



# gazette

SEPTEMBER 2023



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THE  
BLACK &  
WHITE ISSUE

*Siedberg-*

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**RUSH**  
SMALL DOG AGILITY WINNER  
IDC WESTERN REGIONAL



**BOO**  
MEDIUM DOG AGILITY WINNER  
IDC WESTERN REGIONAL



**RICKY BOBBY**  
LARGE DOG AGILITY WINNER  
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# CONGRATS

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## Fall Preview

As we prepare for the end of the summer, AKC remains as busy as ever.

First and foremost, we want to thank the parent and local clubs, exhibitors, and their dogs that made the AKC Meet the Breeds Chicago (in conjunction with the [International Kennel Club](#)) a success. The public truly enjoyed meeting and learning about our various breeds, seeing exciting demos, talking to breed experts, and learning about what breeds fit their lifestyles. This family-friendly event was made possible by our clubs and volunteers who gave us their valued time and energy. We deeply appreciate your continued support of [AKC Meet the Breeds](#) as we educated dog lovers about our cherished breeds, the work of the AKC and how to be responsible dog owners.



The next stop for AKC Meet the Breeds is Columbus, Ohio, on October 14 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. We are excited to return to Columbus to once again engage with dog lovers of every age. More than 50 clubs have signed up to represent their beloved breeds. To ensure your breed is represented, please e-mail us at [meetthebreeds@akc.org](mailto:meetthebreeds@akc.org)

for information.

September is an exciting month for agility with the first-ever [AKC Agility League National Championships](#). Thirty teams from around the country will descend on Purina Farms from September 2 to 4 for high-spirited competition. This in-person championship is a celebration of the Agility League's

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Italian Greyhound Tate competing in the AKC Agility League with the Windy City Weavers, of Chicago, in 2022.*

first year of competition. The top teams in each division will be crowned as champions of their divisions, and the top individual dogs will be awarded in each jump height class. There also will be fun team-related contests, including Best Team Shirt and Best Decorated Team Crating Area. The action will livestream on [AKC.tv](https://www.akc.org/tv), with more than 540 runs over the weekend that feature com-

petition for every level, from Novice to International.

Congratulations are also in order for the AKC 2023 [AKC/USA World Agility Team](https://www.akc.org/usa-world-agility-team) members and their alternates. Coached by Nancy Gyes and Assistant Coach John Nys, the team will travel to the Czech Republic to compete in the FCI Agility World Championship taking place October 4 to 8. The AKC/

USA World Agility Team is proudly sponsored by YuMOVE. This is an amazing accomplishment, and we will be cheering them on.

Lastly, September is the month that we celebrate Responsible Dog Ownership. We encourage your club to celebrate with us by holding [your own RDO events](#) and educating your communities on how to be responsible dog owners. There are several ways to celebrate including offering Canine Good Citizen tests, breed parades, hosting demos, and more. The AKC has kits available to clubs to assist in your RDO events. For more information or to obtain one of these complimentary kits, please visit [AKC.org](https://www.akc.org).

Until next time,

Dennis

Dennis B. Sprung  
President and CEO

CATHI WINKLES, COURTESY OWNER



AKC GAZETTE, the official journal of the sport of purebred dogs since 1889

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## *In* Glorious Black and White!

**I**n this special issue of the AKC GAZETTE, we show off the combined photo collections of the GAZETTE and [AKC Archives](#). This is in response to the enthusiastic response our vintage images receive from fanciers whenever we post them on social media and YouTube.

Of course, we have many vintage color photos in our collections (see our ['70s-themed special issue](#) of June 2020), but it's those glimmering black-and-whites featuring

the 20th century's show-ring giants and pop-culture heroes that really strike a chord with our readers.

But before we dive into history, we should note that black-and-white photography is still a going concern. Exhibit A: The photo seen here, by Kali Geiseck, of Fairborn, Ohio, is the first-place winner in this year's [AKC Family Dog Photo Contest](#) (Black and White division).

Black-and-white imagery vividly evokes the past. But with devotees like Kali, it also has a bright future.

*On Our Cover:*  
*Australian Cattle Dog,*  
*Joan Ludwig photo*





## AKC Launches Purebred Preservation Bank

*New program helps preserve low-population breeds*

The AKC has announced the formation of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank, a 501(c)3, not-for-profit canine genetic-material repository primarily focused on frozen semen.

The AKC Purebred Preservation Bank (AKCPPB) ensures the viability of purebred dogs both now and in the future, particularly in low-population breeds.

While coordinating efforts with nonprofit breed-specific clubs, the AKCPPB will educate breeders, clubs, and the public about the importance of safeguarding frozen semen and protecting purebred dog breeds for future decades.

The project began in 2021, with the recommendation of AKC President/CEO Dennis Sprung that AKC explore establishing a frozen-semen program that would increase gene pools, ensure saving of quality producers, and make it easy for each parent club to take this step for their breed. There is no cost to the owner/donor or parent club to donate genetic material.

“The preservation of purebred dogs is at the core of the AKC’s mission,” AKCPPB Chairman Dr. Charles Garvin says. “Preserving the genetic materials of our dogs, via frozen semen, will undoubtedly prove valuable for breed preservation, reducing the risk of extinc-

tion in breeds with lower popularity and allow us to do the important work of improving our breeds. The AKC is pleased to offer this valuable service and look forward to the many ways it will enhance the legacy of our beloved breeds.”

Preservation of genetic material is not just for the breeds with lower-than-average levels of breeding activity. Any breed could be susceptible to genetic bottlenecks or difficulties as the discovery of new diseases emerges or other crises arise. Storing diverse genetic material could address unknown future health concerns and rejuvenate breeding programs.

[More Information](#)



## UPDATES

# Hirsch Joins Agility Field Staff

David Hirsch joined the AKC Agility field staff on August 28.

Hirsch began his involvement in dog sports as a member and trial organizer in the [Golden Retriever Club of Columbus, Ohio](#). He has shown his Golden Retrievers in obedience, conformation, and agility trials.

Having excelled in agility,

Hirsch and his Golden Sport, Trevor, Blast, Jewels, and Super Lotto kept David very busy over the years. Together they have earned more than 30 MACH titles and an Agility Grand Championship. Hirsch is particularly proud of being a multi-year attendee at the AKC Agility National and Invitational competitions. In



2020 David and his Golden Retriever Super Lotto finished third in the 20-inch finals.

Hirsch became an AKC agility trial chair in 2004 and an agility judge in 2007. He has judged at more than 650 events.

COURTESY SUBJECT

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► Available at Amazon or in the AKC Shop at [shop.akc.org](http://shop.akc.org)

## UPDATES

# Book Review

## *Horror Dogs: Man's Best Friend as Movie Monster*

By Brian Patrick Duggan

With a forward by Jon Towlson

Published by [McFarland](#)

**B**rian Duggan—canine historian, ardent movie lover, and the AKC GAZETTE's Saluki columnist—got hooked on the idea of “horror dogs” when he was 11, after reading a paperback edition of the classic Sherlock Holmes mystery *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. That dogs could be not only our companions but also our tormentors has fascinated Duggan ever since, culminating in his landmark study *Horror Dogs: Man's Best Friend as Movie Monster*.

As proved so admirably by his previous book, *General Custer, Libbie Custer and Their Dogs*, Duggan has a knack for furthering our knowledge of canine history by telling the stories no one else had thought to gather in a single volume.

*Horror Dogs* is a meticulously researched and always entertaining account of dogs breaking bad in movies from the silent screen to CGI. As one might expect, the snarling devil dogs from such crowd-pleasers as *Cujo*, *The Omen*, and *Baskervilles* in its many screen incarnations are well repre-



sented. But Duggan also makes ample room for hilariously chintzy exploitation films of the 1970s like *Dracula's Dog* (aka *Zoltan ... Hound of Dracula*), and for such obscure gems as *The Most Dangerous Game* (1932).

Context is provided by a survey of the world's folk legends and mythology, reminding us that filmmakers did not invent the idea of hellhounds—the horror dog is an image as old as civilization itself. Movies, though, have a unique way of stamping images indelibly on our minds. “Movies are dreams we never forget,” Steven Spielberg says. And sometimes those dreams are nightmares.

The idea of *Horror Dogs* was sitting there for years just waiting to be written. Happily for readers, Duggan—with his keen understanding of dogs, movies, and history—got there first.—**B.B.**





## Brownie

**B**eginning in the mid-1930s, William Brown, of New Hyde Park, New York, was the official show photographer for dozens of clubs east of the Mississippi. Over more than three decades, Brown traveled 35,000 miles a year and shot, by his own estimate, a million negatives. His career coincided with our sport’s so-called “golden age,” and our mental images of many a

legendary dog and fancier have been formed by Brown’s work.

The AKC GAZETTE collection houses hundreds of these pictures. They serve as indispensable visuals in our stories set in the heyday of black and white photography. This month we present a few classics in honor of the master himself, known and loved by generations of dog people as simply “Brownie.”

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**T**his is the section of the GAZETTE where we present candid photos of the contemporary show scene in beautiful living color. In this special issue, however, we return to the West Coast show rings of the 1970s. At that time and place, frequent GAZETTE contributor Jim Callea was pioneering the art of the show-ring candid in black and white.

Such dog-show action shots are commonplace today, but they were a rarity in our



pages before Callea came along.

In this throwback edition of “Ringside” we salute him with a portfolio of favorites from back in the day.

# RINGSIDE

*Photos by Jim Callea*











# On the Shoulders of Giants

*Olga Hone Rogers:  
"I learned from her  
and from Mendel," her  
daughter said.*

*25 years ago this month in the Gazette, show-ring legends  
honored their mentors.*

PHOTO CREDIT: HERBAC GAZETTE COLLECTION



## FEATURE

From our September 1998 issue, three prominent fanciers recall the mentors who helped make them greats of the sport.

### ANNE ROGERS CLARK

I was fortunate to be born a second-generation “dog person.” My mother was a fancier of Wire Fox Terriers. She was also one of the pioneers in the breeding, raising, and showing of Poodles as well as English Cocker Spaniels.

My father had a serious talent for art, both watercolor and pencil. I inherited his talent and was influenced by it, which was reflected in my artful trimming of all breeds, but primarily of Poodles.

Mother was a true breeder who learned what to breed for and how to get what she wanted, even though she had no knowledge of Mendel’s laws. I learned much from her, *and* from Mendel!

I learned about the art of animal husbandry, how to



Anne Rogers Clark

run a big kennel correctly, and proper feeding, care, and exercise. For all of this I thank my first mentor, my

mother, Olga Hone Rogers.

I was also fortunate to have been born on the East Coast, and my abilities led

ALL PHOTOS AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



## FEATURE

*Michele Billings with  
Ch. Mandith Simoon,  
1969: "It's OK not to  
be perfect."*



me to the honor of being mentored by some of the most notable names in judging history.

Alva Rosenberg imbued me with an appreciation of quality in all breeds. Percy Roberts taught me that the

purpose of judging was to pick the individual dogs that could do the most for their breed at that particular

## FEATURE

time. William Kendrick taught me to respond to beautiful condition and show presentation.

My knowledge of Poodles was fed by Mrs. Byron Rogers (no relation), a successful early breeder and importer of miniature and standard Poodles; Mrs. Sherman Hoyt, of the famous Blakeen Poodle kennels; and Henry Stoeker, a top Poodle handler.

Others were Anton Rost, all-breed judge; Walter Foster, top handler; and Phil Prentice, one of the great terrier men.

My friendships continue to enlarge my grasp on all matters pertaining to our sport. I include people such as Jane and Bob Forsyth, Tom and Ann Stevenson, and Michele Billings. I thank them all.

### FRANK SABELLA

Throughout my career in the sport of dogs I have always managed to have a mentor. My definition of a mentor is someone who

willingly shares with you their knowledge, experience, and inspiration. Such was the case with Anne Rogers Clark, who handled my dogs when I first got involved in the sport and was my first mentor. I soon became a handler myself, thanks to the suggestion of Tom Stevenson. Annie then became the person from whom I learned everything about the sport.

Beatrice Godsol was a good friend and a tough mentor. Her advice: Experience is gained by practicing on the customers.

The mentor who inspired me the most was William Kendrick. Bill had that rare gift of an eye for true beauty in an animal. His advice: No matter how much you admire an animal, judge it as if you have never seen it before.

The mentor who gave me the greatest wisdom of all was my dear friend Michele Billings. Her advice: It is OK not to be perfect; if you just do the



Frank Sabella

best possible job you can every time you walk in the ring, people will acknowledge your sincerity.

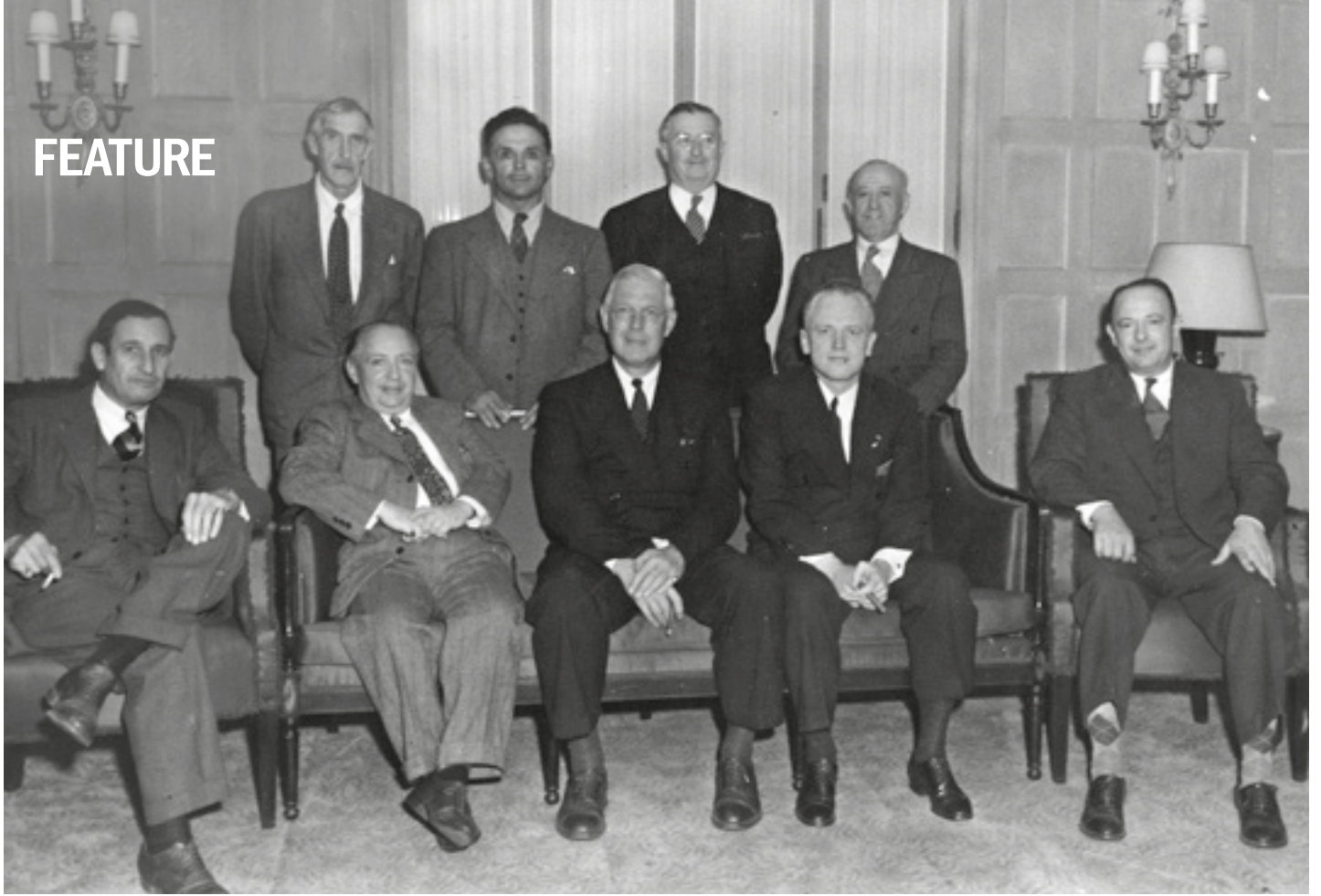
### DESMOND MURPHY

I will always be thankful to have known and been taught by William (Bill) Kendrick, Alva Rosenberg, and Beatrice Godsol.

Even in the briefest conversations with Bill, I always learned something important about dogs. Alva



## FEATURE



September 1945: Three of the mentors recalled in this story—William Kendrick, Alva Rosenberg, and Anton Rost—attend a meeting of the Professional Dog Judges Association. Standing: Joseph Burrell, Louis Murr, Dr. Charles McAnulty, and Leon Iriberry. Seated: Rosenberg, Rost, AKC Executive Vice President Henry D. Bixby, Kendrick, and William Meyer

emphasized to us that we must look for quality and never reward mediocrity. Beatrice's wisdom included this advice: All dogs have faults; the great ones carry the well.

Many AKC field reps are great mentors, but two come to mind as exemplary. Carol Hollands was literally born into the sport and has devoted her life to the study of purebred dogs. Mike Shea remains



an excellent teacher who, like all of us, continues to learn. Both taught me those unwritten logistics of judging that would help me

avoid potentially embarrassing situations.

Several young judges have shown they have much to teach many of us senior judges: Bobby Fisher, Fox, Welsh and Lakeland Terriers; Nick and Ellen Frost, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens and Cavalier King Charles Spaniels; Elliot Weiss, setters; Bill Shelton, Doberman Pinschers and Giant Schnauzers;



## A Mentor Snapshot

Richard Bauer's peers knew him as a consummate dog person and a true gentleman. In a 2014 *Canine Chronicle* column, Lee Canalizo recalled her old friend:

"Handlers like Richard didn't just do a fast 'show n' go'—they were immersed in their associated breeds. They developed an ongoing relationship with many different breeds and breeders.

"Richard's association with these breeds wasn't confined to the show ring. He contributed greatly in the breeding plans and training of many of the great ones. I saw firsthand many an in-depth chat

going on with my mentor Sunny Shay and Richard time and time again. ...

"Nowadays it seems one passing conversation is designated as a mentoring session on a judging application. But how many of those people claiming someone as a mentor actually carried their photos in or on their tack box for years, long after that mentor passed, as Richard did of Sunny? These kinds of people became part of one's fiber; their respect had no limits. They were there in good times and bad. ...

"It would come as no



*KC of Philadelphia, 1969: Richard Bauer with English Cocker Spaniel Ch. Dunelm Galaxy*

surprise that his acts of kindness would be recognized with a Handler of the Year Award for Richard in 1980."

Michael Faulkner, Golden Retrievers; Jimmy Alitchell and Richard Bauer, Poodles.

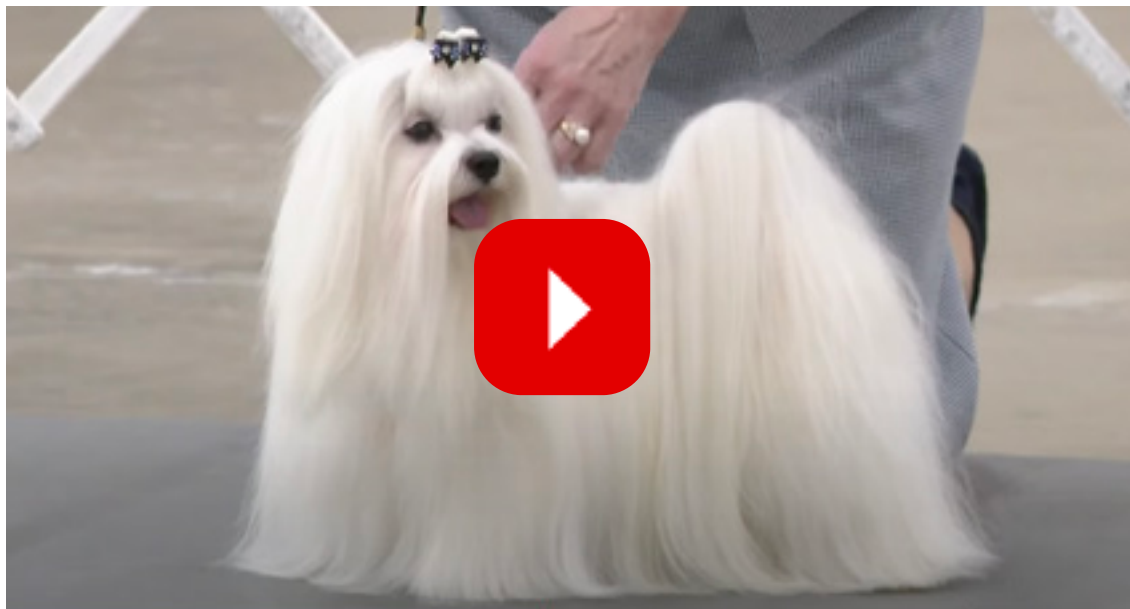
Virginia Lyne, one of Canada's most distinguished all-rounders, and Annie Clark taught me the essential qualities of true

English Cocker type.

My knowledge of Poodles comes from Becky Mason, Annie Clark, Frank Sabella, Bud Dickey, Wendell Sammet, Bill and Vemelle Kendrick, Richard Bauer, and several others.

Recently, I judged the Toy

Group for the first time. The ideas of so many of my mentors came into play. We are all influenced by others in our judging. The greater number of knowledgeable people we have as mentors, the more balanced our judgments will be. **GZ**



## **Rock Stars**

*LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS—The local TV news team goes behind the scenes at the recent [Arkansas KC](#) all-breed show. 1:17*



## **The Galloping Sourmug**

*DETROIT, MICHIGAN—Bronco, AKC Fast CAT's swiftest Bulldog, cranks it up to 20 mph. 2:02*



## VIDEOS



### **Managing Your Litters**

*For breeders: AKC's Kelli Klosowski goes in-depth on the "Manage Litters" card in the AKC Breeder Toolkit. 1:10:17*



### **Black & White: Tauskey's Champions**

*Great show dogs of the 20th century shot by the master in shimmering black and white. 1:24*

# Balto Lives!

*New research reveals insights into one of the world's most famous dogs.*

*Gunnar Kaasen and Balto, his "damn fine dog"*



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



# FEATURE

*The findings in this story, provided by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, were first reported in Science magazine.*

CLEVELAND—Among the most curious exhibits in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's permanent collection is the mounted remains of Balto, the Siberian Husky mix who became famous for his role in the 1925 "Serum Run" between Anchorage and Nome, Alaska. Now, 98 years later, Balto continues to contribute to science nearly 100 years after his lifesaving mission.

In studies reported in spring of this year, researchers have demonstrated how comparative genomics (the study of an organism's genes) can not only shed light on how certain species achieve extraordinary feats but also help scientists better understand the parts of the human genome (the basic recipe for building a human being) that are functional



The Associated Press bulletin of Kassen and Balto's triumph, dateline NOME, ALASKA, TUESDAY, FEB. 3

and how they might influence health and disease.

Through these studies, researchers identified DNA that has remained the most unchanged across mammalian species and millions of years of evolution—and is likely biologically important.

They also found part of the genetic basis for unique mammalian traits, such as the ability to hibernate or sniff out faint scents from miles away. And they pinpointed species that may be particularly susceptible to extinction, as well as

## FEATURE

genetic variants that are more likely to play causal roles in rare and common human diseases.

The findings come from analyses of DNA samples collected by more than 50 different institutions worldwide, including from Balto at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

“The fact that the DNA from a tiny sample of Balto’s skin can provide new scientific insights is a powerful reminder of how advances in science continually allow us to glean new information from museum collections,” the museum’s chief science officer, Dr. Gavin Svenson, says. “Every one of the millions of objects in our museum has the potential to reveal an important clue to a future scientist, who in turn can enhance our understanding of the past, present, and future of the world around us.”

### MISSION OF MERCY

It’s among the most oft-told tales in the history of



*Called a Siberian Husky, Balto was, according to new genetic research, actually a mix of several types and breeds, including the Siberian.*

dogkind. In January 1925, a diphtheria epidemic threatened the children of Nome, Alaska. There was a serum for the deadly disease, but the nearest supply sat in Anchorage, some 700 miles to the east. The arctic winter made transport by truck or plane impossible. The last, desperate hope was to get the serum through by dogsled.

The first leg of a 20-team

relay of mushers and their dogs set out on January 28 from Anchorage in a trans-Alaskan race against death. The world press reported the progress of the teams, who braved minus-50-degree temperatures, ferocious winds, and vast expanses of frozen wasteland.

Just six days later, musher Gunner Kaassen and his lead dog, Balto, traversed



## FEATURE

*Leonhard Seppala, Balto's "disappointed" breeder, is seen here with his famous sled team. Lead dog Togo is at far left.*



the last 53 miles and entered Nome with the lifesaving serum. The epidemic was averted and headline writers rejoiced. After delivering the serum to Nome's hospital, musher Gunnar Kaasen went straight back to Balto, hugging him and repeating the praise, "Damn fine dog."

In the celebrity-mad 1920s,

it was inevitable that Balto and his canine teammates would end up in show business. For two years Kaasen and his team toured big-time vaudeville theaters.

But fame was fickle. By 1927 the hero dogs were reduced to appearing in "dime museums," seedy storefront exhibitions of

freaks and curiosities.

At one such establishment in Los Angeles, vacationing Cleveland businessman George Kimball was shocked to discover the once-magnificent animals, now malnourished and mangy. Upon his return home, Kimball established a Balto Fund and appealed for dona-

PUBLIC DOMAIN

## FEATURE

tions. The response of the Cleveland community was unprecedented. The \$2,000 needed to buy the abused dogs was raised in just 10 days, with donations pouring in from Clevelanders: factory workers, shopkeepers, the [Western Reserve KC](#), and especially schoolchildren.

Amid great fanfare, Balto and six of his grizzled teammates eased into comfortable retirement at Cleveland's Brookside Zoo. The city's kids were proud that their pennies had rescued the famous dogs who saved hundreds of children. It was fitting that in the old heroes' time of need, it would be children who returned the favor.

Balto died in 1933. His remains were mounted and put on display at the museum as a shining example of triumph in the face of incredible odds. Among the museum's most treasured attractions, Balto continues to inspire visitors and capture the popular imagination.

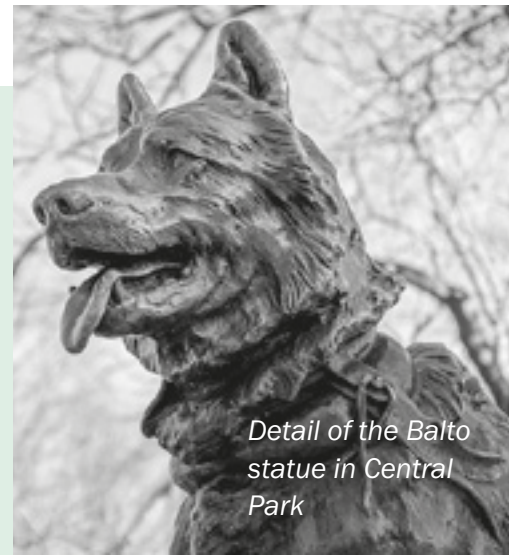
### Balto Bits

- In the 1995 animated film *Balto*, produced by Steven Spielberg, the voice of the title character was supplied by Kevin Bacon.

- Balto was named for Samuel Johanssen Balto (1861–1921), a Norwegian arctic explorer and adventurer.

- A bronze statue of Balto, sculpted by Frederick Roth (1872–1944), was erected in New York's Central Park in 1925. It is the city's only public monument to a dog.

- Since 1973, the annual Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race has been run from Anchorage to Nome in commemoration the 1925 Serum Run.



*Detail of the Balto statue in Central Park*

“Preserving Balto’s legacy is something we take very seriously,” says Sonia Winner, the museum’s president. “We are thrilled that such a beloved figure of the past continues to have relevance in the present.”

### GENETIC JIGSAW PUZZLE

Balto was an unlikely hero. Born in Nome in 1919, he was always a bit of a dis-

appointment to Leonhard Seppala, his breeder and original owner. Seppala, who with his lead dog, Togo, drove the most treacherous leg of the 1925 Serum Run, was in the business of breeding small, fast Huskies for racing, and Balto was stout and strong—a “freight-hauling dog.” As a result, Balto was neutered, and no specific records were saved about him or his litter.

PUBLIC DOMAIN



## FEATURE

Now, in one of the new studies published in *Science*, Dr. Beth Shapiro, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and Dr. Heather Huson, associate professor of animal science at Cornell University, demonstrate that Balto's genetic mix may have contributed to his being well adapted to the extreme Alaskan environment.

Balto is most often referred to as a Siberian Husky, and one myth even claims that he was part wolf. But the DNA work completed in Dr. Shapiro's UCSC lab revealed that he was only part Husky. "Balto also had ancestry related to several other living dog lineages, including Alaskan sled dogs, village dogs, Greenland Dogs, and Tibetan Mastiffs," Shapiro says.

The Balto study was conducted using data compiled by the [Zoonomia Project](#), which sequences and compares the genomes of 240 diverse mammals to

### Comparative Genomics and Dogs

Comparative genomics is a field of biological research in which researchers use a variety of tools to compare the complete genome sequences of different species. By carefully comparing characteristics that define various organisms, researchers can pinpoint regions of similarity and difference.

In recent years, researchers in the [National Human Genome Research Institute](#) intramural program also have studied the genomics of various cancer types in dogs, including common cancers and other diseases, to try to develop new insights into the human form of the condition. In some cases, they have mapped genes contributing to these disorders.

In other studies, NHGRI researchers are comparing how genes affect body shape and size in dogs to better understand growth and development. Studies of dogs with sleep problems have revealed genes and pathways, and potential drug targets, to treat human sleep problems.—**National Human Genome Research Institute**

discover both the genomic basis of traits essential for all animals and changes that underlie the unique traits of individual species. The Zoonomia Project is a powerful resource for connecting genomic data to population phenotypes—the set of observable characteristics

of an organism that result from the interaction of its genotype with the environment. Not only does this study offer more insight into the legendary Balto, but it also provides a road map for future scientific investigations based on the comparison of genomic traits. **GZ**

# The Chess of Dog Sports

**A**KC Obedience has been a mainstay of our family of events since 1936. “The people who are passionate about obedience are really passionate about obedience,” a longtime obedience trainer once told us.

So, why does obedience competition evoke such passion in its devotees? For one thing, it’s a thinking person’s game in which intense concentration and patience are as important as physical grace. Obedience has been called the chess of dog sports.

Then there’s the subtle beauty of it—a handsome dog performing obedience



*Shetland Sheepdog Davy O’Dugald, UD, an obedience whiz of the 1950s and ’60s, was owned, trained, and loved for 13 years by Marjorie Perkins, of Claremont, California.*

exercises smoothly and precisely can be mesmerizing. But more than anything, there’s the joy of a handler and a dog working together as one, competing not necessarily

to win but to get the best out of themselves.

Here we honor some of the top dogs and handlers who dazzled dogdom in the black-and-white heyday of obedience.

PHOTOS AKC GAZETTE ARCHIVES

## TIMES PAST

1956: Kathleen Prince and her Norwegian Elkhound Ch. Just Torvald That's All, UD, the breed's first UD obedience dog. This is easily one of our collection's most popular black-and-whites.





## TIMES PAST



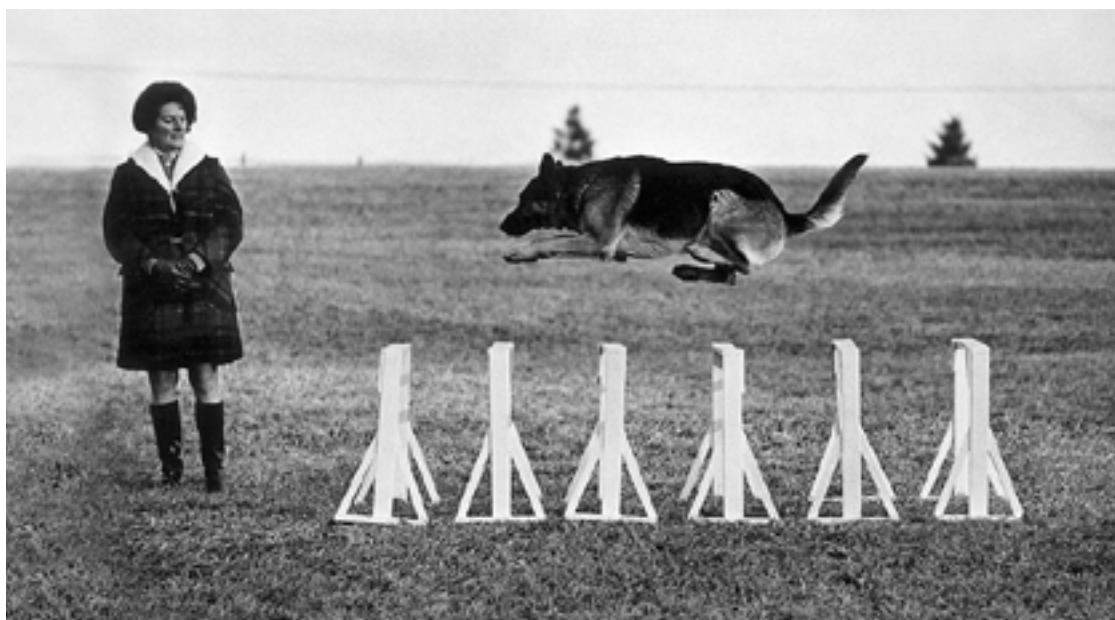
*Angel Terrett and her French Bulldog Ch. Nanine Boule de Neige Bedal, CDX, circa 1959. "Angel and Dick Terrett not only produced a magnificent line of champion conformation specimens but also garnered obedience titles on 12 of their homebred dogs, an accomplishment unheard of up until that time." —The French Bullytin*

## TIMES PAST



*Left: Westchester County KC, 1942: Pomeranian Georgian's Betty, CD, CDX, UDT, is awarded Best Obedience Dog. With her are owner Agnes Niven and Lieutenant Jerome Allen. The show benefited the Navy Relief Society.*

*Below: Winifred "Wynn" Strickland watches her German Shepherd Dog Joll clear a 12-foot jump. One of the great names in obedience training, Strickland and her Wynthea GSDs earned a record 205 obedience titles—the last in 2000, when she was 84.*





## TIMES PAST



*1935: Helene Whitehouse Walker with her Tango of Piperscroft. The apricot Standard Poodle was in on the creation of AKC Obedience, performing demonstrations to help sell all-breed clubs on the idea of a new sport.*



## Percy Roberts: Mr. Black and White



**T**he British-born Percy Roberts (1891–1977) spent 70 years as a breeder, handler, all-breed judge, and kennel consultant on both sides of the

Atlantic. He was known as “Mr. Westminster” for his four Garden BIS as a handler and frequent judging assignments, but around the GAZETTE offices he is “Mr. Black and White” by virtue of being the most-represented person in our vintage photo collection.

# BREED COLUMNS



Edited by [Arliss Paddock](#)

*Chow Chow Ch. Tally Ho  
Black Image of Storm  
(Rudolph Tauskey photo,  
1937)*



AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

# BREED COLUMNS

## ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

The breed columns are a time-honored feature of the AKC GAZETTE. Each columnist is appointed by the breed's national parent club, which preserves the breed's standard and helps to educate breeders, judges, and the public about the breed's traits, history, care, and training. A national parent club is made up of dedicated breeders and fanciers and represents many years of collective experience in the breed. Columnists are asked to write about topics of interest to serious dog fanciers in general as well as those of specific interest to judges and devotees of the breed. The breed columns rotate quarterly by group so that each breed's column can appear four times a year. Information and opinions expressed in the breed columns represent the views of their authors, not necessarily those of the breed's parent club or the AKC. For questions about the breed columns, e-mail [ArlissPaddock@akc.org](mailto:ArlissPaddock@akc.org)



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# BREED COLUMNS

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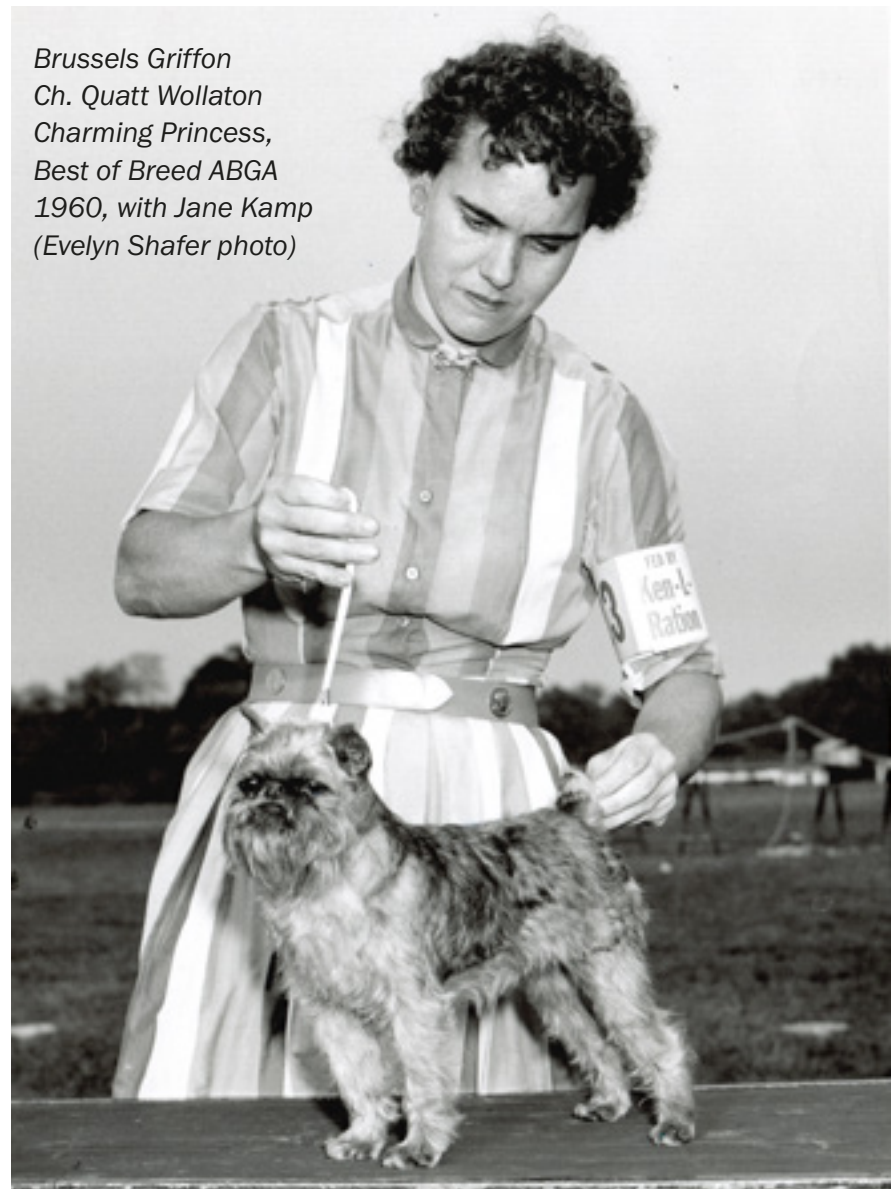
### Brussels Griffons

#### GRIFFS AND OTHER BREEDS

When one has puppies to place, the calls from potential buyers are more frequent, and the conversations become more detailed—more frequent because your fellow breeders refer puppy-inquiry callers when they can't provide the right animal, and more detailed because now each home situation must be evaluated.

The most welcome call is “We lost our beloved pet to old age after many years and are now ready to welcome another puppy into our childless home”; the scariest, “We have two pit bulls and a 2-year-old child. We'd like a Brussels for our 8-year-old, who thinks he'd like to try Junior Showmanship.”

First of all, never call it a Brussels if you want to convince the breeder that you've done your due diligence—to us they are Griffons, or Griffs. Second, while pit bulls are notoriously wonderful family pets when raised and trained correctly,



*Brussels Griffon  
Ch. Quatt Wollaton  
Charming Princess,  
Best of Breed ABGA  
1960, with Jane Kamp  
(Evelyn Shafer photo)*

their potential to harm a smaller dog, whether intentionally or in play, is great.

Many people successfully house Griffons with other, often larger dogs. I know of Griff owners who also have Chows,

Miniature Schnauzers, Bostons, Mastiffs, German Shepherds, Bulldogs, Poodles, Pugs, Australian Shepherds, and (to my mind the most unlikely combination) Borzoi. All are breeders or exhibitors,

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# BREED COLUMNS

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experienced dog people, and all are aware of the potential pitfalls. Griffis are bossy, attempting and often succeeding in being the alpha despite their size. This may work when the other dogs are laid back and submissive, but it holds the potential for havoc.

We once adopted an older Great Pyrenees from relatives who could no longer keep him. He was so happy to have his Griff flock to guard that he even ignored the occasional attempt by the younger males to assert themselves, but he had an exceptional temperament. Even with that, he and the Griffis were never left together unsupervised.

One friend kept a German Shepherd dog with Griffons—again, never unsupervised. It was disconcerting, to say the least, to see the shepherd put her Griff friend’s entire head in her mouth. It was play, but *yikes!*

Many breeder-owner-handlers of large dogs seek out a smaller breed when

they get older, when raising and training a large breed or running around the ring becomes difficult. This is good, as they get to stay in the game, and they have years of experience to offer.

But what about the above caller who wants a Griffon for her 8-year-old? We don’t want to discourage her from dealing with reputable breeders, nor discourage her son from pursuing Junior Showmanship. The best response is to first of all discuss some of the reasons why a Brussels Griffon might not be the dog for them: Griffis are not always comfortable around toddlers; the puppy will want to play with the older, bigger dogs, who might not take kindly to it; the rough-coated Griffon needs hand-stripping and expert grooming to be presented properly in the Juniors ring; and, sad but true, it’s hard to compete in Juniors with a small dog when there are so many flashy dogs speeding around the ring. Then, give some encouragement.

Point out some other more suitable breeds they might consider. Refer them to handling classes, and urge them to go to upcoming dog shows in their area to watch these breeds, their handling, their grooming, and seek out breeders to talk to—*after* they show their dogs. —

*Anne K. Catterson, 2012*

[American Brussels Griffon Association](#)

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## Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

Our guest author for this issue is Leslie Slusher, Ph.D.

### RUNS OF HOMOZYGOSITY: A NEW WAY OF UNDERSTANDING INBREEDING

Advances in the technologies used to analyze DNA have produced an extraordinary amount of data relative to the canine genome. This information has been used to provide new insights in the domestication of dogs, their diversification into modern-day breeds, as well as a new way of calculating



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their levels of inbreeding. In addition, this technology has facilitated identification of gene loci that are associated with disease in dogs.

Dogs have 78 chromosomes—38 pairs of autosomes (non-sex chromosomes), and one pair of sex chromosomes (XX=female, and XY= male), with each parent contributing one chromosome to each pair. All 39 chromosome pairs can be analyzed at specific locations along their length to generate a series of markers which can then be aligned. If a marker is the same on each member of the chromosome pair, it is homozygous, and if the marker differs between the chromosomes, the pair is heterozygous.

When long runs of homozygous markers are found together on a chromosome pair, this is indicative of *autozygosity*, meaning that the markers are likely to have been inherited from a common ancestor and are identical-by-descent. These *runs of homozygosity* (ROH)



*Cavalier King Charles Spaniels with Gertrude Brown Albrecht*

arise when the parents contribute stretches of DNA that came from the same ancestor. They are the result of inbreeding.

The length of the ROH provides clues to the number of generations that have

passed since the inbreeding event occurred. During the process of egg and sperm formation, DNA is normally exchanged between the members of each chromosome pair. It is a natural way of increasing variation. This

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process of chromosome exchange tends to break up ROH. With each passing generation, the ROH will become smaller. Short ROH are the remnants of ancient inbreeding, while long ROH are indicative of recent inbreeding.

Dogs were the first mammal to be domesticated, with an extinct gray wolf population being the sole ancestor of modern dogs (Boyko, 2011). Domestication is likely to have occurred somewhere between 16,000 and 25,000 years ago in multiple places including East Asia, the Middle East, and Europe (Zhang, 2020). Early selection likely included many behavioral traits that were valued by hunter-gathers and early agriculturist societies, such as prey tracking and tameness.

As prehistoric agriculture spread and human diet became more plant based, selection altered the entire pathway responsible for starch digestion and glucose absorption, allowing dogs to eat a starch-rich diet com-

pared to the protein rich diet of the wolf (Arendt, 2016). Additionally, other traits that would be under natural selection pressure in wild populations, such as the ability to compete for mates, became neutral or even detrimental in domestication (Zhang, 2020).

A second period of intense selection began about 200 years ago, leading to the establishment of the various modern dog breeds. As human society developed and diversified, dogs were bred to perform specific functions to assist humans in their tasks. Dogs were also bred as companions to integrate with the family (Zhang, 2020). As hundreds of breeds were created, registrations and pedigrees were used to ensure a closed population (Boyko, 2011). Once a population is limited, inbreeding is an inevitable consequence and is reflected in the long ROH found within the DNA of nearly every breed.

The regions of ROH are consistent among dogs

within a breed but differ between different breeds. The ROH differ between breeds because the traits that defined the breeds are different and the selection that produced the breeds differed. An interesting exception is the Russell Terrier, with far fewer ROH and higher levels of diversity than other dog breeds (Boyko, 2011).

Dogs have the largest amount of variation of any land mammal. Consider the Chihuahua and the Great Dane, the Italian Greyhound and the Cane Corso, or the Pekingese and the Xoloitzcuintli. Although these dogs are dramatically different in shape, size, coat, temperament, and purpose, all are *Canis familiaris*. Although each breed has its own unique genetic history, they all trace back to the grey wolf. The potential for all of this variation was present in that grey wolf population. Intense selection accompanied by other genetic forces combined to produce the distinctive



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characteristics of modern dogs.

Analysis of the dog genome using DNA technologies will not only help trace the history of domestication and diversification into breeds, but it also has the potential to identify the related consequences of inbreeding.

### References:

Arendt, M. *Heredity* 2016, 117:301  
Boyko, A. *Genome Biology* 2011, 12:216  
Zhang, Z. *Zoological Research* 2020,41:97

### About the author:

Leslie Slusher, Ph.D. received her doctoral degree in pharmacogenetics from Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. She then completed a five-year National Institutes of Health sponsored postdoctoral fellowship in Molecular Genetics. She joined the Department of Biology Faculty at West Chester University of Pennsylvania

in 1991. She spent the next 26 years teaching Genetics, Human Genetics, Bioethics, Medical Genetics and Molecular Genetics at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. She was the recipient of many teaching awards perhaps the most significant being named Professor of the Year by the University’s Honor Students the year preceding her retirement. Her area of research was the genetics of prostate cancer, specifically racial differences in the incidence and progression of prostate cancer. She was the recipient of numerous grants from both the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. Her research was also supported by several pharmaceutical companies.

For the last 12 years, Dr. Slusher and her husband Roger have pursued their passions in breeding Cavalier King Charles Spaniels and the continuation of the family farm, Fields Edge (field-

sedgecavaliers.com and fieldsedgefarms.com) in Floyd, Virginia. They have shown and bred 27 AKC champions and their dogs have earned two Register of Merit Awards. Leslie serves as a Director of the ACKCSC and serves on the Health Committee. We are fortunate to have her as an author and look forward to future articles.

—Dr. John V. Ioia, MD, Ph.D.,  
[bonefixr@gmail.com](mailto:bonefixr@gmail.com)  
[American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club](#)

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## Chihuahuas

### BREEDING THIS SMALL BREED

The Chihuahua is known as the smallest of all breeds of domesticated dogs. Breeding these little dogs is not an easy task. People might see these little dogs and think, “Wow, everyone wants a tiny dog! I can make some money breeding and selling the puppies.”

Not so fast! Money should *never* be the goal of breeding



## TOY GROUP



*Chihuahuas: October 1930*

any animal. Your goal should be to improve the breed, and we do this by selection, health testing, genetic study, and so much more.

There are way too many people breeding dogs who have no idea of all that goes into breeding a quality dog. The Chihuahua is not your average dog in terms of whelping. Oh, there are those wonderful, rare girls who can easily whelp a litter with no assistance at all. Although quality breeders select for this, anything can happen during the birthing process. Puppies can easily get stuck, and your

mommy will need to have a Caesarean section. Finding a vet during the middle of the night can be a nightmare, and you better have your credit cards paid up, because it can cost as much as \$3,000 for an emergency C-section.

I have never let any of my girls whelp alone. They have a different timing than larger dogs and can whelp anywhere from 57 to 63 days after the first breeding. At 57 days I set up my whelping area in my bedroom in order to keep a close eye on her. At first she is a bit antsy at having been moved from her regular digs, but soon she becomes comfortable and begins to understand this is where her new babies will be whelped, and that I am at hand to calm her and help her if needed.

I have a whelping box that is always maintained and ready to go with everything I might need to help bring these long-awaited puppies into the world. The phone number for the emergency vet is taped right inside my

whelping box just in case. I also like to have a “buddy” available to call if needed. Sometimes just having that experienced breeder friend available to help, if only to calm our nerves. Make sure it is someone who has bred Chihuahuas, as they are not like your big dogs.

OK, now you supervise the dam as she free-whelps the litter, or you brought your mommy and babies home from having a C-section. At this time, both mommy and babies need watching. Be sure not to let mommy sleep on the puppies, which can suffocate the pup. I do not like putting blankets in their bed for that reason. Keeping the puppies warm is of the utmost importance. A cold puppy is a dead puppy. Weigh your puppies every two hours to see if they are gaining. At first they may even lose a bit of weight, but you must continue weighing them and charting the weight. You will not get much sleep the first night. At times, there may be a weaker pup who



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gets knocked off the teat by a stronger pup. After about 24 hours, if this weaker pup is not getting enough to eat, you may have to supplement them by hand feeding.

Every breeder needs to know how to tube-feed puppies. First try a bottle, and if the sucking reflexes are not strong enough, you may tube-feed your tiny pup to keep him or her growing stronger.

Eventually, when all is well and all the pups are nursing on their own and have started to gain a little weight, you can start relaxing and let mommy take over completely. I am close by for the first week.

Remember, they should double their weight the first week. Don't worry if they haven't; some are just slower than others.

This is definitely a simplified idea of whelping a Chihuahua litter. There are whelping groups on the internet, some specific to the Chihuahua. Please know what you are up against before breeding one of the

wonderful little dogs. Get informed.

—Virginia (Jenny)

Hauber,

[wynjynchis@yahoo.com](mailto:wynjynchis@yahoo.com)

Chihuahua Club of America

### Havanese

#### TO HAVE AND TO HOLD

Most serious, reputable Havanese breeders agree that the hardest part of breeding is finding the “perfect” home for their puppies. Attempting to do so often entails requiring prospective owners to complete a “puppy questionnaire” or other form of application. The length and depth of this questionnaire varies among breeders from one page to three or more pages. Ours falls into the latter category and has become progressively longer over the years as issues occur that cause us to say, “We wish we had known that in the beginning.”

It is important to learn as much as possible about the future life and living

circumstances for puppies. Some of our questions are designed strictly for our files and records. Other questions are designed to provide information, or to gauge a reaction. Questions include “Are you aware that your puppy must be spayed/neutered?” “Do you plan on acquiring any other dogs in the next year?” “Do you rent or own your home?” and “Are you permitted to have a dog where you live?” While the point of these questions may seem self-evident, they provide us with ideas about issues that may arise if we didn't know the answers up front.

One prospective new owner recently completed a questionnaire and it turned out that they intended to acquire several more dogs; we were uncomfortable with that. In another case, a puppy was returned to us because the owners were unable to keep him in the location where they were living. We guarantee that we will take a puppy back at anytime during the life

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of the dog so were happy to have him come back to us—at age 10.

Along those lines, we ask for the ages of the people in the home. People who are elderly and probably will not outlive the dog have to agree to return the dog to us or provide us with the name and contact information of a trusted friend or relative interested in caring for the dog, after being appropriately vetted by us. On the other end of the age spectrum, we want to know how many small children are in the home, and their ages. To be comfortable with that, we insist on meeting the children to determine if, in our opinion, they are mature enough to live with a tiny puppy.

Knowing about any people in the home with serious health challenges is also important, to be sure that everyone is on board with proper training for the puppy to acclimate him to adults or children with special needs, wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, and



*Havanese (1903)*

so on. Professional trainers may need to be engaged to socialize the puppy to unusual home issues.

Our questionnaire confirms the understanding that Havanese are *very* hairy, and the new owners either must

be willing to learn to groom the dog or hire a professional groomer to take care of the dog every four to six weeks. Is this expense part of their budget for the dog?

The questionnaire asks a lot of questions about the





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home and property. Do they have a fenced yard or safe enclosure for the puppy? Will the dog be leash walked? Will they attend socialization classes?

On the learning curve, we think it is important to know if the applicant has ever owned a dog before, and if so, when? There is nothing more disturbing than getting the hysterical phone call that begins, “My puppy just peed on my oriental rug.” We had a dog returned to us for digging up the owner’s marigold bed!

We think it is important to know how many hours a day the puppy will be alone in the home for the first month and thereafter. What are the owners’ travel plans, and do they have a puppy sitter? Asking for three references is important, and the name and address of the veterinarian they plan to use is critical.

The questionnaire also asks the prospective puppy owner to write a few sentences about their life and lifestyle. That gives us a

small picture of what type of atmosphere the puppy is going into.

Our questionnaire is long and detailed. We end by telling the applicant all the equipment they can expect to receive from us when they pick up the puppy. Every inquiry we receive gets sent this questionnaire, as well as a page of background information about us. We do not have a website, for many reasons, but we do like people to know who we are rather than just sending them an impersonal questionnaire. Nevertheless, not all the questionnaires get returned to us—and for that, we are grateful!

—Alice L. Lawrence,  
[pulifuzz@aol.com](mailto:pulifuzz@aol.com)  
[Havanese Club of America](#)

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### Italian Greyhounds

#### SHOWING THE IG: THE BASICS

So you’d like to show your Italian Greyhound? Great! However, this needs preparation and can’t be done capriciously. Showing dogs is a sport, and success

in any sport requires commitment. Seeing the big Westminster, AKC, Crufts, and Philadelphia dog shows on television, people who had never considered showing have become interested in this activity. What many don’t realize is that the TV glamour represents only a small part of the “real” dog show world.

What “people qualities” are needed for showing IGs? Good coordination and grace are desirable. Ability to follow instructions and, above all, patience, are requisites.

Although grooming is minimal with the Italian Greyhound, this is a comparatively difficult breed to show. IGs are spirited little dogs with minds of their own. An IG loves being the center of attention on his own turf, but he isn’t a natural showman and can be reticent in unfamiliar places. Getting him to show attentively and look his best is challenging. He may walk beautifully on a lead elsewhere, but around the ring

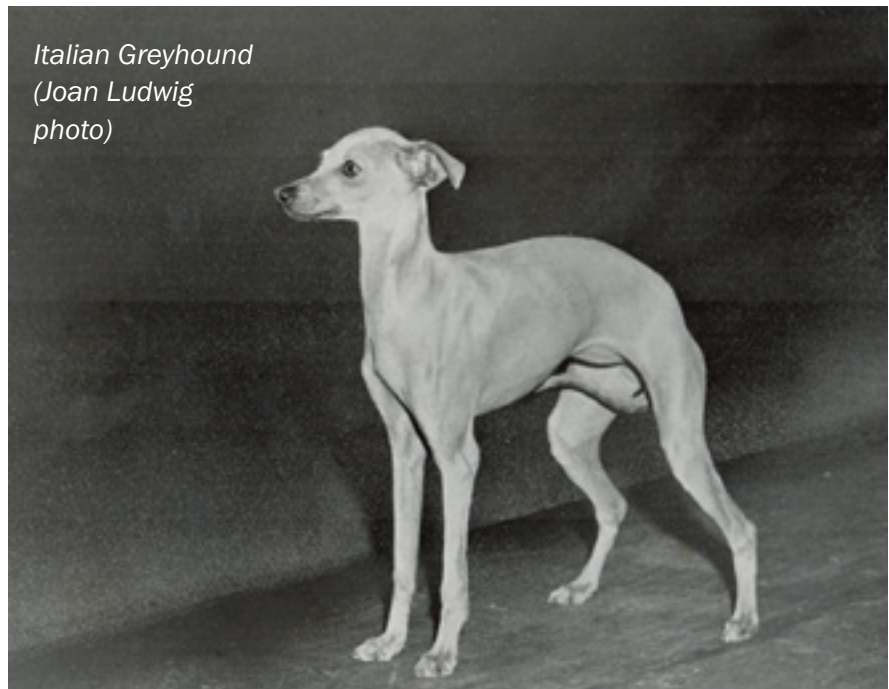
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he wants to charge ahead, or else he finds smells irresistible and sniffs the ground. One who usually responds readily to a clicker or squeaky toy may suddenly acquire selective hearing in the ring, and one who is a foodie at home may turn up his nose at the bait or can be easily distracted by someone else's use of liver.

Handling classes and practice are mandatory. IGs destined for the show ring should learn early to stand steadily on a table, to walk properly on a lead, to be touched by strangers without freaking, and to respond eagerly to bait or a sound—and to do all of these in a variety of places.

If you already have an IG whom you feel is a good specimen, or you are seeking a show puppy to purchase, familiarize yourself with the breed standard. It's amazing how many people looking for a show dog (or who already own one they think is show material) have never read the standard, which *must* be understood and



*Italian Greyhound  
(Joan Ludwig  
photo)*

properly interpreted.

For instance, in the standard the topline is described thus: “High at withers, back curved and drooping at hindquarters, the highest point of curve at start of loin.” This is one of the important characteristics that constitute the ideal IG. For show success, a dog should possess most of those characteristics. “Pretty” isn't enough. Some of these traits don't materialize until an IG is several months old. Acquiring one at 8 or 10 weeks is a gamble, espe-

cially for a novice. Buying from a responsible breeder with a good show record is a step in the right direction. Beware of anyone who says they breed only show quality. Take someone with experience and a good eye along when contemplating puppies.

Showing requires commitment of time and money. The cost to show a decent IG to championship is within the budget of most middle-income families, but the time and effort are a part of the statistic that most



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people are in and out of dogs within five years.

If your IG is worthy, and you prepare him and yourself well for the show world, chances are that you will be looking for your next show IG—and possibly into becoming a breeder, rather than beating a hasty retreat from the competitive world of purebred dogs. —*Lilian S. Barber, 2013*

[Italian Greyhound Club of America](#)

### Japanese Chin

#### LIFE WITH A JAPANESE CHIN

All dog lovers are aware that all breeds have beloved traits which draw them to a particular breed. When one owns a lesser-known breed, one finds questions are frequent from the many people unfamiliar with that breed. This is abundantly true of the Japanese Chin. Chin are often confused with Papillons, Shih Tzu, and even Chihuahuas! Therefore, it seemed fitting to write about the traits

Japanese Chin lovers admire and cherish in the breed.

Let’s consider three areas of traits: relationship with people and each other, behaviors, and uniquely Chin traits.

As with all toy breeds, the Japanese Chin is first and foremost a beloved companion. This is their role and they know it! They love their people and always want to be nearby, yet they are not clingy to their owner nor possessive of them. They tend to “love the one they are with.” Some Chin prefer a lap, while others are content to lay beside or near. They do tend to pick a favorite person in the household, but they don’t exclude others.

How are they with visiting friends or strangers? Much depends on the individual temperament, but most Chin rather snootily check people out and then adore them. They live up to the word “aristocratic” in our breed standard. We call them “watchdogs” because they hear quite well and will alert

to sounds.

Children are quite drawn to Chin, perhaps because they are small like themselves. Chin are gentle and playful with children. Most have found the Chin an excellent companion for children who are old enough to understand dog behaviors.

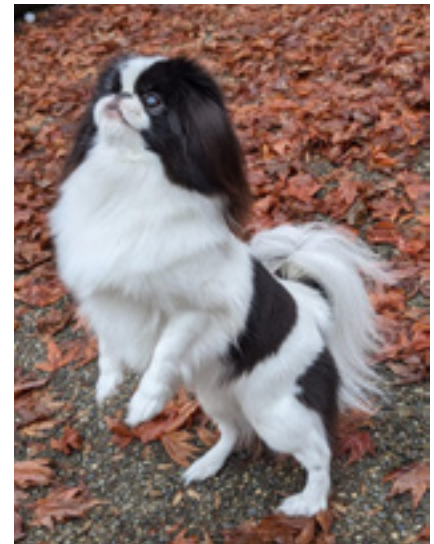
With each other, Chin are quite friendly. They seem to know their fellow Chin and desire to be with them. Rarely do Chin react negatively to an unfamiliar Chin. In the home, they often pile on top of one another to sleep. Younger Chin love to run and play together. It is not unusual to see them play tug-of-war with toys. In parts of the U.S., Chin owners gather for “Chin fests” where the dogs all run and play together. Typically Chin do very well with other breeds, both large and small. They also live well with cats.

As to their behavior, Japanese Chin are known for their funny antics. This is due in part to a long-ago rumor that Chin are “half dog and half cat.” Of course



# BREED COLUMNS

## TOY GROUP



*Japanese Chin can be excellent companions for children who are old enough to understand dog behaviors.*

this is not true, but their behavior is often more like a cat than a dog. When they play, they use their hare-

shaped front paws to bat at things, as cats do. Licking themselves, objects, or their owners is a favorite pastime.

Their love of heights leads them to seek out the back of couches and chairs for sleeping or observing their

COURTESY OWNERS / JAPANESE CHIN CLUB OF AMERICA

# BREED COLUMNS

## TOY GROUP

world. If not up high, one can find them underneath furniture. They can even be found sleeping in the laundry basket! Cat beds are a favorite of the breed and they tend to love sleeping in a crate, especially with the door open.

Chin are usually quite intelligent, and so they enjoy dog puzzles. When showing a Chin, one has to make it fun and make them think it's their idea. It is common to hear "Oh, that's just a Chin thing."

There are several traits that Chin lovers consider unique to the breed. The foremost one is the "Chin spin." They spin in a tight circle sometimes as much as 10 or so times, especially when excited. This is not considered a neurologic disorder as it is in some breeds. One trait which can scare new owners is the "reverse sneeze" (common to many brachiocephalic breeds). With this the dog sucks air in rather than out, making quite a noise. If one offers a lick of coconut oil or Cheese

Whiz, they quickly stop.

The eating habits of a Chin can vary greatly. Some can't get enough food, but many are picky eaters and prefer various toppings on their food. Fasting for a day also seems fairly common. It is frequently said by Chin owners "It's as if they know they are royalty."

When asked what they love about their Chin, owners replied:

"I don't need an alarm clock anymore—I get awakened with face-licking!

"Loving, cuddles, Chin spins."

"Regal nature."

"Silky coat."

"They're quirky, haughty, and inquisitive."

"They're smart—wicked smart."

"Independent for a toy breed, but still loving to those closest to them."

It is easy to see why once one has a Chin, one will never be without one!

—Jennifer Baumer,  
[jenbaumer@gmail.com](mailto:jenbaumer@gmail.com)  
 Japanese Chin Club of America

## Papillons

### THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF PAPILLONS

I would like to speak on behalf of a breed I have known quite well. It's my favorite breed, which just so happens to be Papillons! I know some of you may think I am just plain prejudiced because of my close association with these beautiful and incredibly smart dogs. However, having been a proud and devoted breeder for over 53 years, my journey has been truly a labor of love. Each and every Papillon that I have bred was very special to me. They have been my art form to strive for perfection, following our AKC breed standard.

Papillons should move "like a dream" with reach and drive, never mincing with little steps. Their heads should be magnificent, along with their crowning glory, which is their beautiful, butterflylike winged ears! Never in all of my breeding program have I ever attempted to alter, exagger-



## TOY GROUP



*Papillon: Ch. Minuet of Dulceda at Bucks County KC, 1946; judge Anna Katherine Nicholas*

ate, or change our beautiful breed, but only to honor and abide by our breed standard. Every detail of a Papillon is “fine-boned and dainty,” right down to their hare-like feet.

Also, their tails should be proud and raised over their backs, never dragging. And above all, they should be outgoing; happy, not anxious, shy, or temperamental. Papillons are also empathetic in nature, and can be so comforting. But, if they are lip-licking, yawning, or looking away, those are the

three common signs that show he or she is uncomfortable. So always strive to have a strong bond with your Papillon because it is truly a gift unlike any other, which is always worth cultivating.

Now, that I have said so many positive characteristics about Papillons, I have come to the most consequential decision I should ever make, which is to slow down, and give up breeding and showing my beloved breed. Especially since I now have several other hobbies: My

local Kennel Club of NNJ, my town’s garden club, and lastly my local senior citizen’s club, where we travel to many shows.

—Roseann Fucillo,  
[cilloette@yahoo.com](mailto:cilloette@yahoo.com)  
Papillon Club of America

## Pekingese

### BOOKS ON THE PEKINGESE

Pekingese breeders and exhibitors are often searching for further information on breeding, grooming, and history of the breed. So for this column I would like to introduce some Pekingese books that are available and informative on the breed and its history.

One of the most recent books is *The Complete Pekingese*, by Liz Stannard, published in 1999 by Ringpress Books. Ms. Stannard, from England, has been involved as a breeder and judge of Shiarita Pekingese for many years and has bred and finished many champions. In this book she traces the origin of the Pekingese up to the



## TOY GROUP



Pekingese (Tauskey photo)

present day and analyzes the breed standard in detail. Also included is information on breeding, training, feeding and grooming as well as judging Pekingese in the show ring.

*The New Pekingese*, by Nigel Aubrey-Jones, was published in 1990 by Howell Book House. Nigel Aubrey-Jones was a prolific writer as well as a Pekingese breeder and judge. He was a prolific writer and popular judge as well as a partner with R. William Taylor in the St. Aubrey-Elsdon prefix. The book contains profiles of many historical breeders responsible for the breed's

popularity and success along with an excellent explanation and interpretation of the breed standard. This book also contains chapters on breeding, training, showing and grooming and an excellent section on the historical origin of the breed in China.

*The Book of the Pekingese*, by Anna Katherine Nicholas, was published in 1975 by T.F.H. and was followed by several updated editions. Miss Nicholas was a breeder and judge of several breeds and held offices in many breed clubs as well as writing regularly for several breed magazines. Along

with explaining the origin of Pekingese, she includes chapters on the history and development of the breed in several countries. There are also chapters on breeding, showing, care, and training. This book is particularly special to me because my mother gave it to me in September 1975 when I finished my first championship on a Pekingese I bred, Ch. Tully Ho, who later became ranked. My copy is signed by Miss Nicholas.

*The Quigley Book of the Pekingese*, by Dorothy A. Quigley, of Orchard Hill, Pennsylvania, was published in 1964 by Howell Book House. This book is similar to others in that it contains information on history, care, breeding, and showing. A unique aspect of the book is that it is written from the author's perspective and experience in and out of the ring. This is of interest since Mrs. Quigley was a highly respected breeder of Pekingese.

*This Is the Pekingese*, by Rose Marie Katz, was



# BREED COLUMNS

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published in 1962 by T.F.H. Mrs. Katz graduated with honors from Syracuse University in 1937 and married Dr. I. Herbert Katz, a medical eye specialist. This is of interest since the book contains a great deal of information on Pekingese eyes and their diseases and cure. She bred, raised, and showed many dogs to their championship, and the book contains information on the standard, breeding, and showing, along with special sections on diseases.

The following three books I would like to mention have been out of print for several years but are certainly of interest especially for historical reasons. They can be found in collections or bookstores that deal with old books, and they contain the usual information on breeding, care, and showing.

*The Pekingese Dog*, by Mrs. Ashton Cross, was first published in 1932. She was a prominent breeder and exhibitor of Alderbourne Pekingese in England and was highly respected. *The*

*Popular Pekingese*, by John Vlasto, was published in England in 1923. The book contains drawings along with pictures of show points of the standard explained in detail. *The Book on Pekingese*, by Queenie Verity-Steele, was first published in England in 1914. The pictures along with her advice continue to be valuable today.

No article on Pekingese books would be complete without mention of a booklet available from The Pekingese Club of America. *The Pekingese Study Guide* was written to further explain the standard used by today's breeders and judges. It can be ordered on the club website at <https://pekingeseclubofamerica.com/product/pekingese-study-guide/>.

—Carol Kniebusch Noe  
The Pekingese Club of America

square, and short backed. Bred down from larger Spitz dogs, Pomeranians can trace their history to a family of dogs used for herding, pulling sleds, and guarding. Many characteristics required for these tasks, like their profuse double coat remain an important part of the breed. But now, bred to be a devoted companion breed, Pomeranians are a much smaller version than their ancestors, which were known to be 30 to 40 pounds.

In the FCI, there are still several distinct sizes of German Spitz; the smallest is known as the Toy Spitz, or Pomeranian. The FCI standards specifically state that the Spitz breeds are measured by height, and the weight should correspond to the size. Pomeranians are to be 21 centimeters (plus or minus 3 centimeters is allowed), meaning the ideal size is approximately 8.2 inches at the withers, but a dog as small as 7 inches or as large as 9.4 inches is considered accept-

## Pomeranians

### SIZE MATTERS

A true toy dog, the Pomeranian is compact,

## TOY GROUP



*Pomeranian (Elliott Erwitt photo/AKC Archives)*

able; according to the FCI standard, weight is to correspond to size, but there is no reference for ideal weight.

The breed's AKC standard, however, includes no reference to height. Instead, weight is the only reference to size: Pomeranians are to be 3 to 7 pounds, with 4 to 6 pounds being ideal. Dogs over or under these weights are not ideal and are objectionable. However, overall quality is to be favored over size. No matter the weight, dogs are still to be square, compact, sturdy, and medium boned.

As there is no specification of ideal height in the AKC standard, Pomeranians exhibited in AKC conformation events are in a range of sizes. Often in the same class are taller dogs competing against much shorter dogs. What is deceiving is that two dogs with several inches of height difference can still be within the recommended weight range—or even the same exact weight. I hear other exhibitors and even judges say that dogs are “too big” to be winning or “too small” to be winning. Often what

they are referring to is a dog that they deem to be “too tall,” when in reality the dog is the ideal weight for the standard and built squarely. On the flip side, the dogs that are “too small” often meet the minimum 3 pounds.

A three- to four-pound dog compared to a six- to seven-pound dog is a significant difference in weight that may or may not translate to a significant difference in height and overall size. Hair can also be deceiving. A smaller dog that grows more hair can appear the same size as a heavier dog who is out of coat or trimmed shorter.

So when does size become a personal preference, and how should size be judged? Pomeranians are not weighed or measured, nor are they picked up like the Pekingese. The standard also does not specify that males should be larger or smaller than females. How does one determine the weight of a dog simply by running their hands over them on a





# BREED COLUMNS

## TOY GROUP

table? Should a larger dog be rewarded over a smaller dog, quality and all else being equal? Is a larger male or female more preferred?

As a breeder, I recognize that weight, height, and overall size all have a time and a place in a breeding program. I cannot continually breed three-pound dogs and expect litters that are free whelped with strong, large, and healthy puppies that thrive by nursing on their own. I also take great caution in placing three-pound dogs into companion homes, as generally they are finer boned, more fragile, and more prone to injury with other dogs and children. However, breeding all seven-pound dogs also lends the style of dog to be more sturdy, heavy boned, and less compact. This is not always the case, though, as I have dogs over seven pounds that are some of the most structurally sound, short backed, and best moving dogs in my breeding program. As

a general rule, I prefer my bitches to be larger than my males, as this generally helps prevent the need for a Cesarean section. Breeding these females to smaller or average-sized males generally produces a puppy that falls within the ideal weight range.

In judging, the emphasis needs to be placed on quality and finding the dogs who have the right make and shape, with correct proportions and correct coat, while still appearing to be a toy breed. If we are judging breeding stock, these foundational elements must be present, no matter the size. Dogs should only be rewarded if they are square, short backed, and sound in composition and in action. A dog of inferior quality should not be rewarded just because it is five pounds, if a more quality dog is present that weighs more or less.

—Stephanie Hentschel,  
[darrightpoms@gmail.com](mailto:darrightpoms@gmail.com)  
American Pomeranian Club

## Shih Tzu

### BRINGING UP PUPPY

There is a lot involved in properly raising a litter of puppies. Creating a “dream doggie” who looks like and acts like a Shih Tzu should involve both genetics and nurture. Breeder Pat Hastings recommends that puppies receive brief daily neurological stimulation during the first three to 16 days of life. To provide this, pick each puppy up gently, and then hold him perpendicular to the ground and upside down. Place him on his back in the palms of your hands. Tickle the puppy between his toes with a Q-tip.

While you don’t want to overstress your puppies, you want them to become comfortable with being handled and learn to cope with new situations. Unless there is a health issue or a physical danger, try to let even a young puppy find his own way to the milk bar or around obstacles to foster confidence. Once the puppies can hear, expose them

# BREED COLUMNS

## TOY GROUP

to a variety of sounds, from rattling dishes to the vacuum cleaner. You can use CDs to desensitize them to thunderstorms, dog show noises, and so on. As they grow, puppies should meet a variety of people. They should play with many kinds of toys in different parts of the house, eat out of a variety of dishes in various locations, and learn to navigate steps, tunnels, and platforms.

Grooming will be an important part of your Shih Tzu's life. At about 3 weeks, begin to accustom a puppy to having his nails cut, the hair between the pads of his feet and around the anus trimmed, his body brushed, and his facial hair cleaned. Encourage him to lie on each side for a few seconds, using a soothing voice, soft hands, and even some belly-tickling to get him used to being in what is a very vulnerable position for a dog. Stack him briefly on the floor and on the table several times a day, and get him used to having full baths and to the sound and feel of



*Shih Tzu  
(Tauskey  
photo)*

the blow-dryer. Don't make grooming a "battle of the wills." If the experience is a happy one, it becomes therapeutic for you both—and for the puppy's new owners,

and any veterinarian who might have to examine him down the road.

It helps to let new owners visit and interact with their puppy so that they will be

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## TOY GROUP

“known quantities” when he goes to his new home. Observing the interaction assures you that there is a “good fit” between owner and puppy. It also gives new owners an opportunity to ask questions and gain experience.

Be sure buyers know what they will need to have on hand before bringing their Shih Tzu home, usually at 12 weeks. By that time, the puppy should be well started on housebreaking and lead training and have learned to view a crate (complete with a bed and some toys and goodies) as a secure and safe extension of his territory.

If you do everything right, your puppies will adjust instantly to their new homes—and give their owners a lifetime of pleasure. They will also serve as walking advertisements for the benefits of buying a purebred dog from a responsible breeder!

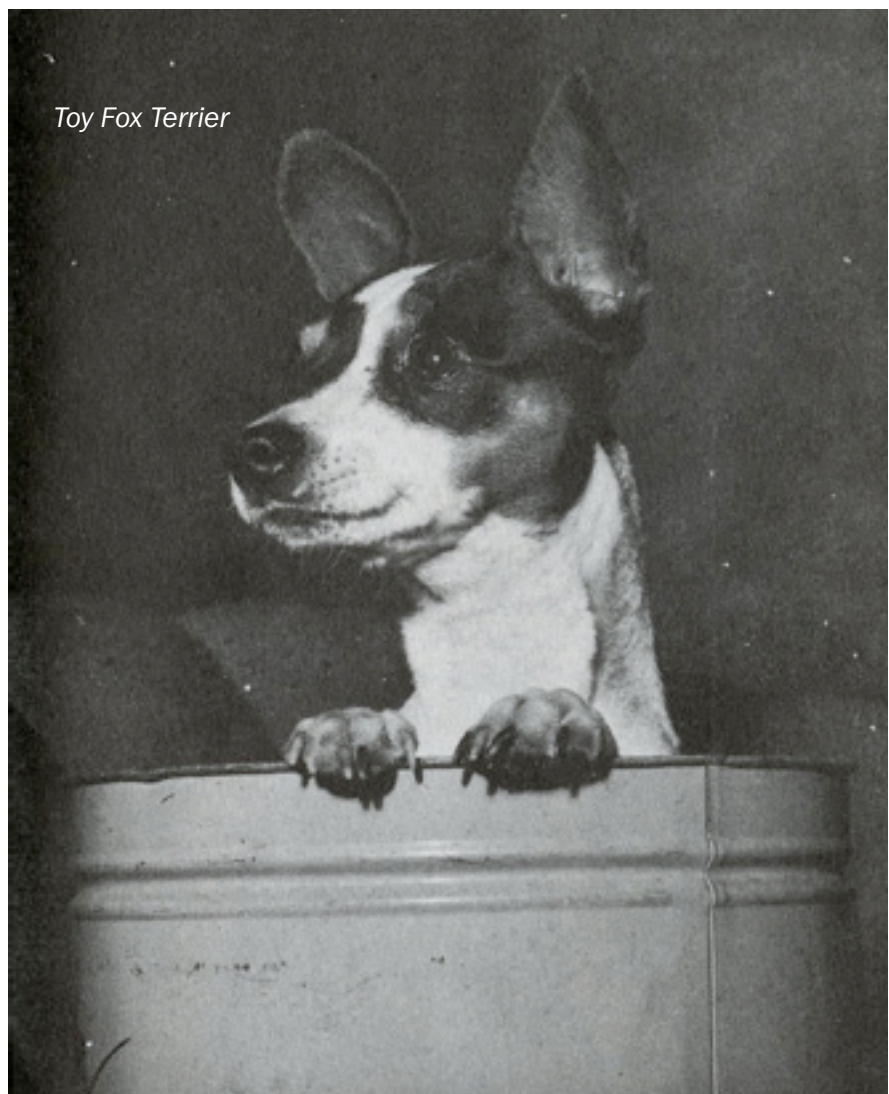
—Jo Ann White,  
[joazwhite@juno.com](mailto:joazwhite@juno.com)  
 American Shih Tzu Club

### Toy Fox Terriers

#### CARE TIPS

**D**o you have new puppies going outside for the first time? If you live in the country, make sure you watch out for hawks and owls. These dangerous predators can carry off

small dogs and puppies if you’re not careful. Even though the weather is warm, don’t forget these little dogs can easily get chilled. Don’t leave them out for long periods. Sometimes putting a sweater or coat on the dog will help keep chills away,



*Toy Fox Terrier*

AKC ARCHIVES





# BREED COLUMNS

## TOY GROUP

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but remember that pups love to pull on anything strange! On the other hand, don't leave them out if the weather is too hot—they love to be warm, but not hot.

What can we do to keep our little dogs free of internal parasites? There are a lot of wormers on the market, but buying a general wormer is kind of a slingshot method to get rid of worms. It might get them, and then again it might not. How can we be sure? The only reliable way is to check the stool microscopically, and for this you need a good book on parasites as well as a microscope. There are many online sources of worm medications; just look them up on any search engine. A microscope is a good investment, not only to use in checking for worms, but to do ovulation tests on your girls. The alternative is to have your veterinarian do a routine stool-check for you—after all, he is the expert! If you don't feel confident

in checking stools, by all means have your vet do it.

Expecting a litter of puppies? If so, there are a few things you should have on hand.

One of the most important is calcium, to prevent eclampsia. This is so important in toy dogs, as pregnancy puts a severe strain on those little bodies. I keep on hand Calcionate syrup, a human calcium supplement (calcium gluconate), and it's great to give our little mothers during the last week of their pregnancy. After whelping, I also give 3 cc of this twice a day to lactating dams. This will prevent calcium depletion, which can be fatal in toy dogs. I also give up to 6 cc every couple of hours during the actual whelping process. This helps speed up contractions without causing problems; any excess is simply excreted.

Soft, clean rags are important to have available, to help hang on to slippery newborns, clean

up any fluids, and so on. Kelly forceps, scissors, dental floss (for tying off umbilical cords), K-Y Jelly to lubricate the birth canal, and a good disinfectant like iodine are also helpful. I always dab a little bit of iodine on the umbilical cord of newborns, to prevent infection that might have been picked up in the birth canal.

A good method of keeping puppies warm is a heating pad under half of the area where the dam and puppies are kept. This way the mother can keep off the heat if she gets too warm, and the pups still have a warm place to lie on. It's important to keep newborns warm because they are unable to regulate their body temperature until they are five or six days old—but please, don't cook them with too much heat!

So enjoy the weather, look out for your little ones, and keep smiling! —  
*Dorothy Kendall, 2010*

[American Toy Fox Terrier Club](#)



# BREED COLUMNS

## NON-SPORTING GROUP

### American Eskimo Dogs

In the last installment, in the June issue, we learned about MACH48 Kody's road to the title of Lifetime Top MACH dog. Now we learn a bit more about Kody and his owner, Denise Schneider.

#### **KODY AND DENISE, AN AGILITY TEAM EXTRAORDINAIRE PART II: THE REST OF THE JOURNEY TO MACH 48**

*What further goals do you have with Kody?*

Denise: Kody turned 14 years old on December 14, 2022. At this point in his agility career he has earned all goals I have set for us (and then some!).

*At some point will you put Kody in Preferred?*

Kody recently earned MACH48—after that MACH, I moved him to Preferred. He is now loving running in 12-inch height.

*Are you training your dogs differently now than you trained Kody?*

Training contacts with my other dogs was different. All the other dogs after Kody

learned a running contact from the start. I also think in general the agility training has evolved too. I have trained four other dogs in agility after Kody. The last three spent more time on foundation on the flat work early on when they were puppies. In addition, the Premier classes did not exist when Kody first started agility. My recent dogs have learned Premier elements from the start of their training.

*What are the other dogs you run besides Kody, and what are your goals for them?*

I honestly just set goals for my dogs as things progress, I really focus on the enjoyment of the sport within reaching small goals. The goals evolve as we go. I am a competitive person and always want to improve in everything I do. However, I never even thought 48 MACH's or the Lifetime MACH Dog title could be a goal when I first started agility with Kody. It just kind of happened!

After I started running

Kody in agility and agility competition became part of regular life, my husband Geoff wanted to participate.

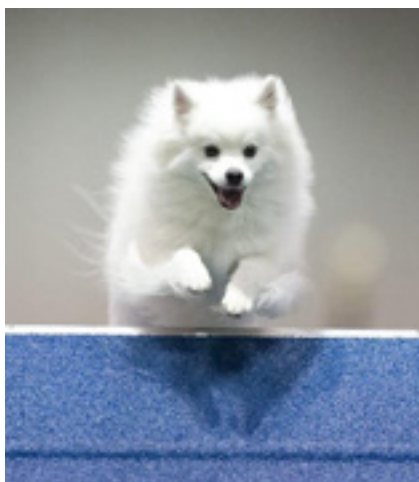
In 2011 we welcomed Lexi to our family. Lexi was primarily Geoff's agility dog. We both trained her. Geoff focused on running her in the regular classes and I ran most of the premier classes. Lexi was the first American Eskimo Dog to earn both the Premier STD title and the Premier JWW title. She qualified for the 2017, 2018, and 2019 AKC Nationals. She was the #2 Eskie invited to the 2018 AKC Invitational.

Lexi ranked within the top of the breed in the calendar years 2016, 2017, and 2018. She earned seven MACH titles, and then we lost her unexpectedly in November 2018 to an illness at the young age of 7.

In 2015 we welcomed Zoey to our family. Zoey has the drive and love for this sport that I always dreamed of wanting in an agility dog. She showed the desire and demonstrated

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American Eskimo Dog Kody—  
MACH48 SR Extreme Curiosity,  
MXS12, MJS13, MFB, TQX, T2B5,  
CGC, TKA—trained and handled  
by owner Denise Schneider

COURTESY DENISE SCHNEIDER





# BREED COLUMNS

## NON-SPORTING GROUP

the skill of running the premier style courses early on. My goal with Zoey soon became the Agility Grand Championship. In June 2021 Zoey became the first American Eskimo Dog to earn a Grand Championship.

In 2018 we welcomed Lucky and Gypsy to our family. These two pups are in progress and training. Lucky is at the Open level, and Gypsy is in Excellent.

I have always enjoyed the AKC Invitational. The Invitational is such an amazing event to showcase all breeds. It was a goal of mine for Kody, Lexi, and Zoey.

Kody's first invitation was in 2013. He has been invited and participated in this event for 10 years (2013–2022). He is a two-time finalist in the 16-inch height (placing fourth in 2014 and 2nd in 2016).

Lexi was invited in 2018, but unfortunately was only there in spirit after passing away.

Zoey has been invited for

four years (2019–2022). She is a two-time finalist in the 12-inch height (placing fourth in 2022).

*Have you ever competed in agility venues other than AKC?*

No, I have focused my time in AKC.

*Have you ever thought about getting a different breed?*

Yes, at various times I have contemplated getting another breed. I will always have an Eskie, I love the breed. But you never know, I might surprise you with another breed in the agility ring someday ... I won't comment here what breed that might be, because then it would not be a surprise!

*Do you do any other dog sports besides agility?*

No. Agility it is!

*Is there anything else you would like to add?*

My husband Geoff is responsible for introducing the Eskie breed into my life. He had an Eskie prior to when we met. Once we started dating, I was looking to get a dog of my own,

and he suggested this breed. We found Misty—my first Eskie—at a local rescue. Misty was an awesome pet, and such a fun girl. After she passed away, I spent an entire weekend contacting breeders from the AEDCA breeder-referral list looking for another dog.

It was Barbara Byrd, of Southern Ridge American Eskimos, whom I spoke to on a late Saturday evening in March 2009. She had one puppy remaining from her current litter. Three days later Kody came to live with us in Ohio.

*Fun facts about Kody:*

From the time he was a puppy, Kody likes to take the toilet paper from the roller, and at age 14 he still does this. We live with all bathroom doors closed!

Kody loves to cuddle with us on the sofa—but at night when he's sleeping, don't bug him!

Kody knows when he's going for a walk before we even get to the sidewalk. He does this certain "happy dance" (as I call it) down



# BREED COLUMNS

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the steps, across the driveway. Kody literally grabs the leash in his mouth as he is jumping in circles down the front steps and to the driveway to head out. He only does this for walks—nothing else.

Kody goes crazy when he smells pizza or grilled chicken.

So, how did I get started in agility? It is very simple. I took Kody to a puppy obedience class, and the instructor there shared with the class information about other things to do with your pup—and agility was one of them. *Hmm*, I thought. that sounded interesting. I contacted a local trainer (who ended up being the first agility Instructor of our career).

We started taking classes in July 2009. I quickly enjoyed the challenge of teaching my dog, and me learning a new sport. In the fall of 2009 Geoff and I went to watch a local agility trial. I was clearly engaged and in awe of the athletic dogs on course, the thrill I

witnessed in the handlers at the end of successful run, the enjoyment the dogs were having, and so on. I knew I wanted to do this.

Sitting in the bleachers watching a trial with me, Geoff said, “There is no way you are going to get Kody to do this.” “Watch me!” I said, and the rest is history!

Agility is truly a bond with your dog that can never be replaced! I am forever grateful for all the times I have stepped to the line with all my dogs.

In honor of Kody, MACH48 SR Extreme Curiosity, MXS12, MJS13, MFB, TQX, T2B5, CGC, TKA.

*Major thanks once again to Denise, Kody, and Jay for this incredible story about a most awesome, legendary, and historical Eskie in our midst. Indeed, Kody will forever be remembered for his agility expertise and record-setting accomplishments.*

—Stella Brown

[American Eskimo Dog Club of America](#)

## Bichons Frises

### BREEDER GUIDELINES: BEFORE YOU BREED

**B**reeding dogs is a huge responsibility, and the Bichon Frise Club of America encourages all member-breeders to follow appropriate guidelines before breeding any dog. For comprehensive information on breeding, please see AKC’s [Guide to Responsible Dog Breeding](#).

As much as you would love to have puppies right away, there are many things to consider prior to breeding. Of course, you want your dog to be a good representative of Bichons Frises, both in conformation and temperament, but this is just the beginning. You should wait until she has had at least one season before breeding. Many breeders prefer to wait until after the bitch’s second birthday so that she will be completely mature physically and mentally.

Genetic testing is recommended for both the sire and dam to ensure they are

# BREED COLUMNS

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free of any serious health issues that could be passed on to the offspring. You will want to get these tests out of the way before your bitch comes into the season you will be breeding her. At a minimum, your bitch (and the sire) should meet the requirements for a CHIC number. CHIC was developed by the ACK Canine Health Foundation and the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals to encourage breeders to complete required tests before breeding. (Note that every dog must have permanent identification such as a microchip or tattoo before getting these tests.) Each breed's parent club decides what tests should be required based on the health data for that breed. For general information about CHIC, please see: <https://ofa.org/breeders/>. For Bichon Frise CHIC information, go to <https://ofa.org/chic-programs/browse-by-breed/?breed=BCF>. FYI, many breeders insist that the annual tests, such as the



*Bichon Frise with pups*

AVCO eye exam and the patellar luxation exam, be done within six months of the breeding. It is recommended that you test the hips towards the middle months between seasons to have them be at their tightest, as just before coming into season and a couple of months afterward, they are more flexible, which may result in a poorer score. Work with a trusted veterinarian—a theriogenologist (reproductive specialist) is great, but try to find a vet recommended by other breeders in your area. Within a month of the expected onset of the breed-

ing heat cycle, your girl will need a thorough health exam. For details, please refer to the AKC's Guide to Responsible Dog Breeding link above. Have a contract if you use a sire from another breeder. Contracts are essential to set parameters and keep the peace. The sire's owner will provide a contract specifying what constitutes a breeding, the cost, and the sire's AKC registration and pedigree information. You should also have a contract for your puppy buyers. Contracts are a responsible breeder's way of sharing their philosophy, advice, and

COURTESY CAROL FELLEBAUM



# BREED COLUMNS

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expectations. They remind the signers of the obligations being undertaken and summarize the things you have discussed prior to a breeding or sale of the puppy. The AKC website has excellent information on contracts at <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/dog-breeding/everything-you-need-to-know-about-breeder-contracts/>.

As you can see, there are many things to consider when you decide to breed your dog. Finding a mentor from the BFCA or a local all-breed club can help guide you through the process. See Signs of a Responsible Breeder: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/dog-breeding/signs-of-a-responsible-breeder/>. More information for breeders may be found at the following AKC sites:

Breeder of Merit:  
<https://www.akc.org/breeder-programs/akc-breeder-of-merit-program/>

Bred with H.E.A.R.T.:  
<https://www.akc.org/breeder-programs/akc-bred-with-heart-program/>

AKC Canine Health Foundation resources for breeders: <https://link.akc.org/view/5b86d9032ddf9c5a2a-406702ihgkv.1880/4dbb05a1>

Online Record Keeping:  
<https://www.akc.org/press-releases/akc-introduces-online-record-keeping/>

Reputable breeders try to improve upon their lines with every litter. By following these guidelines, you will be off to an excellent start. Best of luck to you in your breeding program!

—Mayno Blanding,  
[maynob@gmail.com](mailto:maynob@gmail.com)  
Bichon Frise Club of America

### Boston Terriers

#### SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN GOING TO DOG SHOWS

**W**e all like to show our dogs, plus have fun fellowship with friends. Sharing true life experiences from the past can be helpful to future exhibitors. First will be discussed staying in hotels versus RV camping at a dog show. Also, handlers asking to show your dog.

The experiences are all real stories that have happen in the past.

Staying in the wrong hotel can be scary. Check in early, and don't be bragging about having expensive show dogs. Remember there are people listening who may think about stealing your dog to sell. Hang a "Do not disturb" sign on the door of your hotel room. This implies you are in the room, so normally nobody will enter. Always crate the dogs before leaving the room. In one incident in New York items from a room were stolen, but the dogs were left alone because they were crated. There are many predators who case people who stay in hotels. One woman put her dogs in the car first, then while carrying luggage to her car two people stole the dogs. Never leave your car unlocked. Things you should bring when traveling include a picture of each dog, proof of rabies vaccinations and other medical info, and phone number of a person

## NON-SPORTING GROUP



*Boston Terriers, 1920*

to call who can pick up your dogs if needed. A man was showing in the ring and had a heart attack; he went to the hospital, and his dogs were left at show site. If not for friends taking the dog's home with them and knowing some of his family, what would have happened?

Boston Terriers like a familiar environment. RV camping can make them feel safe and have a good night's sleep so that they show better the next day. Most show sites have security and good lighting. Have a sign to put on your windshield giving your name and phone num-

ber, so if something happens at your RV a person can call. The electricity or generator could fail. One of your dogs could have gotten out of his or her crate, getting the other dogs excited. A fire or water leak, or a storm could be coming and your RV awning might need to come in. One year at the Kentucky cluster show there were non-dog-show people who went into unlocked RVs and campers and stole items. One lady was napping in back of her camper when realizing a strange man was taking food out of her refrigerator. Always lock your

vehicles and trailers, even if you're only next door talking to a friend.

Boston Terriers can get all worked up staying in a crate around barking, active dogs, plus people may want to put their fingers in the cage and feed the dog. Next day your dog could have a stomach ache and not be able to show. Boston Terriers are highly sensitive, protective, and intelligent dogs, with high energy. They need to rest so will be ready to show the world "The American Gentleman is ready to win."

One time an exhibitor asked why their dog won two days, but not the third day. The judge replied, "You had the best dog, but she didn't show, and this is a dog show. One of the main qualities of your breed is being lively—bring her back when she wakes up." Good advice! The dog did better when they stayed in an RV at shows.

When a champion of mine was stolen by a handler who begged to take her on a four-day dog show circuit, I



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never saw her again. Asking how this could happen, a judge and former handler said, “Good handlers don’t have to beg to show your dog, you have to ask them.” Remember!

Whether staying in a hotel, RV, or camper, be safe, be aware of your surroundings, and think before speaking to strangers. Check out hotel reviews, and if you feel uneasy about the choice made, leave to a safe location, even if you have to pay more money.

You can’t put a price on being safe. Also, be careful of who you have show your dog.

—Patricia S. Johnson,  
BTCA and DWAA  
[patsgrooming@gmail.com](mailto:patsgrooming@gmail.com)  
[Boston Terrier Club of America](#)

### Bulldogs

#### PRESERVING QUALITY

**Q**uality is a word that suggests excellence. In dogs, it often translates to excellence in individual physical features, which

includes the overall general appearance. It also applies to health and temperament. That appearance in a quality purebred dog adheres closely to features defined in the the official standards. At the very least, we want our dogs to resemble their breed.

Browsing social media chatrooms often reveals a startlingly negative attitude toward purebred dogs of quality, and toward their breeders and owners. Words such as “snob,” “elitist,” or (bizarrely) even “racist” are often hurled as insults from people who by all appearances appear to be anti-purebred or even anti-quality. As if “quality” was a detriment.

What is being lost on these people is that strong quality translates to good health, which in part contributes to a good quality of life.

Everyone wants to see decreases in the number of abandoned or surrendered dogs. But that does not translate into ending the breeding of high-quality dogs of all breeds. By con-

scientiously striving toward high quality, we actually do our part in decreasing the numbers of surrenders.

We should all be seeking to breed the highest-quality dogs we can. This goes hand in hand with being preservationists. Whether we intend it or not, embarking on a journey into dog breeding solidifies our role in breed history. It also reveals the importance of always breeding for quality, regardless if you show in conformation events or participate in performance events. Even if you are only breeding as a casual hobby with no plans for any AKC event participation, high quality should always be a main goal.

We chose how to breed. We carefully select compatible stud dogs for our bitches. We study pedigrees. The cost of producing a litter is not going to be significantly altered by electing to breed the highest quality we can. Keeping in mind the words of the standard (hopefully correctly interpreted), health, and



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temperament, we can do our part to create the very best individuals to carry the breed forward for future generations to enjoy. That is the essence of preservation breeding. If we allow the numbers of high-quality dogs to dwindle, the breed will face a questionable future. That there will always be Bulldogs of some sort available seems pretty certain. Hopefully included among those dogs will be Bulldogs of superior quality. We certainly wouldn't want future Bulldog enthusiasts to look longingly at old photos of our current dogs and wonder, "Why don't they look like this anymore?" If we don't act as guardians of our breed, that could certainly happen.

Bulldogs are unique in that they survive as a breed to this day without having the "job" they were bred for centuries to do. Considering the extreme cruelty involved in that old "sport" of bullbaiting, we are ever thankful for that. But this means that the fea-



tures that evolved over the centuries in order to best do their job are potentially at risk of being lost without due diligence. This commitment to the breed and its history naturally comes from the breeders and, to a lesser extent, the judges. The standard was first written as it was recognized by the early fanciers that these features could be easily lost to history without some way of preserving them.

The BCA National Specialty will be held in at the Olympia Hotel at Capitol Lake, Olympia, Washington, in September 10–16. Information is

available on the website at [bulldogclubofamerica.org](http://bulldogclubofamerica.org). Post-show coverage will appear in this column.

—Elizabeth Milam,  
[celticdogges@me.com](mailto:celticdogges@me.com)  
[Bulldog Club of America](http://BulldogClubofAmerica)

### Chinese Shar-Pei

#### WHEN A DOG IS HAVING AN "OFF" DAY

While I haven't done most or even many of the myriad types of events that dogs can participate in, I know that no matter the event, a dog who doesn't perform as trained is a test for the trainer, and the situation is sometimes heart-

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breaking or maddening.

There are many reasons why dogs suddenly don't do what they've been doing and the trainer has to figure it out. Sometimes, it's just stress, or the dog having an off day, or being tired. Sometimes the trainer is going through something, and dog feels that and is thrown off their game. There is a special sadness that comes with the realization that something you missed or did resulted in their failure and your disappointment.

Recently a friend told me of having a dog who, first day of the show weekend, was his normal, steady self. Then there were stressors of a robbery, and there was an unknown ear infection. So the trainer, stressed from events, not knowing about the infection, is shocked when the dog balks in the ring. Knowing that has never happened, the dog is solid, she tries again, holding the head and pressing on where the infection is, not knowing, hurting and shocking the dog into behavior



*Chinese Shar-Pei*

that has them leave the ring. Of course, after the shock wore off and the realization the dog had this really hurtful ear, she goes from shocked to just sick that she missed this and maybe can't show the dog again. Any of us who have trained dogs have been there, and you just want to smack yourself! But be as forgiving as the dogs.

I had a young male, a fabulous mover, who won a three-point major his first time out. Rock solid. Turns out, for whatever reason, one I never knew, being a

show dog was not for him. No matter how much work I put in, no matter how many classes we took, he would *not* stand for exam. My big, strong, beautiful boy was making it clear this was not for him. He was not fearful. He happily went to class, moved beautifully in the ring, and wasn't afraid of people or dogs. But was not going to be touched, not going to show the bite. He didn't refuse with attitude, just with a "No, not gonna." After a year of trying different things, off and on, I accepted he was a three-point-major wonder and said, "Jack my man, no worries. I won't try again." He spent the rest of his life as my great companion, with me often thinking what could have been.

Some things are short term. I was obedience training my boy Fever, and we trained an hourlong class each week, and then 15- to 30-minute at-home sessions every day. My trainer had told the class early on that when a dog "loses their mind" and for-

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gets their training, back up to something they can do, praise them, and be done for that session. So, I was working Fever for one of our outside short sessions, and he would *not* come to the front and sit. He would come, and then stand there. He had done this hundreds of times! I felt myself getting frustrated and looked into his face and ... he was just so sad and confused! He *wanted* to please me, but his mind was not in the game. I felt *awful*. So I quickly did some heeling with turns (he did great), and I said “Good boy!” And I quickly gave him the release word, ended training with a bunch of praise, and called it a day. He never repeated that, and I have no idea where his mind went that day, but I was grateful to hear my trainer in my head!

Dogs are living, breathing entities with personalities and emotions. Some days they just don’t have their best days, like us. But they are always dogs, and that is

the best part.

—Karen Kleinhans DeSilva,  
[kasupei@aol.com](mailto:kasupei@aol.com)  
 Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America

### Chow Chows

#### PROTECTING OUR BREED

A dog’s color is one of the easiest attributes to see, and therefore when an unusual color or pattern appears on a puppy, the term “rare” may be used to create a sales opportunity—even when there may be detrimental health issues linked to that color, and there are no improvements to the breed associated with the color.

Many AKC recognized breeds are now struggling with health issues proven to be consistently linked to the color of the dog. This includes the Chow Chow.

The Chow Chow standard states: “Clear colored, solid

or solid with lighter shadings in the ruff, tail and feathering. There are five colors in the Chow: red (light golden to deep mahogany), black, blue, cinnamon (light fawn to deep cinnamon) and cream. Acceptable colors to be judged on an equal basis.”

All five of the approved colors, in rough or smooth coated Chow Chows, may have lighter shading in the tail, ruff, britches, and feathering. These are acceptable colors according to the standard, which says



CHOW CHOW CLUB, INC.



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“lighter shadings in the ruff, tail and feathering.” The Chow Chow is not allowed to have patterning (merle, brindle, or piebald).

The Chow Chow Club has developed additional educational materials to raise awareness of the approved Chow Chow colors and the unapproved colors and patterns that are being bred and marketed. These posters and flyers have been created and approved to use in this educational campaign.

—Love Banghart,  
[Lkendr4300@aol.com](mailto:Lkendr4300@aol.com)  
 Chow Chow Club, Inc.



*Take your well-trained Dalmatian out among the public and show people what great dogs they are.*



## Dalmatians

### BREED AMBASSADORS

Do you want to stand out in a crowd? Do you want to cause a commotion wherever you go? Do you want to draw a throng of admirers? Well, let me tell you that the best way to do that is to walk your Dalmatian in public or take them to a dog-friendly store. You will be mobbed by people who want to see a “real”

Dalmatian. We’re bordering on being a rare breed these days, so people come out of the woodwork to interact with Pongo and/or Perdita.

Over the years, I can’t begin to recount the number of times my dogs have drawn the attention of folks who want to “see the Dalmatian” or have their picture taken with the dog. Being Dal owners, we’re not surprised, because we all know how amazing and special our breed is. But the “pupparazzi” are everywhere, and the kids,

especially, go nuts when they see our strikingly beautiful dogs.

My husband and I were sitting outside of a local pet store after taking one of our older puppies there for socialization and it was so funny to see the public reaction. The best one was a car

COURTESY SUZI WAHL / CAROLYN COOPER / MELEAH ZUVALA



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driving by and you could see a little girl inside, looking out the window with her hands pressed to the glass, mouthing the words, “It’s a Dalmatian!”

But as fun as all of this may be, let’s also use this as an opportunity to be the best breed ambassadors we can be. There are so many ugly myths surrounding Dalmatians: that they’re aggressive (I prefer brave and protective), they’re dumb (I prefer independent thinkers), and my personal favorite, they’re hyper (to me, “hyper is a mental condition; a Dalmatian is active.)

Let’s show John Q. Public the truth about our favorite breed, and accentuate their positive qualities: They’re loyal, they’re confident, they’re smart (sometimes too smart!), and oh, how they love their people. These should all be qualities people are looking for in a family dog, and the Dals have these qualities in spades and can be a wonderful addition to any family.

So how do you become a breed ambassador, you ask? It doesn’t have to be a formal event such as a Meet the Breeds occasion; just take your well-trained dog out into the public forum and show folks what great dogs they are.

However, the key word is *well-trained*, as we don’t want to show people hooligan dogs who are difficult to handle.

Tricks are always an excellent way of putting forth your best foot (or paw). Tricks will make your audience laugh and appreciate them all the more. Let people see them being obedient—quietly sitting at your side until asked to join the conversation. Maybe engage them in a local reading program. Kids reading to dogs is a great way to show and share the love.

Use your imagination, as there are limitless opportunities to showcase our dogs. Not every dog goes to a show home. Sometimes it’s the well-bred and trained pets who can accomplish

the most good.

—Jan Warren Linné,  
[janlinne56@yahoo.com](mailto:janlinne56@yahoo.com)  
Dalmatian Club of America

## French Bulldogs

### REMEMBERING LINDA

#### MAINGOT

On July 4, the French Bulldog world lost an expert and true advocate for the breed. Linda Maingot was a lovely person and a wonderful artist. Juanita Imperiale wrote a beautiful tribute to Linda, below. It is followed by comments from two close friends, Andrea Jenó and James Dalton.

*July 4, 3:25 P.M.*

Throughout life there are friends who come and go. There are some who will leave indelible marks on your life and heart. Friends that you cannot imagine the world without. Certain individuals radiate love and honesty that makes it impossible to remain uninfluenced by their impact on your life. Linda Maingot, with her

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angelic smile, had a glow about her. She was unquestionably one of those rare souls.

Linda was born in England and adopted to wonderful parents. She only spoke of joy, love, and respect for them whenever she mentioned her “Mummy and Daddy” (as Linda only referred to them). Linda was married and divorced twice. She is survived by her two children, Kristie Marshall and Michael Maingot. She often confessed she loved her children beyond words and time itself.

Life was not kind to Linda. She spent most of her adult life just surviving. Linda was a breeder of Bulldogs and French Bulldogs in Canada during the 1970s. She moved to Trinidad for a short while but returned to Canada in the 1980s. Starting her whole life over, she began breeding French Bulldogs again. Although Linda never quite had a financially stable future, she continued to make



Left: Linda Maingot. Above: French Bulldog Ch. Eltorro's Lisette De Lille, bred by Linda

an impact on the French Bulldog breed under the prefix El Torro. This was a point in time when the only way to be aware of what was happening in the breed was with diligent legwork.

Linda was an underutilized encyclopedia of knowledge. She wrote a book in 2003 called *Portrait of America's French Bulldogs: Contemporary Pedigrees That Shaped the Breed in the United States*. Because of the love Linda had for art and painting, the book featured important pedigrees that shaped the French Bulldog today, along

with portraits of the dogs (painted by Linda) listed in the book. It also included the impact each dog had on the breed through breeding.

Linda had hands-on experience and an unbelievable memory when it came to pedigrees. Until her departure from this world she not only could recite a pedigree, she could tell you who bred it, how it produced, and how the siblings and get of the dog in question produced. She was so knowledgeable about the breed that people from around the world would seek her advice for their breeding programs and

COURTESY OWNER





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pedigrees right until the end.

Linda was not particularly eloquent, but in her innocent sense of truth always had words of wisdom. She had a sixth sense about things that made her an excellent judge of character. She was never loud or overbearing but stood mulishly on her principles. Everyone loved her, and she had friends worldwide.

Linda’s journey in life has come to an end by her choosing. She has lived and made our life better by her existence. She had no regrets except the many, many years in severe pain she left behind.

She asked me to share with you the thoughts:

“At every turn in my life, I was blessed with friends who stood by me, helped me, and loved me. They were always there in my time of need. They know who they are. Thank you, and I love you!”

She went on to say, “To the dearest souls I love and care for, who held me up when I could not do it myself, who stood by and clutched my hand when

time raced by with teary eye and lumps in their throats, thank you, I love you! I am tired and ready to go, so no tears, for I will be no longer in pain.”

For us, Linda, you have always been our pearl. We wish we had more time. We value your profound contributions to our life. We treasure our friendship and will miss you forever. Thank you for all that you gave us.

Until we meet again, love you,

Vince and Juanita

Below are the words of her friend Andrea Jenó.

“I still am having a difficult time wrapping my mind around that she’s gone ... I think her best contribution to the breed was her vast knowledge of pedigrees and her willingness to educate anyone who came to her with questions. Her passion was pedigrees, and she had been in the breed for so long that she knew and had seen a large majority of the actual dogs. There is still so much for me to learn from her,

we just didn’t have enough time. She was such a kind and generous person, but reserved. A lot of people in the breed these days have no idea who she was, but bar none she was an expert on pedigrees and taught so many people how to work with a pedigree for a successful breeding outcome. I will miss her so much ...”

James Dalton speaks of Linda as a dear and loved friend. He said, “Linda was a breeder’s breeder. Her longevity of over forty years in the breed resulted in a true understanding of breed type and the value of the pedigree. I shall miss her forever.”

— Sande Abernathy,  
[jpaplay@comcast.net](mailto:jpaplay@comcast.net)  
French Bull Dog Club of America

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## Keeshonden

### RAISING KEESHOND PUPPIES: BIRTH TO THREE WEEKS

The idea for this column came to me while talking with other breeders at a recent dog show. I

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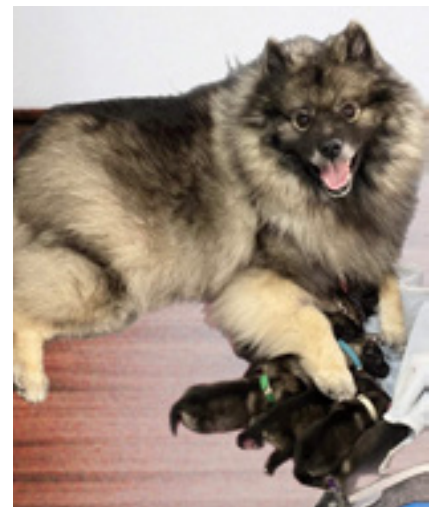
## NON-SPORTING GROUP

thought it would be interesting to share how we raise our puppies and what they are like at different stages of their development. This will be a series of three columns that will lead up to nine weeks of age.

For the purpose of this discussion, we will begin at birth and make a few assumptions.

First, that you have read about the whelping process, and have a mentor and a trusted veterinarian to call if you experience any problems. Second, that you have completed all the necessary health tests on the sire and dam recommended for your breed by your Parent Breed Club and the Canine Health Information Center, CHIC. Third, that you have done a pre-whelping X-ray, and know how many puppies you are expecting.

Now the stress of the whelping process is over, and the moment that every breeder looks forward to has arrived! All of your puppies are lined up and nursing, and the happy and



*“As much as there is work, you should also focus on enjoying the puppies,” says Keeshond breeder and columnist Debbie Lynch. “Talk to them, hold them, sing to them.”*

proud mother is surveying her puppies and smiling. Keeshonden are not usually plagued with whelping problems, and the puppies are generally very active and thrive readily. That being said, you have your mentor and veterinarian to rely on if any questions occur.

So, now what? Take a minute to relax and let the puppies nurse, because the work is just starting!

First, your dam. She has lost a lot of fluid during the whelping process and will need access to clean, fresh water and food to supply the calories and liquid she will

need to nurse her puppies. We give her warm chicken soup for her first feeding after whelping. This is much appreciated and is cleaned right up. Adding bone broth to her meals is also welcome. After all the puppies have nursed and she has been exercised, we pop her in the tub and wash up her britches and elsewhere. Not a full bath. Drying her off is important so the puppies don't get wet or chilled.

On the first day after whelping, make an appointment with your veterinarian for a post-whelping checkup and what is often called

COURTESY DEBORAH LYNCH



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a “cleanout shot.” This is an injection that helps the uterus contract and expel any retained afterbirth. You can also discuss with your vet having the puppies’ dewclaws removed, which is usually done between 3 and 4 days old.

There are a few things you must be attentive of concerning your dam. Post whelping and for the next two to three weeks, you will take her temperature daily. A normal temperature is 99.5 or slightly lower. However, a nursing dam will run slightly higher. The purpose of taking a daily temperature after whelping is to see if she is coming down with a post-whelping infection. If her temperature goes up to 102 degrees or higher, if she stops eating or appears restless, or any combination of these, it is time to see the veterinarian. Infection and eclampsia are two dangerous conditions that must be treated immediately.

You will be recording her temperature in your records of this litter. You will also be

recording puppy weights. Puppy weights should be done at the same time each day. We weigh twice a day for the first three weeks, or until they reach one pound. At this point Keeshond puppies will be well on their way and can be weighed weekly.

Keeshond puppy weights at birth can range from 8 to 12 ounces. Puppies from different lines may be bigger or smaller. Singletons can be large and give their dams some trouble at whelping. Breeders may decide on a C-section for a safe delivery. Very large litters of 9 to 11 and more usually have a few very small puppies that will require extra monitoring and attention.

If a puppy weighs 8 ounces or less at birth, their weights have to be monitored very carefully. Weigh them three times a day. When they are nursing the first few days, cover them with a small towel to preserve their body heat. Make sure the whelping area is warm.

We place a portable electric radiator near the whelping box.

You can also do supervised nursing with these little ones. Place an extra clean quilt down for the dam on a bed or the floor and let them nurse by themselves after their littermates have nursed. This way the dam won’t be distracted by the cries of hungry puppies, and the little guys won’t be pushed off by their larger littermates. We have raised healthy puppies that were born at 5 and 6 ounces. At nine weeks they may still be a bit smaller but are close in size to their littermates and are just as active and outgoing!

During the daily temperature check with your dam is the time to check her mammary glands. They should all be soft and symmetrical, with no lumps or heat. If you do detect that one is more slightly more swollen, you can guide the puppies to use that one so it does not continue to swell. If a lump or heat is detected, you should contact your veterinarian.





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During your daily weighing times with your puppies, you can talk to them, move their little legs, and pet them. They enjoy this, and it helps to stimulate their senses. We play music for them, and we notice they seem to like classical music, but they get a variety as they get older, including talk radio and country or any of your favorites. This is just the beginning of the process of helping them adjust to the world they will be living in.

*Week two.* This is an exciting time for your puppies, as this is the week their eyes will begin to open! You will notice a big change in their behavior when they can see a little of the world around them. They will stop bumping into each other and will get very excited when they see their mom coming, falling over themselves in excitement.

They will also begin to recognize their breeders and their routine. As they recognized each other, you will begin to notice the start of play behavior. Puppies will

bat their paws at each other, and this will evolve into some pretty rough games by the time they are 6 weeks old.

You can place a few soft toys in the whelping box at this time—make them about the size of the puppy. These toys will begin to introduce objects they can navigate around and try to move.

As much as there is work, you should also focus on enjoying your puppies. Talk to them, hold them, sing to them. Many breeders, myself included, keep their puppies in their bedrooms or an adjacent room, where they can easily hear them. There is a built in “breeder alarm” in most of us. A cry from a puppy in distress will have the soundest sleeping breeder on his or her feet in seconds! I keep a night light on near the whelping box but turn off any other light each night for them. Saying “Good night, puppies” becomes a routine for them from an early age. This routine can be transferred to their new owners and makes for a much easier transition

to their new home. The sounds of sleeping puppies is one that breeders welcome as they drift off to sleep.

We will end our column here and pick up with the introduction of food, which can start between 3 and 4 weeks, in our next column. We hope you are enjoying your time with your dogs!

Breeding dogs is a lifelong pursuit. It includes attending all-breed and specialty shows, evaluating litters and individual dogs, reading, attending seminars, asking questions, and learning—always learning.

### *Recommended reading:*

There are many texts on dog breeding. Here a few that I have found useful over the years.

*Born to Win, Breed to Succeed*, by Patricia Craige Trotter (Kennel Club Books, 2009); *The Joy of Breeding Your Own Show Dog*, by Anne Serranne (Howell Book House, 2004, Classic Edition); *Canine Reproduction and Whelping: A Breeders Guide*;

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*Puppy Intensive Care A Breeders Guide to the Care of Newborn Puppies* (January 2006, Harris Publications); *Successful Dog Breeding: The Complete Handbook of Canine Midwifery*, by Chris Walkowicz (January 1994, Howell Reference Books); *Breeding Better Dogs*, by Dr. Carmen Battaglia (Dogwise Publications).

—Debbie Lynch,  
Parrish, Florida

[Keeshond Club of America](#)



*Lhasa Apso Ch. Hamilton Torma, 1957 (Joan Ludwig photo)*

### Lhasa Apsos

#### WE NEED TO STEP UP AND GIVE BACK TO THE SPORT

We commonly think of infrastructure as roads, bridges, and ferries—the means of moving people and goods to keep society and commerce functioning. Congested highways, broken bridges, and streets with potholes impact people and commerce, and they shorten commuters’ tempers.

Infrastructure also is what keeps organizations and movements functioning.

People and processes enable them to function. Some organizations rely solely on paid staff, while others—notably nonprofits, which includes most dog clubs—use either all-volunteer or a combination of paid and volunteer help to function.

But there is a problem. A recent U.S. Census survey showed the largest decrease in volunteerism since 2002. Formal volunteer participation dropped seven percent between 2019 and 2021.

Being part of a community involves supporting organizations and events we enjoy

so they can survive. That support can be financial, but donating our time is essential.

Behind every conformation show, obedience trial, and performance event is an army of paid and volunteer help, all working to make the event function smoothly, provide a safe and welcoming venue for dogs, exhibitors, judges, and spectators. For future survival, the event must also at least pay for itself or make a reasonable surplus. Contrary to some thinking, “non-profit” does not imply that an



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organization may not make a profit or have sufficient reserves to grow and withstand difficult times. Profits must be used to further the mission of the organization and not enrich any member.

Clubs cannot avoid paying for many services involved in putting on a show. Venues charge for everything: buildings, tables, chairs, parking lots, trash containers, attendants, electrical drops, and maintenance, and they often levy fines if exhibitors leave the place a mess. Fire and other permits are required. Superintendents are essential but charge as much as *one-third* of every entry. Judges charge a daily fee and are reimbursed for transportation, lodging, and meals. Security and EMT personnel are essential and expensive. Hospitality costs include catering food for judges, stewards, club members, and staff. And we all love those pricey rosettes and ribbons.

Clubs use a combination of paid and volunteer help for other functions: process-

ing and managing reserved parking and grooming; ring stewards; grounds crews who help set up club areas, troubleshoot problems, and clean up; hospitality crews; kitchen help; and ring hospitality. When clubs contract high-school groups or service clubs for help, they make a donation to these groups based on the scope of work expected.

The heaviest workloads fall to volunteers. Show and committee chairs work almost year-round planning, budgeting, finding work crews, hiring and assigning judges, coordinating with specialty clubs, and, not to mention a growing trend with our graying population, replacing judges who are unable to make their commitments. When exhibitors show up on show day, they expect smiling hosts—at a club table staffed by volunteers—and a well-organized event that allows them to show their dogs, visit with and cheer friends, and have a good time.

Unfortunately, dog show

infrastructure is in jeopardy. The number of dog shows is increasing, requiring more willing hands to work. At the same time, volunteerism is declining, and the existing workforce is aging out. Faced with fewer volunteers, clubs are forced to hire more staff to fill the void, which increases the cost of putting on a show. Coupling this with overall cost increases is forcing clubs to increase entry fees and other exhibitor costs to make ends meet, resulting in fewer entries made, as exhibitors' budgets are strained.

This cost “death spiral” is pulling dog shows toward demise unless more people choose to give back to the sport with not just their entry fees and expectations of an affordable, high-quality event, but also with their time and effort to be part of the community that makes it a reality.

Step up, or we all lose.

—Cassandra de la Rosa,

[dllrcas@msn.com](mailto:dllrcas@msn.com)

The American Lhasa Apso Club





## NON-SPORTING GROUP

### Poodles

#### MY SCENT WORK JOURNEY WITH MY POODLES

Our guest author for this issue is Pamela Duke. Pamela kindly provided an introduction: “My Poodles and I have trained, competed, and earned AKC obedience and rally titles beginning in 1975. Nikkoi Le Duc, CDX, earned our first AKC title, and I was hooked! Ch. Willow Hollow Charmer, CD, Le Duc’s Jessamine Du Val, CDX, Cabernet’s Chablis Du Val, CD, RE, THD, Patrician’s Aprivet Du Val, CD, RAE, THDD, CGC, Alamode California Blues (Cali), THDD, CGC, TKI, and Brienwood’s Promise Fulfilled, SWA, THDA, CGC, TKI, carried on the expertise and tradition of earning AKC titles. While training with my Standard Poodle Cali at Gentle Touch Pet Training in San Luis Obispo County, California, Nose Work was introduced in 2008, and from that day on scent work has been my dog sport of choice.

#### History

Scent work is a dog sport created by three detection-dog handlers in Los Angeles—Amy Herot, Jill-Marie O’Brien, and Ron Gaunt. Taking into consideration some of the beginning skills involved in K9 detection work, the founders started classes in Los Angeles in 2006 to help dogs learn to use their most significant attribute—their sense of smell. Classes led to the first K9 Nose Work competition in August 2008. The first titling event was January 25, 2009.

The National Association of Canine Scent Work, NACSW, is the governing body for the competition side of the sport.

The activity of scent work is designed to develop a dog’s natural scenting abilities and harness their hunting instinct by using their desire to hunt. Dogs have such amazing scenting abilities that they could detect a drop of gasoline in a full-size pool! The foundation skills are built

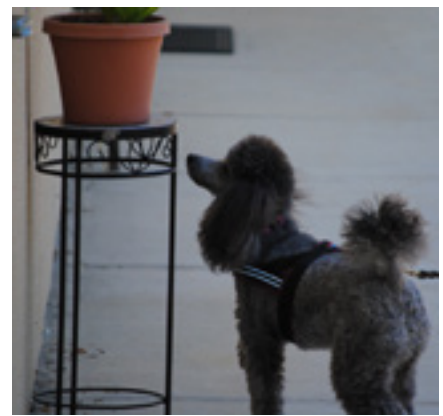
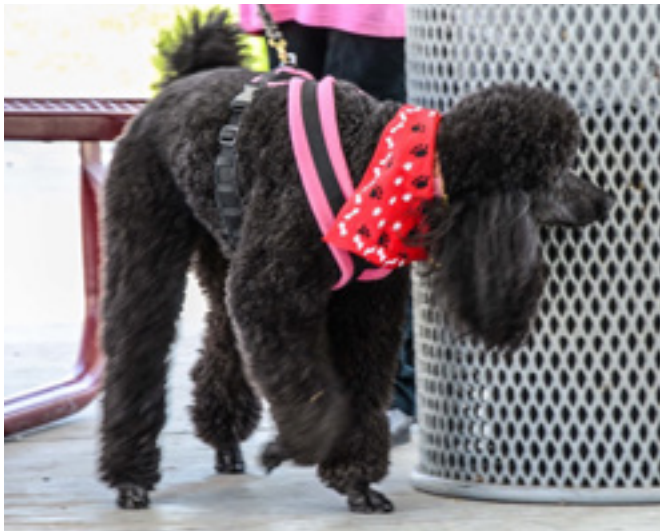
having the dog search for a primary reinforcer (food or toy) in boxes. Once the dog has learned to hunt independently and develop problem-solving skills, specific target odors are introduced (birch, anise, and clove in NACSW; birch, anise, clove, and cypress in AKC). The dog learns that those are the target odors they are hunting for while playing the game of K9 Nose Work and/or AKC Scent Work with their handler. The dog is exposed to new areas and eventually taught to search in four elements: Containers, Interior, Exterior, and Vehicles in NACSW; Containers, Interior, Exterior, and Buried in AKC.

#### Advantages of doing scent work

Scent work is one of the few dog sports that is dog-driven as opposed to handler-driven. The dog has the nose, so they generally lead the search. The handler is more in the support role and yet has plenty to do,

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*Poodles doing scent work —Cali (Standard) and Promise (Miniature). Scent work is one of the few dog sports that is dog-driven as opposed to handler-driven, and dogs find it very rewarding.*

particularly at the higher levels of competition. A few of the responsibilities of the handler include recognizing when their dog is in odor and when they have found the target odor source, supporting the dog if they appear to be caught in trapping odor or are working to solve a more challenging

odor puzzle, making sure the search area is covered, and knowing when the dog is done searching.

Scent work uses the dog’s natural scenting abilities. Many people ask me whether Poodles are the best scent work dogs. Although I am tempted to give a resounding “Yes!,”

my answer must be that all dogs—regardless of breed, age, or size—know how to use their noses to find scent. In the game of scent work, the dog is taught a framework for this activity and so we get to play this amazing game with them!

Scent work is a great activity for all dogs. It gives them

COURTESY PAMELA DUKE



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something fun to do while using their natural scenting abilities, and there are many benefits associated with this dog sport. Benefits include:

- It builds better communication and a strengthening of the bond between people and their dogs.
- It's a great activity for all dogs, as it helps to focus their energy on the "hunt" for odor, which is enriching and stimulating.
- It is a much-needed way to channel energy for energetic or "busy" dogs who need a job!
- It can help dogs that are timid to become more confident.
- It is one of the few dog sports that a handler can do with a dog that is reactive to other dogs.
- It is tons of fun for both handler and dog!

### ***Poodles in scent work***

Team Cali and I completed 12 weeks of Intro to Nose Work classes and transitioned to continuing classes. It is so exciting to have the dog be the leader

of the team, as opposed to the handler being in charge. Together Cali and I enjoyed training and then competing and earning titles with two organizations, National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW) and United States Canine Scent Sports (USCSS), beginning in 2010. She earned her NW1 and NW2 titles with NACSW and her DDN (Detection Dog Novice) and DDI (Detection Dog Intermediate) titles with USCSS.

Cali is now retired, and my journey in scent work took a year off before I began anew when my Miniature Poodle, Promise, joined my household. Promise began her scent work training at home with me in 2019, at 12 weeks old. Formal training then began at Gentle Touch and continues weekly.

It is a fun challenge to start Nose Work training with a new and young dog. Promise has already earned NACSW titles of Odor Recognition Training (ORT) and NW1.

AKC Scent Work trials were held along the Central Coast of California, and Team Promise and Pam entered our first trial. She earned her first leg in each element! We have now entered more trials, and she has earned her AKC Scent Work Novice (SWN) and Scent Work Advanced (SWA) titles and is working toward her AKC SW Excellent title.

### ***Practical application of scent work skills***

All my Poodles mentioned earlier are Love on a Leash Certified Pet Therapy Dogs. Cali demonstrated her skills at an adult day care facility. I put out about 50 plastic eggs and had odor in three of them. The clients were amazed at how quickly the hides were found. We did weekly visits to that facility, and Cali was able to practice her skills in many different parts of the facility.

Promise and I and our Love on a Leash chapter members visit a variety of groups including many





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schools. On several occasions we met groups of seventh- and eighth-graders in groups in a huge gymnasium. I set hides in advance, and the students watched Promise go up and down the bleachers with her nose in the air, on the bleachers, and on the ground as she found the hides. Many students expressed interest in learning more about the sport.

We will continue our scent work journey with training, attendance at seminars, showcasing Promise’s skills, and trialing in NACSW, AKC, and USCSS trials.

—Pamela Duke

Thank you, Pamela.

[Poodle Club of America](#)

### Schipperkes

#### UNDERSTANDING DNA COEFFICIENTS

Breeding is a blend of art and science. Today we have far better science at our disposal than ever before. We used to spend hours poring over pedigrees (which may or may not

always be entirely accurate), and while pedigree study is still *very* valuable, we can now utilize other tools to help us plan breedings and hopefully avoid some genetic pitfalls. Let’s delve into the topic of DNA coefficient for Schipperkes.

The DNA coefficient in dogs refers to the degree of genetic similarity between two dogs. It is calculated by comparing the DNA profiles of the two dogs and determining the percentage of genetic markers that are identical. The higher the coefficient, the more closely related the dogs are.

The DNA coefficient can be used to determine the likelihood of genetic diseases or traits being passed down from one dog to its offspring. It can also be used in breeding programs to ensure genetic diversity and reduce the risk of inherited diseases.

The DNA coefficient varies depending on the breed of dog and the individual dogs being compared. It is important to note that while

a high DNA coefficient may indicate a close genetic relationship, it does not necessarily guarantee that the dogs will have similar physical or behavioral traits.

According to Embark veterinary geneticist Dr. Jenna Dockweiler, when using genetic COI versus pedigree-based COI Schipperke breeders will see a more accurate profile of the percentage of shared DNA from each parent for a planned litter. COI is assessed using greater than 230,000 genetic markers and goes back many more generations versus estimates provided by paper pedigrees alone. The more accurate the COI percentage, the better decisions breeders can make when selecting mating pairs.

Based on approximately 950 Schipperkes in Embark’s database, the average genetic COI in the breed is 29%. The lowest COI is 11%, and the highest is 44%. A COI of 25% indicates a mating equivalent to full siblings or a father-daughter

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Schipperke, May 1931 (Tauskey photo)

pairing. In purebred dogs, a full sibling mating may result in a higher COI than the expected 25% due to linebreeding over time and relatedness of founding members of a breed.

Research shows that dogs with a higher COI may have a shorter life span, reduced body size, and smaller litters. This leads me to a taboo subject of the increasing infertility I'm hearing about from a number of Schipperke breeders working with all seemingly different bloodlines. Or are they really different lines? Is it the food, the environment,

bad timing, or bad luck, or is our high coefficient in so many dogs to blame?

The service provided by Embark, which currently has the largest database of Schipperke DNA, helps breeders to assesses expected litter outcomes for genetic COI, disease mutations, and physical traits (examples would be long coat, natural bobtail, and color). Knowing the predicted COI of a litter as you plan your breedings will help you determine if inbreeding will decline or increase as a result of the mating. The researchers stress this is important for all breeds, "especially those with small gene pools, where increasing genetic diversity is needed, and there isn't a large population of breeding dogs to choose from." *Ding ding ding.*

We Schip breeders have some things to think about.

—Virginia Larioza,  
P.O. Box 51, Fowlerville,  
Michigan 48836

Vice President, [Schipperke Club of America](#)

## Shiba Inu

The following is by Patricia Doescher, reprinted with permission.

### MAINTAINING THE SHIBA INU FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

What was I thinking? No, that wasn't what I asked myself after agreeing to be the breed columnist for the AKC GAZETTE, but rather it's what I asked myself in 1991 as I looked around and discovered I was the proud owner of four Shiba Inus and considering adding another! You've all heard the once-famous slogan for Lays brand potato chips, "You can't own just one," has now become a familiar catchphrase between exhibitors and pet owners alike.

So, what is the "irresistible" factor of this breed? Think back to the first time the Shiba caught your attention. Why did you give the breed a second look? Shiba breeder Jane Chapin, of J-Ann Shibas in Cuba, Illinois, says, "Like everyone, I thought they looked like foxes. I thought they were

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so cute, and I like the exotic look about them.” Geert Jan Wagemans, of Jaklho Shibas, in the Netherlands, tells me he was hooked after seeing a picture of a Shiba. He said, “I gave this picture [of a Shiba] another good look, and it was this ‘something’ what no other breed has. There is no other dog that can look like this. It’s mysticism. It is difficult to put into words.”

My own feelings were quite similar. I was contentedly exhibiting my lovely Keeshonds when I saw a Shiba puppy owned by a friend. I became intrigued immediately with the little red dog, my attention caught by its nice, clean lines and muscle-bound little body. At the time the oriental appearance of the head unknowingly played into the draw this creature

had over me. However, only after studying the Japanese standard and the breed’s history did I become fully aware of the idiosyncrasies of “type” that make up this breed.

Breed type is explained as “those things about a breed of dog that make it uniquely different from every other breed of dog.” With the Shiba, it’s the way the eyes are positioned on the head in relationship to the ears; the pitch and placement of the ears, with nice back-skull; a bright-colored, harsh coat, which is well-fitted without looseness; the carriage of the tail, reflecting the attitude and character of the breed, which exudes boldness without aggression; and an overall attitude of pride and dignity, yet with an inner calmness.

The future of all breeds is dependent upon the integrity of its breeders, past, present, and future. The characteristics that attracted us to the Shiba did not evolve by accident. Due to the Shiba’s near demise in



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the past, the early 1900s found the breeders in Japan (the breed's country of origin) creating a distinctive "type" as a guideline to reestablish the breed. The standard of the National Shiba Club of America is based on these same guidelines. As breeders in the present, we must hold ourselves accountable to preserve these qualities that will allow the Shiba Inu to continue to stand out in its individualism among other Northern breeds. Only by doing so will we guarantee a future of continued appeal toward this captivating breed. —P.D.

Thank you, Patricia.

—Letty Hughes,

[lettyhughes.nasca@gmail.com](mailto:lettyhughes.nasca@gmail.com)

National Shiba Club of America

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### Tibetan Spaniels

#### THE TIBBIE COLOR PALETTE

One of the joys of living with Tibetan Spaniels is the rainbow of colors and color patterns that we find in the breed. Unlike

many breed standards that specify very precisely the shade and placement of color and pattern, such as the all-important Dalmatian spotting, or the specific golden tan and steel blue desired in Yorkshire Terriers, the Tibetan Spaniel breed standard is very generous, saying simply: "All colors, and mixtures of colors allowed." Historically, Tibbies had jobs to do in a hostile climate, and their rugged constitution was considered of far greater importance to the Buddhist monks than a cosmetic trait like color.

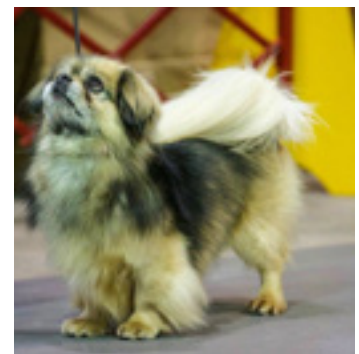
Today, with Tibbies in roles as treasured companions and show dogs, aesthetics are assigned greater value. Watching dozens of champions fill the ring at a specialty, the Tibbie color palette on full display is a vision to behold. Even among a handful of Tibbies that is, technically, the same color, the dogs probably won't be identical. Whether a pet owner's eye is drawn to the subtle beauty of the

pastel shades or the vibrant, multi-colored dogs, there is a Tibbie out there to meet those personal tastes.

Solid colors range, literally, from black to white, although neither is particularly common. More frequently, we see an array of golds, fawns, creams, and reds, from light to dark. The color may be either clear or sabled. Sable is a pattern rather than a color, per se, which sometimes causes confusion among newcomers to the breed when most breeder-exhibitors refer to them simply as "sable." The sabling consists of a dark overlay on a lighter background. The overlay hairs are double-pigmented, with the tip of each hair much darker than the base color. The extent of sabling will vary from the heavy black overlay on the very striking silver sable (marked like a Keeshond) or deep red sable dogs, to light tipping perhaps seen only on the ears and the longer hair of the mane or shawl that covers the neck. Black masks are

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common and contribute to the “apelike expression” the standard mentions. We also have “Irish-marked” dogs with white collars, chests, stockings, and feet.

When it comes to the

*“One of the joys of living with Tibetan Spaniels is the rainbow of colors and color patterns that we find in the breed.” Colors pictured include black and tan, cream-sable, cream, parti-color, dark sable, and red sable Tibbies.*

multi-colored dogs, black-and-tan Tibbies are both popular and eye catching. The tan points can range from deep rust to cream. We have tricolor Tibbies, too, with the black-and-tan pattern broken up by white markings. In recent years, we have had a few lovely black-and-tan Tibbies campaigned to group wins, which has served to expose

this flashy color pattern to more of our all-breed judges.

Parti-colors are seen as well, with a few breeders especially dedicated to them. They range from black-and-white to red-and-white, and occasionally, more subtle gold and cream shades. Interestingly, while acclaimed British-American dog artist Maud Earl

COURTESY MALLORY COSBY DRISKILL AND TSCA



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painted only a few Tibetan Spaniels, her magnificent portrait of a trio of parti-colors achieved great fame and graces the cover of our foremost hardcover breed book, *The Tibetan Spaniel: A Gift From the Roof of the World*, by Susan Waller Miccio.

A parti-colored Tibbie should never remind you of a Japanese Chin. Correct breed type always takes priority over attractive markings.

Chocolate Tibbies, either solid or with cream points like a black-and-tan, do pop up now and then in some bloodlines and can be quite attractive, although, as dilutes, their lighter-colored eyes and liver noses are considered faults in our AKC breed standard. Speaking of dilutes, I have never seen or heard of a blue Tibbie.

Another color pattern foreign to the breed is brindle. A few years ago, someone in a Tibetan Spaniel Facebook group posted photos of what they called their “brindle Tibetan Spaniel” puppies. Responsible breeders

commented on the photos, explaining that purebred Tibbies do not come in brindle, and asking if the owner would kindly provide a pedigree. Eventually, the owner confessed that the puppies were a Tibbie-Shih Tzu cross. I’m not sure what the purpose of the post was, other than to raise the collective blood pressure of Tibbie breeders from coast to coast.

The Tibetan Spaniel rainbow color palette is just one more reason to celebrate our delightful breed.

—Allan Reznik,  
[reznikallan@gmail.com](mailto:reznikallan@gmail.com)  
[Tibetan Spaniel Club of America](#)

### Tibetan Terriers

#### TIBETAN TERRIERS: OUR SPIRITUAL GUARDIANS

Like so many Tibetan Terrier owners, I am often asked how and why I “got into” the breed. My answer always includes the word *destiny*, and I believe most TT owners would agree. So, in 1991, the

advertisement read “Pet of the Week” and included a photo of the most adorable puppy face you could ever imagine. Little did I know just how much that newspaper ad would change my life forever.

I wasn’t looking for a dog. My life was busy, and it had been years since I’d owned a pet. As destiny would have it, three days later I found myself at the other end of the leash, walking down the street with my new dog! Her name was Susie, and the rescue was sure she was a Tibetan Terrier that had been abandoned in a nearby town.

All I knew was that she needed me, and I would soon discover that I needed her. She would be at my side through some very challenging times, and I truly believe that she saved my sanity, and was the foundation for my path to happiness.

Fast-forward 30 years and 12 Tibetan Terriers later, I am convinced that this wonderful breed creates their own destiny until they find the right person and



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*“If you are fortunate enough to love—and be loved by—a Tibetan Terrier, your life will never be the same.”*

circumstance. Every Tibetan Terrier who has come into my life has been there to guide me. Described as the Holy Dog of Tibet and initially given to visitors as a token of gratitude and good luck by the monks, Tibetan

Terriers are truly the spiritual guardians and guides to those who are fortunate enough to be owned by one.

In Angela Mulliner’s book *The Tibetan Terrier*, a description goes as follows:

“There are many stories of

Tibetan Terriers’ ability to assess a situation and act on their own initiative; natural guards, like all Tibetan dogs, they are extremely loyal to their owner and sometimes show a definite reserve or watchfulness in the presence of strangers. They are sensitive and intelligent though not nervous, and they are quite prepared to stand up for themselves or their owner when necessary. ... Though friendly with the entire household, there was always one person of whom they took special charge.”

It is their unique ability to take special charge of their one person that makes TT’s so endearing, and for many owners, truly lifesaving. Log in to any Facebook group of Tibetan Terrier owners, and you will find countless stories of just how special and unique these “little people” really are, and what impact they have had on their owners’ lives.

When dogs are described as loving us unconditionally, Tibetan Terriers take that to a new level. They

COURTESY JANE KRYNZEL

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guide us through illness, mental health challenges, life changes and day-to-day stress. In an article in *Time* magazine titled “How Dogs Think: Inside the Canine Mind,” it is written:

“What began as a mutual-services contract between two very different species became something much more like love. None of that makes a lick of sense, but it doesn’t have to. Love rarely touches the reasoning parts of the brain. It touches the dreamy parts, the devoted parts—it touches the part we sometimes call the heart. For many thousands of years, it’s there that our dogs have lived.”

If you are fortunate enough to love—and be loved by—a Tibetan Terrier, your life will never be the same. Tibetan Terrier owners’ loyalty to the breed can only be outmatched by the breed’s loyalty to their owners.

—Janet Krynzal,  
[tibterrsrule@aol.com](mailto:tibterrsrule@aol.com)  
Tibetan Terrier Club of  
America

## HERDING

### Bearded Collies

#### THE DUKE OF MERLE

Is there really such a creature as a blue merle Beardie? Well, yes. And no. The simple answer is that there are no *registered* blue merle Beardies—*registered* being the key word here. It’s generally accepted that all registered Beardies in the world go back to just 12 dogs. Of course, that dozen had parents, and grandparents, and so on. But they didn’t have pedigrees or registered lineage, and there’s a good chance many of them shared the same simple, one-word name, just to add to the confusion. Wouldn’t it be nice to have a dollar for every dog named Misty or Max? So those 12 are considered the basis of all registered Beardies. And none of them were merle. That’s significant, because one parent must be merle to produce merle pups.

An interesting point about the merle gene is that it is semi-lethal, which means breeding two merles will unhappily result in about

half of the litter being blind and/or deaf. Not a desirable outcome. It is also a dominant gene, which results in it being evident and “out there” for everyone to see. It’s not hidden in the background like recessive genes, which can go along unexpressed for generations and then pop up (surprise!) when they’re least expected. So, with none of the original dozen being merles, none of the thousands of registered offspring carry the merle gene.

There was some confusion about this back in 1983 when the third edition of the popular breed book *Beardie Basics*, by Barbara Rieseberg and B.J. McKinney, was published. The back cover of the book featured a color photo of six Beardie pups of various colors. One was identified as being “blue merle.” It wasn’t. It was later identified as a blue with the tan markings found on tricolors—on the cheeks, eyebrows, legs, and the “sit me down” under the tail. Having never run across this

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pattern before, the breeder erroneously decided it must be a blue merle. Before long, the mistake was discovered. But too late: The book was already in print.

When it comes to *working* Beardies, color was not a major consideration. As long as the dog could herd, run, and jump, shepherds were happy with them. So yes, there were and still are blue merle working Beardies. The spring 1987 issue of the *Bearded Times*, a British publication, carried an article on “Blue Merle in Beardies” authored by Major James G. Logan. In it, he noted the earliest descriptions of Beardies in an 1899 book, *The Dogs of Scotland*, and *Our Dogs* magazine, commented that the walleye (or china eye) was well-suited to the merle coat. In that same era, a 1911 painting by Sir George Pirie titled “The Shepherd’s Fire” portrayed a very definite blue merle dog.

In the article, Major Logan suggested that since the blue (or china) eye often



*Bearded Collie*

accompanied merle coloration, there was a possibility (however remote) there were indeed registered blue merle Beardies whose merle markings were masked by either the graying gene or the dilution gene. Though Major Logan admitted it was “unlikely” the merle gene still exists in registered Beardies, he pointed out a number are born with blue (wall or china) eyes, which

may be associated with the merle gene. To the best of my knowledge, that possibility has not been explored. However, Justine Waldron, editor of *The Millennium Book 2000*, published by the Southern Counties Bearded Collie Club of Great Britain, wrote:

“I have recently heard of several instances where puppies have been born black but with a definite blue

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



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patch on one part of their bodies. In most cases, these pups have had a littermate with a wall or china eye—a feature often associated with the merle gene. When the blue patch puppies mature their oddity would disappear as the slate and blue coloring would merge. What would happen if dogs carrying this trait were mated?”

Perhaps one of the best-known walleyed Beardies was Ch. Osmart Bonnie Blue Ribbon. Though he sired several pups with one or both blue eyes, none of them were merles.

Some years ago, noted judge Anne Rogers Clark was talking with me about our breed. She remarked that our standard didn’t address the walleye which occasionally appeared. I recall suggesting the phrase that eyes should tone with coat would cover it. Was I right or wrong?

—Alice Bixler,  
[alice@bedlamkennels.com](mailto:alice@bedlamkennels.com)  
 Bearded Collie Club of America

### Belgian Malinois

#### WHAT DO YOU WANT—A BONE, OR SOME TEETH TO CHEW IT WITH?

These days, it seems like being a good dog owner means bubble-wrapping your dog: no chasing sticks, no flex leads, no tennis balls. I try to be responsible, but I drew the line at “no bones.” I figured it was just more well-intentioned alarmism. After all, I’d been giving my dogs bones for 30 years with no problem.

In 2019, my luck ran out, and my Belgian, Copper, slab-fractured a molar. I learned that this is not such an uncommon fate for canids:

“Data ... suggest that the probability of an individual predator’s breaking at least one tooth in its lifetime is greater than 0.25 ... The highest incidences of tooth breakage (0.35, 0.40) were found in the habitual bone eaters (hyenas), and the lowest (0.15-0.24) in the felids and the African wild dog. The gray wolf, a mod-

erately frequent bone eater, was intermediate (0.29).” (“Incidence of Tooth Breakage Among Large, Predatory Mammals,” Blaire Van Valkenburgh; *The American Naturalist*, February 1988. <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/284790>)

Now, those bones were not just for fun. They were to keep my Belgians’ teeth clean—which they did quite well. But having been scared straight by the cost of fixing that slab fracture, I hunted down every bone under every couch and threw them all away.

And where did this leave me, tooth-cleanliness-wise? Nowhere, that’s where. It turned out that without the bones, the raw food and tooth-brushing we had done for years simply were not good enough to keep our dogs’ teeth clean.

Looking for inspiration, I asked a Belgian-related health group on Facebook how they kept their dogs’ teeth clean. Then I compared their responses to a

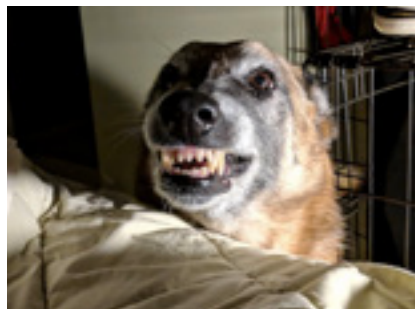
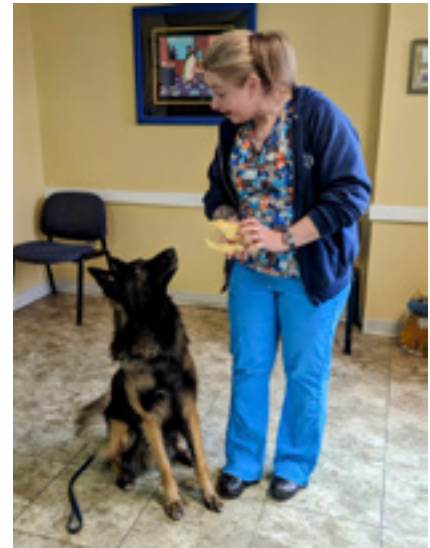
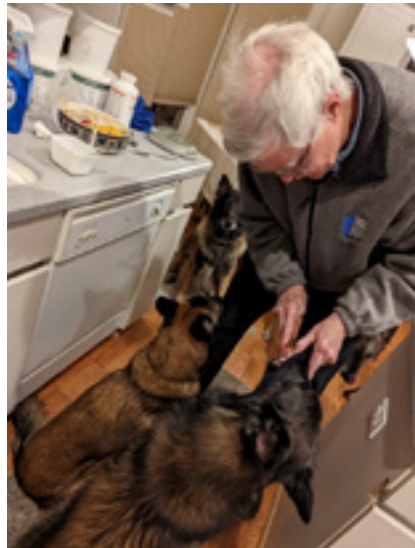
# BREED COLUMNS

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list from the Veterinary Oral Health Council (VOHC), a panel of experts that recognizes products that enhance dental health in dogs and cats ([VOHC Accepted Products Table\\_Dogs.pdf](#)). I found that the number of people reporting success with some items *not* on the VOHC list, such as bones, non-bone animal parts, and (to a lesser extent) plant-based food such as carrots or kelp, significantly outnumbered those reporting success with other types of products. Respondents also reported success with dental products mentioned on the list such as chews and treats, enzymatic canine tooth-pastes, and gels, sprays, and water additives.

I have several observations:

- People are paying attention to their dogs' dental health.
- They get satisfactory results from a dizzying array of products.
- Many folks think that the benefits of bones on dental health outweigh the risk of slab fractures.



*Four Belgians wait their turn for toothbrushing—Lincoln the Tervuren is currently getting brushed, and next are Dora the Malinois, Copper the Tervuren, and Scotch the Malinois (peeking out from behind Tom Moran's legs); a veterinary dental technician explains what happens when you don't brush your teeth. The dog is Belgian Tervuren Copper Penny of Wildrose, TDX, NA, NAJ, BCAT, TKP (Lincoln); Avonlea's Stuck On You, UD, TDX, AX, AXJ, TKP (Scotch), shows his 13.5-year-old pearly whites; portrait of Scotch.*

COURTESY CARLEE MORAN



# BREED COLUMNS

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From this list, I first tried the knuckle bones, said to be less harmful than leg bones. That went well right up until Copper broke his expensive repair on such a bone, and my younger Malinois decided that “Dogs who live together should slab-fracture together.”

After the resulting Total and Complete Ban on Bones, their teeth got dirtier and dirtier despite daily brushing and spending a lot of money experimenting with the potions and treats listed here. Nothing worked for me.

In desperation, I decided to try the veterinary dental diets on the VOHC list, which was not something anyone had mentioned. I tried both the Royal Canin and the Purina offerings. Neither food fits my mental image of the right nutritional profile for a Belgian—but they meet the AAFCO standards, and the dogs like them.

I mix a couple of ounces of dental food with other kibbles and with home-

cooked food at each meal. I drown the dry food with water just before serving it, so that the dogs still find it crunchy. It seems to me that the Royal Canin has a more useful, crunchable shape, but maybe I just find the careful square pillows, each one exactly 0.1 ounces, more appealing. The dogs are simply thrilled to be fed, and don’t concern themselves with the details.

Three years after posting my question to the Belgian health group, and a year after starting my dogs on dental diets, I think I finally have something useful to report: The doggie dentist looked at the mighty fangs of the 13.5-year-old Malinois this spring, shrugged, and said, “Looks good. Doesn’t need cleaning.” He said the same about each of the others, ranging in age from 4 to 11.5 years.

That’s a first since I quit offering slab-fracture bones. I’m sold. But if you’re not, well, now you have a big, long list of possibilities to choose from.

I hope there’s some news you can use in my journey. I’m happy, the dogs are happy—even the veterinary dentist is happy. And when the dentist is happy, *everybody’s* happy.

### *Acknowledgements*

Thanks to Peggy Richter, for sharing the Van Valkenburgh article with me, and to all members of the “Health and Genetic Problems of Belgian Shepherd Dogs” group on Facebook who took time to answer my questions about dental health maintenance.

—Carilee (Cole) Moran,  
[colemich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:colemich@sbcglobal.net)  
[American Belgian Malinois Club](#)

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## Belgian Sheepdogs

### THE OLD ONE

There he lies, in his preferred and usual spot, close to your desk as you work, flopped out, happy, and, as always, at your feet. You have shared so many years together, it seems as if it always must have been.



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You sit back in your chair a moment, looking down at him, and then you start to dream, remembering the sound of puppy feet, the wonderful smell of that puppy breath, and the promise of a new life they both held. You relive the hopes of a bright future that you held, now fulfilled by him beyond any dreams. You close your eyes and see him standing in the show ring, and his presence—always up, always asking, his tail always wagging. You see him in your mind as a vivid, perfect memory, joyous and alive as he chases sheep. You see his face pressed up against the car window as you walk away, eyes shining bright as he waits, sitting as if he owns the driver’s seat the same way he owns your heart, knowing you will be back in only a moment with some special treat, with something so well deserved and only for him.

He looks up at you now, his black muzzle grizzled and gray. His ears are erect and sure as he listens for



*March 1927: Belgian Sheepdog with Walter “The Big Train” Johnson (Baseball Hall of Fame, 1936) and daughter*

you. His brown eyes are clouded, but in those eyes you still see the young one, the unstoppable one, as always, there for you. You look into those remarkable Belgian eyes and see eyes that always looked right back into your own soul when things were tough, when you could not help but know beyond a shadow of a doubt that he understood perfectly.

He is still in there, just below the surface, and even

as you realize you must prepare for a time that will be coming all too soon, an unimaginable and devastating time when you will be without him, you still see eternity in those eyes—eternity, and the bright, sure promise of an undying love.

You stand up then, and so does he, still ready, as always. He knows you so well, and even though he is slower now, much slower than he once was, he still beats you to the closet that



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holds the much-loved bowl of treats. He can still open the door himself, too, but he waits, as always, for you to give, enjoying the shared moment itself as much as the actual treat, just as he always did.

You have to laugh as you watch him swallow it down so quickly, giving you yet another moment to add to so much laughter already shared, and you resolve to keep seeing, keep enjoying, keep laughing, keep living every single moment you have left with him.

With all he has given, he deserves nothing less.—*Peg Koller, 2010*

[Belgian Sheepdog Club of America](#)

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### Belgian Tervuren

#### ONE STEP FORWARD, TWO STEPS BACK

**W**e have all heard this expression used in our everyday life. But to hear it used in the context of the breed we love, the Belgian Tervuren, it can be surprising.

Breeders and owners have worked for decades to improve the breed that we love so much. We can look into a conformation ring today and see the elegant outline and the beautiful heads that exemplify the Belgian Tervuren. So yes, we have taken a giant step forward from the 1950s when the AKC first recognized this breed.

On the flipside, we have taken two really big steps back on the temperament of our dogs. A Belgian is a breed that is sight and sound sensitive due to the job it was designed for. They needed to be aware of everything moving and any strange sounds in their environment. You can say that over the years we civilized them and made them more steady in their everyday character. We have worked darn hard to do this.

Every good dog can have a bad day. This is not what I am talking about. At our national specialty this year, faulty temperament reared its ugly head. The number

of dogs that were uncomfortable in their own skin, dogs that did not want to be touched, dogs that tried to get away from the judge, or dogs that growled and snapped at the judge was unfathomable to me. I was actually embarrassed to say that this was the breed that I love. Sitting in the judges' education mentor section, I was actually glad we did not have any judges this year. I don't know what I would have said.

I have truly never seen so many dogs behave so badly in over 50 years in this breed. Puppies can get uncomfortable at their first show, and a specialty can be overwhelming. I'm not talking about the puppies that did not want to behave, I'm talking about adults. I'm talking about dogs that did not get better over the course of the week but got worse. Young dogs had the opportunity to be shown three times in breed this year, and some of those young dogs who were not ready had handlers that kept

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Belgian Tervuren

taking them out all three days. Those youngsters only learned that being inside the ring gate with a stranger approaching you was a bad thing. You as their owner did absolutely nothing to make sure that your dog was happy and glad to be in that ring. That was your job, and yours alone. And you failed that young dog.

Are these temperaments the results of bad training, poor breeding combinations, a mixture of both? Dogs growled loud enough to be

heard ringside; several dogs snapped hard enough to be heard and viewed ringside.

We often hear folks complain that judges don't take Belgians seriously, they don't do anything for them in the groups. If this is what we give them, how can we expect to get anything positive back? Judges are given three minutes to judge a dog. Don't expect them to give you that time plus more to set up a dog who is afraid or uncomfortable and then give you even more time to try and examine the dog while he or she is fighting you to get out of the situation. That puts them behind schedule and gives your dog a bad experience.

The specialty was not an isolated situation. I've been at shows and viewed live streaming where "specials" cringed or backed off from a judge's touch, and seen a huge Open class that had more than three-quarters of the entrants you couldn't touch.

Some of the judges were very kind to these dogs and

did not excuse them. Don't be afraid to excuse yourself if your dog is having a bad day. You are your dog's advocate, and you shouldn't care what anybody else thinks except your dog, who is expecting you to be his or her champion in life.

This is important enough to be part of our standard.

*"Temperament: In his relationship with humans he is observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive. He does not show fear or shyness. He does not show viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. He must be approachable, standing his ground and showing confidence to meet overtures without himself making them."*

Please, if you love our breed, rethink your training, rethink your breeding choices, just rethink what you're doing. Do the right thing for your dog and for our breed.

—Dana B. Mackonis,  
[cachetnoir@yahoo.com](mailto:cachetnoir@yahoo.com)  
American Belgian  
Tervuren Club



## HERDING GROUP

### Briards

#### JUDGE FOR YOURSELF

“Well, that puts a whole different perspective on things,” Dee commented as she emerged from the show ring. An experienced exhibitor, she had been asked to judge a match for the first time. It was that assignment which changed her outlook on judging. It might be a good idea if all exhibitors took a crack at judging after they’ve been involved in showing for a couple of years. As Dee observed, looking at dogs from the center of the ring is far different from being an exhibitor or watching from ringside.

It’s easy to critique dogs from outside the ring and to wonder, “How can she even consider a dog with that tail-set?” or “Can’t he see those sickle hocks?” Ringsiders can’t see a dog’s bite, however, nor can they put their hands on a well-coated dog to feel the condition and construction under all that hair. That privilege is reserved for the judge.



*Briards Ch. Pinot Noire des Coteaux and Ch. Ike de Vasouy, 1965 BCA National Specialty; judge James Trullinger*

Judging for the first time can be a real learning experience. If the neophyte judge is observant, he or she will realize which dogs catch the eye right from the start. Why? Is it their appearance, their movement, their presentation, or their temperament which makes them stand out? It’s something to keep in mind the next time the judge shows her own dogs.

How much does good or bad handling contribute to the dog’s presentation? A

good dog poorly stacked or shown in a lackadaisical manner loses a lot of appeal. The degree of training the dog has received may become apparent. The perceptive judge will file all this information away for future use as an exhibitor.

A first-time judge may know the standard scripture and verse, but when it comes time to apply it, that’s when the fun starts. The standard describes the ideal dog of the breed, but the perfect dog doesn’t exist. So

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judging becomes a matter of deciding which dog in the ring comes closest to that ideal image. It may be a case of balancing virtues and faults. Does this particular virtue outweigh that particular fault? Can quicksilver gait let you forgive a low ear-set?

Judges all have their own quirks. They may focus on a component part to the point where exhibitors recognize them as “head hunters,” “tooth fairies,” “movement judges,” or other designations. To be avoided at all costs is to be called a “fault judge”—someone who seeks out the dog with the least amount of faults. Never a good idea, as the dog with the fewest faults may not be the best dog—one with no serious faults, but no redeeming virtues, either.

Looking over a ring full of dogs for the first time is generally when judging newcomers begin to regard their priorities. If breeders, they may give high marks to superb shoulders or strong heads—perhaps character-

istics they’ve endeavored to establish in their own lines. Eventually they decide what’s more important to their assessment.

So if you’re offered to opportunity to judge, take it. It may change your entire way of looking at showing.

—*Alice Bixler, 2014*

[Briard Club of America](#)

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### Canaan Dogs

#### TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS WITH A HERDING CANAAN DOG

As mentioned in previous columns, the Canaan Dog is a highly intelligent, very independent, problem-solving breed. Nowhere is that more evidenced than during herding trials. This is where something invariably can, and occasionally does, go wrong—to the horror, embarrassment, and/or chagrin of the Canaan Dog owner-handler, and often to the amusement of the spectators.

A trained stock dog can “read” the intent of a flock of sheep by observing their

body language (and likely, other less subtle clues) and move to put enough “pressure” to force the sheep in the direction that the handler wishes them to go. With the initial outrun and “lift” of the flock, that direction is usually towards the handler.

For the novice handler and novice Canaan Dog at their first herding trial, even with months of solid training and in the best of circumstances, this first outrun and lift can be “interesting.” A Canaan Dog owner-handler is working with a dog that is highly aware of its surrounding environment, subjected to numerous distractions such as sheep or other livestock in adjoining or nearby fields, smells, the tantalizing appetizer known as “sheep poop,” a bird flying overhead, and so on. Add the owner’s “novice nerves” and excitement to the mix, and this can cause the dog to enthusiastically fly into warp drive when gathering or moving the sheep. In turn, this causes the flock to move faster toward the

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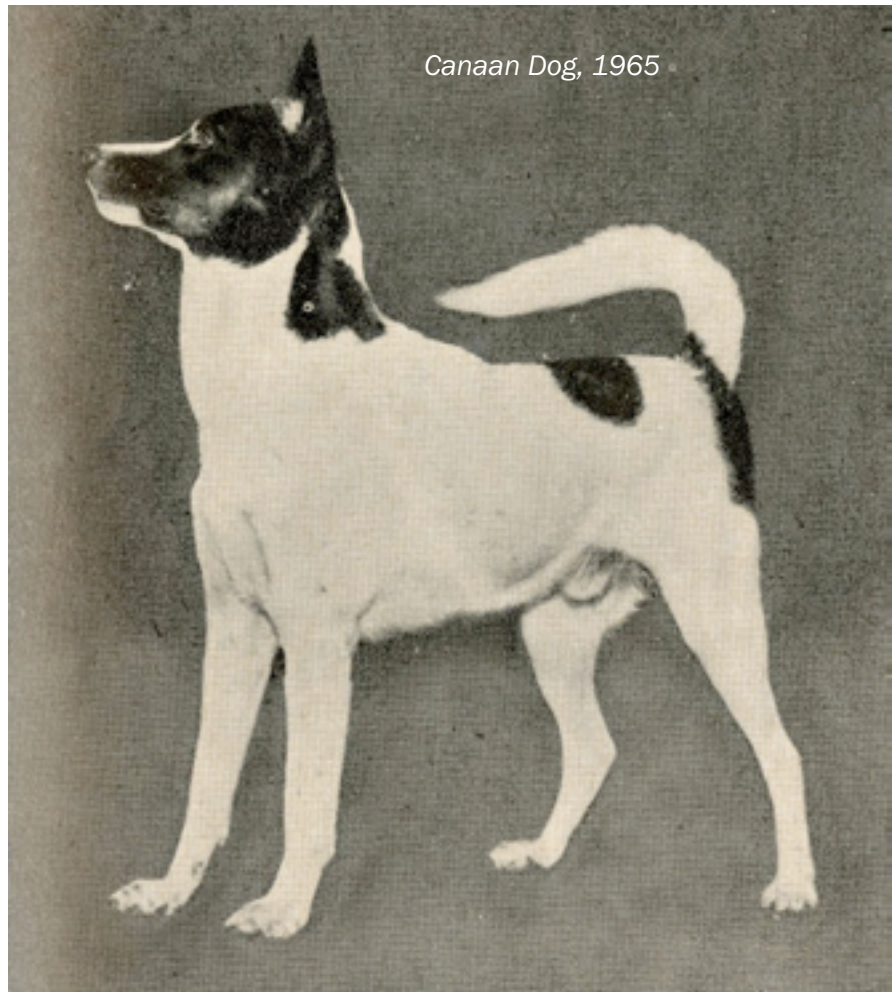
## HERDING GROUP

handler than the ideal pace, and sometimes the crash into the handler can be rather spectacular, as sheep will gravitate toward the human who will “protect” them from the wolf-like menace.

My own tribulations with my Canaans at herding trials have been varied and numerous, to say the least. The most notable problem has been the ubiquitous hole in the trial arena/field and my finding it—the hard way—with the inevitable fall captured for posterity by a friend’s camera or video. One remarkable photo has me completely flipped with feet in the air while my Canaan bitch looks on, probably wondering if this is a new herding technique that I am teaching her.

I have come to accept this bane of my herding with Canaans: If there is a hole anywhere in the field, no matter how remote, I will find it, because I’m more intent on my dog and the sheep than where I am going.

Other herding-trial mis-



fortunes that have occurred involved my Canaan Dog being the cause more than myself. Canaans, being highly intelligent, can get easily bored and will find some means to alleviate that boredom, especially during a trial.

My first Canaan, Wolf, was the top herding Canaan in the breed, but if he decided

that he needed to “spice up” our herding run, he would split the flock during a near-perfect drive for no reason other than to create mischief.

The most memorable trial angst was when my well-trained Canaan, at the apex of a beautiful outrun and lift, found a pile of sheep poop in which to roll, grind-



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ing his back into it for added emphasis, ate some of it, then proceeded to finish the lift as if nothing happened.

Needless to say, even with a wash in the stock tank after the run, it was a fragrant ride home.

My advice to anyone wanting to herd with Canaans is simple. Keep in mind that you are working with a very smart, problem-solving creature—the Canaan Dog—and you need to be as smart and clever or else you better have multiple backup plans in case something unexpected happens during your herding run. —*Denise A. Gordon, 2015*

[Canaan Dog Club of America](#)

### Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Our guest columnist is C. Patrick Ormos, head of Breeders' Education for the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America.

#### JUDGES' ED VS. BREEDERS' ED

I bred my first champion in 1968, a GSD. By 1969 I



*Cardigan Welsh Corgi and Boxer*

was a breed authority—at least in my own mind. It would take many years for me to understand just how much there was still to learn. As a judge, I now know how much I must learn and approach each new breed with humility, a very different attitude from what I first started with.

In a nutshell, that is the difference between Breeders' Ed and Judges' Ed—experience. As a neophyte, I needed to learn the basics of animal husbandry, the foun-

dations of canine structure and movement, and then slowly learn the nuances of breed type. Understanding the interaction of structure and type is the key to successful long-term breeding. As a judge, I build on my years of successful experience in dogs. I already have some idea of which nuances I must learn to appreciate with each new breed.

For beginners, learning the basics of structure and breed type are key. For judges, learning the



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nuances of breed type is key. Generic judging leads to generic dogs. Any dog can move well, but does the dog look like its breed and then move well? Annie Clark taught that first you evaluate breed type, then you pick the best-moving dogs with breed type.

How to do that? I have spent my professional life teaching people of all ages, and slowly learning to appreciate the differences between teaching children (pedagogy) and adults (andragogy). With the first, the emphasis is on content; with the second, the emphasis is on process, questions to help them figure out what to learn themselves.

In high school, there is a gradual shift from pedagogy to andragogy. So, too, in the learning styles of new breeders moving into experienced breeders.

There comes a point where one has to respect the knowledge of the more experienced breeders and allow them to make up their own mind. This is the point

at which a focus on styles within the confines of breed type comes out. Style has to do with nuance. In each breed, type is that collection of characteristics that separates one breed from another. Style is the collection of nuances that separate one bloodline from another.

In Breeders' Ed, aimed at the neophyte, using lectures and audio-visuals, I would emphasize the fundamentals of dog breeding: genetics, structure, movement, animal husbandry. As those are mastered, lectures give way to seminars, then roundtable discussions with breed authorities who can share their own experiences with other up-and-coming breeders. For example, in Cardigans, learning that this is a long-bodied and short-coupled breed, the vital importance of a long upper arm, and the impact of long hocks and long pasterns are key.

In judges' ed seminars, there is nothing more annoying than someone reading the standard and

fumbling their way through their own agenda-driven interpretation. After all these years, I know how to read a standard, and I understand movement. What I want is to understand the essence of breed type for that specific breed, and the nuances that are important to the people who love that breed.

For the judges, a brief history setting the context of a breed and its development is important. An understanding of the shift from country of origin to country of development and what that means for the breed. A brief illustrated history of breed type development over the ages should come next. (For example, showing the development of the GSD from 1900 to 2000 is enlightening, or the evolution of both corgi breeds from 1900 to 2000. How have Pekingese or Shih Tzu developed over the last 100 years?) Next should come an in-depth exploration of those nuances which do not appear in the standard, but which are part of the

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unwritten expectations of the breed. Every breed has them; what are they? Finally, a clear presentation of the visual cues used by knowledgeable breeders to evaluate this breed. Then we need to address specifics of structure and their impact on movement that are unique for this breed. The AKC mandates that we explain any disqualifications in the breed clearly, too. —C.P.O.

—Jennifer Roberson,  
[Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America](#)



*Smooth Collies 1959 (Evelyn Shafer photo)*

### Collies

#### IN PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE

If you are new to dog shows and breeding, where do you learn more about it? I recall my teenage years sitting cross-legged on my bed studying all the dog magazines cover to cover. There was the Collie Club of America's *Bulletin*, all-breed magazines with Collie columns written by well-known authors like Oren Kem,

and *Collie Cues*, with educational articles and club news from across the country. To this day I vividly recall kennel ads promoting certain dogs.

I was also active in a local Collie club, where we not only had programs but the time spent with fellow members who were more experienced and knowledgeable than I. As a kid I learned to sit and listen and early on discovered that was valuable skill. Even

years later, magazines were still the primary way to be informed outside my immediate area. Dog shows seemed more leisurely decades ago, where I had the opportunity to study and listen to comments from fellow exhibitors.

When I returned to showing after a long hiatus, it was a lonely endeavor. But once friends were made, opportunities arose for long car rides with lots of discussions about everything





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under the sun. Kennel-hopping and overnight visits were filled with conversation and observation. As a photographer I also had a unique chance to photograph beautiful dogs. Nothing teaches you like determining how to present the virtues and diminish the faults. This “seeing” practice would become invaluable.

Events like seminars were more common, and every summer I would trek to Maryland for the Collie Club of Maryland weekend seminars. They were packed with new and veteran enthusiasts alike and covered a wide range of subjects, with lots of time for discussion and to listen to the opinions of those more experienced than myself. When those ended, the southern version through the Piedmont Collie Club gave programs, workshops, and matches.

In thinking back to all these opportunities there was no one mentor who taught me, but rather mul-

tiple people, seminars, magazines, and clubs that all contributed.

Today, as we all know, times have changed. The internet, whether we like it or not, has replaced many ways to learn. There are fewer seminars put on by clubs; one by the Collie Club of America at the national, and a smattering put on by clubs. Clubs are shrinking as members age, and many in our breed don’t show or breed anymore.

If you are interested and eager to learn today, then how? Those of us still involved can be more accessible to the “newbies.” But if I am admonishing the “old timers” to teach and share their knowledge, then I am also suggesting the newer generation respect those who came before them. Ask questions, look for opportunities to seek advice, and listen.

Pictures of dogs on the internet (there are good tutorials and webinars on breeds via the national

club and AKC) do not replace real time or teach all the things that make a great breeder and a conservationist of our breed. We’ve all had obstacles to success—including time, family, job, money—but we can all still learn. So many of us have stacks of magazines we’d happily give away, for the asking.

If you are new, don’t be afraid to approach those who have been at it a long time; yes, you might get the cold shoulder, but from experience I have found if they see you around long enough, eventually they’ll take you seriously.

I was fortunate that I got so many opportunities. But it wasn’t just luck; I was determined to learn, so I had to find ways to get that information. Today’s “newbies” might have to be a bit more creative, but with tenacity and determination you will succeed.

—Marianne Sullivan,  
Charlottesville, Virginia  
[millknock@embarqmail.com](mailto:millknock@embarqmail.com)  
Collie Club of America

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### Finnish Lapphunds ROAD TRIP, RIBBONS, AND REINDEER

Things that start with the letter “R” best describes my trip in May 2023 to the Finnish Lapphund Club of America National Specialty held at the Northwest Cluster in beautiful Lynden, Washington. There were two specialty shows and four all-breed shows, along with sweepstakes, veterans, and juniors. This year, we had 26 Finnish Lapphunds entered in the specialties, with 15 dogs, 11 bitches, and a good mix across the classes. There was a nice range of colors—black and tan, brown and tan, sable, wolfsable, and cream—so the judges got to see much of the color diversity of this beautiful breed.

This was a long trip for me, coming from Arizona and driving all the way up to the Washington-Canada border. I picked up a friend in Reno (another “R”) to help with the drive, and we chatted about all things dog, enjoyed beautiful scenery,

and stopped for a short visit with family in Oregon. After three days on the road, we safely arrived at the fairgrounds and got set up. A few of our Canadian Lappy friends also made the trip across the border, and it was great to have them join us at the show.

GCh. Sugarok Magical Mystery Tour, “Ringo,” was selected by the judges for Best of Breed at both the national and regional shows. Ringo is a 2-year-old black and tan dog, and he also holds Grand Champion Excellent, Grand Champion Silver, and Rally Novice titles in Canada. Breeder-owner Linda Marden loves that Ringo is both very sound and very pretty. He is also very smart—along with competing in rally, he has had some training in scent work. On top of all that, Ringo loves to cuddle!

The Show and Trophy Committees did a fantastic job – they reserved a block of grooming spaces for the Lappy people, set up a photo bench with a nice

backdrop, set up beautiful prize tables, and played a “Find Sasquatch” in the grooming area for extra prizes. The committees went above and beyond, with spectacular ribbons in shadow boxes etched with Lappies and reindeer and providing many customized and useful prizes. This was the first year our club offered the AKC Bred by Exhibitor award, and it was much appreciated.

Several Lappies participated in rally and Fast CAT at the show. GCh. Nordicsol Party’s Over Jango, RI, CGCA, TKI (Mace) earned his Rally Intermediate title and went home with a stunning ribbon.

Our club has a tradition of having “Lappy Games” on the showgrounds. This year we played Red Light–Green Light, Musical Dogs, and Muffin Tin Challenge. We also set up a rally fun course (gotta love this “R”), put down some scent work boxes, and taught some tricks to introduce Lappy owners to these activities.

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Finnish Lapphunds and their people converged in Lynden, Washington, in May for the breed's national and regional specialties. Best of Breed at both specialty shows was Ringo, GCh. Sugarok Magical Mystery Tour, a black and tan male. Lappies also participated in events such as Fast CAT and rally; GCh. Nordicsol Party's Over Jango, RI, CGCA, TKI (Mace) earned his Rally Intermediate title at the show. There was a group walk on the shores of Puget Sound, and some fanciers visited a reindeer farm in the region. (The Lappy breed originated as a reindeer herder for the Sami people.)

COURTESY MARIA SWARTS / FLCA



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After the games, we enjoyed a pizza dinner and shared well-deserved accolades. There was also a group walk on the picturesque rocky shore of Puget Sound.

When I was planning my road trip, I found out about a reindeer farm in Oregon that was along my route. Finnish Lapphunds are in the Herding Group because of their history as reindeer herders, so a few of us stopped to visit the farm on the trip home. The farm owner also has Lapponian Herders, one of the three Lappy breeds that originated with the Sami people to assist with reindeer herding. Ripley (yet another “R”), one of the Lapponian Herders at the reindeer farm, is a true working dog and takes his job of protecting his herd from cougars very seriously. He rounds up the herd from the forest, accompanies the reindeer at public displays, and alerts if anyone wanders onto the property. He was not trained to protect and herd – his instincts came naturally, and

he needs no direction to do his job.

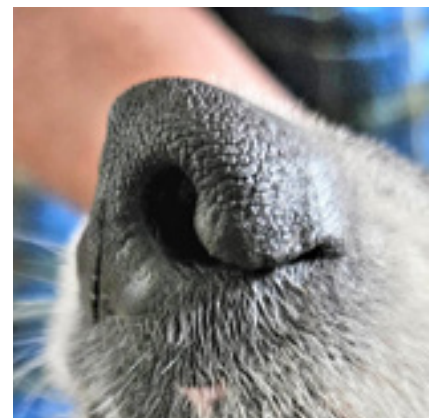
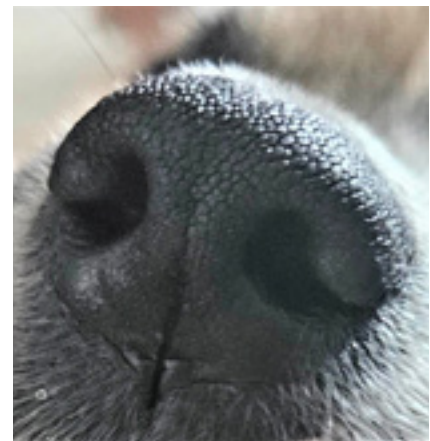
The FLCA is very fortunate to have so many dedicated members to make our specialties truly special. Plans are already underway for the next national specialty, to be held in Sterling, Massachusetts, in late May 2024. It’s not too early to start thinking about planning your road trip, and maybe find an adventure along the way!

—Maria Swarts,  
[miaswarts@aol.com](mailto:miaswarts@aol.com)  
 Finnish Lapphund Club  
 of America

### Icelandic Sheepdogs

#### THE NOSE KNOWS

The Icelandic Sheepdog’s nose, like that of other breeds, is perfect for scenting. When the dog sniffs, the nostrils (also called the nares) expand to let in the air, and then contract to prevent the inhalation of foreign matter. Upon exhalation, the air moves out the side of the nares so as not to disturb the



*“The Icelandic Sheepdog’s nose, like that of other breeds, is perfect for scenting. When the dog sniffs, the nostrils (also called the nares) expand to let in the air, and then contract to prevent the inhalation of foreign matter. Upon exhalation, the air moves out the side of the nares so as not to disturb the odor directly in front of the nose.”*

odor directly in front of the nose.

The nasal cavity consists of three areas. The first,

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the entryway or vestibule, directs airflow in and out of the nose. Next, in the snout, is the turbinate region, which consists of branching, accordion-like structures known as maxilloturbinates. As air moves across the extensive surface supplied by the maxilloturbinates, it is warmed, humidified, and filtered of particulates and bacteria. The vestibule and turbinate areas, as well as certain sinus cavities, have a lining of respiratory tissue (epithelium) that moisten and protect the airways. Respiratory epithelium has cilia—small movable hairs that can distribute sheets of mucous along the cavity—and is rich with blood vessels that allow the tissue to swell. After moving through these first two parts of the nasal cavity, the cleaned air travels through the pharynx and trachea and then down to the lungs.

The third area in the nasal cavity is the olfactory area, which is located behind the maxilloturbinates (moving up toward the eyes)

and comprises the bony, scrolled structures called ethmoturbinates covered with olfactory tissue. In contrast with the respiratory epithelium, the olfactory tissue (epithelium) is single layered, lacks a rich network of blood vessels, and cannot swell. Olfactory receptor cells embedded in the epithelium connect by nerve cells to sensory cilia located at the surface. These unmoving cilia are the site where odorants, dissolved in mucous earlier in the inhaled air's journey through the nasal cavity, now interact with protein receptors to change the odor's chemical signal to an electrical signal. Olfactory nerves transmit the electrical signals to the large olfactory lobe in the brain. From there, the signals go to other parts of the brain that allow the dog to recognize and interpret the inhaled scent.

Olfactory epithelium also appears on the tubular sacs known as the vomeronasal organ, which is located behind the upper incisors

in the roof of the mouth. When the dog raises its upper lip, throws back its head, and opens its mouth, it is enhancing the reception of odor by this organ. Not used for ordinary scenting, the vomeronasal organ principally functions to detect pheromones: It enables the dog to decode information left in urine and know if a female dog is in estrus. The signal pathways from the vomeronasal organ go to the region of the brain connected to mating and other basic emotions.

Sense organs growing on the outside of the nose and other parts of the head also contribute to the dog's scenting ability. Vibrissae, which look like whiskers but are longer, thicker, and stiffer, embed in follicles that are rich with blood vessels and sensory nerves. When the extremely sensitive vibrissae are touched or moved, the related nerves convey information to the brain. As a result, air movement that stimulates the vibrissae can indicate wind

# BREED COLUMNS

## HERDING GROUP

direction to the dog, and if the air is laden with a particular scent, the vibrissae assist the dog in locating and following that scent.

What are some of the implications of a dog's anatomical scenting system for the sports of tracking and scent work? First, the shape of the head and muzzle correlate with the dog's efficiency in scenting. The Icelandic Sheepdog's skull of medium length and width (called mesaticephalic) provides more surface area for contact with the olfactory epithelium than does that of a breed with a short and wide skull (called brachycephalic).

Second, the dog's scenting system works best in ideal conditions of temperature and humidity. Since the warming of inhaled air aids its diffusion and absorption, cold conditions will make following a scent more difficult for the dog. Similarly, because moisture plays a role in the dissolving and processing of scent molecules, dry conditions will

pose problems. In cases of dryness and heat, frequent watering of the dog and wetting the nose and exterior of the muzzle can help. Once a dog is panting heavily (and breathing through its mouth, not its nose), it can no longer get scent particles into its olfactory area, and so the dog's capacity for scent work becomes limited.

—Dr. Karen B. Westerfield Tucker,

[kbethwt@yahoo.com](mailto:kbethwt@yahoo.com)  
[Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America](#)

### Norwegian Buhunds

#### WHAT DO BUHUNDS REMEMBER?

When my first Norwegian Buhund was a puppy, she was very friendly with two young girls who lived next door. The girls were in and out of our house and loved to play with Kinzi. When Kinzi was 2 years old, the girls and their family moved away. Although we kept in touch, we did not see them again until three years later, when

they stopped by to see us. I almost did not recognize the two teenagers at our front door, but Kinzi knew them right away and went into an ecstasy of greeting. It was amazing to see how easily my Buhund recognized her “friends” without any contact in the intervening years.

Although not all dogs might remember their friends after three years, many do. What do dogs remember? And how long do their memories last?

Years ago, canine researchers used to believe that dogs did not have memories. Nowadays scholars such as Brian Hare, an evolutionary anthropologist at Duke University's Canine Cognition Center (<https://evolutionaryanthropology.duke.edu/research/dogs>), are finding that dogs, too, have long-term memories; they can store ideas in their brain and remember them when needed. Dogs can remember incidents that happened weeks, months, or even years ago—although just like us, the accuracy of



## HERDING GROUP



their memories can decrease over time. These memories can be positive ones, resulting in excited greetings for an owner returning from a vacation, or negative ones; for example, a dog might remember a car ride resulting in a particularly unpleasant vet visit, and start disliking or fearing car rides after that.

Dogs' long-term memories might be one reason why we "socialize" puppies. Knowing that events from puppyhood are probably going to stay in their memories, we try to make sure that all our Buhund puppies have positive experiences

with a range of people and that they enjoy going to places, especially the kinds of places they will be visiting often in their lives, such as show venues, veterinary offices, and stores.

If dogs did not have long-term memories, there would not be much point in training them. Imagine having to retrain the behavior from scratch every time you wanted a dog to sit and stay. Of course, once in a while our Buhunds love to exercise their independent minds and pretend that they have no memory of what we have trained when they hear us give them a cue.

Some people even suggest that dogs can tell the passing of time when left home alone, based on how enthusiastically they greet you when you return. I cannot say that I have noticed a huge difference in the enthusiasm of my Buhunds' greetings after varied time intervals; they are excited to see me whether I have been away for an hour or for the whole day. But I have noticed "genetic memory" in my Buhunds. Once when we were hiking for the first time at a new location, the Buhunds came upon scat and wanted to immediately turn around and go back. My hiking companions, who lived in the area, mentioned that it looked like bear scat. It is possible that, even though my Buhunds had never met a bear in their lives, their genetic memory warned them of danger from a predator.

Like us, dogs seem to form memories through what they see and hear, but unlike us, a large part of their memories are based upon scent.

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They can remember feelings and events associated with different scents. I know that when I hear certain musical pieces, I feel happy; others make me feel sad. I suspect that our dogs might also feel happy when they smell their friends' scent, and perhaps feel scared or sad with other scents. And like most dogs, my Buhunds also appear to have selective memories. Why else would my puppy ignore kitchen sounds and the opening of the refrigerator, but start getting excited when she hears me take out the metal dog-food bowls?

It is fascinating to see how, just like our memories, dogs' memories are also filled with events that they perceive as important.

—Jasmine Tata,  
[jtata2@yahoo.com](mailto:jtata2@yahoo.com)  
 Norwegian Buhund Club  
 of America

### Pembroke Welsh Corgis

#### PEMBROKES AT WELSHFEST!

In March 2017, I attended WelshFest with my Pembroke Natalie, since

I thought a celebration of Welsh-ness needed a Pembroke! I learned that Rockmart, Georgia, was settled in the 1840s by slate workers from Wales, and WelshFest was created to celebrate the Welsh heritage of the area. It is a small-town festival, complete with “Welly Wanging” and a Men in Kilts contest. There is music and dancing and a vendors' area where all sorts of goods can be purchased. Activities vary from year to year, but they have included bicycle races, Welsh singing in the historic Van Wert Church, pancake breakfasts, an authentic Welsh Tea Room, and so on. Lots of things for children to do as well.

In the fall of 2019, I contacted the organizers of WelshFest with the idea of doing a booth featuring the five breeds native to Wales: the two corgi breeds, the Welsh and Sealyham Terriers, and the Welsh Springer Spaniel. Then COVID hit, and WelshFest was canceled. In late 2022, WelshFest was back, and I



*Pembroke Welsh Corgi, March 1939 (Morgan photo)*

was contacted about possibly participating with Pembrokes. I presented the idea to the Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of Greater Atlanta. Members enthusiastically approved our participation, and a member stepped up to organize the day.

A club banner was created using photos submitted by our club members. We were expected to provide about 20 to 30 minutes of “entertainment” in return for free booth space and a free catalog ad. We decided on giving



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a talk about the breed and then doing some demonstrations of obedience, tricks, and agility. Our “Corgi Show” was attended by 200 or so people who never left, both standing and sitting in front of the staging area, and the show was pronounced a highlight of the day! As we walked back to our booth, all conversations centered around “next year we will ...” We have already been invited to the March 2024 celebration.

We had an outstanding day! At various times, one of us would take a dog and just meander through the vendor area. Doing so greatly expanded our presence and gave us plenty of time to answer all questions. Children could pet the dogs, and adults could get informed answers. At the booth, we answered questions all day long about diet, grooming, training, rescue, responsible dog ownership, and so on. Some people were seriously interested in buying a Pembroke and received

correct information—the good and the bad. (Yes, they shed! A *lot!*) Others just wanted to pet the dogs and tell us about their corgis at home. One lady held a very in-depth conversation with two members as she was seriously considering getting a Pembroke and finally had a chance to talk with knowledgeable people about all her concerns. The Pembrokes attracted a lot of attention, and they were later greeted by name as they walked around with their owners.

We all agreed that this sort of activity was far better than past Meet the Breed activities in which we participated. People did not have to pay an admission or parking fee. The crowd at the booth was never that large, so everyone got plenty of individual attention. We had enough dogs and members to keep the booth well manned. We agreed that the random walks that we took with our dogs throughout the day were a positive contribution to the festivities

(since we shopped and ate too). We have discussed a few changes to make for next year, including specific handouts and activities (maybe a “Have your photo taken with a Pembroke” or a “Pembroke Kissing” booth!). There are other heritage festivals, but only one WelshFest!

Our annual Pembroke family reunion is at the end of September. See [www.pwccanational.com](http://www.pwccanational.com) for all the details.

—Lynda McKee,  
[TifflynLDM@aol.com](mailto:TifflynLDM@aol.com)  
Pembroke Welsh Corgi  
Club of America

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## Pulik

### BITING

A dog’s mouth is very important to them—it is a primary way that they connect to and explore the world. Puppies are constantly using their mouths to grab, manipulate, and bite things, and this is the time that dogs start learning to inhibit their bites. This knowledge will serve them



# BREED COLUMNS

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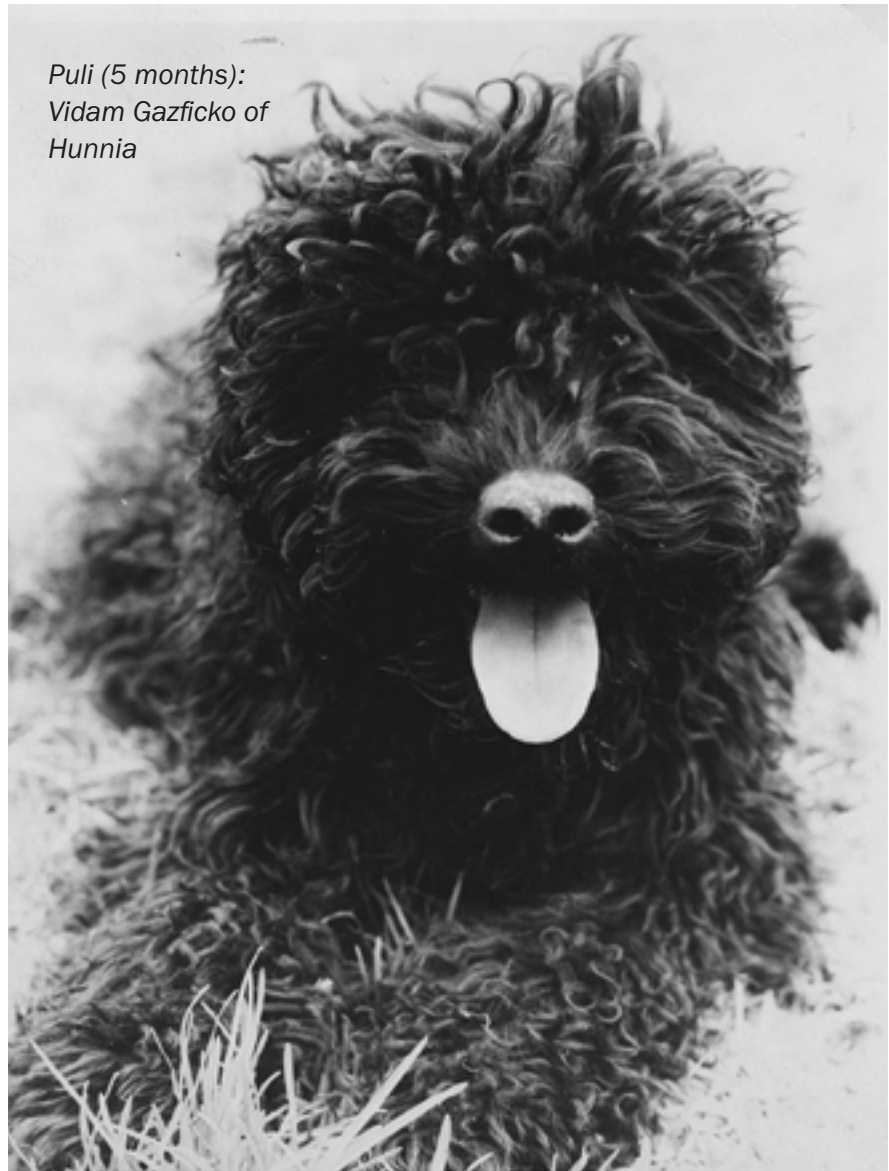
well in their future social interactions with other animals, including people.

In the dog world, there is the pack leader. You and your dog(s) are a pack. You are the one that needs to set the rules, boundaries, and limitations. Keeping a routine, starting training early, and keeping your dog active (mentally and physically) are all very important to dogs.

There is no one kind of bite, nor is there any bite without a prompt, internal or external. To know what to do with a biting dog—to even know how to talk about what he did—we need to understand that context.

The AKC provides useful information on understanding why dogs might react by biting (<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/why-do-dogs-bite/>). It is generally accepted that biting often happens as a protective gesture or as stress-induced response by the dog.

The AKC has published regulations for show events, addressing inappropriate



*Puli (5 months):  
Vidam Gazficko of  
Hunnia*

dog behavior (refer to the AKC website for your show activity of interest to see the regulations). Within the ring, the judge handles decisions of either excusing or disqualifying a dog. Outside the ring, if the Event

Committee becomes aware of any significant act of dog aggression that takes place in association with their event, they investigate. (As a side note, no exhibitor complaint is required.) Any dog that, in the opinion of the

## HERDING GROUP

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Event Committee, attacks a person or a dog at an AKC event, resulting in an injury, and is believed by that Event Committee to present a hazard to persons or other dogs, shall be disqualified. A dog that is “*disqualified by a judge for attacking a person in the ring, disqualified by an Event Committee for attacking and injuring a person or a dog, has been administratively barred due to multiple excusals for aggression, or that is disqualified by a judge for a permanent change in its appearance by artificial means, is ineligible to compete*”—nor may it be on the grounds at any AKC events until the dog has been reinstated.

I have competed over many years in both conformation and agility (and to a lesser degree in other AKC events) and have heard a number of complaints about, as well as observed myself, bad behavior including nipping and biting that seems to go unchecked or unreported. Sometimes this behavior is regarded as

an accident or a one-time event, while in other cases handlers/owners have dogs that are repeat offenders. Such incidents paint our breed and show dogs in general in an unfavorable light.

In short, don't be a jerk and be oblivious to or unaware of what is going on at the end of your leash while you are presumably distracted and somehow do not have your dog on a short leash or with your full attention on it.

Not all dogs like each other, others really want that dog treat or toy another dog has access to, so spacing between individuals and paying attention to body language is key. In these cases, I try the best that I can to put distance between the other handler and their dog so that my own dog will not feel the need to respond in turn to bad behavior by another dog.

As a Puli exhibitor, you need to be prepared that people (as well as other dogs) are often curious about the coat of our breed

and will come up very close and startle the Puli. Also, keep in mind that while you may know a particular breed, that doesn't mean you know the individual dog, and as such, you should not assume that every dog is OK with being approached closely (in particular, during stressful or high-adrenaline situations such as shows or trials).

It is important to note that canine behavior is complex and influenced by an interplay of genetics, environment, and individual experiences. Remember, each dog, like a human, is an individual, and while they may share common traits with their breed, they also have their unique personalities. If you need help addressing biting and safely curbing the behavior, seek a professional dog trainer who has experience with cases similar to yours. You might also seek out a board-certified veterinary behaviorist.

It also cannot be emphasized enough to those involved in dog breeding,

# BREED COLUMNS

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please pay attention to all aspects of a dog used in a breeding program. In my opinion, there is most decidedly a genetic component to behavior, and aggressive/unpredictable behaviors can be passed on by both the stud and/or the bitch. You should not just be breeding for a structurally sound dog, but also a temperamentally sound one.

—Dagmar Fertl,  
[dfertl@gmail.com](mailto:dfertl@gmail.com)  
Puli Club of America

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### Shetland Sheepdogs

#### PRESERVING BREED HISTORY

It can be devastating when a breed continues to or begins to lose several generations of founders of the breed in our country. The knowledge that has been available with a phone call, or lately a text, diminishes with each loss. Each post that says another icon of the breed has passed affects everyone that counted them as friends, mentors, and/or teachers. From the early importers of the breed in

the early 1900s, to the latest losses we endured since late 2020, I have been pondering the vast amount of experience that has been lost.

Fortunately our national breed club, the American Shetland Sheepdog Association, started many years ago developing programs, seminars, and an archive of historical records to save much of the knowledge that was apparent in these people. I think the ASSA has done a commendable job of trying to preserve the thoughts and history of our early breeders. For many years, at the national specialty, seminars and panel discussions, and articles in the handbook have featured these giants of our breed and allowed many students of our breed access to these people.

Lately even social-media groups have provided platforms where any member of the group can pose questions about the breed or the standard and even ask for photos of examples of virtues mentioned in the

standard. It can be an educational tool if you join a group where longstanding breeders participate and offer answers and further the discussion in positive ways. This can be very valuable for those currently trying to absorb as much as possible from those who have been in the breed for a long time. Take care to be sure the advice you get is based on the person's duration in the breed. Strive for knowledge, not opinion.

The ASSA also offers financial aid to local Sheltie clubs that offer seminars centered on knowledge of Shelties, such as bringing in known Sheltie breeders to speak on specific breed topics. This is an excellent way that the parent clubs can support education across the country.

Most important is to always avail yourself to all the opportunities you have to learn. Stay at the show after you have shown your dog. Often it is when the dust has settled at a show and dogs are cared for that



## HERDING GROUP



Shetland Sheepdog Ch.  
Halstor's Peter Pumpkin,  
ROM

people in the breed gather around someone's grooming table or in a grooming spot to go over a dog or just talk. This is when people get into some real interesting discussions. Listen to people who knew the early dogs and breeders—people you may have wished

to chat with, or dogs you may have wished to see. This may be as close as you will get to them. I spent many years doing just that: *Listening. Asking questions. Filing away the answers. Watching how things were done. Taking and practicing what I liked.*

A lot can be learned watching knowledgeable people go over a dog and discuss it with someone else. This education in the breed is your responsibility.

—Janice M. Leonard,  
ASSA Life Member  
[American Shetland  
Sheepdog Association](#)

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



# BREED COLUMNS

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### Swedish Vallhunds

Our guest columnists are Christina Weger and Dr. Benjamin Weger.

#### NURTURING PARTICIPATION IN DOG SPORTS THROUGH POSITIVE COMMUNICATION

“Juniors and other young people are the future of our sport.” We hear that often. It makes sense, but what does it actually mean? How do we promote dog sports and help our young people succeed in them?

In my experience, one of the simplest yet most important things we can work on with juniors and young adults is positive communication skills. It may seem like simple common sense, but words have immense power to encourage or discourage, and they need to be used with care and in a positive light.

I’m sure anyone who has been around dog events for more than a few months can bear witness to situations that can be described as involving poor communication or poor sportsmanship

or even bullying behavior, and these sometimes force people out of the sport. This is a hobby; it’s meant to be enjoyable. If there are negative and even traumatic events associated with the hobby, then it’s no longer fun.

Children, teens, and young adults all go through different developmental stages, and this means stages of development in communication too. We can’t expect the advice and instruction we’re giving to a 9-year-old who is just starting to compete in dog sports to be received and acted on in the same way a seasoned 17-year-old junior will use the same information.

Let’s dismiss some of the stereotypes of this age group first. Pre-teens and teens are not always the moody know-it-alls they’re made out to be. This is a time of transition from concrete to abstract thought, and it’s full of physical, social, psychological, and generational challenges. Adolescents are often very sensitive to criticism and perceived crit-

icisms as their self-esteem and independence grows and changes.

So, here are two communication strategies that will help—and honestly, these strategies can help in nearly any age group. We probably all know some strong personalities in this sport, and sometimes some self-reflection is helpful to everyone.

#### ***Listen more than you speak.***

Let them tell you their thoughts, dreams, goals, and rationales. My juniors frequently surprise me at how much thought they give this sport.

#### ***Don’t criticize.***

You may not even realize you are. You may think you’re helping them with a future performance by pointing out mistakes, but just take a second to word your ideas differently. Sandwich a suggestion between two compliments, or simply let them come up with the ideas on their own. A fellow junior’s parent always asks her juniors when

## HERDING GROUP



Swedish Vallhund

they leave a ring, “What’s one thing you really like about what you did today, and then what’s one thing you’d like to work on for next time?” This way of asking the question leaves it open for someone to come up with their own ideas about how they did that day. It doesn’t put any pressure or blame on them, and it allows them to analyze positive points of the performance first.

If there is something specific that you’d like to suggest about their performance that day, don’t word it as “You need to do this ...” Instead ask them, “How do you think you did on ...”

And finally, if you’re still not certain you’ve gotten your point across, and you feel strongly that you need to point it out, don’t make it about a mistake they made. Instead, make it about something you think has helped you. So don’t phrase it as “You need to hold your lead like this next time.” Rather, say something like, “I’ve had trouble with this too, and I found that holding my lead like this helped correct that for my dog ... maybe it could help for yours too?”

If someone feels that they are being criticized, they are more likely to shut down, or quit working on that skill.

But if you leave these suggestions as questions for them to think about, they will think about them. Then as they think and consider that thing you said, they may come to you for clarification or other questions, or they may simply think on it and come up with a solution that works for them and their dog for that situation.

Communication skills are lifelong skills that needs practice. In this hobby we often pride ourselves on time that we spend learning how to communicate with our dogs so we can train them better, and we try to learn new dog-communication techniques. Perhaps we can reflect on learning and improving new communication techniques with our fellow exhibitors as well. It may help elevate this sport that we all love. —Christina Weger and Dr. Benjamin Weger

Thank you, Christina and Benjamin.

—Laura Kiedaisch  
[Swedish Vallhund Club of America](#)





# SECRETARY'S PAGES

**MISSION STATEMENT** The American Kennel Club is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its Registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function.

Founded in 1884, the AKC and its affiliated organizations advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners and promote responsible dog ownership.

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## ATTENTION DELEGATES NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, September 12, 2023**. For the sole purpose of conducting the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees, the meeting will be called to order at 9:30 a.m. After those present at that time have voted, the Delegate Meeting will recess to begin the Forum (approximately 1 hour in duration). The Delegate Meeting will reconvene following the conclusion of the Forum at which time anyone who had not yet voted will have the opportunity to do so, then the polls will be closed.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Barbet Club of America

## DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

**Alfred Ferruggiario**, Burtonsville, MD,  
National Capital Kennel Club  
**Leslie C. Gelesh**, Akron, OH,  
All Breed Training Club of Akron  
**Teresa Nash**, De Soto, KS,  
American Belgian Tervuren Club  
**Helen Norton**, Fredericksburg, VA,  
Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club



# gazette

[Click here to read the September 2023 issue!](#)

**Claire Parker**, Nashville, TN,  
American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club  
**Joan Payton**, Bakersfield, CA,  
German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America  
**Elisabeth Szymanski**, Milford, PA,  
Wallkill Kennel Club

## NOTICE

As a result of an Event Committee determination the following individual stands suspended of AKC privileges. It should be noted that this determination may still be appealed and may be reversed. Upon expiration of the appeal process, an appropriate notice describing the status of the individual's suspension, if any, will appear in this column:

Ms. Cristine Cameron (Sedro Woolley, WA)

Mr. Matthew Perry (Berkeley, IL)

Ms. Jacqueline Rickards-Pomper (Silverdale, PA)

## NOTICE

Mr. Eduardo Lima (Orlando, FL). Action was taken by the Valdosta Kennel Club for conduct at its April 14, 2023 event. Mr. Lima was charged with public criticism of a judge, not disruptive, but demonstrating a lack of sportsmanship. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and a \$50 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

## NOTICE

Ms. Chris Matthews (Strafford, MO). Action was taken by the Agility Club of Suburban St. Louis for conduct at its July 30, 2023 event. Ms. Matthews was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and a \$200 fine. (Brittanys, Poodles)

## NOTICE

Ms. Sue Nilson (Ravenna, MI). Action was taken by the Lima Kennel Club for conduct at its July 1, 2023 event. Ms. Nilson was charged with failure to properly control a dog at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a reprimand and a \$200 fine. (Bullmastiff, Chinese Shar-Pei)

## NOTICE

Ms. Marian Panter (Carson City, NV). Action was taken by the Klamath Dog Fanciers for conduct at its May 14, 2023 event. Ms. Panter was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language directed personally to a judge. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a two-month event suspension and \$100 fine, effective July 1, 2023. (Smooth Fox Terriers)

## NOTICE

Ms. Marnie Polivka (Spring Green, WI). Action was taken by the American Belgian Tervuren Club for conduct at its May 12, 2023 event. Ms. Polivka was charged with physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature and inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalties to be served concurrently as a three-month event suspension and a \$500 fine, effective June 28, 2023. (Belgian Tervuren)

## NOTICE

Ms. Yolanda Quintero (Sanford, MI). Action was taken by the American Belgian Tervuren Club for conduct at its May 12, 2023 event. Ms. Quintero was charged with physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature and inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalties to be served concurrently as a three-month event suspension and a \$500 fine, effective June 28, 2023. (Belgian Tervuren)

## NOTICE

Ms. Amanda Verdoorn (Seal Beach, CA). Action was taken by the Southern California Portuguese Water Dog Club for conduct at its May 29, 2023 event. Ms. Verdoorn was charged with inappropriate,

abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month event suspension and a \$500 fine, effective July 8, 2023. (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, All American Dogs)

## NOTICE

Ms. Sandee Yacklin (Canton, OH). Action was taken by the Heart of Ohio Great Dane Club for conduct at its June 24, 2023 event. Ms. Yacklin was charged with inappropriate public criticism of a just, not disruptive, but demonstrating lack of sportsmanship, and inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a one-month suspension of AKC event privileges and a \$500 fine, effective June 24, 2023. (Great Danes)

## NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Ms. Alexis Hale (Weaver, AL) and imposed a \$100 fine, for signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing properly completed Power of Attorney Form. (Australian Shepherds)

## NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary





# SECRETARY'S PAGES

Committee has reprimanded Ms. Birgit Hall (Reidsville, NC) and imposed a \$100 fine, for submitting an online application without written permission from the owner. (Belgian Malinois)

## NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals for all AKC privileges for five years and imposed a \$1,000 fine, for refusal to make their dogs and records available for inspection when requested:

Effective August 8, 2023:

- Ms. Linda Johnson (Maricopa, CA)  
Dachshunds
- Mr. Randell Johnson (Maricopa, CA)  
Dachshunds

## Notice

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Jacqueline Englert (Spring, TX) from all AKC privileges for a lifetime and imposed a \$10,000 fine, effective August 8, 2023, for violation of AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy. (Multiple Breeds)

## NOTICE

### REPRIMANDS AND FINES

Notification of fines imposed on clubs for late submission of event records,

*Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 17, Section 2

- Cocker Spaniel Club of Western Pennsylvania..... \$25
- Golden State Chinese Shar-Pei Club.... \$50
- Missouri Rhineland Kennel Club  
.....\$125

Notification of fines imposed on a performance club for late submission of results, *Regulations for Lure Coursing Tests and Trials*, Chapter 10

- Bluegrass Coursing Club (Lure Coursing)  
..... \$100

## OFFICIAL STANDARD OF THE ENGLISH COCKER SPANIEL:

**General Appearance:** The English Cocker Spaniel is an active, merry sporting dog, standing well up at the withers and compactly built. He is alive with energy; his gait is powerful and frictionless, capable both of covering ground effortlessly and penetrating dense cover to flush and retrieve game. His enthusiasm in the field and the incessant action of his tail while at work indicate how much he enjoys the hunting for which he was bred. His head is especially characteristic. He is, above all, a dog of balance, both standing and moving, without exaggeration in any part, the whole worth more than the sum of its parts.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** *Size*-Height at withers: males 16 to 17 inches; females 15 to 16 inches. Deviations to be penalized. The most desirable weights: males, 28 to 34 pounds; females, 26 to 32 pounds. Proper conformation and substance should be considered more important than weight alone. *Proportion*-Compactly built and short-coupled, with height at withers slightly greater than the distance from withers to set-on of tail. *Substance*-The English Cocker is a solidly built dog with as much bone and substance as is possible without becoming cloddy or coarse.

**Head:** General appearance: strong, yet free from coarseness, softly contoured, without sharp angles. Taken as a whole, the parts combine to produce the expression distinctive of the breed. *Expression*-Soft, melting, yet dignified, alert, and intelligent. *Eyes*-The eyes are essential to the desired expression. They are medium in size, full and slightly oval; set wide apart; lids tight. Haws are inconspicuous; may be pigmented or unpigmented. Eye color dark brown, except in livers and liver parti-colors where hazel is permitted, but the darker the hazel the better. *Ears*-Set low, lying close to the head; leather fine, extending to the nose, well covered with long, silky, straight or slightly wavy hair. *Skull*-Arched and slightly flattened when

seen both from the side and from the front. Viewed in profile, the brow appears not appreciably higher than the backskull. Viewed from above, the sides of the skull are in planes roughly parallel to those of the muzzle. Stop definite, but moderate, and slightly grooved. *Muzzle*-Equal in length to skull; well cushioned; only as much narrower than the skull as is consistent with a full eye placement; cleanly chiseled under the eyes. Jaws strong, capable of carrying game. Nostrils wide for proper development of scenting ability; color black, except in livers and parti-colors of that shade where they will be brown; reds and parti-colors of that shade may be brown, but black is preferred. Lips square, but not pendulous or showing prominent flews. *Bite*-Scissors. A level bite is not preferred. Overshot or undershot to be severely penalized.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** *Neck*-Graceful and muscular, arched toward the head and blending cleanly, without throatiness, into sloping shoulders; moderate in length and in balance with the length and height of the dog. *Topline*-The line of the neck blends into the shoulder and backline in a smooth curve. The backline slopes very slightly toward a gently rounded croup, and is free from sagging or rumpiness. *Body*-Compact and well-knit, giving the impression of strength without heaviness.

Chest deep; not so wide as to interfere with action of forelegs, nor so narrow as to allow the front to appear narrow or pinched. Forechest well developed, prosternum projecting moderately beyond shoulder points. Brisket reaches to the elbow and slopes gradually to a moderate tuck-up. Ribs well sprung and springing gradually to mid-body, tapering to back ribs which are of good depth and extend well back. Back short and strong. Loin short, broad and very slightly arched, but not enough to affect the topline appreciably. Croup gently rounded, without any tendency to fall away sharply. *Tail*-Docked or undocked. Set on to conform to croup. Ideally, the tail is carried horizontally and is in constant motion while the dog is in action. Under excitement, the dog may carry his tail somewhat higher, but not cocked up.

**Forequarters:** The English Cocker is moderately angulated. Shoulders are sloping, the blade flat and smoothly fitting. Shoulder blade and upper arm are approximately equal in length. Upper arm set well back, joining the shoulder with sufficient angulation to place the elbow beneath the highest point of the shoulder blade when the dog is standing naturally. Forelegs-Straight, with bone nearly uniform in size from elbow to heel; elbows set close to the body; pasterns nearly straight,

with some flexibility. Feet- Proportionate in size to the legs, firm, round and catlike; toes arched and tight; pads thick.

**Hindquarters:** Angulation moderate and, most importantly, in balance with that of the forequarters. Hips relatively broad and well rounded. Upper thighs broad, thick and muscular, providing plenty of propelling power. Second thighs well muscled and approximately equal in length to the upper. Stifle strong and well bent. Hock to pad short. Feet as in front.

**Coat:** On head, short and fine; of medium length on body; flat or slightly wavy; silky in texture. The English Cocker is well-feathered, but not so profusely as to interfere with field work. Trimming is permitted to remove overabundant hair and to enhance the dog's true lines. It should be done so as to appear as natural as possible.

**Color:** Various. Parti-colors are either clearly marked, ticked or roaned, the white appearing in combination with black, liver or shades of red. In parti-colors it is preferable that solid markings be broken on the body and more or less evenly distributed; absence of body markings is acceptable. Solid colors are black, liver or shades of red. White feet on a solid are undesirable; a little white on throat is



acceptable; but in neither case do these white markings make the dog a parti-color. Tan markings, clearly defined and of rich shade, may appear in conjunction with black, livers and parti-color combinations of those colors. Black and tans and liver and tans are considered solid colors.

**Gait:** The English Cocker is capable of hunting in dense cover and upland terrain. His gait is accordingly characterized more by drive and the appearance of power than by great speed. He covers ground effortlessly and with extension both in front and in rear, appropriate to his angulation. In the ring, he carries his head proudly and is able to keep much the same topline while in action as when standing for examination. Going and coming, he moves in a straight line without crabbing or rolling, and with width between both front and rear legs appropriate to his build and gait.

**Temperament:** The English Cocker is merry and affectionate, of equable disposition, neither sluggish nor hyperactive, a willing worker and a faithful and engaging companion.

**Approved August 8, 2023**  
**Effective November 1, 2023**

## **OFFICIAL STANDARD OF THE ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL**

**General Appearance:** The English Springer Spaniel is a medium-sized sporting dog, with a compact body and a docked or undocked tail, both are given equal consideration. His coat is moderately long, with feathering on his legs, ears, chest and brisket. His pendulous ears, soft gentle expression, sturdy build and friendly wagging tail proclaim him unmistakably a member of the ancient family of Spaniels. He is above all a well-proportioned dog, free from exaggeration, nicely balanced in every part. His carriage is proud and upstanding, body deep, legs strong and muscular, with enough length to carry him with ease. Taken as a whole, the English Springer Spaniel suggests power, endurance and agility. He looks the part of a dog that can go, and keep going, under difficult hunting conditions. At his best, he is endowed with style, symmetry, balance and enthusiasm, and is every inch a sporting dog of distinct spaniel character, combining beauty and utility.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** The Springer is built to cover rough ground with agility and reasonable speed. His structure suggests the capacity for endurance. He is to be kept to medium *size*. Ideal height at the shoulder for dogs is 20 inches; for bitches, it is 19 inches. Those

more than one inch under or over the breed ideal are to be faulted. A 20 inch dog, *well-proportioned* and in good condition, will weigh approximately 50 pounds; a 19 inch bitch will weigh approximately 40 pounds. The length of the body (measured from point of shoulder to point of buttocks) is slightly greater than the height at the withers. The dog too long in body, especially when long in the loin, tires easily and lacks the compact outline characteristic of the breed. A dog too short in the body for the length of his legs, a condition which destroys balance and restricts gait, is equally undesirable. A Springer with correct *substance* appears well-knit and sturdy with good bone, however, he is never coarse or ponderous.

**Head:** The *head* is impressive without being heavy. Its beauty lies in a combination of strength and refinement. It is important that its size and proportion be in balance with the rest of the dog. Viewed in profile, the head appears approximately the same length as the neck and blends with the body in substance. The stop, eyebrows and chiseling of the bony structure around the eye sockets contribute to the Springer's beautiful and characteristic expression, which is alert, kindly and trusting. The *eyes*, more than any other feature, are the essence of the Springer's appeal. Correct size, shape, placement and color

influence expression and attractiveness. The eyes are of medium size and oval in shape, set rather well-apart and fairly deep in their sockets. The color of the iris harmonizes with the color of the coat, preferably dark hazel in the liver and white dogs and black or deep brown in the black and white dogs. Eyerims are fully pigmented and match the coat in color. Lids are tight with little or no haw showing. Eyes that are small, round or protruding, as well as eyes that are yellow or brassy in color, are highly undesirable. *Ears* are long and fairly wide, hanging close to the cheeks with no tendency to stand up or out. The ear leather is thin and approximately long enough to reach the tip of the nose. Correct ear set is on a level with the eye and not too far back on the skull. The *skull* is medium-length and fairly broad, flat on top and slightly rounded at the sides and back. The occiput bone is inconspicuous. As the skull rises from the foreface, it makes a stop, divided by a groove, or fluting, between the eyes. The groove disappears as it reaches the middle of the forehead. The amount of stop is moderate. It must not be a pronounced feature; rather it is a subtle rise where the muzzle joins the upper head. It is emphasized by the groove and by the position and shape of the eyebrows, which are well-developed. The *muzzle* is approximately the same length as the skull and one half the width

of the skull. Viewed in profile, the topline of the skull and muzzle lie in approximately parallel planes. The nasal bone is straight, with no inclination downward toward the tip of the nose, the latter giving an undesirable downfaced look. Neither is the nasal bone concave, resulting in a “dish-faced” profile; nor convex, giving the dog a Roman nose. The cheeks are flat, and the face is well-chiseled under the eyes. Jaws are of sufficient length to allow the dog to carry game easily; fairly square, lean and strong. The upper lips come down full and rather square to cover the line of the lower jaw, however, the lips are never pendulous or exaggerated. The nose is fully-pigmented, liver or black in color, depending on the color of the coat. The nostrils are well-opened and broad. Teeth are strong, clean, of good size and ideally meet in a close scissors *bite*. An even bite or one or two incisors slightly out of line are minor faults. Undershot, overshot and wry jaws are serious faults and are to be severely penalized.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** The *neck* is moderately long, muscular, clean and slightly arched at the crest. It blends gradually and smoothly into sloping shoulders. The portion of the topline from withers to tail is firm and slopes very gently. The *body* is short-coupled, strong and compact. The chest is deep, reaching the level of

the elbows, with well-developed forechest; however, it is not so wide or round as to interfere with the action of the front legs. Ribs are fairly long, springing gradually to the middle of the body, then tapering as they approach the end of the ribbed section. The underline stays level with the elbows to a slight upcurve at the flank. The back is straight, strong and essentially level. Loins are strong, short and slightly arched. Hips are nicely-rounded, blending smoothly into the hind legs. The croup slopes gently to the set of the tail, and tail-set follows the natural line of the croup. The *tail* is carried horizontally or slightly elevated and displays a characteristic lively, merry action, particularly when the dog is on game. A clamped tail (indicating timidity or undependable temperament) is to be faulted, as is a tail carried at a right angle to be the backline in Terrier Fashion. An undocked tail may have a slight upward curve but never curled over the back.

**Forequarters:** Efficient movement in front calls for proper forequarter assembly. The shoulder blades are flat and fairly close together at the tips, molding smoothly into the contour of the body. Ideally, when measured from the top of the withers to the point of the shoulder to elbow, the shoulder blade and upper arm are of apparent equal length, forming an



angle of nearly 90 degrees; this sets the front legs well under the body and places the elbows directly beneath the tips of the shoulder blades. Elbow lies close to the body. Forelegs are straight with the same degree of size continuing to the foot. Bone is strong, slightly flattened, not too round or too heavy. Pasterns are short, strong and slightly sloping, with no suggestion of weakness. Dewclaws are usually removed. Feet are round or slightly oval. They are compact and well-arched, of medium size with thick pads, and well-feathered between the toes.

**Hindquarters:** The Springer should be worked and shown in hard, muscular condition with well-developed hips and thighs. His whole rear assembly suggests strength and driving power. Thighs are broad and muscular. Stifle joints are strong. For functional efficiency, the angulation of the hindquarter is never greater than that of the forequarter, and not appreciably less. The hock joints are somewhat rounded, not small and sharp in contour. Rear pasterns are short (about 1/3 the distance from the hip joint to the foot) and strong, with good bone. When viewed from behind, the rear pasterns are parallel. Dewclaws are usually removed. The feet are the same as in front, except that they are smaller and often more compact.

**Coat:** The Springer has an outer coat and an undercoat. On the body, the outer coat is of medium length, flat or wavy, and is easily distinguishable from the undercoat, which is short, soft and dense. The quantity of undercoat is affected by climate and season. When in combination, outer coat and undercoat serve to make the dog substantially waterproof, weatherproof and thorn proof. On ears, chest, legs and belly the Springer is nicely furnished with a fringe of feathering of moderate length and heaviness. On the head, front of the forelegs, and below the hock joints on the front of the hind legs, the hair is short and fine. The coat has the clean, glossy, “live” appearance indicative of good health. It is legitimate to trim about the head, ears, neck and feet, to remove dead undercoat, and to thin and short excess feathering as required to enhance a smart, functional appearance. The tail may be trimmed or fringed and may have wavy feathering. Above all, the appearance should be natural. Over-trimming, especially the body coat, or any chopped, barbered or artificial effect is to be penalized in the show ring, as is excessive feathering that destroys the clean outline desirable in a sporting dog. Correct quality and condition of coat is to take precedence over quantity of coat. **Color:** All the following combinations of colors and markings are equally acceptable: (1) Black or liver with white mark-

ings or predominantly white with black or liver markings; (2) Blue or liver roan; (3) Tricolor: black and white or liver and white with tan markings, usually found on eyebrows, cheeks, inside of ears and under the tail. Any white portion of the coat may be flecked with ticking. Off colors such as lemon, red or orange are not to place.

**Gait:** The final test of the Springer's conformation and soundness is proper movement. Balance is a prerequisite to good movement. The front and rear assemblies must be equivalent in angulation and muscular development for the gait to be smooth and effortless. Shoulders which are well laid-back to permit a long stride are just as essential as the excellent rear quarters that provide driving power. Seen from the side, the Springer exhibits a long, ground-covering stride and carries a firm back, with no tendency to dip, roach or roll from side to side. From the front, the legs swing forward in a free and easy manner. Elbows have free action from the shoulders, and the legs show no tendency to cross or interfere. From behind, the rear legs reach well under the body, following on a line with the forelegs. As speed increases, there is a natural tendency for the legs to converge toward a center line of travel. Movement faults include high-stepping, wasted motion; short, choppy stride; crabbing; and moving with the feet wide,

the latter giving roll or swing to the body.

**Temperament:** The typical Springer is friendly, eager to please, quick to learn and willing to obey. Such traits are conducive to tractability, which is essential for appropriate handler control in the field. In the show ring, he should exhibit poise and attentiveness and permit himself to be examined by the judge without resentment or cringing. Aggression toward people and aggression toward other dogs is not in keeping with sporting dog character and purpose and is not acceptable. Excessive timidity, with due allowance for puppies and novice exhibits, is to be equally penalized.

**Summary:** In evaluating the English Springer Spaniel, the overall picture is a primary consideration. One should look for the type, which includes general appearance and outline, and also for soundness, which includes movement and temperament. In as much as the dog with a smooth easy gait must be reasonably sound and well-balanced, he is to be highly regarded, however, not to the extent of forgiving him for not looking like an English Springer Spaniel. An atypical dog, too short or long in leg length or foreign in head or expression, may move well, but he is not to be preferred over a good all-round specimen that has a minor fault in move-

ment. It must be remembered that the English Springer Spaniel is first and foremost a sporting dog of the Spaniel family, and he must look, behave and move in character.

**Approved August 8, 2023**  
**Effective November 1, 2023**

## CONFORMATION JUDGES

Letters concerning judges and provisional judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received regarding their judging qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge or judge applicant.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and Junior Showmanship judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges' record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify

Judging Operations by email at [judgingops@akc.org](mailto:judgingops@akc.org).

## APPLICANTS

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified *but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.*

### NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

#### Mr. Mike Bennett (112839) OK

(918) 760-6456  
darlinmikey@libertyakitas.com  
Whippets, Akitas

#### Mr. Jerome A. Elliott (112895) PA

(717) 884-2297  
hautek9@gmail.com  
Brittanys, Afghan Hounds, Salukis,  
English Toy Spaniels, JS

#### Mrs. PJ Harrison (112845) CO

(720) 205-2038  
pjharrison3691@gmail.com  
Alaskan Malamutes

#### Jody (Jo Ann) Hill (112835) FL

(407) 353-6275  
findjody2@gmail.com  
Great Danes

#### Lisa M. Pruka (100701) IL

(815) 494-0384  
czechmatebc@gmail.com  
Border Collies, JS-Limited

#### Rebecca S. Smith (112841) WI

(920) 484-6443



gwpgal08@gmail.com

Vizslas

**Mr. Gary Wimberley (112803) MO**

(314) 201-2339

garywimberley@yahoo.com

Afghan Hounds

**ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

**Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez (97321) FL**

(954) 434-0318

minsmere954@yahoo.com

American English Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

**Mr. John Arvin (57337) NJ**

(609) 891-0417

ridgebacks@mysticrrs.com

Basenjis

**Mrs. Stephanie Hamblin Barnhill (47317) KS**

(785) 764-1536

nykiskas@sunflower.com

Balance of Working Group (Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Leonbergers, Mastiffs, Portuguese Water Dogs), Whippets

**Mrs. Janet Bodin (101381) WI**

(414) 614-7822

jbodin@wi.rr.com

Australian Cattle Dogs

**Dr. Alisha Brotherhood (103359) TX**

(281) 989-3130

touchstone0525@att.net

Akitas, Boerboels

**Ms. Anna May Fleischli Brown (6300) IL**

(217) 415-2176

stedelweis@aol.com

Biewer Terriers, Italian Greyhounds, Miniature Pinschers, Pomeranians, Poodles

**Mr. Richard (Ric) Brown (108381) MI**

(248) 514-9655

ricbulldog@aol.com

Chinese Shar-Pei, Dalmatians, French Bulldogs

**Ms. JoAnne M. Buehler (22770) FL**

(301) 590-9056

joanneb@his.com

Keeshonden, Beaucerons, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Briards, Old English Sheepdogs

**Ms. Kimberly Cardona (110939) FL**

(407) 460-0089

vomdrakkenfels@gmail.com

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Boxers, Chinooks, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Great Danes

**Mr. Cesar Cortes (110553) NY**

(917) 635-7128

cecordog@hotmail.com

English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Pekingese, Pomeranians

**Mrs. Nancy Eilks (23143) WI**

(920) 650-2299

eilks@gdinet.com

English Setters, Irish Setters, Irish Red

and White Setters, Vizslas, Miniature Schnauzers

**Ms. Marie Ann Falconer (51642) TN**

(413) 433-6474

mylaone10@aol.com

Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, English Toy Spaniels, Russian Toys, Yorkshire Terriers), Bloodhounds, Borzois, Greyhounds

**Mr. James A. (Jim) Fehring (90519) OK**

(918) 630-9229

jimfehring@olp.net

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Boerboels, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, Kuvaszok

**Mrs. Emily Fish (92354) WA**

(630) 904-5765

emilypawcific@yahoo.com

Bracci Italiani, Gordon Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, English Cocker Spaniels

**Ms. Grace Fritz (21887) KS**

(913) 706-5365

fritzgm77@gmail.com

American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Dachshunds, Plott Hounds, Salukis, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

**Gigi Griffith (109593) TN**

(760) 908-8188

terranova57@gmail.com

Akitas, Bullmastiffs, Cane Corsos, Samoyeds, Australian Shepherds, German Shepherd Dogs

**Mrs. Debra Long Gschwender (18252 ID)**

(208) 477-3925

dlgschwender@gmail.com

Lagotti Romagnoli, Golden Retrievers, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

**Ms. Cheri Hollenback (71029) ID**

(509) 993-4504

cascadesamoyeds@aol.com

Bullmastiffs, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Kuvaszok, Newfoundlands

**Mr. Ronald V. Horn (65755) CO**

(303) 797-8642

vnnewf@gmail.com

Vizslas, Beagles, Bloodhounds, Borzois, Greyhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds

**Mr. Jamie Hubbard (80432) IN**

(812) 322-7978

ozjamiehubbard@gmail.com

Beaucerons, Bouviers des Flandres, Collies, Norwegian Buhunds, Pyrenean Shepherds, Spanish Water Dogs

**Mr. Patrick D. Jones (95071) MT**

(406) 855-5940

ravindals8@gmail.com

Bulldogs, French Bulldogs, Xoloitzcuintli

**Mr. Gregg G. Kantak (94772) MD**

(301) 392-3646

greggkantak@yahoo.com

Bichons Frises, Chinese Shar-Pei, Cotons du Tulear, Finnish Spitz, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Shiba Inu, Xoloitzcuintli

**Ms. Dianne Kroll (44743) OR**

(971) 221-7623

dianne.kroll@frontier.com

Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Belgian Sheepdogs, Bouviers des Flandres, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Mudik, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pulik, Pumik, Shetland Sheepdogs, Spanish Water Dogs

**Mr. Jeffrey Langevin (93425) NH**

(207) 735-5004

jeffreylangevin@hotmail.com

Dachshunds

**Miss Mary Lee (103048) MS**

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maryflee7@gmail.com

American Foxhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Sloughi, Kuvaszok, Neapolitan Mastiffs

**Mr. John S. Lucas (7444) TX**

(512) 422-2625

john.lucas@zambar.net

Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Gordon Setters, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Border Collies, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Miniature American Shepherds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

**Ms. Kathryn Madden (92226) NY**

(516) 885-4860

madterv@gmail.com

Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, English Setters,

Irish Setters

**Mr. George E. Marquis (5789) FL**

(603) 770-9830

chiens@prodigy.net

Chinese Shar-Pei, Norwegian Lundehunds, Shiba Inu, Xoloitzcuintli

**Ellen Joan Migliore (6182) MI**

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ejmgsd@gmail.com

Chinese Cresteds

**Mrs. Chris Ann Moore (108927) AR**

(479) 221-0555

bisacd@aol.com

Cane Corsos, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Standard Schnauzers, Schipperkes

**Mrs. Patti Widick Neale (6097) FL**

(352) 359-0912

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Havanese, Maltese, Miniature Pinschers, Shih Tzu

**Ms. Lew Olson (24173) AR**

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Airedale Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Welsh Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

**Sheila Dee Paske (46304) CA**

(530) 306-8889

sheila@storybookdachshunds.com

Boerboels, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Dogues de Bordeaux, Portuguese Water Dogs, Samoyeds, Boston Terriers



**Mrs. Sherry Patton (110239) TX**

(318) 518-6542

4everbts@gmail.com

Chinese Shar-Pei, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Poodles, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

**Adrienne Perry (18741) AL**

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Rottweilers

**Ms. Deirdre Petrie (63937) PA**

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Boston Terriers, Schipperkes, Tibetan Spaniels

**Dr. LeeAnn Podruch (106234) WI**

(802) 238-0755

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Irish Water Spaniels, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Havanese

**Dr. Tracy Powell (101481) CT**

(203) 631-7110

dulcedanes@yahoo.com

Afghan Hounds, Azawakhs, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Dachshunds, Otterhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

**Mrs. Linda Riedel (2775) WA**

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Boston Terriers, French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos, Norwegian Lundehunds, Poo-

dles, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers

**Mrs. Patricia D. Robinson (7518) AL**

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Dachshunds

**Dr. Vicki Sandage (98425) KY**

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Dachshunds, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Standard Schnauzers

**Ms. Karen R. Scheiner, Esq. (103945) NJ**

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Curly-Coated Retrievers, Afghan Hounds, Pugs, Poodles, Pulik

**Ms. Ellen W. Schultz (110815) TX**

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apollogoldens@att.net

Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers

**Inge Semenschin (27410) CA**

(510) 620-9688

ingeakc@gmail.com

Basset Hounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Otterhounds, Redbone Coonhounds

**Mr. Channing Sheets (99781) CA**

(415) 254-2582

cashe90@hotmail.com

Berger Picards, Border Collies, Briards, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheep-

dogs, Miniature American Shepherds,  
Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pumik,  
Swedish Vallhunds

**Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq. (6347) CA**

(609) 351-3647

danieljsmythesq@aol.com

German Wirehaired Pointers, Boxers,  
Dogues de Bordeaux, Pumik

**Dr. Jerry Sulewski (93475) WI**

(920) 833-2242

collieknutt@yahoo.com

Samoyeds, Shetland Sheepdogs

**Catherine E. Urner (107392) PA**

(484) 252-9263

cat@noncharmdanes.com

French Bulldogs

**Mrs. Cindy J. Valko (110124) PA**

(412) 780-6129

somersetsts@comcast.net

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Bullmastiffs,  
Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes,  
Mastiffs, Newfoundlands

**Ms. Cynthia Woodward (105631) TX**

(501) 425-3454

cyndrwood@yahoo.com

Boxers, Dogo Argentinos, German Pin-  
schers, Great Danes, American Hairless  
Terriers

**Mr. Wood Wornall (95931) DE**

(805) 264-3304

woodwornall@hotmail.com

Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei,  
Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Schipperkes,  
Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING**

**APPLICANTS**

**Mrs. Claudette DuPont (112807) NC**

(336) 380-6317

claudettemdupont@gmail.com

JS

**Ms. Karen Marie Duprat (112779) MA**

(413) 569-2029

kduprat@aol.com

JS

**Kimberley M. Dye (110679) NJ**

(609) 420-3746

doglover4life@comcast.net

JS-Limited

**Mrs. Jackie Esperance (112827) OR**

(636) 219-7189

ross.jackie79@gmail.com

JS

**Mr. Matthew Fox (112833) NY**

(716) 961-8048

matthewfoxtrail@gmail.com

JS

**Mr. Mitchell Fox (112834) PA**

(716) 698-4290

mitchellfoxtrail@gmail.com

JS

**Mr. Joao Machado (110191) TX**

(832) 339-6926

joao.machadoTX@gmail.com

JS

**Miss Kathryn Markey (112850) CT**

(860) 839-5234

kam0131@comcast.net

JS

**Ms. Rebecca A. Nunes (112752) CA**

(714) 401-6471

atumnhaze@gmail.com

JS

**Mrs. Mariecel Torres-Young (110183)**

**OR**

(503) 297-3020

conquest.cockers@comcast.net

JS-Limited

**PERMIT JUDGES**

The following persons have been approved on a **Permit** basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. *They may now accept assignments* and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

**NEW BREED PERMIT JUDGES**

**Mrs. Sara Black (112313) TX**

(903) 530-7989

seblack2222@gmail.com

Bulldogs

**Mr. Michael R. Deer (112419) TX**

(847) 910-9905

privacylawyer@hotmail.com

Dalmatians

**Ms. June M. Dennis (112533) CA**

(209) 808-3123

marendaknls@gmail.com

Pointers, English Setters, Cocker Spaniels, JS

**Mrs. Cathy M. Driggers (112496) FL**

(386) 846-7175

driggers@nottinghampoms.com

Pomeranians, JS-Limited

**Dr. Alan Hargrave (112433) IN**

(765) 730-3828

ahargrav@bsu.edu

Border Terriers, Russell Terriers

**Mr. Jeffrey Margeson (112361) VA**

(240) 674-7158

jmargeson70@gmail.com

Chinese Cresteds, Xoloitzcuintli, Australian Shepherds, Border Collies, Miniature American Shepherds, JS

**Ms. Robin Mathews (110537) NJ**

(723) 501-9581

bisdogs@aol.com

Dachshunds, JS

**ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES**

**Mr. Richard D. Albee (57263) AL**

(334) 821-7829

albeerd@charter.net

Balance of Hound Group (Bloodhounds, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Norwegian Elkhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Sloughi)

**Ms. Anne Barlow (18397) TX**

(512) 423-4500

anne7836@yahoo.com

Barbets, Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels

**Mr. Douglas E. Broadfoot (96999) NC**

broadstrider@gmail.com



Black and Tan Coonhounds, Sloughi

**Dr. Lisa Costello (101255) CO**

(630) 625-2019

mtncow100@gmail.com

Balance of Hound Group (Basset Hounds, Bloodhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds)

**Ms. Karen A. Dumke (7168) WI**

(920) 279-4519

karenadumke@gmail.com

Cairn Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Scottish Terriers

**Mr. Rick Fowler (105295) TX**

(214) 914-9335

richf45882@aol.com

Kerry Blue Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Sealyham Terriers

**Mr. Duff M. Harris (91790) CA**

(714) 425-0454

allegro6@ix.netcom.com

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Rottweilers

**Mr. Steven Herman (6305) FL**

(813) 973-3153

ljlucin@gmail.com

Doberman Pinschers

**Dr. Vandra L. Huber (6857) WA**

(425) 881-5809

vlhuber.88@gmail.com

Balance of Herding Group (Pyrenean Shepherds)

**Shari Kirschner (97107) IN**

(219) 331-9493

smkirschner@comcast.net

German Shorthaired Pointers, English Springer Spaniels, Vizslas

**Ms. Pamela S. Lambie (96227) AZ**

(760) 272-0625

pam@pamlambie.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Boerboels, Chinooks, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs

**Ms. Sandra Moore (40375) TN**

(931) 657-8102

avalonborzoi@benlomand.net

Azawakhs, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds

**Mrs. Angela Pickett (100269) FL**

(407) 252-3111

pickettpap@aol.com

Barbets, Bracci Italiani, Brittanys, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired Vizslas

**Mr. John C. Ramirez (1814) CA**

(310) 991-0241

jrami68620@aol.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Finnish Spitz, Norwegian Lundehunds, Schipperkes, Xoloitcuintli

**Mr. Gary C. Sackett (96555) NV**

(702) 351-5566

gcsackett@yahoo.com

Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Skye Terriers, Welsh Terriers

**Ms. Pamela Schroeder (108285) WA**

(778) 834-0059

pam@schroeder.bc.ca

Vizslas, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, French Bulldogs

**Mr. Robert E. Stein (37717) TX**

(210) 725-0661

topwinn@gmail.com

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers

**Pamela Wilson (64914) TX**

(512) 280-3103

wilscot@sbcglobal.net

Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Silky Terriers

**Mrs. Lisa Young (43070) AZ**

(605) 390-1135

youngsongbeagles@gmail.com

Plott Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES**

**Miss Hadley George (112559) OH**

(740) 485-5057

hadleynicole04@gmail.com

**Tanya Tresino (112535) AK**

(907) 232-3171

tanyasueak@hotmail.com

**Jackie Wooden (112543) CA**

(661) 589-8457

regaldalmatians@gmail.com

**BEST IN SHOW**

The following persons, having successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they were **approved**, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

**Mr. Brian C. Bogart (100059) NY**

(716) 984-0012

sumerwyndb@aol.com

**Ms. Beth Downey (102539) MS**

(410) 829-2455

bethdowney539@gmail.com

**Mr. Edward A. Fojtik (104757) IL**

(847) 245-6166

efojtik@aol.com

**REINSTATED JUDGE**

The Judging eligibility of the following person has been reinstated.

**Ms. Kathy L. Wilkins (6799) GA**

(770) 315-4452

lochlynfarm@gmail.com

Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Collies, Old English Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Shetland Sheepdogs

## RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Roy Cone  
Mrs. Karen Ropp

## EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Michael A. Brophy  
Ms. Susan C. Catlin  
Mrs. Marcia Feld  
Ms. Syla Hammarstrom  
Mr. Dick Jones

## DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Dr. David H. Abraham  
Mrs. Carolyn I. Alexander  
Ms. Elizabeth "Lani" McKennon  
Mrs. Beverly M. Nosiqlia

## APPLICATION FOR BREED-SPECIFIC REGISTERED NAME PREFIX

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club.

Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary.

ANGEDOR- Golden Retrievers- Laurie Grall  
APEX- Cane Corso- Wendy Burns  
AZURE- Papillons- Kathy E. Patterson  
2BLUE BAYOU – Australian Cattle Dogs- Dawn R. Carr & Thomas N Carr  
BEAR CREEK- Giant Schnauzers – Victoria G. Kallett

BONNIE BRAE- Golden Retrievers- Susan J. Wilcox  
CRAFT-ED- Miniature Schnauzers- Julie E. Craft  
DOG LAWZ- Labrador Retrievers- Joy D. Lucero & Dave M Lucero  
ENCANTOS- Poodles- Vimarie Monge Pagan  
FOG HOWL- Border Terriers- Ivan Hudak & Carol Yarbrough  
FOREBEAR- Newfoundlands- Ivy C. Surdi  
GRAVES FARM- Mudik- Denise Graves  
GREEN GABLES- Havanese – Lisa B. Minshull & Collin W. Minshull  
GOTTA GO- Australian Cattle Dogs- Nancy L. Hansen  
KARDROVI- Siberian Huskies- Sandra Alvarez  
KNOCKOUT- Miniature American Shepherds- Matthew M. Reed & Gennefer L. Reed  
LAW DOGZ- Labrador Retrievers- Joy D. Lucero & Dave M Lucero  
PROVIDENCE- Doberman Pinschers- Tamara L. Young  
QUAIL RUN- Flat-Coated Retrievers- Amy D. Petti  
SKY BLUE- Collies- Johanna M. Lance  
SPOTLIGHT- Dalmatians- Connie M. Wagner  
SPRUCE RUN- Wire Haired Pointing Griffons- Cindy V. Grodkiewicz & Jeffrey P. Grodkiewicz  
WESTVIEW- Dalmatians – Debra Bennett



## REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted.

BRIOPANACHE- Poodles- Shanon Ryan

BYMYSIDE- Miniature American

Shepherds – Annette M. Duguay

CAPROCK-Golden Retrievers &

Shetland Sheepdogs -Jennifer Harper

CINEALTAS-Labrador Retrievers-

Samantha E. Grubbs

COMPASS- Wirehaired Vizslas- Belinda

J. Perry & Jeff M. Gowen

COVEY FLUSH- English Cocker

Spaniels- Phil D. Gray

CRYSTAL CREEK- Poodles- Bonnie M.

Winings

DUCAT American Eskimo Dogs, Golden

Retrievers & Whippets- Helen Dorrance

EMBER- Pugs- Barbara C. Johnson

GDR- Labrador Retrievers- Chris E. Hall

LOTSOFDOTS- Dalmatians- Deanna

M. Lombardo & Sean L. Lombardo

MOONSTONE- Australian Shepherds-

Alicia Campbell & Morgan Campbell

NEWBLISS- Lagotti Romagnolo-

Kimberly D. McGurk & Hugh A.

McGurk

NORTHERN SEAFOG- Nova Scotia

Duck Tolling Retrievers- Debbie L. Smith

OSDABOX- Boxers- Billie M. Samuelson

POLAR LIGHT- Great Pyrenees-

Patricia L. Schremp

PRAIRIE FIRE- Vizslas- Russell J.

McKay & Chalea R. Walters

SAGE BROOK – Australian Shepherds –

Autumn Stanley

TWERKSWERKS- Parson Russell

Terriers- Denise M. Tschida

UTOPIA- Dalmatians -Willo Carter

WILLOWLAKE- Australian Shepherds-

Heather Smith

WISE'S – Chihuahuas- Gale L. Wise



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC.  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS  
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVE-  
NUE, NEW YORK, NY  
AUGUST 7-8, 2023

The Board convened on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

All Directors were present in the New York Office except for Dr. Tom Davies who participated via video conference call. The Executive Secretary was also present.

Copies of the July 10-11, 2023, Board Meeting minutes had been previously provided to all Directors for review.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the July 2023 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Sprung updated the Board on several business matters as well as on past action items.

Registration - litters remain 2% above budget while individual registration is below by 14%. Revenue remains at budget.

Events and Entries are both positive, with a 6% increase in events and a 3% increase in entries.

Last week AKC Staff had a two-hour videoconference with The Royal Kennel Club's IT and Customer Service management to exchange ideas and best practices. In the July issue of the *Kennel Gazette*, the flagship publication of The Royal Kennel Club, the AKC Board Resolution that was sent in honor of their 150th Anniversary was published.

Also, last week was Mr. Sprung's quarterly affiliate meeting, and for the first time Dr. Stephanie Montgomery joined us on behalf of AKC CHF.

Economic Impact – AKC's most recent work to quantify the economic impact of AKC events resulted in a projection of \$2.723 billion annually nationwide. If we included the estimated value of other AKC generated business, that would be an additional \$3.835 billion.

## **Legal Update**

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of July 2023.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **FINANCE**

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented preliminary financial statements (unaudited) as of June 30, 2023.

### Unaudited Financial Results for the 6 months ended June 30, 2023

Net Operating Income is \$7.8 million.

#### **REVENUES:**

Total Revenues of \$53.2 million are lower than budget by <1%, excluding Interest & Dividends.

Registration Fees excluding Registration related revenues, total \$20.1 million, and trail budget by 1%.

Registration-related Revenues exceeded budget by \$236k or 3%.

Recording & Event Service fees, Title Recognition, and Event Application fees total \$8.5 million and are higher than budget by 4%.

Product & Service Sales total \$6.2 million

are lower than budget by 8%.

Advertising, Sponsorship, and Royalties total \$9.5 million are lower than budget by 2%.

#### **EXPENSES:**

Controllable Expenses total \$39.8 million and are lower than budget by \$3.5 million or 8%.

Non-Controllable expenses are higher than budget by \$138k or 3%.

### Non-Financial Statistics for the 6 months ended June 30, 2023

Registrations: 2023 YTD Litter

Registrations are 3% ahead of budget, and 7% lower than 2022 YTD. 2023 YTD Dog Registrations are trailing the budget by 7% and are 14% lower than 2022 YTD.

### Events & Entries

Compared to the same period in 2022, Events & Entries were up by 6% and 3% respectively.

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary and Brandi Hunter Munden, Vice President of Public Relations and Communications participated in this portion of the meeting. Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President of Sports Services; Sheila Goffe, Vice



President of Government Relations; and Ashley Jacot, Director of Education participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

## **Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article XII, Section 1**

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend the wording in Section 1 of Article XII to make the complaint process easier and uniform for all individuals by removing the requirement of an oath and replacing it with an affirmation.

At its July meeting the Board was in favor of additional changes to the wording submitted by the Bylaws Committee and asked staff to bring back its suggestions.

The Staff revised recommendation follows:

**ARTICLE XII, SECTION 1.** Any club or association or person or persons interested in purebred dogs may make a complaint against any other club or association or person or persons for conduct alleged to have been prejudicial to the best interests of purebred dogs, purebred dog events or the AKC, which complaint shall be made in writing setting forth the circumstances. The complaint shall be verified by the complainant stating that the complainant has read the complaint, has knowledge

of the facts stated in the complaint, and affirms and verifies under penalty of perjury that the complaint is true and correct. The complaint shall then be sent to the AKC, (ATTENTION: Executive Secretary) with a deposit, the amount to be established annually by the Board of Directors. The deposit shall become the property of the AKC if the Board of Directors does not exercise jurisdiction; or in the event the Board of Directors exercises jurisdiction and the complaint is not sustained to any extent. The deposit will be returned if the Board of Directors exercises jurisdiction and the complaint is sustained to any extent.

The Board of Directors has the authority to determine whether the AKC shall exercise jurisdiction.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the Staff's suggested wording and to send it back to the Bylaws Committee for its consideration.

## **American Bolognese Club – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board of Directors approved the Bolognese to be eligible for recording in the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) program with a Toy designation in 1999.

The ABC has met the requirements of the Recognition of New Breeds Board Policy approved in February 2017.

Requirements include an active Parent Club, with serious and expanding breeding activity over a wide geographic area, and documented club activity.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the Bolognese to advance to the Miscellaneous Class effective June 26, 2024.

### **German Spitz – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board of Directors approved the German Spitz to be eligible for recording in the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) program with a Non-Sporting Group designation in 1996. The German Spitz Club of America has met the requirements of the Recognition of New Breeds Board Policy approved in February 2017. Requirements include an active Parent Club, with serious and expanding breeding activity over a wide geographic area, and documented club activity.

The membership of the German Spitz Club of America voted favorably by 99% to submit a request for the German Spitz be approved to move into the

Miscellaneous Class.

Sport Services Staff recommends that the German Spitz be approved to advance to the Miscellaneous Class effective June 26, 2024.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **AKC Communications Q2 2023 Report**

Clips Evaluated in Q2: 5,946 (+26% from 4,684 in 2022)

Q2 Estimated Audience Reached: 7,983,532,381 (+30% from 6,127,083,376 in 2022)

### **Media Coverage Highlights Resulting from Proactive Pitches:**

Date	Media Outlet	Subject
4/16	<i>Great Pet Care</i>	Dr. Klein expertise
4/28	<i>The Healthy</i>	Dr. Klein expertise
4/28	<i>Modern Dog</i>	Gina DiNardo expertise
5/9	<i>SB Nation</i>	AKC Diving Dog Challenge
6/7	<i>The New York Times</i>	AKC expertise regarding air quality
6/28	<i>The Gazette</i>	500th Adopt A K9 Cop grant

### **2023 Q2 Highlights**

- 8.62% increase in media relations and press coverage in Mandarin language and Spanish language publications.
- Consistent increase in the media visibility of experts including Dr. Klein,

Dr. Burch and Tom Sharp.

- Sentiment over time – AKC maintained a 96.4% positivity rating.
- Aggressive PR Campaigns for ACE Awards, Heat Stroke, and Adopt a K9 Cop 2023.

- Borzoi
- Bracco Italiano
- German Shorthaired Pointer

## **AKC Education Q2 2023 Review**

### **Online Education**

#### ***Breed-Specific and Breeder Courses and Exams***

A total of 64 breed-specific courses and 27 breeder courses, webinars, and exams are now available on Canine College. In Q2, three courses were completed and launched, three courses are under final Parent Club review, and seven breed courses are under development.

Breed-Specific Courses Launched for the Golden Retriever, Lhasa Apso and Shih Tzu.

Breed-Specific Courses under Parent Club Committee Review are:

- Pembroke Welsh Corgi – ETA Q3
- Manchester Terrier – ETA Q4
- French Bulldog

Breed-Specific Courses in Development:

- Alaskan Malamute
- Beauceron
- Beagle
- Biewer Terrier

### **Breeder Education**

*Dog Breeding Fundamentals Course* – By streamlining multiple eLearning courses into one, AKC Canine College learners experience a more cohesive and interconnected learning journey, including a self-paced interactive game designed so they can earn digital badges, receive game points, and unlock achievements as they advance through the course. Future additions and media will be added to the course throughout 2023 and 2024.

Additional enhancements and benefits include:

- Peer discussion boards organized by topic.
- New breeder advice videos from Parent Club selected representatives.

### **New “Read with Bailey” Videos Released**

During Q2, four new “Read with Bailey” videos were released with each celebrating a different holiday (Earth Day, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Corgi Day, and Canada Day) and related resources were also provided. The videos released reached a total audience of over 1,200.



## Major Updates to the Canine Ambassador Program

### AKC Education Webinar Series

In Quarter 2 of 2023, AKC Education hosted 10 webinars for 4,347 participants, bringing the total number of participants to 62,772 since March 2020.

### Government Relations (GR) Monthly Update TOTALS:

Sheila Goffe highlighted priority legislative issues that AKC Government Relations (GR) is actively working on and a status update on current department initiatives, major projects, and legislative successes. She noted that additional information is available on the AKC legislative action center microsite: [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org).

### YEAR TO DATE 2023 UPDATE (AS OF JULY 17, 2023)

Legislative/Regulatory Tracking: As of July 17, 2023, Congress and legislatures in 11 states are in session. Three are in special session. Legislatures in 36 states have already met and adjourned.

The AKC GR team has been monitoring more than 1,400 legislative bills this year that could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the sport and The American

Kennel Club.

To date, we have published 199 legislative alerts online and via geo-targeted emails to impacted constituents and social media. This number is consistent with 2022 (189 were published in the same period last year).

GR is also monitoring approximately 835 actively pending proposed regulations (administrative or implementing changes) at the state and federal level.

AKC GR also tracks administrative (implementing) regulations and rule changes. Through the second quarter of 2022, AKC GR monitored a total of 834 active regulatory proposals: 115 from the federal government and 719 at the state level. The most common type of regulations impacting dogs and AKC events continues to be changes in hunting/land use policy.

The most common categories of regulatory proposals impacting dog ownership in Q2:

- Hunting/Land Use (266)
- Veterinary (124)
- Other (112)
- COVID-19 impacts (78)
- Breeder Regulations and Restrictions (64)
- Dogs in Public (60)

Other Project and Program Highlights  
New Legislative Advocacy and  
Educational Resources. AKC GR works  
to continuously update, improve and  
create new high quality advocacy con-  
tent to educate and empower the public,  
dog enthusiasts, and lawmakers. All of  
these materials are available in the AKC  
Legislative Action Center, [www.akcgr.org](http://www.akcgr.org).

Legislative Seminars and Training  
Events. Staff presented a number of  
webinars and in-person seminars on  
legislative advocacy and strategy plan-  
ning. This includes hosting state feder-  
ation meetings and strategy meetings,  
as well as advocacy presentations for:  
Austin Kennel Club, the Connecticut  
Federation of dog clubs and responsible  
dog owners, Doberman Pinscher Club of  
America, The Doberman Pinscher club  
of Dallas, The New Jersey Federation  
of Dog Clubs (full-day seminar), The  
Florida Association of Kennel Clubs,  
the Massachusetts Federation of Dog  
Clubs, Travis County KC, and Virginia  
Federation of Dog Clubs.

## **MARKETING**

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President of  
Marketing, participated in this portion of  
the meeting.

Brand Positioning Statement Final Update  
During a January board meeting discus-  
sion of brand awareness planned and  
potential programs for 2023, the group  
discussed the need for an aligned internal  
AKC brand positioning statement.

Since then, the following milestones have  
been accomplished:

- January – cross-functional team of  
AKC Staff developed multiple brand  
positioning statements.
- February – AKC Staff presented  
brand positioning statements to the  
Board and refined them based on  
feedback.
- March – Marketing conducted a con-  
joint study (consumer research) to  
determine the best combination of  
“point of difference” and “end bene-  
fit” within the brand positioning state-  
ment
- April – Marketing presented findings  
from the conjoint study to the Board.
- May-June – Marketing conducted addi-  
tional research study (concept test) to  
evaluate full brand positioning state-  
ments (including point of difference,  
end benefit and reasons to believe).

The Board reviewed the three (3) concept  
statements that were tested, and there was  
agreement with Staff on which will be used  
going forward as an internal guide when

developing a marketing strategy, communications, and value proposition. Further, the Board asked the Marketing Department to review the current Brand Position Statements to determine if they need updating.

## **Marketing – Q2 Digital Performance**

The Board reviewed a memo summarizing the Q2 2023 performance for AKC.org, AKC Marketplace, and Shop.akc.org.

[AKC.org](#) continues to retain a portion of the gains realized during the pandemic with all measures of Q2 2023 traffic above pre-pandemic levels of Q2 2019.

## **Marketplace.akc.org**

Marketplace traffic, stabilized in 2022 and is growing in 2023 versus 2022.

## **Q2 2023 Report – Marketing Social Media**

Highlights of our social media strategy in Q2 2023 included promotion of the AKC National Agility Championship, AKC National Obedience Championship, AKC Rally National Championship, AKC Diving Dogs Challenge on ESPN, AKC Disc Dog Challenge on ESPN, early summer safety/grooming, and Westminster Kennel Club's show.

## **Total Social followers:**

Total\*: 5,168,767 followers

6.7% total follower increase YOY

1.5% total follower increase vs. Q1 2023

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **CONFORMATION**

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

## **Limited Number of Events Policy – Limited Breed Shows**

The Board continued with its discussion of a request, originally submitted by the Big Apple Working Group Club to modify the Limited Number of Events Policy to allow all limited-breed clubs to hold up to four Conformation dog shows in a calendar year. Staff suggests modifying the allowance for limited-breed clubs in a similar fashion to the prior policy for specialty clubs such that limited-breed clubs would be permitted to hold two shows or two days of shows in a calendar year. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, there was a VOTE



to approve the Staff recommendation to modify the *Limited Number of Events Policy* to allow limited-breed clubs to hold up to four shows in two days per calendar year. The Motion failed with 5 in favor, 7 opposed and 1 abstention. (In favor: Davies, Garvin, Hamblin, Powers, Wallin. Opposed: Battaglia, Biddle, Knight, McAteer, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro. Abstained: Carota)

There was a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Ms. Biddle to modify the Limited Number of Events Policy to allow limited-breed clubs to hold up to four shows in three days per calendar year; with the exception of limited-breed clubs in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico who may hold up to four shows on up to four days, and limited breed clubs assigned isolated status may hold up to four shows on no more than three days. The motion passed with 11 in favor and 2 against. (In favor: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, Hamblin, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin. Opposed: Davies and Garvin)

The policy is effective January 1, 2024.

### **Catalogs - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 12, Sections 1 & 4**

Pursuant to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* (“Rules”), **Chapter 12, Section**

**1 and Chapter 12, Section 4**, dog show catalogs must publish the names and addresses of the owners for all dogs entered. This Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to modify the Rules removing the requirement to publish the owner’s complete address and replace it with the publication of the name, city, and state of the owners for all dogs entered.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **Junior Showmanship Regulations - Junior Showmanship Judging Guidelines**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to revise the *Regulations for Junior Showmanship, Guidelines for Judging Juniors in Conformation* to clarify and specifically state that dogs with breed disqualifications may be shown in Junior Showmanship competition.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

### **Sweepstakes Age Limit**

Currently, The AKC Show Manual restricts sweepstakes to dogs less than 18 months old. The Staff recommends updating the guideline to allow dogs less than 24 months old to compete in sweepstakes.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

## **Dog on Dog Attacks**

At the May 2023 Board meeting, Staff was directed to “Look at dog on dog attacks and clarify so that even without damage the action is addressed.” The Staff provided a summary of the applicable rules and policies related to dog aggression at AKC events and the history of most recent effort to modify current rules. It was the decision of the Board to forward the question to the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee for its feedback on how this should be addressed. Some options include an amendment to **Chapter 11, Section 8-A** of the Rules or an alternative whereas multiple incidents addressed by Event Committees by a dog would cumulatively result in a dog being disqualified.

The Board adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

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The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, August 8, at 8:37 a.m. All Directors were present in the New York office, except for Dr. Davies who participated via video conference call. The Executive Secretary was also present.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **Parent Club Permission**

There was a memo presented and discussion of the long-standing rule which requires local specialty clubs to obtain permission from the breeds Parent Club prior to holding a show.

The rule also provides a process for appeal if the Parent Club unreasonably denies permission.

No Board action emanated from this Memo.

## **Review of Composition of Division 4 for the Points Schedule**

Based on a request from Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Staff provided the Board with background information about Division 4, which is composed of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina, in the Conformation points schedule.

AKC periodically reviews the composition of the points schedule division to determine if changes should be recommended. Guidelines used when reviewing the composition of the divisions include the number and size of all-breed shows in each state as well as geography. The

most recent review and realignment of the points schedule divisions was implemented in the points schedule that became effective in May of 2018. Division 4 has been composed of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina since 2012.

Both Florida and Georgia have experienced an increase in the number of larger shows and the average number of entries for their all-breed shows. The average number of entries at All-Breed shows

in Georgia is greater than the shows in Florida. There was a discussion about removing Florida from the point schedule and making it its own division. The data does not support such a change. In fact, removing Florida from Division 4 and making it its own division would actually cause the points schedule for the remaining states in Division 4 to go up.

No Board action emanated from this Memo.

### 2019 – Number of All-Breed Shows by Entry Size

	2000+	1500-1999	1000-1499	LT1000	Total
FL	0	9	24	33	66
GA	1	2	18	5	26
SC	3	1	2	4	10

### 2022 – Number of All-Breed Shows by Entry Size

	2000+	1500-1999	1000-1499	LT1000	Total
FL	6	8	36	29	79
GA	2	8	12	4	26
SC	2	2	2	4	10

### 2022 vs. 2019 Difference

	2000+	1500-1999	1000-1499	LT1000	Total
FL	6	-1	12	-4	13
GA	1	6	-6	-1	0
SC	-1	1	0	0	0

### 2019 vs. 2022 Entry Comparison

	2019	2019 Avg	2022	2022 Avg	2022 vs. 2019 Change in Size
FL	67,565	1,024	93,726	1,186	+162
GA	32,772	1,260	36,247	1,394	+134
SC	13,019	1,302	13,063	1,306	+4
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,356</b>	<b>1,111</b>	<b>143,036</b>	<b>1,244</b>	

## **Westminster Banners & Signs**

AKC continues to work with Westminster Kennel Club to add appropriate AKC signage to the televised group and Best in Show ring.

## **COMPANION and PERFORMANCE**

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

## **\$3.50 Recording/Service Fee for all Entries**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to adopt a consistent recording/service fee of \$3.50 per entry across all sports. Currently all Performance Events are \$3.50 per entry while Conformation and Companion Events are \$3.50 for the first entry and \$3.00 for all subsequent entries of a dog at the same event.

The change would result in consistency across all sports. Since July 1, 2013, all Performance Events have had a \$3.50 fee for every entry of a dog in the event. If the \$3.50 fee implemented in 2008 for Conformation was adjusted for inflation, it would be \$4.76 today.

This will be discussed further at the

October Board meeting.

## **Catalog Class Order – Obedience**

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to modify the Obedience Regulations to state that the Regular and Preferred Open and Utility class entries may be listed together in the catalog, the same as they are in the judging program and judge's book.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

## **Employee Participation in AKC Sports**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to amend the Employee Participation in AKC Sports policy to allow part-time employees to participate in the AKC's Sports.

There was a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Battaglia and it was VOTED (unanimously) to consider this matter at the meeting waiving the normal notice procedures.

There was a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Mr. Powers to approve the policy change, effective immediately. The change was approved by a unanimous VOTE of the Board.



## **Awarding a Fifth Placement – Beagle Field Trials**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow judges to award a fifth placement rather than an NBQ designation for the next best qualified hound per class in beagle field trials except brace trials. This placement would award 1/5 of a champion point for each starter (minimum six required) which would be applied towards a Field Champion title. The Beagle Advisory Committee voted unanimously for this change.

This is a change to the AKC Beagle Field Trial Rules. If approved by the Board, this addition would be read at the December 2023 Delegate Meeting to be voted on in March 2024. Once approved, this would become effective May 1, 2024.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

## **Remove 30 Day Restriction – Beagle Field Trials**

The Board reviewed a recommendation to remove a 30-day waiting period that restricts a Beagle Field Trial Club from holding their second trial in the same year.

Currently, Beagle Field Trial Clubs can

hold a maximum of two trials per year and are required to space trials out a minimum of 30 days. The 30-day restriction has been in the regulations for over 20 years and was originally intended to spread trials throughout the calendar.

At the recent Beagle Advisory Committee meeting, a vote was conducted with the majority in favor ten to one. Almost all members of the committee believed this change would improve participation at events and make it easier for clubs to plan trials. This would also allow clubs to work together and take advantage of hosting back-to-back trials if desired.

This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

## **Parent Club Beagle Hunt Test Titles – Title Recognition**

The Board reviewed a request from the National Beagle Club of America to offer two Beagle Hunting Test titles. The National Beagle Club of America has taken the initiative to develop a Beagle Hunt Test Program in hopes of encouraging more beagle owners to work with their Beagles in the field. The Parent Club recognizes there has been no dual champion Beagles in over 20 years.

The Parent Club is requesting AKC rec-

ognize two titles under the Parent Club Title Recognition Program – 1) Hunting Beagle Novice (HBN) and 2) Hunting Beagle Advanced (HBA). A Hunt Test evaluates a dog's abilities against a standard of performance. It is a pass/fail event, there are no placements.

The Board reviewed the recommendation, and it will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **Existing Retriever, Spaniel & Pointing Breed Clubs Becoming Licensed for the Other Type of Field Event**

In July, the Board approved a staff recommendation to streamline the event licensing process. In that policy, there is a provision which states – existing field trial or hunting test clubs are automatically approved upon request to hold the other type of field event (either field trial or hunting test). In order to make clubs aware of this provision over time, the Performance Events Department feels it is appropriate to include the following sentence in italics in the applicable Rule or Regulation book.

The following wording is an example of what will appear in the Retriever Hunting Test Regulations –

*“Active licensed Retriever Hunting Test clubs that desire to hold Retriever Field*

*Trials should contact the Performance Events Department at [performanceclublicenses@akc.org](mailto:performanceclublicenses@akc.org) in order to become licensed for Retriever Field Trials.”*

The wording will be changed as appropriate for the sport. This sentence will be added to the Rules or Regulations pertaining to Retriever Field Trials or Hunt Tests, Spaniel Field Trials or Hunt Tests, and Pointing Breed Field Trials or Hunt Tests.

### **Meet the Breeds in the Field Video – Demonstrating Form and Function**

The MTB in the Field video was filmed in November 2022. It is an educational video that demonstrates both the form and function of the 15 most popular pointing breeds. The Parent Clubs selected their breed representatives. Karolynne McAteer and Michael Faulkner explained the major characteristics of the breeds, and then the dogs were filmed hunting and pointing birds. While interesting and educational, there are some deeper messages.

- To understand the interdependence of form and function is to understand the value of purebred dogs. This concept is the foundation of an important part of AKC's Mission – “promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function”.

- While Conformation and Field Events are usually thought of as two separate sports that are enjoyed in their own right, they are linked together in a higher purpose – the preservation and enhancement of purebred working dogs.
- When AKC was founded in 1884, its first two sports were Conformation and Field Trials. This was driven by the desire of owners/breeders to have a structured way to evaluate form and function.
- Understanding the history of these breeds allows us to appreciate that thoughtful owners and breeders have been working to enhance these dogs for hundreds of years, and we are the lucky ones that are benefiting from their work.
- Considering the breeds in the context of time serves to remind us that today we are the keepers of these treasures, and we have a responsibility to the future of our breeds.

Uses for the video include:

- Provided to all Pointing Breed Field Trials and Pointing Breed Hunting Test clubs to be shown at club meetings and outdoor expos where the club has a booth.
- Posted in Canine College. Judges Operations has informed all judges of

its availability for their education. It has been viewed 2,700 times.

- Posted on the AKC.TV website.
- Provided to Dr. Marty Greer for use in continuing education classes for veterinarians.
- Government Relations will use the video when appropriate at legislative sportsmen caucuses.
- It was shown to AKC employees for their education at the May 2023 Employee Roundtable.

The Board viewed an abbreviated version of the video that featured 6 breeds. This version will also be shown at the September 2023 Delegate Meeting.

## **COMPLIANCE**

Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance; Jessica Lopez, Compliance Specialist and Marcus Bach, Director of Investigations & Inspections, participated in this meeting portion via video conference.

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

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

## **CLUBS**

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

## **MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED ADDING JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP**

Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno, Fresno, CA (1949)

## **REPORT ON MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY**

Carolina Working Group Association, greater Charlotte, NC (2017)

## **REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUB APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY**

Midwest International Agility Club, Madison, WI (including communities north to DeForest, south to Platteville, west to Stitzer and east to Sun Prairie (no further east than Interstate 73), 62 total households, 14 local.

## **CONSENT**

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

## **Delegates Approved**

Rebecca Barber  
To represent Ozarks Kennel Club  
Published June 2023, July 2023

Kristen L. Burgoyne  
To represent Providence County Kennel Club  
Published June 2023, July 2023

R. Scott Dove, DVM  
To represent Scottish Deerhound Club of America  
Published July 2023, August 2023

Debbie Hockaday  
To represent Gloucester Kennel Club of Virginia  
Published June 2023, July 2023

Patricia Jason  
To represent Poodle Club of America  
Published May 2023, June 2023

Pamela A. Langstein  
To represent Yorkshire Terrier Club of America  
Published June 2023, July 2023

Kate McCallum  
To represent Alaskan Malamute Club of America  
Published June 2023, July 2023



David Todd McDonald

To represent Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America

Published July 2023, August 2023

## **American Eskimo Dog Stud Book**

The American Eskimo Dog Club of America (AEDCA) has submitted a request to the Board of Directors to open the Stud Book for the Breed. The Board approved the American Eskimo Dog Club of America to ballot its membership in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws to open the Stud Book to United Kennel Club registered dogs.

## **Ballot Results**

81 Ballots were returned, 3 were determined to be invalid.

77 Ballots in Favor

1 Opposed

This meets the 2/3 approval required to Open the Stud Book.

The Board VOTED to approve the opening of the American Eskimo Dog Stud Book to United Kennel Club dogs until September 1, 2028.

## **English Cocker Spaniel Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The Board VOTED to approve the proposed revision to the Tail section of the

English Cocker Spaniel Breed Standard to include a description of an undocked tail.

## **Tail**

Tail-Docked or undocked. Set on to conform to croup. Ideally, the tail is carried horizontally and is in constant motion while the dog is in action. Under excitement, the dog may carry his tail somewhat higher, but not cocked up.

## **English Springer Spaniel Proposed Breed Standard Revision**

The English Springer Field Trial Association. (ESSFTA), has submitted proposed revisions to the breed standard, specifically to include an undocked tail. The breed standard was last revised in 1994 with an effective date of March 31, 1994. The ESSFTA submitted the results of the ballot to revise the breed standard. The Board VOTED to approve the proposed revisions to the standard as balloted by the membership of ESSFTA in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws with an effective date of November 1, 2023.

## **Beagle Bench Shows**

The Board VOTED to amend Standard Procedures for Beagle Bench Shows to create an AKC Beagle Bench Show to be

held in conjunction with Field Trials at the club's option. The purpose is to bring focus and emphasis to both form and function at the same setting. Any licensed club for Beagle Field Trials or two-couple pack events can hold a Bench Show. A Beagle Bench Show will utilize the Conformation Assessment (CA test) format that AKC has approved for the Golden Retrievers, West Highland White Terriers, and Leonbergers. This is a pass-fail test where the dog is evaluated against the major characteristics as identified in the AKC Breed Standard. The combination of three passes of the CA test and three placements in field events would result in a Bonafide Hunting Beagle (BHB) title. (See Appendix A for all changes)

Bench Show applications will be accepted on January 2, 2024 for events held after March 2024.

### **Pointing Breed Hunting Tests – Master Hunter Excellent Test**

The Board VOTED to amend the Pointing Breed Hunting Test Regulations to add a fourth testing level to the Pointing Breed Hunting Test program called the Master Hunter Excellent test. The purpose of the Master Hunter Excellent test is to recognize the most accomplished dogs in the Pointing Breed Hunt Test (PBHT) program and provide

experienced owners with an additional activity to strive toward.

An initial licensed MHX test will be held this November to evaluate the format and gain feedback. Clubs may start applying for the MHX test in January 2024 for events to be held after March 1, 2024. (See Appendix B for all changes)

### **Czechoslovakian Vlcak Club of America – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board VOTED to approve the request from the Czechoslovakian Vlcak Club of America to move the Czechoslovakian Vlcak into the Miscellaneous Class effective June 26, 2024.

### **Pyrenean Mastiff Association of America – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board VOTED to approve the request from the Pyrenean Mastiff Association of America (PMAoA) to move the Pyrenean Mastiff into the Miscellaneous Class, effective June 26, 2024.

### **Yakutian Laika Club of America – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous**

The Board VOTED to approve the

request from the Yakutian Laika Club of America (YLCA) to move the Yakutian Laika into the Miscellaneous Class effective June 26, 2024.

## **AKC Agility League Regulations Revisions**

The Board VOTED to approve updates to the Agility League Regulations to (1) provide clarification and align nomenclature across the document and (2) update the scoring calculations. (See Appendix C for all revisions).

These regulation changes go into effect for the Fall 2023 AKC Agility League Season.

## **Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article XIII, Section 2**

The Board VOTED to approve a proposal amendment from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend the wording in Section 2 of Article XIII to add clarity to the Trial Board process and bring it in line with current practices.

SECTION 2. When charges have been filed and referred to a Trial Board, a notice which shall state that such charges have been filed and a copy of the charges shall be sent to the club or association, or person or persons against which or whom said charges have been preferred which club or association, or person or

persons herein shall be known as and called the defendant. The club or association or person or persons which or who shall have filed the complaint leading to the charges shall be known and called the complainant.

Such notice shall state that the defendant may attend the hearing and present a defense or written answer and may be represented by counsel and that the time and place of a hearing shall be determined by the Trial Board Chair in consultation with the parties. If the complainant shall fail or refuse to cooperate with the AKC in the prosecution of said charges, without giving reasonable excuse for such failure or refusal, the AKC or the Trial Board presiding may suspend said complainant for a period of six months or until such time as the party is prepared to cooperate with the AKC. Appeals to such suspensions shall be to the Appeals Trial Board.

If the complainant shall fail or refuse to cooperate with the AKC, the defendant may submit a written request to the Trial Board to dismiss the charges. The Trial Board shall permit the AKC to submit a written response to the defendant's request to dismiss the charges or the AKC may proceed to a hearing without the complainant's testimony. The Trial

Board shall issue a determination based on the defendant's written request to dismiss and the AKC's response.

If the defendant shall fail to appear at the hearing, without giving reasonable excuse for such failure or refusal, the complainant's evidence may be heard and the defendant's written answer, if any, will be considered. The record of the hearing shall also include a statement by the Trial Board Chair of any conversations with the defendant concerning the failure or refusal to appear. In such cases, the Trial Board may make a finding. The Trial Board may also suspend the defendant for six months or until the party is prepared to present a defense.

This will be read at the September Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the December Delegate Meeting.

### **Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article XIII, Section 7**

The Board VOTED to approve a Bylaws Committee proposal to remove the italics and parenthesis from the words, (*except where it is acting as the appellate body for an Event Committee appeal, where its decision is final*) in Article XIII, Section 7. This does not change the meaning of the section.

**SECTION 7.** An appeal may be taken

from any decision of a Trial Board, except where it is acting as the appellate body for an Event Committee appeal where its decision is final. Notice in writing claiming such appeal together with a deposit, the amount of which is determined annually by the AKC Board of Directors, must be sent to the AKC (ATTENTION: Executive Secretary) within thirty days after the receipt of the notice of the decision of the Trial Board. A three-member Appeals Trial Board shall hear said appeal on the record.

This will be read at the September Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the December Delegate Meeting.

### **Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article XIV, Section 1**

The Board VOTED to approve a proposal from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to amend the wording in Section 1 of Article XIV to add clarity to the Event Committee process and bring the wording more in line with current practices.

**SECTION 1.** The Event Committee of a club or association shall have the right and responsibility to suspend any person from AKC privileges for conduct prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the AKC, alleged to have occurred in connection with or during



the progress of its event, after the alleged offender has been given the opportunity to be heard. When the penalty for the offense as set forth in the guidelines authorized by the Board of Directors provides for a reprimand in certain instances, the Event Committee shall have the authority to stay the suspension of the penalty for the offense as set forth in the guidelines authorized by the Board of Directors pending a final determination by the AKC.

Notice in writing must be sent within five (5) business days by the Event Committee by certified mail to the person suspended and a duplicate notice giving the name and address of the person suspended and full details as to the reasons for the suspension and if applicable, the reasons for the stay of suspension must be forwarded to the AKC (ATTENTION: Executive Secretary) within five days.

An appeal may be taken from a decision of an Event Committee and any subsequent disciplinary action applied by the AKC. Notice in writing claiming such appeal together with a deposit, at an amount established by the AKC Board of Directors, must be sent to the AKC (ATTENTION: Executive Secretary) within thirty days after the date of the suspension. At the time the appeal is filed, the appellant may request the Trial

Board to stay any disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension, until such time as the appeal is heard and decided by the Trial Board. The decision by a Trial Board is final. The deposit shall become the property of the AKC if the decision is upheld in whole or in part or returned if not upheld.

This will be read at the September Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the December Delegate Meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. It reported out of this session that the format for the Conformation Judges Recertification Test will be revised for clarity.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 12:11 p.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned

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

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

## Appendix A

### Standard Procedures for Beagle Bench Shows – New Sections

Section 1. Purpose. A Beagle Bench Show utilizes the Conformation Assessment (CA) test format. Dogs are evaluated against major breed characteristics as identified in the AKC Breed Standard. It is a pass-fail test where the dog must score 70 or greater out of a possible 100 and score no less than 50% in each breed characteristic, in order to pass. In addition, at the discretion of the host club, the judge may be asked to select the top dogs in each class (divided by gender and size). The host club may also ask the judge to select Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, and Best of Breed. The Beagle Bench Show provides feedback to owners and breeders regarding adherence to the breed standard.

Section 2. Clubs That May Hold a Beagle Bench Show. All clubs that are licensed for Beagle Field Trials or Beagle Two-Couple Pack events are allowed to hold a Beagle Bench Show. The Bench Show is considered another stake that clubs may hold at their events. Holding a Bench Show is at the option of the club.

Section 3. Dog Eligibility. To enter a Beagle Bench Show, a dog must be registered with the AKC and be six months

of age or older on the day of the show. This includes dogs on AKC Limited Registration and dogs that are spayed or neutered.

A hound that is individually registered with a foreign or domestic registry organization whose pedigrees are acceptable for AKC registration may be entered in a show that is held not later than 30 days after the first AKC event in which the hound was entered.

A hound is not eligible to enter a show if the judge or any member of the judge's immediate family or household has owned, sold, held under lease, boarded, trained the dog for any sport, or handled the dog in any sport within one year prior to the date of the show. Immediate family is defined as husband, wife, father, son, daughter, brother, or sister.

Section 4. Structure of a Beagle Bench Show. A Bench Show can be held in conjunction with a Beagle field event or as a stand-alone event. It is expected that most will be held in conjunction with field events, therefore clubs have flexibility in how it is structure.

- Who May Enter. At the host club's discretion, Bench Shows held in conjunction with field events may only be open to dogs that enter the field event,

or they may be open to all beagles.

- **Entry.** Dogs enter the Bench Show on the morning of the day their field class is to be run.
- **Testing and Placements.** The host club can conduct the Bench Show strictly as a pass-fail Conformation Assessment Test, or the club can ask the judge to also place the top five dogs in each of the classes (divided by gender and size), and further select Winners Dog, Winners Bitch and Best of Breed.
- **No Interference with the Field Event.** The Bench Show shall not interfere with the field event to the extent possible. Clubs shall designate a location and starting / closing times for the Bench Show. Dogs that are entered in the show can present themselves singularly to the conformation judge for evaluation either before or after they have run in the field. If the judge is going to award placements, the judge will call dogs back at a designated time (at lunch time for example) in order to select the top five in each class. If the format of the event allows, the club may also ask the judge to select WD, WB and BOB.
- **Entry Fees.** The host club can charge whatever entry fee they want for the show. At the discretion of the club, there can be a different fee for dogs

that are entered in the field event and dogs that are only entered in the show.

- **Measuring.** The conformation judge shall not measure the hounds. The conformation judge must accept the measurement done by the field event judges or the AKC Measurement Card presented to the field secretary at the time of entry. Otherwise, the dog shall be placed in the same height class as it entered in the field event. If the Bench Show is a stand-alone event, the show secretary shall accept the class provided by the dog's handler.

## Section 5. Ribbons and Awards.

- Offering ribbons/rosettes to dogs that pass the Conformation Assessment Test is at the discretion of the club. If ribbons/rosettes are provided for passing the CA Test, they shall be bright green in color. Offering additional ribbons/rosettes or trophies for class placements is at the discretion of the club. If offered, they may be any color the club desires.
- Each ribbon or rosette shall be at least 2 inches wide and approximately 8 inches long and shall bear on its face the seal of The American Kennel Club, the words Bench Show, the name of the prize and the name of the event giving club. Larger ribbons/

rosettes may be provided at the discretion of the club.

- Clubs may award additional awards, such as for combined best in field and show, at their discretion.

## Section 6. Beagle Conformation

**Assessment Test.** The Conformation Assessment (CA) Test is a pass-fail conformation test where the dog is evaluated against the major characteristics of the breed as identified in the AKC breed standard. The Beagle standard lends itself to a CA test since the standard assigns weight to twelve major characteristics of the breed. To pass the test, a Beagle must –

- Not be measured at more than 15 inches at the withers by the field event judges.
- Receive a total score of 70 or more out of a possible 100.
- Not receive a score below 50% of the total possible score in any category.

Passing the Conformation Assessment Test three times under three different judges is one of the requirements for a dog to earn the Bonafide Hunting Beagle Title (see Section 9). Beagle Bench Show judges must retain the CA Test forms for one year.

**Section 7. Event Application.** Bench Shows held in conjunction with a field event will be considered a stake held at

that event. Holding a Bench show is at the option of the club. Stand-alone Bench Shows will be assigned their own event number and shall appear on the Event Search website. If a Bench Show is held as a stand-alone event, it will not count against the club's limited number of field trials or two-couple pack events.

- Bench Shows held in conjunction with AKC licensed field event – no application fee.
- Stand-alone Bench Shows - \$35 event application fee.

**Section 8. Judge Qualifications.** A list of individuals approved to judge Beagle Bench shows will be provided on the AKC website. The list will consist of the following:

- AKC Conformation Judges - Individuals who are approved AKC Beagle Conformation Judges.
- AKC Beagle Bench Show Judges - Individuals who have taken the anatomy course (free) and have passed the Beagle Breed Standard exam (\$35) that is available in AKC's Canine College. Upon successfully taking both these courses, the individual can apply to be an AKC Beagle Bench Show judge. The application is free. The Beagle Bench Show Judges Application form is posted on the AKC website.



## Section 9. Bonafide Hunting Beagle

**Title.** The AKC Bonafide Hunting Beagle (BHB) Title is awarded to Beagles that have demonstrate both proper form and function. It is a suffix title.

- To earn the BHB title, a dog must (1) pass the Beagle Conformation Assessment Test three times under three different judges, or be an AKC Show Champion, and (2) on three occasions, place first thru fourth in an AKC licensed SPO, Gundog Brace or Large Pack field trial or two-couple pack trial. No more than one placement can come from a licensed derby stake. Note: Field trial placements earned prior to the launch of the BHB title will count toward the title.
- The dog owner is responsible for maintaining the official AKC Bonafide Hunting Beagle title application form. If a dog passes the CA Test, the owner shall provide the judge the BHB title application form at the conclusion of the test. The judge records the dog's overall score, the host club, location, and date of the test.
- After a dog has meet the above criteria, a dog's owner, at their discretion, may submit the AKC Bonafide Hunting Beagle title application form to the AKC Performance Events Department along with a fee for placing the title on the dog's record. Upon

verification, a BHB title certificate is issued. The title appears on the dog's pedigree. The individual CA Test passes do not appear on the dog's AKC record.

## Section 10. Results Submitted by Club.

Recording the results of a Beagle Bench Show is structured to minimize the burden on the host club/event secretary.

- The Bench Show results submitted by the event secretary only includes the number of dogs that entered the CA Test and the name of the judge. This one line of information is included on the standard Event Secretary's Report that is submitted along with the field trial or 2CP results. No Bench Show service fee is submitted (no \$3.50 per entry).

**Section 11. Default Regulations.** Should issues arise that are not covered by these Regulations, an event committee should consult the Rules and Standard Procedures that apply for the format of the field event being held in conjunction with the Bench Show. If it is a stand-alone bench show, the Rules and Standard Procedures that apply to the club's normal field event shall apply.

## Appendix B

### Regulations for AKC Hunting Tests for Pointing Breeds – New Sections

#### Chapter 1, Section 4. **Entry**

##### **Requirements.** New second paragraph.

A dog must have previously earned the Master Hunter (MH) title to be eligible to enter the Master Hunter Excellent test.

#### Chapter 1, Section 6. **Judges' Eligibility and Approval.** New fifth bullet.

- A MHX judge must have previously judged a minimum of five MH level tests and must pass the on-line MHX judges' test. It is expected that MHX test judges will judge appropriately in order to maintain the standard of performance expected for this testing level. The Performance Events Department reserves the right to rescind an individuals' privilege to judge if, after discussions and suggestions from the Performance Events staff, a lack of correct judgement persists.

#### Chapter 2. New Section 6. **Master Hunter Excellent (MHX) Title.**

A dog must have earned the Master Hunter (MH) title to be eligible to enter

the MHX test. The MHX test is a two series test. A dog must receive a passing score in both series to pass the MHX test. Dogs with an average score of 8.0 or greater in each of the two series shall pass the MHX test.

In order to be recorded as a Master Hunter Excellent, a dog must acquire qualifying scores in three MHX tests. Upon completion of this requirement, an AKC Master Hunter Excellent (MHX) certificate will be issued. The MHX title will supersede the Master Hunter Advanced (MHA) title on a dog's pedigree.

A dog that has been recorded a MHX may continue to enter the MHX test. Each time the dog passes the MHX test after earning the MHX title, the dog is eligible to earn the MHX# title. The number (#) indicates the number of time the dog has passed the MHX test starting with the number 4. The MHX# title is issued upon the request of the owner by submitting a MHX title application form. Typically an owner will apply for the MHX# title at the time the dog is retired or prior to being bred so the title appears on the dog's pedigree.

A dog that passes the MHX test will receive two passes toward its Master Hunter Lifetime Achievement (MH#) title.

A dog that has earned the MHX title may continue to enter lower level tests.

No further JH, SH or MH certificates will be issued.

## Chapter 4. New Section 13. **Format of the Master Hunter Excellent Test.**

1. The MH Excellent Test is a two series test. A dog must receive a passing score in both series to pass the MHX test.

Dogs that do not pass series #1 may run in series #2 but shall not pass the MHX test.

2. Clubs may hold the MHX test over two days (the equivalent of one MH test per day) or they may hold one MH test in the morning and one in the afternoon depending on the number of entries, the weather, and how the MHX test fits into the club's overall event schedule. If a club chooses to run the MHX test over two days, then all dogs must run once in each day. If the club chooses to run the MHX test in one day, then all dogs must run twice in that day.

3. Clubs may limit the entry in the MHX test but in no case shall the limit be less than 20 entries.

4. Handlers are not required to carry and shoulder a long-barreled gun in the MHX test.

5. The MHX test consists of two 30-minute series which may be held with or without a bird field. The back course must be of logical hunting cover and the course shall not cover the same ground twice. If held with a bird field, the grounds must allow a minimum of a 22-minute back course prior to entering the bird field. This is a minimum of a one mile back course. MHX grounds must be approved by the AKC Performance Events Department. If time in the back course takes longer than 22 minutes, the dog shall still be allowed 8 minutes in the bird field.

6. Clubs with approved grounds may hold two MHX tests per calendar year. The MHX test may be a stand-alone test if the club desires. If it is held as a stand-alone test, it will not count as one of the club's normal number of tests.

7. If a bird field is used, a minimum of three birds (three separate locations) shall be released in the back course prior to the first brace. After the first brace, a minimum of one bird shall be released in the back course prior to every brace.

In the bird field, a club shall release a minimum of three birds per brace. For the first brace, extra birds shall be released in the bird field.

If no bird field is used, a minimum of six

birds shall be released on course prior to the first brace. After the first brace, a minimum of three birds shall be released prior to every brace.

As the event proceeds, clubs should monitor the amount of bird work. The number of birds may need to be increased or decreased depending on conditions in order to provide every dog a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate its bird work without providing so many birds that a dog's hunting ability cannot be properly evaluated.

## Guidelines for Pointing Breed Hunting Tests. New Part III. **Master Hunter Excellent Test Categories.**

### Introduction

The purpose of the MHX test is to recognize the most accomplished dogs in the Pointing Breed Hunting Test program. The MHX dog is expected to consistently give a finished performance. The MHX test consists of two series, and a dog demonstrates its consistency by passing both series in order to pass the MHX test.

There is a slight shift in emphasis compared to the Master Hunter. There is greater emphasis placed on the dog's hunting ability – its desire and intelligence. A MHX dog's manners around birds should be held to the highest stan-

dards. When evaluating handling for a MHX dog, the handler sets the general direction (course) and the dog should use its initiative, instincts, and intelligence within the context of the course.

A MHX dog shall not pass the test due to (1) failure to find a bird, (2) interference with its brace mate, (3) being gone for more than five minutes as determined by the judge, and (4) failure to honor a clear opportunity (blinks the back).

A dog in a MHX test shall only be picked-up for interference or an extreme breach of manners that, in the judge's opinion, could interfere with its brace mates opportunity to demonstrate its abilities. An extreme breach of manners includes a dog that breaks and chases a bird. Interference can include aggression, ongoing harassment, ongoing playing, or stealing point. The judges decide what is "ongoing" given the nature of the interference.

### Scoring

The description of what is expected of the dog is often stated as the ideal performance. Judges may have the ideal performance in their mind. However, very few dogs achieve perfection. In assessing a dog's performance, faults shall be scored lower to the extent of the fault.



Scoring in the MHX test shall be done to the half point (for example 7.5). To pass the MHX test, a dog must not receive less than a 5.0 in any category and receive an overall average of 8.0 or greater in each of the tests that together make up the MHX test.

Only experienced MH level judges are allowed to judge the MHX test. MHX judges should be prepared to assign scores based on their previous judging experience. They should not worry about scoring the first couple of dogs too high out of concern that better performances might follow.

Unique situations will occur in the field. Judges need to apply their experience and common sense on how to handle these occurrences. When in doubt, a judge should consult with their judging partner. Knowledgeable judges can view a dog's performance differently. It is perfectly acceptable for judges to assign different scores. The event secretary will average the scores when presenting the results to the handler. However, judges must agree on whether or not a dog will receive an overall qualifying score.

### MHX Test Categories

MNX Scoresheet. The scoresheet for the MHX test has five scored categories.

Compared to the MH scoresheet, the MHX categories place more emphasis on a dog's hunting ability, treats trainability as a means to an end such as bird work and handling, and eliminates honoring as a scored activity.

1. **Hunting Desire** – The MHX dog shall demonstrate a keen desire to hunt, boldness, and initiative. The dog shall demonstrate its stamina by maintaining a reasonable pace during the full time under judgement. Speed shall not be considered an indicator of a dog's desire to hunt. Breeds have different ways of going and this should be a consideration when evaluating a dog's desire.

2. **Hunting Intelligence** – The MHX dog shall intelligently apply itself to the course, demonstrating a useful pattern of hunting, and using the wind and terrain to its best advantage while searching likely objectives. A MHX judge must consider and recognize the quality of the find. A dog that digs birds out of off-the-path locations shall be appreciated and given extra credit for its efforts. The number of birds found is not necessarily an indicator of a dog's hunting intelligence.

3. **Handling** – When evaluating handling for a MHX dog, the handler sets the general direction (course) and the dog should

use its initiative, instincts, and intelligence within the context of the course. A MHX dog's willingness to be handled does not necessarily equate to obedience. The judge shall take into consideration the likely cover and terrain, not being too quick to fault a dog that does not immediately respond to its handler if it is hunting likely objectives.

The MHX dog should stay reasonably to the front, and not range out-of-sight for a length of time to detract from its usefulness as a practical hunting companion. Regarding "length of time to detract," once the handler is informed that in the judge's opinion the dog is "gone," the handler has five minutes from that point to show the dog. At the end of the brace, if the clock has started due to the dog's absence, the handler shall be given the remaining time to show the show. A dog shall not pass the MHX test if it is gone for more than five minutes.

4. **Bird Work** – Bird work means the dog's manners around birds. It encompasses a number of behaviors. Style should be evaluated in terms of the dog's intensity and staunchness while on point. A high head and tail should not necessarily be considered good style. Different breeds were developed to point birds with different head/tail positions. However, in

all cases a dog should exhibit good intensity and staunchness while on point.

The handler may gently caution a MHX dog on point. Cautioning shall be quite and infrequent. No intimidation or blocking shall be permitted. Loud and excessive handling on birds shall be scored lower to the to the extent of the fault.

A MHX dog must demonstrate that it is positively steady to wing and shot on all pointed birds. If the find is not a retrieving situation, the handler must fire a blank pistol. If the bird is shot, the dog shall not be sent to retrieve until the bird is on the ground and the dog has positively demonstrated its steadiness. Faults shall be scored lower to the extent of the fault.

A MHX dog should demonstrate its ability to pinpoint birds with confidence. A dog should be scored lower if it exhibits uncertainty in locating birds, especially if this occurs repeatedly. Judges should consider if this behavior is caused by birds that are moving in front of the dog.

If a handler cannot locate the bird when a dog is pointing, the dog may be relocated on command. Relocations are evaluated as part of bird work.

A MHX dog must stop on a wild flushed

bird without being given a command to do so. The handler shall fire a blank on a stop-to-flush bird and the dog shall be heeled off before it is cast to continue its hunt.

A MHX dog shall not delay chase a flushed bird. Faults shall be scored lower to the extent of the fault.

The MHX dog shall be heeled away after its bird work is complete before it is cast to continue its hunt.

Handlers do not need to carry a long-barreled gun in the MHX test.

5. Retrieving – The perfect retrieve consists of a good mark, where the dog goes directly to the downed bird; quick pick up; brisk, direct return to the handler; with a tender delivery to hand. There should not be excessive commands on the retrieve, with consideration for the difficulty of the situation. Anything short of perfect shall be scored lower to the extent of the fault.

In the MHX test, only the first shootable bird is required to be retrieved. The handler or the judge may request additional retrieves at their discretion.

If the dog is not able to retrieve during

the 30-minute brace, retrieving shall be done in a call back situation. In the call back, a live bird must be planted, the dog must point the bird and demonstrate steadiness to wing and shot. In no case may a dead bird be thrown for the dog. Two gunners must be used whenever a dog is called back to retrieve.

Conditions such as the type of cover where the bird fell, the terrain and condition of the downed bird sometimes makes a retrieve impossible. If the judge determines the retrieve is impossible or extremely difficult, the dog shall be given another opportunity to retrieve.

Safety is of utmost importance. Everyone involved in situation where live ammunition is being used must wear blaze orange clothing. The amount of blaze orange required will be determined by the State hunting laws where the test is being held.

Honoring – Honoring is not a scored category, however, a dog that encounters its brace mate on point must honor throughout the entire flush, shot, and retrieve.

The honoring dog may be heeled off and sent on at the discretion of the judge if the pointing/retrieving dog is taking overly long. A dog that steals point shall be picked up. A dog that totally fails to honor (blinks the back) when presented

with a clear opportunity shall fail the test.

All dogs that are eligible to enter the MHX have repeatedly demonstrated their ability to honor when earning the MH title. Therefore, if a dog does not have an opportunity to honor, it shall not be penalized. This will eliminate the “please remain on point while the other dog is called over here” situation. There shall be no call backs to honor.

## **Appendix C**

### **AKC Agility League Rules and Regulations – Revisions**

#### Chapter 2

##### Section 3. Dog Skill Levels.

Dogs will be categorized according to skill level for team and individual dog rankings in the following categories:

- Senior for those with Excellent or Masters titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Sophomore for those with Open and Novice titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Freshman for those without titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Ph.D. – For all levels of dogs; courses will be International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) style, but will be judged under the League time/fault rules.

#### Chapter 2

##### Section 4. Team Skill Levels.

Teams will be categorized according to skill level for team. All dogs on a team must compete at the same skill level.

- Senior for those with Excellent or



Masters titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;

- Sophomore for those with Open and Novice titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Freshman for those without titles as of the first day of the league season in which the dog is competing and subject to verification by AKC;
- Ph.D. – For all levels of dogs; courses will be International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) style, but will be judged under the League time/fault rules.
- Handlers may elect to compete in a higher skill level. Dogs will be judged and ranked at the skill level of the team.

## Chapter 2

### Section 5. Jump Height.

Dogs may jump at:

- Regular jump height (8, 12, 16, 20, 24 or 24C inches) – See AKC Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT), Chapter 2, Section 4.
- Preferred jump height (4, 8, 12, 16 or 20 inches) – See AKC Regulations for Agility Trials and Agility Course Test (ACT), Chapter 8, Section 9.

- Veterans jump height - For dogs 10 years and older. Veteran dogs may jump up to two levels lower than their jump height (4, 8, 12, or 16 inches). Four-inches is the minimum jump height for all dogs in League competition.

## Chapter 2

### Section 6. Field Size Divisions.

In an effort to make sure all participants have the appropriate field size, there are three League divisions that will run different courses. The divisions will be based on the size of their training field or room. Team organizers must submit a ring map, showing dimensions of their competition area and that accurately shows any columns (poles) and column sizes. AKC reserves the right to reject facilities that do not meet certain specifications.

**Extended:** Those facilities that are 100 X 100 feet or greater will be classified in the Extended field size division.

**Regulation:** Those facilities that are 70 X 100 feet or greater will be classified in the Regulation field size division.

**Limited:** These facilities that are less than 70 X 100 feet, but more than 50 X 70, will be classified in the Limited field size division.

## Chapter 2

Section 7. Special Classes – Junior Handlers.

The League will offer a Juniors class for junior handlers who are younger than 18 years of age. Junior handlers will compete on teams based on their skill level (Senior, Sophomore, Freshman or Ph.D.), but will receive a separate ranking that will spotlight the top junior handlers in the program.

## Chapter 4

### Section 1. Courses.

Courses will be designed by AKC Agility Field Representatives and/or approved AKC Agility Judges. Courses will be released at the start of each two weeks of the Season, resulting in a total of six unique courses each League Season. Each course will be run only once by each team for score. Courses will vary and will include those in the style of standard, jumpers with weaves, hybrid and premier. Standard courses will not include the pause table. Teams in the Ph.D. skill level will run courses that adhere to the style of the ISC.

## Chapter 4

### Section 5. Competition Sites.

Competitions may be held at any location that the team chooses. The location may change during a season, but the Field Size Division must remain the same and field diagrams should be submitted for AKC Agility League review. Refer to Chapter

2, Section 6 for Field Size Divisions and requirements. Course areas must be moderately level and clear and set up on non-slip surfaces.

## Chapter 4

### Section 6. Course Access.

Teams may practice the courses before running for a score. In addition, clubs and schools may allow any students or members to run the courses for practice and are welcome to use the courses for classes, in addition to team League competition.

Treats and/or toys may be used when practicing the course, with the permission of the host facility and Captain. Treats and/or toys may not be used or carried on the body when a dog and handler are running the course for an AKC Agility League score.

## Chapter 4

### Section 10. Calculation of Scores.

Individual scores for each dog will be calculated based on course time, total faults, jump height, jump class (Regular, Preferred, or Veteran), and course type.

## Chapter 4

### Section 10. Calculation of Scores.

Regular and Preferred Jump Class Scoring

Score = course yardage / ((time \* jump

handicap) + faults)

## Veteran Jump Class Scoring

Score = course yardage / ((time \* jump handicap) – 2sec + faults)

## Chapter 4

### Section 10. Calculation of Scores.

Jump handicaps are based on a dog's measured/true AKC jump height, not the height at which the bar is set (with the exception of 24C).

### STD/Hybrid Handicap

8"	0.846
12"	0.915
16"	0.965
20"	1
24"	0.972
24C	0.972

### JWW Handicap

8"	0.854
12"	0.910
16"	0.924
20"	1
24"	0.985
24C	0.985

## Chapter 5

### Section 1. Team Rankings.

At the end of each two-week round, AKC will publish the rankings for the teams in each field size division and skill level, based on the average of the overall point

accumulation of each League-Registered Dog on that team.

## Chapter 5

### Section 2. Individual Dog Rankings.

At the end of each two-week round, AKC will publish the rankings for the individual League-Registered Dogs in each Skill Level, Field Size Division and jump height class. Each round's rankings report will include the placements that week, as well as the cumulative rankings for that League Season. To qualify for end-of-season awards, individual League-Registered Dogs must run in four of the six rounds of the Season.

## Chapter 5

### Section 4. Regional Awards.

The League will be a non-titling AKC program. But, at the end of each Season, a winning team may be named in each Skill Level by region and Field Size Division, and a winning individual League-Registered Dog may be named in each Skill Level by region, Field Size Division, Jump Class, and Jump Height. Teams must compete on all six courses to be eligible for the end-of-season awards. Individual League-Registered Dogs must compete in at least four of the six courses to be eligible for final season awards. Regional Awards are subject to the size of team entry.

## Chapter 5

### Section 5. National Awards.

The League will be a non-titling AKC program. But, at the end of each Season, the top teams and individual dogs will be named for the overall national results. A winning team will be named in each Skill Level by Field Size Division, and a winning individual League-Registered Dog will be named in each division by Skill Level, Field Size Division, Jump Class, and Jump Height. Teams must compete on all six courses to be eligible for the end-of-season awards. League-Registered Dogs must compete in at least four of the six courses to be eligible for final season awards.

## Chapter 5

### Section 6. Regional Championship.

The AKC may host one competition annually in each region, or combination of regions, to bring teams together for fellowship and friendly competition. The same Skill Levels and scoring system will be in place for the regional competition. Acceptable team names and shirts are encouraged. Both individual and team winners will be named in each Skill Level. A percentage, to be named at a later date, of the placing teams and dogs will advance to the National League Agility Championship. Regionals qualifying criteria will be determined by AKC on an annual basis.



# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## SPORTING GROUP



American Water Spaniel



Barbet



Boykin Spaniel



Brittany



Chesapeake Bay Retriever



Clumber Spaniel



Cocker Spaniel



Curly-Coated Retriever



English Cocker Spaniel



English Setter



English Springer Spaniel



Field Spaniel



Flat-Coated Retriever



German Shorthaired Pointer



German Wirehaired Pointer



Golden Retriever



Gordon Setter



Irish Red and White Setter



Irish Setter



Irish Water Spaniel



Labrador Retriever



Lagotto Romagnolo



Nederlandse Kooikerhondje



Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever



Pointer



Spinone Italiano



Sussex Spaniel



Vizsla



Weimaraner



Welsh Springer Spaniel



Wirehaired Pointing Griffon



Wirehaired Vizsla

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## HOUND GROUP



Afghan Hound



American English Coonhound



American Foxhound



Azawakh



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick Coonhound



Borzoi



Cirneco dell'Etna



Dachshund



English Foxhound



Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen



Greyhound



Harrier



Ibizan Hound



Irish Wolfhound



Norwegian Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott



Portuguese Podengo Pequeno



Redbone Coonhound



Rhodesian Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish Deerhound



Sloughi



Treeing Walker Coonhound



Whippet

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## WORKING GROUP



Akita



Alaskan Malamute



Anatolian Shepherd Dog



Bernese Mountain Dog



Black Russian Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



Dogue de Bordeaux



German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



Fox Terrier (Smooth)



Glen of Imaal Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Bull Terrier



Miniature Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



Parson Russell Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland White Terrier



Wire Fox Terrier



# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## TOY GROUP



Affenpinscher



Biewer Terrier



Brussels Griffon



Cavalier King Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese Crested



English Toy Spaniel



Havanese



Italian Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester Terrier (Toy)



Miniature Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

# PARENT CLUB LINKS



## HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Laekenois



Belgian Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



Entlebucher Mountain Dog



Finnish Lapphund



German Shepherd Dog



Icelandic Sheepdog



Miniature American Shepherd



Mudi



Norwegian Buhund



Old English Sheepdog



Pembroke Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Puli



Pumi



Pyrenean Shepherd



Shetland Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



Swedish Vallhund



# AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/>

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics

<http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/>

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/>