

**American Kennel Club, Inc.**  
**MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**AKC Offices at 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY and via Video Conference**  
**July 14, 2020**

The Board convened via Video Conference on Monday, July 14, 2020 at 11:02 a.m.

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

The May 11, 2020 Board meeting minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the May 11, 2020 Board meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Mr. Sprung reported that Management continues daily meetings to collaborate between areas of responsibility and plan alternatives for the short and long term. Multiple departments are working together analyzing individual state regulations and their effect on staff's ability to travel to events and inspections.

There has been very positive feedback from our core constituency on the President's ongoing communications which provides updated information on AKC's efforts on every front.

Departments are running efficiently; some highlights among many others are, increases in each facet of the registration department which will be addressed today by a presentation from Mark Dunn. Public Education has offered 72 breed webinars with 20,875 live attendees and additionally the recordings have been viewed 4,504 times. AKC.org garnered more than 10 million unique people visiting in June which is a 53% year over year increase. Marketplace continues to assist breeders with puppy sales and last month 2 million people went to these pages, a gain of 54% over last year. AKC's Instagram and TikTok accounts entertained additional followers.

Throughout the pandemic AKC.TV produced 42 new episodes. Live coverage is scheduled for the July 25<sup>th</sup> conformation dog show in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania and the Diving Dogs event in Rock Falls, Illinois on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Virtual events are increasing in popularity as they engage the core constituency and are welcoming of those new to AKC. The first virtual conformation show did well; thanks to each Judge including Board members Red Tatro, Rita Biddle and Dr. Charles Garvin. As a result of the show AKC donated \$7,000 from entries to Take the Lead. The next virtual show is in the planning stages for August and a donation will be made to "AKC Reunite Adopt A Canine Program" which will be matched by AKC Reunite.

Finally, Mr. Sprung was happy to announce that a number of former employees were rehired and positions have been offered to other former staff.

In this challenging environment, AKC is proud and grateful to provide quality services to the fancy as well as those individuals who are new to the dog world.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

### **Legal Update:**

The Board reviewed a legal update as of June 2020.

### **FINANCE**

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, provided a financial update for the five months ended May 31, 2020:

YTD Net Operating Income is \$4.637 million which is \$2.05 million higher than the same period in 2019. This is primarily due to higher revenues from litter and dog registrations, merchandise sales, admissions to Meet the Breeds held in January 2020 and cost containment measures which kept overall costs similar to the same period in 2019. Revenue increases were offset by lower revenue from Recording & Service Fees in 2020.

Comparison to 2020 YTD Budget as of May 31, 2020: Total Revenues were lower than the 2020 budget by \$(879k) or (2.5%). This is primarily driven by declines in event revenues of \$(2.134M) and offset by increased revenue from Registrations & Pedigrees of \$1.584M and Merchandise Sales of \$755k.

Total Expenses were lower than the 2020 budget by \$(4.556M) or (13%).

Total Revenues were lower than the 2020 budget by \$(879k) or (2.5%). Increased activity in Registration led to the best May in both Litters and Dogs since 2009 and 2007, respectively.

### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

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

### **Australian Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board reviewed the proposed revision to the Tail section of the Australian Terrier Breed Standard as submitted by The Australian Terrier Club of America, Inc. (ATCA). The current standard was approved August 9, 1988.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed standard revision for publication for comment on the Secretary's page of the *AKC Gazette*.

### **Belgian Malinois Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the Belgian Malinois Breed Standard as submitted by the American Belgian Malinois Club, Inc. (ABMC). The Board asked staff to go back to the Parent Club for clarification on the proposed changes to the Size, Proportion, Substance; Neck, Topline, Body and Head sections of the Standard. This will be discussed further at a future Board meeting.

**Chinook Breed Standard Revision**

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the Chinook breed standard as submitted by the Chinook Club of America (CCA). The current standard was approved November 11, 2009.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed standard revisions for publication for comment on the Secretary's page of the *AKC Gazette*.

**Siberian Husky Breed Standard Revision**

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the Nose and Color, Patterns and Markings sections of Siberian Husky breed standard as submitted by the Siberian Husky Club of America (SHCA).

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Davies, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed standard revisions for publication for comment on the Secretary's page of the *AKC Gazette*.

**Proposed Amendment to Article VIII, Section 7 of the AKC Bylaws**

The Board reviewed a proposed amendment to Article VIII, Section 7 of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, Inc. which was submitted by the Beaumont Kennel Club in accordance with Article XX, Sections 1 and 3 of the Bylaws.

Article VIII of AKC Bylaws addresses the Nominating Committee and Elections. Currently Section 7 of Article VIII reads: SECTION 7. All elections shall be by ballot.

The wording of the current Bylaw, strictly interpreted, requires AKC to hold an election for Board members even if there are no candidates running in opposition to the Nominating Committee's Slate. The Beaumont Kennel Club is proposing an amendment that will add wording into the Bylaws so that if no valid additional nominations are received by the Executive Secretary; no balloting will be required, and the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected.

This will be discussed further at the August meeting.

**Nominating Committee**

The Executive Secretary informed the Board that the Nominating Committee for the March 2021 election of AKC Directors must be appointed by August 15, 2020 and its report must be received no later than October 15, 2020.

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 2021 meeting. There are four (4) vacancies for the Class of 2025.

**Nominating Committee**

Ms. Nancy Fisk, Chair, Hockamock KC  
Viola Burgos, Naugatuck Valley KC  
Eduardo Toshio Fujiwara, Fort Lauderdale Dog Club

Doug Johnson, Colorado Springs Kennel Club  
Harold Miller, American Foxhound Club

Alternates:

Marge B Calltharp, Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America  
Melanie Steele, Abilene Kennel Club

### **COMPANION and PERFORMANCE**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Dr. Mary Burch, Director, AKC Family Dog Program; Carrie DeYoung, Director, Agility; Pamela Manaton, Director, Obedience, Rally, Tracking; and Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

### **Basset Hound Field Trials – Request to Hold Four Trials Per Year**

The Board reviewed recommendations from the Basset Hound Club of America to modify the Basset Hound Field Trial Rules to allow a Basset Hound club to hold up to four trials per year, and to modify the Basset Hound Field Trial Regulations to allow dogs running in Small Pack and Large Pack trials to wear different colored collars rather than have a number painted on their sides.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to amend Chapter 3, Section 1 of *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds* to allow each club to hold up to four trials per year.

Chapter 3, Section 1 of *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds*

Chapter 3 Making Application to Hold a Field Trial

SECTION 1. A club which wishes to hold a licensed or member field trial must apply to The American Kennel Club on a form which will be supplied on request to clubs that meet the requirements of The American Kennel Club. This application will be referred to the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club which will consider it and notify the club of its approval or disapproval. A licensed or member club is allowed to hold up to four field trials per calendar year

This will be read at the September Delegates meeting for a vote at the December Delegates meeting.

The Board also VOTED to modify the Field Trial Regulations – Procedures 7B and 8A to allow dogs running in Small Pack and Large Pack trials to wear different colored collars rather than have a number painted on their sides. This change is effective as of communication to the fancy of the change.

*Additional Standard Procedures for the Basset Hound Field Trials Run in Small Packs on Rabbit or Hare*

Procedure 7-B. The Hounds shall be numbered consecutively as entered, starting with the number "1." Each Hound shall have its number painted on both its sides with a durable paint, the figures to be at least 3 ½ inches high and clearly visible. The Field Trial Secretary and his assistant, if any, shall be the only persons to record each number against the name of the corresponding Hound. These numbers shall be used in the drawing and running of the packs and the names of the Hounds must not be used. Alternatively, hounds may wear color coded collars. The colors to be used are Red, White, Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, Pink, Silver or Black.

Procedure 8-A. The Hounds shall be numbered as entered, starting with the number "1." Each Hound shall have its number painted on both its sides with a durable paint, the figures to be at least 3 ½ inches high and clearly visible. The Field Trial Secretary and his assistant, if any, shall be the only persons to record each number against the name of the corresponding Hound. These numbers shall be used in any drawing and in the running of the packs and the names of the Hounds must not be used. Alternatively, hounds may wear color coded collars. The colors to be used are Red, White, Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, Pink, Silver or Black.

**Dachshund Field Trials – Dachshund Club of America Request**

The Board reviewed a request from the Dachshund Club of America to make two changes to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Dachshunds* to permit the use of tracking collars at the option of the host club, and to require one of the two judges of a stake to have the experience of judging at least ten Dachshund field trials.

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

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the two changes to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Dachshunds* – Procedure 3. Judging 3-D Collars to permit the use of tracking collars at the option of the host club, and Chapter 5, Section 1 Qualifications to Judge to require one of the two judges of a stake to have the experience of judging at least ten Dachshund field trials.

The changes will become effective December 1, 2020.

**PROCEDURE 3. JUDGING**

**3-D Collars.** If a Dachshund under judgment wears a collar, it shall be a well-fitting collar with nothing hanging from it and with no attachments other than tags for identification purposes.

*Dachshunds may wear tracking collars at the option of the club. The premium list and event advertising must state that tracking collars are allowed, otherwise they will not be allowed. The collar surface against the dog's neck shall be flat (no protrusions). While the Dachshunds are under judgment, handheld devices must be turned off. Handheld devices may be turned on only after the Dachshund has been eliminated from competition by the judges or judgment has ceased.*

## CHAPTER 5 JUDGES AND THEIR DECISIONS

### SECTION 1. Qualifications to Judge.

*For all regular classes, a judge who has judged less than 10 AKC licensed or member Dachshund field trials must be paired with a judge who has judged 10 or more AKC licensed or member Dachshund field trials.*

### **Assisting Companion Event Clubs and Exhibitors – Waive “Two-Judge” Requirement for 2020**

The Board reviewed a recommendation from Staff to waive the “two-judge” requirement in agility, obedience and rally for the remainder 2020. Many titles in these sports require three passes under at least two different judges. The coronavirus has made it difficult to find judges from outside the club’s area, thus limiting the pool of judges available for their events. In some cases, exhibitors are having trouble achieving their titles.

The two-judge requirement applies to the beginning to mid-level titles in agility, obedience and rally – 18 agility titles, 10 obedience titles and four rally titles. Waiving this requirement for the remainder of 2020 when some judges are reluctant to travel will provide exhibitors more opportunities to earn their titles, enabling them to continue their growth in the sport by moving up to the next higher level.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Carota, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to waive the “two-judge” requirement in agility, obedience and rally for the remainder of 2020. This change is effective retroactively back to events held on or after July 1, 2020.

### **Agility – Allowing Dogs with Coloring to Participate**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to make permanent the current “Pilot Program” regulation that permits Dogs with artificial coloring in their coats to participate in AKC agility trials and ACT tests.

In July 2019 the Board approved a regulation allowing dogs that have been colored to participate in AKC agility events on a one-year trial basis. The Regulations included qualifications meant to prevent extreme cases of coloring. The purpose of allowing dogs that have been colored is to add an element of fun to events through allowing clubs to adopt themes or to encourage dog to “run for the cause” in support of a local activity. During the one-year trial period there have been no issues regarding coloring.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, 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. Powers, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (In favor: Ms. Biddle, Dr. Battaglia, Mr. Carota, Dr. Davies, Mr. Hamblin, Dr. Knight, Ms. McAteer, Mr. Powers, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Tatro, Mrs. Wallin; against: Dr. Garvin) to approve Chapter 4, New Section 12 of *Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Tests*.

#### CHAPTER 4

New Section 12. Dogs with Coloring.

Dogs with artificial coloring in their coats may participate in AKC agility trials and ACT tests. The coloring must not cover more than one-third of the dog's coat. Coloring below the hocks and elbows may not be yellow. Colored markings on a dog must not be in poor taste and cannot contain profanity or conflict with a sponsor of a trial. It is the responsibility of the judge to decide if the coloring is acceptable.

#### **North America Diving Dogs Premier Title**

The Board reviewed a request from North American Diving Dogs (NADD) that the AKC recognize the new NADD Premier title. This is a title for the dogs that jump over 28 feet. Currently the highest title recognizes dogs that jump over 24 feet. With the increasing number of dogs participating in the sport and the growth in private facilities where dogs can practice, dogs are jumping further. NADD would like to acknowledge dogs that jump over 28 feet on five plus occasions by awarding a new Premier title to dogs:

DP title Dock Premier – for dogs that jump over 28 feet on five occasions.

DPA title – Dock Premier Advanced – over 28 feet on 30 occasions.

DPX title – Dock Premier Excellent – over 28 feet on 55 occasions.

DPX# - Every additional 25 jumps over 28 feet will result in a number after the Excellent title.

Higher level titles will supersede lower titles on the dog's pedigree.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Davies, the Board VOTED to recognize the new NADD Premier titles. This is an addition to the Title Recognition Program and AKC will start processing NADD Premier titles on October 16, 2020.

#### **Dr. Mary Burch – International Journal of Comparative Psychology**

The Board was advised of a research paper by Dr. Mary Burch which is to be published in the *International Journal of Comparative Psychology*. During the development of the AKC Temperament Test, Dr. Burch conducted research on the history of canine temperament testing. She became fascinated with the question of whether temperament is something that can be modified. If temperament cannot be modified, then a test is predictive. If temperament can be modified, then a test could be prescriptive. She wrote a paper on her research, which has now been accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Comparative Psychology*.

The abstract follows:

Assessment of Canine Temperament: Predictive or Prescriptive?

Mary R. Burch American Kennel Club

Abstract: Canine temperament testing has historically been linked to the predictability of future behavior. A predictive model of canine temperament testing assumes that a dog's behavior in one situation will likely be similar to its behavior in a variety of other situations. An alternative model is proposed for a canine temperament test that could identify areas in which a dog might fail to perform certain test items, but by using modern behavior analysis techniques, behaviors could be modified through a prescriptive approach. This article describes the AKC Temperament Test (ATT), which is the first prescriptive canine temperament test. The ATT is designed to provide pet dog owners with information about potential problem areas that can be modified through training.

#### **Dr. Mary Burch – Serving on a National Academy of Sciences Study Review Committee**

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (often shorted to the National Academy of Sciences or the National Academies) is a private, nonprofit, nongovernmental institution to advise the nation on issues related to science and technology. It was established in 1863 by an Act of Congress, signed by President Lincoln. The purpose of the National Academy of Sciences is to contribute to the welfare of the nation by providing evidence-based counsel on complex questions in science, engineering, and health. The results of the study process are intended to inform government decision making and increase public understanding.

The Board was advised that The National Academy of Sciences has invited Dr. Burch to participate 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.”

The AKC Board extended its congratulations and appreciation to Dr. Burch for her excellent work on behalf of AKC and dogs.

#### **CONFORMATION**

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

#### **Additional Actions to Assist Conformation Clubs and Exhibitors in 2020**

In April and May the Board approved 16 modifications to event policies/procedure for 2020 to provide clubs greater flexibility to hold events and provide increased opportunities for exhibitors.

The Board reviewed three additional modifications recommended by staff that would pertain to conformation events.

1. Allow up to three events offering Championship points at the same site on the same day. At least one of the three competitions must be held by a specialty club.



2. Allow clubs to request an exception to hold their conformation show more than 200 miles outside their territory.

3. Allow clubs to publish in their premium list that the location of the rings, indoors or outdoors, will be determined on the day of the event. Refunds will not be granted based on the final location.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to separate these matters and consider each recommendation separately.

### **Number of opportunities to compete in a single day**

Many Specialty clubs are seeking to reschedule their shows later in the year in conjunction with all-breed shows. In some cases, this creates a situation where a breed could be shown three times in a day. A number of AKC policies limit the number of events per day offering Championship points to two. Specialty clubs and exhibitors would benefit if the policies were modified to allow up to three events offering Championship points at the same site on the same day.

The Board reviewed a staff recommendation to allow up to three events offering Championship points at the same site on the same day during the 2020 calendar year. At least one of the three competitions must be held by a specialty club.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Davies, the Board VOTED (In favor: Ms. Biddle, Mr. Carota, Dr. Davies, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Powers, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Smyth, Mrs. Wallin; against: Dr. Battaglia, Dr. Garvin, Dr. Knight, Ms. McAteer, Mr. Tatro,) to allow up to three events offering Championship points at the same site on the same day during the 2020 calendar year. At least one of the three competitions must be held by a specialty club.

### **Distance a club may travel outside of its territory to hold an event**

In April, the Board approved the following adjustment for 2020: Extend the distance conformation clubs may hold a show outside their territory from 125 miles to 200 miles. This applies to all types of conformation clubs – Specialty clubs, Group clubs and All-breed clubs.

This has allowed some clubs to consider sites and clusters to hold their events in less restrictive areas. The AKC has received requests from clubs where their best or only opportunity is over the 200-mile exception, often by a few miles. Staff recommends allowing clubs to request an exception to hold their conformation show more than 200 miles outside their territory for the rest of 2020.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mrs. Wallin the Board VOTED (unanimously)

to permit Clubs to request an exception to hold their conformation show no more than 300 miles outside their territory. Staff will review and approve provided the request is reasonable.

**AKC Show Manual indoor/outdoor requirement**

The AKC Show Manual states that when a combination indoor/outdoor site is used, the breeds and/or classes to be judged outdoors must be specified in the premium list. This allows exhibitors to determine if they want to compete in the situation provided, indoors or outdoors. If a change in location has to be made, exhibitors are entitled to a refund if requested.

COVID regulations continue to change regarding indoor venues. Clubs are requesting they be allowed to state on the premium list that the determination of ring location, indoors or outdoors, will be made on the day of the event and not risk exhibitors cancelling their entries based on a change in location. This provides clubs some flexibility to move forward with their events if they have space for outdoor judging and the restrictions for indoor gatherings have not eased. This also provides exhibitors with the information needed to enter or not, knowing the exact location they will be competing has not been determined.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Tatro the Board VOTED (In favor: Dr. Battaglia, Ms. Biddle, Mr. Carota, Dr. Davies, Dr. Garvin, Dr. Knight, Ms. McAteer, Mr. Powers, Mr. Sweetwood, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Tatro, Mrs. Wallin; abstained: Mr. Hamblin) to approve the following policy:

During the calendar year 2020, clubs may publish in their premium list that the location of the rings, indoors or outdoors, will be determined on the day of the event. Refunds will not be granted based on the final location.

**Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 1, New Paragraph 8**

Dennis Sprung reviewed the recommended changes to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 8. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic occurring in the United States in 2020 many Parent Clubs have been forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Specialty.

Staff is recommending an amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 16, Section 1, via the incorporation of a new paragraph 8 to permit a 2020 National Specialty to be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty.

At the June Dog Show Rules Committee zoom meeting, the Committee voted to request that the Board make an exception to the rules to permit this in 2021. A rule change is required per our Bylaws in order to allow two National Specialties in one year and the offering of reserve majors at each if desired.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, 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 Ms. Biddle the Board VOTED (unanimously) To approve an amendment to *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 16, Section 1, new paragraph 8 to permit a 2020 National Specialty to be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty.

New Paragraph 8 – A 2020 National Specialty may be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty. If a Parent Club chooses to hold either one or two National Specialties in the 2021 calendar year, the Parent Club may exercise an option with its application to exclude the Reserve Winners three-point major from one or both National Specialties. This paragraph is applicable to 2021 only and will self-eliminate on December 31, 2021.

If approved, Field Trial National Championships held by the Parent Club would also be allowed to hold a 2020 National in 2021 in addition to a 2021 event. (*Pointing Breed Field Trial Rules*, Chapter 14, Sections 8 – 35; *Spaniel Field Trial Rules*, Chapter 15, Sections 23-26; *Lure Coursing Trial Rules*, Chapter 14)

These proposed Rule changes will be read to the Delegates at the September meeting for a Vote at the December meeting and would be effective January 1, 2021 for the 2021 calendar year.

#### **Publishing of the Premium List and the Acceptance of Entries**

The Board discussed the situation where premium lists were being published and events were closing in a matter of minutes/hours. Many exhibitors were not aware of the opportunity to enter until after the event had closed due to the entry limit being reached. Staff recommended an additional 2020 Action to help the sport policy to require a minimum delay between the publishing of the premium list and the acceptance of entries.

#### **Publishing of the Premium List and the Acceptance of Entries**

In order to provide fair opportunity for all exhibitors to enter upcoming events, premium lists are required to be published at least 72 hours prior to the acceptance of entries. Events whose entries are limited must have a defined Date and Time for the opening of entries which is to be prominently displayed in the premium list.

There was no objection to this recommendation.

#### **Standing Approval of Special Attractions**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to add UpDog Disc Dog events to the list of Special Attractions with standing approval.

The AKC Board of Directors has established standing approval for common Special Attractions. The AKC has partnered with the UpDog organization in the sport of Disc Dog. The recommendation is that Disc Dog events held under the guidelines of the UpDog organization be added to the list of Special Attractions with standing Board approval.

Without objection, the Sports & Events Department will grant standing approval for Disc Dog Special Attractions held according to the guidelines of the UpDog organization.

There was no objection to this recommendation.

### **JUDGING OPERATIONS**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; and Tim Thomas, Vice President, Dog Show Judges, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

### **Conformation Judging Statistics**

Judging Operations provides to the Board statistics related to conformation judging applications considered by the Judges Review Committee in the previous three months. The Board reviewed the list of New Breed (NB) and Additional Breed applicants presented for final approval during the months of April - June 2020, and the year-to-date summary statistics for 2020.

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### **FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY**

#### **2020 NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
<b>January</b>	4	4	0	0	0	1	6	6	0
<b>February</b>	7	7	0	0	0	1	7	7	0
<b>March</b>	7	6	1	0	0	0	11	9	0
<b>April</b>	5	5	0	0	0	0	7	7	0
<b>May</b>	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
<b>June</b>	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
<b>AB TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>

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**FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY**
**2020 ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
<b>January</b>	33	30	2	1	0	0	207	195	0
<b>February</b>	18	15	3	0	0	0	98	94	0
<b>March</b>	30	28	2	0	0	1	215	213	0
<b>April</b>	27	23	3	1	0	1	140	131	0
<b>May</b>	24	20	4	0	0	0	133	121	6
<b>June</b>	16	13	3	0	0	0	106	99	3
<b>AB TOTAL</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>9</b>

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**FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY**
**2020 YEAR-TO-DATE**

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
<b>NB</b>	28	27	1	0	0	2	37	35	0
<b>AB</b>	148	129	17	2	0	2	899	853	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>9</b>

**CLUBS**

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; and Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

**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, a report on Member Club Bylaws approved and newly licensed clubs.

**Report on Member Clubs Bylaws Approved in May and June 2020**

Great Dane Club of America (1893)

### **Report on Newly Licensed Clubs approved in May and June 2020**

Big Apple Working Group Club, greater New York, NY (including communities in Long Island and New Jersey, northeast to Manorville, NY, southwest to Stockton, NJ, northwest to New Milford, NJ and southwest to Robbinsville, NJ), 30 total households, 27 local.

Lone Star Dog Obedience Club, greater Dallas, TX (including communities west of I-45/Rte75, east to Rockwall and north to McKinney), 40 total households, 24 local.

### **Sample Bylaws Committee Update**

The Sample Bylaws Study Committee sent a letter via email blast on June 5, 2020 to all member club Delegates, Presidents and Secretaries requesting their input on the club bylaw review and approval process, as well as potential content revisions to the local club sample bylaws and parent club sample bylaws.

AKC's email support team determined that while the email was delivered to all Delegates, some may not have received it possibly due to promotional links and "junk" folders.

The Sample Bylaws Study Committee will resend the letter, include it on the Delegate List, and extend the deadline for input submissions from August 1, 2020 to August 15, 2020.

### **COMPLIANCE**

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

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

### **REGISTRATION UPDATE**

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President, presented May YTD Registration data and analysis, including the following:

- May Year-to-Date (YTD) Litter Registration is now 5% better than projected and 7% better than last year.
- May YTD Dog Registration is now 10% better than projected and 12% better than last year.
- May YTD Total Revenue from Registration and related products and services, including DNA, AKC Canine Partners and AKC GoodDog Helpline is \$21.9M, which is 8% better than projected and \$2.8M better than the same period last year.
- Analysis of recent dog registration activity revealed that US households that registered an AKC dog in May were 20% more likely to be new to AKC than during the same month in 2019
- The AKC Call Center has experienced a 15% to 25% increase in daily contact volume during the COVID pandemic driven by increased interest in dog acquisition and dog registration

### **CONSENT**

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

- Delegate and Club Approvals

- Boerboel Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Parent Club Request to retire Hetherbull (Bulldog)

### **Delegate Approvals**

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

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

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

Dr. 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, Allwood, NJ  
To represent Saint Bernard Club of America

### **Request for AKC Membership Approval**

The Board VOTED to approve the credentials of the following club which will be VOTED on by the Delegates:

Sherwood Dog Training Club  
Focal Point: Sherwood, OR First License Trial: August 28, 2010 92 Households, 37 Local  
Bylaws: Acceptable  
Recommendation: Published in May & June 2020 AKC Gazettes

### **Boerboel Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to approve the proposed revision to the Boerboel standard with an effective date of September 30, 2020.

Official Standard of the Boerboel General Appearance: Historically the Boerboel developed as a general farm dog for the pioneers who settled in South Africa since the seventeenth century. These dogs were often the first line of defense against predators and were valuable in tracking and holding down wounded game. Old farmers told many a tale of the strength, agility and courage of the Boerboel. The dangers and harsh conditions of southern Africa allowed only the fittest to survive. The protective character of the Boerboel is today still evident and is much sought after, as is the calm, stable and confident composure of the breed. The origin and purpose of the Boerboel should be understood in order to preserve the unique identity and qualities of the breed as a South African developed mastiff. Type, conformation, functional efficiency and mentality are equally important in the evaluation of the Boerboel as a whole. The Boerboel is a large dog that is strong, confident and muscular in appearance with powerful, free-

flowing movement. When observing a Boerboel at play or work, standing or moving, it should show strength, suppleness, nimbleness and agility.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** The preferred height for Dogs - 24 to 27 inches. Bitches - 22 to 25 inches. Balance, proportion and sound movement are of utmost importance-more so than size. The body should have a greater total length than total height and the relation between the length and height should ideally be 10:9. Length of body is measured pro-sternum to farthest point of rump. Height is measured from the top of the shoulder blade to the ground. Depth of the chest reaches down to the point of the elbow, which is approximately half the total height at the withers. Front and rear angulation should be equal for proper balance. Dogs are characteristically of larger frame and heavier bone than bitches. Bitches are feminine, but without weakness of substance or structure. Serious fault - Severely out of proportion and balance. Reversal of sex characteristics.

**Head:** The head is an impressive and a distinctive feature of the Boerboel. It should be blocky, broad, deep, square and muscular, with well filled cheeks and in proportion to the body. Moderate wrinkling is observed over the forehead when the dog shows interest. The skull is square, flat and muscular. The zygomatic arch (cheek bone) is well muscled, but not too prominent. The stop is visible, gradually sloping. It should not be steep. The muzzle is broad, deep and narrows slightly towards the nose, straight and almost on a parallel plane with the skull. The muzzle measures slightly more than a third of the total length of the head. The nostrils are completely black, large and widely spaced, with the septum (vertical line) of the nose perpendicular to the lower jaw. The jaws are strong, deep and wide, and taper slightly to the front. The teeth are white, strong, correctly spaced with complete dentition preferred. Ideally the dog should have a scissors bite. An under bite of up to ¼ inch is acceptable. The upper lip is loose and fleshy. Under the nose, the end of the upper lip must touch the top of the bottom lip. Viewed in profile, the flews must not extend below the lowest level of the jawbone. The lower lip is moderately tight without excessive jowls. The eyes are medium sized, neither protruding or receding, forward facing and widely spaced, with an intelligent expression. The eyelids must be tight fitting with complete pigmentation, showing no structural weakness. The color of the eye is preferably dark brown but all shades of brown (preferably darker than the coat) are acceptable. The ears are medium sized, V shaped, hanging forward, medium leather, tapering to a rounded point that reaches almost down to a line extending from the mouth. They are set wide and are carried close to the head. When the dog is attentive the top of the ears and the skull give the appearance of widening. The facial expression should be intelligent and attentive. Serious fault - Yellow (bird of prey) eyes. Disqualifications - Blue eye(s), entropion or ectropion, overbite, under bite of more than ¼ inch, wry mouth, prick ears.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** The neck is powerful, of medium length, and forms a muscular arch. It flows smoothly into the sloping shoulders, gradually increasing in width from the head to the shoulders. (In the female the muscles are less accentuated but should remain in balance with the head and body). The dewlap is noticeable but disappears towards the sternum. The topline is firm and level, extending in a straight line from behind the withers to the croup. The back remains horizontal to the ground while the dog is moving or standing. The underline of a mature dog has a slight tuck-up. The body is blocky, muscular and solid, with good depth and width. The back is broad and straight, with pronounced muscles. The ribcage is well sprung and well



filled behind the shoulder blades. The transitions between the chest, loin and rump are well filled and flowing. The loin is strong and muscular, and only slightly narrower than the ribcage and rump. The croup is broad, flat and strong, with well-defined musculature. Its height should not exceed the height at the shoulders. The tail is thick and set fairly high. It should be well covered with hair and without kink. The tail may be docked or left undocked, both being equivalent. If docked, tails are traditionally docked at the third or fourth caudal vertebrae. The undocked tail should reach to the hocks when the dog is standing and be carried with a slight curve upwards when excited or moving. Tail set is more important than the length.

**Forequarters:** The forelegs are strong boned, with well-defined muscles. Viewed from the side the forearm should be vertical from the elbow to the pastern. When viewed from the front they should be parallel to each other, not bowed or with toes turning inward. Elbows should be held close to the body. Length of the foreleg to the elbow is approximately 50 percent of the dog's height at the shoulder. The chest is broad, deep and wide with well-sprung ribs and strong developed pectoral muscles. The shoulders are moderately sloping, powerful and muscular, with no tendency to looseness. The shoulder blade is long with moderate angulation. The upper arm is equal in both length and angulation to the shoulder blade. The pastern is short, thick and strong and with a slight slope when viewed from the side. The front feet point straight forward, are large, round, strongly boned and compact. The toes are well arched, with short, preferably black toenails and protected by hair in between. Front dewclaws may be removed. The pads are thick, tough and black.

**Hindquarters:** The hindquarter is sturdy and muscular. The hind legs are strong boned. The stifle should be sound, strong and moderately angulated and in balance with the forequarters, to support the powerful propulsion from the hindquarters during movement. The upper thighs are broad, deep and muscular as seen from the side and the rear. The lower thighs have well defined muscles and show substance down to the hocks. The metatarsus is broad, relatively short and perfectly upright. The hind feet point straight forward. Rear dewclaws, if any, are generally removed.

**Coat and Color:** The coat is short, dense, smooth and shiny. The skin is thick and loose but fits smoothly. Skin is well pigmented. The recognized colors / patterns are with or without a mask; however, the black mask is desirable. Red, Brown, Reddish Brown, Fawn, Cream, brindle in any accepted color and Irish Marked. Limited clear white patches on the legs and the fore chest are permissible. Piebald, a white dog, with colored markings, total area of white may not exceed 33 percent or is disqualified, ticking or spots within the white to be disqualified. The Boerboel is well pigmented, especially on the lips, palate, the skin and hair around the eyes, nose leather, paw pads, toenails, the anus and the skin and hair around the genitals. Disqualifications - Blue colored (Powder Coat) dogs, any base color not listed, long coat, and nose leather in any color other than black.

**Movement:** Movement is the ultimate test for correct conformation. The Boerboel is the most agile of the molosser breeds and it should be reflected in its movement. The Boerboel's movement is powerful and with purpose. The front reach should complement a strong rear drive. The legs and body should move in line front to rear. As speed increases the legs will

converge under body towards a center line. The back remains firm and strong and without excess body roll.

Temperament: The Boerboel is a dominant and intelligent dog with strong protective instincts and a willingness to please. When approached is calm, stable and confident, at times displaying a self-assured aloofness. He should recognize a threat or lack thereof. He is loving with children and family. An aggressive or belligerent attitude towards other dogs should not be faulted. Boerboels that are shown in competition should be trained to allow examination.

Faults: The foregoing description is that of the ideal Boerboel. Any deviation that detracts from the above described dog must be penalized to the extent of the deviation. Severely out of proportion and balance. Reversal of sex characteristics. Yellow (bird of prey) eyes.

Disqualifications: Blue Eye(s). Entropion or ectropion. Under shot greater than ¼ inch or overshot bite. Wry mouth. Prick ears. Blue colored (Powdered Coat) dogs, white exceeding more than 33 percent of the color on a dog, ticking or spots within the areas of white. Any base color not listed. Long coat. Nose leather in any color other than black.

#### **Parent Club Request to retire Hetherbull (Bulldog)**

The Board VOTED to grant the request from the Bulldog Club of America, Inc., to retire the kennel name "Hetherbull" for Bulldogs.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **September Delegate Meeting**

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to hold the quarterly September Delegate Meeting as a virtual meeting via Zoom technology on Tuesday, September 15, 2020. Voting for all planned and published proposed Rule changes will take place in the meeting. Delegate Committee Meetings will be held the week of September 8-11, 2020. Meetings will follow the same format as the June 2020 Committee meetings.

##### **Vote for Standing Committees in September**

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) that the vote for Standing Committees should be held at the September Delegates meeting in accordance with AKC's Bylaws and the Delegate Committee Standing Rule.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, July 14 at 5:12 p.m.

Adjourned

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary.