



Established 1957

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

JANUARY 2020

Announcements

New ASCA Judges / Judge Move-Ups

Senior Breeder Judge - **Lizette Busquets** (Georgia)

Senior Breeder Judge - **Kathy Bryan** (Arizona)

Approved Breeder Judge - **Brandy Greenhagen** (Colorado)

Provisional Breeder Judge - **Mandy Kreutzkam** (Germany)

Non-Regular Breeder Judge - **Michael McGuire** (California)

New ASCA Affiliate Clubs

Performance Aussies of Western Idaho

Location: Boise, Idaho

President: Robyn Johnson-Garrett

Affiliate Rep: Gail Elliott

From the ASCA Foundation

FD.20.01 Create Foundation Fund for Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Roberts

Second by Vest

I move to approve creating a "fund" in the ASCA Foundation to collect and hold monies for the Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award.

Comments/Rationale: ASCA needs a place to hold funds for this award.

Affected: ASCA Bookkeeper, Treasurer, and future recipients.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

FD.20.02 Motion to Change Foundation Policy - Rescue Grant Amount

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

Disapprove: Gann

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (7-1).

Motion by Roberts

Second by Gray

I move to change section 6 of the ASCA Foundation Policy Book to read:

Current Wording:

6 Rescue Grants

Thanks to a generous donation to the ASCA Foundation with funds marked for rescue, from the estate of Susan Youngblood, grants are now available to eligible rescue organizations. The funds will be granted in \$1000.00 increments, to 501(c)3 organizations that rescue primarily Australian Shepherds. Each organization can receive one grant per calendar year. (Effective April 6, 2019) Applications are available from the ASCA Business Office, the Executive Secretary, and on the ASCA website.

Proposed Wording:

6 Rescue Grants

Thanks to a generous donation to the ASCA Foundation with funds marked for rescue, from the estate of Susan Youngblood, grants are now available to eligible rescue organizations. The funds will be granted in **\$500** increments, to 501(c)3 organizations that rescue primarily Australian Shepherds. Each organization can receive one grant per calendar year. (Effective April 6, 2019) Applications are available from the ASCA Business Office, the Executive Secretary, and on the ASCA website.

Comments/Rationale: The funds are being depleted and reducing the amount of the grant will allow the ASCA Foundation to give out more grants.

Affected: Webmaster, needs to update the amount of the grant in the blurb on the website. Office Staff, need to change the forms to reflect the new grant amount.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval. There are no pending applications at this time.

Motions from the ASCA Board of Directors

BD.20.01 Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Roberts

Second by Vest

I move to approve the Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award and attached procedure for the award.

Current Wording: None.

Proposed Wording: New section 7 of the Foundation Policy Book. See attachment at end of report.

Comments/Rationale: Noted in the explanation of the award.

Affected: Future applicants, Business Office.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

BD.20.02 Motion to Rescind Stockdog Motion 19.18

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Dolan

Second by Roberts

I move to rescind SD Motion 19.18 (passed December 2019) and return it to the Stockdog Committee for correction.

Comments/Rationale: The submitted motion was incorrect on its face and should not have been submitted for BoD vote.

Affected: Stockdog Committee.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

BD.20.03 Motion to Remove Policy - Plaques for Outgoing Directors

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Roberts

Second by Creelman

I move to remove the following policy:

5/24/2006

Plaques

Motion by Gray, seconded by Bryant.

Directors;

Voting on the enclosed motion went as follows:

Approve: Gray, Hellmeister, DeChant Davenport & Bryant.

Disapprove: Walter, Berryessa & Stevens.

Abstain: Axford.

Motion is approved.

Directors serving on the board for two terms (not necessarily consecutive) will be given a plaque at the General Membership Meeting of the National where they are going off the board. If they don't attend, the plaque will be mailed.

Plaque will contain but not limited to:

ASCA dog's head logo

Australian Shepherd Club of America

Name of Director

Offices held with years listed and an expression of gratitude for their years of service to ASCA

Executive Secretary will be in charge of ordering plaques.

Plaque will be no larger than 8 x 10 and no smaller than 6 x 9.

Comments/Rationale: This policy, while passed in 2006, never made it into the policy book. The policy has not been followed for many years. Buying plaques for directors is not a good use of ASCA's money.

Affected: Directors and the Executive Secretary.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Committee Recommendations

Conformation Committee

CO.20.01 Change to Conformation Rules - Number of Finals Judges Drawn

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: Gann

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (7-0-1).

Motion by Liaison Boone

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Conformation Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion 2019-11 (A) Change to Chapter 15.5 Subsection 4

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

I, Peter Kontos make the following Motion to change the number of Judges that are draw by the Business Office from Two (2) for each Area to Four(4) for each Area.

As it currently reads: 15.5 (4)

4. Determining Availability and Qualifications; Judges for the Conformation Finals will be selected from the ASCA SR Breeder Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and have indicated they would be available. At that time, the Business Office shall determine the judge meets the requirements as list above. Two (2) names from each area shall be pulled by the business office and the names given to the host committee to hire from, in the order of the draw.

To read: 15.5 (4)

4. Determining Availability and Qualifications; Judges for the Conformation Finals will be selected from the ASCA SR Breeder Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and have indicated they would be available. At that time, the Business Office shall determine the judge meets the requirements as list above. **Four (4)** names from each Area shall be pulled by the business office and the names given to the host committee to hire from, in the order of the draw.

Comments/Rationale: This will give the Nationals Committee/Host a greater number of Final Judges drawn for each Area. By a drawing more Judges in each Area it allows the Nationals Committee/Host to have more options as well as help them in cases where a Judge declines or cancels for any reason.

Affected: The Office - only on number of draws from 2 to 4 each area.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 7

Disapprove: 1

Abstain: 2

Non-Voting: 1

CO.20.03 Supreme Conformation Champion Program

Approve: Boone, Creelman

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

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

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

Comment from Busquets: I like the program and I want it to succeed. However, we've been informed that the system changes can't take place in advance of the June 1st, 2020 effective date. If this motion passes as written, it would force the Business Office to track these titles manually, which is something that will affect the office's efficiency. If the office didn't do manual tracking, it will create a backlog of titles that will need to be cleared once the system is programmed. To prevent this backlog and the problems that it could cause, an effective date of June 1st, 2021 would be more realistic.

Dissent from Creelman: I appreciate the work that the CC did to bring this motion forward. The computer part of it may take longer than expected but I feel that it is important to the membership that the motion be in effect in 2020. The gem awards are consistent to several other award levels.

Comment from Gann: I like the proposed motion but with the moratorium in place I feel the motion should have an effective date of 6/1/21.

Comment from Vest: I support this motion but not with the June 1, 2020 effective date. This motion requires system changes that cannot be done to meet the effective date due to other system priorities.

Comment from Wesen: The motion effective date needs to be June 2021. This would give the office time to run the numbers and get everything working. Comments from Ray that 4 months was a hardship on the office. I would support this motion with this effective date.

Motion by Liaison Boone

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Conformation Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion 2019-12 ASCA Supreme Championship Program

Motion by Debbie Martin

Second by Kathy Peycke

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 50 points with 6 major wins to become a Supreme Conformation Champion. The major wins must be won under 6 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 3 points, the BOS win will be awarded 2 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: 100 SCCH points
2. Ruby: 150 SCCH points
3. Sapphire: 200 SCCH points
4. Diamond: 250 SCCH points

5. Diamond I: 350 SCCH points
6. Diamond II: 450 SCCH points
7. Diamond III: 550 SCCH points
8. Diamond IV: 650 SCCH points

Additional levels can be added to the Diamond designation as needed following the established point pattern (additional 100 SCCH points for each level added).

Points are accumulated as the dog progresses through the levels. For example, an ASCA CH has earned 50 points to complete SCCH. He must then earn an additional 50 points to complete SCCH Emerald. The same dog must then earn an additional 50 points to complete SCCH Ruby, an additional 50 SCCH points to earn SCCH Sapphire, and an additional 50 SCCH points to earn SCCH Diamond. An additional 100 points is required for each advancement at the Diamond level. At least one (1) Champion of Record must be defeated at each show where SCCH points are awarded.

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: 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.

Affected: 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: 8

Disapprove: 2

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: 1

Dissent from Committee Member: The reason I'm voting no is that I don't like that we are using UKC's titles. We didn't to use the AKC titles so why using UKC's? We should have come up with our own unique names. I don't like that the BoB Winner gets 5 points even if there is no major in their sex. Overall, I do like the program and with lesser points per level (as compared to the previous version) it's very achievable. This is also a program that people were asking for and might bring in more revenue for ASCA (processing fees).

Dissent from Committee Member: No Points should be given if there is no major in this Sex.

Comment from Committee Member: This is a simple and easy motion that will boost entries for our local affiliate clubs at no cost to them. It is very clear on how the points are earned. This revised motion addressed the input from the membership. The office has told the CC that it will be easy to track the points for the office staff. I look forward to seeing who ASCA's first SCCH will be!

Comment from Committee Member: The membership has been asking for this program. They want additional titles to pursue with their CH dogs. This program provides those opportunities and brings in additional revenue without increasing expenses for affiliate clubs. In this motion, we have addressed input from the membership and clarified the point system. If there is a major present, we have major points awarded, if there is no major, then the lesser points are awarded. Very simple to understand and very simple to track. I would like to see this program implemented June 1, 2020.

Obedience Committee

OB.20.01 Change to Obedience Rules - Graduate Novice Exercises

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Liaison Roberts

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Obedience Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion to Change Graduate Novice Exercises replacing group exercise with stand stay - get your leash exercises.

Motion by Laurie Rubin

Second by Betsy Coleman

I move to approve changing Graduate Novice exercises; removing the group exercise and replacing it with the stand, stay, get your leash exercise.

The rulebook changes are highlighted.

Current Wording:

9 Graduate Novice Optional Titling Class

9.1 Graduate Novice Class

The Graduate Novice Class is an optional titling class that clubs may choose to offer at obedience trials. The Graduate Novice Class shall be for dogs not less than six (6) months of age. Dogs in this class may also be entered at the same trial in any other classes for which they are eligible as defined in these regulations. Dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person. A person may handle more than one (1) dog in this class, but each dog must have a separate handler for the Group exercise when judged in the same group.

A qualifying score in an Optional Titling class shall be the same as that in a Regular class as defined in these regulations by Chapter 1 Section 10: Qualifying Score. Ribbons and prizes for Optional Titling classes shall be the same as those in Regular classes as defined in these regulations by Chapter 1 Section 14: Obedience Ribbons and Chapter 1 Section 15: Ribbons and Prizes.

Scores and titles from Optional Titling classes shall not be applicable to High in Trial awards, Merit standings, Finals standings or Hall of Fame determinations.

9.2 Graduate Novice Title

ASCA will issue a Graduate Novice (GN) certificate to a dog with an ASCA registration, LEP number or an ASCA QTracker number, and will permit the use of GN after its name, when it has received three (3) qualifying scores awarded by at least two (2) judges.

9.3 Graduate Novice Exercises and Scores

The exercises and maximum scores in the Graduate Novice class:

EXERCISES MAXIMUM SCORES

Heel Free and Figure Eight	40 points
Drop on Recall	40 points
Retrieve on Flat	30 points
Dumbbell Recall over High Jump	30 points
Recall over Broad Jump	30 points
Group Exercise	30 points
Maximum Total Score	200 points

9.4 Heel Free and Figure Eight, Performance and Scoring

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure Eight exercise, except that the dog is off leash. Orders and scoring are the same as in the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure Eight.

9.5 Drop on Recall, Performance and Scoring

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Open Drop on Recall, except that the handler may give a command and/or signal to drop.

9.6 Retrieve on the Flat, Performance and Scoring

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Open Retrieve on the Flat, except for the following two differences. The minimum distance the handler must throw the dumbbell will be ten (10) feet. To send the dog the handler may give a command and/or signal.

9.7 Dumbbell Recall Over High Jump

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog promptly takes the dumbbell from the handler, stays until directed to jump, and promptly comes to the handler over the jump holding the dumbbell. Orders are "Give your dog the dumbbell," "Leave your dog," "Call your dog," "Take it," and "Finish." The handler shall stand with his dog sitting in heel position at least eight (8) feet, or any reasonable distance beyond eight (8) feet, from the jump. On order, "Give your dog the dumbbell," the handler shall give the dog the dumbbell to hold. On order, "Leave your dog," the handler will command and/or signal for the dog to stay in the sit position while the handler walks at least (8) feet beyond the other side of the jump and then turns and directly faces dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will command or signal the dog to jump. The dog must clear the high jump and come sit in front of the handler to deliver the dumbbell.

The high jump structure shall be the same as defined in the Open rules. Jump heights shall be the same as defined in the Open rules.

9.8 Dumbbell Recall Over High Jump, Scoring

A dog that fails to take the dumbbell on the first command must be scored non-qualifying (NQ). Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the extent, shall be made for a dog that drops, plays with or mouths the dumbbell as the handler walks away. In addition, all applicable penalties for the Novice Recall, Open Retrieve on the Flat and Open Retrieve Over the High Jump shall apply.

9.9 Recall Over Broad Jump

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays until directed to jump and promptly comes to the handler over the jump. Orders are "Leave dog," "Call your dog," and "Finish."

The handler shall stand with his dog sitting in heel position at least eight (8) feet, or any reasonable distance beyond eight (8) feet, from the jump. On order, "Leave your dog," the handler will command and/or signal for the dog to stay in the sit position while the handler walks at least (8) feet beyond the other side of the jump and then turns and directly faces dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will command or signal the dog to jump. The dog must clear the broad jump and come sit in front of the handler.

The broad jump structure and length shall be the same as defined in the Open rules.

9.10 Recall Over Broad Jump, Scoring

All applicable penalties for the Novice Recall and Open Broad Jump shall apply.

9.11 Group Exercises (Two-Minute Long Sit or Three-Minute Long Down), Performance & Scoring

Prior to the start of judging, the judge shall make the decision as to which position, sit or down, will be assigned and post it ringside, at least thirty (30) minutes before the class is scheduled to begin.

Judges should use the sit and down position with the same frequency over time.

The Graduate Novice Group Exercise will be either a Sit or a Down and will be performed with handlers out of sight. It will be performed and scored as in the Open CDX Group Exercises, except that for the Sit, the judge will command or signal for the handlers to return after two minutes, and for the Down, the judge will command or signal for the handlers to return after three minutes.

Proposed Wording:

9 Graduate Novice Optional Titling Class

9.1 Graduate Novice Class

The Graduate Novice Class is an optional titling class that clubs may choose to offer at obedience trials. The Graduate Novice Class shall be for dogs not less than six (6) months of age. Dogs in this class may also be entered at the same trial in any other classes for which they are eligible as defined in these regulations. Dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person. A person

may handle more than one (1) dog in this class, but each dog must have a separate handler for the Group exercise when judged in the same group.

A qualifying score in an Optional Titling class shall be the same as that in a Regular class as defined in these regulations by Chapter 1 Section 10: Qualifying Score. Ribbons and prizes for Optional Titling classes shall be the same as those in Regular classes as defined in these regulations by Chapter 1 Section 14: Obedience Ribbons and Chapter 1 Section 15: Ribbons and Prizes.

Scores and titles from Optional Titling classes shall not be applicable to High in Trial awards, Merit standings, Finals standings or Hall of Fame determinations.

9.2 Graduate Novice Title

ASCA will issue a Graduate Novice (GN) certificate to a dog with an ASCA registration, LEP number or an ASCA QTracker number, and will permit the use of GN after its name, when it has received three (3) qualifying scores awarded by at least two (2) judges.

9.3 Graduate Novice Exercises and Scores

The exercises and maximum scores in the Graduate Novice class:

EXERCISES MAXIMUM SCORES

Heel Free and Figure Eight	40 points
Drop on Recall	40 points
Retrieve on Flat	30 points
Dumbbell Recall over High Jump	30 points
Recall over Broad Jump	30 points
Group Exercise Stand-Stay/Get Your Leash	30 points
Maximum Total Score	200 points

9.4 Heel Free and Figure Eight, Performance and Scoring

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure Eight exercise, except that the dog is off leash. Orders and scoring are the same as in the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure Eight.

9.5 Drop on Recall, Performance and Scoring

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Open Drop on Recall, except that the handler may give a command and/or signal to drop.

9.6 Retrieve on the Flat, Performance and Scoring

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Open Retrieve on the Flat, except for the following two differences. The minimum distance the handler must throw the dumbbell will be ten (10) feet. To send the dog the handler may give a command and/or signal.

9.7 Dumbbell Recall Over High Jump

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog promptly takes the dumbbell from the handler, stays until directed to jump, and promptly comes to the handler over the jump holding the dumbbell. Orders are "Give your dog the dumbbell," "Leave your dog," "Call your dog," "Take it," and "Finish." The handler shall stand with his dog sitting in heel position at least eight (8) feet, or any reasonable distance beyond eight (8) feet, from the jump. On order, "Give your dog the dumbbell," the handler shall give the dog the dumbbell to hold. On order, "Leave your dog," the handler will command and/or signal for the dog to stay in the sit position while the handler walks at least (8) feet beyond the other side of the jump and then turns and directly faces dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will command or signal the dog to jump. The dog must clear the high jump and come sit in front of the handler to deliver the dumbbell.

The high jump structure shall be the same as defined in the Open rules. Jump heights shall be the same as defined in the Open rules.

9.8 Dumbbell Recall Over High Jump, Scoring

A dog that fails to take the dumbbell on the first command must be scored non-qualifying (NQ). Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the extent, shall be made for a dog that drops, plays with or mouths the dumbbell as the handler walks away. In addition, all applicable penalties for the Novice Recall, Open Retrieve on the Flat and Open Retrieve Over the High Jump shall apply.

9.9 Recall Over Broad Jump

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays until directed to jump and promptly comes to the handler over the jump. Orders are "Leave dog," "Call your dog," and "Finish."

The handler shall stand with his dog sitting in heel position at least eight (8) feet, or any reasonable distance beyond eight (8) feet, from the jump. On order, "Leave your dog," the handler will command and/or signal for the dog to stay in the sit position while the handler walks at least (8) feet beyond the other side of the jump and then turns and directly faces dog as in the Novice Recall. On the judge's order, the handler will command or signal the dog to jump. The dog must clear the broad jump and come sit in front of the handler.

The broad jump structure and length shall be the same as defined in the Open rules.

9.10 Recall Over Broad Jump, Scoring

All applicable penalties for the Novice Recall and Open Broad Jump shall apply.

~~9.11 Group Exercises (Two-Minute Long Sit or Three-Minute Long Down), Performance & Scoring~~

~~Prior to the start of judging, the judge shall make the decision as to which position, sit or down, will be assigned and post it ringside, at least thirty (30) minutes before the class is scheduled to begin.~~

~~Judges should use the sit and down position with the same frequency over time.~~

~~The Graduate Novice Group Exercise will be either a Sit or a Down and will be performed with handlers out of sight. It will be performed and scored as in the Open CDX Group Exercises, except~~

that for the Sit, the judge will command or signal for the handlers to return after two minutes, and for the Down, the judge will command or signal for the handlers to return after three minutes.

9.11 Stand, Stay - Get Your Leash

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog stand and stay in the position it is left until the handler has returned to heel position and the judge has said "Exercise Finished."

The orders for this exercise are "Stand your dog," "Leave your dog to get your leash," and "Return to your dog."

The judge will ask the handler to stand their dog approximately 15 feet from the ring gate. The judge will ask "Are you ready?" before giving the order to "Stand your dog." The handler may command and/or signal the dog to stand without touching the dog or its collar. The dog must stand but need not stand in heel position.

Next the judge will order "Leave your dog to get your leash," where the handler may give a command and/or signal for the dog to stay and will walk directly outside the ring gate to retrieve their leash. The handler will re-enter the ring, stop and wait at the entrance for the judge to order "Return to your dog." The handler then will return directly, walking around the back of the dog to heel position. The dog must remain standing until the judge has said "Exercise finished." The judge will then instruct the handler to attach their leash to the collar and maintain control of their dog while exiting. The handler is required to exit the ring gate with the dog under control, not pulling or tugging on the leash or jumping.

The judge will decide where the leash will be located outside of the ring prior to starting the class. The leash will be placed in such location by the steward after the dog and handler have entered the ring for judging. The dog and handler will be positioned so the dog can have a direct line of vision with the handler as they leave and return to the ring, and so that the handler, when reentering the ring, is at least 15 feet away from the dog until ordered to return. Once the exercise has been completed, the judge must watch the handler and dog until they exit the ring gate.

9.12 Stand Stay - Get Your Leash, Scoring

A non-qualifying score is required for a dog that fails to stand on the first command and/or signal, moves a substantial distance away from where it was left, changes position (sit or down) before the handler has returned to heel position, or repeatedly whines or barks. Minor or substantial deductions will be made for a dog that moves its feet repeatedly while remaining in place or moves a short distance. A substantial deduction must be made under Miscellaneous Penalties for a dog that does not remain under control while exiting the ring.

Comments/Rationale: This is to align the Graduate Novice class with the changes that have occurred with open CDX class.

Affected: All Graduate Novice participants and judges.

How it affects Business Office: Judges books and worksheets will need to be changed to replace the group exercise with the stand/Stay get your leash exercise.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect at the next printing of the Rule Book in June 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

OB.20.02 Change to Obedience Rules - Utility Scent Discrimination Language

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Liaison Roberts

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Obedience Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion to Change Utility Scent Discrimination Language

By changing the order of the rulebook language, this motion is meant to clarify that handlers are asked which method they will use to send the dog before they give their scented article to the judge.

Motion by Laurie Rubin

Second by Betsy Coleman

I move to approve changing Section 5.8 Scent Discrimination, Paragraphs 2 and 8 to clarify that handlers are asked which method they will use to send the dog before they give their scented article to the judge.

The rulebook changes are marked below.

Current Wording:

5.8 Scent Discrimination

The principal features of these exercises are the selection of the handler's article from among the other articles by scent alone, and the prompt delivery of the right article to the handler.

The judge will ask "Are you ready?" immediately prior to taking the article from the handler. The taking of the article from the handler will be considered to be the first order and scoring of the exercise will begin at that time. The remaining orders are "Send your dog," "Take it," and "Finish."

In each of these two exercises the dog must select by scent alone and retrieve an article that has been handled by its handler. The articles shall be provided by the handler and shall consist of two (2) sets, each comprised of five (5) identical objects not more than six (6) inches in length, which may be items of everyday use. The articles may be made of metal, leather, or wood. The handler will choose two (2) of these three (3) materials. The metal set shall be made entirely of rigid metal, the leather set shall be of such design that nothing, but leather is visible except for the minimum amount of thread or metal necessary to hold the object together, and the wood set shall be made entirely of one or more solid wood pieces. The articles in each set must be legibly numbered, each with a different number and must be approved by the judge.

The handler shall present ten (10) regulation articles to the judge. The judge, or, on order from the judge, the steward or handler will select one (1) article from each set. Only the handler will be allowed to touch the selected articles with his/her hands. The judge, steward, or handler will use a device of the judge's choosing (such as tongs) to remove the articles to be scented from the bag. The selected articles will be placed on the table, chair or other location designated by the judge that is readily accessible to the handler. In order to preserve the continuity of the run, the articles should be placed on the chair or table before the beginning of the run. the judge or steward will handle each of the remaining eight (8) articles, while randomly arranging them on the floor or ground about six (6) inches apart. The closest article should be about twenty (20) feet from the handler and dog. Before giving the command to send your dog, the judge must make sure that the articles are visible to the handler and dog and that they are far enough apart so that there will be no confusion of scent among the articles. Handler and dog shall turn around after watching the judge or steward spread the articles and shall remain facing away from those articles until the judge has taken the handler's scented article and given the order, "Send your dog."

The handler may use either article first but must relinquish each one immediately when ordered by the judge. The judge shall make certain that the handler imparts his scent to each article only with his hands and that, between the time the handler picks up each article and time he gives it to the judge, the article is held continuously in the handler's hands which must remain in plain sight.

On order from the judge, the handler will immediately place his article on the judge's book or work sheet. The judge, without touching the article with his hands, will place it among those on the ground or floor. The judge will ask the handler what method he/she will use to send their dog for each article. The handler will respond with either, "send directly" or "after a sit." On order from the judge to "Send your dog," the handler may give their scent by extending the palm of one open hand in front of the dog's nose or gently touching the dog's nose, but the arm and hand must be returned to a natural position before turning to face the articles. The handler will then turn in place to send the dog by the method he/she has chosen. If it is to send directly, the handler will do a right about turn in place and may simultaneously give the command or signal to retrieve. The dog should not assume a sitting position but will go directly out to the articles with no further command from the handler. If it is after a sit, the handler may give the command or signal to heel and will turn in place either to the right or to the left to face the articles. The handler will halt with the dog sitting in the heel position. The handler will then give the command or signal for the dog to retrieve.

The dog shall go at a brisk trot or gallop directly to the articles. It may take any reasonable time to select the right article, but only provided it works continuously. After picking up the right article the dog shall return at a brisk trot or gallop and complete the exercise as in the Retrieve on the Flat. These procedures shall be followed for both articles. Should a dog retrieve a wrong article in the first exercise, that article shall be placed on the table or chair. The correct article must be removed, and the second exercise shall be conducted with one (1) fewer article on the ground or floor. If the scented articles are to be kept separate from the others at the end of the Scent Discrimination exercise, it is the responsibility of the handler to notify the steward.

Proposed Wording:

5.8 Scent Discrimination

The principal features of these exercises are the selection of the handler's article from among the other articles by scent alone, and the prompt delivery of the right article to the handler.

~~The judge will ask "Are you ready?" immediately prior to taking the article from the handler.~~ Following the questions "What method will you use?" and "Are you ready?" ~~the~~ taking of the article from the handler will be considered to be the first order and scoring of the exercise will begin at that time. The remaining orders are "Send your dog," "Take it," and "Finish."

In each of these two exercises the dog must select by scent alone and retrieve an article that has been handled by its handler. The articles shall be provided by the handler and shall consist of two (2) sets, each comprised of five (5) identical objects not more than six (6) inches in length, which may be items of everyday use. The articles may be made of metal, leather, or wood. The handler will choose two (2) of these three (3) materials. The metal set shall be made entirely of rigid metal, the leather set shall be of such design that nothing, but leather is visible except for the minimum amount of thread or metal necessary to hold the object together, and the wood set shall be made entirely of one or more solid wood pieces. The articles in each set must be legibly numbered, each with a different number and must be approved by the judge.

The handler shall present ten (10) regulation articles to the judge. The judge, or, on order from the judge, the steward or handler will select one (1) article from each set. Only the handler will be allowed to touch the selected articles with his/her hands. The judge, steward, or handler will use a device of the judge's choosing (such as tongs) to remove the articles to be scented from the bag. The selected articles will be placed on the table, chair or other location designated by the judge that is readily accessible to the handler. In order to preserve the continuity of the run, the articles should be placed on the chair or table before the beginning of the run. the judge or steward will handle each of the remaining eight (8) articles, while randomly arranging them on the floor or ground about six (6) inches apart. The closest article should be about twenty (20) feet from the handler and dog. Before giving the command to send your dog, the judge must make sure that the articles are visible to the handler and dog and that they are far enough apart so that there will be no confusion of scent among the articles. Handler and dog shall turn around after watching the judge or steward spread the articles and shall remain facing away from those articles until the judge has taken the handler's scented article and given the order, "Send your dog."

The handler may use either article first but must relinquish each one immediately when ordered by the judge. The judge shall make certain that the handler imparts his scent to each article only with his hands and that, between the time the handler picks up each article and time he gives it to the judge, the article is held continuously in the handler's hands which must remain in plain sight.

The judge will ask the handler what method he/she will use to send their dog for each article. After the handler answers either "send directly" or "after a sit," the judge will next ask "Are you ready?" immediately prior to taking the article from the handler. On order from the judge, the handler will immediately place his article on the judge's book or work sheet. The judge, without touching the article with his hands, will place it among those on the ground or floor. ~~The judge will ask the handler what method he/she will use to send their dog for each article. The handler will respond with either, "send directly" or "after a sit."~~ On order from the judge to "Send your dog," the handler may give their scent by extending the palm of one open hand in front of the dog's nose or gently touching the dog's nose, but the arm and hand must be returned to a natural position before turning to face the articles. The handler will then turn in place to send the dog by the method he/she has chosen. If it is to send directly, the handler will do a right about turn in place and may simultaneously give the command or signal to retrieve. The dog should not assume a sitting position but will go directly out to the articles with no further command from the handler. If it is after a sit, the handler may give the command or signal to heel and will turn in place either to the right or to the left to face the articles. The handler will halt with the dog sitting in the heel position. The handler will then give the command or signal for the dog to retrieve.

The dog shall go at a brisk trot or gallop directly to the articles. It may take any reasonable time to select the right article, but only provided it works continuously. After picking up the right article the dog shall return at a brisk trot or gallop and complete the exercise as in the Retrieve on the Flat. These procedures shall be followed for both articles. Should a dog retrieve a wrong article in the first exercise, that article shall be placed on the table or chair. The correct article must be removed, and the second exercise shall be conducted with one (1) fewer article on the ground or floor. If the scented articles are to be kept separate from the others at the end of the Scent Discrimination exercise, it is the responsibility of the handler to notify the steward.

Comments/Rationale: By changing the order of the rulebook language, this motion is meant to clarify that handlers are asked which method they will use to send the dog before they give their scented article to the judge.

Affected: All team participants.

It does not affect the Business Office.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect at the next printing of the Rule Book in June 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

OB.20.03 Change to Obedience Rules - Team Class Stay Exercise

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Liaison Roberts

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Obedience Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Team Class Stay Exercise Change

Motion to Change Team Class stay exercises to be performed similar to Novice Finals, with up to 4 dogs on each side of the ring.

Motion by Laurie Rubin

Second by Betsy Coleman

I move to approve changing team stay exercises; Dogs will be lined up in 2 facing rows, with up to 4 dogs lined up on each of the long sides of the ring positioned 4' off the ring gates

The rulebook changes are highlighted.

Current Wording:

11.6 Team Class

The team class shall be for teams of any four (4) dogs that are eligible under these Regulations. Five (5) dogs may be entered, one (1) to be considered an alternate for which no entry fee shall be required. However, the same four (4) dogs must perform all exercises. Dogs need not be owner-handled, need not be entered in another class at the same trial, and need not have obedience titles. A separate Official Entry Form must be completed in full for each dog entered.

There shall be two (2) judges, one (1) of whom will call commands while the other scores the teams' performances. The teams will be judged one at a time, except for the Long Sit and Long Down exercise, which shall be done with no more than four (4) teams (sixteen (16) dogs) in the ring.

The dogs on a team will perform the exercise simultaneously and will be judged as specified for the Novice class, except that a Drop on Recall will be used in place of the Recall exercise. In all exercises except the Drop on Recall, the teams have the option of executing the judge's commands on the team captain's repeat of the command.

In the Figure Eight portion of the Heel on Leash exercise, five (5) stewards will be used. The stewards shall stand eight feet apart in a straight line. One handler, with dog sitting in Heel position, shall stand

about equidistant from each of two (2) stewards, all members of the team facing in the same direction. On orders from the judge, the team shall perform the Figure Eight, each handler starting around the steward on his left and circling only the two (2) stewards between whom he had been standing.

In the Drop on Recall exercise, the handlers will leave their dogs simultaneously on command of the judge. The dogs shall be called or signaled in, one at a time, on a separate command from the judge to each handler. The handler shall, without any additional command from the judge, command or signal his dog to Drop at a spot midway between the line of dogs and the handlers. Each dog shall remain in the Down position until all four (4) have been called and dropped, whereupon the judge shall give the command to call the dogs, which shall be called or signaled simultaneously. The Finish shall be done in unison on command from the judge.

Obedience Group Exercises shall be performed either first, before the individual exercises, or in groups of more than four (4) teams, as the individual exercises are completed, at the discretion of the host club, and so stated in the show/trial flyer or premium list.

Proposed Wording:

11.6 Team Class

The team class shall be for teams of any four (4) dogs that are eligible under these Regulations. Five (5) dogs may be entered, one (1) to be considered an alternate for which no entry fee shall be required. However, the same four (4) dogs must perform all exercises. Dogs need not be owner-handled, need not be entered in another class at the same trial, and need not have obedience titles. A separate Official Entry Form must be completed in full for each dog entered.

There shall be two (2) judges, one (1) of whom will call commands while the other scores the teams' performances. The teams will be judged one at a time, except for the Long Sit and Long Down exercise, which shall be done with no more than four (4) teams (sixteen (16) dogs) in the ring.

The dogs on a team will perform the exercise simultaneously and will be judged as specified for the Novice class, except that a Drop on Recall will be used in place of the Recall exercise. In all exercises except the Drop on Recall, the teams have the option of executing the judge's commands on the team captain's repeat of the command.

In the Figure Eight portion of the Heel on Leash exercise, five (5) stewards will be used. The stewards shall stand eight feet apart in a straight line. One handler, with dog sitting in Heel position, shall stand about equidistant from each of two (2) stewards, all members of the team facing in the same direction. On orders from the judge, the team shall perform the Figure Eight, each handler starting around the steward on his left and circling only the two (2) stewards between whom he had been standing.

In the Drop on Recall exercise, the handlers will leave their dogs simultaneously on command of the judge. The dogs shall be called or signaled in, one at a time, on a separate command from the judge to each handler. The handler shall, without any additional command from the judge, command or signal his dog to Drop at a spot midway between the line of dogs and the handlers. Each dog shall remain in the Down position until all four (4) have been called and dropped, whereupon the judge

shall give the command to call the dogs, which shall be called or signaled simultaneously. The Finish shall be done in unison on command from the judge.

Obedience Group Exercises shall be performed either first, before the individual exercises, or ~~in groups of more than four (4) teams,~~ as the individual exercises are completed, at the discretion of the host club, and so stated in the show/trial flyer or premium list. **The Long Sit and Long Down Group Exercises performance and judging shall be similar to the novice finals stay groups. Dogs will be lined up in 2 facing rows, with up to 4 dogs lined up on each of the long sides of the ring positioned 4' off the ring gates.**

Comments/Rationale: This is for consistency with addressing stay group rules for groups of more than 7 dogs (Novice Finals).

Affected: All team participants.

It does not affect the Business Office.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect at the next printing of the Rule Book in June 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

OB.20.04 Change to Obedience Rules - Clarification of Ties

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Liaison Roberts

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Obedience Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion to clarify section 2.9 Ties

Currently ties in optional titling and non-regular classes are not addressed.

Motion by Laurie Rubin

Second by Betsy Coleman

Change Section 2.9 to include all classes except beginner novice and sub-novice. The Beginner Novice class section addresses ties in that class separately (on leash). A motion will be made to address ties for sub-novice.

The rulebook changes are marked below.

Current Wording:

2.9 Ties

In case of a tie for any prize in the Novice, Open or Utility class, each dog shall be tested again, individually, by having it perform the entire Novice Heel Free exercise. The original score and any placement and/or leg the team won shall not be changed regardless of the outcome of the run off. This includes, but is not limited to, events such as a dog fouling the ring.

Proposed Wording:

2.9 Ties

In case of a tie for any prize in ~~the Novice, Open or Utility~~ all classes except the Beginner Novice and Sub-Novice classes, each dog shall be tested again, individually, by having it perform the entire Novice Heel Free exercise. The original score and any placement and/or leg the team won shall not be changed regardless of the outcome of the run off. This includes, but is not limited to, events such as a dog fouling the ring.

Comments/Rationale: Currently the rulebook does not specify consistently how ties are to be handled (on leash/off-leash with a runoff). This motion specifies that ties are to be handled by a runoff using a novice heeling pattern off leash for all classes except beginner novice and sub-novice. The beginner novice section already addresses how ties are handled and the committee will be making a separate motion for handling of sub-novice ties (which should be done on leash).

Affected: Participants in optional titling classes other than beginner novice.
It does not affect the Business Office.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect at the next printing of the Rule Book in June 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

OB.20.05 Change to Obedience Rules - Clarification of Handler's Arm & Hand Position

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Liaison Roberts

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Obedience Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion to Change 4.7.2 Command Discrimination, Scoring

Motion to clarify handler's arm and hand position during command discrimination exercises.

Motion by Betsy Coleman

Second by Marilyn Cherry

I move to approve changing Command Discrimination, Scoring 4.7.2 to state that handlers' hands and arms must hang naturally at their sides in between commands for position changes.

The rulebook changes are highlighted.

Current Wording:

4.7.2 Command Discrimination, Scoring.

A dog that does not obey the handler's first command and/or signal for each position change, or does not stay until the handler returns to heel position must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score.

Substantial deductions will be made for a dog that changes position after the handler has returned to heel position and before the judge has said "Exercise Finished."

Minor or substantial deductions or a non-qualifying score (NQ) should be made for a handler's hands and arms not hanging naturally at their sides or a dog that moves forward during any of the position changes.

Proposed Wording:

4.7.2 Command Discrimination, Scoring.

A dog that does not obey the handler's first command and/or signal for each position change, or does not stay until the handler returns to heel position must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score.

Substantial deductions will be made for a dog that changes position after the handler has returned to heel position and before the judge has said "Exercise Finished."

Minor or substantial deductions or a non-qualifying score (NQ) should be made for a handler's hands and arms not hanging naturally at their sides **in between commands for position changes**, or a dog that moves forward during any of the position changes.

Comments/Rationale: This is for clarification in that when not giving hand signals for the dog to change positions the handler's arms and hands should hang naturally at their sides.

Affected: All Open CDX participants and judges.

It does not affect the Business Office.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect at the next printing of the Rule Book in June 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

OB.20.06 Change to Obedience Rules - Deductions for Dropped Utility Articles

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Liaison Roberts

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Obedience Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion to Change deductions for dropped utility articles

Motion to change the deduction for a dropped scent article from being substantial to being minor or substantial, depending on the circumstances in each case.

Motion by Laurie Rubin

Second by Betsy Coleman

I move to approve changing Section 5.9 Scent Discrimination Scoring from having dropped articles automatically be a substantial deduction to having them be a minor or substantial deduction, depending on the circumstances in each case.

The rulebook changes are marked below.

Current Wording:

5.9 Scent Discrimination, Scoring

Deductions shall be the same as in the Novice Recall and the Retrieve on the Flat. In addition, a dog that fails to go out to the group of articles, or retrieves a wrong article, or fails to bring the right article to the handler, must be scored non-qualifying (NQ) for the particular exercise. If the "after a sit" option is used, a dog who anticipates the command to retrieve must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score. If the "send directly" option is used, any additional command to retrieve or a dog who sits after the turn must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score.

Substantial deductions shall be made for a dog that picks up a wrong article, even though he puts it down again immediately, for any roughness by the handler in imparting his scent to the dog, and for the handler not turning in place. When using the "after the sit" method, there must be a substantial deduction for the handler giving the command to retrieve before the dog is sitting at heel, facing the articles.

Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the circumstances in each case, shall be made for a dog that is slow or inattentive, that does not go directly to the articles, or that does not work continuously and for any excessive motions by the handler in turning to face the articles. There shall be no penalty for a dog that takes a reasonably long time examining the articles provided the dog works smartly and continuously.

Proposed Wording:

5.9 Scent Discrimination, Scoring

Deductions shall be the same as in the Novice Recall and the Retrieve on the Flat. In addition, a dog that fails to go out to the group of articles, or retrieves a wrong article, or fails to bring the right article to the handler, must be scored non-qualifying (NQ) for the particular exercise. If the "after a sit" option is used, a dog who anticipates the command to retrieve must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score. If the "send directly" option is used, any additional command to retrieve or a dog who sits after the turn must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score.

Substantial deductions shall be made ~~for a dog that picks up a wrong article, even though he puts it down again immediately,~~ for any roughness by the handler in imparting his scent to the dog, and for the handler not turning in place. When using the "after the sit" method, there must be a substantial deduction for the handler giving the command to retrieve before the dog is sitting at heel, facing the articles.

Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the circumstances in each case, shall be made for a dog that is slow or inattentive, that does not go directly to the articles, ~~that picks up a wrong article, even though he puts it down again immediately,~~ or that does not work continuously and for any excessive motions by the handler in turning to face the articles. There shall be no penalty for a dog that takes a reasonably long time examining the articles provided the dog works smartly and continuously.

Comments/Rationale: Sometimes a dog picks up and then drops an article for a brief second and continues working and brings back the correct article. The Committee does not believe this should automatically be a substantial deduction and would prefer to have the rule book state it should be a minor or substantial deduction depending on the circumstances in each case.

Affected: Utility Judges and participants.

It does not affect the Business Office.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect at the next printing of the Rule Book in June 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

OB.20.07 Change to Obedience Rules - Clarify How Leash is Held & Hand Position

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Liaison Roberts

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Obedience Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion to Change 2.19 Hands, 3.5 Novice Heel on Leash & Figure 8, and 8.6 BN Heel on Leash

Motion to change how the leash is held and clarify hand position.

Motion by Betsy Coleman

Second by Marilyn Cherry

I move to approve changing Section 3.5 to state the left hand may be held against the waist as stated in Section 2.19 Hands. This motion clarifies hand positions that were inconsistent and contradicting to one another in sections 3.5 and 8.6.

The rulebook changes are marked below.

Current Wording:

2.19 Hands

In exercises in which the dog is required to heel off leash (free), one of the options listed shall be followed: (1) The handler's arms and hands shall move naturally at his/her sides while in motion and hang naturally at his/her sides when stopped, or (2) the handler's right hand and arm shall move naturally at his/her side while his/her left hand shall be held against and centered in front of the body in the area of the waist. The left forearm shall be carried, as much as possible, against the body. In any of the above situations, the hands and arms may be adjusted during the fast portion of the exercise, in order to maintain balance.

Hand position, other than during the fast, must remain constant during the heeling exercise, except if a hand signal is used to begin heeling. In that case, an acceptable hand gesture is allowed instead of a verbal command. After the hand gesture is made, the hand must return to one of the acceptable

positions. There shall be a minor to substantial deduction if the hands and arms are not carried in one of the positions state above.

In all exercises in which the dog is required to 'Come to' or 'Return to' the handler and 'Sit in Front', the handler's arms and hands shall hang naturally at his sides while the dog is coming in and until the dog has sat in front. A substantial deduction shall be made if a handler's arms and hands are not hanging naturally at his sides while the dog is coming in and until the dog has sat in front.

3.5 Heel on Leash & Figure Eight

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are "Forward," "Halt," "Right turn," "Left turn," "About turn," "Slow," "Normal," and "Fast." "Fast" signifies that the handler must run; the handler and dog must move forward at noticeably accelerated speed. In executing the About turn, the handler will always do a right About turn. Orders for Halts and Turns will be given only when the handler is moving at the Normal speed. The orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in any class.

The leash may be held in either hand or both hands, providing the hands are held in a natural position. However, any tightening or jerking of the leash or any act, signal or command which in the judge's opinion gives the dog assistance shall be penalized.

The handler shall enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the "Heel" position. The judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, "Forward." The handler may give a command or signal to Heel and shall walk briskly and in a natural manner with the dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to "Halt," the handler will stop, and the dog shall sit straight and promptly in the "Heel" position without command or signal and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on order from the judge. It is permissible after each Halt, before moving again, for the handler to give a command or signal to Heel. The judge shall say, "Exercise finished," after this portion of the exercise.

Before starting the Figure Eight the judge shall ask if the handler is ready. Figure Eight signifies that on specific orders from the judge to "Forward" and "Halt," the handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two stewards and facing the judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two (2) stewards, who shall stand eight (8) feet apart. The Figure Eight in the Novice classes shall be done on leash. The handler may choose to go in either direction. There shall be no "About turn" or "Fast" or "Slow" in the Figure Eight, but the judge must order at least one (1) "Halt" during and another "Halt" at the end of this portion of the exercise.

8.6 Heel on Leash

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are "Forward" and "Exercise Finished." Rally signs will be used for this exercise and

will be placed to the right of the handler's path except for those indicating a change in direction, in which case the sign will be directly in front of the team to aid in that change.

Signs to be used are "Right turn," "Left turn," "About turn," "Slow," "Normal," "Fast" and "Halt/Sit." The "Start" sign is optional. "Fast" signifies that the handler must run, and the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed. Turn signs will be used only when the handler is to be moving at the normal pace. In executing the About turn, the handler will always do a right about turn. Turn signs may be placed in any sequence and may be repeated. Two of each turn sign, as well as two "Normal" signs, must be available for the judge's use. The "Halt/Sit" sign will be used only once at the end of the exercise. The judge shall standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.

The dog must be on a six (6) foot leash. The leash may be held in either hand or both hands, providing the hands are held in a natural position. However, any tightening or jerking of the leash or any act, signal or command which in the judge's opinion gives the dog assistance shall be penalized with the exception that there will be no penalty for one-time verbal praise or encouragement.

The handler shall enter the ring with his dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the Heel position. The judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, "Forward." The handler may give a command or signal to Heel and shall walk briskly and in a natural manner with his dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At the "Halt/Sit" sign, the handler will stop, and the dog shall sit straight and promptly in the Heel position without command or signal. The judge shall say, "Exercise finished," after this portion of the exercise.

Proposed Wording:

2.19 Hands

In exercises in which the dog is required to heel ~~off leash (free)~~, one of the options listed shall be followed: (1) The handler's arms and hands shall move naturally at his/her sides while in motion and hang naturally at his/her sides when stopped, or (2) the handler's right hand and arm shall move naturally at his/her side while his/her left hand shall be held against and centered in front of the body in the area of the waist. The left forearm shall be carried, as much as possible, against the body. In any of the above situations, the hands and arms may be adjusted during the fast portion of the exercise, in order to maintain balance.

Hand position, other than during the fast, must remain constant during the heeling exercise, except if a hand signal is used to begin heeling. In that case, an acceptable hand gesture is allowed instead of a verbal command. After the hand gesture is made, the hand must return to one of the acceptable positions. There shall be a minor to substantial deduction if the hands and arms are not carried in one of the positions state above.

In all exercises in which the dog is required to 'Come to' or 'Return to' the handler and 'Sit in Front', the handler's arms and hands shall hang naturally at his sides while the dog is coming in and until the dog has sat in front. A substantial deduction shall be made if a handler's arms and hands are not hanging naturally at his sides while the dog is coming in and until the dog has sat in front.

3.5 Heel on Leash & Figure Eight

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are "Forward," "Halt," "Right turn," "Left turn," "About turn," "Slow," "Normal," and "Fast." "Fast" signifies that the handler must run; the handler and dog must move forward at noticeably accelerated speed. In executing the About turn, the handler will always do a right About turn. Orders for Halts and Turns will be given only when the handler is moving at the Normal speed. The orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in any class.

The leash may be held in either hand or both hands, providing the hands are held in a natural position, or in one of the positions defined in Chapter 2, Section 19 Hands. However, any tightening or jerking of the leash or any act, signal or command which in the judge's opinion gives the dog assistance shall be penalized.

The handler shall enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the "Heel" position. The judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, "Forward." The handler may give a command or signal to Heel and shall walk briskly and in a natural manner with the dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to "Halt," the handler will stop, and the dog shall sit straight and promptly in the "Heel" position without command or signal and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on order from the judge. It is permissible after each Halt, before moving again, for the handler to give a command or signal to Heel. The judge shall say, "Exercise finished," after this portion of the exercise.

Before starting the Figure Eight the judge shall ask if the handler is ready. Figure Eight signifies that on specific orders from the judge to "Forward" and "Halt," the handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two stewards and facing the judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two (2) stewards, who shall stand eight (8) feet apart. The Figure Eight in the Novice classes shall be done on leash. The handler may choose to go in either direction. There shall be no "About turn" or "Fast" or "Slow" in the Figure Eight, but the judge must order at least one (1) "Halt" during and another "Halt" at the end of this portion of the exercise.

8.6 Heel on Leash

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are "Forward" and "Exercise Finished." Rally signs will be used for this exercise and will be placed to the right of the handler's path except for those indicating a change in direction, in which case the sign will be directly in front of the team to aid in that change.

Signs to be used are "Right turn," "Left turn," "About turn," "Slow," "Normal," "Fast" and "Halt/Sit." The "Start" sign is optional. "Fast" signifies that the handler must run, and the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed. Turn signs will be used only when the handler is to be moving at the normal pace. In executing the About turn, the handler will always do a right about turn.

Turn signs may be placed in any sequence and may be repeated. Two of each turn sign, as well as two "Normal" signs, must be available for the judge's use. The "Halt/Sit" sign will be used only once at the end of the exercise. The judge shall standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class. The dog must be on a six (6) foot leash. The leash may be held in either hand or both hands, providing the hands are held in a natural position, or in one of the positions defined in Chapter 2, Section 19 Hands. However, any tightening or jerking of the leash or any act, signal or command which in the judge's opinion gives the dog assistance shall be penalized with the exception that there will be no penalty for one-time verbal praise or encouragement.

The handler shall enter the ring with his dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the Heel position. The judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, "Forward." The handler may give a command or signal to Heel and shall walk briskly and in a natural manner with his dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At the "Halt/Sit" sign, the handler will stop, and the dog shall sit straight and promptly in the Heel position without command or signal. The judge shall say, "Exercise finished," after this portion of the exercise.

Comments/Rationale: The Section 2.19 Hands only addressed off leash heeling. This should be changed to "heeling" and the novice section 3.5 should reference 2.19 as well as remark on tightening or jerking of the leash. Section 8.6 Beginner Novice heeling should be changed as well and reference 2.19 hands.

Affected: All judges and handlers, although nothing will change as to how the classes are currently judged or how the handlers currently hold their hands. This is just a clarification when as before this motion the rules did not specify that on leash heeling could be done with the left arm held at the waist, although it has always been allowed. Essentially putting "hands" all in 1 place and cleaning up the rulebook.

It does not affect the Business Office.

Effective Date: This motion will go into effect at the next printing of the Rule Book in June 2020.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 8

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: 1

Rally Committee

RA.20.01 Selection of Rally Finals and Nationals Judges

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

Disapprove: Boone

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (7-1).

Dissent from Boone: I do not believe social media is the place to conduct ASCA business. The page or site is not specified, and I believe it will place an undue burden on the Business Office.

Motion by Liaison Gann

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Rally Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

RC 19.25 - Selection of Finals and Nationals Judges

Motion by: Corinne Shanks

Second by: Karen Black

I move to add to 15.6.3 Judges Requirements a process for the selection of Finals and Nationals judges based on a random draw of eligible judges who meet the requirements and are willing to judge. See attachment at end of report for Rally Finals Judge letter.

Current Wording: None.

Proposed Wording: 15.6 Eligible to judge the National Rally Trial and/or Rally Finals List

15.6.3 Judges Requirements

1. Four (4) ASCA Rally Senior and/or Nationals Judges will be hired for the Rally Finals by the National Specialty Committee, who will submit the Rally Nationals and Finals slate to the ASCA Executive Secretary no later than February 1st of the year prior to the National Specialty being hosted. The Executive Secretary will forward the proposed Judges slate to the ASCA Board of Directors for review. Board approval of the Judges slate will be returned to the Nationals Specialty Committee no later than thirty (30) days after receipt by the Executive Secretary. Once the Board has approved the Rally Judges slate, the Judge's names will be posted within 7 days to the ASCA Website on the "National Specialty Information" page and the judge information must be to the Aussie Times Editor by March 15th for inclusion in the May-June issue.
2. Finals and Nationals Judges Eligibility
 - a. Judge must be ASCA Senior or Nationals Judge Status to judge the Nationals Trial (15.6.1 & 15.6.2).
 - b. Judge must be an ASCA Senior Rally Judge to judge Finals (15.6.1).
 - c. Judge shall not have judged the previous three (3) Rally Finals or Nationals trials.
 - d. When the location and date have been specified for the National Specialty, the Business Office shall identify the date on which letters will be sent to Nationals and Senior Rally Judges to determine interest and availability, and to meet the deadlines as

stated in 15.6.3.1. Letters of inquiry will be sent via US Mail, and via email. The date by which the letter is to be returned shall be included in the letter. Judges interested and available to judge shall return the letter of inquiry by the date stated either via mail or email. The judge must indicate whether they wish to be considered for Nationals, and or Finals.

- e. The Business Office shall verify the judge meets the requirements for judging the National Rally Trial.
- f. Judges for the Rally Nationals shall be selected from the ASCA Nationals Judges and Senior Rally Judges who return the letter of inquiry to the Business Office by the designated date and have indicated they would be available. From the letters returned, two (2) names shall be pulled by the business office and the names given to the host committee to hire from, in the order of the draw. The draw will be performed live on Facebook. Three (3) additional names shall be drawn should one of the above 2 judges become unavailable. If there is a judge cancellation, the National Specialty Committee shall contact the next name on the list, in the order drawn.
- g. Judges for the Rally Finals shall be selected from the ASCA Senior Rally Judges who return the letter of inquiry to the Business Office by the designated date and have indicated they would be available. From the letters returned, two (2) names shall be drawn by the business office and the names given to the host committee to hire from, in the order of the draw. The draw will be performed live on Facebook. Three (3) additional names shall be drawn should one of the above 2 judges become unavailable. If there is a judge cancellation, the National Specialty Committee shall contact the next name on the list, as drawn.
- h. Rally Finals and Nationals judges may participate in Nationals events with the exception of the day(s) of their judging assignment. All rules pertaining to the Finals Judges can be found in 15.6 Finals Judges and Judging in the Rally Rules and Regulations.

Comments/Rationale: Currently the host club(s) selected judges for Finals and Nationals. With Nationals being hosted by a committee, a process for selecting the judges based on a random draw of names was needed.

This rule is patterned after the current processes used by other ASCA committees. The Business Office has reviewed and approved the process.

Please refer to the attached for the letter that will be sent to Rally Judges. The letter will not be in the rule book.

Affected: All eligible judges who are willing and able to judge will be included in the judge pool from which the judges will be selected by the ASCA business office during a live Facebook draw. The Business Office will be impacted as they will be required to send letters of inquiry, then collect names, and complete the random draw.

Because the procedure will actually be completed by the office, Ray received and approved the process prior to the committee vote.

Effective Date: On approval of the BOD for the 2021 Nationals.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 13

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Minutes of the ASCA Board's Monthly Teleconference Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2020, via online meeting service GoToMeeting.

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

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm CST 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board was in Executive Session from 6:02 pm - 7:04 pm to discuss the below topics.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for period ending December 31, 2019 was approved by the Board as presented by Treasurer Dolan. Ending balance is \$84,007.40.

2020 National Specialty Premium

President Busquets reported that the 2020 Host Consortium is attempting to work out a satisfactory arrangement for the location of program events. Once that has been settled the Board will vote on the premium.

Dog Aggression Incident

The Board voted to uphold the excusal of Dog #T15614 DASHING BLUE TIMBER.

Registered Name Request

The Board voted to allow a name change request: Dog #E207637 is now Windham Hill Chasing Rainbows.

Directors Roberts and Vest volunteered to work on revising the current kennel name policy.

OPEN SESSION

The Board was in Open Session from 7:04 pm - 7:12 pm to discuss the below items. A recording of this part 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>

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.20.09 December 2019 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 December 2019.

System Liaison's Report

Former System Liaison Vest reported on the ongoing progress of the computer system upgrade, as current System Liaison Dolan is catching up on all that's been done so far.

Vice President Gann stated for the audio recording that he asked what we have paid to Inventive so far and Treasurer Dolan will be finding out.

Update via email on 1/10/2020: Total paid to Inventive since 1/21/2019 is \$112,579.93.

ASCA Nationals URL

The Board agreed to purchase the domain name www.ascanationals.com either to use for future Nationals or to re-direct to ASCA's Website.

BD.20.10 Purchase URL for Nationals

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Creelman

Second by Wesen

I move to purchase the domain name www.ascanationals.com to use for future ASCA Nationals.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Minutes of the ASCA Board's Special Teleconference Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020, via online meeting service GoToMeeting.

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

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order in Executive Session at 6:02 pm CST 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.

2020 National Specialty Premium

The Board reviewed the final premium for the 2020 National Specialty in Conyers, Georgia, as presented by Liaison Busquets, and voted unanimously to approve it.

Treasurer Dolan pointed out that the premium is missing entry forms as required by the Premium Checklist in the National Specialty Rules. Directors agreed that the forms are no longer necessary and voted unanimously to remove the requirement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

Minutes of the ASCA Board's Special Teleconference Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020, via online meeting service GoToMeeting.

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

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order in Executive Session at 6:02 pm CST 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.

Announcement on 2020 ASCA National Specialty Facebook Group

The Board discussed an announcement made on the 2020 National Specialty Facebook group.

2020 National Specialty Premium

There have been no issues regarding the 2020 National Specialty Premium brought to the Board's attention since it was posted on January 19.

Board Liaison to National Specialty

Directors shared their opinions on the President serving as Board Liaison to a National Specialty Show Committee. Most Directors agreed the President should not serve as Board Liaison or Chair of a National Specialty Show Committee.

The Board also discussed whether there should continue to be a Board Liaison once the National Specialty is hosted by ASCA, beginning in 2021. There will be many necessary changes to the National Specialty Rules once ASCA takes over hosting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary

Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award Proposal for Board Consideration

Background: 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 Tri-Smith’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. As a way to honor the memory of Donna Long and Libby, the Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award has been established in her name.

Mission Statement: The purpose of the Libby Long Obedience award is to celebrate the accomplishments of our next generation of obedience competitors and encourage junior handlers to participate in ASCA obedience events.

Defined: The Libby Long Award would reward junior handler participation in ASCA obedience competition with an annual year-end award of \$500.

Administration: An exemption from *Committee Procedures 2.1, 2.3.A, and 2.5* is requested to establish a permanent sub-committee of the obedience committee for the purpose of selecting the recipient of the Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award. The sub-committee would be comprised of three voting members (a sub-committee chair representing REGION 1 with a strong background in ASCA obedience, the obedience committee chair and a member at large with experience in the ASCA juniors program), and the Board liaison to the obedience committee as a non-voting member.

Funding: With an initial deposit of \$2,500 the award is funded through 2025. A minimum of one annual fundraiser will be held to replenish the annual award. Additionally, the fund will accept individual contributions through the ASCA Foundation. If, by 2025, the balance in the fund has exceeded \$5,000, a second award of \$250 may be given or, the award amount may be increased. Any decision to increase the amount or number of awards shall be made by majority approval of the award committee.

Eligibility: Open to all junior handlers, in good standing with ASCA, between the ages of 9 and 18, who have competed in ASCA obedience events between June 1 and May 31 of the year in which the application is to be considered. Applicants must provide verification of enrollment in, or graduation from an accredited public, private, online or home school program.

Criteria: Applicants will be evaluated using a point schedule and points will be awarded based on degree and level of participation in ASCA obedience events. Categories to be evaluated include: *achievement in ASCA obedience competition, general participation in obedience, and academic proficiency*. Applicants will submit a written essay to be assessed by a committee of no less than three members. Verification (if required) must include the signature of a parent, instructor, trial secretary or 4-H Leader.

Application Process: Applicants must provide a record of their obedience participation for each year (June 1- May 31), a completed application form with verification where appropriate, copies of all ASCA obedience title certificates, and a written essay of 500 words. Applications will be accepted from June 1- July 15 each year. Award recipient will be notified by mail and the award will be presented at the annual awards banquet coinciding with the ASCA National Specialty each year.

Points for Achievement in ASCA Obedience Competition	
Competing in an ASCA obedience class with non-qualifying score	5
Competing in an ASCA obedience class with a qualifying score	10
High Scoring Junior, High Point Award	20
High in Trial, High Combined	25
BN title completion	25
CD, GN title completion	30
CDX/ODX title completion	50
UD title completion	75
UDX Leg (qualifying scores in Open B and Utility B at the same trial)	75
UDX title completion	250
OTCH title completion	250
Points for General Participation in Obedience	
*Verified participation in County or State 4-H Dog Obedience	10
Verified enrollment in Obedience Training Classes	10
Verified ring stewarding assignment at an ASCA Obedience trial	10
Points for Academic Proficiency	
Verified enrollment in, or graduation from an accredited public, private, online or home school program.	10
Applicants must submit a written essay of 500 words. Essays will be assessed on the basis of organization, content and conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar)	0-50

*Rationale: For many junior handlers, particularly those in rural communities or those with financial limitations, 4-H provides an opportunity that might not otherwise be available. Many juniors start in 4-H and then move on to other more competitive venues such as ASCA. In keeping with the purpose of this award, *encouraging the next generation of obedience and rally competitors*, the committee agrees it is important to recognize participation in dog 4-H.

LIBBY LONG MEMORIAL OBEDIENCE AWARD
 Essay Criteria and Scoring Guide
 2020 Essay Topic: *Lessons I have learned from my dog.*

All applicants will submit a typed essay, double spaced using 12-point font. Elementary school aged applicants will submit a three-paragraph essay of no more than 500 words. Middle and high school aged applicants will submit an essay of no less than 500 words.

Scoring Guide

	Content	Organization	Conventions
5	Essay shows an interesting, original, descriptive and insightful approach to the topic.	Essay has a compelling introduction, body and conclusion. Main ideas are clearly stated and well developed with examples that enhance the reader's understanding.	There are no errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization or grammar.
4	Original and interesting approach to the topic.	Essay has a clear beginning, middle and end. Main ideas are clearly stated and supported.	Occasional errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization or grammar.
3	Original but may not relate to topic or may be less than interesting.	Essay may be lacking a clear introduction or conclusion. Main ideas may not be well supported.	Frequent errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization or grammar do not impede readability.
2	Essay shows some evidence of original ideas but lacks a meaningful connection to the topic.	Essay has little organizational structure. Main ideas are unclear or un-related to topic.	Errors in conventions begin to impede readability.
1	Essay is too short to score.	Essay is too short to score	Essay is too short to score or errors are so numerous they interfere with readability.



Established 1957

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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Date _____

Dear ASCA Rally Judge,

Please complete the questionnaire for the _____ ASCA Rally Nationals and Finals Judges selections and return to the ASCA Business Office by _____.

The approximate dates for the ASCA Rally Finals are _____. The Nationals and Finals will be held in _____.

Section A:

Print Name: _____ ASCA Judges Number: _____

1. Are you approved at the Senior Judge level? Yes _____ or Nationals Judge level? Yes _____
2. Would you be interested in applying to judge the next Nationals? Yes _____ or No _____
3. Would you be interested in applying to judge the next Finals? Yes _____ or No _____

If "yes" to either Nationals or Finals, or BOTH, please continue to section B.

If "no", please return the form to the Business Office in the enclosed postage paid envelope.

Section B:

1. Are you a current ASCA member? Yes _____ Membership Number _____ or No _____
2. Have you judged any of the previous three ASCA Rally Finals? Yes _____ or No _____
3. Have you judged any of the previous three Rally Nationals? Yes _____ or No _____
4. If you have judged a previous Rally Nationals or Rally Finals, please state which you judged and the year you judged to #2 and to #3.
5. Is your ASCA Rally Judges Continuing Education Current? Yes _____ or No _____
6. Is your ASCA Rally Senior Judges status current? Yes _____ or No _____
7. Is your ASCA Rally Nationals Judges status current? Yes _____ or No _____
8. Do you have any pending or previous disciplinary action within the previous year? Yes _____ or No _____

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this Questionnaire. Please feel free to attach another sheet if more space is needed. Please return to the Business Office by _____ in the enclosed postage paid envelope. Incomplete or missing information may result in your rejection from the Finals and Nationals Judging selection.

Signature: _____ Date: _____