



Established 1957

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 2019

Announcements

New ASCA Judges / Judge Move-Ups

Apprentice Agility Judge **Lou Brannick** (Arizona)

Senior Breeder Judge **Kelly Sweeney** (California)

Senior Breeder Judge **Connie Blowers** (Washington)

Non-Regular Breeder Judge **Katelyn Scott Peart** (Utah)

Non-Regular Breeder Judge **Debby Michielsen** (Belgium)

Utility Obedience Judge **Richard Imfeld** (California)

New ASCA Affiliate Clubs

Rocky Branch Working ASC

Location: Forsyth, Georgia

President: Randy King

Affiliate Rep: Leslie White

Sport Aussie of the Sunshine State

Location: Plant City, Florida

President: Dr. Christy Layton

Affiliate Rep: Lisa Ussery

From the ASCA Foundation

The Board voted to award **Rylee Carlon** with the Cee Hambo Scholarship.

Motions from the ASCA Board of Directors

Committee Recommendations

Agility Committee

*This recommendation was not approved.

AG.19.06 Motion to Clarify Rules on Titling Versus Non-Titling Classes

Approve: Creelman, Gray

Disapprove: Boone, Busquets, Dolan, Roberts, Vest, Wesen

Abstain: Gann

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **not** approved (2-6-1).

Comment from Busquets: The way this motion is written it feels as if this circumvents the rules for total runs. Perhaps this needs to be re-written. I'm also concerned about making trials longer and having judge, workers, and other competitors wait longer.

Comment from Vest: This motion seems to be a work around that would allow unlimited "mulligan" runs.

Comment from Wesen: No limit to number for non-regular. Added to many items in one motion. How these non-regular would work and are they in best interest to ASCA? Longer trial days at small trial it is 8-hour day.

Motion by Roberts

I move to approve the below motion from the Agility Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Subject: Motion to change the rules to clarify titling versus Non-titling classes in an ASCA sanctioned trial.

Motion by: Lee Prager.

Second by: Michael Kurdzo

Motion statement: I move to approve changes to the ASCA agility rules as follows:

1. Change the term "Sanctioned class" to "Titling class"
2. Change the term "non-regular classes" to "other non-titling classes"
3. Clarify the definitions of Titling and Non-titling classes
4. Clarify the terms "rounds" and "runs"
5. Allow Non-titling classes to be in addition to the 6 maximum Titling classes (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers)
6. Add an additional graphic to better clarify the structure and relationship of programs, classes, class types (Titling and Non-titling), divisions and levels.

Current Wording:

2.1.4 Sanctioning Request Form

The maximum number of ASCA sanctioned classes per trial day is six (6) (see Section 2.1.5). An Affiliate requesting sanctioning for the ASCA National Specialty may not offer more than six (6) sanctioned classes even if the 'trial' is spread over multiple days (see Section 13.1).

2.1.5 Trial Premium

Clubs may offer a maximum of six (6) ASCA sanctioned classes per 'trial day' in any combination they choose. A copy of the premium shall be sent to the ASCA office along with the trial sanctioning paperwork. The Business Office will acknowledge receipt of sanctioning paperwork and approval of the premium. Premiums cannot be distributed until approved. A copy of the premium is to be sent to the judge(s) who is/are to officiate and should be distributed and/or posted to prospective exhibitors at least five (5) weeks in advance of the proposed trial date.

2.3.1 Trial Officials

Chief Score Keeper. The Chief Score Keeper and assigned score table stewards shall be responsible for recording each dog's score into the official catalogs. After the scribe marks any faults for each run onto the scribe sheet, the actual time from the timekeeper's stop watch/electronic timing display is recorded on the scribe sheet and the sheet is then turned over to the Chief Score Keeper table where they will convert the timekeeper's time reading from minutes and seconds over to a total number of seconds. The score table shall also calculate the number of time faults, course faults, total faults for each run in the Regular and Jumpers classes and the total number of points earned for each dog in the Gamblers classes. The score table stewards shall calculate class placements for each jump height and record all qualifying rounds on the appropriate forms. The score table stewards are responsible for ensuring that the course distances and standard course times are recorded for each class. The Chief Score Keeper shall sign the ASCA form certifying that the scores for the trial were verified and correct.

3 Championship Program Sanctioned Classes, Divisions, & Levels

3.1 General Descriptions

The ASCA Championship Program titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The classes are Regular, Jumpers, and Gamblers (see Chapters 5, 6, and 7 for detailed information on the classes). The divisions offered are Standard, Veteran Dog, and Junior Handlers. The three levels offered are Novice, Open and Elite.

Each dog and handler team can only enter either the Championship program or ACE program for all days of a trial. Points from the two programs will be separate and will not be combined except for certain elite titles points from the Championship program that may be moved to the ACE program. The 'transferring' of points will only be made once and must be requested in writing and sent to the Business office.

In ASCA sanctioned trials, qualifying rounds executed at a level higher than that needed for a lower level ASCA requirement shall be credited for points needed at the lower level title. NOTE: once a dog earns a qualifying score at a higher level, it can no longer return to compete at a lower level within the Championship Program.

4 ACE (Agility Competition Enthusiast) Program Sanctioned Classes, Divisions, and Levels

4.1 General Descriptions

The ASCA ACE Program titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The classes are Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers (see Chapters 5, 6, and 7 for detailed information on the classes). The Divisions offered are Standard and Senior Dog. The three levels offered are Novice, Open and Elite.

The same ACE classes/divisions/levels must be offered as the Championship classes/divisions/levels. EXAMPLE: if Elite Regular in the Championship program is offered on Friday, then Elite Regular in the ACE program must also be offered.

Each dog and handler team can only enter either the Championship program or ACE program for all days of a trial. Points from the two programs will be separate and will not be combined except for certain elite titles points from the Championship program that may be moved to the ACE program. The 'transferring' of points will only be made once and must be requested in writing and sent to the Business Office.

In ASCA sanctioned trials, qualifying rounds executed at a level higher than that needed for a lower level ASCA requirement shall be credited for points needed at the lower level title. NOTE: dogs moving from the Championship program to the ACE program will be allowed to compete at a lower level if a qualifying score at a higher level has been obtained in the Championship program. However, once a dog earns a qualifying score at a higher level in the ACE program, it can no longer return to compete at a lower level within the ACE Program.

8 Other Classes

8.1 Non-Regular

Host clubs may offer any 'non-regular' classes they choose. The club may set guidelines for those classes as to entry requirements and goals for those classes, if those goals do not conflict with the general philosophies of ASCA.

8.2 Pre-Novice

Host clubs may offer Pre-Novice classes for dogs over the age of 12 months. Any dog younger than 18 months of age must jump at least 4" lower than their 'standard' jump height. The teeter-totter and weave poles may not be used. Other obstacles may be omitted at the discretion of the host club. Pre-novice courses are not required to be judged by the judge of record and course review is not required.

8.3 For Exhibition Only

Host clubs may accept "For Exhibition Only" (FEO) entries, if they choose. The minimum age for dogs entered "For Exhibition Only" is 15 months of age. Any dog younger than 18 months of age must jump at a lower height than their regular jump height. "FEO" entries shall be clearly marked as "FEO" in the catalog and included along with the Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers rounds to calculate the Event Membership Dues. See Sections 2.7, 2.7.1, and 2.7.2.

10.3.1 Point Accumulation

A dog may begin earning points toward their ATCH certificate as soon as they have completed the Elite certification requirements for any class, without first having completed the requirements for all three (3) classes. If a dog has completed the requirements for their Elite Agility Certificate, then any subsequent qualifying rounds would be accumulated towards the requirements for their ATCH. That same dog may not have completed all the requirements for their Elite Jumpers Certificate or their Elite Gamblers Certificate before accumulating ATCH points for their qualifying rounds in the Regular Class (Elite level).

13 Agility National Specialties

All current agility rules shall govern at the Agility National Specialty Trial, with the exceptions listed below:

13.1 Sanctioning

Host clubs requesting sanction for the Agility National Specialty trial may only request sanctioning with ASCA. The National Specialty Agility Trial will be one trial consisting of a maximum of six (6) sanctioned classes. No more than two Regular classes may be offered. To accommodate a large number of entries, the National Specialty Agility Trial may be spread over multiple days but will be considered as one 'trial' and assigned one 'event' number by the Business Office.

APPENDIX C: ASCA Agility Judging Program

1 Apprentice Agility Judge Application Requirements

1.1.2

The applicant must have trialed and earned the elite titles on at least one dog of any breed in all ASCA sanctioned classes; Gamblers, Jumpers and Regular

1.2.3

When combined, the number of rounds from judging assignments where a 'recommendation' was earned must total a minimum of 500 rounds. There must be a minimum of 100 rounds each from the sanctioned classes (Gamblers, Jumpers and Regular) accumulated during the assignments that earned 'recommendations'. (NOTE: Depending on the size of the trials where the 'recommendations' are received, an Apprentice Judge may need additional 'recommendations' to earn the minimum required rounds.)

2.7

e. expected number of rounds, expected finish time, as well as other factors that could affect the running of the trial.

The host club is required, at a minimum, to offer the Apprentice Judge one class of each titling type of class scheduled each day of the trial. EXAMPLE: for a full slate of titling classes, the Apprentice Judge may be offered all Novice Jumpers, Novice Regular Round 1 and Novice Gamblers if the trial is expected to be large and time is a factor. If the trial is expected to be small and time is not an issue, the host club may offer the Apprentice Judge all classes all weekend. If the club is only offering an afternoon of Jumpers classes, then the Apprentice shall only be offered Jumpers rounds.

Proposed Wording:

2.1.4 Sanctioning Request Form

The maximum number of rounds of titling classes (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) per trial day is six (6) (see Section 2.1.5). An Affiliate requesting sanctioning for the ASCA National Specialty may not

offer more than six (6) rounds of titling classes (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) even if the 'trial' is spread over multiple days (see Section 13.1). Rounds of non-titling classes may be offered in addition to the 6 titling class rounds (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) (see section 8).

2.1.5 Trial Premium

Clubs may offer a maximum of six (6) rounds of titling classes (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) per 'trial day' in any combination they choose. Rounds of Non-titling classes may be offered in addition to the 6 titling class rounds (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) (see section 8). A copy of the premium shall be sent to the ASCA office along with the trial sanctioning paperwork. The Business Office will acknowledge receipt of sanctioning paperwork and approval of the premium. Premiums cannot be distributed until approved. A copy of the premium is to be sent to the judge(s) who is/are to officiate and should be distributed and/or posted to prospective exhibitors at least five (5) weeks in advance of the proposed trial date.

2.3.1 Trial Officials

Chief Score Keeper. The Chief Score Keeper and assigned score table stewards shall be responsible for recording each dog's score into the official catalogs. After the scribe marks any faults for each run onto the scribe sheet, the actual time from the timekeeper's stop watch/electronic timing display is recorded on the scribe sheet and the sheet is then turned over to the Chief Score Keeper table where they will convert the timekeeper's time reading from minutes and seconds over to a total number of seconds. The score table shall also calculate the number of time faults, course faults, total faults for each run in the Regular and Jumpers classes and the total number of points earned for each dog in the Gamblers classes. The score table stewards shall calculate class placements for each jump height and record all qualifying runs on the appropriate forms. The score table stewards are responsible for ensuring that the course distances and standard course times are recorded for each class. The Chief Score Keeper shall sign the ASCA form certifying that the scores for the trial were verified and correct.

3 Championship Program Titling Classes, Divisions, & Levels

3.1 General Descriptions

The ASCA Championship Program titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The titling classes are Regular, Jumpers, and Gamblers (see Chapters 5, 6, and 7 for detailed information on the classes). The divisions offered are Standard, Veteran Dog, Junior Handlers, and FEO (if offered). The three levels offered are Novice, Open and Elite. Pre-novice (section 8.1) if offered, is a fourth level of the Regular class only but is non-titling.

Each dog and handler team can only enter either the Championship program or ACE program for all days of a trial. Points from the two programs will be separate and will not be combined except for certain elite title points from the Championship program that may be moved to the ACE program. The 'transferring' of points will only be made once and must be requested in writing and sent to the Business office.

In ASCA sanctioned trials, qualifying runs executed at a level higher than that needed for a lower level ASCA requirement shall be credited for points needed at the lower level title. NOTE: once a dog earns a qualifying score at a higher level, it can no longer return to compete at a lower level within the Championship Program.

4 ACE (Agility Competition Enthusiast) Program Titling Classes, Divisions, and Levels

4.1 General Descriptions

The ASCA ACE Program titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The titling classes are Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers (see Chapters 5, 6, and 7 for detailed information on the classes). The Divisions offered are Standard, Senior Dog, and FEO (if offered). The three levels offered are Novice, Open and Elite. Pre-novice (section 8.1) if offered, is a fourth level of the Regular class only but is non-titling.

Each dog and handler team can only enter either the Championship program or ACE program for all days of a trial. Points from the two programs will be separate and will not be combined except for certain elite title points from the Championship program that may be moved to the ACE program. The 'transferring' of points will only be made once and must be requested in writing and sent to the Business Office.

In ASCA sanctioned trials, qualifying runs executed at a level higher than that needed for a lower level ASCA requirement shall be credited for points needed at the lower level title. NOTE: dogs moving from the Championship program to the ACE program will be allowed to compete at a lower level if a qualifying score at a higher level has been obtained in the Championship program. However, once a dog earns a qualifying score at a higher level in the ACE program, it can no longer return to compete at a lower level within the ACE Program.

8 Non-titling Classes

8.1 Pre-Novice

Host clubs may offer a Pre-Novice level in the Regular class for dogs over the age of 12 months. Pre-novice is non-titling although it is offered as a level of the Regular titling class. Any dog younger than 18 months of age must jump at least 4" lower than their 'standard' jump height. The Pre-Novice course consists of 12-14 obstacles and may not include the teeter or weave poles. Other obstacles may be omitted at the discretion of the host club. Pre-novice courses are not required to be judged by the judge of record and course review is not required. A dog running pre-novice may not compete in another level of the same round.

8.2 For Exhibition Only

Host clubs may accept "For Exhibition Only" (FEO) entries, if they choose. Although they are run in a titling class, FEO entries are non-titling and may be entered in any class at any level. A dog running FEO may not compete in another level of the same round. The Pre-novice level is not available in the FEO division. The minimum age for dogs entered "For Exhibition Only" is 15 months of age. Dogs entered in FEO may jump lower than their regular jump height. Any dog younger than 18 months of

age must jump at a lower height than their regular jump height. "FEO" entries shall be clearly marked as "FEO" in the catalog and included along with the Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers rounds to calculate the Event Membership Dues. See Sections 2.7, 2.7.1, and 2.7.2.

8.3 Other Non-titling classes

Host clubs may offer rounds of any Non-titling classes they choose. The club may set guidelines for those classes as to entry requirements and goals for those classes, if those goals do not conflict with the general philosophies of ASCA. Non-titling classes can be in addition to the 6 maximum titling class rounds (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) offered in a sanctioned trial. If possible, Non-titling classes should be advertised and defined in the trial premium but, due to low entries or other circumstances, may be added during the trial at the Affiliate's discretion.

10.3.1 Point Accumulation

A dog may begin earning points toward their ATCH certificate as soon as they have completed the Elite certification requirements for any class, without first having completed the requirements for all three (3) classes. If a dog has completed the requirements for their Elite Agility Certificate, then any subsequent qualifying runs would be accumulated towards the requirements for their ATCH. That same dog may not have completed all the requirements for their Elite Jumpers Certificate or their Elite Gamblers Certificate before accumulating ATCH points for their qualifying runs in the Regular Class (Elite level).

13 Agility National Specialties

All current agility rules shall govern at the Agility National Specialty Trial, with the exceptions listed below:

13.1 Sanctioning

Host clubs requesting sanction for the Agility National Specialty trial may only request sanctioning with ASCA. The National Specialty Agility Trial will be one trial consisting of a maximum of six (6) titling class rounds (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers). No more than two Regular class rounds may be offered. To accommodate a large number of entries, the National Specialty Agility Trial may be spread over multiple days but will be considered as one 'trial' and assigned one 'event' number by the Business Office.

1.1.2

The applicant must have trialed and earned the elite titles on at least one dog of any breed in all ASCA titling classes: Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers.

1.2.3

When combined, the number of rounds from judging assignments where a 'recommendation' was earned must total a minimum of 500 rounds. There must be a minimum of 100 rounds each from the

titling classes (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) accumulated during the assignments that earned 'recommendations'. (NOTE: Depending on the size of the trials where the 'recommendations' are received, an Apprentice Judge may need additional 'recommendations' to earn the minimum required rounds.)

NOTE – In the following sections, the term used in the current wording of the rules is already “titling classes”, in line with the changes proposed above:

2.7

e. expected number of rounds, expected finish time, as well as other factors that could affect the running of the trial. The host club is required, at a minimum, to offer the Apprentice Judge one class of each titling type of class scheduled each day of the trial. EXAMPLE: for a full slate of titling classes (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers), the Apprentice Judge may be offered all Novice Jumpers, Novice Regular Round 1 and Novice Gamblers if the trial is expected to be large and time is a factor. If the trial is expected to be small and time is not an issue, the host club may offer the Apprentice Judge all classes all weekend. If the club is only offering an afternoon of Jumpers classes, then the Apprentice shall only be offered Jumpers rounds.

Comments/Rationale from Committee:

Why is this motion needed?

The present rules have multiple uses for the term “sanctioned”. One use is a “sanctioned trial” and refers to ASCA sanctioning a trial (i.e. approving a club’s request to hold a trial). The second use is “sanctioned classes” which are defined in the rules as Regular, Jumpers and Gamblers. These 3 classes are also called titling classes (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) in the rules and are limited to 6 in a trial.

The present rules also mix the meanings of the terms “rounds” and “runs”. This motion uses “runs” as an individual run. The term “rounds” is the collection of all individual “runs” in a particular class. For example, the limit of 6 actually refers to rounds as there are only 3 titling classes.

The present nomenclature becomes more confusing when Non-titling classes such as Pre-novice, FEO, tunnelers, Retired class, etc. are introduced. Are these “sanctioned classes” because they appear in the premium or simply other classes as shown in section 8? Do rounds of these classes count in the 6 maxima or do the 6 maxima only refer to Regular, Jumpers, and Gamblers classes? Historically there are numerous examples where Non-titling classes were run in a sanctioned trial in addition to the titling classes (Regular, Jumpers, Gamblers) and thus having non-titling classes in addition to the 6 titling classes has been the historical interpretation of the rules.

In addition, many other agility programs which compete with ASCA for entries, offer non-titling classes/games which make their trials more fun. Many agility enthusiasts like this aspect of trials and are leaving ASCA for other venues. If ASCA does not allow rounds of these classes in addition to the 6 rounds of titling classes, we will continue to lose entries.

What caused it to be needed?

ASCNE was set to run an agility trial in June and had included non-titling classes in the premium. There was also some historical precedence on non-titling rounds that were in addition to the 6 maximum titling or “sanctioned” rounds. The ASCA board decided that these additional classes violated the rules and suggested we propose a motion if we thought the rules should be changed. In addition to the titling rounds, these additional non-titling rounds help the trial participants with training, add fun to the trial, and serve as effective fund raisers for worthy causes, all part of ASCA’s philosophy. Due to historical precedence, most of the judges I talked to think the rules were being mis-interpreted when the letter prohibiting them in a 6 titling round trial came out. This motion is to clarify the rules and terms, as well as allow non-tiling rounds in addition to the 6 titling rounds. All applicable rules have been reviewed and are included in this motion.

Affected: If passed, this motion will affect trial committees, judges, sanctioning approvers, and trial participants. It will also affect organizations like ASHGI who benefits from the funds raised as well as the clubs when trials struggle to pay expenses.

This motion should not affect the Webmaster, Business Office or Program Software Vendor.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect at the next printing of the applicable Rule Book.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: 2

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Dissent from Committee Member: This is an attempt to get the BOD to unwittingly approve mulligans. There has been no rationale as to why ASCA would need to have more than 6 sanctioned classes. Retired dogs wanting to run a last time can run FEO at the end of the class. Other non-tilting classes have been traditionally run after the trial is over and the equipment needed to run a non-titling class can be brought out without disturbing the trial.

Dissent from Committee Member: While I really like the clarification by the renaming titling and non-titling classes. On a closer reading of the motion, there are things that I cannot support, which are:

- 1) There is nothing that says that ASCA will receive revenue from the non-sanctioned classes, especially those that are offered on the spur of the moment at the trial.
- 2) It is not really clear what classes or what part of the trial is actually sanctioned by ASCA except in the National Specialties.
- 3) The fact that clubs can offer any class they want without the office/ASCA approving it. This will allow clubs to offer “do overs”, “mulligans” or whatever name it might be called. That type of class is against ASCA philosophy which has been stated by ASCA’s attorney.

4) There is nothing that limits the number of classes a dog can run during a trial. There is a limit on the titling classes but not the non-titling classes. If the trial is small enough, there can be another 6 non-titling classes added to the trial. Which mean that, in theory, a dog could run in 12 classes a day.

Conformation Committee

*This recommendation was not approved.

CO.19.05 ASCA Supreme Conformation Champion Program

Approve: Boone, Creelman, Wesen

Disapprove: Busquets, Dolan, Gann, Gray, Roberts, Vest

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **not** approved (3-6).

Dissent from Creelman: This motion seems quite complex, but the committee has shown that is attainable.

Comment from Busquets: I like this and kudos to the CC for coming up with it. I believe that many competitors and members will like to have the opportunity to have their specials compete for additional titles. However, there are some places where the wording could be better, and I still think that the point requirements for the levels could be a little more achievable. While I don't want it to be "easy" to achieve, if competitors don't believe the levels are achievable, they will be less likely to participate. Please, give another look and resend to the Board.

Comment from Vest: My concern is that we are moving ASCA towards a "handler" organization as that may be necessary to achieve the highest level of titles in this motion.

Motion by Boone

I move to accept the following motion from the Conformation Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

We have a motion by Debbie with a second by Mary.

I, Debbie Martin, make the following motion:

I move to introduce an ASCA Supreme Conformation Champion Program to the existing Conformation Program.

This program will be added to the Conformation Rules and Regulations in Chapter 12 as 12.7.

Current Wording:

None.

Proposed Wording:

12.7 ASCA Supreme Conformation Champion Program

PARTICIPATION: To participate in the ASCA SCCH program a dog must be:

1. A purebred Australian Shepherd registered with ASCA.

2. An ASCA Champion of Record or have been transferred to the BOB competition based on owner records of having completed the requirements for ASCA Champion of Record pending official notification of CH completion.

POINTS: This program requires a dog to obtain a total of 60 points with 7 major wins to become a Supreme Conformation Champion. The major wins must be won under 7 different judges and at least 2 other judges must award the remaining points. At least one (1) Champion of Record must be defeated at each show where SCCH points are awarded.

SCCH points will be awarded to ASCA Champions of Record who win BOB or BOS at ASCA Affiliate shows and Specialty shows including, but not limited to, the ASCA National Specialty and Pre-Shows. A BOB win will be awarded 5 points, A BOS win will be awarded 3 points at shows with a major in either dogs or bitches. If there isn't a major, the BOB win will be awarded 2 points, the BOS win will be awarded 1 point.

In the calculation of SCCH points, only dogs that were present and judged will count. Dogs that are disqualified, dismissed, excused, absentee or have all awards withheld do not count.

LEVELS of SCCH ACHIEVEMENT: Additionally, the ASCA SCCH program would offer levels of achievement:

At each additional level the participating dogs must be an ASCA SCCH of Record and have completed the requirements of the previous level.

1. Emerald: 140 SCCH points
2. Ruby: 220 SCCH points
3. Sapphire: 320 SCCH points
4. Diamond: 440 SCCH points
5. Diamond I: 880 SCCH points
6. Diamond II: 1320 SCCH points
7. Diamond III: 1760 SCCH points
8. Diamond IV: 2200 SCCH points

Additional levels can be added to the Diamond designation as needed following the established point pattern (additional 440 SCCH points for each level added).

Points are accumulated as the dog progresses through the levels. For example, an ASCA CH has earned 60 points to complete SCCH. He must then earn an additional 80 points under the same requirements used to earn the original 60 points (7 major wins that must be won under 7 different judges and at least 2 other judges must award the remaining points. At least one (1) Champion of Record must be defeated at each show where SCCH points are awarded.) to complete the Emerald Supreme CH. The same dog must then earn an additional 80 points under the same requirements to complete Ruby SCCH, an additional 100 SCCH points to earn Sapphire SCCH, and an additional 120 SCCH points to earn Diamond SCCH.

TITLES:

INTACT:

| Abbreviation: | Title: |
|---------------|---|
| SCCH | Supreme Conformation Champion |
| SCCHE | Supreme Conformation Champion Emerald |
| SCCHR | Supreme Conformation Champion Ruby |
| SCCHS | Supreme Conformation Champion Sapphire |
| SCCHD | Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond |
| SCCHDI | Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond I |
| SCCHDII | Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond II |
| SCCHDIII | Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond III |
| SCCHDIV | Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond IV |

ALTERED:

| Abbreviation: | Title: |
|---------------|---|
| A-SCCH | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion |
| A-SCCHE | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion Emerald |
| A-SCCHR | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion Ruby |
| A-SCCHS | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion Sapphire |
| A-SCCHD | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond |
| A-SCCHDI | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond I |
| A-SCCHDII | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond II |
| A-SCCHDIII | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond III |
| A-SCCHDIV | Altered Supreme Conformation Champion Diamond IV |

Comments/Rationale from Committee: The SCCH program is designed to provide a challenging program for those exhibitors who want to pursue additional titles with ASCA registered Australian Shepherds that have achieved their Champion of Record, and to help affiliate clubs increase entries without increasing expenses. The SCCH program will contribute to increased exhibitor participation while emphasizing breed judging by recognizing quality and breed type. The development of the SCCH program is consistent with the ongoing objective of encouraging the exhibition and, ultimately, the breeding and registration of purebred Australian Shepherds, which contributes to the overall health and wellbeing of ASCA.

Additional information: In utilizing the BOB/BOS placements in the SCCH point calculations, affiliate clubs incur no additional expense, and points can be automatically tracked based on BOB/BOS wins. Conversation with Ray Fryar included the logistics of this program and basing it on the BOB/BOS is a simple calculation and computer program for the office. The office will have to adjust the current program to track the CH defeated aspect.

Effective Date: June 1, 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: 2

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Dissent from Committee Member: I am against this motion. I vote no. I don't like the fact that points can be earned even if that sex at the show is a minor. It is not clear whether the judges for the initial title of SCCH can be "reused" to gather points for the next level(s) or whether they are "out". This has the potential to create another trailer race and is only for a small number of members who can afford to travel to all these shows to promote their dogs. We are tasked with making rules for ALL members, not just a select few. I am also against including the National Specialty and the pre-shows into the counting of points. Just like these shows are not part of the point schedule they should also not be included in here.

Dissent from Committee Member: I am against the program. I vote no. Only 1 champion needs to be defeated to earn points towards the title SCCH?!?!? 60 points, of which there have to be 7 majors, the dog has to run 12x BOB to reach those points. And for Emerald another 80 points? That would be another 16x BOB and always with 7 majors? How old is the dog supposed to get? Let's assume that a dog finishes his championship at 24 months. And he would go to one show monthly and would in fact go BOB AND at least defeat 1 other champion, the dog would 3 years old when earning SCCH (if everything goes according to plan and there were 7 different judges). A female would not be allowed to have puppies. And for Emerald it needs another 80 points! In my view Diamond will be unreachable, absolutely unrealistic with this point schedule.

Comment from Committee Member: I support the motion. This motion does not cost an affiliate anything. It is all calculated in the office. The office has agreed the program can be easily tracked as the show results come in. The program can bring additional revenue to an affiliate club as exhibitors enter champions to earn this title. The motion is well thought out and was discussed completely by the committee before a final motion was brought to the committee. Feedback from committee members was taken into account to come up with this motion. The motion clearly lays out how one will progress from one level to the next.

Hall of Fame Committee

*This recommendation was not approved.

HF.19.05 Hall of Fame Excellent Sires and Dams

Approve: Creelman, Roberts

Disapprove: Boone, Busquets, Dolan, Vest, Wesen

Abstain: Gann, Gray

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **not** approved (2-5-2).

Comment from Boone: I believe the Conformation component needs to be higher, like a Best of Breed or Premier at Nationals, as all other programs require a higher level than the requirements for Hall of Fame.

Comment from Busquets: It seems as if the conformation requirements stay basically the same for these recognitions. I would like to the committee to reconsider this and perhaps wait and see if the supreme CH title is added to the conformation titling program. It doesn't seem consistent to require a higher degree of excellence for performance and stockdog titles and not change the requirements for conformation in some way.

Comment from Dolan: The motion contains no Rationale.

Comment from Vest: The prestige of this title should require 3 WTCH dogs.

Comment from Wesen: This is not equal, 3 stock titles could be 1 dog, however a CH is 1 dog. To make this equal 3 CH and 3 WTCH.

Motion by Creelman

I move to accept the motion as passed by the Hall of Fame Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Subject: Hall of Fame Excellent Sires and Dams

I make a motion to add HOF Excellent Sire and Dam to the ASCA Special recognition Program.

Motion made by Kristina Churchill

Motion seconded by: Laura Gibson

Current Wording:

None.

Proposed Wording:

5 Sire and/or Dam Hall of Fame Excellent Requirements

5.1 Requirements for Sire and/or Dam

- A. Qualifying titles earned by an Australian Shepherd produced by a Sire or Dam that qualify towards that Sire or Dam's HOFX requirements are as follows:
 - 1. Agility: Must earn ALL THREE Elite titles from A.1.a, A.1.b, and A.1.c of Regular, Gamblers, and Jumpers (1 pt.)
 - a. Qualifying Regular titles are: RS-E (Regular Standard Elite) or RJ-E (Regular Junior Elite) or RV-E (Regular Veteran Elite).
 - b. Qualifying Jumper titles are: JS-E (Jumper Standard Elite) or JJ-E (Jumper Junior Elite) or JV-E (Jumper Veteran Elite).
 - c. Qualifying Gambler titles are: GS-E (Gamblers Standard Elite) or GJ-E (Gamblers Junior Elite) or GV-E (Gamblers Veteran Elite).
 - 2. Obedience: UD (Utility Dog)

3. Tracking: TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent) or UTDX (Urban Tracking Dog Excellent). Only one per dog to count.
4. Stockdog: ATDc (Advanced Trial Dog - Cattle) and/or ATDs (Advanced Trial Dog - Sheep)
AFTDXs (Advanced Farm Trial Dog Excellent - Sheep) and/or AFTDXc (Advanced Farm Trial Dog Excellent - Cattle) and/or AFTDXm (Advanced Farm Trial Dog Excellent - Mixed Flock)
PATDs (Post Advanced Trial Dog - Sheep), PATDc (Post Advanced Trial Dog - Cattle)
5. Conformation: CH (Conformation Champion), A-CH (Altered Conformation Champion)
6. Rally: REMX (Rally Excellent Masters X) and/or RTX (Rally Trial Excellent)
7. Titles of Excellence:
 - a. ATCH (1 pt.) Agility Trial Champion
 - b. FTCH (1 pt.) Farm Trial Champion
 - c. MTD (1 pt.) Master Tracking Dog
 - d. OTCH (1 pt.) Obedience Trial Champion
 - e. PCH (1 pt.) Performance Champion
 - f. SPCH (1/2 pt.) Supreme Performance Champion
 - g. SDCH (1 pt.) Stockdog Champion
 - h. VCH (1 pt.) Versatility Champion
 - i. SVCH (1/2 pt.) Supreme Versatility Champion
 - j. WTCH (1 pt.) Working Trial Champion
 - k. WTCH-X (1/2 pt.) Working Trial Champion X
 - l. RTCH (1 pt.) Rally Trial Champion
 - m. HOF (1 pt.) Hall of Fame

- B. Australian Shepherds produced by the Sire must have earned a combination of sixteen (16) of the above-named titles with a combination of three (3) Stockdog and three (3) Conformation titles and (3) titles of excellence (A.7) and the remaining seven (7) from any area named in (A.1-7) above.
- C. Australian Shepherds produced by the Dam must have earned a combination of ten (10) of the above-named titles with a combination of two (2) Stockdog titles and two (2) Conformation titles and two (2) titles of excellence (A.7) and the remaining four (4) from any area named in (A.1-7) above.
- D. The Sire must have a minimum of four (4) offspring to qualify for this title and must have already been awarded HOF Sire Title.
- E. The Dam must have a minimum of two (2) offspring to qualify for this title and must have already been awarded HOF Dam Title.
- F. The HOFX Sire and Dam form must be filled out completely by the owner and submitted to the ASCA Business Office until such time there is a computer program to track a Sire and Dam's Excellent status.

Comments/Rationale from Committee: None provided.

Affected: The ASCA Business Office.

From the Office Manager on 10/17/2019:

Truthfully, I think the committee needs to contact the Conformation committee and see if a higher level Conformation title would be better suited for the HOFX aspect. The CC is currently working on that program.

Response from Jan Wesen: This program is not in place as of yet.

Response from the Office Manager: Okay, thanks Jan.

Effective Date: June 1, 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 6

Disapprove: 2

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Comment from Committee Member: I like the proposal however I have voiced that WTCh should be the 3 stock requirements to equal a CH.

Stockdog Committee

*This recommendation was not approved.

SD.19.17 Motion to Adjust the Finals Judge Selection Process

Approve: Gann

Disapprove: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Dolan, Gray, Roberts, Vest, Wesen

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **not** approved (1-8).

Comment from Busquets: Even though I appreciate the effort to make this process more random, but the problem is that it does not allow the committee to have some freedom in case problems arise.

Also, I would like to see how the current process works when ASCA takes over. Moreover, adding verification work for the BO necessitates a definite agreement/opinion from the Business Manager.

Comment from Creelman: Most of this motion is well thought out. Two thoughts I have: 1. be sure that the requirements are in order of importance. 2. only giving 6 names does not give any flexibility of choice. Anyone who has hired judges knows that some just don't work for everyone. I like having 2 or 3 to add to the choice. I agree to ask judges in order drawn.

Comment from Vest: I agree with the intent of the motion but approval from the Business Office was not requested as per Committee Procedure requirements.

Comment from Wesen: Ray has stated that he wasn't notified, and they will not be able to verify the information.

Motion by Creelman

I make a motion to accept the following recommendation of the Stockdog Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Title: Motion to adjust the selection process for Stockdog Finals Judges

I make a motion to adjust the process for selecting Stockdog Finals Judges to be a truly random method and to bring the selection process into compliance with the intent of Chapter 4 of the National Specialty Rule Book.

Motion by: Dan Sanderson

Second by: Jim McKay

Current Wording:

24.7.2 Determining Availability and Qualifications

Judges for the Stockdog Finals will be selected from all ASCA Stockdog Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and indicate they would be available. Information provided by the Stockdog Judges will be assumed to be correct. The Business Office will not be required to verify the information. The responding Stockdog Judges who meet the qualifications will be placed in a pool of judges for random selection.

The qualifications are as follows:

- a. Have fulfilled two of the three following provisions:
 1. Have judged at least 40 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in their career. Related trials are those held at the same location within the same 10-day period.
 2. Have judged at least 9 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in the previous 3 years.
 3. Have trialed an Australian Shepherd in at least 9 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in the previous 3 years.
- b. Have not judged Stockdog Finals in both of the last two years.
- c. Have regular judge status.
- d. Have no pending or previous disciplinary action within the previous year.
- e. A judge that is not currently an ASCA member must become a member of ASCA and remain a member for 5 continuous (without a lapse in Membership) years before being considered for ASCA Finals judge.

24.7.3 Failure to Secure Six Finals Judges

If six Finals Judges cannot be secured from the pool of judges meeting the qualifications in 22.7.2.a-e, the qualifications will be waived in the order they are listed to increase the number of judges in the pool. EXAMPLE: Waive 22.7.2.a to see if more judges are available. If not, waive 22.7.2.b, etc. until 6 Judges are hired to judge Stockdog Finals.

24.7.4 Drawing for Selection

- a. The Board of directors will perform a random draw of all Stockdog Judges who satisfy the qualifications listed in 22.7.2. The random draw will be done at the General Membership Meeting held at the National Specialty Event. The selection process will be done one time in full view of any who wish to attend the meeting.
- b. All names will be shown in the order of the draw at the meeting, and then posted to the ASCA Website and any ASCA approved e-mail list.
- c. The first 9 names will be supplied to the Host Club in no order to choose and hire 6 judges for Stockdog Finals.
- d. If 6 judges cannot be secured from this list, and all 9 judges have been asked and more than 3 decline the offer, the Host Club will be provided with the next single (10th) Judge's name, in the order of the original random draw. If the next (10th) Judge declines the offer, the next (11th) Judge's name, in the order of the original random draw, will be provided. This will continue in the order of the original random draw, one name at a time, until all 6 positions are filled. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before moving to the next name on the list.
- e. If a Judge withdraws after being hired as 1 of the 6 Finals Judges, the next Judge, in the order of the random draw, will be provided to the Host Club. This will be repeated as many times as necessary if more than one judge withdraws from the original 9 chosen. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before the next name will be provided to the Host Club.
- f. A reason must be provided to the ASCA Board of Directors by the Host Club explaining why an additional Judge, beyond the original 9 is needed.

NOTE: The Nationals working trial Judges do not have to come from this list.

Proposed Wording:

24.7.2 Determining Availability and Qualifications

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

The Business Office will be required to verify the information provided is accurate and correct. The responding Stockdog Judges who meet the qualifications will be placed in a pool of judges for random selection.

The qualifications are as follows:

- a. Must be a member of ASCA for five (5) continuous years (with no lapse in membership exceeding 30 days) before being considered for an ASCA Finals judge.
- b. Have not judged the Stockdog Finals for the previous two consecutive years.
- c. Have no pending or previous disciplinary action of any type within the previous two consecutive years.
- d. Have regular judge status.
- e. Have fulfilled two of the three following provisions:
 1. Have judged at least 40 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in their career. Related trials are those held at the same location within the same 10-day period.

2. Have judged at least 9 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in the previous 3 years.
3. Have trialed an Australian Shepherd in at least 9 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in the previous 3 years.

24.7.3 Failure to Secure Six Finals Judges

If six Finals Judges cannot be secured from the pool of judges meeting the qualifications in 22.7.2.a-e, the qualifications will be waived in the order they are listed to increase the number of judges in the pool. EXAMPLE: Waive 22.7.2.a to see if more judges are available. If not, waive 22.7.2.b, etc. until 6 Judges are hired to judge Stockdog Finals.

24.7.4 Drawing for Selection

- a. The Board of directors will perform a random draw of all Stockdog Judges who satisfy the qualifications listed in 22.7.2. The random draw will be done at the General Membership Meeting held at the National Specialty Event. The selection process will be done one time in full view of any who wish to attend the meeting.
 - b. All names will be drawn and shown in the order of the draw at the meeting, and then posted to the ASCA Website and any ASCA approved e-mail list.
 - c. The first 6 names drawn will be hired by the Host Club to judge Stockdog Finals.
 - d. The Course Director, or person working in this capacity, will provide an employment contract to judge the upcoming Stockdog Finals within 4 months (120 days) of the selection to each of the 6 people whose names were drawn.
 - e. If any Judge is unable to judge the upcoming Stockdog Finals after being selected, they must notify the Course Director at the earliest possible time.
 - f. If, at any time and for any reason a Judge withdraws or is unable to fulfill the position of Stockdog Finals Judge, the Host Club will be provided with the 7th Judge's name, in the order of the original random draw. If the 7th Judge declines the offer, the 8th Judge's name, in the order of the original random draw, will be provided. This will continue in the order of the original random draw, one name at a time and in the order in which they were drawn, until all 6 positions are filled. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before moving to the next name on the list.
 - g. A reason must be provided to the ASCA Board of Directors by the Course Director explaining why an additional Judge, beyond the original 6 people whose names were drawn, is needed.
- NOTE: The Nationals working trial Judges do not have to come from this list.

Comments/Rationale from Committee: This change to the process of selecting Stockdog Finals Judges will create a truly random selection method and will eliminate the appearance of the selection of Judges based on ideology. This will help in setting aside any concerns contestants may have with how each Judge was selected. This change will also bring the Stockdog Rules in compliance with the intent of Chapter 4 of the National Specialty Rule Book.

Effective Date: June 1, 2020 (to apply to the selection of Judges for the ASCA Stockdog Finals in 2022).

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 8

Disapprove: 2

Abstain: 1

Non-Voting: 1

Dissent from Committee Member: I don't think the system needs to be fixed.

Minutes of the ASCA Annual Board of Directors' Meeting at Nationals

The meeting was conducted in Open Session, except where noted. A recording of the meeting may be listened to on ASCA's:

Website: <https://www.asca.org/home/news/bod-meetings-audio>

YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC490D1qEJtV7oiDp6KOHEvA>

Monday, November 4

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019, at the ASCA National Specialty in Bakersfield, California.

Directors Present: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Cindy King, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Judy Boone, Denise Creelman, Linda Gray, Ken Silveira, and Rachel Vest, Director-elect Pete Dolan, and Director-elect Jan Wesen.

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Laura Gibson (9:00 am - 12:15 pm), Dr. Lisa Shaffer (9:15 am - 10:10 am), Peter Hellmeister (9:15 am - 10:10 am), Mary Hellmeister (9:15 am - 10:10 am), Gina Larson (9:15 am - 10:10 am), Andrea Bair (10:00 am - 10:40 am), Shelby Shank (10:00 am - 10:40 am), Corinne Shanks (10:30 am - 11:00 am), Bev Peabody (10:45 am - 11:15 am), Donna Armstrong (10:55 am - 11:15 am), Leslie Fasio (10:55 am - 11:15 am), and Kiddy Christie (11:00 am - 11:15 am).

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 9:15 am PST and Executive Secretary Jaco recorded the minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Meeting with Paw Print Genetics

The Board met with Dr. Lisa Shaffer, Founder and CEO of Paw Print Genetics (PPG), along with members of the DNA Committee: Peter Hellmeister, Mary Hellmeister, and Gina Larson.

Dr. Shaffer began by explaining why PPG uses 99 markers (up to 130 markers) and by which process they will be verifying parentage through DNA testing. The following blog posts on PPG's website discuss the process and how informative the markers are.

Paw Print Genetics uses the Latest Technologies to bring Customers Enhanced DNA Profiles and Paternity: <https://www.pawprintgenetics.com/blog/2016/12/07/paw-print-genetics-uses-latest-technologies-bring-its-customers-enhanced-dna-profiles-and-paternity/>

Why a Dam's Sample Is Needed for Parentage Testing:

<https://www.pawprintgenetics.com/blog/2018/06/20/why-dams-sample-needed-parentage-testing/>

The logistics of sending samples to PPG and managing the results database need to be worked out between Dr. Shaffer and the Office Manager. They plan to discuss this week during Nationals. The Board also stressed the importance of developing a process for PPG to notify ASCA if there is an exclusion so the dog's pedigree can be corrected, or the results investigated.

The Board hopes to continue ASCA's current relationship with Certagen, and PPG is willing to offer a no-cost license to Certagen for their proprietary markers to use for testing of ASCA dogs only. If Certagen is not willing to work with PPG, Dr. Shaffer said that Paw Print Genetics can accept samples from all over the world.

Dr. Shaffer requested a form be developed for ASCA members to submit with their samples to flag as an ASCA sample. President Busquets and the Office Manager will work with Dr. Shaffer to create the form.

Dr. Shaffer questioned the Board about potential future involvement in disputes involving parentage of dogs. It is the policy of the ASCA Board not to get involved in breeder disputes, except to enforce court orders, so this will likely not be an issue.

Dr. Shaffer requested a Board approved response for PPG to use when ASCA members contact them.

Meeting with Junior Committee

The Board met with Andrea Bair, Chair of the Junior Committee, and committee member Shelby Shank. They gave a brief update on the committee's progress during the last year.

Several directors had questions about what prompted the recent change to the 500 Club Tier program. There had been some misconceptions from competitors and parents about the program that the committee needed to clarify. Director Silveira also brought up the need to implement a 500 Club for all programs that juniors compete in, not just showmanship. This is something the committee is working on but will need input from those with experience in junior performance programs.

The Junior Committee would like to clarify that no child under the age of 3 years may participate at an ASCA-sanctioned show/trial. The Junior Rules offer no provisions for children under the age of 3 years to participate in regular or non-regular classes. If the Junior Committee wishes to clarify this in their rules, they must do so through a recommendation to the Board via their Liaison.

The Junior Rules state that during the year, reports will be made in the Aussie Times as to the scores that result from the points each individual junior has earned. Ms. Bair questioned why this isn't being done. President Busquets will find out from the Business Office.

Ms. Bair also brought up some of the confusion this year regarding where to send Junior Finals entries. Since there is no fee involved, in the past they have been sent directly to the Host Club/Consortium. However, all other Finals entries are sent to the Business Office. The Junior Committee will recommend a change to their rules to make sure Junior Finals entries are sent to the Business Office.

Meeting with Rally Committee

The Board met with Rally Committee Chair Corinne Shanks. She gave a brief update on the committee's progress during the last year.

Ms. Shanks requested ASCA develop a better way for Affiliate Clubs to report issues with judges. This is something the Board is working on. The Board also discussed with Ms. Shanks the process by which judges are approved in ASCA and how letters from members and committee recommendations are considered.

The Rally Committee has been working hard on educational videos, but they need a way to share. The committee should reach out to Laura Gibson, who has been taking point on Google Classrooms for ASCA's educational needs, for her assistance.

Meeting with Scent Search Committee

The Board met with Scent Search Committee Chair Donna Armstrong and committee members Bev Peabody, Leslie Fasio, and Kiddy Christie. They gave a brief update on the committee's progress during the last year.

Ms. Armstrong asked how the Board would prefer to receive the program - piece by piece as it is developed, or a finished product when completed. In the past, new programs have been approved as

a finished product, to be implemented June 1 of a particular year. The Scent Search Committee's goal is to present the program to the Board at the 2020 Nationals in Georgia.

National Specialty Sites

The Board met with Laura Gibson to discuss options for National Specialty sites. She went over a proposal from Island Grove Regional Park in Greeley, Colorado, and shared comparative information for Brazos County Expo in Bryan, Texas.

The Board must secure the contract for the 2022 Nationals in Greeley, Colorado, soon. A suitable site must also be selected for the 2023 Nationals on the west coast.

Below is a chart of attendance for the past 5 National Specialties.

| 2015 - TN | 2016 - OR | 2017 - TX | 2018 - CO | 2019 - CA |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| CA - 48 | CA - 192 | TX - 99 | CA - 86 | CA - 205 |
| TX - 39 | WA - 94 | CA - 61 | CO - 63 | WA - 48 |
| NY - 36 | OR - 72 | CO - 25 | TX - 53 | AZ - 42 |
| FL - 34 | AZ - 31 | AZ - 20 | WA - 42 | OR - 34 |
| GA - 31 | CO - 15 | FL - 18 | AZ - 34 | CO - 22 |
| MN - 27 | NV - 15 | WA - 18 | MN - 26 | TX - 20 |
| OH - 27 | ID - 13 | GA - 16 | OR - 20 | UT - 18 |
| MI - 24 | BC - 12 | MN - 16 | UT - 18 | ID - 13 |
| NC - 22 | UT - 12 | NM - 15 | NM - 14 | NV - 12 |
| AZ - 21 | TX - 9 | NC - 9 | FL - 10 | NM - 11 |
| CO - 21 | MN - 8 | OR - 9 | GA - 10 | AK - 7 |
| IL - 21 | AK - 7 | UT - 9 | ID - 10 | BC - 7 |
| MA - 21 | MT - 7 | IL - 8 | WI - 10 | FL - 4 |
| WI - 19 | PA - 5 | NY - 8 | IL - 9 | MN - 4 |
| TN - 18 | CT - 4 | TN - 8 | NY - 9 | AB - 3 |
| PA - 17 | ALBERTA - 3 | MI - 7 | MI - 8 | GA - 3 |
| CT - 15 | NM - 3 | VA - 7 | NV - 8 | MI - 3 |
| VA - 15 | WI - 3 | WI - 7 | BC - 7 | ALBERTA - 2 |
| MD - 13 | GA - 2 | CT - 6 | MT - 6 | IL - 2 |
| MO - 13 | GERMANY - 2 | ID - 6 | OH - 6 | NC - 2 |
| IN - 12 | IL - 2 | KS - 6 | AK - 4 | NY - 2 |
| ONTARIO - 12 | MB - 2 | MT - 6 | ALBERTA - 4 | OH - 2 |
| KY - 10 | NC - 2 | AL - 5 | CT - 4 | CT - 1 |
| LA - 9 | NY - 2 | IN - 5 | MA - 4 | HI - 1 |
| NJ - 8 | SK - 2 | KY - 5 | NC - 4 | IN - 1 |
| OR - 8 | AB - 1 | MD - 5 | IN - 3 | KS - 1 |

| | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------|
| VT - 8 | AL - 1 | OH - 5 | KS - 3 | LA - 1 |
| WA - 8 | BRITISH COLUMBIA - 1 | OK - 5 | MD - 3 | MO - 1 |
| AL - 7 | CA - 1 | LA - 4 | MO - 3 | MT - 1 |
| AK - 6 | FL - 1 | MA - 4 | NH - 3 | NE - 1 |
| UT - 6 | IN - 1 | NE - 4 | ON - 3 | OK - 1 |
| ON - 5 | LA - 1 | NH - 4 | ONTARIO - 3 | ON - 1 |
| NH - 4 | MA - 1 | AK - 3 | VA - 3 | PA - 1 |
| ME - 3 | MI - 1 | PA - 3 | AL - 2 | TN - 1 |
| MS - 3 | NE - 1 | WV - 3 | KY - 2 | WI - 1 |
| SC - 3 | OH - 1 | ALBERTA - 2 | MB - 2 | WV - 1 |
| AB - 2 | VA - 1 | NJ - 2 | NE - 2 | |
| IA - 2 | | NV - 2 | OK - 2 | |
| ID - 2 | | VT - 2 | SC - 2 | |
| MB - 2 | | AB - 1 | SK - 2 | |
| MT - 2 | | GERMANY - 1 | TN - 2 | |
| NE - 2 | | IA - 1 | WY - 2 | |
| AR - 1 | | MO - 1 | AB - 1 | |
| ALBERTA - 1 | | NOVA SCOTIA - 1 | GERMANY - 1 | |
| GERMANY - 1 | | ON - 1 | IA - 1 | |
| KS - 1 | | ONTARIO - 1 | LA - 1 | |
| NM - 1 | | SC - 1 | MANITOBA - 1 | |
| NV - 1 | | SK - 1 | PA - 1 | |
| OH - 1 | | | VA - 1 | |
| RI - 1 | | | | |
| SK - 1 | | | | |

History of Nationals Site Rotation Changes:

In September 2016 the Board sent out a survey to the membership requesting feedback on Nationals sites. Results were reviewed in January 2017 and discussed thoroughly. During the Board's 2017 Spring Meeting they voted to select 3 permanent rotating sites for the ASCA National Specialty, with a 10-year trial period: Brazos County Expo in Bryan, Texas, Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers, Georgia, and Island Grove Park in Greeley, Colorado. Following feedback from the membership, the Board voted to add a West Coast site (to be determined) to the rotation, with all sites to be reevaluated after two rotations. In November 2017, the Board voted to contract with Deschutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond, Oregon, to be the site for the 2023 National Specialty. After some issues and lack of membership support, in August 2019, the Board voted to rescind their selection of the 2023 site.

It was suggested the Board send out another survey to the membership asking how they'd like to handle the Nationals - continue with the current rotation (4 sites), move to rotating between less sites (2 or 3), or move to a single site.

Several ideas regarding Nationals were discussed, such as splitting Nationals and Finals, so they are held at different times of the year and in different locations and changing the time of year that Nationals is held, to avoid issues related to winter travel later in the year.

BD.19.113 New National Specialty Sites Survey

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gray, King, Roberts, Silveira, Vest

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Silveira

Second by Vest

I move to have President Busquets and Laura Gibson create a new survey to determine the membership's preferences for National Specialty sites. To be ready on December 1.

Ms. Busquets and Ms. Gibson will work on the survey.

BD.19.114 Create Group to Discuss Splitting Finals from Nationals

Approve: Gray, Silveira

Disapprove: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gann, King, Roberts, Vest

Abstain: None

Motion is **not** approved (2-7).

Comment from Vest: This question can be included in the survey.

Motion by Silveira

Second by Gray

I move to create a working group to discuss the possibility of splitting Finals from the National Specialty. Report due at the Board's 2020 Spring Meeting.

If the results of the survey show the membership has reacted positively to this idea, the Board will reach out to Mr. Silveira for his assistance moving forward.

Director Silveira made a motion to create a working group to research the possibility of changing the date of the National Specialty and Finals competition. Report due at the 2020 Spring Meeting. The motion did not receive a second. Other directors wanted to wait until the survey results come in.

Director Silveira made a motion to direct the Nationals Advisory Committee to begin assigning Nationals Show Committee positions for the 2022 National Specialty in Greeley, Colorado. The motion did not

receive a second. Other directors thought this was an automatic function of the committee that did not need to be voted on by the Board.

BD.19.115 2023 National Specialty Site - Kern County Fairgrounds

Approve: Silveira

Disapprove: Boone, Busquets, Gann, Gray, King, Roberts, Vest

Abstain: Creelman

Motion is **not** approved (1-7-1).

Comment from several directors: The Board should wait until the survey results come in before making any decisions for future sites.

Motion by Silveira

Second by Creelman

I move to select Kern County Fairgrounds in Bakersfield, California, to replace the originally selected 2023 National Specialty show site.

POSTPONEMENT

The meeting was postponed at 12:30 pm, to be reconvened on Wednesday, November 6 at 9:00 am.

Wednesday, November 6

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019, at the ASCA National Specialty in Bakersfield, California.

Directors Present: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Cindy King, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Judy Boone, Denise Creelman, Linda Gray, Ken Silveira, Rachel Vest, Director-elect Pete Dolan, and Director-elect Jan Wesen (left at 12:10 pm).

Also Present: Counsel David Schleicher, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Betsy Coleman (9:25 am - 10:00 am), Karen Gray (9:25 am - 10:00 am), Donna Burdick (9:45 am - 12:00 pm), Elizabeth Gibson (10:55 am - 11:40 am), Peter Kontos (10:55 am - 11:40 am), Ann DeChant (10:55 am - 11:40 am), Mary Hellmeister (10:55 am - 11:40 am), and Kathy Peycke (10:55 am - 11:40 am).

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 9:12 am PST and Executive Secretary Jaco recorded the minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Treasurer's Report

This discussion regarding bonding was conducted in [Executive Session](#).

Meeting with Obedience Committee

The Board met with Betsy Coleman, Chair of the Obedience Committee, and Member Karen Gray.

They presented a proposal to create the Libby Long Memorial Junior Obedience Award / Scholarship. Donna Long was a very private person and was known on social media as "Libby" Long, having borrowed the name Libby from her long-time obedience partner OTCH 2 A-CH TriSmith's Liberty Bell UDX RNX. Donna and Libby were fierce competitors. The pair qualified for finals in all four obedience categories as well as in altered. In addition to her passion for obedience, Donna was an ardent supporter of juniors both as a mentor and a sponsor. Donna lost Libby in May of 2019 and the ASCA obedience community lost Donna in August of that same year. To honor the memory of Donna Long and Libby, the Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award would be established in her name. The purpose of the award is to celebrate the accomplishments of our next generation of obedience competitors and encourage junior handlers to participate in ASCA obedience events. A permanent sub-committee of the obedience committee will be formed for the purpose of selecting the award's recipient. The sub-committee would be comprised of three voting members (a sub-committee chair with a strong background in ASCA obedience, the obedience committee chair, and a member at large with experience in the ASCA junior program), and the Board liaison to the obedience committee as a non-voting member. The award would reward junior handler participation in ASCA obedience competition with an annual year-end award of \$500. Thanks to donations, the award is funded through 2025. Applicants will be evaluated using a point schedule and points will be awarded based on degree and level of participation in ASCA obedience events.

A motion will be made to add a section to the Foundation Policy Book regarding this award and to add a fund in the ASCA Foundation account. A full-page ad in the Aussie Times will be made to announce and advertise.

Ms. Rubin shared concerns about Obedience Finals not filling this year. There were several finalists who, for various reasons, were unable to enter by the deadline this year.

The Board is looking into setting a deadline, after alternates have had a chance to enter, which would allow finalists to have a second chance to enter in case they missed the first deadline.

Ms. Coleman also expressed concerns regarding the schedule and awards for Obedience Finals this year. The Board is committed to making sure no competitor is overlooked. Future Nationals must have planned schedules that are available to everyone and the award ceremonies must celebrate all our hard-working finalists.

Director Boone suggested developing a "For Exhibition Only (FEO)" program for obedience to possibly boost entries.

2020 Budget

Treasurer Robert's reported that the main difference between 2019 Budget and 2020 Budget will be computer expenditures. The Board discussed implementing a moratorium on approving motions that require programming changes, such as any changes to merit and title qualifications.

The Board also discussed options for setting aside money to fund building costs for the planned new ASCA Business Office building. So far, \$16,413.13 from the pipeline settlement has been filed under miscellaneous income for this purpose.

Judge Directory

The Board discussed ASCA's current judge directory and what can be done to make it more accessible for members. Director Silveira believes we should only be listing ASCA-approved judges on the ASCA-endorsed Judge Directory. Links to other registry judge directories can be provided. All programs, except for conformation, have a process for testing other registry judges. It's important to remember that the most up-to-date rule book at any time is available on ASCA's website.

The Business Office will revise the judge directory available on ASCA's Website to include all program judges except conformation. A directory listing only ASCA approved conformation judges will be made available on ASCA's Website and in program rule books.

Meeting with Conformation Committee

The Board met with Elizabeth Gibson, Chair of the Conformation Committee, and committee members Peter Kontos, Ann DeChant, Mary Hellmeister, and Kathy Peycke. They gave a brief update on the committee's progress during the last year.

The committee presented their proposal for a grand champion titling program. Vice President Gann questioned whether the achievement levels were attainable. Mr. Kontos shared information showing how many dogs would currently qualify.

The committee is also planning to increase the number of judges drawn, for the Host Club to choose from for Conformation Finals, from 2 per area to 4 per area.

The committee is looking to remove the Other Person Judge program since there have been no new applicants in many years. Current OP Judges would keep their status.

The Board requested the committee include educational requirements following failure of the Conformation Judge Qualification Test for a third time. They do not want applicants to be indefinitely prevented from re-applying after a third failure.

It was suggested the committee create a test for other registry judges to complete before judging in ASCA, so we are confident they understand our rules and procedures. The Obedience Committee

provides a test for other registry judges that highlights the differences between the registries; the Conformation Committee could do something similar.

The committee is also working on a process for selecting conformation judges for the Nationals.

DNA Fees

In November 2014, the Board increased fees for DNA testing from \$45 for swabs/\$40 for blood to \$46 for swabs/\$41 for blood. In October 2015, the Board increased the fees to \$50 for swabs/\$45 for blood. There was no increase in 2016, 2017, and 2018. The Board re-examines this fee structure at each National Specialty.

This year they determined to make no changes. ASCA is in the process of transitioning to a new lab for parentage verification.

Parentage Verification Lab Transition

The Board discussed remaining issues in preparation for ASCA's transition to a new lab to handle parentage verification.

Starting September 1, 2020, ASCA members may send their samples to Paw Print Genetics for parentage verification. Members will deal directly with Paw Print Genetics and will fill out an authorization form that releases the results of the testing to ASCA. Results will be added to a database which our Office Manager will be able to access. Any discrepancies will be immediately flagged for our Office Manager to review. President Busquets will work with the Business Office and Paw Print Genetics to create a contract for services for the next year.

The Board must soon decide how to handle the stored samples at Therion. President Busquets will direct the Office Manager to investigate logistics for shipping the samples and storing them once they arrive in Texas. The Board will then vote on a course of action.

Feedback from Judges on Affiliate Clubs

ASCA has received requests from Judges to provide feedback to ASCA on the Affiliate Club they judged for. Currently there is only an evaluation form for Affiliates to submit about Judges. The Executive Secretary will work with the Assistant Office Manager to create a form.

Paper for Certificates

The Board discussed a member request to use better paper for printing certificates, pedigrees, etc. at the Business Office.

Entry Clerk Contract

The contract is being worked on by ASCA's Counsel. They will be identified as an independent contractor. Counsel recommends paying a flat rate instead of one based on amount of entries.

POSTPONEMENT

The meeting was postponed at 12:40 pm, to be reconvened later that evening following the annual General Membership Meeting.

Wednesday, November 6

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019, at the ASCA National Specialty in Bakersfield, California.

Directors Present: Liz Busquets, Rick Gann, Jean Roberts, Judy Boone, Denise Creelman, Linda Gray, Rachel Vest, Pete Dolan, and Jan Wesen.

Also Present: Office Manager Ray Fryar, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Cindy King, and Ken Silveira.

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order in **Executive Session** at 9:00 pm PST and Executive Secretary Jaco recorded the minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Election of Officers

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| President: Liz Busquets | 1st Vice President: Rick Gann |
| 2nd Vice President: Rachel Vest | Secretary Jan Wesen |
| Treasurer Pete Dolan | Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco |
| Membership Secretary Ray Fryar | Election Secretary Ray Fryar |
| Directors: Judy Boone, Denise Creelman, Linda Gray, Jean Roberts | |

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm, to be reconvened on Thursday, November 7 at 1:00 pm.

Wednesday, November 6 - FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Foundation of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019, at the ASCA National Specialty in Bakersfield, California.

Directors Present: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Secretary Jan Wesen, Treasurer Pete Dolan, Judy Boone, Denise Creelman, Linda Gray, and Jean Roberts.

Also Present: Office Manager Ray Fryar, Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Cindy King, and Ken Silveira.

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order in **Executive Session** at 9:05 pm PST and Executive Secretary Jaco recorded the minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Election of Officers

The Board voted unanimously to appoint the Officers of the Australian Shepherd Club of America as the Officers of the ASCA Foundation. See above.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Thursday, November 7

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2019, at the ASCA National Specialty in Bakersfield, California.

Directors Present: President Liz Busquets, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Pete Dolan, Secretary Jan Wesen, Jean Roberts, Judy Boone, Denise Creelman, and Linda Gray.

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Cindy King, Ken Silveira, Office Manager Ray Fryar (2:30 pm - 4:15 pm), Carol Gerken (1:00 pm - 1:45 pm), Peter Kontos (3:00 pm - 3:45 pm), Renee Watson (3:00 pm - 3:45 pm), and Terri Morgan (3:00 pm - 3:45 pm).

Directors Absent: 1st Vice President Rick Gann.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm PST and Executive Secretary Jaco recorded the minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Kennel Titles

The Board discussed the MVA Committee's proposed heritage preservation program, which was voted down by the Board in October. They also shared ideas for stockdog and/or performance hall of fame programs.

Director Silveira believes the Hall of Fame requirements enacted 1/1/03 has effectively barred some members from accomplishing Hall of Fame status for their kennels. These members' devotion to ASCA and its mission are as dedicated as any other member. Over the past sixteen years it appears a barrier has been erected which places an undue burden on some breeders. The original Hall of Fame rules were designed to allow breeders to qualify by mandating a kennel earn a combined five points from two of the following three programs; stock, obedience, or conformation. The rules changed in 2003 to mandate ten points combined from stock and conformation, with a minimum of three from each program. Mr. Silveira suggested several options to address the issue:

1. Revert to the old Hall of Fame rules.
2. Create a new title for performance kennels/breeders Hall of Fame
3. Use a qualifying score from the MVA conformation evaluation to substitute for an ASCA conformation title.

Several arguments in favor of this were discussed. The ASCA Australian Shepherd is primarily a livestock working breed. As a breed club, ASCA must protect the Australian Shepherd breed type and character. The term "Heritage" cannot exclude any relevant traditions or characteristics that complete the description of the ASCA Australian Shepherd. It is not fair to the membership to create barriers that are dependent on the expenditure of time and money. Judging in both the conformation and stockdog programs has changed over the years which has contributed to the barrier under discussion.

It was suggested that the Hall of Fame Committee create a survey to receive feedback from the membership before crafting another proposal.

Last Month's Email Business

Due to the requirements of Washington State Law, all legal business of ASCA must be conducted via face-to-face meetings or telephone conference call meetings. To meet this requirement and continue to conduct business via e-mail, each face-to-face meeting or conference call meeting includes a motion to ratify all business conducted via e-mail since the last face-to-face meeting or conference call meeting.

BD.19.117 Last Month's Email Business

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Dolan, Gann, Gray, Roberts, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Vest

Second by Wesen

I move to approve all email business conducted in October 2019.

Committee Reports

This topic was conducted in **Executive Session**. Board Liaisons provided updates on the functioning of their committee(s).

Strategic Plan

The Board followed up on several Strategic Plan goals that were due to be reported on at this meeting.

Goal 4, Objective 2, #2 is regarding Sponsorships & fundraising. The Board will revisit this at the 2020 Spring Meeting. If ASCA is going to be seriously seeking sponsorships, then we should delegate that to a qualified person.

Goal 4, Objective 2, #3 is regarding the option to restructure (add new Foundation) to cover sponsorships & donations for ASCA competitions (Nationals & Finals). The Board will discuss with ASCA's Accountant and Counsel for the 2020 Spring Meeting.

Goal 5, Objective 1, #2 is regarding the creation of an ASCA app for phones & tablets. The Executive Secretary has been working on this and will have a report for the 2020 Spring Meeting.

Outgoing Director / 2nd Vice President King reported that she provided data for the last 10 years for each of the programs in the meeting file. Liaisons are encouraged to share with their committees.

Finals Entry Fees

In November 2014, the Board changed all ASCA Finals entry fees to \$60.00. There have been no changes since. The Board re-examines this fee structure at each National Specialty. The goal of the Board at the time was to eventually be able to do-away with entry fees for Finals. Treasurer Dolan will analyze the data and report back to the Board with a recommendation at the 2020 Spring Meeting.

Norms

Directors of the Board renewed their commitment to upholding agreed upon norms.

System Liaison Report

System Liaison Vest has already reported on the system at various times throughout this meeting.

Secretary Wesen asked about online submission of agility trial results. A specific file type is used and uploaded by trial secretaries. Once this capability is completed for agility, it will be possible for other programs. ASCA must decide which is the preferred file type/upload tool for this.

Appoint System Liaison

The Board appoints a System Liaison to oversee the ASCA Website and supervise the ASCA Webmaster, present a computer system strategy, receive input concerning the system strategy, and supervise implementation of the strategy.

President Busquets asked for nominations for the position. 2nd Vice President Vest nominated Pete Dolan and he accepted. Mr. Dolan is elected System Liaison by acclamation.

Discussion with Office Manager

The Board discussed several pending issues with ASCA's Office Manager.

Judges are sent rule books prior to their first assignment each year. Affiliate Clubs are not automatically sent rule books with show packets, but they may request them. The most up-to-date version of any rule book is available on the ASCA Website. The Office can include a small note reminding Affiliate Clubs they can request copies of whichever rule books are needed from the Office or download from a provided link.

All program committees must work with the Business Office to provide a method by which Nationals and Finals Judges are to be selected. To help prevent issues with lost mail, the Business Office will send a confirmation email to judges when their qualification form to judge Finals is received.

When a judge does not meet judging or continuing education requirements, they are removed from eligibility to judge for ASCA based upon the appropriate program rules. The Business Office will send an email or letter to judges when they are removed from eligibility outlining the process for reinstatement.

The Board shared with the Office Manager member requests for ASCA to use better quality paper for certificates and pedigrees. The Office Manager will find new paper to use.

Meeting with Host Club of 2020 National Specialty

The Board met with members of the 2020 National Specialty Host Club: Chair Peter Kontos, Co-Chair Renee Watson, and Entry Clerk Terri Morgan.

Dock Jumping - The Host Club wants to offer dock jumping but have been unable to work out a reasonable agreement with UAD. The Host Club is not obligated to offer the event.

Mats for Competition - It will not be necessary for ASCA to provide mats for the 2020 National Specialty, but it is something the Board may want to consider when ASCA takes over hosting Nationals.

Bank Account - Due to new banking regulations, the Host Club cannot open an account because they do not qualify. ASCA can open the account, but those listed must be bonded. During the November teleconference meeting, the Board will vote to alter Nationals Rules to allow for more than just the Nationals Chair to write checks.

Dock Jumping Program

Director Roberts questioned how the recording fees for dock jumping are being submitted. The Office Manager invoices Ultimate Air Dog (UAD) and they pay the owed amount (maximum \$40 per event). This is because they are a business, not an Affiliate Club, so are not held to the same standards. Our Counsel will review the current contract with UAD and the Board will review at the 2020 Spring Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Minutes of the ASCA Annual Affiliate Meeting

A meeting of Affiliate Members and the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019, at the ASCA National Specialty in Bakersfield, California.

Directors Present: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Cindy King, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Judy Boone, Denise Creelman, Ken Silveira (joined at 7:15 pm), Rachel Vest, Director-elect Pete Dolan, and Director-elect Jan Wesen

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Members: Nate and Stephanie Bake (Treasure Valley ASC), Ann DeChant (ASC of Michigan), Jeanne Mastick (West Coast ASA), Ann McCabe (Tri-County ASWA), Jennifer and Gordon McKerverey (ASC of Utah), Robbi Norman (ASC of Michigan), Charla Patterson (Central Valley ASC), Susan Rose-Mace, Susan Severns (ASC of Idaho), and Katie van de Sandt (Willamette ASC).

Directors Absent: Linda Gray.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm PST and Executive Secretary Jaco recorded the minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Summary of Last Year's Meeting

The Executive Secretary gave a summary of the previous year's Affiliate Meeting.

Annual Refresher on ASCA Rules

President Busquets gave the annual refresher on Affiliate responsibilities regarding ASCA's Dog Aggression Rules and the Incident Report Worksheet and ASCA's Conflict Resolution Protocol and Conflict Resolution Request Form. Affiliates should be reminding members and exhibitors of these rules. Suggestions were to mention the rules in the premium and during handlers' meetings before trials. Members who request these forms cannot be denied.

Affiliates who find themselves investigating an incident must send their decision to ASCA, no matter if any action was taken or not. There must be appropriate documentation and evidence.

Judge Evaluations

Affiliate Clubs need to be honest in evaluating judges and reporting issues. These evaluations are used purely for education purposes. It is the club's responsibility to address any issues with judges immediately at the time of the show / trial and to handle with a Request for Conflict Resolution if there is a rule violation.

Other Registry Judges

Director Vest questioned why ASCA allows judges from other registries to judge at ASCA conformation shows without meeting the same requirements as our ASCA-approved judges. The Board would like the Conformation Committee to come up with a test for other registry judges to pass before being allowed to judge ASCA conformation.

Continuing Judges' Education

Those present discussed issues with judges not following up on continuing education. The Business Office should send a letter to judges who fail to meet the requirements and provide the process for reinstatement.

Mats for Nationals

There has been some discussion recently about ASCA purchasing mats for use at Nationals. This is something the Board will revisit after taking over hosting Nationals.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the group, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Minutes of the ASCA Annual General Membership Meeting

A meeting of Members and the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019, at the ASCA National Specialty in Bakersfield, California.

Directors Present: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Cindy King, Treasurer Jean Roberts, Secretary Judy Boone, Denise Creelman, Linda Gray, Ken Silveira, Rachel Vest, Director-elect Pete Dolan, and Director-elect Jan Wesen.

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco, Office Manager Ray Fryar, Members: Laura Abbott, Donna Armstrong, Nate & Stephanie Bake, Michelle Berryessa, Karen Brindle, Donna Burdick, Frank Butera, Betsy Coleman, Teresa Cross, Sally Davis, Kathy Dawson, Ann DeChant, Judy & Neal Deshazo, Carrie Dempsey, Mary Jay Douglas, Jan Flatten, Nanette Franceschini, Cathe & Dewey Gaspar, Carol Gerken, Elizabeth Gibson, Sue Graham, Linda Groesbeck, Susan Harris, Bonnie Heitz,

Peter & Mary Hellmeister, Kristin Tara Horowitz, Jean Inman, Tanya Johnson, Terri Jones, Sheryl Kendrick, Cynthia Lee King, Peter Kontos, Melissa Lamoureux, Gina Larson, Irene Manley, Ann McCabe, Valerie McKeever, Carol McLaughlin, Sunday Miles, Heidi & Scott Mobley, Terri Morgan, Robbi Norman, Becky Parker, Charla Patterson, Cheri Preciado, Kathy Reeve, Celia Reynolds, Susan Rose-Mace, Corrine Shanks, Jean Taylor, Kathleen Thompson, Debby Thompson, Katie van de Sandt, Pamela Wilcoxson, Dawn Williams, Dorothy Williams, Claudia Yearsley.

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm PST and Executive Secretary Jaco recorded the minutes. A quorum of Directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Introduction of ASCA Directors & Employees

President Busquets officially announced the 2019 Board of Directors election results and introduced the Directors and employees in attendance.

Your newly elected Directors are: Jean Roberts, Pete Dolan, and Jan Wesen.

Thank you to outgoing Directors Ken Silveira and Cindy King for their tireless service to ASCA.

Thanks also to all who ran in this election. Your passion for ASCA is greatly appreciated!

Here is the 2019-2020 Board of Directors:

Terms expiring in 2020: Lizette Busquets, Denise Creelman, Rachel Vest*

Terms expiring in 2021: Judy Boone, Rick Gann, Linda Gray*

Terms expiring in 2022: Pete Dolan, Jean Roberts*, Jan Wesen

*Must take a year off, according to Bylaws Article 7 Section 5.

This year 15.5% of the ballots were returned, compared to 18% in 2018, 24.6% in 2017, 19.3% in 2016, 15.9% in 2015, and 18.3% in 2014.

Summary of Last Year's Meeting

The Executive Secretary gave a summary of the previous year's General Membership Meeting.

Annual Refresher on ASCA Rules

President Busquets gave the annual refresher on Affiliate responsibilities regarding ASCA's Dog Aggression Rules and the Incident Report Worksheet and ASCA's Conflict Resolution Protocol and Conflict Resolution Request Form. Affiliates should be reminding members and exhibitors of these rules. Suggestions were to mention the rules in the premium and during handlers' meetings before trials. Members who request these forms cannot be denied.

Affiliates who find themselves investigating an incident must sent their decision to ASCA, no matter is any action was taken or not. There must be appropriate documentation and evidence.

Random Draw for 2021 Stockdog Finals Judges

The random draw of eligible judges for the 2021 Stockdog Finals (in Texas) was conducted.

Here are the names, in random draw order:

1. Jan Wesen
2. Russ Ford
3. Marti Parrish
4. Betty Williams
5. Andrea Hoffmann
6. Joan Carrillo
7. Cheryl Padgett
8. Maxine Schvaneveldt
9. Rick Hardin
10. Maarten Walter

The first 9 names will be supplied to the Host Club in no order to choose and hire 6 judges for Stockdog Finals.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Roberts gave an update on ASCA's financial status. We are still spending money on computer system upgrades, but it is well spent. ASCA is also looking into building a new office building in the future. She believes were are doing a fine job of saving.

System Liaison's Report

System Liaison Vest updated the membership on the status of the computer system upgrade. Aside from a setback with forced Windows updates, everything is going well. Ms. Vest believes we may need to place a moratorium on program titling changes for one-year to catch up on system programming.

Committee Reports

Chairs or appointed representatives gave their committee's annual report to the membership.

Agility Committee

Board Liaison Jean Roberts gave the Agility Committee's report:

Comparing last year's numbers of trials, dogs competing, and titles there are some interesting differences. There were 12 more agility trials offered in 2019 but there were 5 less dogs competing. The numbers are as follows: 2018 - 392 trials, 2656 dogs, while in 2019 - 404 trials, 2651 dogs. The biggest differences are in the titles earned by Aussies and other breeds. Aussies earned 210 less titles in 2019 than they did in 2018, but other breeds earned 21 more titles in 2019. So, there were more trials, but a few less dogs and Aussies earned less titles than other breeds.

During the last year, we passed two major motions. The motion to allow dogs to transfer unused points from CH to ACE unilaterally allows for those dogs without Elite legs to move their Open legs across to Open ACE without having to start over again. There are still many problems with ACE titles, especially when people are moving points from CH to ACE, because of the computer system.

The other motion was to allow training in the ring with toys. This has been in effect for about six months and has been used in trials. There are things that have come up and there has been input given by clubs, judges and handlers who would like to see some changes. So, the committee will be tweaking this motion so it will work better at the trials.

We attempted to get an All-Breed Championship program implemented because many of those who run other breeds (including those who own Aussies and have other breeds) want a place to show case their dogs. The Committee would like to know what data would be necessary for the BOD to support this.

We added 1 new Committee member, 2 Apprentice Course Reviewers, and 1 approved agility Judge this year.

Conformation Committee

Committee Chair Elizabeth Gibson gave the Conformation Committee's report:

Hello from the Conformation Committee. I hope everyone is enjoying beautiful California! California is one of my favorite places to visit as there is so much to see and do here! I wish to give a big THANK YOU to our hosts. They have worked very hard to put on a quality event. Let's give them a big round of applause!

I would like to introduce the other members of the committee to you. Please stand up if you are present! Region 1: Debbie Martin, Kathy Peycke; Region 2: Mary Hellmeister; Region 3: Ann DeChant; Region 4: Joyce Charron; Region 5: Dorothy Montano, Betty Jaco, Gail Karamalegos; Region 6: Peter Kontos; Region 7: Myrjam Langen. We do have openings. If you have time to give to ASCA and love the conformation program, please consider applying!

Our yearly Title and Show report is as follows:

From 6/1/2018 thru 5/31/2019 there were 550 conformation shows. This is down significantly from last year of 610 shows. What was the cause of this large drop of conformation events? Have Affiliate Clubs hosted fewer events? I think the Board should be concerned that we dropped so much! During this timeframe we had 25 new Altered Champions and 212 new Intact Champions.

Here are some other fun facts! For your information, here are the conformation entries for the last 6 National Specialties. This is the total for all non-regular and regular entries from the catalogs: 2013 -

Colorado 719 entries; 2014 -Texas 664 entries; 2015 -Tennessee 1083 entries; 2016 - Oregon 774 entries; 2017 - Texas 610 entries; 2018 - Colorado 661 entries.

The CC worked hard these last few months to come up with a Supreme Conformation Championship program. The program passed the committee and is currently before the Board for consideration. This program comes with no costs to local affiliate clubs and will be tracked by the Office as show results come in. We hope this new program will increase entries and therefore revenue to our Affiliate Clubs.

Please consider volunteering with your local Affiliate Club. Without our local clubs we would not have any ASCA events for all of you to participate in!

The CC is always open to ideas to enhance the conformation program. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please contact a CC member. We hope you have a fantastic time in California, and we hope to see all of you in Georgia next year!

DNA Committee

Committee Chair Peter Hellmeister gave the DNA Committee's report:

During the show year 2018/2019 a total of 1818 Aussies were DNA profiled. 1664 earned a DNA-VP and 154 earned a DNA-CP designation.

Since early last year the committee, based on a directive by the ASCA Board, investigated a possible replacement for ASCA's DNA lab Therion here in the US. Several labs in the US were contacted with a questionnaire to establish eligibility for possible consideration. Labs that were contacted were Embark, Animal Genetics, Neogen, UC Davis, and PawPrint Genetics.

After receiving the answers to our list of questions the committee was not unanimous in which lab to recommend to the Board for further consideration. So, we decided to present three labs to the Board. The final three were PPG, UC Davis, and Neogen.

During the process we learned a lot about the technology that goes into the determination of the parents. For example, only because the number of markers in one technology is substantially greater than in the other does not mean automatically that the result is better. When it comes to closely related breedings SNP may be the future but for most everybody else the current STR technology is more than sufficient. Unfortunately, the two technologies are not compatible at all.

Regardless of which lab will become the new one to replace Therion, there will be challenges. Since none of the labs in contention will be using our current set of STR markers there will be the need for some retesting of samples. If the parents' samples are no longer available, the dog being tested will receive a DNA-CP designation. Once the new ISAG public domain marker set will be published in 2021 another round of retesting will need to be done to adhere to the new marker set. Hopefully by then the samples already accumulated at the new lab will be used for such retesting. The overall question of

cost for such retesting is something that will have to be an essential part of contract negotiations by the Board of Directors.

A note for our members who are currently using Certagen in Germany for their parentage verification: Certagen will be able to use any technology that the Board finally decides on. In fact, they are currently running all three ISAG marker sets that are being considered for becoming the new public domain marker set.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the committee during this past year as well as our Board Liaison Rick Gann for their hard work on this matter. The committee wishes all the best of success to our outgoing committee member Jan Wesen for her term on the Board.

Dock Jumping Committee

Committee Chair Heidi Mobley gave the Dock Jumping Committee's report:

This year with the Dock Jumping Program we had two ASCA affiliate clubs successfully hold trials: one in California the other in Missouri. The Dock Jumping committee is currently talking about some gray issues in the rules that were not clear to the clubs. We are working on the wording to help clubs understand the rules a little better.

This year we also hand generated all the titles that were owed to the exhibitors. These titles were from ASCA and Ultimate Air Dog results. We currently have over 150 dogs that have jumped for ASCA titles and over 100 titles that have been issued.

This upcoming year we will continue to work on the rules to clarify any questions clubs might have when hosting a trial. We will continue to encourage and offer any help to ASCA clubs that wish to run a trial.

Hall of Fame Committee

Former Committee Chair Jan Wesen gave the Hall of Fame Committee's report:

The committee has been working on Heritage Preservation Kennel and HOF X Sire and Dam. The committee is working on better communication with the membership. Please feel free to contact the new Chair Kristina Churchill. Thank you to all members for their hard work.

History Committee

Committee Chair Ann DeChant gave the History Committee's report:

Hi Members, I am the current Chair of the History Committee. Our Members include Sunday Miles, Robbi Norman, Jeanne Joy Hartnagle Taylor, and me. Sunday is our past chair and we want to thank her for years of hard work.

This year we considered a number of ASCA Members for the ASCA Lifetime Achievement Award. This Committee considers Member suggestions and looks at breeding program, breed support, and ASCA service achievements. We make recommendations to the Board for this award.

Our Mission Statement is: The Mission of the History Committee is to preserve, protect and document the heritage of ASCA and the Australian Shepherd. The Committee is also responsible for the recommendation of the ASCA Lifetime Achievement Award recipient each year.

The 2019 choice was our own Sunday Miles. She has been an ASCA Member since the 70s. Her stellar breeding program has produced many Champions and many other ASCA program titles. Sunday has served this Committee since its start as well as the Legislative Committee. She has also served on the Conformation Committee and is an ASCA Breeder Judge. In Michigan and in her area, Sunday has worked for years on legislative issues to preserve dog ownership, attending hearings, and keeping Michigan dog owners with updates on National, State, and local issues. She also works with Aussie Rescue in Michigan fostering and helping support rescue. Those who know her well also recognize her willingness to help any friend in need and her efforts to educate people about our wonderful breed.

We have plans to provide 2 articles for the Aussie Times each year and to work on a huge project to convert many hours of movies of stock trials provided by Nick Davis from 8-millimeter film to digital to add to our ASCA YouTube channel library.

We are a small committee of busy people who believe in ASCA's history and the need to keep it before Members. If you would like to join us in our mission, send your resume to the Executive Secretary or if you have ideas or nominations for the Lifetime Achievement Award, please reach out.

Member Mary Hellmeister questioned why the Committee only gives out one Lifetime Achievement Award per year. Since many of our members are getting older, she believes it would be best to honor them while they are still alive. The Committee will consider this.

Junior Committee

Committee Chair Andrea Bair gave the Junior Committee's report:

This year many of our committee members were very busy planning various activities of this week. We hope you are all enjoying your week so far.

This merit year was the first for the new 500 Club Tier program. We are excited to give recognition to the juniors who go for the extra. Tuesday, the committee presented the 500 club awards and the 1st ever Bronze Tier. We hope that next year we will award even more.

We are hopefully going to finalize our new Junior Judges application procedures within the next few weeks. A minor adjustment was discovered just this week that we need to go back and fix. Once that is complete, we can use that information to start working on the Junior Finals Judge Selection Process for the 2021 Nationals and beyond.

Our big next project looks to be re-vising the current Junior Stockdog program. Our goal is to encourage more kids to enter this program and give them a 500 Club as well. Thank you, Rachel Vest for agreeing to help us out on this as most of our members are not as familiar with this program.

In closing, I would like to thank all my committee members. I am grateful to get to work with some very open minded and passionate people who truly want the best for our juniors - they are ASCA's future!

Member Sue Graham asked about a 500 Club program for Juniors in agility. The Junior Committee needs to first develop the junior agility merit program and can then create a 500 Club type reward.

Legislative Committee

Board Liaison Rachel Vest gave the Legislative Committee's report. There has been no activity on the committee this past year. They typically only act when legislative issues arise. Two new members were added recently and there are openings on the committee.

Most Versatile Aussie Committee

Committee Chair Renee Watson gave the Most Versatile Aussie Committee's report:

Thank you to Ken Silveira for serving as our Board Liaison for the past 3 years. He's guided us through some interesting discussions and changes. Also, thank you to Jan Wesen who has been a faithful committee member for many years. She's resigned from the Committee to assume her duties on the Board of Directors. Perhaps we can enlist her to be our new Liaison?

We have a great turnout again this year for the Nationals MVA competition with 52 teams competing. Good luck to all throughout the rest of the week. We have 2 MVJ competitors this year. We're always so happy to see our Juniors competing with their dogs. Good luck to them this week.

As the years have gone by and more sports have been added to our world of competition, the scorekeeping for MVA has gotten very complicated. We currently use an Excel spreadsheet to tabulate the scores per the rules. We've streamlined that as best we can, but it can still be tough to follow and understand. The committee would like to look at revising the scoring to help make it easier to tabulate and clearer for the competitors to keep up with. We'll see how far we get in the next few months. As we make progress, we will be reaching out to the individual event Committees for advice and suggestions.

We do have some regions open and would welcome any newcomers to the committee. Please submit your resume to the Executive Secretary for consideration.

Obedience Committee

Committee Chair Betsy Coleman gave the Obedience Committee's report:

June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019 ASCA Shows Statistics:

Number of Shows: 223; Number of Dogs Competing: 594.

Titles Received for Aussies: 231 (BN - 70; CD - 99; CDX - 23; ODX - 13; OTCH - 5; OTCH-O - 2; OTCH2 - 3; OTCH3 - 2; OTCH5 - 1; UD - 7; UDX - 3; UDX2 -1; GN - 2).

Titles Received for Other Breeds: 130 (BN - 48; CD - 41; CDX - 18; ODX - 3; OTCH - 6; OTCH2 - 1; OTCH3 - 2; UD - 7; UDX - 1; VER - 2; GN - 1).

Proposed June 2020 Rulebook Changes (NOT yet passed by the Board):

Novice Exercises - Stays will be on leash with no more than 7 dogs lined up 4' off the ring gate and 6' apart. For FINALS only, there will be 5 dogs lined up on each of the long sides of the ring. The sit stay and down stay will each be one minute long. The Sit, Stay, Get your leash exercise has been added where the handler and dog will be placed at least 30' from the ring gate. The handler will place the dog in a sit position and when instructed by the judge leave to retrieve their leash from outside of the ring. The handler will wait just inside the ring gate, with their leash in hand, for the judge to instruct them to return to their dog. Once they return to their dog the handler will wait for the judge to say "Exercise Finished" before attaching their leash to the dog and leaving the ring in an orderly fashion.

Currently in Discussion:

1. Open CDX/ODX - The Committee is currently discussing whether to keep two separate open tracks (CDX and ODX) or whether to combine them into one track where the handler has the option of performing the cone exercise (as in ODX) or another exercise (not yet decided, such as command discrimination or another exercise). After this is decided the committee will review the current out of sight stay exercises in CDX.
2. Online Judges Continuing Education - The Committee is trying to figure out how the education will be maintained since the committee member who previously managed it has resigned.
3. Utility Scent Discrimination Scoring - Currently the rulebook states that it is a substantial deduction when a dog picks up the wrong article, even if he puts it down immediately. This has been changed to a minor or substantial deduction and left up to the judge.
4. Ties in optional titling classes other than Beginner Novice - Currently there isn't any verbiage in the rulebook about how to deal with a tie in optional titling classes other than BN. The rule book will be changed to read that ties in all optional titling classes other than BN will be broken by dogs performing a Novice heel free exercise.

Future Discussion:

Obedience Bitch in Season (OBIS) - Currently bitches in season can participate at Finals and Nationals, and in other trials if listed in the premium, with restrictions on where they are crated and when they show. The Committee would like to revisit this due in part to complaints from the 2018 Nationals and at other trials where bitches in season were in the warmup ring and on the trial site in violation of the rules relating to OBIS.

Rally Committee

Committee Chair Corinne Shanks gave the Rally Committee's report:

How time flies. By the time you read this, another ASCA Nationals will again be history. Huge congratulations to all the Rally Finalists.

ASCA Rally remains alive and well.

| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|
| Total Trials | 300 | 270 | 313 |
| Total Dogs Competing | 1360 | 1191 | 1286 |
| Titles for Aussies | 1191 | 1089 | 1177 |
| Titles for Other Breeds | 338 | 273 | 269 |
| RTCH Titles | 39 | 42 | 58 |

Our numbers are holding steady from year to year. We are up almost 100 trials from 2018, which is significant.

One of the goals of the Rally Committee for the past year was to identify a way for small clubs to gain entries. Two non-regular classes were created. Pairs and Fast classes were added to the rule book. In the past, the only non-regular class was team, which is nearly always seen at Nationals, but rarely at club shows. It is hoped that if the rules for the 2 additional non-regular classes are in the rule book, more clubs will add to their agendas.

Pairs involves 2 dogs in the ring at the same time, the 1st dog runs the first half of the course while the other patiently waits in the Tagging Zone. The handlers high five or fist bump and the 2nd dog then runs the 2nd half of the course. The 2nd dog then returns to the Tagging Zone to again fist bump, which stops the time. The pairs class was introduced at the WASCO Rally Pre-Trial on Monday, with a total of 9 pairs. Several were judges, who wanted the experience so they would be comfortable judging. We also recorded the briefing and first few runs so they could be posted for those not sure how the class works.

The Fast class was created many years ago, but there were no known rules available. The rules are now available for everyone and will be in the 2020 rule book. The Fast class is what it sounds like - time is key. The course is all moving exercises, there are no sits or halts.

Given the current state of the ASCA computer system, the new classes must remain non-regular. If/when a new computer is available to track results, the intent of the Committee is to make one or possibly both classes optional titling classes. Clubs would not be obligated to provide them, but they would be available if clubs wished to host them for their club members.

The on-line Rally Judges Education finally was made available in March. We lost a few judges, but none that had judged in the past 3-4 years. Since then, we have added 9 new judges, with several fast completing the requirements. The requirements to become an ASCA Rally Judge were reviewed & updated during the past year, which was one of our goals, to better assure the new judges are current on all scoring requirements, and to make coming to ASCA from AKC, UKC or CKC quicker.

Our current goals are:

1. To upload videos of correct performances of stations to YouTube. Videos have been completed, but we have not been able to get them to YouTube.
2. Create an impartial way of selecting judges for Finals and Nationals each year. It will be a random draw of those that identify themselves as available and willing to judge.
3. Providing comment forms for judges and trial secretaries where they can detail what happened at trials, both good and bad.

The Committee continues to review all rally courses. The number of trials using courses that do not meet minimum standards has significantly decreased since implementing pre-trial review. I want to publicly thank all my course reviewers. They work very hard, and often at the last minute. I also want to take this opportunity to thank all the Rally Committee members. They have really stepped up & worked very hard this past year. They are all very quick to reply when I ask for someone to take on a project.

We invite all of you that have not tried rally, to give us a try. If there is an individual, or a club, that is considering sponsoring rally trials, but is not sure where to start, they are encouraged to contact the Rally Chair at gckennel@aol.com. Someone from the Rally Committee would be happy to help get the process started and will remain available through the entire process. We invite everyone to contact the Rally Committee if you have any comments, questions or concerns. We are here to help in any way we can.

Scent Search Committee

Committee Chair Donna Armstrong gave the Scent Search Committee's report. They have been working to develop a new program and expect it to take some time. They held a demo today and about 30 people were in attendance.

Stockdog Committee

Board Liaison Denise Creelman gave the Stockdog Committee's report. They have been working on making the rules consistent across the program and on revisions to the process for selection of Finals and Nationals Judges.

Tracking Committee

There was no report from the Tracking Committee.

Other Reports

Representatives gave their annual report to the membership.

Aussie Rescue & Placement Helpline

Representative Jan Flatten gave a report from ARPH's President Linda Gonschior:

ARPH is pleased to return to ASCA Nationals in 2019, with a dedicated group of volunteers staffing our booth to showcase our work in rescue. We are proud to be named the official rescue of ASCA.

2018, our 25th year, brought 150 adoptions of Australian Shepherds by ARPH. In 2019 we have already seen 109 adoptions of Aussies in our care. We currently have 27 dogs in foster homes. To date ARPH has taken in 102 Aussies. There were 5 dogs euthanized in this period, due to temperament or dire medical issues. One dog was released to another rescue better suited for its special needs.

ARPH values our commitment to the continued wellbeing of our dogs, even after adoption. A few alumni have returned to us this year due to the passing of their adopters. As with new intakes, each dog receives a vet check, is brought up to date on any medical needs and potential new homes screened for suitability with that particular dog.

ARPH Aussies arrive from many sources; shelters, animal control facilities and owners who can no longer keep their dogs for varying reasons. Some come with urgent medical needs requiring surgery. Our volunteers initiate fundraising immediately and supporters are just as quick to donate.

One particular case, Gala ARPH #14044, sustained a serious injury in a freak accident while playing. She needed emergency surgery for two fractured vertebrae and a damaged disc. Six weeks post-surgery, Gala is healing very well, receiving water therapy sessions and should recover completely.

ARPH's volunteers are a dedicated group who support one another as well as the dogs in their care. From evaluation to transporting and fostering, administrative tasks such as processing applications from potential adopters, and recordkeeping, our people are important resources integral to ARPH's success. Love for the breed, love for dogs, drives our volunteers. Without their efforts we could not rescue the Aussies who need it most.

Financially, ARPH relies on the generosity of our donors as many of the dogs entering our program require care that exceeds the \$300 adoption fee. Thanks to the support of these donors, many ASCA members, adopters and volunteers, we continue to meet the challenge of rising costs. We invite you to visit the ARPH booth here at Nationals to hear firsthand from some of those volunteers, meet some of the dogs and learn more about our rescue work. ARPH, its Board of Directors, volunteers and the Aussies thank you most sincerely for your support.

Old Business

No old business was brought forward.

New Business

Member Nannette Franceschini was concerned about a rumor going around that the Board is planning to host Nationals in the same location each year. The Board has not decided on anything yet and will not make any decision until hearing from the membership. A survey will be sent out in the new year. The membership will be kept informed of any actions the Board takes.

Ms. Franceschini also asked about ASCA taking over the hosting of Nationals. That has already been approved and ASCA will begin hosting Nationals and Finals in 2021.

Member Jan Flatten asked why the Deschutes County Fair site was dropped. It was due to lack of member support (locally and nationally) and availability of livestock. The Board is taking suggestions for West Coast sites that could be used in 2023 to replace the site in Oregon.

Member Kathy Reeves reminded everyone of the importance of planning ahead when it comes to selecting Nationals sites. We cannot wait until the rotation is over to evaluate the sites and select a location for the 2024 Nationals.

Member Peter Kontos brought up some of the stringent requirements we have for Nationals and how uncommon it is becoming for sites to be able to accommodate our needs. That needs to be considered when discussing rotating or permanent sites.

Member Kristin Horowitz shared her experience in professional event production. There are huge financial benefits in forming a relationship with the town that is hosting our Nationals, which is not easy to do when we move around so frequently. Having the Nationals in one location allows for ASCA to form relationships within the local government and community, which could lower our costs and ultimately make Nationals more affordable for attendees.

Comments, Announcements, and Other Business

Outgoing Director Cindy King thanked the membership and shared what an honor it was to serve on the Board. She hopes to see a friendlier and more welcoming ASCA moving forward. ASCA needs volunteers to survive and she is so appreciative of those who continually offer their time.

1st Vice President Gann talked about what a difficult year this has been for the Board of Directors. Some very big decisions have been made that will influence ASCA's short- and long-term future.

Director Creelman thanked everyone for coming to Nationals and reminded of a few events taking place the rest of the week.

Member Elizabeth Gibson shared information about the pending Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award for Juniors.

Member Sunday Miles reminded everyone how important it is to pay attention to what is happening legislatively regarding breeding and owning dogs.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary