



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

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May 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>New ASCA Committee Members: Sandra Hawkins - region 4 on the Tracking Committee Warene Waters - region 2 on the Scent Search Committee</p> <p>New ASCA Judges: Apprentice Agility Judge - Christian Prein (Austria) Non-Regular Breeder Judge - Shelby Shank (Wyoming) Provisional Breeder Judge - Alexis Weber (Illinois) Approved Breeder Judge - Jennifer Cannon (Utah) Senior Breeder Judge - Cherrie Cannon (Utah)</p> <p>New ASCA Crisis Judges: Crisis Conformation Judge - Sabrina Berntzen (Germany) Crisis Conformation Judge - Elke Philipp (Germany) Crisis Conformation Judge - Magda Gilles (Germany) Crisis Conformation Judge - Nadine Schott (Germany) Crisis Conformation Judge - Katrin Glesmer (Germany)</p>	<p>The Board voted to sign an agreement with Inventive Group to migrate ASCA's database and build a new system for the ASCA Office and Membership to use.</p> <p>The Dock Jumping Committee is looking into options to increase accessibility of pools for ASCA Members.</p> <p>The sanctioning deadline increases to 45-days on June 1. Any affiliates in areas still affected by COVID-19 related restrictions may contact the Board for special consideration as needed.</p> <p>ASCA's New Treasurer is Jan Wesen. ASCA's New BOD System Liaison is Gina Larson. ASCA's New Secretary is Judy Boone.</p> <p>New Agility Course Reviewer: Sue Graham (California)</p>

Motions Considered via Email

Director Recommendations

➔ **BD.21.57 Ineligible to Serve as Nationals Chairperson**

Motion **fails** (1-7) - Approve: Roberts. Disapprove: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Wesen. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- Dissent from Roberts: ASCA is the governing body for our National event so having a person employed by ASCA, or a family member, employed as the Nationals Chair is a conflict of interest. A person who is on the Nationals Advisory Committee, the body that helps oversee the Nationals, also being a chair of Nationals is another conflict. How can one be the supervisor of oneself? If ASCA hired an outside company to run Nationals, would we hire a company where someone on the Board, an employee, or a person on the advisory committee was also in charge of that company? I think not.
- Comment from Boone: ASCA does not have enough people volunteering to put even more restrictions on this position.
- Comment from Busquets: I understand the idea that we must avoid the appearance of nepotism. However, this seems a low probability situation. How many of the members of the nationals committee in the last 20 years have been relatives of employees or directors? We keep adding rules to the book and this one doesn't seem to occur frequently enough to warrant one. The Board should appoint members who are qualified and have the time to volunteer. Exclusionary rules may tie the Board's hands in the future.

- d) Comment from Creelman: There are lots of people within this restriction that may be needed to help fill committee spots going forward.
- e) Comment from Gerken: I think that passing this will greatly reduce some of our best qualified volunteers. It is very broad and will be very limiting in getting some of our most qualified people for different venues and responsibilities.
- f) Comment from Larson: Upon further consideration paragraph C should be removed from this motion.
- g) Comment from Wesen: This goes way deep for hard working ASCA members. This is a member driven organization.

Motion by Roberts to replace section 1.7.2 of the National Specialty rules with the below. Second by Larson.

Current Wording:

1.7.2 Ineligible to Serve as Nationals Chairperson

An ASCA employee (regular, part-time, contract or temp) and no ASCA Board member can serve as the Nationals Chairperson, unless that person has committed to that position prior to their employment or election.

Proposed Wording:

1.7.2 Ineligible to Serve as Nationals Chairperson

The Board will not approve any of the following as the National Specialty Chairperson:

- a. A current ASCA employee (regular, part-time, contract, or temp)
- b. A current ASCA Board member
- c. A current member of the Nationals Advisory Committee
- d. An immediate family member of any of the above.

An exception may be made in case the person has been approved to be the Nationals Chairperson before being hired by ASCA or elected to the Board.

An exception may be made in case there are no applicants to serve as National Specialty Chair.

Comments/Rationale: To clean up the current language and eliminate or reduce the perception of conflicts of interest.

Affected: National Specialty Committee.

Effective Date: 2023 Nationals.

 **BD.21.59 Board Members and Employees Judging**

Motion ***fails*** (3-5) - Approve: Boone, Larson, Roberts. Disapprove: Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Wesen. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) Dissent from Larson: Either Board members should not judge at Nationals/Finals or Board members should not trial/show under Board members that are judging at Nationals and Finals.
- b) Dissent from Roberts: The Board hears the complaints lodged against judges at the ASCA Finals, which is a huge conflict of interest. With ASCA in charge of Nationals, the problem has been compounded.
- c) Comment from Busquets: I'm somewhat conflicted about this. The directors go to the National Specialty to work for ASCA, and judging may hinder some of those duties. On the other hand, directors judge trials and shows all the time and the same conflicts that may arise during the Specialty and Finals can also arise during regular trials and shows. Yet, we don't prohibit directors from judging regular events. I think the issue here could be better addressed by limiting directors from showing to each other during Finals and the Specialty.
- d) Comment from Creelman: I think that it is too early in the game of ASCA hosting Nationals. We need to have people with experience available in the case that others do not apply.

- e) Comment from Gerken: I am concerned that in some venues this would have a limiting effect on having current and qualified judges to choose from. Several of the venues do not have many applicants to judge at Nationals as it stands now. If we do not think the judges are fair and moral, they should not be chosen for judging assignments. I understand that it would be easier for members of the BOD not to handle questions that arise during the Nationals and that passing this motion would "let them off the hook" from being involved in a difficult discussion, but I believe that myself and my fellow BOD are able to be fair, able, and open-minded to deal with any questions that arise.
- f) Comment from Wesen: Board members should be out with the membership.

Motion by Roberts to insert a new section 8.1 into the Nationals Rules and renumber the rest of the section accordingly. Second by Larson.

Current Wording: None.

Proposed Wording:

8.1 Board Members and Employees Judging

ASCA Board members (sitting, elect, and outgoing) and ASCA employees are ineligible to judge at ASCA Finals and Nationals, including pre/post trials and shows.

Comments/Rationale: ASCA Board members and employees are directly involved with planning and overseeing the week's events. This motion will reduce/eliminate perceived conflicts of interest/impropriety/nepotism. One way conflicts arise is when complaints are filed, come before the Board for resolution and the complaint involves a Board member acting as a judge.

Affected: Board members and employees.

Effective Date: 2023 Nationals.

EM.21.02 Emergency Motion - ASCA Treasurer

Motion *carries* (7-0-1) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts. Disapprove: None. Abstain: Wesen. Non-Voting: None.

Motion by Busquets that we approve Jan Wesen for the position of ASCA Treasurer until the next officer election in November 2021. Second by Roberts.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

EM.21.03 Emergency Motion - Liaison to Computer Committee & Inventive

Motion *carries* (7-0-1) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: Larson. Non-Voting: None.

Motion by Busquets that we approve Gina Larson as the Board liaison to the System/Computer Committee and Inventive. Second by Roberts.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

EM.21.04 Emergency Motion - ASCA Secretary

Motion *carries* (7-0-1) - Approve: Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: Boone. Non-Voting: None.

Motion by Busquets that we approve Judy Boone for the position of ASCA Secretary until the next officer election in November 2021.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Committee Recommendations

Agility Committee

➔ AG.21.04 Criteria for Agility Finals Judge in Crisis Situation

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Sherry Butler to modify the criteria of the Agility Judge's experience to allow them to judge the Agility Finals if a crisis has been declared by the ASCA Board of Directors. Second by Chet Katwyk.

Results of Committee Vote: Approve: 5. Disapprove: None. Abstain: 1. Non-Voting: 2.

Current Wording:

12.8.2 Requirements for Selection of Finals Judge

The Judge for the ASCA Agility Finals will be selected from all ASCA Agility judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office in the correct timeframe and indicate they are available to judge. Agility judges will be excluded from the random draw if they:

- A. Have 4 years or less experience as an ASCA judge.
- B. Have pending or previous disciplinary action within the last year.
- C. Have judged Agility Finals the previous year.
- D. Have failed to judge ten (10) unrelated multiple trial dates, all classes & divisions in the previous five (5) years. (Related trials are those held at the same location & date at the same place in the same 10-day period.) Must have two (2) judging assignments within the previous twelve (12) months.
- E. Are not or have not actively participated in ASCA Agility trials as an exhibitor at the Elite level, all classes. Preference given to Judges who have achieved an Agility Trial Championship on at least one dog.

Proposed Wording:

12.8.2 Requirements for Selection of Finals Judge

The Judge for the ASCA Agility Finals will be selected from all ASCA Agility judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office in the correct timeframe and indicate they are available to judge. Agility judges will be excluded from the random draw if they:

- A. Have 4 years or less experience as an ASCA judge.
- B. Have pending or previous disciplinary action within the last year.
- C. Have judged Agility Finals the previous year.
- D. Have failed to judge ten (10) unrelated multiple trial dates, all classes & divisions in the previous five (5) years. (Related trials are those held at the same location & date at the same place in the same 10-day period.) **If a crisis has been declared by the ASCA Board of Directors, a year will be added for each year of the crisis until it is over. So, if the crisis is for 1 year, the timeframe will be the previous six (6) years from the date of the Agility Finals Judge application. If the crisis is for 2 years, the timeframe will be the previous (7) years from the date of the Agility Finals Judge application.**
- E. Must have two (2) judging assignments within the previous twelve (12) months **from the date of the Agility Finals Judge application. If a crisis has been declared by the ASCA Board of Directors, this requirement will be waived.**
- F. Are not or have not actively participated in ASCA Agility trials as an exhibitor at the Elite level, all classes. Preference given to Judges who have achieved an Agility Trial Championship on at least one dog.

Comments/Rationale: If a crisis has been declared by the ASCA Board of Directors, judges may not be able to judge enough to meet the current criteria. This may result in a small to non-existent pool to select an Agility Finals Judge. The timeframes have been clarified to be when the application for Agility Finals judges is sent to the agility judges.

Affected: Agility Judges and Agility Finals Judge Selection Committee. The Business Office will need to change the letter to the judges.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

➔ **AG.21.05 Criteria for Nationals Agility Judges in Crisis Situation**

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Sherry Butler to modify the criteria of the Agility Judge's experience to allow them to judge the Agility Nationals if a crisis has been declared by the ASCA Board of Directors. Second by Chet Katwyk.

Results of Committee Vote: Approve: 8. Disapprove: None. Abstain: 1. Non-Voting: 2.

Current Wording:

13.2.2 Requirements for Selection of Nationals Judges

The judges for the ASCA Agility Nationals will be selected from all ASCA Agility Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office in the correct timeframe and indicate they are available to judge. Agility judges will be considered if they:

- A. Have judged or accepted three (3) judging assignments (European judges must have judged or accepted two (2) assignments) in the calendar year prior to the Nationals. For example, for the 2021 Nationals, the 12 months is January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020.
- B. Do not have pending or previous disciplinary action within the last year.
- C. Did not judge Agility Finals or Nationals the previous year.
- D. Have been actively participating in ASCA agility trials as an exhibitor for at least 12 trial days over the last 3 years.
- E. Have competed in ASCA Agility trials as an exhibitor at the Elite level.

13.2.3 Exceptions

It is possible that none of the available judges will meet all the requirements listed. The candidates with the greatest number of listed requirements will be recommended to the Nationals Committee.

Proposed Wording:

13.2.2 Requirements for Selection of Nationals Judges

The judges for the ASCA Agility Nationals will be selected from all ASCA Agility Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office in the correct timeframe and indicate they are available to judge. Agility judges will be considered if they:

- A. Have judged or accepted three (3) judging assignments (European judges must have judged or accepted two (2) assignments) ~~in the calendar year prior to the Nationals~~ **within the previous twelve (12) months from the date of the Agility Nationals Judge application.** ~~For example, for the 2021 Nationals, the 12 months is January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020.~~ **If a crisis has been declared by the ASCA Board of Directors, this requirement will be waived.**
- B. Do not have pending or previous disciplinary action within the last year.

- C. Did not judge Agility Finals or Nationals the previous year.
- D. Have been actively participating in ASCA agility trials as an exhibitor for at least 12 trial days over the last 3 years. **If a crisis has been declared by the ASCA Board of Directors, a year will be added for each year the crisis has been declared. For example, if a crisis was declared in 2020 and rescinded in 2021, then the timeframe will be the last 4 years from the date of the Agility Nationals Judge application.**
- E. Have competed in ASCA Agility trials as an exhibitor at the Elite level.

13.2.3 Exceptions

It is possible that none of the available judges will meet all the requirements listed. The candidates with the greatest number of listed requirements will be recommended to the Nationals Committee.

Comments/Rationale: If a crisis has been declared by the ASCA Board of Directors, judges may not be able to judge enough to meet the current criteria. This may result in a small to non-existent pool to select Agility Nationals Judges. The timeframes have been clarified to be when the application for Agility Nationals judges is sent to the agility judges.

Affected: Agility Judges and Agility Nationals Judge Selection Committee. The Business Office will need to change the letter to the judges.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Dock Jumping Committee

 **DJ.21.01 Launch Division Points**

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Heidi Mobley that the points for Launch divisions be changed to the following amounts. Second by Pam Smith.

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

Current Wording:

3.2.5 Championship Level - Chart

Launch	Division	Distance	Points
1" - 9'11"	Spring	1" - 2'11"	1
		3' - 4'11"	2
		5' - 6'11"	3
		7' - 8'11"	4
		9' - 9'11"	5
10' - 14'11"	Classic	10' - 10'11"	1
		11' - 11'11"	2
		12' - 12'11"	3
		13' - 13'11"	4
		14' - 14'11"	5

Proposed Wording:

3.2.5 Championship Level - Chart

Launch	Division	Distance	Points
		1" - 7'11"	1

1" - 9'11"	Spring	8' - 8'5"	2
		8'6" - 8'11"	3
		9' - 9'5"	4
		9'6" - 9'11"	5
10' - 14'11"	Classic	10' - 12'11"	1
		13' - 13'5"	2
		13'6" - 13'11"	3
		14' - 14'5"	4
		14'6" - 14'11"	5

Comments/Rationale: Points are used to calculate the High in Trial results and titles for Dock Jumping. We have found an unfair advantage in the Spring and Classic divisions with the length the points can be accumulated is more than 6". We would like to make these divisions all equal for over than 1 point.

Affected: Exhibitors and Judges. Business Office for rule book printing.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

DJ.21.02 Requirements to Become a Judge

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Heidi Mobley to change the wording in the ASCA Dock Jumping Judge Applicants portion of the judge's book. Second by Sandra Czarny.

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

Current Wording:

4.2.1 Requirements to Become a Judge

Applicants who wish to apply to become an ASCA Dock Jumping Judge, without affiliations other than ASCA, must have the following qualifications. Qualifications:

1. Two ASCA Advanced Dog titles from Launch and/or Fetch-it.
2. Two ASCA Excellent Title from Launch and/or Fetch-it.
3. One ASCA Master Title from Launch and/or Fetch-it.
4. All titles must be achieved by the handler. Handler is defined in Appendix A.

Proposed Wording:

4.2.1 Requirements to Become a Judge

Applicants who wish to apply to become an ASCA Dock Jumping Judge, without affiliations other than ASCA, must have the following qualifications. Qualifications:

1. One ASCA Advanced title from Launch and/or Fetch-it.
2. One ASCA Excellent Title from Launch and/or Fetch-it.
3. One ASCA Master Title from Launch and/or Fetch-it, **or the equivalent point value of 75 that would be equal to a Master Title. If point value is used, applicants must have accumulated points from at least three different ASCA sanctioned shows.**
4. **Titles and points can be from more than one dog handled.**
5. All titles must be achieved by the handler. Handler is defined in Appendix A.

Comments/Rationale: After a few years of working with the program, the committee has reevaluated these requirements. We felt this was a better way to allow people to become judges.

Affected: Exhibitors and Judges. Business Office for rule book printing.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

➔ **DJ.21.03 Judge Application Process**

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Heidi Mobley to change the wording in the ASCA Dock Jumping Judge Application Process portion of the judge's book. Second by Sandra Czarny.

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

Current Wording:

4.2.2 Application Process

- c. Show proof of completion of four ASCA Dock Jumping Trial Chairman assignments.

Proposed Wording:

4.2.2 Application Process

- c. Show proof of completion of **one** ASCA Dock Jumping Trial Chairman assignments.

Comments/Rationale: After a few years of working with the program, the committee has reevaluated these requirements. We felt this was a better way to allow people to become judges.

Affected: Exhibitors and Judges. Business office for rule book printing.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

➔ **DJ.21.04 Apprenticing Assignments**

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Kristina Churchill to change the apprentice assignment requirements as follows. Second by Tina Lass.

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

Current Wording:

4.2.3 Apprenticing Requirements and Procedures

- a. The Apprentice must complete a minimum of two apprentice assignments under at least two different ASCA approved Dock Jumping Judges.

Proposed Wording:

4.2.3 Apprenticing Requirements and Procedures

- a. The Apprentice must complete a minimum of two apprentice assignments under at least two different organizations that use sight, not computers, for measurements of the jumps.

Comments/Rationale: After a few years of working with the program, the committee has reevaluated these requirements. We felt this was a better way to allow people to become judges.

Affected: Exhibitors and Judges. Business office for rule book printing.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

➡ **DJ.21.05 Apprenticing Requirements**

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Tina Lass to change the apprentice assignment requirements as follows. Second by Jen Bunker.

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

Current Wording:

4.2.3 Apprenticing Requirements and Procedures

- c. The Apprentice must judge a minimum of 200 jumps and must judge jumps in both Launch and Fetch It Categories. With a minimum of 20 Fetch-it jumps.

Proposed Wording:

4.2.3 Apprenticing Requirements and Procedures

- c. The Apprentice must judge a minimum of **100 total Launch jumps. This count is a 100 for both assignments combined.**

Comments/Rationale: Taking Fetch-it out because it is not needed. It is either yes or no, does not need apprenticing. After a few years of working with the program, the committee has reevaluated these requirements. We felt this was a better way to allow people to become judges.

Affected: Exhibitors and Judges. Business office for rule book printing.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

➡ **DJ.21.06 Apprenticing During Nationals**

Motion *carries* (6-2) - Approve: Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: Boone, Larson. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) Dissent from Boone: The National Specialty is our premier event. A judge's focus should be on the competitors, not an apprentice judge.
- b) Dissent from Larson: There is too much going on at Nationals and too many entries. This does not provide adequate time for an apprentice judge.

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Jen Bertrand to change the apprentice assignment requirements as follows. Second by Heidi Mobley.

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

Current Wording:

4.2.3 Apprenticing Requirements and Procedures

H. Apprenticing shall not take place during the National Specialties.

Proposed Wording:

4.2.3 Apprenticing Requirements and Procedures

H. Apprenticing **can** take place **at** National Specialties. **The apprentice must contact both the trial chairman and the judge to get approval. Only one person can apprentice per Nationals. If there is more than one person applying, the trial chairman will choose randomly at least two weeks prior to the event and notify each apprentice applying.**

Comments/Rationale: After working several nationals, it has been determined that the judge could easily work with one apprentice at the show.

Affected: Exhibitors and Judges. Business office for rule book printing.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

 **DJ.21.07 Judge's Fee (Revised)**

Motion carries (6-2) - Approve: Busquets, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: Boone, Creelman. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) Dissent from Boone: This motion is still not clear. Is the judge being paid per entry (one dog with multiple jumps) or by the number of jumps? The wording is ambiguous.
- b) Dissent from Creelman: I do not agree that a judge receives payment for an entry that does not run. They have a guaranteed minimum that protects them from little or no payment

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Sandra Czarny to change the Judges Expenses as follows. Second by Heidi Mobley.

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

Current Wording:

2.8.1 Judges Expenses

The Judge's fee. The fee rate for classes scheduled on a weekend is one dollar (\$1.00) per jump listed in the jumping order catalog, whether or not the dog runs, or a minimum fee of \$75 per day.

Proposed Wording:

2.8.1 Judges Expenses

The Judge's fee: The fee rate for classes scheduled **at a sanctioned trial event** is one dollar (\$1.00) per **entry for both Launch and Fetch It as** listed in the jumping order catalog, whether or not the dog jumps, or a minimum fee of \$75 per day.

Comments/Rationale: We have had a few ASCA clubs contact us on this wording. It needed to be more clear to what the rule is.

Affected: Exhibitors and Judges. Business Office for rule book printing.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Hall of Fame Committee

HF.21.04 Other Breed PCH and SPCH

Motion *carries* (6-2) - Approve: Boone, Busquets, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Wesen. Disapprove: Larson, Roberts.
Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) Dissent from Larson: I do not have a problem with OB PCH or SPCH as we have OB WTCH. However the effective date cannot be upon BOD approval. I also do not see that the ASCA Office Manager has been contacted for his input. In addition we need to know what the programming fees would be.
- b) Dissent from Roberts: The committee never asked the BO about programming this title. Our computer system is not able to add additional titles at this time. Also, a note, it needs to state “non-ASCA registered Australian Shepherds” instead of “... breeds other than Australian Shepherds”.
- c) Comment from Boone: ASCA has always encouraged Other Breeds in our competitions. I believe they should have the opportunity to use the titles if they have met the requirements.

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Kristina Churchill to add the below titling for any breed that qualifies under these rules and regulations. Second by Melissa Borde.

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

Current Wording: None.

Proposed Wording:

Chapter 3 Performance Champion Requirements

New Section 3.2 Eligibility for Other Breeds

A. The Supreme and Performance Champion recognition described below is open to all breeds with ASCA QTracker numbers that meet Appendix 5 in the Stockdog Rules.

Refer to Appendix 5 in the Stockdog Rules for a list of Herding dogs eligible to Compete in ASCA Stockdog Trials.

B. Minimum Requirements to be met for the PCH (Performance Champion) title:

1. Two ATD (Advanced Trial Dog titles)
2. Two out of the following four:
 - i. CDX (Companion Dog Excellent in Obedience) or ODX (Open Dog Excellent in Obedience). Only one per dog to count.
 - ii. TD (Tracking Dog)
 - iii. All of Open Regular, Open Gamblers and Open Jumpers (Standard or Veteran Dog in Agility)
 - iv. REM (Rally Excellent/Masters)

C. Minimum Requirements to be met for the SPCH (Supreme Performance Champion) title:

1. WTCH (Working Trial Champion)
2. Two of the following three:
 - i. UD (Utility Dog in Obedience)
 - ii. All of Elite Regular, Elite Gamblers, Elite Jumpers (Standard or Veteran Dog in Agility)
 - iii. REMX (Rally Excellent/Masters X)

Comments/Rationale: The program is already set up for Australian Shepherds, it will give other breeds new titles, and will create revenue for ASCA.

Affected: Performance competitors with breeds other than Australian Shepherds.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

➡ **HF.21.05 Numbering System for Stockdog Kennel of Excellence**

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Kristina Churchill that there shall be no sequential numbering system for the Stockdog Kennel of Excellence recognition program. Only the year attained will be printed on the certificate. Second by Lynda Peppel.

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

- a) **Comment from Committee Member Kristina Churchill:** I do not want to see kennels rushing to get #1 spot, it's a recognition title and all are on the same level.

Comments/Rationale: We felt there was no need for numbering just year that it was attained.

Affected: Anyone applying for their Stockdog Kennel of Excellence recognition.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Nationals Advisory Committee

➡ **NA.21.02 Procedure for Assembling the Nationals Committee**

Motion *carries* (6-2) - Approve: Boone, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: Busquets, Larson. Abstain: None. Non-Voting: None.

- a) Dissent from Busquets: I'm okay with most of this procedure. However, I think that some positions should include some sort of interview process that is not outlined here. Applications alone may not always provide all the information necessary to assess who's best for the position when there are more than one applicant.
- b) Dissent from Larson: This needs to be amended to remove ES report and include all social media.

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Denise Creelman to approve the following procedure for the selection of Nationals Committees, starting with the 2023 ASCA Nationals Committee, to be placed as an appendix in the National Specialty Rule Book. Second by Renee Watson.

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

Current Wording: None.

Proposed Wording:

Appendix - Procedure for Assembling the Nationals Committee:

1. After the Nationals Chairperson is selected by the Board, an announcement will go out on ASCMembers, the AussENews, and in the Executive Secretary's Report, soliciting members for the Nationals Committee. The job descriptions for each position will accompany the announcement. The Nationals Chairperson and the members of the Nationals Advisory Committee should encourage qualified individuals to apply. The announcement will have a clear application deadline and a link to the online application form.

2. All applicants must complete the online application form by the stated deadline, or they will not be considered for the Committee. As applications come in, they will be shared with the members of the Nationals Advisory Committee and the Nationals Chairperson. The Chair of the Nationals Advisory Committee will notify applicants that their applications have been received and will let them know when a decision will be made. The Nationals Advisory Committee Chair will keep a list of who has applied for each position and will give periodic updates to the Nationals Advisory Committee and the Nationals Chairperson.
3. Once the deadline for application has passed, the Nationals Advisory Committee and the Nationals Chairperson will meet to look at the candidates and decide placements. If more than one person has volunteered for a position, the Nationals Chairperson will decide who will serve. Qualified persons who are not selected to serve where they applied should be invited to fill any open positions. If more persons have applied than there are positions, the Nationals Advisory Committee will write to those persons and thank them for applying and tell them they were not selected. If there are still open positions and all qualified applicants have been invited to serve, the Nationals Chairperson will invite persons to fill the open positions.
4. Once the Committee is filled, the Nationals Chairperson will let candidates know that their names are being submitted for approval by the Board. The Nationals Advisory Committee will send the slate to the Board for approval in the form of a motion.
5. Once the Board approves the Nationals Committee, the Executive Secretary will notify each person of the approval and will invite them to join the Nationals Committee's groups.io.
6. Committee Members will receive Committee agreements once the Board has approved the agreement.

Comments/Rationale: The process used to assemble the 2021 and 2022 Nationals Committees was not written down or approved by the Board. As we move forward, the Nationals Advisory Committee would like to continue to improve ASCA's processes for running Nationals, and this motion furthers that goal.

Affected: All those who apply to serve on a future Nationals Committee, members of the Nationals Advisory Committee, and members of the ASCA Board.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval, to be used starting with assembling the 2023 Nationals Committee.

NA.21.03 National Specialty Financial Policies

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

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

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Laura Gibson to approve the following revision to the Financial Policies for the ASCA Nationals Specialty. Second by Denise Creelman.

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

Current Wording:

Appendix - Financial Policies for the ASCA National Specialty, beginning with 2021

- I. A bank account opened by the ASCA Office Manager shall be the sole operating account for the 2021 ASCA National Specialty, hereafter referred to as "the event." This account shall be maintained at Chase Bank and be titled Australian Shepherd Club of America Nationals Account to designate it is the Nationals account. Signers on this account will be the Nationals Chairman, the ASCA Business Office Manager, the ASCA Board President, and the ASCA Board Treasurer. Electronic access to this account will be made available to the Nationals Chairman, the Nationals Co-Chairman, the Nationals Bookkeeper, and the ASCA Business Office Manager, as well as the members of ASCA's Board of Directors. Statements for this account should be mailed to the ASCA Business Office at 6091 E. State Hwy 21, Bryan, Texas, 77802.

- II. All deposits for this event will be held at this bank. Deposit information will be shared with those pertinent to making deposits, i.e., Nationals Entry Clerk. Checks will be ordered specific to said account and credit cards will be associated with the account to be utilized by the Nationals Chairman and designee(s).
- III. The account will be opened with \$1500, per National Specialty rules.
- IV. An electronic financial ledger indicating income and expenses for a particular Nationals event will be maintained by that event's Nationals Bookkeeper in order for all incomes and expenses to be recorded appropriately and to establish a tool for reconciliation. This ledger will be accessible to all members of that particular Nationals Committee and the ASCA Board of Directors. Key personnel involved with incomes and expenses will have access to spreadsheet in order to record any transactions conducted (i.e., Nationals Entry Clerk, Nationals Travel Chairman, etc.).
- V. All transactions will require a receipt for payment. In the event a receipt is not available, a Missing Receipt document shall be completed and signed by the individual requesting payment. (Attachment A)
- VI. All transactions will be managed from a budgeted category. The budget will be approved by the ASCA Board of Directors. The Nationals Chairman will have authority to spend money according to the approved budget. The ONLY exception will be unforeseen urgent circumstances which have the potential to arise. In the event of urgent circumstances, the following procedures will be followed:
 - A. The Nationals Chairman, with the additional consent of the Nationals Bookkeeper, a Nationals Co-Chairman, or another Nationals Committee Chairman, will have the authority to approve a non-budgeted expense of up to \$1,000 per transaction. The total amount of these non-budgeted/discretionary spending shall not exceed \$5000 for the entirety of the event without approval from the ASCA President and the ASCA Treasurer.
 - B. Non-budgeted expenses between One Thousand and One Dollars (\$1,001.00) and Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) must be approved by the ASCA President and the ASCA Treasurer and the rest of the Board of Directors should be notified of the approval.
 - C. In case of emergency, the President or the Vice President can make approvals without consent of the Board of Directors. All purchases must be followed up in writing and sent to the Executive Secretary for distribution to the Board of Directors.
- VII. Handling of Cash
 - A. All payments will be made via check or credit card.
 - B. Cash collected at the event must be counted and verified by two separate people. A deposit for each day's cash and checks will be prepared each day and deposited as soon as possible. Cash and checks will be kept in a secure manner.
 - C. Cash received will be receipted with a duplicate receipt book.
 - D. Cash boxes of \$100 will be provided to the Nationals Office Manager and the Nationals Merchandise Chairman for the purpose of making change for purchases made at the merchandise booth and at the Nationals office. At the beginning of each day, the person receiving the box will verify the \$100 in the box. At the end of each day, the cash in these boxes will be readied for deposit, retaining the original \$100 in the box for the next day's business. The boxes will be kept in a secure location overnight.
- VIII. Subsequent Nationals – One ASCA Nationals account will be opened and the funds for subsequent Nationals will be separated through accounting by ASCA's bookkeeper, but all funds will be flowing through the same account.

Proposed Wording:

Appendix - Financial Policies for the ASCA National Specialty, beginning with 2021

- I. A bank account opened by the ASCA Office Manager shall be the sole operating account for the 2021 ASCA National Specialty, hereafter referred to as "the event." This account shall be maintained at Chase Bank and be titled Australian Shepherd Club of America Nationals Account to designate it is the Nationals account. Signers on this account will be the Nationals Chairman, the ASCA Business Office Manager, the ASCA Board President, and the ASCA Board Treasurer. Electronic access to this account will be made available to the Nationals Chairman, the Nationals Co-Chairman, the Nationals Bookkeeper, and the ASCA Business Office Manager, as well as the

members of ASCA's Board of Directors. Statements for this account should be mailed to the ASCA Business Office at 6091 E. State Hwy 21, Bryan, Texas, 77802.

- II. All deposits for this event will be held at this bank. Deposit information will be shared with those pertinent to making deposits, i.e., Nationals Entry Clerk. Checks will be ordered specific to said account and credit cards will be associated with the account to be utilized by the Nationals Chairman and designee(s).
- III. The account will be opened with \$1500, per National Specialty rules.
- IV. An electronic financial ledger indicating income and expenses for a particular Nationals event will be maintained by that event's Nationals Bookkeeper in order for all incomes and expenses to be recorded appropriately and to establish a tool for reconciliation. This ledger will be accessible to all members of that particular Nationals Committee and the ASCA Board of Directors. Key personnel involved with incomes and expenses will have access to spreadsheet in order to record any transactions conducted (i.e., Nationals Entry Clerk, Nationals Travel Chairman, etc.).
- V. All transactions will require a receipt for payment. In the event a receipt is not available, a Missing Receipt document shall be completed and signed by the individual requesting payment. (Attachment A)
- VI. All transactions will be managed from a budgeted category. The budget will be approved by the ASCA Board of Directors. The Nationals Chairman will have authority to spend money according to the approved budget. The ONLY exception will be unforeseen urgent circumstances which have the potential to arise. In the event of urgent circumstances, the following procedures will be followed:
 - A. The Nationals Chairman, with the additional consent of the Nationals Bookkeeper, a Nationals Co-Chairman, or another Nationals Committee Chairman, will have the authority to approve a non-budgeted expense of up to \$1,000 per transaction. The total amount of these non-budgeted/discretionary spending shall not exceed \$5000 for the entirety of the event without approval from the ASCA President and the ASCA Treasurer.
 - B. Non-budgeted expenses between One Thousand and One Dollars (\$1,001.00) and Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) must be approved by the ASCA President and the ASCA Treasurer and the rest of the Board of Directors should be notified of the approval.
 - C. In case of emergency, the President or the Vice President can make approvals without consent of the Board of Directors. All purchases must be followed up in writing and sent to the Executive Secretary for distribution to the Board of Directors.
- VII. In the case of an expense that is over budget, the Nationals Chairperson must notify ASCA's President, ASCA's Treasurer, and the Nationals Board Liaison. Such notification should be accompanied by the amount budgeted, the new amount to be spent, and the reason for the increase. Every attempt must be made to adhere to the Board-approved budget. Overages in excess of \$1000 must be approved by the ASCA President and the ASCA Treasurer before the expense is paid, and the rest of the Board of Directors should be notified of the approval. The total amount of budgetary overages under \$1000 shall not exceed \$5000 for the entirety of the event without approval from the ASCA President and the ASCA Treasurer.
- VIII. Handling of Cash
 - A. All payments will be made via check or credit card.
 - B. Cash collected at the event must be counted and verified by two separate people. A deposit for each day's cash and checks will be prepared each day and deposited as soon as possible. Cash and checks will be kept in a secure manner.
 - C. Cash received will be receipted with a duplicate receipt book.
 - D. Cash boxes of \$100 will be provided to the Nationals Office Manager and the Nationals Merchandise Chairman for the purpose of making change for purchases made at the merchandise booth and at the Nationals office. At the beginning of each day, the person receiving the box will verify the \$100 in the box. At the end of each day, the cash in these boxes will be readied for deposit, retaining the original \$100 in the box for the next day's business. The boxes will be kept in a secure location overnight.
- ~~IX. Subsequent Nationals — One ASCA Nationals account will be opened and the funds for subsequent Nationals will be separated through accounting by ASCA's bookkeeper, but all funds will be flowing through the same account.~~

Comments/Rationale: As we proceed with ASCA's first hosting of the National Specialty, we are finding things we need to tweak. One such thing is how to proceed when expenses exceed the Board-approved budgeted amount. As we move forward, the Nationals Advisory Committee would like to continue to improve ASCA's processes for running Nationals, and this motion furthers that goal.

Affected: All those who adhere to these financial policies, especially the Nationals Chairperson, the Nationals Accounting Chair, ASCA's President and ASCA's Treasurer.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Minutes of the Board Meetings via GoToMeeting

Discussions of Open Session topics were 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/UC490D1qEJtV7oiDp6KOHvA>

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm CDT and it was adjourned at 8:50 pm CDT.

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

Financial Report

This discussion was held in Executive Session. The financial reports for period ending April 30, 2021, were presented by Treasurer Evans. Mr. Evans updated the Board regarding ASCA's current fiscal condition and projections for the future. Members can find the Treasurer's report and analysis from Mr. Evans in the member's only section of ASCA's website.

➡ **BD.21.60 April 2021 Financial Reports**

Motion by Evans to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented. Second by Larson. Motion carries (9-0).

Registration Issue

This discussion was held in Executive Session. The Board denied a request to register a dog whose sire does not have a DNA profile on file with ASCA.

The Board also discussed possible modifications to ASCA's Other Registry Registration requirements. Currently, there are some concerns about loopholes in the process. Some Directors suggested closing the Other Registry. Another suggestion was to require DNA profiles on the sire/dam of the applicant dog.

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.21.62 April 2021 Email Business**

Motion by Gann to ratify all business conducted over email in April 2021. Second by Wesen. Motion carries (9-0).

System Report

System Liaison Evans provided those listening to the recorded meeting with a summary of the Board's work coming to an agreement with Inventive to migrate ASCA's database and build a new system for our office and members to use. Once the contract is signed and the Inventive team is assembled, we expect the process to move quickly. Mr. Evans thinks we could see a new system for ASCA in as little as 26 weeks.

BD.21.63 Inventive Agreement

Motion by Evans to accept the contract with Inventive as it is currently written and to advise the President to sign the contract. Second by Larson. Motion carries (9-0).

Dock Jumping

The Board continued a discussion from the Spring Meeting about the benefits/costs related to ASCA's Dock Jumping program. There are concerns about the lack of access ASCA members have to pools and the cost-effectiveness of ASCA having its own program.

The Dock Jumping Committee is aware of the issues with lack of access to pools for ASCA members to use and are looking at different solutions. One option is to approach North American Diving Dogs (NADD) about working with them. NADD has pools across the United States and Canada as they are the largest organization for this type of event. However, ASCA affiliates are currently not able to rent these pools. Previous attempts at an agreement were unsuccessful, but the committee is optimistic about trying again.

The committee proposes that, once ASCA's agreement with Ultimate Air Dogs (UAD) expires in July 2022, ASCA affiliates work with NADD to allow them to rent the pools for an established fee.

An additional option, which is supported by several directors, is to arrange with any and all possible organizations for ASCA to recognize their titles for a recording fee.

The Board supports the committee's efforts to investigate the best options for our members. The committee should have a report by the 2022 Spring Meeting.

Sanctioning Deadline

The Board revisited their decision from the Spring Meeting to gradually return to a 60-day sanctioning timeframe by November 1, 2021. As of June 1, sanctioning will be set at 45-days.

The reason for lowering the sanctioning deadline to 30-days was because affiliates were having a hard time meeting the 60-day deadline with event restrictions changing in their areas. However, this shortened timeframe has been a hardship for the office staff. Now that restrictions are loosening up in most places, the Board believes it is time to return to the increased deadline. **Any affiliates in areas still affected by COVID-19 related restrictions may contact the Board for special consideration as needed.**

Visit to Fonner Park

Director Creelman, Director Boone, and two ASCA members (Jerry Rowe and Kristina Churchill) are planning to meet at Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska on June 9 to review the suitability of the site for ASCA Nationals and Finals, specifically the agility and cattle events.

Creelman reported that the \$45k grant from Grand Island is promised for one year, and it is likely also available for a second year. She has also been in contact with a local livestock provider offering fair costs. She believes this site is appropriate for ASCA's needs.

A motion was made by Larson, and seconded by Roberts, to reimburse travel costs of those going, provided we can get the available grant for two consecutive years. It was withdrawn, however, because no reimbursement is being requested at this time. If the Board decides to use the site, reimbursement can be discussed then.

During this topic, directors also shared their opinions on ASCA's future regarding Nationals and Finals. Members are invited to listen to the meeting recording for more details.

The Board's next scheduled meeting is June 10, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.