



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB®

September 2022

Dear Parent Club Officers and Delegates:

In connection to the August 2022 AKC Board of Directors' meeting, the following was established:

*Parent Club and Local Specialty Club Collaboration Efforts*

*The Board discussed a memo on the relationship between Parent Clubs and Local Specialty Clubs.*

*The AKC will continue to process prospective new club accreditation requests following current procedures. The AKC reviews all documentation submitted to determine if a prospective club meets the criteria for accreditation, including notifying the Parent Club in advance and reviewing their commentary if offered. To further enhance the collaboration between Parent Clubs and local Specialty Clubs, Parent Clubs will be sent a mailing when they become the AKC Parent Club designated to represent a breed, to encourage any clubs that the Parent club recognized as "regional" clubs to apply for accreditation to become local specialty clubs. The AKC does not recognize regional clubs that may be designated as such by a Parent Club. The mailing to all Parent Club officers and Delegates will indicate the requirements for achieving AKC status as a local specialty club. This will begin in September 2022.*

If your club presently has its own regional clubs in place, which are not AKC accredited, please encourage these clubs to become AKC accredited local specialty clubs in the future. We note that the Sample Constitution and Bylaws Checklist contains the following: *Objects: (For PARENT SPECIALTY CLUBS):- "to encourage the organization of independent local specialty clubs in those localities where there are sufficient fanciers of the breed to meet the requirements of The American Kennel Club;"*.

For your convenience, we are providing the [Club Bylaw Services](#) link which includes the Sample Constitution and Bylaws for Parent Specialty Clubs, as well as the Sample Bylaws Checklist for guidance when adopting your club's Constitution and Bylaws document. Club Relations is glad to assist you with any questions you may have in regard to bylaw reviews, proposed bylaw revisions, or any of the information provided in the link.

The following link to [Check-off List for AKC Club Status Approval](#) and well as the publication entitled [How to Form an AKC- Accredited Dog Club](#) outlines what to submit to AKC when applying for accreditation as a local specialty club.

Newly accredited local specialty clubs must have acceptable club names and bylaws, serve a local area not already served by an existing AKC local specialty club, and be comprised of a minimum of 20 households with separate addresses including breeders, exhibitors, judges and interested dog owners- 12 households must be local to an area not already served by another existing local specialty club for the same breed.

For more information about specific programs available to new local specialty clubs, or AKC's accreditation process please feel free to contact Club Relations at [clubrelations@akc.org](mailto:clubrelations@akc.org)

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Cecin  
Director of Club Relations

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