

November 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.

November 1 - 30, 2003

98:05 CONFORMATION COMMITTEE - Flyers

Motion by Berryessa, seconded by Davenport.

I move that following request be sent to the Conformation Committee:

The ASCA BOD requests that the Conformation Committee work on a list of requirements to be included in flyers or premium lists for non-specialty shows. The conformation sanctioning form should be referenced for appropriate required information.

Comment: At this point there are very few requirements for information to be included in flyers or premium lists for non-specialty shows. Most flyers do contain sufficient information, but when this information is not included it can affect the running of the show or the handling of complaints at the show.

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

90:38 Agility Committee - Ch 1 & 2

Motion by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the following recommendations of the Agility committee:

Sue Graham moved, Shelley Malan seconded.

All voted yes: Sue Graham, Shelley Malan, Allison Bryant, Ron Schumann, Pam Smith, Pete Dolan, Andrea Hoffmann, and Frank Butera.

Chapter 1 section 1.1

Where the term "ASCA" appears for the first time, replace it with:
"Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA)".

Where the term "NADAC" appears for the first time, replace it with:
"North American Dog Agility Council (NADAC)".

Section 1.3 Eligibility For Entry

Replace the second sentence: "Bitches in heat, lame, or blind dogs are ineligible for entry."

With:

"Bitches in heat (except as specified in Section 9.2), lame, or blind dogs are ineligible for entry."

Section 1.4

Replace "FEO" with "For Exhibition Only (FEO)"

Chapter 2, Section 2.1, 2.1.1 - Applications.

In the following sentence:

"A sanction fee of fifteen dollars (\$15) per trial shall be submitted with the application."

Change the word 'trial' to 'day'.

Section 2.1.1 a

Insert a colon (:) after the words "area"

To read as follows: "California is divided into three (3) areas: from the Mexican border north to the city of Ventura, from Ventura north to San Jose, and from San Jose north to Oregon. Nevada is divided into two (2) areas: from the southernmost border north to Highway 6, and north of Highway 6 to the Oregon and Idaho borders."

Section 2.1.2 Trial Schedule

Make item 15 "A copy of the premium list will be sent to the judge(s)/alternate judge(s) who is/are to officiate" the second sentence of that section.

The first paragraph of that section should now read as follows:

"Affiliates must publish an Agility Trial Premium List at least six (6) weeks in advanced of the proposed trial date. A copy of the premium list will be sent to the judge (s)/alternate judge(s) who is/are to officiate. The Agility Trial Premium shall include the following information: etc..."

Section 2.1.3 Official Entry Form

Replace the following paragraph:

"If you have not received a NADAC number, write Pending....." (replace to end of paragraph.)

Replace with:

"If your dog is an ASCA registered Australian Shepherd, fill in your dog's ASCA registration number where designated on the entry form. If your dog is not an ASCA registered Australian Shepherd and you would like to earn ASCA titles, you will need to obtain an ASCA tracking number for your dog. Once you have an ASCA tracking number, use it as your dog's "ASCA Registration Number" on all entry forms. "

Section 2.1.4 Trial Officials

2. Timekeepers

Append to the end of this section:

"Timekeepers preferably will time the entire class. If this is not possible, they must complete the entire jump height they started."

Section 2.2.1 Determining a Dog's Height

Replace the following sentence:

The judge must re-measure any dog that is within 1/2" or less below the maximum shoulder height that could cause a jump height class change.

With:

The judge must re-measure any dog that is within 1/2" or less of the maximum shoulder height that could cause a jump height class change.

Section 2.2.2. Measurements

Replace the first sentence:

Only dogs entering the Small and Medium dog classes are required to be measured.

With:

Only dogs entering the Small and Medium dog classes (i.e., classes in which the dog's wither height is 18" and under) that do not have permanent NADAC height cards are required to be measured.

Section 2.4 - Agility Obstacles

Remove "Double Bar Spread Hurdles" from the list.

2.6.3 Catalogs

Replace the following sentences:

"After entries close, a printed catalog shall be prepared for the exhibitors. The catalog shall include the running order of the classes to be run in each ring, with the jump height groups printed in the order for which they will run. If the show is going to run more than one ring, then each ring's classes should be printed on a different color paper for the ease of finding each ring's progression through the day."

With:

"After entries close, a printed catalog shall be prepared for scoring. This catalog shall include the running order of the classes to be run in each ring, with the jump height groups printed in the order in which they will run. If the show is going to run more than one ring, then each ring's classes should be clearly identified. This catalog is to serve as the official catalog to be submitted to the sanctioning organization."

Replace the following sentence:

"At the heading for each class, there shall be a line to record the course distance and the Standard Course Time for (small, dogs and for large dogs)."

With:

At the heading for each class, there shall be a line to record the course distance and the Standard Course Time for small, medium, and large dogs."

Replace the following sentence:

"For the Gamblers class, there shall be room to record the time allowed for the gamble for the small dogs and the large dogs."

With:

"For the Gamblers class, there shall be room to record the time allowed for the gamble for small, medium and large dogs. An exhibitor's catalog may also be printed. This catalog must include at a minimum the armband number (if used) or the dog's registration number, the dog's call name and the handler name. The catalog should be printed in the order the classes and dogs will run."

Section 2.6.4.1 Awards for classes

After the first sentence of this section, add the following sentence:

"Clubs may also choose to combine the 20+ and 24" classes for placements."

Section 2.6.4.2 Awards for High In Levels

Replace first paragraph:

"Awards for high scoring in level (Novice, Open, Elite), and/or high in trial (HIT) are not mandatory. However, such awards are often given at the ASCA National Specialty. When such awards are given, computation for these awards shall be done in the following manner:"

with:

"Awards for high scoring in level (Novice, Open, Elite), and/or high in trial (HIT) are not mandatory. However, such awards are often given at the ASCA National Specialty. When such awards are given at the ASCA National Specialty, computation for these awards shall be done in the following manner:....

Section 2.6.5.1 Regular Agility and Jumpers Classes

Replace the following sentence:

"Also, in the header of the page the course distance and the standard course time (in seconds) for small standard dogs, small veterans, large standard, and large veterans must be given. "

With:

"Also, in the header of the page the course distance and the standard course time (in seconds) for small standard dogs, small veterans, medium standard dogs, medium veterans, large standard dogs, and large veterans must be given. "

Section 2.6.5.2 Gamblers Classes

Replace the following sentence:

Also, in the header of the page the gamble time (in seconds) for small standard dogs, small veterans, large standard, and large veterans must be given.

With:

Also, in the header of the page the gamble time (in seconds) for small standard dogs, small veterans, medium standard dogs, medium veterans, large standard, and large veterans must be given.

Section 2.6.6 Financial Responsibilities

Append to the end of item 'e', so it reads as follows:

e) The judging fee of one dollar (\$1.00) per dog listed in the running order catalog, whether or not the dog runs, or the current minimum fee of \$200.00 per day.

Replace the following sentence:

"The judging fee (one dollar per run listed in the running order catalog, whether the dog actually runs or not should be given to the judge at the conclusion of the trial."

With:

"The judging fee (one dollar per run listed in the running order catalog, whether the dog

actually runs or not, or the current minimum fee of \$200.00 per day) should be given to the judge at the conclusion of the trial"

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

96:17 JR. SHOWMANSHIP-MVA Jr.

Motion by Berryessa.

I move that we accept the Junior Committee's motion for Most Versatile Junior rules as stated below. Michelle

1) Motion by Claire Gustafson, Second by Carol Power:

"I motion we approve the [MVJ] rules [as] published and forward them to the BOD for approval, with a recommended effective date of June 1, 2004."

**ASCA Junior Showmanship Program
Most Versatile Junior Rules for National Specialties**

Original Revision, 9/25/03

I. The Most Versatile Junior Handler Award (MVJ) is offered to recognize the junior who best demonstrates desire and ability to train and compete with their Australian Shepherd in all facets of ASCA competitions. These rules will govern the Most Versatile Junior Handler award at ASCA National Specialties.

II. Juniors competing for MVJ will have their junior handling skills rated in a scored evaluation, and will compete for scores in regular classes in herding and performance events. Performance events will be defined for this competition as obedience, tracking and agility. In all facets of the MVJ competition, each junior is expected to be the major influence in the training of his/her dog.

A. RULES FOR HOLDING A MOST VERSATILE JUNIOR COMPETITION:

i. Rules shall be published in the Junior Handling Rule book and National Specialty Guidelines, and will be available from the ASCA Business Office upon request. Copies of the approved rules must be available upon request and on the Show Grounds.

ii. The name of the evaluator for the handling portion of the MVJ competition, and any decisions optional with the club (such as whether or not bitches in season will run in order in the working trial) will be published in the National Specialty premium list. The evaluator shall be selected by the host club and shall be approved by the ASCA BOD.

iii. The evaluator for the handling portion of the MVJ competition must be an ASCA Breeder Judge, Senior Breeder Judge or ASCA Approved Junior Handling Judge. If they meet this requirement, Regular Junior Handling Judge or the evaluator hired to score the conformation portion of the Most Versatile Aussie (MVA) event may preside over this portion of the MVJ competition. If the MVJ evaluator is not presiding over any other classes or events at the Nationals, he or she will be allowed to enter and exhibit in the other Nationals events

iv. Each Junior Handler entering MVJ shall indicate such as an "additional class" on their entry form.

v. Score Keeping: The person(s) who will be responsible for versatility record

keeping for the entire competition will be identified to the ASCA Board prior to the start of the Nationals. Computation of all scores for awarding the MVJ Award will be handled by either MVJ Show Committee, or the ASCA BOD. The Host Club will provide a location where all scores will be posted as soon as practicable after each eligible competition is completed. It is the owner/handlers' responsibility to check the scores as posted, and report to the MVJ Chairperson any discrepancy no later than two hours prior to the time scheduled for awarding MVJ. Awards for MVJ are final once presented.

vi. Ties: Ties will be broken by the scores taken from the Knowledge portion of the Junior Handling Evaluation. In the event they are still tied the Junior with the highest score from the Working Trial will be declared the winner. In the event that both juniors are still tied, both juniors will receive the award.

vii. Awards: All entrants shall be presented with a MVJ participant ribbon upon completion of the junior handling evaluation. All entrants who successfully earned qualifying scores in the junior handling evaluation, stockdog trials and obedience and/or agility and/or tracking events as required by these rules shall be presented with a MVJ-qualifying ribbon at the MVJ awards presentation with the top ten qualifiers receiving placement ribbons. The winner of the MVJ competition will receive a rosette and an award.

B. Dogs Eligible to Compete: Dogs entered by the Junior for the MVJ competition must meet the eligibility and ownership requirements set forth for the ASCA Junior Showmanship Program.

a) the junior must own or co-own the dog, or it must be owned or co-owned by the juniors immediate family (Father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Guardian or Grandparent). Dogs that are in a co-ownership situation must reside in the Juniors home 75% of the year.

b) The dog must be owned by the appropriate person(s) for a period of not less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the show.

c) The dog must be an ASCA-registered Australian Shepherd, intact or altered.

C. MOST VERSATILE JUNIOR COMPETITON RULES:

i. Most Versatile Junior Handler Award is for the Junior who has the highest combined score in three areas:

a) Junior handling evaluation

b) Working

c) Any ONE of the following three performance events: agility, obedience, and tracking.

ii. The Junior Handling Evaluation portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of a score that is awarded by the junior handling evaluator for skills demonstrated during the evaluation. The scoring will be performed based on the criteria outlined on the MVJ Evaluation Scoresheet in Appendix [enter appendix number here] of the ASCA Junior Showmanship Program Rules. Each junior will be allowed to present only one dog in the Junior Handling Evaluation. Bitches in season will be allowed in the evaluation portion of the MVJ competition; they will be evaluated in order, or may be placed at the end of the line, at the evaluator's preference. A Qualifying Score shall be comprised of a final score of one hundred seventy (170) or more points.

iii. The Working portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of an

adjusted score. The adjusted score will be the junior's single highest qualifying score from a regular class (Started, Open, Advanced), with point-adjustments based on the class entered:

Advanced: raw score + 6%

Open : raw score

Started : raw score

The qualifying score may be earned on ducks, sheep or cattle. In cases where a junior may have multiple qualifying scores from different classes, the score that is highest after accounting for the adjustment will be the one used for MVJ. Scores earned in non-regular classes (Working Junior Handler or Novice Handler) will not count for toward the MVJ competition.

Bitches in season entered in the MVJ competition must be accommodated in the National Specialty Working Trial.

iv. The Obedience portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of an adjusted score. The adjusted score will be the junior's single highest qualifying score from a regular class (Novice, Open, Utility), with point-adjustments based on the class entered:

Utility : raw score + 3%

Open : raw score

Novice : raw score – 3%

In cases where a junior may have multiple qualifying scores from different classes, the score that is highest after accounting for the adjustment will be the one used for MVJ. Scores earned in non-regular classes (Pre-Novice, Grad-Novice, Brace, Veterans, Team, Versatility) will not count for toward the MVJ competition.

Bitches in season who are entered in the MVJ competition must be accommodated in the National Specialty Obedience Trial. They will either run last, or in a special ring.

v. The Agility portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of a single qualifying score from a regular class (Novice, Open, Elite), as follows:

Elite : clean run (full Q) = 195 points;

5-point fault (half Q) = 190 points

Open : clean run (full Q) = 185 points;

5-point fault (half Q) = 180 points

Novice : clean run (full Q) = 175 points;

5-point fault (half Q) = 170 points

In cases where a junior may have multiple qualifying runs from different classes, the run that results in the highest score will be the one used for MVJ.

Bitches in season who are entered for the MVJ competition will be allowed to run at the National Specialty Agility Trial. They will run at the end of each class. A rug or tarp will be brought out to the start line and the dog will be placed on the rug or tarp to begin her run. Bitches in heat will also wear panties during their runs. Bitches in heat must be crated (not in an ex-pen) prior to and during the competition, except when competing, away from the agility ring at a distance or location to be determined by the host club. All qualifying scores will count toward the trial, as will placements. Failure to comply with this rule will result in dismissal from all agility trials held in conjunction with the ASCA Agility National Specialty.

vi. The Tracking portion of the Junior's total points will be comprised of a base score, awarded for a "pass" rating on a single track, as follows:

TDX track : 195 points

TD track : 190 points

In cases where a junior may have multiple qualifying tracks from different classes, the track that results in the highest score will be the one used for MVJ.

Bitches in season entered in the MVJ competition must be accommodated in the National Specialty Tracking Test. They will run last in tracking, and will be kept away from the tracking area until called. Qualifying scores received will count if the premium list specifically states that "bitches in season may participate".

(Scoring Sheet for the Handling evaluation is as follows:)

Australian Shepherd Club of America

Most Versatile Junior Evaluation

Class _____ Date _____

Exhibitor No. _____ Judges Name: _____

Available Earned

I. Judges Examination: 35 points

A. Is handler prepared for examination? 5 Points

B. Has the handler shown the dogs bite/teeth properly and smoothly? 5 Points

C. Did handler move around the dog smoothly in order to stay out of the judges way? 10 Points

D. Did the handler keep the dog standing still during the examination? 5 Points

E. Was the dog stacked correctly? 10 Points

II. Gaiting: 25 points

A. Did the handler move the dog at the speed to best show their dog? 10 Points

B. Was pattern performed correctly? 10 Points

C. Was the pattern performed with ease, even if it was wrong? 5 Points

III. Sportsmanship / Ring Etiquette: 45 points

A. Did the Handler show consideration toward their dog? 10 Points

B. Was the Handler attentive and polite to the judge? 10 Points

C. Did the Handler show consideration toward other competitors?
10 Points

D. Has handler allowed adequate room between each dog when stacking? 5 Points

E. Has handler allowed adequate room between dogs when gaiting in a group? 5 Points

F. Has handler been a distraction to other dogs? (excessive bait or squeak toys) 5 Points

IV. Teamwork: 20 points

A. Do the handler and dog seem in sync? 10 Points

B. Is dog responsive to handler? 10 Points

V. Overall Presentation: 65 points

A. Was the dog properly groomed? (clean, brushed including ears & teeth) 20 Points

B. Is handler dressed and groomed properly to be in the show ring? 10 Points
(Clothes not distracting, hair neat and unmoving)

C. Is the dog presented with apparent minimum effort? 10 Points

D. Do the dog and handler appear relaxed? 10 Points

E. Are the dog's main faults minimized? 10 Points

F. Did handler and dog make a nice picture? 5 Points

VI. Knowledge: 10 points

A. Was handler able to answer questions about the Australian Shepherd breed Standard? 10 Points

B. Was handler able to answer a question about their dog? (anatomy or personal dog) 10 Points

GRAND TOTAL: (170 points is a Qualifying Score.) 200 Points

Voting Result: Approve: Armstrong, Borde, Creelman, Gustafson, Noe, Remington.
Disapprove: King. Absent: Anglemeyer, Gann, Jaco, Peed, Power. Motion Carries.

Disapprover's Comments: King: I agree with most of the proposed MVJ rules. Two items I disagree with is the breaking of ties. I believe this is such a great thing to even attempt for a junior, if two juniors should ever happen to tie which is very unlikely since we don't often have a junior qualify, both juniors should be awarded MVJ. This would follow the rules for ties in AAJ. Second I feel we need to discuss further a way to even out the venues. Showmanship, stock and obedience or tracking or agility should each be based on 200 not two venues on 200 and the third on 100. A just qualifying score of 170 in showmanship or novice obedience should not count so much more than a perfect advanced stock run.

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

01:05 JUDGES CODE OF ETHICS

Motion by Berryessa, second by Warren.

I move that the Judges Code of Ethics be sent back to the Conformation Committee with a Board request that it be examined for clarification on the following issues:

1. It is listed under Breeder Judge Code of Ethics. Is it meant to apply to all ASCA Judges or only ASCA Breeder Judges?

2. "Conformation Event" as referred to under Conduct Section 2 needs to be defined. Is this for the show(s) for which the Judge is sanctioned to Judge or any shows that might be held on a particular day, weekend or series of continuous shows (ie Nationals)

3. Wording needs to be made clear so that Judges are not penalized for innocent actions such as reporting in to the Show Secretary upon arrival, lunching with a Judge

for another event, appearing briefly near conformation events when staying at a the location of a series of show days (such as the Nationals).

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

98:11 OBEDIENCE RULES - Ch.1, Sec. 21

Motion by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the following recommendation of the Obedience committee.

Please make the following change:

Chapter 1, Section 21, Paragraph 2 (Replace entire 2nd paragraph with the following:)

"An Obedience Judge may officiate for any ASCA affiliate club once every 30 days. However, if the club(s) hold multiple trials during the same cluster of shows, they will be allowed to use the same judge to officiate for multiple trials. It would be desirable for the club(s) to assign different classes (Novice, Open, etc...) to the judges whenever possible.

Assignments should be organized so that exhibitors show to as many judges as is practical."

Paragraphs 1 and 3 remain unchanged.

Motion by Burlingame, Second by Cox. Approve: Unanimous.

Board voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

ASCA BUSINESS OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT –NOVEMBER 2003					
REGISTRY SHOW/STOCK		MEMBERSHIP			
IND. REGS	478	NEW-Single	72	SANC. PROC	8
NON BREEDING	41	NEW - Dual	22	RESULTS PROC.	48
LITTERS	251	NEW-Foreign	0	S&T SUBSCRIP.	5
TRANSFER	69	NEW-Canadian	1	CERTIFICATES	1047
LEASE	5	NEW - Service	156		
LEP	4	LIFETIME	1		
DUPLICATES	23	RENEW-Single	161		
HARDSHIPS	6	RENEW-Dual	43		
PEDIGREES	56	RENEW-Foreign	10		
NEW KENNELS	8	RENEW-Canadian	10		
RENEW KENNELS	7	JR TIMES	4		
		AFFIL. – New	0		

JUDGES APPS	1	AFFIL – Renew	0		
E-MAIL REQUESTS	1653				
DNA KITS MAILED	65				
DNA TESTS DONE	28				
SHOWS HELD:					
# OF CONF	79				
#OF OBED	46				
#OF STOCK	14				
#OF RANCH	2				
#OF AGILITY	18				
#OF TRACKING	1				