



# AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

6091 E State Hwy 21, Bryan, TX 77801

[www.asca.org](http://www.asca.org)

P: (979) 778-1082

Office Contact: [manager@asca.org](mailto:manager@asca.org)

F: (979) 778-1898

Board Contact: [asca.execsec@gmail.com](mailto:asca.execsec@gmail.com)

## September 2020 Executive Secretary's Report

This report details the day-to-day activities of the ASCA Board of Directors (the Board). It includes results of motions voted on via email, meeting minutes, and any other non-confidential issues brought before the Board.

### Announcements

*Congratulations to new non-regular breeder judge Hope Corso McQueen from Texas!*

*Welcome to new agility course reviewer Sherry Butler!*

*Welcome to Hudson River Australian Shepherd Club of New York, a new ASCA affiliate club from Amsterdam, New York! President: Judi Schachte. Affiliate rep: Michelle Morgan.*

*Welcome to Sunshine Australian Shepherd Association, a new ASCA affiliate club from Weirsdale, Florida! President: Andrew Deak. Affiliate rep: Diane Keedy.*

*Congratulations to Amanda Swanson and Elizabeth Crandall! - this year's recipients of the Cee Hambo Educational Scholarship, supported by ASCA's Foundation.*

*The Board approved a recommendation from the rally committee to change the listing of rally merit placements to alphabetic order, eliminating all tie breakers.*

*The budget for the 2021 National Specialty was approved as presented. The 2021 Nationals Committee is working hard on the premium for the event, which will be published in the March/April 2021 Aussie Times.*

*Terri Morgan was selected as entry clerk and Liz Neuman was selected as agility entry clerk for the 2021 ASCA National Specialty - thank you for dedicating your time to these important positions!*

*ASCA's unaudited year-to-date P&L, with commentary and summary balance sheet, will now be published in the member's only section of the ASCA website. Please contact ASCA's Treasurer with any questions.*

*We are pleased to announce that Betty Jaco was selected to be Chair of the 2022 ASCA National Specialty in Bryan, Texas, from October 28 - November 5, 2022. If you are interested in any of the 2022 Nationals Committee positions, please send your letter of interest to: [ASCANationalsAdvisoryComm@gmail.com](mailto:ASCANationalsAdvisoryComm@gmail.com)*

## Motions Considered via Email

### Committee Recommendations

#### RALLY COMMITTEE

##### RA.20.11 Change to Rally Rules - 12.2.3 How to List Merit List Ties on ASCA Website

Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Unanimous.

Motion by Liaison Gann to accept the following recommendation from the rally committee.

##### Committee Recommendation:

RC Motion 20.21 - Revision to how Merit List ties are listed on the ASCA Website, Chapter 12.2.3

Motion by Corinne Shanks to change the listing of Rally Merit placements to alphabetic order, eliminating all tie breakers. Second by Karen Black.

##### Current Wording:

12.2.3 Ties for Placements

Ties for placements will be determined by the dog with the fewest number of trials placing higher. If a tie still exists, the higher placement will be awarded to the dog with the highest individual score. If a tie still exists, dogs will be listed alphabetically.

Proposed Wording:

12.2.3 Ties for Placements

Dogs tied for a placement will be listed alphabetically by registered name.

Comments/Rationale from Committee: The current rule includes a series of tie breakers, which require manual calculations by the office. With the growing number of rally entries, this task now requires significant time to be spent by office personnel. The proposed wording and listing will be the same as that currently in place for Finals placements.

Affected: The office will not be required to manually calculate the placements. Exhibitors will be listed as the placement for which they have qualified in alphabetical order, i.e. Tied for 1st place.

Business Office notified: 8/7/2020 - Comment from Ray Fryar, "Looks good."

Webmaster notified: 8/7/2020 - Comment from Heidi Mobley, "Fine with me."

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval, so the 2021 Merit List will follow this rule change.

Results of Committee Vote: Approve: 12. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

## Minutes of the Board Meetings via GoToMeeting

### Thursday, September 10

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and it was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

In attendance were: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Warren Evans, Secretary Jan Wesen, Director Judy Boone, Director Denise Creelman, Director Gina Larson, Director Jean Roberts, Incoming Director Carol Gerken (joined at 6:15 pm), and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

#### Discussion of the first four topics was recorded and 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>

#### Topics Discussed/Acted On:

1. **2021 Nationals Premium** - Directors have until October 1 to provide feedback on the first draft of the premium for the 2021 Nationals. The final version is due by November 15.
  - a. Creelman pointed out that the premium directs Junior Finals entries be sent to the entry clerk and not the Business Office, as with other finals entries. All finals entries should go to the office.
  - b. Creelman does not think hotel prices should be included as that may change by the time of the event.
  - c. Wesen will work with the 2021 Nationals Chair to finalize the tracking section of the premium.
  - d. Roberts suggested a wording change regarding other non-regular events.
2. **2021 Nationals Budget** - Director Evans met with the 2021 Nationals Chair and Bookkeeper several times to create a budget that can be used as an adequate financial control for the event and to help us plan for expected revenues and expenses. Monthly meetings will continue to ensure the budget is working as intended.
  - a. Larson questioned whether ASCA will be purchasing some of the items (such as booster baths) to be reused for future Nationals. Discussion continued regarding storage of items we end up buying. Creelman also brought up the option of selling the items to attendees at the end of the event.
  - b. While some directors were satisfied the committee presented a balanced budget, Gann pointed out the Texas site was chosen partly because of the lower associated costs, and so was surprised to see a budget that was only balanced. Busquets agreed. The board is altogether optimistic we can bring in a profit.
  - c. Busquets questioned the amount listed for finals fees. Evans confirmed it is a projection and includes fees accumulated during 2020 and possibly surplus from past years.

- d. Larson asked if the cost of finals ribbons was added to the budget and Evans confirmed it had been - about \$8200, based on available information.
  - e. Boone wondered why there is a cash bar listed for the Stockdog Finals reception but not for any of the other receptions.
  - f. We are 14 months out from the event and changes are to be expected. All necessary changes will be made according to policies already established by the committee.
  - g. **BD.20.112 Budget for 2021 ASCA National Specialty** - Motion by Evans to accept the budget as presented. Second by Larson.
    - i. Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Unanimous.
3. **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 email, each face-to-face meeting or conference call meeting includes a motion to ratify all business conducted via email since the last face-to-face meeting or conference call meeting.
- a. **BD.20.113 August 2020 Email Business** - Motion by Roberts to ratify all business conducted over email in August 2020. Second by Creelman.
    - i. Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Unanimous.
4. **Computer System/Technology Update** - Director Evans, as Liaison to the System Liaison, reported on the ongoing progress of the computer system upgrade and gave an update on overall technology plans.
- a. Good news - the agility trial reporting bug has been fixed and clubs can now upload trial results.
  - b. We will soon be requesting volunteers for the system upgrade committee so that ASCA can figure out the best way to move forward with the system upgrade.
5. **Cee Hambo Education Scholarship** (Executive Session from 6:42 pm - 6:44 pm) - Director Larson presented the selection committee's recommendation, which was to award both well-qualified applicants this year - Ms. Amanda Swanson and Ms. Elizabeth Crandall.
6. **2021 Nationals Entry Clerk** (Executive Session from 6:44 pm - 6:51 pm) - The Board reviewed the impressive candidates that applied to serve as entry clerk for the 2021 Nationals and selected Terri Morgan.
- a. Directors favored offering training/mentoring sessions for those interested to get hands-on knowledge of ASCA's entry program to increase the pool of skilled candidates in the future.
7. **2021 Nationals Agility Entry Clerk** (Executive Session from 6:51 pm - 6:56 pm) - The Board reviewed the knowledgeable candidates that applied to serve as agility entry clerk for the 2021 Nationals and selected Liz Neuman.
8. **Financial Update** (Executive Session from 6:56 pm - 7:31 pm) - The financial reports for period ending August 31, 2020, were presented by Treasurer Evans. Mr. Evans updated the Board regarding ASCA's current fiscal condition and projections for the future.
- a. There was another small surplus in August of \$22k, which lowers our loss year to date to \$28k. Membership dues remain strong, now only 4% lower than this time last year. Program income, while still dramatically lower than last year, is steady. Revenue in August 2020 was only \$11K less than in 2019. Expenses were \$27k less than in 2019. In summary, the stronger than expected performance in July and August indicates a lower loss for 2020 can be expected, perhaps in the \$100k - \$150k range. ASCA's Balance Sheet would end with upwards of \$400k of available cash plus \$200k of liquid investments.
  - b. Additional Event Membership Dues (Finals Fees) are running much lower than usual. For 2021 Finals, it is likely the cost will exceed the combined total of the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 show years. At the current rate (about \$850/month) we will have about \$37k.
  - c. Now that ASCA is getting more stable results from operations, Evans thinks it is reasonable to consider planning for some of our long term, strategic goals. An integrated system that can grow with us in the future, and a building that can accommodate our workers and records, for example.
  - d. The best way to manage the system upgrade project will be evident after the system upgrade committee is functioning again and can help determine what we are able to support.
  - e. Evans is working on ASCA's budget for 2021. This budget is set to be approved on October 15 during the meeting to handle Nationals business.
  - f. Evans would like to publish information from the treasurer's report for the membership. In the past, ASCA's auditor had advised against providing un-audited financials, but Evans will provide a disclaimer and is willing to field questions from the membership.

- g. **BD.20.116 Financial Update for Members** - Motion by Evans to publish ASCA's unaudited year-to-date P&L, with commentary and summary balance sheet, in the member's only section of the ASCA website. Second by Vest.
  - i. Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Unanimous.

## Thursday, September 17

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm and it was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

In attendance were: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Rachel Vest, Treasurer Warren Evans (joined at 6:20 pm), Secretary Jan Wesen, Director Judy Boone, Director Denise Creelman, Director Gina Larson, Director Jean Roberts, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco (left at 6:15 pm).

### Topics Discussed/Acted On:

1. **2022 National Specialty Committee** (Executive Session from 6:03 pm - 6:09 pm) - The Board considered the Nationals Advisory Committee's recommendation to approve the announcement and committee job descriptions to solicit the 2022 ASCA Nationals Committee. The goal is to have a Nationals Committee that is comprised of individuals from across the country; however, in order to do this and keep ASCA's costs down, the Nationals Advisory Committee has revised the committee job descriptions for the 2022 team, reducing the number of persons on the committee and limiting the number of compensated days for some positions.
  - a. Directors favored the proposed changes and appreciated the effort to reduce costs.
  - b. **BD.20.117 2022 Nationals Committee Announcement and Job Descriptions** - Motion by Vest to approve the 2022 ASCA National Specialty committee job descriptions and announcement as presented. Second by Creelman.
    - i. Motion is **adopted** (8-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Larson, Roberts, Vest, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Evans.
2. **Apprentice Stockdog Judge Request** (Executive Session from 6:09 pm - 6:15 pm) - The Board considered a request from Sue Kelly to be allowed to apprentice at the Come Bye Mid TN ASC Stockdog Trial in TN on October 1-4. The normal deadline is 30 days in advance, but the trial Ms. Kelly was planning to apprentice at was cancelled.
  - a. Directors were in favor of granting the exception since Ms. Kelly fulfilled the purpose of the form by getting approval from the judge and course director for the trial. It is also not common for trials to cancel, so the Board is willing to be flexible.
  - b. **BD.20.118 Allow Sue Kelly to Apprentice Judge** - Motion by Roberts to approve Sue Kelly's request to apprentice under Judge Russ Ford during the October 1-4 Stockdog Trial hosted by Come Bye Mid TN ASC. Second by Wesen.
    - i. Motion is **adopted** (8-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Larson, Roberts, Vest, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Evans.
3. **2022 National Specialty Chair** (Executive Session from 6:15 pm - 6:30 pm) - The Board discussed the candidates and considered the recommendation from the Nationals Advisory Committee. Note: Executive Secretary Jaco left the call during this discussion and Secretary Wesen took notes.