

American Kennel Club, Inc.
MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC Offices at 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY
and via Video Conference
July 13, 2021

The Board convened via Zoom video conference on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 11:05 a.m. Eastern Time.

Mr. Sprung was present in the NY Office. All other Directors participated in the meeting by video conference. The Executive Secretary was present in the NY Office and participated by video conference.

The May 11, 2021 Board Meeting minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the May 11, 2021 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mr. Sprung reviewed with the Board the status of the action items emanating from the May Board meeting.

Mr. Sprung reported the following updates:

AKC sent hundreds of items to the site of the Miami building collapse to support the dogs and handlers working the site on the same day that Chris Sweetwood brought this request to our attention. Although their original request was only for 12-15 cooling mats, AKC supplied 50 mats and sent toys, treats, towels, cooling collars, water bottles, cooling vests with collars and extra ice packs.

It was reported that the mission areas of registration and events are doing well. While entries are increasing, Management is very cautiously watching registration, as we must be prepared if it is a bubble as people start to return to the office environment.

Sponsorships are increasing as is Good Dog Helpline sales, social media engagement and followers and e-Commerce.

Economic Impact Study:

In the past we developed a study which proved to be of assistance to clubs, GR and PR. Now with Covid-19 subsiding and the interruptions to events lessening, Mr. Sprung has staff working to update this tool for distribution to our clubs.

Enhancements:

The Fast CAT® e-results program was developed in-house and launched mid-March for June; they are coming in at the rate of 97% using the electronic version. This is very helpful; as the number of events are increasing and this process allows for the posting of results more quickly with reduced

input errors. With 85% of June received, there is follow up with clubs not sending them within the required 7 days; however, many events were at the end of the month.

In mid-May Registration and IT launched electronic litter kits; the initial uptick is at 8.5% of breeders choosing this option to receive their kits electronically rather than through the mail. Marketing and Registration will be collaborating to move the number upward.

Registration and IT Department also created Online Foreign Registration, making the application submission easier and improving turnaround – now 33% are online and it is expected to rise to 50% by end of year.

Staffing

We have hired 23 unbudgeted PT or FT staff and are in the process of recruiting more. This includes already hiring 9 and recruiting 3 others in Sports & Events, 1 each in Finance, Government Relations and the Library, and a dozen hired part-time in Customer Service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Safety Protocols

Pamela Bruce, a world-renowned Criminal Investigations Specialist provided the Board and Staff with a presentation on safety procedures at events for all constituents, with a special discussion of safety for minors.

Explore Vision, Scope, Requirements and Implementation for future of AKC's Competition Management System

Torraine Williams, Director, Engineering and Seth Fera-Schanes, Director, Planning, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Sports & Events, working with numerous other departments, continues to grow existing competitions and create new opportunities for individuals to become involved with AKC. The expansion comes through new competition types, in-person and virtual events and titling from novice to highly experienced competitors.

There is a need for the AKC to assess its current Competition Management System (CMS) infrastructure and make investments in technology that reduces turnaround times for results, reduces manual internal processing, captures additional data points and can scale as our business evolves.

The AKC Board of Directors has asked the Staff to explore the scope of this work, requirements, cost and a multi-year implementation plan. The Board also noted the immediate need to supplement current staff capabilities and resources to compensate for the time and efforts required by existing staff participation during the planning and implementation process.

The Staff recommendation is to use an Agile development methodology which is proven to work well with large scale technology projects. The methodology permits greater collaboration than other approaches, is more adaptable and allows for faster delivery of useable components of the system. The IT (Information Technology) Department, in association with Sports & Events and the Executive Committee can achieve the stated goal for a CMS replacement by starting out with a thorough blueprint for how we would approach this work to ensure its long-term success.

Next steps are for Staff to define:

- Project team
- Vision
- Scope
- Requirements
- Build proposal
- Impact analysis

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve this process. Staff will identify a timeline, costs and effects on other planned programming and initiatives.

AKC Board Policy “Event Committee Legal Expenses”

Heather McManus, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel; Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support; and Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations participated in this portion of the meeting.

Based on a Board request, Staff presented suggested revisions to the Board Policy, “Event Committee Legal Expenses” which was approved in 1985. This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Legal Update

Heather McManus, Deputy General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. The Board reviewed a Legal Department update as of June 2021.

AKC Purebred Preservation Bank

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President, participated in this portion of the meeting.

At the suggestion of CEO Dennis Sprung and with the AKC Board’s approval, Board member Dr. Charles Garvin was asked to work with Staff and Delegates to explore how AKC might play a more active role in the preservation of purebred semen. Previously, the board had in 2017 voted to allow a Parent Club sponsored, breed specific, frozen semen bank to own and to apply for frozen semen litter registration as a semen owner provided all other requirements to register the litter were met.

The Board reviewed a complete business plan and budget for the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed plan to establish an AKC Purebred Preservation Bank and pursue the next steps as outlined to the Board in the memo.

FINANCE

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented interim financial statements (unaudited) through May 31, 2021.

Financial Results:

Net Operating Income is \$15.3 million primarily due to higher registration and event service revenues, along with lower operating expenses.

Total Revenues of \$43.2 million exceed budget by 33% led by Registration Fees of \$20 million, Pedigree and Registration Related Fees of \$6.3 million.

Recording & Event Service fees, Title Recognition and Event Applications fees total \$4.7 million and exceed budget and prior year by 40%.

Product & Service Sales total \$5.2 million and exceed budget by 31%.

Advertising, Sponsorship and Royalties total \$6.5 million and exceed budget by 30%.

Controllable Expenses are lower than budget by 7% or \$1.7 million due to careful management of operating expenses. Non-Controllable expenses were lower than budget by \$735k due to timing of software development projects.

Compared to YTD 2020 we see the continued positive trend of Registration Fees and cost containment.

Non-Financial Results:

Registration Statistics: 2021 YTD Litter Registration was 22% ahead of budget, 18% better than 2020 YTD. 2021 YTD Dog Registration was 33% ahead of budget, 25% better than 2020 YTD.

Events and Entries reflect the impact of COVID-19 cancellations. Compared to the same period in 2020, Events & Entries were up by 87% & 39%, respectively.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Mara Bovsun, Managing Editor, *AKC Family Dog*; and Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Akita Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revision to the Akita breed standard, specifically color and nose pigment, submitted by the Akita Club of America, Inc. (ACA). The current standard was approved May 12, 2009.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed revisions for publication in the Secretary's Page of the August *AKC Gazette* for comment.

Bergamasco Sheepdog Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the Bergamasco Sheepdog breed standard as submitted by the Bergamasco Sheepdog Club of America, (BSCA). The current standard was approved February 12, 2010.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed revisions for publication in the Secretary's Page of the August *AKC Gazette* for comment.

Cane Corso Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revision to the Cane Corso breed standard, specifically color and nose pigment, submitted by the Cane Corso Association of America, Inc. (CCAA). The current standard was approved October 20, 2009.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Smyth, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed revisions for publication in the Secretary's Page of the August *AKC Gazette* for comment.

Entlebucher Mountain Dog Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revision to the Entlebucher Mountain Dog breed standard, specifically color and nose pigment, submitted by the National Entlebucher Mountain Dog Association, Inc. (NEMDA). The current standard was approved May 2008.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed revisions for publication in the Secretary's Page of the August *AKC Gazette* for comment.

Nominating Committee

The Executive Secretary informed the Board that the Nominating Committee for the March 2022 election of AKC Directors must be appointed by August 15, 2021 and its report must be received no later than October 15, 2021.

Following discussion, the Board elected the Nominating Committee, which is to select candidates for vacancies on the Board of Directors, which are to be filled at the March 2022 meeting. There are three (3) vacancies for the Class of 2026.

Nominating Committee

Melanie Steele - Chairperson
Abilene Kennel Club

Pamela Stacey Rosman
Canaan Dog Club of America

Patti Strand
Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon

Maggi Strouse
National Shiba Club of America

Marilyn Vinson
Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club

Alternates
Marge Calltharp
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.,

Connie Clark
American Fox Terrier Club

Proposed Bylaw Amendments from Delegate Bylaws Committee

The Board reviewed two (2) proposed Bylaw Amendments from the Delegate Bylaws Committee.

The two amendments for consideration:

Article IV, Section 1. An amendment to establish that the only criteria that may be used to determine membership eligibility is the criteria described in this section of the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV, SECTION 1. All All-Breed Clubs, Group Clubs or Associations which have held at least three Dog Shows, Obedience Trials, Field Trials, or Agility Trials in consecutive years under rules of the AKC and all Parent Specialty Clubs which have been or shall be formed for the improvement of any breed of purebred dogs shall be eligible to become members of the AKC. No additional criteria for membership other than those specifically stated in this Article may be used to determine eligibility for membership.

Article VI, New Section 2. An amendment to create a new section of Article VI that would state that proxy voting is prohibited by the Delegate Body, Delegate Committees and the Board of Directors.

Proposed addition:

ARTICLE VI, SECTION 2. The use of proxy voting in any election or vote by the Board of Directors, Delegate Body or Delegate Committees is prohibited.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) not to approve the recommended changes and to send back to the Bylaws Committee with suggested substitute wording.

Bracco Italiano Eligibility to Compete in the Sporting Group

The Board reviewed a request from the Bracco Club of America. The club is seeking acceptance into the AKC Stud Book and for the Bracco to be eligible to compete in the Sporting Group. This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Foundation Stock Service® Guidelines

The AKC Foundation Stock Service® was established to allow the AKC to maintain the registration records for new and developing breeds, which in turn became the studbook for the breed. The Foundation Stock Service® Guidelines describe the process and requirements for a breed to establish a Parent Club, move to Miscellaneous and then full recognition status.

The Board reviewed recommended revisions to the Guidelines which includes clarification of the requirements for a breed developed within the United States. Additionally, that the Parent Club recognized by the AKC should establish a plan for how the breed will be maintained for stability and growth over the first 10 years of recognition. This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

AKC Family Dog Magazine on Amazon.com

The Board was advised that *AKC Family Dog* was added to *Amazon.com*'s online magazine rack in March 2021. This marks the first time an AKC magazine has been included on this highly influential sales platform. Marketing on *Amazon.com* dramatically expands the reach of the magazine, with potential to boost circulation and increase awareness of the AKC brand.

Government Relations Legislation Monthly Update

The Board was provided with Staff's monthly highlight report of active, priority legislative issues that AKC Government Relations (GR) is currently and actively working on as of June 19, 2021.

To date, AKC GR is monitoring more than 2,100 pieces of legislation at the state, local and federal level that could impact dog ownership, the wellbeing of dogs or AKC events and operations. This includes positive as well as negative legislation. The most up-to-date information on legislative issues are available via AKC GR's Legislative Action Center, www.akcgr.org.

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events and Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Virtual Scent Work Test Pilot Program

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to implement a new Virtual Scent Work Test (VSWT) pilot program. There are three test levels– Beginner, Intermediate and Experienced (see Testing Criteria Table). For the Beginner level, the dog must find one article inside the home at floor level within one and a half minutes in one search area. At the Intermediate level, the dog must find two articles outside the home at a height range of one to two feet in two and a half minutes. At the Experienced level, the dog must find three articles inside and outside the home, within three minutes and across three search areas at a height range of two to three feet. A search area is a defined space within a home such as a garage, living room or bedroom or space outside the home such as a yard, driveway or patio. This is a pass/fail test that can be performed by dog owners in their own home according to basic testing criteria. Three suffix titles at three difficulty levels would be offered – VSWB (Beginner), VSWI (Intermediate), and VSWE (Experienced).

A higher-level title will supersede a lower title on the dog's pedigree. The pilot program will last one year.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve a new Virtual Scent Work Test (VSWT) pilot program. The Scent Work Department will begin recording Virtual Scent Work Test passes on August 2, 2021.

Fast CAT® – Electronic Timers and Hot Starts

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate HEC Committee to make two changes to the Fast CAT® regulations. The first (1) recommendation will require clubs to use electronic timers with hand-timing to be used only in situations of equipment failure. The second (2) is to clarify that “hot starts” will not be allowed.

Both of these changes will improve consistency and accuracy of run times. With the growth of Fast CAT® and completion of the first AKC Fast CAT® Invitational, there is an increasing desire among participants to measure each dog’s run exactly the same way. This includes using the same timing devices and start methods. This will be discussed further at the August meeting.

Fast CAT®: Limiting Participation for Timers, Lure Operators and Paid Event Secretaries

The Board reviewed a recommendation to add eligibility restrictions on dogs owned or co-owned by individuals performing key activities at Fast CAT® events. Specifically, 1. Individuals involved with timing - Currently an individual cannot operate a timer or record the time for their own dog or a dog owned by a family or household member. This is being extended to include that an individual cannot operate a timer or record the time for the same breed they, or any member of their immediate family or household, own or co-own, if their dog is entered in the event. 2. Lure Operators - Currently an individual cannot operate the lure for their own dog or a dog owned by family or household member. This is being extended to include that an individual cannot operate the lure for the same breed they, or any member of their immediate family or household, own or co-own, if their dog is entered in the event. 3. Paid Event Secretaries - Dogs owned or co-owned by a paid event secretary, or any member of their immediate family or household, are not eligible to enter an event where the individual is the event secretary. Paid means the person is compensated in any manner, whether directly from the host club or as part of a service provider team.

These changes are being made to ensure participants remain confident that everyone is being treated equally and fairly. These are changes to the Fast CAT® Regulations. If approved by the Board, these changes would be effective September 1, 2021. This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Field Representative Independent Contractor Conflict of Interest Statement

The Board was presented with a plan of the action to be taken to clarify that no one working for the AKC as an Independent Contractor in the capacity as a Field Representative at AKC events or activities (“Field Rep IC”) may have personal or business interests or relationships that conflict with the best interests of the AKC and their duties to the AKC while acting in the capacity of a Field Representative. This will be accomplished by adding two conflict of interest provisions to the Field Rep IC Agreement.

There was discussion by the Board that this action plan should be VOTED on by the Board.

Following a motion by Mr. Carota, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Carota, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the Conflict of Interest Statement.

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges; Alan Slay, Director, Event Programs and Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Bred by Exhibitor Class – Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Chapter 3, Section 8

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to modify Chapter 3, Section 8 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which if adopted, would allow clubs at their option to divide the Bred-by-Exhibitor class into two age groups; Puppy, for dogs that are six months of age but under twelve months, and Adult, for dogs that are twelve months of age and older.

There was a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Ms. McAteer, to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures. The motion did not pass (in favor: Biddle, Hamblin, McAteer, Sweetwood; against: Battalia, Carota, Davies, Garvin, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Tatro, Wallin). This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Calculation of Age – Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Chapter 3, Sections 2, 4 & 5

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to modify Chapter 3, Sections 2, 4 and 5 of *The Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which defines the minimum age of eligibility (six months) for dogs to compete in AKC sanctioned events, the Puppy class and 12-18 Month class respectively. The proposals remove language from Chapter 3, Sections 4 and 5 related to the calculation of the age of a dog and inserts similar verbiage into Chapter 3, Section 2 as how age is determined is relative to all classes. If approved by the Board, the proposal will be read at the September 2021 Delegate Meeting and voted at the December 2021 Delegate Meeting. If approved by the Delegate Body, the effective date would be March 31, 2022. This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Winners Class – Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Chapter 3, Section 11

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to modify Chapter 3, Section 11 of *The Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which defines the Winners Class and those entries eligible to compete in the Winners and Reserve Winners classes.

The DSRC's proposal to modify Chapter 3, Section 11 inserts language to specify dogs eligible for Winners include the first-place undefeated dogs from all divisions of the defined classes. In addition, it inserts language to clearly define that American-bred and Open are the only required classes, and all others are at the option of the club. This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Tim Thomas, Vice President, Dog Show Judges, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges

The Board reviewed recommended changes to the *Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges*. This document is for all judges and aspiring judges as it summarizes Rules, Policies and Guidelines as they relate to procedure and conduct.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the recommended changes.

Conformation Judging Statistics

The Board reviewed statistics related to conformation judging applications considered by the Judges Review Committee the months of April - June 2021. Included was the list of New Breed (NB) and Additional Breed applicants presented for final approval in the months of April - June 2021, and the year-to-date summary statistics for 2021.

**FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2021 NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
February	5	5	0	0	0	0	6	6	0
March	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
April	2	1	1	0	0	0	12	11	0
May	3	3	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
June	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
AB TOTAL	16	15	1	0	0	0	29	28	0

**FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2021 ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	17	15	1	1	0	0	117	105	1
February	22	19	2	1	0	0	131	117	2
March	20	14	4	2	0	0	130	109	3
April	25	20	4	1	0	0	145	130	0
May	25	21	4	0	0	0	167	155	0
June	26	21	5	0	0	0	145	130	2
AB TOTAL	135	110	20	5	0	0	835	746	9

**FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2021 YEAR-TO-DATE**

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
NB	16	15	1	0	0	0	29	28	0
AB	135	110	20	5	0	0	835	746	9
TOTAL	151	125	21	5	0	0	864	774	9

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

CLUBS

Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Sample Bylaws Study Committee Follow-Up Report and Proposed Revisions to Documents

The Board began discussion of the follow-up report and proposed revisions to four (4) documents: The Local Sample Constitution and Bylaws, Parent Club Sample Constitution and Bylaws, Tips and Best Practices for Effective Bylaws, and Sample Constitution and Bylaws Checklist.

In February 2021, the Board reviewed and accepted the Sample Bylaws Study Committee's report including Local Club Sample Constitution and Bylaws; Parent Club Sample Constitution and Bylaws; Sample Constitution and Bylaws Checklist; and Tips and Best Practices for Effective Bylaws. Proposed revisions are noted in the documents in Exhibits A-1 through D-1. The Board voted affirmatively by majority vote to accept the Sample Bylaws Study Committee's Report at its February 2021 meeting, and the Sample Constitution and Bylaws Checklist was adopted as a new policy. This will be discussed further at the August Board meeting.

Delegates and Member Clubs

The Board reviewed a report on the prospective Delegate credentials to be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette*, requests for AKC membership applications, and a report on MemberClub Bylaws approved and newly licensed clubs.

Report on Member Clubs Bylaws approved in May and June 2021

American Boxer Club (1935)
Arrowhead Kennel Club, Peoria, AZ (2020)
Collie Club of America (1888)
Sioux Empire Kennel Club, Minnehaha County, SD (1968)
Terry-All Kennel Club, Adams County, CO (1974)
Woodstock Dog Club, Woodstock, VT (1970)

Report on Newly Licensed Clubs approved in May and June 2021

Beartooth Agility Club of Montana, greater Billings, MT (including communities in proximity to Interstate 90, east to Hardin, west to Absarokee, south to MT/WY state line), 22 total households, 15 local.

Clumber Spaniel Club of the Carolinas, greater Raleigh, NC (including communities north to Durham, west to Asheville, southeast to Wilmington), 26 total households, 12 local.

English Setter Club of Medford, NJ, Burlington County, NJ (including communities north to Interstate 195, south to Route 42), 99 total households, 46 local.

Herding Association of Central New York, greater Syracuse, NY, 23 total households, 14 local.
Middle Tennessee Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, greater Franklin, TN (including communities south to Sewanee, north to Nashville, in proximity to Interstate 24), 31 total households, 16 local.

Mid-Florida Sporting Dog Association, greater Orlando, FL (including communities north to Ocala, south to St. Petersburg, east/west coasts), 61 total households, 41 local.

Northwest Ohio Scent Work Enthusiasts, greater Toledo, OH (including communities south to Millbury, west to Whitehouse, north to OH/MI state line), 20 total households, 12 local.

Old Dominion Australian Shepherd Association, greater Richmond, VA (including communities north to Herndon, south to Chesapeake in proximity to Interstate 95), 23 total households, 12 local.

Oregon Trail Havanese Club, greater Salem, OR (including communities north to Portland, south to Eugene, in proximity to Interstate 5), 28 total households, 17 local.

COMPLIANCE

Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

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

INTERNAL CONSULTING AND BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

Seth Fera-Schanes, Director, Planning, participated in this portion of the meeting. The American Kennel Club uses a corporate roadmap to prioritize projects across departments. The roadmap serves multiple purposes including understanding cross-team dependencies, highlighting the status of projects, ensuring transparency and optimizing decision making and serves to correlate the roadmap with objectives and budgets. The Board reviewed a memo outlining the framework and processes involved in the development and management of the AKC Corporate Project Roadmap. The presentation included a sample of work that has been completed in 2021, a look ahead at the remaining two quarters of 2021, as well as provided an update on some projects that are currently in development.

MEDIA

Ron Furman, Director, Media; Daphna Straus, Vice President, Business Development and William Ellis, Director, Broadcasting, participated in this portion of the meeting. 2021 has proven to be a very successful year for Sponsorship and Media Sales. Sales are up 29% over 2020. Growth includes new major brands in non-endemic categories, renewals and expansion of programming with existing sponsors with revenue to support AKC's legacy and new programs.

Total Digital Advertising revenue is up 150% YOY for Q1 and Q2.

Direct Advertising (Non-Sponsorship) January through May already exceeded January through December 2020 in total with earlier bookings and more volume.

AKC.org saw the highest Q1 Impressions ever in 2021:

- Q1 2021 – 308 Million Impressions
- Q1 2020 – 235 Million Impressions
- 1Q 2019 – 169 Million Impressions

AKC.TV

Plays on AKC and downloads of the AKC.TV app continue to increase. Content creation continues to be a priority. Two weekly shows continue *DogCenter* - 40+ episodes in 2020, totaling more than 400 minutes of content Tuesday and Friday from the Museum of the Dog and *Ask the Expert* 12+ episodes in 2020, totaling more than 300 minutes of content is broadcast bi-weekly on Wednesdays. AKC.TV will produce 34 live events covering Conformation, Specialties, Agility, Obedience, Rally, Diving Dogs and Flyball.

AKC on ESPN

AKC has had 39 broadcasts across ABC, ESPN, and the National Geographic Networks. The AKC National Agility Championship premiered on March 31 on ESPN2. The show was the highest rated show of the day on the network. Following the success of the National Agility Championship, the AKC Agility Premier Cup was moved from ESPN2 to ESPN on May 25. The AKC Agility Premier Cup was the 7th most viewed sports event of the day of any network on May 25 (behind NBA, MLB, and NHL), and the most viewed sports event on ESPN. AKC messaging continues to be featured during commercial time, including AKC.tv, Retrievist, If It Barks, and AKC.org. Features in AKC shows on ESPN are mission driven, designed to entertain, educate, and introduce audiences to AKC Sports.

CONSENT

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

- Veteran Age for Ibizan Hounds in Lure Coursing
- Allowing for Waiting Lists in Retriever Hunting Tests
- Appeal Process for Event Distance Conflicts
- Ibizan Hound Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Manchester Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Delegate and Club Approvals

Veteran Age for Ibizan Hounds in Lure Coursing

The Veteran Stake in Lure Coursing is one that is reserved for senior dogs and held at the option of the club. Each Parent Club can set their breed's own age requirement in order to be eligible to enter the stake. Currently, if the breed has no specific eligibility age requirement, the regulations default to six years of age. The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation to specify the eligibility age for Ibizan Hounds entering the Veteran Stake to be at least seven years old, per a request from the Ibizan Hound Club of the U.S.

Allowing for Waiting Lists in Retriever Hunting Tests

The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation to allow clubs holding Retriever Hunting Tests, at their option, to create a waiting list from which they can fill in slots created by scratches/no-shows up to the start of the test. In Retriever Hunting Tests, the Master level test is the only test that is allowed to limit the number of entries.

Appeal Process for Event Distance Conflicts

The Board VOTED to adopt a policy that will provide clubs with the option of an appeal process in situations where events in conflict based on straight line miles are much further apart in driving miles. The appeal process is available when the driving distance between two events is approximately 25% greater or more than the conflict distance established for the sport or in special circumstances. The policy is effective for events occurring on or after September 1, 2021.

Belgian Malinois Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to approve the proposed standard for the Belgian Malinois with an effective date of October 6, 2021. See **Appendix A**.

Ibizan Hound Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Ibizan Hound Club of the United State, Inc. (IHCUS), has submitted g proposed revisions to the breed standard. The current standard was approved September 11, 1989. The Board VOTED to approve that the IHCUS may proceed to ballot the membership on the proposed Standard changes in accordance with the Club's Constitution and Bylaws.

Manchester Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The American Manchester Terrier Club, (AMTC) submitted proposed revisions to the Manchester Terrier standard. The current standard was approved June 10, 1991. The Board VOTED to approve the proposed revisions to the Manchester Terrier breed standard to be published for comment in the Secretary's Page of the *AKC Gazette*.

Delegate and Club Approvals**Delegate Approvals**

The Board VOTED to approve the following individuals to serve as Delegates:

Christopher R. Abraham, Pasco, WA
To represent Richland Kennel Club

Dana L. Alexander, Chandler, AZ
To represent Superstition Kennel Club

Kathy A. Rust, Walcott, ND
To represent Vizsla Club of America

Mark S. Stempel, Bohemia, NY
To represent American Shih Tzu Club

AKC Membership for Approval:

Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club Focal Point: Fargo, ND
43 Households, 32 Local
First License Trial: June 15, 1957

NEW BUSINESS

September Delegate Meeting

The COVID-related executive order signed by Governor Cuomo that allowed non-profit members to meet electronically, expired on July 5, 2021. To comply with New York State not-for-profit law the AKC must hold the September Delegate Meeting and future meetings in-person.

The Board VOTED unanimously to confirm the date for the September 2021 meeting. The Delegate Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 14, 2021**. Delegate Standing Committee Meetings will be held on **Monday September 13, 2021**.

Stewarding Suggestions

Mrs. Wallin brought forward correspondence that she received from a constituent about Stewarding. Several suggestions were offered to help increase the pool of qualified stewards. This will be discussed further at the Board’s August meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:08 p.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned

Attest: _____ Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

Appendix A - Belgian Malinois Proposed Breed Standard

Current Belgian Malinois Breed Standard	Proposed Belgian Malinois Breed Standard
<p>General Appearance: The Belgian Malinois is a well balanced, square dog, elegant in appearance with an exceedingly proud carriage of the head and neck. The dog is strong, agile, well muscled, alert, and full of life. He stands squarely on all fours and viewed from the side, the topline, forelegs, and hind legs closely approximate a square. The whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness. The male is usually somewhat more impressive and grand than his female counterpart, which has a distinctly feminine look.</p> <p>Size, Proportion, Substance: Males are 24 to 26 inches in height; females are 22 to 24 inches; measurement to be taken at the withers. Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches and females under 21 inches or over 25 inches are to be disqualified. The length, measured from the point of the breastbone to the point of the rump, should equal the height, but bitches may be slightly longer. A square dog is preferred. Bone structure is moderately heavy in proportion to height so that the dog is well balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.</p> <p>Head: The <i>head</i> is clean-cut and strong without heaviness; overall size is in proportion to the body. The expression should indicate alertness, attention and readiness for activity, and the gaze is intelligent and questioning. The eyes are brown, preferably dark brown, medium size, slightly almond shaped, not protruding. Eye rims are black. The ears approach the shape of an equilateral triangle and are stiff, erect, and in proportion to the head in size. The outer corner of the ear should not come below the center of the eye. Ears hanging as on a hound, or semi-prick ears are disqualifications. The top of the skull is flattened rather than rounded with the width approximately the same as the length but no wider.</p>	<p>General Appearance: The Belgian Malinois is a well-balanced square dog, elegant in appearance with an exceedingly proud carriage of head and neck. The dog is strong, agile, well-muscled, alert and full of life. <u>He is hardy and built to withstand the rugged Belgian climate.</u> He stands squarely on all fours. The whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness. <u>His elegance and expression denote great strength of character, reflecting his heritage as a herding breed.</u> The male <u>should appear unquestionably masculine; the female should have a distinctly feminine look and be judged equally with the male.</u></p> <p>Size, Proportion, Substance: Males are 24 to 26 inches in height; females are 22 to 24 inches; measurement to be taken at the withers. Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches and females under 21 inches or over 25 inches are to be disqualified. The length, measured from the point of the breastbone to the point of the rump, should equal the height. Bone structure is moderate in proportion to height so that the dog is well balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky. <u>When viewing the silhouette, the topline, front legs and back legs should closely approximate a square.</u></p> <p>Head: The <i>head</i> is <u>carried high. It is long without exaggeration, rectilinear, well-chiseled and dry.</u> The gaze is intelligent and questioning. <u>The sparkling eyes radiate attentiveness and readiness for action.</u> The eyes are of medium size, neither protruding nor sunken, slightly almond shaped, and obliquely set. They are brown, with black rimmed upper and lower eyelids. <u>Light eyes are a fault.</u> The <i>ears</i> are rather small, <u>set high and distinctly triangular with a well-cupped outer ear and pointed tips. They should be stiff and carried upright and vertical when the dog is alert.</u> Ears hanging as on a hound, or semi-prick ears are disqualifications. <u>Skull and muzzle are roughly equal in length, with at the most a very slight bias in favor of the muzzle. The top skull is of medium</u></p>

The stop is moderate. The ~~muzzle is moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency to snipiness, and approximately equal in length to the top skull. The planes of the muzzle and top skull are parallel. The jaws are strong and powerful.~~

The nose is black ~~without discolored areas. The lips are tight and black with no pink showing on the outside.~~

The Belgian Malinois has a full complement of strong, white teeth, that are evenly set and meet in a scissors or level *bite*. Overshot and undershot bites are a fault. An undershot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors is a disqualification. ~~One or more missing teeth is a serious fault.~~

Neck, Topline, Body: The ~~neck is round and of sufficient length to permit the proud carriage of the head. It should taper from the body to the head. The topline is generally level. The withers are slightly higher and slope into the back which must be level, straight and firm from withers to hip joint. The croup is medium long, sloping gradually. The body should give the impression of power without bulkiness. The chest is not broad but is deep with the lowest point reaching the elbow. The underline forms a smooth ascendant curve from the lowest point of the chest to the abdomen. The abdomen is moderately developed, neither tucked up nor paunchy. The loin section, viewed from above, is relatively short, broad and strong, and blends smoothly into the back. The tail is strong at the base, the bone reaching to the hock. In action it is raised with a curve, which is strongest towards the tip, without forming a hook. A cropped or stumped tail is a disqualification.~~

Forequarters: The forequarters are muscular without excessive bulkiness. The shoulder is long and oblique, laid flat against the body, forming a sharp angle with the upper arm. The legs are straight, strong, and parallel to each other. The bone is oval rather than round. Length and

width, in proportion with the length of the head, with a forehead flat rather than round, frontal groove not very pronounced; in profile, the head planes are parallel; occipital crest, brow ridges and zygomatic arches not prominent. The stop is moderate.

The nose is black. The muzzle is of medium length and well chiseled under the eyes; narrowing gradually toward the nose, like an elongated wedge. The mouth is well split, which means that when the mouth is open the commissures of the lips are pulled right back, the jaws being well apart. The lips are thin, tight and strongly pigmented black. The Belgian Malinois has a full complement of strong white teeth that are evenly set and meet in a scissors or level *bite*. Overshot and undershot bites are a fault. An undershot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors is a disqualification. Complete dentition is preferred. Missing teeth should be faulted.

Neck, Topline, Body: The neck is slightly elongated, well-muscled, broadening gradually towards the shoulders, without dewlap, slightly arched, permitting the proud carriage of the head. The withers are pronounced and the back is firm. The loin is solid, short and sufficiently well-muscled. The croup is very slightly sloped. The underline rises gently in a harmonious curve toward the abdomen, which is neither tucked-up nor paunchy. The chest is neither broad nor narrow, but well let down, with the lowest part reaching the elbow. The body should give the impression of power without bulkiness in proportion to the overall dog. The tail is strong at the base, reaching to the hock, and carried down at rest. It is curved, raised when moving, but not passing the horizontal or forming a hook or deviation. A cropped or stumped tail is a disqualification.

Forequarters The forequarters are muscular without excessive bulkiness. The shoulder blades are long and sloping, laid flat against the body, forming a sufficient angle with the upper arm to ensure free and efficient movement. The legs are straight, strong, and parallel to each other. The bone is solid but not heavy; it is more oval than round. Muscle is dry and strong. The pastern is short, strong and very slightly

~~substance are well in proportion to the size of the dog. The pastern is of medium length, strong, and very slightly sloped. Dewclaws may be removed. The feet are cat footed) and round (well padded with the toes curved close together. The nails are strong and black except that they may be white to match white toe tips.~~

Hindquarters: Angulation of the hindquarters is in balance with the forequarters; ~~the angle at the hock is relatively sharp, although the Belgian Malinois should not have extreme angulation.~~ The upper and lower thigh bones should approximately parallel the shoulder blade and upper arm respectively. ~~The legs are in proportion to the size of the dog; oval bone rather than round.~~ Legs are parallel to each other. The thighs should be well muscled. Dewclaws, if any, should be removed. ~~Metatarsi are of medium length, strong, and slightly sloped. The hind feet may be slightly elongated, with toes curved close together and well padded.~~ Nails are strong and ~~black except that they may be white to match white toe tips.~~

Coat: The coat should be comparatively short, straight, hard enough to be weather resistant, with dense undercoat. It should be very short on the head, ears, and lower legs. The hair is somewhat longer around the neck where it forms a collarette, and on the tail and backs of the thighs. The coat should conform to the body without standing out or hanging down.

Color: The ~~basic~~ coloring is a rich fawn to mahogany, with black tips on the hairs giving an overlay appearance. ~~The mask and ears are black.~~ The underparts of the body, tail and breeches are lighter fawn, ~~but washed-out fawn color on the body is a fault. Color should be considered a finishing point, not to take precedence over structure or temperament.~~ The tips of the toes may be white, and a small white spot on the breastbone/~~pre~~sternum is permitted, not to extend to the neck. White markings, except as noted, are faulted.

sloped. Dewclaws may be removed. The feet are cat-like, well padded with the toes curved close together. The nails are strong and black except that they may be white to match the white toe tips.

Hindquarters: The hindquarters are powerful without heaviness. Angulation of the hindquarters is in balance with the forequarters. The upper and lower thigh bones should approximately parallel the shoulder blade and upper arm respectively. Legs are parallel to each other. The thighs should be well muscled. The hocks are short, strong, parallel and moderately angulated. Metatarsi are strong and short. Dewclaws, if any, may be removed. The hind feet are slightly oval, toes are arched and compact. Pads are thick and well-padded. Nails are dark and strong, although they may be white to match white toes.

Coat: The coat should be comparatively short, straight, hard enough to be weather resistant, with dense undercoat. It should be very short on the head, ears, and lower legs. The hair is somewhat longer around the neck where it forms a collarette, and on the tail and backs of the thighs. The coat should conform to the body without standing out or hanging down. Lack of sufficient undercoat to form a double coat is a fault. Hair that is too long, silky or wiry is a fault. The Belgian Malinois is a natural breed and there is no need for excessive grooming.

Color: The ideal coloring is a rich fawn to mahogany, with black tips on the hairs giving an overlay appearance. The blackening must not appear as patched or brindled. The underparts of the body, tail and breeches are lighter fawn. Washed-out fawn color on the body is a fault. The mask must be pronounced and tends to encompass the top and bottom lip, the corners of the lips and the eyelids in one single black zone. The mask and ears appear black. The tips of toes may be white, and a small white spot on the breastbone is permitted, not to extend to the neck. White markings, except as noted, are faulted. Any color or color combination not described in the standard should be disqualified.

Gait: The movement is smooth, free and easy, seemingly never tiring, exhibiting facility of movement rather than a hard driving action. The Belgian Malinois single tracks at a fast gait, the legs, both front and rear, converging toward the center line of gravity, while the topline remains firm and level, parallel to the line of motion with no crabbing. The breed shows a marked tendency to move in a circle rather than a straight line.

Temperament: Correct temperament is essential to the working character of the Belgian Malinois. ~~The breed is confident, exhibiting neither shyness nor aggressiveness in new situations. The dog may be reserved with strangers but is affectionate with his own people. He is naturally protective of his owner's person and property without being overly aggressive. The Belgian Malinois possesses a strong desire to work and is quick and responsive to commands from his owner. Faulty temperament is strongly penalized.~~

~~Faults: The degree to which a dog is penalized should depend upon the extent to which the dog deviates from the standard and the extent to which the particular fault would actually affect the working ability of the dog.~~

Disqualifications:

*Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches and females under 21 inches or over 25 inches.
Ears hanging as on a hound, or semi-prick ears.
An undershot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors.
A cropped or stumped tail.*

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Temperament: Correct temperament is essential to the working character of the Belgian Malinois. He is alert, intelligent, inquisitive and confident, showing neither fear nor aggression. He is energetic, ready for action, yet highly responsive to his owner's direction. His lively character should be evident in his proud carriage and sparkling attentive eyes. The Belgian Malinois is an exceptional watchdog. Vigilant yet responsive, he balances all the qualities needed in a stock dog, protector and sensible working partner. He is firmly loyal to those he loves but may be indifferent with strangers. Displays of fear or aggression are to be severely penalized.

Disqualifications:

*Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches and females under 21 inches or over 25 inches.
Ears hanging as on a hound, or semi-prick ears.
An undershot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors.
A cropped or stumped tail.
Any color or color combination not described in the standard.*