permit status. Each Qualifying Component is assigned a Component Educational Unit (CEU) weighted point allotment shown in the Chart.
4. The fourth section defines the maximum number of breeds for which an applicant may hold Permit status at any given time, based upon the number of groups the judge is approved to judge. Application to judge an additional breed may be made when the number of Permit breeds an applicant is then approved to judge is equal to or less than this maximum, so that the number of Permit breeds may equal but not exceed this maximum.

The columns in the Judge Education Component Requirements Chart determine the number of CEU's an applicant must present, per breed, based upon the applicant's group approval status. The more groups the applicant is approved to judge, the fewer CEU's per breed the application must present.

FIRST TIME APPLICATION TO JUDGE NEW JUDGES

12-5-4 Method

Individuals applying as New Judges must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Have 12 or more years' experience exhibiting in conformation in at least one breed applied for.
- Must be a member of a household where five or more litters in each breed applied for have been bred and whelped.
- Qualifying litters must have been whelped and raised on applicant's premises.

- Qualifying litters must have produced four or more champions.
- Criteria compliance may be with AKC events and registered dogs or with events and registrations of a foreign kennel club whose registry is recognized by the AKC. If foreign, it shall be the applicant's responsibility to adequately document the criteria compliance.

New Breed Alternate Method

If an applicant does not meet the litter and/or champion criteria in the initial breed(s), he/she may apply under the New Breed Alternate Method. Applicants must have 15 or more years' experience in conformation in at least one breed applied for and must be able to document having accomplished any combination of four of the following components in each initial breed:

- Bred at least two champions in the breed requested.
- Bred and raised four litters in the breed requested on his or her premises.
- Breeder of Merit earned in the breed requested.
- Owned or maintained for the duration four dogs in the breed requested that earned championships or grand championships while residing at applicant's home.
- Personally exhibited four unique dogs in the breed requested to their championship, earning all 15 points and both majors, or grand championship, earning all 25 points, three majors and defeating a special on three occasions. (This requirement is the same for owners and professional handlers).
- Personally exhibited two dogs in the breed requested as specials for a minimum of two years or approximately 60 shows. (This requirement is the same for owners and professional handlers).
- Owned at least one dog in the breed requested that sired four champions. (Dog must have resided at applicant's home while used at stud)
- Document 25 years of experience exhibiting dogs in Conformation events.
- Criteria compliance may be with AKC events and registered dogs or with events and registrations of a



foreign kennel club whose registry is recognized by the AKC. If foreign, it shall be the applicant's responsibility to adequately document the criteria compliance.

Individuals with extensive experience and abilities beyond those points listed above will be given due consideration.

All New Judge applicants must:

1. Pay a \$25 per breed application fee.
2. Pass the Breed Standard Test described in this Policy.
3. Pass Anatomy and Procedure test.
4. Be interviewed satisfactorily by an AKC Executive Field Representative as described in this Policy.
5. Pass a wicket or scales test administered by an Executive Field Representative if a breed applied for is a measurable breed.
6. Attend an authorized AKC Basic Judging Institute prior to requesting regular status but not earlier than two years prior to submission of initial application.

Permit and Regular Status

The designation of a judge as approved on Permit status is intended to advise exhibitors that the judge has been recently approved for the breed. The Premium List for all shows shall indicate with the use of an asterisk for each Permit breed that the Judge is on Permit status for that particular breed as of the time of AKC's last approval of the judging panel. A judge has completed Permit status for a breed after completing 3 assignments. The judge shall notify the Department upon completion of Permit status for each breed and shall be designated as being approved with Regular Status thereafter. An "assignment" is an approval by the AKC to judge a breed at a conformation show offering championship points. The number of breeds for which a judge may be approved upon Permit status is limited in accordance with the Matrix, Part 4.

Application to Judge Additional Breeds

The Judge Education Component Requirements Chart provides for an advancement protocol that is experienced based. Judges approved for multiple groups will be expected to submit appli-

cations with fewer CEUs per breed than those with approval for fewer groups. An application for an additional breed may be submitted upon completion of the CEU requirements for that breed, subject to the limit set forth in Section 4 of the Matrix.

Specific Breed Education Requirements

In addition to the mandatory requirements outlined in sections 1 and 2 of the Judge Education Component Requirements Chart, each prospective judge must complete optional requirements. The number of CEU's for each breed necessary to be completed to obtain Permit status varies depending upon the experience level of the judge. A judge completing the first group must, when applying for additional breeds, complete more CEUs per breed than a judge already approved for a multiple groups. Applicants must keep records to document the fulfillment of the CEU requirements for each breed.

After a judge has been granted regular status on all of the breeds approved on the initial application, an application to judge an additional breed may be presented to the Department when the applicant has completed the number of CEU requirements for said breed as set forth in the Matrix, or as otherwise permitted in this Policy. The application shall be accompanied by the appropriate supporting documentation to demonstrate compliance with the CEU requirements for the applicant and the breed.

Part 4 of the Matrix establishes a maximum number of breeds that an applicant may have on Permit status at any one time. Applications for breeds in excess of that maximum will not be accepted.

An applicant for an additional breed shall:

1. Pay a \$25 per breed application fee.
2. Pass the Breed Standard Test described in this Policy.
3. Be interviewed satisfactorily by an AKC Executive Field Representative as described in this Policy.
4. Pass a wicket or scales test administered by an Executive Field Representative if the breed applied for is a measurable breed, except that

an applicant who has passed a similar test in the past 5 years without having received a negative procedural observation report on the device during that time need not again be tested.

5. Complete at least all of the CEU's required for the breed for the applicant's level, or as required by this Policy.

It is the intent of this policy to remove barriers from becoming approved for more breeds and groups. In order to provide the mentoring and guidance when a judge who is not regularly approved for all of the breeds in a group submits an application for additional breeds the following process is followed:

The Department assembles and reviews the judge's Judge Breed Commentary (JBC) reports (described later in this Policy), all procedural reports, the interview report and any other materials it may have available to it. It is anticipated that if the applicant has completed the required CEU's, passed the relevant tests and breed interview, and had educational based JBC discussions which followed the intent of this policy virtually all applicants will be approved for the breeds for which they have applied.

If, however, upon such review the Department is of the opinion that the judge should continue his or her education in the breeds for which they are currently approved, rather than being approved for some or all of the additional breeds, the following shall occur: The Department shall advise the judge of the additional breeds which are approved, its opinion that further education is needed in specific breeds and that the application for those breeds is not approved, and the exact reasons for the opinion providing all documentation upon which that opinion is based. The judge may agree to withdraw the pending application for the unapproved breeds. The applicant will receive a credit for any fee payment made for breeds withdrawn. It shall be the Applicant's responsibility to document any credit that he or she might be entitled to upon presentation of a later application. The applicant may apply again for any breeds after such withdrawal at such time as the judge chooses. If the applications for the breeds in question are not



withdrawn, the denial of the application for that breed shall be subject to the automatic review described later in this Policy.

Final Approval

The process includes giving the Fancy an opportunity to be aware of and comment on the judge's application. Once all of the above has been completed the applicant's name and the breed(s) for which an application is pending will be published once in the next available publication of the on-line Gazette. Any such response shall be provided the judge. Upon the review of any responses received the applicant will be advised of any questions or concerns that arise and provided the opportunity to respond.

Once the requisite posting in the on-line Gazette and comments received the judge will be considered for Permit status. Only if the comments bring to the attention of the Department significant cause to withhold approval shall the judge not be approved once they reach the publication stage. If in the opinion of the Department approval should be withheld as a result of the publication process the Department shall notify the applicant of such opinion, the reasons for the opinion and provide all of the documentation the Department is relying upon for such opinion. The denial of the application shall be subject to the automatic review described later in this Policy.

Component Educational Units (CEU)

There are many opportunities for an applicant to obtain education in a breed. The most common are included in the Judge Education Component Requirements Chart. (The Matrix) The passage of time does not eradicate an educational experience. The date of completion of a Qualifying Component is immaterial. A Breed Mentor is a person approved by the parent club or the Department as such or who has judged the National Specialty of the breed. Exhibitors with 12 years' experience or a judge of the breed for at least 12 years are presumed to be Breed Mentors.

Qualifying Components:

1. *Attend Parent Club National Specialty.* Attending a National is one of the best ways to learn a breed and develop confidence in one's understanding of that breed. Total of 6 CEU possible. Attend parent club national specialty – 2 CEU. Attend parent club judges' education program held with national specialty – 1 CEU. Ringside observation with a Breed Mentor: 1 CEU (Maximum 2 CEU with different mentors). Ring Steward for a day in the regular conformation class judging at a parent club national specialty – 1 CEU.
2. *Attend Approved Seminar/Workshop.*
 - a. Seminar and workshop (if applicable) must meet AKC criteria for credit.
 - b. Seminar/workshop host is responsible for ensuring all requirements are met to ensure attendees receive proper credit.
 - c. Guidelines are available on the AKC website or by contacting the Judging Operations Department.
 - d. Total of 5 CEU possible:
 - i. Attend seminar with hands-on workshop – 3 CEU or
 - ii. Attend seminar without hands-on workshop – 2 CEU
 - iii. Additional seminar & workshop with different presenter – 2 CEU or seminar only with different presenter – 1 CEU (Maximum 2 additional CEUs)
 - iv. Comparison seminars – will be accepted for those breeds approved by the department. Must meet AKC criteria for credit. CEU value will be the same as above for each breed presented.
3. *Mentors, tutors and kennel visits.* Credit received for documented educational experience with parent club mentor or individual meeting AKC's criteria (12 years as approved judge or 12 years exhibiting breed). (With respect to Low Entry Breeds the Department may accept Mentors and Tutors other than those qualified as above.)
 - a. Total of 5 CEU possible.
 - i. Mentor – 2 CEU – ongoing, long-term relationship
 - ii. Kennel visit/tutoring session – 2 CEU – one-time experience with in-depth discussion of breed, its salient characteristics, and examined and discussed examples of the breed.
 - iii. Additional mentor, tutor or kennel visit – 1 CEU each
4. *Attend Major Entry show.* The applicant judge must participate in Ringside Observation with a Breed Mentor at an AKC show where a major in one sex has been entered. A Breed Mentor may exhibit at the show but should be available for discussion during the major entry – 3 CEU. (1 additional CEU for each additional attendance and mentoring, maximum of 5 CEU). The additional mentoring and attendance may be at the same cluster or weekend circuit.
5. Sweepstakes or Futurity judging at a Specialty or Parent Club Supported event for the Breed – 3 CEU. (Only 1 additional CEU for additional judging).
6. *Apprentice Training.* 3 CEU. (1 additional CEU for each additional Apprentice Training completed, maximum 6 CEU). (Additional Apprentice Training sessions may be at the same weekend, cluster or circuit but must be under different Mentor Judges.) The additional breed applicant may accompany the Mentor Judge during the judging of a breed as a Judge Trainee. There must be a major entry entered. The session must be scheduled prior to the opening of the show, and the consent of the Show Chairman and Mentor Judge must be obtained. Prior to the first Apprentice Training session of each breed the Trainee must complete and pass the breed standard open book test referenced in this Policy and pay the required application fee. No further test for approval of that breed shall be required thereafter, unless the breed standard is amended after the passing of the test. In that case a current test will be required at the

time of application but no further fee shall be required. It shall be the Applicant's responsibility to document any credit that he or she might be entitled to upon presentation of a later application. The Mentor Judge may discretely comment to the Trainee Judge about his or her thought process as the classes are judged. The Mentor and Trainee Judge shall discuss the entry together, alone and in confidence, after judging and the Mentor must certify that the Trainee was prepared and conversant in the breed's characteristics. Judges who are requested to act as a Mentor Judge should only agree to act as such for breeds in which they have been approved to judge the breed for at least 12 years or an approved judge with 12 or more years' breeding and/or exhibiting experience in that breed. Visiting Judges may act as a Mentor Judge when appropriate.

7. *Attend a Performance Event.* 2 CEU when applying for a performance event breed and where the breed is present at the performance event. 1 additional CEU for attending a second performance event, with the breed present, which may be on the same weekend or in the same cluster.
8. *Judge the breed* a total of 3 times cumulatively; in the Group at an AKC show, in Best in Show, in the Miscellaneous Class, as a substitute judge at an AKC point show, at an AKC sanctioned Match, at a Department designated Special Attraction, NOHS, or 4-6 month class- 2 CEU. One additional CEU for each additional 3 times to a maximum of 3 total CEUs. (The Department shall publish a list of the types of Special Attractions that shall be accepted under this section of this Policy.)
9. Judge an NOHS group at three events - 1 CEU in each breed applied for. 1 additional CEU in each breed applied for, for each additional 3 NOHS Groups. Max 3 CEU. NOHS group judging shall be eligible for use in calculating CEU's in only one application cycle. Once credit is used for having judged a group that judging is no longer eligible for future applications.
10. *Non-AKC Events.* A judging

assignment of an entry of the applied for breed, which would qualify as a 3 point major for All Other Breeds in any AKC zone in the continental United States, at an event other than an AKC event (domestic or foreign) - 3 CEU's. For significantly larger entries the CEU value would be consistent with the size and breadth of the judging assignment. All verification documentation and information, translated to English as necessary, must be submitted to the Department with the application.

11. *Breeding and Exhibiting Experience.* An applicant who has bred or personally exhibited to their championships four or more dogs of the breed applied for shall be granted - 3 CEU. An applicant, who has bred or personally run to the highest AKC Field Trial title available to non-professionals in the breed, four or more dogs of the breed, shall be granted 3 CEU. An AKC Field Trial is any AKC Event governed by the Rules of the American Kennel Club as adopted by the Delegates.
12. With respect to a Low Entry Breed only, an at length phone tutoring session with a breed expert will be accepted if the Department determines that insufficient educational opportunities are available - 2 CEU.
13. With respect to a Low Entry Breed only, attending a show where the breed is exhibited, examining the dogs present and discussing the breed with the exhibitor(s) - 1 CEU. 1 additional CEU for each additional attendance. (Entries of 3 or less dogs cannot be repeated by additional attendance where the same dogs are entered.) Maximum 3 CEU
14. Breeding a litter keeps judges involved in the heart and soul of the sport. 1 CEU in each breed applied for when a judge applying for additional breeds has bred and raised a litter on his or her premises within the year immediately preceding the application.

Other educational experiences that an applicant believes should be considered a Qualifying Component and earn CEUs

should be detailed in writing and discussed with the Judging Operations staff.

Breed Examinations

Successful completion of an open book breed examination shall be required of each applicant for each breed for which Permit status is requested or for which group approval is requested without breed approval. An application fee of \$25 per breed shall be required of each application. In the event that Permit status for a breed is not granted, any fee paid shall be a credit for any future breed application.

The examination answer sheet and fee shall be submitted with each application for each breed or Group. Link to breed exams: <http://www.akc.org/judges/guides/>

Two or more missed questions or missing one DQ question is considered failing an exam. The judge will be advised to retake the breed exam. If the exam is not passed on the second attempt it will result in the denial of the breed application for six months. Judges may apply for approval of affected breed(s) after six months and a realistic effort to educate themselves.

The Executive Field Representative

The Executive Field Representatives represent AKC interests at conformation shows. AKC interests include, but are not limited to, judge approval, show committee assistance, and presentations that promote goodwill. Ultimately, exhibitors at conformation events are considered their priority. Their role is to serve as the liaison between the fancy and the AKC.

Executive Field Representatives are the first resource for judges to approach with questions regarding AKC rules, policies, procedure or potential conflicts at AKC events. Discussion of breed judging with an Executive Field Representative on breeds with which the Executive Field Representative is a Breed Mentor is encouraged. Executive Field

Representatives will act as mentors and trainers for judges in order to help prepare judges for additional breed judging expertise and shall work with breed specialty clubs to assure education and training of judges in the fine points of a breed.



The Executive Field Representative is there to coach, mentor and support all judges but in particular first group judges and to assure they enter the judging profession with the skills needed to further the sport of purebred dogs..

There are three key roles the Executive Field Representative plays in the Judging Approval Process:

1. New and Additional Breed Interview
2. Judge's Breed Commentary (JBC) Report
3. Procedural Observation

1) Executive Field Representative Breed Interview

An Executive Field Representative will interview each applicant applying for any breed. The purpose of the interview is to assist and ensure that the judge has a clear understanding of the breed they are applying to judge and to discuss any potential issues or questions that the judge may have.

All interviews must be scheduled by an appointment booked through the Judging Department. Every effort will be made to conduct the interview at a show local to where the applicant resides or at one at which the applicant will otherwise be available.

Alternatively applicants are welcome to have their interview conducted in the North Carolina office by prior appointment.

The interview will consist of a breed specific discussion for each breed applied. First time judging applicants will also discuss proper procedure, rules, conflicts of interest, the gray areas of the sport, demeanor, special attractions and expectation of judges.

Individuals applying for measurable breeds (height and/or weight as a disqualification or condition of class) will be required to pass the applicable wicket and/or scales exam.

Additional breed applicants tested on the same apparatus in the five years preceding the submission of the application will be exempt from this requirement excluding those who have received a negative observation report on measuring procedure or failed the applicable wicket and/or scales test during the five year

period.

Interviews for first time applicants should be approximately 30 minutes in length. Additional breed applicants should expect interviews to be approximately 5 – 10 minutes per breed. The applicant is permitted to use pictures and may consult the breed standard during the interview.

Upon request the applicant may schedule the initial interview with a different Executive Field Representative.

2) Judge's Breed Commentary

A Judge's Breed Commentary (JBC) is a joint effort of a judge and an Executive Field Representative. The JBC provides a dialogue opportunity for the newer judge and the Executive Field Representative. It is a mentoring opportunity for new and beginning judges and is intended to assist them in evolving their skills as a judge both in adjudicating their entry as well as their procedural skills.

The ultimate purpose of the JBC is to guide and document a conversation between the judge and the Executive Field Representative at the conclusion of a breed judging assignment. The intent is for an Executive Field Representative to observe the judging of a breed and to facilitate a discussion along a prescribed format where the judge describes and documents the choices made during the judging as well as discusses any procedural or other issues that may have occurred. It is not the Executive Field Representative's role to express opinions about the placements made. Rather, the Executive Field Representative should help the judge describe the dogs judged, the factors which contributed to the particular awards and placements made, the estimated quality of the entry and the overall impressions of the entry all in breed specific language.

The JBC process will be as follows:

1. A Judge not approved for all of the breeds in a group will check in with the Executive Field Representative in the morning of the judging assignment. The Executive Field Representative will advise the Judge of the breed(s) which will be observed and a JBC form for each breed to be observed will be

provided to the Judge. Following judging the Judge will fill in the Commentary section of the JBC form by describing the entry as a whole and noting any strengths and weaknesses observed in the exhibits. The judge should describe the dogs awarded (or of which special note was made), the factors which contributed to the particular awards and placements made, the estimated quality of the entry and the overall impressions of the entry, all in breed specific language.

2. On a separate form the Executive Field Representative will also fill in the Commentary section of the JBC form by describing the entry as a whole and noting any strengths and weaknesses observed in the exhibits. The Executive Field Representative should describe the dogs observed, the estimated quality of the entry and the overall impressions of the entry, all in breed specific language. Just as with the Judge, the Executive Field Representative will provide their critique of the entry using breed specific language as appropriate.
3. Once both have completed the appropriate JBC form sections, the discussion shall center on the salient/hallmark characteristics of the breed and the level of the entry that day. Notes regarding the discussion, based upon the Judge's and Executive Field Representative's observations and post-assignment discussion, will be added to the third section of the Executive Field Representative's JBC form using breed specific format as above. There will be no grade assigned to the report nor is this a "pass/fail" discussion. It is intended to help the new judge to consider the entry and have the opportunity to exchange ideas, as there is no right or wrong due to the subjective nature of judging through one's interpretation.
4. A JBC may be completed in any breed for any judge not approved to judge all of the breeds in a group. The entry of the breed for which a JBC will be completed should be sufficient to allow a meaningful comparative discussion of the merits of the dogs in competition. When such an entry exists and an



Executive Field Representative is available all efforts should be made to complete a JBC. Although no minimum requirements for the completion of JBC's for a judge are imposed, the more often a newer judge has an opportunity to engage in a JBC with an Executive Field Representative, the more value the JBC will have as an educational tool. The classes in which the dogs in competition are entered are immaterial.

5. The JBC completion shall be at the discretion of the Executive Field Representative, but a judge may request an Executive Field Representative to conduct a JBC completion. A judge may make notes during the breed judging and it should be recognized by all that a bit more time for judging the breed is appropriate.
6. The Executive Field Representative and Judge will sign and date the reports. The Executive Field Representative will scan the reports and provide the Judge a copy. The Executive Field Representative will file the completed JBC with the Department.
7. If a Judge believes an Executive Field Representative has gone beyond the intent of this policy during the Judge's Breed Commentary, that belief may be reported to the Executive Secretary of the American Kennel Club. Any such report must contain the specific instance(s) where a policy violation is alleged to have occurred and how it had an adverse impact on the JBC for the Judge. Upon receipt of such a complaint the Executive Secretary shall compile a response to the complaint from AKC staff and submit the complaint, the response and all other relevant facts to the Board Appeals Committee for review and disposition. The Board Appeals Committee may take any action it deems appropriate with respect to the JBC at issue.

3) Executive Field Representative Procedural Observations

Adherence of a judge to basic requirements in the ring is essential. AKC

Executive Field Representatives will observe a judge in accordance with this Policy to educate as necessary and assure that the judge is adhering to such requirements.

A Procedural Observation Report filed by the Executive Field Representative and provided to the judge shall document the observation.

Judges approved for less than a complete group can expect to be observed while all judges will be subject to periodic procedural observation. The current Policies with respect to Fitness to Judge and Judges Unable to Perform are approved and continued.

Procedural observations shall focus on the basic criteria below:

- 1) Professional and courteous conduct to all participants
- 2) Compliance with the Rules Applying to Dog Shows
- 3) Proper, efficient and safe ring procedure
- 4) Timeliness of Judging
- 5) The physical and mental ability to adequately perform the duties of Judge

Judges found to be deficient in such Procedural Observation Reports shall be given the opportunity to be mentored and trained in correcting such deficiencies. In the event that the Department believes that such deficiencies continue it may advise the judge of such belief and that the judge will be required to attend an AKC approved training session (AKC Basic Institute or similar course) within six months following the notice. Should the Department make such determination, the Executive Field Representative reports detailing such deficiencies and the recommendations of the Department for curing such identified problems shall be forwarded to the judge. Such a determination shall be automatically presented to the Judges Review Committee for review and confirmation.

Should a judge who is approved for a breed or breeds which may be weighed or measured receive a procedural report identifying a deficiency in the weighing or measuring of an entry during judging, the judge shall be required to be interviewed by a different Executive Field Representative and demonstrate profi-

ciency in the use of scales or a wicket, as applicable. If that Executive Field Representative believes the judge has not adequately demonstrated such proficiency the judge may be asked to demonstrate the proficient use of scales or wicket, as applicable, with another Executive Field Representative. If that Executive Field Representative also finds that the judge is not proficient in the use of the scales or wicket the judge's approval to judge any breed in which a scale or wicket, as applicable, may be used in the ring shall be suspended until such time as an Executive Field Representative agrees that the judge has demonstrated the required proficiency.

Removal of Breed Approval

Should the Department determine that a judge's approval to judge a particular breed should be removed for cause, after notice to the judge and an attempt to re-educate the judge, the Department may petition the Board of Directors to remove such approval. Such a Petition shall be submitted to the Judges Review Committee and any determination of that committee shall be submitted for final action to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may set any terms it deems appropriate for the reinstatement of the judge's approval to judge any such breed for which approval has been removed.

Best In Show

Best In Show approval:

- Must have current approval for one full Group on regular status.
- Must have judged the group 5 times.
- A non-refundable \$25 fee required.

Conformation Group Approval

Individuals approved to judge breeds constituting 80% of the entries in that group from the previous year may request approval to judge the group competition.

1. Group approval would be for no more than three years, dating from the first group assignment.
2. May not be assigned breeds not currently approved constituting the balance of the group.
3. Group status would be removed after



the three-year period if the judge has failed to gain approval for the balance of the breeds within the group by completing the appropriate number of Qualifying Components in accordance with the Judge Education Component Requirements Chart. The Judge may apply for the breeds constituting the balance of the group without regard to having Permit status in other breeds, subject to the limitations contained in Section 4 of the Matrix.

4. Judges granted Group status under this policy are required to pass the breed exam and submit a \$25 fee for any newly recognized breeds whose date of full recognition falls within the three year period to maintain Group status.

Miscellaneous Class Judging Approval

Any judge eligible to judge a Group on regular status may also be approved to judge the Miscellaneous Class.

Newly Recognized Breeds

Once a new breed enters a Group, all judges eligible to judge the Group are automatically granted the breed after passing the appropriate breed standard test and submitting a \$25 per breed fee.

Failure to pass the breed standard test in two (2) attempts and/or submit the \$25 fee will result in the removal of Group approval status. An Affected judge may continue to judge the Group on pending panels only and additional assignments will not be approved for any affected Group until such time as the breed has been approved. Judges may apply for approval of affected breed(s) after six months and a realistic effort to educate themselves.

Reinstatement/Reactivation

All judges who voluntarily request resignation must submit a letter to Judging Operations.

- Judges who become AKC employees (and members of their immediate household) will be placed on inactive status and need not submit a letter to Judging Operations; additionally,

judges who have not been heard from for five years or more and cannot be located are also placed on inactive status.

- Judging Operations Department will publish the names on the Secretary's Page in the next available Gazette.
- Judges requesting reinstatement of their judging privileges must do so in writing and successfully meet the current criteria. AKC Staff will review and validate the request and the Board will be notified at its next meeting. The judge's name and approved breeds/groups will be published as Reinstated on the Secretary's Page of the next available Gazette.
- Current employees (and members of their immediate household) who have letters on file "resigning" their judging privileges are considered to be on inactive.
- A \$25 fee is required for reinstatement.

Criteria:

- Judges who have been on resigned/inactive status for less than one year would receive automatic reinstatement/reactivation.
- Judges who have been on resigned/inactive status for more than one year may not need to reapply under the current system if they can document continuous in-depth activity in the sport (see Note).
- Judges who have been on resigned/inactive status for more than one year must reapply under the current system if they cannot document continuous activity in the sport (see Note).
- Eligibility and the reason for reinstatement/reactivation must be reviewed and validated by Staff.
- All individuals resigned/inactive for more than one year must be interviewed on current Rules, Regulations, Policies, Guidelines and Breed Standards; pass a Procedural Examination, Anatomy Test, and meet current requirements.
- Only previously approved breeds/groups may be reinstated/reactivated. In the case of a Group(s) with a newly recognized breed(s), breed standard test(s) must

be passed and a non-refundable \$25 fee required for each newly recognized breed.

- Requests received from resigned/inactive judges meeting all eligibility requirements would receive automatic reinstatement/reactivation from AKC staff for all previously approved breeds/groups.

Note: Continuous in-depth activity may include but not be limited to: judges who resigned to exhibit dogs on breed/group level; employment with AKC; licensed superintendent; dog food salesperson or solicitor; publisher of a dog publication; other occupation or involvement at Conformation events on a weekly or monthly basis.

Parent Club's Recommendation for AKC Approval on a member of their club to judge their breed

- Parent Club is invited to submit recommendations, not to exceed three members each year.
- Submit certified copy of meeting minutes at which action was taken by the Parent Club Board.

Requirements from Applicant/Judge

- All Recommendations by Parent Clubs must include 20 years in the breed by applicant with breeding/exhibiting success.
- Must include 10 years membership in Parent Club.
- Must be occupationally eligible.
- Must be 21 years of age.
- Procedural and anatomy test required and if applicable, scale and wicket test required.
- If for the first breed, pass procedural interview with AKC Executive Field Representative.
- Must pass breed standard test
- A \$25 per breed fee is required.

Specialty Clubs by request may invite eligible individuals for approval to judge their events.

Requirements for Applicant/Judge

- Any eligible individuals including, but not limited to, professional handlers may be approved on a case-

by-case, event-by- event request from the Specialty Club for approval to judge their Parent Club National or Parent Club Regional events.

- Must be 21 years of age.
- Must be occupationally eligible, except that professional handlers may be approved under this policy.
- Should be knowledgeable, with success in breeding/exhibiting/handling in the breed for 15 years or more.
- Procedure and anatomy test required and if applicable, scale or wicket test required.
- A \$25 per breed fee is required for non- approved judges.

Visiting Judge Policy

- Visiting judges who do not trade or traffic in dogs may be eligible to judge at AKC events, any breed(s) for which they are approved by an AKC recognized registry as listed in AKC's Special Registry Services.
- Judges from countries in which the AKC recognized registry registers breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club may judge all breeds and groups for which they are approved by their home kennel club to award championship points (including CC's or CAC's).
- Visiting judges who are invited to judge (breeds and) groups, which contain breeds not registered in their country of origin, may apply for, take the test for and pay a \$25.00 fee for each breed. Upon successful completion of this process, such judges will be approved by the American Kennel Club to judge those breeds in the future. Visiting judges who decline to apply under this process may continue to be approved for such groups as they were previously approvable under the terms, conditions, agreements and understanding under previous policy, provided that they judge breeds constituting at least 80% of the annual entries in that group at the time they are first approved for that group, based on the previous year's count of entries.
- Visiting group judges where the AKC group contains breeds registered in their country, but which are not within their corresponding

group and for which they are not approved to judge, may be approved for such group(s), provided that they judge breeds constituting at least 80% of the annual entries in that group at the time they are first approved for that group, based on the previous year's count of entries.

- Visiting judges from an AKC recognized registry may be approved to judge up to eight All Breed assignments in one calendar year.
- Individual breed judges may be approved to judge that breed at an unlimited number of AKC specialty shows and no more than eight AKC All-Breed shows if they are approved to judge that breed in their own country and by an AKC recognized registry regardless of their residency.
- Negative Procedural Observation Reports may result in denial of continued approval to judge AKC events, or the necessity to pass a procedural examination.
- Visiting Judges are not eligible for approval to judge Jr. Showmanship Classes at AKC events.
- A visiting judge who has established residence in the U.S. will only be approved as a visiting judge for two years, after which they will be required to apply under the AKC system.
- Visiting judges must document residency if U.S. mailing address is submitted.

We invite visiting judges into our system. Visiting judges who wish to judge more than eight All-Breed shows per year may apply under AKC's visiting judges' approval process as follows:

Individuals must have judged at AKC shows for over eight years and have been an approved judge for ten years in their own country.

Visiting judges who have judged the breeds requested on the initial application at least eight times in the U.S. over the past three years will not be required to meet the match show judging and stew- arding requirements or to judge Permit assignments.

The following information is applicable to the visiting judge's initial AKC judging application:

- Applicant may apply for up to

fourteen breeds based on the required background and experience.

- Applicant must complete the judging application for submission to AKC Judging Operations Department and be published in the AKC Gazette.
- Applicant must successfully complete all Anatomy and Procedural "open-book" exams.
- Applicant must speak and read English OR arrange for an interpreter when judging at AKC events.
- Educational background and preparation in country of residence will be considered for the breeds requested.
- Three assignments in the U.S. must be completed before being eligible to submit a second application, which will be processed under the current AKC system.
- Judges applying under this process must conform to AKC's occupational eligibility and Conflict of Interest rules and guidelines.
- Visiting judges choosing AKC approval will no longer be approved to judge AKC events using their previous visiting judging qualifications.

Visiting Judge Exempt List

Visiting judges on the Exempt list will be approved to judge unlimited assignments in the United States. The Board of Directors shall approve the addition of all persons to the Exempt list.

Judges Review Committee of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall appoint a Judges Review Committee consisting of three of its members who are, when possible, approved judges. The Judges Review Committee shall oversee the implementation and administration of this Policy and regularly report to the full Board on its progress.

The denial by the Department of any application to judge a breed shall automatically be presented to the Judges Review Committee for review and confirmation. The Judges Review Committee may determine to grant or deny any application for a breed presented to it. If the Judges Review

Committee upholds the Department's denial of the breed application the applicant may appeal to the Board Appeals Committee as outlined later in this Policy. A credit for any application fee paid by an applicant for any breed application that is denied shall be given the applicant. It shall be the Applicant's responsibility to document any credit that he or she might be entitled to upon presentation of a later application.

Appeal Process

If an applicant is aggrieved of a decision of the Department in implementing or administering this Judging Approval Policy, other than an application for which an automatic review is provided herein, such applicant must state, in writing, to the Department, exactly the determination with which he or she disagrees and the reasons for the disagreement. The Department shall consider the position of the applicant and shall respond appropriately, in writing, within 15 days of receipt of the applicant's notice that he or she disagrees with its prior determination. If the applicant remains dissatisfied with the action of the Department, the applicant may, within 15 days of the receipt of the determination of the Department, and upon payment of a \$50 Appeal Fee, appeal the Department's determination to the Judges Review Committee. Within 15 days of receipt of the appeal the Department shall compile all documents relevant or connected to the matter, along with all documents and statements the applicant determines, and submit the appeal to the Judges Review Committee. The Committee will determine the issue with the documentary submissions and advise the Department and applicant of its decision within 30 days. If still aggrieved, the applicant may, within 15 days of the notice, appeal to the Board Appeals Committee which will hold a hearing on the issue. The Board of Directors shall finally determine all appeals. No appeal of any issue shall delay or reverse any approval to judge any breeds not involved in the appeal. The burden of demonstrating the compliance with this Policy shall be on the Department.

Forms

The Department shall prepare appropriate forms for use by Applicants in making application under this Policy, to evidence each Qualifying Component CEU, Executive Field Staff Procedural Observations, the JBC and to effectuate any appeal. Forms may be digital and all submissions may be made in digital media. Every form or request for information proposed for use to implement and administer this Judging Approval Policy shall be submitted to the Board of Directors.

Should the Department believe that an interpretation of this Policy is required it shall present a request for such interpretation to the Board of Directors.



AKC CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC's birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companion. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or

consideration into their decisions or behavior.

- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge's placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
- Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.