

AKC DELEGATE REPORT

January 2023

Prudence G. Hlatky

This report will cover the December 2022 Delegates Meeting and the items of interest for the March 2023 meeting. The minutes from both the December Delegate meeting and the AKC Board of Directors meetings are available on the AKC site. Please take time to read the AKC Secretary's page in the Gazette to see what changes may have been made in your areas of interest.

Delegate Meeting (December)

The amendments voted on at the December 2022 meeting were procedural changes and didn't affect the BCOA. Both amendments passed:

Proposed amendment on the Nominating Committee ARTICLE VIII, Section 1 - Aligns with current practices

AKC Chief Financial Officer responsibilities - ARTICLE X, Section 1

I've attached the 13 amendments that will be voted on at the March Delegate's Meeting as back up material for this report. All of these are procedural amendments but are listed for your review.

Slate of Officers for the AKC Board (voted on in March 2023)

Please contact your Regional Governor if have any comments about any candidates or me if you have any questions. A Q&A with the candidates from the Delegate's Perspectives Magazine has been attached to this report.

Committee Slate:

Dr. Charles Garvin, Delegate, Dalmatian Club of America, Inc.

Steven Hamblin, Delegate, Pekingese Club of America

Dan Smyth, Esq., Delegate, Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.

By Petition: Eduardo Toshio Fugiwara: Two Cities Kennel Club

Parent Club (PC):

AKC Legislative Group: A short presentation by the AKC Gov't Relations was given with an update on the **Puppy Protection Act**. It includes draconian measures that limit the freedom of ethical breeders to do what they do. AKC is concerned that it might be included as a rider in some spending bills that may be passed at the very end of the year.

Details: If you have 4 intact females and you transfer any dog for any reason, you will be considered a commercial breeder. Prohibits number of litters bred. Mandates health tests before you can legally breed your dog. If you don't comply, you then must spay the dog that had that litter.

Try to get local legislators to visit people who actually breed, not the naysayers that we find in HSUS and ASPCA. They are NOT breeders and should not be considered as a source for questions about breeding practices. This is how the breed bans we have seen in Europe banning breeding of Bulldogs and Cavaliers got started and it could very well happen here.

This didn't get voted on before the end of the last session, but it is still out there, and anti-dog lobbyists are still promoting it.

Parent Club Best Practices – A series of webinars highlighting some of the important elements of each of the subjects the Best Practices committee has been created. The first two webinars have been presented. BCOA members were sent information and reminders of these webinars. When available the links to the presentations will be shared. Webinar dates are in the backup materials.

All-Breed Committee – good news, bad news: The biggest expense of this year, and for the next few years, is the upgrading and overhaul of the entire software system at AKC. There may be some frustrating moments along the way, but the end result will be a state-of the-art system.

AKC Reunite is the country's largest non-profit pet recovery and microchipping service. In 2022 Reunite enrolled over 600,000 pets and reunited 2,900 lost pets with their owners. Reunite has also provided \$150,000.00 in emergency cash grants to shelters during disasters, including \$50,000.00 to help refugees and their pets fleeing the Ukraine.

AKC Health Foundation is processing canine related grant requests. In 2022, \$2.6 million dollars was allotted to 33 grants. The work that CHF does was recognized in a recent 60 Minutes segment hosted by Anderson Cooper.

Stewarding: there is a new Canine College Course for Stewarding for Conformation, Obedience and Rally which should be available in early 2023. People will be able to become Certified Stewards by taking the FREE course and stewarding at 3 events. Their names would be available on a stewards list on the AKC website. The AKC is not taking over any Stewards Organizations. It has been recommended several times in this committee that club members have knowledge about stewarding since it is such a vital part of a dog event and can greatly influence new exhibitors. Even those who may never actually steward should know what is going on inside the ring.

Miscellaneous: AKC Best Bred-By Exhibitor in Show at a Parent Club show award program. Does the BCOA want to join. AKC will provide the winner of the Best By a free litter registration.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,
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Back-up materials:

CHARTER AND BYLAWS of THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, Inc.
To be voted on at the March 2023, Delegate Meeting

Rule changes to Chapter 6, Section 2A; Chapter 7, Sections 6, 7, 9, 13 and 17; Chapter 9, Section 10; and Chapter 11, Section 6, of the **Rules Applying to Dog Shows** will be read/voted as one amendment.

Chapter 6, Section 2A: Premium Lists and Closing of Entries, deletes verbiage eliminating outdated means of production and inserts distribution methods consistent with current technology and practices. It also inserts show secretary as a required contact to be included in the notice published in premium lists where applicable.

Chapter 7, Section 6: inserts “show secretaries” to bring current with existing and long-standing expectations for those serving as a show secretary.

Chapter 7, Section 7: inserts “show secretaries” to bring current with existing and long-standing expectations for those serving as a show secretary. It also replaces gender pronouns for consistency within the Rules.

Chapter 7, Section 9: inserts “Superintendent or Show Secretary” to the list of individuals responsible to ensure notice of a change of judge is posted at an event. It also replaces gender pronouns for consistency within the Rules.

Chapter 7, Section 13: replaces the word “other” with “another” for clarity. It also replaces gender pronouns for consistency within the Rules.

Chapter 7, Section 17: inserts “Superintendent or Show Secretary” to the list of individuals who may be in possession of judge’s books. It also replaces gender pronouns for consistency within the Rules.

Chapter 9, Section 10: inserts “show secretaries” to bring current with existing and long-standing expectations for those serving as show secretary.

Chapter 11, Section 6: Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, revises and inserts language for clarity about who may make a correction to an entry after closing, and under what conditions.

Chapter 8: Selection of Superintendent, Show Secretary and Veterinarians, replaces “obedience trial or tracking test” with generic “companion event” per the recommendation of the Companion Events Committee. It also inserts content from the deleted Chapter 9, Section 3, addressing the event committee’s responsibility to complete arrangements with a veterinarian to service its show either in attendance or on call. Additionally, it is revised to be consistent with current application procedures which do not ask or require for the name of the Show Veterinarian. Lastly, it relocates content into Chapter 8 which is proposed to be deleted from Chapter 10, Section 2.

Chapter 10, Section 2: Show Veterinarians deletes verbiage related to duty of the club proposed to be inserted into Chapter 8. It also replaces “On call” veterinarian with Show Veterinarian, clarifying that whether in attendance or on call, the Show Veterinarian must be available to examine dogs during show hours. Lastly, the word “treat” is replaced with “examine” for veterinary procedural purposes.

Chapter 11, Section 8: Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, inserts “and all other single entry non-regular classes” to expand the classes in which neutered dogs or spayed bitches may be allowed to compete. It maintains the allowance to only be permissible at independent specialties or All-Breed dog shows where there is no competition beyond Best of Breed. It also maintains that to achieve a Conformation title, a neutered or spayed entrant must have first attained its Championship title by competing unaltered in the regular classes. It corresponds to the proposal to Chapter 6, Section 2, which adds verbiage to clarify that information must be included in the premium list if the club elects to permit neutered dogs and spayed bitches to compete in Veterans, or any other single-entry non-regular class.

Chapter 6, Section 2: Premium Lists and Closing of Entries, inserts “and/” to reflect the need, when applicable, to list both a superintendent and individual show secretary in the premium list. It also inserts for clarity that notification must be included in the premium list for an independent specialty or AllBreed dog show that does not offer Groups or Best in Show, if the club has elected to allow neutered dogs or spayed bitches to compete in non-regular classes.

Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers- **Chapter 14, Section 11:** will not allow Local Retriever Field Trials that award championship points to do so during the two National Championship events. This provision does not prohibit clubs from holding derby stakes, qualifying stakes or owner-handler qualifying stakes.

Parent Club Committee Best Practices Webinar Schedule:

1/10/23 Club Organization – Cindy Stansell

1/24/23 Governance & Elections – Jim Cheskawich

2/7/23 Club Finances – Cindy Stansell
2/21/23 Membership – Alyson Casper
3/7/23 Committees – Richard Rohrbacher
3/21/23 Breeder Education & Mentoring & Juniors – Mari-Beth
4/4/23 Health – Susanne Burgess
4/18/23 Club Websites – Don James
5/2/23 Club Publications & Social Media – Don James
5/16/23 Public Education / Judge's Education – Don Hanson
6/30/23 Staging the National Specialty – Karen Burgess