

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
August 7-8, 2017

The Board convened on Monday, August 7, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. All Directors were present. Also present was the Executive Secretary.

The July 2017 Board minutes, copies of which were provided to all Directors, were discussed. Upon a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Menaker, the July 2017 minutes were approved unanimously, except for an abstention by Mr. Feeney because he was not in attendance at the July meeting.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Board Action Items**

Mr. Sprung reviewed Action Items, and reported on staff initiatives. There was discussion by the Board concerning reporting of efforts to increase registrations, entries and breeders as well as focus by staff to convert registerable dogs to registered dogs. There was debate about the impact of limited registration. It was the sense of the Board that limited registration was negatively impacting entries and registration totals. There was a motion by Mr. Wooding, seconded by Dr. Davies, and it was VOTED (unanimously), to instruct the Executive Secretary to send a memo to the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee asking them to consider a rule change that would eliminate limited registration. Mr. Sprung agreed that the staff can provide parent clubs with statistics on litter, dog and limited registration for their respective breed.

**Fundraising Department**

Mr. Sprung introduced Robert Holcomb, AKC's new Executive Director of Development. Mr. Holcomb gave an overview of his background in fundraising and his vision for how the new department would operate. Giving initiatives will be planned for all of AKC's affiliates, which include, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Reunite, AKC Humane Fund and the AKC Museum of the Dog as well as AKC. One of the first initiatives will be a crowd funding program for the Humane Fund surrounding Domestic Violence Awareness month which is October.

**Legal Status Report**

Jay Waks, Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel and Heather McManus, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, presented a status report on pending litigation and other Legal activities for the months of June and July 2017.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. There was nothing reported out of this session.

**FINANCE**

Joseph Baffuto, CFO, presented AKC's unaudited financial results through the seven months ended July 31, 2017. Total revenues of \$41.5 million were 1.1% above budget and 10% greater than 2016. Dog Registrations volume was 2% above budget and 7% higher than 2016, along with Litters processed being 2% above budget and 7% higher than last year as well. Total operating expenses of \$36.8 million were 8.6% below budget, but 9.1% higher than 2016 predominately due to increased headcount reflected in Payroll and Benefits costs. YTD Operating income of \$4.7 million significantly exceeded both the budget of \$816,000 for the seven-month period, as well as the prior year's recorded actual of \$4.0 million. Our investment portfolio reflects unrealized gains on investments totaling \$7.3 million year to date, which combined with operating income reflects AKC as a total net income of \$12.0 million at July 31, 2017.

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President Sport Services, participated in this portion of the meeting by videoconference.

### **Great Dane Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board reviewed proposed changes to the Size, Proportion, Substance; Head; Forequarters; Hindquarters; Color, Markings and Patterns; and Disqualifications sections of the Great Dane Breed Standard as submitted by the Great Dane Club of America, Inc.(GDCA). Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Biddle, it was VOTED (unanimously) to publish the proposed breed standard in the AKC Secretary's Page for comment.

### **Russian Toy Parent Club**

The Board reviewed a request from the parent club of the Russian Toy, the Russian Toy Club of America. The club requests approval by the Board to move the breed into the Miscellaneous Class.

The Board of Directors approved the Russian Toy to be eligible for recording in the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) program with a Toy designation in 2008. The Russian Toy Club of America has met the requirements of the Recognition of New Breeds Board Policy approved in February 2017. Requirements include an active parent club, with serious and expanding breeding activity over a wide geographic area, and documented club activity.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **New Breed for the Foundation Stock Service – Hanoverian Scenthound**

The Board was advised that the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee approved a petition for the Hanoverian Scenthound to be accepted into the FSS program.

### **New Breed for the Foundation Stock Service – Yakutian Laika**

The Board was advised that the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee approved a petition for the Yakutian Laika to be accepted into the FSS program.

### **Teddy Roosevelt Terrier**

The American Teddy Roosevelt Terrier Club requests to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed, allowing the club to hold Open Shows.

The American Teddy Roosevelt Terrier Club has an active membership participating in Companion Events and FSS Open Shows when available. The club provides regular updates on club activities and Board Meetings.

The Board was advised that without objection, the American Teddy Roosevelt Terrier Club shall be designated as the Parent Club representing the Teddy Roosevelt Terrier with the AKC.

There was no objection.

### **Communication and Public Relations Second Quarter Report**

The AKC Communications department presented media coverage totals and high impact activities for the second quarter.

TOTALS:

Total Clips Evaluated in Q2: 2,519  
Q2 Audience Reached: 4,560,490,475  
Publicity Value for Q2: \$459,468,676.63

### **Select Media Coverage:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Media Outlet</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Audience</b>
6/1/17	Men's Journal	Best dog breeds for different lifestyles	758,298
6/19/17	Family Circle	Canine water safety tips	4,031,653
6/21/17	Fox & Friends	Bathing your dog	1,880,000
6/27/17	The Manual	Best dog breeds for runners	148,317

## **Government Relations Second Quarter Report**

The Government Relations department provided an informational update for the second quarter of 2017 and a status update on current department activity, major projects, significant legislative issues and accomplishments

As of July 18, 2017, Congress, 10 states and Puerto Rico are in session. The AKC GR team is currently monitoring approximately 1,700 pieces of legislation that could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the American Kennel Club. We are also monitoring approximately 375 proposed regulation changes at the state and federal level.

The AKC's Mid-Atlantic/Washington DC conference took place on April 30 – May 1, in Alexandria, Virginia, and Washington DC. The conference program provided participants with information, insight and advocacy assistance on specific legislation and policy trends currently impacting or expected to impact their communities and states. The conference provided information on how dog lovers can work together to protect their rights and provided tools and resources for advocating successfully for dogs, educating about the benefits of responsible dog ownership, and fighting misinformation and harmful proposals. It urged and empowered legislative liaisons, federation leaders and other advocates to increase their involvement in the political process, and to exchange ideas, share experiences and lessons learned to achieve positive canine policy outcomes.

The second day of the conference, scheduled to coincide with National Purebred Dog Day, took place at the U.S. Capitol, and focused on federal initiatives.

**Federal Lobby Day:** Following a morning of seminars and discussion, participants had the opportunity to meet with their Congressional representatives and staff to discuss canine policy issues. They used AKC talking points on the role of kennel clubs and breeders in their community, dog trafficking, rescue retail imports, service dogs for veterans, the shortage of domestically-bred detection dogs and other issues. As part of the lobby day, Kent Boyles, breeder/owner/handler of German Shepherd Dog "Rumor", the winner of the 2015 AKC National Championship and the 2017 Westminster KC Dog Show, toured the capitol and met more than 50 members of the U.S. House and Senate.

**Congressional Reception to Honor and Raise Awareness about Purebred Dogs:** On the evening of May 1, AKC hosted a reception at the U.S. Capitol for members of Congress and their staff in honor of National Purebred Dog Day. Highlights of the reception included: President Dennis Sprung's presentation of the AKC K9 Officer Award to the U.S. Capitol Police K9 Unit; Celebration of House and Senate Companion Resolutions H. Con. Res. 46 and Sen. Res. 144, honoring May 1 as National Purebred Dog Day; A meet and greet by canine representatives of the seven AKC groups; Ten educational stations raising awareness about the purpose, predictability, preservation and pride associated with purebred dogs and their breeders, as well as information about AKC's good works.

More than 200 members of Congress, staff and guests stopped by to meet dogs, share in the celebration and express support. Members who addressed the gathering included: Senator Thom Tillis, Congressman Ralph Abraham, Congressman Ron DeSantis, Congressman David Rouzer, Congressman Kurt Schrader, and Congressman Ted Yoho.

**AKC GR Southern Legislative Conference (Fall 2017):** GR Staff is currently preparing for a third regional conference in mid-September that will emphasize federation building, proactive policy development, and legislative strategy for key areas of the South. Attendees from throughout the country are welcome, but the conference will focus on capacity building and issues most relevant to Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi and the Carolinas.

## **BUSINESS UPDATE**

The Growth Group provided an update on key initiatives including:

- Call center –Customer Service has expanded hours as of August 2<sup>nd</sup>. (8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.)
- Events Search redesign
- Registration Value Proposition – new online messaging conveying the benefits of AKC dog registration and optimized user experience was implemented.
- 6 introductory videos are being created to educate dog owners about AKC's Farm Dog Certified Test; the S.T.A.R Puppy and CGC programs; Conformation events – how a dog show works; how to get started showing dogs; and the Agility Course Test (ACT).
- AKC.org relaunch

Also noted was that registration continues to grow month-to-date up 7% vs 2016; Marketplace litter opt-in reached a 21% opt-in rate and advertising sales continue to be positive.

## **Canine College**

An AKC Groomer safety Course launched in the Canine College in July and three new breed courses were launched: Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen, Nederlandse Kooikerhondje and Pharaoh Hound.

## **COMPLIANCE**

Jay Waks, Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel and Heather McManus, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. Wanda Forlines, Director of Compliance and Marcus Bach, Director of Investigations and Inspections, participated by videoconference.

The Compliance department presented a quarterly report of activity within the department.

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

***(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)***

## **COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE**

Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sport and Events, Caroline Murphy, Director of Performance Events, and Stephanie Kennerley, Sports and Events Project Coordinator participated in this portion of the meeting by videoconference. Carrie DeYoung, Director of Agility and Mary Burch Director of Canine Good Citizen participated in this portion of the meeting via phone conference.

### **Parent Club Performance Event – Recognizing Drafting Titles for Leonbergers**

The Board reviewed a request from The Leonberger Club of America to permit Leonbergers earning titles in the club's Draft Program to be eligible for drafting title recognition. There are seven other breeds that currently have their drafting titles recognized by AKC.

The Leonberger Club of America (LCA) Draft Test is a series of exercises designed to demonstrate the abilities of the Leonberger to perform in a working capacity including hauling freight. The performance of these skills is intended to demonstrate teamwork between dog and handler resulting from both natural ability and training that are applicable to realistic work situations.

The LCA Draft Test has eight classes: Novice Draft Dog, Novice Draft Dog Veteran, Brace Novice Draft Dog, Brace Novice Draft Dog Veteran, Open Draft Dog, Open Draft Dog Veteran, Brace Open Draft Dog, and Brace Open Draft Dog Veteran. In the Veteran classes, older dogs compete in the same exercises but are required to haul less weight than in the Regular classes. This request will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **Herding – Allow Ranch Course D**

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Performance Events department to allow an additional type of herding course known as Course D into the AKC herding program. Course D is described as a ranch or stock dog course which scores a dog's ability to perform and assist a farmer or rancher with herding tasks consistent with those actually needed on a ranch, farm or stockyard.

This recommendation will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **AKC Trick Dog Program Status Report**

The staff provided the Board a status report regarding the new AKC Trick Dog program.

The AKC Trick Dog program was launched on May 1, 2017. There are four levels of titles:

- **Novice (TKN)** - Dogs perform 10 novice tricks. Examples include: bark on cue ("speak"), high five, crawl, and jump through a low hoop.
- **Intermediate (TKI)** - Dogs perform 10 intermediate tricks. Examples are: carry a basket, rollover, jump through handler's arms, and wave good-bye.
- **Advanced (TKA)** - Dogs perform 5 advanced tricks. Examples include: take a bow, circle right/left, play dead, cover your eyes, open mailbox/refrigerator and take out an object.
- **Trick Dog Performer (TKP)** - Each dog does at least 10 intermediate and advanced tricks put into a routine.

The response to the Trick Dog program has been overwhelming. As of July 14 (11 weeks since launch), we have received over 6,500 title applications. Since the launch of the Trick Dog program, there has been a noticeable increase in new CGC Evaluator applications per month. The number of currently approved Evaluators is at an all-time high. There are now over 11,500 Evaluators acting as advocates for the AKC.

The program has also succeeded in attracting new dog owners to the AKC, as indicated by the fact that the trick dog title is the only title that 30% of these dogs have earned.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. There was nothing reported out of this session.

### **CONFORMATION**

Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sports and Events, Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President Sport Services, Glenn Lycan, Director Operation Support, Alan Slay, Director Event Programs, and Bri Tesarz, Manager Dog Show Rules, participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

#### **Allowing BPUP Events in Conjunction with B-Matches**

The Board reviewed a recommendation from Staff to allow 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Competitions (BPUP) to be held on the same day and at the same location as the club's Conformation B-Match. Current BPUP Regulations require that the competition can only be offered at a point show. Following a motion by Ms. McAteer, seconded by Mr. Carota, it was VOTED (unanimously), to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the usual notice requirements.

Following a motion from Ms. McAteer, seconded by Ms. Biddle, it was VOTED (unanimously), to modify the BPUP regulations to allow clubs to hold the competition with either a point show or a Conformation B Match that is held at the same location.

This recommendation is a change to Regulations and is effective September 1, 2017.

**Sanctioned Four-to-Six Month (Beginner Puppy) Competition Regulations**  
**(effective September 1, 2017)**

**Section 2 – Entry and Eligibility**

Entry and eligibility requirements include:

- The Four-to-Six Month Puppy event may be offered at licensed or member dog shows or conformation B-matches at the option of the show giving club.
- Four-to-Six Month Puppy Competition must be listed in the premium list, entry form and judging schedule, if offered.
- Closing date and time for this competition may be listed as any date and time prior to the event including the same day as the event and must be listed in the premium list, entry form and judging schedule.
- AKC registration number or an AKC litter number will be required for entries of an AKC recognized breed as listed in Chapter 3, Section 1 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*.
- A foreign born dog may enter this class if they are registered in the country of origin.
- FSS number or FSS registered litter number will be required for Miscellaneous and FSS breed entries.
- All entrants are to be vaccinated (including rabies) in accordance with their veterinarian's protocol.
- Dogs that are owned or co-owned by a professional handler may compete in this class, but must be handled by a non-professional handler. *Professional handlers are defined as any person who belongs or has belonged to a professional handlers' organization, distributed rate cards, or otherwise advertised or represented themselves as handling dogs for pay within the last five years. Dogs may not be exhibited by current assistants and household members of a professional handler.*

**Section 5– Administration**

Four-to-Six Month Puppy competition will be offered in a separate ring(s) from the regular class judging in order to avoid delays in the judging of regular classes. Classes will not be divided by sex in this competition. Entry fees will be determined by the show-giving club. The show results and event service fee of \$2.00 per entry must be submitted to AKC Event Operations within seven (7) days of the event (electronic results submissions are preferred).

When Four to Six Month Beginner Puppy competition is held in conjunction with a B-Match, the breeds (all breeds, breeds of a specific group, or breed only) offered at the Four to Six Month Beginner Puppy competition must be the same or fewer than those offered at the B-Match.

Clubs holding Four-to-Six Month Puppy competition will receive credit for completing both a Major Activity as well as an Additional Activity for judges gaining experience on their unapproved breeds by judging at the event.

*Dealing with Misconduct* will be applicable to any person and dog entered at this competition. All applicable rules found in *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* will govern the conduct of this competition unless these regulations state otherwise.

**Multi-Sport Events–Assisting Clubs With Contracting-Out Selected Activities**

Staff provided the Board with information related to AKC's support of clubs wishing to hold multi-sport events by contracting-out selected activities. It is a Sports & Events initiative to increase the number of sports/attractions at events. In some cases the activity is held by a nearby AKC

club with AKC sport knowledge and equipment. In other cases, the activity is provided by an outside organization such as a local training facility.

In order to support clubs holding or desirous of holding multi-sport activities, the AKC is developing a "letter of understanding." This letter will allow clubs to state their expectations and agree to uphold those expectations while providing a useable document that will support the promotion and execution of multi-sport events.

## **CLUBS**

The Board reviewed a report on:

### **MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY**

Corn Belt Kennel Club, McLean County, IL (1954)

Corpus Christi Kennel Club, Corpus Christi, TX (1998)

Pekingese Club of America (1909)

Virginia Kennel Club, Richmond, VA (1936)

### **NEW CLUBS LICENSED APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY**

Bergamasco Sheepdog Club of America

Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America

Licking Creek Coon Hunters Association, Harrisonville, PA

Wheatstate Agility Group of Northeast Kansas

## **JUDGING OPERATIONS**

Tim Thomas, Director Judging Operations, participated in this portion of the meeting. Doug Ljungren, Vice President Sports and Events, participated in this portion of the meeting via teleconference.

### **Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges**

The Board reviewed a memorandum that recommended revisions to specific sections of the *Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges* to provide clarity to individuals who may be approved to judge AKC Conformation events.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. Biddle, it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve two changes:

1. The Board, as recommended by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee, approved the addition of the following passage to the *Rules, Policies, and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges*, inserted as the first paragraph in the **ETHICS: HONESTY AND COMMON SENSE** section.

The AKC assumes that a judge will judge on the merits of the dogs presented to him or her and will not allow other factors to affect his or her decisions. Past and current associations will not diminish that assumption unless it becomes apparent that favoritism has entered into a judge's deliberations.

2. The Board approved **effective immediately**, the following clarification

**[P] Judges** may not accept assignments for any conformation type competition where the potential exists to judge multiple entries of the same breed prior to an assignment to judge the regular classes in that breed at the same show, circuit, weekend, or cluster. This includes but is not limited to: Sweepstakes, Futurities, any “Special Attraction” that features multiple entries of a breed, multiple-entry non-regular classes, and Coonhound Bench Shows held prior to the regular classes. Judges may accept assignments for single entry special attraction groups (Veteran, Puppy or BBE Group) and the 4-6 month Beginner Puppy Competition the days before or after having judged the regular classes for breed(s) competing in that competition.

### **Measuring Procedures Across Sports**

The Board reviewed a report on the measuring process associated with the sports of Agility and Conformation. The memorandum compared the purpose and procedures associated with measuring dogs for each sport. There was discussion if the procedures should be exactly the same across sports. After discussion, there was a sense of the Board that there was no need to modify Rules, Polices and/or Regulations.

A summary of the differences in philosophy and procedure was presented:

1. Agility measurement is to establish jump height; Conformation measurement determines if dog meets its standard or a condition of class.
2. *Agility Regulations* allow for permanent jump height to be determined by measurement from 2-3 different officials, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* clearly give sole authority to the judge on the day in the determination of whether the dog’s height conforms to the standard,
3. Agility dogs are to relax for the measurement to error on the side of safety for jumping; Conformation dogs are stacked square and at attention to get a “true measurement” of the dog’s height.
4. *Agility Regulations* acknowledge that different results may be obtained from measurements; *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* recognizes different results may be received from measurements as three measurements out from three different judges are required for a permanent effect.

### **CONSENT**

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Dok it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent Items:

#### Delegate Approvals

Cocker Spaniel Proposed Breed Standard Revision

Parent Club Performance Event – Giant Schnauzers Eligible to Earn IPO Titles

American Staffordshire Terriers – Temperament Test Title

Spaniel National Championship Field Trials – Minimum Standard of Competition

Retriever Hunting Tests – Providing Clubs Flexibility in Structuring Events

Retriever Hunting Tests – Two Technical Recommendations

Airedale Terrier Club of America – Fur Tracking and Trailing Titles

#### **Delegate Approvals**

Connie Brunell, Spangle, WA

To represent Inland Empire Kennel Club

Richard LeBeau, Pittsburgh, PA  
To represent English Toy Spaniel Club of America

Frank Meister, West Hollywood, CA  
To represent Pacific Coast Pekingese Club

Aubrey Nash, Oklahoma City, OK  
To represent Town and Country Kennel Club

Amy J. Schwoeble, Lake Wylie, SC  
To represent Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of America

Sharon Weston, Grants Pass, OR  
To represent Rogue Valley Kennel Club

### **Cocker Spaniel Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to permit the American Spaniel Club, Inc. (ASC), to ballot its membership on the proposed standard revisions for the Cocker Spaniel in accordance with its Constitution and Bylaws.

### **Parent Club Performance Event – Giant Schnauzers Eligible to Earn IPO Titles**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Giant Schnauzer Club of America to have AKC acknowledge IPO (schutzhund) titles earned in Working Riesenschnauzer Federation events.

The Giant Schnauzer Club of America does not administer their own Parent Club schutzhund events. Instead, the breed participates in titling events held by Working Riesenschnauzer Federation (WRSF). WRSF is a non-profit organization founded in 1991 in order to hold working dog events for Giant Schnauzers. The schutzhund titles that AKC will record for Giant Schnauzers are:

Begleihund BH (Obedience/Temperament test)

International Prufung (Test)

IPO1 Novice level (Schutzhund using Int'l rules)

IPO2 Intermediate Level

IPO3 Master Level

Tracking Test

FH1 Advanced Tracking

FH2 Superior Tracking

These are the same as the titles that AKC already acknowledges for several other working breeds.

### **American Staffordshire Terriers – Temperament Test Title**

The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation from the Staffordshire Terrier Club of America for the AKC to acknowledge the Temperament Test title (TT) awarded to American Staffordshire Terriers by the American Temperament Testing Society (ATTS).

Temperament is an important characteristic for any breed. The American Staffordshire Terrier parent club is being proactive by promoting the importance of temperament. The parent club asked that AKC acknowledge this title (TT) in order to have it will appear on AKC pedigrees. The American Temperament Testing Society is a national not-for-profit organization founded in 1977. ATTS provides a uniform temperament evaluation open to all dogs over 18 months of age. The test involves ten components that test for behavior toward strangers, reaction to

auditory stimuli, reaction to visual stimulus (the umbrella pop), reaction to unusual footing, and reaction to an unusually dressed threatening stranger. A dog fails if it shows panic, strong avoidance without recovery or unprovoked aggression.

### **Spaniel National Championship Field Trials – Minimum Standard of Competition**

The Board VOTED to amend the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Spaniels*, Chapter 15 to establish a minimum standard of competition for Spaniel National Championship field trials.

### **Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Spaniels**

#### CHAPTER 15

New SECTION 22. National Championships – Minimum Standard of Competition. In order to qualify as a National Championship or Amateur National Championship stake, a minimum standard of competition must be achieved. The minimum standards are: (1) There must be at least 35 starters; (2) For an Open National Championship, the minimum qualification to enter the stake shall be one placement in an AKC Open All-Age or Qualified Open All-Age stake in the three years prior to the first day of the Championship stake; (3) For an Amateur National Championship, the minimum qualification to enter the stake shall be one placement in an AKC Amateur All-Age stake in the three years prior to the first day of the Championship stake. The AKC may periodically review and update these standards.

If these minimum standards are not achieved, the stake may be held and it will count as an Open All-Age or Amateur All-Age stake.

The host Parent club may establish National Championship qualifications that exceed these minimum standards.

*Subsequent Sections in this Chapter will be renumbered.*

### **Retriever Hunting Tests – Providing Clubs Flexibility in Structuring Events**

The Board VOTED to amend the *Regulations and Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers*, Chapter 1, Section 3, to allow clubs the flexibility to provide the testing levels that best fits their needs and resources including seasonality limitations. The limitation on what a club may hold is shifted from number of events to number of testing levels.

The limitation on how many Retriever hunting tests a club may hold per calendar year is replaced with a limitation on how many of each testing level a club may hold per year.

Proposed Regulation changes (underlined)

#### CHAPTER 1

Section 3. Making Application.

Starting with paragraph #5.

A local club is permitted to hold as many events per calendar year as it desires – but no more than six Master, six Senior, and six Junior tests – provided the following requirements for testing levels offered are met. (Note: An event is defined as an event number.)

(a) A club holding two or less events per calendar year may offer Junior only or Junior/Senior level tests. A club holding two or less events per calendar year may not offer Master only tests.

(b) A club holding more than two events per calendar year may offer Master only tests provided the Junior and Senior test are each offered at least two times during the year. A club holding more than two Junior and/or Senior level tests per calendar year must offer at least one Master test during the year. No testing level may be offered more than six times per calendar year.

(c) Testing levels may be offered in any order during the year or in any combination at an event provided the club fulfills the requirements sometime during the calendar year. Clubs that

do not meet the requirements will be restricted in their flexibility to hold events and will be subject to a fine.

(d) A club holding its first licensed Retriever Hunting Test may offer a junior only or a Junior/Senior level test if it desires.

The remaining paragraphs in this section are unchanged.

### **Retriever Hunting Tests – Two Technical Recommendations**

The Board VOTED to amend the Regulations and Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers, based on recommendations from the Hunting Test Advisory Committee. These changes (underlined below) to the Regulations are effective September 1, 2017.

- 1) When judges set up a subsequent series, the new series shall be in an area sufficiently different from the previous series so as to not confuse the dogs by running them over ground used in the previous series.

#### **Guidelines for the Hunting Test Regulations for Retrievers**

##### **PART I – Hunting Test Planning, Mechanics and Setup.**

Test Dogs. Starting with paragraph #3.

When a series is discontinued after one or more dogs have run, the Judges shall exercise care to locate the new series in an area different from that which the original series was held. By doing so, they can fairly re-evaluate the abilities of the dog or dogs that have already run in the area used for the discontinued hunting situation. This same requirement applies to running separate series in a test.

- 2) Reword the distance that the birds shall be presented in a walk-up situation to state a maximum of 45 yards rather than from 35 to 45 yards. This will provide judges greater flexibility in setting up their test.

##### **Chapter 3, Section 18. Walk Ups.**

In Senior and Master hunting tests, a walk up is used to test a dog's steadiness. The birds represent a surprise situation therefore gunning stations must be well concealed, utilizing natural cover when possible so that only the bird may be seen when launched. Birds shall be presented at a maximum distance of 45 yards of the dog with no attention getting devices utilized.

The remaining paragraphs in this section are unchanged.

### **Airedale Terrier Club of America – Fur Tracking and Trailing Titles**

The Board VOTED to approve a request from the Airedale Terrier Club of America (ATCA). The ATCA is asking for AKC to recognize three titles as part of the AKC Parent Club Performance Event Title Recognition Program that are offered in the ATCA's fur tracking and trailing test. This test is non-competitive and measures the ability of an Airedale to track the scent trail of quarry accurately to a treed location.

The three levels offered are - Junior, Senior and Master. Each test level is scored on a scale of 0 to 10 in 5 specific elements – striking, tracking, treeing, staying, and determination. To earn a qualifying score, a dog cannot receive less than 5 in any one element and the overall average of all abilities must be greater than 7. A qualifying score is needed to earn a title in any given level. The titles earned and that will be recognized are called:

Junior Fur Tracker = JFT

Senior Fur Tracker = SFT

Master Fur Tracker = MFT

### **Obedience and Rally Apparel in the Ring**

This memo removed from the Consent agenda for discussion.

The Board discussed a recommendation from the Companion Events Staff to allow exhibitors and ring stewards to wear club clothing, AKC event clothing, or clothing displaying the person's name, the dog's call name and/or the dog's picture. The dog's titles would not be allowed, nor would writing or graphics be allowed that was in poor taste or in conflict with a sponsor of the event. This is consistent with the governing regulations for the AKC Agility and Tracking programs and would make all Companion Events programs the same.

Following a motion from Mr. Wooding, seconded by Mr. Powers it was VOTED unanimously to amend (changes underlined below) the Obedience and Rally Regulations to allow for the recommendation.

### **OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS**

Chapter 1. General Regulations

Section 10. Identification. Club clothing, AKC event clothing, or breed clothing may be worn by anyone exhibiting a dog or by ring stewards. Clothing may display the person's name, the dog's call name and/or the dog's picture. Titles may not be displayed. Writing or graphics on the clothing must not be in poor taste or contain profanity. Clothing must not display any information that would be in conflict with a sponsor of the trial.

### **RALLY REGULATIONS**

Chapter 1. General Regulations

Section 9. Identification. Club clothing, AKC event clothing, or breed clothing may be worn by anyone exhibiting a dog or by ring stewards. Clothing may display the person's name, the dog's call name and/or the dog's picture. Titles may not be displayed. Writing or graphics on the clothing must not be in poor taste or contain profanity. Clothing must not display any information that would be in conflict with a sponsor of the trial.

The Board adjourned at 4:57p.m.

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Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, August 9, 2017 at 9:05 am.

All Directors were present as was the Executive Secretary.

### **REAL ESTATE UPDATE**

The Board was presented with a real estate update by Mr. Sprung. Also participating in this update were Jan Gross, Principal and Mission Critical Practice Area Leader, M. Arthur Gensler Jr. & Associates, Inc., Rich Speciale of AEQUITAS, LLC, Cathy Dixon, VVA Project Managers and Consultants, and Davis Alexis, AKC Project Manger.

**Raleigh, NC:** AKC is negotiating a new 10-year lease. AKC is planning to surrender approximately 5,000 additional square feet on the third floor in July 2019.

**New York, NY:** AKC has executed a 20-year Lease at 101 Park Avenue for the AKC Headquarters and the museum on behalf of the AKC Museum of the Dog. The headquarters will be located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor and the AKC Museum located on Ground and 3<sup>rd</sup> Floors (contiguous). Key milestone targets for the build out of the spaces were reviewed, including necessary permitting requirements. Everything is on schedule. Current plans are for the Headquarters to open on or about the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2018 and for the Museum to open in the first quarter of 2019. Blocking Plans for the Museum were reviewed as were the test fit details for the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

### **Judging Approval Process**

The Chairman had appointed a committee to evaluate the current Judging Approval system with a plan to recommend changes which will improve the current process. As a temporary

placeholder, while the committee reviews and makes recommended changes to policy, there was a sense of the Board that there should be an immediate limit on the number of breeds that could be applied for per application.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Carota, the Board VOTED (unanimously) that : effective immediately, applications for additional breeds may not exceed a request for approval of 10 breeds in any one submission. All other parameters and criteria of the current Board policy remain intact at this time. This action is a result of the Board's concern with the rate at which breeds are currently approved and in consideration of the Chairman's recent appointment of a committee to review the current Judging Approval Process and recommend modification to improve the current policy. The limit will remain in effect while the Judging Approval Process is under review and until such time the Board shall determine to remove the limit, or modifications to the policy are adopted that would supplant its effect.

The Board also discussed the 80/20% Group Policy. There was a sense of the Board that the system was disrespectful of those who own and breed the lower entry breeds that fall into the 20%. Following a motion by Ms. Cruz, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) that: Effective immediately no further requests for eligibility to judge the group competition based on approval of breeds constituting at least 80% of the entries in that group will be accepted. Requests received, but not yet approved, will not be acted upon. Group eligibility will remain for those previously approved under this policy along with the previous requirement to gain approval for the balance of the breeds within three years of their first group assignment. The Board was clear in stating their unanimous actions were made in the best interest of the sport and for the betterment of purebred dogs.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Trophies Offered in Honor of a Dog or Person**

The Board discussed the AKC Board Policy regarding awarding trophies in honor of living dogs or people. The AKC Policy Manual dated March 1995, states that trophies for dogs may only be offered in memory of deceased dogs. For a person, trophies may be offered in memory of deceased persons or in honor of a person who is no longer an active breeder, exhibitor, or member of the club.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Cruz, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to instruct staff to review the policy and present to the Board their recommendation in October.

### **Allow Spayed/Neutered Veterans Conformation Champions to Compete in BOB Class.**

Mr. Carota advised the Board that he was approached by several Delegates, as well as individuals in the fancy and his parent club, about changing the Dog Show Rules to permit Spayed/Neutered Veterans that are Champions of Record to compete in Best of Breed at all breed events.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, August 8, at 11:24 p.m.

Adjourned

Attest:

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Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary