

## **August 2003 Secretary's Report**

This report details the day to day activities of the ASCA Board of Directors and includes issues brought before the ASCA Board and communications done by mail, fax, e-mail and/or phone.

### **August 1-31, 2003**

#### **98:05 CONFORMATION COMMITTEES - Form Letter for Updating Judges Lists**

Motion by Davenport.

I move the following Conformation Committee motion: Chris VT

#### **FORM LETTER FOR UPDATING JUDGES LISTS**

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Motion by Gemi Sasson-Brickson, Second by Liz Gibson.

For: Mary Hellmeister, Peter Kontos, Liz Gibson, Denise Creelman, Wendy Summers, Joni Johnson, Wendy Finsterwald, Beth Ellen Peterson, Kim Cochran, Gemi Sasson-Brickson, Teena Meadors Against: Margi Floyd Non-Voting: Debbie Collins Motion is approved. (Comment - Should be: "If the letter is not returned after 45 days, and/or if the initial information provided by the affiliate club member was that the judge is deceased or no longer judging, the Business Office may then remove the judge from the list of ASCA approved judges." Margi So, my vote would be no, if without the changes.)

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"I would like to motion that the ASCA Business Office adopt the following procedure:

In the event that an affiliate club member notifies the Business Office that a judge is deceased, no longer judging, or the contact information is not current for a specific judge, the Business Office will send out the following letter, addressed to the judge (or family of) in question. If the letter is returned the Business Office will update it with the information provided. If the letter is not returned after 45 days, if the initial information provided by the affiliate club member was that the judge is deceased or no longer judging, the Business Office may then remove the judge from the list of ASCA approved judges.

Author's comment: Current policy has been to not remove deceased judges from the list unless notified directly by a member of the judge's immediate family. The Conformation Committee understands and accepts that this may not be a priority of the family when a judge dies; however, we would like to implement a policy that will tactfully address the issue and spare both the families involved and those trying to contact judges due to deceased judges not being removed from the judges' list. This policy will also help in removing those who may have retired from judging and those whose addresses are listed incorrectly.

\*[Form letter following.]

Gemi

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Request for updated information:

ASCA BO

Bryan, TX

Mr. Judge  
Anytown, USA

Dear Mr. Smith or family,

The Australian Shepherd Club of America's Business Office is in the process of updating its Judges' listings.

- If you still wish to be included on the ASCA Judges' List as an ASCA \_\_\_\_\_ (Conformation/Junior Handling/Obedience/Agility/Tracking/Stockdog) Judge so that affiliate clubs may contact you for assignments, please provide the following and return this letter to the ASCA BO within 45 days of receipt:

Current mailing address, telephone and e-mail address:

- If no longer judging as an ASCA \_\_\_\_\_ (Conformation/Junior Handling/Obedience/Agility/Tracking/Stockdog) Judge, please note reason below and return this letter to the ASCA BO within 45 days of receipt. Failure to return this request for information may result in your name being removed from the Judges' List.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Board voting: Approve: Aufox, Gray, Davenport, Hellmeister, Warren, DeChant and Walter. Disapprove: Hollen & Berryessa. Motion is approved.

### **2004 finals**

Letter from WCASA:

Hello:

I believe Cathe Walker has asked for permission to design and sell Stockdog Finals T-shirts to generate money for the 2004 Stockdog Finals.

I, Sue Graham along with WCASA, would also like to do the same for the Agility Finals and also design a multi-venue T-shirt that could generate money for all the Finals in 2004.

Please let me know if the BOD approves of this venture and any requests and or guidelines they may have.

Sue Graham  
WCASA  
2004 Nationals Agility Chair

Board voting: Approve: Hollen, Gray, Davenport, Walter, DeChant, Berryessa and Warren. Disapprove: Aufox & Hellmeister. Motion is approved.

**03:05 STANDING EDUCATION COMMITTEE - All resumes**

Motion by Hollen, seconded by Warren.

I move that all current and incoming applications for the Education Committee be held and reviewed at the Nationals and that this committee be activated by the end of Nationals and no later.

Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved

**Breed Standard - German**

Motion by Hellmeister, seconded by Walter.

I would like to make the following motion:

The ASCA standard has been translated into German and is to be distributed to interested parties as the official translation by ASCA.

Comment: The standard has been translated into German and that the correct translation has been acknowledged by Directors Walter and Hellmeister.

Board voting: Approve: Walter, Berryessa, Hellmeister, Warren, Hollen and DeChant. Disapprove: Aufox. Abstain: Gray and Davenport. Motion is approved.

**93:19 BOARD POLICIES - Board Policy 5.4**

Motion by Gray, seconded by Warren.

I move to modify the Tracking section of Board Policy 5.4 so each team passing the TD or TDX at the National Specialty be awarded a DNA kit from ASCA.

**NATIONALS TRACKING AWARD**

To be given to all Australian Shepherds who pass the Tracking Test offered at the yearly ASCA National Specialty Show."

Tracking is the only venue in ASCA that is pass or fail. There is no numerical ranking for Year End Awards or Merit Awards. ASCA does nothing to honor Tracking teams. It would behoove ASCA to award each passing team a kit instead of having to go through the lottery drawing below where only one kit is given. Since this is a Board Policy I feel we should take the initiative to award all teams who pass the Nationals test with a kit. Tracking isn't a walk in the park and it can take years for a dog and handler team to earn a TD and more years to earn a TDX. Entries for the Nationals Tracking Test is limited to a few dogs because of the space it takes for the track so it would never break the bank to award all teams who pass a kit \*especially when Tracking isn't included in \*any\* Year End or Merit Awards\* like every other ASCA Program.

Comment: The Tracking Committee discussed this and many were for it however, they were talked out of it because it was felt this board would not want to do it. I think we need a chance to discuss it. Since ASCA does nothing for tracking at year's end, awarding kits to all who pass would at least let those in the Tracking community know we recognize their work.

Here are the stats for a few Nationals:

In 2002, Bakersfield, two TD dogs passed, (out of 8 TDs and 1 TDX).

In 2001, Greeley, CO, three TD dogs passed, (out of 5 TDs and 3 TDXs)

In 1999, Longview, WA, three TD dogs and 2 TDX dogs passed (out of 4 TDs, 2 TDXs)

In 1998, Greeley, CO, two TD dogs and one TDX dog passed (4 TDs and 2 TDXs)

#### NATIONALS TRACKING AWARD

To be given to one Australian Shepherd who passes the Tracking Test offered at the yearly ASCA National Specialty Show. The award will be chosen by lottery and awarded to the Australian Shepherd who has passed at the ASCA Nationals Tracking Test in the following order of preference:

Lottery drawn of teams earning TDX titles.

If there are no TDX titles,

Lottery of teams earning TD titles.

If no Australian Shepherd passes the National Specialty Tracking Test (TD or TDX), the Nationals Tracking Award would not be presented that year.

Note: This maintains the spirit of non-competition in tracking for the tracking test at the Nationals. It also allows for Aussies who have already earned a title, but wish to compete for the prize, if they get into the test, to do so.

Board voting: Approve: Davenport, Aufox, Hollen, Gray, Warren, Walter and DeChant.

Disapprove: Berryessa & Hellmeister. Motion is approved.

#### **Approved:**

Reinstating Disqualified Dog - Sand Point's Colorado Skye

Approved fining the South Florida ASC \$500 and denying sanctioning of any conformation shows for 6 months for hiring an unqualified judge and holding their May Show after being informed by the Office that the judge did not meet ASCA qualifications.