



# THE AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®

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## ASCA Executive Secretary's Report April 2024

### Announcements

#### New Judges:

Renee Watson (Georgia) – Provisional Rally  
Sue Graham (California) – Apprentice Supervisor Agility  
Katelynn Scott-Peart (Utah) – Approved Breeder

#### New Committee Members:

Agility: Sue Graham, Sheila Freeman, Lee Prager  
Conformation: Toni Viola Pearson, Brittany Clem  
Hall of Fame: Kate Johnson  
Junior: Brittany Clem, Alicia Campbell  
Obedience: Mary-Lou Booth  
Rally: Desirae Erwin  
Scent Detection: Noel Ritter, Sharon Farkas, Elizabeth Mack  
Stockdog: Sue McAnulty  
Tracking: Judi Myers

Committee renewals occur annually at the Spring Meeting. A [full list of committee members](#) is available on the ASCA website.

Geri Scheidt was appointed to the ASCA Board of Directors to fill the vacancy left by Lynda Hardin's resignation.

The 2024 ASCA Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to Carol Ann, Jeanne Joy, Jim, and Joe Hartnagle.

The new Illustrated Breed Standard is now available on the [ASCA website](#) and can be ordered from the Business Office.

The Board decided to hire a programmer to address issues with the computer system.

The IRS has denied ASCA's request to change its non-profit status from 501(c)(7) to 501(c)(4).

The [2024-2025 Strategic Plan](#) has been approved and is accessible on the ASCA website.

The Board is actively working to update and finalize ASCA's Business Plan. They are also conducting the first of ASCA's new annual Operational Audits.

A survey about the Aussie Times will be distributed to members on April 22nd.

The Board has approved an updated communication policy with ASCA's Counsel.

#### ASCA Nationals:

- The Board decided against holding the 2026 Nationals in Virginia. An update on the new venue will be announced soon.
- The slate of judges for the 2025 Nationals and Finals has been approved and can be viewed on the ASCA website.

#### Business Office/Staff:

- Ongoing repairs at the ASCA Business Office include a new HVAC unit and replacement of ceiling tiles.
- The number of paid holidays for ASCA employees will be reduced from 14 to 10, effective from the first pay period after July 1, 2024.
- The Board will establish a voluntary 401(k) plan for all ASCA employees, beginning January 1, 2025, pending approval of associated costs. ASCA will not match employee contributions.

#### Fee Increases:

- The Board voted to increase sanctioning fees per trial/show from \$25 to \$40 for all events submitted after June 1, 2024.
- The Board initially voted to raise the per run/entry recording fee from \$1.00 to \$1.50 for trials/shows held after June 1, 2024, but this decision was rescinded during the 4/18/2024 meeting.
- An annual review of the fee schedule will now be conducted at each June Board meeting, and any changes will be implemented starting January 1 of the following year.

The Board has adopted a new moderation policy for ASCA discussion groups, requiring moderator approval for all messages before posting.

**Reminder:** All ballots for the 2024 Board of Directors election will be sent exclusively via email on May 15.

#### Committee Recommendations:

Conformation (2 approved)  
Nationals Advisory (8 approved)  
Scent Detection (2 approved)

# ASCA Board Spring Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held in person from Thursday, April 3 to Saturday, April 5, 2024.

**In attendance:** President Susan Byrne, 1st Vice President Rick Gann, 2nd Vice President Dawna Sims, Secretary Ann McCabe, Treasurer Jodie McLellan, Director David Clayton, Director Jillian Ward, Director Jan Wesen, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

**Absent:** None.

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

**President Byrne called the meeting to order in Open Session at 8:00 am.**

## Norms

The Board reviewed their established norms, reaffirming their commitment to adhere to these standards. Wesen offered valuable insights into the historical context, detailing the process followed by a previous Board in formulating these guiding principles.

**The Board was in Executive Session from 8:22 am to 10:54 am.**

## Business Office Repairs

The Board engaged in a discussion about moving forward with essential repairs for the ASCA Business Office, focusing particularly on the replacement of the HVAC system. Prior to the Board's voting, the Office Manager will procure updated quotes.

## Employer of Record for Programmer

In February 2024, the Board voted to hire an independent programmer to work on fixes to ASCA's computer system at a rate of \$70 per hour not to exceed 60 hours per month. ASCA's attorney recommended using a third-party employer of record to mitigate legal risks associated with misclassification as an independent contractor in Poland. The Board voted (7-1) to approve a third-party employer of record at \$325 per month for a two-year period.

## IRS Designation

President Byrne followed up on her report from last month that the application to modify ASCA's IRS status from a 501(c)(7) to a 501(c)(4) designation was denied due to our organization's focus on serving a specific community, rather than the broader public, which does not meet the qualifications for the desired status. Directors agreed to withdraw the application and not pursue an appeal of the decision.

Ward pointed out that ASCA is permitted to generate profits up to 35% of our gross revenue. The incorporation of income from Nationals into ASCA's overall gross revenue has the effect of increasing this base, thereby enlarging our potential profit margin. Ward is optimistic that this will not impede our profit generation capabilities nor our ability to attract corporate sponsors.

## Proposal from McLane

The Board received a proposal from McLane Intel for the replacement of our Switch and Access Point, both of which are approximately 10 years old. The IT Committee has expressed no reservations regarding this proposal, affirming their confidence in McLane's commitment to meeting our technological needs at a cost that aligns with industry standards.

## BD.24.35 QUOTE #009246 V1 Replacement Switch and Access Point

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen.

Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**Motioned by Byrne to approve the quote from McLane for products and services needed to purchase and install a new switch and new access point. The amount for this work to be completed is \$3,656.61. Seconded by Wesen.**

## ASCA's Office Manager

The Board discussed aspects of the performance evaluation of the Office Manager and identified key issues to address moving forward.

## Additional Event Membership Dues

McLellan highlighted a shortfall in Additional Event Membership Dues (AEMD) funds, due to an early allocation of the 2023-2024 AEMD to cover expenses for the 2023 Nationals. This has resulted in an approximate \$25,000 deficit. However, considering the 2024 Nationals budget request of \$65,000, the shortfall effectively narrows to about \$8,000. The understanding of how AEMD funds should be utilized—whether as a collective resource or allocated specifically to the programs generating them—remains a topic of discussion. According to ASCA Policy Book (19.10), AEMD revenue is intended to offset the costs of all ASCA Finals, with any surplus from a year rolling over to future Finals. McLellan and Ward committed to developing a comprehensive plan to address the \$8,000 need for the 2024 Nationals and to formulate a long-term strategy for AEMD fund utilization.

## 2024 Nationals Budget in QuickBooks

Ward presented a spreadsheet that is designed to streamline the process of integrating the Nationals budget into QuickBooks, with the ultimate goal of providing future Nationals accountants with a standardized template for their use. It organizes financial information by program, offering a detailed framework for more efficient bookkeeping. Ward highlighted its new approach to allocating committee expenses and site fees directly to the respective programs—a departure from past practices where such costs were absorbed by the general fund.

The spreadsheet also prompts a reevaluation of reimbursement policies for Nationals Committee members amid challenges in reaching consensus with the Nationals Advisory Committee on this matter. Additionally, it raises the question of enhancing revenue streams for Juniors and MVA programs, traditionally areas of financial loss due to their structure and the division of MVA entries among programs.

Ward pointed out that the Scent Detection program's budget, while initially set at \$3,658, does not account for significant expenses such as site fees, insurance, and Nationals Committee chair costs, projecting a \$2,000 loss. This situation underscores the need for a strategic review of the profit and loss (P&L) statements for each program, encouraging committees to either generate additional revenue or identify cost-saving opportunities.

Wesen inquired about the visibility of actual spending. QuickBooks is versatile in financial reporting and its capability to reflect true expenditures.

**The Board was in Open Session from 10:54 am to 12:20 pm.**

## Treasurer's Report

McLellan provided an update on financial figures since her last report on March 21, detailing the organization's current financial status. The checking account balance is \$142,422; the 2023 Nationals account balance is \$28,555; the savings account balance is \$75,804, after a transfer of \$50,000 from the operating account; the Additional Event Membership Dues (AEMD) account balance is \$33,293; and the Foundation account balance

is \$41,337. McLellan also mentioned that she had completed the submission of paperwork to initiate accounts with Vanguard, anticipating that these accounts would start yielding returns soon.

The ASCA Business Office has recently undergone some necessary maintenance and improvements, significantly offset by the generous assistance of Byrne and Sims' husbands, who contributed their labor to save costs. This included spending \$1,300 on replacing all the ceiling tiles and \$1,280 to improve the parking lot with road base material, addressing flooding issues. The process of selecting a contractor for the HVAC system replacement is in its final stages, with the decision being narrowed down to two options, pending further warranty verification.

Additionally, thanks to the efforts of directors and office staff, the storage unit across from the office has been cleared out, which will result in annual savings of approximately \$2,200. Finally, another IT enhancement has been approved, with an associated cost of \$3,656.

## Strategic Plan

The Strategic Planning Committee, comprised of Sims, McLellan, and Wesen, presented an update on their efforts to revise the [Strategic Plan for 2024-2025](#). They acknowledged the absence of registry numbers for 2021 and 2022 but assured the other directors that such data would be included moving forward. Similarly, detailed income and expense reports for the current year are pending, as efforts are ongoing to familiarize the bookkeeper with our financial system. Byrne emphasized that this lack of information is not indicative of any intent to conceal data; rather, it's a temporary gap until the bookkeeper can fully integrate the necessary details into our reports.

The committee has refined the objectives for the Board and each program committee updated their respective goals. It was noted that the strategic review process is currently an annual event, prompting a suggestion to involve directors more actively by assigning specific topics for review throughout the year, with a proposal to discuss this further at the May meeting.

The topic of judge education was discussed, acknowledging the dual responsibility of directors and committees in this area. McCabe proposed that the committees engage with the strategic plan semi-annually, rather than just once a year, to enhance focus and effectiveness.

Ward inquired about the procedures for managing judge evaluations, which are documented by the Executive Secretary. Negative evaluations are forwarded to the appropriate committee chairs and Board liaisons for follow-up with the concerned judges.

## Business Plan

The need for a formal Business Plan was identified as a key area for development within the organization. To tackle this, Directors Byrne, McLellan, and Sims have stepped forward to form a subcommittee dedicated to creating a comprehensive Business Plan. Gann proposed a structured approach to this task by dividing the preliminary draft from 2010 into six sections. The plan involves dedicating time to discuss and refine one section during each of the next six Board meetings. This methodical approach aims to culminate in a finalized document by October, perfectly timed for unveiling at the 2024 Nationals membership meeting.

## Operational Audit

Ward reported that the Board has been developing an operational audit document with contributions from various Board members. Each section's lead provided their insights.

**Board Governance:** Lead by McCabe.

- Focus is on enhancing Board functionality and member integration. This includes training new Board members and fostering team dynamics.
- Current Initiatives:

- Developing a "New Board Member Handbook" and training checklist, utilizing best practices sourced from existing online documents.
- Establishing a mentorship program and a structured training protocol for the Board of Directors.
- Implementing team-building activities during the Spring Meeting.
- Setting up performance review processes for Officers and the Board of Directors.

**Technology: Hardware and Software:** Lead by Clayton.

- Covered essential aspects such as virus protection, software licensing, hardware depreciation, data backup protocols, account access, and equipment replacement strategies.

**Office: Furniture and Equipment:** Lead by Byrne.

- Reported on the current state of office furnishings and the acquisition of new office chairs, funded by member donations. Special thanks to Amy Siegel, David Clayton, Jan Wesen, Jillian Ward, and David Schleicher for their contributions.

**Legal Compliance:** Lead by Byrne.

- Discussed compliance with ADA, contract oversight, insurance policies, conflict of interest, grievance handling, and document retention and destruction policies.

**Financial Compliance:** Lead by McLellan.

- Addressed procedures for the filing of Form 990s, management of Confidential Consumer Information, and accounts payable practices.

**Personnel Compliance:** Lead by Byrne.

- Reviewed personnel policies, job descriptions, employee orientation procedures, performance evaluations, and the chain of command structure.

**Lunch break from 11:47 am to 12:20 pm.**

**ASCA's Attorney, David Schleicher, joined the Board from 12:00 pm to 4:40 pm for the following discussions.**

**The Board was in Executive Session from 12:20 pm to 5:02 pm.**

## Per Diem for Board Members

Directors currently receive a per diem of \$50 for each day of meetings attended. Byrne raised the possibility of transitioning to a system where directors would be reimbursed for their actual expenses, rather than receiving a fixed per diem. McLellan elaborated on this proposal, suggesting the adoption of an expense report system, where directors would submit their expenditure records to the treasurer for approval, followed by the Office Manager issuing the reimbursement checks. This shift from a pre-meeting per diem to post-meeting expense reimbursement was discussed as a potential policy change for future meetings, not affecting current practices immediately.

## Aussie Times

The Board deliberated on member feedback regarding the format of the Aussie Times, weighing the merits of resuming print publication against maintaining its digital presence. A compromise was suggested, potentially reducing the number of print issues per year.

The Board resolved to conduct a thorough analysis of the financial aspects related to resuming the print publication of the Aussie Times prior to reaching a definitive conclusion. Additionally, they committed to issuing a survey to the membership to gauge preferences and opinions concerning the print version of the Aussie Times, ensuring member perspectives are integral to the decision-making process. This comprehensive approach aims to balance fiscal responsibility with meeting member expectations and preserving the legacy of the Aussie Times.

## Board Vacancy

Following a detailed review of the candidates for the Board vacancy, the directors cast their votes for their preferred nominee. Geri Scheidt emerged as the majority's choice and was selected to fill the position.

## Legal Discussions

### Trademark Usage Concerning ASCA:

- There was a unanimous decision against allowing an app creator to utilize ASCA's trademark.

### DNA Program Considerations:

- Wesen has identified a contact at Paw Print Genetics (PPG)/Neogen for potential renegotiation of our DNA contract, set for renewal in September 2024. The Board expressed a desire to maintain our current DNA company for parentage verification while exploring options to allow alternative companies for health testing. This could include forming a partnership through the affinity program.

### Youth Protection Policy:

- Last September, Schleicher provided a high-level policy document for the Board's consideration with the goal of ensuring a safe environment for youths at ASCA events. A focus on requiring background checks for judges at National Specialties was agreed upon, with discussions on the financial and logistical aspects of implementing such checks.

### Operational Updates:

- The Counsel Committee for the current year was announced, with President Susan Byrne as the chair and the appointment of Jan Wesen and Ann McCabe, with David Clayton as an alternate member.

## Request for Conflict Resolution

The Board voted to dismiss a Request for Conflict Resolution.

## Scent Detection Committee

The Board reviewed recent developments within the Scent Detection Committee.

## Committee Renewals & Appointments

The Board annually conducts committee renewals and appointments at their Spring Meeting.

### *Scent Detection Committee*

#### **Renewed:**

Sandy Thompson – Region 4  
Marilyn Conner – Region 6

#### **Not Renewed:**

Sandra Tung – Region 1  
Liz Bernstein – Region 1  
Claudia Yearsley – Region 3  
Deborah Divich – Region 5

#### **New Appointments:**

Noel Ritter – Region 1  
Sharon Farkas – Region 2  
Elizabeth Mack – Region 5

## Lifetime Achievement Award

The History Committee received a nomination for the 2024 ASCA Lifetime Achievement Award for Carol Ann, Jeanne Joy, Jim, and Joe Hartnagle. They were nominated by Betty and Kalla Jaco, with supporting letters from Steve and Anne Shope, Deb Conroy, and Mike Ryan.

### BD.24.37 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen.

Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.



**Motioned by Liaison McCabe to approve the History Committee’s recommendation for the 2024 ASCA Lifetime Achievement Award to be presented to Carol Ann, Jeanne Joy, Jim, and Joe Hartnagle.**

Committee Recommendation: The motion to award the Lifetime Achievement Award to the named Hartnagle children was made by Ann DeChant, seconded by Jean Roberts. Approve: 5 (Claire Thomas, Jean Roberts, Robbi Norman, Ann DeChant, Cindy King). Disapprove: None. Non-voting: 1 (Dorien Vogelaar).

#### BD.24.38 Plaques for 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**Motioned by McCabe to provide the recipients of the 2024 ASCA Lifetime Achievement Award with plaques recognizing their accomplishment. The total value of the plaques will not exceed \$200. The funds will come from the ASCA Foundation account. Seconded by Wesen.**

**The meeting of the ASCA Board was paused at 4:56 pm and the meeting of the ASCA Foundation Board was called to order.**

### Foundation Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer McLellan provided an update on the financial health of the ASCA Foundation, noting a current balance of \$41,337.91, with \$740 in contributions received this year.

The Board discussed the allocation of grants to rescue organizations. It was observed that the dedicated funds for these grants are diminishing. The Board is now faced with a decision to replenish these funds from non-restricted funds or to cease the grant offerings, especially considering the absence of grant applications in recent years.

Additionally, new directors signed the Foundation's conflict-of-interest declaration, ensuring transparency and integrity in our operations. These documents will be forwarded to ASCA's legal counsel and kept on file.

**The meeting was paused at 5:02 pm.**

**President Byrne called the meeting to order at 8:00 am on Friday, April 5, 2024.**

**The Board was in Executive Session from 8:00 am to 1:57 pm.**

### Meeting with ASCA Business Office Staff

**The staff from ASCA’s Business Office—Sarah Jackson, Tammy Johnson, Tasha Steeley, Jaime Pearce, Jennifer Thompson, and Ashely Cupp joined the Board from 8:00 am to 9:10 am for this discussion.** For details on their duties at the office please visit: <https://asca.org/asca/business-office/>

Board members and staff initiated the meeting with introductions, followed by a discussion on the ongoing and upcoming repairs to the Business Office. The conversation shifted to exploring ways the membership could facilitate the staff's work and enhance operational efficiency:

- There is a common issue where submissions from affiliates often arrive incomplete, with results and payments sent separately. Ward proposed mandating online submissions to include online payments, thereby eliminating the need for separate checks.
- The Board considered the possibility of a motion to relieve clubs from the obligation of submitting physical scoresheets, aiming to reduce paper waste and administrative burdens.
- A reminder to the membership of the 15-day submission deadline for affiliate clubs will be issued, indicating that immediate results from trials might not always be available.

Byrne conveyed the Board's gratitude for the staff's dedication and hard work, noting the positive feedback received from the membership. This acknowledgment underscores the team's capability and collaborative spirit in advancing the organization's mission.

## Meeting with ASCA Business Office Manager

**ASCA's Business Office Manager, Sarah Jackson, joined the Board from 9:10 am to 11:01 am for this discussion.**

Salary data and revenue enhancement strategies were examined, including adjusting fees for shows and trials, recognizing the need to adequately compensate ASCA staff for their work related to sanctioning and recording results. They agreed to annually review all fees to evaluate the impact of these adjustments.

Jackson has not received the draft ballot from Election Trust yet, but it should be available for the Board to approve during their April 18 meeting.

During staff evaluations, the Board highlighted the importance of proactive and effective management of staff issues, alongside recognizing the team's high level of expertise and excellent teamwork.

The Board revisited staff benefits, particularly the increase in holiday days, and discussed aligning them more closely with employment norms. They also focused on staff raises and performance expectations, emphasizing the importance of balancing employee well-being with operational efficiency and member satisfaction, advocating for clear policies on work-life balance.

## Committee Renewals & Appointments (Continued)

The Board annually conducts committee renewals and appointments at their Spring Meeting.

### *Agility*

**Renewed:**

Michael Kurdzo – Region 6  
Natascha Wagenaar – Region 7

**Not Renewed:**

Jan Niblock – Region 6

**New Appointments:**

Sue Graham – Region 2  
Sheila Freeman – Region 5  
Lee Prager – Region 6

### *Conformation*

**Renewed:**

Brandy Greenhagen – Region 3  
Jeff Rusho – Region 3  
Shelby Shank – Region 3  
Elizabeth Stibley – Region 3  
Ann DeChant – Region 4  
Star Mathis – Region 5

**Not Renewed:**

Shawna Sakal – Region 2  
Michael McGuire – Region 2  
Leah Swatko – Region 6  
Elke Philippy – Region 7

**New Appointments:**

Toni Viola Pearson – Region 1  
Brittany Clem – Region 1

### *Dock Jumping*

**Renewed:**

Lesli Hill – Region 5  
Taylor Justice – Region 5

**Not Renewed:**

Kristina Churchill – Region 3  
Sandra Czarny – Region 6

**New Appointments:**

N/A

### *Hall of Fame*

**Renewed:**

Lynda Peppel – Region 2  
Dorothy Montano – Region 5

**Not Renewed:**

Kristina Churchill – Region 3

**New Appointments:**

Kate Johnson – Region 5



## *Junior*

### **Renewed:**

Nicole Fischer – Region 1  
Megan Sims Kennedy – Region 2

### **Not Renewed:**

N/A

### **New Appointments:**

Brittany Clem – Region 1  
Alicia Campbell – Region 6

## *MVA*

### **Renewed:**

N/A

### **Not Renewed:**

Lori Fausett – Region 5

### **New Appointments:**

N/A

## *Obedience*

### **Renewed:**

Karen Gray – Region 1  
Betsy Coleman – Region 2  
Marilyn Cherry – Region 3  
Sandra Walroth – Region 5

### **Not Renewed:**

Pat Pierce – Region 5

### **New Appointments:**

Mary-Lou Booth – Region 3

## *Rally*

### **Renewed:**

Noel Ritter – Region 1

### **Not Renewed:**

N/A

### **New Appointments:**

Desirae Erwin – Region 4

## *Stockdog*

### **Renewed:**

Melinda Gardner – Region 2  
Cathy Lowe – Region 3  
Kathi Schwengel – Region 4  
Kristie Franks – Region 5  
Regina Bures – Region 6  
Matteo Campedelli – Region 7

### **Not Renewed:**

Nate Bake – Region 1

### **New Appointments:**

Sue McAnulty – Region 1

## *Tracking*

### **Renewed:**

Maia Halvorsen – Region 1  
Beth MacLehose – Region 4  
Joyce Charron – Region 4

### **Not Renewed:**

N/A

### **New Appointments:**

Judi Myers – Region 2

## **Member Conduct**

The Board discussed concerns regarding a member's conduct and its impact on ASCA's image, agreeing that the appropriate response would involve counseling through the established procedures.

## **ASCA Social Media**

Ward expressed concern over the moderation practices of the ASCMembers group, questioning the criteria for moderation and the circumstances under which ASCA intervenes.

The Executive Secretary explained that pre-approval of every message by moderators is the only method to prevent the dissemination of inappropriate content on the list. It was proposed that a Board liaison could facilitate communication between the moderators and the Board regarding dubious content.

A systematic approach is needed to monitor members who frequently post inappropriate messages, including the development of guidelines for issuing warnings, determining the consequences of repeated offenses, the duration of probationary periods, and the conditions under which a member might be reinstated.

The Board also plans to issue a call for ASCA members willing to volunteer as moderators for the member list, aiming to enhance oversight and maintain a respectful online environment.

Additionally, the possibility of disabling comments on ASCA's Facebook page was discussed, with a suggestion to direct members to express their opinions through the member list or by contacting the Board directly, thus centralizing feedback and reducing public disputes.

## 2026 Nationals Site

The Nationals Advisory Committee has presented a comprehensive report to the ASCA Board, detailing the negotiations and budget considerations for potentially hosting the 2026 ASCA National Specialty at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, VA. Over the past year, efforts have been focused on securing a favorable deal and ensuring the venue can accommodate the Nationals. However, significant challenges remain.

The Board carefully reviewed the report, weighing the recommendation against ASCA's current financial standing and constraints. Given the forecasted financial shortfall of around \$40,000, pursuing this option was deemed too risky for the organization at present. Adjustments such as doubling entry fees and significantly raising Additional Event Membership Dues would be necessary to offset costs, potentially deterring participation due to high expenses. While the Virginia site remains a future possibility, contingent on improved financial conditions for ASCA, it is not possible for 2026.

The Board is currently considering other sites for the 2026 Nationals and beyond.

**The Board was in Open Session from 1:57 pm to 2:54 pm.**

### BD.24.40 2026 Nationals Site – Virginia Horse Center

**Motion failed** (0-8) - Approved: None. Disapproved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**Motioned by Clayton to approve the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, Virginia, as the site for the 2026 National Specialty. Seconded by Wesen.**

#### Discussion:

- McCabe expressed concerns over the projected financial loss outlined by the Nationals Advisory Committee, acknowledging the membership's desire for an East Coast Nationals site and appreciating the committee's efforts to explore this possibility.
- Sims concurred with McCabe, emphasizing that the current budget review does not support taking on the financial risk associated with this venue. She expressed gratitude for the committee's diligence but pointed out that committing to this site under the present financial circumstances would not be a prudent decision.
- Byrne noted the Board's acute awareness of ASCA's financial rebuilding phase, aiming to ensure the organization's financial stability. The logistical challenges, such as the necessity to construct stock pens and the high costs of livestock, coupled with the organization's financial status, preclude commitment to this East Coast location at this time. While there remains a strong interest in hosting the Nationals on the East Coast, the potential \$40,000 loss from this venue cannot be justified. The Board remains dedicated to ASCA's long-term financial health and, therefore, cannot endorse this site for the upcoming Nationals.

## Nationals Handbook

The Nationals Handbook, prepared by the Nationals Advisory Committee, outlines the comprehensive process for organizing the Nationals. The Board will conduct a thorough review of the handbook and vote on its approval during their May meeting.

## Draw for Affiliates

Each year prior to the National Specialty, Affiliates that are interested in hosting a pre-show/trial submit their application to the Nationals Advisory Committee by the announced deadline. All Affiliates' names are put into a lottery draw for their desired event. The purpose of the lottery draw is to provide an opportunity to all Affiliates who wish to take part in the National Specialty by hosting a pre-show/trial. After the Nationals schedule and the pre-show/trial contracts have been approved, the Affiliates will be asked, in the order drawn, to select the pre-show/trial they wish to host. For example, number one will choose the date they want, followed by two, etc., until all pre-shows/trials have been spoken for.

### Agility Draw Order:

1. Peninsula Australian Shepherd Association
2. Santa Clarita Valley Australian Shepherd Club
3. Northern Nevada ASC
4. Northern Arizona Australian Shepherd Association (NAASA) (Alternate)

### Conformation Draw Order:

1. Willamette ASC

## 2025 Nationals and Finals Judges

The 2025 Nationals Chair has presented the slate of judges so far for the 2025 Nationals and Finals.

### BD.24.41 Slate of Judges for the 2025 Nationals and Finals

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen.

Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**Motioned by Ward to approve the slate of judges for the 2025 Nationals and Finals as presented.  
Seconded by Byrne.**

### Nationals Judges:

- Agility: Allard Wagenaar, Mark Buehl
- Conformation Nationals: Ronnie Bates (Best of Breed), Kelly Gaunt (Dogs), Shawna Beaty (Bitches), Laura Gibson (Altered, Non-Regular), Cheri Preciado (Puppies, Veterans, Brace, WTCH)
- Dock Jumping: TBA
- Junior Handling: Kendra Rainwater Winans
- Obedience: Melissa Borde, Leslye Pinnell
- Rally: TBA
- Scent Detection: Aleks Woodroffe, Giovanna Imperia (Alternates: Caroline Oldham, Jeanette Omloo)
- Stockdog: TBA

### Finals Judges:

- Agility Finals: Pamela Bryant-Meeks
- Conformation Finals: Susan Rossy, Liz Gibson, Linda Braun
- Junior Finals: Myste Havens
- Obedience Finals: Robert Apap, Laraine Moffa
- Rally Finals: TBA
- Stockdog Finals: Marie Nagano, Rachel Vest, Brad Warren (Alternate: Sandra Zilch)

## 2024 Nationals Board Meeting Schedule

The Board deliberated on arranging their meetings for the 2024 Nationals. McCabe noted the productivity of face-to-face meetings, mentioning that the Board typically meets for an average of 12 hours during Nationals. She proposed establishing a combination of fixed and flexible meeting times.

To facilitate scheduling, the Executive Secretary recommended that Board members use the provided spreadsheet to indicate their absolute unavailability. This approach allows for a reverse scheduling process, aiming to find suitable meeting times through email discussion.

## Change to Committee Procedures

McLellan introduced a proposal to refine the process for committee motion voting. Currently, committees deliberate on motions internally, then forward them to the Board, followed by a phase of member commentary. McLellan's proposal suggests that committees first share motions with the membership for a feedback period before conducting internal votes and submitting them to the Board. This approach aims to integrate member feedback earlier, streamlining the process and reducing potential confusion during the amendment stage.

McCabe recommended making advance posting to the membership a requirement for motions expected to impact the membership directly, suggesting its inclusion in the guidelines for motion-related procedures.

The Board recognized this method as an enhancement, facilitating more informed decision-making. They explored the practical steps for its implementation: a committee drafts and internally approves a motion, which is then sent by the chair to the Executive Secretary for public posting on the website for a designated review period. This allows members to submit feedback, after which the committee may revise, withdraw, or proceed with the motion. It would then be forwarded to the Board liaison for a Board vote.

Gann raised questions about the necessity of this change. The discussion highlighted the benefits of engaging the membership early in the motion development phase, allowing for feedback incorporation and ensuring the committee's actions reflect the members' interests. This proactive approach ensures greater transparency and member involvement in the decision-making process.

McLellan committed to formalizing this proposal in writing, inviting committees to provide input before the Board finalizes the process. Committee liaisons are expected to gather and report feedback by the Board's May meeting.

**The meeting of the ASCA Board was paused at 2:37 pm and the meeting of the ASCA Foundation Board was called to order.**

## Australian Shepherd Health & Genetics Institute

The Board deliberated on the forthcoming closure of the Australian Shepherd Health & Genetics Institute (ASHGI) and its implications for funds that have historically been allocated through the ASCA Foundation and disbursed by ASHGI.

McCabe reported feedback from an ASCA member closely associated with ASHGI, noting the regrettable necessity for the organization to cease operations due to the principal coordinator needing to step back after many years of service. Within the Foundation's budget, there are specific line items designated for ASHGI, as well as for cancer and epilepsy research. Given ASHGI's closure, the Board, with input from the membership, must determine a new policy for reallocating these earmarked funds. This will include establishing a new approval process for future disbursements, a function previously managed by ASHGI.

Gann proposed the creation of a subcommittee to address this redistribution of funds. McCabe will consult with the current ASHGI Board for their recommendations on potential organizations that could benefit from these funds or other suitable alternatives and provide an update at the Board's May meeting.

**The meeting of the ASCA Foundation was closed at 2:54 pm and the meeting of the ASCA Board was resumed.**

**The Board was in Executive Session from 2:54 pm to 5:50 pm.**

## European Advisory Panel

Wesen reported that the European Advisory Panel is developing documentation for the ASCA website to enhance communication with members in Europe. In support of this, the Webmaster has identified a plugin capable of translating documents on the website, which is available for \$100. Wesen has advised the panel to submit a motion to cover this expense.

Additionally, the panel has expressed interest in improving the usability of the ASCA event calendar. They are advocating for a feature that allows members to search for events across the entirety of Europe, rather than by individual countries, facilitating easier access to event information for our European members.

## Illustrated Breed Standard

Ward reported on the progress of the Illustrated Breed Standard. Previously, the Board had set a late March deadline for completion. While the textual content is complete, the Conformation Committee member working on the document is encountering difficulties with image integration within the program being used. In response, the Board established a firm final deadline of April 30. They also suggested that the committee member could seek assistance from ASCA's Executive Secretary if necessary.

**The Executive Secretary left the meeting at 3:22 pm and Secretary McCabe took over notetaking.**

## Fee Increases

Two suggestions for revenue increases were discussed: raising the sanctioning fees and increasing the per run recording fees.

### BD.24.42 Increase Sanctioning Fees

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**Motioned by McLellan to increase the sanctioning fees per trial/show from \$25 to \$40 effective for all shows/trials submitted after June 1, 2024. Seconded by Wesen.**

Rationale: The fees for sanctioning have not been increased in many years. The amount charged needs to more closely reflect the actual man hours it takes to complete the sanctioning by the office staff.

Parties Affected: Affiliates clubs, ASCA.

Effective: Immediately upon Board approval.

### BD.24.43 Increase the Per Run/Entry Recording Fee

**Motion carried** (5-3) - Approved: Gann, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**\*Note: This motion was rescinded during the Board's 4/18/2024 meeting.**

**Motioned by Ward to increase the per run/entry recording fee from \$1.00 to \$1.50 for all trials/shows held after June 1, 2024. Seconded by Wesen.**

Rationale: ASCA must evaluate fees annually in association with rising operating expenses and make adjustments as deemed necessary to ensure the financial stability of the organization.

Parties Affected: All Affiliate clubs, ASCA.

Effective: Immediately upon Board approval.

## Staff Related Decisions

### Holidays

The Employee Handbook and the Policy Book currently present discrepancies regarding the listing of employee vacation days. McLellan has introduced a revised salary budget spreadsheet that proposes a reduction in the number of vacation days from 14 to 10. To compensate for this reduction, the lost vacation days have been integrated into the employees' hourly wage.

#### BD.24.45 Reduce the Number of Paid Holidays

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen.

Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**Motioned by McLellan to reduce the number of paid holidays for employees of ASCA from 14 to 10 effective the first pay period after July 1, 2024. Seconded by McCabe.**

#### Current Wording:

Policy Book

#### **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 the selected dates for that year.

Employee Handbook:

#### **XIV. PAID HOLIDAYS**

The following are paid holidays for ASCA staff: New Year's Day; Memorial Day; Fourth of July; Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day and the Friday that follows it; plus Christmas Eve and Day.

If one of these holidays falls on a Saturday, it will be observed the preceding Friday; if on a Sunday, it will be observed the following Monday.

Employees also may use up to two floating holidays, subject to prior approval by management. If unused, floating holidays are not carried over from one calendar year to another and they are not paid out upon departure.

#### Proposed Wording:

Policy Book:

#### **9.5 Holidays**

Please refer to the Employee Handbook.

~~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 the selected dates for that year.~~

Employee Handbook:

#### **XIV. PAID HOLIDAYS**

The following are paid holidays for ASCA staff: New Year's Day; Martin Luther King Day; President's Day; Memorial Day; Fourth of July; Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day and the Friday that follows it; plus Christmas Eve and Day.

If one of these holidays falls on a Saturday, it will be observed the preceding Friday; if on a Sunday, it will be observed the following Monday.

~~Employees also may use up to two floating holidays, subject to prior approval by management. If unused, floating holidays are not carried over from one calendar year to another and they are not paid out upon departure.~~

Rationale: 10 vacation days is more consistent with employment norms.

Parties Affected: Employees of ASCA.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

### *Salaries*

The Board continued their discussion on McLellan's salary budget spreadsheet and voted on salary increases for the staff. It was noted that, in line with the new policy established last year regarding salary reviews, discussions on salaries will now occur only during the Nationals meetings and the changes will be implemented starting January 1 each year.

### *Benefits*

The Board explored various options for enhancing employee benefits. Key decisions include adding leave time to the Executive Secretary's benefits package and consolidating sick, vacation, and personal days into a unified Personal Time Off (PTO) policy. The target date to implement the new PTO policy is set for January 1, 2025. This initiative has been assigned to McLellan and McCabe for further development.

Additionally, the Board plans to establish a 401(k) retirement savings plan for employees starting January 1, 2025. At present, ASCA will not offer matching contributions to the 401(k) plan.

#### **BD.24.44 Establish a Voluntary 401(k) for ASCA Employees**

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Sims, Ward, Wesen.

Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: None.

**Motioned by McLellan to establish a voluntary 401(k) plan for all ASCA employees to commence on January 1, 2025, pending the approval by the Board of Directors of the associated costs of opening and maintaining said plan. The plan will not include any matching funds from ASCA to an employee's 401(k). Seconded by Ward.**

Rationale: Adding the option for employees to contribute to a 401(k) plan is a benefit many employers provide. ASCA strives to be a competitive employer.

Parties Affected: Employees of ASCA.

Effective: Immediately upon Board Approval.

### *Executive Secretary's Annual Review*

Gann will be conducting the annual review of the Executive Secretary soon.

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.**

## ASCA Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held via Zoom on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 6:00 pm Central.

**In attendance:** President Susan Byrne, 2nd Vice President Dawna Sims, Secretary Ann McCabe, Treasurer Jodie McLellan, Director David Clayton, Director Geri Scheidt, Director Jillian Ward, Director Jan Wesen, and Executive Secretary Kalla Jaco.

**Absent:** 1st Vice President Rick Gann.

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

**President Byrne called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.** She welcomed newly appointed Director Scheidt to her first monthly Board meeting.

### Agility Judge/Course Reviewer

This discussion was held in Executive Session from 6:02 pm to 6:34 pm. Sims, as Liaison to the Agility Committee, brought forward an issue involving an agility judge's course maps. The Board will gather additional information before deciding on the next steps.

### Fee Schedule

This discussion was held in Executive Session from 6:34 pm to 7:24 pm. The motions from the Spring Meeting that increased sanctioning and per entry/run recording fees sparked considerable backlash from the membership. Ward explained that sanctioning fees had remained at \$25 since at least 2009 and recording fees had been at \$1 per entry/run since 2010 and advocated for the Board to establish an annual fee review schedule. The sanctioning process for each event requires approximately two hours for handling, resulting in a labor cost of \$45 in total when accounting for wages, benefits, and taxes. She argued that fees should have been gradually adjusted over time to reflect staff labor costs. Ward also addressed concerns about potential negative impacts on Affiliate Clubs, including event cancellations, proposing the option to either give clubs more preparation time ahead of the increases, phase in the increases, or synchronize the fee adjustments with other annual reviews.

Ultimately, the Board agreed to evaluate all fees annually at their June virtual meeting, with any increases taking effect the following January 1. They decided to proceed with the sanctioning fee increase effective May 31, 2024, while rescinding and reevaluating the recording fee increase alongside other fees in June 2024.

**Moved to Open Session at 7:24 pm.** President Byrne welcomed the members listening, introduced those present, and explained the Board's meeting process.

## Fee Schedule (Continued)

Ward addressed the membership regarding recent decisions on sanctioning and recording fees from the Spring Meeting. After careful consideration, she announced the plan to rescind the motion to increase the recording fee from \$1 to \$1.50 for trials scheduled on and after May 31, 2024. Ward explained that the initial decision was made without sufficient context. Instead, she proposed a new approach: annually evaluating all fees collectively, rather than adjusting them sporadically.

She offered some historical context for the membership: sanctioning fees have been set at \$25 since at least 2009 and recording fees have remained at \$1 per entry/run since their last adjustment in 2010, up from \$0.50. The sanctioning process for each event entails roughly two hours of handling, leading to a total labor cost of \$45 when wages, benefits, and taxes are considered. This calculation informed the Board's decision to propose an increase to \$40 per sanctioning request. Ward acknowledged the efforts to minimize expenses but emphasized the necessity of adjusting fees to reflect current financial demands.

Moving forward, the schedule of fees (excluding Finals/AEMD which are reviewed at the Board's Nationals Meeting) will be reviewed at every June Board meeting. Any fee changes approved during these reviews will be implemented on January 1 of the following year, ensuring members receive adequate notice. This systematic approach aims to provide a more predictable and transparent fee structure for the membership.

### BD.24.50 Annual Fee Schedule Review

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gann.

**Motioned by Ward to establish an annual review of the fee schedule during the June Board meeting each year. The revised fees determined from this evaluation will be implemented starting January 1 of the following year. Seconded by McCabe.**

### BD.24.51 Rescind Motion to Increase the Per Run/Entry Recording Fee

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gann.

**Motioned by Ward to formally rescind motion BD.24.43 Increase the Per Run/Entry Recording Fee. Seconded by Wesen.**

## March 2024 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer McLellan was unable to present a report this evening as our bookkeeper has not yet completed the Profit and Loss statement for March 2024.

Regarding ASCA's current account balances: Checking stands at \$144,937; Savings at \$75,804; AEMD at \$33,293; Foundation at \$41,337; and the 2023 Nationals at \$28,471. All accounts are looking good.

She explained that ASCA incurs approximately \$75,000 in monthly operating expenses and typically realizes a profit ranging from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per month. In aiming to establish a reserve of at least six months' worth of operating expenses—around \$450,000—it would require us about 30 months, or 2.5 years, to accumulate this amount, assuming savings continue at the higher rate of \$15,000 per month. The Board is working to scrutinize these figures in order to build the necessary reserves, while also accommodating the rising costs reflected in budget planning.

## *Business Office Repairs*

Byrne reported on a few repairs and replacements recently conducted at the Business Office. She expressed gratitude to Bill Byrne and Mike Sims for their efforts during the Board's Spring Meeting and thanked the Board members who arrived early to clear out the storage unit, saving us \$185 per month.

Significant improvements include the addition of 25 yards of road base dirt, acquired for \$1,280.85, which enhanced the parking surface and resolved issues related to standing water and vehicles getting stuck in soft dirt. Ceiling tiles in the front section of the building were also replaced; they were in poor condition. Thanks to the hands-on work of Mike Sims and Bill Byrne, the project cost was significantly reduced to about \$1,000 for materials, compared to a quote of \$5,000 for professional services. Additionally, AC returns were replaced at a cost of \$182.92.

The next phase of repairs involves the AC unit, which is quite old and suffers from filter system issues, leading to unsanitary air flow. We have received several quotes for its replacement, including a 5-ton Bryant system for \$11,851.55 and a 5-ton Trane system for \$11,894.18. Byrne recommended opting for the Trane system as the company honored their initial quote from February, even upon reevaluation.

### BD.24.52 New Air Conditioner at Business Office

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gann.

**Motioned by Byrne to accept the quote for a 5-ton Trane unit for \$11,894.18 to be installed by a local company. Seconded by McCabe.**

#### **Quote from Barker's Heating & Cooling**

##### DESCRIPTION OF EQUIPMENT:

5 Ton Heat Pump with Electric Heat  
Condenser M# 4TWR4060N  
Air Handler M# TEM4BOC60S51S  
Electric Heat Kit M# 81-0703-01  
Thermostat M# Honeywell T6

**INSTALLATION FEATURES:** To remove existing equipment and install new Trane equipment. Connect to the existing electrical, low voltage, and duct work.

**EXCLUSIONS:** This bid does not include a bid bond, electrical work, plumbing work, major carpentry work, energy management or building controls or connecting controls to fire alarm system.

**WARRANTY:** 1 year 100% on parts and labor. 5 years on compressor.

**SUB TOTAL:** \$10,987.69 + **TAX:** \$906.48 = **BID TOTAL:** \$11,894.18

## **Event Results Submission Timeline**

Byrne noted that to avoid delays in processing show and trial results at the Business Office, it has been proposed to shorten the submission deadline from 14 days to 7 days post-event. Additionally, it is essential that submissions be complete, including payment; incomplete submissions, particularly those lacking payment, cannot be processed until payment is received.

#### **Discussion:**

- McCabe expressed concerns about the shortened timeframe, stating that 7 days might be insufficient, as she typically needs the weekend following the event to organize the results. However, she agreed that the issue of incomplete submissions needed addressing.

- McLellan concurred with McCabe, pointing out that the primary issue involves the absence of accompanying payments with results. She doubted that reducing the submission timeframe would resolve this problem and suggested imposing fines on those who fail to send complete packages.
- Byrne then asked if there was support for imposing a fine on incomplete submissions, particularly those sent without payment.
- McCabe suggested refining the wording to ensure clarity: "Results, including payment, must be received by..." This change would mean that any results received without accompanying payment would be considered late until such payment is provided.

## 2024 ASCA Election Ballot

The Board is required to approve the electronic ballot that will be distributed to all voting members for the upcoming ASCA Board of Directors election.

### BD.24.53 2024 ASCA Board of Directors Election Ballot

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gann.

**Motioned by Byrne to approve the proposed electronic ballot from Election Trust for the 2024 ASCA Board of Directors election. Seconded by Sims.**

## System Liaison's Report

System Liaison Clayton briefed the Board on the progress of the computer system upgrade and broader technology projects. He shared that the IT Committee has not been very active as they are awaiting the onboarding of a new programmer. As of this morning, her hiring had not been finalized due to some complications. He expressed hope for a swift resolution so that they can begin addressing the existing issues.

Byrne elaborated that there were concerns from the programmer regarding the initial company engaged to facilitate the hiring process, necessitating a switch to a different firm. This change has resulted in some delays in finalizing the hiring process.

## Aussie Times Survey

Ward provided an update on the discussion about possibly reintroducing a printed version of the Aussie Times. During the Spring Meeting, the Board considered various options and decided to conduct a member survey to gather insights and feedback, as well as to assess the costs associated with the ideas proposed by the Aussie Times Committee. A revised survey containing four questions has been prepared and will be distributed to members via Constant Contact in the form of a Google Form survey.

### BD.24.54 Aussie Times Membership Survey

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gann.

**Motioned by Ward to approve the Aussie Times survey as presented on 4/18/2024. Seconded by Sims.**

### Aussie Times Survey

The Aussie Times is an essential piece of ASCA's long standing history. As promised, the ASCA Board of Directors is reviewing several options to best move forward with the Aussie Times to better serve members. We would like your feedback as we explore the means and frequency of its publication.

1. Should the Aussie Times publication be:
  - a. Online
  - b. Printed

- c. Hybrid of Online & Printed (alternating online & printed)
2. What frequency should the Aussie Times be published:
    - a. 6 editions per year
    - b. 4 editions per year
    - c. 3 editions per year
  3. If the Aussie Times was separated from your membership, would you be interested in purchasing printed editions as merchandise?
    - a. Yes
    - b. No
  4. In which type of publication would you be most likely to advertise?
    - a. Online
    - b. Print
    - c. Both
    - d. Neither

## Illustrated Breed Standard

The Illustrated Breed Standard, compiled by Gail Karamalegos with illustrations by Shelly Hollen, has received approval from the Conformation Committee. We extend our gratitude to everyone involved for their dedication and effort in completing this project. The Board is eager to present this valuable resource to our members and utilize it in ASCA's judge education programs.

### BD.24.55 Illustrated Breed Standard

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gann.

**Motioned by Ward to adopt the Illustrated Breed Standard as presented and approved by the Conformation Committee.**

## ASCA Discussion Groups

Clayton initiated a follow-up on moderation strategies for all ASCA-owned discussion lists. He explained that over the years, instances of trolling and bullying have increased. He stressed the importance of ensuring ASCA's online communities remain open and welcoming. Current moderation practices address posts only after they have been published, which is not ideal. The proposed policy would require pre-moderation for all posts, preventing any that are derogatory toward ASCA or individuals from being published. Repeat offenders might face suspension or other measures to prevent further inappropriate behavior online.

McLellan expressed support for the policy but raised concerns about its implementation, questioning the clarity of the plan, the moderators' awareness, and the practical steps involved. Clayton reassured her that the IT Committee has been consulted and that the current moderators have been informed. The proposed change would simply shift their moderation efforts from reactive to proactive.

### BD.24.56 ASCA Discussion Lists Moderation Policy

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gann.

**Motioned by Clayton to add the ASCA Discussion Lists Moderation Policy to the ASCA Policy Book as a new section 11 Discussion Lists Moderation Policy. Seconded by Wesen.**



Comments/Rationale: This policy aims to support a healthy and engaging environment where ASCA members can discuss, learn, and share information relevant to their interests and responsibilities within the framework of ASCA's values and objectives.

Affected: Discussion list moderators. ASCA Executive Secretary. ASCA Board. ASCA members that participate in ASCA's discussion lists.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

## March 2024 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.24.57 March 2024 Email Business

**Motion carried** (8-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gann.

**Motioned by Clayton to ratify all business conducted over email in March 2024. Seconded by Sims.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.** President Byrne thanked all the directors for their work this month and the members listening.

## ASCA Board Motions

### Director Recommendations

#### BD.24.33 Communication with Counsel and the Counsel Committee

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

**Motion by McCabe to update the following sections of the Policy Book pertaining to communication with ASCA counsel. Second by Clayton.**

#### Current Wording:

##### **5 Counsel**

##### **5.1 Communications**

All communication with ASCA's Counsel will be made through the Counsel Committee, an Executive Board Committee (See Section 5.4). This Committee will monitor communication with Counsel and Directors to ensure that this communication is necessary to conduct ASCA's business. The Committee will update the Board regarding the Directors' communication with Counsel.

#### Proposed Wording:

##### **5 Counsel**

##### **5.1 Communications**

~~All communication with ASCA's Counsel will be made through~~ The Counsel Committee, an Executive Board Committee (See Section 5.4). ~~This Committee~~ will monitor communication with Counsel and Directors to ensure that this communication is necessary to conduct ASCA's business. The Committee will update the Board regarding the Directors' communication with Counsel.

Comments/Rationale: The Counsel and the Board communicate through email in a timely manner and there is no longer a need to have a go-between the board and counsel.

Affected: The ASCA Board of Directors and ASCA's Counsel.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

## Committee Recommendations

### Conformation Committee

#### CO.24.01 Alternate Conformation Finals Judges

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

#### **Motion by Liaison Ward to approve the following recommendation from the Conformation Committee.**

Committee Recommendation: 15.5 Judges Requirements – Alternate Judges

Motion by Brandy Greenhagen to approve the following changes to Section 15.5 of the Conformation Program Rules. Seconded by Mary Hellmeister.

Results of Committee Vote: Approved: 10. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-Voting: 3.

Current Wording:

#### **15.5 Judges Requirements**

Three ASCA Conformation Judges will be hired, one from each area as stated below, for the Conformation Finals by the Nationals Committee, who will submit the Conformation Finals slate to the ASCA Executive Secretary no later than February 1st of the year prior to the National Specialty being hosted. The Executive Secretary will forward the proposed Judges slate to the ASCA Board of Directors for review. Board approval of the Judges slate, along with comments and recommendations, will be returned to the Committee no later than thirty days after receipt by the Executive Secretary. Once the Board has approved the Conformation Finals Judges slate, the Judge's names will be posted within seven days to the ASCA Website on the "National Specialty Information" page and the judge information must be to the Aussie Times Editor by March 15th for inclusion in the May-June issue.

Conformation Judge Eligibility:

1. The judge must be of ASCA Senior Breeder Status.
2. The judge may not have judged conformation six months prior to the event.
3. The judge shall not be a conformation judge at the current ASCA Nationals or Pre-shows nor have judged at the previous ASCA Nationals or ASCA Pre-Shows.
4. The judge shall not have judged the previous three Conformation Finals.

Selection of Judges: Once the host location and dates have been determined, the Business Office shall send a letter to all Senior Breeder Judges. Letters must be returned in thirty days to the ASCA Business Office.

Determining Availability and Qualifications: Judges for the Conformation Finals will be selected from the ASCA SR Breeder Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and have indicated they would be available. At that time, the Business Office shall determine the judge meets the requirements as listed above. Four names from each area shall be pulled by the Business Office and the names given to the Nationals Committee to hire from, in the order of the draw. The areas consist of the following: West area (regions 1 and 2), Central area (regions 3 and 4), and Eastern area (regions 5, 6 and 7).

The Senior Breeder Judges selected shall not judge conformation six months prior to the event.

Conformation Finals judges may participate in all Nationals events including all Nationals conformation events. All rules pertaining to the Conformation Finals Judges and their dogs regarding the Conformation Finals will abide by Section 7.4 to Section 7.7 per the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations.

Proposed Wording:

## 15.5 Judges Requirements

Three ASCA Conformation Judges will be hired, one from each area as stated below and 1 Alternate Judge will be hired from any of the 3 areas, for the Conformation Finals by the Nationals Committee, who will submit the Conformation Finals slate to the ASCA Executive Secretary no later than February 1st of the year prior to the National Specialty being hosted. The Executive Secretary will forward the proposed Judges slate to the ASCA Board of Directors for review. Board approval of the Judges slate, along with comments and recommendations, will be returned to the Committee no later than thirty days after receipt by the Executive Secretary. Once the Board has approved the Conformation Finals Judges slate, the Judge's names will be posted within seven days to the ASCA Website on the "National Specialty Information" page and the judge information must be to the Aussie Times Editor by March 15th for inclusion in the May-June issue.

Conformation Judge Eligibility:

1. The judge must be of ASCA Senior Breeder Status.
2. The judge may not have judged conformation six months prior to the event, with the exception of the Alternate Judge who may judge up to two months prior to the event.
3. The judge shall not be a conformation judge at the current ASCA Nationals or Pre-shows nor have judged at the previous ASCA Nationals or ASCA Pre-Shows.
4. The judge shall not have judged the previous three Conformation Finals.

Selection of Judges: Once the host location and dates have been determined, the Business Office shall send a letter to all Senior Breeder Judges. Letters must be returned in thirty days to the ASCA Business Office.

Determining Availability and Qualifications: Judges for the Conformation Finals will be selected from the ASCA SR Breeder Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and have indicated they would be available. At that time, the Business Office shall determine the judge meets the requirements as listed above and separate the judges into the 3 areas. The areas consist of the following: West area (regions 1 and 2), Central area (regions 3 and 4), and Eastern area (regions 5, 6 and 7). The Board will perform a random draw of all Judges who satisfy the qualifications. The random draw will be done at the General Membership Meeting held at the National Specialty. The selection process will be done one time in full view of any who wishes to attend the meeting. Five names from each area shall be pulled. ~~Four names from each area shall be pulled by the Business Office~~ All names will be shown in draw order at the meeting and the names given to the Nationals Committee to hire from, in the order of the draw. ~~The areas consist of the following: West area (regions 1 and 2), Central area (regions 3 and 4), and Eastern area (regions 5, 6 and 7).~~

The Senior Breeder Judges selected shall not judge conformation six months prior to the event, with the exception of the Alternate Judge who may judge up to two months prior to the event.

Conformation Finals judges may participate in all Nationals events including all Nationals conformation events. All rules pertaining to the Conformation Finals Judges and their dogs regarding the Conformation Finals will abide by Section 7.4 to Section 7.7 per the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations.

Comments/Rationale: The BOD requested that the Conformation Committee add 'alternate judge' language to the rulebook.

Affected: National Specialty Committee.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

### CO.24.02 Alternate Nationals Conformation Show Judges

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

**Motion by Liaison Ward to approve the following recommendation from the Conformation Committee.**

Committee Recommendation: 9.4 Conformation Judges – Alternate Judges

Motion by Brandy Greenhagen to approve the following changes to Section 9.4 of the ASCA's National Specialty Rules. Seconded by Mary Hellmeister.

Results of Committee Vote: Approved: 9. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-Voting: 4.

Current Wording:

#### **9.4 Conformation Judges**

For the following assignments, the Judge must be a Senior Breeder Judge.

- A. All Altered class dogs, class bitches, and Altered Best of Breed
- B. Intact Dogs
- C. Intact Bitches
- D. Intact Best of Breed

For the following assignments, the Judge may be an Approved Breeder Judge or a Senior Breeder Judge.

- A. Puppies
- B. Veterans
- C. Sweepstakes
- D. Other non-regular classes

Judging restrictions:

- A. Must not have judged conformation six months prior to the event.
- B. Must not be a Judge for conformation at the current Nationals pre/post-shows/trials.
- C. Must not have judged conformation at the previous year's Nationals pre/post-shows/trials.
- D. Must not have judged conformation the previous three Nationals.

#### **9.4.1 SELECTION OF JUDGES**

Once the location and dates have been determined, the Business Office sends a letter to all Senior Breeder Judges and Approved Breeder Judges requesting availability. Letters must be returned within thirty days to the Business Office.

#### **9.4.2 DETERMINING AVAILABILITY AND QUALIFICATIONS**

Judges for the National Specialty are selected from the Senior Breeder Judges and Approved Breeder Judges who returned the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and indicated they would be available. At that time, the Business Office will determine whether the Judge meets the requirements listed above.

#### **9.4.3 DRAW**

The Board will perform a random draw of all Judges who satisfy the qualifications. The random draw will be done at the General Membership Meeting held at the National Specialty. The selection process will be done one time in full view of any who wishes to attend the meeting. All names will be shown in draw order at the meeting.

Fifteen Senior Breeder Judge names and five Approved Breeder Judge names will be drawn. The list will be supplied to the National Specialty Committee to choose from.

If Judges cannot be secured from the list, then additional Judges will be drawn by the Board. All Judges must be asked and declined before asking for additional names. The Board will verify all Judges drawn have been contacted before additional names are drawn. A reason must be provided to the Board by the Nationals Committee why additional Judges are needed.

If a Judge withdraws after being hired, another Judge from the list must be asked. This process is repeated, as necessary, to fulfil the Judge slate.

Proposed Wording:

#### **9.4 Conformation Judges**

For the following assignments, the Judge must be a Senior Breeder Judge.

- A. All Altered class dogs, class bitches, and Altered Best of Breed
- B. Intact Dogs

- C. Intact Bitches
- D. Intact Best of Breed
- E. Alternate 1 \*Must agree to fulfill any assignment needed.
- F. Alternate 2 \*Must agree to fulfill any assignment needed.

For the following assignments, the Judge may be an Approved Breeder Judge or a Senior Breeder Judge.

- A. Puppies
- B. Veterans
- C. Sweepstakes
- D. Other non-regular classes

Judging restrictions:

- A. Must not have judged conformation six months prior to the event, with the exception of the Alternate Judges who may judge up to 2 months prior to the event.
- B. Must not be a Judge for conformation at the current Nationals pre/post-shows/trials.
- C. Must not have judged conformation at the previous year's Nationals pre/post-shows/trials.
- D. Must not have judged conformation the previous three Nationals.

#### 9.4.1 SELECTION OF JUDGES

Once the location and dates have been determined, the Business Office sends a letter to all Senior Breeder Judges and Approved Breeder Judges requesting availability. Letters must be returned within thirty days to the Business Office.

#### 9.4.2 DETERMINING AVAILABILITY AND QUALIFICATIONS

Judges for the National Specialty are selected from the Senior Breeder Judges and Approved Breeder Judges who returned the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and indicated they would be available. At that time, the Business Office will determine whether the Judge meets the requirements listed above.

#### 9.4.3 DRAW

The Board will perform a random draw of all Judges who satisfy the qualifications. The random draw will be done at the General Membership Meeting held at the National Specialty. The selection process will be done one time in full view of any who wishes to attend the meeting. All names will be shown in draw order at the meeting.

~~Fifteen~~ Twenty Senior Breeder Judge names and five Approved Breeder Judge names will be drawn. The list will be supplied to the National Specialty Committee to choose from.

If Judges and alternates cannot be secured from the list, then additional Judges will be drawn by the Board. All Judges must be asked and declined before asking for additional names. The Board will verify all Judges drawn have been contacted before additional names are drawn. A reason must be provided to the Board by the Nationals Committee why additional Judges are needed.

If a Judge withdraws after being hired, the alternate will replace them in their assignment. If 2 judges withdraw and are replaced by the alternates, ~~another~~ Judges from the list must be asked to replace the alternates. This process is repeated, as necessary, to fulfil the Judge slate.

Comments/Rationale: The BOD requested that the Conformation Committee add 'alternate judge' language to the rulebook. Affected: National Specialty Committee.

Affected: National Specialty Committee.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

## Nationals Advisory Committee

### NA.24.03 Revision of Sections 1.1,1.6, 1.7 and 1.8 of the National Specialty Rules

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Revision of Sections 1.1,1.6, 1.7 and 1.8 of the National Specialty Rules.  
Motion by Laura Gibson to approve the wording below to revise Section 1 of the National Specialty Rules.  
Seconded by Rachel Vest.

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

#### Current Wording:

#### **1.1 Definition of National Specialty**

The National Specialty, also known as the Nationals, is a show sanctioned by ASCA, which includes the following events: conformation, obedience, agility, rally, junior handling, stockdog, tracking, Most Versatile Aussie, and other events approved by the ASCA Board of Directors.

#### **1.6 Site**

The Board will announce the site for the National Specialty at least three years in advance of the event.

Upcoming sites:

1. Brazos County Expo in Bryan, Texas (October 27-November 4, 2023)
2. Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska (October 10-19, 2024)
3. Winnemucca Event Complex in Winnemucca, Nevada (September 19-27, 2025)
4. TBD (2026)
5. TBD (2027)

The Board will contract with the facility and will be financially responsible for the facility.

#### **1.7 Nationals Committee**

The Nationals Advisory Committee will assemble a Nationals Committee for each year, filling the following positions:

1. Nationals Chair
2. Nationals and Finals Stockdog Course Director (can be two different people)
3. Nationals and Finals Conformation Chair
4. Nationals and Finals Obedience Chair
5. Nationals and Finals Rally Chair
6. Nationals and Finals Junior Chair
7. Nationals and Finals Agility Chair
8. Nationals Tracking Chair
9. MVA/MVJ Chair
10. Awards and Rosettes Chair
11. Sponsorship Chair
12. Vendors/Grooming Spaces/Stalls Chair
13. Hotels and Travel Chair
14. Banquets/Receptions/Nightly Dinners Chair
15. Merchandise Chair (can be two people co-chairing)
16. RV/Camping/Golf Carts Chair
17. Hospitality Chair
18. Parades Chair (if parades are offered)
19. Decorations/Signage Chair
20. Dock Jumping Chair (if Dock Jumping is offered)
21. Nationals Accounting Chair
22. Facebook and Slideshows Chair
23. Catalog Chair



24. Education/Seminars/Health Clinics Chair
25. Nationals Office Manager
26. Welcome Bags/Junior Bags/Judges Gifts Chair
27. Local Liaison
28. Other Chairs as approved by the Board.

The Nationals Committee slate will be submitted to the Board for approval.

## **1.8 Bank Accounts for Deposits**

ASCA will open a separate bank account for the purpose of depositing the Nationals entry and reservation fees. The bank needs to be a nationally available bank so the entry clerk can easily deposit the money collected.

### Proposed Wording:

#### **1.1 Definition of National Specialty**

The National Specialty, also known as the Nationals, is a show sanctioned and hosted by ASCA, which includes the following events: conformation, obedience, agility, rally, junior handling, stockdog, tracking, Most Versatile Aussie, Scent Detection, and other events approved by the ASCA Board of Directors.

#### **1.6 Site**

The Board will announce the site for the National Specialty **at least** preferably three years in advance of the event.

#### Upcoming sites:

- ~~1. Brazos County Expo in Bryan, Texas (October 27-November 4, 2023)~~
- ~~2. Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska (October 10-19, 2024)~~
- ~~3. Winnemucca Event Complex in Winnemucca, Nevada (September 19-27, 2025)~~
- ~~4. TBD (2026)~~
- ~~5. TBD (2027)~~

The Board will contract with the facility and will be financially responsible for the facility.

#### **1.7 Nationals Committee**

The Nationals Advisory Committee will assemble a Nationals Committee for each year, filling the following positions:

1. Nationals Chair
2. Nationals and Finals Stockdog Course Director (can be two different people)
3. Nationals and Finals Conformation Chair
4. Nationals and Finals Obedience Chair
5. Nationals and Finals Rally Chair
6. Nationals and Finals Junior Chair
7. Nationals and Finals Agility Chair
8. Nationals Tracking Chair
9. MVA/MVJ Chair
10. Awards and Rosettes Chair
11. Sponsorship Chair
12. Vendors/Grooming Spaces/Stalls Chair
13. Hotels and Travel Chair
14. Banquets/Receptions/Nightly Dinners Chair
15. Merchandise Chair (can be two people co-chairing)
16. RV/Camping/Golf Carts Chair
17. Hospitality Chair
18. Parades Chair (if parades are offered)
19. Decorations/Signage Chair
20. Dock Jumping Chair (if Dock Jumping is offered)
21. Nationals Accounting Chair
22. Facebook and Slideshows Chair
23. Catalog Chair
24. Education/Seminars/Health Clinics Chair

25. Nationals Office Manager
26. Welcome Bags/Junior Bags/Judges Gifts Chair
27. Scent Detection Chair
- ~~27.~~ 28. Local Liaison
- ~~28.~~ 29. Other Chairs as approved by the Board.

The Nationals Committee slate will be submitted to the Board for approval.

#### ~~1.8 — Bank Accounts for Deposits~~

~~ASCA will open a separate bank account for the purpose of depositing the Nationals entry and reservation fees. The bank needs to be a nationally available bank so the entry clerk can easily deposit the money collected.~~

Comments/Rationale: The purpose of these revisions is to correct out-dated and redundant verbiage. The 1.1 revision adds the newly-approved Scent Detection program to the list of events offered at the National Specialty.

The 1.6 revision removes the list of sites. This information is provided on the website.

The 1.7 revision adds the Scent Detection Chair to the list of Nationals Committee members.

The 1.8 revision removes redundant verbiage. The information about the checking account is covered in Section 5 – Accounting and Financial Procedures.

Affected: Persons competing at the National Specialty and persons running the National Specialty.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

NA.24.04 Revision of Sections 11, 12.1, 12.3, 14.4, 14.5 and 17 of the National Specialty Rules

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.  
Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Revision of Sections 11, 12.1, 12.3, 14.4, 14.5 and 17 of the National Specialty Rules.

Motion by Laura Gibson to approve the wording below to revise Sections 11, 12.1, 12.3, 14.4, 14.5 and 17 of the National Specialty Rules. Seconded by Rachel Vest.

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

Current Wording:

#### **11 Rings and Tracking Fields**

Part 1: The conformation rings will be at least 50' x 50' or larger if the entry warrants. The obedience and rally rings will be 40' x 50'. The conformation rings should be placed so they can be combined for Best of Breed. The Obedience rings should be placed so that two rings can be combined for the Team class (if offered). The number of rings for conformation and obedience will be dictated by the schedule of events and the need to accommodate bitches in season competing in obedience for versatility, Nationals obedience, and the Obedience Finals.

Part 2: Tracking TD sites must be open fields of consistent cover free of obstacles with at least five to seven acres in each area for a TD track. TDU sites should be in urban or suburban areas with at least four acres for each TDU track. TDX sites must be of both open and mixed cover in an area with at least twenty to twenty-seven acres for each TDX track. Judges must approve the sites of the tracking test and determine the number of tracks before the Premium List goes to publication. Sites for the Nationals tracking test cannot be changed once the Premium List has gone to publication unless permission is given by both Nationals Tracking Judges.

#### **12.1 Board Meeting Room**

The Nationals Committee will make arrangements for a Board meeting room at the show grounds.

Requirements:

1. Chairs, table(s), and a room large enough to accommodate twenty-five people.
2. Water, electricity, and restrooms available.

### 12.3 Hotel Rooms

The Nationals Committee will also reserve a block of rooms at the Nationals Headquarters Hotel for the use of the Board. The Board Point of Contact will notify the Nationals Committee of the type and number of rooms required for Directors and any additional ASCA personnel attending the Nationals.

### 14.4 Finals Awards

ASCA will provide \$200 to be used for Best Junior Handler and Reserve Junior handler prizes and rosettes for the ASCA Junior Handling Finals. ASCA will also provide \$10 per participant for placement and participant rosettes.

### 14.5 All-Around Junior

ASCA offers transportation to the Nationals for the All-Around Junior Handler for the year.

The Nationals Committee will hold open one stock run each in Cattle, Ducks, and Sheep for the year-end All-Around Junior winner until the closing date of entries.

## 17 Obedience Finals

See Chapter 13 of the Obedience Rules and Regulations for complete rules.

Proposed Wording:

### 11 Rings and Tracking Fields

#### 11.1 Conformation, Obedience and Rally Rings

**Part 1:** The Conformation rings will be at least 50' x 50' or larger, if the entry warrants. The Obedience and Rally rings will be 40' x 50'. The Conformation rings should be placed so they can be combined for Best of Breed. The Obedience rings should be placed so that two rings can be combined for the Team class (if offered). The number of rings for Conformation and Obedience will be dictated by the schedule of events and the need to accommodate bitches in season competing in obedience for versatility, Nationals Obedience, and the Obedience Finals.

#### 11.2 Tracking Fields

**Part 2:** Tracking TD sites must be open fields of consistent cover, free of obstacles, with at least five to seven acres in each area for a TD track. TDU sites should be in urban or suburban areas with at least four acres for each TDU track. TDX sites must be of both open and mixed cover in an area with at least twenty to twenty-seven acres for each TDX track. Judges must approve the sites of the Tracking Test and determine the number of tracks before the Premium List goes to publication. Sites for the Nationals Tracking Test cannot be changed once the Premium List has gone to publication unless permission is given by both Nationals Tracking Judges and is approved by the Board.

### 12.1 Board Meeting Room

The Nationals Committee will make arrangements for a Board meeting room at the show grounds.

Requirements include:

1. Chairs, table(s), and a room large enough to accommodate twenty-five people.
2. Water, electricity, and restrooms available.

### 12.3 Hotel Rooms

The Nationals Committee will also reserve a block of rooms ~~at the Nationals Headquarters Hotel~~ for the use of the Board, Nationals Committee members, Judges and other Nationals workers. The ~~Board Point of Contact~~ ASCA Executive Secretary will notify the Nationals Committee of the type and number of rooms required for Directors and any additional ASCA personnel attending the Nationals.

### ~~14.4 Finals Awards~~

~~ASCA will provide \$200 to be used for Best Junior Handler and Reserve Junior handler prizes and rosettes for the ASCA Junior Handling Finals. ASCA will also provide \$10 per participant for placement and participant rosettes.~~

#### **14.5 14.4 All-Around Junior**

ASCA offers transportation to the Nationals for the All-Around Junior Handler for the year. The Nationals Committee will hold open one stock run each in Cattle, Ducks, and Sheep for the year-end All-Around Junior winner until the closing date of entries.

#### **17 Obedience Finals**

See Chapter ~~13~~ 14 of the Obedience Rules and Regulations for complete rules.

Comments/Rationale: These revisions bring the National Specialty Rules up to date. Section 14.4 is deleted because it is inaccurate. All Finals awards are put up for sponsorship and ASCA only covers the expense if no sponsor is found. The revision to 14.5 is simply a renumbering after 14.4 is deleted.

Affected: Persons competing at the National Specialty and persons running the National Specialty.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

#### **NA.24.05 Revision of Section 25 of the National Specialty Rules (Revised 4/2)**

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Revision of Section 25 of the National Specialty Rules. Motion by Laura Gibson to approve the wording below to revise Section 25 of the National Specialty Rules. Seconded by Denise Creelman.

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

#### Current Wording:

#### **25 Required Ribbons and Awards**

#### **25.1 Finals Rosettes**

...

#### **25.1.1 NATIONALS AND FINALS ROSETTE DESCRIPTIONS**

...

#### **25.2 Stockdog Finals**

ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsorship is obtained.

1. Champion Duck Dog
2. Reserve Champion Duck Dog
3. 3rd-10th place Ducks
4. "Duck Finalist" for all entrants below 10th place
5. Champion Sheep Dog
6. Reserve Champion Sheep Dog
7. 3rd-10th place Sheep
8. "Sheep Finalist" for all entrants below 10th place
9. Champion Cattle Dog
10. Reserve Champion Cattle Dog
11. 3rd-10th place Cattle
12. "Cattle Finalist" for all entrants below 10th place

### **25.3 Obedience Finals**

ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsorship is obtained.

1. (Year) ASCA Champion Novice Obedience Dog
2. (Year) ASCA Champion Open CDX Obedience Dog
3. (Year) ASCA Champion Open ODX Obedience Dog
4. (Year) ASCA Champion Utility Obedience Dog
5. (Year) ASCA Supreme Champion Super Dog Obedience Dog
6. 1st place in all classes will be a blue ribbon
7. 2nd place in all classes will be a red ribbon
8. 3rd place in all classes will be a yellow ribbon
9. 4th place in all classes will be a white ribbon
10. 5th-10th will all be same color and will have placements on ribbon
11. Obedience Finals Participant ribbon to all entrants

### **25.4 Agility Finals**

ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsors are obtained. See Chapter 12 of the ASCA Agility Rules and Regulations for complete details of required ribbons.

### **25.5 Junior Handling Finals**

ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsors are obtained. ASCA will provide \$200 to be used for Best Junior Handler and Reserve Junior Handler prizes and rosettes for the ASCA Junior Handling Finals. ASCA will also provide \$10 per participant for placement and participant rosettes.

1. 1st-4th place for 8-12 Open
2. 1st-4th place for 13-17 Open
3. Best Junior Handler
4. Reserve Best Junior Handler
5. National Junior Handling Finals Participant (ribbons to all entrants below 4th place)

### **25.6 Conformation Finals**

ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsors are obtained. See Chapter 15 of the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations for complete details of required ribbons.

### **25.7 Most Versatile**

1. Most Versatile Australian Shepherd (Sponsored by ASCA)
2. Most Versatile Australian Shepherd Placements 2nd-10th
3. Most Versatile Australian Shepherd Participant (Ribbon for each contestant)

### **25.8 Regular Stockdog Trial**

1. High in Stockdog Trial (Sponsored by ASCA)
2. High Combined in Stockdog Trial
3. High Combined Started Trial Dog
4. High Score Junior in Stockdog Trial
5. High in Trial Junior Stockdog Handler
6. High Score Cattle
7. High Score Sheep
8. High Score Ducks
9. Qualifying Score ribbons

### **25.9 Regular Obedience**

1. High in Trial Obedience (Sponsored by ASCA)
2. High Combined Obedience
3. High Score Junior in Obedience
4. Qualifying Score ribbons
5. 1st-4th placements

### **25.10 Regular Agility**

1. High in Trial Agility (Sponsored by ASCA)
2. Agility High Overall Junior
3. Agility High Overall Veteran
4. Agility High Overall Elite
5. Agility High Overall Open
6. Agility High Overall Novice
7. Qualifying Score ribbons

#### **25.11 Regular Conformation**

...

#### **25.12 Regular Rally**

...

#### **25.13 All-Around Junior**

...

#### **25.14 Regular Junior Handling**

1. Best Junior Handler
2. Reserve Junior Handler

#### **25.15 Regular Tracking**

1. Pass Ribbons

#### **25.16 Un-Sponsored Finals Costs**

...

#### **25.17 Paw Print Genetics Gift Certificate**

ASCA will donate one Paw Print Genetics gift certificate in the amount of \$49 to the following winners of the ASCA Nationals each year:

1. Best of Breed - Intact & Altered
2. High in Working Trial
3. High in Obedience Trial
4. High in Rally Trial
5. High in Agility Trial
6. Best Junior Handler
7. Tracking. The Tracking recipient will be chosen in the following manner:
  - a. New TDX title
  - b. New TD title
  - c. Previously titled TD dog passing the TD test
  - d. In the case of a tie, the Tracking Judges would select a passing dog for the award. If there are no qualifiers, the award will not be presented.

Proposed Wording:

#### **~~25~~ 24 Required Ribbons and Awards**

##### **~~25.1~~ 24.1 Finals Rosettes**

...

##### **~~25.1.1~~ 24.1.1 NATIONALS AND FINALS ROSETTE DESCRIPTIONS** Nationals and Finals Rosette Descriptions

...

##### **~~25.2~~ Stockdog Finals**

~~ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsorship is obtained.~~

- ~~1. Champion Duck Dog~~
- ~~2. Reserve Champion Duck Dog~~
- ~~3. 3rd-10th place Ducks~~



4. ~~—"Duck Finalist" for all entrants below 10th place~~
5. ~~Champion Sheep Dog~~
6. ~~Reserve Champion Sheep Dog~~
7. ~~3rd-10th place Sheep~~
8. ~~"Sheep Finalist" for all entrants below 10th place~~
9. ~~Champion Cattle Dog~~
10. ~~Reserve Champion Cattle Dog~~
11. ~~3rd-10th place Cattle~~
12. ~~"Cattle Finalist" for all entrants below 10th place~~

### **25.3 — Obedience Finals**

~~ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsorship is obtained.~~

1. ~~(Year) ASCA Champion Novice Obedience Dog~~
2. ~~(Year) ASCA Champion Open CDX Obedience Dog~~
3. ~~(Year) ASCA Champion Open ODX Obedience Dog~~
4. ~~(Year) ASCA Champion Utility Obedience Dog~~
5. ~~(Year) ASCA Supreme Champion Super Dog Obedience Dog~~
6. ~~1st place in all classes will be a blue ribbon~~
7. ~~2nd place in all classes will be a red ribbon~~
8. ~~3rd place in all classes will be a yellow ribbon~~
9. ~~4th place in all classes will be a white ribbon~~
10. ~~5th-10th will all be same color and will have placements on ribbon~~
11. ~~Obedience Finals Participant ribbon to all entrants~~

### **25.4 — Agility Finals**

~~ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsors are obtained. See Chapter 12 of the ASCA Agility Rules and Regulations for complete details of required ribbons.~~

### **25.5 — Junior Handling Finals**

~~ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsors are obtained. ASCA will provide \$200 to be used for Best Junior Handler and Reserve Junior Handler prizes and rosettes for the ASCA Junior Handling Finals. ASCA will also provide \$10 per participant for placement and participant rosettes.~~

1. ~~1st-4th place for 8-12 Open~~
2. ~~1st-4th place for 13-17 Open~~
3. ~~Best Junior Handler~~
4. ~~Reserve Best Junior Handler~~
5. ~~National Junior Handling Finals Participant (ribbons to all entrants below 4th place)~~

### **25.6 — Conformation Finals**

~~ASCA sponsored if no outside sponsors are obtained. See Chapter 15 of the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations for complete details of required ribbons.~~

### **25.7 24.2 Most Versatile**

1. ~~Most Versatile Australian Shepherd (Sponsored by ASCA)~~
2. ~~Most Versatile Australian Shepherd Placements 2nd-10th~~
3. ~~Most Versatile Australian Shepherd Participant (Ribbon for each contestant)~~

### **25.8 24.3 Regular Stockdog Trial**

1. ~~High in Stockdog Trial (Sponsored by ASCA)~~
2. ~~High Combined in Stockdog Trial~~
3. ~~High Combined Started Trial Dog~~
4. ~~High Score Junior in Stockdog Trial~~
5. ~~High in Trial Junior Stockdog Handler~~
6. ~~High Score Cattle~~
7. ~~High Score Sheep~~
8. ~~High Score Ducks~~

9. Class placements
- ~~9.~~ 10. Qualifying Score ribbons rosettes

**~~25.9~~ 24.4 Regular Obedience**

1. High in Trial Obedience (~~Sponsored by ASCA~~)
2. High Combined Obedience
3. High Score Junior in Obedience
4. Qualifying Score ribbons rosettes
5. ~~1st-4th~~ Class placements

**~~25.10~~ 24.5 Regular Agility**

1. High in Trial Agility (~~Sponsored by ASCA~~)
2. Agility High Overall Junior
3. Agility High Overall Veteran
4. Agility High Overall Elite
5. Agility High Overall Open
6. Agility High Overall Novice
7. Class placements
- ~~7.~~ 8. Qualifying Score ribbons rosettes

**~~25.11~~ 24.6 Regular Conformation**

...

**~~25.12~~ 24.7 Regular Rally**

...

**~~25.13~~ 24.8 All-Around Junior**

...

**~~25.14~~ 24.9 Regular Junior Handling**

1. Best Junior Handler
2. Reserve Junior Handler
3. Class placements

**~~25.15~~ 24.10 Regular Nationals Tracking Tests**

1. ~~Pass-Ribbons~~ Participation rosettes
2. Qualifying rosettes

**24.11 Scent Detection**

1. High in Trial Scent Detection
2. Class placements
3. Qualifying Score rosettes

**~~25.16~~ 24.12 Un-Sponsored Finals Costs**

...

**~~25.17 Paw Print Genetics Gift Certificate~~**

~~ASCA will donate one Paw Print Genetics gift certificate in the amount of \$49 to the following winners of the ASCA Nationals each year:~~

- ~~1. Best of Breed - Intact & Altered~~
- ~~2. High in Working Trial~~
- ~~3. High in Obedience Trial~~
- ~~4. High in Rally Trial~~
- ~~5. High in Agility Trial~~
- ~~6. Best Junior Handler~~
- ~~7. Tracking. The Tracking recipient will be chosen in the following manner:~~

- a. ~~New TDX title~~
- b. ~~New TD title~~
- c. ~~Previously titled TD dog passing the TD test~~
- d. ~~In the case of a tie, the Tracking Judges would select a passing dog for the award. If there are no qualifiers, the award will not be presented.~~

Comments/Rationale: These revisions bring the National Specialty Rules up to date.

All parts of Section 25 will need to be renumbered as Section 24.

Sections 25.2 through 25.6 will be deleted since the verbiage is redundant. This information is on the chart 25.1 (24.1).

Scent Detection has been added to Section 24.11.

Section 25.17 has been deleted. Paw Prints was providing discounted certificates but that is no longer the case.

The phrase "sponsored by ASCA" was deleted from 24.2, 24.3, 24.4, and 24.5.

Affected: Persons competing at the National Specialty and persons running the National Specialty.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

#### NA.24.06 Revision of Section 8 of the National Specialty Rules

**Motion carried** (8-1) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: McLellan. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

- **Dissent from Director McLellan:** Nationals should also pay sanctioning and recording fees as it is an ASCA sanctioned show/event.

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

Committee Recommendation: Revision of Section 8 of the National Specialty Rules.

Motion by Laura Gibson to approve the wording below to revise Section 8 of the National Specialty Rules. Seconded by Rachel Vest.

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

Current Wording:

### **8 Sanctioning and Paperwork Required**

#### **8.1 Sanctioning Fee**

No sanctioning fee will be required. The event membership dues as set by the Board will be paid by the Nationals Committee when show results are submitted to the ASCA Business Office.

#### **8.2 Sanctioning Forms**

All sanctioning forms (agility, conformation, obedience, rally, stock, and tracking) must be correctly submitted to the Business Office by March 1 of the year of the event for September/October Nationals or by May 1 of the year of the event for November Nationals. The sanctioning grant and all paperwork will be sent to the Nationals Chair thirty days prior to the opening of entries. Only ASCA official forms will be used for the ASCA National Specialty.

#### **8.3 Trademark Licensing**

The Nationals Committee has the exclusive right to market ASCA National Specialty souvenir items for the year in which they host the ASCA National Specialty. When applying for sanctioning, the Nationals Committee must file a Trademark Licensing Form indicating their intent to use any ASCA trademarks for merchandise in conjunction with the words "[YEAR] National Specialty". There will be no fee charged to the Nationals Committee for the use of ASCA's trademarks.

Proposed Wording:

## 8 Sanctioning and Paperwork Required

### 8.1 Sanctioning and Recording Fees

No sanctioning or recording fees will be required. ~~The event membership dues as set by the Board will be paid by the Nationals Committee when show results are submitted to the ASCA Business Office.~~ Sanctioning and recording fees will be charged for pre-events and post-events held in conjunction with Nationals.

### 8.2 Sanctioning Forms

All sanctioning forms (agility, conformation, obedience, rally, stock, and tracking) must be correctly submitted to the Business Office by March 1 of the year of the event for September/October Nationals or by May 1 of the year of the event for November Nationals by the event chairperson. The sanctioning grant ~~and all paperwork~~ will be sent to the Nationals Chair thirty days prior to the opening of entries. All judges books and other required forms will be forwarded to the chairpersons who sanctioned the event. Only ASCA official forms will be used for the ASCA National Specialty.

### 8.3 Trademark Licensing

The Nationals Committee has the exclusive right to market ASCA National Specialty souvenir items for the year in which they host the ASCA National Specialty. ~~When applying for sanctioning, the Nationals Committee must file a Trademark Licensing Form indicating their intent to use any ASCA trademarks for merchandise in conjunction with the words "[YEAR] National Specialty". There will be no fee charged to the Nationals Committee for the use of ASCA's trademarks.~~

### 8.4 Nationals Special Event Insurance Policy

The Nationals Chair will work with the Business Office Manager to obtain a special event insurance policy which covers the insurance requirements of the Nationals facility. The facility contract should be reviewed and ASCA's legal counsel should be consulted when obtaining this policy.

Comments/Rationale: These revisions bring the National Specialty Rules up to date.

The revisions of 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 correctly reflect the procedures followed now that ASCA hosts Nationals, as does the addition of 8.4.

Affected: Persons competing at the National Specialty and persons running the National Specialty.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

NA.24.07 Revision of Sections 7.3, 7.4, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 9.1 and 26.3 of the National Specialty Rules **Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Revision of Sections 7.3, 7.4, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 9.1 and 26.3 of the National Specialty Rules.

Motion by Laura Gibson to approve the wording below to revise Sections 7.3, 7.4, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 9.1 and 26.3 of the National Specialty Rules. Seconded by Rachel Vest.

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

Current Wording:

### **7.3 Premium List Due Dates**

- A. November 1 (of the year prior to the event) - Judge slate and the first draft of the Premium List due to the Executive Secretary.
- B. December 1 (of the year prior to the event) or thirty days after the draft was received by the Executive Secretary - Board comments and approval of the Judge slate due to the Nationals Committee.
- C. January 15 (of the Nationals year) - Final draft of the Premium List due to the Executive Secretary.

D. February 15 (of the Nationals year) or thirty days after the final draft was received by the Executive Secretary - Final approval due to the Nationals Committee.

E. March 1 (of the Nationals year) for September/October Nationals – Camera-ready copy due to the Executive Secretary for publication on all ASCA media outlets.

Without exception these deadlines must be met by the Nationals Committee.

#### **7.4 First Draft of Premium List**

The first draft of the Premium List must be received by the Executive Secretary on or before November 1 of the year prior to the event. This information will be forwarded to the Board for review.

Board approval of the Judge slate along with comments and recommendations are due to the Nationals Committee no later than thirty days after receipt by the Executive Secretary. The Nationals Committee will contact Judges regarding their availability to judge only. The Board heavily considers prior judging experience of large entries. Please be certain that selected Judges are qualified in this respect. Official confirmation of judging assignments must not be given until the Board's approval is granted.

#### **7.5 Dog Changes for Junior Handling Classes and Finals**

It is required that the deadline date for making dog changes for the Nationals Junior Handling classes and the Junior Handling Finals be published in the Premium List (See the last paragraph of Chapter 2 Junior Handling Classes in the Junior Rules and Regulations).

#### **7.6 Final Premium List**

The Final Premium List must be sent to the Executive Secretary by January 15 of the year prior to the event. The final draft will be forwarded to the Board. The Board will review the final draft of the Premium List and, if all is in order, will issue their approval within thirty days of receipt by the Executive Secretary.

#### **7.8 Junior Non-Titling Entry Fee**

There will be no entry fees for Juniors in non-titling events. Examples: Working Junior Handler, Most Versatile Junior, and all Finals.

#### **7.9 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.

#### **9.1 Approval**

Judges must be approved by the Board.

#### **26.3 Premium Checklist**

The Premium List has a fifteen-page limit including entry forms. Anything over this limit must have Board approval. All items listed below are required in the Official Premium List.

1. Dates
2. Location
3. Specialty Headquarters
4. ASCA Officer List
5. National Committee List
6. National Specialty Judges List
7. Finals Judges List
8. Show Photographer
9. Veterinarian
10. Medical Emergency Information
11. Schedule of Events: Meetings (Affiliate and General), Judging, Special Events, Pre-Shows, Finals, Awarding of MVA Participant Ribbons

12. Entry Info: Fees, Classes (Agility, Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Stockdog, Tracking, Juniors), Agility Finals, Conformation Finals, Obedience Finals, Rally Finals, Stockdog Finals, Junior Showmanship Finals (deadline date for dog changes), Parade of Veterans, Parade of Titleholders, Parade of Rescue, any additional approved competitive events
13. Lodging
14. Transportation
15. Parking
16. Camping
17. RV Reservations/Rentals
18. Directions to Site
19. Map of Grounds
20. Directions to the Tracking Site
21. Date, time, and place of the Draw for Tracks
22. Grooming area set-up user requirements
23. Catalog info: Fees for pre-orders, day of show purchase and marked
24. Catalog afterwards, advertising requirements
25. Trophy Donation Requirements/Availability
26. Special Rules – Must include mention that all rules are available from the ASCA Business Office
27. Order Forms – Catalogs, trophies, banquet, camping, vendors

Proposed Wording:

**7.3 Premium List and Premium Ad Due Dates**

- ~~A. November 1 (of the year prior to the event) – Judge slate and the first draft of the Premium List due to the Executive Secretary.~~
- ~~B. December 1 (of the year prior to the event) or thirty days after the draft was received by the Executive Secretary – Board comments and approval of the Judge slate due to the Nationals Committee.~~
- ~~C. January 15 (of the Nationals year) – Final draft of the Premium List due to the Executive Secretary.~~
- ~~D. February 15 (of the Nationals year) or thirty days after the final draft was received by the Executive Secretary – Final approval due to the Nationals Committee.~~
- ~~E. March 1 (of the Nationals year) for September/October Nationals – Camera-ready copy due to the Executive Secretary for publication on all ASCA media outlets.~~

Refer to the Nationals Planning Timeline in Appendix C of this rule book for Premium List and Premium Ad deadlines. Without exception these deadlines must be met by the Nationals Committee.

**7.4 Required Information in the Nationals Premium List**

1. Dates
2. Location
3. Specialty Headquarters
4. ASCA Officer List
5. National Committee List
6. National Specialty Judges List
7. Finals Judges List
8. Show Photographer
9. Veterinarian
10. Medical Emergency Information
11. Schedule of Events: Meetings (Affiliate and General), Judging, Special Events, Pre-Shows, Finals, Awarding of MVA Participant Ribbons
12. Entry Information: fees; classes offered (Agility, Conformation, Dock Jumping, Obedience, Rally, Scent Detection, Stockdog, Tracking, Juniors); Finals information (Agility, Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Stockdog, Junior Showmanship, including deadline date for dog changes); Parade of Veterans; Parade of Titleholders; Parade of Rescue; any additional approved competitive events
13. Lodging
14. Transportation/Airport Information
15. Parking
16. Camping
17. RV Reservations/Rentals



18. Directions to Site
19. Address of the Tracking Site
20. Date, time, and place of the Draw for Tracks
21. Grooming area information
22. Catalog purchase information
23. Catalog advertising information
24. Special Rules – Also must include mention that all rules are available from the ASCA Business Office
25. Order Forms – camping/RV, volunteers, Breeders' Directory
26. Submission Form and Nationals Entry Forms - Agility, Conformation/Junior Handling, Dock Jumping, Obedience, Rally, Scent Detection, Stockdog, Tracking

#### **7.4 — First Draft of Premium List**

~~The first draft of the Premium List must be received by the Executive Secretary on or before November 1 of the year prior to the event. This information will be forwarded to the Board for review.~~

~~Board approval of the Judge slate along with comments and recommendations are due to the Nationals Committee no later than thirty days after receipt by the Executive Secretary. The Nationals Committee will contact Judges regarding their availability to judge only. The Board heavily considers prior judging experience of large entries. Please be certain that selected Judges are qualified in this respect. Official confirmation of judging assignments must not be given until the Board's approval is granted.~~

#### **7.5 Dog Changes for Junior Handling Classes and Finals**

It is required that the deadline date for making dog changes for the Nationals Junior Handling classes and the Junior Handling Finals be published in the Premium List (See the last paragraph of Chapter 2 Junior Handling Classes in the Junior Rules and Regulations).

#### **7.6 — Final Premium List**

~~The Final Premium List must be sent to the Executive Secretary by January 15 of the year prior to the event. The final draft will be forwarded to the Board. The Board will review the final draft of the Premium List and, if all is in order, will issue their approval within thirty days of receipt by the Executive Secretary.~~

#### **7.8 7.6 Junior Non-Titling Entry Fee**

There will be no entry fees for Juniors in non-titling events. Examples: **Working** Stockdog Junior Handler, Most Versatile Junior, and all Finals.

#### **7.9 7.7 Junior Titling Entry Fee**

All Juniors competing at the National Specialty in events not included in Section ~~6.8~~ 7.6 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.

#### **9.1 Approval of Nationals and Finals Judges Slates**

~~Judges must be approved by the Board.~~ The Finals Judges Slate is due to the Board no later than February 1 of the year prior to the National Specialty. The Nationals Judges Slate is due with the first draft of the Premium List, no later than September 1 of the year prior to the National Specialty. Board approval of the Judge slate along with comments and recommendations are due to the Nationals Committee no later than thirty days after receipt by the Executive Secretary. The Nationals Committee will contact Judges regarding their availability to judge only. The Board heavily considers prior judging experience of large entries. Please be certain that selected Judges are qualified in this respect. Official confirmation of judging assignments must not be given until the Board's approval is granted.

#### **26.3 — Premium Checklist**

~~The Premium List has a fifteen-page limit including entry forms. Anything over this limit must have Board approval. All items listed below are required in the Official Premium List.~~

1. ~~Dates~~
2. ~~Location~~
3. ~~Specialty Headquarters~~
4. ~~ASCA Officer List~~
5. ~~National Committee List~~
6. ~~National Specialty Judges List~~
7. ~~Finals Judges List~~
8. ~~Show Photographer~~
9. ~~Veterinarian~~
10. ~~Medical Emergency Information~~
11. ~~Schedule of Events: Meetings (Affiliate and General), Judging, Special Events, Pre-Shows, Finals, Awarding of MVA Participant Ribbons~~
12. ~~Entry Info: Fees, Classes (Agility, Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Stockdog, Tracking, Juniors), Agility Finals, Conformation Finals, Obedience Finals, Rally Finals, Stockdog Finals, Junior Showmanship Finals (deadline date for dog changes), Parade of Veterans, Parade of Titleholders, Parade of Rescue, any additional approved competitive events~~
13. ~~Lodging~~
14. ~~Transportation~~
15. ~~Parking~~
16. ~~Camping~~
17. ~~RV Reservations/Rentals~~
18. ~~Directions to Site~~
19. ~~Map of Grounds~~
20. ~~Directions to the Tracking Site~~
21. ~~Date, time, and place of the Draw for Tracks~~
22. ~~Grooming area set-up user requirements~~
23. ~~Catalog info: Fees for pre-orders, day of show purchase and marked~~
24. ~~Catalog afterwards, advertising requirements~~
25. ~~Trophy Donation Requirements/Availability~~
26. ~~Special Rules — Must include mention that all rules are available from the ASCA Business Office~~
27. ~~Order Forms — Catalogs, trophies, banquet, camping, vendors~~

Comments/Rationale: These revisions bring the National Specialty Rules up to date. The 7.3 revision reduces redundant language. The Nationals Planning Timeline contains all of these deadlines. The addition of new verbiage for 7.4 keeps all pertinent information about the premium together in Section 7. This will make the Section 26.3 redundant, so this section has been deleted. Several obsolete items were left off of the new requirements list. The former 7.4 has been revised and moved to the more appropriate Section 9 Judges. Sections 7.6 and 7.7 are no longer relevant and are being deleted. Sections 7.8 and 7.9 are being renumbered and correction has been made on each.

Affected: Persons competing at the National Specialty and persons running the National Specialty.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

#### NA.24.08 Revision of Sections 4 and 5.4 of the National Specialty Rules

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Revision of Sections 4 and 5.4 of the National Specialty Rules. Motion by Laura Gibson to approve the wording below to revise Section 4 and Section 5.4.1 of the National Specialty Rules. Seconded by Rachel Vest.

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

Current Wording:

#### **4 Selection of Judges**

The Program Committees will develop procedures to hire Judges for the various Nationals and Finals events. If a Committee does not currently have a procedure for selecting Nationals and Finals Judges, the Committee will create such a procedure and follow it, beginning with the 2021 Nationals and Finals.

#### **5.4 Budget**

The Nationals Chair and the Nationals Advisory Committee will work together to prepare a budget for the Nationals, which will include the Finals expenditures. This budget will be approved by the Board.

Proposed Wording:

#### **4 Selection of Judges**

The Program Committees will develop procedures to hire Judges for the various Nationals and Finals events. If a Committee does not currently have a procedure for selecting Nationals and Finals Judges, the Committee will create such a procedure and follow it, ~~beginning with the 2021 Nationals and Finals.~~

#### **5.4 Budget**

The Nationals Chair and the Nationals Advisory Committee will work together to prepare a budget for the Nationals, which will include the Finals expenditures. This budget will be approved by the Board.

##### **5.4.1 Sharing of Finals Budgets**

The budget for each program's Finals will be shared with the program Committee at least six months prior to Finals.

Comments/Rationale: These revisions bring the National Specialty Rules up to date. The 5.4.1 addition reiterates that the Finals sections of the Nationals budget will be shared with the appropriate program Committees.

Affected: Persons competing at the National Specialty and persons running the National Specialty.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

NA.24.09 Revision of Sections 1.5, 16.1, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, 18.2, 19.1, 19.2, 20.1, and 20.2 of the National Specialty Rules

**Motion carried** (7-1-1) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, Scheidt, Sims, Wesen. Disapproved: McLellan. Abstained: Ward. Non-voting: None.

- **Dissent from Director:** 1.5.1 - Directives as to how the AEMD funds are used/tallied are not the prerogative of the NAC but are outlined by the ASCA Board.

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

Committee Recommendation: Revision of Sections 1.5, 16.1, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, 18.2, 19.1, 19.2, 20.1, and 20.2 of the National Specialty Rules.

Motion made by: Laura Gibson to approve the wording below to revise Section 1.5 and delete Sections 16.1, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, 18.2, 19.1, 19.2, 20.1, and 20.2 of the National Specialty Rules. Seconded by Rachel Vest.

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

Current Wording:

#### **1.5 Finals**

Finals are invitation-only events, and although they are part of the National Specialty week, each Finals is subject to its own additional set of program rules. Refer to each program rulebook for complete rules and regulations pertaining to Finals.

### **16.1 Finals Budget**

The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Stockdog Committee at least six months prior to the Finals. The budget must state the total number of livestock to be used in each class of stock for all go-rounds of Finals. This number should reflect extra livestock on hand to be used in case of injury or illness, with a written breakdown of what is to be considered back-up or extra.

### **17.1 Budget**

The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Obedience Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.

### **17.2 Funds**

Entry fees collected by the Business Office will be used to cover any expenses the Nationals Committee may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Nationals Committee, the Board, and the Obedience Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Nationals Committee will submit its expenses to the Board. When all expenses have been met any additional monies will be used for funding the next year's competition.

### **18.1 Budget**

The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Agility Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.

### **18.2 Funds**

Entry fees collected by the Business Office will be used to cover any expenses the Nationals Committee may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Nationals Committee, the Board, and the Agility Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Nationals Committee will submit its expenses to the Board. When all expenses have been met any additional monies will be used for funding the next year's competition.

### **19.1 Budget and Fees**

The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Conformation Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.

### **19.2 Funds**

Entry fees collected by the Business Office will be used to cover any expenses the Nationals Committee may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Nationals Committee, the Board, and the Conformation Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Nationals Committee will submit their expenses to the Board.

### **20.1 Budget and Fees**

The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Rally Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.

### **20.2 Funds**

Entry fees collected by the Business Office will be used to cover any expenses the Nationals Committee may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Nationals Committee, the Board, and the Rally Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Nationals Committee will submit their expenses to the Board.

## Proposed Wording:

### **1.5 Finals**

Finals are invitation-only events, and although they are part of the National Specialty week, each Finals is subject to its own additional set of program rules. Refer to each program rulebook for complete rules and regulations pertaining to Finals.

### **1.5.1 Funding for Finals**

Finals are paid for with Finals sponsorships, Finals entry fees and funds collected from Additional Event Member Dues (AEMD). AEMD Funds are kept in a separate ASCA account, and any funds not used for the current year's Finals are saved for use on the following year's Finals. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the AEMD account and is responsible for informing the Nationals Chairman, the Board, and the program Committees (Agility, Conformation, Junior, Obedience, Rally, and Stockdog) as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year.

### **16.1—Finals Budget**

~~The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Stockdog Committee at least six months prior to the Finals. The budget must state the total number of livestock to be used in each class of stock for all go-rounds of Finals. This number should reflect extra livestock on hand to be used in case of injury or illness, with a written breakdown of what is to be considered back-up or extra.~~

### **17.1—Budget**

~~The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Obedience Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.~~

### **17.2—Funds**

~~Entry fees collected by the Business Office will be used to cover any expenses the Nationals Committee may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Nationals Committee, the Board, and the Obedience Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Nationals Committee will submit its expenses to the Board. When all expenses have been met any additional monies will be used for funding the next year's competition.~~

### **18.1—Budget**

~~The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Agility Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.~~

### **18.2—Funds**

~~Entry fees collected by the Business Office will be used to cover any expenses the Nationals Committee may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Nationals Committee, the Board, and the Agility Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Nationals Committee will submit its expenses to the Board. When all expenses have been met any additional monies will be used for funding the next year's competition.~~

### **19.1—Budget and Fees**

~~The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Conformation Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.~~

### **19.2—Funds**

~~Entry fees collected by the Business Office will be used to cover any expenses the Nationals Committee may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Nationals Committee, the Board, and the Conformation Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Nationals Committee will submit their expenses to the Board.~~

### **20.1—Budget and Fees**

~~The Nationals Committee will submit a proposed budget to the Board and Rally Committee at least six months prior to the Finals.~~

## 20.2—Funds

~~Entry fees collected by the Business Office will be used to cover any expenses the Nationals Committee may incur including awards. The Business Office will keep an accounting of all monies received for the Finals fund and is responsible for informing the Nationals Committee, the Board, and the Rally Committee as to the amount received by August 1st of the competition year. The Nationals Committee will submit their expenses to the Board.~~

Comments/Rationale: The 1.5.1 addition replaces redundant verbiage in Sections 16.1, 17.1, 17.2, 18.1, 18.2, 19.1, 19.2, 20.1 and 20.2.

Affected: Persons competing at the National Specialty and persons running the National Specialty.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

NA.24.10 Delete Section 26.2 of the National Specialty Rules and replace with Appendix C: Nationals Planning Timeline

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen.

Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

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

Committee Recommendation: Delete Section 26.2 of the National Specialty Rules and replace with Appendix C: Nationals Planning Timeline.

Motion by Laura Gibson to delete Section 26.2 of the National Specialty Rules and replace it with Appendix C: Nationals Planning Timeline as shown below. Seconded by Rachel Vest.

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

#### Current Wording:

##### **26.2 Dates Checklist**

- A. September 1 (year prior to event) - Judges Slate with applicable resumes and first draft of the Premium List due to the Executive Secretary
- B. October 1 (year prior to event) or thirty days after the draft was received by the Executive Secretary - Board comments and approval of the Judges slate will be due to the Nationals Committee
- C. November 15 (year prior to event) - Final draft of the Premium List due to the Executive Secretary
- D. December 15 (year prior to event) or thirty days after the final draft was received by the Executive Secretary - Final approval will be due to the Nationals Committee; \$1,500 due to Nationals Committee from ASCA Point of Contact chosen and Committee notified
- E. January 1 (year of event) for September/October Nationals - Camera ready copy due to the Executive Secretary
- F. January 15 (year of event) for September/October Nationals - Deadline for Executive Secretary to have camera ready copy to the Aussie Times Editor for March/April issue
- G. March 1 (year of event) for September/October Nationals - Sanctioning due
- H. March 1 (year of event) for November Nationals - Camera-ready copy due to the Executive Secretary
- I. March 15 (year of event) for November Nationals - Deadline for Executive Secretary to have camera-ready copy to the Aussie Times Editor for May/June issue
- J. May 1 (year of event) for November Nationals - Sanctioning due
- K. [Closing date for entries] - Finals entries money sent to Nationals Committee
- L. Within 14 days of [closing date] - List of Finals qualifiers due to Nationals Committee for ribbon ordering
- M. [Opening date for Nationals entries]
- N. [Closing date for Nationals entries]
- O. At least 90 days prior to Nationals - Finals budgets due to Board
- P. 60 days post event - Show results due to Business Office (Judges' Books, marked catalog, membership dues per the most recent fee schedule)



- Q. 60 days post event - Photos due to Aussie Times; Show results due to Aussie Times  
R. 90 days post event - Financial Report due to Executive Secretary for all Finals events (any extensions must be requested from the Board in writing)

Proposed Wording:

**26.2—Dates Checklist**

- ~~A. September 1 (year prior to event) – Judges Slate with applicable resumes and first draft of the Premium List due to the Executive Secretary~~  
~~B. October 1 (year prior to event) or thirty days after the draft was received by the Executive Secretary – Board comments and approval of the Judges slate will be due to the Nationals Committee~~  
~~C. November 15 (year prior to event) – Final draft of the Premium List due to the Executive Secretary~~  
~~D. December 15 (year prior to event) or thirty days after the final draft was received by the Executive Secretary – Final approval will be due to the Nationals Committee; \$1,500 due to Nationals Committee from ASCA Point of Contact chosen and Committee notified~~  
~~E. January 1 (year of event) for September/October Nationals – Camera ready copy due to the Executive Secretary~~  
~~F. January 15 (year of event) for September/October Nationals – Deadline for Executive Secretary to have camera ready copy to the Aussie Times Editor for March/April issue~~  
~~G. March 1 (year of event) for September/October Nationals – Sanctioning due~~  
~~H. March 1 (year of event) for November Nationals – Camera-ready copy due to the Executive Secretary~~  
~~I. March 15 (year of event) for November Nationals – Deadline for Executive Secretary to have camera-ready copy to the Aussie Times Editor for May/June issue~~  
~~J. May 1 (year of event) for November Nationals – Sanctioning due~~  
~~K. [Closing date for entries] – Finals entries money sent to Nationals Committee~~  
~~L. Within 14 days of [closing date] – List of Finals qualifiers due to Nationals Committee for ribbon ordering~~  
~~M. [Opening date for Nationals entries]~~  
~~N. [Closing date for Nationals entries]~~  
~~O. At least 90 days prior to Nationals – Finals budgets due to Board~~  
~~P. 60 days post event – Show results due to Business Office (Judges' Books, marked catalog, membership dues per the most recent fee schedule)~~  
~~Q. 60 days post event – Photos due to Aussie Times; Show results due to Aussie Times~~  
~~R. 90 days post event – Financial Report due to Executive Secretary for all Finals events (any extensions must be requested from the Board in writing)~~

**Appendix C: Nationals Planning Timeline**

**Nationals Timeline**

**Nationals - T minus Two Years**

**June**

- Solicit for Nationals Chairperson

**August**

- Conduct interviews with potential Nationals Chairpersons candidates (Nationals Advisory Committee, Board members who are interested) and select new Nationals Chairperson
- Nationals Advisory Committee reviews Nationals Committee job descriptions and sends any revisions for Board approval at the September Board Meeting; sent in the form of a motion, soliciting the new Nationals Committee
- Advisory Committee works with Nationals Chairperson to review Committee Member Agreements and send to the Board for approval

**September**

- Following Board approval of the Nationals Committee solicitation motion, the announcement is sent out, calling for the new Nationals Committee, with an application deadline of November 1

## November

- First week of November, Nationals Advisory Committee meets with the Nationals Chairperson to go over applications and set the Committee
- Nationals Chairperson names Assistant Chairperson(s), if desired
- New Nationals Committee is sent to the Board for approval at December meeting

## December

- Advisory Committee sends out thank you to new Nationals Committee once Board approves; notifies those who were not chosen
- Nationals Chairperson selects Board Liaison

## Nationals - T minus One Year

### January

- Nationals Chairperson sends out Legal Counsel-approved/Board-approved Committee Member Agreements; include job descriptions and expectations; have Executive Secretary set up groups.io and send out invitations to all Committee members
- Hold introductory Nationals Committee Meeting; set operating norms
- Begin work on Nationals schedule
- Have Finals Chairpersons start selecting Finals Judges; lists due February 1

### February

- February 1 – solicit Affiliates for pre-shows and pre-trials for draw at Spring Meeting; deadline for application two weeks before Spring Board Meeting
- February 1 – slate of Finals Judges due

### March

- Advisory Committee works with Nationals Chairperson to review pre-show and pre-trial contracts, entry clerk contracts, and stock handler contracts and get Board approval and legal counsel approval

### April

- Following draw for pre-shows and pre-trials, notify Affiliates who were chosen
- If there are pre-events without a host club, the Nationals Chair should solicit Affiliates to host

### June

- June 1 – schedule is set; begin work on budget and premium
- June 1 – Chairpersons of competitive events - check new program rules for changes needed in the premium
- Have selected Affiliates choose the dates for their pre-show/pre-trials in the order of their draw; send out pre-event contracts
- Nationals Advisory Committee sends out the announcements for request for bids for the Nationals Entry Clerk, Nationals Agility Entry Clerk, the Nationals Stockdog Data Entry Clerk, and stock handlers
- Announce that those interested in serving as photographers at Nationals send in letters of interest

### July

- Conduct interviews with potential Nationals and Agility Entry Clerks candidates (Nationals Advisory Committee, Board members who are interested, Nationals Chairperson)
- Nationals Chairperson and Nationals Stockdog Chairpersons select stock handlers, share with the Nationals Advisory Committee and send out Board-approved contracts
- Nationals Chairperson and Vendors Chairperson select photographers, share with the Nationals Advisory Committee, and send out agreements
- Send out request for bids for the creation of the Nationals logo
- Launch Nationals pages on ASCA.org
- Hold Nationals Committee Meeting to discuss logo process, budget process, premium, and other topics

- Business Office Manager bonds Nationals Chairperson, Accounting Chairperson and Nationals Entry Clerk

#### August

- Business Office Manager opens Nationals checking account
- Selection of logo artist by Nationals Chairperson and Nationals Committee
- Budget sent to Board; Budget sheets and ledger are set up and shared
- Site visit for key Committee members; meeting with site staff

#### September

- September 1 - Nationals Judges slate and first draft of premium due to Board

#### November

- November 15 – Second draft of premium due to Board; first draft of Aussie Times Nationals ad due to Board
- Begin soliciting sponsorships and advertising/selling vendor spaces
- Reminder to pre-show and pre-trial affiliates about January 15 deadline for Nationals ads in the Aussie Times & make sure contracts are in

#### December

- December 15 - Make sure pre-event contracts and deposits are in & send another reminder to pre-show and pre-trial affiliates about January 15 deadline for Nationals ads in the Aussie Times
- Final copy of Aussie Times Nationals ad due to Board for approval in time for December Board meeting

### **Nationals Year**

#### January

- Camera-ready Nationals ad due to Executive Secretary on January 1; sent to editor of Aussie Times by January 15
- Continue push for sponsorships

#### February

- February 1 – final copy of premium due to the Board in time for February Board meeting
- Remind event chairpersons to prepare sanctioning for their events, due March 1

#### March

- March 1 – Board-approved premium is published on all ASCA media outlets
- March 1 – Sanctioning due to Business Office for Nationals events – Agility, Conformation (including MVA and Junior Handling), Dock Jumping, Obedience, Rally, Stockdog, Scent Detection and Tracking
- Start discussions about Nationals prizes; have Finals Chairs present their Finals prizes ideas to the Committee
- Start discussions about merchandise to be offered at the merchandise booth

#### June

- Business Office sends out Finals letters to qualifiers
- If a storage unit is needed, rent storage unit (6 months) for receiving merchandise, rosettes, equipment, etc. The Nationals Chair will need to decide where items will be sent.

#### July

- July 1 entries open (June 1 for September Nationals)
- July 15 – Finals entries are due back into the B.O.
- Begin ordering merchandise, rosettes and prizes; class placements rosettes will be ordered later, after class counts are estimated

#### August

- Remind Business Office Manager to add facility to the event insurance policy and send a copy of the policy to the site
- August 31 entries close (July 31 for September Nationals)

#### October

- Nationals (Nationals can take place from September 1 through December 1; entries opening and closing dates will shift accordingly)

Results due to Business Office (Judges' books for all competitive events and marked catalog) by January 5 following Nationals.

All required win photos and show results due to Aussies Times by January 5 following Nationals.

Financial report due to the Board by February 4 following Nationals. This will include account balance as of this date, outstanding items and projected profit.

Comments/Rationale: The Nationals Planning Timeline is a more comprehensive tool than the current due dates list in the National Specialty Rules.

Affected: Persons running the National Specialty.

Effective Date: Immediately upon Board approval.

## Scent Detection Committee

### SC.24.08 Revision of Section 11.4.3 Scent Detection Judges Test

**Motion carried** (7-1-1) - Approved: Byrne, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward. Disapproved: Wesen. Abstained: Clayton. Non-voting: None.

### **Motion by Liaison Gann to approve the following recommendation from the Scent Detection Committee.**

Committee Recommendation: Title: Motion# 24-10 Revision of 11.4.3 Scent Detection Judges test.  
Motion by Deborah Divich.

Seconded by Debbie Anderson.

Judges applicants must pass the Scent Detection Judges written, open book test 100%. Test must be passed within two (2) attempts, if test is not passed applicant must wait six (6) months before they can retake the test.

Results of Committee Vote: Approved: 13. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-Voting: 2.

#### Current Wording:

11.4.3 When a majority of the Scent Detection Committee have voted on an applicant by designation of a judging level, the applicant will be forwarded a written, open book, multiple choice test. All answers will be supported by chapter, section and paragraph references within the Rule Book. Upon completion the test will be returned to the ASCA Scent Detection Committee to be graded. Applicants must pass the Scent Detection Judges written, open book test 100%.

#### Proposed Wording:

11.4.3 When a majority of the Scent Detection Committee have voted on an applicant by designation of a judging level, the applicant will be forwarded a written, open book, multiple choice test. All answers will be supported by chapter, section and paragraph references within the Rule Book. Upon completion the test will be returned to the ASCA Scent Detection Committee to be graded. Applicants must pass the Scent Detection Judges written, open book test 100%. Test must be passed within two (2) attempts, if test is not passed applicant must wait six (6) months before they can retake the test.

Comments/Rationale: The Scent Detection judges test is open book and is used to familiarize applicants with our rules as our program is different than other scent sport organizations. Every committee member provides two questions. Upon review, a query was put to the committee and majority felt that limiting the number of attempts that a judge's applicant is given to pass the open book judges test was in the best interest of the program. We have had a couple occasions where it took individuals 4 or 5 times to pass the test with assistance from the test administrator and on one occasion it took a provisional judge 7 times to pass with 100%. The majority of our Regular highly qualified judges' applicants passed with 100% on the first try. By limiting the number of attempts we ensure the applicants are truly reading the rules, and that these individuals are serious in our program. It will also assist the test administrator in the amount of time spent in processing tests.

Affected: Executive Secretary for updating the rules, Webmaster for posting of revised rules and revised Judges application. Future Judges applicants and the Scent Detection Committee.

Effective Date: June 1, 2024.

### SC.24.09 Revision of 1.8.24 Warmup and Recovery Area

**Motion carried** (9-0) - Approved: Byrne, Clayton, Gann, McCabe, McLellan, Scheidt, Sims, Ward, Wesen. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-voting: None.

### **Motion by Liaison Gann to approve the following recommendation from the Scent Detection Committee.**

Committee Recommendation: Title: Motion# 24-12 Revision of 1.8.24 Warmup and recovery area  
Motion by Deborah Divich.

Seconded by Amy Mathews.

1.8.24 states A specific area for warm-up boxes will be designated. This area may also serve as a search recovery area. This area must be separate from the crating area and will contain one odor from each of the levels being offered. At least two blank boxes must be included with the scented boxes and the odor boxes should be labeled. Teams on deck will have priority using this area. Only the judge may handle the boxes that have been scented.

Results of Committee Vote: Approved: 12. Disapproved: None. Abstained: None. Non-Voting: 3.

#### Current Wording:

1.8.24 A warm-up and recovery area should be designated and should contain at least one scent from each of the levels offered. Blank boxes are optional. Teams on deck should have priority using this area.

#### Proposed Wording:

1.8.24 A specific area for warm-up boxes ~~and recovery area should~~ will be designated. This area may also serve as a search recovery area. This area must be separate from the crating area and ~~should~~ will contain ~~at least~~ one ~~scent~~ odor from each of the levels being offered. ~~Blank boxes are optional.~~ At least two blank boxes must be included with the scented boxes and the odor boxes should be labeled. Teams on deck should have priority using this area. Only the judge may handle the boxes that have been scented.

Comments/Rationale: To revise the warmup and recovery area practice boxes to include blank boxes, not just odor boxes. To specifically include one labeled box of all odors used during the trial, and ensure that the warmup/recovery area is not located in the crating area.

Affected: Executive Secretary for updating the rules, Webmaster for posting of revised rules, The Scent Detection Committee, affiliate clubs hosting trials and all ASCA Scent Detection competitors.

Effective Date: June 1, 2024.