

September 2016 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 through mail, fax, e-mail, and/or telephone communications. This report is respectfully submitted by Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.

Judge Approvals

Obedience (through Utility) Judge Brenda Citrelli (Florida)
Senior Breeder Judge Lynda Shackelford (North Carolina)
Senior Breeder Judge Sherrie Scott (Utah)
Approved Breeder Judge Heather Herron (Michigan)

Committee Appointments

Hall of Fame Committee – Cynthia Kennedy (Region 2)
MVA Committee – Cynthia Kennedy (Region 2)
Tracking Committee – Leah Swatko (Region 6), Joyce Charron (Region 4), Nita Gandara (Region 2)

Committee Recommendations

Rally Committee

RA.16.18 Recognition of previous Rally Finals winners

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Wesen

I move to accept this motion from the Rally committee.

RC Motion 16.6 – Recognition of previous Rally Finals winners

Effective Date: Upon Board of Directors approval

Rationale: At the time Rally was recognized as an official ASCA program, no guidelines were established to recognize the Rally Finals winner each year. Now that Rally will have a place of recognition in the Aussie Times, we would like to have a way to showcase the previous Rally Finals winners for their hard work and success.

Effects: Aussie Times, the winners of Rally Finals in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, and possibly the photographer who shot the win pictures in order to get the official win pictures.

Motion by Karen Black

Second by Beryl Billingsley

I move to recognize previous rally finals winners (years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015) in the Aussies Times.

PROPOSED RECOGNITION

5 pages in the Aussie Times. The first page to contain wording that celebrates Rally as the newest ASCA program, explains we are showcasing previous winners of Rally Finals and congratulates all the previous winners. The four subsequent pages are to be dedicated to the winners, one for each of the four years that missed recognition. Color pages would be ideal as their cover shot would have been color had they been recognized at the time.

Those pages will include a ½ page win picture and a ½ page “about the cover” type situation that gives the owner and/or handler room to say a little something about their dog and their success. Frequently in the “about the cover” sections, other smaller photos are included. That should be allowed in this ½ page section as well.

Layout of the pages as to whether all of the pages should have win photo on top and the about section underneath or vice versa should be left to the Aussie Times editor. Win pages will appear in chronological order beginning with 2012.

Results of the committee vote:

Approve: 13

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-voting: 0

Comments from committee members:

Ann McCabe: The winners should be given ample time to submit their “bio” and picture as this may be a surprise to some of them and we want them to feel proud about what is published in the Aussie Times.

Leah Swatko: As stated Rally is a relatively new program and finals winners were not included with other finals winner in other competition in ASCA. This recognizes and sets up a format to continue to recognize the past and future Rally Finals Winners.

Pat Pierce: I am thrilled past Rally Finals winners will finally be celebrated in print. Congratulations to all for their inspiring performances!

RA.16.19 Soliciting Assignments

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Wesen

I move to accept this motion from the Rally committee.

RC Motion 16.7 – Soliciting Assignments

Effective Date: upon approval by the BOD, or on their timeline as it is a directive from them.

Rationale: The ASCA BOD has directed the Rally Committee to include language in the Rally Rulebook regarding judges not being allowed to solicit or promote judging assignments.

Effects: Judges will be affected as they will have to follow the new guidelines. Affiliates will be affected to make sure they don't hire judges who have solicited an assignment.

Business Office notified: Business Office has been contacted about the motion to make sure wording and procedure, etc. works for them. Responded on 7/22/16, Ray Fryar says it looks good.

Motion by Karen Black

Second by Karen Souza

By directive of the ASCA Board of Directors, I move to include guidelines for judges regarding the soliciting of assignments to the Rally Rulebook.

We recommend this addition be number 16.1.4 with the remaining sections of Chapter 16 following in sequential order.

PROPOSED WORDING

16.1.4 Soliciting Assignments

Neither a judge, nor a family member of a judge, may solicit or promote assignments on the judge's behalf.

Definitions:

(a) Solicitation is the repeated contact and/or the use of influence, persuasion or coercion in an effort to obtain a judging assignment.

(b) Promotion is a Judge's or his/her immediate family member's attempt to sell or popularize the Judge or his/her judging assignments through verbal or written advertising and/or publicity.

(Effective June 2017)

CURRENT WORDING

There is no current wording for this in the ASCA Rally Rulebook.

Results of the committee vote:

Approve: 11

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 1

Non-voting: 1

Comments from committee members:

Leah Swatko: Brings the Rally Judges in line with solicitation as found in ASCA documents governing Judges behavior.

Beryl Billingsley: I am disappointed that something which should be a board decision for all venues has been handed off to the individual committees.

RA.16.20 Grammar and wording changes in several sections of the Rally Rules

Approve: Unanimous

Motion carries.

Motion by Wesen

I move to accept this motion from the Rally committee.

RC Motion 16.8 – Grammar corrections and clarifying wording in several sections of the Rally Rulebook

Effective Date: June 1, 2017

Rationale: There are quite a few situations where we have run-on sentences, poorly structured sentences and other situations that muddle the intent of the rules. We also have areas where a word change here or there clarifies the meaning immensely. The purpose of this motion is to clean up these areas which will make the rulebook easier to read and understand. These have been done together in one motion to make things easier for the Executive Secretary and the Business Office since any changes to Rulebooks are now made immediately.

Effects: Anyone who reads the rulebook will be affected and the Executive Secretary who has to make the changes will be affected. The Business Office could be affected by a new rule that they have to give notice every time a change to a rulebook is made. Business Office was notified on 7/21/16 and responded on 7/22/16, Ray Fryar said it looks good.

Motion by Karen Black

Second by Leah Swatko

I move to make the grammar corrections and clarify wording in several sections of the Rally Rulebook:

PROPOSED WORDING

1.24 Judging Program

Any Affiliate Club holding a Specialty with a closed entry date must prepare, after the entries have closed, a program showing the time scheduled for judging. A copy of this program shall be sent to the owner of each entered dog and to each Judge, and the program shall be printed in the catalog. In addition, one-half to one-hour for rest or meals must be allowed if it will take more than five hours of actual judging to judge the dogs entered under him/her. Judges are allowed to judge up to 120 dogs runs per day. It is suggested that a Judge not judge more than eight hours in a single day. If a Rally Judge is judging more than one ASCA sanctioned event per day, the eight hours includes all assignments. (Effective June 2017)

1.28.1 Ribbons for Split Classes

A club that holds a split class, whether the split is announced in the Premium List or after entries close because the entries exceed eight hours of judging or 120 entries runs, shall award ASCA official ribbons in both divisions. (Effective June 2017)

2.11.2 Pinning the Class

Before awarding the prizes, the Judge shall inform the exhibitors and spectators as to the maximum number of points for a perfect score, an X score, or a C score out of the C class, as well as the minimum number of points to qualify, and He/she shall then announce the score of each placement placements and scores. The Judge shall then present to all handlers with qualifying scores their X, C, or regular qualifying score and their X or regular qualifying ribbon. (Effective June 2017)

2.15.3 Judging Dogs out of Catalog Order

A Judge may agree, on request at the prior to the scheduled starting time of the class, to judge a dog earlier or later than the time out of scheduled by catalog order. However, a Judge should not hesitate to mark absent and to refuse to judge any dog and handler team that are is not at ringside ready to be judged in catalog order if no arrangement has been made in advance. (Effective June 2017)

2.20.3 Reasonable Control During Praise

~~When praise is allowed during the performance of the Rally course, points~~ Points will be deducted for a dog that is not under reasonable control while being praised, when praise is allowed during the performance of the Rally course. (Effective June 2017)

13.3.3 Notification of Alternates; Refunds

If an eligible contestant fails to send in an entry form, the Business Office will notify the next alternate who has stated his/her intent to attend. If a cancellation occurs the day of the Finals, one of the 25 20 alternates on the grounds will become eligible in order of their rankings. If no alternates are available, the Finals will run short. No entry fee will be refunded. (Effective June 2017)

~~13.8.5 One Winner~~

~~There will one overall winner for Finals, not one from each level. (Effective June 2017)~~

This is a duplicate statement of 13.6.9 and therefore not needed here.

16.1.2 Judging Limits; Reusing Courses

Judges are allowed to judge up to 120 dogs runs per day. It is suggested that a Judge not judge more than eight hours in a single day. If a Rally Judge is judging more than one ASCA sanctioned event per day, the eight hours includes all assignments. Courses may not be reused within 6 months in any Trial that is within 300 miles from previous use of same courses. (Effective June 2017)

CURRENT WORDING

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Results of the committee vote:

Approve: 13

Disapprove: 0

Abstain: 0

Non-voting: 0

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Preston Kissman, 2nd Vice President Laura Gibson, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Ken Silveira, Director Linda Gray, Director Cindy King, Director Rachel Vest, Director-elect Jean Roberts, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: None

DeChant called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm.

August Email Votes

The Board spent time discussing a failed Obedience Committee motion (OB.16.25 Change to 1.9 Dogs that May Not Compete) from August. The committee recommended shortening the waiting period before a student may trial under a training instructor from 1-year to 30-days. Those Directors that voted against the change did not think that 30-days was long enough, if it were going to be regulated. The Board would be in favor of removing the waiting period all together, as Obedience is the only performance program with this type of restriction.

BD.16.114 Ratify August Email Votes

Motion by Gibson to ratify the Board's August email votes. Second by Gray.

Approve: Unanimous; motion carries.

System Liaison

BD.16.115 Appoint Ally Bryant as System Liaison

Motion by DeChant to continue with Ally Bryant as the System Liaison.

Approve: Unanimous; motion carries.

BD.16.116 Appoint Rachel Vest as Liaison to System Liaison

Motion by Wesen to continue with Rachel Vest as the Board Liaison to the System Liaison.

Approve: Unanimous; motion carries.

– *DeChant left the meeting at 3:40 pm.*

System Report

The September rollout will be delayed due to the timing of Nationals. Everything is going smoothly and there have been no impediments identified. The development team is fully engaged and understands exactly what ASCA needs in this system.

Strategic Plan

Disciplinary Actions for Judge Complaints

Referred to the Conflict Resolution Committee.

Promote/Educate the Public About Programs

Liaisons need to touch base with their committees regarding this assignment.

Proposal for Introduction to Stock Event

The Stockdog Committee had been in the process of developing a proposal, but it was withdrawn after they determined it was not in the best interest of ASCA's stock program to have a formal event. They would rather encourage Affiliates to host play days with knowledgeable stock handlers.

A sub-committee of Gibson, Roberts, and Vest will come up with guidelines for a possible introduction event or play days.

Recognition for Dock Diving

There are dock diving organizations that are not affiliated with AKC, and that would be willing to offer third party testing for ASCA. Gibson volunteered to investigate as part of the 2017 Nationals and she will get back to Silveira and Gray with her results.

Disciplinary Chart of Consequences

Referred to the Conflict Resolution Committee.

Obtaining Ongoing Member Input

The idea of posing weekly scenarios to the membership to determine areas of growth in ASCA. The continuing discussion focused on how best to put those scenarios to the membership and how to increase positive interactions between the Board and the membership.

A sub-committee of Jaco, Roberts, and Silveira will look into gaining ownership/control of the ASCA-L and attempt to re-brand that list as a constructive way to communicate with members.

Volunteer Recognition

DeChant and King have come up with a proposal to celebrate volunteers in ASCA. Instead of having a Volunteer of the Year award that would recognize just one volunteer at a time, they thought it better to find a way to recognize the many people who give back to ASCA all year.

The Board requests that Affiliates send in photos of volunteers to be added to a slideshow, which will be shown at Nationals. The intent is for the slideshow to grow each year and serve as a reminder of the dedicated volunteers that keep ASCA running.

DeChant and King will put together a simple ad for the next Aussie Times.

Grant Possibilities

There are grants out there, but ASCA needs to be careful because of our 501-c7 status. If we are going to seek out a grant we need to have a specified purpose for it.

ASCA App for Phones

Jaco will continue research on this.

First Draft of 2017 National Specialty Premium

The Host Club needs to find a replacement judge for the Conformation Finals. The Board will be notified when that is complete.

BD.16.117 Approve slate of 2017 Nationals Judges

Motion by Silveira to approve the Nationals judges slate as presented in the first draft of the 2017 National Specialty premium. Second by Wesen.

Approve: DeChant, Gray, King, Kissman, Silveira, Vest, Wesen; abstain: Gibson; motion carries.

The Board discussed the need for standardization of the Finals invitation letters and Finals entry forms so that the most accurate information is provided to the Host Club.

The meeting was postponed until 9:06 am on Wednesday, September 14, 2016.

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Preston Kissman, 2nd Vice President Laura Gibson, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Director Linda Gray, Director Cindy King, Director Rachel Vest, Director-elect Jean Roberts, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Secretary Ken Silveira

First Draft of 2017 National Specialty Premium, continued

The Board wants to make sure that the 2017 Premium is clear that only ASCA registered Australian Shepherds can compete in the Nationals and Finals. Dogs with tracking numbers (QTracker) are not considered ASCA registered Aussies and are not able to compete at the ASCA Nationals or Finals.

- *Silveira joined the meeting at 9:29 am.*

The rules for the Texas Shootout will be included at the back of the Premium.

- *Laurie Rubin joined the meeting at 10:05 am.*

Meeting with Obedience Committee Chair

The Board met with Obedience Committee Chair Laurie Rubin. They shared reasons for voting down the Obedience Committee's motion (OB.16.25 Change to 1.9 Dogs that May Not Compete) from August. The consensus of the Board was to simply remove the rule altogether, instead of lessening it to 30-days.

- *Rubin left the meeting at 10:36 am.*
- *Kissman and Silveira left the meeting at 10:39 am.*

Treasurer's Report

System Upgrade

Payment to FrogSlayer for the system upgrade was completed on December 31, 2015. The system will be listed as an asset after the project is completed.

- *Kissman and Silveira joined the meeting at 10:44 am.*

2017 Budget

The 2017 budget was presented. It is important that we are realistic about our projected income and that the budget is planned accordingly. The Board will revisit once the third quarter is completed.

Additional Event Membership Dues

We are paying out almost double than we are taking in, for each program, in the Additional Event Membership Dues account. Standardizing the awards may help decrease these costs.

- *Business Office Manager Ray Fryar joined the meeting at 10:59 am.*

Finals Entry Fees

The entry fees for Finals are currently \$60 for each program. It is a recurring topic for the Nationals meeting to discuss the fees and whether they should stay the same, be raised, or be lowered. The Board determined to leave the fees as they are for now.

DNA Fees

The fees for DNA are currently \$45 for blood and \$50 for cheek swab. It is a recurring topic for the Nationals meeting to discuss the fees and whether they should stay the same, be raised, or be lowered. The Board determined to leave the fees as they are.

2015 Audit

The results will be available at this year's General Membership Meeting, and are also available upon request to the Business Office. This year's management letter was positive.

- *The Board entered Executive Session at 11:35 am.*

Nationals Entry Issue

An entry issue was corrected.

Complaint

Alan McCorkle has been suspended from judging ASCA conformation for 6 months for violating the Judge's Code of Ethics.

The meeting was postponed until 8:35 pm.

Present: Ann DeChant, Ray Fryar, Laura Gibson, Linda Gray, Kalla Jaco, Cindy King, Jean Roberts, Ken Silveira, Rachel Vest, Jan Wesen

Absent: None

Election of ASCA Officers

DeChant nominated Gibson for President. Approved by acclamation.

Vest nominated DeChant for 1st Vice President. Approved by acclamation.

Wesen nominated Vest for 2nd Vice President. Approved by acclamation.

Vest nominated Silveira for Secretary; he declined. Vest nominated King for Secretary. Approved by acclamation.

DeChant nominated Wesen for Treasurer. Approved by acclamation.

Gibson nominated Fryar for Election Secretary. Approved by acclamation.

Gibson nominated Fryar for Membership Secretary. Approved by acclamation.

King nominated Jaco for Executive Secretary. Approved by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm to hold a meeting of the ASCA Foundation.

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Business Office Manager Ray Fryar, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: None

Gibson called the meeting of the ASCA Foundation to order at 8:43 pm.

Election of ASCA Foundation Officers

FD.16.02 Approve slate of Officers for ASCA Foundation

Motion by DeChant to accept the slate of ASCA Officers as the Officers of the ASCA Foundation. Second by Vest.

Approve: Unanimous; motion carries.

The ASCA Foundation meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Thursday, September 15, 2016

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Cindy King, Director Linda Gray, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Outgoing Director Preston Kissman, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: None

Gibson called the meeting to order at 9:26 am.

Norms Activities

The Board shared their general thoughts on whether the norms have been working or not. Most believed that they worked, so long as they are properly and consistently applied. Each Director shared which of the norms they felt we needed the most work on and if they thought there should be any changes. The Board then discussed how each Director interpreted ASCA's mission to preserve the Australian Shepherd.

2019 ASCA National Specialty

The Board received one applicant to host the 2019 ASCA National Specialty from Central Valley ASC in Bakersfield, California.

BD.16.119 Approve bid from CVASC to host 2019 National Specialty

Motion by Silveira to approve Central Valley ASC to host the 2019 ASCA National Specialty in Bakersfield, California. Second by Roberts.

Approve: Unanimous; motion carries.

It is important that Affiliates interested in hosting a National Specialty be aware that they need to have everything prepared approximately three years in advance.

Liaison to 2016 National Specialty Host Club

Kissman is the current Liaison and he is leaving the Board. Gray volunteered to take over his duties.

Conflict Resolution Protocol Proposal

This proposal is the result of work by Gibson, Vest, Karen Black, Rick Hardin, Linda Mahoney, and Kathy Remington. It would replace the current Dispute Rules entirely.

Silveira suggested that the filing fee be eliminated. Removing the filing fee may make the Board more approachable and encourage people to work out their issues according to our rules and not let it get out of hand. If disputes become frivolous, the Board will consider reinstating the filing fee.

The Board spent time discussing options for action against members who harm ASCA, as well as alternative options for members to resolve disputes with the Board.

– *Silveira and Wesen left the meeting at 10:45 am.*

Personal Code of Conduct

This proposal is the result of work by DeChant, Gibson, and Pete Dolan. It is in response to member requests at the 2015 General Membership Meeting.

- *Silveira joined the meeting at 11:56 am.*

BD.16.120 Approve Code of Personal Conduct

Motion by Vest to approve the Code of Personal Conduct as presented. Second by Gray.

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest; absent: Wesen; motion carries.

DNA Questions

These answers are ready to be sent to the member that posed the questions. Jaco will forward the response via email.

Filling Vacancies on the Board of Directors

It was suggested that resumes for the Board be kept on file and when there is a vacancy a ballot will be sent out to the membership to elect a replacement. Vest will investigate associated costs.

Judge Evaluations

Jaco proposed a process for handling judge evaluations sent to the Business Office with the show paperwork. Currently, the evaluations are sent to the appropriate committees and the Executive Secretary, but there is no structured follow-up.

Moving forward, all judge evaluations will continue to be sent to the Executive Secretary. She will log and save them in judge specific files. Positive feedback will be shared with the judge. Negative feedback will be forwarded to the Board to determine if disciplinary action is necessary, or whether education will suffice. Discipline will be handled by the Board, while education may be delegated to the appropriate committee.

- *Silveira left the meeting at 12:58 pm.*

Use of the Chute/Closed Tunnel Obstacle in ASCA Agility

BD.16.121 Suspend use of the chute/closed tunnel in ASCA Agility

Motion by Gibson to temporarily suspend the use of the chute/closed tunnel while the Agility Committee researches and deliberates the continued use of this obstacle in the ASCA Agility Program. Second by Wesen.

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Kissman, Vest, Wesen; absent: Silveira; motion carries.
Effective immediately upon approval by the BOD

Rationale: This is the recommendation of the Agility Committee (informal vote 9 to 3, with one non-voting). The committee needs to decide what is best for ASCA, considering our rules and our use of this obstacle.

Parties affected: Agility Judges, agility competitors, affiliates who sanction agility events, dogs who run ASCA agility events.

- *Silveira joined the meeting at 2:08 pm.*

Restructuring of ASCA Regions

King and Silveira have taken the lead on this. The Board discussed the options of arranging the regions by population so there is more equal representation, and adding more regions while lowering committee representation to one per region instead of two.

European Member Survey

The Board would like to create a European advisory committee that can look into issues related to European membership.

- *The Board entered Executive Session at 3:51 pm.*

Meeting with Members

The Board met with members and heard their concerns.

Complaint

The Board discussed a complaint and heard statements from those involved. No disciplinary action was taken.

The meeting was postponed until 9:03 am on Friday, September 16, 2016.

Friday, September 16, 2016

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Secretary Cindy King, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Outgoing Director Preston Kissman, Counsel Chuck Carnese, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Treasurer Jan Wesen, Director Linda Gray

Personal Code of Conduct

Counsel approved of the proposal. There was one change that needed to be made to the version approved by the Board on Thursday.

- *Gray joined the meeting via telephone at 9:07 am.*

BD.16.124 Approve addendum to Code of Personal Conduct

Motion by Gibson to amend the approved Personal Code of Conduct so that the Junior section reads “add the above to section 1.3.” Second by Vest.

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest; absent: Wesen; motion carries.

Facebook

The Board discussed their options for curbing negative comments that may circulate on Facebook. There is no desire to infringe on any member’s freedom of speech, but the Board would like to see members making an effort to be more positive.

- *Wesen joined the meeting at 9:14 am.*

Counsel will report back to the Board on their options for action related to Facebook comments. A social media policy development committee of DeChant, Gibson, and Silveira was created. Gibson and Jaco will work on a letter for the Aussie Times that will invite members to help us change ASCA’s culture.

Registry Rule 2.4

2.4 Recordkeeping

Each person who breeds or deals in dogs in any way which are registered or eligible for registration with the Australian Shepherd Club of America must maintain complete and accurate records and keep them for a period of five years.

These records must contain pedigree information on sire and dam, a copy of the litter application or litter record, names, addresses and phone numbers of the buyers of the puppies, adult dogs, and stud

services as well as any other information deemed pertinent by the owner and/or breeder. For example, additional information could be pictures of the dogs, height, weight, etc.

The Australian Shepherd Club of America may refuse to register any dog or litter or to record the transfer of any dog for the sole reason the application is not supported by the records required by these rules and the regulations adopted under them.

The ASCA Registry Office will notify the ASCA Board of Directors when a breeder has registered ten (10) or more litters in any twelve (12) month period. The ASCA Board of Directors may authorize an on-site inspection to investigate breeding records, practices and treatment of dogs.

Any person who willingly or admittedly falsifies registration records, pursues unethical registration practices that render it impossible to identify an individual dog or the parentage of a specific litter, practices inhumane and cruel treatment of animals or refuses to permit an authorized ASCA Registry inspector to examine their breeding records and practices or to examine one or more of their dogs that are ASCA registered or eligible for ASCA registration, may be suspended from all ASCA services and privileges by action of the Board of Directors.

The ASCA Board may suspend the membership of any person who has been charged by a governmental authority with animal cruelty, inhumane treatment of animals or the like, during the pendency of such prosecution.

Failure of litter owner(s) to supply the puppy buyer(s) with an Individual Registration Application may result in loss of ASCA privileges of the litter owner(s), after review by the ASCA Board.

– *Gray left the meeting at 9:41 am.*

BD.16.125 Change to Registry Rule 2.4

Motion by DeChant to strike “The ASCA Registry Office will notify the ASCA Board of Directors when a breeder has registered ten (10) or more litters in any twelve (12) month period. The ASCA Board of Directors may authorize an on-site inspection to investigate breeding records, practices and treatment of dogs” from Registry Rule 2.4. Second by Roberts.

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, King, Roberts, Silveira, Wesen; abstain: Vest, absent: Gray; motion carries.

The Board discussed changes to the remainder of the section. Counsel will report back with his recommendation at the October teleconference meeting.

Conflict Resolution Protocol Proposal, continued

Some Directors expressed concerns with the language in the proposal that would allow ASCA to suspend members that sue the club. Counsel will report back with a recommendation for the October teleconference meeting.

Role and Function of ASCA’s Committees

Moving forward, committees will choose three goals to work on for the year. They will present those goals to 2nd Vice President Vest for inclusion in the Strategic Plan. The Board hopes this will help to focus the committees, as well as cut down on excessive rule changes and committee overload. The Board may still send directives and the committees may still respond to emergency issues. Vest will reach out to the committee Chairs.

The Board discussed the purpose of the committees. Gibson volunteered to come up with a paragraph to be added to the beginning of the Committee Procedures that would serve as a reminder to committees of their purpose, to be presented at the October teleconference meeting.

The Board also discussed having committee liaisons appointed at the Board level, and no longer chosen by the committees. Counsel is in favor of this. Further discussion will be held at the October teleconference meeting.

European Advisory Committee

BD.16.126 Create European Advisory Committee

Motion by Gibson to create a European Advisory Committee composed of one member per European Affiliate (representative to be voted on by the Affiliate), plus two at-large members (selected from resumes sent to the Board via 1st Vice President Ann DeChant). Second by King.

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest, Wesen; absent: Gray; motion carries.

DeChant will work with the Office Manager and the Webmaster to get a letter sent to the Affiliates requesting that they select representatives. She will get the committee started off.

Payment for Agility Course Reviewers

Gibson proposed that ASCA begin to pay course reviewers a \$1.00 per course stipend. They would need to fill out a form that would document their work and pay. Most Directors would like to see the course reviewers be paid for their work, but the consensus was that the payment should be part of event costs, and should not be coming directly from ASCA. The cost needs to be budgeted for. Gibson will take this back to the Agility Course Reviewers to make a recommendation, with the input of the Office Manager.

- The Board entered Executive Session at 12:30 pm.

Complaint

The Board discussed a complaint and determined to take no further action.

- The Board exited Executive Session at 12:45 pm.

Standardizing Finals

Motion by Gibson to approve the standardization of the rosettes as outlined in the proposal, with changes to be made in the appropriate rulebooks. Second by DeChant.

Approve: DeChant, Gibson, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest, Wesen; absent: Gray; motion carries.

FINALS	AWARD	ROSETTE	PRIZE – Level/Cost
Agility	HIT Division	A	Level 1/\$250
	2 nd -10 th	B	Level 3/\$75
	Finalists Participants	B	None
	Rounds-1 st Placements	E	None
Conformation	1 st	A	Level 1/\$250
	2 nd -10 th	B	Level 3/\$75
	Finalists Participants	B	None
Juniors	Best Junior	A	Level 1/\$250
	Reserve Junior	A.5	Level 2/\$150
	1 st -4 th	D	Level 4/\$75
	Finalists Participants	B	None
Obedience	1 st	A	Level 1/\$250
	2 nd -10 th	B	Level 3/\$75
	Finalists Participants	B	None

Rally	1 st	A	Level 1/\$250
	2 nd -10 th	B	Level 3/\$75
	Finalists Participants	B	None
Stockdog	Champion	A	Level 1/\$250
	Reserve Champion	A.5	Level 2/\$150
	3 rd -10 th	B	Level 3/\$75
	Finalists	B	None

Rosette Descriptions:

LEVEL	COST PER ROSETTE	DESCRIPTION
A	\$21	8.5-inch head, 7 streamers, 24 inch streamers
A.5	\$20	8-inch head, 7 streamers, 22 inch streamers
B	\$18	7.5 inch head, 7 streamers, 18 inch streamers
D	\$12	6-inch head, 5 streamers, 14 inch streamers
E	\$1	2 layered, 10 inch flat ribbon
Name Streamers – \$5-7.50 each, depending on length of name.		

All Finals Qualifiers will receive a rosette labeled "Finalist," with the qualifying dog's ASCA registered name and ASCA titles entered on a side streamer. Non-ASCA titles will not be included. The name streamer will be placed on the Finals participation rosette, not on the placement rosette. All rosettes will have the date and location of the Finals. Any qualifying team that is unable to participate in the Finals is responsible for the cost of shipping their Finals rosette or requesting that the rosette be entrusted to someone else for delivery. The host club is not responsible for the cost of shipping rosettes. Placements will be awarded 1st-10th place. Colors for the center streamer shall be as follows for placement rosettes: 1st - blue; 2nd - red; 3rd - yellow; 4th - white, 5th - 10th - same color (to coordinate with colors of host's rosette colors) and will have placements on rosette.

Invitations: The competition program committees were polled to see if they wanted to change the way alternate invitations are handled. They reported that they are currently satisfied with the way invitations are being handled with regard to alternate invitations.

Future Work:

- Proposal to change participation in Finals
- Proposal for a standard budget for Finals – standardize the items that the BOD will cover in a Finals budget
- Proposal for Finals Director

Nationals Site Survey

Gibson will draft a survey to be sent to the membership requesting feedback on Nationals sites. The survey will question whether they prefer it the way it is with random bids from Affiliates, or would they prefer one permanent location or several rotating locations.

Judge Approval Process

Vest expressed her concern with judges being used in ASCA that have not been approved by the Board. For instance, judges from other registries that meet our requirements are admitted without being published in the Aussie Times or voted on by the Board. Vest will work on a solution to this, in addition to her continuing work on standardizing the approval process among programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 pm to hold a meeting of the ASCA Foundation.

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Cindy King, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Director Linda Gray

Gibson called the meeting of the ASCA Foundation to order at 2:06 pm.

Foundation Treasurer's Report

Total Foundation assets is \$53,333.77. There was \$350 donated to the Cee Hambo Scholarship Fund and \$2,121.75 donated to the epilepsy fund. The Foundation paid out \$4,900 in rescue grants.

The ASCA Foundation meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Present: President Laura Gibson, 1st Vice President Ann DeChant, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Cindy King, Director Jean Roberts, Director Ken Silveira, Outgoing Director Preston Kissman, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco

Absent: Director Linda Gray

Gibson called the meeting to order at 2:11 pm.

- *The Board entered Executive Session at 2:20 pm.*

Complaint

The Board discussed a complaint and heard statements from those involved. No disciplinary action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 pm.

Affiliate Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Preston Kissman, 2nd Vice President Laura Gibson, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Ken Silveira, Director Linda Gray, Director Cindy King, Director Rachel Vest, Director-elect Jean Roberts, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Business Office Manager Ray Fryar, Susan Harris (Delta ASF), Susan Severns (ASC of Idaho), Robbi Norman (ASC of Michigan), Judi Myers (Tri-Co ASWA), Sherry Butler (Lake Havasu ASC), Chuck Klein (First in Flight ASC), Jeanne Mastick (WCASA), Charla Patterson (CVASC), Katie van de Sandt (WASC), Crystal Ray (Cascade ASC), Donna Burdick (Cascade ASC), Regis Jackson (Cascade ASC), Nancy Jackson (Cascade ASC), Kelli DeSoto (Cascade ASC), Tanya Johnson (ASC of WA), Gerhard Rieger (ASC of BC), Sue Graham (WCASA, Tri-County ASWA, COAST ASC, ASCSC), Ann McCabe (TCASWA), Denise Creelman (CVASC), Trish Alexander (COAST ASC), Kathy Reeve (WCASA).

DeChant called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Insurance for Affiliates

The proper procedure is for the Affiliate to contact the Business Office and request that both the Affiliate and the facility where the event is to be held be named as co-insureds during the event. The Office Manager then contacts ASCA's general liability carrier which issues a binder covering both the Affiliate and the facility. It is important that the Affiliates be made aware that coverage is not automatic, but must be requested on each occasion that the Affiliate puts on an event. That is because the policy is written to ASCA and not to the Affiliate.

When a venue requires they be NAMED as an additional insured, and wants a copy of the endorsement that shows their name, there is an additional fee of \$50. If they are happy being INCLUDED as an additional insured under the blanket additional insured endorsement, then there is no additional cost.

The Affiliates also need to be made aware that ASCA's general liability policy does not cover personal injury incurred by a participant, such as a fall in the ring. Such coverage is available to the Affiliates by specialty insurers at reasonable cost. If a query is made to the Business Office, the Affiliate is referred to Sportsmen's Insurance (www.dogclubinsurance.com), a company which insures several Affiliates, ASCA's broker, Catto & Catto, LLP, in San Antonio, or their own insurance broker. ASCA's insurance only protects non-members.

Approval of New Affiliate Clubs and Agility Licensees

Several questions have come up for discussion regarding Affiliate Clubs and Agility Licensees.

Agility Licensees

The Agility Licensee program was started to provide agility in areas that don't have an Affiliate that hosts agility trials and to offer training facilities the opportunity to host ASCA trials. Is it achieving that purpose or are Licensees infringing on local Affiliates? Some members expressed concerns about Affiliates having to arrange their schedules around Licensees (regardless of program). For example, if a Licensee is holding an agility trial in an area on the same weekend as an ASCA Stockdog trial, competitors that do both agility and stock would have to choose between supporting a Licensee or an Affiliate.

The Board has sent a directive to the Agility Committee to detail the approval process, including a requirement for contacting any Affiliates already serving that area. Members may send any input to the Agility Committee Chair, Judy Boone.

Affiliates

When a new Affiliate applies for approval, should the Affiliate(s) already serving that area be contacted for feedback, as well? Should there be a limit on how many Affiliates may operate per state?

Point Schedule

New Affiliate Clubs start with using schedule 1 for conformation points. Should they be placed on an equivalent schedule with the other Affiliates in that region? This is a topic for the Conformation Committee.

Restructuring ASCA's Regions

The Board would like to restructure ASCA's regions (for the purposes of filling committees) based on member population. Those in attendance were in favor of this.

There was discussion of the survey sent to European members about splitting region 7. Those that responded were overwhelmingly for splitting it into two regions. We hope this will encourage more representation from Europe.

Sanctioning Days

Sundays are included in the days counted for the purposes of sanctioning.

Removing the Chute/Closed Tunnel in Agility

Gibson has put forward a motion to temporarily suspend the chute/closed tunnel until the Agility Committee can make an official recommendation following research. It has always been optional for clubs to use this obstacle.

ASCA Participation

Members brought up concerns about how ASCA can promote itself and encourage new members, as well as keep old ones. Options discussed were reaching out to 4H programs to involve them in our shows/trials, contacting local media to advertise Affiliate events, and extending welcomes to spectators and newcomers. Affiliates may also choose to offer educational or fun events in conjunction with club meetings. It was suggested that Affiliates promote the Cee Hambo Scholarship for aged out juniors.

It is important that members at ASCA events remember that they are the ambassadors of our breed and should be encouraging, considerate, and respectful.

Volunteer Recognition

There will be a slideshow at the 2017 Nationals recognizing some of the many wonderful volunteers in ASCA. Affiliates should fill out the submission form and send in photos of volunteers from their shows, events, seminars, clinics, etc. Instead of offering a Volunteer of the Year award, the Board would like to see everyone who gives back to ASCA be recognized, instead of focusing on just one person per year.

Updating the Judges List

To remove a deceased judge from the list ASCA needs to have proof of the death (death certificate or obituary). Going through the entire list is a large undertaking.

Judge Evaluations

At the completion of a show/trial, Affiliates fill out evaluation forms for the judges they used. Those forms are sent to the Office with the show paperwork and forwarded to the Executive Secretary. Positive feedback will be shared with the judge. Negative feedback will be considered by the Board and they may choose to educate or discipline the judge.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Present: President Ann DeChant, 1st Vice President Preston Kissman, 2nd Vice President Laura Gibson, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Ken Silveira, Director Linda Gray, Director Cindy King, Director Rachel Vest, Director-elect Jean Roberts, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Business Office Manager Ray Fryar, Business Office Employee Susan Byrne, Susan M Rowley, Laurie Rubin, Madelyn Ruble, Randy Ruble, Dan Sanderson, Susan Severns, Ken Silveira, Rhonda Silveira, Anders Sjoblom, Tracy L Swinson, Adam Tavares, Alexis Weber, Jodie Weber, Claudia Yearsley, Patricia Yoder, Shirley Alexander, Michelle

Berryessa, Connie Blowers, Denise Creelman, Leslie Creelman-Sosa, Joan Cunningham, Connie Gohl, Susan Graham, Trisha Herring, Janelle Johnson, Tanya Johnson, Tomas Johnson, Kelsey Jones, Diana Land, Gina Larson, Susan Mabus, Jeanne Mastick, Leroy Mckay, Carol McLaughlin, Susan Moorehead, Mathew Mullin, Robbi Norman, Charla Patterson, Anna Pearson, Toni Pearson, Crystal Aguilar-McMillan, Tricia Alexander, Lisa Axnick, Regina Bryant, Donna Burdick, Sherry Butler, Michelle Catlin, Chris Coluccio, Tammi Coluccio, Jan Flatten, Elizabeth Gibson, Susan Harris, Sue Holtz, Jean Inman, Janelle Johnson, Linda Lillard, Linda Sykes, Jean Taylor

DeChant called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Introductions

DeChant introduced the ASCA Board and employees in attendance. The results of the 2016 Board election were officially announced. Ken Silveira and Cindy King will remain on the Board, and Jean Roberts joins. Thank you to outgoing Director Preston Kissman for his dedication and service to ASCA.

2018 Stockdog Finals Judges

The random draw for the list of eligible 2018 Stockdog Finals was done.

1. Preston Kissman
2. Steve Shope
3. Brad Warren
4. Ken Silveira
5. Larry Teaff
6. Ken Lyle
7. Sharon Simmons
8. Maxine Schvaneveldt
9. Wayne Kirby
10. Marie Murphy
11. Cheryl Padget

Treasurer's Report

Wesen took over as interim Treasurer following Pete Dolan's resignation. The year-end report will be published in the Aussie Times. A copy of the 2015 audit was available at the meeting. Anyone can request a copy of this and the 990 tax return from the Office. Once the system upgrade is completed we can begin to list it as an asset that will depreciate.

System Upgrade

Allison Bryant is the system liaison; Vest is her liaison to the Board. Things are currently on track with FrogSlayer and the full rollout is due to be completed by the end of December. The final payment to FrogSlayer was made on December 21, 2015.

Question from Gina Larsen: Will we be able to mark dogs as deceased ourselves? *Answer:* Yes, that will be part of the final rollout.

Question from Sue Graham: When will be able to submit show results electronically? *Answer:* That will be part of the fourth rollout at the end of November.

Question from Susan Harris: Will pedigrees be available online? *Answer:* That is something the Office Manager and the Board need to confer on.

Question from Carol McLaughlin: Will the new system integrate and bring up info for trial secretaries to have access to? *Answer:* Yes, but trial secretaries will need to remember to do their own checks to make sure that the information used is accurate.

Question from Becky Parker: If the show results are done online, how do we handle sending in the original scoresheets and copies of the registrations? *Answer:* There will be an option to scan and attach the judge's books and necessary documents. The Office Manager and the Board will need to discuss policy for keeping the originals.

Committee Reports

Agility Committee

Sherry Butler gave the report for Chair Judy Boone:

"First, a big thank you to our Board liaison Laura Gibson for her hard work throughout the year. We appreciate her time and effort on the committee's behalf.

ASCA agility had another good and growing year. Our trials broke the 400 mark, ending with 418 shows for the year. Entries and titles awarded were also up. Other breed participation holds steady at about 40% of all titles awarded. The ACE program gave out the first A.C.E.s - actually 4 A.C.E. awards - the equivalent of the ATCH. Two went to Aussies and 2 to Other Breeds. In only its second year, the ACE program accounts for about 10 percent of all agility entries.

This year marked our first approved apprentice judges in Europe. We welcome Peggy Meersman and Allard Wagenaar from Belgium. We also welcome Apprentice Jeff Hayes from Texas. Joining the approved judges' roster is Kay Stimson from Texas and Sherry Butler from Arizona. Congratulations to Gary Shipley on his Apprentice Supervisor approval."

Conformation Committee

Chair Liz Gibson gave the report:

"Hello from the Conformation Committee. I hope everyone has been enjoying themselves at this year's National Specialty. It has been a long time since our National Specialty was in the Pacific Northwest! The last time was in 1999! We hope it can come back again! There is so much to see and do in the Northwest! I hope you all get a chance to do some sightseeing while here. Please give a round of applause to our hosts!

I would like to introduce the committee to you. If you are present, please stand up when I call your name. Region 1: Nina Scott-Pace, Debbie Martin; Region 2: Regi Bryant, Erin Sumler; Region 3: Ray Schafer; Region 4: Sunday Miles; Region 5: Dorothy Montano; Region 6: Peter Kontos, Mish Morgan; Region 7: Mary Hellmeister, Svenja Hagedorn.

We lost a great lady and friend to the Australian Shepherd Community in July. Kathy Remington was a member of this committee and she is missed by all of us!

We greatly enjoyed working with our liaison, Pete Dolan, until he resigned from the Board. After a quick poll of the CC members, we chose Ann DeChant to fill that role. Thank you, Ann, for putting up with us!

Our Yearly Title Report is as follows:

From 6/1/15 to 5/31/16 ASCA had 593 Conformation Shows. A drop of 47 shows! During this timeframe, we had 36 new Altered Champions and 223 New Intact Champions. Very similar numbers to last year.

The Committee have worked very hard over the past year to make clear and defined rule revisions.

We have a lot more work ahead of us on certain rules and definitions.

You, the members of ASCA, can help the Conformation Committee by giving us your input or by giving us a suggestion for a new rule or a clarification of a current rule. We ask for and encourage your help. We do have a few openings. Please apply and keep ASCA great."

DNA Committee

Chair Trish Alexander gave the report:

“As many of you know, over the weekend, Linda Mahoney passed away... Linda once served on the DNA committee where she was a motivational force who contributed much in the way of educating the membership on the benefits of DNA. She was also responsible for doing the DNA Sweatshirts back in 2003. It had two flat Aussies and the words ‘DNA, it’s the only way.’ She will be missed.

2016 ASCA Nationals blood draw: This year our blood draw was held on Tues Sept. 13 from 10:30am to 1pm. ASHGI partnered with us for the blood draw. In addition, Paw Print Genetics joined us to provide tests for various hereditary diseases.

In total, 33 DNA blood draws were done... plus draws for epilepsy, research cancer research, and CHIC. The DNA committee would like to thank everyone who helped out at the blood draw, especially Kimmie Warren, Diana Land, and Rachel for drawing blood. Maxine Schvaneveldt, Jean Roberts, Ray Fryer, Robbie Norman, TJ Johnson, and all the other members who stuck around to help out... It was greatly appreciated.

Currently the DNA committee is working on updating the Multi-Sired Litter Registration Rule and application.

Also, please Watch for future articles and educational material providing the definition and importance of extended marker sets. Also, watch for information regarding when it is a necessity to use the extended marker set for parental verification.

Please feel free to contact the committee with issues or any questions you may have...”

Hall of Fame Committee

Ann DeChant gave the report for Chair Dorothy Montano.

History Committee

Robbi Norman gave the report for Chair Sunday Miles.

Question from Regi Bryant: Why did the committee choose to only honor one person with the Lifetime Achievement Award this year, when multiple people have been honored in the past? *Answer:* Norman is not aware of any years where the Lifetime Achievement Award was given to more than one person, unless it was given to a married couple.

Junior Committee

Chair Regi Bryant gave the report:

“We are already about one-third of the way through the show year and happy to report that the newly revised patterns have had a positive response!

The Junior Committee had been working with the Agility and Stockdog Committees, per a Directive from the Board, but were unable to come up with a solution for multiple reasons. I encourage you to let the appropriate committees know if you have any suggestions.

As part of this year’s Nationals Host Club, we decided to offer a Tiny Tots class for ages up to 3 years of age, which used to be a part of the Pee-Wee class. We had an overwhelming number of entries for that class alone and everyone enjoyed watching the future of our sport show their dogs! We also decided that since the juniors are the future of the sport, all Conformation classes would stop during juniors at both the pre-shows and nationals, in addition to the Veterans classes. We felt it was important to showcase our past and our future generations.

The Annual Junior Seminar is currently underway in the Willamette Event Center. Our Junior Finals judge and our Nationals Junior Chair, who is also a member of the Junior Committee were willing to help offer assistance to the juniors this year.

We are still only a half-full committee and would like any other interested parties (juniors and adults alike) to submit resumes to ASCA's Executive Secretary.

If there are any questions, we are always happy to answer them. The committee also loves input from members and would love to hear from you!"

Question from Sue Graham: Why did the committee turn down the Agility Committee's proposal for the agility merit program? Answer: The two committees need to work together to get this completed.

Obedience Committee

Chair Laurie Rubin gave the report:

"The Obedience Committee is pleased to have added members this year. We regret losing Jayne Lips, someone who has given so much to ASCA through the years.

For the second year in a row the number of obedience trials has decreased, while the number of participants has increased. This appears to show that interest in ASCA obedience is growing in the areas where there are trials. Sadly, fewer clubs are offering obedience trials. The number of trials came down 22% between 2010 and 2016. We can't afford to continue this trend.

Previous years' statistics:

6/1/2010 thru 5/31/2011: 305 shows and 833 participants

6/1/2011 thru 5/31/2012: 296 shows and 830 participants

6/1/2012 thru 5/31/2013: 267 shows and 736 participants

6/1/2013 thru 5/31/2014: 266 shows and 652 participants

6/1/2014 thru 5/31/2015: 247 shows and 745 participants

6/1/2015 thru 5/31/2016: 238 shows and 771 participants

Yearly Title Reports for Obedience 6/1/2015 thru 5/31/2016:

Number of Obedience trials: 238

Titles Received – Aussies: 93 BN, 115 CD, 34 CDX, 13 ODX, 5 OTCH, 2 OTCH-O, 2 OTCH2, 2 OTCH3, 12 UD, 3 UDX, 1 UDX3

Titles Received – Other Breeds: 50 BN, 73 CD, 37 CDX, 2 ODX, 3 OTCH, 1 OTCH-O3, 2 OTCH2, 11 UD, 2 UDX, 1 UDX-O

Number of dogs competing: 771

Here are some of this year's accomplishments from October 2015 to August 2016:

1. Created or updated ~20 documents for the new website.
2. Put on an Obedience Judging Seminar at 2016 Nationals open to all, and videoed it.
3. Moved the video of the 2014 obedience seminar on the ASCA YouTube site.
4. Made a shortened judge test for AKC judges and expedited the process for AKC, CKC and UKC judges to become judges. --2016
5. Updated the ASCA AKC rule difference document & put on web page. --2016
6. Changed ODX cone placement rules. --2016
7. Amended the rule to cover what happens if a dog moves a little after standing but not enough to get outside the 4' radius of the cone in the ODX class. --2016
8. Created a 2-year trial period giving clubs the option of allowing bitches in season at regular trials if it's posted in premium and Nationals rules are followed. --June 2017-May 2019.
9. Added the Graduate Novice Optional Titling class. --2016
10. Allowed handlers the option of wooden articles for the Utility Scent Discrimination exercise. --2017
11. Removed restrictions on on-leash hand position. --2017
12. Created a Versatility Optional Titling class. --2017
13. Deleted restriction that dogs entered in non-reg. can't enter reg. classes. --2017

14. Attempted to change the restriction on showing under a judge you trained with from 12 months to 30 days.

15. Discussed and decided not to disallow earning both CDX and ODX titles on the same dog.

16. Discussed and decided not to eliminate the non-regular Sub Novice class.

17. Made uniform throughout the rulebook the terminology for Show or Trial Secretaries.

Here are some topics coming up:

1. Judge education:

a. Create an education requirement to be completed every 3 years, starting with attending or watching the videos of the 2014 and 2016 seminars.

b. Create a Web-based educational component for future, like rally has.

c. Consider recommending apprentice judging to judge applicants.

d. Update Judges Guidelines --needs volunteer.

2. Update ODX Education page on the website.

3. Create an excel trial report form so secretaries don't have to handwrite all the trial results.

4. Discuss possible ODX changes or clarifications:

a. Allow entries in both CDX and ODX at same trial.

b. Change scoring to include touching cone on DOE2 and/or knocking down cone in either portion.

c. Change scoring to make more consistent—sitting outside 3' and standing outside 4' should either both be substantial deductions or both be NQ's; and/or should wording change to body lengths instead of feet?

d. Change scoring language to include slow responses to commands, going slowly to the cone, responding slowly to the sit, sentences like "and all other deductions as applicable to the novice recall."

e. For the future, should we combine all the current parts of the DOE's into one exercise and add a totally new exercise to make it more rigorous?

5. Publish a paper and online feedback survey for those who attend trials where Bitches in Season are allowed.

6. Create a Pee Wee Obedience Class.

7. Promote ASCA obedience in new ways.

I am keeping a running list of about 30 other possible Obedience Committee agenda topics for the future that have been recommended by committee members or others."

Question from Sue Graham: Is there a way for competitors from other registries to start at the higher level in obedience and back-fill their qualifications, like can be done in agility? *Answer:* There is not currently a way to do that, but the committee will research and discuss.

Question from Denise Creelman: Is there an option for FEO for people who aren't ready to move up to the higher level in obedience? *Answer:* That topic was discussed in the past, but there was not majority support for it.

Stockdog Committee

Chair Dan Sanderson gave the report.

Question from Tanya Johnson: What is the Stockdog Exchange? *Answer:* It is a discussion list like the ASCA-L, but moderated by the Stockdog Committee and used to discuss stockdog related issues.

Tracking Committee

Jan Wesen gave the report for Chair Marja Teegelbeckers:

“It’s Nationals time. At the moment I write this report a lot of people are preparing themselves and their Aussies for going to the Nationals. I read on Facebook that people look forward to go to the Nationals. But for me no Nationals. What a pity. I hope to come in a few years.

Last year I told that I hoped we could organize a tracking test in Europe in 2016. And I can say that the first TD tracking Test in Europe is a fact. On May 17, we had the first tracking Test in Europe, organized by the Dutch Working Australian Shepherds (DWAS). Jan Wesen was the Judge.

It was a small test only 3 dogs. For the first time, it was o.k. It was a great day, weather was very nice, the tracking fields were beautiful. The atmosphere very relaxed and all the 3 dogs passed the tracking test. I learned a lot that day. I thank Jan for her inspiration and for this successful day. Thank you. Next year there will be a tracking test. Plans have been made.

Also, ASC of Washington had their first TD and TDX Tracking test. This test was taken on November 29 2015. It is very nice that there are tracking test at new places.

For the tracking committee, it was a quiet year. We did some changes in the rulebook.

In June, we said Goodbye to Carol McQuade. Thanks, Carol, for all the hard work for the past several years. In August Maria Kremers (from the Netherlands) has indicated she will stop. Maria, thanks for your work in the Committee. We welcome Beth McLehose as a new member of the Tracking Committee. Also, a warm welcome to 4 new tracking judges: Micheal Roehrs for TD level; Pia Paulsen, Sharon Jolly, and Ada McClory for all Levels.

In the period of 6/1/2015 thru 5/31/2016 there were 7 tracking tests:

10/09/2015 – Mid South ASC (nationals) (TN)

11/29/2015 – ASC of Washington (WA)

12/16/2015 – ASC of San Diego County (CA)

01/24/2016 – ASC of Washington (WA)

02/17/2016 – ASC of San Diego County (CA)

03/06/2016 – Mid South ASC (TN)

05/17/2016 – Dutch Working Australian Shepherds (The Netherlands)

Results of these 7 tracking tests:

Titles received – Aussies: 12 TD, 3 TD-II, 3 TD-III

Titles received – Other Breeds: 4 TD, 1 TD-II

There were 18 Dogs Competing the Tracking Test

The tracking committee is composed of a small but dedicated group of trackers. We would love some more members, so if you have an interest in tracking please send your resume to the executive secretary.

Further, there is a new Yahoo group named “ASCA Tracking Enthusiasts” the purpose of this group is for people to share ideas about the ASCA Tracking program.

Remains me to say, good luck and lot of fun with your Aussie at the Nationals and of course good luck in tracking.”

Appoint Committee Members & Approving Judges

The Board is considering ways to speed up the process by which members are added to committees and judges are approved for a program. Look for those changes in the future.

New ASCA Programs

Question from Denise Creelman: What is the process for adopting a new program in ASCA? *Answer:* A committee would need to be formed to research and bring a recommendation to the Board.

There have been notices in the Bulletin Board requesting those with knowledge of nose work and barn hunt come forward to potentially bring those programs into ASCA. Anyone interested should send their resume to the Executive Secretary.

The Board is working on possibly incorporating dock diving.

Nationals Sites

Question from Dan Sanderson: What are the results of the executive committee that was formed to pursue a fixed location for Nationals? *Answer:* There will be a survey going out to the membership to determine whether a fixed location or rotating sites would be preferable to the way we award the hosting duties now.

Efforts to standardize the specialty are underway, and that may lessen the burden on host clubs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.