



gazette

MARCH 2023

BREEDING FOR
GOOD
HEALTH



Follow the
GAZETTE ON
Facebook!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MARCH 2023

Volume 140, Number 3

FEATURE

Breeding for
Good Health



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SECRETARY'S PAGES

MASTHEAD

Centennial Clubs:
Keeping the Past Present

UPDATES

AKC supports Healthy
Dog Importation Act of
2023

SLIDESHOW

Dogdom's Do-It-All
Photographer

RINGSIDE

New York AKC
Meet the Breeds

VIDEOS

TIMES PAST

Soft Coated Wheaten
Terrier: 50 Years in AKC

DOG PEOPLE

Dr. Elliot More

AKC PARENT CLUBS

BREED COLUMNS



Toy

Brussels Griffons
Cavalier King Charles
Spaniels
Chihuahuas
Havanese
Italian Greyhounds
Maltese
Papillons
Pekingese
Pomeranians
Shih Tzu
Toy Fox Terriers

Poodles
Schipperkes
Shiba Inu
Tibetan Spaniels
Tibetan Terriers

Herding

Bearded Collies
Belgian Malinois
Belgian Sheepdogs
Belgian Tervuren
Briards
Canaan Dogs
Cardigan Welsh Corgis
Collies
Finnish Lapphunds
Icelandic Sheepdogs
Norwegian Buhunds
Old English Sheepdogs
Pembroke Welsh Corgis
Pulik
Spanish Water Dogs
Swedish Vallhunds

Non-Sporting

American Eskimo Dogs
Bichons Frises
Boston Terriers
Bulldogs
Chinese Shar-Pei
Chow Chows
Dalmatians
French Bulldogs
Lhasa Apsos

BREED COLUMNS SCHEDULE

Sporting and Working Groups January, April, July, and October issues	Hound and Terrier Groups February, May, August, and November issues	Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding Groups March, June, September, and December issues
---	---	---

THE 2022 PURINA® PRO PLAN®

RANK	DOG'S NAME OWNER(S) NAME(S)	BREED	DOGS DEFEATED	HANDLER(S)
1	GCHP CH Fox Canyon's I Won The War At Goldshield CGCA CGCU TKN <i>A Vorbeck/A Geremia/F Cashin/S Fox/M Fox/P Payson</i>	French Bulldog	90427	Perry Payson
2	GCHP CH Crivitz Humphrey Bogart Von Diable <i>A Shaffer/J Low/W Matthews/T Skinner</i>	Standard Schnauzer	60811	Tiffany Skinner
3	GCHS CH Ringo Star Of Nevskogo Hobbita <i>P Caldwell/R Caldwell</i>	English Toy Spaniel (B&PC)	59799	Christopher Keith
4	GCHS CH Flessner's Toot My Own Horn <i>M Bettis/B Flessner/C Flessner/H Buehner</i>	Bloodhound	59615	Heather Buehner
5	GCHP CH Gem-N-I River Of Unloved CGC <i>R Waits</i>	German Shepherd Dog	53676	Lenny Brown
6	GCHG CH Hi-Kel Terrydale Nanhall Mizzconceived <i>M Woodbridge/K J Anthony/A Cukier</i>	Lakeland Terrier	53392	Ariel Cukier
7	GCHP CH Sunlit's King Of Queens <i>A Morrison Jones/T Richardson/J Souza-Bartlett</i>	Afghan Hound	51917	Alicia Morrison-Jones
8	GCHG CH Goodspice Efbe Money Stache <i>M Good/F Bergeron/S Middlebrooks/E Bennett/L Spiegel</i>	Sealyham Terrier	48280	Margery Good
9	GCHG CH Bluecrush Freedom And Whiskey! <i>E Hart Hansen</i>	Kerry Blue Terrier	45639	Blake Hansen
10	GCHS CH Poole's Ide Sargeant Sloane CD RN MX MXJ MXF <i>S O'Reilly/G Siner</i>	Irish Water Spaniel	42272	Joanne Thibault
11	GCHG CH Hallmark Jolei Out Of This World <i>L Ehricht/D Ehricht/B Miller/S Carter</i>	Shih Tzu	38689	Luke Ehricht
12	GCHP CH Kolmar's & Los Feliz The Man Of Steel <i>A Stevenson/N Brown/L Soars/G Brown</i>	Havanese	38378	Tara Martin Rowell
13	GCHG CH Alcher Tmac Witchcraft V Gentry <i>C Green/T MacKenzie</i>	Doberman Pinscher	38146	Diego Garcia
14	GCHP CH Northbay Xsell That's A Wrap <i>B Evans</i>	Australian Shepherd	37774	Jessica Plourde
15	GCHG CH Cherokee Legend Encore <i>K Mason/N Mason/A Moulton</i>	Bulldog	33488	Dennis O'Connor
16	GCHP CH Lk Michigan I'm Yours <i>M Boomsliiter/R Boomsliiter</i>	Australian Shepherd	32908	Megan Hof
17	GCHG DC Ace's Chain Reaction HXAd HXBd <i>J Reischneider/K Libertore/T Libertore/S McDaniel</i>	Bouvier des Flandres	30995	Larry Fenner
18	GCHP CH Southports Ares God Of War <i>C Sanchez/A Sanchez/D Hall/L Watson</i>	Mastiff	30847	Terry Smith
19	GCHP CH Pouch Cove's Alright Alright Alright CGC <i>K Mallinson/P Helming/D Blandina</i>	Newfoundland	29799	Karen Mammano
20	GCHS CH Brighton Hightide Valkyrie <i>A Carter/K LeFrak/M Galloway</i>	Standard Poodle	28471	Christian Manelopoulos
21	GCHG CH Wymark's Les Bijoux's Rock'N Rodz At Reverie <i>F Holt/M Coombs/B Hewlett/C Hewlett/B White</i>	Havanese	25666	David Murray
22	GCHP CH Wil-Orion's If Wishes Came True <i>J Vanderlip/B Fink/S Hatch/E Pike/J Johnson</i>	English Springer Spaniel	24578	Robin Novack
23	GCHP CH Simpatico Journey Of Thrills <i>B Rosenberg MD/J Rosenberg</i>	Weimaraner	24114	Keith Pautz
24	GCHP CH Vanderbilt 'N Printemp's Lucky Strike <i>J Elford/B Elford/M Ralsky/C Pacht-Ralsky</i>	Samoyed	23861	Laura King
25	GCHS CH Aimhi Head Dover Heels <i>A Rutherford/P Holson/B Miller</i>	Smooth Fox Terrier	23214	Amy Rutherford
26	GCHG CH Next Generation's Have Mercy MH <i>R Lewis/A Levy</i>	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	22764	Devon Kipp
27	GCH CH Monocacy Bend's Lady Of The Chase <i>T Koerber/S Nordstrom</i>	English Foxhound	22477	Adam & Katie Bernardin
28	GCHS CH Cordmaker Punchinello <i>S Huebner/L Pitts/P Kelly/B Rusz</i>	Puli	22203	Linda Pitts
29	GCHG CH Kan Trace Very Cheeky Chic <i>P Booth/S Sinkovic</i>	Lagotto Romagnolo	21888	Phil Booth
30	GCHG CH Chancellors Radioactive "Thanos V Barste" CGC <i>B Thomas</i>	Rottweiler	21844	Rich Mysliwicz
31	GCHG CH Collina D'Oro Solo Un Bacio <i>C Wisch Abraham/S Belt</i>	Spinoni Italiano	21276	Kelly Shupp
32	GCHP CH Lbk's Rebel And Proud Party Crasher <i>L Tulloch Benitez/L Benitez Leva/T Chian/J Ispas/J Branch</i>	American Staffordshire Terrier	21077	Blair Aguilard
33	GCHG CH Wishing Well Bobcat's Peace, Love & Pixie Dust <i>P Keenan/P Catterson/M Taylor/J Rich</i>	Brussels Griffon	20290	Paul Catterson

RANK	DOG'S NAME OWNER(S) NAME(S)	BREED	DOGS DEFEATED	HANDLER(S)
34	GCHP CH Topaz Wildfire For Umunhum THDN TKN <i>R McQueen/M Rusher</i>	Siberian Husky	19608	Lauren House
35	GCHG CH Delamer Suzi Sals Sushi On The Boardwalk <i>K Nuovo-Roe</i>	Schipperke	19207	Krista Nuovo-Roe
36	GCHP CH Brigadier Shamrock All Silver Stars <i>J Lee/M Lee/B Rosener</i>	Brittany	18683	Diego Garcia
37	GCHG CH Justart Majenkir Status Symbol <i>S McGraw/A Iwakiri/S Iwakiri/K Staudt-Cartabona</i>	Borzo	18263	Stuart McGraw
38	GCHS CH Clussexx On Red Alert At Stonecroft <i>S Blau</i>	Welsh Springer Spaniel	18106	Roxanne Sutton
39	GCHP CH Peabar P.S. I Love You <i>K Lynn/P Browne/M Siroka/D Brower/N Brower/L Gerstner</i>	Scottish Terrier	17921	Ania Kelly
40	GCHG CH Sunkota Casey's Off To Dublin <i>C Story</i>	Golden Retriever	17670	Kristin Lyons
41	GCHP CH Starline Windborn Classique <i>J Truitt/J Zolezzi/L Wilson-Paust</i>	Whippet	17661	Lori Wilson-Paust
42	GCHP CH Twin Creeks It Had To Be You <i>C Crown/B Beard</i>	Rottweiler	17463	Holley Eldred
43	GCHS CH Lost Heritage Knight Of Eldorado <i>C Vanover/K Lawless/S Hickman</i>	Treeing Walker Coonhound	17223	Cole Vanover
44	GCHP2 CH K'Mander Dawnglow Arnage <i>K Anderson/N Atkins/E Atkins/E Neff</i>	English Cocker Spaniel	17123	Meagan Ulfers
45	GCHP CH Clarity Reach The Sky Vjk-Myst <i>C Simpson/S Acevedo/V Nunes-Atkinson/Y Hassler-Deterding</i>	German Shorthaired Pointer	16677	Valerie Atkinson
46	GCHP CH Pramada Koradox Impossible Dream Aliti SI <i>T Childers/M Peal/T Sikora</i>	Longhaired Dachshund	16618	Caitlin Cahill
47	GCHP CH Brighton Benchmark <i>A Carter/M Lamb</i>	Standard Poodle	16612	Lindsay Gorder
48	GCHS CH Brightluck's Image At Bayleigh <i>K Bailey/M Riddoch</i>	Welsh Terrier	16011	Tracy Szaras
49	GCHP CH Aurora's Rhythm Of My Heart <i>J Mueller</i>	Saluki	15764	Julie Mueller
50	GCHG CH Bloom An Glow In The Dark TKN <i>M Mosing/A Blomquist</i>	Papillon	15644	Brian Livingston
51	GCHB CH Bugaboo's Let It Be <i>C Johnson/K Johnson/D Johnson/M Johnson/T Johnson</i>	Old English Sheepdog	15566	Taylor Johnson
52	GCHG CH Highlander's Snow Pilot <i>A Palmer/H Shimizu/B Palmer</i>	Siberian Husky	14909	Tim Terella
53	GCHS CH Starlaine Standing Ovation <i>K Kato/K Schoning/E Hopper</i>	Doberman Pinscher	14480	Andy Linton
54	GCHG CH Xeralane's Shut Up And Kiss Me <i>Xeralane Kennel/B Prato/E Takamoto</i>	Lhasa Apso	14258	Devon Kipp
55	GCHP2 CH Cerise Bonanza <i>D Cherry/H Huber/K Huber</i>	English Springer Spaniel	14227	Howard Huber, Jr.
56	GCHS CH Pinnacle Broxden Lickety Split <i>A Fitzpatrick/S Fitzpatrick/B Hairline/M Hairline/A Rodrigues/P Booth</i>	Smooth Fox Terrier	14208	Dylan Keith
57	GCHP CH Irodale's The Legend Exists <i>M Kahlo/A Kahlo</i>	Boxer	13787	Wendy Bettis
58	GCHP CH Vtop Hillside Just Another Southern Gentleman <i>J Hill/S Hill/L Rainwater</i>	Great Dane	13682	Tristen Lawrence
59	GCHG CH Bright Lights Rocyn's 24k Magic <i>K Gordon/A Hier/M Fisher/E Lima</i>	Bulldog	13617	Eduardo Paris
60	GCHP CH Cammcastle's Back To The Future TKN <i>S Roberts/P Marsh/J Roberts/S Guynn</i>	Rottweiler	13578	Erin Piercy
61	GCHG CH One Love Hashtag Not Vanilla <i>D Shindle/H Maxwell/E Hutson/P Martinez</i>	Long Coat Chihuahua	13517	Erika Lanasa
62	GCHP2 CH Far Away Black Star CGC TKI <i>L Taft</i>	Portuguese Water Dog	13410	Kimberly Calvaca
63	GCHG CH Good Fortune Good And Ready II <i>J Mauk/V Mauk</i>	Chinese Shar-Pei	13396	Clint Livingston
64	GCHB CH Monaline Unit <i>A Bark/V Pijunovic</i>	Welsh Terrier	13226	Robert Carusi
65	GCHB CH Surrey Sage <i>C Gausche</i>	Miniature Poodle	12891	Kaz Hosaka
66	GCHP CH Blueprint's Sweetgold Country Girl <i>A Andras/J Andras</i>	Golden Retriever	12414	Clint Livingston

Red number (oo) identifies dogs fed Purina® Pro Plan® brand dog food.

**Dog News Magazine Top 100 Dogs based on AKC All-Breed Competition and RBIS through 12/31/22. Purina trademarks are owned by Société des Produits Nestlé S.A.



Your Pet, Our Passion.®

TOP 100 ALL-BREED CHAMPIONS™

RANK	DOG'S NAME OWNER(S) NAME(S)	BREED	DOGS DEFEATED	HANDLER(S)
67	GCHG CH Now And Then Watermark Cruisin At Kellary A Berry/J Osterbauer	Bearded Collie	12359	Mark Bettis
68	GCHG CH Cloudpointe Ringside Gossip A McLaughlin/G Sharp/O Stensen	Norwegian Buhund	12324	Amie McLaughlin
69	GCHP CH Kazuri's All I Want For Christmas CGC TKN S Sweetman/M Kurtzner/K Kurtzner	Beagle (Over 13")	12290	Michael Kurtzner
70	GCHS CH Ne Orageux's Nudge Nudge Wink Wink T Millner/M Millner/B Weber/B Weber	Briard	12220	Joan Scott
71	GCHP CH Kp-Burtwood Who's Lookin' Now R Kenney/K Paulson	Boxer	12193	Dylan Keith
72	GCHG CH Glacier's Star Spangled C Wood/G Wood/L Durand	Wirehaired Pointing Griffon	12012	Zack Helmer
73	GCHG CH Lagniappe's From The Mountains To The Bayou H Reed/C Reed/L Mason/M Mason	Giant Schnauzer	11880	Alfonso Escobedo
74	GCHP CH Mariah's Absence Of Malice Mi Casa M Bigham/B Kimball/T Marshall	Doberman Pinscher	11816	Michael Shepherd
75	GCHG CH Tamarin Tattoo L McIngvale Brown/D Girouard	Affenpinscher	11663	Alfonso Escobedo
76	GCHS CH Abbeyrose Black Chrome M Duafala/J Anspach/P Allen/S Williams/D Peters	Welsh Terrier	11570	Leonardo Garcini
77	GCHS CH Let's Rock Xtremely Fast P Howard/J Ferrera/A Hargrave/V Swarowski/T Cassidy	Russell Terrier	11569	Gustavo Molinari
78	GCHP CH Bramver's Orohime L Block/B Block	Long Coat Chihuahua	11552	Runchana Deview
79	GCHG CH Blue Moon Pop A Razzi A Moulton/J Popovits	Australian Terrier	11507	Kellie Williams
80	GCHS CH Cobano (Avalos-Lara) R Yenchsky/E Lanasa	Xoloitzcuintli	11488	Erika Lanasa
81	GCHS CH Aspyre Cat Got Ur Tongue K Spey/T Truesdale/D Truesdale/H Spey	Pointer	11248	Ashley Oldfield
82	GCHS CH Dunkirk Just One More Time L Macedo Delgado/J Deluna/T Reese/R Winters	Pekingese	11140	Tim Reese
83	GCHG CH Barbary's Reigning Royalty CGCA TKN R Silva	Chow Chow	10954	Ralph Silva
84	GCHS CH Bagatelle Rainbow Moon R Corbett/B Charest/J Charest	Old English Sheepdog	10929	Clifford Steele
85	GCHG CH Weissenberg Champagne On Ice C Cassidy	Weimaraner	10922	Michelle Scott
86	GCHS CH Ederra's Glacier The Power Of Mo'Ne C Clegg/M Clegg/M Arechaederra	Kuvasz	10877	Caroline Clegg
87	GCHG CH Planet's Pop Star B Kaplan-Barrett/E Barrett	Dalmatian	10874	Michael Scott
88	GCHG CH Aprodombi Merez Maszat Marci P Radrany	Pumi	10838	Michelle Scott
89	GCH CH Whit's Classically Chloe R Costello/S Whitlow/R Whitlow Jr/C York	American Foxhound	10682	Diego Garcia
90	GCHG CH Carmel Sky High Stargazer M Lande/M Jacobs/C Ewer	Miniature Schnauzer	10598	Susie Olivera
91	GCHP CH Irresistible Winter Is Coming Of Danditops A Nobles/L Newcomb	Bulldog	10507	Jay Serion
92	GCHS CH Wenrick's Nightcap J Smithey/N Shaw/C Smithey	Whippet	10359	Chestie Smithey
93	GCHS CH Charteroak Tra La La Of Grandeur G Vaccaro/M Vaccaro/E Rechler	Afghan Hound	10324	Teri Tevlin
94	GCHS CH Barnstorm One Chance Fancy By Dzine D Planche/P Bernardo/L Cook/M DeMers	Tibetan Terrier	10301	Lois DeMers
95	GCHG CH Aubrey's Mama Can't Buy You Love T Sommerson-Wilcox/V Savioli/C Savioli	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	10215	Tammie Wilcox
96	GCHG CH Chyscott's The Greatest Showman W Shafer/L Shafer/K Simmons	Scottish Terrier	10178	Krissy Simmons
97	GCHG CH Felicia Gloria Yablunevi Tsvit A Mikerin/M Galperina/I Yablona	Black Russian Terrier	10144	Jason Starr
98	GCHG Fabelhaft Robobull Ferragamo M Mulchahey/J Dalton	French Bulldog	10142	Alberto Montila
99	GCHS CH Mit Ivram The Best Is Yet To Come Brian M Sage/E Oliveri	Alaskan Malamute	10114	Jeri El Dissi
100	GCHS CH Touches Judgement Call J Martenson/L Johnstone	Japanese Chin	9689	Rowan Baggenstos

ONLY ONE
BRAND FUELS
94 OF THE TOP
100*
SHOW DOGS



SEE WHY CHAMPIONS
CHOOSE PURINA PRO PLAN.

PURINA
PRO PLAN

purinaproclub.com/top100

*The handlers or owners of these champions may have received Pro Plan dog food as Purina ambassadors.

PURINA

Your Pet, Our Passion.®

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March will have an abundance of news from AKC.

This month, we will hold the AKC 2023 Agility National Championship at the Built Ford Tough Livestock Complex at Expo Square in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on March 16 to 19. A total of 1,284 dogs (comprising 96 breeds) from 47 states and three countries will descend on Tulsa to compete at the highest levels. This enthralling competition demonstrates the trust between dogs and handlers as they compete for the title of National Champion. The event is being filmed for ESPN and we will share the broadcast details with you soon.

Speaking of broadcasts, we are very excited to share with you that [AKC.tv](#), our digital channel that gives dog lovers everywhere on-demand access to dog-related programming 24/7, is now available on Plex TV, the free global streaming media platform for over 50,000 titles, movies, TV shows and more. The channel will feature a wide variety of programming including AKC's action-packed live dog events as well as their lifestyle programming with shows like "AKC Dogcenter," "Ask the Expert," and "Meet the Breeds." This is an exciting development that allows us to reach dog lovers around the world and expand our AKC brand, while providing knowledge about our cherished breeds and dog sports.

With spring on the horizon, we want to encourage clubs to add AKC Responsible

Dog Ownership Days to your events as a special attraction. AKC RDO Days celebrate the

human-canine bond. There are several ways to participate, including hosting a community event that includes activities like dog sport demos, breed parades, safety-around-dogs presentations for kids, microchip clinics and more. This important initiative allows clubs to educate the public and educate them on how to be the best dog owners possible. AKC gives RDO kits to the first 500 clubs to sign up to host RDO days.

Lastly, as a reminder to clubs, Breed Rescue Grants are available from the AKC Humane Fund. These grants are easy to apply for, and provide financial assistance to, nonprofit canine rescue groups that are taking on substantial, rescue-related expenses. These grants are used to help cover costs of veterinary care, spaying and neutering, supplies, and more. For additional information or to apply for a grant, visit [akchumanefund.org](#).

Until we meet again, have a safe and healthy March.



Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO



managing editor
BUD BOCCONE

senior editor
ARLISS PADDOCK

senior designer
KATE MCCROARY

publications director
RUSSELL BIANCA

design projects manager
CHRIS ESPIRITU

archivist-librarian
JAIMIE FRITZ

**FREE
AKC GAZETTE
SUBSCRIPTION**

**advertising & circulation
manager**

VENUS RODRIGUEZ
venus.rodriguez@akc.org
212-696-8260

Write to the editors
gazette@akc.org

.....
AKC GAZETTE (ISSN 1086-0940),
March 2023, Volume 140, No. 3,
published monthly at 101 Park
Ave., New York, NY 10178, USA,
by The American Kennel Club, Inc.
Copyright The American Kennel
Club, Inc., 2023. No portion of this
magazine may be reprinted without
permission of the publisher. AKC is
a registered trademark of The
American Kennel Club, Inc.

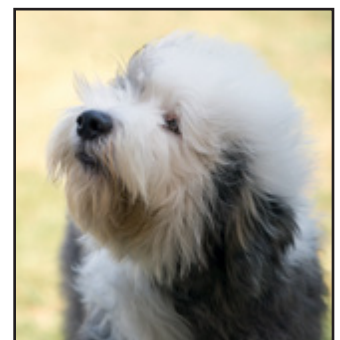


Keeping the Past Present

Founded in 1908, *Del Monte KC*, of Pebble Beach, California, is among the 107 AKC Centennial Clubs. During Hollywood's golden age, the Del Monte show was a favorite of movie stars and other show folk. (In 1936, Gary Cooper's Sealyham Terrier bitch Delia took Best in Show.) This Del Monte show photo, donated to our collection by Howell Books, came to us undated. From the looks of the clothes and hairdos, we place it sometime in the early- to mid-1960s.

In our [October 2022 issue](#) we reported the launch of the AKC Centennial Clubs program, saluting clubs that have held AKC events for at least a hundred years. As the GAZETTE is an important AKC vehicle for the preservation and promotion of our sport's history, it is a program we can really get behind. Going forward, we will from time to time shine a spotlight on our 100-year clubs and share their rich histories in these pages, on social media, and on YouTube.

[The AKC Centennial Clubs](#)



On Our Cover:
Old English
Sheepdog, photo by
David Woo ©AKC

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

AKC Supports Healthy Dog Importation Act of 2023

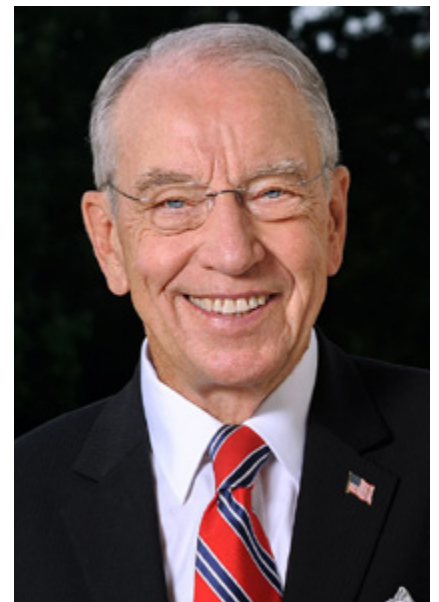
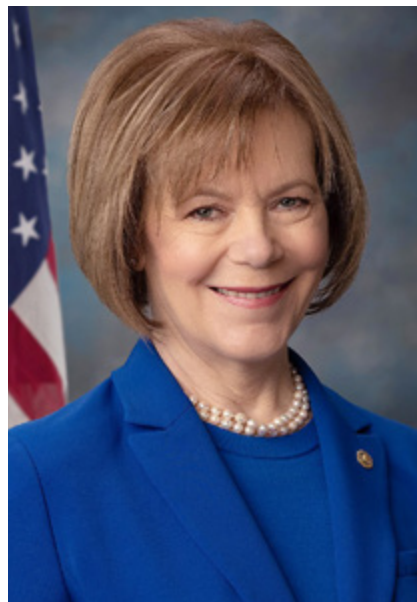
A bipartisan effort aims to protect U.S. dogs and the humans who care for them.

The AKC has been long concerned about the threat of highly contagious and zoonotic diseases such as rabies, canine influenza, and distemper, which have been carried into the country by dogs imported without basic veterinary checks or valid health certificates.

In January, similar concerns about the import of rabies alone from infected dogs led the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to renew [enhanced import requirements](#) for dogs entering the United States from countries at high risk for rabies.

Now, the AKC welcomes the introduction of the [Healthy Dog Importation Act of 2023](#) in the U.S. Senate.

In a February news release, the AKC said that “this



Senators Smith and Grassley will spearhead the bipartisan effort.

measure will go a long way to addressing concerns about recent documented incidents of unhealthy dogs being imported into the United States.” Senators Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) and Tina Smith (D-Minnesota) as lead sponsors of the bipartisan effort. Jim Risch (R-Idaho), Raphael Warnock (D-Georgia), Roger Marshall (R-Kansas),

and Kirsten Gillibrand (D-New York) were the original sponsors.

The Act would provide a long-term solution that addresses a broad range of pathogens that can enter the United States by the import of unhealthy dogs. It would not ban imports from any specific country. Instead, it would require that all dogs imported into the U.S. carry

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The U.S. demand for pet dogs is more than 8 million a year.

valid health certificates from a licensed veterinarian accredited by recognized veterinary authority, be permanently identified, and be subject to checks or inspection at the port of entry.

“Dogs are being imported into the U.S. at records rates,” AKC President Dennis Sprung says.

“Unfortunately, dogs imported without basic veterinary checks or valid health certificates are also bringing contagious and deadly zoonotic diseases such as rabies and canine influenza.”

“This poses a serious health threat to our pets and the public. The basic health certifications in the Healthy Dog Importation Act will protect the health and

well-being of every dog in our nation—and the humans who care for them.”

The AKC recognizes the National Animal Interest Alliance for their longtime leadership on the issue, and the American Veterinary Medical Association for their support of this measure.

BACKGROUND

The U.S. demand for pet dogs, without accounting for population growth, is more than 8 million dogs a year. U.S. breeders are unable to meet this demand. Instead, the CDC reports, as many as 1.25 million dogs are imported every year.

Exponential growth in the import of dogs—particularly from unregulated sources—has resulted in dogs with

non-native parasites and zoonotic diseases such as rabies, viral infections, and brucellosis being imported and passed into the general population, creating a significant threat to the health of other dogs and animals, and the humans who care for them.

Zoonotic diseases (those transmitted across species, including animal-to-human transmission, and which include a variety of viruses such as corona) pose a serious threat to U.S. public health. The CDC reports that some 75 percent of emerging diseases are zoonotic.

The AKC recognizes the value of importing breeding stock from overseas, the importance of sufficient access to detection dogs that protect public safety and security, freedom of choice in selecting a pet, and ensuring that people may travel with their pets with a minimum of disruption. However, the AKC says, “We are also concerned

UPDATES

about the increasing documented incidences of the importation of unhealthy random-source pets, particularly for transfer, where public and pet health may be inadequately protected.”

Current pet import oversight mechanisms administered by the Department of Agriculture

and U.S. Customs were established before the exponential growth in imports began and are unable to adequately check canine health upon entry or protect against the public- and animal-health threat this represents.

The AKC supports efforts to ensure that all dogs imported into the United

States are fully immunized; free of infection, parasites, and contagious diseases; and individually certified as such by a qualified veterinarian.

“We look forward to working with the Act’s sponsors to advance this important safeguard for pet and public health,” Sprung says. **GZ**



As a breeder, you are in the best position to ensure that all your puppies will have permanent identification with AKC Reunite. And with AKC registration, you can enroll any brand of microchip and save on [AKC Reunite Pet Recovery Service Protection](#) while earning [free microchips](#).

©WAVE/GETTY IMAGES

UPDATES



Calling All Clubs:

We're Looking for a Few Good Dogs

Nominations for the AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE) are open now through July 1. Since 2000, the ACE program has relied on AKC clubs and exhibitors as a key source of nominations. Many outstanding ACE recipients over the years have been purebreds nomi-

nated by fanciers from the AKC event community.

Awards are given in the categories of Exemplary Companion, Search and Rescue, Service, Therapy, and Uniformed Service K-9.

ACE honorees receive \$1,000 to be awarded to a pet-related charity of their choice.

Anyone, including the dog's owner or handler, may submit a nomination. Past ACE nominations are eligible for resubmission.

Pictured is the 2022 class of ACE recipients. Read their stories [here](#).

Links

[More information and nomination procedure](#)

THE ONE BOOK EVERY DOG LOVER NEEDS



The most successful dog book ever published, with over two million copies sold, **The New Complete Dog Book** is the American Kennel Club's bible of dogs, a celebration of every breed—over 200—recognized by the AKC. This volume offers readers:

- Official standard for every AKC-recognized breed
- Over 800 exceptional color photographs of adults and puppies
- Spotlight on finding well-bred puppies, sports, and activities for dogs and owners

This 22nd edition of The American Kennel Club's **The New Complete Dog Book** belongs in every dog lover's home, the library of every town and institution, and dog club reference section in America.

Available at **Amazon** or in the **AKC Shop** at shop.akc.org



Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier: **50 Years** *in AKC*

Ch. Andover Song and Dance Man (Harry) wins the breed at Montgomery County KC, breeder-handled by Cindy Vogels. The judge is Sandra Goose Allen. Harry won four national specialties and a 1989 Westminster group, co-bred by Vogels and her mother, Jackie Gottlieb.

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

TIMES PAST

St. Patrick's Day Special: In 1973, Holmenocks Gramachree, CD, became the first of his breed in the AKC Stud Book. This month, we salute the Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier and the breed's loyal fanciers for 50 rollicking years in AKC.

The following is excerpted from a May 1998 feature story by Cindy Vogels. By the time of this writing, Vogels had already spent 30 years in the breed.

Structurally, the Wheaten is uncomplicated. It is medium in size and square in outline. A long-legged terrier, the Wheaten should stand up

on leg. To create a square outline, the length of leg and the length of body must be equal. The dog also must possess adequate length of neck and head to make a

pleasing picture. Although the word *elegant* isn't in the standard, the harmony of proportions in a medium-size, medium-boned dog creates a balance easily



"The length of leg and the length of body must be equal."

Lynda Bean

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

TIMES PAST



“A bundle of terrier exuberance”

described that way.

[Among the Irish terrier breeds] the Wheaten is most like its cousin the Kerry Blue; structural differences between the two are subtle. ... Wheatens should move freely on a loose lead and cover ground with little effort. “Gait,” reads the standard, “is free, graceful, and lively with

good reach in front and strong drive behind. Front and rear feet turn neither in nor out. Dogs who fail to keep their tails erect when moving should be severely penalized.”

The Wheaten is dependent and sensitive, preferring human companionship to that of other dogs. For this reason,

Wheatens make poor kennel dogs. According to the standard, Wheatens “exhibit less aggression than is sometimes encouraged in other terriers.” Although this may be true, care must still be taken when they are around other dogs, particularly of the same sex. “The Wheaten is no powder-puff,” says veteran breeder Jackie Gottlieb. “People are attracted to the breed because they look like cuddly, stuffed toys, and think they will behave as such. But they soon find out that they have acquired a bundle of terrier exuberance. Whether you leave them for five minutes or five years, when you return you’ll get 40 pounds of ‘Wheaten greetin’ ”

The breed should retain its outline when viewed from the side, although proper shoulder assembly will allow for a more forward, rather than high, head carriage. Sound movement coming and going is important, but proper side gait is of the utmost importance.—C.V.

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

NEW for AKC Breeders Breeding Coverage



Every Dog Deserves the
Pet Insurance of Champions

Insurance is underwritten and issued by Independence American Insurance Company, 6100 4th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98108). Insurance plans are PPI and is not an AKC business nor an insurer. AKC does not offer complete details, refer to www.akcpetinsurance.com/sample-policy-details. ©2022 AKC Pet Insurance.

You've spent countless hours researching and producing the perfect bloodlines. Now you can help protect them from breeding-related complications with specialized Breeding Insurance Coverage* through AKC Pet Insurance.

COVERED CONDITIONS INCLUDE:



Emergency c-section



Dystocia



Mastitis



Gestational diabetes



Pyometra



Liver failure



Eclampsia



Metritis



SCAN TO LEARN MORE
OR CONNECT WITH OUR
BREEDER SUPPORT TEAM



**PET
INSURANCE**

Underwritten by Independence American Insurance Co.

breeders@akcpetinsurance.com | 800-956-2491
www.akcpetinsurance.com/breeders

Insurance Company (rated A- "Excellent" by A.M. Best) with offices at 485 Madison Ave, NY, NY 10022 (in WA, by American Pet Insurance Company, Inc. (AKC Pet Insurance), a licensed agency (CA agency #OF27261). "AKC Pet Insurance" is a marketing name used by American Pet Insurance Company to sell insurance plans. "AKC" and its related trademarks are used by PPI under license; AKC may receive compensation from PPI. For more information, visit www.akcpetinsurance.com. *Must be added on to an Accident & Illness plan. Not available in all states. Check sample policy terms and conditions for more details. 052022AKCGAZV1

AKC Meet the Breeds, January 28 and 29

NEW YORK CITY—AKC Meet the Breeds made a triumphant return to the Jacob K. Javits Center on Saturday and Sunday, January 28 and 29. More than 24,000 New Yorkers spun the turnstiles during the weekend to get up-close and personal with purebred dog breeds, both old favorites and breeds they might never see anywhere else. In the center ring, police K-9s, service dogs, and canine athletes and entertainers kept things lively around the clock.

Thanks to the AKC club members who volunteered to introduce their breeds to the city's dog-loving and dog-curious public.



JOHN RICARD ©AKC

RINGSIDE

AKC Meet the Breeds, January 28 and 29

Photos by John Ricard ©AKC



JOHN RICARD ©AKC

RINGSIDE

AKC Meet the Breeds, January 28 and 29

Photos by John Ricard ©AKC



JOHN RICARD ©AKC



This month's slideshow pays tribute to the most versatile photographer of our sport's mid-20th century golden age. Evelyn Shafer is best known to GAZETTE readers for the thousands of pristine win shots from top shows east of the Mississippi. She was, however, also a master portraitist, whose glamour shots frequently graced our covers of the 1950s and '60s. And her field-trial action photos and show-ring candid shots are unsurpassed to this day.

Truly, Shafer did it all and did it best.

The dogs and people in the photos are identified on the slideshow's YouTube page.

*Canine Breeder Excellence
Seminar Track Summary,
November 2022*

*By Sharon M. Albright,
DVM, CCRT*



From CHF: Breeder Seminar Roundup

To provide breeders with current information specifically on reproduction topics that will help them achieve success in their breeding programs, the [AKC Canine Health Foundation](#) (CHF) and the [Theriogenology Foundation](#) (TF) sponsor Canine Breeder Excellence Seminars. Speakers are often graduates or mentors of the AKC/AKCCHF/TF Small Animal Theriogenology Residency Program—a

collaboration designed to increase the number of trained practitioners in companion-animal theriogenology and clinical genetics. Visit akcCHF.org/therio to support and learn more about this program.

Here we summarize the presentations from November 2022.

To view a recording of each presentation, please visit the “Breeder Webinars” folder at caninecollege.akc.org.

FEATURE

CANINE PREGNANCY DIAGNOSIS AND C-SECTION STAGING

Presented by Natalie Orner, DVM
Dr. Orner is a second-year theriogenology resident at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

As a review of the gestational phase of the canine estrous cycle (**Figure 7-4** below), Dr. Orner described the timeline of canine pregnancy. If the LH (luteinizing hormone) surge is day zero, the ovum develops during days 2–17, followed by embryo development during days 19–35, and finally fetal

birth (gestation length) in dogs is complicated because it depends on which day you start counting and because there is individual variation between the LH peak and when ovulation occurs. Some general guidelines are noted in **Table 1** below.

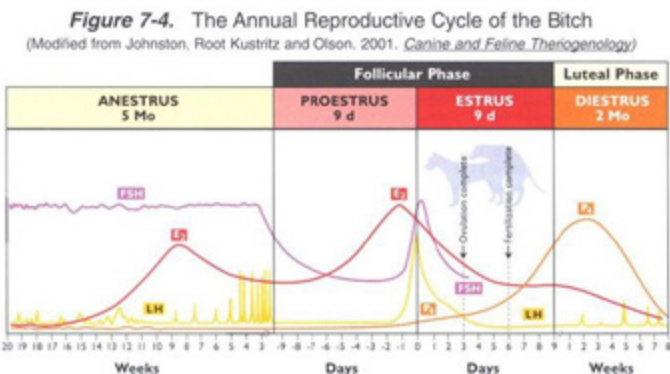
There are several methods useful to diagnose pregnancy in the dog:

Palpation

- From days 18–30, developing fetuses are palpable as 2-inch swellings in the abdomen and described as feeling like “pearls on a string.”
- From days 30–45, the bitch’s abdomen feels full, and it can be difficult to diagnose pregnancy.
- By days 45+, the fetal skeletons are easily palpable, and you may appreciate them moving within the bitch’s abdomen.

Serum relaxin concentration

- Relaxin is a hormone produced by the placenta and specifically indicates pregnancy. However, it cannot distinguish between a viable pregnancy and a resorbed/resorbing



development from day 35 to birth.
 Determining the time from conception to

Table 1: Canine Gestation Length

Milestone	Whelping expected	Notes
Mating	57–72 days later	
Cytologic diestrus	57 days later (+/- 1 day)	This is a very accurate indicator if you have a microscope at home to monitor vaginal cytology.
LH surge	65 days later (+/- 1 day)	The LH surge correlates with a serum progesterone level of 2–2.5 ng/ml.

FEATURE

litter, so ultrasound is still recommended to confirm live puppies.

Ultrasound

- Amniotic vesicles are visible with ultrasound as early as day 20, but the best visibility occurs at approximately day 30.
- Ultrasound can determine gestational age and assess fetal viability.
- Ultrasound is not reliable for puppy counts.

Abdominal Radiographs

- Fetal skeletons are reliably visible on abdominal radiographs by day 45+.
- For the most accurate puppy counts, radiographs are recommended at days 55–60.
- Radiographs are not a reliable method to assess fetal viability.

A cesarian-section (C-section) is the surgical procedure by which puppies are

delivered through an incision in the bitch's abdomen. A C-section may be required for a small litter when puppies are unlikely to produce enough hormone signals to stimulate natural birth, in brachycephalic breeds where the relatively large skull can obstruct the birth canal and which can also have inadequate hormone signaling, when the health of the fetal puppies is compromised, or in cases of dystocia or difficult birth.

During a typical active labor in the dog, it takes 20–60 minutes for each puppy to be produced, there are less than two hours between each puppy, and the entire process take 3–6 hours (or more depending on litter size).

Seek veterinary help when you notice any of the following:

- No puppy is produced after 30 minutes of hard contractions
- No puppy is produced within 30 minutes of a water breaking
- There are more than two hours between



BARBET PUPPIES/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

FEATURE

puppies being produced

- A total delivery time of more than 12 hours
- Any signs of pain or distress in the bitch
- Green vaginal discharge, but no puppy produced (an indicator of premature placental separation and that the puppy is not receiving adequate oxygen)

To help determine if a C-section is safe for the bitch and puppies, the veterinary team can measure the bitch's serum progesterone level to assess her readiness to support the puppies following birth. They can also use ultrasound to assess fetal kidney and gastrointestinal tract development and measure fetal heart rates which should be greater than 180–200 beats per minutes in late gestation.

Discuss C-section needs and plans with your veterinary team ahead of the bitch's

due date. Proper planning and understanding expectations will contribute to a successful outcome for all.

BEST PRACTICES FOR TIMING CANINE CHILLED OR FROZEN BREEDINGS

Presented by Amber Nebel, DVM

Dr. Nebel is a third-year theriogenology resident at the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Canine breeding management is defined as the process of using diagnostic tests such as serum progesterone concentrations and vaginal cytology to evaluate where a bitch is in the estrous cycle to optimize the timing of breeding and therefore fertility. A review of the canine estrous cycle (**Figure 7-4**, page 21) is always helpful. For breeding, we focus on the proestrus and estrus

Table 2: Characteristics of Canine Proestrus and Estrus

Proestrus	Estrus
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Day 1 is indicated by vaginal bleeding and vulvar swelling caused by increasing estrogen■ Ends with the LH surge■ Vaginal cytology shows increasing numbers of cornified cells, red blood cells, and bacteria. White blood cells are normal at the beginning of proestrus■ Serum progesterone is usually < 2 ng/ml	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Day 0 is the LH surge■ This is the period of receptivity and fertilization■ Vaginal cytology shows more than 85% of cells are cornified■ Serum progesterone starts at 2–2.5 ng/ml during the LH surge, then increases to 4–10 ng/ml when ovulation occurs

FEATURE

phases.

To time canine breeding, one must also understand the oocyte (egg cell) lifecycle. The canine LH surge takes about 24 hours. Ovulation starts 1–2 days after the LH surge

and lasts a full 24 hours. Dogs ovulate immature oocytes, which need an additional 1–2 days to mature before they can be fertilized. Therefore, the goal is to breed a bitch during her fertile window, approximately 4–6 days

Table 3: Canine Semen Handling and Breeding Practices

	When to use	Important notes	Appropriate breeding methods
Fresh Semen	Breed after ovulation has started.	Run multiple serum progesterone tests on the bitch to confirm ovulation (indicated by levels greater than 10–12 ng/ml).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Natural cover ■ Vaginal insemination ■ Trans-cervical insemination
Chilled Semen	Collect the male once the bitch’s serum progesterone level is greater than 10 ng/ml. Ship the sample and inseminate the female as soon as the chilled semen arrives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Chilled semen lasts 5–7 days in the female reproductive tract. ■ It results in fertility rates similar to fresh semen. ■ Recommend 2 breedings to maximize litter size 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Vaginal insemination ■ Trans-cervical insemination
Frozen Semen	Inseminate the female 5–7 days after the LH surge when serum progesterone is usually greater than 20 ng/ml.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sperm damage occurs during the freeze/thaw process usually resulting in a loss of approximately half of the original sample. ■ Thawed sperm only live for 8–12 hours in the female reproductive tract, resulting in smaller litters. approximately half of the original sample. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Trans-cervical insemination ■ Surgical insemination

FEATURE



after the LH surge.

There are four common methods used to breed dogs: natural cover, vaginal insemination, trans-cervical insemination, and surgical insemination. Notes about which types of semen can be used for each method and the pros and cons of each semen type are summarized in **Table 3** (page 24).

CANINE NEONATAL RESUSCITATION

Presented by Sara Lyle, DVM, Ph.D.,
DACT

Dr. Lyle is board certified in theriogenology and is an associate professor of Theriogenology at North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Neonatal puppies must be resuscitated

or revived after they are removed from the uterus during a cesarian section. It is ideal to have one person available per puppy, but if helpers are limited, do the best you can.

The steps to resuscitate a newly delivered puppy are:

1. Clear the airway (nostrils and mouth) using a suction bulb syringe. Do not swing the puppy as this can cause brain trauma.
2. Rub the puppy vigorously to stimulate breathing.
3. Provide supplemental heat with a warm towel or warming pad. The puppy can also be held in a warm water bath (keeping the puppy's head above water) while other resuscitation efforts are under way.
4. Provide supplemental oxygen with a small anesthetic mask or flow-by from a tube.

FEATURE

The goal is to keep neonatal puppies warm and dry and keep their airways open. Mucous membranes should be pink with a capillary refill time of 1 to 2 seconds and their heart rate should be over 150 beats per minute. If the heart rate is low or absent, gentle chest compressions should be administered along with epinephrine given in the vein, bone marrow, or oral cavity. Use of the medication Doxepam is not recommended as evidence of its benefit is lacking. Puppies can ideally be housed in a heated and humidified oxygen cage until they are ready to go home.

Once revived, neonatal puppies may need nutritional support. Bottle feeding is not recommended, but care givers can be taught to tube feed the puppies. Neonatal puppies should ideally receive colostrum, the first milk that contains important antibodies and nutrients to stimulate the immune system. If the dam cannot provide colostrum, it should ideally be from a donor that lives in the same kennel or same geographic region, has recently been vaccinated, and demonstrated low sickness and high growth rates in previous litters.

Banked colostrum should *not* be thawed in the microwave, as this will destroy the protective proteins within it. If providing supplemental colostrum, give 1.5ml per 100 grams of puppy body weight. If colostrum is not available, canine plasma (the liquid part of blood) can be given through an

orogastric tube to provide some immunity. Again, a local donor should be used to ensure protection against relevant pathogens.

COEFFICIENT OF INBREEDING: THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY!

Presented by Sara Lyle, DVM, Ph.D., DACT

Dr. Lyle is board certified in theriogenology and is an associate professor of Theriogenology at North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

The coefficient of inbreeding (COI) is defined as the probability that two alleles of a gene at a randomly selected locus (location) are from the same ancestor. It is calculated with a mathematical equation, but there are numerous “calculators” available online to do the math for us.

- The AKC recommends a COI of less than 10 percent for a 10-generation pedigree, but notes that this is a generalization.

- The Institute of Canine Biology (ICB) recommends a COI of less than 5 percent and states that there is a significant loss of vitality and increased expression of deleterious recessive mutations when the COI reaches 10 percent.

- For comparison: mating half-siblings results in a COI of 12.5 percent and mating first cousins results in a COI of 6.25 percent.

COI is an indicator of pedigree relatedness,

FEATURE



Additional Resources

[Review of the Current State of Genetic Testing in Dogs from the AKC Canine Health Foundation](#)

[COI FAQs: Understanding the Coefficient of Inbreeding from the Institute of Canine Biology](#)

The webinars and more are available at [AKC Canine College](#).

but it gets confusing when the genome is examined. COI determined using pedigree analysis underestimates inbreeding compared to genetic analysis using SNPs (pronounced *snips* and known as a single nucleotide polymorphisms or germline substitutions of a single nucleotide at a

specific position in the genome).

This brief discussion of COI is provided to stimulate intentional thought about canine breeding programs. Even if fertility rates are good in a kennel, the breeder should still consider the COI and its implications for the long-term health of a breed. If a breeder is experiencing poor fertility rates, testing for genetic diversity should be considered. This is not the same as genetic testing for a specific disease. The reader is referred to the University of California, Davis, Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (vgl.ucdavis.edu) for more information on this type of testing. **GZ**

Sharon M. Albright, DVM, CCRT, is the AKC Canine Health Foundation Manager of Communications & Veterinary Outreach.

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Pleased to Meet You!

NEW YORK—The crew from WPIX TV visits with AKC's Brandi Hunder Munden at AKC Meet the Breeds. 5:10



At Her Service

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA— An up-close look at Lotus, 2022 ACE winner in the Service Dog category. 4:39

VIDEOS



Great Barrington KC

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS— The local news team visits Eastern States Exposition for the annual running of the Great Barrington show. 1:30



St. Patrick's Kennel

THE EMERALD ISLE— Here's a St. Patrick's Day salute to the rollicking Irish breeds of the AKC. 0:55



Dr. Elliot More

It was an unusual path leading to More's veterinary career: He spent 15 years as an elite all-breed handler before attaining his DVM degree in 1993. Today a distinguished judge, More says, "I sort of had that dog-show bug, and I needed to get it out of my system—much to my parents' chagrin."

BUD BOCCONE ©2023

BREED COLUMNS



Edited by **Arliss Paddock**

We bid our longtime Tibetan Spaniel Club of America columnist Mallory Cosby Driskill a fond farewell. Thanks, Mallory, for years of superlative columns. Happily, the TSCA has appointed a worthy successor, Allan Reznik, who makes his debut this month.



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



THIS MONTH

Toy

- 33 Brussels Griffons
- 35 Cavalier King Charles Spaniels
- 37 Chihuahuas
- 39 Havanese
- 40 Italian Greyhounds
- 42 Maltese
- 43 Papillons
- 44 Pekingese
- 46 Pomeranians
- 47 Shih Tzu
- 49 Toy Fox Terriers

Non-Sporting

- 51 American Eskimo Dogs
- 53 Bichons Frises
- 55 Boston Terriers
- 57 Bulldogs
- 58 Chinese Shar-Pei
- 60 Chow Chows
- 62 Dalmatians
- 63 French Bulldogs
- 64 Lhasa Apsos

- 66 Poodles
- 68 Schipperkes
- 69 Shiba Inu
- 71 Tibetan Spaniels
- 73 Tibetan Terriers

Herding

- 75 Bearded Collies
- 78 Belgian Malinois
- 81 Belgian Sheepdogs
- 83 Belgian Tervuren
- 85 Briards
- 87 Canaan Dogs
- 88 Cardigan Welsh Corgis
- 90 Collies
- 92 Finnish Lapphunds
- 94 Icelandic Sheepdogs
- 96 Norwegian Buhunds
- 97 Old English Sheepdogs
- 99 Pembroke Welsh Corgis
- 101 Pulik
- 103 Spanish Water Dogs
- 105 Swedish Vallhunds

TOY GROUP

Brussels Griffons

THE NEW PUPPY WHO WON'T EAT

The caller on the phone sounded frantic. The puppy was doing fine, she assured me. He had bonded strongly with the family. He was truly the right match. But: “He won’t eat! How can I get him to eat?”

When I started breeding Brussels Griffons, I was puzzled by this question. After all, the puppy was eating just fine before he left home.

I like my young puppies a little on the chubby side because in the excitement of a new home, they are often too busy to eat. I explained this to the caller. Give him some time. She didn’t sound convinced.

Sure enough, she called again, three days later. “He doesn’t like the food you sent!”

He thought it was just fine before he left here. He ate it every day. What’s changed? So, we unpack the situation, step by step, to find out what’s going on.



First of all, how much is she feeding him? My recommendation for a 12-week-old puppy is about one-quarter to one-third cup, three times a day. But as I suspected, my new puppy owner is putting a full cup of food into his dish. He may have consumed a dozen kibbles, but that is undetectable in such a large dish of food.

Plus, I explained, it was my experience that a puppy is sometimes overwhelmed by a large amount of food in his dish. It may have something to do with his sense of smell. Your puppy possesses up to 600 million olfactory receptors in his nose, compared to you, with a mere six million. He can detect smells at a concentration of one part per trillion, which

TOY GROUP

means one tiny drop in an Olympic-size swimming pool. A big dish of food may swamp his delicate nose. Put just the required amount of food in his dish. That's enough.

Where is she feeding him?
On the kitchen floor.

Well, the puppy was accustomed to eating on the floor with his littermates or alone in his crate. Put him in his crate and give him some privacy. The owner admits she does not want to put him in the crate, because she thinks it's cruel. I explain that the crate is his bedroom. It is his safe place. It is where he can go to have some privacy, or take a nap, or eat his food.

There is another avenue to explore: What kind of treats is she feeding him, and when? Some new owners are unaware that treats are *food*. If there is a training session in which the puppy eats a dozen hot dog bits as rewards for learning to walk on a leash, then he is not eating because *he is not hungry*.

What is his behavior when

she puts the dish down?

"He just looks at it, looks at me, and sits down."

New owners seem surprised to discover that Brussels Griffons do not approach food with the enthusiasm of sporting dogs. Brussels Griffons do not gulp their food. Most eat slowly. Some stop eating, leave a little food in the dish, then finish it after a short rest.

The new owner is reminded that she chose the Brussels Griffon because he is sensitive, emotional, and adapts himself to his human's mood. This means he can feel her staring at him, and it makes him uncomfortable. Think about how you feel if someone is staring at you while you eat. You become self-conscious. Finally, you give up and move away. This is how your puppy feels.

Lastly, she has become extremely anxious about his reluctance to eat, and the puppy is aware of her anxiety. An anxious state is not comfortable for him.

He understands love and approval and happiness. He doesn't know what to do about her anxiety. He doesn't eat the food because he is trying to relieve her anxiety.

The solution? Approach his feeding time in a calm and ordered state of mind. Prepare his food and place it in his crate or on the floor with just a few words of encouragement. Then leave him alone. You don't have to leave the room; just work on the laptop or make a phone call. Take all your judgement and anxiety off him.

If he doesn't eat it within a set amount of time (say, 15 minutes) pick it up and put away for the next feeding. With bigger breeds, you'd let him go hungry until the next meal. With Brussels Griffon puppies, their low body weight makes them subject to hypoglycemia, which can cause fainting. So you need to give him a high-calorie nutritional supplement, such as Nutrical or Dyne, to keep his blood sugar levels from dropping. We use a syringe

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

to put it directly into his mouth.

I'm happy to say that this new puppy owner was able to implement my suggestions and have the patience to let them work. However, far too often the owner finds it easier to bring home ever more expensive foods until they finally settle on one made almost entirely of meat. This, they are convinced, is the only thing their fussy, complicated puppy will eat. And eventually, it is.

It turns out Brussels Griffons are better at training us than we are at training them.

—Sharon Sakson
[American Brussels Griffon Association](#)

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

GIVING BACK TO THE BREED AND THE SPORT: ON BEING A MENTOR

While this article will be published in the March issue, as we look forward to spring with its

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel



beginnings in so many things, it is actually being written in December as I take stock of the year's end, of where I've been, how I got there, and where I am going.

A frequent conversation point about dog shows is that the sport is dying. Well, one question that might be asked is, what are we doing to keep it alive? How are we giving back to this activity we love?

If you have been in dogs for any time and may had some success, think of

how you got there. No one achieves anything in life without the assistance of others. From childhood on, every success is built on relationships, on teachers and mentors. It is no different in the world of purebred dogs, whether one's focus is conformation, obedience, performance, breeding, exhibiting, or judging.

I have been fortunate in my 50 years of AKC activities to have had many individuals who have taken the time and energy to step forward and teach me.

TOY GROUP

If you wish to read a really great article on mentoring, I refer you to the January 2004 issue of the AKC GAZETTE, “On the Importance of Being a Mentor,” by Jeff Pepper. Jeff focuses in depth on individuals and practices.

The concept of mentoring is simple, but successful implementation can be a challenge. The American Psychological Association lists the characteristics of effective mentoring to include;

- the ability and willingness to value the student or mentee as a person;
- to develop mutual trust and respect;
- to listen to what is said and how it is being said; and
- to focus on the student’s development and resist the urge to produce a clone.

Within the judging community, mentoring is most obvious, as AKC requires individuals to seek out mentors, institutes, and seminars and earn educational credits that allow advancement in breeds. Has this been suc-

cessful? Maybe, but I look at the concept of mentoring as being a long-term relationship with lessons and a continuing relationship. It is simply not enough to spend minutes or hours with a teacher and learn enough. Being able to return to a teacher and ask a question or question a concept is important.

Mentoring is important in both breeding and exhibiting. The mentoring that will keep our breeds and sport alive is forged in the teaching of new individuals. With the demise of benched shows and the advent of individuals pursuing a “show-and-go” philosophy, there is less opportunity to observe, question, and learn. Many individuals simply show up on time for their breed and then depart. Some, having been eliminated in their class, may not watch their entire breed.

Simply watching a person groom, the tools they employ, their techniques, and the products they use are all so important.

Observing how dogs are gaited, the speed at which they are gaited, and having someone explain why teaches so much.

To become a breeder, it is even more important to establish the support and mentorship of a successful breeder or breeders. Breeding is a world unto itself and may require some hand-holding at some very scary moments.

If the sport of purebred dogs is to survive into the next decades, it will take another generation of breeders and exhibitors. So, how do we proceed?

First, as we established in the opening paragraphs, we require the mentee, an individual that wishes to learn. Without that, there is no reason to proceed further. There is a constant source of new people, both adults and juniors who are attracted to our sport, and they have questions. So, we are halfway there.

Now, how do we maintain their interest, and how do we mentor them? Well, a good

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

start is to have a welcoming attitude. Body language and a friendly smile signal welcome. When you meet a new exhibitor, simply asking if they have a question or need help will go a long way. Handling classes, if you are fortunate to have a local all-breed club that offers these, is a breeding-ground for mentoring. We are fortunate to have a wonderful weekly handling class offered by club members, and the side benefit is adding new working members to our local all-breed and specialty breed clubs.

So, it is up to us, the established dog-showing, dog-breeding, dog-loving public, to help ensure the future of the life we love. What do you think?

—Dr. John V. Ioia, MD, Ph.D.,

bonefixr@gmail.com

American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club

Chihuahuas

WHAT TO FEED?

Have you tried the newest dog food everyone

is raving about? “It’s expensive, so I’m sure it’s great!” “Those special-order foods must have something my dog food is lacking.” Have you ever thought these things and felt a bit guilty when you ask someone what they feed their dog?

I’ve tried them all: the most expensive, the most popular, the newest trend, the organic, and the less expensive brands. To be honest, I couldn’t tell much difference in how my dogs looked or felt. Their coats are always shiny, their teeth



Chihuahua

STEPHANIELLEN PHOTOGRAPHY ©AKC



BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

are good, their attitudes are happy, and they are not picky eaters. Granted, there are brands that have little nutritional value. But price does not indicate “better” when feeding our dogs. We must be discerning buyers when it comes to the food we feed our two-legged family as well as our four-legged family.

Guilt seems to be a major force in which dog food we select. We hear many breeders say they use a certain dog food and gasp at the thought of that coming near our beautiful little puppy. I know; I did the same thing. Then one day, I decided I needed to cut back on the cost of the very expensive dog food I was using. So I went to work doing my research on the nutrients needed for my breed of dog.

The truth is, the Chihuahua has a high metabolism. They need to be fed twice a day in order to maintain that perfect balance. The more energy you expend, the more fuel you need to sustain that motion.

So I began my experiment on dog foods and what worked best for my dogs. I tried almost all the foods in the more expensive health-food stores and had nice results. I then went to the regular pet-food stores. What I found was very interesting.

It all came down the amount of protein and fat contained in the product. What stage of life the dog is in is also a factor in what their bodies require. I was so surprised to see some of the top puppy foods did not contain what I consider to be a good percentage of fat and protein. Plus, some “stage foods” are just not enough for puppies, and sometimes too much for the seniors.

I have found the best percentage of protein for my dogs is 28 to 30 percent, with fat percentages ranging from 18 to 20 percent. When I find a food I like but the percentages are too high or too low, I may blend two foods to get the exact effect I want with my dogs. Too

much fat can cause obesity, and too much protein can be a cause for liver and kidney issues, so be careful to stay in the range that works best for your dogs.

And yes, you can use a product that contains corn. Corn is sugar, and with the high metabolism of the Chihuahua, they need that added little boost. Just make sure during your selection that corn is not the first product mentioned in the ingredients list. Chicken is easier to digest than beef or lamb, so I always use a chicken-based product for the youngsters. Fish-based products sound good, but be sure the fish is farmed in the U.S. (I do not recommend fish-based products for pregnant bitches.)

Just remember, in your quest for the perfect dog food, you don’t have to feed the most expensive brand to have a happy, healthy, and beautiful dog. You just need to be informed.—*Virginia (Jenny) Hauber*

[Chihuahua Club of America](#)

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

Havanese

TO BREED OR NOT TO BREED—AND TO WHOM?

To breed or not to breed—and to whom? That is *the* question! Over the last 50-plus years, I have often asked people why they chose a specific dog to sire a litter. The responses are quite interesting and form a pattern. Here are the 10 most popular answers I received to my question:

1. *He has done a lot of winning.*
2. *He looks great in his ad pictures.*
3. *I am very good friends with his owner.*
4. *He lives nearby.*
5. *I own him.*
6. *My bitch's breeder wants me to use him.*
7. *He won the national.*
8. *I like the puppies he has produced for other people.*
9. *[So-and-So] used him, and she knows everything!*
10. *I like his color.*

If I could, I would submit these 10 responses to a broad base of breeders to find out the single top reason. But frankly, I don't



really want to know, because from my perspective, all these 10 popular responses are wrong and are very troubling. Not one response says, “I checked him on the OFA website, and I liked all his health testing and that of his parents, grandparents, full and half siblings, and offspring.”

Probably, if space permitted, I would write volumes on the fallacy of each of the 10 reasons above. Now that I have listed them, I hope each reader here would do

some soul-searching and realize why each of these responses is just dreadful for his or her own breeding program and for the future of the breed.

Still don't get it? Please contact me, and I will explain.

Just as important as selecting a stud is to consider why you are going to breed a particular bitch. Not every bitch should be bred! Hard to believe, right? Too many people think that every uterus needs to produce a



BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

litter. People also think that to be considered a “good breeder,” your bitch must first be an AKC champion of record, because they can charge more for the puppies. Hence, we see an enormous number of bitch entries in the classes and very few males. So, the few males entered easily go Best of Winners and finish their championships quickly—some without ever beating another male! The bitches work a bit harder, with or without a handler, to finish. Yet it is the male who can produce dozens and dozens of offspring, and the bitches only a small fraction of that number.

Another maddening thing I hear way too often is “My contract says that I have to breed her, and her breeder gets a puppy back from the litter.” *Ugh*. How awful is that? A breeder sells a 3-month-old puppy, before she has had any health testing or reaches physical maturity, and requires that she be bred? *Whaaaaat?* Are you kidding? And you are

really paying double for that puppy! Is that a responsible thing for the breeder, or just avarice? Think twice before signing on to that agreement!

The goal of any responsible breeding program should be to produce healthy, sound puppies who are representative of the breed’s AKC standard. If convenience or economics enter into the decision of who to breed or to whom to breed, please think again!

—Alice L. Lawrence,
pulifuzz@aol.com
 Havanese Club of America

Italian Greyhounds

PUPPY SOCIALIZATION

Much has been written about the need for socializing puppies at the proper age, but all too often even a longtime breeder or someone who has been out of the dog scene and is returning to it may have forgotten this necessity.

One of the things I’ve learned during my almost 50-year involvement with Italian Greyhounds is that

this breed is perhaps somewhat overly sensitive to lack of early exposure to a variety of experiences. Easily stressed by something new, even a well-adjusted IG often trembles a little when encountering something new.

I was reminded of this recently after seeing a truly elegant dog repeatedly missing out on the awards in the show ring because of his fear of being touched by the judge, especially a male judge.

So, how does one go about socializing a young puppy, when so many public places are posted as being off limits to dogs? Well, there are some that are not. PetSmart, Petco, and undoubtedly most other pet shops welcome vaccinated dogs who are either being carried or on a lead.

Those are the obvious ones. A little local research can bring up others. Most Lowe’s stores will permit a dog in someone’s arms in the store. Restaurants with outdoor seating often will permit a well-behaved dog

TOY GROUP



Italian Greyhound

to sit with his owners. Other businesses are frequently all right with it, as long as one asks.

Needless to say, bringing a dog to any public place means keeping him under control and, in case there is an accident, cleaning up after him immediately. Carry some paper towels or napkins and some baggies at all times when out and about with a dog.

Care must also be taken that strangers, particularly small children, approach the

puppy slowly and gently. Having some small treats handy (for the dog, that is!) is a good adjunct to an outing of this sort. A treat should be given immediately after any even slightly stressful occurrence.

This is not a one-time thing. Puppies need to be exposed to new people, new locations (including new surfaces like concrete, tile, grass, and so on), and new situations repeatedly and often.

These outings should be pleasant and fun—not

just for the puppy, but also for his human. Dogs are amazingly keyed into their people's feelings and attitudes. Isn't this why we have a dog in the first place—particularly a sensitive breed like the IG?

At what age should socialization begin? Some can start at home, soon after birth, but what we are addressing is the need to expose puppies to the outside world. As soon as necessary inoculations have been given and are in the puppy's system long enough to be effective, the little creature needs to learn that there is more to life than the comfort zone of home. This is particularly important for owners who live in a quiet, remote area and/or have few visitors.

Socialization is also an ongoing procedure and should be part of the puppy's regular training regime. Vital for an IG who is to be shown in conformation or performance activities, learning about the big, wide world is equally important

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

for the dog whose only job is to be a beloved pet.

P.S.: I learned this the hard way, unable to transport my Top 20–ranked bitch to our national. If you ever intend to fly with your IG, be sure to introduce her to an airline-approved carrier at an early age.—*Lilian S. Barber, 2015*

[Italian Greyhound Club of America](#)

Maltese

TO BE MENTORED, YOU MUST LISTEN TO BOTH THE GOOD AND THE BAD

Sometimes new people in the breed say that people will not help them. Fortunately, though, there are breeders who have been in the breed for a long time who are willing and eager to mentor or educate new people. Sometimes new people are afraid to approach the older breeders—but generally if you do, they are very free with their advice and help.

New owners, breeders, and exhibitors, please ask! However, remember not to



Maltese

do so while people are busy getting ready for the ring. Ask the experienced exhibitor when the best time would be to talk to him or her.

Also, if you really want to learn and ask questions about your dog, keep in mind to be open to any negative comments about him as well as the positive ones, as that is how you learn. Real mentors will be honest with you for your own good. They are only trying to help you.

Very few people start out with the very best. Almost

all breeders have started at the bottom and can identify with your perhaps pet-quality show dog!

In an incident that happened to me, a new exhibitor did not want to know her dog's negative qualities, even though I told her she did a very nice grooming job for being a novice. She went instead to someone else who only told her that her dog had potential. This new exhibitor really did not want to know how to improve or get a better dog.

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

If you want to be mentored, great! Don't be someone who only wants to hear false information about their dogs. For those new people who *really* want to learn, hang in there, and talk to many breeders whom you respect. Take in knowledge like a sponge, and be prepared to have breeders be honest in appraising your dog. Hopefully many years down the line, you will be the mentor for new people enjoying our great breed!

—Daryl Martin,

daryldmartin@sbcglobal.net

American Maltese Association

Papillons

PAPILLONS AND OUR WELL-BEING

Scientists have proven that being around pets can reduce stress, lower high blood-pressure, and even extend lives. Merely petting a dog causes a chain reaction of neurotransmitter activity in our heads, making us feel good. When spending just a few minutes with



a dog, we feel less anxious and less stressed. Our bodies actually go through physical changes that can make a noticeable difference in our mood. The level of cortisol, a hormone associated with stress, is decreased, while the production of serotonin, a chemical associated with well-being, is increased. This correlation of stress-reducing factors is the equivalent of saving wear and tear on your body, possibly even extending life.

In an article Mayo Clinic

oncologist Dr. Edward Creagan attests that animals have healing powers. He explains that when you pet a dog, you experience a surge of hormones that produce feelings of peace and serenity. One hormone he refers to is oxytocin, the presence of which helps increase our ability to heal and grow new cells. This not only is beneficial but also may be one of the main reasons why dogs became “man’s best friend.”

More and more, psychological and speech-pathology

STEPHANIELLEN PHOTOGRAPHY ©AKC



BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

therapists are utilizing dogs as facilitators in their practices. Similarly, therapy dogs are improving the quality of lives in senior centers.

Many Papillons are very successful as certified therapy dogs because these little dogs are non-threatening, put people at ease, have calming effects, and allow people to be more willing to open up and talk, which is a first step for healing.

Even watching my own Papillons experience the world as they do provides me with a feeling of serenity. Some perform their yoga-like daily stretch routines, while others wait patiently at the door to take the world head-on and start their day. My little yoga followers stretch their legs out in front, lowering their heads to the ground, and extend their hind legs to stretch their spines. It amazes me to see how they limber up and get ready for their exercise just like any well-disciplined athlete.

Observing my Papillons going about their normal routines indeed fills

my heart. Observing their behavior can turn a bad day into a delightful experience. Their enthusiasm is often so infectious that by just spending time with them will leave me feeling happy and less preoccupied with my own problems.

The extent of their intelligence is certainly quite astounding. It intrigues me to see their deep concentration and purposeful expressions when observing how they use their keen senses to track a female or look for a long-lost buried treasure in the yard. It makes me think that one day they just might find gold, seeing the odds of how often they dig up the ground!

It has also been proven that dogs can be great conversation-starters, making it easier to form friendships and positive relationships that in turn have a huge impact on maintaining good health and promoting a healthy mind.

For many pet lovers, the most effective and beneficial way to relax is not by

indulging in a glass of wine but rather by spending time with our pets. And for me, it's the quality time I spend with my beloved Papillons.

To many of us, our dogs not only give us a sense of purpose, but they complete our family.

—Roseann Fucillo,
cilloette@yahoo.com
Papillon Club of America

Pekingese

PEKINGESE MOVEMENT

Pekingese movement is unique and different from that of every other breed. This can be clearly observed by watching any quality Pekingese move around the ring. Correct movement or gait in the Pekingese is a subject often discussed among breeders, exhibitors, and judges, and it goes without saying that correct movement implies correct bone angulation and shoulder layback.

The Pekingese is a very ancient Chinese breed and were the constant companions of royalty. The Empress

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

Dowager Tzu Hsi owned many little “lion dogs” and wrote the following about them in her “Pearls of Wisdom”:

“Let its forelegs be bent, so that it shall not desire to wander far, or leave the Imperial precincts. ... Let its feet be tufted with plentiful hair that its footfall may be soundless.”

The American standard of 1995 allotted 10 points to gait and this description:

“The gait is unhurried and dignified with a slight roll over the shoulders. The rolling gait is caused by the bowed front legs and heavier, wider forequarters pivoting on the tapered waist and the lighter, straight parallel hindquarters. The rolling motion is smooth and effortless and is as free as possible from bouncing, prancing or jarring.”

A further explanation says:

“Action—slight roll in front over the shoulders and rib cage. Heavy front swivels on a small narrow waist. Very little, if any, bounce over loins, as hind



legs should cause slight propulsion rather than drive. Bounce over front is also incorrect and is generally associated with straight Terrier like motion in forelegs. Exhibits must be moved slowly enough to gait properly.”

Movement had been included in the early English standard but appeared to be dropped when it was revised in the late 1940s. It was added again in the 1970s, with this description: “Gait, slow dignified rolling gait. Typical movement not to be confused with a roll caused by slackness of shoulders.”

The AKC standard used today has the following under “Gait”:

“It is unhurried, dignified, free and strong, with a slight roll over the shoulders. This motion is smooth and effortless and is as free as possible from bouncing, prancing or jarring. The rolling gait results from a combination of the bowed forelegs, well laid back shoulder, full broad chest and narrow light rear, all of which produce adequate reach and moderate drive.”

William Taylor wrote, “It must be understood that because of the shortness

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

and bow of the forelegs, the reach in the forequarters should not be compared to the reach of larger dogs with longer legs. As each bowed foreleg reaches forward, it lands on the ground with the toes pointing out while the body swivels slightly on the narrow waist and the shoulder and rib cage on that side drops. This is repeated on the other side, which creates the characteristic roll.”

Dr. John Vlasto commented also on correct movement of the Pekingese, saying, “The roll is due to the dog’s body being heavy in front and light behind, so that his center of gravity comes much nearer to the head than in the normal dog, while, at the same time, the fact that the hind legs are closely set and the forelegs wide apart imparts at each step a rolling movement towards the unsupported side.”

Correct movement in the Pekingese should be appreciated and understood by all judges, breeders, and exhibitors and should be

encouraged and maintained by everyone involved with this unique and special breed. —*Carol Kniebusch Noe, 2016*

[The Pekingese Club of America](#)

Pomeranians

KEEPING PERSONAL PREFERENCES IN CHECK

Breeding dogs is an art and a science and requires, at the most basic level, a deep understanding of the standard for your given breed. Standards are the blueprints that outline the exact features and qualities of a given breed. It

is our duty as breeders to know why our breed was developed, to understand the qualities essential for the breed to do the job it was created to do, and to carry these qualities into the next generation of purebred dogs.

Exhibiting dogs is a natural extension of breeding. We all have a desire to share the best of our breeding programs with the fancy and there is a thrill that accompanies the recognition of a beautiful dog winning in the show ring. At these events, we rely on judges to share a similar expertise of the breed



Pomeranians: “Hebe and Boby,” painting by F. Sinet (c. 1910)

AKC COLLECTION



TOY GROUP

standards, and objectively evaluate & reward the dogs they judge compared to the breed blueprints.

The logical question, then, is if our standards are descriptive, why do different “types” and “styles” exist within the breed? And if our standards outline what is important, why do different judges award different placements when looking at the same group of dogs?

This is because the words and descriptions in any breed standard leave room for interpretation. As with many things in life, each of us has our own personal preferences and differing opinions about those interpretations. This is what continues to make the sport of dogs so interesting!

However, what becomes a problem is when breeders, exhibitors, and judges are attracted to traits that are explicitly defined as incorrect for the breed. This is a continued trend and danger of showing as certain breeds become more “fancy” or “flashy” and begin to win.

Often the extra “flair” comes from incorrect structure, movement, coat, or head/eye shape. Some dogs bred to work in the field all day have become more bulky and overdone in the name of being “fancy.” Some breeds bred to work in the pasture have lost their head carriage—an essential characteristic of herding and moving livestock. These are problems that result not from a difference in interpretation of a given trait, but rather a move away from what the standard is describing altogether.

Our goal should be the continued improvement of our breeding stock and preservation of purebred dogs. While varying interpretation and individual preferences are a necessary and expected part of breeding and judging, we cannot allow personal preferences and the things we like to be a contradiction to our breed standards.

—Stephanie Hentschel,
darrightpoms@gmail.com
American Pomeranian Club

Shih Tzu

SHIH TZU MARKINGS

Did you ever wonder what the markings on your Shih Tzu symbolized in China, where the breed developed?

Patches of color on a white background were called “flowers,” while a broad band of solid color around the midsection represented a sash worn by high-ranking officials. The Chinese referred to a black dog with white feet as a “sable cloud over snow.” A band of color on the back extending down the sides was called, as it is today, a “saddle,” and was highly prized, as the lion dog was the symbol of the lion which, according to legend, was Buddha’s steed. A symmetrical white blaze on the forehead represented the button worn on the top of the hats of officials—the Emperor’s button was a large pearl.

In a poem by the Manchu Dowager Empress Tsu His (Cixi) about the lion dogs (“The Lion Dog of Peking”), she asked that the

TOY GROUP



Shih Tzu Chumulari Ying Ying, 1970
(Evelyn Shafer photo)

dogs be golden like the lion, or the color of red, black, or white bears, or striped like a dragon, “so that there may be dogs appropriate to every costume in the Imperial wardrobe, whose fitness to appear at public ceremonies and functions shall be judged by their colors and their artistic contrast with the Imperial robes.”

Times are somewhat

different today, and we often have difficulty convincing judges that all colors and markings are equally acceptable in our breed standard. However, with Shih Tzu still ruling the household the way they do, perhaps we should match our clothes to our dogs so they will consider us fit to appear at their sides!

Our 50th national specialty will be held in Pittsburgh,

Pennsylvania, April 17–22. Our sweepstakes judge, Janet Long, co-owned the Shih Tzu who won our first national in 1973, and many old-timers like myself are wallowing in nostalgia. To reminisce, and to educate newcomers, the ASTC website will be posting a number of articles on the history of the breed and breed characteristics, written by experts

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

who are no longer with us. In addition to conformation judging, there will be agility, obedience, and rally trials, CGC and Trick Dog certification, an excellent seminar on structure and movement, and a hands-on judges' education program. We hope many of you join us for this historic occasion. Details are on our website.

—Jo Ann White,
joawhite@juno.com
 American Shih Tzu Club

Toy Fox Terriers

IT'S A CELEBRATION! 20 YEARS OF AKC RECOGNITION

Have you ever wondered how a breed came about? The Toy Fox Terrier, while perhaps not well known today, has a long and interesting history. Fairly recent to the AKC, the Toy Fox Terrier is a breed that was developed over a century ago and is the only toy breed developed in the U.S. Many people, upon seeing one, share that they had one while growing up.

Toy Fox Terriers were



Toy Fox Terriers are smart, athletic, and always ready to entertain their owners—when not cuddling on a lap.

originally bred down from Smooth Fox Terriers in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Farmers discovered the smallest pups of these terrier litters were often the scrappiest and usually turned out to be excellent ratters and mousers. They continued to pursue a smaller version of the Fox Terrier by breed-

ing the smallest individuals and occasionally integrating other small breeds, including Chihuahuas, Manchester Terriers, and Miniature Pinschers. The infusion of toy breeds led to the Toy Fox being of a milder temperament than their older cousins.

As their size diminished

COURTESY SUSAN THIBODEAUX

TOY GROUP

through the intentional breeding for smaller dogs, the Toy Fox Terrier began to be popular as a housedog in addition to his role as a barnyard mouser. In the early to mid-1900s they also became a favorite performer in the circus—usually as a sidekick to famous clowns. These comical and athletic little dogs love both food and attention, so doing tricks and participating in circus acts was a natural fit. That enthusiasm to perform continues today, and many Toy Foxes entertain their owners with a repertoire of tricks, as well as performing in AKC companion and performance events.

Over time the Toy Fox became a favorite family pet for all ages, from children to seniors. These little dogs are devoted to their owners and love to cuddle and lie in laps as much as they love to play and hunt.

In 1994 a group of Toy Fox Terrier fanciers came together to form the American Toy Fox Terrier Club. Their goal was to get

the breed—by that point recognized by another registry since 1936—recognized by the AKC. They accomplished their goal, and in 2003 the Toy Fox Terrier was given regular status in the Toy Group, and Toy Fox Terriers began participating in AKC conformation shows.

The first national specialty as an AKC fully recognized breed was held that year in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Since that time Toy Fox Terriers have excelled in the conformation ring, with some even achieving all-breed Best in Show wins. They have also excelled in agility, obedience, rally, trick dog, Fast CAT, coursing ability tests, Barn Hunt, and scent work. Their pretty and elegant looks in a diminutive package combined with their intelligence, athletic ability, and desire to please have brought them much success the past 20 years in AKC competitions.

The American Toy Fox Terrier Club (ATFTC) will be returning to Oklahoma

City to celebrate their 20th-anniversary national specialty show on Friday, June 30. This national specialty will take place during the Oklahoma Summer Classic dog show cluster. Additionally, the celebration includes supported entries, a regional specialty, Top Twenty competition, historical information on display, and a breed-study seminar.

Members of the ATFTC will continue to celebrate the 20th anniversary all throughout 2023 by sharing their enthusiasm for this wonderful breed, and we hope everyone will come to shows and events to see Toy Fox Terriers and learn about them. Spectators are invited to these events and are encouraged to seek out Toy Fox Terrier owners and breeders and help us celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Toy Fox Terrier in the American Kennel Club.

—Susan Thibodeaux,
vicepresident@atftc.com
American Toy Fox Terrier Club

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

American Eskimo Dogs

THE JOURNEY FROM “SHOW DOG” TO “MY HERO”

Keira has a special gift when it comes to picking puppies. As fate would have it, her third American Eskimo, Buddha, had something else in store that proved her pick to be spot on—yet for a different purpose than originally intended. As Keira’s needs changed, so did Buddha’s “purpose.”

About 12 years ago, Keira’s love for Eskies evolved into a passion to become a breeder. After diligent research, she found in Buddha what she considered a perfect combination of confidence, movement, and personality to begin his development into a show Eskie. Further, Keira anticipated that Buddha would become her foundation dog. From the outset Buddha became a most beloved, treasured family member and demonstrated an incredible innate gentleness with people of all ages.

At approximately 1 year

American Eskimo Dog Buddha with owner Keira and her husband; Buddha as a youngster with his Ba Noi’ (Grandpa Nguyen), who passed away last spring; Buddha with Keira’s grandson.



COURTESY OWNER

NON-SPORTING GROUP

of age, a traumatic event shook Buddha's confidence. During a playgroup, a much larger dog attacked him. Thereafter, Buddha seemed apprehensive, especially around large dogs. It was essential for Buddha to overcome his heightened state of arousal around dogs. Keira worked with an expert and implemented recommended interventions that ultimately restored his confidence.

At around 18 months old, Buddha experienced recurrent bouts of pancreatitis, with repeated hospitalizations. In fact, twice Buddha almost died. Ironically, an inexplicable phenomenon transpired which, in a very real sense, linked the depths of their beings together. Among other items on Buddha's treatment plan, including a lifelong specialized diet, the veterinarian recommended neutering to increase his likelihood of survival. Keira was devastated, but Buddha meant so much more to her than conformation and breeding goals, so neutered he was.

As Budda's health improved, Keira's struggle with other life experiences took its toll on her well-being. Keira became very depressed, lost interest in most activities, and developed agoraphobia. Keira's physician recommended a service dog, but her insurer denied coverage.

This denial of benefits, together with her love for Buddha and concern for his well-being, culminated in determination to train Budda as her service dog. As Keira's depression decreased alongside new goals to pursue with Buddha, she regained the courage to leave home.

Within five years Buddha developed the required skills and became certified as Keira's service dog. Along the way, together with more specialized training, Buddha acquired AKC titles in rally, obedience, Canine Good Citizen, Barn Hunt, and Certified Therapy Dog. Buddha also earned UKC championship titles—both traditional and altered, as

well as titles in rally and Barn Hunt.

Every day Buddha helps Keira in various ways. For example, not only does he remind Keira when to take medication, but he also gets it wherever it is stored and brings it to her. When it is time for Keira's medication, Buddha has learned via pressure-point therapy training to lean into her leg, which reminds her to take it. In the event Keira became unable to open her medication, Buddha would seek help. In any setting, Buddha can detect those times when Keira is becoming anxious, get her medication from the zippered purse always with her, and direct her toward a safe place to lessen her distress, such as an exit door in public places.

Buddha is certified as a therapy dog and has worked his magic demonstrating empathy and love for others. He has participated in a variety of programs, including an Amherst College student-focused pre-final exam support intervention.

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Budda has demonstrated a natural talent for work with children. After many months of Buddha's participation in Tails To Read—a structured program for special-needs children—a child with autism who was unable to read aloud to adults learned to read aloud to Buddha. Another child in this program feared dogs, but by the program's end, this child would sit on the floor with Buddha and read aloud. In a similar manner, Buddha has participated in months-long reading programs for underprivileged children whose reading skills have increased three to four levels by year's end.

In the end, Buddha's "calling" was to become Keira's service dog. She often refers to Buddha as "My Hero." Three of Keira's Eskies are certified as her service dogs, and Buddha is the only Certified Therapy Dog. One of Keira's Eskies is an Emotional Support Dog.

Keira and her husband, Troung Nguyen, along with their five Snow Buddies American Eskimos and

Neko, their cat, live in Massachusetts.

In honor of all service dogs and especially Buddha, AKA Wright's Zen Master of Snow Buddies.

—Stella Brown,
hasdogstoo@gmail.com
 American Eskimo Dog
 Club of America

Bichons Frises

PUPPY INSTRUCTIONS: A TYPICAL PUPPY DAY

New puppy owners appreciate lots of direction. I have found a schedule to be very helpful, and this is similar to one I have sent home with them over the years. I go over it line by line before they leave.

Good morning! Gradually encourage puppy to wake up on your schedule.

Let's go outside! When puppy pees/poops, quietly say "Hurry up, Good boy/girl."

Are you hungry? Follow breeder's instructions. It might help to measure out the entire day's rations in the morning. Feed lunch around

12–1:00 until your puppy is old enough to be on two feedings per day. Feed dinner around 5:30–6:00.

Outside. Schedule outside visits every couple of hours at first. You may want to set a timer or alarm.

During the day keep him with you or in his pen. Watch puppy for mistakes, saying, "Oops! Outside!" Take him outside even if he seems to be done. Pick him up and try to catch as much poop or pee as possible while zipping outside. *If you don't catch him in the act, do not say anything!*

Let's take a nap. Put puppy in his pen along with an open crate when he seems tired—probably in about two hours from the time he woke up. Some puppies can be very vocal just before they take a nap. *Do not take puppy out of the pen if he cries, or you will really regret it.* Your puppy is used to hearing normal house noises and has learned to sleep right through them.

Enjoy your break. This is your time to get some other

NON-SPORTING GROUP



A Bichon Frise puppy asks, "Is it time to play?"

stuff done.

Outside when he wakes up.

Playtime. "Let's go for a walk!" "Where is your toy?"

Let's get brushed! Every day, use the brush and comb all over his body, look at teeth and ears, rub his tummy, handle every foot, and trim nails at least once per week.

Be persistent until he cooperates. It will happen. Be gentle and don't give up until the task is completed.

Time to go night-night. Brush his teeth, and take him outside. Be consistent. Make sure puppy has his plush toy in his crate. Give him a treat. Turn on some

quiet music. Make sure there is fresh water to drink. You may want to close the door to the room if the puppy is in his own room

During the night, it is usually best to leave your puppy in his open crate in the pen so he can poop and pee on his own during the night. If puppy wakes up and cries, you may want to take him outside. If you do:

- Keep light to a minimum. You may want to turn on only the outside light or one in another room so you can see.
- Do not play with puppy or talk except to say, "Do you need to go outside?" in a quiet voice.
- Quietly pick puppy up and take outside. Say "Hurry up," very softly.
- If puppy goes, say "Good boy" very quietly
- Pick pup up and take him back to the pen. "Night-night" very softly
- Go back to bed.
- Ignore puppy's cries. Ear plugs help.

Home alone. Leave puppy several times per week. No

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

fuss! Just say “You be good now,” and leave.

Do you want to go for a ride in the car? in a crate at least once per week to a fun place.

My puppy buyers have thanked me for this schedule and I hope you find it helpful, too.

—Mayno Blanding,
maynob@gmail.com
 Bichon Frise Club of America



Boston Terrier

Boston Terriers

PESTICIDES: ALWAYS READ THE DATA SAFETY SHEET

Pesticide side effects can cause health issues in Boston Terriers. Reading the label on any product your dog might come into contact with is a good place to start, but you need to go a step further: the data safety sheet. Companies don't list all the information about the product on the package label, but there is a phone number you can call to ask for the data sheet for the product, if the information is not in the packaging. As

a consumer you should do research, making sure of all dangers and side effects associated with any product you use around your dog.

Never start using a new product at a time when your vet won't be available. Also, give all new medication early in the day, during your vet's office hours, in case there is a reaction. Be sure to keep up with consumer reviews and any recalls.

Bostons seem to react to change. A new version of a familiar product may have

some of the same things in it, except one thing which dog is allergic to. Never change anything you are using before going to a dog show, as stuff happens when least expected: diarrhea or vomiting from new food, skin rash, or hair falling out, just to name a few disastrous things what make you say, *Why did I do that?*

No matter how good someone tells you a new product is, wait until going home to give it a try. Consumers often seem

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

to hear only the positive aspects of a product a company is selling, not the dangerous side effects.

You might go to the vet clinic with a dog who has just started having seizures, scratching at itchy skin, licking his feet, or some other new symptom, but you forget to tell the doctor about a new or changed product you recently started. It's not fair to the vet, or the dog, because the situation can't be diagnosed properly without all the facts.

Tetrachlorvinphos (TCVP) is a chemical that until recently was used in some pet products to kill fleas and ticks; it is now banned for use in pet collars, though still used with some livestock. TCVP can be extremely dangerous for pets and their owners, especially young children and pregnant women. Thousands of pets have been harmed by this pesticide, and even small amounts of exposure can cause irreversible harm to a child's brain development

and increase the risk of learning disabilities. Pet flea collars with TCVP would leave residue on a pet's fur and skin that could remain on the pet's body for weeks even after the flea collar was removed, as well as transferred to furniture and bedding and anyone who pets the animal. This toxic residue could be absorbed through people's skin as they pet their animal or expose themselves to contaminated areas. Children could ingest the chemicals by putting their hands in their mouths and playing on the floor where pets have walked or laid. Thankfully last fall (October 2022) the EPA had the product successfully banned for use with pets. (For more information, see <https://cen.acs.org/environment/pesticides/EPA-bans-tetrachlorvinphos-pet-collars/100/i37>.)

Ivermectin is a chemical that Collies and some other breeds are dangerously sensitive to. The scary thing is there isn't an antidote if pet has a reaction, so owners of

certain breeds of dogs must be aware of the danger. Ivermectin is an ingredient in some heartworm-preventive medications for dogs, as well as many other uses. Some side effects from ivermectin use that could occur include muscle tremors, blindness, lack of appetite, dehydration, lack of coordination, lethargy, and dilated pupils. By reading the label on heartworm preventive you can learn if it includes this ingredient.

Also to bear in mind is that some medications can cause effects such as temporary or partial deafness when used together with certain pesticides or heartworm medications.

Boston Terriers are very sensitive to many things. Just because a product is safe and beneficial for one breed doesn't mean it will do great on a Boston Terrier. Your family and pets rely on the judgements you make.

Places to research include Dog Food Recalls, Consumer Alert: D.C., NRDC (Natural Resources

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Defense Council), FDA (1-888-FDA-VETS), and Petmd.com.

—Patricia S. Johnson,
BTCA and DWAA,
patsgrooming@gmail.com
Boston Terrier Club of
America

Bulldogs

WHEN “COMMON IN THE BREED” IS NOT “NORMAL FOR THE BREED”

Bulldogs have been extremely popular for many years. Consequently, the breed is often the topic of discussion and debate. From the most experienced breeders, to veterinarians, to owners of other breeds, to internet “keyboard experts” who have happened to read an article or two about the Bulldog, everyone has an opinion.

Too often, these conversations turn to “common” Bulldog conditions, typically centered on breathing difficulties, eye problems, skin conditions, or tail issues.

To a lesser degree, temperament is a common theme



“The growing numbers of Bulldogs participating in the more rigorous AKC performance events like Fast CAT and agility, among others, indicate that good health is common, normal, and necessary—as it should be for all Bulldogs.”

as well. These health issues are not in any way “normal,” particularly if a dog lover focuses on the official standard as a guideline.

It is important to realize that there is often a big difference between what is “common in the breed” versus what is “normal for the breed.” When certain common conditions are accepted as “normal,” very often little to no effort goes into cor-

recting those issues through better breeding choices.

Among the ways breeders increase their odds of producing normal, healthy puppies is to health-test the dogs they are using for breeding. Tests for trachea size, patella (knee) formation, and cardiac (heart) health are just a few examples.

For health conditions for which no test is available, a simple visual checklist

COURTESY ELIZABETH MILAM



BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

should be sufficient. If a dog has chronic skin or allergy problems, eye problems, feet problems, or any other physical issue that impacts the dog's quality of life, serious consideration must be given by the breeder. *Should the dog really need to be bred? How does breeding the dog improve the breed moving forward?* These conditions are not normal, regardless of how common they might seem.

The conversation needs to change. The best examples of the Bulldog, as evidenced by the expanding BCA Ambassador for Health program, clearly epitomize normal and good, vigorous health. The growing numbers of Bulldogs participating in the more rigorous AKC performance events like Fast CAT and agility, among others, indicate that good health is common, normal, and necessary—as it should be for all Bulldogs, regardless of how they live their lives.

As breeders, we often hear potential puppy buy-

ers say things like, “I know they have a lot of health problems, but I want one anyway.” Unfortunately, many unscrupulous and even ignorant breeders are quite content to satisfy that wish. If buyers were more aware of how these more common problems are truly abnormal, they might expect more from the breeder.

A simple inquiry into a breeder's overall philosophy concerning the breed, Bulldog health, and their breeding stock may reveal any concern a prospective puppy buyer may have.

Unfortunately, the Bulldog's surge in popularity has been accompanied by a surge in the number of uneducated and inexperienced breeders. Many of these breeders mistakenly assume the health conditions that so many people consider common are also somehow normal, and uneducated buyers only perpetuate the dilemma.

Connecting with experienced breeders through the Bulldog Club of America

is an excellent way for both potential Bulldog owners and newer breeders to learn more about this special breed. The BCA website (bulldogclubofamerica.org) is full of educational information and BCA membership opportunities.

—Elizabeth Milam,
celticdogges@me.com
Bulldog Club of America

Chinese Shar-Pei

SKILLS THAT DOGS WERE BRED FOR

Like everything else in life, the dog world is constantly changing. Because I've been around a few years (*wink wink*), the number and types of competitive events for dogs has exploded, and today it is astounding. So many added options!

It wasn't that long ago when there was no Fast CAT, and the closest that you had was lure coursing for sighthounds. What we had was primarily showing and obedience. There were some trials of course, things like hunting

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Chinese Shar-Pei

dog and gundog competitions, since these skills were vital to breeding programs.

But in the timeline of dog events, a great many are fairly new. Dock diving, Fast CAT, agility, rally, and flyball are all very familiar now but were at best in their infancy 30 years ago. There are many breed- or group-specific events, like

earthdog trials (for small terriers, and Dachshunds) and spaniel field trials, but then there are others open to all dogs: scent work, herding and Farm Dog events, and Barn Hunt, to name a few.

Sometimes these competitions are very much at the top of the mind of breeders. If you're raising gun dogs, you want great gun dogs; if

you raise hunting dogs you want great hunting dogs; for any kind of field dog, you want that line to be great at performing in the field. But even breeds who now are mostly household companions have nearly all come from some role-focused inception.

One of the amazing things about Shar-Pei is how versatile they are—how many of our breed participate in these events, and *succeed!* We often forget that this breed is older than most genetically and has been used over the centuries in roles that remain in their genes now.

I remember back in the day (that day would've been the early 1980s), there was a champion Shar-Pei called the Joe Dog. He actually lived on a farm and herded cattle. He was a show dog long enough to earn that title, but he may have arrived and left in the back of the farm pickup truck! He was the first indicator for many that this breed had not lost their ability to *work*, to be the farm dogs that they

STEPHANIELLEN PHOTOGRAPHY ©AKC



BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

had been for thousands of years.

I watch my own dogs go to ground after vermin, perimeter-check the fence line, and follow the scent on a walk. Historically, they were bred to be all-purpose farm dogs. Great ratters, great flock guardians, family guard dogs—these would have ranked higher for owners than simply being a family pet. We have a Toy Poodle now, and I watch her inherent passion to retrieve like no Shar-Pei I've ever had. The Poodle in her comes out as soon as something is tossed. There is much buried in the makeup and genes of our dogs.

When we know what we want in our line of dogs, and we breed for that, and we have competitions to determine which dogs are the best at whatever that is, and we incorporate that into our breeding program, that is the selective breeding that has given us all of these different breeds of dogs. It's about much more than just which dog has the best

movement, which one has the best coat, or which one has the best profile. If we lose sight of what any of our lines were bred for, what any of our breeds were intended for, then we risk losing the essence of our breed, every breed.

Your dog, whether show dog, pet, or competitor, doesn't have to do all the things available—but it's fun and interesting to see owners of Shar-Pei venture into new event arenas, and even more exciting to watch them *succeed!*

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

Chow Chows

THE VALUE OF MEASUREMENT

Having recently enjoyed attending a number of regional specialty and all-breed shows, it is apparent that we, as breeders, need to dust off our yardsticks, calipers, and other measuring devices. We also need

some good educational presentations focusing on the technique for measuring our Chows.

Our new fanciers have probably not had the opportunity to attend a measurement clinic, and everyone can always benefit from a refresher class. Actual measurement of our Chows will help us to identify the opportunities that we have to improve our breeding selections as we strive to produce Chow Chows according to the approved breed standard.

Our AKC standard says that the average height of adult specimens is 17 to 20 inches at the withers but in every case, consideration of overall proportions and type should take precedence over size. The Chow Chow is to be square in profile and close coupled. The distance from forechest to point of buttocks equals height at the highest points of the withers. The distance from tip of elbow to ground is half the height at the withers, and the floor

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP



“The Chow is a masterpiece of beauty, dignity, and naturalness.”

of the chest is level with the tips of elbows. The width viewed from the front and rear is the same and must be broad. It is these proportions that are essential to true Chow type. In puppies, no allowance should be made for their failure to conform to these proportions.

The muzzle is short in comparison to the length of the top-skull but never less

than one-third of the head length. The muzzle is broad and well filled out under the eyes; its width and depth are equal, and both dimensions should appear to be the same, from its base to its tip.

The body is short, compact, close coupled, strongly muscled, broad, deep, and well let down in the flank.

The body, back, coupling, and croup must all be short

to give the required square build. The chest is broad, deep, and muscular, never narrow or slab-sided.

The shoulders are strong, well muscled, the tips of the shoulder blades moderately close together; the spine of the shoulder forms an angle approximately 55 degrees with the horizontal, and forms an angle with the upper arm of approximately 110 degrees. The length of the upper arm is never less than the length of the shoulder blade. Viewed from the front, the forelegs are parallel and widely spaced, commensurate with the broad chest. The pasterns are short and upright.

Each of these required characteristics of the Chow Chow are measurable.

As breeders, we look at pedigrees, health certifications, show records, progeny charts, and other resources pertaining to a dog or bitch before a breeding. Why aren't we measuring?

—Love Banghart,
Lkendr4300@aol.com
 Chow Chow Club, Inc.

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Dalmatians

DALMATIAN TRAINING TIPS: UNDERSTAND HOW THEY LEARN

Dalmatian owners frequently hear people say that Dalmatians aren't smart. Even some people who profess to be professional trainers will make this statement.

There can be nothing further from the truth. Dals are an exceptionally smart breed; you just have to know how they learn, and then how to teach them accordingly.

Speaking from experience, I've seen their smarts in

action, and it can be rather intimidating when you see it for yourself. I had a girl who stunned me with her intelligence. She taught herself how to open the refrigerator. I, like a lot of people, would hang my dishtowel through the refrigerator-door handle. As a puppy, Sara saw this as an invitation to play. She would grab it to play tug and—*voilà*—the door popped open. I'm sure her little puppy eyes couldn't believe the wonderland she'd discovered. A fridge full of food = the best positive reinforcement ever. Eventually

she progressed to opening the door with a swipe of her paw, forcing me to bungee the refrigerator closed.

She's also the one who watched me install child cabinet locks (specifically for her)—and silly me, I thought it was because she adored me and just wanted to be close. As I look back now, I can see she was watching my hands, and not just me, as she attempted to figure out how they worked. And she is far from the only Dal to exhibit this kind of problem-solving behavior.

OK, we've established that they're smart. So why are they getting an undeserved reputation? Personally, I think it's precisely because they are so clever. They're like the really, really smart kid in class who picks up information quickly but then is forced to kill time while the rest of the kids in his class work through their studies. Both the kids and Dals simply get bored and will try to find some entertaining ways to pass the time. And all of a sudden,



Dalmatian "Windholme's Wig Wag," painting by Percy Earl



BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

before you know it, they're labeled the troublemakers in the classroom.

Training sessions have to be short for Dalmatians. Too long, and boredom sets in, and that gets their little brains humming for ways to liven things up. Don't ask a Dal to do the same thing over and over and over again. The next thing you know, they are looking for ways to make things more fun. Quite simply, they're not "pushbutton" dogs.

Training also needs to have a reason for a Dalmatian—they won't just do it because you ask. Of course, that reason could be fun, food, or affection. You, as the smart human, have to determine what that reason is and use it as a training tool.

To summarize, in closing, they're great at evaluating a situation and determining what needs to be done, they pick things up quickly but get bored easily, and they need a reason. Who knows? As you experience their intelligence, you may come to be amazed by it and

appreciate it as well.

Happy training!

—Jan Warren Linné,

janlinne56@yahoo.com

Dalmatian Club of America

French Bulldogs

WHY VOLUNTEER?

A volunteer is a person who agrees to tackle a job without compensation. Volunteers have the attributes of compassion, teamwork, and an altruistic mindset. They give their time and efforts without expecting any form of payment, praise or gratitude. They invest their own time and talent.

The French Bull Dog Club of America could not fulfill their goals or even exist without volunteers. They are the backbone of our club. When the Board is tasked with finding a volunteer to fill a needed position, it is important to match a person possessing talents that will enable them to make a success of their new position. Cater to

their passion.

The Board does have a responsibility for obtaining the right volunteer for the job. They can maximize their success by developing relationships. Getting to know members at the various shows and seeking out their talents and interests will cultivate success. It is not successful to put out a call for volunteers. The Board must go to the people they have cultivated.

If a person is asking, "What's in it for me?" then look further. That is not to say that there are no benefits to volunteering. It can give one a sense of community and expand their social contacts. One might actually acquire new skills. The sense of passion and enthusiasm for the task gives the volunteer a sense of accomplishment and well-being. Mental health is improved.

A source called Revenue Plus says this of altruism:

"Altruism is the desire to benefit other people without consideration for personal gain. In contrast, selfishness

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP



French Bulldog

is the desire to benefit others in a self-serving manner. The motivation for volunteering may depend on one's life experiences, personal values, and volunteer opportunities."

Volunteering can positively affect a person's life by developing compassion and empathy and boosting your feeling of self-esteem.

Yes, the experience of volunteering and all of the

skills you have brought to the project can be listed on a resume for employment. A volunteer shows a service mindset and the ability to work as a team. These are valuable assets on all resumes.

Sometimes a well-meaning volunteer gets in over his or her head, or perhaps loses interest in the project. The best-case scenario would be to find a better fit or admit

that it is not working. The Board should be overseeing all committee work, evaluating its progress and helping with the appropriate resolution. A club takes a lot of teamwork to make it to the national every year.

While all the definitions of a volunteer say they should not expect payment, praise, or gratitude, it is a wise board that says, "Thank you. A job well done."

—Sande Abernathy,
jpaplay@comcast.net

French Bull Dog Club of America

Lhasa Apsos

NEXT OF KIN

You didn't want your low-life cousin to come to the party, but he came uninvited with your aunt, and you had no choice but to deal with him. Breeding can be like that. Some relatives can't be avoided. Genotype, the genetic makeup of a dog, involves not just your dog, but also its extended family.

My mentors taught me

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

NON-SPORTING GROUP

that line-breeding and outcrossing were essential to successful breeding. Line-breeding is a practice of breeding dogs who are related to one another in order to set type and solidify positive characteristics. Outcrossing, or breeding totally unrelated dogs, is necessary to maintain vigor and vitality and to bring necessary improvements, and it should be done based on phenotype, the physical appearance of the breeding animals.

Successful and responsible line-breeding requires an intimate knowledge of the dogs in the pedigree. Equally important is knowledge of their littermates and progeny. Strengths can be intensified, but so can health, structural, or temperament problems, which may crop up like the uninvited distant cousin. Learn as much as you can about dogs on the pedigree grid, but learn more about their littermates. If you're not vigilant, the qualities found in a black sheep uncle or wanton niece



Lhasa Apso

could bring an unwelcome surprise in your next litter. On the flip side, outstanding relatives are key to understanding why an otherwise average dog could be a pre-eminent producer.

For example, the late Sinbad of Abbotsford, ROM**.

The late Jim and Georgia Roberts (Abbotsford Lhasa Apsos) were at an impasse, needing a male in their pioneer

breeding program. They did a “move forward or perish” breeding and got just one, Sinbad, described by Mrs. Roberts as “only able to go to a dog show in a wheelbarrow.” He had a long muzzle and was large and somewhat clunky. But he was healthy, sound, and possessed the wonderful temperament that characterized the line. They gambled on him, and he sired 14 champions, includ-

STEPHANIELLEN PHOTOGRAPHY ©AKC



BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

ing group and Best in Show winners.

The late Pat Chenoweth (Chen Lhasa Apsos) strongly favored breedings of uncle-niece or aunt-nephew to scour the gene pool, doubling strengths and pulling out qualities one might not otherwise know are lurking, giving the breeder an advantage in planning future litters.

One of my most cherished possessions is an annotated handwritten pedigree done by Pat of one of her first Lhasas, which goes back to the original imports. Her notes impart a wealth of information about the phenotype of many early dogs, which would not be otherwise known.

Outcrossing—breeding dogs who are apparently unrelated—is important to maintaining strength and improving traits. An infusion of new genetic material bolsters fertility and physical vitality and can bring in needed improvements in structure, health, and temperament.

However, in a breed with limited antecedents, paper might not tell the entire story. A pedigree with no common ancestors in four generations can still have a strong inbreeding coefficient based on DNA, especially with a breed such as the Lhasa Apso.

Less than 10 years ago, DNA was virgin technology. Now, DNA testing is an important new tool to identify the presence or absence of markers for some diseases. Just as ancestry testing can uncover unknown relatives, DNA testing can reveal markers for diseases such as PRA and other health issues, or identify cosmetic markers for self-coloration or parti-colors. Where past breeders had to risk doing test breedings, we can now match or avoid some traits or conditions with a cheek-swab.

Some tests will assess the coefficient of inbreeding in the DNA, which can't be seen on a pedigree. The DNA coefficient may

explain why outcrossing Lhasa Apsos within the U.S. can yield surprises. Some pedigrees unwittingly might have come full circle, connecting with dogs bred 50 years ago.

Using the tools available to us makes us better breeders and helps improve the breed.

—Cassandra de la Rosa,
dlrcas@msn.com

[The American Lhasa Apso Club](#)

Poodles

IN THE RING: POODLE COAT COLORS AND PIGMENTATION

Poodles are very active, intelligent, and elegant-appearing dogs, with a confident and friendly temperament and a dense, thick, solid-colored coat. The Poodle coat comes in a variety of colors, however only solid-colored dogs may be shown in AKC conformation shows. The solid colors allowed are set forth in the AKC breed standard below. This article will deal with the more unusual colors,

BREED COLUMNS

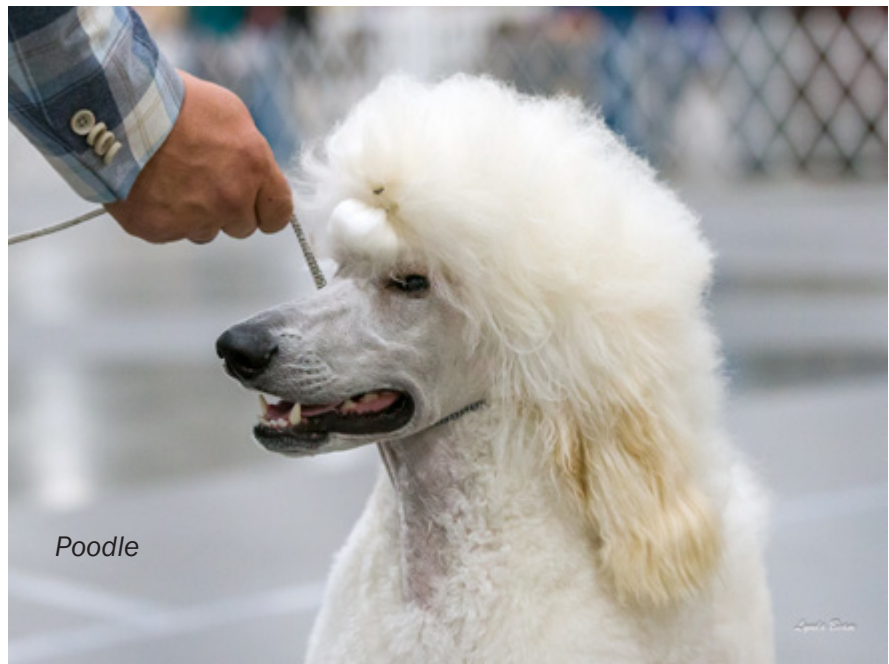
NON-SPORTING GROUP

other than black or white.

“In blues, grays, silvers, browns, cafe-au-laits, apricots and creams, the coat may show varying shades of the same color. This is frequently present in the somewhat darker feathering of the ears and in the tipping of the ruff. While clear colors are definitely preferred, such natural variation in the shading of the coat is not to be considered a fault.

“Parti-colored dogs shall be disqualified. The coat of a parti-colored dog is not an even solid color at the skin but is of two or more colors.” —*AKC breed standard for the Poodle*

Many times, when presented with a dog of one of the colors referenced above in the conformation ring, judges will go through the coat of the dog, down to the skin, in order to see if the solid-colored coat is “clearing,” or if the dog is actually a parti-colored dog. Sometimes, even a cream dog will have darker hair on their ears and hocks that will clear as they age. Similarly, blue coats



Poodle

often appear darker when the dog is a puppy and clears as they age.

Developments in DNA genotype testing have made it easier for breeders to know what color(s) their dogs carry the genes for, and this advancement has made it possible to selectively breed for or against certain colors. Moreover, some tests are so precise, they can test for a recessive black gene, and even whether a dog carries a gene for parti, piebald, Landseer, or spotted. These tests are of immense help to breeders trying to improve coat color

and rid their line of any genes for the disallowed colors or schemes.

Coat color and pigment go hand in hand. Again, the standard sets forth the desirable pigment for each color of dog. “Brown and cafe-au-lait Poodles have liver-colored noses, eye-rims, and lips, dark toenails, and dark amber eyes. Black, blue, gray, silver, cream and white Poodles have black noses, eye-rims, and lips; black or self-colored toenails; and very dark eyes. In the apricots, while the foregoing coloring is preferred, liver-colored noses, eye-rims, and

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

lips and amber eyes are permitted but are not desirable.”

Major faults for pigment include an incorrect color on the nose, lips, and eye-rims, being either incomplete or of wrong color per the standard. You do not want to have broken pigment on the nose, lips, or eye-rims, and you want your dog to have the correct color pigment based on his or her coat color. The use of the DNA tests also help breeders learn not only what genes their dogs carry for different colors, but also the different traits seen in coats other than solid, and thus can also be used to help improve pigment.

—Jan Hopper,
Poodle Club of America

Schipperkes

Melanie Coronetz wrote the following for this column in 2013.

ARE SCHIPPERKES HARD TO TRAIN?

Are Schipperkes hard to

train? You can pose this question to 10 owners of the breed, and probably half of them would say “yes,” and the other half would say “no.” I have my own theories about our little black devils. It’s not scientific, and I certainly can’t boast that I’ve put advanced performance titles on any of the Schips I’ve had. In fact, the best I ever accomplished were the basic titles: Companion Dog and Novice Agility. (I suppose I could throw in CGC, which is now an official title as

well. Hercules, my 3-year-old neutered boy, earned his at Meet the Breeds, in the noisy, crowded Javits Center last fall. Yet to see him lunge at a bicycle rider or a motorcycle as we cross the street, barking like crazy, you’d wonder if he deserved it.)

In my opinion, Schipperkes are not hard to train. They are intelligent and eager to try new things, especially when the payoff is a treat. The trick is trying to keep them focused. I believe they get bored easily, more so than other more “obedient”



DAVID WOO ©AKC



BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

breeds, such as those belonging to the Working or Herding groups.

I once had a Schipperke named Monkey. We went to dog school, and she quickly learned all the Novice obedience exercises. The inducement, of course, was the treats. As I started to withdraw them, she lost interest in me. She'd approach other people in the class, especially on the heel-free, and give them that cute Schipperke look, hoping for a reward—a reward for having done nothing.

We'd practice heeling on walks, and after a few steps, she'd trot out in front of me. I'd say, "Monkey, heel," and she'd come right back for a step or two, then scoot ahead again. This became a game which I soon stopped. I didn't want her to try these antics in the ring.

Monkey was the kind of Schip who'd lie down on the long sit at every trial, even though she'd done the exercise perfectly in class week after week. At one trial, as she lay down, she yawned,

as if to say, *Ha, ha—take that!* We got our CD title after 13 attempts and promptly quit obedience.

Like kids from the same family, different Schips have different personalities and learning abilities. Argo, Monkey's half-brother, had been shown in breed, and he won an AOM at Westminster. When he retired, I had him neutered and started him in obedience. Heeling posed no problem as long as I had treats, but sitting when I halted didn't register with him. Learning seemed a chore. Clearly, Argo was not as bright as Monkey.

It took a while, but we finally got two legs toward the CD, though we never finished. At Argo's last trial, he caught a whiff of hot dog from the food vendor at the other side of the arena. He zoomed toward the exit. Luckily the stewards blocked his escape. The judge told me, "He's very handsome, but you don't qualify." I'd had enough, and so had Argo.

Are Schipperkes hard to train? No. I believe they are tricky to train. You need to find a way to keep their interest, avoid repetition so they don't get bored, and make each training session seem fresh and new. And to that, I say, "good luck!"
—M.C.

[Schipperke Club of America](#)

Shiba Inu

CHANGE BEGINS WITH YOU

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "The time is always right to do what is right."

I have been involved in the sport and breeding of purebred dogs since my youth—third-generation, in fact, and I follow the women in my family and mentors with hopes to gain an ounce of their success.

I have seen the changes in the sport, as have many other exhibitors and fanciers, and they are not all positive with regard to sportsmanship and our behavior. I want to focus on

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

the positive we witness and experience, however, and then I'll bring two terms to light so that one may consider to continue the positive code of sportsmanship.

Sportsmanship goes beyond your “weekend warrior” circle. It means respect to *all* a dog’s breeders, owners, and handlers, despite differences one may have. This is Sportsmanship 101. Walk up to that outside handler at your small show to congratulate them on their win; be that example, and create a new friendship.

Do you appreciate the qualities of a dog, regardless of placement? Walk up to that individual or group, and tell them so.

It takes energy for each person to put themselves and dog in the ring—or nowadays, when one posts their achievements on social media for all to like (or perhaps dislike). Some of the most quiet and shy, albeit competitive, people I know are in the sport of dogs.

In the words of Susan Garrett, “Be kind.” Being



Shiba Inu

a bully or harasser is detrimental to a breed that where majors in the ring are hard to come by. It’s detrimental to the breed standard, and it’s detrimental to exhibitors, volunteers, and clubs.

Two terms that we see in the corporate world today also apply to dog sports. The first being *bystander intervention*. This is a social science model with a wide scope but is defined by the National Collegiate Athletic

Association as “the act of an individual or group stepping in where there is a problem, rather than assuming someone else will help.” This definition, and being proactive, applies as well in the dog world, both for the ring and on social media. Being conflict-avoidant is human nature; however, when we do nothing while someone is being bullied in person or online, it puts us in the same category as the bully.



BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

The second term I will mention is *psychological safety*. This is the belief that an individual won't be punished or humiliated for speaking up with ideas, questions, concerns, or mistakes. It's an expectation held by members of a team—in this case, dog fanciers—that individuals will not embarrass, reject, or punish others for sharing ideas, taking risks, or soliciting feedback. It's being able to work through disagreements with honesty and candor, without being cruel towards one another.

Online threads have been shared with me where one or two fellow exhibitor-breeders attack one another. We must be better than this for the breed and the sport to thrive. One must feel comfortable to share their perspective, raise concerns, or ask the difficult question. There will not be repercussions for speaking up or initiating bystander intervention.

There are many online training materials today

that cover the subject of bystander intervention and psychological safety in depth. I encourage you to look into these terms—not only for yourself, but also for your circle and your fellow breeders and exhibitors.

Positive changes begin with you.

—Letty Hughes,
lettyhughes.nasca@gmail.com
 National Shiba Club of America

Tibetan Spaniels

A BREED OF MODERATION

One of the joys of breeding and showing Tibetan Spaniels is that we have a dog of moderation and balance. At any given dog show, we are surrounded by many intense exhibitors spending hours of painstaking grooming to get their exhibits ready for the ring. The over-the-top beautification is often lavished on breeds whose appearance has grown more and more exaggerated over the decades. By contrast, our Tibbies have remained

largely unchanged. While sophisticated coat products have helped make them a little more glamorous as show dogs today, and Tibbies frequently earn group placements with professional handlers, owners typically exhibit and finish their own dogs. We have historically been an owner-handled breed, and it's gratifying to see that continue.

Responsible Tibetan Spaniel breeders see their job as one of preserving, not changing, type and structure. As if to drive home that mission statement, our relatively short standard uses the adjectives “slight” and “moderate” a total of 12 times.

Under “General Appearance,” we are told that the Tibetan Spaniel's outline “should give a well balanced appearance, slightly longer in body than the height at withers.” The very next sentence lists “coarseness of type” as a fault. Under “Proportion,” we want the “Body slightly longer from the point of

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Tibetan Spaniel

shoulder to root of tail than the height at withers.”

Moving to the description of the head, the framers of the breed standard wanted to avoid any confusion between the Tibetan Spaniel and his other, more extreme, Oriental relations. Thus the standard stipulates that the Tibbie’s skull be only “slightly domed” and of “moderate width and length,” while the stop is to be “moderately defined,” with a “medium length of muzzle.” We want the mouth “ideally slightly undershot

...” We want dark brown eyes oval in shape, bright and expressive, of medium size. Large, full eyes are a fault. Ears should be of medium size, set fairly high, and “may have a slight lift from the skull.” A Tibbie should never remind us of a Pekingese, Chin, or Shih Tzu, and following the detailed wording of our standard will help guard against any such tendency.

Tibbies are sturdy little dogs who had a job to do in ancient Tibet, nimbly patrolling their domain from the roof of the Buddhist temple, alerting the burly Tibetan Mastiffs below if they saw anything untoward. We are in the Non-Sporting Group, not the Toy Group. Our breed standard reinforces that image by requiring that the neck be “moderately short, strong and well set on.” We want “moderate bone,” the bones of the forearms only “slightly bowed,” and the “well-made and strong” hindquarters showing “moderate angula-

tion.” While we don’t want “coarseness of type,” we also don’t want a frail, fine-boned little ornament.

The standard requires a “Double coat, silky in texture ... of moderate length on body.” While other breeds have fallen prey to a “more is better” philosophy regarding hair, with Tibbies we want the dog wearing the coat, not the coat wearing the dog.

Under “Presentation,” the standard requires a “rectangle of daylight showing beneath.” The breed must be “presented in an unaltered condition,” and any dog whose coat “has been altered by trimming, clipping, or by artificial means shall be so severely penalized as to be effectively eliminated from competition.” The standard could not be more direct. Owner-handlers can easily manage and prepare their dogs’ moderate coats for the showing, and even spayed/altered pets can be maintained by most owners without professional grooming.



BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Let's continue to keep our Tibbies the delightfully moderate, unexaggerated breed they are.

Thank you to outgoing columnist Mallory Cosby Driskill for your years of dedication to keeping us informed and entertained. My appreciation to you and the parent club for the invitation to come on board as new columnist.

—Allan Reznik,

reznikallan@gmail.com

Tibetan Spaniel Club of America

Tibetan Terriers

SMART, SENSITIVE, AND STUBBORN: UNDERSTANDING BREED CHARACTER

I came across a post on a Tibetan Terrier training and behavior Facebook group where the owner of a 15-month-old neutered male TT expressed that they were at their wit's end with their dog's behavior. She had asked their local vet to recommend an easygoing family dog and was told to get a TT—that this was an amazing breed. She felt like

she had been lied to and in fact, TTs are not an easygoing breed. As a result of all this, her marriage was at a breaking point. She talked about her dog's bad behavior on walks and problems with aggression, barking, dominance, and jumping, and his trying to bite her husband. As I read all of this, it made me feel really sad.

Having had the experience ourselves of fostering a 9-year-old female TT who had been surrendered to a local shelter for euthanasia, this story resonated all too well with me. The TT was surrendered because of aggression, having tried to bite her current owner. I won't go into the reasons why she attempted to bite, but suffice to say that it was clear to see that this was a traumatized, nervous dog, already on her second owner. We fostered and loved this lady for about three months, and through the seasoned efforts of our TT rescue organization, she was successfully placed in her new forever home.

This particular Facebook post had resulted in many comments, with owners describing a disturbing variety of situations including separation anxiety, with mass destruction and defecation everywhere. One suggestion offered was that perhaps the breeder had not done a good job in matching the right dog with the family.

Having lived with TTs for some years now, I would venture to define some aspects of the breed's character with "the three S's": *smart, sensitive, and stubborn*. Every TT has a different personality. Some are loving and sweet, some standoffish; others are lively and full of energy, while some prefer to be couch potatoes. There is no disputing that barking is a common theme—after all, their original purpose of serving as watchdogs at the monasteries in Tibet and for nomadic families is still in their genes. Another important aspect of TTs is that they do not do well being left alone for long hours.

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Tibetan
Terrier

Much like young children, they love to be with their human parents, whether it's lying at your feet under your desk as you work or going out on excursions with you.

One lady offered this advice from her Swedish Kennel Club site: "Tibetan Terriers need to be trained with positive reinforcement methods and consistency. Harsh and 'old school' degrees of violence/dominance training methods can make the TT very difficult to handle."

So how best to turn

around a situation of aggression and dominance and avoid the sad scenario of a TT being surrendered at a shelter?

Consider the first S—*smart*. TTs are incredibly intelligent, and if you let them, they can easily get the better of you. Engaging your TT with some interesting interactive play and tasks will result in them knowing their limits, and their brains will be well occupied.

For the second S—*sensitivity*—TTs will always want to please you, and if you chastise them unfairly

or too sternly, this could lead to fear-based aggression. Always be gentle, fair, and firm with them.

Last but not least: *stubborn*. This brings to mind one of my favorite adjectives, *pertinacious*, meaning "stubbornly tenacious." Many TT owners will feel this description resonates! Rather consider your dog to be an independent thinker who needs to see a logical reason for why you want them to do something.

Should you be fortunate enough to rescue and foster a TT, know that this is a truly deep relationship. Our foster female would lie with her paws crossed at the entrance to the kitchen, watching me all the time. When our gaze met, the love that was in her eyes was such I have never experienced receiving before by any sentient being, either two-legged or four. The soul of a TT is truly special.

—Sonam Kushner,
sonamkushner@gmail.com
Tibetan Terrier Club of
America

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

Bearded Collies

LOOKING BACK

When it comes to the background and history of our breed, Beardie fanciers have been the victims of “disinformation,” as it’s popularly termed these days. Mrs. Olive Willison of England, the lady credited with piloting the breed to recognition, led us to believe Beardies were only one short shove from the edge of extinction. Not true. But then she had no way of knowing. Back in the 1940s–’50s, communication was positively primitive compared to its almost instantaneous state today. In her 1971 book *The Bearded Collie*, she writes of searching England for Beardies via advertising, publicity in the press, and contact with farmers’ agents, all to no avail. Meanwhile, north of the border in Scotland, there were dozens, if not hundreds, of hardworking Beardies herding sheep and other livestock. But their owners—shepherds and crofters—probably didn’t



Bearded Collie

read newspapers and knew nothing of Mrs. Willison’s search for a mate for her incredibly talented Jeannie.

In those days, there were many variations on the breed and they were dubbed with a variety of names. Along with the Highland Collie, Mountain Collie and the Smithfield, there were fox-red dogs known as Dallas Reds and very heavily coated Blue Shaggy sheepdogs. Though there was a standard for the Beardie which had been penned in 1912, shepherds were more concerned with working ability than looks

and were unlikely to even know it existed. Not that it matters. It wasn’t very informative anyway.

While Olive Willison eventually got recognition and praise for reviving the breed, there were folks in Scotland and Wales whose efforts in breeding and preserving the breed equaled hers. One of these was Tom Muirhead of Dunsyre, Scotland, who journeyed to the Isle of Skye to buy a gray bitch from Ewan (Lachie) McDonald, a drover who enjoyed his reputation as an outrageous character as well as the ultimate cheapskate. Though

HERDING GROUP

his dogs were somewhat gaunt and longer in leg than other working Beardies, they were tough and showed a marked distrust of strangers. When McDonald drove his cattle to market he swam them across the waters that separated Skye from the mainland, even in winter's icy grip. Then they traveled overland, traversing the snow-clad, mountainous area on hoof to the market at Falkirk. There, he sold both the cattle *and* his dog, who came to be known as the Boomerang Beardie. He peddled his faithful bitch, Nan, 11 times, and 11 times she escaped from her new owners and returned to McDonald. She certainly knew the route (and this was before the invention of the GPS). But back to Tom Muirhead.

While his Beardie was maturing, Tom acquired his first male, a direct descendent of a well-known Beardie named Anderson's Bobbie. The dog, Robbie, had some Border Collie in his background but wore

a thick, coarse coat and possessed a strong work ethic. The offspring from this mating were the start of a strain that came to be known and exported worldwide. They were so respected that when Muirhead died early in the 1990s, a working Beardie association continued with his breeding program. Not long after, however, the group disbanded due to friction among its members.

And that brings us to another of the working Beardies' most colorful characters, D. Brian Plummer, who was so opposed to seeing Muirhead's dogs carelessly dispersed that he acquired the entire kennel. A true Renaissance man, Plummer became a teacher in the U.K. after a stint with the National Service. From there, he worked as a gamekeeper in Germany and eastern Europe and next turned to professional boxing in the U.S. Back in Great Britain, the versatile Welshman became a ferret breeder. He gained a bit of

notoriety when one of his charges latched on to the host's finger during a TV appearance. Unconcerned about the host's pain, Plummer calmly observed, "Oh, he's just playing with you. If he was serious, he'd bite through to the bone."

Throughout his lifetime, Plummer had an abiding interest in dogs. Terriers were his main focus, and he bred them to excel at dispatching rats to rodent heaven. He's credited with the formation of a breed that bears his name, the Plummer Terrier. As mentioned, he was devoted to the working Bearded Collie and had bred them for some 20 years. With the addition of Tom Muirhead's crew, he then had the largest kennel of working Beardies in the world. In order to aid other breeders, he offered his stud dogs free of charge to registered bitches for two years.

Along with all his other pursuits, he was a prolific writer and authored 23 books. Most were about terriers and lurchers, another

HERDING GROUP

avid interest of his. (For those who may be unacquainted with the latter, a lurcher is a Greyhound mated with just about anything else.) Yes, even Beardies. In his 1979 book *The Complete Lurcher*, Plummer noted, “the progeny of the bearded collie/greyhound all had weatherproof coats and were a great deal more intelligent than the average lurcher.” While visiting friends who bred both working and show Beardies, he reported, “There is a startlingly sharp difference in the herding instinct between the two types, and the working strains are far more easily trained for obedience and herding work.”

Plummer’s assessment of the Beardie/Greyhound cross was echoed by David Hancock, the best-known breeder of that combination. He bred hundreds of the Beardie lurchers, and in agreement with their many admirers, believed they’re the most attractive and versatile of all lurchers.

Plummer was a respected dog trainer and featured in a few TV documentaries. In later years, he gathered together a kennel of white German Shepherd Dogs and turned them into a sled dog team. He lived simply but sampled much of what life had to offer. The multi-talented David Brian Plummer died in September 2003 at the age of 67.

What of the working Beardies? Far from extinct as feared, they seem to be doing just fine, thank you.

Can you imagine a sheepdog trial without a single Border Collie in attendance? Well, it’s not exactly a trial but more like a workshop when the Working Bearded Collie Society in Scotland holds its annual two-day event each fall. They can count on at least 50 owners to show up, with some from as far away as Wales.

The working Beardie’s style of herding is far from that depicted by the traditional sheepdog trial. The club’s workshop gives owners chance to test their

Beardies under working conditions. It also offers owners the opportunity to see other owners’ dogs in action, to compare notes and enjoy the company of like-minded individuals.

Shepherd Paul Moore uses his five Beardies to herd 1,500 Blackface and Cheviot ewes. “I never see anyone else from week to week, so I don’t know how good other working Beardies are,” remarked Moore. “It’s good to see others working and see how bloodlines compare. I always work with large numbers of sheep, and I prefer Beardies because they’re easier to get along with for everyday work.”

Other shepherds echo his words of praise, citing the breed’s stamina, courage, the ability to work on grounds only suitable for mountain goats, and the Beardie’s “off switch,” which allows it to transition from active herder to relaxed family pet.

But heck, Beardie owners know all about our dogs’ wonderful qualities, don’t we? Though I can concur

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

with the shepherd who admitted, “But they embarrass us sometimes.”

Right.

—Alice Bixler,

alice@bedlamkennels.com

Bearded Collie Club of America

Belgian Malinois

PUTTING UP A GOOD FRONT

Leafing through the 2022 specialty issue of the *ABMC Performer* made me want to write about front assemblies. I wrote a column about the Malinois forehand back in 2015. But perhaps the passage of seven years justifies revisiting the subject? After all, that’s easily two or three canine generations.

In that 2015 column, I surveyed some Malinois judges and asked them what faults were most prevalent in our breed:

“Poor fronts: 40–60 percent; Lacking type: 20–30 percent; Incorrect character: 10–25 percent. These judges also believe that while type has improved over time, structure has not.”



Sicco de Kersouwe, a show line Malinois, born in 1994 and died in 2004 (photo taken in 2000). Sicco was a Netherlands Champion, sired by one of the most famous and prolific dogs in the recent history of the Malinois, Maubray du Maugre.



Nestor, a working-line Malinois (Henok de la Lande de Dracon x Laura du Château de Mirabeau), born in 1997. He won his Mondioring 2 Class the day the photo was taken. He is in lean, hard condition and while not posed in a classic show stack, his power and speed are evident. Photo taken in France in 2002, at the annual Speciale d’Elevage of the Club Francais du Chien de Berger Belge.

COURTESY CARILEE MORAN

HERDING GROUP

Has anything changed since then? My snap judgment based on winners' photos for 2022 is: no. Of the nine show photos that were taken at an angle that allowed meaningful evaluation of the front assembly, I felt that four showed dogs with acceptable fronts, while five others had straight, forward-placed shoulders. This is remarkably close to the 40–60 percent of dogs observed to have poor fronts seven years ago.

What stands in the way of progress? These are the possible reasons I came up with:

- *Good fronts are not understood.*

Education by the breed club or breed mentors is always the key. If you wanted to read just one article to light the flame of your obsession about quality front assemblies, you could start with Christine Zink and Marcia Schlehr's October 2020 article in *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*, "Working Dog Structure: Evaluation and Relationship to Function."

Frontiers | Working Dog Structure: Evaluation and Relationship to Function (frontiersin.org)

- *Good front assemblies are not valued.*

Breeders have the prime responsibility for preserving and improving the breed. If they don't use the Malinois' superior capabilities, they can't and won't value them. They may prioritize other breed characteristics higher than athletic structure. In exerting no selection pressure on fronts, they may be lucky and retain good ones, or unlucky and lose them entirely. Good fronts are a treasure that breeders must guard and send on to the future.

- *The front assemblies of most Malinois are not challenged during their lives with respect to either capability or longevity in work.*

Breeders must apply the selection pressure that maintain our breed's physical talents. There is no substitute for gaining personal experience with the connection between form and

function. This means that breeders must pay due attention to physically challenging their breeding stock. Of course, they cannot do this all alone. They must build networks of cooperators to train and exhibit their dogs in performance or working disciplines. Dog breeding truly takes a village—maybe even a small city! Challenging our world-class athletic Malinois is an enormous modern-day problem not encountered in the previous 30,000 years of our partnership with dogs.

- *Judges reinforce production and exhibition of poor fronts by rewarding them in the show ring.*

We blame judges for a lot of things, but breeders and exhibitors decide what dogs to put forward for judging. If we want judges to withhold awards from unworthy dogs, we must set up an incentive system that makes that an attractive option. Right now, it doesn't.

- *There are no dogs with good fronts to breed to.*

Wrong. There are plenty of Malinois with good fronts

HERDING GROUP

that breeders could choose to access. More likely, a breeder has decided that they are unwilling to compromise on any other feature of their dogs' hard-won signature "look" in order to correct course on fronts. Rejecting variation in less function-related characteristics at the expense of one of the pillars of the Malinois' value, its athleticism, is a shortsighted strategy.

• *Something about an incorrect front contributes to another highly valued breed type characteristic.*

The Malinois breed standard says that the dog's height and length should be equal. In my experience, this equality of length and height is rarely observed. Experience has also shown me that the slightly longer dog will move and jump more easily. This may sacrifice the resemblance of the dog to the often-exaggerated silhouette in breed logos, but the breed logos are never actually asked to *do* anything. I speculate that overvaluing the square

silhouette of the Belgian downgrades the perceived importance of correct shoulder conformation. I further speculate that one of the reasons that short upper arms (which lead to steep, forward-placed fronts) are tolerated is that by placing the dog's shoulders a bit forward, some distance between the front and rear legs is restored, helping to avoid interference of the front and rear during movement. But as the Zink/Schler article points out, these dogs land hard on a column supported more by bone and less by muscle, which can take a toll over time.

• *Lack of or factually incorrect mentoring of newcomers.*

There are actually two problems here. One is that we often leave newbies to flail instead of making a conscious effort to teach them. The other is that if deep knowledge of what a functional front looks like is left to mildew in a corner for long enough, we end up with the unknowing educating the amateur. That

is surely not ideal. There must be a continual chain of foundational knowledge passed from old hand to beginner. Lack of education leads to a gradual loss of the historical threads that molded the Malinois into the premier athlete he is today. With conformation show entries decreasing, maybe good mentoring needs to move with the popular sports. Certainly agility, for example, offers an unending smorgasbord of teaching opportunities. Sidle up to a newcomer and make friends. Teach them.

• *A gap in the translation of the breed standard's words to the reality of the dog.*

The person who reads the words of a breed standard for the first time, and then sees that breed for the first time, may be puzzled by the lack of correspondence between the two things. No one else pays minute attention to the standard, because they all "know" what the words are supposed to mean, regardless of what they actually say. This

HERDING GROUP

is a difficult problem that all breed clubs must wrestle with. There are political factions to appease, critics on all side, and for the true expert, the knowledge that no number of words can ever represent a dog completely. Perhaps more focus could be put on illustrated and video-based standards. After all, it's the age of computers. We all have them in our pockets. Perhaps we could show, not tell, the ideal dog, the range of acceptable structure, and examples of the unacceptable. We can do better.

My base of experience dates from 1983 to the present, and covers a range of show and working lines, as well as different performance activities. With different life experiences, maybe you have some different and interesting ideas. You can always contact me with them at the email address below.

—Carilee (Cole) Moran,
colemich@sbcglobal.net
American Belgian
Malinois Club

Belgian Sheepdogs

SO YOU THINK YOU WANT A BELGIAN?

The Belgian Sheepdog standard says, “He should be watchful, attentive, and always in motion when not under command.” For the right home a Belgian Sheepdog can be a lot of fun. Left to their own ideas, your shoes may be the new favorite toy for a Belgian Sheepdog that is running circles in the backyard. A Belgian Sheepdog is always happiest when he knows his job. Agility, conformation, herding, obedience, rally, and tracking are the corner staples for many a Belgian Sheepdog competitor. As younger generations emerge, we are seeing many Belgian Sheepdogs thriving in newer titling events, including Dock Diving, Fast CAT, scent work, and Trick Dog.

Finding a Belgian Sheepdog breeder can be hard, as the breed is not large in numbers. The website of the breed's parent club, the Belgian Sheepdog Club of America, at

<http://www.BSCA.info>, offers information on club contacts, as well as a Breeder's Directory and many other resources for both current and prospective Belgian Sheepdog owners. Go to a club meeting or event and meet local breeders, owners, and fanciers of the breed, as this is typically the best way for breeders, and for you as well, to get an idea of the home you may become for your prospective Belgian.

You may also find that your home is not for a Belgian due to the breed's high energy level and early socialization needs. That's OK! Better for all to find out now, rather than being heartbroken and having to return the puppy later on.

Temperament in any breed is of importance, and this should be strongly considered along with health when choosing a Belgian Sheepdog. The standard says, “In his relationship with humans, he should be observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive.” He should not show

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

*Ch. Lawry Candide,
Belgian Sheepdog
Club of America, 1963*



fear or shyness. The standard also says “Viciousness is a disqualification.” Yes, as with any breed, there are things to be aware of when considering a Belgian Sheepdog. A responsible breeder will have assessed each puppy individually by the time the litter is 8–9 weeks old and will have a solid understanding of each puppy’s natural aptitude,

instinct, and temperament.

Ideally, your breeder will also be your mentor, as they know their lines best. If this is not an option due to logistics or other variables, try to find a reputable Belgian breeder experienced in mentoring, and see if they are willing to help you out as you learn.

I have two mentors; the first introduced me to my

second breeder, who is also a dear friend and mentor. My situation is not uncommon. Most Belgian folks are always ready to offer a hand if needed. You simply just have to ask.

As a newcomer to the breed, you may wonder about your importance level to the breed and to the club. Why join my regional and national breed clubs? The



BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

answer is while you may be new to the breed, you have a huge opportunity to get involved and learn from those who are working so fiercely to ensure the preservation of our Belgian Sheepdog. You are the future. It is up to you how big or small your impact and influence will be, as you have chosen to participate in the preservation of a pure-bred Belgian Sheepdog.

In the end, if you decide a Belgian Sheepdog is really the best fit for your family, then hooray! Remember, it's typically a 10- to 14-year journey. Be patient, be wise, and listen to your dog and those who are far more experienced in dogs than you. There will be highs, and there will be lows. I've been showing Belgians for six years now. I used to physically shake from nerves anytime I entered a competition ring with a dog. Even after finishing my girl's championship myself, I still got nervous. We've spent the last two years learning dock diving and agility. We found

our working relationship on the dock. We found our confidence in agility. She still humbles me regularly and reminds me that we are a team.

Find your confidence. Find it with your Belgian Sheepdog—and most importantly, don't forget to *have fun!*

—Susan Reed Davis,
sreedsreed@gmail.com
 Belgian Sheepdog Club of America

Belgian Tervuren

EXPECTATIONS VS REALITY

We all remember that trip home with the 10-pound bundle of fluff in our laps, biting our fingers, licking our faces. We remember thinking about our future Best in Show, Grand Champion, HC, CT, MACH, OTCH, RATCH—whatever our passion was at that time. Oh, the expectations we had!

Then the hard work really began once we were home. We worked our tails off getting the best classes we

could: conformation, sport puppy, tracking, introduction to ducks or sheep, and so on. We were exhausted. The puppy was delighted.

Or were they? We have a Belgian—is there anything they can't do? Is there anything we can't excel at?

Then reality starts to make an appearance. When we do multiple things with our dogs, it is our job to be cognizant of the dog's reaction to what we are exposing them to. With some dogs, you may not see a reaction until the second or third exposure—after they have thought about it (the curse of owning clever dogs).

Chances are, our dogs are going to pick up on our enthusiasm and dive into what we ask of them. But what you need to notice is, which of the things turns them inside out? *That* will likely turn out to be their passion.

As a breeder, I like the owner who tells me they want to do sports, but they want to see what the little rocket scientist likes best. A

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP



Athletic and highly intelligent, Belgian Tervurens excel at a wide variety of canine sports, including dock diving and agility.



mutual passion will always bring more success to the game.

Of course, training is a major factor in any success. But you as the new owner need to do your research into the type and temperament of the lines you are looking at.

You also need to assess your own capabilities. Can you build the dog you want? They don't come out of the box winners. Tervuren have their own set of challenges in that they need proper socialization during key periods of their youth. If this is your first Tervuren, let alone your first dog, you will have another set of challenges.

Find a breeder who is knowledgeable in the venue you are looking into. Learn about what it takes to make your new dog a success in that area. Find a breeder who raises their puppies in their home, who observes behavior and temperament in the whelping box, who does health-checks on the parents and requires health-

COURTESY DANA MACKONIS

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

checks on puppies who are sold, whom you can build a relationship with, and who will help you find answers to your questions—even if they themselves do not have the answers. You *will* have questions after you get your pup.

Be open and honest about your expectations. The reality may be that you have more dog than you know how to handle or are inexperienced in achieving such a goal. You may have bitten off more than you can chew—but if so, there is no reason you can't move forward and learn and be the best team you can be.

On the flip side, you may not have enough dog for your passion, or you may have a dog who does not share your enthusiasm for your dreams.

Just as in all our endeavors, we create goals and we have adventures on the journey. The reality is that you want a partner, you want to build a team, and you want to be as good as you can be. Be realistic in your expectations.

—Dana B. Mackonis,
cachetnoir@yahoo.com
 American Belgian
 Tervuren Club

Briards

JUDGES, BE KIND TO NOVICES

She came looking for us at a show. The young lady had just acquired a Briard puppy and couldn't wait to show her. She found us—a couple of Briard exhibitors—and wanted to know all about the breed, shows, and the dogs we were

showing. We answered her questions, explained the complexities of attaining a championship, and encouraged her to contact us when her pup was old enough to compete.

A few months later, while stewarding at a show, I noted there was a single Briard entered. Checking the catalogue, I recognized the name of our eager young friend and made an effort to get to ringside to cheer her on. But schedules don't always work out, and by



Briard

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM



BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

the time I was able to get away, they had already been judged.

However, I saw her and her pup walking away and quickly caught up with them. Her bright smile was gone, her lower lip quivered, and there were tracks of tears on her cheeks. Eventually the story came out.

She had walked into the ring, full of anticipation, an obvious newcomer to the sport with her rambunctious puppy who was more interested in playing than gaiting. The pup was not cooperating when the judge towered over her. With a disgusted look, she stepped back from the wriggling pup.

“I’m running behind schedule now,” she snapped, “and if you can’t take the time to train your dog, then I don’t have the time to judge her. You’re excused!”

The young lady didn’t quite comprehend what it meant to be excused but grasped that she was being sent from the ring in disgrace. “I thought this was supposed to be fun,” she

said ruefully. “I just know I’ll never enter another show.” And that was the last time I saw her.

The “graying” of the dog-show world is a matter of concern. There aren’t enough young people coming into the sport to replace the veterans leaving due to age, health, or economics. Experienced exhibitors are urged to welcome newcomers, be friendly and helpful, and even mentor if requested.

All that camaraderie is wasted, however, if the judge is an ogre. It’s like going to a party where the guests are friendly but the hostess is rude. Nervous novices don’t need the added stress of a gruff or impolite judge.

Fortunately, unpleasant judges are the exception rather than the rule. The majority truly enjoy their jobs and the pleasure of encountering so many wonderful dogs. Of course, judges are only human, contrary to what some may believe. Their feet may hurt, their backs ache, and they

may operate on minimal sleep due to the whims of the airlines. They stand for hours in searing sun or bone-chilling cold at outdoor shows so they might not always feel particularly cheerful.

Some use hand signals to save their voices, and seasoned exhibitors can usually interpret the meaning of these. Here’s one of the places where a newcomer may be at a loss to know what’s expected, though. When the judge waves his hand, the novice may wonder if he should (A) leave, (B) take his dog around the ring, or (C) wave back.

Experienced exhibitors understand if a judge is a bit gruff and don’t take it personally. When it comes to obvious novices, however—and let’s definitely include junior handlers here—judges should put on a smile and do their best to be pleasant and encouraging, for the sake of the sport.

If the above example of rudeness was an isolated case, it could be overlooked.

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

But as someone who stewards frequently and has been showing for more years than I care to admit, I've known of many more similar instances.

It's terrific when exhibitors give newcomers a helping hand, or even just a welcoming smile. But the judge is the one person who makes all the difference when a brand-new exhibitor walks into the ring. Is it going to be an enjoyable experience, or something they'd rather forget?—*Alice Bixler*

[Briard Club of America](#)

Canaan Dogs

PRESERVING THE CANAAN DOG

Many of us in the Canaan Dog fancy are aware that our breed walks a fine line between its existence and disappearance. This is due to several factors: its popularity (or lack thereof), sources of new bloodlines, and health.

The Canaan is not a breed for everyone due to their natural aloofness/



Canaan Dog

reserve, independence, territoriality, and so on. Unlike the Border Collie, Golden Retriever, Sheltie, and other “biddable” breeds, they are not generally eager to listen to instruction, and their high prey-drive can make it difficult to keep them confined. Canaans need a high physical barrier, because they can be escape artists when in pursuit of squirrels, deer, and other fast-moving creatures. An underground fence will not do; the breed is known for high pain tolerance that masks the sting of an electronic collar.

Whenever I've had a litter, I've had an average of about 30 inquiries about the pups and the breed in general, but after a lengthy “warts and all” conversation with those interested, that number falls dramatically when they realize the breed is reactive to its environment, needs to be kept on a lead while on hikes or other outings, requires aboveground fencing, etc. These characteristics, therefore, yield few very dedicated new Canaan owners willing to take on the challenge, and even fewer who want a show-quality

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

puppy for future breeding.

As a molecular biologist by professional training and a hobby breeder-owner-handler, I am thoroughly aware of the small gene pool that Canaans possess, and the great need to retain and gain sources of new bloodlines to maintain genetic integrity. While there are Canaans in the U.S., Canada, Britain, Europe, and of course, Israel, there are only a few breeders (as compared to the more popular breeds) in each of those countries.

In the United States, anti-dog legislation, both passed and proposed, seriously affects hobby breeders in the number of intact dogs and litters that they are allowed within those jurisdictions. Such events, including the lack of new potential breeders, can seriously jeopardize a breed's chances of retaining genetic soundness. Inbreeding, or line-breeding, can promote desired traits, but it must be partnered with genetic testing to avoid equal promotion of undesirable traits such

as degenerative myelopathy, hip dysplasia, liver abnormalities, poor fronts, or poor rears. A small gene pool is highly susceptible to deleterious health effects, temperament, and phenotypic (physical attributes) swings.

Are Canaans on the brink of extinction? Maybe, maybe not. It is up to breeders, owners, and the rest who admire this unique breed that, by their actions now and in the future, can tip the scale in either direction. —*Denise A. Gordon, 2016*

[Canaan Dog Club of America](#)

Cardigan Welsh Corgis

THE RULE OF THIRDS

In photography, composition is the thing—the framing of a shot to create impact. We who are not trained photographers may not know exactly why a photograph appeals, beyond subject matter. But subject matter, be it human, landscape, or canine, can be

framed so that the impact is greater. And that's where the Rule of Thirds comes in.

The Rule of Thirds is a composition technique that places the subject to one side or the other of the central line, vertical or horizontal. It falls into one-third of the photo. The remaining two-thirds are made up of landscape, or color, or something other than the subject.

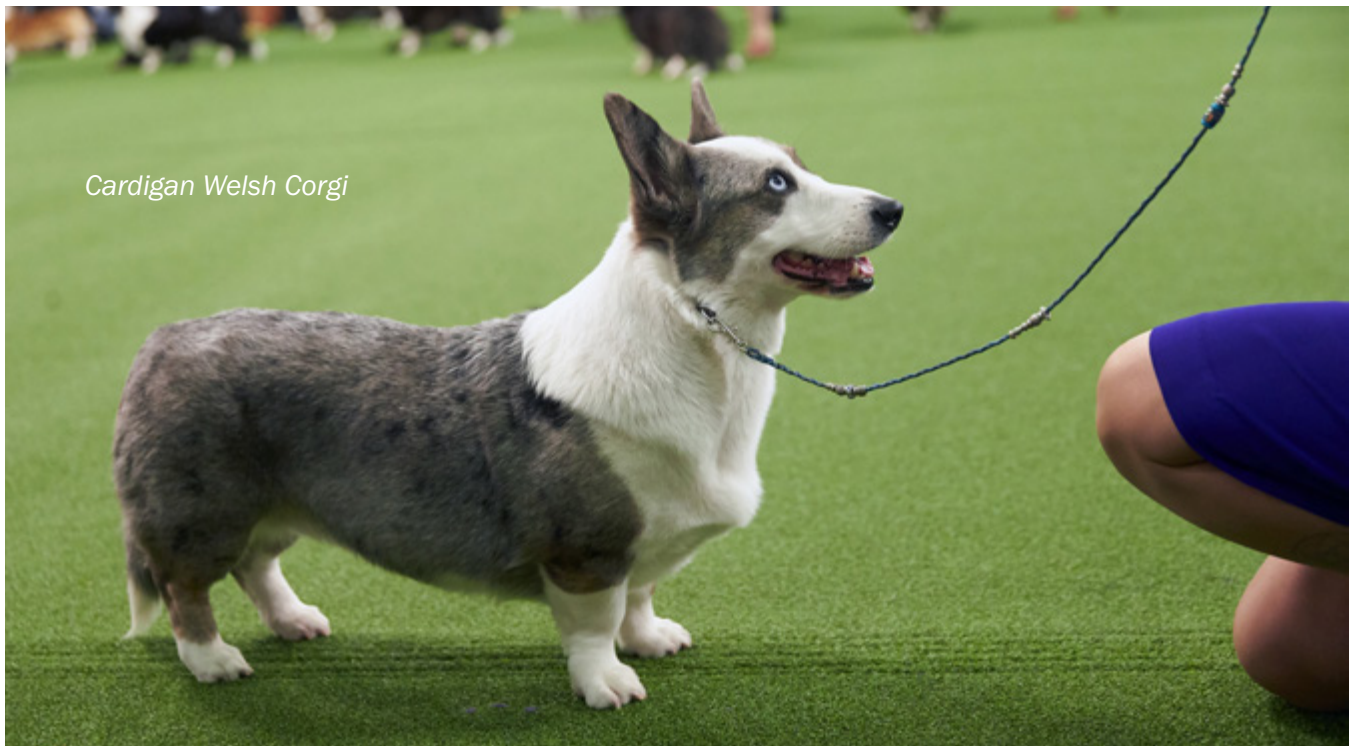
OK, so how does this apply to dogs, and to Cardigans in particular? For this topic, I am refining correct structure to only a few specific elements.

In silhouette, a correct Cardigan has a prominent prosternum, good length of neck blending into the shoulders, and shoulder layback should be approximately 45 degrees.

The body should be long and strong extending from base of the neck to a distinct croup. Length should come from the ribcage, not the loins. The loins meet the upper curve of the stifle, which should have a long,

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP



Cardigan Welsh Corgi

obvious rounded structure and appearance.

Excluding the tail, the bony portion that extends the rear segment of the dog farthest is the ischial tuberosity, what we call in humans the “sit bone.”

To find the Rule of Thirds in Cardigans, which is the desired composition, or conformation, mentally divide the dog into thirds: (1) prosternum to end of shoulder/elbow; (2) from shoulder/elbow to the upper curve of the stifle; (3) from the curve of the stifle to the ischial

tuberosity.

Please note that these three portions are *approximations*. They are not precise, but they nonetheless provide the mental eye with visual landmarks in evaluating a Cardigan silhouette.

The shortest of the three portions is number 3, stifle to ischial tuberosity, especially if the stifle is straight. But the britches fill in some of the missing length.

A Cardigan with the correct assembly of prosternum to layback/elbow; rib/loin to upper stifle; and hip/thigh/

ischial tuberosity ratio, is *balanced*.

How important is balance in a Cardigan? The standard says this: *Overall balance is more important than absolute size.*

The commentary in our superb Illustrated Standard says this: *Overall balance is essential for correct silhouette.*

A good trick for emphasizing evaluation of balance is to examine win photos. Take a ruler, place it vertically behind the shoulder/elbow. Now place it vertically just in front of the bend of stifle.



BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

From there, place it at the ischial tuberosity or somewhat beyond to account for the britches. Britches provide the impression of a third of the body length.

And because white collars on Cardigans can alter the look of the shoulders, try this. Photocopy the photo, fill it in so the entire silhouette is black. Use the bony landmarks to sort out where the ruler should be placed.

If the length between prosternum and shoulder/elbow is shorter than the body segment, the dog is not balanced. Its structure is incorrect. If the body segment is greater, the dog is probably too long in loin and lacks balance.

Overall balance is essential for correct silhouette.

Overall balance, in Cardigans, meets the Rule of Thirds, and not only is it correct but it greatly pleases the eye.

Of such things are winners made.

—Jennifer Roberson

Jennifer Roberson has been showing and breeding

Cardigans for over 30 years. She has served as an officer on the Board of the CWCCA and as chair of Breeders Education.

[Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America](#)

Collies

COLLIE TEMPERAMENT

Temperament—a well-used term, often misunderstood. What is Collie temperament? We currently have a more updated definition that tells us it's an animal's biologic predisposition to stimuli that can be modified or changed. Or in the old days, after I would administer a Volhard aptitude test, "None of this is written in stone, it's things to be aware of and perhaps work on."

Temperament is more complex than the labels of fearful, aggressive, or friendly. There are actually nine traits used to describe a dog's nature. What is the energy/activity level, how regular is the behavior, what is the initial reaction to new

things, how adaptable is he, can he accommodate or does he resist, what is the mood, is he distractible or attentive, what is the attention span, where is the sensory threshold (sound or touch), and how intense is the reaction, exuberant or lethargic?

Our standard doesn't have a separate section defining temperament, instead clues are interspersed throughout. In the beginning it describes Collies as "responsive, active and proud." Later it tells us Collie expression is "bright, intelligent, inquisitive alert and full of sense." It also says that Collies are not "timid, frail, sullen, vicious or lack animation." It reminds us that Collies are of "high intelligence." Most of these descriptions could be applied to the nine traits. Despite this succinct language we still get a pretty good picture of what Collie temperament should be. A Collie who is responsive is working with his human partner on whatever endeavor they choose. As a

HERDING GROUP



herding breed the working relationship is a very symbiotic one, there is more communication required, so activity level, attentiveness, concentration, and resistance to unexpected noise or distraction is essential.

We often hear Collies described as “sensitive” or “soft.” Typically used as a negative, sensitive can also be described as responsive

or receptive. Soft can also be, in its positive definition, easy or flexible. Perhaps we should encourage those definitions to help people see Collies in a more honest, positive light. Collies that are reactive, intolerant of loud noises, or hold a grudge or easily offended are not correct Collie temperament.

Fortunately the switch from old obedience training

methods based on military style has been replaced with much more positive methods, and Collies have been a beneficiary of that. Behaviors such as separation anxiety, sound sensitivity, or reactivity can be attributed to lack of early socialization or family traits of one line, just the individual, or training and upbringing of owners, but should not be hung on the entire breed.

Socialization should begin with the breeder and continue with the new owner so that the dog can fulfill all his behavior potential. Exposure to new locations, new sounds, new people start when the eyes open and don’t stop until the dog is past adolescence. Folks often think they are done at 6 months, for example—but they are just entering the teenage years, and the job is not finished.

The Collie is confident in his surroundings, friendly without necessarily being a super extrovert, intelligent in his ability to learn, and easy to train. He is an active dog

STEPHANIELLEN PHOTOGRAPHY ©AKC

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

willing to go when it's time to go, and to chill when it's time to chill.

When our Collies were first developed in the British Isles they worked on small farms and participated in the everyday chores. They were not designed to work in the Scottish Highlands far off and independently; that was for the Border Collie. Instead, they brought in the milk cows, kept the chickens in line, and moved the sheep from one small pasture to the next. Or they helped take a group to market along the narrow, stone-lined roads to the village, all with the farmer as a partner. We shouldn't forget this heritage.

—Marianne Sullivan,
Charlottesville, Virginia
millknock@embarqmail.com
Collie Club of America

Finnish Lapphunds

LAPPY TRAINABILITY THROUGH AN OBEDIENCE TRAINER'S EYES

I would like to start with a little background on the

AKC and obedience 45 years ago, when I started. The only performance titles available were field, tracking, and obedience. I had my first Siberian and a mixed breed to train. So if you wanted to get obedience titles, you teamed up with a good obedience club and searched for a trainer. Obedience trials would fill to the max every time, often with six rings.

Fast-forward to today. Clubs are lucky to have one judge for *all* classes and fill for the day. This culture we live in today wants instant gratification with minimal effort on their part. Formal obedience does not fall into that category. I feel it is an art. Dog obedience has been compared to horse dressage, in that the training is meticulous and done almost daily. Obedience trials are designed to put handler and dog through exercises, and deductions are taken for executions that are not up to the standard of perfection according to AKC rules.

Formal obedience success

is a combination of dedicated practice and the handler and dog earning mutual respect. If there is no respect from the dog's part, you will get lots of misbehavior falsely interpreted as being untrainable. There needs to be a bond between partners which goes beyond food or toys as rewards.

Obedience training, to me, is shaping human and canine behaviors by using positives, and correction (when needed and appropriately applied) to end up with a team that can complement each other and have a feeling of oneness when trialing. There is no better feeling, to me, than to look into my dog's eyes and feel the excitement they feel by executing exercises that we both truly love to perform.

I have trained six Lappies in my obedience career, and I earned and gave respect with them all. They all had differing personalities and needed training tailored specifically to each one. I would categorize lappies, on the whole, as extremely

BREED COLUMNS



HERDING GROUP



Lorraine Paglini and her Finnish Lapphund Ryppy (Sugarok Harkaryppy). Having earned the OTCH, MACH, PACH, UDX4, and many other titles, Ryppy is the most-titled Lappy in the breed's history.

trainable in any endeavor, although somewhat soft, and for me personally, living up to my expectations as a perfect obedience partner. Lappies are easy to train and

very willing partners. If they were not, I would never have achieved all the successes that I did with Lappies.

One suggestion for the inspired obedience enthu-

siast is to find a seasoned trainer who *knows* dog behavior. You should be looking for a person that has trained dogs at least to a UDX title (Utility Dog

COURTESY LORRAINE PAGLINI

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

Excellent). This means that their dogs are consistently qualifying in the highest categories, and the trainer has experience in understanding how to maintain a dog's willing attitude.

If there are training clubs in your area, go and observe the highest level that is offered and see if their training appeals to you and your dog's personality. You can also ask for references from these clubs, or at dog shows, if you see a team that has impressed you.

If you still cannot find a suitable trainer, you can go on the internet. Then, when you have a suitable trainer, purchase a notebook and take notes after every training session with your instructor, and your personal training sessions. Read your notes before you train, to refresh your mind, so you will make the best of your sessions, and progress.

And a last bit of advice: Obedience training is serious training in my mind, but I never let on to my pups. I *always* keep it fun for them.

Happy training!
—Lorraine Paglini,
hairylhusky1@aol.com
Finnish Lapphund Club
of America

Icelandic Sheepdogs OF COATS, COLORS, AND CLAWS

Although the AKC officially recognized the Icelandic Sheepdog in 2010, many owners and handlers acknowledge that they are often asked at dog shows or out on the street, “What kind of dog is *that*?” Questioners sometimes supply their own answer, naming other pure breeds, but more often they guess a mix in creative combinations. Their questions (and answers) should not surprise given the range of possible coat lengths, colors, and claw structures found within the breed. How are they all Icelandic Sheepdogs?

The breed standard indicates two types of coats—short and long—with a moderately coarse

outercoat for both lengths, and a correspondingly shorter undercoat that is thick and soft. However, individuals may exhibit variations, all falling within the standard: in the length of the coat (anywhere from very short to long); in the texture of the outercoat, from soft to very coarse; and in the thickness of the undercoat.

Regarding the coat on certain parts of the body, the standard reads, “In both lengths, the hair is shorter on the face, top of the head, ears and front of the legs; and longer on the neck, chest and back of the thighs.” The bushiness of the curled tail corresponds with the length of the outercoat.

When it comes to coat lengths and textures, there is recognized and allowable variety within the breed.

The same is true for coat colors, though a single color should be predominant, and white should always be present. The standard says, “The predominant

HERDING GROUP



Icelandic Sheepdogs can be long-or short-coated in shades of tan from cream to brown, as well as grey and black, with white always present and sometimes including tan points. Shown are two cream-colored dogs, with one short-coated.

colors are: various shades of tan, ranging from cream to reddish brown; chocolate brown; grey; and black.” White often appears on the head or face, collar, chest, legs, and tip of tail.

The standard gives further detail: “Lighter shading often occurs on the underside of the dog from throat to tip of tail. On tan and grey dogs, a black mask, black tips to the outer hairs and even occasional black hairs often occur. Black (tri-color) dogs have a black coat, white markings as mentioned above and traditional markings in any of the various tan colors on the cheeks, over the eyes

(eyebrows) and on the legs. Patches of the above colors on a white background (pied) are permitted.”

Despite such a range of coat colors and markings, the standard declares as a fault “a solid black mantle or saddle on any of the tan colored dogs.”

A distinguishing feature of the Icelandic Sheepdog (though not unique to them) is the presence of dewclaws on the forelegs and hindlegs. Well-developed hind double dewclaws that may function as an additional toe are desirable in the breed. Rarely, an individual has double dewclaws on all four

feet (identified as *alspori* or *alspora* in Icelandic), and that characteristic is sometimes recognized in the naming of the animal (for example, *Alspori frá Ólafsvöllum*).

Clearly, diversity is a characteristic of this breed! To learn more about the breed standard regarding coats, colors, claws, and other matters, visit the website of the Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America at <https://www.icelanddogs.com/akc-breed-standard>.

—Dr. Karen B. Westerfield Tucker,
kbethwt@yahoo.com
Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America

COURTESY ISAA

HERDING GROUP

Norwegian Buhunds

FUN WITH TRICKS

Whenever my Norwegian Buhunds meet kids—whether during dog therapy, or at a store, or walking in the park—one of the most common questions I am asked is, “Can your dogs do any tricks?” And because I enjoy teaching tricks to my Buhunds, my answer, invariably, is “Yes, they love doing tricks!” To kids (and the general public), performing tricks is what intelligent and well-trained dogs do.

Teaching tricks is a wonderful winter project, since they do not take much space to train. Most tricks can be taught in a small room, as long as the flooring has good footing and is padded. This training is especially nice for high-energy breeds such as Norwegian Buhunds. These dogs do not care that it is below zero outside and freezing, and that walking is hazardous due to the ice layer on top of the snow; they need activities to engage their



Norwegian Buhund

minds and bodies. Tricks are an opportunity to offer an alternate winter activity that we can all enjoy. Otherwise Buhunds are likely to create their own “enrichment” activities that are unlikely to meet with human approval—such as herding all the shoes in the house to a secret safe spot known only to the Buhunds.

Trick-performing dogs can be valuable when entertaining friends. Canine party tricks can help entertain and bring up the energy level of your gathering. However, if you are trying to entertain

your friends with canine party tricks, those friends are often not interested in seeing a perfect and precise recall to front and finish, no matter how long you spent training those behaviors. My friends are a lot more entertained and impressed by seeing my Buhunds try to weave between my legs or jump through my arms or spin in circles—behaviors that are likely to take much less time and effort to train than precision obedience moves.

Tricks are also involved in the “demos” that my

STEPHANIELLEN PHOTOGRAPHY ©AKC



BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

Norwegian Buhunds have given in numerous classes, at school assemblies, and even at an occasional school board meeting. The tricks that go over best are the ones that involve audience participation. One of the most popular tricks at school assemblies is “roll over,” with all the kids joining in giving the physical cue. And performing the cue is often memorable enough for the kids to replicate it at the next assembly.

And the best part of training your Buhunds to perform tricks? There is no pressure at all! We can give up our need for perfection and just enjoy the process. So what if your Buhund insists on spinning to the left when you want to teach her to spin to the right? You can just go with the flow and teach a left spin.

After all, trick training is a time to have fun with your Buhunds, tell them how smart they are, and show how much you love them.

—Jasmine Tata,
jtata2@yahoo.com
 Norwegian Buhund Club
 of America

Old English Sheepdogs

EAR CARE

In previous columns, I discussed problems associated with our breed’s rough, shaggy coat. Earlier columns covered butts and feet. Another place Old English can have unwanted hair is in the ear, including the ear canal. This month’s column focuses on what the non-show owner can do to avoid ear problems that require a trip to your veterinarian. (My assumption is that people who show can already clean ears.)

There are several symptoms that can indicate your dog’s ears may need attention. These include scratching, rubbing the ear, or head shaking. If you notice any of these symptoms, then lift up the ear-flap. You are likely to see dark debris on the underside of the flap. In addition, hair

growing out of the ear canal will probably be discolored, typically some shade of red or brown. If your inspection shows that the ear is red, painful, or has an unpleasant odor, then you may be dealing with an infection that requires veterinary assistance. However, unless your dog actually has some type of ear infection or mites, you should be able to successfully clean your dog’s ears.

When you begin, you should have a number of items at hand. These include cotton balls, Q-tips, a clamping hemostat, some type of ear-wash solution, and a suitable ear powder.

The debris on the inner ear flap will be an accumulation of dirt and natural oil off the dog’s coat. This can be easily removed by wiping the area with a cotton ball soaked with your ear cleaning solution. White vinegar works well for this and shifts the pH of the ear, which helps combat infections.

The ear canal probably

HERDING GROUP



*Old English
Sheepdog*

contains the same sort of debris. To remove this, squirt your cleaning solution into the opening of the ear and then massage the area so that the cleaning solution coats the entire ear canal. After waiting a few minutes, carefully insert Q-tips a short distance into the ear to remove the softened debris. The first few will likely be covered in dark goo, so keep

working at debris removal until the Q-tips come back clean. If you are worried about damaging the eardrum, you can use a tightly twisted tissue in place of the Q-tip.

The final step is to remove the hair from the inside of the ear. The writer prefers to add some powder to the target area before removing hair. Powder seems to help

loosen the hair and provides a better grip when plucking it. A medicated powder, like Gold Bond with zinc oxide, may provide some extra medicinal benefits. There is also a commercial product (R-7) that contains rosin, which improves the grip on the hair when removing it. The hair on the inside of the ear-flap can probably be pulled out with your fingers. However, you will need the hemostat to pluck the hair growing in the ear canal. If the hair in the ear canal has formed a single, heavy matt you should pluck it progressively rather than trying to pull it out all at once.

If you haven't cleaned the ears for a while, you will want to follow-up with something that soothes the tissue irritated by cleaning and plucking. One choice is the enzymatic product Zymox with one-percent hydrocortisone. The latter will soothe the irritated tissue while the enzymes work to minimize further infections. If you don't do something like this, your dog is likely to

DAVID WOO ©AKC

HERDING GROUP

continue scratching or shaking his head. If the shaking is violent enough, the dog may develop a hematoma, necessitating the trip to the veterinarian's that you wanted to avoid.

If you keep your OES in coat, but are not showing, there is a final trick to minimize ear problems. Because the shaggy hair around the ears blocks air access, conditions in the ear canal can become anaerobic, promoting infection. The solution is to shave the hair on the inside of the ear-flap and the area on the face just below the ear-canal opening. The shaved areas will hardly be noticeable but will significantly improve air circulation to the ear.—*Joe Schlitt*

The mention of branded products is for information only and is not an endorsement of the products. Thanks to Jill Christofferson, DVM, of Walnut Creek Veterinary Hospital, who reviewed this column.

[Old English Sheepdog Club of America](#)

Pembroke Welsh Corgis

ACTIVITIES FOR THE PEMBROKE MIND AND BODY

The Pembroke Welsh Corgi is a breed that needs to have both mental and physical activity on a regular basis in order to satisfy its working heritage. Holes in the yard are often an indication that my Pembrokes need more engaging activities!

People who show are aware of the various events open to the breed, including herding, tracking, obedience, rally, agility, Fast CAT, and more. These events allow the Pembroke to exercise its mind as well as its body. A weekend herding clinic is guaranteed to have worn-out dogs who will sleep in on Monday morning.

If it is not possible to train on a regular basis in the events previously mentioned, there are still activities you can do to help your Pembroke get the mental and physical exercise needed. It can be as simple as going for different types of walks. A leisurely walk

with plenty of time for sniffing is easy on both members of the team. A power walk is one in which the dog walks or trots at a consistent pace with no stopping.

If it is safe to do so, your Pembroke will appreciate being able to run off leash in areas that have hills and woods and things to investigate. Do not force your dog to go farther than he is comfortable. Conditioning is important.

For rainy days, hide-and-seek games are always good. Hide a favorite toy for your Pembroke to find. Or, make a kibble trail, where their breakfast or dinner must be "hunted." You can get several boxes and place a favorite treat in one, encouraging your dog to find it. Use the same box and another treat and move the boxes around. You can stack boxes, or spread them into an adjacent room. These rudimentary searches are the basis for scentwork. There are commercial puzzle games for dogs, where the dog must move pieces

BREED COLUMNS



HERDING GROUP



to get the treats. (Many Pembroke owners complain that the puzzle games are not challenging enough!) Snuffle mats, where treats are hidden within the layers, will occupy the dog's nose and brain.

You can always teach your Pembroke tricks. The AKC Trick Dog program consists of several levels of progressively harder tricks. Check out the program for ideas of things to teach your dog. He may already know touch, sit, jump, and give kisses. You can glean more ideas from the list. You can also shape behaviors so that when your dog returns with the tennis ball, he can learn to put it in your hand rather than dropping it at your feet—and a new trick is born. Shape it some more, and he can become a basketball player, slam-dunking the ball into a

Fast CAT, herding, and trick-training are just a few of the many activities that give Pembroke Welsh Corgis the exercise of mind and body they so need and enjoy.

COURTESY LYNDA MCKEE

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

wastebasket held at varying heights. The AKC offers virtual Trick Dog titles in addition to passing a test administered in person by a certified evaluator.

When a Pembroke must be on crate rest, such as because of an injury, the lack of exercise can present problems. Frozen, stuffed Kong toys can provide entertainment for a while. Knuckle-bones to chew or a toy to squeak can help entertain the patient. Keeping the dog on leash and rolling a tennis ball to him can replace the long chases to get the ball. Entertain him by letting him find a cookie under a cup, and then adding more cups to increase the difficulty level. Using his part of his regular meal ration for rewards can help keep his weight down. Teach the patient the names of his toys as a mental exercise.

You can use parts of any of the AKC events to teach your Pembroke to use his mind and body. Most of all, have fun, because that

is what being owned by a Pembroke is all about!

—Lynda McKee,
TifflynLDM@aol.com
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi
 Club of America

Pulik

PULI CLINGONS

Getting debris tangled into a coated dog breed is no surprise. Enter the Puli with a coat that has Velcro-like qualities when the dog is transitioning from puppy coat to the adult coat of cords. It is a whole new ballgame! Anything and everything can end up in the coat—for example, I (and other Puli owners) have found plant material such as leaves, twigs, full-size branches, brambles, cactus(!), thorny and non-thorny vines, burrs/stickers (including “beggar’s lice,” a type of plant that produces small hook-like seeds on the pods that they grow), catkins (oak tassels), pine needles, dandelion fluff, acorns, birdseed, and sweet-gum tree balls, to name a

few. Pulik especially seem to love to roll in mowed grass or hay, much to the horror of their caregivers.

Other natural items reportedly found in Puli coats include June bugs (often just in pieces), cicadas, baby toads, and even a live(!) bee.

The following household items (to name just a few) have also been found embedded in the Puli coat: yarn/string, rug fibers, and even actual Velcro strips.

Puli owners, particularly those new to the breed, ask in exasperation how to get debris out of the coat quickly and without removing hair. The best method is using your fingers. Most every Puli owner has little piles of things picked out of the coat lying on the edges of coffee-tables and elsewhere.

I personally think it’s unrealistic to walk a Puli only on pavement or manicured grass. If you are someone who wants to take a Puli for a hike (i.e., somewhere where leaves or twigs may



During the 2019–2020 bushfire season in Australia, many young wild animals were left orphaned. On two separate occasions during the season, while journeying outdoors a Puli named Kato allowed an orphaned baby possum that was drawn to him to cling to his coat and come home with him. Both possums were later successfully taken to wildlife rescue services.

be picked up by the coat), then you should anticipate that you might be pulling out individual bits of debris by hand for up to two hours. (Hopefully your Puli didn't get into something truly awful that would take longer!)

I like for my Pulik to be able to really run and stretch their legs. We live out in the country with a bunch of oak

trees, and there are times I feel like I actually need a leaf-blower for inside the house to get rid of what the dogs are bringing in. But a happy and well-exercised Puli to me is worth the extra effort.

Some folks swear by T-shirts or various types of outfits that they put on the dogs to try to lessen

the amount of debris in the coat—but then you have to remember you need to be careful that you don't cause the Puli to overheat while being wrapped up like a sausage.

A large part of having a Puli in coat is the realization that keeping a corded coat in good condition requires picking out debris *constantly*.

COURTESY SALLY AND JON WATKINSON

HERDING GROUP

Probably one of the most unusual things found clinging to Puli cords was reported during the 2019–2020 Australian bushfire season. A Puli named Kato had an orphaned young ringtail possum (later determined to be a young female) hanging onto him, the possum apparently having climbed aboard to hitch a ride. The owner reported that Kato was seemingly oblivious to his hitchhiker. After efforts were made to contact wildlife rescue, the owner walked Kato and his Puli friend Hugo to the vet, where the possum was removed and held overnight for wildlife rescue to collect her. The young possum was last reported to be doing well and would be staying there until she was well and old enough to be released on her own.

Surprisingly a similar event took place shortly thereafter, with yet another young possum found hanging onto Kato's back. After yet another walk to the vet (and again to the shock of

the staff), this possum too was removed and held for pickup by wildlife rescue. This second hitchhiker was a young orphaned male who also was apparently in good health and also transferred to wildlife rescue for care and later release.

Thank you to Sally Watkinson for allowing me to reshare the Puli and possum account, and to Jon for the great photographs.

(For readers in the U.S., please note that Australian possums do not look like their American relative, the opossum. While both possums and opossums are marsupials, they are, technically and scientifically, two very different animals.)

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

Spanish Water Dogs

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

Averaging 126 registrations in each of the five years 2017–2021 and considered a “low-entry breed” in AKC shows, Spanish

Water Dogs are still a rare breed in the U.S. While the concerns of ethical breeders of any purebred dogs should be similar, breeders of a rare breed require an extra level of vigilance, thoughtfulness, and fortitude in their breeding programs.

Deep understanding of dog structure and the breed standard is best accomplished with knowledgeable mentorship and rich, respectful discussion. An “eye” for type, proper coat, correct movement, and so on is greatly enhanced through the observation over time of many informally and in the show ring.

With an historical high of 73 “unique” dogs entered in conformation in 2021, it is clear that the show world isn't exactly “on fire” with Spanish Water Dogs. The breed would benefit from many more current breeders and owners entering dog shows with a desire to learn and also a subsequent willingness to make appropriate adjustments to their breeding programs.

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP



Many people researching dog breeds may find the Spanish Water Dog's appearance and outstanding qualities appealing without being aware of the breed's unique traits and needs. Breeders of this rare breed work hard to ensure that puppies go only to carefully screened homes that are the right fit.

As a SWD breeder, *adorable* is a word that strikes fear in my heart. Far too often potential owners are overly influenced by cute puppies and the promise of a low-shedding coat and a medium-sized dog. With

the high likelihood that they have never actually met an SWD, buyers easily convince themselves that this is the right breed for them. Meanwhile, they often know little of the breed's unique temperament peculiarities,

potential health problems, or grooming and exercise needs.

Breeders must work hard to inform would be buyers and ensure that those buyers actually hear and understand the information and

COURTESY MARNIE HARRISON



BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

be prepared to say “no” to families for whom they think an SWD puppy is not the right choice. Ethical breeders also need to be on standby for the duration of that puppy’s life should something go wrong with the placement.

Genetic diversity needs to be constantly monitored within a breeding population of a rare breed. While a steady trickle of imported dogs continues to arrive in North America, the original core of dogs used to re-establish the breed in Spain was only about 50. The progeny of those dogs has scattered across Europe and other parts of the world and are now many generations deep. Even so, extensive pedigree programs cannot always predict how the genes have sorted themselves over those generations.

It is critical that breeders access DNA testing to track the coefficients of inbreeding of their litters to maintain vigor in future generations. Distances

between breeders, costs of AI, and smaller numbers of desirable dogs may lead to repeated matings, which also leads to further narrowing of options in the future.

Contributing to diversity concerns are known and unknown health problems and temperament challenges. For such a rare breed, we have been fortunate to have identified genetic markers for several health problems, most of which result only when a double recessive gene is present. Because breeders need to weigh risk with the need to maximize the diversity of available breeding, debate arises about using carriers, or dogs with “Fair” or “Moderate” hips. Additionally, the historic wariness of the breed is often problematic for new owners. Thoughtful breeders see the need to soften this somewhat, but also do not want to change who the breed is. Ultimately, any dog removed from the breeding pool of a rare breed is a unique set of genes that is

forever lost to the future of the breed.

So, while a breed that only needs four dogs to make a “major” may be the envy of others, the limitations and complexities for potential breeders of a rare breed are many. Fanciers must consider carefully whether they “have what it takes.”

—Marnie Harrison,
[Spanish Water Dog Club of America](#)

Swedish Vallhunds

A DOG FIT FOR PURPOSE

When one shows a less-common breed like the Swedish Vallhund, it stands to reason that even well-traveled and well-educated judges likely haven’t seen many examples. At a show recently, I was thrilled to see a judge take the time to consult the breed standard to clarify their understanding before awarding ribbons.

In a breed with some unusual aspects (for one: Swedish Vallhunds can have any kind of tail, from

HERDING GROUP



Swedish
Vallhund

nonexistent, to half a tail, to a full, long tail, and most importantly, all tail types are equally acceptable, and the tail is *not judged* in the breed ring; for another, the breeds the Swedish Vallhund most resembles, the Corgis, have entirely different length to height ratios than Vallhunds do), it's gratifying and reassuring to see a judge make sure that he or she is actually judging to the published breed standard.

While as breeders and breed fanciers we should be exhibiting dogs we think are good examples of the breed, since we are the breed's guardians, judges should also be ensuring that they

have a good understanding of the breed standard and awarding dogs accordingly. Seeing a judge double-check their knowledge, especially in a breed where one generally sees one or two (if any) examples at a show, is very heartening.

There have been articles published recently that discuss the growing concern in many areas of the fancy that some judges seem to be looking for "generic show dogs." One presumes that these are dogs who meet a certain standard for movement and type, regardless of whether this is correct for their breed. Most dog fanciers like a flashy mover

or a well-built dog of any breed, but it behooves us to take into account whether a flashy side gait, level topline, or well-laid-back shoulder (or whatever) is actually what is correct for the breed. And it's even more important that judges keep the breed standard (and the breed's purpose it describes) in mind.

The Swedish Vallhund is a farm dog. He should look fit for purpose. He shouldn't be too heavily built nor too light. He's meant to herd cattle and kill vermin, and he should be agile and sturdy and sensible. He's also meant to be the farmer's alert dog and companion, so he shouldn't be fearful or aggressive. Our standard describes this (as all standards do), and I hope judges feel free to consult our standard if they have any doubts about their understanding of our breed. We as breed fanciers will be very thankful for it! —*Amanda Lowery, 2018*

[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.

8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617
101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178

Raleigh, NC Customer Call Center.....(919) 233-9767
New York, NY Office(212) 696-8200
Fax(212) 696-8299
Websitewww.akc.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DR. THOMAS M. DAVIES, CHAIRMAN • DOMINIC P. CAROTA, VICE CHAIRMAN

CLASS OF 2023
DR. J. CHARLES GARVIN
STEVEN HAMBLIN
DANIEL J. SMYTH, ESQ.

CLASS OF 2025
RITA J. BIDDLE, ESQ.
DOMINIC P. CAROTA
DR. THOMAS DAVIES
THOMAS POWERS

CLASS OF 2024
DR. CARMEN L. BATTAGLIA
DR. MICHAEL KNIGHT
KAROLYNNE M. MCATEER

CLASS OF 2026
CHRISTOPHER L. SWEETWOOD
HAROLD "RED" TATRO III
ANN WALLIN

THE LATE RONALD H. MENAKER, Chairman Emeritus
DENNIS B. SPRUNG, Ex Officio

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

DENNIS B. SPRUNG GINA M. DINARDO THEODORE PHILLIPS
President Executive Secretary Chief Financial Officer
Chief Executive Officer

VICE PRESIDENTS

KIRSTEN BAHLKE, Marketing
MARK DUNN, Executive Vice President
KEITH FRAZIER, Executive Vice President, Business Support Services
RONALD FURMAN, Media, Broadcasting and Sponsorship
SHEILA GOFFE, Government Relations
BRANDI HUNTER MUNDEN, Public Relations & Communications
DOUG LJUNGREN, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events
HEATHER MCMANUS, Vice President & General Counsel
MARI-BETH O'NEILL, Sport Services
PAULA SPECTOR, Corporate Services
DAPHNA STRAUS, Business Development
TIM THOMAS, Judging Operations

TRIAL BOARDS

APPEALS TRIAL BOARD
MARTHA FELTENSTEIN, ESQ., CHAIR
BARBARA W. MIENER, ESQ.
BARBARA PENNY, ESQ.

TRIAL BOARD CHAIRS
THERESA DOWELL, ESQ.
EUGENIA HUNTER, ESQ.
LAURIE RAYMOND, ESQ.

TRIAL BOARD MEMBERS
DR. KLAUS ANSELM
KATHI BROWN
MEDORA HARPER
DONNA HERZIG
CARL HOLDER
LAURIE MAULLUCCI
DR. ROBERT MYALL
HON. JAMES PHINIZY
ROBERT STEIN
BETTY-ANNE STENMARK
SYLVIA THOMAS

PERFORMANCE TRIAL BOARD
JOSEPH BENAGE, ESQ.
TIM CARWILE, ESQ., CHAIR
JOHN RUSSELL

ALTERNATES
BILL TEAGUE
ROBERT W. MONTLER

ATTENTION DELEGATES

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, March 14, 2023**, beginning no earlier than 9:00 a.m. There will not be a Delegate Forum.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

American Toy Fox Terrier Club

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

Eileen Barbieri, Pine Plains, NY,
Mid-Hudson Kennel Club

Peter Festa, Smithtown, NY,
Westbury Kennel Association

Dr. Marthina Greer, Lomira, WI,
Waukesha Kennel Club

Howard Gussis, Kenosha, WI,
American Bullmastiff Association

Beth Hendrick, Sterling, VA,
English Cocker Spaniel Club of America

Karen Justin, Westtown, NY,
Great Pyrenees Club of America

Chris Marston, Alexandria, VA,
Mount Vernon Dog Training Club

Christian W. Paris, Elverson, PA,
Pocono Beagle Club

Jessica Ricker, Youngstown, OH, Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club



akcgazette

Click here to read the **March 2023** issue!

SECRETARY'S PAGES

John C. Schneider, Kingston, MA,
Middlesex County Kennel Club

Howard Solomon, Newton, NJ,
Bedlington Terrier Club of America

Sally Sotirovich, Glen Head, NY,
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America

Lee Ann Stusnick, Shawnee, OK
to represent Schipperke Club of America

Frederick Vogel, Pomfret Center, CT,
Eastern Dog Club

NOTICE

There are three vacancies for the Board of Directors Class of 2027.

Pursuant to Article VIII of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the following Delegates have either been nominated by the Nominating Committee appointed by the Board of Directors or have been endorsed in writing by the required number of Delegates as additional candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as are to be filled at the next Annual Meeting of the Club on March 14, 2023:

Class of 2027

Eduardo Fugiwara,
Two Cities Kennel Club

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

Steven Hamblin,
Pekingese Club of America

Daniel J. Smyth, Esq.,
Burlington County Kennel Club, Inc.

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. Nicole King (Lebanon, IN)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for one year and imposed a \$1,000 fine, for non-compliance with AKC's Care and Conditions policy (unacceptable conditions, dogs, and/or facility) identification requirements:

Effective February 14, 2023:

Mr. David Liskey (Broadway, VA) Golden Retrievers

Ms. Debra Ratcliff (Prairie Du Richer, IL) Multiple Breeds

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Mr. Yasser Elgebaly (Plano, TX) and imposed a \$100 fine, for signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney form. (Doberman Pinschers)

SECRETARY'S PAGES

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Ms. Debra Romeo (Charleston, WV) for signing AKC documents on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney form. (Golden Retrievers)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. Jesus Pimental (Magna, UT & Salt Lake City, UT) from all AKC privileges for six months and imposed a \$500 fine, for non-compliance with AKC's record keeping and dog identification requirements, effective February 14, 2023. (Bulldogs, French Bulldogs)

NOTICE

The AKC's Board of Directors has suspended Mr. Troy Vietmeier (Cottage Grove, MN) from AKC registration privileges for four-years and imposed a \$4,000 fine, for harassment, verbal or written, effective May 10, 2022. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for a lifetime and imposed a \$10,000 fine, for violation of AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy:

Effective February 11, 2022:

Mr. Rueben Esh (Gordonville, PA) Multiple Breeds

Effective February 14, 2023:

Ms. Anita "Kathy" Belaire (Carencro, LA & Opelousas, LA) Multiple Breeds

NOTICE

REPRIMANDS AND FINES

Notification of a Fine Imposed on a Club for Not Fulfilling Their Responsibility To Hold an Event Committee Hearing *Dealing With Misconduct*, Section 1

Caddo Kennel Club of Texas.....\$500

Notification of a Fine Imposed on a Club for Violation of Premium List Requirements, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 11 Section 4 Westminster Kennel Club.....Reprimand

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for Late Submission of Results *Regulations for Lure Coursing Tests and Trials*, Chapter 10. Gazehounds of New England Lure Coursing Club\$175
New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club\$115

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for Late Submission of Results *Coursing Ability Test (CAT) and Fast CAT Regulations*, Chapter 10.
Housatonic Cairn Terrier Club.....\$100
Cairn Terrier Club of Denver.....\$100
Lawrence Jayhawk Kennel Club, Inc.....\$100
Piedmont Kennel Club.....\$50
Silver State Kennel Club.....\$50

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Tortoise and Hare Lure Coursers Club.....\$80
 Upper Chesapeake Bay Saluki Club.....\$80

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for Late Submission of Results *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds*, Chapter 13, Section 3.

GSP Club of Oregon.....\$80
 Weimaraner Club of America\$100

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for Late Submission of Results *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers*, Chapter 13.

Ozaukee Retriever Club.....\$50
 American Amateur Retriever Club\$100
 Lincoln Trail Retriever Club.....\$200
 South Louisiana Retriever Club\$50

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for Late Submission of *Results Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers*, Chapter 1, Section 21.

Castile Creek Retriever Club\$100
 Magnolia Retriever Club\$175
 Sandhills Retriever Club\$50

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for Late Submission of Results *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels*, Chapter 14, Section 3.

Maine Spaniel Field Trial Club.....\$115
 Ohio Valley English Springer Spaniel Club\$50

Weimaraner Club of Greater Louisville.....\$50
 English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc. ...\$100

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for Late Submission of Results *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Beagle Field Trials*, Chapter 8, Section 6.

Gogebic Range Beagle Club\$50
 Tri County Beagle Club of Massachusetts.....\$50
 Western Tennessee Beagle Club\$50
 East Carolina Beagle Club\$50

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for Late Submission of Results *AKC Herding Regulations, Farm Dog Certified (FDC) Test Regulations*, Chapter 1, Section 17.

Wolverine Great Dane Club of Western Michigan \$50
 Richland County Kennel Club, Inc.....\$100

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,

SECRETARY'S PAGES

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.

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

Sandra Ebarb (109893) KS

(316) 253-4140

Sebarb1954@gmail.com

Schipperkes

Mr. Israel Garcia (111901) TX

(512) 605-7658

izzy-garcia@hotmail.com

Afghan Hounds

Carol Hjort (111584) NC

(336) 416-1957

hjortac@gmail.com

Samoyeds

Amy Kessler (110997) KS

(913) 206-1986

lionheartbernese@gmail.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs

Mrs. Kelly Leonard (111922) MI

(734) 846-8015

kleonard734@gmail.com

American Foxhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, JS

Mr. Michael L. Savage (111869) WA

(509) 999-1800

irishbrook@yahoo.com

Borzoi

Ms. Sheila A. Thulin (111927) CA

(815) 236-5244

tophat3@me.com

Smooth Fox Terriers

Sharon Walls (100575) NV

sharon.walls@icloud.com

Salukis

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez (97321) FL

(954) 434-0318

minsmere954@yahoo.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds, Schipperkes), Afghan Hounds, Bloodhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Otterhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Mr. Kurt D. Anderson (18749) CT

(203) 640-6460

kurt@kmander.com

Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs

Mr. John Arvin (57337) NJ

(609) 891-0417

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Ridgebacks@mysticrrs.com

Azawakhs, Basenjis, Cirnechi dell'Etna,
Dachshunds, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets
Griffons Vendeens, Harriers, Otterhounds

Mrs. Nichole Bartlett (108924) AZ

(952) 215-6803

brandsbmw@yahoo.com

Greyhounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Rhodesian
Ridgebacks, Whippets

Dr. Johan Becerra-Hernandez (111406) FL

(787) 447-8540

johanbeclove@hotmail.com

Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, Chow Chows, Dalma-
tians, French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos, Poodles, Ti-
betan Spaniels

Terry L. Berrios (7393) GA

(678) 447-6383

judgeberrios@gmail.com

Afghan Hounds, Basenjis, Basset Hounds, Bea-
gles, Bloodhounds, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds,
Norwegian Elkhounds, Salukis, Sloughi

Mrs. Janet Bodin (101381) WI

(414) 614-76822

jbodin@wi.rr.com

Bearded Collies

Terrie Breen (65930) CT

(860)539-6222

brenta@aol.com

Biewer Terriers, English Toy Spaniels, Russian
Toys, American Eskimo Dogs, Tibetan Spaniels

Mr. Phil Briasco (66406) FL

(352) 427-6992

aranisle@cfl.rr.com

Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Italian Grey-
hounds, Maltese, Russian Toys, Shih Tzu

Ms. Bridget J. Brown (102665) AL

(205) 515-8753

jackeye@bellsouth.net

Boerboels, Chinooks, German Pinschers,
Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Newfoundlands, Saint
Bernards, Standard Schnauzers

Mrs. Regina Lee Bryant (105299) CA

(209) 327-8778

catoriaussies@gmail.com

Affenpinschers, Belgian Sheepdogs, Berger Pi-
cards, Shetland Sheepdogs

Mr. Joseph Buchanan (104137) PA

(610) 931-3670

kennelaleema@gmail.com

Bluetick Coonhounds, Harriers, Irish
Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Salukis,
Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Mrs. Christine E. Calcinari (7041) NH

(603) 334-9816

belhaven.nh@icloud.com

Brussels Griffons, Chihuahuas, Shih Tzu, Silky
Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers

Mrs. Linda Clark (94461) OK

(918) 995-2561

lclarkah@aol.com

Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German
Wirehaired Pointers, Cocker Spaniels,
Weimaraners, Wirehaired Vizslas, Kuvaszok

Ms. Patricia Clark (106260) CT

(203) 788-3258

willomoor@att.net

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Afghan Hounds, Azawakhs, Borzois, Pharaoh Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds, Whippets

Ms. Kathryn Cowsert (17121) CA

(925) 672-1765

kcowsert@hotmail.com

Australian Shepherds, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Miniature American Shepherds, Mudik, Spanish Water Dogs

Mr. Justin Dannenbring (46593) MT

(951) 733-1618

orionkennelsofca@aol.com

Azawakhs, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Greyhounds

Donna L. Danner (106047) OK

(918) 407-0199

4showpaws@gmail.com

Papillons, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Pugs, Bichons Frises, Finnish Spitz, Lhasa Apsos

Mrs. Penny DiSiena (76729) FL

(330) 421-3618

pennyd1954@gmail.com

Bloodhounds, Borzois, Harriers, Ibizan Hounds, Scottish Deerhounds, Brussels Griffons

Mrs. Lisa Dube Forman (63962) NY

(518) 524-8279

lisa@lisadubeforman.com

American Foxhounds, Azawakhs, Bluetick Coonhounds, Harriers, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Salukis, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Mrs. Nancy Eilks (23143) WI

(920) 650-2299

eilks@gdinet.com

Bracci Italiani, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes,

Gordon Setters, Field Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels

Mr. Mustapha El Khorchi (110865) FL

(561) 460-0461

musta@leongolden.com

Barbets, Bracci Italiani, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Pointers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Irish Red and White Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, Vizslas, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Donna Ernst (91808) TN

(440) 773-5052

anthemkennel@msn.com

Bulldogs, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Lhasa Apsos, Poodles

Ms. Marie Ann Falconer (51642) TN

(413) 433-6474

mylaone10@aol.com

Salukis, Biewer Terriers, Italian Greyhounds, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers

Mrs. Julie Felten (17972) IL

(847) 452-6902

jacfelten@aol.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichons Frises, Cotons du Tulear, Finnish Spitz, Norwegian Lundehunds, Schipperkes, Tibetan Spaniels), Biewer Terriers

Mrs. Debra Ferguson-Jones (95483) WA

(425) 228-9750

debrafergusonjones@gmail.com

Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Irish Red and White Setters, Sussex Spaniels, Vizslas, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Vizslas

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Ms. Denise Flaim (100561) NY

(516) 509-5214

denise@revodanapublishing.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Lowchen, Poodles, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Cassie Frank (108441) NH

(702) 595-7607

tailwindcardis@gmail.com

Australian Shepherds, Belgian Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pumik

Mrs. Dawn L. Gabig (103897) NC

(660) 342-6555

dawngabig@gmail.com

Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Mudik,

Mr. Steve Hayden (6674) IL

(217) 725-3647

hybrk1@comcast.net

Dogo Argentinos, Portuguese Water Dogs

Mrs. Sandra Pretari Hickson (50017) CA

(650) 346-9912

sandra.pretarihickson@gmail.com

Balance of Working Group (Boerboels, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Neapolitan Mastiffs), Border Terriers

Mr. Jason Hoke (92952) WI

(646) 241-5800

jasonhoke@aol.com

Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels

Mrs. Betsy Horn Humer (5156) VA

(757) 442-3672

tiderunr2@verizon.net

Bichons Frises, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers

Kimberly Maffit (100365) TN

(615) 519- 8651

keebear@bellsouth.net

Australian Cattle Dogs, Bearded Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Briards, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Norwegian Buhunds

Dr. A. Todd Miller (96991) FL

(217) 304-6120

whippetsofjomyr@icloud.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Bluetick Coonhounds, Cirnechi dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Sloughi, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Ms. Susan M. Napady (95639) IN

(219) 762-5203

susan.napady@frontier.com

American Hairless Terriers, Bull Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers

Mr. Bradley K. Odagiri (94657) HI

(808) 373-3838

bradodagiri@aol.com

Australian Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Bergamasco Sheepdogs, Berger Picards, Border Collies, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Miniature American Shepherds, Mudik, Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Dr. LeeAnn Podruch (106234) WI

(802) 238-0755

lgpodruch@gmail.com

Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Irish Red and White Setters, American Water Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers

Mrs. Sahron Ann Redmer (2711) MI

(734) 449-4995

sredmer@umich.edu

Boston Terriers, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows

Dr. Vicki Sandage (98425) KY

(606) 922-9552

dsandfoxdvm@gmail.com

Balance of Sporting Group (Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Cocker Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels)

Ms. Inge Semenschin (27410) CA

(510) 620-9688

ingeakc@gmail.com

Afghan Hounds, Beagles, Borzois, Pharaoh Hounds, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds

Mrs. Barbara A. Shaw (6554) TX

(903) 870-6425

bshaw322@gmail.com

Irish Water Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Great Danes, Mastiffs

Mr. Eric Steel (98787) NY

(464) 479-9177

ericsteel@mac.com

Pharaoh Hounds, Whippets

Mr. J. Randall Tincher (17378) GA

(478) 396-6650

randy@tripletime.org

American Foxhounds, Italian Greyhounds, Poodles

Mr. Scott Toney (110847) NC

(704) 968-4491

midwoodchin@gmail.com

Biewer Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Maltese, Papillons, Russian Toys, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Mr. Cledith M. Wakefield (80829) MO

(573) 760-3616

n2rotts@yahoo.com

Balance of Toy Group (Chinese Cresteds, English Toy Spaniels, Havanese, Papillons, Pekingese, Pugs, Russian Toys, Shih Tzu)

Ms. Sandy Weaver (94535) GA

(770) 310-6932

golfndogs@att.net

Bulldogs, Chow Chows, Lhasa Apsos, Tibetan Terriers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANT

Christine Asay (111935) AK

asayacres@gci.net

JS

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.

SECRETARY'S PAGES

NEW BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Ms. Lorelei Craig (111563) CA

lorelei@cierastaffords.com

Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Mrs. Junko Guichon (111435) VA

junko@guichonchi.com

Chihuahuas, JS-Limited

Ms. Clarissa Shank (110566) AZ

(602) 920-2459

skyryderk9@q.com

Australian Shepherds, JS

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Miss Vicki E. Allenbrand (91374) KS

(678) 429-4609

blackjackdogs@earthlink.net

Bearded Collies, Finnish Lapphunds, Pulik

Mrs. Anne Beckwith (100057) TN

(614) 570-9779

halcaranne@gmail.com

American Staffordshire Terriers, Staffordshire

Bull Terriers

Mrs. Jennifer U. Bell (109179) LA

(225) 933-6132

mystang50@yahoo.com

Golden Retrievers, Boxers, Giant Schnauzers,

Neapolitan Mastiffs, Boston Terriers, Australian

Shepherds

Dr. Albert P. Bianchi (5459) VA

(757) 672-4868

k4ux@cox.net

Curly-Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck

Tolling Retrievers

Mrs. Kathleen V. Carter (6164) CO

(303) 425-6756

dancehalldolly@live.com

Black Russian Terriers, Giant Schnauzers, Leon-

bergers, Standard Schnauzers, Border Collies

Ms. Diane Collings (94897) CA

(415) 990-3317

dianecollings@verizon.net

Balance of Working Group (Chinooks, Komon-

dorok, Kuvaszok, Newfoundlands, Standard

Schnauzers), Portuguese Podengo Pequenos

Mrs. Beth Downey (102539) MS

(410) 829-2455

bethdowney539@gmail.com

Beaucerons, Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois,

Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervurens, Old Eng-

lish Sheepdogs

Ms. Karen A. Dumke (7168) WI

(920) 279-4519

karenadumke@gmail.com

Airedale Terriers, American Hairless Terriers,

Bedlington Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers,

Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terri-

ers, Norfolk Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Ter-

riers, Tibetan Terriers

Mr. J. Calvin Dykes (100595) OR

(541) 303-1142

calvindykes@legacydirect.com

Affenpinschers, Chihuahuas, Toy Fox Terriers

Mrs. Sharon L. Dykes (100581) OR

(541) 303-1142

tresbeaufrenchbulldogs@eoni.com

Chihuahuas, Maltese, Toy Fox Terriers

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Ms. Emily Fish (92354) WA

(360) 904-5765

emilypawcific@yahoo.com

Flat Coated Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Weimaraners, Shih Tzu

Mr. Randy Garren (17218) NC

(919) 608-9799

k9pro@aol.com

Balance of Working Group (Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Boerboels, Bullmastiffs, Mastiffs, Saint Bernards, Standard Schnauzers)

Gigi Griffith (109593) TN

(760) 908-8188

terranova57@gmail.com

Alaskan Malamutes, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Kuvaszok, Siberian Huskies

Mr. Fred Hyer (94219) MI

(616) 874-3647

fred@hyerluv.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Chinooks, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Rottweilers, Standard Schnauzers

Ms. Diane Kepley (90370) SC

(301) 305-9986

westhavencockers@comccast.net

American Hairless Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Rat Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

Mrs. Shari Kirschner (97107) IN

(219) 331-9493

smkirschner@comcast.net

Gordon Setters, Field Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Mrs. Linn Klingel Brown (23263) AZ

(651) 226-9080

linnkling@aol.com

American Hairless Terriers, Australian Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Rat Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Dr. Laura LaBounty (96455) NH

(603) 313-9597

specialcollies@msn.com

Australian Cattle Dogs, Bouviers des Flandres, Canaan Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds

Mrs. Pamela S. Lambie (96227) AZ

(760) 272-0625

pam@pamlambie.com

Akitas, Dogo Argentinos, Great Danes, Siberian Huskies

Mrs. Jennifer Lazowski (105991) VA

(717) 823-2501

whirlaway12@gmail.com

Afghan Hounds, Dachshunds

Mrs. Joan Luna Liebes (6515) CO

(719) 749-0232

joanluna@hotmail.com

Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Irish Red and White Setters, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Chris Ann Moore (108927) AR

(479) 221-0555

bisacd@aol.com

Alaskan Malamutes, Doberman Pinschers, Ger-

SECRETARY'S PAGES

man Pinschers, Great Danes, Samoyeds, American Eskimo Dogs, Australian Shepherds

Mrs. Dayl Phillip (103551) WA

(541) 340-4036

aurigan@gmail.com

Old English Sheepdogs, Shetland Sheepdogs

Mr. John C. Ramirez (1814) CA

(310) 991-0241

jrami68620@aol.com

Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Tibetan Terriers, Shetland Sheepdogs

Ms. Linda Robey (6621) MO

(636) 677-6644

lrobey@swbell.net

Balance of Working Group (Newfoundlands)

Mr. Dani Rosenberry (104224) PA

(814) 943-3511

edanhill@aol.com

English Setters, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels

Mr. Gary C. Sackett (96555) NV

(702) 351-5566

gcsackett@yahoo.com

American Hairless Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Border Terriers

Mrs. Diana L. Skibinski (7258) IN

(219) 776-8746

skibinski1@aol.com

Brussels Griffons, Papillons, Pomeranians, Pugs, Shih Tzu

Ms. Amy Sorbie (36968) CO

(720) 245-5781

amy.sorbie@vca.com

Balance of Toy Group (Brussels Griffons, Chinese Cresteds, Havanese, Japanese Chins, Pugs, Russian Toys, Shih Tzu, Yorkshire Terriers)

Mr. Jon Titus Steele (55162) MI

(989) 860-9677

jonauroal@gmail.com

Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Bearded Collies, Border Collies, Bouviers des Flandres, Briards, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Pumik

Ms. Frances C. Stephens (15410) WA

(206) 963-1148

mistihil@comcast.net

Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mr. Gary Stiles (51717) WA

(360) 770-6690

lacasitas@aol.com

Rottweilers, French Bulldogs

Ms. Nancy Talbott (5898) CA

(661) 547-9985

belgoldnt@gmail.com

Balance of Sporting Group (Bracchi Italiani, Lagotti Romagnoli, Pointers, Irish Red and White Setters, Wirehaired Vizslas)

Mrs. Deborah Y. Verdon (7115) TX

(985) 788-1940

debverdon33@gmail.com

Belgian Sheepdogs, Collies, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Ms. Judith White (95513) OH

(330) 854-0354

jubilhill@sssnet.com

Border Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Schnauzers, Welsh Terriers

Pamela Wilson (64914) TX

(512) 280-3103

wilscot@sbcglobal.net

Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Papillons, Pomeranians, Shih Tzu, Toy Fox Terriers

Deborah A. Wyman (92452) NY

(716) 940-6549

debbiewyman614@gmail.com

Australian Shepherds

Ms. Leigh Ann Yandle (82616) GA

(704) 904-8129

leighannyandle@gmail.com

Old English Sheepdogs

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES

Mrs. Marjorie Geiger (103767) WA

(360) 673-6387

marggeiger@yahoo.com

JS

Mr. Richard Truong (104149) CA

(714) 390-4350

richard@surfcitybulldogs.com

JS-Limited

Mrs. Jessica Viera (111633) AK

(719) 322-1397

bjviera@gmail.com

JS

BEST IN SHOW

The following person, having successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they were **approved**,

has been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Mrs. Carrie A. Chase (36690) WV

(202) 365-7452

humnbirdcorgis@gmail.com

RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGE

Paula K. Tiller

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES

Ms. Sharon Clark

Ms. Wendy J. Gay

Mrs. Janis Watts

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mrs. Marguerite L. Dane-Fisher

Mrs. Joyce Fortney

Mr. Michael Greenberg

REGULAR STATUS APPROVED

OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES

The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of **regular approved judges** for the class indicated.

Deborah Addicoat (93559) WA

(425) 788-9895

debbie.addicoat@yahoo.com

Obedience – Utility

Dr. Ronnie Sue Leith (90304) WA

(360) 344-2033

rsleithmd@sbcglobal.net

Obedience – Open

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Ms. Geri Lopez (98591) CA

(916) 757-2537

gezpez@gmail.com

Obedience – Novice

Laurie Rubin (97989) WA

(707) 890-2491

earthlaurie@sonic.net

Obedience – Novice

NEW PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES

The following persons have been approved as a judge on a **Provisional** basis for the class/test indicated in accordance with the Provisional judging system. *They may now accept assignments.*

Laurie Rubin (97989) WA

(707) 890-2491

earthlaurie@sonic.net

Obedience – Open

Karen Schroeder (95401) PA

(724) 327-2411

lindestargold@aol.com

Obedience – Utility

Cheryl Tisdale (94543) TN

(615) 653-5523

eqwynd@peoplepc.com

Obedience – Utility

Thomas Harding (111457) MD

(410) 714-0343

singus@goeaston.net

Tracking – TD/TDU

Anne Rosenberg (103175) NJ

(609) 519-8289

annelrosenberg@hotmail.com

Tracking – TD/TDU

EMERITUS OBEDIENCE AND RALLY JUDGES

Robert M. Burgin – Obedience & Rally (IA)

Kenneth A. Buxton – Obedience & Rally (TX)

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 Di-Nardo, Executive Secretary:

ALURA- Italian Greyhounds-Lynn Partridge

APRICITY- Shetland Sheepdogs- Tricia N. Schuerman

AURA'S- German Shepherds- Dawn M. Kelley

BLUE HOUSE-Cavalier King Charles Spaniel- Wendy J. Ward

BRASSY ACRES-Miniature American Shepherds- Nicole Dalton

COLD WATER- Labrador Retriever-Toni L. Lands

GOODWIN HILL-Shetland Sheepdogs-Katherine F. Holt

KAZIMIR-Doberman Pinschers-Kimberly York & Allen York

NOTTINGHAM-Norwich Terriers- Keith Lee & Jennifer Lee

SIERRA MOUNTAIN- Akitas-Jessica McCarthy

SKYELINE- German Shorthaired Pointers- Kimberly J. Luskey

SNOWBRIGHT-Samoyeds-Rachel G. Sigulinsky & Terri Sigulinsky

SECRETARY'S PAGES

STAY WILD- Border Collies- Jordan K. Biggs
STAY WILD- Australian Shepherds- Hana L. Spitz
& Jordan K. Biggs
SUNDIATA- Basenjis- Chris Maxka & Jim Maxka
THEORY- Poodles- Christi Gable & Mark Robeson
WETAPO CREEK- Bluetick Coonhounds- David R.
Pool
WHITE ROSE- Biewer Terriers- Debi R. Mc-
Cormick
XO- Pharoah Hounds- Lori A. Evans

SHINING STAR'S- Pomeranians- Tammie R.
Tubbs
VOM BETHEL- German Shepherds- Joseph A.
Mariduena & Todd R. Stanley
WESTERN FAMILY- Rottweiler- Teren Western
ZELOSIA- Cavalier King Charles Spaniels & Eng-
lish Toy Spaniels- Mia S. Lawson

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific
Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

ARROWWOOD ACRES- Shetland Sheepdogs-
Annika Arrowwood
BORA-YA-BORA- Basenjis- Christian A. Morales
Reyes
CRIMSON- Miniature American Shepherds-
Teresa Hunt
ERSA ACRES- Golden Retrievers- Renee J. Ander-
son & Sydney T. Anderson
INSIGNIA- Golden Retrievers- Robin B. Miller
MOON PHASE- Miniature American Shepherds-
Jenipher M. Helms
PEIBYBEARS- Chinese Shar Pei- Chris BC. Comp-
ton & Kim B. Compton
PICCOLO- Poodles- Evelyn M. Comer
REDBUD- Clumber Spaniels- Gaye Horton
REMIS- Portuguese Water Dogs- Remy L. Smith-
Lewis
STARLIGHT- Italian Greyhound- Bruce G. Richter
& Christina D. Richter

SECRETARY'S PAGES



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY
FEBRUARY 13-14, 2023**

The Board convened on Monday, February 13, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

All Directors were present in the New York office. The Executive Secretary was also present.

The January 9-10, 2023, Board Meeting minutes, copies provided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the January 2023 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Sprung reviewed the status of the action items from the past Board meetings.

Mr. Sprung reported that AKC ended the year 2022 with the highest number of events and entries in the history of the American Kennel Club. There were 25,178 events held, with 3,549,472 entries.

Registration remains strong, with Litters and Dogs

exceeding planned results.

Due to the quality work by many departments, including Sponsorships and Broadcasting, Education, PR, GR, and IT, we continue to experience positive financials and quality results across the corporation.

Mr. Sprung noted that his quarterly AKC affiliates meeting was held. There were positive reports from AKC Reunite, the AKC Museum of the Dog, and the AKC Canine Health Foundation on the excellent attendance and potential sponsorship opportunities resulting from attending the AKC Meet the Breeds extravaganza at the Javits Center on January 28th and 29th. AKC Meet the Breeds was a success, with over 135 breeds represented. The Parent Clubs have embraced this opportunity to educate the public on the right breed choice for their lifestyle and responsible breeding/ownership.

LEGAL UPDATE

The Board reviewed the Legal Department update as of January 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

SECRETARY'S PAGES

of November 30, 2022.

Unaudited Financial Results for the 11 months ended November 30, 2022

Net Operating Income is \$21.1 million due to higher revenue and lower controllable expenses.

REVENUES:

Total Revenues of \$106.6 million exceeded budget by 12%, led by online registrations.

Registration Fees total \$42.2 million, exceeding the budget by 12%.

Recording & Event Service, Title Recognition and Event Application fees total \$16.8 million, exceeding the budget by 9%.

Product & Service Sales total of \$12.7 million are higher than budget by 5%.

Advertising, Sponsorship, and Royalties total \$19.6 million, exceeding the budget by 15%.

EXPENSES:

Controllable Expenses total \$76.3 million are lower than budget by \$1.5 million or 2%.

Non-controllable expenses were lower than budget by \$1 million or 9%.

Non-Financial Statistics as of December 31, 2022

Registrations: 2022 YTD Litter Reg. 16% ahead of budget, .5% ahead of 2021 YTD.

2022 YTD Dog Reg. 12% ahead of budget, 11% lower than 2021 YTD.

Events & Entries

Compared to the same period in 2021, Events &

Entries were up by 12% & 11%, respectively.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Brandi Hunter Munden, Vice President of PR & Communications, participated in this portion of the meeting. Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President of Sports Services, participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

Lancashire Heeler Eligibility to Compete in the Herding Group

The Board reviewed a request from the United States Lancashire Heeler Club, which is seeking acceptance into the AKC Stud Book for the Lancashire Heeler to be eligible to compete in the Herding Group. The Board also reviewed the breed standard. If approved, the breed will be moved from the Foundation Stock Service into the Stud Book of the American Kennel Club on January 1, 2024. The Stud Book will remain open until January 1, 2029.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

Proposed AKC Bylaw Amendment to Article VI, Section 6

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee (DAAC) to amend Article VI, Section 6 of the AKC Bylaws to delete the wording in the first paragraph of Article VI, Section 6, which prohibits Delegates from being professional judges. In the Bylaw, the profes-

SECRETARY'S PAGES

sional judge is defined as one who charges a fee in excess of expenses.

Following a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously; Dr. Garvin abstaining) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the routine notice procedures. Following a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to delete the professional judge language from the Delegate occupational eligibility criteria defined in Article VI, Section 6.

The amendment will be read at the March Delegate Meeting for a VOTE at the June Delegate Meeting.

AKC Communications Q4

Q4 TOTALS:

Clips Evaluated in Q4: 5,733 (+6% from 5,391 in 2021)

Q4 Estimated Audience Reached: 11,661,987,829
Publicity Value for Q4: \$12,188,013.05

Q4 Highlights

Executed an aggressive PR campaign for the AKC National Championship.

- Distributed press releases announcing the ABC broadcast and record-breaking entry totals.
- Satellite Media Tour promoting the broadcast.
- Secured a broadcast exclusive with the Best in Show winner on Good Morning America.

Extensive work on AKC Meet the Breeds® Tour.

Continued positioning The American Kennel Club and its spokespeople as the expert on all things dog.

Weekly “AKC Tips” articles written for McClatchy-Tribune reaching 700 newspapers, including the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*, *Dayton Daily News*, *Duluth News-Tribune*, *Fresno Bee*, *Idaho Statesman*, *Kingsport Times-News*, and *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, among others.

Promoted the 2022 AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE) winners ACE) and the ESPN2 broadcast—secured coverage for ACE winners nationally.

AKC Reunite: Promoted AKC Pet Disaster Relief Trailers, including the 100th trailer donated in honor of Patricia Laurans, Co-chair of the AKC Reunite Pet Disaster Relief Trailer Program.

AKC Museum of the Dog: Drafted and distributed press releases and helped promote MOD programs.

AKC Canine Health Foundation: Distributed press releases.

2022 YEAR-END MEDIA COVERAGE ANALYSIS

Total media placements (print, broadcast, and internet) qualitatively evaluated in 2022:

Q1- 8,919

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Q2- 4,684

Q3- 5,852

Q4- 5,733

Total number of clips evaluated for 2022 was 25,188.

Total audience reached with all clips (including print, online, TV, and syndicated stories):

Q1- 11,573,861,989

Q2- 6,127,083,376

Q3- 13,196,474,696

Q4- 11,661,987,829

Total audience reached for 2022 was 42,559,407,890.

Total publicity value achieved through media placements (print, broadcast and internet) qualitatively evaluated in 2022:

Q1- \$15,999,247.51

Q2- \$5,676,203.38

Q3- \$17,295,134.50

Q4- \$12,188,013.05

Total publicity value for 2022 was \$51,158,598.44.

2022 Highlights

- 15% increase in media relations and press coverage in Mandarin language and Latino publications
- 13% increase in the media visibility of our Chief Veterinary Officer
- Increased McClatchy pick up (up to over 700

newspapers weekly)

- 19.3% increase in media coverage of AKC Affiliates
- Maintained a 97.4% positivity rating.

Government Relations Q4 2022 Update and Year-End Review

2022 was a busy year for the Government Relations (GR) team: Congress, most local councils and 47 state legislatures were in session (Montana, Nevada and Texas did not meet in 2022).

The GR team monitored approximately 3,000 legislative and regulatory proposals on the federal, state and local levels.

Outreach: AKC GR communicates to dog owners, club members, lawmakers and the public via geo-targeted and online legislative alerts, blogs (88 in 2022) as well as Facebook/Twitter and other social media; The Taking Command (monthly advocacy) and In Session (policy) newsletters (<https://www.akc.org/clubs-delegates/government-relations/newsletters/>); videos, text alerts, Op-Eds as well as through direct one-on-one contact and outreach with club-based legislative liaisons. More details are available online, at www.akcgr.org.

Issue Engagement/Advocacy: Direct issue engagement and advocacy by the GR Staff continued to expand. AKC GR issued 296 geo-targeted legislative alerts and provided comments and/or in-person and written testimony for more than 270 bills. This

SECRETARY'S PAGES

represents an increase of approximately 22% over 2021 and nearly 200% over 2019 figures (243 and 100 respectively).

Building influence, relevance, and recognition of AKC policy expertise: Ongoing engagement is bringing new levels of influence, recognition, and success for AKC among government and industry leaders. Specific areas of focus include protecting the rights of breeders and owners, fighting breed-specific bans, working dogs; timely issues associated with canine imports and transportation, sales, and other areas.

GR Staff uses multiple approaches to expand AKC's reach and reputation. In 2022, new GR webinars, resources and new videos made AKC policy resources more widely available than ever. More information is available at the AKC Legislative Action Center, www.akcgr.org.

GR Staff *served as experts on numerous relevant national and state policy panels*, in areas including breeder licensing, air transport and welfare the pet industry, animal health, service dogs, and detection dogs.

Longer-term goals and deliverables: Near-term legislative and regulatory successes are crucial, but GR also focuses on longer-term goals and efficiencies through ongoing development and publication of high-quality data-driven resources about canine policy to amplify AKC's role and reputation as ca-

nine policy experts. Comprehensive policy analyses, model legislation & analysis, key issues webpages, op-eds and policy blogs provide thought leadership and advance positive, proactive policy solutions. In 2022, AKC completed and published an Economic Benefits Survey and reports for all 50 states, conducted a new survey to assess strengths and weaknesses in communications and outreach, and completed (on-time and under budget) the rebuild of the AKC GR online legislative action center microsite, www.akcgr.org.

Lobbying/In-person direct advocacy: In addition to emphasizing grassroots outreach, GR team members in the field are also registered as lobbyists to provide direct assistance in their regions. The states where AKC registers lobbyists vary year to year depending on activity level, availability, and specific issues. For major policy concerns or issues where additional assistance is warranted, we also may retain contract lobbyists. In 2022 AKC registered advocates federally and in AL, CA, CT, DE, KY, MA, MD, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, TX, and VA.

2022 Successes: AKC GR recorded dozens of legislative successes across the country in 2022. These include proactive policies to advance dogs and the interests of dog owners, and defensive positions to combat ill-conceived or radical anti-breeder/anti-dog owner policy. Many of AKC GR's successes were the direct result of developing new relationships with lawmakers directly, use of access oppor-

SECRETARY'S PAGES

tunities such as the AKC PAC and attendance at legislator conferences; and efforts by legislative liaisons, field staff, club leaders and other who were willing to be the “boots on the ground” to educate lawmakers and the public using resources and expertise provided by the AKC. AKC GR counts as successes only those measures that the team was actively involved in. A list of 2022 success highlights is available online at www.akc.org/clubs-delegates/government-relations/successes/.

Government Relations Monthly Update

Sheila Goffe highlighted active, priority legislative issues that AKC Government Relations (GR) is actively working on and a status update on current department activity, major projects, and legislative successes.

Forty-four state legislatures and Congress are currently in session. Active, priority state legislation includes a variety of proposals on topics including, but not limited to:

- Problematic breeder regulations in Indiana, New Jersey and Texas.
- Positive bills that would prohibit breed-specific bans (Missouri) and cancellation of homeowners insurance based on the breed of dog owned (New York).
- Problematic bills in New Jersey and New York that would allow for courts to appoint advocates for dogs (lawyers for dogs) in animal cruelty cases.
- Problematic bills in New Jersey, New York and

Maine could require forfeiture of animals seized pending a cruelty trial if a person is unable to afford court-ordered costs of care.

MARKETING

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President of Marketing; Brandi Hunter Munden, Vice President of PR & Communications; Daphna Straus, Vice President of Business Development; Melissa Olund, Director of Digital Marketing; Jacqueline Taylor, Director of Marketing, and Kerri Schreiber, Social Media Manager, participated in this portion of the meeting.

2022 Full-Year Digital Performance Report

The Board reviewed a memo summarizing the 2022 performance for AKC.org, AKC Marketplace, and Shop.akc.org and Email/Newsletters.

- AKC.org traffic is normalizing from 2020 pandemic highs but remains well above 2019.
- AKC Marketplace traffic is increasing as Staff continues to optimize SEO.
- AKC Shop traffic was above 2021 and was even higher than pre-pandemic levels.
- Overall, AKC newsletters beat the benchmark for click thru rate performance.
- In 2022, the Content Staff, in conjunction with internal breeder experts also began updating and adding to the breeder-focused content available on AKC.org (25+ new articles published since Q2).

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Quarterly Information About Social Media

Highlights of our social media objectives in 2022 included our increased focus on aligning AKC with TikTok's critical Gen Z audiences driving viewership and engagement around our ESPN television lineup and improving our community management to enhance education and engagement with our audiences.

2022 TOTAL FOLLOWERS BY PLATFORM: 4.8% total follower increase vs. 2021 to over 4,900,000 total followers.

AKC Social Media builds in slots for Good Works in our programming calendar and aims to include content connected to our affiliates (or related topics) on a regular basis or when relevant and compelling consumer-facing content is available. We have included the AKC Museum of the Dog, AKC Reunite, and AKC Canine Health Foundation in our programming schedule at various points throughout the year.

Update on Development of AKC Brand Positioning Statement

During a January board meeting discussion of brand awareness planned and potential programs for 2023, the group discussed the need for an aligned internal AKC brand positioning statement.

The Staff provided an update on the progress of that request. All the draft statements reflect a purposeful move away from a product service (a.k.a.

transactional) focus to a lifestyle and connection focus.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Marketing Social Media Activity Highlights for The AKC National Championship

Year Over Year Metrics of AKC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP content:

(January 4, 2022 – January 3, 2023, compared to January 18, 2021 – January 3, 2022)

We continue to publish content all year long as it relates to the National Championship all the way into our increased push for content in December/January surrounding the actual event to keep our audience engaged.

Impressions: up 19.3%

Engagements: up 89.6%

Engagement Rate (per Impression) up 58.9%

Post Link Clicks: up 25.8%

Published Posts: up 121.4%

MEDIA, SPONSORSHIPS, BROADCASTING

Ron Furman, Vice President, Broadcasting, Sponsorship & Media and Daphna Straus, Vice President, Business Development, participated in this portion of the meeting,

AKC Sponsorship and Digital Media Overview – 2022

Staff provided a year-end recap. 2022 was another exemplary year of sponsorship development and

SECRETARY'S PAGES

accompanying digital and experiential activations.

AKC Broadcasting Overview – 2022

AKC BROADCASTING ACTIVITIES

The AKC's over-the-top video network, AKC.tv, has experienced growth in plays across all platforms, including Web plays on AKC.tv via desktop or mobile (1.15M), AKC.tv app plays (over 932k) and plays on AKC.org via our digital content matching system (over 87M). The channel continues to grow in reach as well as in breadth and scope of the content. Downloads of the AKC.tv mobile and television app, available on iOS (iPhone), Android, Apple TV, Roku, and Amazon Fire TV exceed 240k. The AKC.tv website is currently undergoing a design update, which will mirror the updated AKC.tv app. Enhanced features will include an improved upcoming events calendar, the ability to create a favorite video playlist to refer to and expanded topics for users to explore.

AKC's Dog Sports programming on ESPN continued to deliver new audiences to AKC Sports across demographics. 2022 culminated in a busy fourth quarter, which included the production and premieres of the following new shows:

- AKC Disc Dog Challenge
- AKC Heroes: 2022 Awards for Canine Excellence
- AKC Agility Invitational
- AKC National Championship Page

AKC created the inaugural AKC Disc Dog Challenge and produced the event for its December 9,

2022 debut broadcast on ESPN2.

AKC Heroes: 2022 Awards for Canine Excellence continued to build upon the video production celebrating the five winners of the AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence.

The one-hour special premiered on December 11 on ESPN2 and was elevated to the ABC Network for an encore on Christmas Eve (December 24, 2022).

For the first time with ESPN, AKC produced the AKC Agility Invitational for television viewers. With the support of the Agility department, AKC's production team filmed the final rounds of the Agility Invitational and produced a two-hour show. The show premiered on Christmas Day on ESPN2.

The AKC Disc Dog Challenge re-aired immediately following the Agility Invitational as part of a four-hour block of AKC programming on this key viewing holiday.

The 2022 AKC National Championship broadcast premiered for the third consecutive year on the ABC Network. The three-hour special, showcasing every Best of Breed winner, premiered on January 1, 2023. The show achieved its highest ratings ever on ABC, with an average viewership of 1.323 million viewers, a 28% increase from the previous year. The show's ratings increased steadily over the three-hour broadcast, growing from 656k when the show began and peaking during Best in Show judg-

SECRETARY'S PAGES

ing at 1.967 million viewers, representing a 200% audience increase.

In 2022, AKC achieved the following:

- 120 broadcasts, an increase of +26 broadcasts from 2021
- 212 hours of airtime, compared to 168 hours in 2021, a growth of 25%.
- Four broadcasts on the ABC Network, which includes three broadcasts in addition to the AKC National Championship.

The four shows that premiered on the ABC Network in 2022 include:

1. AKC National Agility Championship
2. AKC Fastest Dogs USA
3. AKC Heroes: 2022 Awards for Canine Excellence
4. AKC National Championship Presented by Royal Canin

REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President; Mike Isaac, Vice President of Registration; Jill Zapadinsky, Director, Call Center, and Registration Support; and Kelly Klosowski, Manager, Customer Service Training & Quality Assurance, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Purebred Preservation Banks

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to amend the current Board Policy regarding Parent Club sponsored semen banks, and the AKC Procedures for Registration Matters to include the AKC

Purebred Preservation Bank.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to amend the Board Policy on Purebred Preservation Banks to read:

The AKC encourages all Parent Clubs concerned with preserving and protecting their breeds to collaborate with the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank (AKCPPB) and/or establish their own Parent Club sponsored frozen semen bank. The signatories of the AKCPPB may sign as semen owner on all relevant AKC Registration documents and applications, including litter applications. A Parent Club sponsored, breed specific, frozen semen bank may, with AKC Board approval, also be allowed to sign as semen owner on all relevant AKC Registration documents and applications, including litter applications. The degree and manner to which Parent Clubs collaborate with the AKCPPB is solely the decision of each Parent Club. However, Parent Clubs seeking to establish their own such entity must petition the AKC Board via letter signed by the club's current president. The letter should explain the club's purpose for establishing the bank and acceptably document its incorporation and

SECRETARY'S PAGES

organizational relationship to the petitioning Parent Club. Upon Board approval, the bank must provide AKC with a listing of signatories for use in AKC Registration matters.

Further, the Board VOTED to amend AKC Procedures for Registration Matters, Section XI with the addition of new paragraph 5 in Section C. ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION USING FROZEN SEMEN:

5. With AKC Board approval, the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank (AKCPPB), as well as any Parent Club-sponsored, breed-specific, frozen semen bank may be allowed to sign as semen owner on all relevant AKC Registration documents and applications, including litter applications, provided all other requirements to register the litter are met. Parent Club sponsored, breed-specific, frozen semen banks must have a Breed Reproductive Bank Signatory Authorization form on file listing those individuals authorized to sign AKC documents and applications on behalf of the organization.

Registration Update

In 2022 we saw:

- 8th consecutive year of increases in Litter Registration
- 7th consecutive year of increases in Unique Breeders
- 1st year of decline in Dog Registration since 2013
- Litter Registration in 2022 was up 0.5% from 2021

- Dog Registration in 2022 was down 10.6% from 2021

The percentage of Casual Breeders increased from 77% to 82%, while Fancy and Commercial breeder shares declined by 4 and 1 percentage points, respectively.

AKC Contact Center

Jill Zapadinsky and Kelly Klosowski gave a presentation to the board on the AKC Call Center and Customer Support. The department has implemented many tools to modernize operations in the call center so that AKC can offer best in class customer service to our constituents. They also reviewed with the board the training and development tools and resources that are used to develop our Customer Service representatives.

The AKC Contact Center is an Omni-Channel Contact Center operating Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 8:00 pm.

The Center manages and documents all inbound/outbound calls, responds to inbound customer emails, oversees live chat for online registrations and Marketplace listings, answers registration questions submitted through Facebook Messenger and receives website feedback.

Staff presented planned initiatives and new tools that will be implemented for 2023 to continue to enhance our customer experience.

SECRETARY'S PAGES

2023 Initiatives

Mike Isaac presented 2023 objectives and key initiatives for growth across the Registration area.

COMPLIANCE

Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance and Jessica Lopez, Compliance Specialist, participated in this meeting portion via video conference.

Approval of Annual Fees

The Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc. "Charter and Bylaws" require that the Board of Directors set deposits annually for the submission of complaints pursuant to Article XII, Section 1; as well as deposits for appeals to an Appeal Trial Board pursuant to Article XIII, Section 7. The current deposit to file a complaint pursuant to Article XII, Section 1 is \$500. The current deposit to file an Appeal to an Appeal Trial Board is \$200.

Staff was asked to look into the number and costs of Trial Board in 2022 and report back.

This will be discussed further in April.

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

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE

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

Conflict of Interest Statements Across the Sports

The Board requested the Staff to research the similarities and disparities of timing when exhibitors may enter under judges following a business relationship with or without payment. Staff presented a memo outlining the timing across all the different sports, which is currently inconsistent regarding the length of time where exhibition under a judge is restricted.

The Staff has documented the Rules/Regulations/Guidelines for four types of business relationships.

1. If the judge has trained the dog or exhibitor
2. If the judge has handled the dog
3. If the judge has held under lease or boarded the dog
4. Other business relationships that are addressed by sport

Staff will meet with the Sports & Events department heads and bring a recommendation to the Board in April.

CONFORMATION

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

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Request from the Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac

The Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac is asking the Board to support a change to Chapter 16, Section 1, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* to allow the Reserve Winners at their show, which is the world's largest Labrador Retriever Specialty, to be awarded a three-point major if the number of exhibitors competing in the regular classes for the sex is at least twice the number required for five points. The Labrador Retriever Club is supportive of this request.

The Board of Directors will seek general feedback from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and the Parent Clubs Committee on this concept.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

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

Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 3, Section 8, establishes the Bred-by-Exhibitor class and defines the eligibility criteria to enter and compete in the class.

In accordance with Article XX of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, the Mississippi Valley Kennel Club submitted a request to modify Chapter 3, Section 8 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which would remove the requirement for dogs competing in the Bred-by-Exhibitor class to be individually registered with The Ameri-

can Kennel Club as of the date of the show. Removing this requirement would allow dogs to be exhibited in the Bred-by-Exhibitor class under a foreign registration pursuant to Chapter 11, Section 1, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*.

The Staff does not support this proposal.

Removing the requirement for dogs to be individually registered with the AKC before the event to compete in the BBE class will make it impossible to confirm eligibility for foreign dogs entered under their foreign registration. AKC systems in results processing currently check to verify that a dog entered and exhibited in the BBE class shares a same breeder and owner of record; this validation check would not be possible for dogs entered under a foreign registration.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Carota, the Board VOTED (Affirmative: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, Davies, Garvin, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin; Abstained: Hamblin and Smyth) to accept the Staff recommendation not to approve the proposed rules change.

Required Documents at Shows – Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 2, Section 14

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to amend Chapter 2, Section 14, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which, if adopted, would modify the list of documents required to be available at shows.

SECRETARY'S PAGES

The DSRC voted unanimously to propose the following amendment to Chapter 2, Section 14 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*.

All clubs holding shows under American Kennel Club rules must at each event have available or access to the current applicable breed standards, the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline*, *Dealing with Misconduct at AKC Events*, the *Show Manual*, and any other applicable rules/regulations for the competitions being held.

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

National Owner-Handled & Junior Ribbon Colors

The Board reviewed a Staff recommendation to update the NOHS and Junior Regulations to allow clubs to provide the winners of the NOHS Best in Show and Best Junior award a more distinguished ribbon. This recommendation will mimic the current rule for Best in Show and Reserve BIS ribbons.

Clubs have inquired about offering more distinguished ribbons for NOHS Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show, and Junior Best in Competition awards. The current regulation for each ribbon is as follows:

Ribbon colors for the NOHS competition are:

- NOHS Best in Show – Turquoise
- NOHS Reserve Best in Show – Light Green

NOHS Rosettes: clubs are encouraged to offer the same size rosettes as offered for the regular groups.

Ribbon colors for Juniors competition:

- Best Junior: Rose and Green
- Reserve Best Junior: Rose and Gray

This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Canine Partners in Conformation Junior Showmanship Pilot

The AKC Board approved an eighteen-month pilot program allowing Canine Partners to be exhibited in Conformation Junior Showmanship. The trial period ended on December 31, 2022.

Staff does not recommend going forward with this pilot but suggests that Canine Partners be allowed to continue to be exhibited in Conformation Junior Showmanship Junior Showcase events.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Trends/Update

The Staff provided the Board with an update about the 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy (BPUP) program trends; specifically, what percent of the BPUP exhibitors are new to the sport and what percent go on to exhibit in regular Conformation shows.

The program is still growing and is meeting objectives. In 2022, 22.5% of the BPUP exhibitors were

SECRETARY'S PAGES

new to Conformation.

Staff also determined what percentage of the BPUP exhibits go on to compete in regular Conformation events.

An analysis of dogs exhibited in BPUP from July 1, 2020, through December 31, 2021, showed that 71% of the dogs continued to show in regular Conformation classes. This number is consistent with the previous analysis done in 2014 and 2019. Additionally, some exhibitors go on to participate in other sports, with Fast CAT®, Rally, Hunt Tests, Farm Dog Certified, and Obedience being the most popular.

In 2022 there were 24,862 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy entries, a record high level and an increase of 33% over 2019, our last full year of competition and previous high number of entries.

The 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy competition continues to grow and to provide new exhibitors beginning level class to gain experience in Conformation and all exhibitors an opportunity to socialize their dogs and give them experience in the ring.

The Board adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, February 14, at 8:39 a.m. All Directors were present in the New York office. The Executive Secretary was

also present.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events, and Tim Thomas, Vice President of Conformation, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Conformation Judges Daily Limit

Based on the November 2022 Board meeting, Staff was asked to examine the possible effects of changing the dog limit per judge to 150 dogs if that judge was also assigned any group.

Staff researched how this may affect a show time-wise, financially, etc. Background on the applicable rules and policies impacting a judge's daily assignments at Conformation dogs shows, data reflecting the frequency of judges being assigned 150 or more entries at Conformation events, and points for the Board's consideration were presented and discussed.

Chapter 7, Section 13, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* limits a judge to 175 dogs. Assignments for group and/or Best in Show competitions are not calculated in the daily limits.

CHAPTER 7

SECTION 13. The maximum number of conformation entries assigned in the breed judging to any judge, in one day, shall never exceed 175, except that a judge of a specialty show may be assigned a

SECRETARY'S PAGES

maximum of 200 entries. If the specialty is held as part of an All-Breed show, the increased limit will only apply if the judge is not assigned any other breed, a Group or Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show.

Staff also discussed with the Board that rather than establishing a policy with a daily limit of 150 for judges assigned to groups, the daily limit could be lowered to 150 for all judges to mitigate issues managing overloads and cancellations post-closing that may be caused by different daily limits for judges assigned groups and those not assigned groups. The Board asked Staff to bring back a memo with the potential benefits of lowering the daily limit to 150 and any associated rule policy and procedural changes needed to implement such a change so that the Board can further discuss it in April.

Conformation Dog Show Judges Annual Report

The Board reviewed a memorandum that provided data related to Conformation Judges and judging applications as well as an overview of activities of the Judging Operations Department in the 2022 calendar year.

Judging Operations continued its efforts to provide resources for judges. The Judges Education Webinar Series launched in 2020 collaboratively with AKC's Education Department. Three breed webinars were offered in 2022 as scheduling with Parent Clubs has become increasingly difficult. Since the first webinar was presented on March 30, 2020, 112

breed webinars have been presented with a total attendance of 4,384.

In addition to the breed webinars, Judging Operations has continued the Review & FAQs on *Conformation Judging Procedures, Policies & Guidelines* webinar series introduced in 2021. Reacting to the feedback received from its July 27, 2021, webinar covering recent revisions to the Rules, Policies, and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges, the department initiated a regular series discussing matters related to judging. In 2022, there were seven (7) presentations of the Review & FAQs on *Conformation Judging Procedures, Policies & Guidelines* webinar series, with an audience of 1,362 attending the live presentations. Links to access the recordings of the procedural webinars are also posted on the AKC website, resulting in 960 more accessing the recording of any of the 2022 procedural offerings.

The department also provided in-person judges education in 2022. The Institute for New and Aspiring Judges (Basic) was offered at five locations throughout the year. 117 individuals attended the 2022 Basic Institutes.

The department continued its collaboration with the Dog Judges Association of America, co-hosting the AKC/DJAA Advanced Judging Institute December 13-16, 2022, in conjunction with the AKC National Championship for the 11th consecutive year. For the tenth year, the AKC/DJAA Advanced

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Institute provided judges education seminars for two complete groups, with Hounds and Non-Sporting as the groups offered in 2022.

In addition, recently recognized breeds were invited to participate, adding Bracco Italianos, Biewer Terriers and Russian Toys to the list of breeds presented. Approximately 250 individuals attended breed-specific judges education seminars over the week.

APPLICATION DATA

The number of New Breed Applications (first-time applicants) increased in 2022, with the highest number of applicants since 2019 and the highest number of cumulative breeds requested since 2018. The current policy limits all additional breed applications to up to 12 breeds in any submission.

	ADDITIONAL BREED		NEW BREED	
	Aps Received	Breeds Submitted	Aps Received	Breeds Submitted
1/22 thru 12/22	354	2049	74	148
1/21 thru 12/21	360	2146	58	91
1/20 thru 12/20	377	2282	61	72
1/19 thru 12/19	401	2497	91	125
1/18 thru 12/18	351	1808	101	154
9/16 thru 8/17	933	5537	84	119
9/15 thru 8/16	843	6009	93	146
9/14 thru 8/15	246	1938	74	102

	ADDITIONAL BREED				NEW BREED			
	# Aps Reviewed	# Breeds Requested	# Breeds Approved	% Approved	#Aps Reviewed	# Breeds Requested	# Breeds Approved	% Approved
2022	298	1771	1721	97.2%	58	118	118	100.0%
2021	276	1637	1515	92.5%	28	56	55	98.2%
2020	323	2032	1914	94.2%	53	66	64	97.0%
2019	366	2099	2039	97.1%	65	107	107	100.0%
2018 ¹	293	1421	1366	96.1%	66	89	86	96.6%
2017	875	4928	4775	96.9%	73	88	86	97.7%
2016	749	5036	5004	99.4%	86	145	144	99.3%
Previous	237	1875	1491	79.5%	80	115	113	98.3%
2011	300	1945	1782	91.6%	99	155	153	98.7%

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Assignment Distribution

	9/15- 8/16	9/16- 8/17	1/18- 12/18	1/19- 12/19	1/20- 12/20	1/21- 12/21	1/22 - 12/22
Total events (AB, LB, PS & S)	4178	4,349	4428	4464	2043	3960	4549
Total # of individual breed assignments	301,049	312,263	317,210	321,309	123,163	269,564	323,637
Total # of dogs in competition (D.I.C.)	1,204,798	1,171,690	1,184,640	1,188,067	606,246	1,093,897	1,191,113
Total # Judges w/assignment (AKC + Foreign)	2218	2178	2143	2129	1346	1,713	1932
# AKC Judges w/assignment	1873	1856	1801	1793	1252	1637	1671
# Visiting Judges w/assignment	345	322	342	336	94	76	261
% of AKC Judges w/o assignment	42.3%	43.2%	40.0%	40.5%	58.3%	44.6%	41.3%
% D.I.C. Judged by AKC judges	90.1%	89.9%	89.9%	90.7%	95.9%	97.5%	93.2%
% D.I.C. judged by 20% of all judges w/assignment	78.6%	77.3 %	76.2%	76.9%	74.9%	80.4%	79.7%
% D.I.C. judged by 20% of the total # of AKC Judges	81.1%	80.3%	80.4%	78.8%	90.0%	90.2%	85.6%
% D.I.C. judged by 20% of AKC Judges w/assignment	72.1%	72.3%	71.2%	72.1%	72.5%	79.1%	75.5%

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Conformation Judging Statistics

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY 2022 NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	6	6	0	0	0	0	8	8	0
February	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
March	5	5	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
April	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
May	4	4	0	0	0	0	9	9	0
June	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
July	7	7	0	0	0	0	7	7	0
August	7	7	0	0	0	0	29	29	0
September	8	8	0	0	0	0	15	15	0
October	2	2	0	0	0	0	6	6	0
November	6	6	0	0	0	0	11	11	0
December	4	4	0	0	0	0	19	19	0
NB TOTAL	58	58	0	0	0	0	118	118	0

Year-End Approval Statistics

Following are the 2022 monthly individual summary statistics for New Breed and Additional Breed applicants and the year-to-date accumulative totals for both.

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY 2022 ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	23	19	4	0	0	0	132	125	0
February	19	17	2	0	0	0	119	117	0
March	29	27	0	2	0	0	156	147	0
April	32	30	2	0	0	0	201	193	0
May	23	22	1	0	0	0	121	120	0
June	26	21	4	0	0	1	128	124	0
July	24	24	0	0	0	0	153	153	0
August	18	17	1	0	0	0	126	124	0
September	31	29	1	1	0	0	193	187	0
October	25	24	1	0	0	0	145	144	0
November	19	17	0	1	0	1	120	113	0
December	29	26	3	0	0	0	177	174	0
AB TOTAL	298	273	19	4	0	2	1771	1721	0

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY 2022 YEAR-END

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
NB	58	58	0	0	0	0	118	118	0
AB	298	273	19	4	0	2	1771	1721	0
TOTAL	356	331	19	4	0	2	1889	1839	0

SECRETARY'S PAGES

2023 Low Entry Breed List

A "Low Entry Breed" is defined as one whose total number of dogs in competition from the previous year was fewer than 3,500. Under current policy, the Low Entry Breed List impacts educational requirements for those seeking judging approval of the breeds that appear on it and the criteria for permit status judges to advance to regular status in a breed.

In 2022, 110 breeds appeared on the Low Entry Breed List. For 2023, the Low Entry Breed list contains 101 breeds. Eleven breeds appearing on the Low Entry List in 2022 moved off, with two breeds (Gordon Setters and Brussels Griffon) being added. A net of nine breeds moving off the Low Entry List is a very positive sign and emblematic of the very encouraging event and entry numbers for Conformation in 2022.

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.

Club Relations 2022 Activity Report

Staff presented a year-end report on trends regarding AKC clubs. The total number of AKC clubs in 2022 was 4,992.

STATUS AND TRENDS

Number of clubs as of January 17, 2023

Member clubs 647

Licensed clubs 4,203

Sanctioned Plan A clubs 84

Sanctioned Plan B clubs 86

Total 5,020

Total New Clubs in 2022 = 51

National Specialty 7

All Breed 0

Group 4

Local Specialty 23

Agility 5

Obedience 0

Rally 0

Tracking 0

Field Trial 6

Hunt Test 1

Herding 0

Lure Coursing 0

Earth Dog 0

Scent Work 3

Coonhound 2

New Parent Clubs in 2022: 7

Alaskan Klee Kai Club of America

Basset Fauve de Bretagne Club of America

Carolina Dog Fanciers Club of America

German Spitz Club of America

Japanese Akitainu Club of America

Kromfohrlander Club of America

National Kishu Ken Club

SECRETARY'S PAGES

New Member Clubs in 2022: 8

American Boerboel Club
American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association
Carroll Kennel Club
Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America
Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club
Jackson Tennessee Dog Fanciers Association
Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA
Morris Hills Dog Training Club

Number of Sanctioned Matches applied for and processed: **32**

Number of Sanctioned Matches held successfully: **32**

Number of club territories reviewed and adjusted: **9**

Number of Local Specialty Clubs accredited under the Mentored Conformation Program: **15**

Number of Local Specialty Clubs accredited under the Reduced Sanctioned Match Program: **4**

Number of Group Clubs accredited under the Reduced Sanctioned Match Program: **4**

Bylaw review requests handled by staff: **325**

Delegates and Member Clubs

Member Club Bylaws Approved Adding Junior Membership

Silver State Kennel Club, Las Vegas, NV (2006)
Suffolk County Kennel Club, Huntington, NY (1973)

Report on Member Club Bylaws Approved in December and January

American Shih Tzu Club, Inc (1981)

German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America (1940)

Hutchinson Kennel Club, Hutchinson, Kansas (1961)

Oklahoma City Kennel Club, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (1935)

Sussex Spaniel Club of America (1997)

REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUBS APPROVED IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Chow Chow Club of Greater Chicago, greater Chicago, IL (including communities north to Round Lake, southwest to Crown Point, east to DeKalb), 21 total households, 17 local.

Palmetto Agility Club of the Upstate, greater Greenville, SC (including communities north to Landrum, south to Anderson, west to Westminster, east to Spartanburg), 30 total households, 27 local.

Spring Creek Agility Club of Texas, Magnolia, TX (including Cypress and Spring), 27 total households, 16 local.

CONSENT

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

Agility International Sweepstakes Class Expansion

The Board VOTED to amend the *Regulations for AKC Agility Trials* to expand the International Sweepstakes Class (ISC) in Agility by adding two

SECRETARY'S PAGES

additional lower levels class offerings and add a \$2.00 per entry recording fee. Adding lower-skill level ISC classes will encourage the participation of those new to international course design and challenges. These are non-titling classes. These changes are effective August 1, 2023.

Chapter 1

Section 28. Recording Fees. At every licensed or member club trial, a recording fee of \$3.50 shall be required for the first entry of each dog, and \$3.00 for each additional entry of the same dog. (Each day is a separate trial.) Nonregular agility classes do not require a recording fee, except for International Sweepstakes (ISC) as noted in Chapter 14, Section 4. When a recording fee is calculated, it does not include withdrawals.

Chapter 14

Section 2. Eligibility of Dogs.

This class is open to dogs that are eligible to compete in AKC Agility Trials.

Dogs may be entered in any of the offered class levels and in multiple levels at the trial.

(NEW) Section 3. Class Levels.

Clubs may offer any combination of classes listed below per trial:

ISC Agility 1

ISC Agility 2

ISC Agility 3

ISC Jumping 1

ISC Jumping 2

ISC Jumping

Section 4. Recording Fees.

At every licensed or member club trial a recording fee of \$2.00 per entry will be required for each entry in an ISC class. When a recording fee is calculated it does not include withdrawals

Management of Dogs Attempting to Leave the Ring While Being Judged – Obedience and Rally

The Board VOTED to modify the *Obedience & Rally Regulations* to provide instructions to judges and stewards on how to manage a dog that leaves its handler and attempts to leave the ring while competing.

A judge will instruct the stewards not to reach for or grab a dog to stop it, but if the dog is not responding to its handler's commands, the judge may advise the stewards to attempt to block the dog from leaving if it is safe to do so. The dog will then be released from the ring.

OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS

CHAPTER 1

Section 31. Stewards. Judges are in sole charge of their rings until their assignments are completed. Stewards are provided to assist but may act only on the judge's instructions. They must not give information or instructions to owners and handlers except when the judge asks them to do so. Any request from an exhibitor for special consideration must be directed to the judge.

SECRETARY'S PAGES

It is the judge's responsibility to review with the stewards their duties and the manner in which those duties are to be performed. When a dog leaves its handler to leave the ring, the stewards' safety is a priority, and they must be advised not to reach for or grab a dog to stop it. At a show with ring gating, if the stewards are near the open gate area when a dog leaves its handler, and the dog is not responding to its handler's commands, the judge may advise the stewards to block the gate to prevent the dog from leaving the ring if it is safe to do so. The dog will then be released from the ring.

CHAPTER 2

Section 25. Misbehavior (New wording added below)

A dog who has left its handler to leave the ring, who is not responding to its handler, and/or the stewards have blocked the dog to keep it in the ring, must receive a nonqualifying (NQ) score and must be released from the ring.

The same wording will be added to the *Rally Regulations* Chapter 1, Section 33 and Chapter 2, Section 19.

Parent Club Request for Three Quarter Jump Height in Obedience – Teddy Roosevelt Terrier, Field Spaniel, and Cane Corso

The Board VOTED to approve the request of the American Teddy Roosevelt Terrier Club, Field Spaniel Society of America, and the Cane Corso Association of American, to allow each breed to jump at three-quarter the height of the dog at the

withers in obedience.

This is a change to the Obedience Regulations and is effective March 30, 2023.

Group Designation Change for Kishu Ken

The Board VOTED to change the group designation for the Kishu Ken from Working to Hound based upon the function of the breed.

Basset Fauve de Bretagne Club of America

The Board VOTED to advance the Basset Fauve de Bretagne to the Miscellaneous Class effective June 28, 2023.

Parent Club Designation for Czechoslovakian Vlcak

The Board VOTED to designate the Czechoslovakian Vlcak Club of America as the Parent Club for the Breed, allowing them to hold FSS Open Shows.

Parent Club Designation for Pyrenean Mastiff

The Board VOTED to designate the Pyrenean Mastiff Association of America as the Parent Club for the Breed, allowing them to hold FSS Open Shows.

Delegate Approvals

Marci Cook

To represent Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America
Published December 2022, January 2023

Arlene Czech

To represent Greater Naples Dog Club

SECRETARY'S PAGES

Published December 2022, January 2023

Joseph Fitzgerald

To represent Catoctin Kennel Club

Published November 2022, December 2022

Carla D. Giroux

To represent Idaho Capital City Kennel Club

Published December 2022, January 2023

Holly Johnson

To represent North Shore Kennel Club

Published December 2022, January 2023

Kim Raleigh

To represent Finnish Spitz Club of America

Published December 2022, January 2023

Bradford Yamada

To represent Orange Empire Dog Club

Published November 2022, December 2022

NEW BUSINESS

Judges Panel Conflicts

There was a discussion of the 200-mile Judges Panel Conflict policy and AKC's use of the "as the Crow flies" straight-line measurement of the distance between two club events to determine mileage conflicts. The Board directed Staff to investigate alternative means of measuring the conflict distance for conflicts within 20 miles of the minimum conflict distance.

Three-Point Major at Independent Specialties

There was discussion about the current Dog Show rule that allows a Parent Club to elect to award a three-point major to a Reserve Winner at the National Specialty. The Board debated the merits of making this option available at all independent specialties and will seek the input of the Dog Show Rules Delegate Committee and the Parent Club Delegate Committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 11:38 a.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned

Attest: _____

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

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



Borzo



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



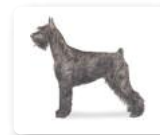
Dogo Argentino



Dogue de Bordeaux



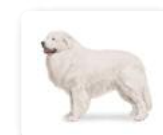
German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



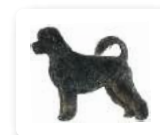
Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



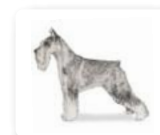
Saint Bernard



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



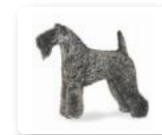
Fox Terrier (Smooth)



Glen of Imaal Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



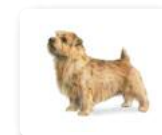
Manchester Terrier



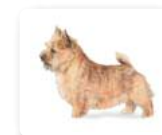
Miniature Bull Terrier



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/>