

## Secretary's Report

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

### November 1 - 30, 2005

#### 04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Ring Sizes

Motion by Bryant.

Moved by Ron, seconded by Andrea

Delete present Agility Rules Section 2.5, and replace with:

Section 2.5 – Agility Trial Area

The minimum usable course area for an Agility trial ring is 8,000 square feet. Although the 8,000 SF usable square footage area is the absolute minimum size acceptable for agility, a 12,000 square foot or larger ring (e.g., 100' x 120', 110' x 110', 95' x 130', or 90' x 135', etc.) of clear, unobstructed ring surface, is highly recommended wherever feasible. The trial area shall be of a non-slip surface, preferably grass, which will provide a safe and cushioned footing for the dogs and handlers competing.

Ample area close by should be available for crating and exercise areas, warm-up, and for spectators to view the Agility ring. If possible, the spectator viewing area should be separate from the crating, exercise and warm-up areas. The Agility ring should be partitioned by rope or adequate fencing to prevent spectators from interfering with the course area before or during the trial. Use of fencing (e.g., snow fencing) is encouraged where there is a foreseeable risk of harm to dogs who leave the ring. An area shall be set up for each ring for warm-ups for the dogs prior to their competing. Each warm-up area should have adequate space for one to two jumps, or a jump and a short set of weave poles.

However, in exceptional cases where a dogwalk with 8' planks and only wingless jumps with 4' bars are used, the minimum usable course area may be 7,200 square feet. Course areas this small should be the rare exception when no larger, more suitable facilities can be found, and only if the aforementioned small-dimension equipment is used.

Rationale: The changes to Section 2.5 will enable ASCA's safely to hold agility trials in a larger number of smaller, indoor arenas. This is particularly important in areas where inclement weather is encountered much of the year. They changes more clearly indicate what desirable ring sizes are where space permits in larger facilities or outdoor areas.

Voting as follows: Yes: Pete, Shelley, Kristi, Frank, Cynthia, Ron, Andrea, Margaret, and Diane No: Elaine Abstain: Sue Not Voting: Lisa, Sue

**Directors voting:** Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Gray, Stevens, Bryant, DeChant, Davenport & Hellmeister. Disapprove: Walter. Motion is approved.

#### 04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Rule 2.1.3

Motion by Bryant

Moved by Ron, Seconded by Cynthia:

Delete present Agility Rules Section 2.6.4.1, and replace with:

#### 2.6.4.1 Awards for Classes

Clubs may offer placements based on a percentage of expected entries in each jump height for each class. Clubs may combine the 20" and 20"+, or the 20"+ and 24", or the 20", 20"+, and 24" classes for placements. Where placements are awarded, placements for a minimum of ten percent of the anticipated entry is recommended. Clubs may offer more placements if they choose to.

Although placement awards are not absolutely required, they are very strongly encouraged for at least the top qualifying runs in all levels and divisions, and for the Novice level and the Junior Handler divisions regardless of whether the run qualified, where trial finances permit. Placements should not be awarded for runs scored as eliminations. A green qualifying ribbon or rosette shall be given for each qualifying round in each class. Each ribbon awarded at the trial shall have the words "ASCA Sanctioned Trial" printed on it (synonyms such as "event" may be used for the word "trial"). The ribbon or rosette shall be printed with the host club's name and the placement awarded. The ASCA logo may be used in awards if an ASCA affiliate is hosting a sanctioned show, trial, or agility competition. The ribbons or rosette shall each have a place on the back for exhibitors to record the date of the trial, the judge's name, and the class.

Ribbon and rosette colors should be as follows:

1st - Blue      4th - White    7th - Purple  
2nd - Red      5th - Pink      8th - Brown  
3rd - Yellow    6th - Green  
Qualifying Score - Green

Rationale:

The changes to Section 2.6.4.1 will enable ASCA's to economize on ribbon purchases by not requiring placement ribbon purchases, especially purchases out of proportion to expected entries in certain classes/heights or for most nonqualifying runs. Placement awards for top qualifiers, and for nonqualifying novice and junior handler runs, continue to be strongly encouraged, though not absolutely required.

Voting as follows: Yes: Pete, Kristi, Frank, Cynthia, Ron, Diane No: Sue, Andrea, Margaret  
Abstain: Elaine Not voting: Shelley, Lisa, Pam Motion carries.

**Directors voting:** Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Gray, Walter, Bryant, DeChant, Davenport & Hellmeister. Abstain: Stevens. Motion is approved.

#### **04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Rule 2.1.3**

Motion by Bryant.

Moved by Shelly and seconded by Lisa.

I, Shelley Malan, make a motion that the ASCA Business Office stop tracking legs/titles earned by dogs that are not ASCA registered.

This motion to be effective immediately after the BOD accepts the motion.

The rulebook would need to be altered in the following manner:

### 2.1.3 Official Entry Form

(4th paragraph p. 7 1/1/05 Rulebook)

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

Voting as follows: Yes: Unanimous

**Directors voting:** Approve: Berryessa, Gray, Stevens, Bryant, DeChant, Davenport, Hellmeister & Aufox. Disapprove: Walter. Motion is approved.

### **04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Event Fees**

Motion by Bryant.

Moved by Shelley, seconded by Pam:

I, Shelley Malan, make a motion that during the interim period of time from 1/1/06 to 5/31/06 (or whatever date dual sanctioning of agility trials with the North American Dog Agility Council will be scheduled to end) ASCA temporarily changes its "Event Membership Dues" for dual sanctioned ASCA/NADAC trials only to the following:

The "Event Membership Dues" for agility events will be paid only for ASCA registered, ASCA tracked, and LEP dogs not for all dogs running in the trial.

All the regular and jumpers runs for ASCA registered or tracked dogs will be subject to the 50 cents per run fee.

Rationale:

ASCA is currently in a situation that could not have been anticipated at the time that the decision was made to change the fee structure for the agility program. By going forward with this new fee structure for agility, an untoward and highly negative effect is about to occur. This negative effect is that many NADAC clubs around the country are planning on dropping ASCA sanctioning of their trials after 1/1/06 when this new fee structure goes into effect, claiming that they can no longer afford to dual sanction with ASCA. At this same time the ASCA agility program is undergoing tremendous change as we endeavor to provide an ASCA "stand alone" agility program. As of 1/1/06, the agility program will not be fully in place. By levying the new fee structure at this time, before the stand alone program can be successfully launched and implemented, ASCA is unwittingly cutting off ASCA members from having an agility program during this interim phase. Members will not be able to earn qualifications for the 2006 Nationals if there is no viable agility program in the place of the previous ASCA/NADAC dual sanctioned events.

Please seriously consider this interim measure below to assure that ASCA agility doesn't suddenly end for its members during the 5 months from January through May of 2006 due to the "substantial" fee increase to NADAC affiliates. It is the ASCA agility membership that will get hurt, not NADAC. The Agility Committee has a companion motion in the works to reduce the

Business Office workload by no longer asking the office to track all dogs running in a dual sanctioned trial, but to track only ASCA registered or tracked dogs. Hopefully, this reduction in workload will equate to some reduction in the costs associated with the agility program during this 5 month period of time.

The Agility Committee is working very hard to put a viable agility program in place in time for the (potential) 5/31/06 cut off date for dual sanctioning with NADAC. Please give us this additional 5 months time before levying the new fee. The rulebook would need to be altered in the following manner: 2.6.5.3

#### Event Membership Dues

Event Membership Dues of \$.50 (fifty cents) per run for all dogs listed in the running catalog, including dogs scratched, must be submitted with the report (marked catalog).

Due to unusual circumstances, during the interim period of 1/1/06 through 5/31/06 the Event Membership Dues for ASCA/NADAC dual sanctioned agility events will be paid only for ASCA registered, ASCA tracked, and LEP dogs not for all dogs running in the trial. All the regular and jumpers runs for ASCA registered, ASCA tracked, and LEP dogs will be subject to the 50 cents per run fee including dogs scratched. The fee must be submitted with the report (marked catalog).

Voting is as follows: Yes: Pete, Shelley, Sue, Kristi, Frank, Cynthia, Ron, Margaret, Diane  
No: none Not Voting: Lisa, Pam

**Directors voting:** Approve: Gray, Walter, Stevens, DeChant & Davenport. Disapprove: Aufox, Berryessa, Bryant & Hellmeister. Motion is approved.

#### **96:17-JR. SHOWMANSHIP - Finals**

Motion by Hellmeister.

I move to accept the following recommendation of the Junior Committee.

Here is the results: For the Finals motion: Kalla, Donna, Michelle and Andrew Against the Finals motion: Kathy and Melissa

#### National Junior Handling Finals

The National Junior Handling Finals will be held at the National Specialty before or after regular judging. This contest will not have any influence on the regular Junior Handling classes held at the show. No points will be given for placement. Different judges will be used for these classes and the regular classes. Classes are only divided by age. There should be a reasonable time difference between this class and regular handling. The regular Junior Handling Judge and the Finals Junior Handling Judge will not watch the other Handling Judge's class prior to judging their own Junior Handling Jr. showmanship - assignment.

#### A. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE NATIONAL JUNIOR HANDLING FINALS

1. Only Juniors who have competed during the preceding Junior year in Open Junior Handling classes and earned the first degree of excellence, are eligible to compete in the National Junior

Handling Finals.

2. The Junior's dog must meet the same eligibility requirements as for the rest of the program, including ownership.
3. In addition, all other requirements stated in the rulebook for Regular Junior Handling will apply.
4. **A SEPARATE ENTRY FORM MUST BE USED FOR THIS CLASS.**

#### B. AWARDS FOR THE NATIONAL JUNIOR HANDLING FINALS

All placements {1st through 4th} will receive a rosette and the first place winners will receive a prize. The Best Junior Handler will receive a larger rosette and a prize, and their name and year they have won will be engraved on the National Finals Handling Plaque. The Reserve Junior Handler will also receive a larger rosette and a prize.

#### C. JUDGES FOR THE NATIONAL JUNIOR HANDLING FINALS

1. Judges for the National Junior Handling Finals must meet one of the following requirements:
  - a. Previous ASCA Junior Handler over the age of twenty-one
  - b. ASCA Breeder Judge

This rule change should go into effect June1, 2006

Please place this into the Junior Programs Book on page 10 to replace the present Section V, National Junior Handling Finals.

Directors voting: Approve: Berryessa, Davenport, DeChant, Bryant, Hellmeister, Stevens, Walter & Gray. Disapprove: Aufox. Motion is approved.

#### **04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Training in the Ring**

Motion by Bryant.

I would like to withdraw the current 'Training in the ring motion' and replace it with the one below. Ally

This motion will be effective January 1st and included in the January 1st, 2006 agility program rulebook.

Delete present Agility Rules Section 5.1.2, and replace with:

##### 5.1.2 Scoring - Handling Faults

In all classes the handler shall direct their dog through the course without a collar or lead. No food, toys, balls or other devices may be used within ten (10) feet of the entrance to the ring. The handlers may not carry anything with them into the ring which might be construed to be an

aid to the performance of their dogs (such as fanny packs or leashes around their waists). The dogs may have nothing artificial on throughout their course run, including, but not limited to, bandannas, bandages, dog sweaters, etc., except when a handler uses a small rubber band or non-decorative clip to keep the hair out of a dog's eyes. The handler is allowed to use verbal or visual commands to assist the dog throughout the course. All commands must be given in a sportsmanlike manner. Any commands not given in a spirit of good sportsmanship shall be faulted. The judge shall assess the faults to be equivalent to the degree of the offense, from a five (5) fault penalty to elimination. Displays of anger, foul language or excessive harshness shall always be faulted. Any handler eliminated from the ring for poor sportsmanship shall be excused from the remainder of the trial and a written report shall be sent to the ASCA Business Office. If the judge feels any handler has treated a dog in an inhumane manner, the handler shall be removed from the Agility grounds and a report shall be submitted to the ASCA Business Office. Dogs shall be assessed five (5) faults for assistance per occurrence.

This shall include, although not limited to, the following:

Handler touching the dog while on course.

Handler touching an obstacle while on course.

Handler conspicuously leading the dog through the course by appearing to have food as to lure the dog.

Handler physically assisting the dog at the start line. The dog must be free to cross the start line on his or her own. If the handler pushes or shoves the dog forward to assist the start, he or she shall be faulted.

Spectators influencing the dog's performance. Dogs shall be faulted if the handler loses his or her direction and is assisted back on course by the spectators. Judges may also fault the dog's performance if they believe the crowd artificially stimulated the dog in an effort to improve the dog's course run.

However, cheering will not be faulted if it is done in a sportsmanlike manner for all participants.

Handler intentionally blocking the judges' view.

Handler physically body blocking the dog so as to remove any choice for the dog to perform an obstacle on command, but instead forcing a particular path for the dog.

Dogs shall be eliminated for the following occurrences:

Aggression on the course towards any person or dog.

Fouling the course area before, during or after their run.

Leaving the course area.

Being out of control, as viewed by the judge. The judge may choose to eliminate a dog for being out of control at any time that the judge feels that the dog is not trained to a level to perform the obstacles in a safe manner, thereby endangering the dog, the handler or any other person or dog at the event.

Exceeding the maximum course time.

Training in the ring, during their run. However, the dog and handler will not be excused for training in the ring, provided that no harsh words or measures are employed by the handler.

Gentle training in the ring is encouraged, in the interest of safety and motivation, after a run is faulted if done within the set maximum course time or alternatively, if so indicated by the judge during his or her general or class briefing, within the Standard Course Time (SCT).

Also delete present Section 5.2.3, and replace with:

### 5.2.3 Certification Requirements - Gamblers Class

For a run to meet the requirements for a qualifying round the dog must:

(A) during the initial point accumulation time earn at least the minimum number of points as required from Table I and then (B) earn at least 20 points during the gamble time allowed. At the end of the first 40/45 second point accumulation period, a whistle will blow, indicating that the gamble time has begun. At this time, the handler must maneuver his or her dog into the gamble area to prepare to execute the gamble. Once the handler has indicated to the dog by position, hand signal, or verbal command to begin the gamble, the dog must execute the gamble obstacles in the exact order as described by the judge's course design. The dog will receive points for each obstacle performed correctly in the right order in the gamble sequence. Any break in the course design as set by the judge will end the point accumulation time for the gamble.

For example: If the gamble were four obstacles (1,2,3,4) and the dog were to do obstacle #1, (a jump), come back over obstacle #1, then turn again and execute obstacles #1, #2, #3, and #4 the dog would be given points only for obstacle #1, and none for obstacles 2,3,4, since the dog went off course as set by the course design when it came back over obstacle #1 in the wrong direction. Once a gamble sequence has been broken, then the judge shall say "gamble ended" and the handler should not make any further attempts at any of the gamble obstacles, instead he or she shall go immediately to the finish markers to stop the clock.

Rationale:

The changes to Sections 5.1.2 and 5.2.3 are in the interest of allowing gentle, non-harsh training in the ring in order to promote obstacle safety, dog motivation, and more widespread interest in ASCA agility trials.

Legalized training in the ring was a generally well-received NADAC introduction widely employed and appreciated in dual-sanctioned trials with ASCA. Handlers may use training in the ring opportunities motivationally to correct potentially unsafe obstacle performance. Handlers who now compete mostly in USDAA, AAC, CKC, or AKC agility may initially use ASCA as a "training venue" and then decide they like the ASCA style of agility and start competing in ASCA for its own sake, promoting better attendance at ASCA agility events. Dogs who are trained in the ring will still be scored as "Elimination" in Regular and Jumpers, and will have their times continue to run in Gamblers, but will not be excused from the course merely for being trained in the ring.

Voting is as follows: Yes: Pete, Kristi, Frank, Cynthia, Ron, Andrea, Margaret, Diane No: none  
Abstain: Elaine Not voting: Shelley, Sue, Lisa, Pam

**Directors voting:** Approve: Gray, Walter, Stevens, Bryant, DeChant & Hellmeister. Abstain: Berryessa. Non-Voting: Afox & Davenport. Motion is approved.

### **01:10 AUSSIE TIMES - AussieGENES Ads**

Motion by DeChant, seconded by Davenport.

I move that ASCA continue to approve free ads for the AussieGENES epilepsy campaign for 2006 (as we did in 2005) with the understanding that the one ad would not cause the issue to go

into the pricing category based on the number of pages.

Dear Ann: I was unable to schedule time with the BOD at the Nationals in Conyers, GA to discuss the possibility of continuing our free ad arrangement for the AussieGENES epilepsy campaign for the calendar year of 2006. This past year, our ads were free as long as we were not the one ad that would cause the issue to go into the next pricing category based upon number of pages. I am hoping the BOD will agree to continue this arrangement for next year.  
Kristen Rush, AussieGENES

**Directors voting:** Approve: Berryessa, Hellmeister, Davenport, DeChant, Bryant, Walter & Gray. Disapprove: Aufox & Stevens. Motion is approved.

**04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Sec. 1, 2,3, 4, 5**

Motion by Bryant.

I would like to withdraw the current "04:05 AGILITY COMMITTEE - Sec. 1, 2,3, 4, 5" and replace it with the one below. Thanks, Ally

Motion by Sue, Seconded by Kristi.

Voting is as follows: Yes: Pete, Sue, Kristi, Frank, Cynthia, Ron, Andrea, Margaret, Diane  
No: Elaine Not Voting: Shelley, Lisa, Pam Motion carries.

This motion will be effective January 1st for inclusion in the Jan 1st, 2006 rule book.

Replace the current Appendix C with the following.

Appendix C – ASCA Agility Judging Program

Section 1 Requirements

All individuals on the NADAC Approved Judges List are automatically eligible to officiate at ASCA sanctioned Agility Trials. In addition, approved agility judges from other organizations (USDAA, CPE, AAC, CKC, and AKC) may apply to become ASCA Agility Judges.

To be considered an ASCA approved Agility Judge, an applicant (who is not currently a NADAC Approved Agility Judge) must meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant must be a fully approved (not provisional, apprentice or under supervision) judge in another major agility organization at any level (USDAA, AAC, CPE,CKC and AKC) and have successfully completed three sanctioned judging assignments in any major agility organization.
2. The applicant must fill out the ASCA Agility Judge's Application and include the required documentation.
3. Applicants (and current ASCA Judges) must pass an open book exam every two years to remain on the ASCA Approved Agility Judges list. All questions on the test must be answered correctly. A judge may retake the test until all questions are answered correctly.
4. Applicants must have internet access and a valid email address.
5. Applicants and judges must be in good standing with ASCA.

6. Periodically applicants may be evaluated on how efficiently and well they can set a course and their overall performance as a judge.
7. Applicants must have titled at least one dog at the highest level in any Agility Organization listed above. (Elite level for ASCA or NADAC, the Excellent B level in AKC, etc.)

### Section 2 Acceptance

1. Judging at an ASCA sponsored event is an honor and a privilege, not a right. Judging applicants must satisfy ASCA's stated minimum requirements for an ASCA Agility Judge. Satisfying the minimum requirements to become or remain an ASCA Agility Judge grants the applicant the right to be considered for the position of ASCA Agility Judge but does not entitle the applicant to become or remain an ASCA judge. An applicant may be turned down at the discretion of the ASCA Board of Directors.
2. In addition to satisfying other stated qualifications to serve, an applicant (and current judges) must consistently display the highest level of ethical conduct, impartial demeanor, professional comportment and dedication to the ASCA Agility Judges Code of Ethics and to upholding ASCA's codes, rules, decisions, procedures and the Statement of Purpose in ASCA's bylaws. Failure to perform at this level may result in denial or revocation of judging privileges by the ASCA Board of Directors without regard to any other qualification or prior service.
3. Once judges have been approved by the ASCA Board of Directors, the judge shall be notified of their acceptance by the ASCA Business Office. In addition, notice of the judge's approval will be published in the Aussie Times.
4. Judges may not accept or contract for assignments until they have received notification from the ASCA Business Office that they have been approved as an ASCA Agility Judge.
5. ASCA's Agility Committee is the advisory body of ASCA's Board of Directors on Agility matters. The committee will review and make recommendations to ASCA's Board of Directors concerning the qualifications of all applicants wishing to be appointed ASCA Agility Judges

### Section 3 Judge's Duties

1. An ASCA Agility judge must uphold and be knowledgeable of the rules and regulations in the current ASCA Agility Rulebook.
2. The ASCA Approved Agility Judge is authorized in his/her capacity as an ASCA representative to pass judgment on contestants in the Agility Trial and to act as an official Judge. This authorization is granted by ASCA and can be revoked at any time by ASCA's Board of Directors.
3. All ASCA Agility Judges will be expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the ASCA Agility Judges Code of Ethics and should avoid improper fraternization with the contestants during a trial.
4. Judges must judge at least two sanctioned assignments per year (from any major agility organization). Two 'assignments' shall consist of judging for two different affiliates/clubs with a minimum of 200 runs per day.
5. Judges must submit their proposed courses to the ASCA Course Review subcommittee according to the guidelines described in Appendix D.
6. A Judge may opt to request approved courses from the Course Review subcommittee instead of designing their own for any upcoming assignments. Requests for courses must be done 60 days in advance of the scheduled trial.

7. Each time a Judge uses courses for an ASCA sanctioned trial, the courses must be approved by the Course Review subcommittee. Judges must receive approval from the Course Review subcommittee.
8. Judges must set courses as closely as possible to the layout and scale approved by the Course Review subcommittee. Extenuating circumstances that require the course to be set differently than the layout approved by the Course Review subcommittee must be documented in the Judge's Show Report.
9. Judges shall not send their courses to the host club prior to the trial. The only exception is sending the first course (without numbers) so the club may set the equipment prior to the judge's arrival.
10. Judges are required to submit all trial paperwork (Judge's Show Report, Yardage & Course Times Record and course copies) within 2 weeks of their assignment to the ASCA Business Office. Failure to do so, may lead to loss of future judging privileges and/or removal from the ASCA Approved Judges List.
11. Upon approval as an ASCA Agility Judge, judges must join the ASCA Agility Judge's email list. This email list will share information between judges and Agility Committee members. In addition, it will be a forum where judges can ask questions.

#### Section 4 Protests and Complaints

1. Any person wishing to lodge a protest or complaint against a Judge shall do so in accordance with ASCA Dispute Rules.
2. General comments and impressions of Judges can be submitted by the host club on the Judges Conduct Evaluation Form. Comments on a judge's performance will be noted by the Agility Committee and multiple negative comments may be used to suspend judging privileges.

#### Section 5 Discipline

1. An ASCA Agility Judge may be temporarily denied judging privileges for a period of sixty days by the ASCA Board of Directors while they investigate any allegations of infractions or violations of the Judges Code of Ethics or ASCA's Rules and Procedures.
2. A Judge may be suspended from judging assignments by the ASCA Board of Directors.
3. If a formal complaint is filed against a judge, it shall be investigated. If the complaint is found to be valid, the Judge may be reprimanded, suspended, or have judging privileges revoked by the ASCA Board of Directors.

#### ASCA Agility Judge Application/Renewal Form

Applicant Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization(s) & Level Approved as an Agility Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Time Judging: \_\_\_\_\_

Sanctioned Assignments in the past year (organization and dates):

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If applying for the first time, list two references (agility judges) that can give objective input on your judging ability and suitability to become an ASCA Approved Agility Judge. Please list their

name, address, phone number, email and organization they are approved to judge.

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- If applying for the first time, please attach a separate sheet to list your agility trialing and judging experience in all organizations. If applying for renewal, please list your judging assignments (all organizations) since the last application/renewal.
- Please attach and fill out the ASCA Agility Judge's Open Book Exam.

I understand that even though I may meet the minimum requirements for an ASCA Agility Judge there may be other factors or circumstances that would cause my application to be denied. I further understand that if my application is denied that I will receive a letter from ASCA explaining the reason(s) for the denial. I also understand that the decision by ASCA is final and may not be appealed.

If my application is denied I realize that I must wait two years before I can reapply for admission to the ASCA Agility Judge's Program.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ASCA membership number: \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

ASCA judge's number: \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

Mail completed application to:

ASCA

PO Box 3790

Byran, TX 77805-3790

#### Judges Addendum

This document is intended to be a guide for judges. It is not a replacement for the ASCA Agility Rulebook. The ASCA Agility Rulebook is the governing document for all ASCA sanctioned agility trials.

When a judge contracts with an affiliate for a judging assignment, they should clearly specify all expenses and any arrangements that will be required to fulfill their judging assignment. This should be done when the club first contacts the affiliate to avoid any misunderstandings.

The judge should request a list of available equipment and ring sizes from the host club prior to designing courses. The judge should not include obstacles in the course design that the club does not have. The judge is responsible for designing courses for all classes they have agreed to judge. Should a judge choose not to design courses, they must notify the ASCA Course Review Committee (see Appendix D). The ASCA Course Review Committee will provide the judge with a full set of courses.

Each course that is submitted to the ASCA Course Review Committee must have the Class, Level, Affiliate Club's name, trial date and judge's name marked on it.

Judges are not required to bring course copies for competitors. However, if they choose to do so, they shall not send the courses in advance for the host club to make copies. If judges choose to make copies, they should bring the copies with them for distribution the morning of the trial. Only the courses used that day will be distributed that morning. Courses for the next day will not be distributed until the next morning.

Judges must take at least two sets of course copies to the trial. There should be one course per page. They should provide one set for the course builders and one set to post for competitors. While judging Judges shall use the following hand signals to indicate faults received by a dog:  
One hand raised – 5 faults (knocked bar, handler intentionally blocking, etc.)  
Two hands raised – 10 faults (missed contact, off course, etc.)  
Two hands lowered crossed in front of body – 20 faults (unsafe execution, failure to perform, etc.)  
Elimination signal – Elimination (Can vary depending on judge. Most judges make a hand motion across their throat or blow a whistle.)

Judges are required to submit the following paperwork to the ASCA office within two weeks following a trial:

1. Course Times and Yardage Report
2. Judges Trial Report
3. Course copies indicating any changes to the course from what was originally approved and reasons for change.

### **Course Design Guidelines**

Judges should try to follow the course layouts as approved. However, safety and flow are very important.

The judge should always balance following the exact layout with safety and flow. If a course needs to be modified to maintain safety and/or flow, then the judge should modify appropriately. Any modifications to the course layouts should be clearly identified on the course copies submitted to ASCA.

The judge should set courses appropriate for the level of the class. The course design should focus on safety and flow. The judge should design courses that meet the criteria in each level. In addition, the judge should keep the following criteria in mind for all courses.

1. The course should be composed of the appropriate number of obstacles for the level of the class.
2. The judge should only use ASCA approved obstacles and also only use the obstacles that the club has specified are available for the trial.
3. The challenges of the course should be appropriate for the level of the class.
4. The approach to all obstacles should be safe (see examples of safe approaches).
5. There should be ample space for the start and finish lines.
6. There should be a handler path on all sides of the obstacles with no obstructions or safety hazards.
7. The judge's path should not interfere with the handler or dog's logical path.
8. The start and finish lines should be easily visible to the timer with minimal movement.

9. Start and finish obstacles should be different obstacles, preferably far enough apart so the next dog can set up on the line while the previous dog is finishing the course.
10. The distribution of the course obstacles should be spread evenly across the ring area.
11. Obstacles should not be placed within 6 feet of the ring barriers.

Below are examples of safe and unsafe approaches to contact obstacle:

Below is an example of good course flow. Note the distance between the obstacles as well as the natural arc the dog's path will take. The natural arc is what makes an ASCA course fun, fast and flowing.

Below is an example of poor course flow. This course will require lot of intervention by the handler and the next obstacle is not always obvious to the dog. The course does not have many sections that follow a natural arc. This course could be considered more 'technical' than the ASCA philosophy embraces.

Below is an example of a course that has a very poor judge's path (dashed line). The judge will have to do a lot of walking in order to see all the contact zones properly. In addition, it will be difficult to see the teeter contact zone since the judge is approaching it from the rear of the teeter. With a fast dog, the judge will really have to hustle to get to the teeter. The start/finish obstacles are the same jump. This is not desirable because it does not allow the next dog to be on the line and ready when the previous dog finishes. This will make for a very long trial. On the other hand, this course does have good flow as well as safe approaches to the contact obstacles. This would be appropriate difficulty for a novice course.

Below is an example of better course design to achieve a more efficient judge's path. After judging the dog walk, the judge only needs to move a little bit to be in position to judge the teeter. The placement of the weave poles, allows the judge some extra time to get into position. The flow is good in this course and the start/finish obstacles are now separate obstacles. This is ideal for safety and keeping the trial running quickly.

Judges are required to complete the following information in ink and submit to ASCA within two weeks of the trial.

Please print clearly.

Host Cub/Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Trial: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Trial: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Elite Regular Round 1:  
Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Elite Regular Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Elite Gamblers Round 1:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Elite Gamblers Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Elite Jumpers Round 1:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Elite Jumpers Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_  
Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Trial Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Australian Shepherd Club of America

Judges are required to complete the following information in ink and submit to ASCA within two weeks of the trial.

Please print clearly.

Host Cub/Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Trial: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Trial: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Regular Round 1:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Regular Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Gamblers Round 1:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Gamblers Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Jumpers Round 1:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Jumpers Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Trial Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Judges are required to complete the following information in ink and submit to ASCA within two weeks of the trial.

Please print clearly.

Host Cub/Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Trial: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Trial: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Novice Regular Round 1:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Novice Regular Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Novice Gamblers Round 1:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Novice Gamblers Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Novice Jumpers Round 1:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Novice Jumpers Round 2:

Yardage: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_

Large Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_ Small Vet/JH: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Trial Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### ASCA Agility Judge's Report

Please complete the following as completely as possible (use additional paper if necessary).  
Please print or type clearly.

Host Club/Group: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Trial: \_\_\_\_\_ Trial Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Site and facility: Describe the overall quality of the site. Would you recommend the club use this facility again?

Show Administration: Was the club prepared for the trial? Overall, how well did the trial run?

Equipment: Did the equipment meet ASCA specifications? Was the equipment safe? Do you have any suggestions for improvements to the club's equipment? (Issues with equipment should be reported directly to the club as well).

Incidents: Please describe any instances of aggression by any dog(s). Include the name(s) of the dog(s) and handlers(s) and the registration number of the dog(s) involved if possible. Indicate what action was taken. If no action was taken, please explain why not. Use an additional page if necessary. Please describe any instances of poor sportsmanship. Include the name(s) of the person(s) involved. Indicate what action was taken. If no action was taken, please explain why not. Use an additional page if necessary.

Please describe any complaints made by exhibitors. Indicate who made the complaint, what the problem was and what was done to rectify the problem. If nothing was done, please explain why not. Use an additional page if necessary,

Please describe any instances that resulted in or might have resulted in an injury to a person or dog. Please describe any instances that resulted in a dog(s) being excused from the trial.

Courses: Were the course designs used as filed? ( ) Yes ( ) No. If not, attach a copy of any revisions and explain the circumstances necessitating the change.

Other comments: Please indicate an overall impression of how the show went. What could have gone better? What changes, if any, would you make next time? What were you most pleased with? Would you look forward to being invited back to judge for the club/group again?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this report to the ASCA Business Office (P.O. Box 3790, Bryan, TX 77805-3790) within two weeks after the completion of a judging assignment.<JUDGESPROGRAM-COMLETE0914.DOC< div>

**Directors voting:** Approve; Berryessa, Gray, Walter, Bryant, DeChant, Davenport, Hellmeister & Aufox. Abstain: Stevens. Motion is approved.

### **99:10 TRACKING COMMITTEE – National Specialty Rules**

Motion by Gray.

I, Meghan Rosenstengel, move, and seconded by Celeste Kelly, that we change the following National Specialty Hosting Rules Section 5, Article 7 to read:

5.7 Tracking judges must come from the ASCA Tracking Judges list and must be approved by the Tracking Committee before submission of their names to the Board for approval.

The rule currently reads:

5.7 Tracking Judges must come from the ASCA Approved Tracking Judges List.

Comments: This will allow the Tracking Committee to ensure that any National Tracking judges are suitable for the assignment. This will also allow the Committee to have input, at least on the Nationals, until we can resolve the issues regarding the qualifications of ASCA Tracking judges.

This is Tracking Committee, Motion 16-05. It has passed out of committee by unanimous vote. Voting in favor of this motion are: Craig Bohren, Ralph Swingle, Anne Hershey, Celeste Kelly, Judy Whittaker, Susan Schroeder, Jane Palmer, and Deb St. Jacques.

**Directors voting:** Approve: Davenport, Stevens, Walter & Gray. Disapprove: Berryessa, Afox, Hellmeister, DeChant & Bryant. Motion is defeated.

**Approved:**

**New Committee Member Appointments:**

**Conformation Committee** -- Rene Luther

**Agility Committee** -- Art Scott, Pamela Bryant-Meeks and Lisa Kucharski

**Obedience Committee** -- Nancy Watson to the obedience committee for Region 5.

**Junior Committee** -- Lori Faussett from Florida (Region 5) and Leslie Creelman for another two year term

**New Affiliate Club** -- **WILLOUGHBY STOCK DOG CLUB**