



THE AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®

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ASCA Executive Secretary's Report

October 2022

Announcements	
<p>2022 Nationals -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Donna Wright will replace Mary Hellmeister as the judge for Altered Conformation <p>2023 Nationals -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Terri Morgan was approved as the Nationals Entry Clerk• Bambi Ellis was approved as the Nationals Agility Entry Clerk• Cindy Franks was approved as the Nationals Stockdog Entry Clerk• The remaining judges for the Nationals were approved <p>Foundation -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aussie Rescue of San Diego received a grant of \$500	<p>The Not for Breeding Rules were updated in the Registry Rules.</p> <p>All Juniors competing at the National Specialty in events not included in Section 6.8 of the Nationals Rules may receive one free National Specialty entry.</p> <p>There is a new form to abandon a kennel name.</p> <p>Affiliates -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Santa Clarita Valley Australian Shepherd Club (Valencia, CA) was approved as a new Affiliate• Bylaw revisions submitted by the Working Australian Shepherd Club of Nevada were approved

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, Director-elect Dawna Sims, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

Absent:

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

President Busquets called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

September 2022 Treasurer's Report

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 7:07 pm to 7:37 pm. The financial reports for the period ending September 30, 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 members only section of ASCA's website.

BD.22.114 September 2022 Treasurer's Report

Motion carried (9-0) – Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts. Disapproved: None. Abstained: Wesen. Absent: None.

Motioned by Byrne to approve the Treasurer's report for September 2022 as presented. Seconded by Gerken.

Non-Regular Breeder Judge Application

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 7:37 pm to 8:00 pm. The Board considered how to proceed with a Conformation Non-Regular Breeder Judge applicant whose application has been pending for years.

BD.22.115 Non-Regular Breeder Judge Pending Application

Motion carried (9-0) – Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motioned by Byrne to allow the Non-Regular Breeder Judge applicant that began the judge application process nine years ago, to be allowed to take the current Conformation Judge test one time. This testing opportunity will constitute the third test for this applicant. Seconded by Gann.

Request to Transfer Points

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 8:00 pm to 8:05 pm. The Board considered a request from a member to transfer conformation points earned from one dog to another, as the member mistakenly listed the wrong dog on the entry form. Director Larson investigated and found that the documentation supported the request.

BD.22.116 Transfer Points from E210789 to E210787

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motioned by Larson to approve a member's request to transfer conformation points earned on 5/13/2022 from E210789 to E210787. Seconded by Creelman.

Breeder Judge Complaint

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 8:05 pm to 8:25 pm. The Board received complaints about an ASCA Senior Breeder Judge. Director McCabe investigated the incident and reported her findings to the Board. A letter will be sent to the Judge reminding them of the Judge's Code of Ethics.

2023 Nationals Entry Clerks

This discussion was held in **Executive Session** from 8:25 pm to 8:33 pm. Directors Byrne, Creelman, and Wesen conducted interviews for the positions of Entry Clerk, Agility Data Entry

Clerk, and Stockdog Data Entry Clerk for the 2023 Nationals, and made their recommendations to the Board.

BD.22.111 2023 Nationals Entry Clerk

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Byrne to approve Terri Morgan as the 2023 Nationals Entry Clerk. Second by Wesen.

Comments/Rationale: Ms. Morgan has been an active member of ASCA for many years and her involvement with our programs gave her a distinct advantage in this applicant search. Certainly, her past experiences in doing the job also benefitted her.

Affected: Terri Morgan, 2023 Nationals Committee, those entering the 2023 ASCA Nationals.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

BD.22.112 2023 Nationals Agility Data Entry Clerk

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Byrne to approve Bambi Ellis as the 2023 Nationals Agility Data Entry Clerk. Second by Wesen.

Comments/Rationale: Ms. Ellis is highly organized and has competed in Agility Finals since 2015 so she understands the importance of accuracy in reporting. She has a great deal of computer experience. She has taken the time to enter a mock trial in Agility Unscrambled and sorted in the manner scores are sorted in Finals showing her initiative. She plans on shadowing that position this year to increase her knowledge.

Affected: Bambi Ellis, 2023 Nationals Committee, exhibitors in the 2023 Nationals Agility Trial.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

BD.22.113 2023 Nationals Stockdog Data Entry Clerk

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Byrne to approve Cindy Franks as the 2023 Nationals Stockdog Data Entry Clerk. Second by Wesen.

Comments/Rationale: Ms. Franks has a very strong background in Excel which is the program used in this position.

Affected: Cindy Franks, 2023 Nationals Committee, exhibitors in the 2023 Nationals Stockdog Trial.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Moved to Open Session at 8:33 pm. President Busquets welcomed the members listening, introduced those present, and explained the Board's meeting process.

Last Month's Email Business

Started at 8:33 pm. 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.22.118 September 2022 Email Business

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**Motioned by Larson to ratify all business conducted over email in September 2022.
Seconded by Roberts.**

System Liaison's Report

Started at 8:34 pm. System Liaison Larson reported on the status of the WARP-1 database migration/system upgrade project ongoing with Inventive since 6/15/2021.

A common question about the project is, "why can't we get an absolute date that the project will be finished?" Larson explained that once tickets are pushed to staging for ASCA to test, bugs are sometimes found and need to be sent back to Inventive to fix. That starts the staging and testing process over again. We had planned to deploy the final tickets and retire ADMS on October 20, but we found some bugs and it has been delayed until October 25. The new computers will be installed at the Business Office on October 26 and the staff will begin working with the new system immediately.

Inventive is currently working on the member portal. The first part of this will be the first-time user login. Each user will need to read the privacy policy and data collection policy. Users can link their current account to their new membership account. There can be no duplicate email addresses – each member must have a unique email address associated with their account. The first use of an email address will be assigned to that account – additional requests to use that email address will be flagged and the user will need to use a different email address. There will also be an authentication process with a code sent via text or email to the phone number or email address on file.

Testing from ASCA's team of subject matter experts has been delayed due to the Nationals. Besides testing functionality, the team will also need to test the workflow. The Webmaster will be creating training videos and an FAQ to help members with the new portal.

Project Lead Maarten Walter has been working on creating SQL queries for ASCA. He has almost completed the stockdog standings, which will now be updated on the website weekly. He is also working on the Supreme Conformation Champion standings and the Business Office should be able to start issuing certificates for this program soon.

Gann asked what is left in the portal that still needs to be completed. Larson has shared this information via email. She thinks the ASCA team can finish testing around Thanksgiving.

Abandonment of Kennel Name

Started at 8:40 pm. The Assistant Office Manager created a form for a member to abandon their kennel name and Director Roberts presented a motion to approve the abandonment process. She does not anticipate that the form will be used very often, but it does free up a kennel name to be used by someone else when it happens.

Gerken wondered if the kennel has accumulated Hall of Fame points will they transfer to the new name? Roberts explained that the computer system tracks the breeder and not the kennel name, so the points will remain with the breeder regardless of the kennel name.

Gann asked if the Office Manager had been consulted about this. Gann had been in this situation (moving from one kennel name to another) and was told by the Office Manager that points would not transfer and that he would need to start over with the new kennel name. Roberts noted that it is more complicated with co-owned kennels, but that the points should count for every breeder.

BD.22.119 Kennel Abandonment Form

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motioned by Roberts to approve the new form to abandon an ASCA kennel name. Seconded by McCabe.

Current Wording: None.

New Wording: Registry Rules

2.7.13 Abandonment of an ASCA Registered Kennel Name

A kennel owner(s) who wishes to abandon, relinquish, and/or discontinue the use of an ASCA registered kennel name must fill out the "Abandonment of an ASCA registered kennel name" form and submit it to the office. All kennel owners must sign the form.

Remaining 2023 Nationals Judges

Started at 8:48 pm. Last month the Board approved the first batch of judges for the 2023 Nationals and Liaison Gann presented motions to approve the rest.

BD.22.120 2023 Nationals MVA/MVJ Judge – Michael Ryan

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Liaison Gann to approve Michael Ryan to conduct the Most Versatile Aussie and Most Versatile Junior evaluations at the 2023 National Specialty.

BD.22.121 2023 Nationals Ducks Judge – Maxine Schvaneveldt

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Liaison Gann to approve Maxine Schvaneveldt to judge Ducks at the 2023 National Specialty Stockdog Trial.

BD.22.122 2023 Nationals Sheep Judge – Devona Pierce

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Liaison Gann to approve Devona Pierce to judge Sheep at the 2023 National Specialty Stockdog Trial.

BD.22.123 2023 Nationals Cattle Judge – Sandra Zilch

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Liaison Gann to approve Sandra Zilch to judge Cattle at the 2023 National Specialty Stockdog Trial.

BD.22.124 2023 Nationals Dock Jumping Judge – Lindsey Hinds

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Liaison Gann to approve Lindsey Hinds to judge Dock Jumping at the 2023 National Specialty.

Site for 2026 Nationals

Started at 8:51 pm. Director Creelman has requested the Board consider holding the 2026 Nationals in Bakersfield, California. She provided several reasons such as the affordability of the facility, historically high entries at this location, the high population of Australian Shepherds and ASCA members on the west coast, great food vendors, and the overall profitability of events held there. She also said that, despite some safety concerns about the surrounding area, there have never been any issues at the fairgrounds. Creelman thinks we should go to Bakersfield in 2026 while we are still researching suitable sites for future events since we know that it works for ASCA. While finding an eastern site is important, she noted that there are not as many Aussies and Aussie owners on the east coast and they don't tend to travel as far, unlike exhibitors from California who typically attend regardless of the location.

McCabe agreed that Bakersfield may be the most economically feasible facility to hold the Nationals and that the west coast has a high number of ASCA competitors. She also pointed out that the Nationals hasn't been east of the Mississippi River since it was in Tennessee in 2015 and before that, in Wisconsin in 2011 and in New Jersey in 2007. She thought it should be fairly spread around the United States, so all members have the opportunity to attend at some point.

McCabe asked what the Board's timeframe for a decision was. Typically, the Nationals site is chosen at least three years in advance so we can secure the dates needed and put the host committee together.

Gerken thought we should be seriously considering sites east of the Mississippi River but need to make sure they are suitable for ASCA's needs. She thought that we may want to change the timing of Nationals to not include two weekends since that presents difficulty in finding available dates at these sites. She shared concerns about the safety of the Bakersfield site due to its location. She also thought we should be considering locations with nearby tourist attractions

since many members use the Nationals as their vacation time. She thinks the Board should use the next year to compare site costs and information before deciding on a site for 2026.

Larson did not think the Board should decide on this tonight. The Board should give the Nationals Advisory Committee more time to investigate places east of the Mississippi River. She was not opposed to going to Bakersfield but did not think the decision should be rushed. She noted that any Board member can reach out to a facility they think would be suitable to find out the availability of dates and price range, then provide that information to the Nationals Advisory Committee for a more in-depth look.

Wesen said that she is currently researching facilities along with the Nationals Advisory Committee. She said the range of dates needed is often an issue when finding a site. There are possibilities in the east, but we need to make sure the logistics work. She thought ASCA could move the Nationals days from Friday-Saturday to Wednesday-Thursday or something like that to avoid needing two weekends. She also shared concerns about the safety of the Bakersfield site and the lack of good accommodations for agility and conformation. She asked if there was another facility in California that is in a safer location.

Roberts talked about the need for the Board to determine their plans and goals for the Nationals and locations. Does ASCA want to stay in one place or rotate between several sites? Until the Board determines that, no decisions should be made about which site we are going to next. She acknowledged that we can't make everyone happy, but we can try to make it as equitable as possible.

Gann agreed with Roberts that the Board must decide what the parameters are and relay that information to the Nationals Advisory Committee, along with what we are willing to change. Some of the east coast sites may be out of ASCA's price range, but we still need to be investigating them for our members. He thought this should be a topic for the Board's 2023 Spring Meeting.

Byrne thought it was a good idea to set goals before deciding on a site. She thinks the Nationals Advisory Committee is spinning its wheels researching sites without any parameters. She thought it was too early to commit to returning to Bakersfield at this time. She was also concerned about the safety of the Bakersfield location and the suitability of the agility fields.

Sims agreed about the safety concerns surrounding the Bakersfield site. She also agreed that the Board needs to set parameters and decide on the direction we want to go with the Nationals. There is a lot of work that goes into researching sites for our use and it shouldn't be done randomly or without an end goal so our resources are put to better use.

Busquets had previously mentioned that the Board will need to decide whether to go back to the rotation or not very soon and then conduct the work moving forward based on that decision. Sometimes the Board gets stuck waiting for the Nationals Advisory Committee to make a recommendation, but in this case, the Board needs to provide them with more direction and clear goals for the Nationals. That decision should be made during the Board's 2023 Spring Meeting so we have time to consider all the feedback we may receive. At this point, the Nationals Advisory Committee needs to provide the Board and membership with a report on which sites have been investigated and why they are or are not suitable for ASCA's needs. The membership needs to know why certain regions do not have as many opportunities to host the Nationals. The Board will also need updated costs for the Bakersfield site to compare to the others.

Larson made sure to thank outgoing Director Jean Roberts for her many years of hard work and service to ASCA. Her last meeting will be during the Nationals.

President Busquets thanked all the Directors for their work this month and the members listening. Safe travels to everyone going to Nationals.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 pm. (Moteded by Larson, Seconded by Roberts).

ASCA Board Motions

Director Recommendations

BD.22.110 Change to Registry Rules 2.8 Not for Breeding Rules

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Roberts to approve a change to section 2.8 Not for Breeding Rules in the registry rules. Second by McCabe.

Current Wording:

Section 2.8 Not for Breeding Rules

1. The breeder has the option of checking the “Not for Breeding” box on the Individual Registration Application.
2. If this box is checked, the Registry Office will issue a Registration Certificate in a different color from the regular Registration Certificate, and it will be stamped “NOT FOR BREEDING.”
3. The dog’s registration number will have the prefix “N.” No Litter Registration Application submitted using an “N” prefix for the sire or dam will be processed.
4. The Not for Breeding restriction may be rescinded by the litter owner at the litter owner’s option. The litter owner must request the Not for Breeding Release form from the Business Office. It must be signed and notarized by all litter owners/co-owners.
5. A dog with the “N” prefix may compete for titles in all ASCA-sanctioned events but no litters from this animal will be eligible for registration.

Proposed Wording:

Section 2.8 Not for Breeding Rules

1. The breeder has the option of checking the “Not for Breeding” box on the Individual Registration Application.
2. If this box is checked, the Registry Office will issue a Registration Certificate in a different color from the regular Registration Certificate and it will be stamped “NOT FOR BREEDING.”
3. The dog’s registration number will have the prefix “N.” No Litter Registration Application submitted using an “N” prefix for the sire or dam will be processed.
4. The Not for Breeding restriction may be rescinded by the litter owner at the litter owner’s option. The Not for Breeding Release form must be signed and notarized by the primary litter owner unless the dog is reverting back to ownership by one or all of the litter owners. In such a case, the release form must be signed by the litter owner taking ownership of the animal but does not need to be notarized.

5. A dog with the “N” prefix may compete for titles in all ASCA-sanctioned events but no litters from this animal will be eligible for registration.

Comments/Rationale: It came to my attention that a breeder/litter owner took back ownership of a dog that they produced. When they went to release the NFB on said dog, ASCA rules required notarizing the release. It seemed like an unnecessary hoop to jump through when the breeder becomes the owner of the dog. The Assistant Manager, the former Registrar, assisted with this motion.

Affected: Breeders/litter owners.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

EM.22.07 Emergency Motion - New 2022 National Conformation Show Judge

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Liaison Gann to replace Judge Mary Hellmeister with Judge Donna Wright for the 2022 Nationals Altered Conformation assignment.

Comments/Rationale: Nationals Conformation Chair Gail Karamalegos notified the Board that Nationals Altered Judge Mary Hellmeister has canceled her 2022 Nationals assignment.

Affected: The judges and 2022 Nationals Conformation exhibitors.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

FD.22.04 Rescue Grant Request from Aussie Rescue of San Diego

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Roberts to approve the \$500 grant request from Aussie Rescue of San Diego. Second by Creelman.

Comments/Rationale: They are a qualified Aussie rescue organization.

Affected: Aussie Rescue of San Diego.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

AF.22.04 Application to Affiliate from Santa Clarita Valley ASC (California)

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Gann to approve Santa Clarita Valley Australian Shepherd Club as a new ASCA Affiliate Club. Second by McCabe.

Location: Valencia, California

President Tamara Robinson, Affiliate Rep Alycia Wise

Contact email: scvasclub@gmail.com

Comments/Rationale: The Business Office has verified the club meets the requirements.

Affected: Club members and exhibitors that may attend ASCA events in California.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

AF.22.05 Affiliate Bylaw Change Request from Working ASC of Nevada

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

Motion by Larson to approve the Bylaw revisions submitted by the Working Australian Shepherd Club of Nevada. Second by Wesen.

Comments/Rationale: The Bylaw Change Review Committee has reviewed the proposed revisions and found them agreeable.

Affected: Members of Working ASC of Nevada.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

Committee Recommendations

JUNIOR COMMITTEE

JR.22.05 National Specialty Junior Entries

Motion carried (9-0) - Approved: Busquets, Byrne, Creelman, Gann, Gerken, Larson, McCabe, Roberts, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

Comment from Director Gerken: I feel this is the least we can do to support our performance junior exhibitors. I would have liked to see the junior committee recommend ASCA step up similar to the affiliate clubs and provide a junior exhibitor entry at a reduced rate. Very few juniors compete in the performance events, the financial burden on ASCA is nil. It is embarrassing the lack of support ASCA gives to the juniors in performance venues. Our mission statement reads "ASCA is dedicated to ...promoting the Australian Shepherd as an intelligent working dog". Juniors are the future of ASCA. Performance events require greater preparation and additional financial commitment in the way of equipment, coaching, and facilities. ASCA needs to encourage the performance venues to junior handlers equally as much as they support the conformation venue.

Comment from Director Wesen: It didn't go far enough to compare with affiliates compensation to Juniors. Looking forward to more programs from Juniors.

Motion by Liaison McCabe to approve the following recommendation from the Junior Committee.

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Andrea Bair to add a new Section 6.9 to the National Specialty Rulebook. Seconded by Alexi Staples.

Results of Committee Vote: Approved: 8. Disapproved: 1. Abstained: None. Non-Voting: 4.

Dissent from Nicole Fischer: Discounting entry fees for performance events at Nationals for Junior Handlers is only being seen by affiliate clubs hosting pre-trials. The bulk of the weight to encourage participation is being left to these clubs. They should be applauded for their generosity. One free event isn't comparable to what affiliate clubs are offering throughout the year and at the Nationals pre-trial for juniors who compete in performance.

Current Wording: None.

Proposed Wording:

6.9 Junior Titling Entry Fee

All Juniors competing at the National Specialty in events not included in Section 6.8 may receive one free National Specialty entry. The Junior will decide which program (agility, conformation, obedience, rally, or stock) they would like to use the free entry on and notate on their entry form and submission form. The Junior must own or co-own the dog in accordance with Junior Rule Section 1.8 for the required sixty days preceding the opening date for entries to qualify for the free entry. The junior must also exhibit the dog themselves. Juniors may enter additional classes at the regular rates published in the Nationals Premium.

Comments/Rationale: To encourage Juniors to participate in all ASCA programs. The Junior Committee was not in favor of the prior motion as it excluded specific programs and we felt that all juniors should benefit equally.

Affected: Junior Handler entrants, the ASCA Nationals Committee, and individual committees for each Nationals.

Effective Date: Starting with the 2023 Nationals.

Respectfully submitted by Kalla Jaco, Executive Secretary.