

Secretary's Report

These reports detail the day-to-day activities of the ASCA Board of Directors. It includes issues brought before the Board of Directors through mail, fax, e-mail, and/or telephone communications.

ASCA Board of Directors Email Motions

June 2014

14.46 Policy Book: Affiliate Bylaw Review

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-Voting: 0

Motion carries.

Motion: Gray

Second: Silveira

I move to change Policy 4.3 from:

4.3 Affiliate Bylaws Review Committee

The ASCA President will appoint an Affiliate Bylaws Review Committee whose purpose shall be to review all new Affiliate Club applicants' Bylaws prior to their being voted upon by the ASCA Board. This committee will also review any changes to Bylaws requested by Affiliate Clubs. If necessary the committee may consult with the ASCA attorney to settle any legal issues regarding Affiliate Bylaws.

The committee shall send their recommendation to the Executive Secretary, who will include other required information before forwarding on to the Board for approval. Effective: 03/01/01

To:

4.3 New Affiliate Bylaw Review

The ASCA Business Office shall review all new Affiliate Club applicants' Bylaws prior to their being voted upon by the ASCA Board. They will ensure the correct Bylaw template was used, check to make sure all officers and directors are full ASCA members and all the required application information and fees are correct. Once the Office is satisfied all the requirements have been met, the new Affiliate Club application will be forward to the Executive Secretary for distribution to the Board (for information).

4.4 Affiliate Bylaw Change Review Committee

The ASCA President will appoint an Affiliate Bylaw Change Review Committee whose purpose shall be to review all Affiliate Bylaw changes prior to their being voted upon by the ASCA Board. If necessary the committee may consult with the ASCA attorney to settle any legal issues regarding the Affiliate Bylaw changes.

The committee shall send their recommendation to the Executive Secretary who will forward to the Board for approval.

Effective: 07/01/2014

94:01 Stockdog: Advanced Handler's Line for Duck Arena

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-Voting: 0

Motion carries.

Motion: Kissman

I make a motion to change Rules 3.12.4.k (Course D), 3.12.5.k (Course E) and 3.12.6.k (Course E) to help clarify the maximum distance for the placement of the advanced handler's line in the Duck Arena.

05-06-14 AHL for Duck Arena

Passed

Approve: 7

Disapprove: 0

Non-Voting: 3

Comment Bell- It will clarify for those needing the help.

Dan Sanderson make a motion and James Bergert seconded to include the following wording in the description of handler lines in the duck arena for Course D, E, and F. The same wording is found in all three courses in the same place in the course description and will apply to 3.12.4.k (Course D), 3.12.5.k (Course E), and 3.12.6.k (Course F).

Change from (3.12.4, 3.12.5, 3.12.6):

k. Handler lines: The Advanced handler line shall be determined by the length of the arena with a maximum distance of 125'. Measure half the length of the arena down from Obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Advanced Handlers' Line in an arena with greater than 250' length shall not exceed 125'. The Open Handlers' Line shall be 25' from and parallel to the plane of Obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Both lines will extend across the width of the arena, parallel to the back fence. Started Handlers may move anywhere in the arena at any time.

Ducks/Geese: The Advanced Handler Line will be determined by the same method. The Open Handler Line will be 8' from and parallel to the plane of Obstacle 1 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the width of the arena.

(Effective 6/1/2012)

Change to (3.12.4, 3.12.5, 3.12.6):

k. Handler Lines: The Advanced handler line shall be determined by the length of the arena with a maximum distance of 125'. Measure half the length of the arena down from Obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Advanced Handlers' Line in an arena with greater than 250' length shall not exceed 125'. The Open Handlers' Line shall be 25' from and parallel to the plane of Obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Both lines will extend across the width of the arena, parallel to the fence opposite the re-pen. Started Handlers may move anywhere in the arena at any time.

Ducks/Geese: The Advanced Handler Line will be determined by the same method with a maximum distance not to exceed 50'. The Open Handler Line will be 8' from and parallel to the plane of Obstacle 1 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the width of the arena.

Rationale: This will help to clarify any confusion found when trying to set up the Advanced Handler Line in the duck arena. The maximum distance for the Advanced Handler Line is defined in the sheep and cattle arena, but not mentioned for the duck arena.

94:01 Stockdog: Reinstate Tilly T4915

Approve: Bryant, Hardin, King, Kissman, Roberts, Silveira

Disapprove: DeChant

Abstain: Gann, Gray

Non-Voting: 0

Motion carries.

Motion: Kissman

I make a motion to reinstate Tilly ASCA# T4915 back into the Stockdog Program.

05-02-14 Reinstate Tilly T4915

Passed

Approve: 9

Disapprove: 0

Non-voting: 2

Linda Bell would like to make a motion and James Bergert seconded to reinstate the dog Tilly, T4915, back into our Program.

Reasoning: She was retested on the same field where she had had problems and passed with flying colors.

Attachment: T4915 Tilly

Attachment: T4915 Tilly Re-instatement

Attachment: T4915 Tilly Evaluation

04:05 Agility: Only allow a dog to enter CH or ACE in a weekend

Approve: Unanimous

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-Voting: 0
Motion carries.

Motion: Roberts

I move to approve the following motion from the Agility committee.

motion by Sherry Butler
second by Andrea Hoffman

This motion passes with 13 yes, 0 no votes.

CHAPTER 4 – ACE PROGRAM (Agility Competition Enthusiast) - SANCTIONED CLASSES, DIVISIONS AND LEVELS

Section 4.1 General Descriptions

Change the following sentence from the third paragraph:

"Each dog and handler team can only enter either the Championship program or ACE program on any one day of a trial."

To

"Each dog and handler team can only enter either the Championship program or ACE program for all days of a trial."

Rationale: I've heard from the software programmers that it would be complicated for the programmers and the trial secretaries to allow changes to/from CH and ACE each day. Also, the way I designed the entry form to not make it too complex, will require someone to submit 2 entry forms if they want to enter CH/ACE each day. (See attached)

Attachment: Agility entry form with text entry

ASCA Board of Directors Teleconference Meeting

June 12, 2014

In attendance: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice-President Preston Kissman, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Director Allison Bryant, Director Rick Gann, Director Linda Gray, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Absent: 2nd Vice-President Rick Hardin, Secretary Ken Silveira, and Director Cindy King.

There is a quorum with 6 voting members of the Board present.

DeChant called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM CDT.

- Director Cindy King joined the meeting at 7:07 PM.

Ratification of May Email Votes

Motion: Kissman

Second: Gray

I make a motion to ratify May email votes.

All present approved (Absent: Hardin, Silveira); motion carries.

Review of May Financial Reports

Roberts reported on ASCA's financials and the Board reviewed documents from January 2014 through May 2014. Net income is \$51,556.14. There is currently \$135,922.13 in the checking account, \$339,710.96 in the savings account, and \$319 in the wire account. ASCA's total assets come in at \$705,272.39. Membership dues are up by \$10,000 and program income is up by \$30,000. Expenses are about the same; a few up and a few down, but mostly consistent.

- Counsel Chuck Carnese joined the meeting at 7:16 PM.

Motion: Gann

Second: Gray

I move to approve the report.

All present approved (Absent: Hardin, Silveira); motion carries.

Conformation Judge Complaints

The Board discussed letters of complaint sent by individual competitors against two ASCA Judges. The complaints were investigated by Kissman who made his recommendation to the Board via email on 6/3/2014.

Recommendation from Kissman 6/3/2014:

“Attached to this note are the two complaint letters and three sets of E-Mail notes that possess information needed for the Board to make a decision on how to rule on this complaint. The Conformation Rules that were examined against the complaints are 7.6 and 9.10. The Judges Code of Ethics was also examined against the complaints. Rule 7.6 defines the rules that a Conformation Judge must follow and Rule 9.10 defines the rules that the Owner/Handler must follow.

Notice that I did not use the term Exhibitor. I believe a request should be made to the Conformation Committee to remove the term Exhibitor from the rules, entry applications and wherever it may currently exist. The only terms that should be used are either Owner or Handler. The Owner owns the dog and the Handler handles the dog in the ring. The Owner and Handler can be the same person.

My recommendation to the Board is that we do not find a violation of Rules 7.6 or 9.10 or the Judges Code of Ethics. I believe that the Judges Code of Ethics only applies when a Rule is broken or a judge is openly biased. I understand that there is a strong concern in some parts of the nation that breeder judges are working together to promote their dogs. While this may or may not be true, I believe the Board must follow the rules as they are currently. I would support a letter of 'caution' sent to both Judges concerning the relationship they have that prompted multiple complaint letters.”

- Secretary Ken Silveira joined the meeting at 7:25 PM.

The Board spent much time discussing the specifics of the complaints. Counsel is working with the Conformation Committee to correct the rule language that would apply here, if the way it was currently written did not leave things ambiguous. The Judges Code of Ethics is a guide for how judges are supposed to act, under the assumption that the Board always retains the right to take action toward a judge that they feel is not acting appropriately in their capacity. If the Board considers an action by a judge to be in violation of the Judges Code of Ethics, it is well within the Board's purview to impose punishments. It is important for judges to avoid any semblance of impropriety. ASCA will be tightening up our rules to ensure that those playing in ASCA do so within a standard of acceptable behavior. The Board wants to say that this behavior is not wanted and the rules are being fixed to make sure it doesn't occur again. They also want to support those people who are willing to say there is a problem and to bear witness to that in defense of ASCA.

- Carnese left the meeting at 8:18 PM.

Junior Judge Complaint

The Board discussed a letter of complaint sent by a competitor against an ASCA Judge. The complaint was investigated by Silveira who made his recommendation to the Board via email on 5/20/2014 and 6/4/2014.

Recommendation from Silveira 5/20/2014:

“The bottom line is that she was excused from her Junior Judging assignment as there were no entries for her to Judge. I confirmed this account with another Judge present. No rules were broken.

I suggest that we accept the complaint as we did investigate it and rule that there were no rule fractions as the Judging assignment was cancelled.

I also suggest that we send a letter to the complainant advising her of our findings.”

Recommendation from Silveira 6/4/2014:

“I am recommending that that we find that no rule was broken as the Judge was released from her judging assignment on the Friday morning of the show weekend due to a lack of entries. The Breed Judge was changed to the Junior Judge should there have been any day of show entries. Therefore, the Judge was free to show the entire weekend.

I do not see where the Host Club broke any rules either. There is a rule that refers to a Judge who is a no show; the Host Club must post a judge change so that those Exhibitors who did enter could decide if they wanted to pull their entries for a refund. There was a Show Chair and a Conformation Secretary. The Secretary told the complainant that there were no Judge changes but the Show Chair wrote a letter cancelling the Judge's assignment and replaced her with the Breed Judge. The Office verified a Judge Change Form. I suggest that we let the Affiliate sort out that bit of miscommunication amongst themselves?”

The Board voted on and approved a motion to find that there was no rule violation in this case. The complaint was made and was found to not be supported by facts. Letters will be sent to all involved to thank them for their participation and let them know the results.

Approval of Stockdog Finals Judges List for 2015

There is no need to approve the Stockdog Finals Judges List; the Board approves the premium, not the judges.

ASCA Credit Card

The Board discussed the option to offer an ASCA credit card to ASCA members. There will be a page on the Website dedicated to marketing this. The Board would like to have ASCA's legal and financial consultants take a look at the offer and make a recommendation.

2014 Finals Rosettes

The Board discussed options for cutting down the cost of ribbons/rosettes every year for Finals. They determined to form an Executive Committee to standardize the ribbon/rosette ordering process for Finals. The Board discussed creating a standard budget for host club's to use and putting to use a process for accepting/denying the budget. Discussion was also held regarding the costs of stock at Nationals/Finals. Gann reported that the 2014 host club would like the Board's permission to place name streamers only on the qualifying rosettes and not the placement ribbons. Placing streamers on both is a huge undertaking for the clubs and the Board agreed to allow the 2014 host club their request. If this process goes well at the 2014 Nationals, the Board will consider changing any rules that require name streamers to be placed on the placement ribbons.

2013 Finals Reimbursement to CASA

Gann provided CASA's request for reimbursement from ASCA. The Board discussed and had some need for clarification, which Gann will find out about and report back to the Board.

Financial Reports and Budget

The Board discussed preparing a financial report to be published in each issue of the Aussie Times for the membership to see and what could/should be included in it. They also discussed having a budget for ASCA.

Exploration of Hiring an Executive Director

The Board discussed and acknowledged the potential benefits to ASCA if an Executive Director were to be hired. They are interested in at least exploring the possibility of hiring one. To that end, the Board would like to form a committee to investigate the idea and see how it could work for ASCA. This item will be further discussed at the Board's next teleconference meeting.

Discussion of Stockdog Apprentice Judges up for Approval

The Board spent time discussing any concerns and sharing any comments they may have about the three current applicants to the Apprentice Stockdog Judging Program, as well as reviewing the recommendations from the Stockdog Committee.

- 2nd Vice-President Rick Hardin joined the meeting at 9:40 PM.

Disqualified Dog Reinstatement

The Board discussed a current motion before them for reinstatement of a dog disqualified for a bite on livestock. This item will be voted on during the June email voting cycle.

At 10:03 PM CDT all present approved adjournment and DeChant called the meeting to a close.

Other Action:

- New Apprentice Stockdog Judge: Deb Conroy.
- New Apprentice Stockdog Judge: Jamie Burns.
- 1 Apprentice Stockdog Judge Applicant was denied entry into the program.
- New Junior Showmanship Judge: Sarah Whitmey.

This report is respectfully submitted by Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.