

Secretary's Report

This report details the day to day activities of the ASCA[®] Board of Directors. It includes issues brought before the Board of Directors and mail, fax, e-mail and/or telephone communications.

April 1-30, 2009

Board of Directors Teleconference Minutes

Monday, April 06, 2009

The April 6th BoD meeting was called to order at 9:02 PM CDT by President Patrick MacRoberts. Those attending via phone or teleconference were: Michelle Berryessa/First Vice President, Rick Gann/Second Vice President, Mark Westerman/Treasurer, Pete Dolan/Secretary, Jerry Aufox/Director, Kristin McNamara/Director, Chris Davenport/Director and Mary Logue/Executive Secretary. Absent: None
Quorum present.

AR Legislation:

- Appointments:

Motion: Motion by Aufox, seconded by Dolan. I move to appoint Margi Floyd, chair; Gina Larson and Jarilyn Pusz to the newly formed Animal Rights (AR) Legislative Committee (LC). Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

- Position Statement: "The Australian Shepherd Club of America will not condone the policy of any individual, group, or proposed legislation which advocates restricting the breeding, showing, training, and/or exhibiting of the Australian Shepherd or any other domesticated animal.

The Australian Shepherd Club of American also does not condone the proposed restrictions to the practice of tail docking or removal of dewclaws for cosmetic or health reasons.

We find this policy to be a detriment to the welfare of the Australian Shepherd breed as a whole and an infringement on the rights of the owners, breeders, trainers, and exhibitors of all domesticated animals.

The Australian Shepherd Club of America will educate its members of any proposed legislation which may ill affect the welfare of the breed and its guardians, the breeders, owners, trainers, and exhibitors."

Motion: Motion by Aufox, seconded by MacRoberts to approve the LC Position Statement. Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

- Action Plan: Preliminary plan to be sent to BoD by Liaison. To include gathering of information on pending legislation, preparing position papers to place on ASCA website, determining plans to seek new members for AR Legislative Committee (LC) (working), and prepare form letters for membership to use with Legislators. LC will submit final action plan to BoD. Weekly updates to be provided by Liaison.

Liaison Duties Document/Dolan:

- Dolan request Directors provide comments by 4/13/09. New version will be available for May BoD meeting.

Tail Length removal from registry forms and documentation:

Motion: Motion by Aufox, seconded by Dolan. I move to remove tail length from registration forms and documents. Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

Public Relations (PR) Position Documentation and PR Plan:

PR Plan:

Objectives: create and maintain a sense of security, well-being, and proper stewardship of the club and the Australian Shepherd.

Plan:

- Create and maintain a baseline of public and membership perception of the club and its doings in order to determine where the plan is effective or not effective –Approaches:
- Press kit – Design a press kit that includes a description of the organization, key facts and figures, biographies of the principals, a history, and two or three stories on current trends and issues.
- Announcements – Make use of brief press releases on such topics as interesting motions, promotions or hiring, new clubs, new services, confirmed trends, etc. This should also be available online.
- Become a source – by issuing regular press releases and maintaining a presence in the media or related dog fancy organizations, we become available for comment and can provide approved experts for interviews, etc. Calls must be returned within the hour, seven days a week, 24 hours a day.
- Issue Public Service Announcements
- Encourage Op-Ed articles getting run by experts and make published work available as a reprint.
- Maintain a newsletter
- Develop fact-sheets regarding programs
- Provide an annual report of trends and news including finances and important action items that are on the agenda or were completed.

Reaction to events:

- Ride news
- Attend or present at trade shows
- Maintain a community calendar of ongoing events

Crisis management:

- Allow a specific person to be
- Be prepared and forthright.

Business Plan:

This is the "advertising section" - it's more of a guide, but I think that is probably most appropriate for what we're at right now.

The Problem: ASCA relies largely on word-of-mouth and sustained minor presences that have not been updated or evaluated for effectiveness.

Program Goal: To clearly show target audiences why ASCA membership and registry is imperative.

Target Audiences: (1) owners of Australian Shepherds, (2) non-Aussie owners who use our programs, and (3) the general public

Audience Objectives: (1) Join ASCA and make use of its programs and services (2) see ASCA's programs and services as the benchmark compared to competing (3) be aware of ASCA.

Major Strategy: Set advertising goals based on greatest need and current strategic plan and work to attract the appropriate demographic.

They should also continually run survey results of public's awareness, knowledge, opinions, and behaviors related to the organization and problem situation.

Create schedules of special events, observances, and other important dates related to the organization and problem.

Dog Bite Consistency Remediation Policy/Aufox: No forward progress at this time.

Affiliate Applications: Bylaws Committee/Aufox

- Hill Country ASC
- Boise ASC Bylaw Changes

Motion: Motion by Aufox, seconded by Westerman. I move to accept the affiliate application from Hill Country ASC, and the Bylaw changes for Boise ASC. Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

- Wild Wild West ASC – returned for changes to wording about Directors elections.
- First in Flight ASC – no action. Bylaws Committee to review changes submitted by affiliate.

Membership Retention Survey: To be sent to BoD for review.

Blaze 2.0 Upgrade:

Motion: Motion by MacRoberts, seconded by Aufox. I move to approve the budgeted expenditure of \$4800 to upgrade the ASCA website software. Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

Motion to adjourn by Aufox, seconded by Dolan Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:49 PM.

/s/ Mary Logue
Executive Secretary

04/22/09
Date of Approval

POLICY BOOK: SECTION 12.1

Motion by Dolan Second by MacRoberts

I move to change section 12.1 of the Policy Book from:

12.1 ASCA[®] Election Calendar

a. First business day in February – Last day for prospective candidates to request candidate material from the Business Office. Candidate material includes Declaration of Candidacy document (includes signature stating prospective candidate agrees to submit answers to Candidate Inquiry for publication to the membership) and Candidate Inquiry.

b. Second Friday in February – Postmark deadline to file Declaration of Candidacy document.

c. March 1 - Deadline to electronically submit candidate's completed Candidate Inquiry to the Business Office for publication in the May/June Aussie Times. Failure to submit completed Inquiry will result in prospective

candidate's disqualification for that election year.

d. July 15 - All completed ballots are due in the hands of the receiver (not postmarked) on or before July 15.

e. July 20 - On or before this date, all director Candidates to be notified of election results. Official notice of voting results will be given to the membership at the General Membership Meeting at the ASCA[®] National Specialty.

f. This Election Calendar will be published in the November/December and January/February issues of the AUSSIE TIMES. It may also be published in additional issues if space is available.

g. For Candidate material, contact the ASCA[®] Business Office.

to:

12.1 ASCA[®] Election Calendar

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b. Second Friday in February – Postmark deadline to file Declaration of Candidacy document.

c. March 1 - Deadline to electronically submit candidate's completed Candidate Inquiry to the Business Office for publication in the May/June Aussie Times. Failure to submit completed Inquiry will result in prospective candidate's disqualification for that election year.

d. First business day in May - Foreign ballots will be mailed. For purposes of determining voting eligibility, the membership books will close two (2) weeks prior to the foreign ballot mailing date.

e. May 15 or first business day thereafter - U.S. member ballots will be mailed. Members not receiving ballots by June 1st should contact the ASCA[®] Business Office.

f. July 15 - All completed ballots are due in the hands of the receiver (not postmarked) on or before July 15.

g. July 20 - On or before this date, all director Candidates to be notified of election results. Official notice of voting results will be announced at the General Membership Meeting at the ASCA[®] National Specialty.

h. This Election Calendar will be published in the November/December and January/February issues of the AUSSIE TIMES. It may also be published in additional issues if space is available.

i. For Candidate material contact the ASCA[®] Business Office.

Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Dolan, Davenport, Gann, MacRoberts, McNamara Disapprove: Westerman.
The motion is approved.

04:04 AGILITY COMMITTEE MOTION 7-2009 CHANGES TO RULE BOOK, SECTION 6.1 & 6.3

Motion by Dolan

I move to approve the following Agility Committee motion:

Motion by Ally, Second by Andrea

I move to make the following changes to the Agility Rulebook

Effective 8/1/2009

Change section 6.1 Course Designs to read as follows:

The minimum and maximum obstacles allowed for any Regular course is as follows:

Novice: 14 - 16

Open: 16 - 18

Elite: 18 - 20

Individual obstacles may be taken more than once, but the total number of obstacles taken shall not exceed the maximum number of obstacles to be used for any given level.

Required obstacles for Regular class courses are as follows:

A-frame, Teeter, Dogwalk, Jumps (winged or wingless), Weave poles and Open tunnel(s). Each contact obstacle must be performed at least once. There shall not be more than four total contact performances required per course. There must be at least one open tunnel performance with no more than three total per course. Jumps may be used as needed. The number of weave poles required is determined by the level. Closed tunnels and tires are optional. If used, Closed tunnels shall only be used once per course.

Change section 6.3 Jumpers Class - Obstacle Requirements as follows:

Replace the following sentence:

'It is recommended that the Novice level use 13-17 obstacles, the Open level use 16-18 obstacles and the elite level use 18-20 obstacles'

With:

The minimum and maximum obstacles allowed for any Jumpers course is as follows:

Novice: 14 - 16

Open: 16 - 18

Elite: 18 - 20

Append the following sentence to the end of the second paragraph:

"There shall not be more than three total tunnel (open or closed) performances per course for Open and Novice levels, and not more than two total tunnel (open or closed) performances for Elite level."

Rationale: This motion is to specify some aspects of course design that were understood or generally accepted and actually put them in writing in our rulebook. It helps guide the judges in their course design and also helps the course reviewers enforce consistent requirements.

This motion passes unanimously.

Approve: Unanimous

The motion is approved.

04:04 AGILITY COMMITTEE MOTION 8-2009 CLARIFYING FINALS POINTS ACCUMULATION

Motion by Dolan

I move to approve the following Agility Committee motion:

Motion by Betty Second by Cynthia

- 1) I make a motion to add an additional sentence to the end of Section 3.1
- 2) I make a motion to add the second sentence to the last paragraph of Section 8.2.3*

Current rule...

Section 3.1 - Levels, Divisions and Classes

The ASCA(R) titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The classes are Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers. The divisions offered are Standard, Veterans, and Junior Handlers. The three levels offered are Novice, Open and Elite. In ASCA(R) sanctioned trials, qualifying rounds executed at a level higher than that needed for a lower level ASCA(R) requirement shall be credited for points needed at the lower level title.

*Proposed Rule change:

Section 3.1 - Levels, Divisions and Classes

The ASCA(R) titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The classes are Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers. The divisions offered are Standard, Veterans, and Junior Handlers. The three levels offered are Novice, Open and Elite. In ASCA(R) sanctioned trials, qualifying rounds executed at a level higher than that needed for a lower level ASCA(R) requirement shall be credited for points needed at the lower level title.

*Finals point accumulation for a particular class will not begin until the novice and open titles in that class are completed.'

*

Current rule...

8.2.3.

Qualifying in an Elite Standard division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Standard Division. Qualifying in an Elite Veterans division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Veterans Division. Qualifying in an Elite Junior Handler division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Junior Handler Division.

The dog does not need to be competing in all Elite level classes before accumulating points towards the finals. The height the dog jumps during the year will not have an impact on the points they accumulate during the year.

Proposed rule...

8.2.3. Qualifying in an Elite Standard division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Standard Division. Qualifying in an Elite Veterans division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Veterans Division. Qualifying in an Elite Junior Handler division class with zero faults gives the dog one point towards the Agility Finals in the Junior Handler Division.

The dog does not need to be competing in all Elite level classes before accumulating points towards the finals. *Finals point accumulation for a particular class will not begin until the novice and open titles in that class are completed.* The height the dog jumps during the year will not have an impact on the points they accumulate during the year.

Rationale:

To clarify when Finals points begin to count. Some dogs were competing in the Elite classes and counting Finals points without first earning the lower level titles in that class.

Yes: Sherry, Janelle, Krystal, Cynthia, Annelise, Andrea, Betty, Pamela No: Allison, Lisa

Abstain: Sue

Motion passes

Effective date June 1, 2010.

Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Davenport, Dolan, Gann, MacRoberts, Westerman Disapprove: McNamara
The motion is approved.

Letter of Dissent: Lisa Kucharski

7 April 2009

Dear Directors,

I have voted no on Motion 8-2009 and I hope you will consider my letter of dissent.

The stated rationale of this motion is "to clarify when Finals points begin to count." I disagree that the proposed motion is a rule clarification. It is a rule change which actually requires database programming modifications. More importantly, it does not benefit ASCA or improve the agility program.

I believe that ASCA and our agility program would benefit from taking actions to increase participation in the Agility Finals. Instead, this motion restricts access. In most areas of this country, there are less than six agility trials per year within a day's drive. The proposed change makes qualifying for Finals more difficult for experienced newcomers from other agility venues, including European exhibitors, and those with young, well-trained dogs.

Agility Finals provides motivation to participate in ASCA's agility program and attend the National Specialty. Any time Nationals comes to a region, Finals can serve as inspiration to get newcomers involved in the program.

There are many Australian Shepherd owners in this country who compete exclusively in agility and there are many agility organizations for them to choose from. We should take actions that encourage this population to become ASCA members, register their dogs with ASCA, and compete in our venue both locally and at our National Specialty and Finals events.

Instead of approving a motion which makes it more difficult to qualify for Finals, I'd like to present a different vision for you to consider.

The Agility Finals are different than the Stockdog Finals, where participation has to be restricted due to the availability of livestock. But, even with that challenge, the Stockdog Committee saw the benefit in modifying their Finals rules to increase the number of Finals contestants within their constraints.

The National Agility trial is typically run in two or three agility rings with multiple judges. Therefore, the resources are in place to expand Agility Finals beyond a single judge and ring. The Finals could conceivably double in size just by hiring an additional judge. The Agility Finals could be bigger, more accessible, more competitive, and even more profitable.

It does not benefit ASCA or the agility program to maintain Finals as some "reward" for those ASCA members who are lucky enough to have many trialing opportunities in their area or the means to travel great distances to compete. The Merit Listing provides recognition for those who compete frequently and successfully in our program.

Instead, the Agility Finals could become a showcase of ALL of the very best agility Aussies in the country if we made changes to make it MORE accessible instead of less so. A larger, more inclusive Agility Finals could increase ASCA membership and registration of agility Aussies.

I have included a draft 'proposal' for expanding participation in the Agility Finals. It does not include exact verbiage for changes to the program rules but rather just outlines a general concept, providing an overview of the changes. I think that it is a rule change that would benefit ASCA!

IDEAS FOR EXPANDING THE ASCA AGILITY FINALS TO PROMOTE INCREASED PARTICIPATION

Rationale:

T

he goal of this proposal is to increase the number of eligible exhibitors for the ASCA Agility Finals to encourage growth and participation at the local levels as well as making the Finals themselves a more competitive event.

The proposed changes would still reward top-ranked Finalists (and ATCH dogs) by giving them a 'bye' into all four rounds of Finals competition. But, it also proposes an alternative way to qualify for Finals. Any dog earning the minimum seven Finals points (2 gamblers, 2 jumpers, 3 regular) during the qualifying period would also be invited to compete in the first two rounds of Finals. However, only the top 'seeded' dogs from that group would advance to the third and fourth rounds of competition.

This change ensures that all dogs (including ATCH dogs) competing in the Finals have successfully participated in ASCA's program at the Elite level during the qualifying year. But, it affords exhibitors the opportunity to compete in the Finals without partaking in the 'trailer race' through the year.

This opens up the opportunity to compete in Finals to those with fewer trialing opportunities. By maintaining the ability to earn Finals points prior to earning lower level titles, someone could qualify in just a couple of trials.

The Agility Finals should not be a showcase of teams lucky enough to have lots of money and vacation time or live in areas with lots of trialing opportunities. The Agility Finals should be an inclusive, competitive event for ANY ASCA member who successfully competed in ASCA agility at the Elite level during the qualifying period.

Current Rules:

Finals Format

All Finalists in the Standard, Veteran and Junior Handler Divisions participate in all four rounds (Jumpers, Gamblers, Regular Round 1 and Regular Round 2). Each round is run in reverse placement order using cumulative results. Winners are determined by qualifying rounds, placements and then tie-breaking scores if needed.

Finals Eligibility

Dogs earn one Finals point for each qualifying score earned at the Elite level. The Top 40 dogs in the Standard division and the Top 20 in Vets/JH are invited. In addition, all ATCH dogs have an 'auto-invite' regardless of the number of points earned through the year.

Currently, the rules and the database program count all elite legs earned for Finals points. Additionally, the agility rules and database programming also permit exhibitors to trial at a level higher than they have titled. When an exhibitor chooses to do this, the lower level titles are earned by applying qualifying scores from the higher level. Since all elite qualifying scores count for Finals points, dogs that have not yet earned lower level titles can accrue Finals point.

Proposed Changes

Finals Format

Two judges would probably be best. I propose changing the class order to run jumpers first followed by Round 1 of regular. These could be run concurrently in two rings (while obviously accommodating conflicts). There's really no need for the reverse placement running order for the first through third rounds.

All 'Top-ranked' Finalists will be eligible to compete in all four rounds of competition. 'At large' entries (ASCA members whose dogs have earned the 7 point minimum during the qualifying period) would only be eligible to compete in the first two rounds. After the first two rounds, only a defined number or percentage of the 'at large' entries would advance to rounds 3 and 4.

The entry fee is the same for 'top-ranked' and 'at large' Finalists even though 'at large' entries may only run two rounds.

The final round would be Round 2 regular and it would still be run in reverse placement order. Nothing would change about the placement calculations.

Finals eligibility

Finals points would be earned exactly as they are currently including maintaining Finals points accumulation for dogs that have not yet earned the lower level titles.

To encourage support and participation at the local level, all Finalists (including ATCHs) must have earned at least the minimum 7 points. I think that the ATCHs should still get a 'bye' into the 3rd and 4th rounds even if they aren't ranked.

4:04 BREEDER JUDGE MOVE-UPS

The Board of Directors approved the following persons who successfully satisfied all requirements at their current judge level and are now applying to become approved for the next level.

Non- Regular Breeder Judge

Betsy J. Atkinson
1799 RT 91
Fabius, NY 13063
(315) 683-5627

Ronnie Bates
245 Delia Pease Rd
Carrollton, GA 30117
(770) 214-1564

Other Person Judge

Cynthia Clark
415 Barnett Av
Kansas City, KS 66101
(913) 321- 5213

07:05 2009 NATIONALS RECORDING FEE

Motion by Gann Second by Westerman

I move that the 2009 ASCA Nationals hosted by Colorado Australian Shepherd Association be exempt from the \$.50 recording fee increase that takes effect on June 1st 2009.

Rationale - The 2009 host club had already sent their premium for approval before the \$.50 fee increase was approved. Since their premium had already been approved, they are now unable to adjust the fee schedule to help absorb this fee increase.

Approve: Davenport, Gann Disapprove: Aufox, Berryessa, Dolan, MacRoberts, McNamara, Westerman.
The motion is not approved.

09:06 SALE OF MEMBERSHIP LIST

Motion by Aufox Second by Dolan

I move that ASCA's Membership Lists or Membership information shall not be sold or transmitted to any person or organization, without the express approval of any such sale or transfer by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Approve: Aufox, Davenport, Dolan, Gann, MacRoberts, Westerman Disapprove: Berryessa, McNamara
The motion is approved.

Letter of Dissent

Prudent sale of membership lists doesn't have to be a negative. Not only does ASCA receive a nominal fee to help with overhead, our members receive notice of related products and activities that relate to them and their dogs.

Kristin McNamara

94:01 SDC: JUDGE SELECTION FOR FINALS, CH 12, SECTION 7

Motion by Davenport

I move the following SDC motion:

The motion below is approved by the Stockdog Committee as follows:

Approve: Caldwell, de Jong, Hardin, Holmes, Kelly, Mahoney, May, Schvaneveldt, Shope, Vest

Disapprove: Kissman Abstain: Baker Non-voting: Pechka-King

Comments: None

Motion by Hardin, second by May, 3/17/09

CH 12, SECTION 7 - SELECTION OF FINALS JUDGES:

Replace Paragraph 2 with:

2. A) The Board of Directors or its assignee will perform a random draw of all Judges who satisfy the requirements listed in Chapter 12 section 7 paragraph 3 and affirm their availability to judge the ASCA Stockdog Finals.

B) The first nine (9) names drawn will be supplied to the Host Club to hire six (6) Finals Judges.

C) If six (6) Finals Judges cannot be secured from this list, the Host Club will be provided with the next

Judge(s) name(s), in draw order, until all Finals Judge assignments are filled.

Replace Paragraph 3 with:

3. Judges for the Stockdog Finals will be selected from all ASCA Stockdog Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and indicate they would be available. Stockdog Judges will be excluded from the potential list if they:

- have provisional status
- have pending or previous disciplinary action within the last year
- have judged SD Finals within the last two years
- have failed to judge at least three unrelated ASCA Working Trials on all classes of stock in the past three years. (Related Trials are those held at the same place at within the same 10 day period.)

Author's Comment:

There appears to be close to a consensus of those who have commented on the items above. The Stockdog Finals are ultimately for the Finals dogs/competitors. The Stockdog Committee, ASCA Board of Directors, and Host Club concerns and bias should be minimized in selection of Stockdog Finals Judges. There have been comments from various ASCA members about the Host Club selecting the judges. This could not be without bias to some degree. The Host Club does have a pool of 9 from which they can select 6. There have been some competitors comment that the Stockdog Finals Judges should come from a pool of their peers (inferring Finals competitors?). There are very few Stockdog Judges who have qualified for finals recently.

Approve: Unanimous.
The motion is approved.

94:01 SDC MOTION: CHANGES TO APPENDIX OF RULE BOOK, LIVESTOCK CHART

Motion by Davenport:

I move the following from the SDC

Housekeeping - Rule book Appendix Livestock Chart

Unanimously approved to make the following change to the Livestock use chart in the Stockdog Program Rules Appendix:

Add "per day." after "Formula: [(# of stock on hand) divided by (# of head / run)] multiplied by (# of times that stock is allowed to run) = how many runs allowed" to read:

Formula: [(# of stock on hand) divided by (# of head / run)] multiplied by (# of times that stock is allowed to run) = how many runs allowed per day.

Comment: This clarifies the appendix chart and brings it in line with the rules.

Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Davenport, Dolan, Gann, MacRoberts, McNamara Disapprove: Westerman.
The motion is approved.

94:01 SDC: CORRECTION TO TRIALING GUIDELINES

Motion by Davenport

I move the following from the SDC.

Approved by: Caldwell, de Jong, Hardin, Holmes, Kelly, Mahoney, May, Pechka-King, Schvaneveldt, Shope, Vest No response from: Baker, Kissman

(01/2009 SD Rules, Trialing Guidelines, pg 75)

TAKE PEN - Course A / Course C: Scoring begins from when the handler opens the gate and ends when the stock successfully clear the opening of the take pen and the take pen gate is closed. Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) the dog brings out the first time. If the handler takes the stock out of the pen without the dog, no course points will be earned control points will be deducted. However, the handler may enter the take pen with the dog and still earn some Course Control Points.

[Remainder of paragraph stays the same]

Approve: Unanimous
The motion is approved.

95:04 EMERGENCY MOTION - AR LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by Aufox:

EMERGENCY MOTION :

Discussion period April 20th through April 22nd Voting period April 23rd through April 24th.

Rationale: This matter is very time sensitive since legislative action is increasing and waiting for our normal action time would delay this by one month.

The Legislative committee wants to have the following Web Links posted on ASCA's Web Site to give our members greater access to information:

Links	Description
http://www.responsiblepetowners.org/	A provider of information and assistance concerning animal welfare and related public health issues, taking whatever steps necessary to preserve our historic relationship with animals. Based in Texas.
http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/TX_Pet-Law/	This is a public group for discussion and coordination of action related to laws affecting pets in Texas.
http://www.saova.org/	A nationwide, nonpartisan group of volunteers seeking to elect politicians who will oppose the "Animal Rightist" (AR) threat to our rights as Americans.
http://www.naiaonline.org/	To promote the welfare of animals, to strengthen the human-animal bond, and safeguard the rights of responsible animal owners.
http://www.consumerfreedom.com/	The Center for Consumer Freedom is a nonprofit coalition of restaurants, food companies, and consumers working together to promote personal responsibility and protect consumer choices.
http://www.mydogmychoice.com/	Dedicated to maintaining our right to own, breed and raise domestic dogs.
http://www.adoa.org/	The American Dog Owners Association was originally established in Detroit, Michigan in 1970 to combat illegal dog fighting and promote responsible ownership.
http://www.pet-law.com/index.html	Defending the Freedom to Own Pets
http://www.petpac.net/	A grassroots organization dedicated to protecting the rights of pets and their owners.

<http://americanssupportinganimalownership.com> Dedicated to preserve the rights of Americans to own and breed animals.

http://mnlreport.typepad.com/the_monthly_national_legi/ The Monthly National Legislation Report is published once a month listing available reports of dog and animal legislation in all States and other countries.

www.theanimalcouncil.com TAC's goal is to seek positive, humane solutions to the challenges of animal rights activists through study, analysis and application of animal husbandry, statistics and law, and at the same time preserve human benefit from all species, breeds and registries.

Articles / Blogs

http://www.activistcash.com/organization_overview.cfm/oid/136 Profile in HSUS

http://www.activistcash.com/organization_overview.cfm?oid=21 Profile on PeTA

<http://www.petkillsanimals.com/> PeTA Kills Animals - News on what PeTA really does

<http://sanityshome.blogspot.com/> What started out as a simple dog training log has morphed and grown into a keep yourself informed about things that are having a serious negative effect on all dog owning and training. And there is still the dog training complete with pictures and video.

http://www.consumerfreedom.com/article_detail.cfm/article/184 7 Things You Didn't Know About HSUS

http://theanimalcouncil.net/files/SFSPCA_Limit_Laws_4_00_f.pdf Pet Limit Laws: Closing the Door to Loving Homes (written by Nathon Winograd for the San Francisco SPCA which was a no kill shelter at time of writing in 2000.

http://www.hsus.org/legislation_laws/state_legislation/ Here is a link off of HSUS website. It is a map of the US. click on the state and it will give you bill number, author, status

<https://community.hsus.org/humane/leg-lookup/search.html> A link to look up elected officials and their contact info

<http://www.hsus.org/web-files/PDF/legislation/111th-congress-humane-agenda.pdf> Animal Protection Priorities 111th Congress Pet Law Yahoo Lists

<http://www.pet-law.com/statelists.html> State email lists & resources; many are Yahoo groups.

Approve: Westerman Disapprove: Aufox, Davenport, Dolan, Gann, MacRoberts Non-voting: Berryessa, McNamara

The motion is not approved.

97:10 ASCA REGISTERED KENNEL NAMES

Motion by Gann Second by Aufox

I move that "No dog shall be registered with a name including an ASCA registered kennel name, or similar sounding name, as a prefix or suffix without the consent of the registered kennel name owner."

Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Davenport, Gann, McNamara, Westerman Disapprove: Dolan, MacRoberts
The motion is approved.