



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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November 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 the following ASCA judges newly approved at the level listed:

Provisional Rally Judge - Shari Friebus (Oregon)
Junior Handling Judge - Mackenzie Mobley (Texas)
Provisional Breeder Judge - Laura Abbott (California)
Provisional Breeder Judge - Michael McGuire (California)
Senior Breeder Judge - Margi Floyd (Washington)

ASCA Agility participants may now use the USDAA Dog Information page for their ASCA jump height.

A new back-up judge system for ASCA Obedience has been approved to be implemented June 1, 2021.

Motions Considered via Email

Committee Recommendations

Agility Committee

AG.20.07 Change to Agility Rules - 2.4.2 Required Measurements

Motion is **adopted** (8-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: Gerken.

Motion by Liaison Wesen to approve the following recommendation from the Agility Committee.

Committee Recommendation: Motion 8-2020 Using the USDAA Dog Information page for ASCA jump height

Motion by Jan Niblock to approve this motion because the USDAA Dog Information page has the actual measurement of the dog and meets the same requirements that AKC and NADAC does for ASCA jump heights. Second by Sherry Butler.

Current Wording: 2.4.2 Required Measurements

Dogs with a wither height less than or equal to 20" that do not have a permanent ASCA, AKC or NADAC height card must be measured.

Proposed Wording: 2.4.2 Required Measurements

Dogs with a wither height less than or equal to 20" that do not have a permanent ASCA, AKC or NADAC height card **or** copy of the USDAA Dog Information page showing the dog's actual height must be measured.

Comments/Rationale: The reason for this motion is that fewer dogs will need to be measured at an agility trial. We use AKC and NADAC cards for ASCA jump heights because they list the actual jump height of the dog. The old USDAA jump height cards do not list the dog's jump height or actual height, therefore were not permitted to be used. Now that the USDAA has a Dog Information page that actually shows the dog's height we should permit that to be used as well.

Affected: This will affect the exhibitors, judges, and trial secretaries. Actually, it will make it easier for the trial secretary because they can use the USDAA Dog Information page to enter the official jump height. And easier for the judge because the dog will not have to be measured at the show. It does not affect the Webmaster, Business Office, or Program Software Vendor.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Results of Committee Vote: Approve: 9. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

Obedience Committee

OB.20.11 Change to Obedience Rules - Back-up Judge System

Motion is **adopted** (8-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: Gerken.

Motion by Liaison Roberts to approve the following recommendation from the Obedience Committee.

Committee Recommendation: Implementing a back-up judge system would allow judges hired to judge an event the opportunity to show their dog(s) under an ASCA qualified judge at the event they are officiating.

Motion by Betsy Coleman to add section to rule book allowing judges to show their own dogs under another ASCA qualified judge at a trial they are officiating. Second by Ann McCabe.

Current Wording: None.

Proposed Wording: 1.33 Back-Up Judge System

Back-Up Judge System: The sanctioned judge (Chief Judge) should notify the club in advance that they wish to enter a dog(s) in an event they are assigned to judge to allow the host club time to find a back-up judge. The host club can designate a back-up judge if one is available. The Back-Up Judge is an ASCA approved judge who is willing to volunteer their time to judge the Chief Judge at the trial. The Chief Judge shall be the overall authority for judging the event for which they are assigned; a dog owned by the Chief Judge may compete only under the assigned back-up Judge. The Back-Up Judge may only officiate for the Chief Judge. Judges are prohibited from interrupting their judging assignment in order to exhibit. Judges who are exhibiting their dog(s) must either exhibit first before all other entered exhibitors or exhibit last after all exhibitors regardless of which class(es) they are entered in.

Chief Judges may enter their own dogs in the event in which they are assigned only for the purposes of obtaining qualifying scores and titles, and their scores will count toward merit and finals standings. Chief Judges showing under the Back-Up Judge will not be eligible for placements, high in trial, or high combined, nor will their entry be counted toward any limitation on entries for the trial. The back-up judge program may be used at any ASCA sanctioned obedience trial with the exception of ASCA Nationals. The back-up judge program may NOT be used at ASCA Nationals, Finals, or any pre-trials being held during the National Specialty event. The Obedience Committee will consider its implementation for Nationals and Nationals pre-trials after a two-year trial period (June 2023).

The Back-Up Judge's dog(s) will be eligible for qualifying scores and titles as well as placements and awards in the class(es) they are entered.

Emergency Replacement of Back-Up Judge: Should an assigned Back-Up Judge fail to appear at an event in which they were assigned as the designated Back-Up Judge there will be no emergency replacement of the Back-Up Judge's assignment if there is no other fully licensed judge at the event willing to judge the Chief Judge. In this case, the Chief Judge would be unable to show but would fulfill their judging assignment. If a fully licensed judge is in attendance at an event where the assigned back-up judge did not appear, the judge in attendance may serve as the Back-Up Judge. Clubs must note the change in Back-Up judges and provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances in their event report.

Scoring of Chief Judge by Back-Up Judge: The Chief Judge will be scored on a separate judge's workbook which will be clearly marked "Back-Up Judge System" at the top. This will keep the scores separate from the placements yet allow the ASCA business office to enter them into the system for titles, merit awards and finals.

Comments/Rationale from Committee: Sometimes judges turn down assignments because they want the chance to trial their dogs. This would help clubs hire judges and hold more trials.

Affected: Judges and participants at obedience trials. Business Office - A separate judge's sheet(s) will be submitted for the back-up judge's dog(s).

Effective Date: June 1, 2021.

Results of Committee Vote: Approve: 9. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

Minutes of the Board Meetings via GoToMeeting

Thursday, November 12

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm CST and it was adjourned at 8:08 pm CST.

In attendance were: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Gina Larson, Treasurer Warren Evans, Secretary Jan Wesen, Director Judy Boone, Director Denise Creelman, Director Carol Gerken, Director Jean Roberts, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Topics Discussed/Acted On:

1. **Financial Update** - Executive Session from 6:06 pm - 6:39 pm. The financial reports for period ending October 31, 2020, were presented by Treasurer Evans. Mr. Evans updated the Board regarding ASCA's current fiscal condition and projections for the future. Members can find this report and analysis from Mr. Evans in the member's only section of ASCA's website.
2. **Disqualified Dog** - Executive Session from 6:39 pm - 7:01 pm. The Board approved a dog disqualified from the conformation program to begin the reinstatement process.
 - a. **BD.20.134 Begin DQ Reinstatement Process for E199728** - Motion by Boone to allow the owner of E199728 SHADOMOON RIDDLE ME THIS to start the reinstatement procedure. Second by Larson.
 - i. Motion is adopted (9-0) - Approve: Unanimous.
3. **Registration Request** - Executive Session from 7:01 pm - 7:33 pm. The Board discussed a registration request and Director Evans will follow-up with the dog's owner.

Discussion of the following 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>

4. **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.20.135 October 2020 Email Business** - Motion by Roberts to ratify all business conducted over email in October 2020. Second by Wesen.
 - i. Motion is adopted (9-0) - Approve: Unanimous.
5. **Computer System/Technology Update** - System Liaison Evans reported on the ongoing progress of the computer system upgrade and gave an update on overall technology plans. We are currently working to schedule a meeting with the current system upgrade committee to figure out our next steps.
6. **2020/2021 Finals** - The Board continued their discussion of the 2020/2021 Finals and how it has been affected by COVID-19. One suggestion has been to fill any of the 2021 Finals that do not fill with finalists from 2020. This is doable by the Business Office, but the logistics need to be worked out. Directors all agreed it was important for ASCA's Finals to fill. Whatever the Board decides must be shared with the membership as soon as possible.