



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®

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ASCA Executive Secretary's Report - March 2022

This report details the day-to-day activities of the Board of Directors of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (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>Congratulations to the following judges (new and approved for move-up): Senior Rally Judge Mary Waugh Swindell (Texas) Non-Regular Breeder Judge Jeff Ngo (Colorado) Non-Regular Breeder Judge Star Mathis (New Mexico) Provisional Breeder Judge Debby Michielsen (Belgium) Open Obedience Judge Melanie Licciardi (Germany) Utility Obedience Judge Beth MacLehose (Ohio)</p> <p>2022 Nationals Judge Change: Breeder Judge Brandy Greenhagen will replace Senior Breeder Judge Karen Roesner as the Non-Regular Conformation Judge for the 2022 National Specialty.</p> <p>The Board approved revisions to the budget and premium for the 2022 ASCA National Specialty.</p> <p>The Board amended the contracts for the 2023 and 2023 ASCA Nationals and Finals Judges to require a 1099 miscellaneous form to be issued to those judges receiving \$600 and over in fees from ASCA.</p>	<p>The Business Office will now observe the following holidays:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Year's Day • Martin Luther King Jr Day • President's Day • Memorial Day • Juneteenth Independence Day • Fourth of July • Labor Day • Veteran's Day • Thanksgiving Day • Friday following Thanksgiving Day • Christmas Eve • Christmas Day • Two floating holidays <p>The 60-day required move-up rule for Stockdog competitors was eliminated. Effective June 1, 2022, dogs and handlers are allowed to remain indefinitely at the level they feel most comfortable.</p>

ASCA Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held via GoToMeeting.

In attendance: President Liz Busquets, 1st Vice President Gina Larson, 2nd Vice President Rick Gann, Treasurer Jan Wesen, Secretary Ann McCabe, Director Susan Byrne, Director Denise Creelman, Director Carol Gerken, Director Jean Roberts, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Open Session topics were recorded and may be listened to on ASCA's [website](#) and [YouTube channel](#). President Busquets called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Treasurer's Report

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 6:04 pm to 7:05 pm. The financial reports for the period ending February 28, 2022, were presented by Treasurer Wesen and she updated the Board regarding ASCA's current fiscal condition and projections for the future. Members can find the Treasurer's report and analysis in the member's only section of ASCA's website.

BD.22.34 February 2022 Treasurer's Report

Motion carried (8-0-1) - Approve: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts.
Disapprove: None. Abstain: Wesen. Absent: None.

Motion by Gann to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Seconded by Roberts.

Judge Applicant

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 7:05 pm to 7:07 pm. The Board voted to approve Mary Waugh Swindell from Texas as an ASCA Senior Rally Judge.

February 2022 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.22.35 February 2022 Email Business

Motion carried (9-0) - Approve: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Creelman to ratify all business conducted over email in February 2022. Seconded by Roberts.

System Liaison's Report

Liaison Larson reported on the status of the database migration/system upgrade project ongoing with Inventive since 6/15/2021. The ASCA and Inventive teams have been working diligently to test and roll out the newly developed titling and certificate printing functionality. Deployment is expected during the week of March 21, at which point the Business Office will proceed with printing a six-month backlog of title certificates.

Larson noted that Inventive's Quality Assurance team is in Ukraine. Due to the war, the person assigned to our project is no longer able to contribute. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts.

Scent Search Program

Liaison Creelman presented a preliminary program from the Scent Search Committee for the Board to review and provide feedback by March 24. Directors are excited to see this program develop and to have a new sport for ASCA members to enjoy with their dogs. Many thanks go out to the Committee for the countless hours they have dedicated to this project so far.

Holiday Request

The Business Office staff has requested adding four federal holidays to the Office calendar to be more in line with the list of federal holidays that other similar businesses follow. The Office Manager also chooses two floating holidays during the year, and those are typically Good Friday and Columbus Day.

BD.22.36 Additional Holidays for Business Office Staff

Motion carried (9-0) - Approve: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Busquets to approve the request to add the federal holidays to the list of holidays that the Business Office is closed for staff to celebrate. Seconded by Wesen.

Current Wording:

Section 9.5 Holidays

The following days will be observed by the Business Office staff as paid holidays:

1. New Year's Day
2. Memorial Day
3. Fourth of July
4. Labor Day
5. Thanksgiving Day

6. Friday following Thanksgiving Day
7. Christmas Eve
8. Christmas Day
9. Two floating holidays

Should the holiday fall on a Saturday observance will be on the preceding Friday. Should the holiday fall on a Sunday observance will be on the following Monday. The Office Manager will determine two floating holidays in December of the preceding year and notify the Board of Directors of the selected dates for that year.

Proposed Wording:

Section 9.5 Holidays

The following days will be observed by the Business Office staff as paid holidays:

1. New Year's Day
2. Martin Luther King Jr Day
3. President's Day
4. Memorial Day
5. Juneteenth Independence Day
6. Fourth of July
7. Labor Day
8. Veteran's Day
9. Thanksgiving Day
10. Friday following Thanksgiving Day
11. Christmas Eve
12. Christmas Day
13. Two floating holidays

Should the holiday fall on a Saturday observance will be on the preceding Friday. Should the holiday fall on a Sunday observance will be on the following Monday. The Office Manager will determine two floating holidays in December of the preceding year and notify the Board of Directors of the selected dates for that year.

Comments/Rationale: This was requested by the Business Office staff.

Affected: Business Office staff, membership. The dates the Business Office is closed need to be published on the front page of the website, so members are aware.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

2022 Nationals Conformation Replacement Judge

The Board approved Breeder Judge Brandy Greenhagen to judge Non-Regular Conformation for the 2022 National Specialty. She will replace Senior Breeder Judge Karen Roesner after Ms. Roesner had to withdraw.

BD.22.37 Replacement Judge for 2022 Nationals Non-Regular Conformation

Motion carried (9-0) - Approve: *Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen.* Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Gann to approve Brandy Greenhagen to replace Karen Roesner as the judge for the 2022 Nationals Non-Regular Conformation. Seconded by Creelman.

2023 Nationals and Finals Judge Contracts

The Board discussed the contracts for the 2023 Nationals and Finals judges, as presented by Liaison Gann. At the request of ASCA's Counsel, new wording was added to the contracts requiring a 1099 miscellaneous form to be issued to all judges that receive \$600 and over in fees. This is a federal requirement.

BD.22.38 2023 Nationals and Finals Judge Contracts

Motion carried (9-0) - Approve: *Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen.* Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Gann to approve the contracts for the 2023 Nationals and Finals Judges. Seconded by Byrne.

Even though the contracts have already been sent to judges for the 2022 Nationals and Finals, it is also necessary to provide qualifying judges (those who receive \$600 and over in fees) with 1099s, so those contracts need to be amended.

BD.22.39 1099s for 2022 Nationals and Finals Judges

Motion carried (9-0) - Approve: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Gann to amend the 2022 Nationals and Finals judges' contracts to state any judge receiving fees of \$600 or more will be issued a 1099 miscellaneous form. The contracts will also be amended to include the new \$300 per day judging fee. Seconded by Larson.

2022 Nationals Amended Budget

The Board approved an amended budget for the 2022 National Specialty. The amendments include raising judge fees from \$200 to \$300 per day, the cost of Finals rosettes, the cost of agility rounds rosettes, and changes to the members of the Nationals Committee and judges. The Nationals Advisory Committee also included the cost of Zoom (\$135) to use for committee meetings and added \$826 to balance the budget.

BD.22.40 Amended Budget for 2022 Nationals

Motion carried (9-0) - Approve: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Gann to approve the amendments to the 2022 National Specialty budget. Seconded by McCabe.

Revised 2022 Nationals Premium

The Board approved a revised premium for the 2022 National Specialty. The amendments include changes to the members of the 2022 Nationals Committee and judges and the number of launches for dock jumping. The Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute (ASHGI) raffle information was also updated to reflect that ASCA will not be holding the raffle.

BD.22.41 Revised Premium for 2022 Nationals

Motion carried (9-0) - Approve: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Gann to approve the revisions to the premium for the 2022 National Specialty. Seconded by Larson.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

ASCA Board Motions

Committee Recommendations

ERNEST HARTNAGLE AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE

EH.22.01 Policy for Ernest Hartnagle Award

Motion carried (8-1) - Approve: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: McCabe. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

- Dissent from Director McCabe: I do not believe specific names of people and exclamation points should be in the policy.

Motion by Liaison Larson to approve the following recommendation from the Ernest Hartnagle Award Selection Committee.

Committee Recommendation: Motion by DeChant to approve the Policy for the Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award. Seconded by Wheeler.

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

Current Wording: Foundation Policy Book

Chapter 8 Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award

Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award Fund is held in The ASCA Foundation, ASCA's tax-deductible charitable foundation. The ASCA Foundation is a Texas nonprofit corporation which has been granted tax-exempt status as a charitable foundation pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Sec. 501 (c) (3). The Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award Fund is one of the Funds administered by The ASCA Foundation. The Ernest Hartnagle Icon award will be presented each year to an individual, a club, or other entities which exemplifies efforts toward the preservation of the Australian Shepherd. Multiple awards can be given each year. It will be in honor of individuals, clubs, or groups which have dedicated part of their lives to preserving the history of the breed, mentoring of others, and/or a sharing of the rich history that demonstrates the value of our wonderful breed.

Section 8.1 Donations

Donations to the Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award Fund are encouraged to preserve his memory and to support the award so that it can be presented each year to deserving individuals or clubs. This memorial award is intended to carry on Mr. Hartnagle's dedication to breed preservation through these very same efforts. The award will be one of recognition of special efforts and be presented annually at the ASCA Nationals.

Section 8.2 Applicants

The recipient (person and or group) of the Ernest Hartnagle Icon Award, and their efforts to be recognized must possess one or more of the following features/criteria:

- A. Helped in some way to help Preserve the Australian Shepherd breed as it was intended through any variety of actions or deeds
- B. Produced, shared, or distributed educational material, historical reference, knowledge; to promote the Australian Shepherd
- C. Increased awareness and education regarding the Australian Shepherd via; a book, video, website, teaching/lectures, blog site, pod cast or any other medium valuable to sharing information about the breed
- D. Provided Mentorship to an individual, club, organization, or the like, through a variety of actions or deeds with the intention of maintaining a future for the Australian Shepherd

Section 8.3 Selection

- A. Nominations will be by letter of recommendation being sent to the ASCA Executive Secretary who will maintain a file of the nominations and provide them to the Selection Committee
- B. The Selection Committee will review Nominees based on criteria, they will forward their recommendations to the ASCA Foundation Board
- C. The ASCA Foundation BOD will consider all nominations and will finalize the award decision
- D. The Award can go to multiple nominees each year
- E. Selection Dates and Notification dates TBD

Section 8.4 Distribution

The Board shall act on the Committee's recommendations. The ASCA Foundation Board shall collect applications all year-round and forward them to the selection committee, which shall make the official decision one month before the National Specialty. The winner (s) shall be announced at the National Specialty.

What will the award be?

1. A specially designed Lapel/Hat Pin so that the recipient can wear their award to show they are a recipient
 2. A Spider Web Scroll
 3. A Certificate in the form of letter to recipient
 4. A Name plate for recipient on a fixed trophy/wall plaque or monument located at ASCA office
- This will be award at the ASCA National Specialty.

Why is the award important?

Please read the biography of this wonderful man! ASCA would like to honor Ernest Hartnagle and encourage others to follow his mission.

Ernest Jacob Hartnagle 08/27/1925 – 05/19/2019

As founding members of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA), the Hartnagles played an outsized role in the breed's development and growth. Ernie served on the ASCA Board of Directors, then took the role

of club president from 1976 to 1978. He helped create the club's stockdog program and the entire family helped draft the original breed standard, the "blueprint" for the ideal Australian Shepherd dog.

The family's pioneering activities helped popularize the Australian Shepherd, now ranked among the 20 most popular breeds in America. ASCA recognizes Hartnagle's Las Rocosa Australian Shepherds as its No. 1 Hall of Fame Kennel and No. 1 Hall of Fame Excellent Kennel.

A Colorado native, Ernie grew up in the Boulder Valley on his family's 90-acre farm. During World War II, he proudly served for two-and-a-half years in the Navy's 7th Fleet until the end of the war. Deployed in the Pacific, he earned the Philippian Liberation Medal for his role in emancipating the nation's citizens from Japanese rule. At age 20, Ernie returned from the war. His father had died while Ernie was overseas and he took on the responsibility of managing the family farm, supporting his mother, two younger brothers and sister. He supplemented the farm's income by working for his uncle as a cowboy, trailing cattle on the steep slopes of the Gore Range, on land that is now the Vail Ski Resort. He graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in agriculture. Ernie's bachelorhood ended shortly after meeting Elaine Gibson, the daughter of a pioneer ranching family. The couple wed following a whirlwind romance. The union resulted in five children: Jeanne Joy, Christine, Joseph, Jim, and the youngest, Carol Ann.

In 1953, the couple acquired a farm dog named Snipper, an event that would change the course of their lives. In 1955, Ernie and Elaine founded Las Rocosa Australian Shepherds and began breeding and training what was then a rare western farm breed.

During his life, Ernie also worked for a prominent Quarter horse ranch, performed a "tour of duty" in the US Postal Service, and served for decades in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency of the US Government, from which he retired.

Throughout his life Ernie supported that Australian Shepherd Breed with his service on the ASCA Board, his participation in ASCA programs, his years as an ASCA Conformation and Stockdog Judge, and many speaking engagements and slide shows at the ASCA Nationals along with his many historical articles in the Aussie Times.

Proposed Wording: Foundation Policy Book

Chapter 8 Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award

The Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award Fund is held in the ASCA Foundation, ASCA's tax-deductible charitable foundation. The ASCA Foundation is a Texas nonprofit corporation which has been granted tax-exempt status as a charitable foundation pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Sec. 501 (c) (3). The Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award Fund is one of the Funds administered by The ASCA Foundation. The Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon award will be presented each year to an individual(s), a club, or other entities which exemplifies efforts toward the preservation of the Australian Shepherd. Multiple awards can be given each year.

The fund was originally established in honor of the late Ernest Hartnagle, after whom the fund is named. Its intent is to provide recognition in honor of individuals, clubs, or groups which have dedicated part of their lives to preserving the history of the breed, mentoring of others, and/or a sharing of the rich history that demonstrates the value of our wonderful breed.

Section 8.1 Donations

Donations to the Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award Fund are encouraged to preserve Mr. Hartnagle's memory and to support the award so that it can be presented each year to deserving individuals or clubs. This memorial award is intended to carry on Mr. Hartnagle's dedication to breed preservation through these very same efforts. The award will be ~~one of recognition of special efforts and~~ presented annually at the ASCA National Specialty banquet to deserving recipients.

The Board may receive and accept property, whether real, personal, or mixed, by way of gift, bequest, or devise, from any person, firm, trust, or corporation, to be held, administered, and disposed of in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of this document; but no gift, bequest, or devise of any such property shall be received or accepted if it is conditioned in any such manner.

Section 8.2 Criteria

The applications shall be made on the official application form available on the ASCA Foundation Website. Please attach a detailed letter of recommendation from one to three individuals stating why this nominee is deserving of this award. Copies of their product (as an example of their contribution, i.e., article(s), web address, list of club activities, publications, etc.) can be included.

These must be received by the Executive Secretary no later than July 31 each year. Applications are collected year-round.

Section 8.2 8.3 Applicant Criteria

The recipient(s) (person and or group) of the Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award, and their efforts to be recognized must possess one or more of the following features/criteria:

- A. Helped in some way to help preserve the Australian Shepherd breed as it was intended through any variety of actions or deeds.
- B. Produced, shared, or distributed educational material, historical reference, knowledge; to promote the Australian Shepherd.
- C. Increased awareness and education regarding the Australian Shepherd via; a book, video, website, teaching/lectures, blog site, pod cast or any other medium valuable to sharing information about the breed.
- D. Provided mentorship to an individual, club, organization, or the like, through a variety of actions or deeds with the intention of maintaining a future for the Australian Shepherd.

Section 8.3 Selection

A. Nominations will be by application form and letter of recommendation being sent to the ASCA Executive Secretary who will maintain a file of the nominations and provide them to the Selection Committee. The deadline to submit nominations each year is July 31. The selection committee will review nominees based on the criteria above and will forward their recommendations to the ASCA Foundation Board each year by August 31.

~~B. The Selection Committee will review Nominees based on criteria, they will forward their recommendations to the ASCA Foundation Board.~~

B. In no event shall any individual on the selection committee participate in the decision-making process if a nominee is related to said individual. If any nominee is related to any Director of the ASCA Foundation, said Director shall recuse themselves from any activities or decisions in connection therewith. In the event that a member of the selection committee is nominated, their nomination will be considered. However, that individual will be excluded from the selection process.

~~C. The ASCA Foundation BOD will consider all nominations and will finalize the award decision.~~

C. The Board of Directors shall act on the committee's recommendations, as sent through the committee's Liaison at a teleconference meeting prior to the National Specialty each year. The Executive Secretary will notify the recipient within 7 days and coordinate with the Nationals Committee for the award presentation at the National Specialty banquet.

D. Funds used to support the award can only be distributed after a vote of the ASCA Foundation Board, as reflected in its meeting minutes.

E. The Award can go to multiple nominees each year.

~~E. Selection Dates and Notification dates TBD.~~

Section 8.4 Distribution

~~The Board shall act on the Committee's recommendations. The ASCA Foundation Board shall collect applications all year-round and forward them to the selection committee, which shall make the official decision one month before the National Specialty. The winner (s) shall be announced at the National Specialty.~~

Section 8.4 Selection Committee

The purpose of this Committee is to meet annually online to review the nominations and select the recipients for this award. The Committee may also develop and conduct fundraising activities to support the award.

The initial Committee is:

Ann B. DeChant, Co-Chair

Tanya L Wheeler, Co-Chair

Gina Larson Board Liaison

Bill Van Hecke

Lynn Hamon

Michael Ryan

Peter Kontos

Robbi Norman

Steve Shope

Sunday Miles

Section 8.5 Committee Membership

Membership will be at large committee and will not use Regional Membership.

The initial committee will remain the official committee for as long as they wish to serve.

They do not need to be approved every two years. Membership will continue unless a member is inactive (doesn't participate in the annual applicant approval process) or if they resign with an email or letter to the ASCA Board of Directors.

The ideal size of the committee going forward will be five members. When the number of the initial committee diminishes to 4, the ASCA Board will seek new committee members by notifying ASCA members of an opening.

Those applying to be members will have 8 years of ASCA membership.

Priority will be given to past award recipients should they apply.

What will the award be?

1. A specially designed lapel/hat pin that the recipient can wear
2. A spider web scroll
3. A certificate in the form of letter to recipient
4. A name plate for recipient on a fixed trophy/wall plaque or monument located at ASCA Business Office (TBD)

~~This will be award at the ASCA National Specialty.~~

Why is the award important?

Please read the biography of this wonderful man! ASCA would like to honor Ernest Hartnagle and encourage others to follow his mission.

Ernest Jacob Hartnagle 08/27/1925 – 05/19/2019

As founding members of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA), the Hartnagles played an outsized role in the breed's development and growth. Ernie served on the ASCA Board of Directors, then took the role of club president from 1976 to 1978. He helped create the club's stockdog program and the entire family helped draft the original breed standard, the "blueprint" for the ideal Australian Shepherd dog.

The family's pioneering activities helped popularize the Australian Shepherd, now ranked among the 20 most popular breeds in America. ASCA recognizes Hartnagle's Las Rocosa Australian Shepherds as its No. 1 Hall of Fame Kennel and No. 1 Hall of Fame Excellent Kennel.

A Colorado native, Ernie grew up in the Boulder Valley on his family's 90-acre farm. During World War II, he proudly served for two-and-a-half years in the Navy's 7th Fleet until the end of the war. Deployed in the Pacific, he earned the Philippian Liberation Medal for his role in emancipating the nation's citizens from Japanese rule. At age 20, Ernie returned from the war. His father had died while Ernie was overseas and he took on the responsibility of managing the family farm, supporting his mother, two younger brothers and sister. He supplemented the farm's income by working for his uncle as a cowboy, trailing cattle on the steep slopes of the Gore Range, on land that is now the Vail Ski Resort. He graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in agriculture. Ernie's bachelorhood ended shortly after meeting Elaine Gibson, the daughter of a pioneer ranching family. The couple wed following a whirlwind romance. The union resulted in five children: Jeanne Joy, Christine, Joseph, Jim, and the youngest, Carol Ann.

In 1953, the couple acquired a farm dog named Snipper, an event that would change the course of their lives. In 1955, Ernie and Elaine founded Las Rocosa Australian Shepherds and began breeding and training what was then a rare western farm breed.

During his life, Ernie also worked for a prominent Quarter horse ranch, performed a "tour of duty" in the US Postal Service, and served for decades in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency of the US Government, from which he retired.

Throughout his life Ernie supported that Australian Shepherd Breed with his service on the ASCA Board, his participation in ASCA programs, his years as an ASCA Conformation and Stockdog Judge, and many speaking engagements and slide shows at the ASCA Nationals along with his many historical articles in the Aussie Times.

Current Wording on Application:

Application for the ASCA Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award

The Ernie Hartnagle Memorial Icon award will be presented each year to an individual, a club, or other entities which exemplifies efforts toward the preservation of the Australian Shepherd. Multiple awards can be given each year.

It will be in honor of individuals, clubs, or groups which have dedicated part of their lives to preserving the history of the breed, mentoring of others, and/or a sharing of the rich history that demonstrates the value of our wonderful breed.

Please attach:

1. A detailed letter of recommendation from one to three individuals stating why this nominee is deserving of this award sent to the ASCA Executive Secretary. Copies of their product can be included, if possible.
2. These must be received no later than 3 months before the ASCA National Specialty of the award year. Applications are collected year-round and forwarded to the selection committee, which shall make their recommendations to the ASCA Foundation Board before their last meeting before the National Specialty. The winner shall be announced at the National Specialty.

Proposed Wording on Application:

Application for the ASCA Ernest Hartnagle Memorial Icon Award

The Ernie Hartnagle Memorial Icon award will be presented each year to an individual(s), a club, or other entities which exemplifies efforts toward the preservation of the Australian Shepherd. Multiple awards can be given each year.

It will be in honor of individuals, clubs, or groups which have dedicated part of their lives to preserving the history of the breed, mentoring of others, and/or a sharing of the rich history that demonstrates the value of our wonderful breed.

Please attach:

1. A detailed letter of recommendation from one to three individuals stating why this nominee is deserving of this award sent to the ASCA Executive Secretary. Copies of their product can be included, if possible.
2. These must be received no later than ~~3 months before the ASCA National Specialty of the award~~ July 31 each year.

Applications are collected year-round and forwarded to the selection committee, which shall make their recommendations to the ASCA Foundation Board ~~before their last meeting before the National Specialty~~ by August 31. The winner(s) shall be announced at the National Specialty.

Comments/Rationale: This is a new ASCA Award, and it needed procedures and Board approval for the Committee makeup and guidance going forward. This information about the Award and how nominations are handled can be used on the Foundation Website. The Committee tried to provide everything that has been requested by our Liaison and the Board.

Affected: ASCA Members, the ASCA Foundation Board, the Office (storage of the pins and transport of them to Nationals), the Executive Secretary, and the Members of the Committee.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

OBEDIENCE COMMITTEE

OB.22.04 Clarify Hands Language

Motion carried (9-0) - Approve: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapprove: None. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Clarify Hands Language. Motion by Laurie Rubin that we add the words "off leash (free)" to the first sentence of Section 2.19 Hands. This change will also make sure the language on hands and arms in Section 2.19 complements but does not conflict with the language in Novice Section 3.6 Heel on Leash and Figure Eight and Beginner Novice Section 8.6 Heel On Leash. They both state the hands must be "held in a natural position, or in one of the positions defined in Chapter 2, Section 19 Hands."

Seconded by Betsy Coleman.

Results of Committee Vote: Approve: 6. Disapprove: 1. Abstain: 1. Non-Voting: 3.

Current Wording:

2.19 Hands

In exercises in which the dog is required to heel, one of the options listed shall be followed: (1) The handler's arms and hands shall move naturally at his/her sides while in motion and hang naturally at his/her sides when stopped, or (2) the handler's right hand and arm shall move naturally at his/her side while his/her left hand shall be held against and centered in front of the body in the area of the waist. The left forearm shall be carried, as much as possible, against the body. In any of the above situations, the hands and arms may be adjusted during the fast portion of the exercise, in order to maintain balance...

Proposed Wording:

2.19 Hands

In exercises in which the dog is required to heel off leash (free), one of the options listed shall be followed: (1) The handler's arms and hands shall move naturally at his/her sides while in motion and hang naturally at his/her sides when stopped, or (2) the handler's right hand and arm shall move naturally at his/her side while his/her left hand shall be held against and centered in front of the body in the area of the waist. The left forearm shall be carried, as much as possible, against the body. In any of the above situations, the hands and arms may be adjusted during the fast portion of the exercise, in order to maintain balance...

Comments/Rationale: The rationale for this motion is to recognize and allow for the fact that some handlers in the Novice classes commonly hold the leash with hands in positions other than the two positions allowed for off leash heeling.

Affected: Exhibitors and judges.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

STOCKDOG COMMITTEE

SD.22.04 Return to Using Six Judges for Finals (Revised)

Motion failed (2-7) - Approve: McCabe, Roberts. Disapprove: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, Wesen. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

- Comment from Director Busquets: First, we haven't worked with three judges long enough to know if it will work. Second, while I could be persuaded to vote to reinstate the rule for 6 judges, I would only do so if all scores counted. It is difficult to justify the extra cost just to throw scores out.
- Comment from Director Creelman: We need to see how the financial situation is after 3 years to be sure that it is solvent.
- Comment from Director Gerken: Participating in Finals, I have as much at stake as any other competitor in this program. However, as a Director serving ASCA as a whole, I believe it is only fiscally responsible to ASCA to try the 3 judge system. I believe that my fellow judges will be honest and ethical in the judging process. If they send a different message to the exhibitors, having 3 vs. 6 will not be a solution to the behavior. Like any other trial, competitors can vote with their pocket books, and not just at Nationals.
- Comment from Director Larson: I am in favor of returning to 6 judges. However as a business decision I must vote this down at this time. I hope the SDC brings this motion forward after the 2022 finals and effective for the 2024 finals.
- Comment from Director Wesen: The 3 judge system needs to be used for a few years to see how the financials will be affected by the added judges.

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

Committee Recommendation: Go back to using 6 judges at ASCA stockdog finals. Motion by Jacqueline Tinker. Second by Andrea Hoffmann.

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

Dissent from Dan Sanderson: While I believe that using 6 Judges in place of 3 will placate the membership, we, the SDC, were tasked with finding ways to save money for the ASCA Finals. Though we did not recommend the reduction in the number of Judges, the Board selected this option. This is the largest money saver of all the options listed. I believe we should use three Judges for a couple of years and see if it works. Because ASCA is a business, any money savings is important and we should do everything in our power to make sure that ASCA remains solvent and continues to be a place we can compete with our dogs. I also believe this motion was not properly vetted. There are items that I believe should have been written differently

if we do go back to six Judges. It does not seem that this motion had the proper discussion for something that affects the contestants this much.

Dissent from Terri Jones: I believe we should give 3 judges a try, before going back to 6.

Current 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 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 and 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 nine (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 nine (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 one (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 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.

Proposed Wording: (returning all language back to 6 judges)

24.6.1 Number of Judges

Two ~~One~~ 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 ~~and~~ so that the judges will rotate to a different stock for the second elimination go-round.

24.6.4 Judging and Scores of the Final Go-Round

All six ~~three~~ 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 given by the three (3) Judges, in each elimination go-round and final go-round, including non-qualifying, will be used in the total and final score.~~

24.6.5 Placements

There will be 10 placements after the Final go-round. The total ~~Each~~ score from both ~~the~~ Elimination go-rounds and the ~~four~~ ~~three~~ 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 and 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 ~~Three~~ Finals Judges

If ~~six~~ ~~three~~ 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~~ ~~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 nine (9) names will be supplied to the Host Club in no order to choose and hire ~~6~~ ~~three~~ judges for Stockdog Finals.
- D. If ~~6~~ ~~three~~ judges cannot be secured from this list, and all nine (9) judges have been asked and more than ~~6~~ ~~three~~ 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~~ ~~three~~ 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 one (1) of the ~~6~~ ~~three~~ 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 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.

Comments/Rationale: Many judges and competitors have expressed dissatisfaction in the 3-judging system for finals. The 6 judge system was scrapped due to concerns over finances. The most recent 2021 ASCA Nationals and finals appear to have been financially solid. Additionally, the increased fees added to entries throughout the year will increase the stockdog finals revenue if we can keep finals participants engaged. If as many finals competitors drop out as have threatened, the stockdog program may be in jeopardy. ASCA will be

hosting nationals and finals in Texas for two more years so this revenue cycle should remain consistent during that time. If we return to the 6-judge judging program for at least 2 more years, it may buy us time to reevaluate and come up with better solutions for our finals program should finances become an issue in the future.

Affected: Those affected will be the contestants, the Course Director, the Judges judging Finals, the Board, and the Finals/Nationals Committee.

Effective Date: June 1, 2023, to apply to 2023 Finals.

SD.22.08 Remove the Sixty-day Mandatory Move-up Rule

Motion carried (8-1) - Approve: Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen.

Disapprove: Busquets. Abstain: None. Non-voting: None.

- Dissent from Director Busquets: While I'm not necessarily opposed to allowing competitors to stay at a level over 60 days, I haven't seen any indication that this can be carefully tracked in a way that would be helpful to affiliates or the Nationals Committee.

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

Committee Recommendation: Remove the 60 day mandatory move-up rule. Motion by Dan Sanderson to eliminate the 60 day required move-up rule and allow dogs and handlers to remain indefinitely at the level they feel most comfortable. Seconded by Terri Jones.

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

Current Wording:

6.3.2 60-Day Rule

After receiving two qualifying scores in a division, regardless of whether the certificate has or has not been received from the Business Office, the dog may move up immediately to the next division in the same class of stock, OR continue to compete in that division for up to 60 days, OR may continue to compete in that division until the following criteria have been met. Prizes and placements are still awarded while competing in the division and class entered. Merit points are not earned beyond 60 days after earning the second qualifying score (see Section 6.2.1.F for FEO exceptions).

- A. If at any time after 60 days, a Started dog receives two scores in a division and class of stock of 80 points (80%) or more, the dog must move up to the Open division before competing in the next trial weekend (This refers to move ups and is not required during the same trial weekend when a-c is reached).
- B. If at any time after 60 days, an Open dog receives two scores in a division and class of stock of 100 points (80%) or more, the dog must move up to the Advanced division before competing in the next trial weekend.
- C. After competing in Started or Open for one year after earning the second qualifying score, and not satisfying a or b above, the dog must move up to the next division at the next trial weekend. This rule is intended to allow contestants with limited trial opportunities the option to continue in a division for the purpose of gaining experience in the arena.
- D. All dogs may continue to compete in a division and class for 60 days after earning the second qualifying score regardless of the number of wins or scores earned but may move to the next division at any time. After 60 days, only those dogs who have failed to meet the criteria listed in a or b above may remain in the same division and class. Any dog that satisfies the requirements of a, b, or c after 60 days, must move up before entering the next trial weekend.

Proposed Wording:

6.3.2 60-Day Rule

After receiving two qualifying scores in a division, regardless of whether the certificate has or has not been received from the Business Office, the dog may move up immediately to the next division in the same class of stock, ~~OR continue to compete in that division for up to 60 days, OR may continue to compete in that division until the following criteria have been met.~~ If the owner does not feel ready, or does not believe their dog is ready for the next division level, they may remain at the level in which they are comfortable for as long as necessary. Prizes and placements are still awarded to these dogs while competing in the division and class entered. ~~Merit points are not earned beyond 60 days after earning the second qualifying score (see Section 6.2.1.F for FEO exceptions).~~

~~A. — If at any time after 60 days, a Started dog receives two scores in a division and class of stock of 80 points (80%) or more, the dog must move up to the Open division before competing in the next trial weekend (This refers to move ups and is not required during the same trial weekend when a c is reached).~~

A. Most Promising Started awards and High in Trial Open or Non-WTCH are club awards and a stipulation of time to be eligible to win these awards after earning their title may or may not be written in the premium. EXAMPLE: A Most Promising Started award is limited to dogs who have not earned their title in the Started Division or a dog who has earned the title in the Started Division within 60 days of the trial offering the award. Dogs who have earned their title in the Started Division outside of 60 days of the trial are ineligible for this award. A club may not make this or any requirement if they choose.

~~B. — If at any time after 60 days, an Open dog receives two scores in a division and class of stock of 100 points (80%) or more, the dog must move up to the Advanced division before competing in the next trial weekend.~~

B. Merit points are not earned beyond 60 days after earning the second qualifying score (see Section 6.2.1.F for FEO exceptions).

~~C. — After competing in Started or Open for one year after earning the second qualifying score, and not satisfying a or b above, the dog must move up to the next division at the next trial weekend. This rule is intended to allow contestants with limited trial opportunities the option to continue in a division for the purpose of gaining experience in the arena.~~

C. Once a dog has run in the Open or Advanced division, they may not move to a lower division.

~~D. — All dogs may continue to compete in a division and class for 60 days after earning the second qualifying score regardless of the number of wins or scores earned but may move to the next division at any time. After 60 days, only those dogs who have failed to meet the criteria listed in a or b above may remain in the same division and class. Any dog that satisfies the requirements of a, b, or c after 60 days, must move up before entering the next trial weekend.~~

Comments/Rationale: This was brought up at the Stockdog membership meeting in Bryan, TX this past year. Every person in attendance agreed that this rule should be eliminated to encourage those people at the lower level to remain in our program. Currently, we have witnessed many people who struggle to achieve their Open titles and are never able to reach the Advanced division so they drop out of ASCA completely. This will help to keep people involved for a longer time and will help the stock program to grow and generate more interest. This will not affect the method used for scoring Merit Points. The affiliate clubs will have the ability to put limitations and/or time limits on specialty awards (High in Trial, High Combined Non-WTCH, Most Promising Started, etc.) to prevent someone from remaining at a lower level just to win these awards.

Affected: This change will affect those in our program that wish to remain at a lower level until they are comfortable with competing at a higher level. This will eliminate “policing” by clubs and/or the Business Office to make sure someone moves up at the correct time.

Effective Date: June 1, 2023. **Note: Effective date was changed to June 1, 2022, by the Board on 4/1/2022.**

SD.22.09 Openings Between Panels for Ducks/Geese on Course D

Motion failed (7-1-1) - Approve: Creelman. Disapprove: Busquets, Byrne, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Abstain: Gann. Non-voting: None.

- Comment from Director Busquets: The motions addressing openings between panels for ducks and geese have been opposed by several members, who have made persuasive arguments against changing these parameters.
- Comment from Director Wesen: This will affect geese on the course.

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

Committee Recommendation: Change the openings between panels for Ducks/Geese on Course D from 6' to 4'. Motion by Dan Sanderson to change the openings between panels for Ducks/Geese on Course D from 6' to 4'. Seconded by Terri Jones.

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

Dissent from Jacqueline Tinker: I believe this increases the micromanagement requirement of our dogs. I prefer to keep a thinking dog and making panels more difficult that becomes the result. I have been trialing these courses lately and the panel size is not a problem and is not making them too easy.

Dissent from Jamie Burns: With the larger arenas this course is used in, I do not think making the opening smaller is the best interest for a working and thinking Australian shepherd. Tends to get the handler more involved.

Current Wording:

12.1.1 Course D Arena

A. Set-up: This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. Panels:

1. Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.

2. Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

EXCEPTION: The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16'in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

Proposed Wording:

12.1.1 Course D Arena

A. Set-up: This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. Panels:

1. Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.

2. Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be ~~6'~~ 4'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

EXCEPTION: The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16'in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

Comments/Rationale: The original intent of Course D, E, F, and G was to not allow Ducks/Geese to work these courses. Over time it was discovered that ducks/geese were capable of working these courses but out of concern for the difficulty of the courses and well-being of the livestock, the openings were set at 6'. As the training of our dogs has improved, along with the familiarity of the membership with these courses, it is no longer necessary to have a larger opening than any other course in the Stockdog program.

Affected: The contestants and the maker of the drawings. The wording on the drawings will have to be changed at the same time the rule is changed in the rule book.

Effective Date: June 1, 2023.

SD.22.10 Openings Between Panels for Ducks/Geese on Course E

Motion failed (7-1-1) - Approve: Creelman. Disapprove: Busquets, Byrne, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Abstain: Gann. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Change the openings between panels for Ducks/Geese on Course E from 6' to 4'. Motion by Dan Sanderson to change the openings between panels for Ducks/Geese on Course E from 6' to 4' and to adjust the opening on Obstacle 5 from 8' to 6'. Seconded by Terri Jones.

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

Dissent from Jacqueline Tinker: I believe this increases the micromanagement requirement of our dogs. I prefer to keep a thinking dog and making panels more difficult that becomes the result. I have been trialing these courses lately and the panel size is not a problem and is not making them too easy.

Dissent from Jamie Burns: With the larger arenas this course is used in, I do not think making the opening smaller is the best interest for a working and thinking Australian shepherd. Tends to get the handler more involved.

Current Wording:

13.1.1 Course E Arena

A. Set-up: This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. Panels:

1. Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.

2. Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

EXCEPTION: The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16' in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

...

I. Obstacle 5: Once the stock has cleared obstacle 4, set up and control for obstacle 5 begins. The stock is turned toward the entrance of obstacle 5. Obstacle 5 is an "L" shaped obstacle made up of two openings which should be completed in one, single "L" shape manner/motion. The entrance is a 15' opening created by the panel closest to, and perpendicular to, the outer edge of the panel of obstacle 4. The exit is two parallel 12' panels placed 20' apart. The bottom of each panel (closest to the re-pen end of arena) will be placed on the Advanced Handlers' Line with the right-hand panel situated perpendicular to and even with the end of the left-hand side of the panel of obstacle 1 /obstacle 4. Then, turn the livestock in the direction needed to drive the stock to and through the alley and out the exit at the bottom end of alley. To receive course points, the livestock must travel through both the entrance created between obstacle 4 and obstacle 5, and the exit of the alley created by the parallel panels. If the livestock fails to move through one or both openings, course points will be deducted accordingly. Control points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movement through the obstacle was executed. Losing livestock from the desired "L" path will result in a loss of control points. Obstacles 1, 2, 3, and 4 must be attempted before attempting obstacle 5 as described in Section 8.2.3. For Ducks/Geese obstacle 5 is an "L" shape made up of two openings. The entrance is an 8' opening created by the panel closest to and perpendicular to obstacle 4 and the outer panel. The exit is two parallel 4'-5' panels with 8' opening.

Proposed Wording:

13.1.1 Course E Arena

A. Set-up: This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. Panels:

1. Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.

2. Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6' 4'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

EXCEPTION: The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16' in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

...

I. Obstacle 5: Once the stock has cleared obstacle 4, set up and control for obstacle 5 begins. The stock is turned toward the entrance of obstacle 5. Obstacle 5 is an "L" shaped obstacle made up of two openings which should be completed in one, single "L" shape manner/motion. The entrance is a 15' opening created by the panel closest to, and perpendicular to, the outer edge of the panel of obstacle 4. The exit is two parallel 12' panels placed 20' apart. The bottom of each panel (closest to the re-pen end of arena) will be placed on the Advanced Handlers' Line with the right-hand panel situated perpendicular to and even with the end of the left-hand side of the panel of obstacle 1 /obstacle 4. Then, turn the livestock in the direction needed to drive the stock to and through the alley and out the exit at the bottom end of alley. To receive course points, the livestock must travel through both the entrance created between obstacle 4 and obstacle 5, and the exit of the alley created by the parallel panels. If the livestock fails to move through one or both openings, course points will be deducted accordingly. Control points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movement through the obstacle was executed. Losing livestock from the desired "L" path will result in a loss of control points. Obstacles 1, 2, 3, and 4 must be attempted before attempting obstacle 5 as described in Section 8.2.3.

For Ducks/Geese obstacle 5 is an "L" shape made up of two openings. The entrance is an 8' 6" opening created by the panel closest to and perpendicular to obstacle 4 and the outer panel. The exit is two parallel 4'-5' panels with 8' 6" opening.

Comments/Rationale: The original intent of Course D, E, F, and G was to not allow Ducks/Geese to work these courses. Over time it was discovered that ducks/geese were capable of working these courses but out of concern for the difficulty of the courses and well-being of the livestock, the openings were set at 6'. As the training of our dogs has improved, along with the familiarity of the membership with these courses, it is no longer necessary to have a larger opening than any other course in the Stockdog program.

Affected: The contestants and the maker of the drawings. The wording on the drawings will have to be changed at the same time the rule is changed in the rule book.

Effective Date: June 1, 2023.

SD.22.11 Openings Between Panels for Ducks/Geese on Course F

Motion failed (7-1-1) - Approve: Creelman. Disapprove: Busquets, Byrne, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Abstain: Gann. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Change the openings between panels for Ducks/Geese on Course F from 6' to 4'. Motion by Dan Sanderson to change the openings between panels for Ducks/Geese on Course F from 6' to 4'. Seconded by Terri Jones.

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

Dissent from Jacqueline Tinker: I believe this increases the micromanagement requirement of our dogs. I prefer to keep a thinking dog and making panels more difficult that becomes the result. I have been trialing these courses lately and the panel size is not a problem and is not making them too easy.

Dissent from Jamie Burns: With the larger arenas this course is used in, I do not think making the opening smaller is the best interest for a working and thinking Australian shepherd. Tends to get the handler more involved.

Current Wording:

14.1.1 Course F Arena

A. Set-up: This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. Panels:

1. Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.

2. Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

EXCEPTION: The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16' in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

Proposed Wording:

14.1.1 Course F Arena

A. Set-up: This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. Panels:

1. Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.

2. Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6' 4". Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

EXCEPTION: The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16' in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

Comments/Rationale: The original intent of Course D, E, F, and G was to not allow Ducks/Geese to work these courses. Over time it was discovered that ducks/geese were capable of working these courses but out of concern for the difficulty of the courses and well-being of the livestock, the openings were set at 6'. As the training of our dogs has improved, along with the familiarity of the membership with these courses, it is no longer necessary to have a larger opening than any other course in the Stockdog program.

Affected: The contestants and the maker of the drawings. The wording on the drawings will have to be changed at the same time the rule is changed in the rule book.

Effective Date: June 1, 2023.

SD.22.12 Openings Between Panels for Ducks/Geese on Course G

Motion failed (7-1-1) - Approve: Creelman. Disapprove: Busquets, Byrne, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Abstain: Gann. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Change the openings between panels for Ducks/Geese on Course G from 6' to 4'. Motion by Dan Sanderson to change the openings between panels for Ducks/Geese on Course G from 6' to 4'. Seconded by Terri Jones.

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

Dissent from Jacqueline Tinker: I believe this increases the micromanagement requirement of our dogs. I prefer to keep a thinking dog and making panels more difficult that becomes the result. I have been trialing these courses lately and the panel size is not a problem and is not making them too easy.

Dissent from Jamie Burns: With the larger arenas this course is used in, I do not think making the opening smaller is the best interest for a working and thinking Australian shepherd. Tends to get the handler more involved.

Current Wording:

15.1.1 Course G Arena

A. Set-up: This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. Panels:

1. Sheep/Cattle panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.
2. Ducks/Geese arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'.

EXCEPTION: The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16'in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

Proposed Wording:

15.1.1 Course G Arena

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EXCEPTION: The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16'in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

Comments/Rationale: The original intent of Course D, E, F, and G was to not allow Ducks/Geese to work these courses. Over time it was discovered that ducks/geese were capable of working these courses but out of concern for the difficulty of the courses and well-being of the livestock, the openings were set at 6'. As the

training of our dogs has improved, along with the familiarity of the membership with these courses, it is no longer necessary to have a larger opening than any other course in the Stockdog program.

Affected: The contestants and the maker of the drawings. The wording on the drawings will have to be changed at the same time the rule is changed in the rule book.

Effective Date: June 1, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.