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Lynda Bean

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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	Papillons	

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Belgian Tervuren	Finnish Lapphunds	Spanish Water Dogs

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
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FEATURE
REWARDING BREEDERS



BREED COLUMNS
SPOTLIGHT

SECRETARY'S PAGES

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Links to AKC Parent Clubs appear following Secretary's Pages



SLIDESHOW
IRISH BREEDS



PERFECTLY FRANK: THE SABELLA TOUCH

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Spring Events *Show Promise*

Spring is quickly upon us, and we are excited for the coming months. As we gradually return to live events, we remain cautiously optimistic and are taking the lessons of the past year with us.

Our clubs have worked through a difficult year and learned how to navigate through unimagined adversity. They remain resilient and are forging a path back to the events we all desire so much. Though events are down for the first quarter of the year, April is showing real promise with only a 12 percent decrease in live events compared to 2019. This is exciting news, and we look forward to more events being held across each of our sports.

One of our most important and largest companion events takes place this month. The AKC National Agility Championship will be held on March 26 to 28 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the Tulsa Expo Center. This annual competition brings out the best of our canine athletes and allows them to shine brightly!

Due to the pandemic we had to postpone

last year's event, but we are thrilled to welcome more than 1,100 dogs from 49 states that will compete for the Championship. The event showcases the very best of the human-canine bond and what training and dedication can do. And though the event will look a bit different from past years, it is our honor and pleasure to hold this trial for exhibitors and their dogs.

As with each of our live events, preventing the spread of COVID-19 is a high priority. Safety precautions will be in place, including no spectators at the event, social distancing, temperature checks, face coverings, and sanitation stations readily available for participants and staff. To make sure that none of the excitement is missed, the preliminary competitions will be streamed on AKC.tv and the finals will air on ESPN 2 on March 31 at 8 P.M. EST.

Showcasing our sports on this major platform invites new audiences to learn about the AKC and everything it has to offer. We appreciate the staff, exhibitors, and vendors for their



tireless work to make this event possible. We hope that you will enjoy the livestreamed and televised events and spread the word to your friends and family to tune in as well.

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Breeder of the Year:

Poodles Return to Winner's Circle

In 2002, the AKC gave its first Breeder of the Year Award to Wendell Sammet, of Alekai Poodles. At the time, Sammet was already revered by fanciers for his stewardship of the Alekai line; the intervening years have burnished his legend to a high gloss.

Nineteen years later, AKC Breeder of the Year is among the most coveted honors in our sport, and Poodles are again the honorees' breed of choice. In December, the AKC presented the award to Gail S. Wolaniuk and Joan E. McFadden, *Unique Standard Poodles*, for their commitment to improving the health, temperament, and quality of purebred dogs.

"We are thrilled to honor *AKC Breeders of Merit* Gail Wolaniuk and Joan McFadden as the 2020 AKC Breeders of the Year," AKC President Dennis Sprung says. "The Unique prefix is associated with top-quality Standard Poodles in the United States, and their influence on the breed will be seen for many years to come."

Over the past 40 years, Wolaniuk and McFadden have produced generations of healthy,



Bryn Mawr KC, 2014: Ch. Unique Pocket Full of Sunshine

happy Standard Poodles, including 115 champions. Among the top winners and producers are six Best in Show dogs and seven Best in Specialty dogs, collectively winning 34 Bests.

Unique Poodles are represented every year at Westminster, resulting in a Best of Variety and Group II in 2001 with Ch. Unique Reach for the Rainbow, along with 11 Best of Opposite or Award of Merit wins.

Unique has been represented every year at Poodle Club of America national and regional shows, resulting in seven Winners Dogs or Bitches, 10 Select or Award of Merit, three Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show, and one national Best of Variety.

Wolaniuk and McFadden are equally proud



Joan McFadden and Gail Wolaniuk

of the companion-titled dogs of the Unique line. Unique Poodles have earned some 50 agility and obedience titles for Wolaniuk, McFadden, and many other Unique owners.

Nursing-home visits, reading programs, and therapy work round out the accomplishments of the dogs bred by the AKC's 2020 Breeders of the Year.

On Our Cover

Bernese Mountain Dog, courtesy Lynda Beam

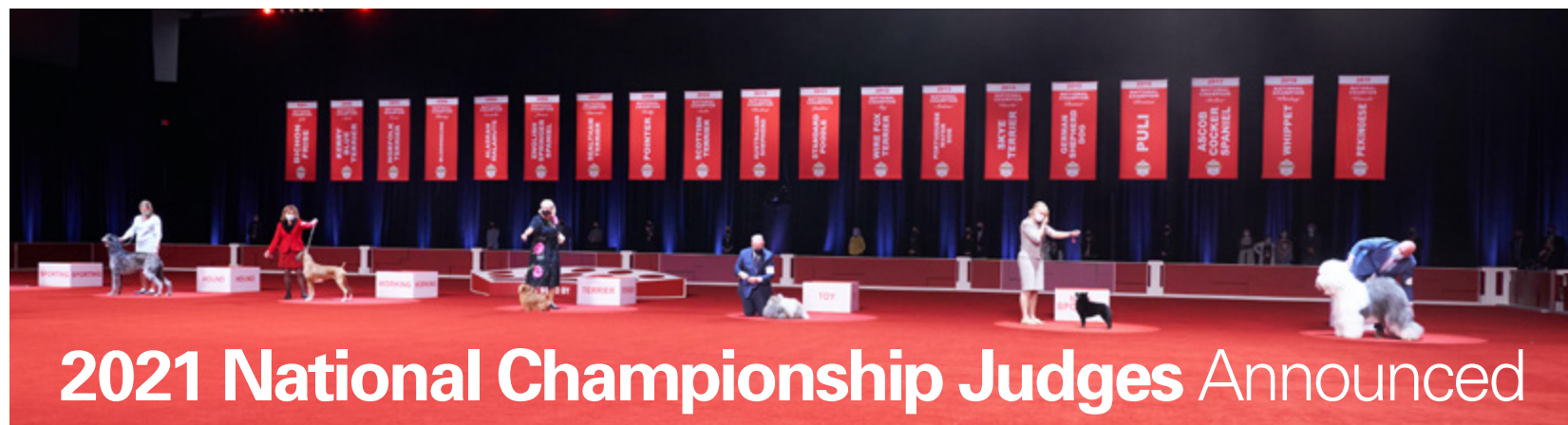


POODLE PHOTOS COURTESY OF OWNERS

Delegates Elect Board Class of 2025

NEW YORK CITY—At the annual meeting of the American Kennel Club on March 9, the Delegates elected the following members to the AKC Board of Directors: Rita J. Biddle, Esq. ([Ingham County KC](#)), Dominic P. Carota ([Pharaoh Hound Club of America](#)), Dr. Thomas M. Davies ([Springfield KC](#)), and Thomas Powers ([KC of Beverly Hills](#)).

At a meeting of the AKC Board of Directors convened after the Delegate Meeting, Dr. Davies was elected as the Chairman of the Board, and Mr. Carota was elected as Vice Chairman of the Board.



2021 National Championship Judges Announced

ORLANDO, FLORIDA—Dana Cline will judge Best in Show, and Elliott Weiss will judge Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show, at the 2021 AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin in December.

“The AKC National Championship continues to be a world-class event, and with Dana and Elliott heading the panel, this year will be no different,” AKC President and event show chairman Dennis Sprung says. “The 2021 event promises to be an exciting compe-

tion for breeders, exhibitors, and judges.”

Dana Cline has bred champion Beagles, Borzoi, German Wire-haired Pointers, Great Danes, and Miniature Bull Terriers. An AKC judge since 1998, he includes among his career highlights judging at Westminster and at seven national specialties, including twice at the Great Dane Club of America.

A judge of 28 years’ experience, Elliott Weiss began exhibiting dogs in 1963 and became a licensed

professional handler in 1969. Weiss has judged the Terrier, Sporting, and Toy groups, and Best in Show (2010) at Westminster, and has filled several assignments at the AKC National Championship, including Best in Show (2018).

GROUP JUDGES

Sporting Beth Sweigart; **Hound** Luc Boileau; **Working** Norm Kenney; **Terrier** Edd Bivin; **Toy** Jim Moses; **Non-Sporting** Susan St. John Brown; **Herding**

Charles Olvis; **Miscellaneous** Pamela Lambie

BRED-BY-EXHIBITOR GROUP JUDGES

Sporting Debbie Melgreen; **Hound** Pamela Lambie;

Working Terry Stacy; **Terrier** Larry Cornelius; **Toy** Dr. Gareth Morgan-Jones; **Non-Sporting** Timothy Catterson; **Herding** Cathy Daugherty

[Link](#)

This month: National Agility Championship

TULSA, OKLAHOMA—The Built Ford Tough Livestock Complex at Expo Square will host the 24th AKC National Agility Championship and the 11th Preferred National Agility Championship on Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28. Watch it on [AKC.tv](#) and [ESPN](#). For more information, visit the [NAC Facebook page](#).



PHOTOS DAVID WOO ©AKC

UPDATES

From CHF: the Genetic Basis of Bloat

In gastric dilatation and volvulus (GDV), also known as bloat, the stomach fills with gas and rotates on its axis, leading to cardiovascular shock and abnormal function of the respiratory, gastrointestinal, kidney, and clotting systems. Known risk factors for bloat include breed, increased body weight, lean body condition, deep-chested conformation, abnormal stomach motility, family history of bloat, and age.

Because of the increased risk for bloat in specific breeds and in dogs with a family history of bloat, genetic factors are likely to contribute to disease risk, but they have not yet been described. With funding from the [AKC Canine](#)



[Health Foundation](#), investigators at Tufts University are examining the genetic and metabolic factors associated with bloat to understand the true cause of this disease (see [CHF grant abstract](#)).

Investigators performed genetic analysis on 253 dogs representing 10 different breeds: Borzoi, German Shepherd Dog, Great Dane, Standard Poodle, Doberman, Briard, Labrador Retriever, Golden Retriever, German Shorthaired Pointer, and smooth Collie. By comparing the DNA of affected dogs to similar healthy dogs, they identified 27 significant single nucleotide polymorphisms, or SNPs, associated with the risk of bloat. Some of the variations were asso-

ciated with a decreased risk of bloat, while others were associated with an increased risk. Eleven of these SNPs occur within or near genes associated with stomach motility, lending support for their involvement in disease development.—**Sharon M. Albright, DVM, CCRT**

Bloat Webinar

Elizabeth Rozanski, DVM, will present the CHF/VetVine webinar “GDV—What We Know, and What We Wish We Knew” on March 24 at 8:00 P.M. Rozanski will provide updates on the current knowledge and understanding about bloat in dogs.

[Register for webinar](#)

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UPDATES

Event Shots: AKC Pointing Breed National

MAYFLOWER, ARKANSAS—The 2021 AKC Pointing Breed National Gundog Championship was held at Camp Robinson, considered by trialers to be one of the best facilities in the country to run bird dogs. The seven-day event kicked off on February 25. The nation's premier all-breed national championship drew 82 dogs in competition.

In the saddle to judge the seven-day event were the highly respected Alan Davidson and Bruce Bryant. "Honest of opinion and observant, they are the kind of judges competitors like to run dogs under," says the AKC's Tom Maneely, the event's co-chairman.

The AKC Pointing Breed National Gundog Championship was sponsored by Purina, SportDog, and Dogs Unlimited.

(Photos posted by event secretary Trish James)

Link

[Full event report and results](#)



SLIDESHOW

Tim, an Irish Terrier

By Winifred Mary Letts

*It's wonderful dogs they're
breeding now:*

*Small as a flea or large as a
cow;*

*But my old lad Tim he'll
never be bet*

*By any dog that he ever met,
"Come on," says he, "for I'm
not kilt yet!"*

*No matter the size of the dog
he'll meet,
Tim trails his coat the length
o'the street.*

*D'ye mind his scar an' his
ragged ear,
The like of a Dublin Fusilier?
He's a massacree dog that
knows no fear.*

*But he'd stick to me till his
lastest breath;*

*An' he'd go with me to the
gates of death.*

*He'd wait a thousand years,
maybe,*

*Scratching the door an'
whining for me*

*If myself were inside in Pur-
gatory.*

*So I laugh when I hear them
make it plain
That dogs and men never
meet again.*

*For all their talk who'd listen
to them*

*With the soul in the shining
eyes of him?*

*Would God be wasting a dog
like Tim?*



Photographers: Lynda Beam (Glen of Imaal Terrier, Kerry Blue Terrier, Irish Terrier at dog show, Irish Water Spaniel); Mary Bloom (Irish Terrier outdoors, Irish Wolfhounds); Kathleen Riley (Irish Red and White Setter); and David Woo (Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Irish Setter)

Perfectly Frank

From the pages of the AKC GAZETTE, a primer on how to judge with the famous “Sabella touch.”

That elegant gentleman of the show ring Frank T. Sabella died on February 14 at 91. He reigned as one of the ring’s most sought-after professional handlers of the 1960s and ’70s, but it was as a judge of some 45 years’ experience that later generations of fanciers knew him best. We honor his contributions to our sport with a mash-up of two items from our pages concerning judging the Sabella way.

First, from our November 2003 issue, Alison Stateman checks in with Sabella as he prepares to judge Best in Show at the fourth AKC National Championship.

Ask Frank Sabella what has kept him involved in dog shows all these years and he does not hesitate. “There are three things that keep me going,” says the 74-year-old Sabella. “Always that search for the beautiful dog, the feeling of wanting to give something back to the sport, and, also, judging keeps me young.”

Sabella, who will serve as Best in Show judge at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship on December 3 in Long Beach, California, first garnered attention for his ribbon-winning work as a handler, then as a judge of distinction, including his turn in the BIS ring at Westminster in 1990. Before joining the professional ranks of the dog world, however, Sabella pursued a very



Inset: Frank Sabella at the 2003 AKC National Championship, where he judged Norfolk Terrier Ch. Cracknor Cause Celebre as BIS. “This bitch has a wonderful head, ears, and eyes,” he said. “She’s got a superlative front for the breed.”

Sabella (left) with dancing partners Richard Beard and Marion Sanders. “We were very good,” he recalled, “and we worked every major nightclub in the United States. We also did a stint for one year in Paris at the Lido.”

FEATURE

different vocation.

For a number of years Sabella was a dancer. He trained at the School of American Ballet, the official school for the New York City Ballet, and has performed in venues from Paris to Los Angeles. In fact, it was a performance in Los Angeles that convinced the native New Yorker to relocate. “When we got there I said, I’m not going back to New York, I’m going to move here,” says Sabella, who now resides in the equally climate-blessed Fort Lauderdale. That is, when he’s not on the road judging another dog show or sharing his expertise with other purebred aficionados as a frequent lecturer at the AKC Judges Institutes.

Throughout his five decades in dogs, Sabella has judged on six continents, and he shows no signs of slowing down. Scandinavia is one of his favorite places to judge, because judges there do not simply choose the four dogs

who place, but get to grade and explain to the exhibitors the strengths and weaknesses of all contestants.

But how did Sabella go from ballet to becoming one of the most respected dog-show judges around? It all started with a black Standard Poodle named Ch. Istar de La Nuit, whom Sabella purchased for \$125 in 1955.

“My parents would never let me have a dog, so the minute I moved away from home, I bought a Poodle. I bought her from an ad in the paper. She was royally bred. The woman I bought her from said, ‘If I sell you the dog, you have to finish her.’ That’s basically why I did it. I just wanted to get a dog.

“Of course, once I started into it—I finished the dog, bred her, and finished two of her puppies—I had the bug.”

Sabella, who owned a grooming shop that he took over from his friend AKC Emeritus Judge Tom Stevenson, had become a



Poodle Club of Southern California, 1964: Sabella with Miniature Poodle Ch. Tedwins Tempo



handler at Stevenson’s urging. “He suggested that I get a handler’s license because I’d go crazy just grooming pet dogs,” he explains.

When handling got to be too exhausting—the travel, the grooming required for the coated breeds he specialized in, and caring for other people’s animals—Sabella parlayed his expertise into judging and teaching. After an illustrious run as a handler (he won more than 600 Bests in Show, including 1974’s Westminster), Sabella finally switched gears.

The Making of a Judge

One of the crucial ways that Sabella learned the art of dog-show judging was by cultivating relationships with leaders in the field. Says Mari-Beth O’Neill, an AKC assistant vice president and head of the Judges Education department: “He sought out some of the most talented and knowledgeable people in the sport to be his mentors.”

O'Neill says that Sabella is an example of how judges can influence the future of a breed.

"Many times people feel they are these little fish in a big pond and don't see how are they going to have an influence," she says, adding that one of her greatest wins as a handler was under Sabella. "He judged the Manchester Terrier national specialty in 1983, and awarded my dog Best of Variety from the Veterans class. At the show, he went up to the lady who handled the Winners Bitch and told her she should breed her bitch to my dog.

"She took his advice, and as a result of that breeding, and a repeat breeding, they are the top-producing sire and dam in the history of our breed."

Anne Rogers Clark, who has known Sabella for "a thousand years," says he worked hard to add to his natural eye for movement,



Westminster KC, 1973: Sabella guided the rambunctious Standard Poodle Ch. Acadia Command Performance (Bart) to BIS under Adelaide Riggs.

balance, and proportion—understandable given his background as a dancer—to become a respected judge.

"He started where everyone else starts," Clark says. "He started knowing nothing and had to learn all of it. You aren't born with an eye for a dog. Nobody can teach you how to judge dogs. You have to devise a method of learning, and very often it's trial and error."

Sabella says, "The thing that will separate the great judge from just a good one is the eye, the ability to appreciate beauty, balance, and proportion. The more I judge, the more I find that to be true."

Sabella's judging method is a mix of science and art. He begins with his general impression of the exhibits, comparing each dog to the ideal breed type. "When I

walk in the ring, I can almost tell you, standing still, which dogs it is going to be," he says. "Breed type and breed character are the hardest things to learn how to appreciate. Once you get a handle on that, those breeds become easier to judge."

Sabella, who is approved by the AKC to judge more than 100 breeds, from Affenpinschers to Welsh Terriers, says that every time he takes on a new one, he has to begin again.

"You have to learn all the nuances. You never stop learning in this business," he says, clearly enjoying each challenge that comes his way.

When he is confronted with a particularly sensational group of dogs, where he has to "separate them by hairs," Sabella relies on some advice passed along by the venerable all-breed judge Beatrice Godsol. "Mrs. Godsol always said to me, if ever in doubt send them around the ring once more, and what-

ever your heart tells you to point to, that's the one you choose."

A Big-Show Judge

Sabella is looking forward to judging Best in Show at Long Beach this December. This is the third year of the invitation-only competition, and the first time it will include the AKC National Obedience Invitational and the AKC National Agility Championship. Sabella ranks the pressure to choose the right dogs at this event with what he felt as both a handler and a judge at Westminster.

"I'm flattered. It's a very big honor. There will only be the best there—they have to be invited based on the amount of winning they have done. So that's going to make it very awe-inspiring for me," he says.

Sabella says he wishes more exhibitors had first-hand knowledge of what goes into judging. "I think people imagine that it's very easy,

that you just walk in the ring and pick the dogs," he says. "When people are involved in every aspect of a business they get a deeper understanding of what's involved."

Sabella has given up a lot to continue in his judging and educational work—namely, owning a dog himself. "I want a Greyhound so badly that I can't stand it, but I don't have one because I'm always on the road," he says. Fittingly, the qualities that Sabella admires in this breed mirror the athleticism and grace that dancers naturally possess. "They're sleek. You can see their muscles, and they are the most beautiful things to watch run."

Despite the sacrifice, Sabella won't give up judging anytime soon. "I'll have to retire someday—when I'm too old to stand up!"—**A.S.**

SPECIALTIES ARE MY SPECIALTY

In her September 2008 breed column, Loretta McDonald of

FEATURE

the Bichon Frise Club of America filed a report from her breed's national specialty in Boise, Idaho. She wrote, "Frank Sabella judged regular conformation classes. He carefully went over each dog and observed each one as it moved. He periodically stopped examining the dogs and explained to the crowd what he was looking to find. At one point, he took out a copy of the standard and read to us: 'Movement at a trot is free, precise and effortless.' He reiterated that he was looking for effortless movement. We witnessed an excellent illustrated standard.

"After the specials were examined, Sabella again addressed the crowd. He complimented the breeders and announced that the breed was in 'great shape.' He added that the depth in quality of the dogs entered was the best ever. His comments elicited applause and cheers.

"Sabella contributed a great deal to the specialty with his expertise, commentary, approachability, and sense of humor."

GAZETTE editors were so intrigued with McDonald's description of Sabella's specialty



Poodle Club of America, 1986: Standard Poodle Ch. Alekai Airy is judge Sabella's Best of Variety. The handler is Sabella's longtime friend and colleague Wendell Sammet.

judging that we invited Sabella to describe his method in detail. In our November 2008 issue, he did just that.

My feeling is that, at a specialty, you have all the time in the world. You're not

under any time constraint as far as the groups or holding up Best in Show, and I feel that it behooves me as a judge—and also tests my knowledge—to explain what I think is the correct balance and proportion for the breed.

(In the case of the Bichon, it's a rectangle, not a square.) I also feel it's necessary to verbalize whatever I think is an important breed characteristic (in that case, the kind of eye I wanted).

It's my personal belief that

50 percent of breed type is in balance and proportion. Make your first cut mentally based on "which dogs of these do I love standing still" because they have the correct balance and proportion for their breed. Then from



the ones you think are most typical, you can put up the soundest. That gives you a consistency of judging and, in a specialty, I feel that's very, very important.

I, personally, love the Scandinavian system, where you have to judge and grade every dog. And unless a dog gets a grade of excellent, it doesn't get to compete for the Challenge Certificate. I brought it up at a Poodle Club meeting when I came back from Scandinavia. Let's say you work for hours to get a Poodle ready, and you're in and out of the ring in two minutes. Shouldn't you know that you went third in a class of 20, and 10 of them were rated excellent, including yours? Wouldn't that give that third-place ribbon a lot of importance?

And so I talked them into doing it. I said it's very easy to do, even if you get the mic at the end of the class, and say, "OK, there were 20 in this class, and this is the way I

FEATURE

graded these dogs, and this is how I arrived at this decision.”

And we did it once or twice, but then judges didn’t want to do it because, you see, it’s a test of your knowledge. You judge in Scandinavia, and within five seconds the exhibitor knows whether you know what the hell you’re talking about, or whether you even know their breed.

Of course, you can’t judge that way at an all-breed show with time restrictions that make it impossible. And you couldn’t share it with enough people, because you might have 174 dogs and might not have five of any one breed in the ring at one time.

A specialty is where I find the Scandinavian method most effective for me, and most appreciated by the exhibitors. Having done everything in this sport—having been a handler, having been an exhibitor, having been a superintendent—I feel I have an obligation, and

it’s not to just stand there and give out ribbons. It’s to impart whatever wisdom I have gained through the years.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, Before I Pick Best of Breed ...”

Ellsworth Gamble was a great man. He was so idealistic, and he was a purist. One day he did a big entry of Chows—I’ll never forget it, because I was the superintendent at the time, at Orange Empire—and he said, “Ladies and gentlemen, before I pick Best of Breed, I want you to know that I know there is not one dog standing in this ring that has the correct proportion. Your Best of Breed, your Best of Winners, your Best of Opposite ...”

Well, the people went bananas. So they came running in a group, and I said, “Wait a minute: You paid for his opinion. And his opinion is very valid, because in the first paragraph in your breed



Westminster KC, 1990: Sabella’s BIS is Pekingese Ch. Wendessa Crown Prince, handled by Luc Boileau. “The Peke had something sadly lacking in the breed’s gait today,” Sabella said, “a correct roll.”

standard, under ‘General Impression,’ it says *squarely built ... Arctic-type dog*. And if he’s telling you that, he’s giving you the information you need to have, if you have an open mind, that you will want to follow to breed dogs of the correct type.”

Even if he did not get one person to do it, it was the fact that he said it out loud that made everybody crazy. But he was correct.

I judged a Chow entry once, and the puppy class was hideous—they were long, they were low, they could

barely walk, they could barely breathe—and I didn’t have the courage to do what Mr. Gamble did. But because of him, I said, “I want to read you what it says in your standard.” And I read what the standard said, and it was exactly what Ellsworth Gamble said, and I

went, “You’re second, third, and fourth.”

Well, they wrote letters to the AKC, that I took the standard out of context. How could I take it out of context when I’m reading the first paragraph? But as a result of that, I’ve judged the Chow national four times, and out of maybe 300 dogs, three will be low on leg. Exhibitors learn that you’re not going to bend and just follow the leader; you’re going to do what you think is right, and they won’t show under you—which is what I would like to have happen.

When I did that Bichon national, that was the fourth time I’ve judged their national specialty. People appreciate when you impart some kind of information to them, because they don’t know how judges arrive at decisions.

Most people are afraid to ask questions because they feel stupid—instead of feeling smart, they feel stupid. But you can learn, and there are good people willing to help; that’s



Judging the Non-Sporting Group at *Morris & Essex*, 2000

what this is all about. When I went to Bloomington, Indiana, I spent a day with Doug Johnson [of Clussexx Clumber Spaniels] and he helped.

Then, when I was in Mexico, I went to this guy who's the partner of somebody who breeds great Clumbers, and I said, "Jamie [Hubbard, of Clussexx], you come watch me judge Clumbers and tell me if I did it right." So I was in the ring and I had a chance to practice—I didn't have a big entry, but Jamie was there.

We had a discussion about it afterward. And you see, there's nothing wrong with not knowing. The thing that's wrong is not knowing and pretending that you do know.

The way I feel, this judging thing is an ongoing process. Once you get to the point where you think there's nothing else to learn, you're wrong. You should stop doing it. It's like being on the stage and not getting nervous. It's that adrenaline that really makes you do a good job.—**F.S.**

An Eye for a Dog

It comes as no surprise to learn that Frank Sabella, so esteemed for his eye for a dog, was a shrewd evaluator of dog paintings. He donated several pieces from his collection to the [AKC Museum of the Dog](#). The museum's Executive Director Alan Fausel tells us, "Sabella's collection of over a dozen works were the first entered into the AKC Museum of the Dog's inventory in 1981, before the museum was officially opened. He was partial to Poodles, and some of our best examples are from his collection, including Maud Earl's rendition of a black and a white Standard Poodle. Also among his gifts was our iconic work 'The President,' by Horatio Couldery."





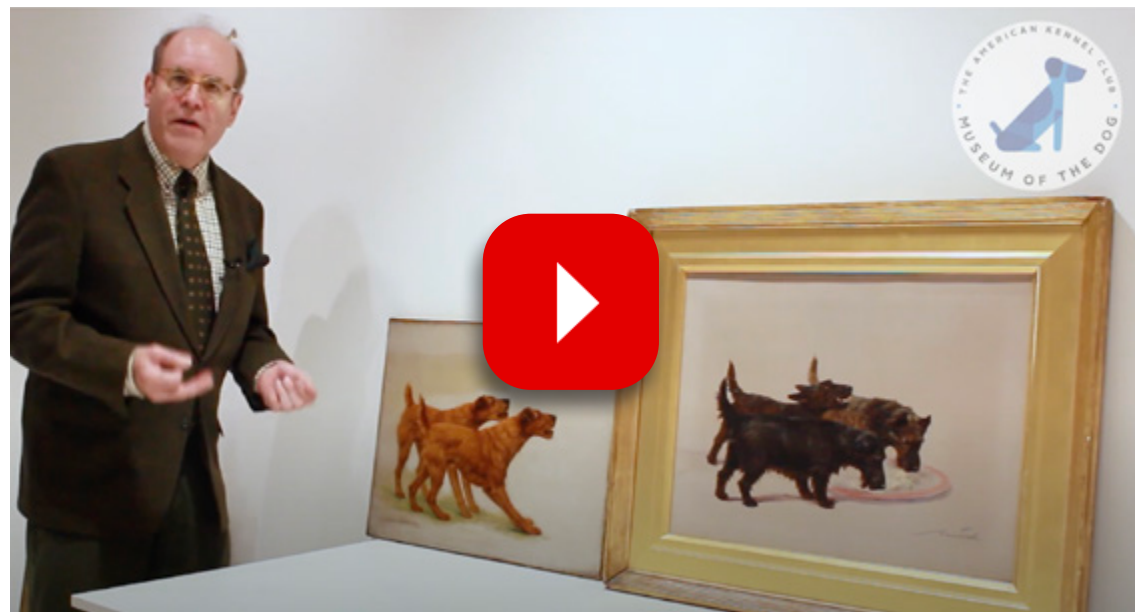
The Road to Restoration, PART 1

AKC Museum of the Dog Executive Director Alan Fausel discusses how the museum has preserved two classic paintings by Maud Earl. 2:33



They Are the Champions!

This slideshow presenting 100 years of GSDCA national-specialty winners is set to the tune of—what else?—Queen’s “We Are the Champions.” 13:41



The Road to Restoration, PART 2

In part two, Fausel shows us the right ways and wrong ways to preserve art. Two more lovely Maud Earl canvases serve as examples. 2:38



Top 5 Beatdown with Bill Shelton

The highly respected breeder-judge reveals his top five dog breeds, with a lot of laughs along the way. 25:05

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Rewarding Breeders

AKC launches incentive program for puppy registrations.

By Penny Leigh

In rural Virginia, about every home had a farm dog, a mix of various breeds that lived outside, helped around the property and played with the kids.

John Robert “Bobby” Lewis Jr. gained his love of dogs growing up with these versatile canines. But in the early 1970s, he discovered a dog unlike any he had seen before, and soon a Sussex Spaniel joined his family. That dog became Ch. Oldholbans Fionnlagh and is in the pedigrees of most every Sussex born in America today.

Lewis has never strayed from Sussex and is devoted to preserving the rare breed. That means ensuring every puppy that he breeds is registered with the American Kennel Club.

“I believe that it is essential for breeders of critically endangered breeds such as the Sussex Spaniel to make



Chinese Crested breeder Susan Cicone is dedicated to making sure each of these puppies is registered.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF OWNERS



"It is essential for breeders of critically endangered breeds such as the Sussex Spaniel to make certain that each puppy is registered."

certain that each puppy is registered," said Lewis, founder of Lexxfield Sussex. "Every puppy has the potential to add to the gene pool. One never knows which puppy may be that 'one' dog that literally saves the breed down the road."

AKC Pet Insurance thanks breeders like Lewis, who register all their puppies and take other steps to encourage owners in responsible dog ownership, through the [AKC Breeder Rewards Program](#), launched on November 10, 2020. Participating breeders

can earn:

- \$2 for each puppy whose owner completes [AKC registration](#)
- \$5 for each puppy whose owner activates the [30 days of pet insurance coverage](#).
- \$3 for each puppy whose owner downloads the

[TailTrax mobile app](#) for the first time.

That is a potential earning of \$10 per puppy in each litter.

"We are thrilled to launch this exciting new program," says Lane Kent, president of PetPartners, the administrator of AKC Pet Insurance.

"This program gives us the opportunity to show our support of AKC breeders and all they do they do for the love of dogs."

AKC Pet Insurance started the program, in cooperation with the American Kennel Club, to promote registra-

tions, responsible dog ownership and the well-being of puppies, while lending support to dedicated breeders.

Like Lewis, Chinese Crested breeder Susan Cicone is dedicated to making sure every puppy gets registered. "I want track-ability



Chinese Crested puppy. "I would think that frequent breeders would find the incentives desirable."

of all my pups," she says.

For Cicone, the benefits of the Breeder Rewards program are many: "I would think that frequent breeders would find the incentives desirable in terms of monetary payback to them; support benefits to new puppy owners; and awareness of other attributes they may be entitled to as puppy owners."

Lewis agreed that the incentive program is appreciated as breeding is a labor of love, not a profit-making business, especially for those with rarer breeds.

"Preservation breeding is expensive," he says, "and the financial incentives of the AKC Breeder Rewards program are attractive."

It is easy for breeders to participate. Just enroll in the program online, and AKC Pet Insurance will take care of the rest. Breeders do not have to submit any records or track their puppy buyer's activity.

At the end of each quarter,



Sussex puppy. "Preservation breeding is expensive, and the financial incentives of AKC Breeder Rewards are attractive."

a digital Amazon gift card for the total amount will be sent to the e-mail address provided during enrollment.

Dog health and well-being are at the forefront, with registration benefits like the AKC's complimentary first vet visit and AKC Pet Insurance's 30 days of pet insurance coverage. The 30 days of pet insurance offers accident and illness coverage to newly registered puppies at no additional cost.

The coverage also includes access to a [24/7 Vet Helpline](#) that offers new puppy owners

round-the-clock access to pet health advice and support.

"Responsible dog ownership is key to the health and well-being of dogs, and registration is an important first step for new pet owners," AKC Executive Vice President Mark Dunn says.

VET CARE—ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

Another puppy buyer resource is AKC Pet Insurance's new TailTrax mobile app. This user-friendly app is intended to help owners provide their

Thoughts of a Preservation Breeder

The greatest satisfaction that I have received in breeding Sussex Spaniels is knowing that I had a hand in restoring correct breed type to the breed. Unfortunately, many of the Sussex from the 1970s lacked the essential points required in the breed standard. It has taken nearly 50 years to consistently produce dogs that meet the standard's requirements of a long, low, and level dog.

Another passion I have is breed history and pedigrees. Sussex Spaniels have one of the most complete pedigrees of any breed. One can trace the pedigree of any Sussex back to 1812 in an unbroken line. The history of the breed makes for a fascinating story. While breeding is my passion, I also enjoy the conformation ring. While my handling skills may be lacking, it is rewarding to show judges and the public the fruits of 48 years of work.—**Bobby Lewis Jr. (Lexxfield)**



pets with better, more efficient care by giving them the ability to easily access everything they need to support their pet's health and well-being—anytime, anywhere. Features include:

- Find local veterinary clinics, groomers, dog parks, dog-friendly restaurants and hotels, and more.
- Store and manage vital pet information, including medical records, vaccine history, microchip details, registra-

tion documents, etc.

- Easily access your pet insurance portal to view policy information, submit claims, view claim status, and more.
- Connect to the 24/7 Vet Helpline—anytime, anywhere.
- Receive VIP discounts for pet products and services including treats, food, toys and more.
- Connect with friends and family who are also TailTrax

users—privately and securely.

- Breeders can connect with puppy buyers and enable buyers to connect via Paw Posts

Puppy buyers who just want family pets may not see the need to register their puppy. Breeders, however, have the ability to change that viewpoint by discussing the many aspects of registration that go far beyond breeding. Cicone shows her Cresteds

in conformation, but also in many AKC companion and performance events, including agility and rally. She not only tells her puppy buyers about the registration benefits; she educates owners about the world of AKC activities for which registration provides a ticket.

“I feel strongly about giving back the learned experiences I have acquired from

so many giving folks, showing my enthusiasm, giving encouragement, and being involved as an ambassador for activities they choose to try,” Cicone says.

“I enjoy mentoring and teaching all aspects of activities—beginning with puppies, to competitive events, to pet therapy opportunities. The possibilities are endless!” —**P.L.**

More Info

Learn more about AKC Breeder Rewards and join the program at akcpetinsurance.com.

Questions? Contact the AKC Pet Insurance Breeder support team at 800-956-2491 or breeders@akcpetinsurance.com.

The French Renaissance

“There are many advantages to owning a dog of this breed, but there are very few bred and very few exhibited. If the trend keeps on, eventually the breed will become extinct.”—“Why Are Frenchies So Scarce?,” AKC GAZETTE, 1961

Considering the French Bulldog’s skyrocketing popularity with pet owners these last several years, it is hard to believe we ever saw the need to publish such a dire warning.

The Frenchie’s status as the 21st century’s favorite compact dog was built on a foundation laid by the breed’s leading fanciers of the mid-20th century. Here, we recall two kennels that nurtured the Frenchie during the lean years before

the vast pet-owning public discovered the breed’s many charms.

Ralph and Amanda West

(Ralanda kennels)

of Livonia, Michigan, began their 30-plus years in Frenchies in the late 1940s. In her time, Mrs. West had the sport’s top-winning Frenchies, and her success did much to promote the cream-colored Frenchie. Her foundation dog was Ch. Bouquet Nouvelle Ami (Jo-Jo), acquired as a puppy in 1951. Another big winner from Ralanda was Ch. Ber-Neil’s Jeepers Jackie, winner of four consecutive national specialties. In all, Ralanda racked up some 110 Bests in Show.

“Traveling with the bois-

terous champions is no chore at all,” Mrs. West told breed-book author Muriel P. Lee. “We go by car, we stop along the way to shop for their food because they like it fresh. They are fussy eaters. Their favorite meat is pot roast, although they like steaks and veal. If we go by train, we take a compartment and can keep the dogs right with us without crating.”

Lavender “Laddie”



Bronx County KC, 1969: Mrs. Lovell and Mr. Chips with judge Anna Katherine Nicholas (Evelyn Shafer photo)



Erie KC, 1958: Amanda West with Jo-Jo, winner of 30 BIS and eight consecutive BOB at Westminster. (Page of New York photo)

Lovell, of Salisbury, Connecticut, was a fixture of the 1960s show circuit, famous for her fabulous Frenchies and for her grand entrances at shows behind the wheel of a lavender Cadillac. Her best-known dog of 1960s was Ch.

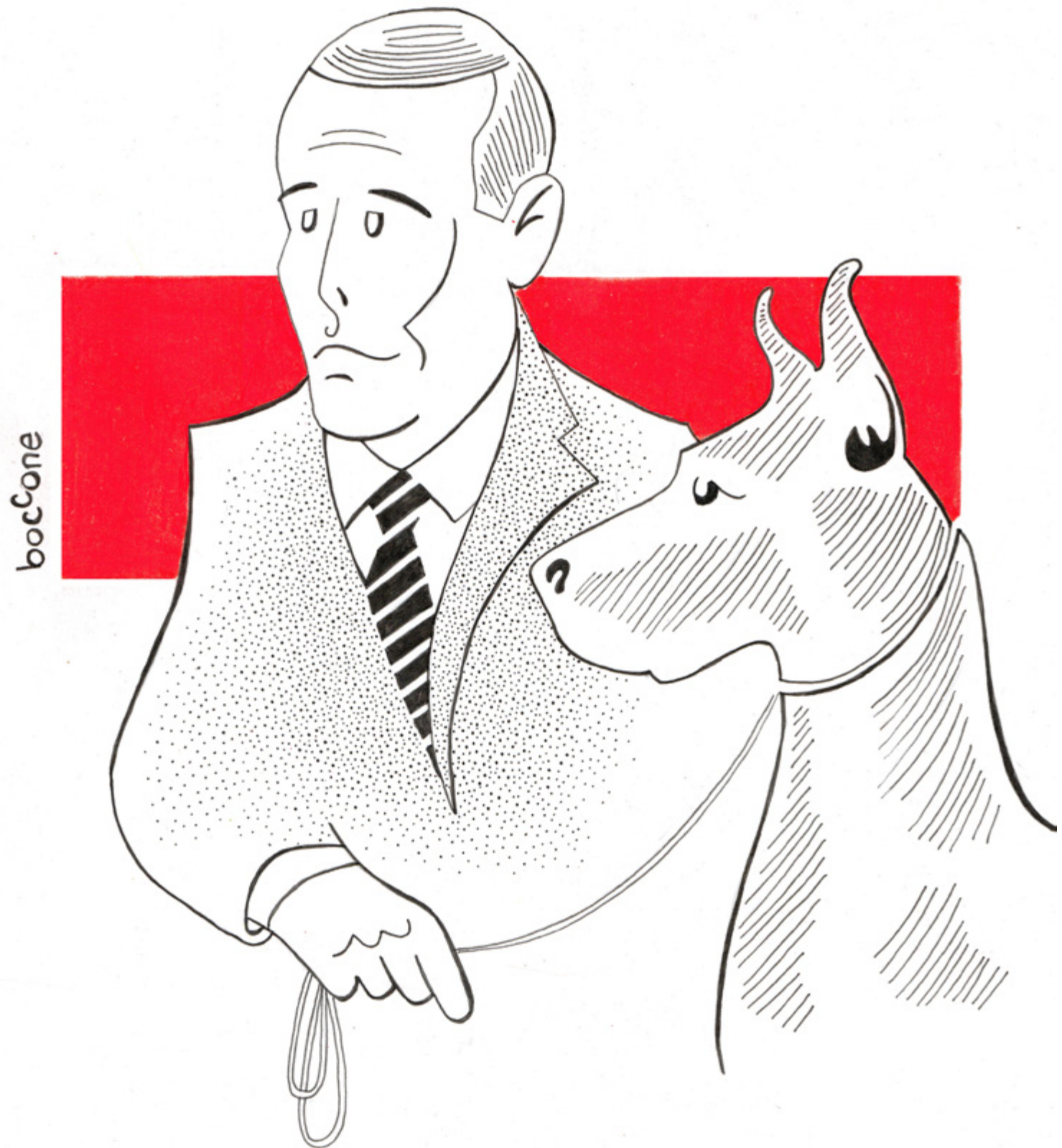
Chaseholme Mr. Chips, a big winner and a studly sire.

Janis Hampton, writing in the *French Bullytin*, recalled: “I will never forget the tailgate picnic behind her elegant lavender Cadillac with buckets of fried chicken and all the

goodies imaginable spread out on the tailgate. I can still hear Laddie holding court, feeding her dogs bits of chicken and handing out chicken legs to all of us, under a wide-brimmed lavender hat that shaded her broad, sparkling smile.” **GZ**

Dana Cline

dana Cline will judge Best in Show at December's AKC National Championship in Orlando. The well-respected judge and Great Dane fancier counts Edd Bivin, Michele Billings, and Frank Sabella among his judging mentors. "A judge has to open themselves to accept the limitations and expectations of the breed specific things," Cline said on a 2018 installment of the [Pure Dog Talk](#) podcast. "I tolerate misbehavior. They're dogs. If the dog gives an adequate performance for you to judge it, for me, it still can be the winner. One of the lessons Mrs. Billings always taught me was to 'make the best dog win, within reason.' "





This month, the Tibetan Terrier Club of America's Sonam Kushner discusses the challenge of owner-handling her breed. "Yes," she writes, "our breed can be successfully owner-handled!"

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 Arliss.Paddock@akc.org.

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BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

In searching for a topic for this month's column, I came upon this article authored by the American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club's first president, John Gammon, back in December 1998. John is a man of immense knowledge of our breed, its history, and its breeding, and also a person with the ability to translate his knowledge into easily understood concepts. While this was published 22 years ago, I think you will find it interesting and valuable. I am grateful that John Gammon and his partner Robert Schroll were among my first mentors in Cavaliers more than 23 years ago.

THE CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL: CREATING AN IMAGE OF THE BREED

Close your eyes and conjure up a mental picture of what you consider to be the perfect Cavalier. Envision the dog's profile. Do you see a toy spaniel built like a sporting dog, with a level, straight topline? Does he have enough muzzle to differentiate him from the English Toy Spaniel? Does he have a lushly plumed, ever-wagging tail? Hopefully, you are nodding in agreement.

What sort of coat do you envision on the dog? I see long, silky ears that are not bobbed or sprayed into silly, bell-bottomed balloon shapes. I see a lovely bib of coat on the dog's

forechest, and that beautiful tail. I see a very moderate amount of furnishings on the legs and underline, and proper toe feathering. I see a natural blanket of silky, flat-lying coat on the neck and upper body, and shorter, silky hair on the front of the legs.

In envisioning the ideal Cavalier—keeping in mind that the picture you see should be your goal in breeding—what kind of coat do you see?

This mental exercise was prompted by the number of recent puppy and stud service inquiries that expressed desire for coat, coat, and more coat. This is dangerous ground for a breed such as ours. Like it or not, the Cavalier is historically, purposefully, and by its written standard, an untrimmed breed.

Some years ago, a well-known dog breeder who was also an artist drew a series of sketches depicting what one popular breed might look like in following decades if a then-current trend of “the hairier and more exaggerated, the better” continued. The last drawing showed a too-thick-backed, too-small dog, propped up in the middle of a ridiculously trimmed, hay-stacked coat. This caricature presented a sad commentary on the phrase “Be careful what you wish for.” At our breed's infancy in AKC competition, must the Cavalier experience a similar trend? If we, as breeders, ignore the standard, then we have



The Cavalier should be moderate in all things and presented with no sculpting or excess in coat. The head studies are of a bitch (top left) and a male (lower left).



TOY GROUP

no right to expect more from judges. What we present to them will influence their mental picture of the ideal Cavalier.

The next time we evaluate puppies or potential breeding stock, suppose we select for excellent hindquarters, eyes, or temperament, rather than for amount of coat? The Brittany standard goes so far as to state that given a choice for more or less coat, it is better to err on the side of less. We might be wise to follow this example, at least for a while.

If we are going to be sticklers about natural presentation, we must then strive to produce dogs who lend themselves to such. Many a fluff-ball pup of 8 weeks has been shown to me with his owner proudly proclaiming, “Look at all this coat!” (My answer to such a remark usually is “We can only hope it will all shed out when he blows his puppy coat.”)

As has been evidenced in other breeds that have weathered fads for excess coat, coat texture changes with increased abundance. Coats that should be silky are cottony or woolly when overly profuse. Such coats easily mat and collect dirt and stains and are difficult to maintain on a pet Cavalier, let alone a show dog. Coat color differs as well when coat is overabundant: Blenheims are more orange, and the black coloring on tris and black and tans loses its luster and becomes rusty looking. The white hairs of overcoated dogs lose

the ability to reflect light and are a flat white rather than the required pearly, silvery white.

I do not intend to disparage proper presentation of good coat. Show dogs must look the part; to do so, they must have sufficient coat that is impeccably and naturally prepared. To accomplish this, you must start with coat of the correct amount, of proper texture and growing in the right places. We do not have the option of growing hair all over the dog and then sculpting it into a Cavalier. The dog must be correct naturally; it must be bred that way.

When we groan about trimmed, sculpted, stripped, and plucked dogs, let us also ponder our selection standards over the whelping box and when breeding our bitches. Breeding and choosing for more coat is no different than aiming for shorter noses or longer backs. It changes the appearance of our breed, and no good can come of it.

If necessary, go back and modify your mental image of the ideal Cavalier. Envision him with just enough coat to reveal the lines of a beautifully made little spaniel standing before you. Perhaps judges will eventually modify their image of the ideal Cavalier in a similar way. Think about it.—J.G.

—Dr. John V. Ioia, MD, Ph.D.,

bonefixr@gmail.com

[American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club](#)

Chihuahuas

THE SPIRIT OF THE CHIHUAHUA

As someone who has dedicated the last 30 years of my life to the Chihuahua, I am constantly amazed at the breed’s ability to delight and enrich my life. The spirit of these little dogs is neverending, even after they leave our lives. They are the most humanlike dog I have ever owned. Once I got my first Chihuahua showgirl, I was totally hooked, and I cannot imagine my life without this smallest breed.

These dogs are highly intelligent and possess an enormous character. They are extremely sensitive and you will find yourself treating a Chihuahua like a baby, but that is just their ploy to get you to do anything they want. And trust me, you are happy to meet their every desire. Because they develop such a strong attachment to their family, leaving them alone for long periods of time can cause them extreme sadness, and you might find yourself getting some “payback.” Really! That’s how smart they are. They use those big heads to think.

The Chihuahua has been loved since the Toltec civilization, and it was believed that these little dogs acted as vessels to carry the spirit of the deceased to the other side. Many of these dogs were buried with their owners. The AKC first recognized the Chihuahua in



A Chihuahua will make you smile, even on your most vulnerable day.

1904, and the Chihuahua Club of America is getting ready to celebrate 100 years since its formation in 1923.

COURTESY, JENNY HAUBER

TOY GROUP

The Chihuahua spirit is loyal and eager to please, and they are always ready to sit on your lap and listen to whatever you have to tell them. Their sensitivity and empathy with their humans makes for an unimaginable bond. Yes, really! They possess a sense of humor that cannot be denied and will keep you laughing even on your most vulnerable day. They feel it is their job to console you when you are sad or cheer you up when they think you need that. Whatever you need, they will uncannily provide it to you. They will be sweet or macho, energetic or lazy, protector or comforter—you name it, they will try to provide.

Just know that these little dogs do not realize how small they are. They will need to be protected from themselves due to that air of superiority they possess. They think they are as big as the biggest dogs, and they are just as brave. They will protect you with their life. Loyalty is their middle name.

These “appleheads” are full of brains. The owner must be smarter than their Chihuahua because they know how to manipulate you, *and* they actually plan how to do it. You will find yourself happy to oblige their every whim. Be prepared, because once you get one of these spirited little dogs, you will never be without one.

The spirit of the Chihuahua will touch your

soul, and when it does, it’s humbling.

—Virginia (Jenny) Hauber,

wynjynchis@yahoo.com

Chihuahua Club of America

Havanese

Our column this month is by Dr. Rafe H. Schindler. Dr. Schindler is a professor of Particle and Particle Astrophysics at Stanford University. He chairs the Havanese Club of America Health Committee and is an HCA Breeder of Distinction and an AKC Breeder of Merit, having bred and shown Havanese for more than 15 years.

UNCOVERING THE ORIGINS OF THE NATURAL LIFESPAN OF HAVANESE

The Havanese was recognized by the AKC in 1996. Since its inception, the Havanese Club of America, Inc. (HCA), has conscientiously monitored the evolution of the health of the new breed. Indeed, four major health surveys have been conducted by the HCA Health Committee (HC) since 1996. (The full results of each of the surveys can be found on the “Health” tab at havanese.org.) The first two general surveys (in 2004 and 2012) contained over 2000 dogs and showed that Havanese are a relatively healthy breed with few if any early-life-threatening diseases or genetic



issues. This led to the widespread belief that Havanese are a “long-lived” breed as well. These facts, combined with the many charming characteristics of the breed, has led to their enormous popularity as companion dogs and in more recent years propelled them to the apex of recognition in the show ring.

The next survey, the 2017 Longevity Survey, answered the question of how long Havanese actually live. The answer however turned out to be quite surprising, and the survey posed many additional questions! The

survey included 512 mostly AKC-registered Havanese, going out in age to over 18 years. It showed that while the average lifespan of both sexes was about 13+/-0.5 years, those Havanese surviving beyond their ninth or 10th birthday had much longer average lifetimes—closer to 15 years. At first glance, the reason was simple: If you looked at a plot of the lifetimes reported in the survey, there was not a simple peak, but rather a “bulge” around 9 to 10 years, and a much larger peak further to the right—close to a 15-year

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

TOY GROUP

lifetime. The bulge contained approximately 20 percent of the survey population and “dragged” the average lifetime down to 13 years. Thus, if you took away that bulge, the balance of the dogs had the much longer lifespan of about 15 years. However, the survey left unanswered what the cause of this bulge of early deaths was and did not answer what the ultimate cause(s) of death were.

In 2018, in response to this mystery, a follow-up survey (the “Rainbow Bridge Survey”) was launched. The goal was to try to uncover the principal causes of natural death and catalog them as a function of age, sex, and potentially lifestyle within the Havanese population. Information derived from this survey would be used by the HCA to update its guidelines for health testing, with the goal of extending the lifespan and quality of life of the breed.

We collected data on the deaths of 156 Havanese, largely from HCA and AKC breed-club members. (There is, however, no mechanism by which we can ascertain how representative the survey population is of the general population of Havanese.) About one-third of the responders were or had been Havanese breeders. Responders were asked to provide the dog’s sex, registration, age at death, cause of death, and the basis for determining cause, as well as spay/neuter age and lifestyle. Almost all dogs were AKC registered,

and both sexes were almost equally represented. The primary causes of death were first compiled into a dozen major categories (including natural death/cause unknown, cardiovascular, cancer, liver, kidney, endocrine, neurologic, and so on), and within those, more than 50 subcategories. The assignment of primary cause was based on the information provided by the responder and then assigned to these primary categories by both the author and a committee member who is a practicing veterinarian. Secondary and/or tertiary causes were assigned as well.

The survey confirmed that the lifetime distribution was not a simple peak but rather, like before, had a large fraction of early mortalities. With the new information, a number of unexpected patterns started to emerge, as we could now look deeper at the causes of death as a function of age and sex. Perhaps not unexpected, the two most prominent issues arising in the early mortalities were cancers and cardiovascular diseases (26 percent and 27 percent of the sample, respectively). Cancers resulted in shorter average lifetimes of 10.3 years, while cardiovascular disease lead to death at around 12.4 years. The types of cancer were very widespread, but liver/spleen, B- and T-cell lymphoma, and leukemia were most prevalent. Most cardiovascular diseases appeared in midlife but ultimately

resulted in congestive heart failure.

Perhaps the most unexpected observation was that cancers occur much more frequently in the male population, at 37.5 (+/- 8.5) percent, than in the females, at 17.9 (+/- 5.0) percent, while cardiovascular diseases are more prevalent in the female population, at 35.7 (+/- 7.6) percent, compared to the males, at 22.2 (+/- 6.1) percent. While the sample was small, the observed difference between males and females for all cancer-related deaths has a one in 386 chance of being a fluctuation. The difference for cardiovascular-related mortality rates between sexes has a one in 476 chance of being a fluctuation. While the rate of occurrence is different for males and females, there is no significant difference in lifetimes between them, for either of these two diseases.

The next-smaller contributor to early mortality are noncancerous diseases of the liver, occurring in the survey at a much lower frequency, at 5.8 (+/- 1.9) percent, but with no statistically significant difference between sexes. The average age at death is quite low, at 6.9 (+/- 1.1) years. These are reported primarily as chronic liver disease and hepatitis, as opposed to microvascular disease or portosystemic vascular disease. (While a comparable number of liver cancers were observed, they resulted in later deaths, at around 10 years—consistent with the typical cancer mortality

age, where they were already accounted.)

When we looked at dogs that survived to the oldest ages, we found that 9.6 percent of the total population died naturally of an unknown (undiagnosed) cause, with an average lifetime of 14.7 (+/- 0.4) years. A small fraction of all dogs (8.3 percent) were euthanized for quality-of-life issues (without an underlying diagnosis being reported). Their average age was 15.3 (+/- 0.3) years. In both these classes the number of males and females in the sample were almost equal. Kidney disease/failure stood out as a leading diagnosed component of mortality in these older dogs, occurring in 9.6 (+/- 2.5) percent of the population and leading to death, usually by euthanasia, at 14 to 15 years. Kidney disease appeared in an almost equal number of males and females. Using these three older-age categories containing 41 dogs, we could define the *natural lifespan* of Havanese to be 15.1 (+/- 0.4) years.

Neurological diseases, the final large category, make up 5.8 (+/- 2.0) percent of the population. While spread out in age, there is a hint of excesses in both the younger and the older dogs that correlate to the reported causes (for example, seizures in younger dogs and dementia in older dogs). The average age at death, however, is 10.8 (+/- 1.6) years and is similar for both sexes.

We have thus far accounted for 92.3 percent

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

of the dogs in the survey. Dogs in all the other categories are widely spread out in their age of death and exhibit no statistically significant patterns.

Finally, we examined correlations with neuter/spay age and lifestyle, the former being strongly correlated to those dogs used in breeding. While no statistically discernible differences in lifespan or cause of death were observed with spay/neuter age, there was intriguing evidence that dogs in rural environments (versus urban and suburban) have statistically significant longer average lifetimes. The latter observation, however, requires confirmation by a separate study with both higher statistics and more precise definitions of lifestyles.—R.H.S.

This article has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Havanese Club of America, Inc.

[Havanese Club of America](#)

Italian Greyhounds

HOW ACTIVE ARE IGs?

Just how active are Italian Greyhounds? It's a question often asked, but sometimes I think it isn't asked quite often enough. People who are familiar with the couch-potato qualities of the large Greyhound often assume that this much smaller cousin is the same. It's an assumption that should not be made. Actually, assessing the activity level of



*Italian Greyhound:
Happy energy!*

the Italian Greyhound is rather difficult, since individuals in this breed vary a great deal. Overall, however, the IG should be regarded as a dog who enjoys doing things—preferably with his humans. He is fond of outdoor activities such as the various running sports, agility competition, long walks, and the like. This does *not* include, however, rough play with larger dogs or unsupervised small children.

If an IG is not given the opportunity to use some of his happy energy, he may well show some tendency toward being hyperactive when his owners would prefer him to settle down. Most of the Italian Greyhounds with

whom we have shared our home and lives have fallen into this pattern.

Given a chance to use their substantial energy doing something planned, the hyperactivity question won't come up. I've noticed the considerable difference in indoor behavior since my husband and I have been retired and aren't gone for the better part of the day. On rainy days or when the weather is otherwise not conducive to allowing the dogs to spend a good part of the day outside there is an increased amount of racing, sometimes in circles, around the house—or, as many IG owners have grown to phrase it—“zooming,”

or “the zoomies.”

Having two or more dogs gives these active individuals a chance to entice each other into healthy exercise. If there is only one, the owner will have to enter into the picture and create scenarios that will be an outlet for excessive energy and at the same time be safe for the dog (as well as his surroundings). Well-made dog toys can be a help, but they must be checked regularly for damage that could cause a potential problem if parts of the toy are ingested. I recommend toys that are intended for larger dogs rather than the cute little stuffed animals intended for most toy breeds.

I am not a fan of dog parks, but in some situations where there is no alternative for offering the dog healthy exercise they can serve their purpose, as long as due caution is exercised. Proper inoculations against diseases found in that particular area are an important consideration. There are often owners who put little value on their dogs and fail to check them for possible health problems before turning them loose at a public dog park. There are also those who bring aggressive dogs and/or don't observe size limitations. In some areas there are groups of IG people who schedule play dates. It would be worthwhile to look for something of that nature.

So, is the IG as a breed to be considered hyperactive? In comparison with some other



TOY GROUP

Toy breeds, that might be a proper assumption. However, in other countries the IG is classified as a Sighthound and it really is a Sighthound in miniature. Very applicable is the old joke, which isn't a joke at all, that "A tired puppy is a good puppy."—*Lilian S. Barber, 2014*

[Italian Greyhound Club of America](#)

Maltese

"A JAUNTY, SMOOTH FLOWING GAIT"

Whenever I sit down to write my column, it involves a thinking process as I consider what is important for the people in our breed to be informed about. Sometimes I ponder and ponder, *What should I write about?*

The topic this time is a piece of cake. Let's consider the breed's *movement*. Breeders, judges, and exhibitors, look at your dogs: Can they go around the ring without any "hippity-hop"? Can they keep a straight topline? Do they flick their tail a number of times? Do they cross their front legs and try to cut the ring?

These are all indications of something wrong with their *structure*. Perhaps too many breeders are just breeding for pretty faces, good coats, and small size? Our breed is losing the soundness it was built with to begin with.

As I always say in my AKC judges' education seminar, a Maltese should flow around the ring, and if you can imagine a plate on the

dog's back not falling off or tipping, that would mean all the parts are put together correctly.

Our standard says *the Maltese moves with a jaunty, smooth flowing gait*. Since the Maltese has a cute temperament, he sometimes tries to be naughty, and the "jaunty" description refers mostly to his temperament. However, "smooth flowing" creates a picture that many of the dogs shown today do not reflect. They should glide around the ring with their coat flowing. If the head is bobbing up and down, that is not flowing. If the appearance of the side movement every 10 steps looks like the dog has a flat tire, this is totally incorrect—something is wrong with their rear-end assembly, either hips or patellas.

I am not certain if some of the behavior is due to the dog not having enough time "just being a dog" or practicing on the lead (as in some other breeds as well, where much emphasis is put on not getting the coat messed up). If so, it is a shame for our exhibitors and breeders. I also am hesitant to say that many new breeders have no concept of soundness. This is very sad for the future of our breed. They are a toy breed, yes, but they need to be able to play with their owners and kids, and they need to be able to get around well.

When you have class dogs or puppies at a show, sometimes besides being naughty they just are not as adjusted to showing in the



ring. This should not be penalized that much. Generally, it's because the dogs are not as well trained. However, they still should have a smooth gait when they gait for most of the time. When it comes time for Best of Breed competition with seasoned, campaigned specials, there must be a *continuous flow* to the gait!

Breeders and exhibitors, please be aware of soundness when breeding or showing your dogs. Judges, please do not award big wins to Maltese who are not sound! Don't let Photoshopped ads mold your opinions.

—Daryl Martin,

daryldmartin@sbcglobal.net

[American Maltese Association](#)

Miniature Pinschers

"PET PUPPY" OR "SHOW PUPPY"— WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

“What's the difference between a pet puppy and a show puppy?” Those of us who breed get that question from prospective owners every time we have a litter.

Some people think there must be something “wrong” with a puppy whom we've labeled a pet. Some think there are difficult requirements that come with having a show puppy as a pet, and then others think that the price they pay is too much for them to be bothered with working toward an AKC championship.

A show puppy and a pet puppy are *not* different; both will be part of their family for their whole lives. *No difference*—that's the full fact.

When you come to the house to see the breeder's puppies, they are so cute and playing and jumping in their playroom. All of them rush to you for snuggling, and maybe a little puppy-nibble to say hi.

You select a puppy, and your breeder says, “This is a show puppy.” What does that mean?

Congratulations! You have selected a little four-legged baby Miniature Pinscher who

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Miniature Pinscher

will love you his whole life. However, there are some things you will need to know before agreeing to living with a show puppy:

- Socializing is very important.
- Feeding good-quality food is a must.
- Sufficient exercise and play are required.
- Grooming is imperative.
- The pup's training is different.

What, you ask, is the difference between the pups? The differences may not seem to be much, but your breeder has studied the litter for weeks to see which little ones come closest to the written standard. For example, their topline (backs) must be level, their feet “cat-like,” neck arched, and their toenails black... the breeder carefully analyzes the pup's eyes,

where the tail is set, how his little bones are aligned, and how he moves going away from you, coming back to you, and around in a circle. The ones that are labeled “show puppies” will go on to compete in the show ring.

It's exciting to see your little one in the ring and showing off, but sometimes he will have to leave you for the weekend to go to shows. If you are not willing to let your Miniature Pinscher travel, maybe your breeder will agree to meet you at the show ring each day.

It might take six months to a year for your Miniature Pinscher to complete an AKC championship, depending on the number of competitors and the points that can be won. You can discuss with your breeder the point requirements for the AKC championship so you understand how the system works.

Continue to talk with your breeder as your puppy grows up. Competition may begin at 6 months of age. However, this period of competition lasts only a short time in your Miniature Pinscher's life. The rest of the time spent together with you is much longer than the time spent in competition. One your dog has earned all the points for his title, you will receive his AKC championship certificate and all the ribbons won. By participating in dog events you will meet other competitors and learn about showing dogs, and you will see how much fun the camaraderie with other

Miniature Pinscher owners can be.

Or perhaps you select a puppy, and your breeder says, “This is a pet puppy.” What does that mean?

Congratulations again! You have been selected by a little four-legged baby Miniature Pinscher who will love you his whole life as a companion. Your puppy is really no different than the show puppy, except that he may have long toes, a soft topline, round eyes, or an odd marking in his coat. These things don't affect the enjoyment of having a Miniature Pinscher; your breeder simply has to be very selective when deciding who to show or not to show. A show puppy represents years of work in studying pedigrees and matching a stud dog and a dam to continue quality, healthy Miniature Pinschers for the future. —*Kim Byrd, 2013*

[Miniature Pinscher Club of America](#)

Papillons

PAPILLON FEET

“As I travel about the country, I see more dreadful feet than a decade ago I would have believed possible. Twenty years ago, to the best of my recollection, we did have some turned-out feet and some weak pasterns, but the feet themselves were mostly the tight, oval hare foot called for in the standard. In fact, until about 1960, when I made

some outcrosses in an attempt to improve ears and fringes, I had no idea feet could be such problems. Big and/or badly turned-out front feet are extremely difficult to breed out, stubbornly persisting for generations.”

This quote came from acclaimed Papillon breeder, author, and breed historian Virginia Newton, appearing in the January 1973 edition of *Pap Talk*, and *The Scrapbook*, published by the Papillon Club of America. Not much has changed since Virginia made her observations.

As I also note, we should pay more attention to our breed type and breed to what is correct to help preserve our breed characteristics and not just camouflage these faults. You cannot hide much when it comes to feet, so you better breed them well. You may be skilled and able to do some creative grooming by scissoring, but when it comes to the feet, “they are what they are,” and they are there for all to see.

Are you ever able to correctly trim the feet? Yes, you can trim to into a point the fine tufts that grow beyond the toes, particularly those tufts that turn out and give the appearance of an “East-West” front. You can also trim the hair on the sides of the feet, as some Papillons grow hair there more profusely than others, with what we call a “chrysanthemum foot.” Also, you should shave the hair underneath their feet, between their pads, for better traction. However, the feet should *never* be shaved

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

TOY GROUP



“The breed standard for the Papillon emphasizes ‘fineboned’ and ‘dainty’ four times, and nothing about this breed is ever coarse.”

down to the bone, as I have recently observed on several exhibits.

Having correct harelike feet is such an important feature that cannot be easily overlooked when picking a stud dog or brood bitch or planning a breeding program. Those beautiful little feet are an integral part of the breed’s elegance and greatly enhance its overall look. On the contrary, big feet on a Pap are very out of place, as are round feet, and will ruin their delicate proportion, giving the dog a coarse appearance.

We should be ever so mindful that this breed standard emphasizes *fineboned* and *dainty* four times, and nothing about this breed is ever coarse. Round feet are incorrect and totally

destroy the refinement and elegance that is the Papillon.

The feet are mentioned in the breed standard describing the forequarters and hindquarters: “Front feet (or hind feet) thin and elongated (hare-like), pointing neither in nor out.” In the section on coat it says: “Hair on feet is short, but fine tufts may appear over toes and grow beyond them, forming a point.”

The foot itself is “hare-like” and elongated and definitely not rounded like cat feet, not flat-footed, not splayed, and not turned in or out. So exactly what is “hare-like?” Harold R. Spira’s *Canine Terminology* offers the following: “Hare feet, syn. rabbit paws. A type in which both center toes are appreciably longer than

the associated outer and inner ones; furthermore, toe arching is less marked, making such feet appear longer overall.”

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

Pekingese

Our guest writer for this column is Lori Stephen, of Aslan Pekingese in California. Lori is a breeder-exhibitor and also the Corresponding Secretary for the Pekingese Club of America.

LOOKING BEYOND THE COAT

There is nothing more beautiful in the ring than a mature Pekingese with a full, gorgeous, meticulously conditioned coat presented to perfection. Or is there? A beautifully decorated cake looks very appealing to the eye, but when you take a bite, does it taste as wonderful as it looks? Beautiful coat on any dog is very appealing, but coat alone does not make a dog a good dog. It is very tempting when judging Pekingese for anyone, including breeders, to be drawn to the one in the best-conditioned and full coat. This is human nature, and I do it too. Sometimes you cannot help but notice the glamour first. However, it is what is under the coat in essence that makes

a Pekingese a good or even great dog. We all know coat can hide a myriad of sins. What exactly should be going on under all that coat? It is imperative a Pekingese be judged with a hands-on examination. When someone asks me if I like a dog, my honest answer is “I don’t know; I haven’t had my hands on it yet.” I could never properly assess a dog without feeling the body under the coat.

Firstly, a Pekingese is not a square dog. They should be a proportion of about 3 to 5, slightly longer than tall, as measured from the chest to the buttocks. The dog should be pear-shaped, with a broader, heavier front with a well-sprung ribcage tapering into a narrow waist, ending in a lighter, narrow straight rear. The topline should be level. There should be no rise in the rear nor dip in the shoulders. *Level* means level. The chest should be wide without the heavy protrusion of a sharp breastbone. (Think turkey breast). The dog should be balanced when free standing. The front should not appear narrow and will not be if the chest is nice and wide. The standard says the front legs are “short, thick and heavy-boned. The bones of the forelegs are moderately bowed between the pastern and elbow ... The broad chest, wide set forelegs and the closer set rear legs all contribute to the correct rolling gait. The elbows are always close to the body. Front feet are turned out slightly when standing or moving.

COURTESY ROSEANN FUCILLO/BEV STANLEY

TOY GROUP



Santa Barbara KC, 1985: Pekingese Ch. St. Aubrey Bees Wing of Elsdon

The pasterns slope gently.” Without a proper hands-on exam, these traits would be impossible to properly assess.

A correctly moving Pekingese should move around the ring almost gliding. Correct Pekingese movement “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 shoulders, full broad chest

and narrow light rear, all of which produce adequate reach and moderate drive.” The Pekingese should move in one piece, in a *one-two-three-four* gait. The slight roll through the shoulders is an east-west movement.

In former years when Pekingese were judged, only 10 points were allotted to coat on a scale of 100. How then today has coat become so important? I think it is a safe way to go for a judge to point to the heaviest-coated or the prettiest-headed dog in the ring. A really good judge will not hesitate to award a less-coated dog that is properly constructed over a plethora of gorgeous coat. This is especially evident in bitches.

I know my favorite judges are those who make it evident they have actively studied the breed standard and award the best dogs in the ring regardless of outward appearance. Their exams are thorough, and they have studied our standard and are capable of applying the standard to the dogs they are judging.

There are many great judges who are not afraid to award the less coated dogs *if* they are overall the better dogs. Give me an honest, sound naked bitch any day over a heavily coated, improperly constructed girl. I believe that in any breeding program, proper structure must take precedence over glamour every single time. Remember, nowhere in our breed standard does the word *glamour* appear.

I see the long-term goal, and I do not think you can go wrong in choosing proper structure first. Some judges have admittedly told me that Pekingese are a “head” breed, so they usually go with the most correct head. As in any breed, the dog must be judged as the sum of its parts, taking the head, the body, and the movement into careful consideration all in less than two minutes. I was taught early on by fabulous mentors that it is easier to fix a head than poor structure, and I still believe this to be true. I believe breeders must strive for correct structure and must be very diligent in evaluating their breeding stock if we want to breed correct dogs. We cannot just settle. Strive for the best.

To answer my initial question about what is more beautiful in the ring than a mature Pekingese with a full, gorgeous, meticulously conditioned coat presented to perfection? I would say the same dog, but just as nice under the coat as he is on the outside. There is no reason that a beautifully decorated cake cannot taste great too! Let us just make sure that as breeders our cakes are as tasteful on the inside as they are beautiful. Let us hope the judges want a great-tasting cake and not to just lick the frosting.—L.S.

Thank you, Lori.

—Susan Farrer Shephard,

[The Pekingese Club of America](#)

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

Pomeranians

SOMETIMES WE'RE OUR OWN WORST ENEMY

As we dealt with one of the hardest years for our sport and as a nation in 2020, I believe there are many lessons to be learned from what we have experienced. Whether we wanted it or not, we were forced to spend more time at home and more time with family. Many people who did not normally cook found themselves cooking dinners and doing a lot more baking than normal. People who could, worked from home, and companies adapted to the “new normal” of operating remotely. Many people lost jobs and had to find new ways of generating income. So many people have been sick, and many have lost loved ones. People have been on edge, and emotions are running high.

Our sport was hurt in multiple different ways. Handlers, groomers, superintendents, and AKC reps were out of work for a long time, and some even chose not to return to the sport. Clubs lost income, volunteers, and members. Meanwhile, we are attacking our own. In several meetings, I have referred to people in our sport as cannibals. If you are on social media, you have certainly seen how as shows were cancelled, people attacked the clubs, the show chairs, and even representatives of the venues. The attacks came from exhibitors, breeders, and handlers. It was a diverse group of people who were upset with the



decisions that were made.

It is important for people to understand that the shows they attend are being put on by volunteers who are giving many hours of their time and are working very hard to make sure you have a show to attend. Without the volunteers, who work not only the two days of the show but throughout the year to prepare for that show, the handlers would not have jobs, the breeders would have no place to show off their breeding stock, and many people would be without a hobby to enjoy with their dogs.

How many more years are these people who are working hard (for free) going to put up with

the attacks before they quit? Run enough people off from working at these shows, and the clubs will not be putting them on.

We worry so much about the animal-rights people attacking us and trying to take our sport away, but we are far more dangerous to ourselves. Do not get me wrong; the animal-rights movement has an agenda and the money to support it, so we need to be diligent in our defense. Nonetheless, they will have nothing to worry with if we kill our own sport from within.

The next time you attend a show, remember a few key things. Be gracious, be kind, and be respectful of the rules, the club, and fellow

exhibitors. Taking it one step further, I challenge you to find a club member working the show, and simply say thank you. It may be the only time they have heard it that day!

—Cathy M. Driggers,

[American Pomeranian Club](#)

Shih Tzu

A special thank-you to Judy Harding, an active member of the dedicated American Shih Tzu Club performance contingent, for this article.

SHOWING AND TRAINING FOR PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19

Showing and training during COVID-19 has been trying, to say the least. Training places had to shut down because of state- or county-mandated restrictions due to COVID, or even in some cases due to COVID exposure.

Things have been coming back alive with many changes in place. Facemasks are a must across the board, and hand sanitizer is everywhere. COVID waivers must be signed—some sent with the entries, some the day of the trial.

Obedience and rally trials have been opening up, and events seem to be running safely, but clubs have pared down their numbers so they can add additional COVID safety procedures. Shows that were two rings are now one ring.



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Some clubs do not allow crating inside, while some do allow indoor crating but with everyone six feet apart. Some allow crating indoors but do not allow people to sit inside near their crates. A lot of competitors elect to crate in their cars, even if there is indoor crating.

Because of the pandemic there are many changes to how the shows are run. Most clubs limit people and dogs entering the buildings. Some will allow into the building only the dog currently in the ring and the next two dogs following. All others must wait outside. Some shows have a designated door to go in and another door to go out.

Believe me, some of these are not environments a lot of dogs are used to showing in. Some buildings are silent, with an occasional dog who was brought by a club worker shifting in a crate, or silence is broken by a worker clearing their throat or speaking. Some temporary rule-changes by AKC allow clubs to pinpoint times for classes to start so clubs can limit the number of people that congregate too early for their classes.

There are also procedural changes in the ring that must be trained for. When training in Open and Utility obedience, some of the COVID changes have a big impact on what your dog experiences. Some clubs have the stewards use gloves or plastic bags to handle the scent articles; in the past, the articles that don't have your scent

had the scent of the ring steward. Some stewards are using hand sanitizer between every dog, so that everything smells like Purell. Not to mention, we as handlers are using hand sanitizer and washing our hands frequently. This makes a scent exercise more daunting for our dogs. These scenarios must be practiced. Try to recreate these conditions in practice so it is not new to your dog in the ring at a show.

Agility trials have been opening up and been running safely with, again, lots of new COVID protocols in place. One new tool in agility is Agility Gate. Agility Gate is an app that allows you to see, in real time, which dogs are running in what class. In essence, you can see the gate sheet without everyone having to crowd around the board to see when you have to have your dog ready. Agility Gate allows you to check yourself in, claim a conflict, or even scratch your dog even if you never leave your home.

The app also has the course maps, so again this keeps people from crowding around a posted map ringside. Many clubs also send course maps out via email the evening before the trial. Someone needs to come up with a similar app for obedience, rally, and even breed trials. Not only does it help to keep exhibitors from having to check the board to see how things are running, but also if you



Shih Tzu

are in a later class you can see how things are running, so that you can plan your arrival to just before your class. This means less people, less exposure. Agility Gate is free for the competitor,

but it does cost the club money. The club could add a dollar to each entry, however, and more than make up for the cost. I think most people would accept that.

Another app that many agility clubs are using is Remind Me. This app was created for weather alerts for school students, but it allows a club to create a group and send group messages, such as with information on walk-through starts and course building. All of these things keep down traffic around and in the building, and thus keeps the competitors safer!

Tracking trials have been following suit and coming back to life. (I know this is not an activity many Shih Tzu people do, but I do.) Additional protocols are still affecting even these events held strictly outdoors. In the past, tracking clubs would usually provide a light breakfast, some snacks, coffee, and drinks, and often there would be some kind of meal afterward with socializing. Now everyone is on their own.

All and all, I believe dog-sports people in general are a tough group and will adjust to whatever is necessary to be able to do what they and their dogs love to do. —J.H.

Thank you, Judy.

—Jo Ann White,

joawhite@juno.com

[American Shih Tzu Club](#)

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Bichons Frises

BREEDER HEADS-UP REGARDING COVID-19 SCAMS

Unfortunately, the pandemic has created a high demand for Bichons of all ages, and we breeders are getting many more puppy inquiries. Some callers are describing how they are being scammed into high-dollar, non-refundable deposits—without being able to see photos of the parents or puppies, and/or other suspicious requirements. The asking price of these “Bichons” is sometimes \$9,000–10,000. Some scammers say they are brokers for Bichons rescued from Asian countries, typically Korea or the Philippines.

Now more than ever, as ethical, reputable breeders, we need to educate these callers. Describing that we breed for health, temperament, and conformation to the breed standard is so important. We should explain that getting exorbitant amounts of money for a non-refundable deposit is *not* our goal.

Breeder Deb Gibb says to be wary of Facebook, where there are several Bichon groups that include scammers. She has reported apparent scammers to Facebook several times to try to thwart some of them, but she says the individuals then simply change their names, set up new Facebook accounts, and block her comments on their postings. A prevalent scammer harvests photos of rep-



utable breeders’ puppies and posts them in various groups with a link to a website that will scam them. She says one such site is ryanbichonfrise dot com (supposedly in Texas). While this site may not directly post reputable breeders’ puppy photos on their own website, their postings on Facebook lead the people to think the beautiful puppies in their posting photos came from their operation. They are using our photos as bait to push traffic to this person’s site. Deb attempted to contact this

person, but they would only communicate via text, and after a few probing questions like “How soon can you ship my puppy?” they stopped communicating. This is just one example.

Deb says that one person created an entire website using photos from Hollyhock Bichons and was taking deposits on the puppies. Once they had the deposit, they asked for another check for “a special airline-approved shipping crate.” One victim called her to tell how he

had paid for a puppy’s plane ticket and special crate. He was given the “flight information” and showed up at his local airport to get his puppy. Of course, no puppy ever arrived. This scammer was a bit easier to shut down, because Deb reported him to his web-hosting company and his domain name registrar, and she had him shut down within a couple of days.

Deb has since added some additional restrictions to her own website to make it harder for people to steal photos. Unfortunately, it also makes it harder for her puppy buyers to get photos of their pups that she has posted on her site.

Being aware that there are scams and educating inquiring buyers is important. We are all disappointed to not have dog activities back to “normal” right now, yet we also understand how important health precautions are during this time. By explaining that in four to six months we will know more about our breeding and showing prospects, we will hopefully maintain a respectful clientele.

Referring prospective buyers to the [Bichon Frise Club of America website](#) is extremely important now. There they can find many articles about puppy health and getting a new purebred puppy. The [AKC website](#) also has excellent information.

Not everyone is savvy enough to know about

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these scams and how to steer clear of them. It's up to us as breeders to continuously educate applicants and callers by spending a little extra effort to help save them from potential heartache.

I would like to thank Laura Winston and Deb Gibb for their inspiration for and contributions to this article.

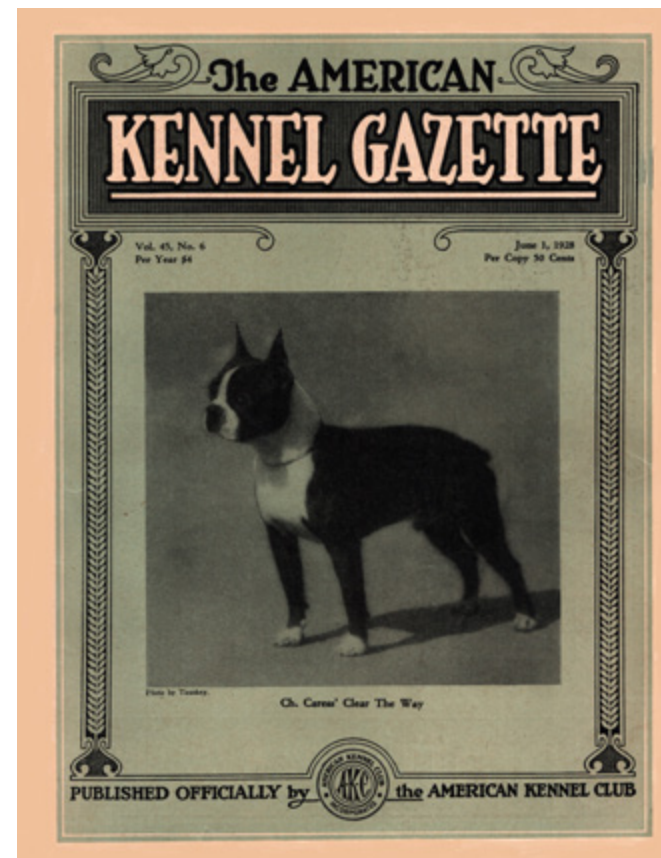
—Mayno Blanding,
maynob@gmail.com

[Bichon Frise Club of America](#)

Boston Terriers

A COMPLICATED BREED FOR A HANDLER TO SHOW

A new person whom your Boston Terrier hasn't bonded with may find it hard to show them. There are many facets that make up our complicated Boston. The handler may be one of the best in the country, with many wins, but if they don't meet the qualifications in the dog's mind, the dog won't show well for them. Once a handler asked to take my Boston into the Non-Sporting Group because he saw how well she showed in the classes, winning over many champions. So I left my Boston with him but planned to be back the next day. I explained that Bostons aren't like other dogs, and I predicted that he would be glad to give her back the next day, because



Boston Terrier: June 1928 (Tauskey photo)

she probably wouldn't eat and would poop in her cage overnight. The next day the handler said she embarrassed him, as he had to pull her around the ring with her ears lying back, and she wouldn't eat, and she pooped in her cage. This handler had many wins in the Best in Show ring and at the Garden and is now a great judge. He couldn't understand why Doll showed so well for us but not for him. (This

was our late Ch. Double J's Jet Age Doll, who won many specialty shows in 1981.) I never saw him show another Boston Terrier.

This is just one example of how difficult they can be to show. So the next time you are at a show and outside the Boston ring, count how many professional handlers show in our breed as compared to owner-handlers. These little dogs are not for the faint of heart. In their mind everything is about them, so you had better keep them happy before showing, giving them lots of love and feeding special food to tantalize their taste-buds. A Boston is like a movie star who will dazzle the spectator and the judge with her presence as if to say, "Look at me, world, I am here to win!" It takes a lot of hard work to make a show dog, and as I was told many years ago by a judge, "It is a dog show, and they have to show."

If you have a great show dog, sometimes others will want to get the glory of handling him or her in the ring. Remember who the dog loves: the person who sacrificed everything to take care of the dog, made the dog part of their family, and trained the dog to show. Take some training classes, learn how to groom, and when the dog is ready to show, go in the ring to win. Handlers are fine, but if you want to win, the Boston Terrier has to really love the handler to show for them. I have a lot of respect for good handlers who

put the time into training, grooming, and letting the dog bond with them. Before letting anyone take your dog home with them, visit where they live, and check with some of their clients on how they care of dogs. Remember, good handlers don't ask to show your dog because they have plenty of clients. The handler is an extension of you and should always act as a professional, being gracious to other exhibitors.

—Patricia S. Johnson, member DWAA and BTCA,

patsgrooming@aol.com

[Boston Terrier Club of America](#)

Chinese Shar-Pei

JUDGING A SWEEPSTAKES

Judging dog shows isn't for everyone. I'm happy it's for me, but I have had friends judge a sweepstakes once and say "never again." They were sometimes afraid of hurting friends' feelings, while others were indecisive about what mattered more to them, so they'd struggle. Others just didn't find it fun, and they knew it wasn't for them.

I got my first Shar-Pei in 1982, and I had my first sweeps assignment in 1984. Back in those days, sweepstakes classes were from 2 months up, and the draw would be huge—four hours of judging, easy. So I accepted with

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Chinese Shar-Pei:
"Place them as
you'd take them
home."

great excitement and then ... the trepidation kicked in!

I started with studying, memorizing the standard. I watched the dogs in the yard and at other shows, weighing pluses and minuses in my head. I studied books like Rachel Page Elliot's *Dog Steps*. I knew all the technical

terms, knew that the form follows function, knew not to fault-judge but judge the virtues, and I'd seen the way some breeds had points in their standards. If a degree in the subject matter was all you needed, I was ready!

But I didn't feel ready. There was a breeder, Marty Gold, who, due to health issues, couldn't work and rarely slept. Back in the day of long-distance landline phone bills, I can't imagine how much his was on any given month, but gratefully, calls with me contributed to that some! We were talking one night about the upcoming assignment, and after I regaled him with all I'd been learning and practicing, I think he could sense that I was getting in my own way. He then gave me the best advice, which I have relied on to these 35-plus years: He said, "Just place them as you'd take them home."

Well, the big day came. I had many in the 2-4 Months Puppy Dog class, and I went over them all with joy (so adorable), and then it was decision time. As I stood looking at these promising pups and their expectant owners, bits of the standard kept popping up in my head! *Well-let-down hocks; topline rising over the short, broad loin; proper tail-set; correct pigment; proper movement is essential; harsh coat; "hippopotamus" muzzle ...*

And then, when the phrases started to overwhelm my brain, I heard Marty say, "Karen,

place them in the order you'd take them home. You know a good dog, you know the standard, so if you're taking them home, they will be good ones!" The phrases stopped badgering me, I felt myself take a deep breath and trust that advice.

Marty Gold left this earth not terribly long after giving this advice, and here, all these years later, he is still the voice I hear when I'm in the ring. It's comforting, and it helps me focus. I wish I'd had the chance to tell him how valuable that small pep-talk was. I hope all judges have advisors to help them get out of their own way!

On a side note, Marty's widow, Gayle Gold Creasman, is still active in the sport, and she judges, as well. I'm not sure I ever thanked her for letting Marty spend so much time with so many of us over the phone. Marty Gold was a bigger-than-life character, and the stories we "oldtimers" could share about him would have you rolling on the floor. But his impact was more than his long phone calls and his raucous humor. He was a source of information, guidance, and the occasional piece of juicy gossip—and for me, the voice in my head when my brain goes too many directions as I prepare to call out placements.

—Karen Kleinhans DeSilva,
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[Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America](#)

Chow Chows

THE CHOW CHOW: ROUGH COAT OR SMOOTH COAT?

When someone decides they want to add a Chow Chow to their family, their first decision is typically which color. Our breed standard clearly states that there are only five acceptable coat colors (red, black, cream, blue, and cinnamon), and all colors are to be judged equally, so this decision is rather easy. A second decision is to select whether a rough-coated or a smooth-coated Chow. There can be both coat types in a litter if the pedigree includes rough- and smooth-coated Chows.

Regarding coat, our AKC Chow Chow standard says:

There are two types of coat; rough and smooth. Both are double coated. Rough—In the rough coat, the outer coat is abundant, dense, straight and offstanding, rather coarse in texture; the undercoat soft, thick and wooly. Puppy coat soft, thick and wooly overall. The coat forms a profuse ruff around the head and neck, framing the head. The coat and ruff generally longer in dogs than in bitches. Tail well feathered. The coat length varies markedly on different Chows and thickness, texture and condition should be given greater emphasis than length. Obvious trimming or shaping is undesirable. Trimming of the whiskers, feet and metatarsals optional. Smooth—The smooth coated Chow is judged by the same standard as the rough coated Chow

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The Chow Chow has two coat types—on the left is a rough-coated puppy, and on the right a smooth-coated puppy.

except that references to the quantity and distribution of the outer coat are not applicable to the smooth coated Chow, which has a hard, dense, smooth outer coat with a definite undercoat. There should be no obvious ruff or feathering on the legs or tail.

You can see from this definition that the only difference between a rough or a smooth should be the length and distribution of coat. There should be no other differences in structure, expression, gait, or disposition. The standard says that both should be a powerful, sturdy, squarely built, upstanding dog of Arctic type, medium in size, with strong muscular development and heavy bone. The body is compact, short coupled, broad, and deep, the tail set high and carried closely to the back, the whole supported by four straight,

strong, sound legs. Viewed from the side, the hind legs have little apparent angulation, and the hock joint and metatarsals are directly beneath the hip joint. It is this structure that produces the characteristic shorter, stilted gait unique to the breed. The large head with broad, flat skull and short, broad and deep muzzle is proudly carried and accentuated by a ruff. Elegance and substance must be combined into a well-balanced whole, never so massive as to outweigh his ability to be active, alert, and agile. Clothed in a smooth or an off-standing, rough double coat, the Chow is a masterpiece of beauty, dignity, and naturalness. Essential to true Chow type are his unique blue-black tongue, scowling expression, and stilted gait.

One of the foremost benefits of selecting a smooth-coated Chow is the time and effort required in grooming. The proper coarse texture of the outer coat helps to repel water and dirt, but the thick undercoat does require thorough drying and brushing. The shorter coat of the smooth-coated Chow maintains a well-groomed appearance much easier than the long-coated rough-coat. The rough-coated and smooth-coated puppies are equally adorable, and the adults are equally impressive and have won national specialty show and all-breed show awards.

A good Chow is a good Chow, rough or smooth.

—Love Banghart,
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 Chow Chow Club Inc.

Cotons de Tulear

THE COTON DE TULEAR COAT

The Coton de Tulear’s coat and the distinctive structure required to create its unique silhouette are hallmarks of the breed.

With the breed originating on the exotic Island of Madagascar, with its diverse climate and topography, the “natural cotton-ball” texture of the “stand-off” Coton coat serves as an insulator in temperature extremes. Challenging survival conditions required

endurance and agility. Centuries of natural selection developed a breed with a rectangular skeleton to accommodate a long back with a slight rise over a wide, strong loin, ensuring flexibility. Well-sprung ribs, extending well back, provide the capacity to house strong lungs for greater stamina.

The 21st-century AKC Coton standard clearly describes the white coat, with specific amounts of acceptable color.* It defines ratios, angles, and proportions that allow us to know, “What’s under the coat?”

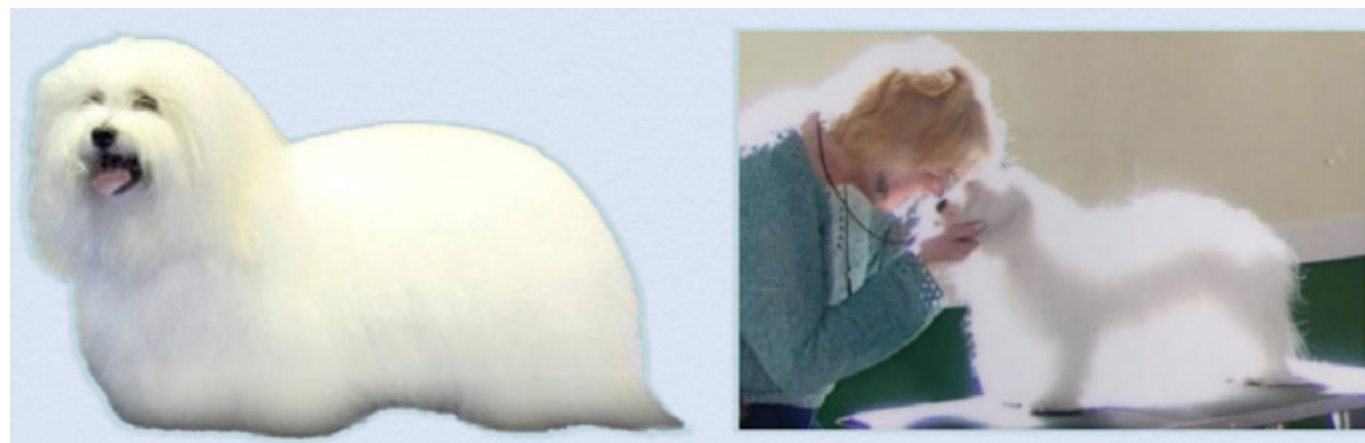
Key point: Height and weight varies greatly in the Coton, but all dogs should be correctly proportioned to standard.

Coat: The coat is natural, long, white, dry, profuse, very soft and supple, with the texture of cotton. It is never hard or rough. The coat is dense, profuse, and can be very slightly wavy. Severe fault—Atypical hair or hair that is tightly curled, wooly, or silky. Severe fault—Trimming, sculpting, or grooming which alters the natural appearance of the dog is a severe penalty.

Of utmost importance is coat quality and texture. The coat is dense and feels like a natural cotton ball. Severely fault silky, thin, or stripped coats that lie flat, as that is atypical hair, causing the coat to flow excessively in an undesirable “Maltese like” fashion. Correct coats “stand off” and have body with a min-

COURTESY LOVE BANGHART

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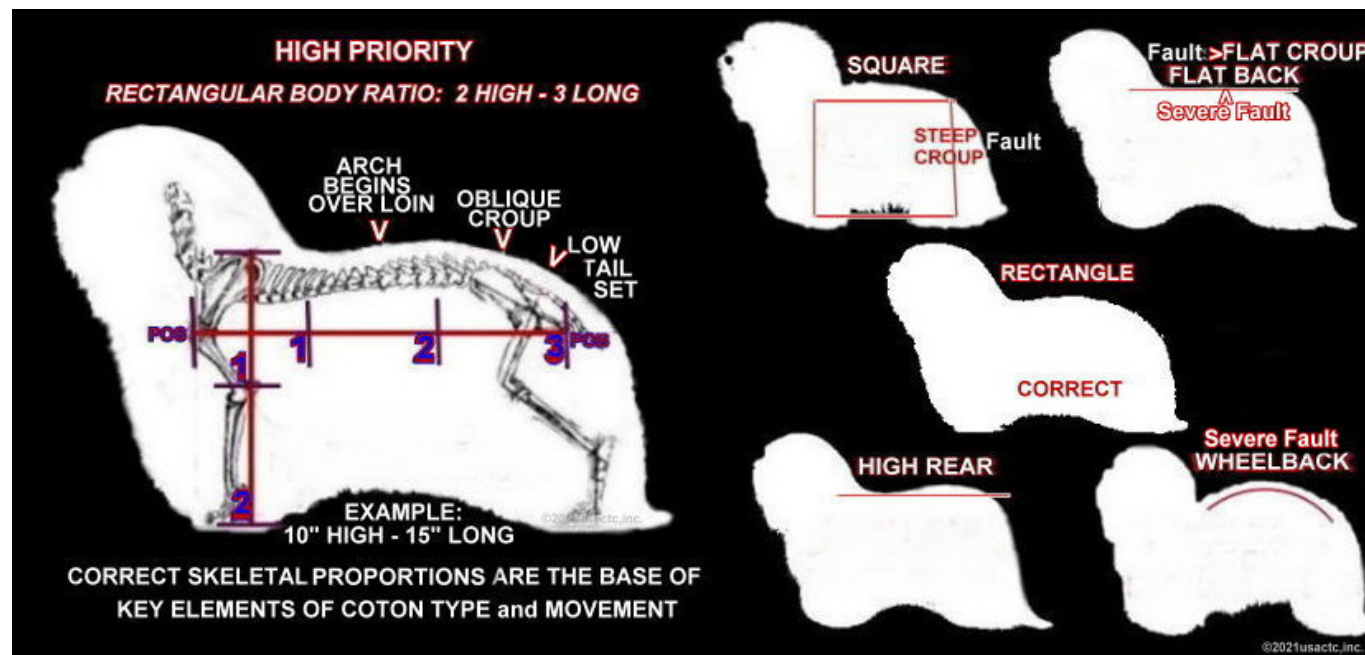


Coton de Tulear Expression
Lively, Intelligent, Inquisitive, Alert & Happy

Natural grooming highlights expression.

The headpiece does not appear sculpted or stiff.

Excessive sculpting, backcombing (teasing) and sprays distorts head size making it appear disproportionately large.



Top left: “What’s under the Coton’s coat?” Sunlight shining through an abundant coat gives a glimpse.

3 long (point of shoulder to point of buttock), e.g. 10 high = 15 long. See the standard regarding height disqualification.

Head: The head is short, triangular, and rather wide relative to its length, with a slight stop and well-developed zygomatic arches. Head to body ratio is 2 of 5, ranging between 5.1 to 7.2 inches long. The muzzle is straight, with muzzle-to-skull ratios of 5 to 9. Muzzle length minimum is 1.82 inches, and maximum is 2.57 inches. The neck blends smoothly into the shoulders and is in balance with the height and length of the dog.

Topline: The topline runs smoothly from withers to loin. Beginning over the loin is a graceful natural arch, not too accentuated,

that carries through over the croup. The arch is continuous without flatness, resulting in a low tail-set. The tail is long and carried down at rest, reaching below the hock with the tip of the tail slightly raised.*

Presentation: Cotons are shown naturally as is consistent with good grooming. Trimming, sculpting, or grooming that alters the natural appearance of the dog is a severe penalty.

When structure and skeletal proportions are correct, no need exists for excessive or creative grooming, scissoring, or sculpting to “create” the silhouette. Severely penalize any trimming anywhere on the Coton, including scissoring around the hindquarters to create optical illusions that hide faulty leg conformation.

imum amount of flow in motion. Powders, gels, and sprays can dramatically affect coat texture. Hold a small amount of hair and twist it upward. A “cotton-like” coat will stand up, while a “thin or silky coat” will drop.

The distinctive silhouette of the Coton de

Tulear is a harmonious natural blend of coat and correct skeletal proportions of body, head, topline, and tail. Accurate assessments of correct type cannot be visually achieved, so hands-on examinations are imperative.

Body: The body is a rectangle of 2 high and

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Exception: trimming around the pads and very bottom of feet is acceptable.

Abundance of coat carried several inches over the forequarters and hindquarters tricks the eye. The skeletal structure defines the rectangular 2-high-to-3-long body ratio. An arched topline can easily be combed into a level topline or to minimize high rears and tail-sets. Faults: A dip behind shoulder blades or a steep or flat croup. Severe faults: A wheel back or flat back. Hands-on examinations are essential to correctly assess rectangle proportions and should be used to establish the beginning of the graceful natural arch over the loin, continued by a gentle fall-away into the oblique croup. The low tail-set finishes the curve. These elements are vital to create the unique Coton de Tulear silhouette.

Head length and shape and proportionate muzzle length are particularly challenging to evaluate. To do so, hold the coat down close to the skull. The head is short, triangular, and wide, with well-developed zygomatic arches. The ears are set high, directly above the line of the eyes. Accurately locate the slight stop with your hands. This landmark determines muzzle-to-skull ratios.* The muzzle is short and straight, with a strong chin. Artistic grooming is used to shorten disproportionately long muzzles, causing the stop to appear deep, creating the undesirable visual of deeply set eyes. Coton expression is

lively and happy.

The beautiful Coton coat is a “Coat of Illusions.”

“Do your hands confirm what your eyes perceive?”

*Visit usactc.dog to view the Coton de Tulear standard, *Elaboration of the Standard*, and a guide to evaluating Coton Tails in Motion.

—Eileen Boyer Narioka,
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[United States of America Coton de Tulear Club](#)

Dalmatians

PUPPY ENRICHMENT

We currently have a litter of 10 beautiful babies, born a mere five weeks ago. It is absolutely amazing to watch them and see them go from neonates who can only nurse, sleep, and grow to rowdy, robust little individuals learning to connect with the world opening up around them.

One of my favorite parts of the process is finding ways we can make this critical time of exploration and introduction a positive time in their lives. In essence, you are laying the groundwork for the rest of their lives by making this period fun, educational, and safe. There are many ways to encourage puppies to explore and trust their world. Here are some of my favorites.



Dalmatians

- I like to do the Bio Sensor method of early neurological stimulation from between days 3 to 16. You may not see any visible or immediate differences, but it's the building blocks for what is to come.

- Once their eyes and ears open, it's time to use those two new senses to their advantage. Let them learn the sounds and smells of a household. I also like them to be exposed to sound for extended periods of time—so many of my puppies have grown up on classical music, radio talk shows, and even daytime television. (I hope that

didn't affect them too adversely.)

- Children's toys are your friends when it comes to puppies and playtimes. I stalk Marketplace, Craigslist, and thrift stores for appropriate items. We have a plastic climbing wall they scale and play King of the Mountain, kids' gamers chairs they can rock on, and a lighted music mat they can pound on for results they control. We've also done ball pits, but I would caution you to use something you can cover when they're not using it or at night. One litter got the ball pit and the litter box mixed up.

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- Off-label use of exercise equipment is also fun. Their absolute favorite is the wobble board and disc. They love the rollercoaster motion and will fight to be the last man standing on it.

- The Adventure Box is another good one and relatively easy to put together. Build a PVC cube and find interesting and noisy things to hang from it. Our puppies love pounding metal pie pans against the metal chains they're hung next to. Stuffed toys hanging from it make for a great game of Tug. I'm always at the dollar store looking for things that might pique their interests.

There are so many things you can do to make this a fun and fulfilling time for them. Let your imagination run wild. There are also Facebook groups for puppy and canine enrichment with lots of ideas you can use. It's also smart to rotate toys in and out of their environment. Today's toy may be super boring tomorrow. The most important thing to remember is to make it breed, age, and size appropriate. Dalmatians are a bold and sturdy breed and can handle most anything, but a toy breed might be intimidated by the things a Dal puppy decides is The Bomb. Let the good times roll!

—Jan Warren Linné,
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Dalmatian Club of America

French Bulldogs

BE AWARE OF HIDDEN DANGERS

An article in the London *Times* written by Emma Duncan resonated and started me on an inventory of my household and habits. Of course, we know all the obvious safety issues with our Frenchies, and we are careful about overheating and skeletal stress. However, we need to rethink how we manage our household and our Frenchie's environment. Here is Ms. Duncan's edited story (which is too long to publish in its entirety).

She talks about almost killing her 2-month-old puppy. Briefly she begins by pointing out that puppies pick up many undesirable things in their mouths: worms, paper, feces, and so on. So she was not concerned when her puppy began vomiting throughout the day. She only became concerned when he vomited his breakfast the following day. She took him to the vet hospital and on the way remembered seeing him playing with an empty ibuprofen packet from an overturned wastebasket. Only when she picked the packet up did she see that there was a half-eaten pill in it. The puppy was in fact poisoned, probably by the ibuprofen, but thankfully he survived.

It is worth stopping at this point to consider the red flags that this owner ignored. First, there was a wastebasket filled with enticing things to chew on. It should have been emp-



French Bulldog

ty tied or put out of reach. Next, there was the vomiting throughout that day. A more knowledgeable owner would have realized that vomiting can lead to dehydration, especially in a puppy. The owner did finally act 24 hours later when the pup vomited his breakfast.

The writer goes on to speculate how much more careful we are with our children than with our dogs. She explains that our children have our DNA, and our dogs do not. However, she points out that evolutionary biologists have explained that our long (at least 25,000-year) history with dogs has led to both us and them being hardwired to love each other. She follows this with a series of vignettes from other owners who have had the same kind of accident she

had with their puppies.

But are these really accidents, or are they the product of poor preparation for having a puppy? Two things stand out about the stories in the article. First is a lack of preparation by prospective owners. Yet educating oneself is critical—learning about raising puppies, dog safety, potential toxins, and so on are critical in the same way that learning about child-rearing is important for a parent. Second is a problem with self-discipline when it comes to keeping a dog safe. Letting a dog do

whatever he or she wants is not a good idea. For instance, the writer says, “I am less careful for his safety than other puppy owners I know. That is, to some extent, deliberate. I let him off the leash in places where I might lose him, because I believe that giving him some freedom is the best way of teaching him to come when he's called and of encouraging him to be sociable with other dogs and people.” This is written about a 2-month-old puppy! Thankfully it ends well.

Ms. Duncan concludes by saying, “Basil's love-generating tendencies are especially valuable now because, in these dark times, we need all the warmth and affection we can get. After three days in hospital, he was

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pronounced better and is back on the sofa, snuggling comfortably in his evolutionary niche. His DNA can manipulate me to its heart's content.”

My self-inventory reminded me to reassess what I put in a trashcan that might attract one of my dogs. For instance, no sharp metal lids with remains of any food attached. The packets enclosed in so many products to keep them dry are not to be eaten by you or your dog. Dental floss can be an issue at my house, since I occasionally find it on the floor. The biggie is the potential to drop a medication on the floor that would definitely entail a trip to the emergency vet. I counteract this by opening a drawer and doing meds and vitamins over the drawer. My dogs can find a pill on the floor faster than I can.

I spoke with Dr. Lori Hunt, a veterinarian and member of the FBDCA. She observes that the most dangerous act is giving people medicine to dogs without consulting your vet. Dr. Hunt also warns of the dangers of xylitol and advises to protect your garbage. Be sure to share your dog's peculiar habits of eating socks or other unmentionables.

Dr. Hunt says, “Remember that your vet is your best friend. Trust us, not Dr. Google.”

—Sande Abernathy,

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[French Bull Dog Club of America](#)

Keeshonden

KEESHOND TEMPERAMENT AND JUDGING

The temperament of a Keeshond is unique and generally consistent. Keeshonden are happy, friendly, energetic, and outgoing. The breed standard says: “Temperament is of primary importance. The Keeshond is neither timid nor aggressive but instead is outgoing and friendly with both people and other dogs. The Keeshond is a lively, intelligent, alert, and affectionate companion.”

They are famously friendly with other dogs, and particularly with other Keeshonden. The story goes that when dog shows were benched years ago, the Foley boys, who constructed the benches, left out the partitions only for Kees. Why? Because they knew the breed got along with each other and liked to be next to each other. If you take a Keeshond to a dog show for the first time, they are very excited to see all of the other dogs. However, when they get to the area where the Kees are, they go into overdrive.

This characteristic sometimes makes them blissfully unaware that other dogs may not feel the same way. Some years ago I had a young dog at an all-breed show where there was also a Keeshond specialty. As he was walking close by my side, a very large dog nearby decided he might make a good snack. I had to quickly



*Keeshonden:
Famously friendly
with other dogs,
particularly with
other Kees*

swing him away. There was a look of astonishment on his face as he realized the other dog's intentions were not friendly. He was more cautious from that point but always a bit astonished by aggressive dogs.

Judges only have a few moments in the ring to evaluate temperament. Obvious flaws may not present themselves in that short time period. What can you expect from the Keeshonden in your ring? Puppies are a lot of fun, and sometimes a challenge, because they are *so* excited to see you! Unless they are

on a ramp, the handler will often kneel down with the puppy for the examination. This is to give the puppy confidence and to prevent them from licking your face. Some puppies may be a little overwhelmed and need some time. Patience is needed to give the Keeshond puppy a good first experience with judging.

Adult dogs in the classes may still be a little overenthusiastic but should greet you with friendliness. You will notice that when they first step off to gait for you, they may leap forward and need a few steps to settle

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down. “Re-gaiting” is not uncommon in the Keeshond ring. Keeshonden are very smart, and by the time they are specials they are quite accomplished show dogs. However, they should be biddable with both humans and other dogs, as described in the standard. If you observe otherwise, that exhibit should be penalized accordingly.

I have attended the national specialties of many breeds and watched their puppy classes. In that time I observed many puppies who were extremely settled and well behaved. But for pure *joie de vivre*, there is nothing quite like a Keeshond puppy.

Enjoy your assignment!

—Debbie Lynch,

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[Keeshond Club of America](#)

Lhasa Apsos

THE OTHER PANDEMIC

Traveling in tandem with the COVID-19 pandemic is another disease that is a proven contributing or aggravating factor in gastrointestinal, skin, respiratory, and cardiac conditions, behavioral disorders, a weakened immune system, and a shortened lifespan. We’re talking about chronic stress.

Stress affects both humans and dogs. It’s the body’s reaction to a threat. Stress triggers hor-

mones that contribute to survival, such as the fight or flight response. The main hormone released is cortisol, which increases heart rate, triggers blood flow to the muscles, reduces blood flow to the stomach and intestines, and puts the brain and body in survival mode. High levels of these hormones are destructive, however, when chronically present in the system.

While the reaction to stress differs among individuals, the triggers are usually the same. For dogs and people, these include change in schedule or environment, travel, confinement, emotional loss, lack of exercise, situations that cause anxiety or boredom, grooming, a trip to the doctor or vet, or stress signals given off by those to whom we are emotionally attached. And isolation. Lack of interaction with others—think the pandemic, and being cut off from social interaction, community, and friends and family.

The old saying that your nervousness travels down the lead to your dog is scientifically proven to be true. Stress in their human is replicated in the dog. Dogs have at least 10,000 years’ experience observing and analyzing human behavior, and their anxiety level is usually similar to that of their human companion. Cortisol leaves a history of its presence in the body found in hair or fur. Analyses of dog and human hair for evidence of cortisol revealed



Lhasa Apso

similar levels in humans and their pets.

Signs of stress in your dog include but are not limited to nausea, diarrhea, panting, licking, lethargy, excessive barking, pacing, chewing, frequent yawning (a stress reliever), separation anxiety, and more.

Stress can be managed. In the case of show dogs, efforts to relieve boredom might trump ideal coat conditioning on a drop-coated breed but yield physical and mental health benefits for both owners and dogs that surpass some loss of conditioning. Coats can be protected using creative solutions, whereas mind

and body cannot.

Some ways to reduce stress for your dogs and improve their mental health are:

- *More house time for show dogs.* Being kenneled 24/7 is stressful. Show dogs are accustomed to traveling and seeing new places, people, and other dogs, plus they are used to the excitement of competing. Put a belly-band or panties on naughty boys or girls and bring them into the house regularly to play, run around freely, and do all the things companion animals do.

- *Training sessions.* Try rally online, or teach tricks. Learning is good mental exercise for the dog and the owner will benefit from knowing how best the dog learns.

- *Structured walks.* Band up side coat, put on your mask, and, weather permitting, go for regular brisk walks. It’s great muscle and aerobic conditioning, kills boredom, and releases hormones that combat depression. Some extra bathing might be needed, but the benefits outweigh the work.

- *Change toys.* A simple stimulation is to change toys frequently. New toys are always a diversion, and puzzle toys are a bonus.

- *Games.* Play fetch, hide the treat, or some other favorite game to exercise the mind. Practice free-stacking off lead in the kitchen or elsewhere.

- *Beware of separation anxiety.* There are reports

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of separation anxiety in dogs that never have exhibited it or in “Covid puppies,” both now used to seeing owners non-stop. Structured alone time for dogs may help avoid this issue.

These trying times demand flexibility, creativity, and dedication to sustaining mental as well as physical health for us and our loved ones.

The best stress relief of all? Play with puppies.

—Cassandra de la Rosa,
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[The American Lhasa Apso Club](#)

Shiba Inu

Patricia Doescher wrote the following in 2012 about life with Shibas.

RED AND WHITE

What is red and white, is extremely cunning, and has fur all over? Wrong—not a fox! It’s a Shiba Inu, with a beautiful red coat but at times caught wearing the black and tan ensemble or the sesame shawl. Yes, the Shiba Inu, disguised as a family pet or show dog, but holding the heart of a lion with the shrewdness, cunning, and flexibility of his creature cousin, the fox, who incidentally has never heard the phrase, “Oh, how cute—it looks like a Shiba Inu!”



Shiba Inu: Red, white, and cunning

An owner leaves a sleeping Shiba on the couch and a package of unopened cookies on the kitchen table. Upon returning home, the cookies are gone! The empty package is on the floor, and the Shiba is still sleeping on the couch. The owner spots a cookie hidden in the corner on the kitchen floor; another is found peeking out from under the couch, and two or

three are snuggled in the corners of the waterbed. There are four behind the toilet bowl, and three in the dog’s toy box, plus several under the dog’s bed. Even more are in the basket with the dirty laundry.

After some searching, all cookies but one are accounted for. The Shiba, feigning sleep, is actually watching; her half-open eyes give her away.

A nervous new Shiba mom is moved to a more private spot with her new litter. Upon leaving the room, the owner is followed by said new mom—complete with a puppy in her mouth as she moves them back to the original place of birth.

A taco salad is set on the end table, in the protection of a husband who is watching a football game in the same room. When returning—and I must add, looking forward to enjoying the salad—the Shiba owner gazes into the shell and mutters, *Where’s the beef?* Only tomatoes, lettuce, and onions remain. The husband is still intently watching the game, totally oblivious. The Shiba sits quietly nearby, licking the sour cream from her lips.

A Shiba owner discovers the kitchen chair moved from the table to the side of the counter, and food missing. She moves the chair back to the table, puts more food on the kitchen counter, and secretly watches as the Shiba pushes the chair back to the counter to use it as a step to get back up to the goodies.

Five Shibas contently sleeping outside on the deck within the fenced yard are left alone for twenty minutes. When the owner arrives home, the Shibas are gone! There is a tiny hole under the fence large enough for a rat to sneak through—and obviously five Shibas.

After two hours of searching, calling, and tears, the owner comes home to find all five

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

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Shibas waiting for her on the front porch, wondering where “she” has been!

You crawl into bed with your Shibas nestled at your feet. You wake mid-sleep and want to move but can't. The Shibas grumble at you, notifying you to hold still. You could make them get down, but you don't, because they love you and you love them. You gently get out of bed, use the bathroom, and return to find your pillow now draped with a furry body! You climb back in bed and use a different pillow.—P.D.

[National Shiba Club of America](#)

Tibetan Spaniels

THE SHOWS GO ON

With the cancellation of last year's Tibetan Spaniel Club of America specialty show, the membership has been waiting for the opportunity to get out their lovely Tibetan Spaniels and exhibit at the national specialty. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, shows have been far and few between. I have only myself shown one weekend, and that was in September 2020!

Last year I had two puppies who were raised during this pandemic. Getting them out to socialize and meet other people was a challenge. My daughter took one of them down to her home so the puppy would get used to

different places and situations. A friend with Tibetan Spaniels also took one for a short time to give another experience.

This month we are going to our first shows since September, in Raleigh, North Carolina. I know things will be different, with mask-wearing and limited time inside the building near the rings. But I am up to the challenge. I hope my Tibetan Spaniel girls will accept an inside ring for the first time. We have been doing what training we can with the table, showing the bite, and stacking. But you never know how a Tibetan Spaniel will react to inside matting. Many a puppy has decided to either not go around the ring, or insist on jumping over the tape every time, or just stopping at the tape and deciding they do not care for that shining stuff. I have been known to tape down spots with duct tape at home, just to practice them seeing it on the floor.

The Tibetan Spaniel Club of America, the Potomac Valley Tibetan Spaniel Club, and the Finger Lakes Tibetan Spaniel Association will be having a combined-event show weekend on May 20–23, starting with the parent club's first-ever Top 20 competition. This event is being held at the Frederick Fairgrounds, at 797 E. Patrick Street in Frederick, Maryland. The website for the fairgrounds is www.thegreatfrederickfair.com.



The schedule of events:
Thursday—Welcome reception at the host hotel, Clarion Inn and Event Center, and then the Top 20 formal event.

Friday—National sweepstakes and the national specialty will be held at the fairgrounds. *Saturday*—Potomac Valley specialty show with sweepstakes.

Sunday—The Finger Lakes Tibetan Spaniel Association will have their sweepstakes and specialty show.

It will be a full weekend of events—with the special highlight that this year, the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America is celebrating its 50th

anniversary of being established. The club started with core members from Connecticut, with the driving forces being Jay Child, Joan Child, Leo Kearns, and others from the area who fell in love with the breed. Leo Kearns was the first to have a Tibbie and introduced the breed in the area. It will be quite the celebration, and everyone should try to attend. Jay and Joan were my mentors in the breed, although we all seemed to learn together.

It will be so nice to be out in the ring and see friends old and new—and after all, the shows go on!

—Mallory Cosby Driskill,
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[Tibetan Spaniel Club of America](#)

Tibetan Terriers

SUCCESS IN THE RING AS A TIBETAN TERRIER OWNER-HANDLER

I was perusing through the other breed columns in the GAZETTE when this title caught my eye: “An Owner-Handler Breed?” Curious as to what this was about, I read that a question frequently asked by prospective new owners and other dog people is “Is this a breed that can be successfully owner-handled?”

Intrigued, I read on. The author was posing the question regarding Black and Tan Coonhounds. The reasons given for that

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particular breed being “owner-handler friendly” included the point that because only a few were regularly seen with professional handlers, this helped to level the playing field for owner-handlers. Another reason the author gave was relative ease of grooming and ring preparation—that is, the breed being “wash-and-wear-ready.” They noted that all the dog needed was a bath, nail-trim, and a little polish of the coat before entering the ring. Lastly, they explained that the breed is especially receptive to their owners and shows better for them than for anyone else.

When considering the purchase of a Tibetan Terrier with a view to being successful as an owner-handler, one needs to think carefully about this choice, most especially because of the lack of ease when it comes to grooming and ring preparation. In our case we have fallen in love with our breed, decide to show them ourselves, and have learned by trial and error how to manage all that it takes to show a Tibetan Terrier.

Probably the most challenging aspect of success is the keeping of one’s TT profuse double coat in tip-top, mat-free condition, with not only weekly—when not actively showing—bathing and grooming, but also the use of good products and carefully chosen, wholesome nutrition and supplements. Regular exercise to maintain good muscle tone under-



Tibetan Terrier

neath all that hair is also of extreme importance. TTs love to run, and they often come home with lots of twigs and leaves snarled into their long coats. Not to mention their joy of rolling in delicious-smelling cat or fox poo! Constant maintenance is required in order for your dog to be able to be in show-ready condition, but even then, ring preparation can and does, still take hours.

The notion of a level playing field is not quite so straightforward in our breed. I was interested to read a comment by an owner-handler in the November 2020 edition of *Showsight* magazine regarding the NOHS (the AKC National Owner-Handled Series). This

person said that there is most definitely a place for the NOHS, and that the program keeps many coming to shows when they have a breed that is dominated by a handler or a breeder in a specific area. While there are now more owner-handlers in the ring than there have been in past years, it is occasionally challenging for them not to feel frustrated when they have shown their very best. Despite the fact that their dog reflects many of the good qualities the TT breed is known for, they are often at times overlooked by a dog who is being shown by a prominent handler. However, when a respected judge compliments you on the

level of quality of owner-handler dogs being shown now compared to when the NOHS first started, this is a proud moment indeed. Yes, our breed can be successfully owner-handled!

The final reason that was given is one that likewise cannot be disputed regarding TTs, who are also very attuned to their owners. The joy of the one-on-one interaction that you, as an owner-handler, can experience with your dog in the ring is second to none.

At the annual Crufts show in the U.K., the Tibetan Terrier entry is huge. For example, at the 2019 Crufts event there were about 300 entries, compared to our U.S. average yearly entry of around 15 at Westminster. On this particular day, breed judging started at 8:30 in the morning and went straight through to 3:30 in the afternoon, without a break! The lovely Sue Bird judged patiently and kindly throughout the day, always with a friendly smile on her face. Two things of note are that out of all these entries at Crufts, there were hardly any that were professionally handled. Secondly, there were much more of a variety of styles and colors of TTs shown there than we see here in the U.S.—but that is a story for another column.

—Sonam Kushner,
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Tibetan Terrier Club of America

HERDING GROUP

Australian Cattle Dogs

LET'S TALK ABOUT JUDGING COLOR IN AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOGS

Nowhere in the Australian, the American, or any other country's kennel club standard for our breed is there a mention or recognition of any colors other than *red* or *blue*. Sounds simple, right?

Until 10 Australian Cattle Dogs walk in your ring, and honestly, not any of them are the same.

First, our colors are not meant to be tricky. There are no merles to discover—and of course, if there is one, the exhibit goes to the end of the line. Second, while we have no DQs to make your job easier, there are some people breeding for dilutes and designer colors, questionable representatives that appear chocolate or slate are mixed-breed but have been registered with AKC color selections. These are not in any way acceptable or a blessing to the breed. Any pigment other than black on the nose is such a serious fault as to place the dog out of competition.

So let's break down the acceptable uniqueness of each color:

Blue. The "blue" color is created by a mixture of black and white hair. The acceptable choices are blue with tan markings, blue mottle, and blue speckle. Given the multitude of possibilities available in nature, it explains why



Australian Cattle Dog coat color is blue or red, each with black pigment.

no Australian Cattle Dogs are exactly alike (just like a four-leaf clover).

Now we will add permissible markings on the blue coat: black, blue or tan markings on the head; tan on jaw.

Forelegs: tan markings midway and extending up the front to breast and throat, and never encroaching on the body of the dog.

Hindquarters: tan on the inside of the legs, thighs, possibly down the front of stifles and broadening out to the outside of the hind legs from hock to toes.

Occasionally you may be presented with a black body spot. While not quite desirable, it has no bearing on the quality of the exhibit, nor on the dog's ability to herd.

Red. The "red" color is only recognized in the standard as red speckle. This should appear as a pleasing, even red with some quantity of white guard hair. The undercoat should be reddish and never cream or white.

Permissible markings: Always a darker red.

Color is a defining part of any standard. For the Australian Cattle Dog, if the color is red or

blue with black pigment, please judge the dog by its most important quality and truly defining attribute: the conformation and temperament to enhance the ability to work.

—Gaye Lynn Grant, Littleflock Australian Cattle Dogs,

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[Australian Cattle Dog Club of America](http://AustralianCattleDogClub.com)

Bearded Collies

A PARTING OF THE WAVES

Do you have a pet peeve when it comes to showing our bouncing Beardies? I do. It's like this.

The young male was the first Beardie into the ring. His owner gave him one last flick of her brush, put him into a stack, and looked up at me with a hopeful smile. I approached, returned her smile and then asked, "May I?" as I gently removed the brush from her hand without waiting for her answer. Wielding it in a firm grip, I eliminated every trace of the offensive "knitting-needle part" with a few swift swipes of the brush. Stunned into silence at first, the owner looked down at her dog's newly brushed back and suddenly broke into laughter. "Chantal (Andrew) did the same thing at a show last month," she grinned. It appeared the message didn't take the first time. Yes, Chantal feels the same way about

COURTESY GAYE LYNN GRANT

HERDING GROUP



artificial parts.

For those unfamiliar with the term “knitting-needle part,” perhaps it should be explained this part does not have to be created with a knitting needle. A comb can do the job just as well—or just as badly, as the case may be. The alternative to this artificial part is the natural part. Usually when a Beardie’s adult coat comes in, the coat down the middle of the back will part naturally. Mother Nature is smarter than most humans.

What’s the difference between the artificial and natural part? In the natural part, there is

no exposed skin. That’s it. It harks back to the belief that Beardies should sport a weather-proof coat, since they were expected to work outdoors in all kinds of unkind weather. The correct outer coat may be decorated with snowflakes or dampened with raindrops, but the undercoat and skin remain dry. You’ve probably come to grips with this when you bathe your Beardie and realize just how much water and time it takes to get the coat wet enough all the way through to work up a sudsy lather. In a natural part, some hairs fall to one side, some to the other, so the skin and

undercoat is protected.

Think of the artificial part this way. You’re going outside in a heavy rainstorm. You have an otherwise excellent raincoat, but the seam down the middle of the back has split open. That’s your knitting-needle part. Damp, isn’t it? Why so many handlers feel it enhances the Beardie’s appearance is a puzzle. It doesn’t. And nothing looks more ridiculous than a KNP on a fluffy puppy coat. Unless it’s a crooked KNP. Some people can’t draw a straight line. Once, while judging Briards I encountered the strangest part. It started at the normal place, headed straight down the middle of the back for a bit, then started to deviate to the right, finally making a swooping curve to disappear in the vicinity of the right hip. “Who groomed your dog?” The young lady on the lead promptly answered, “My mother.” My suggestion? Hide the grooming tools before her mother strikes again.

In a way it’s understandable that professional handlers would opt for something like a KNP. They’re paid to win with a dog, so it behooves them to groom the dog so it stands out, a little different from the competition. The fads come and go. Paws trimmed perfectly circular. Hair around the eyes plucked till the poor dogs resembled raccoons. The underline snipped and shaped so every hair was aligned with its neighbor. Coat on forelegs

scissored in precise columns from elbows to ground with no hint of paws showing. Profuse hair below the hocks styled in the distinctive trim of the Cocker Spaniels. Hair on the skull backcombed, and sprayed. Encountering the teased head hair of a Beardie in her ring, a judge berated the handler for having “Texas hair” on her dog. She said it reminded her of the heavily backcombed hairdo she saw there on Western ladies. Truthfully, the knitting-needle part pales in comparison to some of the “grooming” atrocities committed on our Beardies. And all this on a “natural” breed!

Wasn’t it Shakespeare who wrote, “Parting is such sweet sorrow”?

—Alice Bixler,

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[Bearded Collie Club of America](#)

Belgian Malinois

THE PROSPEROUS MALINOIS

One of the saddest canine sights I’ve ever seen was a Belgian so fat that he couldn’t turn around in his crate, which had quite ample space for a dog of his height—provided he didn’t weigh 120 pounds. Unfortunately, he did.

A grotesquely obese dog is likely to suffer health consequences as a result of his condition. But even being simply overweight is an

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issue for performance dogs being asked to run, jump, and turn many thousands of times in a working career. The forces on your dog's joints when landing and turning are proportional to his weight. A dog at an appropriate working weight will not only experience less structural pounding, he will also have more stamina.

Unfortunately, it seems to me that people have mostly lost sight of what a dog in working condition should look like, and the AKC standard for the Belgian Malinois does not list a weight range. What to do? Fortunately, the FCI (Federation Cynologique Internationale) standard, followed in much of the world, provides some guidance: males should be 55–66 pounds, and females should be 44–55 pounds. One can make an allowance for dogs with extremely heavy bone. But let's not make excuses for a 24-inch Belgian who weighs 75 pounds, agreed?

Then how do you figure out how much your dog should weigh? The FCI guidance is a good starting point. But mainly, I use my hands. On my performance dogs, I want to feel a “waist” ahead of the dog's rear quarters. I wouldn't want to see more than a bare hint of ribs, but I should be able to feel them easily under a thin layer of fat. If your dog's rib cage feels like a washboard, he's too thin. If you have to apply more than normal petting pres-



Belgian Malinois

sure to feel ribs, he may be a bit too prosperous. I expect to feel hipbones, but the space between the hip bones should be mostly filled in, neither mounded up nor a deep, bony valley. I allow older dogs two to four extra pounds so they have a bit of reserve in case they get sick.

At my age, I've lost my taste for lifting

50-pound dogs onto my human scale, but I can tell by feel whether my dogs have gained or lost even a pound. You can develop a sense for this by getting some baseline weights and noticing how those weights feel under your hands.

A couple of other observations may be helpful:

1. It is fashionable for conformation dogs to be heavier than I have described here. I have heard people speak of needing to put weight on their dogs for the show ring. A dog in working weight can seem thin by comparison. Just make sure you are not presenting a dog who is simply fat. Too much padding is as bad as too little.

2. When considering your veterinarian's advice on your dog's weight, keep in mind that veterinarians see so many dogs of such ghastly corpulence that they may become numb to mere overweight. I met a woman with a rather enormous dog at the ice cream parlor one day. The dog was a rescue, she said, and she'd reduced its weight from 170 pounds down to 120. It still looked to me like a Black Angus steer at slaughterhouse weight. I said, “Congratulations! Only another 50 pounds to go!” She gazed at me steadily and replied, “Oh, no, my vet says he's just fine!” Sometimes it must be easier to just not fight that battle, especially when advice about the dog's weight may be taken personally by a cli-

ent with similar struggles.

For myself, I find controlling my dog's weight to be a lot easier than controlling my own, and in my next column, I'll share the strategies I've used to either shed or add weight on my Belgians.

—Carilee (Cole) Moran,

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American Belgian Malinois Club

Belgian Sheepdogs

IS NOW REALLY THE BEST TIME?

In retrospect, COVID-19 and quarantine might not have “just been” the perfect time for everyone to get a dog. It seemed to make sense with many of us working from home now, many people felt like they finally had the time to dedicate to that puppy they had been wanting for so long. For many homes with baby Belgians, this has been a joyous time, a time spent carefully and safely training and socializing their young Belgian puppy. For others, however, owners found themselves with Belgian puppies developing severe separation anxiety and socialization issues.

This is what the breed's AKC standard says regarding temperament:

“The Belgian Sheepdog should reflect the qualities of intelligence, courage, alertness, and devotion to master. To his inherent aptitude

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The Belgian Sheepdog puppy should be raised with lots of careful training and socializing.

as a guardian of flocks should be added protectiveness of the person and property of his master. He should be watchful, attentive and always in motion when not under command. In his relationship with humans he should be observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive. He should not show fear or shyness. He should not show viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. With those he knows well, he is most affectionate and friendly, zealous of their attention, and

very possessive. Viciousness is a disqualification.”

When my litter left for their homes in March of 2020, my keeper puppy moved upstairs with her mother and the rest of our dogs. I didn’t want to put her in a crate in another room when I went to work in my guest room/office. It was easier to have her with me, as she didn’t bark or whine and was very sweet. I could just give her a bone to keep her busy, right?

Boy, was I wrong on that one. I ended up with a puppy who messed in her crate when I went to the grocery store for one hour. That happened once, and I realized I had let my puppy down. My Belgian puppy wasn’t getting the consistency from me that she needed to avoid developing separation anxiety issues. In our case, I caught this early and the issue was resolved with training rather quickly.

In the past all of our dogs were crate trained from day one and were in an obedience class as soon as we could get them registered. Basic obedience skills and proper socialization are as essential for the owner as they are for their Belgian. *Sit, stay, leave it*, and crate training are all learned behaviors that make our Belgians livable in our homes and our lives. Belgians are a breed that thrives on consistency and structure. Belgians also are typically a breed that does not succeed in homes with reactive or inexperienced dog owners and should be placed appropriately.

Resource guarding is a behavior we also occasionally see in Belgians. Resource guarding is not breed specific, as it can occur with any dog. Most Belgian breeders can and do identify this trait in a puppy before the puppy is placed in a new home. A Belgian puppy with resource-guarding tendencies should go to an experienced Belgian home, as this can become a real problem if not managed

consistently from day one. AKC has a great article on resource guarding here: [Resource Guarding: What To Do When Your Dog Steals And Guards Items](#).

Unfortunately, despite best intentions and efforts, some homes have found themselves in over their heads. That puppy resource-guarding his bone or refusing to go into a crate at 10 weeks and 13 pounds looks a whole lot different at 6 or 8 months and 40 or 50 pounds. Suddenly those pearly white teeth got a whole lot bigger. Viciousness should never be allowed. Bites happen for a lot of reasons but should always be taken seriously. Chances are if you see a behavior you are unsure of, it is always better to be safe than sorry. Be a proactive owner, and ask the breeder or consult a dog trainer/behaviorist familiar with the breed for guidance and advice. Breeders need the feedback both the good and the bad, as they are responsible for shaping the breed as a whole.

This pandemic in some aspects is making it more difficult than ever when it comes to breeders placing puppies in appropriate homes. Never be afraid to ask for help, as the Belgian community is knowledgeable, supportive, and strong.

We hope to see many of you at the BSCA national in April. In the meantime, stay safe, friends.

COURTESY SUSAN REED DAVIS

HERDING GROUP

—Susan Reed Davis,
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Belgian Sheepdog Club of America

Belgian Tervuren

THE REAL PANDEMIC PUPPY PROBLEM

You were working from home, your dream litter was happening, so you bit the bullet and bought that Terv puppy!

Life is good. You are home all day with your new companion—and there are so many online courses that helped you make this the best puppy ever. Smart. Clever. Constantly at your side. You have done all the right things. Experience has shown us that dogs don't always have to be touched and in the middle of things; what they needed was exposure to things that they will see and do in their lifetime. Acceptance of life as they will know it is really one of the most important things for a young dog. You understand that Belgians need heavy socialization and exposure in their early formative months. Puppy training has become extremely creative, and it is quite successful if done well. You understand the value of letting your puppy take in a wide range of sights and sounds, walking them around different places to let them acclimate, going in and out of different buildings and through gates and doorways, and letting them watch

the world happen from the safety of their crate or car when it looks too “peopley” out there—all those things they'll experience when life changes to a new normal. You are getting through this together!

And here is the operative word: *together*. All. The. Time.

Your dog does not know how to be alone.

One of the real pandemic results being seen is separation anxiety in young dogs raised during lockdown. What we originally had thought was the perfect situation is really the perfect storm. Dogs have no skillset to use when being left alone—whether for five minutes or five hours. They are on their own, and even with enrichment toys that we provide, they are left to overthink their new situation. A serious Belgian downfall. They are sure they will never see us again.

A Terv is often described as an “emotional” dog. Some of the more experienced people will laugh at this terminology; newer owners will be completely puzzled until they are confronted with it. It really is like emotions on steroids. Happy, worried, exuberant, terrified ... Multiply that behavior by 10, and you get a small insight into the “Belgian Brain.”

This dilemma can be trained through, but not all dogs will get over it. So it's something that those of you with pandemic puppies need to sit down and seriously evaluate. You need a

training plan. That happy-go-lucky puppy sitting at your feet could possibly be a screaming idiot the first time or the hundredth time that you leave him alone. He can be one of those dogs that pull their hair out in self-destruction. Please don't tell yourself that your puppy will get over it. You inadvertently created this, so now you have to fix it.

You want to make sure that your puppy is okay in a crate or a confined area by himself or if you walk out the door for five minutes. It's not okay for him to scream in your home, in a crate at his first dog show, in your car when you run into the store, or in your camper or motel when you finally get a chance to go on a vacation.

So prepare yourself and your puppy for the life that will be coming back to us eventually. Make sure that your dog has a chance to be happy and secure in all of the situations that you expect him to experience. There are a ton of online training schools and webinars where you can find classes dealing with this new, real problem. Most of all, try and keep that happy puppy *happy*. Don't let stress or anxiety overcome his personality or mental state of mind. Remember in a state of stress, learning is almost impossible. Take things slowly.

Our dogs are brilliant compared to many other breeds, and we need to take that into account. They think. Let's help them think



Make sure your puppy has the chance to learn to be happy and secure in all the situations you expect him to experience.

that everything is going to be fine whether we are with them or not. Evaluate your situation and make a plan. You can do this. That perfect

COURTESY DANA MACKONIS

HERDING GROUP

dog is still bouncing around in your living room, and you can help make sure he'll be bouncing around outside your living room in another year learning to be all he can be.

Stay safe, train happy, and enjoy the life you have in front of you.

—Dana B. Mackonis,

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American Belgian Tervuren Club

Briards

NOBLESSE OBLIGE

Noblesse oblige. It's a French term that sounds like it must mean something along the lines of "the obligations of nobility." And that's about what it is. The definition: the obligation of people of wealth and social position to behave with honor and generosity toward those less privileged. It can apply in all sorts of settings and situations, even the dog world. Who are the nobility? It may refer to the dogs who are the top winners, the top achievers, and their human handlers. The reputation of an entire breed can rest on their withers. Newcomers to the world of conformation may study the big winner and conclude this is the way the breed should look, the way it should be groomed, the way it should move. If an exhibitor or handler indulges in "creative" trimming, back-combing, or generous



Briard

use of "foreign substances," you can bet some novices will reason that's what it takes to win.

Noblesse oblige. When the spotlight touches the top canines, owners owe it to the breed to see their charges presented as close to the stan-

dard as possible. Clean and well groomed, of course, but also without the aid of any faking. Over the years, stories have sometimes been heard of dyes or other artificial methods used on dogs. On one occasion when a group of

judges were sitting around trading tales, one person told of a sudden shower that occurred while he was judging Best in Show. While he was going over the previous day's Best in Show winner, the dog's coat color began dripping off with the raindrops. Oops. Another judge countered with a story of judging on a hot and humid day. As he pressed his hand on a Poodle's topknot, it stuck to his hand. When he moved his hand away, the topknot came with it. The crimson-faced handler asked sheepishly, "May we be excused?" The judge thought that might be a very good idea.

I can even tattle on a Briard. While ringside mentoring at a specialty, the would-be judge asked about ears, and I mentioned occasionally that an exhibitor can aid a lazy ear to stand by unobtrusively twisting and gluing strands of hair between the ears, then hiding the prop in the thick hair on the skull. I asked an exhibitor and dog standing nearby to come over for a moment so I could show where the hair might be glued. As my fingers ran through the thick hair between the ears, guess what I found? (No, I didn't rat on her.)

Along with honesty in presentation, there's also the obligation for both dog and handler to display good temperament. That means good sportsmanship. Congratulate the winner, even when you don't agree with the judge's pick. Football coach Bear Bryant observed, "There

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

HERDING GROUP

are no good losers, just good actors.”

So even if you didn’t make it, fake it.

Some years ago, the owner of a big-winning Briard remarked she gave strict orders to her dog’s handler to be pleasant, congratulate the winner, and be polite. “As my agent,” she said, “he represents me, and I want my reputation upheld for good sportsmanship.” If a handler is unpleasant or rude, it reflects on owner, and perhaps on the breed itself. How often do you hear someone generalize about a breed based on the actions of an involved person?

If you have a big winner, a dog at the top of the ratings, congratulations! But remember you owe it to your breed and to the sport itself to set a good example of presentation and sportsmanship. Noblesse oblige.

—Alice Bixler,
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Briard Club of America

Canaan Dogs

Our guest columnist is Norma Bennett Woolf, who has been a Canaan Dog breeder, owner, and exhibitor for numerous years. In addition to her vast knowledge on a variety of subjects, she has also been very active in combating anti-dog and anti-hobby breeder legislation at the national, state, and local levels.

GOOD MANNERS, CANAAN STYLE

Although Canaan Dogs are increasingly noticed in the conformation ring and many are active participants in other AKC venues, most puppies go to pet homes where they must fit into family life. The Canaan’s unique survivalist nature often requires pet owners to learn some management techniques to integrate a puppy into the family with a minimum of frustration and a maximum of enjoyment of puppy antics and singular breed behaviors. The first step is to build a bond with a pup who has a whole genetic repertoire geared to independent life in the desert.

Fortunately, while it may not be easy, it is exciting and rewarding to build that bond with a dog who is intelligent, mischievous, wary, territorial, quick to learn, aloof, independent, often single-minded, and sometimes very loud. In the beginning, there are simple obedience exercises such as *sit*, *down*, and *stand* that are the foundation of a lifelong bond, good home management, and the underpinning of good manners across dog breeds. “Sit” keeps a puppy still while you put a food dish on the floor, attach leash to collar, and prevent him from dashing out the door. “Down” allows belly-rubs (which he loves), handling feet, clipping nails, and checking for critters, bumps, or sores. “Stand” is handy for grooming, checking ears and teeth, drying after a



bath or a romp in the rain, and a veterinary exam.

The Canaan’s intelligence, wariness, and environmental reactivity call for additional and equally foundational training and management techniques. Because the breed is independent, bonding is critical to enable dog

and family members to live in harmony—meaning that everyone gives belly-rubs, helps with feeding, and joins in training and reinforcing the basics. Since Canaans consider all they see to be theirs, they need a sturdy fence with spring-lock gates to minimize escape opportunities, and a leash when they are not

DAVID WOO ©AKC

HERDING GROUP

fenced-in or otherwise restrained.

A reliable recall is a major addition to the repertoire, but it is probably the most difficult to achieve with a dog who would rather scan the horizon, chase birds, or explore and watch over the environment than listen to a summons. The best defense is a good offense: Lots of practice indoors with short-range recalls and a pocket full of treats begins the process, but indoor recalls may not translate easily to outdoors, where distractions grab a pup's attention. More treats and a drag line long enough to step on or pick up but not so long it gets tangled around shrubbery allow quick-tug reminders that "come" means "stop what you're doing and come to me," and you must reward the pup every time he is successful. Additional strategies such as using a favorite toy or a noisemaker to interrupt his concentration, turning and running away, or even sitting on the ground can entice success.

Some behaviors require good problem-solving skills to contend with. For example, Canaan Dogs often pick up sticks and rocks outside and can be on the prowl for forbidden items left on countertops, desks, and coffee-tables inside, so it helps to have a word that means "give that to me." And if the word doesn't work, a bribe with a special toy or treat—anything to break the dog's concentration on his prize—is helpful. Sometimes

simply opening the refrigerator—a hint that a treat is imminent—does the trick.

Got moles? Canaan Dogs dig. A Canaan considers it his job to dig up the entire tunnel, and then some. Digging isn't limited to ferreting out critters; a Canaan will dig to unearth tasty roots, excavate a rock, or for fun. Scolding doesn't work; the only way to short-circuit this behavior is to never take your eyes off the dog and to bring him inside when dirt starts flying. Since constant surveillance is impractical and frustrating, Canaan owners may opt to live with a backyard that resembles a moonscape, keep a dirt pile for refilling the holes, or cover the holes with paving stones—or a combination of the three.

Living with a Canaan Dog is challenging and infinitely rewarding, whether as a family pet or a performance/conformation dog. Families that understand the breed's innate behaviors and teach basic good dog manners at home not only reap that reward, they have a head start if they decide to try events such as agility, rally, or obedience competitions, participate in the AKC Canine Good Citizen program, or simply sign up for a class at a local AKC training club. —N.B.W.

Thanks, Norma, for your astute thoughts on building good manners basics with Canaan Dogs!

The Canaan Dog Club of America would

like to extend an invitation to attend the CDCA National Specialty, to be held Friday, November 12, during the Canyons Cluster in Tucson, Arizona. For information on all the national-specialty events that week, go to the [CDCA website](#) or the [CDCA Facebook page](#).

—Denise A. Gordon,
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Canaan Dog Club of America

Cardigan Welsh Corgis

PANDEMIC PUPPIES

*D*ateline February 2020: A litter of Cardigan puppies is born, and the cycle of life in a dog show home begins. Most of us have done this a few times and are well prepared for the typical journey from the whelping box to the show ring. Then along comes this awful Covid pandemic, and suddenly the rules, and in fact the entire process, have changed dramatically.

The first six weeks weren't too different, with sweet little pups curling up to mom, waiting for eyes to open, first steps, and tons of cuteness. Now it is time to make a visit to the veterinarian for our first exam and vaccines. Suddenly you have to phone in when you arrive, and wait in your car so a masked tech can take in your babies for exam by the veterinarian without you being present. You pay for your visit via your cell phone, and off you

go. Gone is the personal relationship you once had with your vet. You may get a phone call, but you can't discuss specific details with them like you use to.

Socialization is crucial to Cardigan puppies' proper mental development. Exposure to multiple settings and social situations can make a world of difference in the temperament. Even prior to COVID, we have seen young dogs who do not want you to touch them, let alone perform in the obedience, agility, and conformation rings. One has to nurture a Cardigan pup to obtain that happy attitude we all strive to obtain.

The days of packing up the kids and heading to Lowe's for a trip around the store with the pups in the shopping cart may be over. You stopped by nearly every visitor and fielded the typical group of questions, while the pups are petted and hugged by dozens of adoring onlookers. If you do this now, you can expect many to just admire from a masked distance, or even be ignored altogether. The big-box pet store chains aren't much different, as are the other places where canines and humans could once mingle and exchange licks and hugs openly.

As the puppies need exercise and exposure on a regular basis, a great option is to walk, walk, and then walk some more—thus leashing up mom and a reasonable amount of



Cardigan Welsh Corgis, such as Sparky, above, have been highly valued companions for many during this challenging year.

puppies can be a good alternative. Of course, some preliminary leash-training is essential. Mom, if she is well trained, helps to guide the kids during these excursions. No doubt, both you and your spouse could use the exercise as well, and it allows for good one-on-one time with the pups.

Neighbors are great about visiting with pups, as you become a regular fixture up and down the streets. Now we all realize that this won't work for everyone, but you have to do something to get the pups out and about and prepared for the shock of that first dog show event. Even taking just one pup at a time along with mom can greatly improve their mental skills in the big world outside. That fenced-in backyard is great, but unless you expose them to other surroundings and experiences on a regular basis, that will be the only world they are comfortable with.

All of this applies to your older dogs as well. Regular socialization, even if it is just walking the rural road in front of your house, is great for them. They will learn to allow strangers to approach, to not chase after cyclists on the road, and to obey a standstill command when a car passes by. Pandemic puppies do not have to be paranoid puppies.

—David L. Anthony,
Dragonpatch@gmail.com
[Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America](#)

Collies

MADELINE'S DILEMMA

At lunchtime there's a PBS TV show I sometimes watch called *SciGirls*. It's a show to encourage tween girls in the sciences,

where the girls on the show take a problem and try to solve it scientifically.

In one episode, Madeline wants to pick a horse to ride for a contest, and they help her find the horse with the smoothest ride out of three choices: Justin, Gammon, and Penny. The girls pick several things to evaluate, and they award points to the horses in level of achievement. First they learn about conformation by taping the shoulders, back, and hindquarters to show bone structure. Then they have a rider hold a glass of water during a walk, trot, and canter and measure who has the most water in the glass after each gaiting, to indicate who has the smoothest ride.

Then they measure the stride of each horse in the dirt, looking for the longest stride—that proves a harder task for them to measure, but after some problem solving, they work it out. Finally, they measure the resting heart rate of each horse, and then trot the horse, then measure how long it takes for the heart rate to return back to normal.

Each horse did well in at least one category, but when they add up the total points Justin wins. Madeline confesses she wanted her favorite, Penny, to win. But the girls convince her that Justin was the best choice for her based on their tests, so she rode him in a water-glass contest and got fourth place.

The show had a surprise ending, however.

Even though Justin was the logical choice, all along Madeline wanted Penny to be the final pick, and her friends even caught her making assertions in Penny's favor during the tests. In the final scene Madeline is riding Penny in another contest, and they get a first place!

Why did Madeline do better on Penny than Justin? For one, the rider was a bit intimidated by Justin's size; he was a big horse. But also her commitment and bias toward Penny had something to do with her performance. Perhaps her fondness for Penny gave her more confidence, or her faith in Penny helped both of them perform better. Years ago, *Collie Expressions* magazine had an article with the subject "Make yours the one." I think despite the results of the "smoothness" test, Madeline made Penny "the one."

There are numerous suppositions we can extrapolate from this program, and we can only guess why Madeline did better on Penny. I think one takeaway, though, is what we put into competition—and training—matters. The girls gathered all the data and studied the facts, but they forgot a couple of things. Madeline preferred Penny, and perhaps she was more confident on her for that reason. Perhaps she spent more time working with Penny because of her bias. Perhaps the feeling of caring about Penny gave the horse more confidence. Or it could be all of the above, but

COURTESY DAVID L. ANTHONY

HERDING GROUP



Collie: "What we put into competition—and training—matters."

difficult for the girls to measure. The recent passing of dressage clinician Jane Savoie and her wonderful books on improving performance emphasized how our attitude and mental-thought process adds (or subtracts) to our performance. A different person, who preferred Justin, could have also had success.

Gather the data, evaluate the information, and use it to your advantage, as the girls did, but don't forget to add the extra ingredients that they didn't take into account: attitude, positive emotions, and motivation.

—Marianne Sullivan, Charlottesville, Virginia,

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Collie Club of America

Finnish Lapphunds

TRICK TRAINING: FUN AND FOCUS FOR YOUR BUSY DOG

Three years ago, I brought home my first Finnish Lapphund. He was the busy puppy in the litter but showed so much potential at 8 weeks old, I decided to take on the challenge.

Before he came home, I read a book on puppy focus. I took him to two puppy classes. He barked a lot. He thought he could fly. I took many deep breaths and practiced calm, even when he was not.

During those first few months, a friend and respected trainer made a training video, and something she said clicked with me. She said some puppies will simply not be ready to go into obedience training until they mature at a few years old, and while you're waiting, teaching tricks can be a great way to bond, to make a connection, to get focus. So that is what I did—I started teaching him Novice-level tricks, and my busy puppy loved it! We tested for his TKN (Novice Trick Dog) title at the end of his second puppy class, at a park full of distractions, where he flew from one trick to the next, never missing a command. He had a

blast showing off his tricks, and our evaluator was thrilled with my little fluff-ball's performance.

During this time, I heard from other Lappy owners that our breed does not like repetition, and that they are happier if the training is changed up every few days. I also read an [AKC GAZETTE column](#) about how Australian Cattle Dogs need time to internalize what they are learning—keep training sessions short, and give them time to process something new. And that also clicked with me. When my Lappy just wasn't getting something, I would stop training that trick and bring it back out a few days or a few weeks later, only to be impressed that he had processed and knew it!

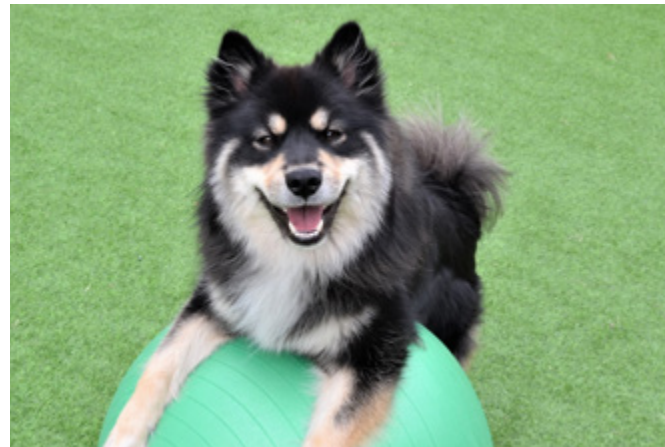
Over the next few months we got his TKI (Intermediate Trick Dog) title, started conformation classes and showing, and were introduced to Barn Hunt. At 1 year old he was still not ready for obedience training, so during his second year we kept busy learning advanced tricks and individual rally signs (he thought they were just more fun tricks), how to be a better show dog, and how to be an excellent rat-finder.

When lockdown started, we quit going to shows, classes, and Barn Hunt—that left us with tricks. I was so thrilled when the program went virtual. We spent the spring and summer working on his TKP (Trick Dog Performer) and TKE (Trick Dog Elite Performer) titles in the

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP



Finnish Lapphunds showing off their trick skills: Cosmo balancing on his big ball; Sparkle and Cosmo teaming up to do tricks; Fozzie with his reindeer buddy, sitting pretty, taking his friends for a ride, and angling for a treat; Cosmo with his TKE ribbon

backyard, and then inside when the summer heat set in. I had lots of free time to build props and plan out our TKE routine. I am proud to say that my busy boy was the first Finnish Lapphund to achieve the TKE!

Just over a year ago, I added a new girl to my household. She knew the show ring, so after settling in we started on trick train-

COURTESY MARIA SWARTS

HERDING GROUP

ing to have fun and bond. She knocked out her TKN and TKI in just a few months of training.

I have always been camera shy, but I forced myself to get used to videoing our trick practices. I started seeing things that I would have never seen otherwise, and I sent our routine to friends for feedback—on where to stand, when to speak, and how to fine-tune our performance flow. Video has improved my training skills in ways that I never thought possible, and it will now always be part of my training sessions.

My Lappies are now 3 years old, and I am happy to report that my busy boy and my new girl both earned their first Rally Novice legs through the virtual program. I am so thankful that the AKC has allowed us to work safely at home.

As an AKC CGC Evaluator, I have been offering free trick evaluations during lockdown to fellow Lappy owners across the country and in Canada. I am delighted to see our Lappies like many of the same tricks. I frequently consult with other Lappy owners remotely on how to train tricks, and I am truly amazed at how quickly these dogs learn. I hope more owners will get on the trick bus and show the world what great tricksters our Finnish Lapphunds really are!

—Maria Swarts,
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[Finnish Lapphund Club of America](#)

Norwegian Buhunds

THE AGING NORWEGIAN BUHUND

My oldest Norwegian Buhund, Kinzi, just turned 17. Seventeen is very old for a Buhund; this breed generally lives to 13–16 years. But as I reflect on the past four or five years, I can identify some changes that occur as Buhunds start aging.

Like many other breeds, Buhunds find that their eyesight deteriorates as they age. This was one of the first issues that I noticed in Kinzi, probably because her main sport was agility. Because of her deteriorating eyesight, we stopped competing in agility when Kinzi was 13, especially as she refused to slow down even as her eyes grew worse.

Buhunds tend to stay playful and youthful even as they age, so for the past two years we have been doing scent work and (modified) Barn Hunt, along with trick dog training and dog therapy. The good news is that Buhunds like Kinzi love to learn new things even as they age, which helps ward off the worst of cognitive deterioration. Until recently Kinzi continued to play backyard agility with no bars on jumps, happy to jump over invisible bars.

Some Norwegian Buhunds also tend to find that their hearing deteriorates with age. A breeder once told me that some Buhunds lose their hearing with age, whereas others lose



Norwegian Buhund

their voice. I guess I was unlucky to get the one who lost her hearing, because Kinzi can certainly use her voice, even more so today than when she was younger. When Kinzi first started losing her hearing, I noticed that she found it easier to hear my husband's lower-pitched voice than mine. I wondered if she was just ignoring me, until I came across some research that said that as dogs age, their hearing is no longer as sensitive to high notes.

Norwegian Buhunds are “people dogs.” They always want to be close to their family, and this tendency increases as they age. Many aging Buhunds want to be close to

their humans all the time, even at night. My work colleagues were getting used to hearing Kinzi bark from the other room during our Zoom meetings, until I came up with the idea of having her on a chair next to me during meetings. I have also noticed a little bit of separation anxiety, which seems to occur in aging Buhunds.

At night, Kinzi likes to lie pressed up against me. I am not sure whether this is to keep warm or to make sure that I do not “escape.” I suspect that it is a combination of both, since older Buhunds do find it more difficult to regulate their body temperature. Buhunds are a double-coated breed—they usually love the snow and cold. But older Buhunds prefer to hang around indoors in a warm place. And even though many like to lie in the sun, aging Buhunds seem to get overheated if they sunbathe for too long.

The one sense that Kinzi does not seem to have lost is her sense of smell. This is typical of Buhunds and other aging dogs, perhaps because dogs spend so much of their lives using their noses. This might be similar to how (human) perfume-testers seem to retain their sense of smell well into old age. There are many opportunities for aging dogs to continue using their noses through scent work and other similar activities.

For the past couple of years, Kinzi has been

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learning new tricks (and earning her Trick Dog Performer title) and re-learning some old tricks that we have not practiced for years. We even went back to some of the activities that she did as a puppy when she was first getting used to new equipment, new surfaces, movement, and so on. And she seems to enjoy them as much as she did in her puppyhood. Ultimately, like any aging Buhund, all she wants is to be with us and continue sharing our lives.

—Jasmine Tata, Antioch, Illinois

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[Norwegian Buhund Club of America](#)

Old English Sheepdogs

CAN YOU RECALL WHEN . . .

Now that I'm starting my ninth year as breed columnist for Old English Sheepdogs, maybe I should do something different and begin with a riddle. Here are three scenarios:

Scenario One: You and your shaggy buddy are hiking in one of the national parks in the American West. Your dog is two or three yards ahead of you. As you look beyond the dog, you see a large rattlesnake in the middle of the trail, already coiling up ready to strike.

Scenario Two: Your young granddaughter has come for a visit. You are busy in the

kitchen, so you put her in the front yard with her favorite OES, Moppsy. At that point, an unsuspecting Amazon delivery person opens the front gate to deliver a package, not realizing there is a dog loose. Moppsy's protective instincts are aroused, and she heads straight for the driver.

Scenario Three: Times have eased up, and you are over at the neighbors' for a BBQ, bringing your normally well-behaved OES with you. Unfortunately their daughter's pet rabbit takes this opportunity to escape and goes hip-hop-ping across their lawn. Your dog's prey drive kicks in, and he goes after the rabbit with visions of "bunny burgers" dancing before him.

What one action would save the day in each of these scenarios? If you answered "A rock-solid recall" or words to that effect, go to the head of the class. You probably already have a good recall in your bag of tricks and need read no further. Some programs, including herding, obedience, and even the CGC activities include a good recall. But what if you have a trick dog or a conformation entry, or even just a pet? As the three scenarios suggest, there may be an occasion when every dog owner really needs a good recall.

If you have decided that you want to train your OES to come when called, how do you go about it while in this current situation of the mutating virus? In the pre-COVID days of



Old English Sheepdog

Lynda Beam

yore, you would simply find a local dog club that was running obedience classes and sign up. Now you are likely to be on your own.

For starters, you could do worse than fol-

low the three rules that the 4-H dog handlers learn:

1. For your dog it must always be a good thing to come to you. You must be the safe

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

HERDING GROUP

spot and source of good things.

2. It is never a suggestion to come when called; it is mandatory. If your dog blows you off, go and get him. The corrections must communicate the right response, not punish.

3. Practice, practice, and then practice some more.

Times being what they are, recall games are a great way to get this practice. You could make up your own games, but some examples are described below. In any of these, you are the key factor, and you must be the most exciting thing out there for your dog. You need to be happy—smile and jazz it up so your dog reads your body language as “my human is really happy.”

Treat Recall. Have two treats. Show the dog one, and then throw it out a few feet. As soon as he gets it, call him back for the second one. When he gets back and gets the second treat, it's happy time with your dog. If you have to, start with the dog on a lead so you reel him in on the recall. As you and the dog progress, you can increase the distance and add distractions of some sort.

Two-Person Recall. This requires two people, each with a supply of treats of some sort. With the dog beside him or her, that person says, “Go see [name of the other person].” At the same time this person says, “[Dog's name], come.” When the dog arrives, it's happy time

once more. As with the previous exercise, initially a line can be passed back and forth to bring the dog to the person. Then as the back and forths become more solid, the distances can be increased. You can also have other people alternate with the second person, or begin to add other distractions.

Hide & Seek. This is a twist on the game you played as a child. Have someone distract the dog while you go hide somewhere within voice range. Once you are hidden, call the dog. When he finds you, there is a treat and more happy time with you.

Restrained Recall. Have someone hold the dog for a couple seconds as you call. As soon as the person feels the dog strain to come to you, the person simply lets go without a push. You then welcome the dog when he reaches you.

“Chase Me” Recall. Find a large, open area and have two or more toys. Play with one of the toys, then toss it. When the dog gets to it, turn and run shaking the second toy, calling the dog as you go. When the dog catches up to you, engage to establish the recall, and then throw the second toy. Repeat until you are winded.

There are other games you can try. The idea is to keep practicing, making the recalls more challenging, but always making them fun for your dog. In the end you want to instill the automatic response to come when called.

Doing so could avoid a disaster or even save your dog's life.

—Joe Schlitt,

wylecotejs@earthlink.net

Old English Sheepdog Club of America

Pembroke Welsh Corgis

JUDGING THE PEMBROKE: THE BASICS

It is easy to sit outside a ring and “judge” the entry before you. It is not so easy, however, being inside the ring, where following proper ringside procedures and protocol are important as well as evaluating the dogs before you. So, whether you are an aspiring judge or a judge who wishes to add this charming breed to your approved list, below four longtime breeder-judges share their thoughts.

Because the Pembroke is a short-legged breed, the judge needs to stand back at least 10 feet to properly assess outline on the ground as well as on the table. Outline is a critical component of type. The length should come from the ribcage, and not from the loin. The topline should be level.

Pembrokes should be examined on a sturdy table, never on the ground. To recheck something after the initial exam, have the handler put the dog back on the table for the exam. Whether on the table or on the ground, the judge should always check both sides of the

dogs for white markings that might fall outside the allowed areas for white. The shoulders should be well laid-back, and there should be a low-set prosternum.

A judge must *never* reward overly shy or overly aggressive behavior (toward either people or other dogs) in a Pembroke. If the behavior is too extreme, the Pembroke should be excused from the ring. This breed is known for their happy dispositions, and many a smiling face has charmed many judges. Do not be heavy-handed in exams, and be prepared for puppy kisses in the puppy classes!

The breed standard describes the equilateral triangular shape of the head and the parallel planes of the skull when viewed from the side. A narrow white blaze is allowed but not required. The Pembroke should have an attractive head and expression. Males should be masculine and bitches feminine. The head proportions are described as the distance from the occiput to the center of the stop to be greater than the distance from the stop to the tip of the nose, the proportion being five parts of total distance for the skull and three parts for the foreface.

The Pembroke standard says that the movement on a Pembroke is most important when viewed from the *side*. Therefore, all final judging decisions must be made on side gait, as opposed to the down and back. The

HERDING GROUP



Pembroke Welsh Corgi

movement should be that of a working breed: a smooth, easygoing gait that covers ground effortlessly. There should not be an up/down motion to the topline, which will result in a bouncy gait. The front legs will tend to incline slightly to compensate for the width of the chest and shortness of leg so the front legs will not move in parallel planes. The hind legs should follow the track of the front, with no

hocking-out or -in. Always remember that the Pembroke is a herding breed and needs freedom of movement to do his job.

I attended a breed seminar several years ago where I learned the OHM acronym for judging—meaning Outline, Head, Movement, with Temperament being a given in the breed. I've used that acronym when I've done my own ringside judging.

The website of the Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America has a list of approved breed mentors, as well as a calendar of all specialty shows for those interested in getting in-person mentoring. There is an excellent judges' education seminar every year in conjunction with the national specialty, and it will take you well beyond the basics of judging the Pembroke Welsh Corgi.

—Lynda McKee,
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[Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America](http://PembrokeWelshCorgiClub.com)

Pulik

PULI PHILATELY: PULIK ON POSTAGE STAMPS

Animals are often depicted on postage stamps, and such stamps are popular issues, particularly with stamp collectors. Countries issue stamps to commemorate a wide variety of topics of interest. Many of these topical stamps are seen as a useful form of income by a country/postal service, since they are frequently collected and not used. Puli stamps are often of interest to dog stamp collectors, and in particular to Puli enthusiasts. Here we will look at only stamps that are verified as legitimate releases, and not possible counterfeits.

- In March 1956, Hungary issued two

stamps with Puli depictions as part of a series honoring Hungarian dog breeds that also included the Pumi, Komondor, Kuvasz, and Vizsla. The two Puli stamps include an interesting triangular-shaped stamp of a head shot of a brushed Puli, as well as a square stamp of a corded Puli working Hungarian grey cattle (also known as Hungarian Steppe cattle, indigenous to Hungary). Both the Puli and these cattle are among the national symbols of Hungary. Most people think of the Puli as a sheep herder, but the breed also worked cattle. Further details on authenticity of this depiction of a Puli working cattle is discussed (also complete with photographs) by Puli Club of America member Susi Szeremy (who is also the founder of National Purebred Dog Day) at nationalpurebreddogday.com.

- During July 1967, Hungary issued a stamp of a corded Puli as part of a series of seven stamps commemorating dog breeds that also included the Pumi, German Shepherd, Collie, Vizsla, Poodle, and Fox Terrier.

- In September 1978, Mongolia issued a Puli stamp in a commemorative collection of six dog-breed stamps that included the Papillion, “Black Mongolian Sheepdog,” “Mongolian Domestic Dog,” Saint Bernard, and German Shepherd. The Puli stamp includes the head in profile as well as a working Puli depicted with Hungarian grey cattle.

COURTESY SALLY ANNE THOMPSON

HERDING GROUP



• During May 2001, the Central African Republic released a commemorative issue of six dog-breed stamps that included a corded Puli, a Great Pyrenees, a Briard, a Chow, a Cocker Spaniel, and a Yorkie.

• In February 2004, Hungary issued a stamp depicting two Pulik: a head shot and a full-body shot. The stamp also included Wallachian sheep (also known as Racka), which the Puli herd in Hungary. This sheep breed's unique, spiral-shaped horns are unlike those of any other domestic breed, and may grow to two feet. It takes a strong, agile dog to contend with this sheep!

• The most recent Puli stamps were released in October 2019. On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Hungarian-Japanese diplomatic relations, these two countries issued a sheet of 10 commemorative stamps. As part of this larger collection, the Hungarian post issued a stamp of a black Puli with a pastoral background, while the Japanese post had one of a white Puli with a background with a serene feel to it.

In summary, a total of eight officially released stamps have Pulik depicted. I was happy to see at least half of the stamps reflected an aspect of the working nature of this breed. Six of the eight stamps were issued by countries having a strong tie to the history of the Puli—Hungary and Mongolia.

—Dagmar Fertl,
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 Puli Club of America dfertl@gmail.com

Spanish Water Dogs BASE-NARROW CANINES IN SPANISH WATER DOGS

Anyone who has been involved with Spanish Water Dogs for any length of time, even simply raising one or two dogs from puppyhood, has likely encountered the issue of base-narrow canines, also known as Class 1 Malocclusion. Found in many breeds, this issue is most commonly seen in the primary teeth of affected puppies by about 7 weeks of age; in rare instances, it can also occur in adult teeth.

As the puppy's primary teeth erupt, it is the growth of the lower canines that is typically of concern. These needle-sharp teeth grow in a more upright position than normal. As they grow, the teeth come into contact with the upper gums to varying degrees. Sometimes they will simply graze the outside of the gums as they move into proper position, perhaps briefly causing some redness. In many cases, however, these teeth create a hole in the upper gums, in and out of which those sharp points slide every time the puppy opens and closes its mouth, causing the hole to “grow” with the teeth.

In discussion with breeders in Europe, the

Stamps that lick you back: Pulik on postage stamps from their native Hungary and around the world.

COURTESY DAGMAR FERTL

HERDING GROUP



most common attitude is one of, “leave it alone, it will right itself,” and most often that is proven true. This approach almost certainly came from experience in the country of origin where, prior to the late 20th century, the dogs were bred primarily as working dogs in rural settings or coastal regions and probably experienced minimal veterinary involvement.

Despite an ancestry spanning hundreds of years on the Iberian Peninsula, it was a relatively small number of adult dogs that were

gathered and recorded to form the base of our present-day breeding stock. They brought with them the DNA of hardy, intelligent animals whose selection over time was unlikely to have had much to do with their primary teeth. Subsequent generations of dogs with this same (dental) DNA have now spread to many other countries in which Spanish Water Dogs, while still a fairly rare breed, are gaining in popularity.

In almost 20 years with this breed, I have

encountered or heard of a variety of management strategies for this issue. Upon examining a friend’s litter some years ago, her veterinarian elected to grind a few millimeters off of the tips of the offending teeth. Those three puppies went on to have normal adult teeth. Other breeders have nipped the tips off themselves with the same result. Most recently, many in North America are being encouraged by their veterinarians to have the lower primary canines extracted. Some therapeutic protocols may also

be suggested, “ball therapy” probably being the most common.

Each of these “solutions” comes with drawbacks. “Leave it alone” may subject the puppy to several weeks of discomfort, and possibly infection. Grinding or “nipping” the ends exposes the softer, sensitive tissue below the enamel. Extraction means surgery with anesthetic at a very young age, risks damage to the developing tooth bud, and removes the “place holder” of the permanent tooth. Manipulation such as “ball therapy” may create a head-shy puppy, or one with an aversion to having his or her mouth examined.

The takeaway from this is not a solution, but an acknowledgement. Because of the pervasive nature of its occurrence, and the relative lack of genetic diversity in the breed’s overall population, the hard reality is that base-narrow canines will continue to occur in SWDs for the foreseeable future. Breeders need to observe their puppies and make their best decision, perhaps involving a trusted veterinarian. Consulting veterinarians are asked to not assume poor breeding practices. And of course, breeders need to responsibly and supportively build awareness of and work through the issue with their puppy buyers.

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

COURTESY MARNIE HARRISON



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

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ATTENTION DELEGATES

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Delegates will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 beginning at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time. It will follow the Delegates Forum which will begin at 11:00 a.m. ET. Further details will be forthcoming.

DELEGATES CREDENTIALS

Stephanie S. Brooks, Coral Springs, Fl,
Fort Lauderdale Dog Club
Edward J. Collins, Scottsville, VA,
Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America
Jean C. Edwards, Bridgeton, NJ,
South Jersey Kennel Club
Jill Faulmann, Sherwood, OR,
Sherwood Dog Training Club
Mary Ellen Ferguson, Bernalillo, NM,
Rio Grande Kennel Club
Jane Fitzin, Powhatan, VA,
Winston-Salem Dog Training Club
Eduardo Toshio Fugiwara, Hampton, NJ,
Two Cities Kennel Club
Vanessa Giamo, Newton, NJ,
Miniature Bull Terrier Club of America
Laurie Green, Toledo, OH,
Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club
Corie Haylett, Boone, NC,
Asheville Kennel Club
Edwin T. Lorentz, Slippery Rock, PA,
Central Beagle Club
Debbie Phillips, Sun City, AZ,
Arrowhead Kennel Club

Virginia T. Rowland, Templeton, MA,
French Bulldog Club of America
Joanne E. Schottinger, MD, Chester, NJ,
Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America
Lynne Wickens, Andover, OH,
Ashtabula Kennel Club
Rachel Wilson, Scituate, RI,
Wampanoag Kennel Club

NOTICE

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

Mr. Robert Gipson (Sikeston, MO)

NOTICE

Mr. Eddie Macaya (Palm Bay, FL). Action was taken by the Treasure Coast Retriever Club for conduct at its December 5, 2020 event. Mr. Macaya was charged with improper treatment at or in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the committee's report and set the penalty at a three-month suspension of all AKC privileges and a \$300 fine, effective December 5, 2020. (Labrador Retrievers)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has reprimanded Ms. Julia Krueger (Warrenton, MO) for signing an AKC document on behalf of another without filing a properly completed Power of Attorney Form. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals from all AKC privileges for life and imposed a \$10,000 fine, for conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, purebred dog events, or the best interests of the American Kennel Club based on their violation of the AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment Policy:

Effective February 12, 2021:

Ms. Linda Compton (Cadiz, KY) Multiple Breeds
Ms. Mariah Lee Dupee (Moore, SC) French Bulldogs
Mr. Roger Royers (Tampa, FL) Cocker Spaniels, Poodles
Mr. Samuel Stoltzfus (Lititz, PA) Multiple Breeds
Mr. Eric Tran (Westminster, CA) Pugs, French Bulldogs

NOTICE REPRIMANDS AND FINES

Notification of fines imposed on superintendents for late publication of a premium list, Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 4, Section 2
Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC\$350

Notification of fines imposed on clubs for late submission of a marked catalog and fees, Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 17, Section 2
Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa ..\$145

Notification of fines imposed on clubs for late submission of a marked catalog and fees, AKC Rally Regulations Chapter 1, Section 4
Mid-Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa ..\$145

Notification of fines imposed on performance clubs for late submission of results, Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds Chapter 13
Georgia Shorthaired Pointer Club of South Georgia\$280

Notification of fines imposed on performance clubs for late submission of results, Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Dachshunds Chapter 10
Dachshund Club of America, Inc.\$320
Hoosier Dachshund Club, Inc.\$960

Notification of fines imposed on performance clubs for late submission of results, Herding Regulations Chapter 1, Section 17
Dog Owner's Training Club of Maryland\$570

Notification of reprimands imposed on clubs for failing to properly hold an event committee hearing as required by Dealing with Misconduct and the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 9, Section 10
Bald Eagle Kennel ClubReprimand

PROPOSED MANCHESTER TERRIER STANDARD FOR COMMENT:

In accordance with the Guidelines for Breed Standard Revisions this is being published to receive any comments prior to the balloting of the club membership. Any comments may be forwarded directly to:
Mari-Beth O'Neill
VP Sport Services
mbo@akc.org

General Appearance: A small black short coated dog with distinctive rich mahogany markings and a taper style tail. In structure, the Manchester presents a sleek, sturdy yet elegant look and has a wedge shaped long and clean head with a keen, bright, alert expression. The smooth, compact, muscular body expresses great power and agility en-

abling the Manchester to kill vermin and course small game. Except for size and ear options, there are no differences between the Standard and Toy varieties of the Manchester Terrier. The Toy variety is a diminutive version of the Standard variety.

Size, Proportion, Substance: The Toy variety shall not exceed 12 pounds. It is suggested that clubs consider dividing the American-bred and Open classes by weight as follows: 7 pounds and under, over 7 pounds and not exceeding 12 pounds. The Standard variety shall be over 12 pounds and not exceeding 22 pounds. Dogs weighing over 22 pounds shall be disqualified. It is suggested that clubs consider dividing the American-bred and Open classes by weight as follows: Over 12 pounds and not exceeding 16 pounds, over 16 pounds and not exceeding 22 pounds. The Manchester Terrier, overall, is slightly longer than tall. The height, measured vertically from the ground to the highest point of the withers, is slightly less than the length, measured horizontally from the point of the shoulders to the rear projection of the upper thigh. The bone and muscle of the Manchester Terrier is of sufficient mass to ensure agility and endurance. The Toy variety over 12 pounds shall be excused. Disqualification: Standard Variety - Weight over 22 pounds.

Head: The Manchester Terrier has a keen and alert *expression*. The nearly black, almond shaped *eyes* are small, bright and sparkling. They are set moderately close together slanting upwards on the outside. The eyes neither protrude nor sink in the skull. Eye lid and rim pigmentation is black. Correct *ears* for the Standard variety are the naturally erect ear, the cropped ear or the button ear. No preference is given to any of the ear types. The naturally erect ear and button ear are wider at the base tapering to pointed tips and carried well up on the skull. Cropped ears are long, pointed and carried erect. The only correct ear for the Toy variety is the naturally erect ear. They are wider at the base tapering to pointed tips and carried well upon the skull. The *head* is long, narrow, tight skinned and almost flat with a slight indentation up the forehead. It resembles a blunted wedge in frontal and profile views. The *muzzle* and *skull* are equal in length. There is a visual effect of a slight stop as viewed in profile. The muzzle is well filled under the eyes with no visible cheek muscles. The underjaw is full and well defined and the nose is black. Tight black lips lie close to the jaw. The *bite* is a true scissors bite. Level bite is acceptable. The jaws are powerful with full and proper dentition. The teeth are white and strongly developed. Wide, flaring, blunt tipped, or "bell" ears are a serious fault for both varieties. Disqualification: Toy Variety - Cropped or button ears.

Neck, Topline, Body: The slightly arched *neck* is slim, graceful and of moderate length. It gradually becomes larger as it approaches and blends smoothly with the sloping shoulders. The *topline* shows a slight subtle arch over the robust loins falling slightly to the tail set. While standing or in motion, a flat or roached back is a serious fault for both varieties. The chest is narrow between the legs and deep in the brisket. The forechest is moderately defined. The ribs are well sprung, flattened in the lower end to permit clearance of the forelegs. The underline is tucked up extending in an arched line from the deep brisket. The taper style *tail* is moderately short reaching no further than the hock joint. It is set on at the end of the croup being thicker where it joins the body. The tail tapers to a point carried no higher than the back. While standing or in motion, a flat or roached back is a serious fault for both varieties.

Forequarters: The shoulder blades and the upper arm are relatively the same length. The distance from the elbow to the withers is approximately the same as the distance from the elbow to the ground. The elbows lie close to the brisket. The shoulders are well laid back. The forelegs are straight of proportionate length and placed well under the brisket. The pasterns are almost

perpendicular. Dew claws may be removed. The front feet are compact and well arched. The two middle toes are slightly longer than the others. The pads are thick and toenails are jet black.

Hindquarters: The thigh is muscular with the length of the upper and lower thighs being approximately equal. The stifle is well turned. The hindquarters are in balance with the well laid back shoulders. The hocks are well let down. Dew claws may be removed. The hind feet are shaped like those of a cat with thick pads and jet-black nails.

Coat: The coat is smooth, short, dense, tight and glossy.

Color: The coat is jet black with rich mahogany tan which does not blend into each other, but abruptly form clear, well defined lines of color. There is a very small tan spot over each eye and a very small tan spot on each cheek. On the head, the muzzle is tanned to the nose. The nose and nasal bone are jet black. The tan extends under the throat ending in the shape of the letter V. The inside of the ears are partly tan. There are tan spots, called “rosettes” on each side of the chest above the front legs. These are more pronounced in puppies than in adults. There

is a black “thumb mark” patch on the front of each foreleg at the pastern. The remainder of the foreleg is tan to the carpus joint. There is a distinct black “pencil mark” line running lengthwise on the top of each toe on all four feet. Tan on the hind leg should continue from the penciling on the toes up the inside of the legs to a little below the stifle joint. The outside of the hind legs is black. There is tan under the tail and on the vent but only of such size as to be covered by the tail. White on any part of the coat is a serious fault and a disqualification whenever the white forms a patch or stripe measuring as much as one half inch at its longest dimension. Any color other than black and tan shall be disqualified. Soundness and type supersede color and markings.

Gait: The gait is free and effortless with good reach of the forequarters. Rear quarters have strong, driving power to match the front reach. Hocks fully extend. Each rear leg moves in line with the foreleg of the same side, neither thrown in nor out. When moving at a trot, the legs converge toward the center of gravity of the dog.

Temperament: The Manchester Terrier is neither aggressive nor shy. He is keenly observant, devoted yet discerning. Not being a sparring breed, the Manchester Terrier

is generally friendly with other dogs. Excessive shyness or aggressiveness shall be considered a serious fault.

Faults:

Toy Variety: over 12 pounds shall be excused.

Both varieties:

- Wide, flaring, blunt tipped or “bell” ears.
- Flat or roached back while standing or in motion.
- Excessive shyness or aggressiveness.
- White on any part of the coat.

Disqualifications:

Standard Variety - Weight over 22 pounds.

Toy Variety – Cropped or button ears.

Both Varieties – White on any part of the coat whenever the white forms a patch or stripe measuring as much as one half inch at its longest dimension.

Any color other than black and tan.

OFFICIAL STANDARD OF THE SIBERIAN HUSKY

General Appearance: The Siberian Husky is a medium-sized working dog, quick and light on his feet and free and graceful in action. His moderately compact and well furred body, erect ears and brush tail suggest his Northern heritage. His characteristic gait is smooth and seemingly effortless. He performs his original func-

tion in harness most capably, carrying a light load at a moderate speed over great distances. His body proportions and form reflect this basic balance of power, speed and endurance. The males of the Siberian Husky breed are masculine but never coarse; the bitches are feminine but without weakness of structure. In proper condition, with muscle firm and well developed, the Siberian Husky does not carry excess weight.

Size, Proportion, Substance: Height - Dogs, 21 to 23½ inches at the withers. Bitches, 20 to 22 inches at the withers. Weight - Dogs, 45 to 60 pounds. Bitches, 35 to 50 pounds. Weight is in proportion to height. The measurements mentioned above represent the extreme height and weight limits with no preference given to either extreme. Any appearance of excessive bone or weight should be penalized. In profile, the length of the body from the point of the shoulder to the rear point of the croup is slightly longer than the height of the body from the ground to the top of the withers. Disqualification - Dogs over 23½ inches and bitches over 22 inches.

Head: Expression is keen, but friendly; interested and even mischievous. Eyes almond shaped, moderately spaced and set a trifle obliquely. Eyes may be brown or blue

in color; one of each or parti-colored are acceptable. Faults - Eyes set too obliquely; set too close together. Ears of medium size, triangular in shape, close fitting and set high on the head. They are thick, well furred, slightly arched at the back, and strongly erect, with slightly rounded tips pointing straight up. Faults - Ears too large in proportion to the head; too wide set; not strongly erect. Skull of medium size and in proportion to the body; slightly rounded on top and tapering from the widest point to the eyes. Faults - Head clumsy or heavy; head too finely chiseled. Stop - The stop is well-defined and the bridge of the nose is straight from the stop to the tip. Fault - Insufficient stop. *Muzzle* of medium length; that is, the distance from the tip of the nose to the stop is equal to the distance from the stop to the occiput. The muzzle is of medium width, tapering gradually to the nose, with the tip neither pointed nor square. Faults - Muzzle either too snipy or too coarse; muzzle too short or too long. **Nose:** Black in black, gray, sable, or agouti dogs; liver in red dogs, black, liver or flesh-colored in white dogs. The lighter-streaked "snow nose is equally acceptable. Lips are well pigmented and close fitting. Teeth closing in a scissors bite. Fault - Any bite other than scissors.

Neck, Topline, Body: Neck medium in

length, arched and carried proudly erect when dog is standing. When moving at a trot, the neck is extended so that the head is carried slightly forward. Faults - Neck too short and thick; neck too long. Chest deep and strong, but not too broad, with the deepest point being just behind and level with the elbows. The ribs are well sprung from the spine but flattened on the sides to allow for freedom of action. Faults - Chest too broad; "barrel ribs"; ribs too flat or weak. **Back** - The back is straight and strong, with a level *topline* from withers to croup. It is of medium length, neither cobby nor slack from excessive length. The loin is taut and lean, narrower than the rib cage, and with a slight tuck-up. The croup slopes away from the spine at an angle, but never so steeply as to restrict the rearward thrust of the hind legs. Faults - Weak or slack back; roached back; sloping topline. **Tail:** The well furred *tail* of fox-brush shape is set on just below the level of the topline, and is usually carried over the back in a graceful sickle curve when the dog is at attention. When carried up, the tail does not curl to either side of the body, nor does it snap flat against the back. A trailing tail is normal for the dog when in repose. Hair on the tail is of medium length and approximately the same length on top, sides and bottom, giving the appearance of a round brush. Faults - A snapped or tightly

curled tail; highly plumed tail; tail set too low or too high.

Forequarters: Shoulders - The shoulder blade is well laid back. The upper arm angles slightly backward from point of shoulder to elbow, and is never perpendicular to the ground. The muscles and ligaments holding the shoulder to the rib cage are firm and well developed. Faults - Straight shoulders; loose shoulders. **Forelegs** - When standing and viewed from the front, the legs are moderately spaced, parallel and straight, with the elbows close to the body and turned neither in nor out. Viewed from the side, pasterns are slightly slanted, with the pastern joint strong, but flexible. Bone is substantial but never heavy. Length of the leg from elbow to ground is slightly more than the distance from the elbow to the top of withers. Dew-claws on forelegs may be removed. Faults - Weak pasterns; too heavy bone; too narrow or too wide in the front; out at the elbows. Feet oval in shape but not long. The paws are medium in size, compact and well furred between the toes and pads. The pads are tough and thickly cushioned. The paws neither turn in nor out when the dog is in natural stance. Faults - Soft or splayed toes; paws too large and clumsy; paws too small and delicate; toeing in or out.

Hindquarters: When standing and viewed from the rear, the hind legs are moderately spaced and parallel. The upper thighs are well muscled and powerful, the stifles well bent, the hock joint well-defined and set low to the ground. Dewclaws, if any, are to be removed. Faults - Straight stifles, cow-hocks, too narrow or too wide in the rear.

Coat: The coat of the Siberian Husky is double and medium in length, giving a well furred appearance, but is never so long as to obscure the clean-cut outline of the dog. The undercoat is soft and dense and of sufficient length to support the outer coat. The guard hairs of the outer coat are straight and somewhat smooth lying, never harsh nor standing straight off from the body. It should be noted that the absence of the undercoat during the shedding season is normal. Trimming of whiskers and fur between the toes and around the feet to present a neater appearance is permissible. Trimming the fur on any other part of the dog is not to be condoned and should be severely penalized. Faults - Long, rough, or shaggy coat; texture too harsh or too silky; trimming of the coat, except as permitted above.

Color, Patterns and Markings: Color, Patterns and Markings. All ranges of the allowable colors which are black, gray, agouti, sable, red, and white. May be solid colored.

May have multiple shades. May have white markings. A variety of symmetrical or asymmetrical markings and patterns are common, including piebald. No preference should be given to any allowable color, marking or pattern. Merle or Brindle patterns are not allowable and are to be disqualified. Merle is defined as a marbling effect of dark patches against a lighter background of the same color and is not to be confused with a color patch of banded guard hairs amid white, as is seen in dogs with allowable piebald. Brindle is defined as darker and lighter single-colored guard hairs producing a vertical tiger striping, not to be confused with banded guard hairs and a different color undercoat, which may produce some apparent horizontal striping.

Gait: The Siberian Husky's characteristic gait is smooth and seemingly effortless. He is quick and light on his feet, and when in the show ring should be gaited on a loose lead at a moderately fast trot, exhibiting good reach in the forequarters and good drive in the hindquarters. When viewed from the front to rear while moving at a walk the Siberian Husky does not single-track, but as the speed increases the legs gradually angle inward until the pads are falling on a line directly under the longitudinal center of the body. As the pad marks converge, the forelegs and hind legs are

carried straightforward, with neither elbows nor stifles turned in or out. Each hind leg moves in the path of the foreleg on the same side. While the dog is gaiting, the topline remains firm and level. Faults - Short, prancing or choppy gait, lumbering or rolling gait; crossing or crabbing.

Temperament: The characteristic temperament of the Siberian Husky is friendly and gentle, but also alert and outgoing. He does not display the possessive qualities of the guard dog, nor is he overly suspicious of strangers or aggressive with other dogs. Some measure of reserve and dignity may be expected in the mature dog. His intelligence, tractability, and eager disposition make him an agreeable companion and willing worker.

Summary: The most important breed characteristics of the Siberian Husky are medium size, moderate bone, well balanced proportions, ease and freedom of movement, proper coat, pleasing head and ears, correct tail, and good disposition. Any appearance of excessive bone or weight, constricted or clumsy gait, or long, rough coat should be penalized. The Siberian Husky never appears so heavy or coarse as to suggest a freighting animal; nor is he so light and fragile as to suggest a sprint-racing animal. In both sexes the

Siberian Husky gives the appearance of being capable of great endurance. In addition to the faults already noted, the obvious structural faults common to all breeds are as undesirable in the Siberian Husky as in any other breed, even though they are not specifically mentioned herein.

Disqualification:

Dogs over 23½ inches and bitches over 22 inches.

Merle and brindle patterns.

Approved February 9, 2021

Effective May 12, 2021

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, and Tracking applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club will, at the request of a judge or judge applicant, provide that individual with copies of letters received regarding their judging qualifications. As a result, it should be understood that any such correspondence will be made available, upon request, to the judge or judge applicant.

It is the responsibility of all Conformation and Junior Showmanship judges to notify the Judging Operations Department of any changes or corrections to their address, phone, fax or emails. These changes are very important because they affect your judges' record, the web site and the Judges Directory. Please notify Judging Operations by email at judgingops@akc.org.

APPLICANTS

The following persons applications have been submitted for the breed(s) specified *but they are NOT eligible to accept assignments.*

NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Donald C. Plummer (109061) FL

(813) 985-4432

donald_plummer@hotmail.com

Akita

Ms. Gina M. Schag (108997) IL

(630) 669-1131

chulachis@yahoo.com

Chihuahuas

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mrs. Vicki L. Abbott (6644) TX

(972) 562-1200

theabbotts@abbottusa.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coon-

hounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Dr. Albert P. Bianchi (5459) VA

(757) 672-4868

k4us@cox.net

Brittanys, Basenjis, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Greyhounds, Otterhounds

Mrs. Janet Bodin (101381) WI

(414) 614-7822

jbodin@wi.rr.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs

Ms. Gena Box-Young (99477) TX

(979) 574-6230

gboxyoung@gmail.com

German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Kuvaszok, Samoyeds

Mrs. Dawn Cox (97685) PA

(717) 965-5971

cox215@comcast.net

Saint Bernards

Ms. Helen Dorrance (19022) TX

(512) 964-3294

gdkdogs@gmail.com

Bulldogs, Coton de Tulear

Mr. Alfred Ferruggiaro (7410) MD

(301) 421-1930

alferrug@gmail.com

Brittanys, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Vizslas, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Ms. Dawn L. Gabig (103897) NC

(660) 342-6555

dawngabig@gmail.com

Akitas, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Bullmastiffs, Chinooks, Dogues de Bordeaux, Kuvaszok, Mastiffs, Neapolitan Mastiffs, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mr. Neal Goodwin (45218) CT

doggone1@mindspring.com

Golden Retrievers

Ms. Cheri Hollenback (71029) ID

(509) 993-4504

cascadesamoyeds@aol.com

Akitas, Black Russian Terriers, German Pinschers, Great Danes, Newfoundlands, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mr. Ryan Lee Horvath (50283) CA

(415) 305-5478

homardachs@gmail.com

Ibizan Hounds, Otterhounds, Petits Basets Griffons Vendeens

Mrs. Linda Hurlebaus (16298) GA

(404) 433-0066

lindahurlebaus@yahoo.com

Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Russell Terriers, Skye Terriers, West Highland White Terriers

Mr. Robert E. Hutton (15138) KY

(502) 375-4109

brocairetoo@twc.com

Brittanys, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Icelandic Sheepdogs

Mr. Fred Hyer (94219) MI

(616) 874-3647

fred@hyerluv.com

Norwegian Elkhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Anatolian Shepherds, Doberman Pinschers, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees, Kuvaszok, Saint Bernards, Samoyeds

Mrs. Diane Landstrom (36322) AZ

(623) 935-4214

dlandstrom01@cox.net

Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Affenpinschers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, English Toy Spaniels, Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Pomeranians, Silky Terriers, Bouviers des Flandres, Old English Sheepdogs

Ms. Peggy Lloyd (7049) TX

(281) 468-1198

peggy_lloyd@yahoo.com

Basenjis, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Plott Hounds

Ms. Diane L. Price (18148) AL

(256) 601-1847

kingsfieldkennels@yahoo.com

American English Coonhounds, Beagles, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Plott Hounds, Portuguese Podengo

Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Affenpinschers, Dalmatians, Lowchen, Poodles

Mr. Jay Richardson (6896) IL

(847) 420-3700

jay-richardson@sbcglobal.net

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Lowchen, Schipperkes, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Xoloitzcuintli)

Ms. Vicki Sandage DVM (98425) KY

(606) 922-9552

sandfoxdvm@gmail.com

Brittanys, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Vizslas

Dr. Stephen J. Schellenberg (42891) MN

(651) 338-9311

paradocskerries@gmail.com

American Hairless Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Rat Terriers

Mrs. Karen Scholz (100177) WA

(425) 877-9537

a777flygirl@aol.com

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Bichons Frises), Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Manchester Terriers, Pekingese, Silky Terriers

Mr. Robert E. Schwalbe (55062) GA

(404) 403-1564

reschwalbe@yahoo.com

Bedlington Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Russell Terriers

Ms. Joyce Siddall (98695) CO

(303) 548-1125

catalinakennels@yahoo.com

Akitas, Anatolian Shepherds, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Bullmastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Great Pyrenees, Komondorok, Leonbergers, Rottweilers

Dr. Gary L. Sparschu (6370) TX

(810) 824-8049

glspar@sbcglobal.net

Alaskan Malamutes, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Komondor, Portuguese Water Dogs, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Standard Schnauzers

Mr. Joseph Vernuccio (96251) CT

(203) 829-2428

joevernuccio@gmail.com

American Hairless Terriers, Border Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Dr. Jill Warren (94859) NM

(505) 670-5590

esthete.es@comcast.net

Briards, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, German Shepherd Dogs, Miniature American Shepherds, Pulik, Swedish Vallhunds

Ms. Lee Whittier (18526) WA

(802) 369-0380

leepacnw@gmail.com

Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. David M. Harper (109007) TX

(281) 620-0808

goldenharper@aol.com

Mrs. Jennifer Harper (109025) TX

(832) 421-8877

goldenharper@yahoo.com

PERMIT JUDGES

The following persons have been approved on a **Permit** basis for the designated breeds in accordance with the current judging approval process. *They may now accept assignments* and the fancy may still offer comments to Judging Operations.

NEW BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Ms. Wendy Marquardt Anderson (108817) WI

(262) 581-1027

ibizan@gmail.com

Ibizan Hounds, JS-Limited

Ms. Catherine Burlile (108837) TN

(615) 384-5367

memories@hughes.net

Bernese Mountain Dogs

Ms. D'Arcy M. Downs-Vollbracht Esq. (101253) AZ

(928) 542-9020

darcy@dvmlawfirm.com

Border Terriers

Mrs. Annette Nobles (108827) GA

(478) 396-9772

anobles@aol.com

Bulldogs

Mr. Jeffrey Pyle (108835) OH

(812) 589-8751

jeffreypyle614@gmail.com

German Shepherd Dogs, JS

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Ms. Sandy Bingham-Porter (94107) IL

(217) 345-7571

sbinghamporter@eiu.edu

Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Keeshonden, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Spaniels)

Mrs. Kathleen Brock (47792) WA

(253) 884-2920

toccatockers@aol.com

Basset Hounds

Mrs. Kathleen V. Carter (6164) CO

(303) 425-6756

dancehalldolly@live.com

Anatolian Shepherds, American Eskimo Dogs, Chow Chows, Lhasa Apsos, Norwegian Lundehunds, Belgian Laekenois, Swedish Vallhunds

Mrs. Marissa L. Clark (26653) WA

(253) 358-3385

marissaecs@aol.com

Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Papillons, Poodles, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

Ms. Marie Ann Falconer (51642) TN

(413) 433-6474

mylaone10@aol.com

American Staffordshire Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Maltese, Miniature Pinschers, Silky Terriers

Ms. Grace Fritz (21887) KS

(913) 706-5365

fritzgm77@gmail.com

Brittany's, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat-Coated Retrievers, Irish Red and White Setters, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Greyhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Sloughis

Mr. Jason Hoke (92952) WI

(646) 241-5800

jasonhoke@aol.com

Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Bull Terriers, Bichon Frises, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Coton de Tulear, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels, Tibetan Terriers

Mr. Glen Lajeski (75929) CA

(707) 318-1038

glen@srsranch.com

Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, Chinese Cresteds, Japanese Chins, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers)

Mrs. Pamela S. Lambie (96227) AZ

(760) 272-0625

pam@pamlambie.com

Balance of Sporting Group (Wirehaired Vizslas), Boxers, Dogues de Bordeaux, Samoyeds

Mr. Dale Meyer (6655) WI

(715) 654-5330

meyerd@tds.net

Balance Working Group (Akitas, Bullmastiffs, Dogo Argentinos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Mastiffs, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards)

Ms. Madeline Patterson (16760) CA

(805) 529-7405

bradandmad@aol.com

Japanese Chins

**Permit status approval for Balance of Toy Group (Manchester Terrier, Pekingese) pending satisfactory completion of required measurement and/or weighing test.*

Mr. Jay Roden (104891) OH

(513) 918-5832

jyrodan@yahoo.com

Bernese Mountain Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bor-

deaux, German Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, Great Pyrenees

Mrs. Elizabeth Rosbach (99743) WA

(206) 316-0276

liz.rosbach@gmail.com

Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Pétits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Whippets

Mrs. Jean Shepherd (95654) MN

(507) 482-6611

jfshephe213@gmail.com

Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Gordon Setters

Mr. Jon Titus Steele (55162) MI

(989) 860-9677

jonauroral@gmail.com

Balance of Toy Group (Affenpinschers, Biewer Terriers, Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chins, Miniature Pinschers, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers), Bull Terriers

Ms. Frances C. Stephens (15410) WA

(253) 267-1919

mistihil@comcast.net

Belgian Sheepdogs

Mrs. Joyce Van Kirk (29966) AZ

(623) 937-0577

mijoy65@cox.net

Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Ms. Linda C. Wozniak (101087) NC

(919) 942-5818

oswicks@att.net

Barbets, German Wirehaired Pointers,

Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Vizslas, Ibizan Hounds

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGE

Dr. Tracy Powell (101481) CT

(203) 631-7110

dulcedanes@yahoo.com

BEST IN SHOW

The following person, having successfully **completed** the required Group Assignments in the first Variety Group for which they were **approved**, have been added to the list of judges eligible for approval to judge Best In Show.

Mrs. Carol C. Sommerfelt (7007) TN

(865) 986-1614

csommerfelt@southeasternfertility.org

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mr. Bryan J. Borchardt

Mr. J. Robert Jacobsen

Ms. Sandra London

Mr. Thomas D. Parrotti

Mr. Frank T. Sabella

Mr. Steven SeRine

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.**

Mrs. Jan Wesen (17565) WA

(360) 333-7131

jan@janwesen.com

Tracking – VST

APPLICATION FOR BREED-SPECIFIC

REGISTERED NAME PREFIX

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been submitted to The American Kennel Club.

Letters in regard to these applications should be addressed to Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary:

ADELHORST-German Shepherd Dogs- Anna D. Childs

BRIGHT LIGHTS- Bulldogs-Kara F. Gordon

EVERA TRUE -Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Michele L. True and Herbert D. Maschner

FRAJA EC – American Staffordshire Terriers- Kimberly Rudzik and Ellen E. Bannin

GLASSHOUSE-Cardigan Welsh Corgis- Lori A. Frost

ICED POM-Pomeranians- Angel Diaz

OUTLAW- Australian Shepherds- Sheree Sanchez

REIGNING – Golden Retrievers- Lisa C. Reiter, DVM

SILVERPOINT-Weimaraners-Scott Banzhaf and Shelley Banzhaf

SKYLINE'S -Treeing Walker Coonhounds-Beth

Jenkins

TRULY- Irish Red and White Setters- Wendy Bockman and Rachel Bockman

VIOLA CAZADOR- Dogo Argentinos- Valentin Krastanov

WHITE GALZXY- Coton De Tulears- Lyudmila V. Stevens and Wayne R. Stevens

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

The following applications for a breed-specific Registered Name Prefix have been granted:

ALIBI-Sealyham Terriers- Kate M. Flack

ALPENHEART- Bernese Mountain Dogs- Noreen Galaba

AMICA- Golden Retrievers- Mia T. Nieman and Lindsay T. Nieman

DASHA- Chinese Cresteds-Brandi N. Ritchie

EDGEND-Alaskan Malamutes-JoAnn Evans

FAIRHAVEN-Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Angela M. Schuller

FULL TILT-Borzoi-Ashley N. Sydow and Sherri A. Nichols

GABILAN HILLS-Labrador Retrievers- Yolanda Busby

GEAUX DOG- Golden Retrievers-Jessica E. Hagstette

JNJ- Bulldogs- Jim F. Privitor and John M. Kolloran

MPOSSIBLE-Australian Shepherds-Mary Ann Magness

NORDIC SKY-Standard Schnauzers-Darla J. Larson-Spurgeon

RISINGSTAR-Miniature Pinschers-Carol D.

Dry

RUA RI-Dogue de Bourdeaux- Colleen M. Ewald

SEVEN LAKES-Rhodesian Ridgebacks-Ian D. Commissiong

TEULU'S- Great Danes- Tom Lewellan and Jessica Lewellen

TROUVAILLE-Australian Shepherds- Monica A. Lenners and Mikayla J. Lenners

VESPER-Australian Shepherds- Jennifer G. Williams



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVENUE,
NEW YORK, NY AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

The Board convened via Zoom Video Conference on Tuesday February 9, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

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

The January 12, 2021 Board meeting minutes, copies of which had been provided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the January 12, 2021 Board meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mr. Sprung provided a summary of 2020 Sports and Events results as well as registration successes and general updates.

Sports & Events

2020 was obviously a difficult year for AKC Sports and Events. Events are down by 10,000 and Entries down by 1.4 million. Rally and Obedience lagged at 60% and 54%, respectively.

Standing out positively were Fast CAT, Scent Work and Herding. Others with very respectable numbers are Hunting Tests, Lure Coursing, Agility, Field Trials and CAT. Mr. Sprung stated that he has stressed to the Sports and Events Department that it is important to continuously assess how AKC can be of additional assistance to clubs to hold more events; as this year was very challenging with multiple postponements by clubs.

The Sports and Events Department is working with the Business Intelligence group to enhance event processing using similar sophisticated monitoring tools that AKC currently use in Registration. At a meeting last week, their research and dashboards were impressive, and enhancements have been identified.

A theme we are hearing from several conformation clubs is the concern about the age of their membership combined with the COVID-19 environment.

Registration

Individual registration ended 2020 at 26% better than budget and Litters 19%. Our

metrics reveal that queues are short. There is difficulty with the processing of foreign dog registrations due to other countries internal delays. Staff has reached out in order to assist our core constituency. 2021 started out strong for us with January Dogs up 38% and Litters up 42% year-over-year.

March 2021 AKC Board of Directors Election

Gina DiNardo and Mr. Sprung met with staff and KPMG to review the voting tabulation process that will be used for the March Board election. There is confidence in the process being utilized.

Other

Mr. Sprung reported on more good news. Mr. Sprung has informed the Board that last month, a new gas generator was being installed in the Raleigh office. The day following the January Board meeting the work was completed. Due to weather issues Saturday, January 30th, the electricity in North Carolina went out and the generator kicked in resulting in no disruption to work for AKC Reunite, AKC Canine Health Foundation and AKC.

AKC Museum of the Dog

Mr. Sprung reminded the Board of the February 12th virtual event – Night with the Museum honoring Ron Menaker from

8:00-9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Legal Update

Heather McManus, Deputy General Counsel, participated in this portion of the meeting. The Board reviewed a legal update as of January 2021.

IT Security

Tim Pursell, Director, Information Technology and Torraine William, Director, Engineering, participated in this portion of the meeting. Staff presented an overview of AKC's Cybersecurity and Enterprise Risk Management programs and the steps AKC has taken to educate staff to prevent phishing and malware scams.

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, provided an interim financial report for the twelve months ending December 31, 2020.

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, AKC's operations reported positive net operating results at year end.

December 31, 2020, Net Operating In-

come is estimated at \$13.5 million primarily due to registration revenues and organization-wide cost containment, offset by lower recording, staffing and service fees. Registration Statistics presented against budget and prior year are as follows: 2020 YTD Litter Registration was 10% ahead of budget, 12% better than 2019 YTD. 2020 YTD Dog Registration was 18% ahead of budget, 20% better than 2019 YTD.

Registration Fees exceed the prior year by 20%, or \$6.6 million. Increased Dog registrations led this category over 2019 results by 25%, or \$5.6 million.

Pedigree & Other Litter fees exceed budget by 27% or \$1.8 million primarily due to 3-Generation Pedigree Sales. Events & Entries continue to reflect the impact of COVID-19 restrictions. Compared to the same period in 2019, Events & Entries were down by 46% & 44%, respectively.

Events & Other Fees trail budget and 2019 Actual by 39% and 35%, respectively. This change is primarily due to Recording & Service Fees, which trail the prior year by 43% or \$5.3 million.

Product & Service Sales exceed budget by 8% or \$872,000 led by e-commerce merchandise sales, which exceeded 2019 results by 55% or \$697,000.

Advertising, Sponsor/Royalties trailed the 2020 budget by 12% or \$1.6 million due to

a combination of lower-income across all lines because of COVID-19 restrictions.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Brandi Hunter, Vice President, Communications and Public Relations; Ashley Jacot, Director, Education; and Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

Belgian Malinois Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the breed standard for the Belgian Malinois as submitted by the American Belgian Malinois Club, Inc. (ABMC). The current standard was approved July 10, 1990.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) approval for the ABMC to proceed to ballot its membership on the standard changes in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws.

Manchester Terrier Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the breed standard for the Manchester Terrier as submitted by the American Manchester Terrier Club,

(AMTC). The current standard was approved June 10, 1991.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) approval for the proposed revisions to the Manchester Terrier breed standard to be published for comment in the Secretary's Page of the AKC Gazette.

Sloughi Stud Book

The Board reviewed a request from the American Sloughi Association to keep the Stud Book Open for the Breed. The Sloughi Book is scheduled to close January 1, 2021. Currently AKC will accept dogs registered with America Sloughi Association and United Kennel Club. Staff recommends the Sloughi Stud Book remain open until January 1, 2026. Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to permit the Sloughi Stud Book to remain open until January 1, 2026.

Bylaw Amendment

The Board reviewed an amendment proposed from the Delegate Bylaws Committee to move Article VIII, Section 5 to Article VI, new Section 2 and renumber the remaining sections of Article VII and Article VIII.

This amendment moves an issue concerning the election of Board members from Article VIII which addresses the nominating committee and nominations for the Board to Article VII which addresses the election of Board members.

Proposed

(Line In)

ARTICLE VII

SECTION 2. The names of all candidates for election as directors shall be published in alphabetical order on the Secretary's Page of the March AKC GAZETTE of the year in which they come before the annual meeting to be voted upon.

Following a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (In favor: Battaglia, Biddle, Davies, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Smyth, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin; Opposed: Carota, Garvin, Hamblin) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Dr. Davies, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the recommended amendment. This will be read at the March Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the June Delegates meeting.

New Breeds Stud Book Policy

Based on a Board request, Staff presented a proposed Board Policy to be implemented when a new breed requests to extend the time period that the stud book would be open to other domestic registries.

AKC has from time to time received requests from Parent Clubs of recently recognized breeds to extend the time period of the stud book being open to other domestic registries or registries not currently recognized by AKC. In the past ten years, new breeds requesting to keep the stud book open are doing so to encourage owners to register dogs with the AKC.

This will be discussed further at the April Board meeting.

New Breed for Foundation Stock Service® - Volpino Italiano

The Board was advised that the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a petition for the Volpino Italiano to be accepted into the FSS program with a Toy Group designation.

The Volpino Italiano is one of the descendants of the European Spitz which existed in the central region of Europe since the Bronze Age. The Volpino goes back to the

same ancestors as the German Spitz of which it is not a descendant, but a relative.

AKC Communications 2020 Q4 Report

The Board reviewed the fourth quarter report from the Communications department which highlighted the Communications department's accomplishments on behalf of the AKC and the Sport of Purebred Dogs.

TOTALS:

Clips Evaluated in Q4: 4,534

Q4 Potential Audience Reached:

6,050,130,256

Publicity Value for Q4: \$8,364,409.89

*Numbers and values provided by media monitoring platform Cision

ACTIVITIES:

- Aggressive PR campaign for the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin culminated with the event mid-December.
 - o Placements include Orlando Sentinel, multiple segments from the event on Good Day Orlando, National Geographic and more.
 - o Winner interview secured on Good Morning America after show airing in January 2021.
 - o Booked a Satellite Media Tour to promote the broadcast in January 2021.

- Conducted outreach to promote AKC's deal with ESPN, which included a piece with the Associated Press among others.
- Continued to receive incoming media requests for AKC expertise.
- Distributed 20 press releases to appropriate media outlets.
- Weekly "AKC Tips" articles written for McClatchy-Tribune reaching 600 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.
- Offered outreach assistance to clubs to promote events or send cancellation notifications due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Worked with AKC Reunite to create press materials to promote unveiling of trailers through their Pet Disaster Relief program.
- Chose winners for the 2020 AKC Humane Fund Award for Canine Excellence (ACE).
- Promoted AKC.tv's newest special around the ACE Awards – AKC Heroes: Awards for Canine Excellence.
- "AKC Communicates" newsletter distributed weekly with pertinent information and updates from the AKC and affiliates – drives traffic to akc.org

- Worked closely with the AKC Museum of the Dog to increase its visibility.

AKC Education Annual Report: 2020

The Board reviewed a memo which provided an update of Education department activities and accomplishments for the year 2020. The memo is part of a series of regular informational updates on the work of the Education Department.

Canine College

The Canine College now has over 35,000 learners. 15,000 learners were added in 2020, which is a 100% increase from the number added in 2019. We offer over 600 courses and exams available for Conformation and Performance Judges, Breeders, Groomers, and the general public. Learners spent more than 24,000 hours in Canine College in 2020. Over 80 current courses and exams were revised throughout 2020.

Breed and Breeder Courses

A total of 50 breeds are now available on Caine College. 3,625 breed courses were purchased in 2020. This is up from 694 in 2019 (an increase of 422%), 396 in 2018 and 103 in 2017.

Breed courses launched in 2020 are as follows:

- Bernese Mountain Dog
- Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- Lagotto Romagnolo
- Norwegian Buhund
- Pekingese
- Whippet

Canine College is actively collaborating with 16 Parent Clubs on the development of future breed courses for 2021/2022.

AKC Education continues to put great effort into offering quality education for breeders. In collaboration with Sports Services, in 2020 breeder education resources were collected, reorganized, and made available on akc.org. These resources include articles, webinars, courses, newsletters, and more. AKC Canine College now offers 11 breeder education courses and exams.

Public Education

In January 2020, AKC Public Education hosted the AKC Patch Program at AKC Meet the Breeds® in New York City. More than 1,100 children and their families participated in the program over two days.

AKC Kids' News was launched in the 2nd quarter. AKC Kids' News is a quarterly newsletter with fun, educational content for

parents and teachers. Teachers are encouraged to subscribe for free to receive the online resource.

The AKC PupPals Program has had tremendous success since its launch in August 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic left many feeling isolated, so Public Education worked collaboratively with Marketing and Communications to expand the AKC PupPals Program to reach both children and adults with video PupPal messages. By making the change from cards to videos, requests have increased by 159%. Nominees included healthcare workers, individuals in the hospital, and those in quarantine seeking a positive message.

To assist parents and teachers during COVID, Public Education created online activities for children to do at home with their dogs. These activities included, "do it yourself agility," creating art with your dog, and making your own dog treats.

Building on the success of the AKC Patch Program, Public Education created the AKC Virtual Patch Program so that this important program could carry on during a time in which dog shows were not readily available. Children participated in a virtual scavenger hunt by viewing resources and videos to learn about pure-

bred dogs and AKC sports, before receiving a virtual patch.

In the 2nd quarter, Public Education created lessons that are geared towards exceptional learners. Public Education now offers lessons and activities geared towards these learners, as well as modified versions of our most popular offerings that suit their specific needs. We were honored when our resources for exceptional learners were featured on the cover of the June 2020 issue of Exceptional Parents Magazine, reaching a worldwide readership of over 100,000.

Public Education launched the AKC Canine and Me Program which was created to get teens and young adults interested in learning and trying a new skill with their dog. Each month, a brief introduction of and skill from an AKC sport is provided. Participants take turns trying the skill and recording themselves practicing that skill with their dog. Participants are entered to win a \$50.00 Amazon gift card for participating each month. Since its launch in August, the program has received over 45 video submissions from teens trying the highlighted sports. Quotes from those who have participated include: "Agility has helped me bond with my dog. It has helped teach me to be a better person."

AKC Education Webinar Series

AKC Education collaborated with many departments in 2020 in an effort to reach and serve AKC's constituency through webinars. AKC Education worked closely with Judging Operations to host breed webinars for judges. Breed webinars were held daily from March 30 - July 23, 2020. Beginning, August 4th through the end of 2020, breed webinars were held every Tuesday evening. Breed webinars continue to air on Tuesday evenings. In 2020, a total of 89 breed webinars were held for 24,311 participants.

Government Relations Q4 2020 Update and Year End Review

The Board reviewed a memo which provided a status update on current Government Relations department activity and major projects, a general overview and analysis of 2020 activities, and an overview of significant legislative issues and accomplishments.

As of January 14, 2021, the AKC Government Relations team (AKC GR) is reviewing bills being proposed and introduced for new legislative sessions at the federal, state and local level.

In addition, the GR team is tracking more than 800 state and federal regulatory proposals carried over from 2020. This is nearly twice the number of proposals as a

year ago. A significant portion of this increase is due to implementing regulations related to the COVID-19 pandemic policy changes.

In 2020, the GR team tracked 4,211 bills that impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the American Kennel Club. This represents an 83% increase over the 2,300 bills tracked in 2019. The largest category of new bills tracked (716 total) were COVID-19 related bills with the potential to impact dog owners and ownership, access to dog-related services (such as pet food retailers, veterinary care or groomers) AKC Corporate and AKC Sports/Events. Proposed legislation not directly related to COVID-19 on major canine policy issues such as animal cruelty, breeder regulation, pet sales, working dogs, animal control also increased by record levels to 3,495 bills – an increase of 51% over 2019.

4th Quarter Government Relations Projects & Outreach

The GR team also worked on major projects and provides individualized outreach and assistance. Highlights from the 4th quarter include:

Legislative Testimony/Advocacy: In the 4th quarter alone, AKC GR regional staff and

legislative analysts provided alerts, and written and/or in-person testimony for hearings on more than 35 bills on a broad range of topics ranging from breed-specific bans and mandatory spay neuter, to breeder licensing and regulation, use of police K9s, pet choice and other issues. For a list of all alerts visit www.akcgr.org.

Legislative Seminars and Training Events: Staff presented a number of webinars or seminars on legislative advocacy in the fourth quarter. Most of the presentations were conducted electronically and covered a broad range of audiences and topics including GR Resources, Effective Grassroots Advocacy, State-level Strategy, Drafting Legislation and Working Dogs.

Major Policy and Advocacy Resources Development & Overhaul: A year-long modernization and update of policy and advocacy resources was conducted and will continue into 2021 to provide more sophisticated and user-friendly tools for dog owners to engage in advocacy that protects their rights. The expert resources are also designed as a resource for the general public and lawmakers to understand common myths and fictions about breeding and canine policy issues and to aid in developing new reasonable and non-discriminatory canine policy. The materials reflect new types

of policy challenges, more sophisticated attacks by animal rights groups (and more sophisticated responses) and the development of new model legislation and policy solutions.

AKC GR developed more than 7 new one-stop policy-based key issues webpages in the AKC Legislative Action Center on the following topics:

- COVID-19 Resources
- COVID-19 Civil Liability Limit Legislation
- Service Dogs, Pet Imports: Protecting Pet & Public Health
- Detection Dogs
- Dogs in Vehicles: Avoiding Unintended Consequences
- Pet Choice/Pet Store Restrictions

Detection Dog Task Force: GR developed and began implementing new “Phase 2” strategic programming and outreach for the Patriotic Puppy Program (PPP). In lieu of a conference, DDTF established an ongoing series of webinars to raise interest and awareness about DDTF and the need for domestically bred and raised detection dogs. Three webinars have been conducted.

DDTF has signed up a new class of Patriotic Puppy Program (PPP) participants for hands-on learning, created a new webpage

and social media presence, and attended local North Carolina AKC field events to raise targeted awareness among field trial/hunt test enthusiasts about participating in the program.

Service Dogs: AKC GR continues to work with colleagues in the service dog, airline, technology and pet industries (American Service Dog Access Coalition – ASDAC) to lead development of a high quality, verifiable opt-in credentialing system for service dogs acceptable to airlines/access providers, government and the service dog industry.

GR Blogs: AKC GR published 25 Blogs in the fourth quarter and a total of 78 for the year. GR Blogs go beyond legislative issues to inform constituents and the public about community and advocacy items of interest, new resources, and policy analysis. The blogs are also published in the Monthly GR newsletter Taking Command.

COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events and Pamela Manaton, Director, Obedience, Rally, Tracking participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

AKC Rally® Virtual Program – Adding the Advanced and Excellent Classes

The AKC Rally® Virtual Pilot Program was launched at the beginning of May 2020. In July 2020, the program was expanded to include the Rally Intermediate class. The Board reviewed a recommendation to expand the program to include the Rally Advanced and Excellent classes.

Like in the Novice and Intermediate classes, there is no change to the exercises required to pass the Advanced and Excellent classes. The Board extended the pilot period for the Virtual Rally program to year-end 2021. The Advanced and Excellent classes will also terminate at year-end unless extended or made permanent.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the board VOTED (In favor: Biddle, Davies, Hamblin, McAteer, Powers, Sweetwood, Wallin; Opposed: Battaglia, Carota, Garvin, Knight, Smyth, Tatro) to expand the Rally Virtual Program by adding the Advanced and Excellent classes. This will be done in a phased in approach with the Advanced class being launched first. The course maps for the new classes along with a new and improved Rally Virtual Guidebook will be released on Monday, February 22, 2021; and AKC will begin accepting entries for the new classes on March 8, 2021.

Dogs passing these classes will earn the RA and RE titles. The virtual classes cannot be used to earn the RAE title where double Qs at the same event are required.

This memo has not previously been provided to the Board, however, because it is an addition to an existing program, and because the demand for additional classes is strong, the Companion Events Department requested the Board approve the recommendation at this meeting. The Staff is prepared to handle the expected additional activity.

Assisting the Sports – Judging Programs for Obedience, Rally and Agility

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow clubs to send out the judging program for obedience, rally and agility trials no later than five days prior to the trial.

This recommendation is consistent with the recent change to allow clubs to close no later than seven days prior to the trial. Currently the requirement for sending the judging program is seven days.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, sec-

onded by Mr. Carota, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to amend the regulations for Obedience, Rally and Agility to allow clubs to send out the judging program for obedience, rally and agility trials no later than five days prior to the trial.

Proposed (Line In)

CHAPTER 1 OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS – GENERAL REGULATIONS
Section 26. Judging Assignments, Scheduling and Judging Program. (Paragraph 11)

A copy of the judging program and armband number for each entered dog, will be sent to the owner no later than five (5) days before the date of the event. Printed correspondence may be utilized at the exhibitor's request.

A copy of the judging program will be sent to each judge; and two copies of the program shall be sent to the Event Plans Department at the same time they are published or made available to exhibitors. A copy of the judging program will be published in the catalog.

Contact information, e.g. cell telephone number for at least one committee member that will be present at the trial on the day of the event must be listed in the judging program.

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Proposed (Line In)

CHAPTER 1 AKC RALLY® REGULATIONS – GENERAL REGULATIONS
Section 23. Judging Assignments, Scheduling and Judging Program. (Paragraph 8)

A copy of the judging program and armband number for each entered dog, will be sent to the owner no later than five (5) days before the date of the event. Printed correspondence may be utilized at the exhibitor's request.

A copy of the judging program will be sent to each judge; and two copies of the program shall be sent to the Event Plans Department at the same time they are published or made available to exhibitors.

A copy of the judging program will be published in the catalog.

Contact information, e.g. cell telephone number for at least one committee member, must be listed in the judging program. The information must provide a means of readily available communication with a member of the committee on the day of the event.
The remainder of this section is unchanged.

Proposed (Line In)

CHAPTER 1 – REGULATIONS FOR AGILITY TRIALS AND AGILITY COURSE TEST (ACT)

Section 19. Running Order. (Paragraph 3)

The judging schedule will be sent to entrants as soon as possible after entries have closed but at least five (5) days minimum, prior to the first day of the event. Trial Secretaries may also publish a full running order that includes catalog number, the dog's call name, breed of dog, along with handler and/or owner. This may be done using email as described above. Trial Secretaries shall include the following sentence on the required judging schedule and on the running order if one is published prior to the trial: "This is a preliminary judging schedule which is contingent upon the move-up entries that may not have been received yet."

The remainder of this section is unchanged.

CONFORMATION

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

Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Chapter 16, Section 6 – Grand Championship Points

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to modify Chapter 16, Section 6 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows,

which addresses the requirements for a dog to achieve the Grand Championship title at AKC Conformation dog shows.

At the DSRC's November 19, 2020 meeting, the DSRC voted, unanimously, to recommend the removal of "and concurrent specialty shows" from the last paragraph of Chapter 16, Section 6 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. This wording had been added via by the Delegate body in September 2020. Their reasoning includes:

1. Concurrent specialties are by definition independent specialties. Stand-alone, concurrent, and evening are all types of independent specialties.
2. The amendment to the proposal, which was eventually approved, resulted in inconsistent language within the section.

Removal of the specific reference of one type of independent specialty provides consistency in language within the section, generalizes the language by removing the reference to one type of independent specialty and eliminates the question of whether other types not identified would be excluded. With the removal of this phrase, concurrent specialty shows would still qualify under the definition of "independently held specialty shows". Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED

(unanimously) to approve changes to Chapter 16, Section 6 as suggested.

These proposed changes will be read at the March 2021 Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the June 2021 Delegate meeting. If approved by the Delegates, the effective date would be immediate.

Proposed

(Line In)

CHAPTER 16 SECTION 6.

Previous portions of the sections are unchanged. At independently held specialty shows for breeds divided into recognized varieties, if a dog designated Best of Variety is also awarded Best of Breed in inter-variety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of any variety entered at that specialty show. If a dog designated Best of Variety or Best of Opposite Sex in its variety is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed in inter-variety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of its sex in any variety entered at that specialty show. Such points shall not be in addition to, but inclusive of, any Grand Championship points previously awarded the dog in its variety competition.

New Club Role – Junior Coordinator

This Board reviewed a recommendation from Staff and the Delegate Junior Subcommittee. The committee suggested adding a role within a club, entitled "Junior Coordinator". The Committee's opinion is that having a "Junior Coordinator" as a role within a club will bring awareness to Juniors and development of Junior membership. Having a role identified will provide contact information for AKC to communicate with those who serve in this role. There was no objection to this from the Board.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

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

COVID-19 – Conformation Judging Approval Process

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Chairman's Committee and Staff on the Judging Approval Process.

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

Following a motion by Mr. Carota, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to extend through June 30, 2021 the following actions related to the *Conformation Judging Approval Process* previously approved at its May 2020 meeting:

1. Increase the maximum cumulative number of permit breeds a judge may be approved by six (6).
2. Increase the maximum number of CEU that may be attained in the categories of Attend Parent Club National Specialty; Attend Approved Seminar/Workshop; Mentors, Tutors and Kennel Visits; Sweepstakes or Futurity assignment; and Assignment to Judge the Breed by one (1) CEU.

Conformation Dog Show Judges Annual Report

Judging Operations provided to the Board matrixes for evaluation collected annually as well as data related to judges and judging applications from 2020.

Application Data

The number of New Breed Applications (first time applicants) in 2020 did drop in number greater than would be attributed to the variance traditionally seen from year to year, likely a direct result of COVID-19 and the difficulty for potential

applicants to complete pre-requisite requirements such as stewarding and judging experiences. The number of Additional Breed applications and breeds submitted in 2020 decreased from the previous year, but not significant given the challenges associated with COVID-19. 2020 was consistent to the previous two years, showing a substantial decrease in the volume in the years preceding the January 1, 2018 implementation of the revised Judging Approval Process (9/15-11/17). Even with the challenges of 2020, the number of applications and breed submitted was higher than those received in 2018. These metrics continue the expected and intended result of specific modifications made to the rate at which judges could apply and the maximum number of permit breeds judges could have at one time included in the revised Judging Approval Process approved by the Board at its November 2017 meeting.

The number of applications received 2020 vs. previous years:

	ADDITIONAL BREED		NEW BREED	
	Aps Received	Breeds Submitted	Aps Received	Breeds Submitted
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

Application final review statistics in 2020 vs. previous years:

	ADDITIONAL BREED				NEW BREED			
	# Aps Reviewed	# Breeds Requested	# Breeds Approved	% Approved	#Aps Reviewed	# Breeds Requested	# Breeds Approved	% Approved
2020	323	2032	1914	94.2%	53	66	64	97.0%
2019	366	2099	2039	97.1%	65	107	107	100.0%
2018*	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%

The number of complete groups approved to judge:

	NUMBER OF COMPLETE GROUPS APPROVED TO JUDGE									TOTALS	
	< 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Judges	Groups	
12/31/2020	2288	296	174	112	67	36	10	16	2999	1600	
12/31/2019	2289	303	182	112	66	34	8	17	3011	1604	
12/31/2018	2262	309	190	116	64	33	7	19	3000	1633	
12/31/2017 ¹	2242	324	184	123	61	30	7	20	2991	1637	
8/31/2017 ¹	2293	321	185	125	52	30	7	21	3034	1613	
8/31/2016	2512	334	182	124	42	26	5	20	3245	1538	
7/31/2015	2527	351	172	108	43	20	6	17	3244	1446	

Judge assignment distribution:

	7/14- 6/15	9/15- 8/16	9/16- 8/17	1/18- 12/18	1/19- 12/19	1/20- 12/20
Total events (AB, LB, PS & S)	4092	4178	4,349	4428	4464	2043
Total # of individual breed assignments	303,029	301,049	312,263	317,210	321,309	123,163
Total # of dogs in competition (D.I.C.)	1,222,474	1,204,798	1,171,690	1,184,640	1,188,067	606,246
Total # Judges w/assignment (AKC + Foreign)	2188	2218	2178	2143	2129	1346
# AKC Judges w/assignment	1872	1873	1856	1801	1793	1252
# Visiting Judges w/assignment	316	345	322	342	336	94
% of AKC Judges w/o assignment	42.3%	42.3%	43.2%	40.0%	40.5%	58.3%
% D.I.C. Judged by AKC judges	89.1%	90.1%	89.9%	89.9%	90.7%	95.9%
% D.I.C. judged by 20% of all judges w/assignment	77.1%	78.6%	77.3%	76.2%	76.9%	74.9%
% D.I.C. judged by 20% of total # of AKC Judges	80.3%	81.1%	80.3%	80.4%	78.8%	90.0%
% D.I.C. judged by 20% of AKC Judges w/assignment	71.2%	72.1%	72.3%	71.2%	72.1%	72.5%

Perception of Judges Survey

Historically, the Conformation Dog Show Judges Annual Report included results from the Perception of Judging survey, conducted yearly since 2015. The survey, sent to customers who had entered a conformation dog show in the preceding 12 months, was to be utilized as a metric to gauge the effect, if any, the Conformation Judging Approval Process may have on the fancy's perception of judges. It was de-

cidated the Perception of Judges survey would not be conducted based on the conclusion any results from the survey would be skewed by COVID-19's impact on conformation dog shows and could not be examined in context.

Conformation Judging Statistics

The Board reviewed statistics related to conformation judging applications considered by the Judges Review Committee in

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY

2020 YEAR-END

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
NB	53	52	1	0	0	2	66	64	0
AB	323	275	45	3	0	2	2032	1915	3
TOTAL	376	327	46	3	0	4	2098	1979	3

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY

2020 NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	4	4	0	0	0	1	6	6	0
February	7	7	0	0	0	1	7	7	0
March	7	6	1	0	0	0	11	9	0
April	5	5	0	0	0	0	7	7	0
May	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
June	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
July	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
August	3	3	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
September	6	6	0	0	0	0	6	6	0
October	6	6	0	0	0	0	6	6	0
November	6	6	0	0	0	0	7	7	0
December	3	3	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
NB TOTAL	53	52	1	0	0	2	66	64	0

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY

2020 ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	33	30	2	1	0	0	207	195	0
February	18	15	3	0	0	0	98	94	0
March	30	28	2	0	0	1	215	213	0
April	27	23	3	1	0	1	140	131	0
May	24	20	4	0	0	0	133	127	0
June	16	13	3	0	0	0	106	102	0
July	14	11	3	0	0	0	62	58	0
August	30	26	4	0	0	0	219	211	0
September	40	33	7	0	0	0	292	267	1
October	35	26	9	0	0	0	213	187	0
November	30	25	4	1	0	0	188	172	0
December	26	25	1	0	0	0	159	157	1
AB TOTAL	323	275	45	3	0	2	2032	1914	2

the previous three months of October - December 2020. Following is the list of New Breed (NB) and the year-end summary statistics for 2020.

2021 Low Entry Breed List

A Low Entry Breed is defined to be one whose total number of dogs in competition from the previous year were 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, as well as the requirements for permit status judges to advance to regular status in a breed.

Annually, Judging Operations publishes the Low Entry Breed List on the AKC web-

site by February with an effective date of March 1, 2021 for reference by current and prospective conformation judges.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 and the mass cancellation of events in 2020 that resulted, no changes will be made to the designation of Low Entry Breeds and all breeds classified as Low Entry in 2020 will remain on the list in 2021 excluding the addition of the Biewer Terrier, which became eligible to compete in the Toy Group effective January 1, 2021.

CLUBS

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

Sample Bylaws Study Committee Report

In April 2020, Dr. Thomas Davies appointed the Sample Bylaws Study Committee: Lisa Cecin, AKC Director of Club Relations, Chair; Rita Biddle, Delegate and AKC Board Member; Gretchen Bernardi, AKC Delegate; Carl Holder, AKC Delegate and Heather McManus, AKC Vice-President and Deputy General Counsel.

The committee was appointed to examine and modernize the AKC Sample Constitution and Bylaws for Local Clubs and Par-

ent Clubs. The goal was to generate a product which is more suitable and flexible for handling situations faced by our clubs and fanciers in today's times, and to examine the process and timelines for making changes to a club's existing constitution and bylaws as well as how quickly issues were resolved along the way. It was noted that some clubs find the process confusing, and a clearer, more timely process going forward was desired.

The Board reviewed the Committee Report and the suggested policy changes:

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

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

1) The AKC has developed a Checklist of the required provisions for a club's bylaws. Club bylaws or amendments to a club's bylaws that comply with the requirements set forth in the Checklist are "acceptable" in

form to the AKC. Member clubs must also include references to Delegates (as indicated in Article III of the sample for Local Clubs and Article V in the sample for Parent Clubs); and “[No amendment to the Constitution Bylaws that is adopted by the club shall become effective until it has been approved by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club.]” must be included (as indicated in VII, Section 2 of the Local Club sample and Article IX, Section 2 of the Parent Club sample). All revised club bylaws must be accompanied by a completed, officer or club attorney signed Affirmation of Bylaw Review form, date of the amendment vote, and breakdown of the vote.

2) The AKC makes available to clubs (depending on type) sample bylaws that a club may use to writing the club’s bylaws. These sample bylaws are a guide and allow a club to customize its bylaws to the club’s needs.

3) The AKC also provides other documents that may assist clubs in writing its bylaws such as the Tips and Best Practices for Effective Club Bylaws.

4) AKC’s Club Relations Department is available to offer bylaw commentary to clubs upon written request.

5) The committee’s recommendation is to move this memo to BLUE so it can be approved as soon as possible.

Newly Approved Local Specialty Clubs and Dissolved Local Specialty Clubs – 2017 through 2020

The Board reviewed a memo that provided a listing of the newly approved Local Specialty Clubs, as well as Local Specialty Clubs that dissolved in calendar years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Analysis on Dissolved and Newly Accredited Clubs

The following information is from the four years 2017 – 2020.

- 25 Specialty clubs dissolved, and 55 new Specialty clubs formed.
- The 25 clubs that dissolved represented 23 breeds and were spread across 18 states.
- Four (16%) of the dissolving clubs represented low entry breeds.
- The 55 clubs that formed represented 42 breeds and were spread across 30 states.
- The breed with the largest number of clubs forming was the French Bulldog (4 clubs).
- Nine (16%) of the new clubs represented low entry breeds.

Cheshire Kennel Club – Member Club Dissolved

The Board was advised that The Cheshire Kennel Club, a member club of The American Kennel Club approved in June 1957 voted to dissolve on October 15, 2020. Staff reached out to be of assistance, however the Cheshire Kennel Club is now an inactive club on AKC records.

Delegates and Member Clubs

The Board reviewed a report on the prospective Delegate credentials to be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette, requests for AKC membership applications, and a report on Member Club Bylaws approved and newly licensed clubs.

Report on Member Clubs Bylaws Approved in November and December 2020

Bell Vernon Kennel Association,
Skagit County, WA (2015)
Clermont County Kennel Club,
Clermont County, OH (1983)
Lehigh Valley Kennel Club,
Bethlehem, PA (1935)
Winston-Salem Dog Training Club,
Winston-Salem, NC (1982)

Report on Newly Licensed Clubs approved in November and December 2020

Alaska Sporting Dog Association, Anchorage, AK (including Fairbanks and North

Pole), 24 total households, 24 local.

Castile Creek Retriever Club, Gower, MO (including MO communities east to Utica along Rt 36 and north to Union Star), 40 total households, 12 local.

Cedar Ridge Beagle Club, Henryetta, OK (including communities north to Tulsa, south to Wetumka east to Rte. 75 and west to Rtes. 377/99), 19 total households, 8 local.

Lost Pines Retriever Club, Paige, TX (including communities west to Interstate 35; south to Luling, north to Taylor, east to Giddings), 25 total households, 12 local.

Plott Hound Association of America, 40 total households (5 households in 4 states west of the Mississippi River; 34 households in 11 states east of the Mississippi River).

COMPLIANCE

Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

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

REGISTRATION

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President; participated in this portion of the meeting via

video conference.

Registration Update – January 2021

2020 was the 7th consecutive year of increases in Dog Registration, the 6th consecutive year of increases in Litter Registration, and the 6th consecutive year of increases in Unique Breeders.

Litter Registration in 2020 was 10% better than budget and 12% better than 2019. Dog Registration in 2020 was 18% better than budget and 20% better than 2019. The total number of puppies produced by AKC breeders in 2020 saw a 12% increase from 2019. There was a 9% increase in active breeders from 2019. 2020 saw an acceleration of dog registration activity, with more dogs being registered sooner.

In 2020, 80% of Unique Active Breeders were Casual Breeders, compared to 78% in 2019; while the Fancy share declined by 2 percentage points.

Survey Results First-Time Litter Registrants

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President, Consumer Demand, participated in this portion of the meeting.

At the request of the Board, the staff conducted a survey of first-time litter regis-

trants. The Staff presented the survey results and action items emanating out of the survey results.

MARKETING

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President, Consumer Demand, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Marketing Updates and Highlights

The Board reviewed highlights of the 2020 Marketing Department's achievements. AKC.org users peaked in December at higher levels than during the COVID peak and closed the year +50% versus 2019. AKC.org organic traffic, the largest piece of traffic, grew 53% in 2020 versus 2019. AKC Marketplace also saw significant user growth, closing the year +28% versus 2019. The number of litters listed on Marketplace continues to rise.

AKC sent a record level of emails/newsletters in December and overall in 2020, led by Shop, Nibble General and Pupdate.

2020 Year in Review – Marketing Social Media

The Board reviewed the AKC Marketing department's social media coverage totals and activity highlights for 2020. Highlights of our social media strategy in 2020 included our COVID-19 "Woof From Home"

content series, launch on TikTok, and AKC Dog Stars influencer program.

2020 TOTALS:

Facebook: 4,008,021 followers

Instagram: 339,767 followers

Twitter: 99,109 followers

TikTok: 79,957 followers

Pinterest: 42,240 followers

Total*: 4,569,094 followers

AKC SPONSORSHIP, DIGITAL ADVERTISING, AND BROADCAST

Ron Furman, Director, Digital Media and Daphna Straus, Vice President, Business Development participated in this portion of the meeting.

2020 UPDATE

AKC.org

- Regardless of the pandemic, the AKC Ad Sales team delivered exceptional results achieving budget @ \$3.8 mil an increase of +18% from 2019.
- Website total traffic was the highest ever in 2020, which resulted in a total of over 1 Billion Impressions for the first time ever. AKC.org had a 90% sell through rate of those impressions, which increased from 70% in 2019.

AKC Digital Advertising Sales

- 32 total direct sold advertiser/brands – a new high-level mark – with the largest amount of sold direct impressions @200 million/20% of the inventory.
- AKC.org ad inventory was utilized by each of the top 10 AKC corporate sponsors an increase of 28%.

AKC.tv

- AKC.tv experienced selective increases in traffic in 2020 with over 20 million impressions served, +124% YOY due to dynamic content matching.
- 1,200+ minutes of content produced broadcast weekly in DogCenter and Ask the Expert.
- "AKC Heroes" – Five-episode series featuring a different category of ACE Awards. Each episode announced an ACE honoree for 2020.
- Exceeded 100k app downloads (40% mobile)= over 1mm app plays in 2020 COVID devastated "regular season" live event schedule, but during AKC
- National Championship week, 180+ hours of video were produced including all breed rings, and 10.5k+ apps installed.

CONSENT

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

- Siberian Husky Proposed Breed Standard Revision
- Obedience Fix 'n Go Pilot Program
- Random Draw Method for Accepting Entries in Obedience & Rally Trials
- Managing Waitlists on Limited Entry Obedience and Rally Trials
- Delegate and Club Approvals

Siberian Husky Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board VOTED to approve the proposed standard revisions to the Nose, Color, Patterns and Markings and Disqualification sections of the Siberian Husky breed standard with an effective date of May 12, 2021.

Nose: Black in black, gray, sable, or agouti dogs; liver in red dogs, black, liver or flesh-colored in white dogs. The lighter-streaked “snow nose is equally acceptable in white dogs. The lighter-streaked “snow nose is equally acceptable.

Color, Patterns and Markings: Color, Patterns and Markings. All ranges of the allowable colors which are black, gray,

agouti, sable, red, and white. May be solid colored. May have multiple shades. May have white markings. A variety of symmetrical or asymmetrical markings and patterns are common, including piebald. No preference should be given to any allowable color, marking or pattern. Merle or Brindle patterns are not allowable and are to be disqualified. Merle is defined as a marbling effect of dark patches against a lighter background of the same color and is not to be confused with a color patch of banded guard hairs amid white, as is seen in dogs with allowable piebald. Brindle is defined as darker and lighter single-colored guard hairs producing a vertical tiger striping, not to be confused with banded guard hairs and a different color undercoat, which may produce some apparent horizontal striping.

Disqualification: *Dogs over 23½ inches and bitches over 22 inches, merle, and brindle.*

Obedience Fix ‘n Go Concept

The Board VOTED to amend Chapter 2, Section 27 of the Obedience Regulations to allow obedience handlers to use the “Fix ‘n Go” option while performing in the ring at obedience trials when a dog’s performance does not meet their expectation. The “Fix ‘n Go” concept allows the team to reattempt one individual exercise,

and then leave the ring. Using the “Fix n’ Go” option will result in a non-qualifying score (NQ). “Fix ‘n Go” will be offered on a one-year pilot basis in order to give the staff time to evaluate its impact. This change will be effective April 1, 2021.

Proposed

(Line In)

CHAPTER 2

OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING / JUDGING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

Section 27. Training and Handling in the Ring. When a handler is using excessive verbal commands, this could indicate the dog is not under control and is not working with the handler willingly. The judge must determine if this dog should be released for a lack of control. The handler is not allowed to correct or discipline a dog and will be released from the ring.

When the dog’s performance does not meet the handler’s expectation, the handler may choose to use a “Fix n’ Go” option once, which allows the exhibitor to immediately reattempt a single individual exercise. This allows the team to reattempt that one exercise, and then leave the ring. In a two-part exercise, the handler may choose only one part to reattempt. It is the handler’s responsibility to tell the judge

they are choosing to “Fix n’ Go.” Using the Fix n’ Go option will result in a non-qualifying score (NQ). The handler may begin the reattempt from the start or at any point during the exercise. The judge will call the orders for the reattempted exercise as normal. If a jump needs to be reset, it will be set to the original height.

The handler may choose to help the dog through the Fix n’ Go exercise. Helping the dog may be accomplished using verbal encouragement, including additional commands and praise, and/or approaching the dog in a friendly/positive manner without touching the dog.

Harsh verbal and /or physical corrections will not be tolerated. If there is any determination of harshness by the judge, the handler will be immediately released from the ring.

Spectators form their opinion of the sport through seeing the action of the handler and the dog. Care must be taken to avoid any action that might reflect poorly on the sport.

Random Draw Method for Accepting Entries in Obedience & Rally Trials

The Board VOTED to amend the Obedience and Rally regulations to establish a Random Draw method of entries, to be used at a club’s option, for limited entry obedience and rally trials that have their

own standalone event number. The Random Draw method will provide the club with a fair way to accept entries for trials if the club anticipates the entries will overload beyond their limits, and to create equity between all exhibitors.

This change will be effective for events applied for on or after May 1, 2021.

Proposed

(Line In)

CHAPTER 1

OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 3. Premium Lists, Entries, Closing of Entries. (Paragraph 5) The premium list shall specify the name and address of the Superintendent or Trial Secretary who is to receive the entries. Only one mailing address may be used for receipt of paper of entries. Paper entries delivered to any other address are invalid and must be returned to the sender.

Section 27. Limitation of Entries and Methods of Entry. If a club anticipates an entry to exceed the capacity of its facilities for a licensed or member trial, it may limit entries, not to exceed up to eight hours of judging time per day, per judge.

Prominent announcement of such limits will appear on the title or cover page of the premium list for an obedience trial or

immediately under the obedience heading in the premium list for a dog show. This announcement must state that entries in one or more specified classes will automatically close when certain limits have been reached, even if this occurs before the official closing date. Non-regular classes, however, may be included, if so desired.

However, a club, at its discretion, may choose to establish a wait list in order to fill openings created by entries that are withdrawn prior to the event closing day. If a club is maintaining a wait list, this shall be stated in the premium. The full entry fee shall be refunded to an entrant whose entry is replaced by a wait-listed entry.

At obedience trials that have their own standalone event number, a club may use either the **First Received or Random Draw method** of acceptance of entries to a limited entry trial. The premium list must state an opening date/time for when entries will be accepted. These trials may be held in conjunction with rally or agility trials.

When entries are limited in the regular Open B and/or Utility B classes, a club must designate a regular UDX class in the premium list. Dogs entered in this UDX class would be entered in both Open B and Utility B, and the combined entry fee for these two classes must be paid. Once the limit has been reached in either the regular Open B or the Utility B class, the

regular UDX class will be considered closed and any subsequent entries for this class will be unacceptable in their entirety.

If Preferred Open and Preferred Utility are offered and entries are limited in these classes, a club must designate a Preferred UDX class in the premium list. Dogs entered in this Preferred UDX class would be entered in both Preferred Open and Preferred Utility and the combined entry fee for these two classes must be paid. Once the limit has been reached in either Preferred Open or the Preferred Utility class, the Preferred UDX class will be considered closed and any subsequent entries for this class will be unacceptable in their entirety.

First Received. Entries are accepted in the order of receipt. If stated in the premium list, a club may further restrict the delivery options (i.e. No FedEx, No hand-deliveries at any time.) However, USPS delivery must be allowed.

Random Draw. When using the Random Draw method, entries are treated equally without regard to date/time received or any other criteria during the Draw Period. The AKC strongly recommends using the Random Draw method for trials which are likely to exceed the “total entry limit” within the first 24 hours after the opening date and time.

An envelope containing entries for more

than ten (10) dogs maximum will be considered invalid and must be returned to the sender.

Random Draw Time Period. Clubs determine a “Draw Period” during which time entries are accepted for the Random Draw. Acceptance of entries begins on the opening date/time established for the trial as stated in the premium list. This time period must be at least seven (7) days in length (14 days is recommended). The Random Draw Time Period closing date and time must be stated in the premium list.

Reserved Spots for Trial Workers. When using the Random Draw method, the club may reserve a specific number of spots for exhibitors who have been selected to work at the trial. A spot is defined as a person who has entered the trial and has been selected to work. The number of reserved spots allowed is based on the number of rings used. A club may reserve up to three (3) spots for each ring that is used (i.e. one ring equals three reserved spots, two rings equals six spots, and so on). Once the spots reserved for workers are filled, the remaining entries then become part of the Random Draw.

Conducting the Random Draw. If the entry limit for the trial is exceeded during the Random Draw Time Period, the club must conduct a Random Draw of all entries re-

ceived, otherwise the Random Draw is not necessary. One draw may be conducted for all trials (concurrent or consecutive) held at the same site. One secretary or a group of cooperating secretaries are responsible for conducting the draw.

The Random Draw must be held within 48 hours of the "Draw Period" closing date and time and held in a place accessible to the public. The location, date and time of the draw must be stated in the premium list.

In conducting the draw, the Trial Secretary must avoid any method that raises any questions as to its randomness and impartiality.

The drawing may be conducted by manually selecting entry envelopes or by using a computerized random drawing program. In either case, all entries submitted in one envelope must be included and counted. If the last envelope selected in the Random Draw contains entries that would exceed the stated total entry limit, a manual or computerized random draw of those individual entries must be conducted.

After the advertised limit of entries has been randomly drawn, clubs maintaining a wait list will randomly draw all remaining entries for a position on the wait list.

Accepting Entries After the Random Draw Time Period. If the trial did not exceed the limit during the Random Draw

Time Period, all the entries received during this time period will be accepted into the trial. Clubs may continue to accept entries after the Random Draw Time Period according to the procedures for the First Received method of entry, though all entries must be received prior to the closing date and time for the trial.

**Proposed
(Line In)**

CHAPTER 1

AKC RALLY REGULATIONS

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 2. Premium Lists, Closing of Entries and Catalog. A premium list must be provided for sanctioned "A", licensed or member trials. They may be separate documents, or they may be included with the obedience, all-breed or specialty trial premium list. The premium list shall be published and shall measure not less than 5½ x 8½ inches or more than 8½ x 11 inches. It shall be stated in the premium list what jump height will begin the class and if the order will be ascending or descending.

Every premium list shall specify the date and time at which entries for a trial shall close. The premium list shall also specify the name and address of the Superintendent or Trial Secretary who is to receive the entries. Only one mailing address may be used for receipt paper of entries. Paper en-

tries delivered to any other address are invalid and must be returned to the sender.

Section 24. Limitation of Entries and Methods of Entry. If a club anticipates an entry to exceed the capacity of its facilities for a licensed or member trial, it may limit entries, not to exceed up to eight hours of judging time per day, per judge. Entry limits may be based on ring availability or as specified by the club offering the event. Non-regular classes, however, may be included, if so desired.

Prominent announcement of such limits will appear on the title or cover page of the premium list for a rally trial or immediately under the rally heading in the premium list for an obedience trial or dog show.

This announcement must state that the entries in one or more specified classes will automatically close when certain limits have been reached, even if this occurs before the official closing date.

However, a club at its discretion may choose to establish a wait list in order to fill openings created by entries that are withdrawn prior to the event closing date. If a club is maintaining a wait list, this shall be stated in the premium list. The full entry fee shall be refunded to an entrant whose entry is replaced by a wait-listed entry.

At standalone rally trials, or trials held in conjunction with obedience or agility trials, a club may use either the **First Received** or **Random Draw** method of acceptance of entries to a limited entry trial. The premium list must state an opening date/time for when entries will be accepted.

When entries are limited, a club must designate a RAE and a Rally Champion (RACH) class in the premium list. Dogs entered in the RAE class would be entered in both Advanced B and Excellent B, and the combined entry fee for these two classes must be paid. If due to entry limits an exhibitor cannot be entered in both the Advanced B and Excellent B classes, the RAE class will be considered closed and any subsequent entries for this class will be unacceptable in their entirety.

Dogs entered in the RACH class would be entered in Advanced B, Excellent B and the Master class. The combined entry fee for these three classes must be paid. If due to entry limits an exhibitor cannot be entered in the Advanced B, Excellent B and Master classes the RACH class will be considered closed and any subsequent entries for this class will be unacceptable in their entirety.

First Received. Entries are accepted in the order of receipt. If stated in the premium list, a club may further restrict the

delivery options (i.e. No FedEx, No hand-deliveries at any time.) However, USPS delivery must be allowed.

Random Draw. When using the Random Draw method, entries are treated equally without regard to date/time received or any other criteria during the Draw Period. The AKC strongly recommends using the Random Draw method for trials which are likely to exceed the “total entry limit” within the first 24 hours after the opening date and time.

An envelope containing entries for more than ten (10) dogs maximum will be considered invalid and must be returned to the sender.

Random Draw Time Period. Clubs determine a “Draw Period” during which time entries are accepted for the Random Draw. Acceptance of entries begins on the opening date/time established for the trial as stated in the premium list. This time period must be at least seven (7) days in length (14 days is recommended). The Random Draw Time Period closing date and time must be stated in the premium list.

Reserved Spots for Trial Workers. When using the Random Draw method, the club may reserve a specific number of spots for exhibitors who have been selected to work at the trial. A spot is defined as a person who has entered the trial and has been se-

lected to work. The number of reserved spots allowed is based on the number of rings used. A club may reserve up to three (3) spots for each ring that is used (i.e. one ring equals three reserved spots, two rings equals six spots, and so on). Once the spots reserved for workers are filled, the remaining entries then become part of the Random Draw.

Conducting the Random Draw. If the entry limit for the trial is exceeded during the Random Draw Time Period, the club must conduct a Random Draw of all entries received, otherwise the Random Draw is not necessary. One draw may be conducted for all trials (concurrent or consecutive) held at the same site. One secretary or a group of cooperating secretaries are responsible for conducting the draw.

The Random Draw must be held within 48 hours of the “Draw Period” closing date and time and held in a place accessible to the public. The location, date and time of the draw must be stated in the premium list.

In conducting the draw, the Trial Secretary must avoid any method that raises any questions as to its randomness and impartiality.

The drawing may be conducted by manually selecting entry envelopes or by using a computerized random drawing program.

In either case, all entries submitted in one envelope must be included and counted. If the last envelope selected in the Random Draw contains entries that would exceed the stated total entry limit, a manual or computerized random draw of those individual entries must be conducted.

After the advertised limit of entries has been randomly drawn, clubs maintaining a wait list will randomly draw all remaining entries for a position on the wait list.

Accepting Entries After the Random Draw Time Period. If the trial did not exceed the limit during the Random Draw Time Period, all the entries received during this time period will be accepted into the trial. Clubs may continue to accept entries after the Random Draw Time Period according to the procedures for the First Received method of entry, though all entries must be received prior to the closing date and time for the trial.

Managing Waitlists on Limited Entry Obedience and Rally Trials

With increased COVID restrictions, clubs are experiencing a reduction in the number of people they may have in a facility for their events. This means that more clubs are hosting limited entry obedience and rally trials and with so few events being offered, it has resulted in more entries being received than can be accommo-

dated. The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation on how to manage waitlists at limited events to allow the most participation in events by modifying the existing waitlist requirements. The recommendation allows a club to set a waitlist closing date beyond the event closing date; however, it must be a minimum of three days prior to the first trial date in a set of trials. This change will be effective for all events immediately if published in the premium list.

Proposed

(Line In)

CHAPTER 1

OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 27. Limitation of Entries. If a club anticipates an entry to exceed the capacity of its facilities for a licensed or member trial, it may limit entries, not to exceed up to eight hours of judging time per day, per judge. Non-regular classes, however, may be included, if so desired.

Prominent announcement of such limits will appear on the title or cover page of the premium list for an obedience trial or immediately under the obedience heading in the premium list for a dog show. This announcement must state that entries in one or more specified classes will automatically close when certain limits have been

reached, even if this occurs before the official closing date.

However, a club, at its discretion, may choose to establish a wait list in order to fill openings created by entries that are withdrawn prior to a date and time established by the club. Such date may be beyond the event closing date; however, it must be a minimum of three (3) days prior to the first trial date of the set of trials. All entries must be received prior to the closing date and time. If a club is maintaining a wait list, this shall be stated in the premium. The full entry fee shall be refunded to an entrant whose entry is replaced by a wait-listed entry.

When entries are limited in the regular Open B and/or Utility B classes, a club must designate a regular UDX class in the premium list. Dogs entered in this UDX class would be entered in both Open B and Utility B, and the combined entry fee for these two classes must be paid. Once the limit has been reached in either the regular Open B or the Utility B class, the regular UDX class will be considered closed and any subsequent entries for this class will be unacceptable in their entirety.

If Preferred Open and Preferred Utility are offered and entries are limited in these classes, a club must designate a Preferred UDX class in the premium list. Dogs entered in this Preferred UDX class would be

entered in both Preferred Open and Preferred Utility and the combined entry fee for these two classes must be paid. Once the limit has been reached in either Preferred Open or the Preferred Utility class, the Preferred UDX class will be considered closed and any subsequent entries for this class will be unacceptable in their entirety.

Proposed (Line In)

CHAPTER 1

AKC RALLY REGULATIONS GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 24. Limitation of Entries. If a club anticipates an entry to exceed the capacity of its facilities for a licensed or member trial, it may limit entries, not to exceed up to eight hours of judging time per day, per judge. Entry limits may be based on ring availability or as specified by the club offering the event. Non-regular classes, however, may be included, if so desired.

Prominent announcement of such limits will appear on the title or cover page of the premium list for a rally trial or immediately under the rally heading in the premium list for an obedience trial or dog show. This announcement must state that the entries in one or more specified classes will automatically close when certain limits have been reached, even if this occurs be-

fore the official closing date.

When entries are limited, a club must designate a RAE and a Rally Champion (RACH) class in the premium list. Dogs entered in the RAE class would be entered in both Advanced B and Excellent B, and the combined entry fee for these two classes must be paid. If due to entry limits an exhibitor cannot be entered in both the Advanced B and Excellent B classes, the RAE class will be considered closed and any subsequent entries for this class will be unacceptable in their entirety. Dogs entered in the RACH class would be entered in Advanced B, Excellent B and the Master class. The combined entry fee for these three classes must be paid. If due to entry limits an exhibitor cannot be entered in the Advanced B, Excellent B and Master classes the RACH class will be considered closed and any subsequent entries for this class will be unacceptable in their entirety.

However, a club at its discretion may choose to establish a wait list in order to fill openings created by entries that are withdrawn prior to a date and time established by the club. Such date may be beyond the event closing date; however, it must be a minimum of three (3) days prior to the first trial date of the set of trials. All entries must be received prior to the closing date and time. If a club is maintaining a wait list, this shall be stated

in the premium list. The full entry fee shall be refunded to an entrant whose entry is replaced by a wait-listed entry.

Delegate and Club Approvals

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

Bonnie Bieber, Middletown, DE
To represent Wilmington Kennel Club

Mayno Blanding, Ridgefield, WA
To represent Bichon Frise Club of America

Kathi Elliot, Scottsdale, AZ
To represent Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club

Diana Komarek, Topeka, KS
To represent Topeka Kennel Club

Thea F. Lahti, New London, NH
To represent Irish Terrier Club of America

Richard L. Reynolds, Tenafly, NJ
To represent Garden State All Terrier Club

The Board VOTED to approve the following Clubs for Membership:

Carroll Kennel Club
Morris Hills Dog Training Club

NEW BUSINESS

Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to permit the Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club to have a third show in 2021.

Juniors Competing with Canine Partners

The Board discussed the recently approved policy to permit Junior handlers to compete in Conformation Junior Handling with AKC enrolled Canine Partners.

Following a motion by Ms. Biddle, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to allow clubs to opt-out of accepting entries from Junior Handlers with Canine Partners if they choose. The start date of this pilot program was pushed back until January 1, 2022 to allow for AKC to complete the programming that is required to enable for the opt-out on event applications.

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 5:34 p.m. 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			

HOUND GROUP

 Afghan Hound	 American English Coonhound	 American Foxhound	 Azawakh	 Basenji
 Basset Hound	 Beagle	 Black and Tan Coonhound	 Bloodhound	 Bluetick Coonhound
 Borzoi	 Cirneco dell'Etna	 Dachshund	 English Foxhound	 Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen
 Greyhound	 Harrier	 Ibizan Hound	 Irish Wolfhound	 Norwegian Elkhound
 Otterhound	 Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen	 Pharaoh Hound	 Plott	 Portuguese Podengo Pequeno
 Redbone Coonhound	 Rhodesian Ridgeback	 Saluki	 Scottish Deerhound	 Sloughi
 Treeing Walker Coonhound	 Whippet			

PARENT CLUB LINKS



WORKING GROUP



Akita



Alaskan Malamute



Anatolian Shepherd Dog



Bernese Mountain Dog



Black Russian Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



Dogue de Bordeaux



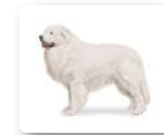
German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

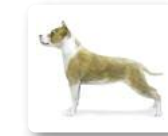
TERRIER GROUP



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

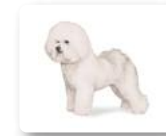


Yorkshire Terrier

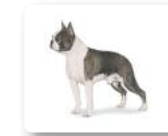
NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



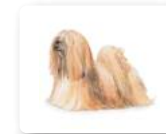
Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



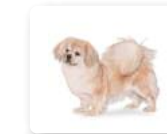
Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

PARENT CLUB LINKS

HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian 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



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/>