



# AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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## March 2021 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	
<p><b>New ASCA Judges:</b> Provisional Rally Judge - Ann McCabe (CA) Open Obedience Judge Beryl Billingsley (KS) Senior Breeder Judge Karen Roesner (MO) Senior Breeder Judge Keli Gaunt (CT) Regular Stockdog Judge - Kim Torson-Schneider (MN)</p> <p><b>New Crisis Conformation Judges:</b> Fabian Sollereder (Austria) Denise Raedisch (Germany)</p> <p><b>New Temporary Crisis Stockdog Judges:</b> Madison Wheeler (Canada) Annie Otto (Canada) Matteo Campedelli (Italy) Susanne Schwarzmann (Austria)</p>	<p><b>2021 Nationals &amp; Finals Judge Changes:</b> Molly Reyenga will replace Melvin Stanley as Judge for the 2021 Obedience Finals. Lindsey Hinds will replace Elsa Moncivais-Whitton for the 2021 Nationals Dock Jumping Trial.</p> <p><b>List of All Approved 2022 Finals Judges:</b> Agility Finals - Sue Graham. Conformation Finals - Susan Harris, Sharon Sparks, and Lynda Hardin. Junior Finals - Leslie Box Noack. Obedience Finals - Cindy Franks and Elizabeth Chase. Rally Finals - Jan Wesen and Sandra Walroth. Stockdog Finals - Preston Kissman, Rick Hardin, and Brad Warren.</p>

## Motions Considered via Email

### Director Recommendations

#### BD.21.31 Application to Renew Term on ASCA Committee

Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen.  
Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

Motion by Roberts to adopt the use of the application (link below) for ASCA committee renewals. Second by Larson.

Application: <https://www.asca.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Request-to-Renew-Term-on-ASCA-Committee.pdf>

**Comments/Rationale:** The Board passed changes to the committee procedures requiring applications instead of resumes. This is the one remaining required application.

**Affected:** Renewing committee members.

**Effective Date:** Immediately following the Spring Meeting of 2021, after committee members have been appointed.

#### BD.21.32 Revised ASCA Election Calendar

Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen.  
Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

Motion by Roberts to approve the revised ASCA Election Calendar. Second by Larson.

### Current Wording:

#### **Chapter 12 Elections - Section 12.1 ASCA Election Calendar**

- A. First business day in February - Last day for prospective candidates to request candidate material from the Business Office. Candidate material includes Declaration of Candidacy document (includes signature stating prospective candidate agrees to submit answers to Candidate Inquiry for publication to the membership) and Candidate Inquiry.
- B. Second Friday in February - Postmark deadline to file Declaration of Candidacy document.
- C. March 1 - Deadline to electronically submit candidate's completed Candidate Inquiry to the Business Office for publication in the May/June Aussie Times. Failure to submit completed Inquiry will result in prospective candidate's disqualification for that election year.
- D. First business day in May - Foreign ballots will be mailed. For purposes of determining voting eligibility, the membership books will close two (2) weeks prior to the foreign ballot mailing date.
- E. May 15 or first business day thereafter - U.S. member ballots will be mailed. Members not receiving ballots by June 1st should contact the ASCA Business Office.
- F. July 15 - All completed ballots are due in the hands of the receiver (not postmarked) on or before July 15
- G. July 20 - On or before this date, all director Candidates to be notified of election results. Following candidate notification, results of the election will be posted to all official ASCA web-based sites, including but not limited to, asca.org, ASCA Facebook, AussEnews and in the next Aussie Times following election. Published results will list each candidate with the number of votes received. Official notice of voting results will be announced at the General Membership Meeting at the ASCA National Specialty.
- H. This Election Calendar will be published in the November/December and January/February issues of the AUSSIE TIMES. It may also be published in additional issues if space is available.
- I. For Candidate material contact the ASCA Business Office.

### Proposed Wording:

#### **Chapter 12 Elections - Section 12.1 ASCA Election Calendar**

- A. March 1 - Deadline to electronically submit candidate's completed Candidate Packet to the Business Office for publication in the May/June Aussie Times. The Candidate Packet includes: Declaration of Candidacy, a single page resume, and the Candidate Inquiry. Failure to submit completed Inquiry packet electronically will result in prospective candidate's disqualification for that election year.
- B. First business day in May - Foreign ballots will be mailed. For purposes of determining voting eligibility, the membership books will close two (2) weeks prior to the foreign ballot mailing date.
- C. May 15 or first business day thereafter - U.S. member ballots will be mailed. Members not receiving ballots by June 1st should contact the ASCA Business Office.
- D. July 15 - All completed ballots are due in the hands of the receiver (not postmarked) on or before July 15.
- E. July 20 - On or before this date, all Director Candidates to be notified of election results. Following Candidate notification, results of the election will be posted to all official ASCA web-based sites, including but not limited to, asca.org, ASCA Facebook, AussEnews, and in the next Aussie Times following election. Published results will list each Candidate with the number of votes received. Official notice of voting results will be announced at the General Membership Meeting at the ASCA National Specialty.

F. This Election Calendar and the link to the Candidate Packet on the website will be published in the November/December and January/February issues of the AUSSIE TIMES. It may also be published in additional issues if space is available.

G. The Candidate Packet will be available on the ASCA Website or by contacting the ASCA Business Office.

**Comments/Rationale:** Our processes needed some modernization. The Office Manager agreed that the deadline of March 1st was the important one for all the candidate materials and that mailing hard copies was unnecessary.

**Affected:** ASCA Office and BOD Candidates. Director Roberts will assist the Office in revising the Candidate forms.

**Effective Date:** Effective for the 2022 election.

### **BD.21.33 Addition to ASCA Bylaws for Membership Vote (Revised)**

Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen.

Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

Motion by Roberts for an addition to the ASCA Bylaws allowing for voting by electronic means for the ASCA Board of Directors. Second by Larson.

#### **Current Wording:**

##### **7.6 Section 6 Election to Office**

The Board of Directors will be elected by vote of the membership taken by mail. A ballot shall be mailed to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to close of voting. Each member shall be entitled to cast one vote for each Director being elected. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes, up to the number of Directors being elected, shall be elected Directors. In case of a tie vote for one or more positions of Director, a run-off election between or among the candidates receiving the same number of votes shall be held. Cumulative voting for Directors is not allowed.

#### **Proposed Wording:**

##### **7.6 Section 6 Election to Office**

The Board of Directors will be elected by vote of the membership. A ballot shall be provided to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to close of voting. Each member shall be entitled to cast one vote for each Director being elected. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes, up to the number of Directors being elected, shall be elected Directors. In case of a tie vote for one or more positions of Director, a run-off election between or among the candidates receiving the same number of votes shall be held. Cumulative voting for Directors is not allowed.

**Comments/Rationale:** This addition brings the bylaws up to date with our practices.

**Affected:** Membership.

**Effective Date:** Upon Board approval the new wording will be placed on the ASCA ballot for approval by the membership. Effective for elections in 2022.

### **EM.21.01 Emergency Motion - 2022 Nationals Agility Judges (Revised)**

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

Motion by Larson to send another request to agility judges to judge the 2022 ASCA Nationals Agility Trial. The current requirements are waived due to COVID-19 and all agility judges are welcome to apply. Second by Boone.

**Comments/Rationale:** Only three judges responded saying they would judge the 2022 ASCA Nationals Agility Trial and two have become unavailable. It is felt that because of COVID, judges may have believed that they did not meet qualifications as so many agility trials had been cancelled. This is an emergency motion because the letters need to be sent out as soon as possible.

**Affected:** Potential judges and competitors at the 2022 ASCA Nationals Agility Trial.

**Effective Date:** Immediately upon Board approval.

## **Committee Recommendations**

### **Agility Committee**

#### **AG.21.02 Clarification of High In Trial for Local Shows**

Motion is **adopted** (7-2) - Approve: Boone, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: Busquets, Creelman. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) **Dissent from Director Busquets:** While I agree that affiliates should be able to decide whether to offer certain awards or not, I don't see a reason why the way such awards, when offered, are calculated should be up to the club. It makes more sense if these awards, when offered, are calculated the same way across the board. Consistency is important and also the way that it is calculated for Nationals makes for an acceptable and fair way to calculate these awards. The reason for awards to be calculated in a consistent manner is so that manipulation of the scores is not possible and everyone can expect the same opportunity. So, I can't agree to this motion. A formula which mirrors the one for Nationals should be adopted by all clubs.
- b) **Dissent from Creelman:** I feel that all ASCA sanctioned events should calculate results in the manner written in the rule book.

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

**Committee Recommendation:** Clarifying that Clubs can decide how to handle High in Trial for local shows. Motion by Sherry Butler to clarify Section 2.6.2 Awards for High in Levels (Novice, Open, Elite) and High in Trial that clubs holding trials that are not the ASCA National Specialty and the National Specialty Pre or Post trials can decide what special awards, like High in Levels or High In Trial, are given and how they are calculated. Second by Jan Niblock.

**Results of Committee Vote:** Approve: 8. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

### **Current Wording:**

#### **2.6.2 Awards for High in Levels (Novice, Open, Elite) and High in Trial**

Awards for high scoring in level (Novice, Open, Elite), and/or High in Trial (HIT) are not mandatory. However, such awards shall be given for the Championship Program at the ASCA National Specialty and the National Specialty Pre or Post Trials. When such awards are given at the ASCA National Specialty and the National Specialty Pre or Post Trials, computation for these awards shall be done in the following manner:

- A. Separate awards will be given to each of the three Divisions. The Standard Division will award High in Trial to the Novice, Open and Elite levels. The High in Trial Veteran Dog and Junior Handler awards may be calculated by combining scores from all class levels.
- A. Dogs must be at the same level in all classes to be eligible for the Standard Division awards (Novice, Open, Elite). Dogs entered in different class levels may be eligible for the High in Trial Overall, Veteran Dog High in Trial and Junior High in Trial awards, or a High in Trial Combined Levels award, if offered. High in Trial Qualifying points (HITQ-points) earned shall be dependent upon the class level in which qualifying scores are earned (see item c below).
- C. Each faultless qualifying run in Regular Agility, Gamblers, or Jumpers shall be given the following HITQ-point value: runs in an Elite class shall be given 7 HITQ-points; runs in an Open class shall be given 6 HITQ-points; runs in a

Novice class shall be given 5 HITQ-points. Each faulted (.01 to 5 faults) qualifying run in Regular Agility shall be given one-half the value of the equivalent level HITQ-points (runs in an Elite class shall be given 3.5 HITQ-points; runs in an Open class shall be given 3 HITQ-points; runs in a Novice class shall be given 2.5 HITQ-points).

D. In the event of a tie for HITQ-points, the following procedures shall be used for breaking the tie. First tie breaker: The dog with the fastest combined YPS in all rounds of the regular classes in which qualifying scores were earned will be declared the winner. Second tie breaker: The dog with the highest number of gamble points and a qualifying score will be declared the winner.

E. The computation for high scoring awards shall be posted for the competitors.

**Proposed Wording:**

**2.6.2 Awards for High in Levels (Novice, Open, Elite) and High in Trial**

Awards for high scoring in level (Novice, Open, Elite), and/or High in Trial (HIT) are not mandatory. Clubs holding trials that are not the ASCA National Specialty and the National Specialty Pre or Post trials can decide what special awards, for example High in Levels or High In Trial, are given and how they are calculated. However, such awards must be given for the Championship Program at the ASCA National Specialty and the National Specialty Pre or Post Trials. When such awards are given at the ASCA National Specialty and the National Specialty Pre or Post Trials, computation for these awards must be done in the following manner:

A. Separate awards will be given to each of the three Divisions. The Standard Division will award High in Trial to the Novice, Open and Elite levels. The High in Trial Veteran Dog and Junior Handler awards may be calculated by combining scores from all class levels.

B. Dogs must be at the same level in all classes to be eligible for the Standard Division awards (Novice, Open, Elite). Dogs entered in different class levels may be eligible for the High in Trial Overall, Veteran Dog High in Trial and Junior High in Trial awards, or a High in Trial Combined Levels award, if offered. High in Trial Qualifying points (HITQ-points) earned must be dependent upon the class level in which qualifying scores are earned (see item c below).

C. Each faultless qualifying run in Regular Agility, Gamblers, or Jumpers must be given the following HITQ-point value: runs in an Elite class must be given 7 HITQ-points; runs in an Open class must be given 6 HITQ-points; runs in a Novice class must be given 5 HITQ-points. Each faulted (.01 to 5 faults) qualifying run in Regular Agility must be given one-half the value of the equivalent level HITQ-points (runs in an Elite class must be given 3.5 HITQ-points; runs in an Open class must be given 3 HITQ-points; runs in a Novice class must be given 2.5 HITQ-points).

D. In the event of a tie for HITQ-points, the following procedures must be used for breaking the tie. First tie breaker: The dog with the fastest combined YPS in all rounds of the regular classes in which qualifying scores were earned will be declared the winner. Second tie breaker: The dog with the highest number of gamble points and a qualifying score will be declared the winner.

E. The computation for high scoring awards must be posted for the competitors.

**Comments/Rationale from Committee:** The current rule details what High In Levels and High In Trial awards are given and how they are calculated for the ASCA National Specialty and the National Specialty Pre or Post trials. For clubs holding other trials it simply says that Awards for high scoring in level (Novice, Open, Elite), and/or High in Trial (HIT) are not mandatory. This implies that clubs holding other trials can give any special awards (for example High In Levels and High In Trial) that they want to and how they are calculated is not dictated by this rule. Local clubs should be able to do what they want to as far as what special awards to give and how they are calculated.

**Affected:** This does not affect anyone. It is a clarification.

**Effective Date:** Immediately upon Board approval.

## **Obedience Committee**

### **OB.21.06 Figure 8 Posts**

Motion is **adopted** (8-1) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: Larson. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) **Dissent from Director Larson:** Clubs should have the option of using cones or people.
- b) **Comment from Director Evans:** While I agree that the human element makes the current exercise more challenging, I also agree that the intent of the exercise is not to determine how a dog moves in response to strangers.

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

**Committee Recommendation:** Figure 8 posts: Permanently use tall cones as posts for all Figure 8 exercises instead of stewards. Motion by Marilyn Cherry that all classes with the Figure 8 exercise use tall cones (17-37" tall; no more than 15" wide at the base) as posts, replacing the use of stewards as posts. Second by Betsy Coleman.

**Results of Committee Vote:** Approve: 7. Disapprove: 2. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) **Dissent from Committee Member Hillary Hines:** Replacing humans with cones for the figure 8 would much better it be optional at this time. Once the pandemic is over then we can re-evaluate. The main reason for the figure 8 is to determine how dogs adapt their change of speed while handler maintains a steady pace, using people as posts is an important element of upholding what CD stands for... in other words, "Companion Dog". Even a CGC (Canine Good Citizen) requires the dog should be able to walk around people. From the CGC guidelines, "Your dog will walk around with you and pass close to several people (at least three). This demonstrates that your dog can move politely in pedestrian traffic and can remain under control in public spaces. Your dog can show interest in strangers but must continue to walk with you and avoid any sign of over-exuberance (such as jumping up on strangers or straining on the leash) or shyness." So, based on that it seems like it might be helpful to at least make it optional. It is an intrinsic part of an obedience Novice or Open title. If made optional, the premium should state whether cones or humans are used as posts in the Figure 8.

### **Current Wording:**

#### **Reference Sheet**

#### **Open**

- "Posts" are to stand 8 feet apart, facing each other for the figure 8 exercise (also true in Novice).

### **3.5 Heel on Leash & Figure Eight**

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.

### **3.6 Heel on Leash & Figure Eight, Scoring**

If a dog is unmanageable, or if its handler constantly controls its performance by tugging on the leash or adapts pace to that of the dog, the dog must be scored non-qualifying.

Substantial deductions shall be made for additional commands or signals to heel and for failure of dog or handler to noticeably accelerate forward for the Fast and noticeably decelerate speed forward for the Slow.

Substantial or minor deductions shall be made for such things as lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, failure to sit when handler halts, handler failing to walk at a brisk pace, occasional guidance with leash and other imperfections in heeling.

### **3.7 Stand for Examination**

On Judge's order, the handler shall remove the leash and give it to a Steward who shall place it on the Judge's table or other designated place.

### **3.12 Sit Stay - Get Your Leash**

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position. The Orders are: "Sit your dog," "Leave your dog to get your leash," and "Back to your dog." The judge will instruct the steward to place the leash at the designated location after the Heel on Leash and Figure Eight exercise.

### **4.6.1 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.

### **4.8 Directed Open Exercises (DOE) - FOR ONLY ODX**

Cone position: The cone shall be placed three to six feet to the left or right of the direct path from dog to handler. It may be placed midway between the dog and the handler or up to six feet forward or backward from the midline. \*The cone should be approximately 12" high and solid in color. It is recommended that it be weighted.

### **8.8 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" and "Exercise finished."

The handler and dog will start from a position about equidistant from the two (2) stewards and facing the judge, with the dog sitting in heel position.

### **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.

### **10.4 Versatility Exercises, Order and Scores**

All exercises will be performed and judged as in the Regular classes. For this class, scent discrimination articles 1 and 2 will be considered as a single Scent Discrimination exercise. There will be no group exercises.

### **11.2 Sub-Novice Class**

Heel on Leash and Figure Eight: Shall be the same as in the Novice classes. The scoring for the exercise is the same as in the Novice classes.

### **11.3 Brace Class**

Exercises, performances and judging shall be as in the Novice class. The brace should work in unison at all times. Either or both dogs in a brace may be entered in another class or classes at the same trial.

### **11.6 Team Class**

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.

### **13.4.3 Steward Requirements**

- The ring and gate stewards will set the jumps, act as posts for the Figure Eight exercise, hold the clipboard for the judge during the moving stand, set out scent articles and gloves for the retrieval exercises.

### **Obedience Judges Guidelines**

#### **STEWARDS AND PAPERWORK**

Upon arrival, find out who will be your stewards. Be sure your stewards are of a reasonable age, such that the dogs perceive them as young adults or adults. Try to use the same two stewards for each competing group (same two for Novice, same two for Open, same two for Utility) so that all competitors are subject to the same stewards in their competitive class. Let your stewards know what you expect of them such as 1) no running in the ring, 2) no loud voices in the ring, 3) no eye contact with the dogs when standing for the figure 8, 4) no food in their pockets, 5) no distracting clothes, jewelry or shoes, 6) arms crossed during the figure 8 and eyes straight ahead, 6) which steward is responsible for the dumbbell or articles or gloves or leash and how these should be handled, and 7) how you wish your sits/downs to be handled

### **FIGURE 8**

Placing your figure 8 where it falls at the end of your heeling exercise will make your ring flow smoother. Mark the spots where your stewards will stand. Be certain there is enough room for both large and small dogs to comfortably complete the figure 8. You should be able to view both the inside and outside work done by the dog in this exercise. Any movement you make to be certain you can see both should not be distracting to the exhibiting team.

### **Obedience Steward Guidelines**

#### **CDX Open Class Ring Steward Duties**

- Heel Free and Figure 8: Two stewards will enter the ring for the figure eight exercise immediately after the judge says, "Exercise Finished" at the completion of the previous exercise. (Generally, the Heel Free exercise precedes the Figure 8, however in the Open B classes the Retrieve on the Flat or the Drop on Recall exercise may precede the Figure 8.) The two stewards will stand about 8' apart in the location designated by the judge. Be sure to not make eye contact with either the dog or the handler, to have your hands out of the dog's way (crossing your arms is a good way to stand), and to not have food on your person. When the judge says, "Exercise Finished," promptly leave the ring.

#### **Novice Class Ring Steward Duties**

- Heel on Leash and Figure 8: Steward duties are the same as for the CDX Open Class Heel Free and Figure 8. EXCEPTIONS: Figure 8 always follows the Heel on Leash and one steward will take the handler's leash after the Figure 8.

### **Proposed Wording:**

### **Reference Sheet**

#### **Open**

Cones between 17-37" tall and no more than 15" wide at the base are to be placed 8 feet apart for the Figure 8 exercise (also true in Novice and any other class with the Figure 8 exercise).

### **3.5 Heel on Leash & Figure 8**

Tall cones between 17-37" tall and no more than 15" wide at the base will be used for the Figure 8 posts. Cones are to remain in the ring during the Novice class, and must be located so as to not interfere with other exercises in the class.



Before starting the Figure 8 the judge shall ask if the handler is ready. Figure 8 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 cones and facing the judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two (2) cones that are placed eight (8) feet apart. The Figure 8 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 8, but the judge must order at least one (1) "Halt" during and another "Halt" at the end of this portion of the exercise.

### **3.6 Heel on Leash & Figure 8, Scoring**

If a dog is unmanageable, or if its handler constantly controls its performance by tugging on the leash or adapts pace to that of the dog, the dog must be scored non-qualifying.

Substantial deductions shall be made for additional commands or signals to heel and for failure of dog or handler to noticeably accelerate forward for the Fast and noticeably decelerate speed forward for the Slow.

Substantial or minor deductions shall be made for such things as lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, failure to sit when handler halts, handler failing to walk at a brisk pace, occasional guidance with leash, crowding or bumping cone, and other imperfections in heeling.

### **3.7 Stand for Examination**

After the Figure 8 and the judge's order "Exercise finished," the judge will direct the handler to remove the leash and either place it at the designated location or give it to a steward to place at the designated location before setting up for the Stand for Exam.

### **3.12 Sit Stay - Get Your Leash**

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position. The Orders are: "Sit your dog," "Leave your dog to get your leash," and "Back to your dog." The judge will instruct the handler or steward to place the leash at the designated location after the Heel on Leash and Figure 8 exercise.

### **4.6.1 Heel Free and Figure 8, Performance and Scoring**

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure 8 exercise, using tall cones as described in the Novice Figure 8, except that the dog is off-leash. Orders and scoring are the same as in the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure 8. In the ODX class, tall cones are placed immediately before the Heel Free and Figure 8 exercise, and removed once the judge calls "Exercise finished" after the Heel Free and Figure 8 exercise. For the CDX class, it is recommended that tall cones be inside the ring only during the Heel Free and Figure 8 exercise. However, a judge may leave the cones inside the ring for the full class if the cones are placed where they will not conflict with the execution of any exercise. If cones are removed and replaced, then the center of the cone placement spots must be marked before the start of the class, so that they are placed in the same position for every team.

### **4.8 Directed Open Exercises (DOE) - FOR ONLY ODX**

Cone position: The cone shall be placed three to six feet to the left or right of the direct path from dog to handler. It may be placed midway between the dog and the handler or up to six feet forward or backward from the midline. \*The cone should be between 11" and 37" high and solid in color. It is recommended that it be weighted.

### **8.8 Figure 8**

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" and "Exercise finished." At the judge's discretion, tall cones as described in the Novice Figure 8 may either remain in the ring while all individual exercises are performed, or be placed immediately before the Heel Free and Figure 8 exercise, and removed once the judge calls "Exercise finished" after the Figure 8 exercise. If cones remain in the ring, they must be located so as to not interfere with other exercises in the class. If cones are removed and replaced, then the center of the cone placement spots must be marked before the start of the class, so that they are placed in the

same position for every team. The handler and dog will start from a position about equidistant from the two (2) cones and facing the judge, with the dog sitting in heel position.

#### **9.4 Heel Free and Figure 8, Performance and Scoring**

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure 8 exercise, using tall cones as described in the Novice Figure 8, except that the dog is off-leash. Orders and scoring are the same as in the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure 8. At the judge's discretion, cones may either remain in the ring while all individual exercises are performed, or be placed immediately before the Figure 8 exercise, and removed once the judge calls "Exercise finished" after the Figure 8 exercise. If cones remain in the ring, they must be located so as to not interfere with other exercises in the class. If cones are removed and replaced, then the center of the cone placement spots must be marked before the start of the class, so that they are placed in the same position for every team.

#### **10.4 Versatility Exercises, Order and Scores**

All exercises will be performed and judged as in the Regular classes. For this class, scent discrimination articles 1 and 2 will be considered as a single Scent Discrimination exercise. There will be no group exercises. It is recommended that tall cones be inside the ring only during the Heel Free and Figure 8 exercise. However, a judge may leave the cones inside the ring for the full class if the cones are placed where they will not conflict with the execution of any exercise. If cones are removed and replaced, then the center of the cone placement spots must be marked before the start of the class, so that they are placed in the same position for every team.

#### **11.2 Sub-Novice Class**

Heel on Leash and Figure 8: Shall be the same as in the Novice classes, using tall cones as described in the Novice Figure 8, with cones remaining in the ring while all individual exercises are performed. The scoring for the exercise is the same as in the Novice classes.

#### **11.3 Brace Class**

Exercises, performances and judging shall be as in the Novice class. Tall cones for the Figure 8 exercise as described in the Novice Figure 8 will remain in the ring while all individual exercises are performed. The brace should work in unison at all times. Either or both dogs in a brace may be entered in another class or classes at the same trial.

#### **11.6 Team Class**

In the Figure 8 portion of the Heel on Leash exercise, five (5) tall cones as described in the Novice Figure 8 will be used. Tall cones are placed immediately before the Heel Free and Figure 8 exercise, and removed once the judge calls "Exercise finished" after the Figure 8 exercise. The center of the cone placement spots must be marked before the start of the class, so that they are placed in the same position for every team. The cones shall be set eight (8) feet apart in a straight line. One handler, with dog sitting in Heel position, shall stand about equidistant from each of two (2) cones, all members of the team facing in the same direction. On orders from the judge, the team shall perform the Figure 8, each handler starting around the cone on his left and circling only the two (2) cones between whom he had been standing.

#### **13.4.3 Steward Requirements**

The ring and gate stewards will set the jumps, place cones for the Figure 8 exercise, hold the clipboard for the judge during the moving stand, set out scent articles and gloves for the retrieval exercises.

#### **Obedience Judges Guidelines**

##### **STEWARDS AND PAPERWORK**

Upon arrival, find out who will be your stewards. Be sure your stewards are of a reasonable age, such that the dogs perceive them as young adults or adults. Try to use the same two stewards for each competing group (same two for Novice, same two for Open, same two for Utility) so that all competitors are subject to the same stewards in their

competitive class. Let your stewards know what you expect of them such as 1) no running in the ring, 2) no loud voices in the ring, 3) no food in their pockets, 4) no distracting clothes, jewelry or shoes, 5) which steward is responsible for the dumbbell or articles or gloves or leash and how these should be handled, and 6) how you wish your sits/downs to be handled.

## FIGURE 8

Placing your Figure 8 where it falls at the end of your heeling exercise will make your ring flow smoother. When planning the ring set up, consider placing the Figure 8 cones in a location that will not conflict with where the other exercises will be conducted. Mark the center of the spots where your cones will be placed. Be certain there is enough room for both large and small dogs to comfortably complete the Figure 8, and ensure that cones meet the required dimensions. You should be able to view both the inside and outside work done by the dog in this exercise. Any movement you make to be certain you can see both should not be distracting to the exhibiting team

## Obedience Steward Guidelines

### CDX Open Class Ring Steward Duties

Heel Free and Figure 8: Stewards will place tall cones as directed by the judge for the figure 8 exercise immediately after the judge says, "Exercise Finished" at the completion of the previous exercise, if cones are removed during the rest of the class. (Generally, the Heel Free exercise precedes the Figure 8, however in the Open B classes the Retrieve on the Flat or the Drop on Recall exercise may precede the Figure 8.)

### Novice Class Ring Steward Duties

Heel on Leash and Figure 8: Steward duties are the same as for the CDX Open Class Heel Free and Figure 8. EXCEPTIONS: Figure 8 always follows the Heel on Leash and one steward may be asked to take the handler's leash after the Figure 8.

**Comments/Rationale from Committee:** Using cones in place of stewards has many benefits, including a more standardized experience for all competitors in a class; a more streamlined class, as the time for stewards to enter and exit the ring is eliminated; and clubs may require one less steward for trials. Tall cones are considered to be the safest, most stable, and least wind-susceptible items to use as posts. Many handlers already use tall cones for training this exercise. Cones are currently being used in obedience trials and virtual classes during the Covid-19 crisis, with good success to date. Other registries (e.g., AKC) have recently moved to permanently using tall cones instead of humans as posts. ASCA's rules make no mention of a dog's ability to work in the presence of humans during this exercise and scoring of this exercise does not make any reference to a dog's response to human posts. Therefore, human posts are not integral to the exercise in the same manner as interaction with the judge is in the Beginner Novice Sit for Exam; Novice Stand for Exam; and Utility Moving Stand. It is probable that dogs will be getting fewer opportunities to train and practice around human posts, with their elimination from AKC classes, and we run the risk of losing future entries from those whose dogs have not trained with human posts.

**Affected:** Clubs, judges, stewards, handlers; stewards will no longer be required to act as posts in the Figure 8 exercises of all affected classes but will need to place the cones as directed by the judge. Clubs, judges, and stewards may revise stewarding duties; handlers and dogs will see a different set-up for the Figure 8 exercises. Clubs will need to obtain 2 tall cones of the described size.

**Effective Date:** Immediately upon Board approval.

## Hall of Fame Committee

### HF.21.03 Stockdog Kennel of Excellence

Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen.  
Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- 1) **Comment from Director Evans:** Many thanks to the Committee for perseverance in bringing this to fruition.
- 2) **Comment from Roberts:** This really needs to be programmed into the computer, so the award and recognition don't rely on an application.

Motion by Liaison Creelman to approve the following recommendation from the Hall of Fame Committee.

**Committee Recommendation:** Hall of Fame Committee Proposal for Stockdog Kennel of Excellence (SKE)

Board of Directors Strategic Plan adopted 07/09/2020 due at 2021 Nationals - Objective 3: Provide innovative programs showcasing the breed and providing expanded opportunities for competition. #6. Investigate possible HOF options for people/kennels who specialize in stock and performance dogs.

A special recognition program to recognize and honor the breeders/kennels working to keep the ASCA Mission and Vision Statements first and foremost in their breeding programs.

ASCA Mission Statement - The Australian Shepherd Club of America is dedicated to maintaining the integrity of its registry and to preserving and promoting the Australian Shepherd as an intelligent working dog with strong herding instinct.

ASCA Vision Statement - The Australian Shepherd Club of America will preserve the Australian Shepherd as an intelligent working dog of strong herding and guardian instincts.

**History:** Stockdog titling program was introduced in 1974 with stock including cattle, sheep/goats & hogs and titles including PYD (Promising Young Dog under 2) & OTD. Some trials offered duck classes for fun, but these were not officially recognized until later.

Ducks were officially added in 1977. ATD titles were added in 1977. Hogs were removed from the program in 1987. WTCH title was introduced in 1991. RTD program and titles were introduced in 1993. PATD titles were added in 1995. Farm Trial Program was introduced in 2008. WTCH-X and SDCH titles were added in 2016. AFTD-X and FTCH titles were added in 2018.

**Considerations:** Time frame of the stockdog program progression needs to be considered to ensure that the older kennels, which were paramount in developing the breed we all love, have the opportunity to be acknowledged in this program.

**Processing Considerations:** All applications received within the first ninety (90) days following Board of Directors approval will be certified and sorted by date last earned. Date earned will be the day the last title needed to meet the requirements was earned based on the ASCA portal information. After all applications are processed and sorted, the Kennel with the earliest date earned will be awarded certificate #1. Each certificate after will be sequentially numbered. Any applications received after the first ninety (90) days, will be sequentially numbered as they are received and approved.

**Results of Committee Vote:** Approve: 7. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

**Current Wording:** None.

**Proposed Wording:**

**New Section 7 Stockdog Kennel of Excellence (SKE)**

1. For applications with all titles awarded before 1991:
  - a. Qualifying titles
    - i. OTDc (Open Trial Dog cattle)
    - ii. OTDh (Open Trial Dog hogs)
    - iii. OTDs (Open Trial Dog sheep)
    - iv. ATDd (Advanced Trial Dog ducks) MAXIMUM OF FOUR (4)
  - b. Minimum of six (6) dogs

c. Any twenty (20) titles

Notes: Fewer trialing and titling opportunities.

2. For applications not covered in 1 with all titles awarded before 1998:

a. Qualifying titles

i. Arena titles

1. ATDc (Advanced Trial Dog cattle)
2. ATDs (Advanced Trial Dog sheep)

ii. PATD and RTD titles

1. RTDc (Ranch Trial Dog cattle)
2. RTDs (Ranch Trial Dog sheep)
3. PATDc (Post Advanced Trial Dog cattle)
4. PATDs (Post Advanced Trial Dog sheep)

iii. Championship titles

1. WTCH (Working Trial Champion)

b. Minimum of six (6) dogs

c. Thirty (30) titles including

- i. Minimum of one (1) PATDc, PATDs, RTDc, or RTDs title
- ii. Minimum of three (3) Championship titles

WTCH's were only offered since 1991 and at the end of 1997 only 243 had been awarded of which 59 were earned before 1991, championships comprise 10% of required titles.

3. For applications not covered in 1 or 2 with all titles awarded before 2009:

a. Qualifying titles

i. Arena titles

1. ATDc (Advanced Trial Dog cattle)
2. ATDs (Advanced Trial Dog sheep)

ii. PATD and RTD titles

1. RTDc (Ranch Trial Dog cattle)
2. RTDs (Ranch Trial Dog sheep)
3. PATDc (Post Advanced Trial Dog cattle)
4. PATDs (Post Advanced Trial Dog sheep)

iii. Championship titles

1. WTCH (Working Trial Champion)

b. Minimum of seven (7) dogs

c. Thirty (30) titles including

- i. Minimum of two (2) PATDc, PATDs, RTDc, or RTDs title; any combination
- ii. Minimum of six (6) Championship titles

4. For applications not covered in 1, 2 or 3 with all titles awarded before 2017:

a. Qualifying titles

i. Arena titles

1. ATDc (Advanced Trial Dog cattle)
2. ATDs (Advanced Trial Dog sheep)

ii. PATD and RTD titles

1. RTDc (Ranch Trial Dog cattle)
2. RTDs (Ranch Trial Dog sheep)
3. PATDc (Post Advanced Trial Dog cattle)
4. PATDs (Post Advanced Trial Dog sheep)

iii. Farm Trial titles

1. AFTDc (Advanced Farm Trail Dog cattle)
2. AFTDd (Advanced Farm Trail Dog ducks), MAXIMUM OF TWO (2)
3. AFTDs (Advanced Farm Trail Dog sheep)

4. AFTDm (Advanced Farm Trail Dog mixed)
- iv. Championship titles
  1. WTCH (Working Trial Champion)
  2. WTCH-X (Working Trial Champion – Excellent)
  3. SDCH (Stockdog Champion)
- b. Minimum of seven (7) dogs
- c. Thirty (30) titles including
  - i. Minimum of three (3) PATDc, PATDs, RTDc, or RTDs title; any combination
  - ii. Minimum of four (4) AFTD titles
  - iii. Minimum of eight (8) Championship titles
5. For applications not covered in 1, 2, 3 or 4 with any titles awarded 2017 and after
  - a. Qualifying titles
    - i. Arena titles
      1. ATDc (Advanced Trial Dog cattle)
      2. ATDs (Advanced Trial Dog sheep)
    - ii. PATD and RTD titles
      1. RTDc (Ranch Trial Dog cattle)
      2. RTDs (Ranch Trial Dog sheep)
      3. PATDc (Post Advanced Trial Dog cattle)
      4. PATDs (Post Advanced Trial Dog sheep)
    - iii. Farm Trial titles
      1. AFTD-Xc (Advanced Farm Trail Dog - Excellent cattle)
      2. AFTD-Xd (Advanced Farm Trail Dog - Excellent ducks), MAXIMUM OF TWO (2)
      3. AFTD-Xs (Advanced Farm Trail Dog - Excellent sheep)
      4. AFTD-Xm (Advanced Farm Trail Dog - Excellent mixed)
    - iv. Championship titles
      1. WTCH (Working Trial Champion)
      2. WTCH-X (Working Trial Champion – Excellent)
      3. SDCH (Stockdog Champion)
      4. FTCH (Farm Trial Champion)
  - b. Minimum of eight (8) dogs
  - c. Thirty (30) titles including
    - i. Minimum of three (3) PATDc, PATDs, RTDc, or RTDs title; any combination
    - ii. Minimum of four (4) AFTD-X titles
    - iii. Minimum of eight (8) Championship titles

**Affected:** Membership. HOF Committee – update rulebook. Business Office – certify applications, print & mail certificates, inform webmaster, inform Aussie Times editor. Webmaster – add rules and photo listing to website.

**Effective Date:** Immediately upon Board approval.

## Stockdog Committee

### SD.21.02 Number of Judges for Stockdog Finals

Motion is **adopted** (8-1) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Wesen. Disapprove: Roberts. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- 1) **Dissent from Director Roberts:** The stated goal of these changes was to help make the SD Finals cost neutral. With the reduction in the head of stock and number of finalists, ASCA achieves that goal. While the other ASCA programs may not employ as many judges in their finals, it doesn't mean that 6 judges aren't necessary for Stockdog. Conformation uses 3 judges and the dog/handler team repeats the same thing for each. Stockdog

will now have one judge for each class of stock “just like a regular trial.” The Finals isn’t a regular trial and one judge could make a significant difference in their final score.

Motion by Liaison Gann to approve the following recommendation from the Stockdog Committee.

**Committee Recommendation:** Motion by Dan Sanderson to change the number of Judges used to judge Finals from six (6) to three (3). Second by Terri Jones.

**Results of Committee Vote:** Approve: 10. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: 1.

**Current Wording:**

**24.6 Judging - 24.6.1 Number of Judges**

Two Judges will be used per class of stock during each Elimination round. The Judges will be randomly assigned to a class of stock for each Elimination go-round so that the judges rotate to a different stock for the second go-round.

**24.6.4 Judging and Scores of the Final Go-Round**

All six Judges will be used to judge the Final go-round in each class of stock. The highest and lowest of the scores of the six Judges for each class of stock will be thrown out and the remaining four scores will be totaled. All scores, including non-qualifying, will be used in the total.

**24.6.5 Placements**

There will be 10 placements after the Final go-round. The total score from both Elimination go-rounds and the four scores used in the Final go-round will determine placements. If there is a tied final score for placements 1st-4th, a winner will be determined by run-off at the discretion of the Senior judge. Ties for placements 5th-10th will be broken by methods listed below. (See a & b) If a run-off is not possible due to extenuating circumstances, the following criteria will be used to break ties:

- a. Taking the total combined highest average score from all three go-rounds for dog's ability to control livestock for the set-up and work at center or free-standing obstacle.
- b. Taking the total combined highest average score from all three go-rounds for dog's ability to control livestock for the cross-drive through obstacle 2 on Course A, B, C, and Post Advanced, or through obstacle 3 on Course D, E, and F.

**24.7.3 Failure to Secure Six Finals Judges**

If six Finals Judges cannot be secured from the pool of judges meeting the qualifications in 24.7.2.a-e, the qualifications will be waived in the order they are listed to increase the number of judges in the pool. EXAMPLE: Waive 24.7.2.a to see if more judges are available. If not, waive 24.7.2.b, etc. until 6 Judges are hired to judge Stockdog Finals.

**24.7.4 Drawing for Selection**

- a. The Board of directors will perform a random draw of all Stockdog Judges who satisfy the qualifications listed in 22.7.2. The random draw will be done at the General Membership Meeting held at the National Specialty Event. The selection process will be done one time in full view of any who wish to attend the meeting.
- b. All names will be shown in the order of the draw at the meeting, and then posted to the ASCA Website and any ASCA approved e-mail list.
- c. The first 9 names will be supplied to the Host Club in no order to choose and hire 6 judges for Stockdog Finals.
- d. If 6 judges cannot be secured from this list, and all 9 judges have been asked and more than 3 decline the offer, the Host Club will be provided with the next single (10th) Judge’s name, in the order of the original random draw. If the next (10th) Judge declines the offer, the next (11th) Judge’s name, in the order of the original random draw, will be provided.

This will continue in the order of the original random draw, one name at a time, until all 6 positions are filled. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before moving to the next name on the list.

e. If a Judge withdraws after being hired as 1 of the 6 Finals Judges, the next Judge, in the order of the random draw, will be provided to the Host Club. This will be repeated as many times as necessary if more than one judge withdraws from the original 9 chosen. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before the next name will be provided to the Host Club.

f. A reason must be provided to the ASCA Board of Directors by the Host Club explaining why an additional Judge, beyond the original 9 is needed. NOTE: The Nationals working trial Judges do not have to come from this list.

### **Proposed Wording:**

#### **24.6.1 Number of Judges**

One Judge will be used per class of stock during each elimination round. The Judge will be randomly assigned to a class of stock for each elimination go-round and will rotate to a different stock for the second elimination go-round.

#### **24.6.4 Judging and Scores of the Final Go-Round**

All three (3) Judges will be used to judge the Final go-round in each class of stock. All scores given by the three (3) Judges, in each elimination go-round and final go-round, including non-qualifying, will be used in determining the total and final score.

#### **24.6.5 Placements**

There will be 10 placements after the final go-round. Each score from the elimination go-rounds and the three (3) scores used in the final go-round will determine placements. If there is a tied final score for placements 1st-4th, a winner will be determined by run-off at the discretion of the Senior judge. Ties for placements 5th-10th will be broken by methods listed below. (See a & b) If a run-off is not possible due to extenuating circumstances, the following criteria will be used to break ties:

- a. Taking the total combined highest average score from all three go-rounds for dog's ability to control livestock for the set-up and work at center or free-standing obstacle.
- b. Taking the total combined highest average score from all three go-rounds for dog's ability to control livestock for the cross-drive through obstacle 2 on Course A, B, C, and Post Advanced, or through obstacle 3 on Course D, E, and F.

#### **24.7.3 Failure to Secure Three Finals Judges**

If three (3) Finals Judges cannot be secured from the pool of judges meeting the qualifications in 24.7.2.a-e, the qualifications will be waived in the order they are listed to increase the number of judges in the pool. EXAMPLE: Waive 24.7.2.a to see if more judges are available. If not, waive 24.7.2.b, etc. until 3 Judges are hired to judge Stockdog Finals.

#### **24.7.4 Drawing for Selection**

- a. The Board of directors will perform a random draw of all Stockdog Judges who satisfy the qualifications listed in 22.7.2. The random draw will be done at the General Membership Meeting held at the National Specialty Event. The selection process will be done one time in full view of any who wish to attend the meeting.
- b. All names will be shown in the order of the draw at the meeting, and then posted to the ASCA Website and any ASCA approved e-mail list.
- c. The first 9 names will be supplied to the Host Club in no order to choose and hire three (3) judges for Stockdog Finals.
- d. If three (3) judges cannot be secured from this list, and all 9 judges have been asked and more than six (6) decline the offer, the Host Club will be provided with the next single (10th) Judge's name, in the order of the original random draw. If the next (10th) Judge declines the offer, the next (11th) Judge's name, in the order of the original random draw, will



be provided. This will continue in the order of the original random draw, one name at a time, until all **three (3)** positions are filled. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before moving to the next name on the list.

e. If a Judge withdraws after being hired as 1 of the **three (3)** Finals Judges, the next Judge, in the order of the random draw, will be provided to the Host Club. This will be repeated as many times as necessary if more than one judge withdraws from the original **three (3)** chosen. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before the next name will be provided to the Host Club.

f. A reason must be provided to the ASCA Board of Directors by the Host Club explaining why an additional Judge, beyond the original **three (3)** is needed. NOTE: The Nationals working trial Judges do not have to come from this list.

**Comments/Rationale from Committee:** This will bring the rule book into compliance with the directive issued by the ASCA Board of Directors.

**Affected:** The contestants.

**Effective Date:** June 1, 2021.

### **SD.21.03 Number of Alternates Used to Fill Stockdog Finals**

Motion is **adopted** (8-1) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Wesen. Disapprove: Roberts. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- 1) **Dissent from Director Roberts:** The process is more complicated than it needs to be and the wording contradicts itself. All alternates should be sent an invitation and acceptance would be in order of placement on the list.
- 2) **Comment from Director Evans:** In favor of the intent to fill the trial. Hopeful the Committee will find a more clerically convenient way to do it.

Motion by Liaison Gann to approve the following recommendation from the Stockdog Committee.

**Committee Recommendation:** Motion by Dan Sanderson to open the alternate list beyond 10 dogs. The changes to be made are found in the ASCA Stockdog Rule Book at 24.2.6 and 24.3.3. Second by Terri Jones.

**Results of Committee Vote:** Approve: 9. Disapprove: 1. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: 1.

- a) **Dissent from Committee Member Jacqueline Tinker:** The wording regarding number of alternates is contradictory in two places. I voted no as this rule is not correcting that error and is therefore inaccurate as written.

### **Current Wording:**

#### **24.2.6 Alternate Selection**

When more than 30 dogs earn four or more points in a given class of stock, the minimum number of points needed to be eligible to compete in the Stockdog Finals in that class of stock will be raised to whatever number of points the tenth-place alternate dog has earned. (See 24.3.3)

EXAMPLE: More than 30 dogs have earned four or more points in a given class of stock. The number of points needed to qualify will be established by the number of points earned by the tenth-place alternate dog. If the tenth-place alternate dog has earned six points on a given class of stock, the minimum number of points needed to be eligible for that class of stock would then be raised to six points.

#### **24.3.3 Number of Alternates Allowed**

a. When more than 30 dogs qualify in any class of stock, notification will be sent out to the first ten alternates per class of stock. Notifications will be sent out at the same time qualifiers are notified. Only the first ten alternates, or top 40 dogs, will be eligible to compete in finals. 40 dogs are eligible, but only 30 will compete. Alternates must verify their

intent to compete at the National Finals by filling out an official entry blank and sending it to the Business Office by the due date. Alternates will pay when they become eligible. Alternates will become eligible if a qualifier fails to verify his/her intent to attend the Finals by the due date or withdraws from the event at any time.

b. The maximum number of dogs eligible to compete in the Finals Trial is 40 dogs per class of stock. In the event there are two or more dogs with the same number of points in the 40th position, ties will be broken as follows:

1. Average the top three scores for that Stockdog Finals year
2. Average the top two scores for that Stockdog Finals year
3. Highest individual score
4. Draw

#### **Proposed Wording:**

#### **24.2.6 Alternate Selection**

When more than 25 dogs earn four or more points in any class of stock, the minimum number of points needed to be eligible to compete in the Stockdog Finals in that class of stock will be raised to whatever number of points the last alternate dog selected has earned. (See 24.3.3)

EXAMPLE: More than 25 dogs have earned four or more points in any class of stock. The number of points needed to qualify will be established by the number of points earned by the last alternate dog selected. If the last alternate dog selected has earned six (6) points on a given class of stock, the minimum number of points needed to be eligible for that class of stock would then be raised to six (6) points.

#### **24.3.3 Number of Alternates Allowed**

a. When more than twenty-five (25) dogs qualify in any class of stock, notification will be sent out to the first twenty (20) alternates in that class of stock. Notifications will be sent out at the same time qualifiers are notified. Only twenty-five (25) dogs will be eligible to compete in Finals in each class of stock. In the event that any class of stock fails to fill the twenty-five (25) entries using the first twenty (20) alternates, the Business Office will notify the next ten (10) alternates in that class of stock. This procedure will continue until all positions are filled in each class of stock or until the eligible dogs have been exhausted.

b. Alternates will become eligible if a qualifier fails to verify his/her intent to attend the Finals by the due date or withdraws from the event at any time. Alternates must verify their intent to compete at the National Finals by filling out an official entry form and sending it to the Business Office by the indicated date. Alternates will submit payment when they become eligible and mail their entry to the Business Office.

c. The maximum number of dogs eligible to compete in the Stockdog Finals is twenty-five (25) dogs per class of stock. In the event there are two or more dogs with the same number of points in the twenty-fifth (25th) position, ties will be broken as follows:

1. Average the top three scores for that Stockdog Finals year
2. Average the top two scores for that Stockdog Finals year
3. Highest individual score
4. Draw

**Comments/Rationale from Committee:** By allowing the use of alternates beyond 10 dogs, the Finals event will have a better opportunity to meet the requirements set forth in the Directive from the ASCA Board of Directors. It is imperative that each class of stock has twenty-five (25) entries in order to reduce the expense of Finals and actually create an event

that generates income for ASCA. By allowing as many alternates as needed, and who have met the minimum requirement of four (4) points on a class of stock, each class of stock will have the potential to fill all available positions.

**Affected:** The contestants will realize that they have an opportunity to enter Finals with potentially fewer points. The Business Office will be affected by the number of alternates that will be required to receive an invitation.

**Effective Date:** June 1, 2021.

#### **SD.21.04 Number of Dogs Invited to Stockdog Finals (Revised)**

Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Evans, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen.

Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) **Comment from Director Roberts:** The described process does not make it clear that all alternates are notified at the same time. It reads as though the first 10 are notified, then the next, and so on which will be way too time consuming.

Motion by Liaison Gann to approve the following recommendation from the Stockdog Committee.

**Committee Recommendation:** Motion by Terri Jones to reduce the number of invited dogs to the Stockdog finals from 30 to 25. Second by Dan Sanderson.

**Results of Committee Vote:** Approve: 10. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: 1.

#### **Current Wording:**

#### **Chapter 24 ASCA Stockdog Finals - 24.1.5 Number of Entries**

The maximum entry for the Finals Trial is 30 dogs per class of stock. In the event there are more than 30 dogs, ties will be broken as follows:

- a. Average the top three scores for that Stockdog Finals year
- b. Average the top two scores for that Stockdog Finals year
- c. Highest individual score
- d. Draw

#### **24.3.3 Number of Alternates Allowed**

a. When more than 30 dogs qualify in any class of stock, notification will be sent out to the first ten alternates per class of stock. Notifications will be sent out at the same time qualifiers are notified. Only the first ten alternates, or top 40 dogs, will be eligible to compete in finals. 40 dogs are eligible, but only 30 will compete. Alternates must verify their intent to compete at the National Finals by filling out an official entry blank and sending it to the Business Office by the due date. Alternates will pay when they become eligible. Alternates will become eligible if a qualifier fails to verify his/her intent to attend the Finals by the due date or withdraws from the event at any time.

b. The maximum number of dogs eligible to compete in the Finals Trial is 40 dogs per class of stock. In the event there are two or more dogs with the same number of points in the 40th position, ties will be broken as follows:

- 1. Average the top three scores for that Stockdog Finals year
- 2. Average the top two scores for that Stockdog Finals year
- 3. Highest individual score
- 4. Draw

### **24.3.5 Publication of Top 30 Dogs**

The Business Office will publish in each issue of the Aussie Times a current list of the Top 30 dogs that have qualified for the Finals in Cattle, Sheep/goats and Ducks/geese.

#### **Proposed Wording:**

#### **24.1.5 Number of Entries**

The maximum entry for the Finals Trial is 25 dogs per class of stock. In the event there are more than 25 dogs, ties will be broken as follows:

- a. Average the top three scores for that Stockdog Finals year
- b. Average the top two scores for that Stockdog Finals year
- c. Highest individual score
- d. Draw

#### **24.3.3 Number of Alternates Allowed**

a. When more than 25 dogs qualify in any class of stock, notification will be sent out to the first ten alternates per class of stock. Notifications will be sent out at the same time qualifiers are notified. Only the first ten alternates, or top 35 dogs, will be eligible to compete in finals. 35 dogs are eligible, but only 25 will compete. Alternates must verify their intent to compete at the National Finals by filling out an official entry blank and sending it to the Business Office by the due date. Alternates will pay when they become eligible. Alternates will become eligible if a qualifier fails to verify his/her intent to attend the Finals by the due date or withdraws from the event at any time.

b. The maximum number of dogs eligible to compete in the Finals Trial is 35 dogs per class of stock. In the event there are two or more dogs with the same number of points in the 35th position, ties will be broken as follows:

1. Average the top three scores for that Stockdog Finals year
2. Average the top two scores for that Stockdog Finals year
3. Highest individual score
4. Draw

### **24.3.5 Publication of Top 25 Dogs**

The Business Office will publish in each issue of the Aussie Times a current list of the Top 25 dogs that have qualified for the Finals in Cattle, Sheep/goats and Ducks/geese.

**Comments/Rationale from Committee:** To reduce the number of dogs invited to the Stockdog Finals. The purpose is to decrease expenses incurred by Stockdog Finals.

**Affected:** Stockdog contestants going to Finals.

**Effective Date:** Immediately upon Board approval, for the 2021 Finals.

# Minutes of the Board Meetings via GoToMeeting

**Thursday, March 11, 2021**

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm CST and it was adjourned at 8:17 pm CST.

**In attendance were:** President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Gina Larson, Treasurer Warren Evans, Secretary Jan Wesen (joined at 6:09 pm), Director Judy Boone, Director Denise Creelman, Director Carol Gerken, Director Jean Roberts, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

## **Financial Update (Executive Session)**

The reviewed and approved financial reports for period ending February 28, 2021, as presented by Treasurer Evans. Mr. Evans updated the Board regarding ASCA's current fiscal condition and projections for the future. Members can find the report and analysis from Mr. Evans in the member's only section of ASCA's website.

## **Reinstatement Request (Executive Session)**

The Board granted a reinstatement request for Dog E199728.

## **Judge Issue (Executive Session)**

The Board addressed an issue with a judge.

## **Nationals Judges (Executive Session)**

Director Larson, as Liaison to the 2022 Nationals Committee, made a request for an additional draw of judges for the National Agility Trial so there is a larger pool to choose from. The requirement for a Nationals judge to have judged at least once in the past year will be waived, due to COVID-19.

## **Judge Issue (Executive Session)**

Ms. Trisha Stall is hereby suspended from judging ASCA Agility Trials until April 28, 2022.

**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>

## **Last Month's Email Business**

The Board voted to ratify all business conducted via email in February 2021. This is to meet the requirements of Washington State Law that all legal business of ASCA be conducted via face-to-face meetings or conference call meetings.

## **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. A couple weeks ago, the Board and volunteers were present at a meeting with Inventive to go over their proposal and, since then, some questions have come up that will need to be answered before moving ahead.

The Board will meet face-to-face with Inventive during their upcoming Spring Meeting in Bryan, Texas.

## **2021 Nationals & Finals Judge Changes**

The Board approved two judge changes for the 2021 Nationals and Finals, as presented by Liaison Gann.

Molly Reyenga will replace Melvin Stanley as Judge for the 2021 Obedience Finals.

Lindsey Hinds will replace Elsa Moncivais-Whitton for the 2021 Nationals Dock Jumping Trial

## **2022 Finals Judges**

The Board approve the remaining 2022 Finals Judges, as presented by Liaison Larson.

Jan Wesen and Sandra Walroth will judge the 2022 Rally Finals.

Sue Graham will judge the 2022 Agility Finals.

## European DNA Lab

The Board discussed an issue with Certagen (ASCA's lab for parentage verification in Germany) using the markers provided by Paw Print Genetics for ASCA registry parentage verification. In July 2020 Certagen agreed to use the markers provided by Paw Print Genetics but have not made the transition yet. Unfortunately, the Board has been made aware that Certagen will not be able to offer the new markers until the third quarter of 2021.

### BD.21.43 Parentage Verification for Members in Europe

Motion by Gerken that Counsel communicates with Certagen to inform them that until they are able to use the markers provided by Paw Print Genetics, ASCA Members in Europe will be doing their DNA parentage verification through Paw Print Genetics. Effective immediately upon Board approval. ASCA Members in Europe will be notified that, due to Certagen's inability to provide services as contracted, they are required to do DNA parentage verification for ASCA through Paw Print Genetics until further notice. Second by Creelman. Motion is **adopted** (9-0) - Approve: Unanimous.

**NOTE:** The Board came to an agreement with Certagen in May 2021 to prevent any disruption in member services and members may continue to send their samples to Certagen. Certagen will analyze the sample based on STR until late Q3 2021. In late Q3 Certagen will switch to Paw Print Genetics' proprietary SNP panel. All samples which are genotyped between May and late Q3 will be re-typed on the Paw Print Genetics' panel free of charge.

### Nebraska Site for Nationals

Director Creelman presented an update regarding a potential site to host ASCA Nationals in Grand Island, Nebraska. Our contact for the site, Bill Angell, shared a proposal to host ASCA's Nationals from October 10-19, 2024. It includes the use of the Pinnacle Bank Expo Center (for conformation and agility plus vendors), Heartland Event Center (working cattle), Bosselman Conference Center (meetings and seminars), Five Points Bank Arena (working sheep), Sheep Barn (grooming area and rally and obedience), Tom Dinsdale Automotive Cattle Barn (working ducks and possible grooming area), and Aurora Cooperative Pavilion (one night banquet). It also includes set up, tear down, janitorial, dirt work, rental of the buildings, sound, security, and disposal/trash removal. Fonner Park will work with ASCA on the RV camper area. The cost would be \$85,500 for all these services. The city of Grand Island and the GILCA Group will contribute \$45,000 to help offset these costs.

Director Creelman will confer with Mr. Angell and have a contract written up with all the details. The Board will discuss further during their upcoming Spring Meeting in Bryan, Texas.

Respectfully submitted by

*Kalla E. Jaco*

Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.