



Established 1957

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

MARCH 2020

Announcements

New ASCA Judges / Judge Move-Ups

Apprentice Agility Judge **Susan Byrne** (Texas)

Senior Breeder Judge **Kathryn Ross-Nash** (New Jersey)

Provisional Breeder Judge **Mirjam Senger** (Florida)

Non-Regular Breeder Judge **Kendra Winans** (Oregon)

Senior Rally Judge **Lori Anglemyer** (Michigan)

Provisional Rally Judge **Sue Graham** (California)

New ASCA Committee Members

Obedience Committee - **Karen Gray** (Region 1)

New ASCA Affiliate Clubs

Texas Star Australian Shepherd Club

Location: Texas

President: Cherilynn Clark

Affiliate Rep: Cassie Parker

TLC Australian Shepherd Club

Location: South Carolina

President: Melinda Vinson

Affiliate Rep: Janet Kelly

Scandinavian Working Australian Shepherd Club

Location: Denmark

President: Steinar Andresen

Affiliate Rep: Mikael Malinowski

Motions from the ASCA Board of Directors

BD.20.24 New Policy - Counsel Communication (Revised)

Approve: Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, Roberts, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: None

Abstain: Boone

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (8-0-1).

Motion by Vest

Second by Wesen

I motion to approve a Counsel Communication Policy which will be used as a guide for the Board and Directors during communication with ASCA's attorney.

Current Wording:

None.

Proposed Wording:

5 Counsel

5.1 Communications

- a. All communication with ASCA's Counsel will be made through the ASCA Counsel Committee, an Executive Board Committee (see Policy Book sect. 5.4). This Committee will monitor communication with ASCA's Counsel and Directors to ensure that this communication is necessary to conduct ASCA's business. The Committee will update the Board of Directors regarding Directors communication with Counsel.
- b. ASCA's Counsel may, at Counsel's discretion, monitor all official email traffic between Directors on any matter whatsoever. ASCA Counsel will be free to comment on or raise questions about any such email, as deemed necessary by Counsel.
- c. At ASCA Counsel's discretion, Counsel may correspond privately and directly with any Director on any matter of official ASCA business; in such case, Counsel will have the discretion to share such communication with the ASCA Counsel Committee and/or the ASCA President.

5.2 Contact by Assignment

- a. In the event that a Director has been assigned to investigate a matter before the Board, e.g., a disciplinary matter or a Conflict Resolution filed with the Board, the assignment of the matter to the Director will be made known to Counsel by the ASCA Counsel Committee, to include the name of the assigned Director, along with copies of any pertinent correspondence. Once officially assigned a matter for investigation, the assigned Director may contact ASCA Counsel directly for guidance in the investigation. Communication regarding an assigned investigation between the assigned Director and ASCA Counsel will be shared with the ASCA Counsel Committee unless ASCA Counsel deems such sharing of communication unnecessary or inadvisable.
- b. If ASCA Counsel deems it necessary for Counsel to intervene on behalf of ASCA in the assigned investigation of a disciplinary matter or a conflict resolution filed with the Board, Counsel will immediately advise the ASCA Counsel Committee and the assigned investigating Director of Counsel's need and intent to intervene. In such case, the direction and conduct of the investigation will, from that point, be at the discretion of Counsel.

5.3 Conflicts and Costs

- a. Any provision of this Section which constitutes or may give rise to a conflict between these rules and the Contract which exists between ASCA and ASCA Counsel will be resolved in favor of the Contract. ASCA Counsel will keep the ASCA President aware at all times if any actions of the Board or its Counsel will incur costs over and above Counsel's agreed retainer.

5.4 ASCA Counsel Committee

5.4.1 Committee Name, Purpose, Appointment, Terms, and Bylaw

- a. Committee Name - The ASCA Counsel Committee will consist of two Directors and the President. The Counsel Committee will use ASCA I/O Groups as its form of Committee communication.

- b. Purpose - The purpose of this Committee is to monitor communication between Directors and Counsel to ensure that the communication is necessary to conduct ASCA's business. This Committee acts to maintain a fiduciary responsibility in regard to ASCA'S legal budget.
- c. Appointment - Directors will be seated at the ASCA Spring Meeting. Directors who volunteer and are selected for this Committee must be confirmed by the full Board. An alternate member of the Committee, who will serve in cases where a member of the Committee has been assigned an investigation that may require the advice of Counsel, will also be selected and must be confirmed by the full Board.
- d. Terms - Directors chosen for the ASCA Counsel Committee shall hold office for a one-year period, until the next regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors. If a Director resigns from this Committee, the Board of Directors will select a replacement which must be confirmed by the full Board. There will be no term limit for the President. The President will function as Chair on this Committee. This Committee may be dissolved/terminated by the Board of Directors.
- e. Bylaw - This is an Executive Board Committee and will operate as per the ASCA Bylaw's, sect. 12, Article XII Executive or Special Committee.

5.4.2 Legal Conflicts

- a. Legal issues that arise with a member of the ASCA Counsel Committee, either Director or Chair will require that Director or Chair to be temporarily removed from the Committee discussion I/O Group pending resolution of the issue. The full Board will appoint a Director to serve in this position until the issue is resolved. The Board may or may not choose to reseal that Director or Chair who was temporarily removed.

Comments/Rationale: This policy will be used to ensure that Board and Director communication with ASCA's Attorney will be used in a cost-efficient manner. The goal of this policy is to guide the Board and Directors in regard to Attorney communication while remaining within ASCA's legal budget. This policy will be added to the Policy Book.

Affected: ASCA Board of Directors, ASCA, ASCA's Attorney.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

BD.20.25 Inventive Statement of Work Contract for 2020

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Larson, Roberts, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: None

Abstain: Gann

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (8-0-1).

Motion by Vest

Second by Busquets

I motion to approve the Inventive Statement of Work 0007 which specifies the continued website support and will provide continuity to future development work for ASCA.

Comments/Rationale: Inventive has been working well with the ASCA Business Office in support of the website. Several System "bugs" have been corrected and development work will soon begin to complete the original ASCA RFQ. The immediate goal of this effort will be the transfer of ASCA's information from the outdated ADMS system.

Affected: ASCA Business Office and the Membership.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Committee Recommendations

Conformation Committee

CO.20.04 Change to Conformation Rules - Breeder Judge Test Attempts

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: Roberts

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (8-1).

Dissent from Director Roberts: Education and mentoring of judge applicants is to be commended but the structure of such guidance needs to be more clearly defined.

Comment from Director Creelman: In my opinion it is vital that the mentor be a judge or the Conformation Committee Chairperson. It needs to be a person who has had experience.

Motion by Liaison Boone

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

Committee Recommendation:

Motion Change to Appendix B Section 1.1.1 (D)

Motion by Liz Gibson

Second by Kathy Peycke

I, Liz Gibson, make the following motion.

I move to approve this change Appendix B Section 1.1.1 (D) to the following.

Current Wording:

APPENDIX B: Judge Requirements

1 Breeder Judge Requirements

1.1 Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements

1.1.1 Procedure

- d. When the Office determines the minimum requirements have been met, they will send the applicant a judge's test. This test must be completed and returned to the ASCA Business Office within two (2) months. A score of 100% is required to pass. An applicant may attempt the test twice without penalty. Failure after the second attempt would result in a six (6) month waiting period. A failure after the third

attempt would result in denial of his/her Breeder Judge Application. The office will also send out, with the Judges test a one page statement with the following to be signed and filled out by the Judge applicant and returned with the Judges test to the office; I _____ (the applicant) understand that I am forbidden from accepting assignments or any offer of future assignments at the non-regular level until I receive notification in writing from the ASCA Business Office via email, USPS or FAX of my appointment to Non-Regular Judge Status and I have been assigned a Judges number in writing. I will inform any club that attempts to hire me prematurely, that I am unable to Judge for their club. Failure to follow this rule will incur an additional forty-five (45) day penalty extension before it can be approved. Signed: _____ (the applicant).

Proposed Wording:

APPENDIX B: Judge Requirements

1 Breeder Judge Requirements

1.1 Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements

1.1.1 Procedure

- d. When the Office determines the minimum requirements have been met, they will send the applicant a judge's test. This test must be completed and returned to the ASCA Business Office within two (2) months. A score of 100% is required to pass. An applicant may attempt the test twice without penalty. Failure after the second attempt would result in a six (6) month waiting period. The applicant must then contact the Conformation Committee chair after failure of the second test attempt who will assign a member of the Conformation Committee to act as a Test Mentor to ensure the applicant understands the rules and procedures with the goal that they will pass the test on the third attempt. A failure after the third attempt would result in denial of his/her current Breeder Judge Application. An Applicant can reapply after a two (2) year waiting period during which the following additional requirements must be met. See Additional Requirements below. When an applicant reapplies, they must follow the procedure as stated in 1.1 (a) through (h) Non-Regular Breeder Judge Requirements and must include on the application all the previous and additional requirements. The office will also send out, with the Judges test, a one page statement with the following to be signed and filled out by the Judge applicant and returned with the Judges test to the office; I _____ (the applicant) understand that I am forbidden from accepting assignments or any offer of future assignments at the non-regular level until I receive notification in writing from the ASCA Business Office via email, USPS or FAX of my appointment to Non-Regular Judge Status and I have been assigned a Judges number in writing. I will inform any club that attempts to hire me prematurely, that I am unable to Judge for their club. Failure to follow this rule will incur an additional forty-five (45) day penalty extension before it can be approved. Signed: _____ (the applicant).

Additional Requirements: Two (2) Ring Steward assignments, Two (2) Show Secretary assignments and one of the following:

- a. One (1) ASCA Conformation Committee Judges Seminar held at the National Specialty, and One (1) seminar held by a local club that discusses the ASCA Breed Standard, Movement, Form and Function or Judging/Ring Procedures.
- b. Three (3) separate seminars held by a local club that discusses the ASCA Breed Standard, Movement, Form and Function (Structure) or Judging/Ring Procedures.

TEST MENTOR: Will be a Conformation Committee Member who volunteers to serve as a Test Mentor. Test Mentors are to understand they are not to provide answers to the test, but will work with the

applicant to ensure they are educated where needed, the goal being not only test passage but to ensure that areas are clarified so that they will be a qualified ASCA Breeder Judge.

Comments/Rationale: The board requested a change in the language of the subsection. This change allows an applicant a way to retake the breeder judge test if said applicant should fail after the third (3rd) attempt. Hopefully with the approval of a Test Mentor, a 3rd attempt fail will not happen. This motion clearly states the procedure to follow to apply and what information is required on the application. 1.1.1 (F) also states the two (2) year waiting period and also talks of additional tasks. Additional Ring Steward and Show Secretary assignments are just that, additional tasks. No additional breeding or handling is required. The ASCA Board of Directors can still add more tasks under subsection F if they desire. The seminars can be handled in two ways. (A) can actually be completed by attending both the Breeder Judge Seminar and the Breeder Seminar presented at the National Specialty each year and sponsored by the Conformation Committee. (B) can be completed by attending other club seminars that are on the subjects listed.

Affected: Judge applicants.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 7

Disapprove: 4

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Dissent from Committee Member Betty Jaco: We have not been provided with the data on how many applicants failed the test three times and were denied. I expect this affects a very small percentage of applicants but we don't have the numbers. I don't believe failing the test necessarily reflects an applicant's lack of knowledge or understanding of the rules, the breed, or ring procedures. More likely the applicants are simply confused by a question. Sometimes this is because they aren't paying attention or they are over thinking it but there have also been issues identified in the past with the questions themselves. I'm not fully opposed to requiring extra participation in an affiliate club, ring experience, etc. during the waiting period, but I don't think it will do much to help the applicant actually pass the test. I think a lot of the time people just get hung up on a question or two. Attending a seminar at Nationals probably isn't going to fix that. A test mentor could be a good idea but we need some sort of criteria in place first. A list of those on the CC who qualify could be provided to the business office and they could assign the test mentor to the applicant. All other aspects of the test are handled by the office so this should be too. Making them wait any longer than 1 year to re-apply seems punitive to me. They can always take longer if they wish.

Dissent from Committee Member Joyce Charron: Until ASCA comes up with a manner to deliver judges education online, the educational requirements for retest as written are virtually unobtainable. In my 30 years in the breed the only breed educational events I have seen are at Nationals. Additionally, the requirements for who may be a mentor should be more clearly defined. I personally believe a mentor should be a breeder judge who volunteers to assist and NOT just a member of the CC.

Dissent from Committee Member Mary Hellmeister: I am voting no on this motion for multiple reasons. 1. There is no procedure included that establishes on what actually qualifies a committee member as a mentor. Is it the length of time in the breed? Does he/she have to be a judge? If yes, what level? The fact alone that someone

is a member of this committee should not automatically qualify one as a mentor. Also, some member(s) might feel uncomfortable acting as a mentor for applicants. 2. On the additional requirements after failing the test three times: The applicant is either required to travel to Nationals or hope for the local club to offer multiple seminars on various topics listed in the motion. The reality is that the vast majority of affiliate clubs do NOT offer such seminars to satisfy their own requirements for educational events during the show year. It is unreasonable for the committee to put the burden of having to travel to Nationals on the applicant to fulfill these additional requirements. It would be even more so a burden financially on international applicants having to come to Nationals to attend a seminar or two. From recent discussions with applicants it seems to me that the main culprit in this situation is the wording within the judges test. I will agree that some applicants do not read the test question thoroughly before answering thus may end up with the wrong answer. But since they get the test back marked by the office on wrong answers I would expect for the applicant to read said questions more carefully than before. If they still fail what is an open book test we may have to ask ourselves whether these applicants are truly qualified to have an impact on our breed by judging. Overall I believe it would more prudent to develop some online classes on various topics involved in becoming a judge. The technology is readily available. Let us make use of it.

Dissent from Committee Member Myrjam Langen: I don't want to be responsible if the applicant fails 3x. Are the errors really marked? Then it should work without a mentor.

Comment from Committee Member Liz Gibson: This is a compromise of the 3 strikes and allowing additional applications. Previous boards told the CC they would prefer additional attempts. After the sub-committee worked on it, it stalled and no further updates came from the sub-committee. At the 2019 Nationals, the CC met with the BOD's and this project was brought up again. After that meeting, Ann DeChant and I agreed to work on the project and we sent several proposals back and forth. She felt very strongly that a Test Mentor could solve any test question errors after the 2nd attempt. A first motion was presented to the CC with varying opinions. The motion was pulled and I took the various concerns into account and resubmitted the motion. I feel this is a strong motion that puts education first and foremost. ASCA needs strong, well-educated Breeder Judges. This motion allows the avenue to continue the applicant's pursuit of that dream! Additional information from an email March 28, 2018 from Misty in the Business Office: As to your request for test data. I just spoke with the office. Misty told me that there is no tracking method in place to answer your question. That info is kept in each person's file and you are talking hundreds of files. But she did say that most pass on the first or second attempt. With only a few needing a third attempt to pass. (This info is from her time doing the conformation activities.) As far as how many have failed three times, she said it is less than a handful since the judge procedures were created way back when. Did any of those reapply? No. They just moved on.

Comment from Committee Member Debbie Martin: This motion meets the criteria the BoD asked for when they tasked the Conformation Committee with updating the Breeder Judge Testing procedure. While I believe the procedure currently in place has stood the test of time, and very few people have been unsuccessful in passing the open book test, nevertheless, we were asked to update the procedure and so we have. A system has been created that allows for a mentoring opportunity and reapplication after a short waiting period following a third failed attempt at the open book test. I would like to have seen a limit to the number of times an unsuccessful judge applicant could reapply, for example one initial attempt and one additional application only, because I believe that 6 attempts to pass an open book test with mentorship is more than sufficient. There are sufficient education opportunities for an applicant to meet the additional education requirements prior to resubmission of their application after the waiting period, and an opportunity for mentorship is provided if desired.

Dock Jumping Committee

DJ.20.01 Change to Dock Jumping Rules - Launch Description

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: None

Abstain: Roberts

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (8-0-1).

Motion by Liaison Vest

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Dock Jumping Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

DJ motion #2

Motion by Heidi Mobley

Second by Alexi Staples

I make a motion that the following wording be updated.

Current Wording:

3.1 General Descriptions

The ASCA Dock Jumping Program titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The classes are Launch and Fetch it.

- a. Launch - This is the competition measuring the distance of a dog's jump. The dog's distance is measured from the end of the dock to where the base of the tail breaks the water's surface.
- b. Fetch It - This is another competition that measures the distance a dog jumps. A bumper is suspended out and over the edge of the water at varying distance and the dog must jump and catch or knock down the Fetch It bumper.

Proposed Wording:

3.1 General Descriptions

The ASCA Dock Jumping Program titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The classes are Launch and Fetch it.

- a. Launch - This is the competition measuring the distance of a dog's jump. The dog's distance is measured from the end of the dock to where the base of the tail breaks the water's surface. **A launch has a series of two rounds (cycles) of distance jumping competition. The longer jump for each dog will become its official score. The dog has a total time of 4 minutes on the dock.**
- b. Fetch It - This is another competition that measures the distance a dog jumps. A bumper is suspended out and over the edge of the water at varying distance and the dog must jump and catch or knock down the Fetch It bumper.

Comments/Rationale: This is a more detail description for the term Launch. We also added a time limit to the Launch.

Affected: Contestants and Judges.

Comment from Business Office: "I see no problem with this motion moving forward. It is just a clarification of what a launch is. Nothing associated with the computer system.

Ray Fryar"

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

DJ.20.02 Change to Dock Jumping Rules - Fetch It Description

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: None

Abstain: Roberts

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (8-0-1).

Motion by Liaison Vest

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Dock Jumping Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Motion DJ

Motion by Heidi Mobley

Second by Alexi Staples

I make a motion that the following wording be updated.

Current Wording:

3.1 General Descriptions

The ASCA Dock Jumping Program titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The classes are Launch and Fetch it.

- a. Launch - This is the competition measuring the distance of a dog's jump. The dog's distance is measured from the end of the dock to where the base of the tail breaks the water's surface.
- b. Fetch It - This is another competition that measures the distance a dog jumps. A bumper is suspended out and over the edge of the water at varying distance and the dog must jump and catch or knock down the Fetch It bumper.

Proposed Wording:

3.1 General Descriptions

The ASCA Dock Jumping Program titling structure is based upon classes, divisions and levels. The classes are Launch and Fetch it.

- a. Launch - This is the competition measuring the distance of a dog's jump. The dog's distance is measured from the end of the dock to where the base of the tail breaks the water's surface.
- b. Fetch It - This is another competition that measures the distance a dog jumps. A bumper is suspended out and over the edge of the water at varying distance and the dog must jump and catch or knock down the Fetch It bumper. The dog jumps further distances until they have missed 2 jumps at the same distance or 3 total missed jumps.

Comments/Rationale: This adds the information needed to be able to score this class.

Affected: Contestants and Judges.

Comment from Business Office: "I see no problem with this motion moving forward. It is just a clarification of what a fetch it is. Nothing associated with the computer system.

Ray Fryar"

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Most Versatile Aussie Committee

MV.20.01 Most Versatile Aussie Evaluation Form Cleanup

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, Roberts, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Liaison Wesen

I move to approve the following recommendation from the Most Versatile Aussie Committee.

Committee Recommendation:

Evaluation Form Cleanup 1.1

Motion by Renee Watson

Second by Sandy Hawkins

I make a motion that we make the changes to the Evaluation Form as detailed:

1. Took the judge's signature off and replaced with initials. At the end of a long day, the judge really doesn't need to sign their name 50+ times.
2. Enlarge the form as much as possible, to make it easier on the judges to read.
3. Add a comments box at the bottom for any written notes the judge would like to make.

This motion is “ease of use” changes to the Evaluation Form. Evaluation related content was not changed. Committee approved form is attached.

Comments/Rationale: We’d drastically revised the form a few years ago and after working with it for 3 Nationals, there were some changes that judges had recommended that would make it easier for them to use.

Affected: Judges, the changes were suggestions from them.
The motion does not affect the Business Office or the Webmaster.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 4
Disapprove: None
Abstain: None
Non-Voting: 1

Attachment: Proposed Revised MVA Evaluation - Mar 2020.pdf

Obedience Committee

OB.20.08 Change to Obedience Rules - Honorary Titles to Special Recognition

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, 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 Honor Dog wording to Special Recognition

Motion by Betsy Coleman

Second by Ann McCabe

I move to approve changing Honor Dog from being an “Honorary Title” to being a “Special Recognition” and allowing all dogs with ASCA registration numbers (LEP or QTracking) eligible for the recognition, however only Australian Shepherds would be recognized in Aussie Times.

Current Wording:

12 Honorary Titles

The title of Honor Dog will be accorded to any ASCA registered Australian Shepherd who receives a score of 195 or better in the first three (3) attempts toward any obedience title. Each team will be acknowledged for their achievement with their name and picture in the Aussie Times.

To receive an Honor Dog title, the owner must notify the ASCA Business Office in writing listing dog's name, dog's registration number and information from each of the three obedience trials. This should include club, date, location, judge and score for each trial. The Business Office will send the owner an Honor Dog Certificate. To be acknowledged in the Aussie Times, the owner must send a photo with relevant information on the Honor Dog title to the editor.

Proposed Wording:

12 Special Recognition

12.1 Honor Dog

Honor Dog recognition will be accorded to any dog who receives a score of 195 or better in the first three (3) attempts in achieving an obedience title (excluding UDX and OTCH). Each team will be acknowledged for their achievement with an Honor Dog Certificate.

To receive Honor Dog recognition, the owner must notify the ASCA Business Office in writing listing dog's name, dog's registration, LEP, or QTracker number, and information from each of the three obedience trials. This should include club, date, location, judge and score for each trial. The Business Office will send the owner an Honor Dog Certificate.

Owners of Australian Shepherds will be recognized with their name and picture in the Aussie Times. To be included in the Aussie Times, the owner must send a photo with relevant information on the Honor Dog recognition to the editor.

Comments/Rationale: This is for clarification as Honor Dog is not actually a title. Additionally, all dogs will now be eligible for the recognition, not just Australian Shepherds.

Affected: Exhibitors who earn Honor Dog.

The motion does not affect the Business Office.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 9

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: 1

OB.20.09 Change to Obedience Rules - New Novice C Class

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, 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 add Novice C class

Motion by Betsy Coleman

Second by Pat Pierce

I move to approve adding Novice C class as a regular class at all ASCA obedience trials.

Current Wording:

None.

Proposed Wording:

3.3 Novice C Class

The Novice C class shall be for dogs not less than six (6) month of age that have earned the CD title. The Novice C class will be run after the Novice B & A classes and stay groups can be combined with the B & A classes. 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 exercises when judged in the same group. No dog may enter Novice C and any other Regular or Optional Titling class at any one (1) trial. Dogs in Novice C are not eligible for HIT, High Scoring Junior, Novice Merit awards or Novice Finals. Dogs may show in Novice C indefinitely. No titles are earned from Novice C.

11.6 Group Exercises

The principal feature of the group exercises is that the dogs remain in the position required. Orders are: "Sit your dogs" or "Down your dogs," "Leave your dogs," and "Back to your dogs."

Groups in the ring for Group Exercises must include no more than seven (7) dogs in Novice spaced a minimum of 6' apart and no more than ten (10) dogs in Open spaced a minimum of 4' apart and positioned 4' off any adjacent ring gates in both levels. If there are more than 7 dogs in Novice or 10 dogs in Open competing, the judge will divide the class into approximately equal sections. At the discretion of the judge, groups for **Novice A, B and C** and for Open A and B can be combined or separated. However, when Open B orders III and V are used, Open B groups cannot be combined with other classes. The dogs will be lined up in catalog order along one side of the ring. In Novice, dogs will be on a six (6) foot leash during the group stays. Each handler will leave the leash attached to the collar and lay the rest of the leash and their armband - weighted, if necessary - in between the dog and the handler. In Open, each handler will remove the leash and place the leash and their armband, weighted as necessary, behind their dog. The judge should stand so that he can see all the dogs and all the handlers without having to turn around. (Effective June 1, 2019)

Comments/Rationale: This is to allow dogs and handlers to remain in Novice indefinitely, return to Novice for whatever reason.

Affected: All participants wanting to run their dogs in novice that are no longer eligible for Novice A or B.

Business Office: Judges books to be created for C class.

Effective Date: June 1, 2021.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 8

Disapprove: None

Abstain: 1

Non-Voting: None

Stockdog Committee

SD.20.01 Stockdog Judge Selection for the National Specialty

Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, Vest, Wesen

Disapprove: Roberts

Abstain: None

Non-Voting: None

Motion is **approved** (8-1).

Dissent from Director Roberts: 25.1.1 a should say that the judge needs to be an approved regular judge to accept the assignment. The other comments are unnecessary. The Board did not ask the committee to determine who should judge at a pre-trial (or post trial ~ not mentioned). If the committee wishes to weigh in on pre/post trials that should be a separate section.

Comment from Director Evans: 25.1.1 (a) Is it clear what is meant by "Accepting the assignment"? 25.1.3 What is meant by "period of time spent judging"? Since we are excluding lunch breaks, are we counting "consecutive hours" or "total hours"? What is the intention if there is a break during the judging?

Motion by Liaison Gann

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

Committee Recommendation:

Judge Selection for the National Specialty

Motion by Jim McKay

Second by James Bergert

I make a motion to include in our current Stockdog Rule Book a new chapter which will explain who is responsible for hiring Judges and the criteria for Judges for the National Specialty. The Chapter will be Chapter 25: Judging Nationals. All following Chapters will be renumbered according to the addition of this Chapter.

Current Wording:

None.

Proposed Wording:

25 Chapter 25: ASCA National Specialty

25.1.1 Selection of Judges

The Course Director for the National Specialty Stockdog Trial will be responsible for selecting and hiring the Judges. The Course Director for each pre-trial held during the National Specialty will be responsible for selecting and hiring Judges for their pre-trial.

When Judging the National Specialty and any pre-trial held during the National Specialty, the following rules vary from a regular trial event

- a. To judge the National Specialty, the Judge must have been approved to move out of the Provisional Status and be a Regular Judge before accepting the assignment
 1. Provisional Judge may judge a pre-trial held during the National Specialty
- b. An Apprentice Judge may not apprentice at either the National Specialty or any pre-trial held during the National Specialty
- c. The Judges do not need to be the same Judges who judged the Stockdog Finals

25.1.2 Number of Runs Judged Each Day

At the National Specialty Stockdog Trial and National Specialty pre-trials, Judges may judge up to 60 runs per day.

25.1.3 The Length of Time a Judge May Judge Each Day

When judging the National Specialty, the period of time spent judging may not exceed twelve (12) consecutive hours, not including meal breaks

Comments/Rationale: The addition of this chapter will define who is responsible for, along with the criteria for eligibility of Judges, when hiring Judges for the National Specialty. The addition of criteria for Judges to judge the National Specialty, ASCA's most visible and watched event, will help to ensure that the Judges will have the experience necessary to make difficult decisions in a very public setting. This also brings the Stockdog Committee in compliance with the wishes of the ASCA Board of Directors to establish a process for the selection of National Specialty Judges. This motion was previously passed unanimously by the Stockdog Committee. It was also approved by the ASCA Board of Directors before being rescinded due to the clumsy position in the rule book that it was originally assigned. By making a separate, new Chapter for Judging Nationals, it will be placed in a sensible and logical location in the rule book. If more requirements or any changes occur, this will allow a place to find any references to the Judging of the National Specialty. It is recommended by the Stockdog Committee that this rule be copied into the National Specialty Rule Book for quick and easy reference for those in charge of future events

Affected: This will affect all contestants and members of ASCA by clearly defining the parties responsible for making the decision of who will judge the event.

Question from the Committee Chair to the Business Office, with responding comment from the Office Manager:
"Ray, The SDC has a motion put forth February 1, 2020, with the discussion period to go through February 8, 2020. Out of an overabundance of caution, we need you to respond in writing that this motion is not going to create a hardship on the BO. The motion simply states that to judge Nationals, the Judge must have regular status at the time they accept the assignment. No Provisional Judges may judge the National Specialty and no Apprentice Judges may work during Nationals.

Thank you for your time. I will follow up with a phone call on Monday.

Dan [Sanderson]"

(Motion in its entirety was sent with this e-mail)

"Dan, This is not an issue for the office.

Thank you,

Ray Fryar"

Effective Date: June 1, 2021.

Results of Committee Vote:

Approve: 12

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, MARCH 12, 2020, via online meeting service GoToMeeting.

Directors Present: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Secretary Jan Wesen, Gina Larson, Judy Boone, Denise Creelman (left at 7:20 pm), and Jean Roberts.

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Directors Absent: None.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:10 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.

OPEN SESSION

The Board was in Open Session from 6:10 pm - 6:14 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.20.26 February 2020 Email Business

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

Disapprove: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion is **approved** unanimously.

Motion by Roberts

Second by Wesen

I move to approve all business conducted over email in February 2020.

System Liaison's Report

Director Vest, as Liaison to the System Liaison, reported on the ongoing progress of the computer system upgrade. Agility Committee Member Sherry Butler continues to help test agility trial results submission programming. The Board will vote over email on a proposed Statement of Work from Inventive for continued website support.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board was in Executive Session from 6:14 pm - 7:55 pm to discuss the below topics.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for period ending February 29, 2020, was approved by the Board as presented by Treasurer Roberts. Ending balance is \$121,331.92.

Vacancy on the Board

The Board considered all candidates who applied to fill the vacancy created when Pete Dolan resigned from the Board in January and voted to appoint Warren Evans. His term extends until the 2022 National Specialty. Mr. Evans helped create the ASC of Maine and has valuable experience in non-profit governance and financial auditing. He is a first-time Director.

Registration Request

The Board denied a member request to change the registration status of their dog.

Appeal of Denied Registration

The Board denied a member request to allow the registration of their dog.

Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award Selection Committee

The selection committee for the Libby Long Memorial Obedience Award is a permanent sub-committee of the Obedience Committee. Members are the Obedience Committee Chair, a member representing region 1 with a strong background in the ASCA Obedience Program, and a member at large with experience in the ASCA Junior Program. The Board appointed Karen Gray and Mekenna Smith to serve.

Cee Hambo Scholarship Selection Committee

The Cee Hambo Educational Scholarship Fund is one of the funds administered by The ASCA Foundation. Its vision is to provide scholarship funds for post high-school education, including college and trade schools, to individuals with a background in Australian Shepherds. The Board appointed Gina Larson, Karen Wimbush, and Sandra Hawkins to serve on the selection committee.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Minutes of the ASCA Board's Special Teleconference Meeting

A special meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) was held on THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020, via online meeting service GoToMeeting.

Directors Present: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Secretary Jan Wesen, Denise Creelman, Warren Evans, Gina Larson, and Jean Roberts.

Also Present: Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Directors Absent: Judy Boone.

CALL TO ORDER

President Busquets called the meeting to order in Executive Session at 6:05 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.

COVID-19 and ASCA's Office Staff

Due to the COVID-19 related shelter-in-place ordinance in effect in Brazos County until April 7, and to comply with the Families First Coronavirus Emergency Response Act (FFCERA), the Board voted to provide paid leave to ASCA Business Office employees from March 25 - April 7.

The Board also discussed options for Office Staff to work from home computers with remote access to their office computers. The Office Manager plans to process as much mail (including payments) as he can while still minimizing his trips to the bank and post office.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

MVA EVALUATION INDIVIDUAL SCORE SHEET

JUDGE NAME		EVENT DATE	
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Armband:	<input type="checkbox"/> Intact <input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Dog <input type="checkbox"/> Bitch
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Circle one number in each category/subcategory (1 = lowest/10 = highest). Half points may be used. Mark through any mistakes with an "X" and initial.

GENERAL APPEARANCE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
HEAD	1	2	3	4	5					
TEETH	1	2	3	4	5					
EARS	1	2	3	4	5					
EYES	1	2	3	4	5					
NECK & BODY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
FOREQUARTERS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
HINDQUARTERS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
COAT	1	2	3	4	5					
COLOR	1	2	3	4	5					
GAIT										
GOING	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
COMING	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SIDEGAIT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Add scores marked above to determine the dog's total score.	TOTAL SCORE	
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TEMPERAMENT - At the judge's discretion, points may be deducted for misbehavior or temperament issues.	POINTS OFF:
--	-------------

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS – Dog must receive "NS" (No Score) for the evaluation if it has any of the following: Undershot bite, overshot bite, Wry Mouth, other than recognized colors, white body splashes, Dudley Nose, Monorchidism, Cryptorchidism. Please indicate which fault(s) are present in comments below.

Comments:

Judge Initials: _____



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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