



# AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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## June 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> Apprentice Stockdog Judge - Susanne Schwarzmann (Austria) Apprentice Agility Judge - Susanne Schwarzmann (Austria) Apprentice Agility Judge - Roland Hofeneder (Austria) Junior Judge - Anneka Dahle (Texas) Provisional Breeder Judge - Hope McQueen (Texas) Crisis Conformation Judge - Nina Schneider (Germany) Crisis Stockdog Judge - Jack Hansen (Canada)</p> <p><b>New ASCA Affiliate Club:</b> Amigos ASC (New Mexico) President: Tammy Seaman Weidner Affiliate Rep: Diana Brown</p> <p>The Agility Program's ACE Senior Dog Division is now open to any dog aged seven (7) or older.</p> <p>In Agility, handlers will be able to continue to wear or keep their leashes in their pockets after the Board has lifted the crisis determination.</p>	<p>The show/trial sanctioning deadline increased to 45-days on June 1. <b>Any affiliates in areas still affected by COVID-19 related restrictions may contact the Board for special consideration as needed.</b></p> <p>ASCA's system upgrade project with Inventive kicked off on June 15.</p> <p>The Board voted to approve <b>Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska, as the site for the 2024 and 2025 National Specialties</b> (pending contract adjustments and approval by the Board and Counsel).</p> <p>The Board is also continuing their discussion and search for suitable National Specialty sites to include in the rotation.</p> <p>A \$500 grant from the ASCA Foundation was provided to Australian Shepherds Forever (California) for their efforts rescuing Australian Shepherds.</p>

## Motions Considered via Email

### Director Recommendations

#### **BD.21.64 Social Media Regarding Board Candidates**

Motion *carries* (7-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: Gann.

- a) **Comment from Director Gerken:** I believe that the freedom of speech is a constitutional right that we are free to exercise in this country. However, I believe that to be professional and fair, employees and directors of ASCA are expected to have an underlying loyalty, that while we may disagree on matters concerning specifics, before our personal feelings we would "ride for the brand" and consider our comments on social media or anywhere else to be representative of the greater organization.

Motion by Busquets to add the following language to Section 9 of the ASCA Policy Book, to be numbered Section 9.12. Second by Roberts.

#### **Current Wording:**

None.

## **Proposed Wording:**

### **Policy Book Section 9.12 Social Media**

ASCA employees who are ASCA members may choose to support or oppose particular candidates for the ASCA board or to take positions on ASCA policy issues. If they do so, they should take into account the following:

1. ASCA-owned social media accounts and email domains, and other resources available to the person as a result of their employment with ASCA, should not be used for such purposes.
2. The employee should clearly identify that they are expressing their own views, not those of ASCA.
3. An employee should be particularly careful to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest and of leaving the misimpression that their views are official ASCA ones where the employee's duties involve conducting Board elections and/or assisting the Board in formulating policy.

Nothing in this policy is intended to limit employees' ability to work collectively to attempt to improve working conditions. Nor does this policy seek to regulate activities otherwise protected under federal or state laws.

ASCA members who provide services to the organization as independent contractors similarly are asked to ensure any activities endorsing/opposing board candidates or taking policy positions are done without reliance on resources available to the person as a result of being a contractor. Related communications should be clearly identified as undertaken in the contractor's personal capacity rather than as an official view of ASCA.

For example, an employee or independent contractor addressing a related topic could use a personal email/social media account or personal webpage and include a disclaimer along the lines of, "Note that my views on this matter are solely my own, not official ones of ASCA" or "I speak for myself on this topic, not on behalf of ASCA."

**Comments/Rationale:** In the past, ASCA has not provided clear guidance regarding the use of social media by employees and contractors. This has sometimes resulted in a number of informal complaints from ASCA members. This new section should provide guidance to employees and contractors and should clarify to the membership the limited scope of ASCA's role in policing employees and contractors' private social media. While this section is limited to employees and contractors, volunteers such as committee members, directors, and others are encouraged to also include a disclaimer such as the one above so that the membership knows that their opinions are personal and not those of ASCA, and to limit the appearance of conflict of interest.

**Affected:** ASCA employees and contractors.

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

## **Committee Recommendations**

### **Agility Committee**

#### **AG.21.06 Redefine Emergency and Crisis Agility Judges**

Motion *carries* (7-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: Gann.

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

**Committee Recommendation:** Motion 8-2021 This motion redefines an Emergency Judge and a Crisis Judge for the Agility Program. Motion by Sherry Butler to approve the following definitions and rules for Agility Emergency and Crisis Judges. Second by Chet Katwyk.

**Results of Committee Vote:** Approve: 9. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: 3.

## **Current Wording:**

### **11.3 Emergency Judge**

In the event of an emergency where a judge cannot fulfill their assignment, the Trial Chairman along with the Trial Committee/ASCA affiliate, may choose an Emergency Judge with the following qualifications in order of priority (i.e., all eligible candidates in Item 1 must be attempted before Item 2 is considered, etc.):

1. Contact/hire another ASCA approved Judge not entered in the trial.
2. Contact/hire an ASCA approved judge entered in the trial.
3. Contact/hire an ASCA Apprentice Judge not entered in the trial.
4. Contact/hire ASCA Apprentice judge entered in the trial.
5. Contact/hire a judge from another approved agility venue (AKC, CPE, NADAC, and USDAA).
6. Contact/hire a person entered in the trial with the most experience in the ASCA Agility program (completed the most ATCH titles).

The original judge must forward the approved set of trial courses to the Emergency Judge if time and circumstances allow, otherwise the courses must be sent to the Trial Chairman and/or Trial Secretary for use at the trial by the Emergency Judge.

In the event of a global or local travel restrictions for European and Canadian ASCA Affiliate Club agility trials for where finding a Local Judge is not possible due to judging for that club too many times or actually wanting to show their own dogs and the regular Emergency Judge rules will not work, the Trial Chairman along with the Trial Committee/ASCA affiliate, may choose an Emergency Judge with the following qualifications in order of priority (i.e. all eligible candidates in Item 1 must be attempted before Item 2 is considered, etc.):

1. Contact/hire an ASCA Apprentice Judge not entered in the trial.
2. Contact/hire ASCA Apprentice judge entered in the trial.
3. Contact/hire a person who has taken the apprentice test and passed it.
4. Contact/hire a person entered in the trial with the most experience in the ASCA Agility program and (completed the most ATCH titles or has competed in ASCA agility for the most years or with the most Elite titles).
5. Contact/hire a person not entered in the trial with the most experience in the ASCAA agility program (completed the most ATCH titles or has competed in ASCA agility for the most years or with the most Elite titles).

If using option #3 and they want to become an ASCA judge, they can design the courses and send them in for review. If using options #4 or #5, the club needs to hire an approved ASCA judge to design the courses and pay them a design fee (to be worked out between the judge and the club). Or they can contact the Course Reviewers to see if there are courses from trials that could be used and that have already been reviewed. Also, if there is an approved ASCA agility Judge at the trial competing they can assist the person if that person needs help with setting the course or with a call, as long as it is not a member of the Judge's family or the Judge's dog. It will be required of the club to list in the premium, which Judge has designed the courses and who will be the person overseeing and judging the runs.

The Emergency Judge will abide by the restrictions listed in Section 1.3.5 and Section 11.4 as well as the rules in the ASCA Agility Rulebook.

The Trial Committee/ASCA Affiliate and Emergency Judge will contract fees and expenses to be paid for the assignment prior to judging first run of the trial.

### **12.9 Finals Course Design**

**Last sentence:** A Course Reviewer will be assigned by the Business Office and the course review must be conducted the same as Section 11.6.

### **Proposed Wording:**

### **11.3 Emergency Judge**

In the event of an emergency where a judge cannot fulfill their assignment, the Trial Chairman along with the Trial Committee/ASCA affiliate, may choose an Emergency Judge with the following qualifications in order of priority (i.e. all eligible candidates in Item 1 must be attempted before Item 2 is considered, etc.):

1. Contact/hire another ASCA approved Judge not entered in the trial.
2. Contact/hire an ASCA approved judge entered in the trial.
3. Contact/hire an ASCA Apprentice Judge not entered in the trial.
4. Contact/hire ASCA Apprentice judge entered in the trial.
5. Contact/hire a judge from another approved agility venue (AKC, CPE, NADAC, and USDAA).
6. Contact/hire a person entered in the trial with the most experience in the ASCA Agility program (completed the most ATCH titles or has competed in ASCA agility for the most years or with the most ASCA Elite titles).

The original judge must forward the approved set of trial courses to the Emergency Judge if time and circumstances allow, otherwise the courses must be sent to the Trial Chairman and/or Trial Secretary for use at the trial by the Emergency Judge.

~~In the event of a global or local travel restrictions for European and Canadian ASCA Affiliate Club agility trials for where finding a Local Judge is not possible due to judging for that club too many times or actually wanting to show their own dogs and the regular Emergency Judge rules will not work, the Trial Chairman along with the Trial Committee/ASCA affiliate, may choose an Emergency Judge with the following qualifications in order of priority (i.e. all eligible candidates in Item 1 must be attempted before Item 2 is considered, etc.):~~

- ~~1. Contact/hire an ASCA Apprentice Judge not entered in the trial.~~
- ~~2. Contact/hire ASCA Apprentice judge entered in the trial.~~
- ~~3. Contact/hire a person who has taken the apprentice test and passed it.~~
- ~~4. Contact/hire a person entered in the trial with the most experience in the ASCA Agility program and (completed the most ATCH titles or has competed in ASCA agility for the most years or with the most Elite titles).~~
- ~~5. Contact/hire a person not entered in the trial with the most experience in the ASCA Agility program (completed the most ATCH titles or has competed in ASCA agility for the most years or with the most Elite titles).~~

~~If using option #3 and they want to become an ASCA judge, they can design the courses and send them in for review. If using options #4 or #5, the club needs to hire an approved ASCA judge to design the courses and pay them a design fee (to be worked out between the judge and the club). Or they can contact the Course Reviewers to see if there are courses from trials that could be used and that have already been reviewed. Also, if there is an approved ASCA agility Judge at the trial competing they can assist the person if that person needs help with setting the course or with a call, as long as it is not a member of the Judge's family or the Judge's dog. It will be required of the club to list in the premium, which Judge has designed the courses and who will be the person overseeing and judging the runs.~~

The Emergency Judge will abide by the restrictions listed in Section 1.3.5 and Section 11.4 as well as the rules in the ASCA Agility Rulebook. The judge and/or any dogs owned or handled by the judge will not be eligible for any High in Trial awards for any days while judging, or any High Combined or weekend awards for the trial they are judging.

The Emergency Judge must abide by all rules in the ASCA Agility Rulebook.

The Trial Committee/ASCA Affiliate and Emergency Judge will contract fees and expenses to be paid for the assignment prior to judging first run of the trial. Under no circumstances will the Emergency Judge be paid more than what is specified in Section 2.8.1 Judges Expenses.

#### **11.4 Crisis Judge**

If a temporary shortage of Judges occurs due to any type of natural disaster, war, disease, travel restrictions, etc., temporary Crisis Judge(s) may be used when holding ASCA agility trials. A crisis must be determined by the ASCA Board of Directors and will remain in place until the ASCA Board of Directors announces to the membership and Agility Committee that the crisis is over.

Once a crisis has been determined by the ASCA Board of Directors, an ASCA Affiliate or Agility Licensee from Europe, Canada, or US States that have their border closed or under quarantine, can use a Crisis Judge provided they follow the rules to hire a Crisis Judge. Once the crisis is over, any person approved to be a Crisis Judge will return to the status held prior to the crisis and will not have an altered path to become an Apprentice or Approved ASCA Agility judge.

The Trial Chairman along with the Trial Committee/ASCA affiliate, may choose a Crisis Judge with the following qualifications in order of priority (i.e., all eligible candidates in Item 1 must be attempted before Item 2 is considered, etc.):

1. Contact/hire an ASCA Apprentice Judge not entered in the trial.
2. Contact/hire ASCA Apprentice judge entered in the trial.
3. Contact/hire a person who has taken the apprentice test and passed it.
4. Contact/hire a person entered in the trial with the most experience in the ASCA Agility program and (completed the most ATCH titles or has competed in ASCA agility for the most years or with the most ASCA Elite titles).
5. Contact/hire a person not entered in the trial with the most experience in the ASCA Agility program (completed the most ATCH titles or has competed in ASCA agility for the most years or with the most ASCA Elite titles).

If using option #3 and they want to become an ASCA judge, they can design the courses and send them in for review. If using options #4 or #5, the club needs to hire an approved ASCA judge to design the courses and pay them a design fee (to be worked out between the judge and the club). Or they can contact the Course Reviewers to see if there are courses from trials that could be used and that have already been reviewed. Also, if there is an approved ASCA agility Judge at the trial competing they can assist the person if that person needs help with setting the course or with a call, as long as it is not a member of the Judge's family or the Judge's dog.

It will be required of the club to list in the premium, which Judge has designed the courses and who will be the person overseeing and judging the runs.

The Crisis Judge will abide by the restrictions listed in Section 1.3.5 Participation in Trials and Section 11.5 Judge Restrictions as well as the rules in the ASCA Agility Rulebook.

The Trial Committee/ASCA Affiliate and Crisis Judge will contract fees and expenses to be paid for the assignment prior to judging first run of the trial. Under no circumstances will the Crisis Judge be paid more than what is specified in Section 2.8.1 Judges Expenses.

**Section 11.4 Judge Restrictions** will be renumbered to 11.5

**Section 11.5 Course Designs** will be renumbered to 11.6

**Section 11.6 Course Design Review** will be renumbered to 11.7

**Section 12.9 Finals Course Design**

**Last sentence:** A Course Reviewer will be assigned by the Business Office and the course review must be conducted the same as Section ~~11.6~~ 11.7.

**Comments/Rationale:** This motion allows US States that have their border closed or under quarantine to use a Crisis Judge. It also makes some corrections to the Emergency Judge section and separates the Crisis Judge into its own section.

**Affected:** Judges and exhibitors. It will affect the club for a Crisis Judge because they will have to list who the judge is that is designing the courses and who will be the judge that will be judging the dogs. That should be listed in the premium. It does not affect the Webmaster, Business Office, or Program Software Vendor.

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

#### **AG.21.07 Eligible Age of Dogs in ACE Senior Dog Division**

Motion *carries* (7-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: Gann.

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

**Committee Recommendation:** Change the eligible age of a dog in the ACE Senior Dog Division. Motion by Sherry Butler to modify the eligible age of a dog in the ACE Senior Dog from 10 years old to 7 years old. Second by Sandra Katzen.

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

#### **Current Wording:**

##### **4.3.2 Senior Dog Division**

The Senior Dog Division is open to any dog age ten (10) or older. The dog's age shall be determined by the dog's actual birthday or the closest date as known.

#### **Proposed Wording:**

##### **4.3.2 Senior Dog Division**

The Senior Dog Division is open to any dog aged ~~ten (10)~~ **seven (7)** or older. The dog's age shall be determined by the dog's actual birthday, or the closest date as known.

**Comments/Rationale:** A dog is eligible to be in the Championship Veteran Dog Division at 7 years of age and jump one height lower than their Championship Standard Division height. Currently, a dog in the ACE program must wait until they are 10 years old before they are eligible to be in the ACE Senior Dog Division and jump one height lower than their ACE Standard Division height. (The ACE Standard Division height is one height lower than the Championship Standard Division height). The Senior Dog in ACE is similar to the Veteran Dog in Championship in that they both jump one height lower than their Standard height in their given program. This motion makes the eligibility age for both Championship Veteran Dogs and ACE Senior Dogs the same.

**Affected:** Trial Secretaries to check the age for dogs entering the ACE Senior Dog Division. (Note: Dogs are not required to enter the ACE Senior Dog Division when they reach a certain age. It is up to the exhibitor to decide what division they want to enter their dog.)

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

#### **AG.21.08 Clean Run Course Designer Information**

Motion *carries* (7-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: Gann.

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

**Committee Recommendation:** 13-2021 Motion to update the information about Clean Run Course Designer in the Rule book. Motion by Jan Niblock to approve this motion about updating the rule book for current CRCD programs. Second by Chet Katwyk.

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

- a) **Dissent from Committee Member Andrea Hoffmann:** Though I think that the reviewers should be reimbursed, judges should be able to continue using the older version as Not all judges have, or can use the newest version of CDCR.

#### **Current Wording:**

## Section 11.6 Course Design Review

1. All agility courses used in Agility Trials for which ASCA is the sole or primary sanctioning organization must receive an ASCA course review to ensure consistency with the ASCA Agility philosophy of safe, flowing courses with challenges appropriate to the intended levels.
2. Course reviewers shall be experienced, respected agility judges appointed by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the Agility Committee. They shall serve as unpaid volunteers. At least three course reviewers, plus at least one alternate, should be appointed whenever feasible, at least one each to review courses for trials.
3. Judges, upon appointment, shall be advised by the ASCA Business Office of the name and email address of a course reviewer having review responsibility for the trial(s) they are judging.
4. Upon the hiring of a judge, host clubs shall electronically provide judges with a detailed list of available equipment to be used for each ring, plus a diagram of each ring to be used, showing ring dimensions, location of gates, nature and uniformity of surface, and locations, nature, and dimensions of any ring obstructions. The host club shall also indicate whether electronic timing equipment is available for use. The equipment lists, ring diagrams and information on electronic timing shall be provided not later than 60 days prior to the first day of the trial.
5. Judges must electronically submit their proposed courses, in a compressed/zipped file, together with a copy of the host club's equipment list, ring diagrams, and electronic timing information, for review to the applicable course reviewer not later than 30 days prior to the first day of the trial. Unless otherwise agreed by the course reviewer and judge, course diagrams shall be submitted in either "Course Designer 2000" or "Course Designer 2003" format.

### Proposed Wording:

## Section 11.6 Course Design Review

1. All agility courses used in Agility Trials for which ASCA is the sole or primary sanctioning organization must receive an ASCA course review to ensure consistency with the ASCA Agility philosophy of safe, flowing courses with challenges appropriate to the intended levels.
2. Course reviewers shall **must** be experienced, respected agility judges appointed by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the Agility Committee. They shall serve as unpaid volunteers. ASCA will provide or reimburse the cost to course reviewers for Clean Run Course Designer 4 (CRCD4) and or the most recent version of Clean Run Course Designer for no more than two (2) of their electronic devices that they use to review courses, if the course reviewer wants to upgrade or obtain a newer version than they own. Any course reviewer who prefers to continue to use an earlier version may do so. Judges submitting courses for review must submit them in the format(s) preferred by the course reviewer. At least three course reviewers, plus at least one alternate, should be appointed whenever feasible, at least one each to review courses for trials.
3. Judges, upon appointment, shall **will** be advised by the ASCA Business Office of the name, **preferred format(s)**, and email address of a course reviewer having review responsibility for the trial(s) they are judging.
4. Upon the hiring of a judge, host clubs shall **must** electronically provide judges with a detailed list of available equipment to be used for each ring, plus a diagram of each ring to be used, showing ring dimensions, location of gates, nature and uniformity of surface, and locations, nature, and dimensions of any ring obstructions. The host club shall **must** also indicate whether electronic timing equipment is available for use. The equipment lists, ring diagrams and information on electronic timing shall **must** be provided not later than 60 days prior to the first day of the trial.
5. Judges must electronically submit their proposed courses, in a compressed/zipped file, together with a copy of the host club's equipment list, ring diagrams, and electronic timing information, for review to the applicable course reviewer not later than 30 days prior to the first day of the trial. Unless otherwise agreed by the course reviewer and judge, course diagrams shall **must** be submitted in either "~~Course Designer 2000~~", or "~~Clean Run Course Designer 2003~~" **3** (CRCD 3). If the course reviewer agrees, the judge may submit their courses in Clean Run Course Designer 4 (CRCD 4) or the most current version of Clean Run Course Designer format.

**Comments/Rationale:** Clean Run updates their course designer program from time to time and does not support the older versions. Right now, Course Designer 2000 is not supported in any way and CRCD3 is only supported minimally. Also, currently the newest program is not included in the rule book and all new judges have to purchase the newest version, CRCD4, which is not mentioned. And for the any future upgrades, we added a generic statement so this would not have to be addressed again. With the Course Reviewers being volunteers it does not seem right to require them to absorb the cost for new programs.

**Affected:** The Board, Business Office, Judges, and Course Reviewers.

Ray Fryar, Manager of the Business Office replied “I think that would be perfectly fine to add to the Course Review letter we send out. It would simply be a matter of adding a line with the reviewer’s preferred format which can be kept in the excel file info for each reviewer. They would just need to update the office if they update their software.”

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

### **AG.21.09 Allow Handlers to Keep Leashes**

Motion *carries* (7-0) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: Gann.

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

**Committee Recommendation:** Motion 14-2021 to allow for leashes to be kept with the handler after the pandemic. Motion by Jan Niblock to approve this motion about allowing the choice for handlers to wear or keep their leashes in their pockets after the Board has lifted the rules for the pandemic. Second by Diana Curl.

**Results of Committee Vote:** Approve: 9. Disapprove: 3. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

### **Current Wording:**

#### **1.3.6 Other Restrictions**

In all classes the handler shall direct their dog through the course without a collar or lead. No food, toys, balls or other devices may be brought into the ring or used within ten (10) feet (3.1 meters) of the perimeter of the entire ring. The handlers may not carry/wear anything in the ring which might be construed to be an aid to the performance of the dogs (including fanny packs, leashes around their waists, cell phones, cameras). See Section 9.1 for guidelines for using toys in the ring.

### **Proposed Wording:**

#### **1.3.6 Other Restrictions**

In all classes the handler shall direct their dog through the course without a collar or lead. No food, toys, balls or other devices may be brought into the ring or used within ten (10) feet (3.1 meters) of the perimeter of the entire ring. The handlers may not carry/wear anything in the ring which might be construed to be an aid to the performance of the dogs (including fanny packs, ~~leashes around their waists~~, cell phones, cameras). See Section 9.1 for guidelines for using toys in the ring.

The handler may choose to wear or pocket the leash, so long as it is attached tightly or inside the pocket. If the handler is keeping the leash and the dog becomes interested in it, an elimination will occur. Also, if the leash falls to the ground, it will be considered a toy and the run will be eliminated. ASCA assumes no responsibility if the handler chooses to wear or pocket their leash and it catches on obstacles and/or causes the handler to trip. The leash cannot be used as an aid to help the dog through the course.

**Comments/Rationale:** Allowing handlers the choice to wear or keep their leashes in their pockets helps with getting the dogs on a leash quicker which helps to keep the trial moving. For instance, if something happens and the dog needs to get back on leash quickly (eliminates in the ring, is running amok, etc.) having the leash with the handler helps. Also, at the



end of the run, the handler does not have to look for where the leash was put or wait for the leash runner, if they forget to bring it to the exit. This way the handler can quickly leash their dog and leave the ring. We are not making it mandatory but it is the handler's choice and there are consequences if the handler allows the dog to interact with the leash. This has been done for the last year and there has not been any major problems.

**Affected:** Judges, handlers, and ring crew.

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

## **Minutes of the Board Meetings via GoToMeeting**

**June 10, 2021, via GoToMeeting**

Discussions of Open Session topics were recorded and may be listened to on ASCA's [YouTube Channel](#) and [Website](#).

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm CDT and it was adjourned at 8:09 pm CDT.

**In attendance:** President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Gina Larson, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Judy Boone (joined at 6:22 pm), Director Denise Creelman, Director Carol Gerken, Director Jean Roberts, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

### **Financial Report**

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 6:07 pm - 6:13 pm. The financial reports for period ending May 31, 2021, were presented by Treasurer Wesen. Wesen updated the Board regarding ASCA's current fiscal condition and projections for the future. Members can find the Treasurer's report and analysis from Wesen in the member's only section of ASCA's website.

#### **BD.21.65 May 2021 Treasurer's Report**

Motion by Roberts to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented. Second by Larson. Motion **carries** (7-0) - Approve: Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen; Disapprove: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Boone.

### **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.

#### **BD.21.66 May 2021 Email Business**

Motion by Creelman to ratify all business conducted over email in May 2021. Second by Wesen. Motion **carries** (7-0) - Approve: Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen; Disapprove: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Boone.

### **System Report**

Board System Liaison Larson reported on the status of the computer system upgrade. The Inventive team has been assembled and a kick-off meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 15 at 11:30 am CDT.

Maarten Walter developed a responsibility assignment chart and the following ASCA roles have been defined for the ASCA Migration Project:

- Project Leadership - ASCA Board of Directors, Executive Sponsors of the migration project
- Board Liaison - Gina Larson
- Application Owner - ASCA Office Manager
- Business Office Management - ASCA Office Manager
- Project Lead - Maarten Walter
- Technology Leads - Allison Bryant, Maarten Walter

- Project Manager - Sherry Butler
- Business Office Testers - TBD
- External Testers - System Upgrade Committee

Mr. Walter has also helped clearly state ASCA's goals and objectives for the project:

- First, the project will resolve all major technology debt and/or legacy issues that impact the ability of the ASCA Business Office and the ASCA membership to utilize ASCA's services in a timely and secure manner.
- Secondly, this project will resolve known and existing coding issues by utilizing cloud platform services and industry standard coding practices to re-architect the ADMS application and database. Application functional issues such as program updates, reporting and other functions that are deemed critical to the processing of ASCA business will be addressed during this re-architecture project.
- Finally, the project will focus on migrating all ASCA's IT assets into the cloud in a safe and secure manner such that future enhancements, third party services and security can be utilized to the fullest extent possible. Additionally, reliance on legacy server and desktop-based services will also be removed.

ASCA will receive weekly updates from Inventive and will be actively involved with our team of skilled volunteers. Thank you to Mr. Walter, Ms. Bryant, and the System Upgrade Committee for all they have dedicated to this project so far!

### **Complaint**

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 6:22 pm - 6:37 pm. Director Boone reported on a complaint; no disciplinary action was taken.

### **Nationals Sites**

Directors spent time sharing their goals and desires looking toward the future for ASCA's National Specialty. **Members are encouraged to listen to the meeting recording for details.**

Directors all agreed it was important for ASCA to host a premier event. The Board must balance these desires and those of ASCA's membership with what is affordable short/long-term and accessible for most of our members. Ultimately, the Board remains committed to utilizing a rotation of Nationals sites.

Director Creelman proposed that ASCA hold the Nationals for two years in Nebraska, following the three years in Texas. That provides the Board with five years to find additional sites for a rotation, preferably one east of the Mississippi River.

It was suggested the Board re-evaluate the requirements for Nationals sites to determine if those are still our priorities. Another suggestion was to provide a survey for members to fill out on-site at the 2021 Nationals.

### **Fonner Park**

Directors Creelman, Boone, and Wesen, along with member Kristina Churchill, toured Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska on June 9. Directors shared their experiences and opinions on the site. **Again, members are encouraged to listen to the meeting recording for more details.**

The cost of the site is \$85,500. However, Director Creelman shared a video recording of Brad Mellema, the Executive Director for Grand Island Tourism, promising ASCA a \$45,000 grant from Grand Island for 2024 and 2025. That brings the site cost to \$40,500. All verbal agreements made throughout this process so far will be clearly stated in the contract between ASCA and Fonner Park.

### **BD.21.67 Site for 2024 and 2025 Nationals**

Motion by Creelman to approve Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska, as the site for the 2024 and 2025 National Specialties. This approval is pending contract adjustments and approval by the ASCA Board of Directors and Counsel. Second by Boone. Motion **carries** (7-1) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen; Disapprove: Gann; Abstain: None; Absent: None.

Director Creelman will work with the site to adjust the agreement as needed and share a revised draft with Counsel. Then the Board will vote on the contract during the July 8 meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm. The Board's next scheduled meeting is Thursday, July 8, 2021.**

Respectfully submitted by

*Kalla E. Jaco*

Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.