

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
Delegates Zoom Meeting
September 15, 2020

Voting for the Delegate Standing Committees was conducted by electronic ballot.

The Delegate Forum topic was “Review of the Current State of Genetic Testing – A Living Resource” presented by Dr. Anita Oberbauer, Professor, Department of Animal Science and Associate Dean, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of California, Davis.

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) at the conclusion of the Delegate Forum.

Mr. Sprung opened the meeting with the following remarks:

Thank you, Susan Hamil, Dr. Oberbauer and Karolynne McAteer for that outstanding Delegate Forum presentation. Today is a new frontier for us as we share the responsibility of a successful meeting using learning curves of technology for 12 votes. Having attending meetings for 39 years, as a delegate and on staff, this is the most votes that I or anyone else can recall. We will get through this together. Please be patient, as the recognition of delegates desiring to talk, the voting process and the announcement of results, will each be different than what we are accustomed to. By collaborating, we will navigate these uncharted waters, and do well. Thank you to everyone on staff behind the scenes. Particularly, Tim, Wlad, Paula, Bob and Amy. Any Delegate who has not voted for the Delegate Standing Committees, please use the electronic ballot that was sent to you by email. The voting window will close promptly at 12:30 p.m. Eastern Time. Voting will be processed through Survey Monkey and the tabulation of ballots will be overseen by our accounting firm, KPMG.

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary, explained the Zoom Webinar functionality for the meeting as follows: I wanted to give you a little bit more information about the features of this meeting. We will be using select interactive tools. *Raise Your Hand* function. *Raise Your Hand* indicates that you wish to speak. You will be acknowledged in the order that your hands are raised. You will be asked to unmute when it's time for you to speak. Keep your hand raised until called upon or lower your hand, if you decide not to speak. *Polls* are launched live to conduct votes for new member clubs and amendments. The *Poll* will appear on your screen when it's time for you to vote. *Q & A* is only to be used for issues regarding Parliamentary procedure, such as to second a motion. If any Delegate has technical issues during the meeting, please call the Zoom Tech Support line at 919-816-3320. I will repeat that, 919-816-3320.

Mr. Sprung introduced Chairman, Dr. Thomas M. Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Executive Secretary, Gina DiNardo; Professional Registered Parliamentarian, Joan Corbisiero and Jessica DiLallo, the Court Reporter.

The Chair announced the recent passing of Nancy Perrell on July 19, 2020 who was the Delegate for the Scottsdale Dog Fanciers Association from 2000 to 2016 and Superstition Kennel Club since 2017.

The Chair offered condolences for the passing of Bruce Korson, who was the Delegate for the Tri-City Kennel Club from April 1996 to April 18, 2020, when he passed.

Sympathies were extended by the Chair in the passing of Sally Vilas on December 27, 2019. She was the Delegate for the American Shih Tzu Club from August 2007 until she died.

The Executive Secretary read the names of the Delegate seated since the June meeting:

Roy 'Ed' Degner, Montclair, CA to represent California Collie Clan

Debra Jo Ferguson-Jones, Renton, WA to represent Richmond Dog Fanciers Club

Kathleen C. Gottschalk, East Greenbush, NY to represent Albany Kennel Club

Joao Luiz Lopes Machado, Tumble, TX to represent Chihuahua Club of America

Brenda Jean (BJ) Parsons, DVM, Zirconia, NC to represent English Setter Association of America

Melissa A. Robison, Sacramento, CA to represent Santa Cruz Kennel Club

Susan M. Weigel, Clifton, NJ to represent Saint Bernard Club of America

The following new Delegate introductions were given by the Executive Secretary in lieu of those from the floor:

Joann B. Beavers, St. Michaels, Maryland, representing Talbot Kennel Club

Joann has been elected as a Delegate of the Talbot Kennel Club located in Richmond Maryland. Replacing Pam Helmer – an impossible job – who served in this capacity for a number of years. Joann has had an Australian Shepherds for over 40 years. She has actively shown in Conformation for 30 years. Before her legs gave out, she finished 15 dogs, five from Bred-By and put CDs on three dogs. She has also lost a contact lens on down and back, lost a few articles of clothing and fallen spectacularly on several occasions. Joann has been instructor at Talbot Kennel Club for many years and serves as assistant all-breed show chairman.

Debra Ferguson-Jones, Renton, Washington, representing Richmond Dog Fanciers Club

Debra is an AKC Judge in the Toy and Non-Sporting Groups, and many of the Terrier Breeds. Debra's dogs have won well over 150 All-Breed Best in Shows, and the Poodle Club of America National Specialty twice. Debra lives in the greater Seattle area. Outside of the dog world, Debra is a developer of single-family neighborhoods.

Kathleen C. Gottschalk, East Greenbush, New York, representing Albany Kennel Club

KC is originally from Rye, New York moving to Albany area 30 years ago. She served as an Elementary School Principal until retiring, allowing her to devote more time to her dog adventures. KC is an active member of the Albany Kennel Club, where she serves as Secretary and Editor of the club newsletter. She is also a member of the Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, the Albany Obedience Club and the Steward's Club of Upstate New York. KC has owned and loved Soft-Coated Wheaten Terriers for 20 years. The first Wheaten caused her to fall in love with the breed and enter into the world of Conformation. KC has had three Wheatens, all of which have advanced to the Grand Championship level. All were Owner-Handled.

Brenda Jean Parsons, DVM, Zirconia, North Carolina, representing English Setter Association of America.

BJ is a small animal veterinarian with a special interest in reproduction. She has been breeding English Setters for over 40 years. Having bred over 100 champions, BJ has also titled dogs in Obedience, Rally and Tracking in the field. She is a licensed AKC Conformation Judge, and also judges pointing breeds tests. BJ is a long-standing member of the English Setters Association of America. She has also been a member of various breed and all-breed clubs through the years.

The Minutes of the March 10, 2020 Delegate Meeting were published in the online April 2020 AKC *Gazette* and a complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

The Minutes of the June 25, 2020 Delegate Zoom Meeting were published in the online July 2020 AKC *Gazette*. The complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

Sherwood Dog Training Club was duly elected as a member of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas Davies presented the Chairman's Report as follows:

Hello, everybody, and thank you for joining us for the second virtual meeting of our Delegate body. The onset of Autumn is usually a time when we celebrate the return of events in cooler climates when the heat of the summer is replaced by the hint of turning leaves, and yet here we are, with this terrible pandemic hampering our ability to enjoy sports we love. Clubs are challenged by changing rules that are beyond anyone's control. Breeders, exhibitors, handlers and judges are struggling with all the uncertainty, and yet we must carry on.

In a world of challenges to sports and businesses alike, management has done more than keep the status quo and making sure the lights are on. In the words of JFK, "There are risks and costs to action. But they are far less than the long-range risks of comfortable inaction."

In some areas of the country, AKC Clubs have been able to apply equal measures of hard work and favorable conditions to achieve successful conformation clusters during this difficult period. Adapting social distancing practices and enforcing the use of face coverings have enabled clubs in Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Ohio, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Kansas to bring back a taste

of what we have all been missing for so many months. As we know, executing an event is a complex effort, even at the best of times, so we're grateful for what they have accomplished, and we congratulate them.

To assist all clubs in their efforts to manage the current situation, the Club Development Department continues to be a guiding light. Staff is leveraging every communication channel, including social media, show chairs, show committees and all interested fanciers to facilitate each aspect of events, including procedures, confirming dates, checking conflicts and more. Everyone is welcome to join moderated conversations on Facebook and Twitter to share information, compare experiences and learn from one another. As the saying goes, we're all in this together, if we're in it at all. So, let's keep the dialogue going.

For the vast majority of our clubs have not been able to proceed with events, and our exhibitors, handlers and judges are sidelined, know that we're here for you. Technology, for better or worse, is one constant during this time, and we're determined to apply its best features to rekindle, at least some parts for our dog life. We have held two virtual dog shows, which have been a novel way to combine at-home handling and with charitable donations to worthy causes, including Take the Lead and AKC Reunite "Adopt a K9 Cop" program. Opportunities in Companion dog programs are booming online with virtual tricks, a new Home Manners program, Rally Novice and Intermediate classes, and Agility ACT classes. We're also motivating dog lovers to stay active by participating in AKC Fit Dog. A consumer targeted social campaign, called "Woof from Home", offers a new activity for dog owners to try at home each day, resulting in terrific engagement with the public and many new impressions for AKC brand on Facebook and Instagram. At AKC, we're always innovating because we dog people believe "Where there is no hope, it is incumbent upon us to invent it".

And because we know there will come a time when dog shows will return, we're ramping up continuing education opportunities more than ever before. When it comes to refreshing knowledge and sharpening skills, downtime is the best time. Last March, AKC's Judging Operations and Education Departments began offering judges free educational breed webinars, hosted by parent clubs. Seventy-eight breeds have been presented to nearly 23,000 live attendees so far. And recordings have been watched more than 5,000 times. Webinars continue weekly on Tuesday evenings. Join us and spread the word about these superb learning experiences. After researching numerous ideas, so many new opportunities now exist, each launched after management's careful review. As stated by Steve Jobs, "I'm as proud of many of the things we haven't done as the things we have done. Innovation is saying no to a thousand things."

I would also like to encourage you to join us for an AKC tradition going online for the first time. You can celebrate responsible dog ownership and there will be a Facebook event on September 17th from 11:00 A.M. to 3:15 P.M. Share this information with your membership, so that we can get as many people to join us and celebrate our dogs and the care we put into them. Let's embrace this time as best as we can, for our own sake and the sake of our dogs.

Also let's use this time to double down on our messaging, and our mission to advance this sport of purebred dogs. We all know the lockdown has created tremendous demand for puppies everywhere. Searches on Marketplace have increased by 85% compared to this time last year.

Fortunately, for AKC, registration of litters and dogs continues to grow. Unfortunately, so is the demand for designer dogs and the "need it now" mentality that goes along with it. Breeders of AKC registerable purebred dogs must mobilize, make plans and share information among one another, if we're to have any hope for helping prospective puppy owners to choose a purebred dog. Yes, many of us have built solid waiting lists over many years of successful breeding programs, but don't let that stop you from helping families find purebred dogs. Share the good news of litters in your community. Keep your club referral page active. Check in with parent club breed rescue contacts, encourage new and long-term breeders in your clubs, and certainly, if a litter fits into your plans, AKC's Registration and Breeder Development Departments stand ready to assist you.

These are challenging times for us all, there's no doubt. But as Teddy Roosevelt once said, "when you're at the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on." And we must hang on. As we head towards the end of the year, let's do all we can to keep ourselves and our dogs safe and engaged. If you're able, support clubs that can hold events responsibly. Work with your dogs and hone your ring craft. Try a virtual event. Whether they're under the eye of a judge or resting besides us on the couch, our dogs mean the world to us and times at home with them can only deepen the bonds that we share.

I would like to leave you with a few random final thoughts. American Kennel Club is a tricameral organization. Management and Staff, Board of Directors, and Delegate body. During these trying and uncertain times, we have all worked well together to achieve our goals.

As an old proverb once said, "when life hands you lemons, make lemonade." Benjamin Franklin echoed that more eloquently when he said, "out of adversity comes opportunity." You frequently hear, Carpe Diem. The real meaning of Horace's quote is – Do all you can do today to make tomorrow better. Let's continue to innovate. Together we will win this battle. Thank you and be safe.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President's Report as follows:

During my career, I have been privileged to establish ways of recognizing people in our sport. The Medallion Program for delegates, judges, show chairs, breeders. The Lifetime Achievement Awards in performance, companion and conformation. The Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. I initiated these programs because of my belief that we have a responsibility to honor our own community. In 2015, the Visionary Awards came to be. These awards celebrate individuals whose vision and contributions have been responsible for change and forward movement in our organization. Their collective efforts have protected our right to own and breed dogs; shared AKC's dedication and love of dogs with the general public and educate today's and tomorrow's owners on responsible ownership. Since I began the Visionary Awards, each was presented to delegates. Today we will pivot to staff who are also leaders of the AKC Universe. In our Mission Statement, the first two items address registration and sports.

Over many years, registration was escalating; in the early 1990's, based upon internal decisions, it began a decades-long slide. A new hire starting in the Internal Consulting Group and was transferred to the Registration Department 8 years ago. Since that fortuitous move we have experienced increases in litters for the past 7 years coupled with 6 years of individual dog

growth. These visionary achievements have been on multi-department effort; however, one individual led the crusade. He immersed himself in every aspect of the field of registration addressing each sector with respect and quality customer care. Reversing the downward spiral was a difficult task. Nevertheless, his insightful steps enabled him to do well for the Great American Kennel Club, and most importantly our dogs are the recipients of his success, I thank Executive Vice President Mark Dunn.

After decades as a participant and student of Performance Events, he joined us in 2007, as Vice President of Sports & Events, with the ability to lead a large dedicated staff, responsible for 26 sports, some that he incorporated into our world. During this time, his knowledge of companion and conformation has blossomed. In fact, just last year, we set a record with over 3,310,000 entries. If you desire knee-jerk answers to very complicated questions, don't talk with him. If, however, you should seek well thought out and logically approached response, with multiple informed recommendations, he is your go-to person. He is a dedicated hard-working leader of the Executive Committee – Executive Vice President Doug Ljungren is there for you. Congratulations, Doug.

We have a good doctor. She's an all-rounder when it comes to behavior and training encompassing dogs and humans. The years of success in Canine Good Citizen expanded into a vision with a host of offerings as Family Dog and garners positive reviews from fanciers and the public alike. In a July Board memo Doug singled out two recent items. This Director became fascinated with the question of whether temperament is something that can be modified. She wrote a paper that was accepted for publication in the International Journal of Comparative Psychology. For encores, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine has as its charge to contribute to the welfare of the nation by providing evidence-based counsel on complex questions in these fields. They contacted her, and after extensive credential checks related to humans and canine behavior, invited her to be on the committee to review the Department of Veterans Affairs research study on the "Potential Therapeutic Effects of Service and Emotional Support Dogs on Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. That is Dr Mary Burch. Congratulations Mary.

The next recipient is a basin of knowledge in the world of Government Relations and is a workaholic on behalf of breeders and owners. She also has the decided advantage of being a dog person with a recent litter of Siberian Huskies. Typically, like many of us, she is a Fulbright Scholar. Her devotion to sharing facts with our constituency helps numerous people in our sport – breeders, exhibitors, owners, Delegates and clubs within their respective communities. Over the last few years she is credited for modernizing her department with extensive amounts of easy-to-navigate real time data as well as doubling the size of her staff to serve you better. Congratulations, Sheila Goffe.

Born into the sport and an employee for 29 years, this woman continually does a great deal for the fanciers of tomorrow. She spearheads the ongoing effort to promote Junior Showmanship and thereby the future of our sports; she too excelled as a Junior. This is but one of many responsibilities as she provides critical answers to the concerns of our core constituency daily.

Her broad background brings knowledge to others based on being an exhibitor, breeder, club official, Delegate and judge. She sets the example by providing a multitude of quality services with experience and dedication. Of course, it's Mari-Beth O'Neill.

Another woman born into the sport, is with us for 23 years. She is a leader throughout the corporation and the very first female Executive Secretary in our history. When I created the AKC Humane Fund in 2006 with Board concurrence, my intention was to broaden our brand in several new areas, by promoting AKC and the human-animal bond through outreach, education and grants. However, it was this person's vision, that brought the Humane Fund to a higher calling when she recommended that grants also be made to women shelters – assisting those subjected to domestic abuse and their dogs. A brilliant idea that has resulted in more than 175 grants, making the Humane Fund the leader of the field. My appreciation to Gina DiNardo for that vision, her work on America's National Championship, AKC.tv, Meet the Breeds and the management of several departments.

I am extraordinarily proud of the first six staff Visionary Award recipients, Mark, Doug, Mary, Sheila, Mari-Beth and Gina.

A second item. Due to the effect worldwide on events, I became very concerned about what will happen to our national specialty winners being invited to Crufts. As you know parent club best of breed, best of opposite, awards of merit, selects and best bred-by-exhibitor are eligible. So, I reached out to our friends over the pond beginning with Tony Allcock, Chairman of the Kennel Club, and after a number of discussions, I received confirmation by Crufts Show Chair, Tom Mather, that parent club winners of either one or two Nationals in 2021, will qualify for Crufts 2022. Thank you to our close friends at the Kennel Club, God Save the Queen.

Chief Financial Officer, Ted Phillips, gave the Financial Report as follows:

To our Delegates, thank you for attending today's meeting. We appreciate your time and your support. In June, I introduced a new report format to you, and hope you found the information easy to read. We continue to refine these slides, while using the same focus points of key performance indicators and financial results. We intend to present a slide deck, which gives you relevant information on financial activities and conditions.

This report will focus on year-to-date information for the period ending July 31, 2020, and present comparative information for the same period in 2019. When relevant, we will also include references to the 2020 budget. For our registration statistics, we're happy to report data through August 31, 2020.

As we reported in June, we are again pleased to report positive results for Litter and Dog Registrations. This chart provides a monthly view of litter registrations for the eight months ended August 31, 2020, with comparisons to the same period in 2019. Year-to-date litter registrations are almost 186,000 or 7% higher than, then the same period in 2019. In addition, our registration staff reported that the month of August 2020 was 14% better than the prior year's month and our best month since 2009.

Turning to dog registration statistics, please note that year-to-date registrations totaled almost 471,000 dogs which is 16% higher than the same period in 2019. For the month of August, dog registrations were 20% better than August 2019. Finally, our staff also noted that this was best August for dog registrations since 2007. We want to thank our breeders, the entire Delegate body, the Board of Directors, management, and staff for this achievement.

As we have all experienced, 2020 has been a year on hold. AKC is not immune and has felt the impact of canceled events and fewer entries. Year to date, July 31, 2020, our events and entries were lower than the same period in 2019, by 59% and 55% respectively. We look forward to that when we return to those many – many wonderful sanctioned events, sanction licensed and member events, that are our hallmark.

Next, we will review the financial operating results for the seven months ending July 31, 2020 and compare those to budget for the same period and to the same period in 2019. We begin with reporting net income year-to-date, as of July 31, 2020, of \$6.8 million dollars. This reflects increased registration revenues, pedigree and other litter fees, event application fees, title recognition and other enrollment fees, as well as merchandise -- product sales and sponsorship revenues that added to the bottom line. We have included the 2020 Budget data for comparison to highlight the impact of cost containment measures introduced in April of this year by management.

Here are some key points before we look at individual lines. Year-to-date revenue is 2.5% lower than the 2020 budget, due to the offset of increased registration revenues against events and entries revenue. Total expenses are 15% lower than budget for the 7 months ending July 31, 2020, and 4% lower than the prior years for the same period. In the next two slides, we will review the regular expense lines that supports these results.

This slide represents AKC's significant revenue lines with a comparison of the year to date actual, budget and prior year in each column. Total year-to-date revenues from registration fees are 15% higher than the prior year. This is led by dog registration revenue of \$2.9 million dollars. We note that the recording and service fees revenue is lower by 55% or \$3.8 million versus the prior year. The next slide presents and summarizes pedigree, event application, title recognition and other enrollment fees. Please note this is 16% higher than the same period in 2019. Finally, our product and sales line is 29% higher than 2019; this is led by merchandise sales and admission fees. Admission Fees are from the Meet the Breeds event held at the Javits Center in January of 2020; product and service sales come from both e-commerce and traditional fulfillment methods.

Controllable expenses are noted on this slide, comparing the seven months ending July 31, 2020, versus the prior period. Overall, total expenses are down 15% versus budget and down 3.4% versus 2019. Cost containment measures lower each of these expense lines except for two, which focus on fulfillment cost and grants to other organizations. Fulfillment costs are the expenses that support product and service sales. Since that revenue has increased, as we noted earlier, this line also increased as the two activities are correlated. Grants have increased, as we continue to support the Canine Health Foundation and Museum of the Dog.

Cost containment measures taken in 2020 in response to the pandemic are displayed in the following expense lines: Travel has been reduced by 60% or \$1 million dollars, Promotion by 28% or \$542,000, Professional fees by 7.7% or \$419,000, and staff costs by 8.5% or \$1.6 million dollars. And just to clarify, these are comparisons for the same period of 2019.

On this slide, we present investment performance and we are fortunate that we have very good investment consultants that provides us with detailed information and excellent application strategies. Here we are looking at a bar graph that reports performance and a pie chart that shows how AKC's investments are broadly diversified to manage market risk fluctuations. Investment performance results as of July 31st was positive, up by 1.56%; when compared to the weighted balance index, which was negative by 2.33%, the AKC portfolio beat the benchmarks by 3.8%. This is an outstanding performance as a result of asset allocation strategy, focused on a broad base of U.S. and international equity investments, which comprise 63% of the portfolio. Fixed income makes up 20% and private equity assets make up 15%. Overall, this is excellent performance in what we have seen in this very volatile and uncertain financial markets.

Our organization is represented by this balance sheet and AKC is in a good position. Here are the balance sheets or statements of financial position as of July 31, 2020 and 2019. Total assets are \$135 million, which is lower than July 2019, for specific reasons. The notable changes are due to decreases to reduce debt and capital leases. Investment dollars were used at a time were the markets were at a 2019 high. AKC paid down on the leases and outstanding debt which was related to the build out of the New York City office space and Museum of the Dog. The overall financial condition has demonstrated on this balance sheet of the American Kennel Club, is healthy due to cost containment measures, positive performance of registration, investment performance and other revenue generated activities. Thank you for your time today. We appreciate your dedication to the AKC and look forward to serving you. I am available to answer any questions at your convenience via e-mail or telephone. Thank you.

(There was a 10-minute recess.)

The Chair advised the Delegates that the meeting would resume and asked the Executive Secretary to review the Zoom Webinar tools.

Ms. DiNardo: I want to remind everyone about the select interactive features we will be using for this meeting. *Raise Hand* function, please use that button to indicate that you wish to speak. You will be acknowledged in the order that your hands are raised. You will be asked to unmute when it is time to speak. Keep your hand raised until called upon or lower your hand if you decide not to speak. *Polls* are launched live to conduct votes for new member clubs and amendments. The *Poll* will appear on your screen. Please indicate your vote. The *Q & A* function is only to be used for issues regarding Parliamentary procedures, such as to second a motion.

The first vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2, Section 10* – Making Application to Hold a Dog Show, which generalizes the language by removing the references to

a form and whether the futurity or sweepstakes will be open to nonmembers, providing flexibility to remain consistent with any modification to the application procedures without further amendment to the Rule. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* **Chapter 3, Section 8-A** – Dog Show Classifications, which proposes a new Section 8-A that would create a new class, Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy, to be offered at conformation dog shows at the discretion of the club. This class will provide the opportunity for breeders to exhibit their puppies in an age appropriate class without risk of sacrificing their opportunity to attain the Bred-by-Exhibitor medallion. The amendment was proposed by a member of the Board of Directors and presented by staff and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Virginia Denninger, Delegate for the Genesee Valley Kennel Club spoke as follows: My Kennel Club has instructed me to vote “No”, and to send it back to the Committee. They felt that this would be something that would be really excellent for National specialties and specialty shows, but would be unwieldy dealing with the All-Breed shows, and add up too much time and cost to the All-Breed clubs. Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. May I just point out, it is at the option of the clubs. This is not an impasse. This is not a mandate. This is an option.

Anne Hier, Delegate for the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan spoke as follows: What is the effective date of this application, if it passes? And can specialty clubs who have already applied for their applications for next year, can we add it on additionally.

Mr. Sprung: The answer to the second part is, yes, you can add it on. Doug, do we have an effective date?

Doug Ljungren, AKC EVP, Sports & Events spoke as follows: The effective date is January 1, 2021.

Jacquelyn Fogel, Delegate for the Kettle Moraine Kennel Club spoke as follows: My club looked at this issue the last meeting, and their concern was that it would be nearly impossible in All-Breed Clubs to implement without further Guidelines. It complicates everything from – who is considered for Best Puppy, to what kind of ribbons. We do offer awards for puppies. Does everybody in the class get one? We just felt that this was a nice idea. A lot of us liked the idea and concept, but that it would be very, very difficult to implement. So, I have been instructed to vote, “No”.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were not two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was not adopted.

The vote applying to *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 3, Section 3* – Dog Show Classifications, was no longer required, due to the rejection of the proposal to **Chapter 3, Section 8-A**.

The vote on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 3, Section 11* – Dog Show Classifications, was no longer required, also due to the rejection of the proposal to **Chapter 3, Section 8-A**.

The next vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 9* – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, which replaces current language with generalized language eliminating references to specific communicable diseases, so that the revised section would address any health issues or diseases currently being experienced. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Don Adams, Delegate for the Cudahy Kennel Club spoke as follows: What is the remedy if a dog with a communicable disease is found to be on the grounds in violation of the rules – are the awards withheld?

Mr. Ljungren: I would think on a practical basis, if the dog is determined to have a communicable disease, the club should immediately ask the dog and the owner to leave the grounds. If the owner refuses to do that, that would be a basis for a misconduct hearing. If there is any belief that the person brought the dog knowing it had a communicable disease, I would say that is basis for a misconduct hearing. I hope that answers the question.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Cindy Stansell, Delegate for the Finnish Spitz Club of America spoke as follows: To answer Don's question. Chapter 15, Section 1 has a protest for ill dogs. So, it is covered currently under that rule.

Carolyn Vack, Delegate for the Lancaster Kennel Club spoke as follows: I just wanted to be sure that the intent of this was to eliminate the exposure – the thirty-day exposure window from the rules.

Mr. Sprung: It is to eliminate any exposure to any dogs on the event grounds.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Jacquelyn Fogel, Delegate for the Kettle Moraine Club spoke as follows: My question is, who is going to determine whether a dog actually has a communicable disease? Is it going to be a veterinarian onsite? Is it just going to be somebody who was complaining that they thought a dog had kennel cough? What about diseases like COVID-19 that – there may be people carrying a disease but they're asymptomatic? I just think this is opening up a huge can of worms and it's going to cause exhibitor problems where people complain about a perceived communicable disease, just to create trouble. I think we need a little more clarity on exactly who will be determining whether an animal actually has a communicable disease or not.

Mr. Sprung: That would be the Event Committee, who has the authority to consult a veterinarian, should they choose.

Susan Hamil, Delegate for the Shoreline Dog Fanciers Association of Orange County, California spoke as follows: The Canine Health Committee approves this amendment. One of the reasons we wanted to change it, was because we cannot always identify what communicable disease, if it's a communicable disease. There is no way to enforce the rule as it stands now because it would involve diagnostic testing, which we didn't have when the rules were put into *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*. So, I understand everybody's concern, but as the rule is now standing, it's not – what we have now is not working, and this will be a much better alternative.

Cindy Stansell, Delegate for the Finnish Spitz Club of America spoke as follows: To answer the one question, Chapter 15, Section 1 says that the show veterinarian is responsible for determining whether there is a communicable disease.

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke as follows: We worked very closely with the Canine Health Committee, to make sure that this wording was acceptable to everybody, especially veterinarians, because they were the ones that have to deal with this. We think that the Canine Health Committee did a great job in coming up with this wording acceptable to a veterinarian and the dog world. I am encouraging everybody to vote "Yes" for this.

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club spoke as follows: Okay. My question is this, I understand the concept of it, however, I have been showing for 38 years. I have never ever been asked to show proof of Rabies Certificate or anything at a show. I feel, let's go back to the root of the problem, and that something should be added. Some amendment or something added to this. Clubs really, really need to start checking for health certificates before, you know, when people come to a show. Because this causes problems. Rather than trying to solve something after the fact, there should be something before there are issues. Thank you very much.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Barbara Burns, Delegate for the Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club spoke as follows: My question is, is this the only way this can be enforced when there is a vet at the event? If there is no vet at the event, there is no way of enforcing it. Is my assumption correct on that?

Mr. Sprung: Correct. This would have nothing to do with dogs in your kennel, in your transport etc. This would be at an event.

Ms. Burns: I am being misunderstood. You're talking about that there is a dog at the event that shows signs of these illnesses, is there a way to prove that if there is no vet on those premises? Am I correct on that?

Mr. Sprung: At some shows, yes. At some shows, no. Veterinarians are not in attendance at every show. They are often times on-call.

Ms. Burns: So, my question is then, if there is no vet there, there is no way of enforcing this particular rule, am I right in that?

Mr. Sprung: It depends whether or not there is a veterinarian in attendance or on-call. Often times veterinarians are on-call and they do come to the venue.

Don Schwartz, Delegate for the Durango Kennel Club spoke as follows: I am a veterinarian and a member of the Canine Health Committee. This is the best way that this rule could be communicated to the fancy. If a club – and this is just my assumption, if a club wanted you to present vaccination certificates or carry them with you, I imagine they can put that in the premium list, but we could go round and round and round with this rule. This is the best way it can be communicated to the fancy. Thank you.

Dr. Charles Garvin, Delegate for the Dalmatian Club of America spoke as follows: The questions that were brought up or regarding detection of this and enforcement of this and be reminded that the current rule does not – detection does not mention enforcement. Just like all the dog show rules, there are many, many rules. This is only pertaining to this one particular section, defining what the exhibitor should do and what dogs should not be on the premises. Discussion on this has literally been going on for a year, and several Delegate Committees. And just as an example, when the discussion on this paragraph started, COVID-19 did not exist. The basic concept is listing specific disease is not appropriate. But what is appropriate, is given the general guidelines that the communicable disease – a dog with a communicable disease should not be on the show grounds and the exhibitor should follow the veterinarian's recommendations. This does not solve all the problems and all the questions, but it is the best improvement of this particular section for Dog Show Rules. So, it should be voted in favor.

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke as follows: I want to give a huge thanks to Dr. Garvin and Dr. Schwartz, who really explained it all. First off, enforcement is in a different section of the rules. What we're only doing is dealing with this Chapter 11, Section 9. And second of all, all clubs have a right to ask

for vaccination records or Rabies Certificates, if you want that information before coming onto your grounds. So, I say we call the question and take a vote.

There was a motion to vote to call the question which was seconded.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative to call the question.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the original amendment; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 3* – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards, which modifies text for additional clarity, as to when an entry may or may not be measured, the judge's procedural responsibilities and the impact on any dog measured out and associated limitations when measured out for condition of class. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 4* – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards, which modifies text for additional clarity as to when an entry may or may not be weighed, the judge's procedural responsibilities and the impact on any dog weighed out and associated limitations when weighed out for conditions of the class. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval of the Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 6* – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards, which modifies text for additional clarity, as to obligations concerning disqualifications and conditions of class related to color and markings, the judge's procedural responsibilities and any impact on the dogs concerning future events.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 6-A* – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or

Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards, which proposes the insertion of a new Section 6-A, which would have the effect of adding language specific to a judge's authority in classes where the condition of class is other than height, weight, color or markings. Approval of this proposal by the Delegates would then require approval of the corresponding proposal to **Chapter 15, Section 2**, to allow for protest by competing exhibitors in the same class. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval of the AKC Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote is on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* **Chapter 15, Section 2** – Protests Against Dogs. This proposal was based on the approval of consistent language in **Chapter 14, Section 6-A**. It adds the proposed new Section 6-A to the list of sections where conditions of class are to allow for protest by competing exhibitors in the same class. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* **Chapter 16, Section 6** – Championships, which assigns the same logic to grand championship points as championship points at independent specialties with inter-variety competition, as defined in Chapter 16, Section 3. It also inserts language into the section defining, that at independent specialty shows for breeds divided into recognized varieties and offering a Best of Breed competition, the dog awarded Best of Breed, would receive the highest number of grand championship points awarded in any variety at the specialty show. The dog awarded Best of Opposite, would receive the highest number of grand championship points awarded in its sex, in any variety at the specialty show. The amendment was proposed by Staff, endorsed by the Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Linda Deutsch, Delegate for the Plainfield Kennel Club spoke as follows: I am wondering if there is a particular reason why this would only be applicable in independent specialties and not designated specialties?

Alan Slay, AKC Director, Event Programs spoke as follows: The judging itself is covered by the All-Breed shows. The designated does not have its own judging.

Barbara Shaw, Delegate for the Greater Collin Kennel Club spoke as follows: I am trying to understand it. You are saying Mr. Slay, that if the specialty club selects a judge, then that becomes an acceptable position in which to do this? There are many breed clubs that are small

and chose the designated specialty opportunity, but it's still too small for a sweepstakes. So, I am not understanding why this would not be supported for a designated specialty. I would rather like the idea of amending the language to include independent and designated. If there is something other than selection of a judge, I would like to know what that process would be or what supports that? Thank you.

Mr. Slay: For the designated specialty, the club may be selecting the judge as part of the All-Breed panel and not part of the designated specialty panel. So, while they do have their judge picked for their sweepstakes, quite often with the designated the judge itself, as part of the All-Breed panel, not the designated specialty.

Ms. Shaw: Thank you.

Tim Thomas, AKC Vice President of Dog Show Judges spoke as follows: Doug Ljungren asked that I answer the preceding question concerning why this is only open to independent specialties. That is because for breeds with varieties, there is no competition beyond Best of Variety at designated specialties. They can only have their competition beyond Best of Variety i.e. Best of Breed at independently held specialties.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you.

Gloria Askins, Delegate for the Greenville Kennel Club spoke as follows: All this leads me to ask what about concurrent specialties, where the All-Breed Club is – that is not under the judging of the All-Breed Club?

Mr. Ljungren: The answer to that is, yes, concurrent specialties, this would be included.

Ms. Askins: Do we need that language to be added to be clear? Right now, I would not get that the way it's written.

Mr. Thomas: A concurrent specialty is in fact an independent specialty.

Ms. Askins: Okay. Because on the application, it's two separate things. So, we just – I just think that is going to be a question to the clubs the way it's currently written.

Fran Stephens, Delegate for the Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers spoke as follows: I believe Doug or Tim expressed it, maybe not quite clearly enough. At All-Breed Shows where there is a designated specialty, Best of Breed or those breeds with varieties is not offered. Therefore, there would not be a Best of Breed for this to impact. Concurrent shows held within – you know, at the same location, they do have Best of Breed judging. So, therefore this would apply. Do I have it right, Doug?

Mr. Ljungren: That is correct. Thank you.

There was a motion by Delegate Linda Deutsch to add the words “and concurrent specialty shows”, which was seconded.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the amendment to the amendment; it passed by majority.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the original amendment as amended; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The last vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 8-A – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility*, which removes the requirement for an injury to have occurred for an Event Committee to disqualify a dog that has attacked a person or a dog at an event, presenting a hazard to persons or other dogs. This vote was postponed from the December 2019 meeting to allow for questions to be addressed by Staff regarding this amendment. The amendment was proposed by Staff, supported and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Gregory Paveza, Delegate for the Elm City Kennel Club spoke as follows: Mr. President, I move that we refer this amendment to the Dog Show Rules Committee for further discussion and/or modification of the amendment, with the further provision, that the Dog Shows Rules Committee report back having suggested modifications to this amendment no later than the March 2021 meeting.

Mr. Sprung: Is that your motion, sir?

Mr. Pavesa: Yes, sir.

Mr. Sprung: Is there a second? There is a second. This is a majority vote to send it back to the Committee for additional consideration and for recommendations. Is there discussion on the motion to refer?

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club spoke as follows: I would like to oppose the motion to refer this back to Committee. It has been before the Delegate body before. This could go on forever. I think we need to actually vote it up or down and not to keep bringing it back for more discussions.

Felice Jarrold, Delegate for the Old Pueblo Dog Training Club spoke as follows: I would just like to say – I know this has been a difficult amendment. I am aware that for many of fellow Delegates, this amendment is scary. However, it's scarier having a dog jump over the ring ropes to attack your dog. Therefore, I would like Delegates to consider the need to keep dogs safe from a rogue attack. That is what this amendment is attempting to do. Thank you.

Anne Hier, Delegate from the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan spoke as follows: As you noticed, those of us in obedience and training clubs are in favor of this rule as written. As it is now, a dog outside the ring that attacks another dog, cannot be disqualified and as just brought up, I have seen and where a dog either jumps into a ring and attacks a dog or vice versa. There is nothing that can be done if all the dog does is bite another dog or attack another dog. This rule applies to all events. It's very important that we pass it, and not keep putting it off.

Cindy Miller, Delegate for the Waterloo Kennel Club and Chair of the Dog Show Rules Committee spoke as follows: I am only talking about the amendment to send it back to our committee. This did not come from our Committee. This came from the Staff and the Board. I would like to vote on the amendment that was proposed. Do not send it back to Dog Show Rules, especially with the March deadline. Our next meeting is not until December. We would have a subcommittee discussion. There is no way that we could have anything done by this time March. I think the Delegates need to take a stand on this, either vote it up or down.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Mr. Sprung: For clarification, if I could go back to the Delegate who made the motion. Since this did not come from the Committee you referenced, do you wish to change your motion to send it back to Staff, where it originated?

Gregory Paveza, Delegate for the Elm City Kennel Club spoke as follows: Mr. Chairman, this is a motion to refer. This is not a motion to recommit. This is a motion to refer to committee. I believe it needs to be in committee at this point, because in fact, the discussion that I have seen, seems to indicate that many Delegates feel that the staff did not adequately address their question. I believe this is best dealt with by Dog Show Rules.

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club spoke as follows: I feel very strongly about this. Last year, in May, I was attacked with an unprovoked attack by a dog, in the handicap section of a parking lot at a dog show. I feel that a lot of things are very lacking. I sent a very lengthy email to Gina shortly after that. A lot of things are so wrong with this. Everybody is talking about the dog or something happening by a ring, and they forget about the person who is attacked. I really want to say, I am sure there are many, many great event committees are very knowledgeable, however, in finding out what a process is, the person who is attacked, for example, if the event the committee comes back and say they really didn't think it was a serious attack, regardless of the fact they didn't want to see pictures. They didn't want to see doctor's reports. They didn't want to see anything. It was fine. There was nothing wrong with this dog. Okay? Now when you are given that kind of a decision, you are not told what the Event Committee sends to the AKC, because I asked. I wanted to see what was written and I was told I was not allowed to see it. You're not given enough days. God forbid, if I was in a hospital, there is not enough time. Nobody really sees what happens after that show or after that committee makes a decision. The person who is the victim, gets no consideration. I don't care if this goes back to the Staff, the Board, Dog Show Rules, but there are many things that have to be taken into consideration for the person who is attacked. They need to have specifics. They

need to be informed. They need to be considered and cared about. I don't see any of this that really addresses that. Just my opinion. First time this has ever, ever happened to me at a show. Ever.

Chairman Dr. Thomas Davies raised a point of order.

Dr. Davies: Should this discussion not be concerned with the amendment to the amendment, rather than the amendment itself –

Mr. Sprung: Yes, it should, sir. The discussion is on the motion to refer to the Dog Show Rules Committee.

Betty Winthers, Delegate for the Olympic Kennel Club spoke as follows: I am not in favor of the additional changes, refer it back to the Show Committee, because I have – there are some procedures to conduct a misconduct. There is also a committee meeting to have witnesses and so on. I think what Ann has to say, is not relevant to this particular Dog Show Rule, because there is a misconduct to be conducted. Thank you.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll to decide whether to refer the amendment to the Dog Show Rules Committee; it failed by majority.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the original amendment; the results were not two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was not adopted.

The results of the Delegates Standing Committees Election were announced by Jason Spiegel of KPMG as follows:

For the All-Breed Clubs Committee, the following 3 candidates were elected for three-year terms: Terrie Breen, William Ellis and Nancy Fisk.

Also, for the All-Breed Clubs Committee, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Laurie Maulucci.

For the Companion Events Committee, the following 3 candidates were elected for three-year terms: Ruth Crumb, Larry Wilson and Betty Winthers.

Also, for the Companion Events Committee, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Stephen Hersey.

For the Parent Clubs Committee, the following 3 candidates were elected for three-year terms: Karen Burgess, Alan Kalter and Helen Prince.

Also, for the Parent Clubs Committee, the following candidate was elected for a two-year term: Richard Rohrbacher.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club **Article IV, Section 1**.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club **Article IV, Section 1**, which would prohibit a local Specialty Club from applying to AKC for Member Club status in accordance with Article IV of the Bylaws. The amendment was proposed by the

Delegate Parent Club Committee and brought forward by Staff with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette*, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Alan Kalter, Delegate for the American Bullmastiff Association spoke as follows: Local breed specialty clubs are licensed to hold shows under the auspices of the Parent Club. There are currently 1,852 licensed local breed specialty clubs. The only exception to that rule is when a local breed specialty club is a member club. As such, they hold shows under their own authority, independent of the Parent Club. There are currently about 20 local breeds specialty clubs that are member clubs. The last one being approved in 1945. The amendment coming before the Delegate body would not impact status of those current member clubs. In 2000, the Board appointed Bylaws Overhaul Committee, whose members include Ron Menaker and David Miriam, recommended a number of changes to the bylaws to clean up inconsistencies and to bring them into alignment with best current practices. One of the proposed amendments approved by the AKC Board involved Article IV, Section 4, allowing a local specialty club to become a member club. From the December 2000, minutes, here is Jim Crowley's explanation of the proposed amendment, "Under the current Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4 provides that a local specialty club may become a member club of the American Kennel Club." For at least the last 50 years, by policy, the Board has not approved that. The deletion of this section would eliminate the possibility of a local specialty club from becoming a member. That was the intent. It's just a straight deletion of the current Section 4, giving a specialty club, other than the Parent Club, the ability to become a member. So, it's really bringing the Bylaws in line with the current policy by deleting this section. Now subsequent to Jim's comments, the motion carried and it was believed that the rule of the Delegate body removed the ability of a local breed specialty club from becoming a member club. That belief has resulted in another 20 years – making a total of over 70 years since a local breed club became a member club. However, as we have seen in many other instances, removing something from one section of the Bylaws doesn't always completely fulfill the will of the Delegate body, and so it was thus in this instance also. Which brings us to this amendment, which will fully clean up the Bylaws on this issue, as it should have been done in 2000.

The Chair acknowledged Mr. Kalter's request to read a statement from Parent Club Committee member and Leonberger Club of America Delegate, Don James, who because of the fires in Oregon did not have a consistent internet connection.

Mr. Kalter spoke on behalf of Mr. James as follows:

As the Delegate for the Leonberger Club of America, I want to speak to the Board's recent vote to approve a Bylaws amendment, which would formalize preventing a local specialty club from maintaining membership status. I speak on this because the club that initiated this whole process is in fact a Leonberger specialty club. I speak also on behalf of the LCA, who's Board of Directors unanimously supports this Bylaws amendment. As Leonberger Delegate and member

of the Delegate Parent Club Committee, which also voted unanimously to support this amendment, as did all attendees at the Parent Club meeting in March when a straw vote was requested. My issue with allowing local specialty clubs member status boils down to one word, divisiveness. The traditional role of the Parent Clubs lies in representing a breed's best interest in all matters involving AKC. Allowing local specialty clubs to directly become part of that discussion promotes the possibility that the parent club and one or more specialty clubs, may not see eye to eye on issues presented by the Delegate body. While the results of such a situation may never be seen by the AKC, the downstream effects of these disagreements can ferment a divisiveness between the national club and its affiliates the unintended consequences of which would drive a dangerous wedge between these actions, and runs the risk of distributing what is, in my opinion, an outstanding AKC Parent Club. Unintended consequences are often the most easily overlooked. They should not be. For these reasons the Delegate body needs to affirm the vote of both the Board of Directors and the Parent Club Committee and approve this proposed Bylaws amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

There was continued discussion via Zoom:

Timothy Carrion, Delegate for the American Chesapeake Club spoke as follows:

I believe in this proposal, while the intentions are bringing things in agreement with reality, there is an assumption made, which is not entirely accurate. The assumption is, that the National Parent Club is a member club of the AKC. That is not always the case. There was recently a Retriever club that resigned from the AKC. Prohibiting other members that have Curly Coated Retrievers from now becoming members and now having their voice be heard in the AKC, would be officially prohibited. I think there needs to be a clause here, addresses that assumption. You know, we will prohibit this if the National Parent Club is a member club of the AKC. Thank you.

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club spoke as follows: I wish to bring up a point of order. In the last vote that we did, there was never any discussion of the main motion. It went straight from the amendment to a vote on the main motion without discussion being allowed. I believe that's not the correct way to do things.

Ms. Mann: I am making a motion to reconsider.

Mary Alice Eschweiler, Delegate for the Waukesha Kennel Club spoke as follows: I second Barbara Mann's motion.

Jane Ruthford, Delegate for Mt. Baker Kennel Club spoke as follows: I would like to speak in favor of opening the discussion. I agree with Barbara that it's quite important for the procedure to be followed and for what we will learn from that discussion. So, I am speaking in favor of having a full discussion on the matter. Thank you.

There was a motion to call the question by Dr. John Iola, Delegate for the Southern Adirondack Dog Club and it was seconded.

Voting was conducted by Zoom poll; the results were two-thirds in the affirmative to call the question.

After consulting with the Parliamentarian, voting was conducted by Zoom poll on the reconsideration of the previous vote; it failed by majority.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club **Article VIII, Section 7**.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club **Article VIII, Section 7**, which would eliminate costly balloting for unopposed Board candidates during the annual election. It would also save the time that it normally takes during the Annual meeting to conduct such elections. This amendment was proposed by Beaumont Kennel Club and brought forward by Staff with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 1* – Championships.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 1* – Championships, which incorporates a new Paragraph 8 to permit a 2020 National Specialty to be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette*, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Anne Hier, Delegate for the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan spoke as follows: I am not asking to amend the motion, but I like this idea. My particular club, we had both our March Rally and Obedience trials cancelled due to COVID. I would love it if some of the additional clubs could have trials in 2021.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds Chapter 14, New Section 36* – Rules for Pointing Breeds Trials.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds Chapter 14, New Section 36* – Rules for Pointing Breeds Trials, which provides those Parent Clubs that were forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Field Trial due to COVID-19, an exception to hold their 2020 and 2021 National Field Trial Championship in 2021. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board

of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette*, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed. The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels* **Chapter 15, new Section 27** – Rules for Spaniel Trials.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels* **Chapter 15, new Section 27** – Rules for Spaniel Trials, which provides those Parent Clubs that were forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Field Trial due COVID-19, an exception to hold their 2020 and 2021 National Field Trial Championship in 2021. This matter was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette*, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

There was discussion via Zoom:

Barbara Shaw, Delegate for the Greater Collin Kennel Club spoke as follows: So, as a point of clarification on these particular ones that you are wanting to put in as rules, why not waivers? Because this is unique, you have identified – designated years 2020 and 2021, and you're going to put this in as a rule, as in bold print, rather than say, either italics with different language, or that the Board can just offer a waiver that makes this acceptable for those field trials and/or clubs holding their National Specialties.

Mr. Sprung: Because the Board cannot, nor can anyone else waive the rules or a bylaw.

Ms. Shaw: So we're allowed to have these National Specialties, but due to – I guess the question would then become, should there be language that would be written for any future circumstances, such as this particular COVID thing, but it just seems we're going to have to go back or someone go back remove this as a rule, if it's no longer applicable.

Ms. DiNardo: If you look at the worksheet for the proposed rule change, you will notice that the rule expires at the end of December 2021.

Ms. Shaw: I see that, and that is my point. Are you going to go ahead print an insert, to go in the rule books or trial books? That is my question. Why not a waiver?

Mr. Sprung: An insert will be printed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures* **Chapter 9, Section 1** – Description of Classes and Championship Requirements.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures* **Chapter 9, Section 1** – Description of Classes and Championship Requirements, which

provides clubs with the option when applying to hold a traditional brace trial, the ability to offer two classes and avoid having to combine classes later during the trial, due to lower entries. This amendment was proposed by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds* **Chapter 3, Section 1** – Making Application to Hold a Field Trial.

Ms. DiNardo: This is an amendment to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds* **Chapter 3, Section 1** – Making Application to Hold a Field Trial, which increases the maximum number of trials a club can hold from two to four. This amendment was proposed by the Basset Hound Club of America and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette*, and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2020 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota, to recognize AKC Delegates who have served for 25 years, as well as, those clubs celebrating 100 years of membership in the American Kennel Club.

Mr. Carota: Good day everyone. We will now honor Delegates who have served for 25 years. The medallion is in recognition of meritorious and long-term contributions to the Sport. This program enables us to recognize our core constituency, and allows a grateful American Kennel Club, the opportunity to honor our own. This is the 22nd time that the AKC has had the privilege to present Delegate medallions. These individuals join 123 previously recognized Delegates.

Viola Burgos, Naugatuck Valley Kennel Club
Ann Hubbard, French Bulldog Club of America
Bonnie Lapham, Glens Falls Kennel Club
Janina Laurin, American Belgian Tervuren Club
Andrew Mills, Del Sur Kennel Club
Margaret Vohr, Pioneer Valley Kennel Club
Medallions will be mailed to recipients.

Also, there are 3 clubs celebrating 100 years of AKC membership:

Bronx County Kennel Club, Delegate, Alexa Samarotto
Buckeye Beagle Club, no current Delegate
Elm City Kennel Club, Delegate, Dr. Gregory J. Paveza
Commemorative plaques will be mailed to the President of each club.

The Chair informed the Delegates that the December 2, 2020 Delegates Meeting will be held via Zoom Webinar. More information will be emailed to the Delegate body at a later date.

The Executive Secretary read into the record the Delegate Standing Committees that there was no election for.

Ms. DiNardo: There is no election required for the following committees: Bylaws Committee, Canine Health Committee, Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee, Dog Show Rules Committee, Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee, Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee or the Perspectives Editorial Staff. The Delegates nominated for these committees are seated. I will now read the names of the Delegates who will serve on those Committees.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Bylaws Committee are: Gretchen Bernardi, Julian Prager, Pamela Rosman, and Dr. Dawn Schroeder.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Canine Health Committee are: William Christensen, Eddie Dziuk, Joellen Gregory, DVM, and Margaret Pough.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee are: Marge Calltharp, Marjorie Tuff and Mimi Winkler.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Dog Show Rules Committee are: Duane Butherus, Harold Miller, Barbara Shaw and Diana Skibinski.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee are: Gloria Askins, James Corbett, Neal Goodwin and Nance Skoglund.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee are: Don Adams, Martha Lee Beckington, Pam Davis, Joyce Engle and Bob LaBerge.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the Perspectives Editorial Staff are: Virginia Denninger, Joyce Engle, Dr. Geno Sisneros, Monica Stoner and Sylvia Thomas.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Marge Calltharp, Delegate for the Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America and coordinator for the December issue of *Perspectives*, provided the due date for article submissions of October 15th. Marge offered that the *Perspectives* Editorial Staff is willing to assist in writing if a Delegate does not feel comfortable doing so. Delegates were instructed to send their articles, outlines or ideas to CTMarbo@gmail.com or Sylvia.Thomas@rccd.edu.

Barbara Mann, Delegate for the Dayton Dog Training Club announced that it was her last Delegate meeting. She emphasized her concern for dog aggression at events, particularly at Companion Events. Barbara requested that the Board consider developing regulations for Obedience, and Rally and Agility, that would have similar wording to the amendment that was voted down today (*Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 8-A*). She recommended that disqualification should be allowed for dogs showing aggressive behavior whether they injure another dog or not.

Pat Laurans, Delegate for the German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America gave an update on AKC Reunite. Since May 30th, there were 5 deployments in Arizona and California. They were in Cave Creek – the Ocotillo fire, in Jefferson County – the Evergreen fire, the Elephant Butte fire, Riverside County – the Apple fire, San Diego – the Valley fire, Alameda County and Jackson County, Oregon. The AKC Reunite trailers remain in San Diego, California and in Jackson County, Oregon. The resources were made possible because of the Delegate club's donations and the donation by AKC Reunite, totaling almost \$2,304,000. Pat accounted that 90 trailers have been delivered and 13 are in the pipeline for a total of 103 trailers.

Linda Deutsch, Delegate for the Plainfield Kennel Club posed a question referring to an AKC Memo she received "AKC Actions to Assist the Sports". She indicated that number eight on the AKC Actions states that that specialty clubs can hold additional designated specialties because their events had to be cancelled, however there is an effective year-end of 2020. Linda explained her club had to cancel their events and that most of the All-Breed shows in the Northeast have also been cancelled. She requested that the effective date be extended.

There was discussion via Zoom:

The Chair called on Alan Slay, AKC Director, Event Programs.

Mr. Slay: That is something that we can discuss within Event Operations about possibly bringing to the Board.

Ms. Deutsch: Can you give me someone I can send a written suggestion to –

Mr. Sprung: Email Alan Slay at als@akc.org.

Anne Hier, Delegate for the Companion Dog Training Club of Flint, Michigan suggested creating different rules for independent specialties for the Bred-By-Exhibitor puppy class.

Carol Fisher, Delegate for the Valley Forge Kennel Club provided additional detail to the aggressive dog issue in terms of a dog's fur and the injury – bite or bruising – being visible much later than the time of the attack.

Felice Jarrold, Delegate for the Old Pueblo Dog Training Club, Tucson, Arizona agreed with Barbara Mann's recommendation for an amendment regulating dog aggression in Obedience, Rally and Agility after experiencing an incident first-hand at a Companion event.

Margaret Pough, Delegate for the Finger Lakes Kennel Club spoke on the Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy Class. She supported John Ronald's idea for the addition of a check off box on an event entry form, like for National Owner-Handlers, so it would be specified that the puppy in the puppy class is breeder-owner-handled.

Gail LaBerge, Delegate for the Atlanta Obedience Club, and Chairman of the AKC Political Action Committee rallied the Delegates to donate to the AKC PAC at AKCPAC@akc.org.

She explained that funds were still being raised to support candidates who agree with AKC's position on canine issues. She conveyed that those who donate are sent an AKC PAC mask in appreciation. Gail thanked Sheila Goffe and Staff for having their dogs demonstrate how to wear a mask and how not to wear a mask. She also gave a special mention to Barbara Mann for her work on the Companion Events Committee.

Fran Stephens, Delegate for the Puyallup Dog Fanciers spoke on behalf of the St. Bernard Club of America expressing the challenges of having to cancel a 2020 National event and asked for AKC and Delegate support in allowing these events to be moved to 2021.

John Ronald, Delegate for the Samoyed Club of America explained he had suggested the modification to entry forms after getting feedback from his club members, Parent Club and All-Breed Clubs. He recommended that the AKC Board should consider a policy for noting Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy Class on an entry form and including them in the qualification for a medallion.

Mary Lou Olszewski, Delegate for the American Bloodhound Club advised the new Delegates and mentors that the Annual New Delegate Orientation would be held October 28th via Zoom video. She shared the Delegate Advocacy & Advancement Committee's plans of having an interactive format and that there would be AKC Executive Staff and distinguished Delegates participating. Mary Lou mentioned that the delayed receipt of the SurveyMonkey e-ballot for the Delegate Standing Committees caused unease and a high volume of communication amongst the Delegates who did not want to miss their opportunity to vote in the election. She offered to serve as a liaison to Delegates for AKC messaging if needed in the future.

Mr. Sprung reminded the Delegates that the Organizational Committee Zoom Meetings for All-Breed Clubs, Companion Events and Parent Clubs would take place 30 minutes after the conclusion of the Delegate meeting. AKC Staff would be emailing meeting information directly to each committee member.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

[Time noted: 3:01 p.m.]

Delegates inadvertently omitted from speaking during New Business were as follows:

Betty Winthers, Delegate Olympic Kennel Club, wanted to share that her club along with the Walla Walla Kennel Club would be holding a five-day All-Breed Dog show on September 23-27, 2020 with a combined total entry of 9,640.

Pamela Rosman, Delegate Canaan Dog Club of America, wanted to thanked Dr. Anita Oberbauer, the AKC Board, former AKC Board Chair William Feeney and Vice Chair Patricia Cruz, AKC Staff, Ad Hoc Committee on Canine Genetic Testing, AKC CHF, OFA and the entire team that worked tirelessly to orchestrate the excellent Forum presentation and the distribution of the written materials emailed to all Delegates. She also wanted to acknowledge Gretchen Bernardi, Delegate Bylaws Committee Chair, who proposed this topic for a Forum presentation

during a Coordinating Committee meeting several years ago. Pamela encouraged participation in the Delegate Bylaws DNA Subcommittee meetings.

The opinions expressed by the speakers may not necessarily reflect those of The American Kennel Club.