



gazette

SEPTEMBER 2024

**NOHS
at 14**

*CHF and
Sports
Medicine*



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PRIZE
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IDC Western Regional



PRIMO
Small Dog Agility Winner
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Looking Back and Ahead

This month is the official 140th anniversary of the *great* American Kennel Club. Our legacy is a storied one. On September 17, 1884, a group of 12 dedicated sportsmen from local dog clubs convened to form the American Kennel Club. Today, we have grown into the world's largest not-for-profit dog registry and the second-oldest amateur sport-governing body in the country.

What started out with conformation and field trials as its only sports has now grown to include 28 sports, many of which every dog is welcome to participate in.

The AKC continues to be the premier destination for everything dog and continues to promote canine health and well-being and responsible dog ownership and breeding, throughout the years. Through public education programs, legislative and advocacy efforts,



advancing canine health and working to protect the rights of each dog owner, the AKC provides the highest level of guidance to over 5,000 clubs and affiliated organizations nationally.

Our 140th year brought many exciting developments. In addition to record numbers of entries in conformation, companion, and performance events, the AKC recognized its

201st breed, the Lancashire Heeler, in January.

January also marked our 15th annual New York City AKC Meet the Breeds, the wildly popular educational initiative that gives attendees the unique opportunity to meet and play with hundreds of dog breeds while learning about responsible ownership from parent-club experts, and over 30,000 people attended. AKC also

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



AKC Meet the Breeds in New York delighted and educated 30,000 visitors.

joined forces with Allivet to create AKCRx, an online pet pharmacy offering FDA and EPA prescription and over-the-counter selections for a wide range of animals, including dogs, cats, horses, livestock, and birds.

Additionally, we launched AKC DNA + Health. This new test combines genetic health and traits testing with AKC DNA identification, creating a powerful tool for breeders.

And most importantly, we continue to hold steadfast to our mission to promote the sport of the purebred dogs and to make a better world

for dogs and their owners. It is genuinely great to be AKC.

We are celebrating another anniversary as well. This year marks the 14th anniversary of the AKC National Owner-Handled Series. This competition highlights the canine-human bond and is a beautiful demonstration of dedication to the breeding and exhibition of purebred dogs. We are thankful for every owner-handler and their beloved dogs for their participation over the years.

As we look ahead to the next 140 years, I am

enthusiastic for the future. Certainly, we will continue to find new ways to educate and engage the public about responsible dog ownership and breeding, as well as the uniqueness of our purebred dogs.

Thanks to each of you for your participation in our sports and the passionate work of the AKC.

Until next time,

Dennis

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO

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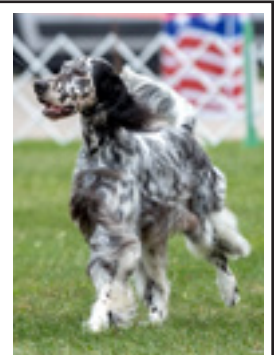


On a warm late-summer day, September 17, 1884, a group of 12 dedicated sportsmen met in the rooms of the Philadelphia Kennel Club. Each member of the group was a representative or “delegate” from a dog club that had, in the recent past, held a benched show or had run field trials. The delegates met to establish a “club of clubs” that they christened the American Kennel Club.

This issue of the AKC GAZETTE,

celebrating the AKC’s 140th anniversary, is dedicated to those visionary dog people of long ago who blazed the trail we still follow these many years later.

On Our Cover:
English Setter
courtesy Lynda
Beam



AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

Breeder Webinar: AKC Government Relations

Learn more about advocacy, legislative issues that affect breeders, and why your involvement matters during a September 24 webinar hosted by Vice President of Government Relations Sheila Goffe.

Goffe leads the AKC’s public-policy efforts, focusing on protecting the

rights of all dog owners, promoting responsible dog ownership and advancing appreciation for purebred dog ownership. She oversees AKC legislative policy strategy and AKC outreach at the federal, state, and local levels; works with legislators, legislative staff, and regulators on key issues in canine policy;

and supervises the AKC Government Relations team. She also serves as secretary on the AKC PAC board of directors and as staff lead for the [AKC Detection Dog Task Force](#).

Goffe is a breeder-owner-exhibitor of Siberian Huskies.

Sign Up Free of Charge

Hail to the Chief’s Dog

NEW YORK—The [AKC Museum of the Dog](#) exhibition *Presidential Dogs: Canine Companions in the White House* runs from September 18, 2024, to January 5, 2025.

Dogs, as well as other pets, have played an important role in the lives of U.S. presidents since George Washington bred his first fox-hound. In the runup to this year’s presidential election, the museum will present the history of presidential dogs, including those who have had access to the Oval Office. Explore this history of White House pets from a dog’s point of view.



“Barney and Miss Beazley,” by Constance Coleman (2005)

AKC MUSEUM OF THE DOG

UPDATES

Club Dues Reimbursement for Seniors

Grouper, a new AKC sponsor, works with health-insurance companies to help eligible members access Activity Benefits.

If you are 65 or older and have a Medicare supplement plan like Medicare Advantage or some other

types of insurance, Grouper will determine if your club dues can be reimbursed to you.

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interested in attracting members to be listed on their site at no cost, where up to 14 million eligible members can find your events and activities.

[More Information](#)

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CHF Backs Sports Medicine/Rehab Work

RALEIGH—The [AKC Canine Health Foundation](#), in collaboration with the AKC, announces Colorado State University and the University of Pennsylvania as the first recipients of

AKC/CHF Canine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency program awards.

This program was launched in February of 2024 to increase the num-

ber of specialists trained to meet the unique needs of athletic and working dogs, as well as all dogs in need of rehabilitation. Through a competitive process, approved sports medicine

DAVID WOO ©AKC

UPDATES

and rehabilitation programs submitted proposals that were reviewed by a panel of CHF leadership and subject matter experts.

• **Colorado State University's Small Animal Orthopedic Medicine and Mobility Service** offers its residents a varied caseload, strong mentors, and excellent resources. Clinicians and residents in this program consistently publish their research results in peer-reviewed journals to advance the science of canine rehabilitation medicine.

• **Penn Vet's Canine Sports and Performance Medicine Service** provides a research-intensive environment with many opportunities for residents to perform clinical duties and contribute evidence-based medical recommendations for canine athletes.

“We are thrilled to support two top-tier programs dedicated to training the next generation of specialists in canine sports medicine

and rehabilitation,” CHF Chief Executive Officer Dr. Stephanie Montgomery says. “These programs provide residents with the opportunity to learn from leaders in the field, contribute to groundbreaking research, and utilize state-of-the-art facilities.”

Generous support from the [Golden Retriever Foundation](#) has provided a jump start to the AKC/AKC CHF Canine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency program, allowing support for two residency programs in the first year. Each school will receive \$100,000 annually to support a three-year residency. Program goals include growth to support new residency programs every year.

“As Golden Retrievers participate in so many activities, the opportunity to sponsor the AKC/AKC CHF Sports Medicine Residency was met with whole-hearted support by the Golden Retriever Foundation,” GRF presi-

dent Chris Miele says.

“We have made our donation and three-year commitment from the Rachel Page Elliott Educational Fund, which was created precisely for these opportunities. We feel that with the tremendous rise in interest and participation in performance events, our support will benefit Golden Retrievers and all dogs.”

Veterinary professionals interested in participating in these residencies will apply through the Veterinary Internship & Residency Matching program in the spring of 2025 and start their residency training in July 2025.

With support from the AKC, breed clubs, and all dog lovers, CHF remains committed to meeting the ever-changing needs of veterinary medicine and canine health through cutting-edge science and educational grants.

[More Information](#)

Rajah's Fabulous '50s

Rajah, a sire of champions (including the legendary Ch. Rajah's Lucknow Major SROM)



Here's a classic Evelyn Shafer portrait that hasn't seen the light of day for many years: It's Walter and Anita Weinstein's Bullmastiff Ch. Twit-Lee's Rajah, who dominated breed rings in the 1950s, winning 36 BOB in 37 entries. Rajah was Best Bullmastiff at Westminster for five consecutive years ('54-'58). From the July 1956 GAZETTE Bullmastiff parent club column: "At a recent meeting of the Club's trophy committee, it was unanimously decided to award

the LeTasyll Trophy [for the year 1955], presented to us by the Southern Bull-Mastiff Society of England for annual award to the most outstanding American Bull-Mastiff, to Walter Weinstein's Rajah (Ch. Twit-Lee's Rajah, bred by R. Lee Twitty).

"This is the second year that Rajah has won the trophy. The committee decided that it is not only his outstanding show wins, in breed and groups, that entitle Rajah and his owners to honor, but also the fact that

as a resident of New York City he has done so much to win recognition for our breed, and to disprove the theory that Bull-Mastiffs are country dogs only.

"Our sincere congratulations to Rajah and his owners; may they long continue both their excellent show records, and the daily five-mile trots through the city which keep both Rajah and his popular owners in such glowing condition."

A year later, Rajah would win his third consecutive LeTasyll Cup.

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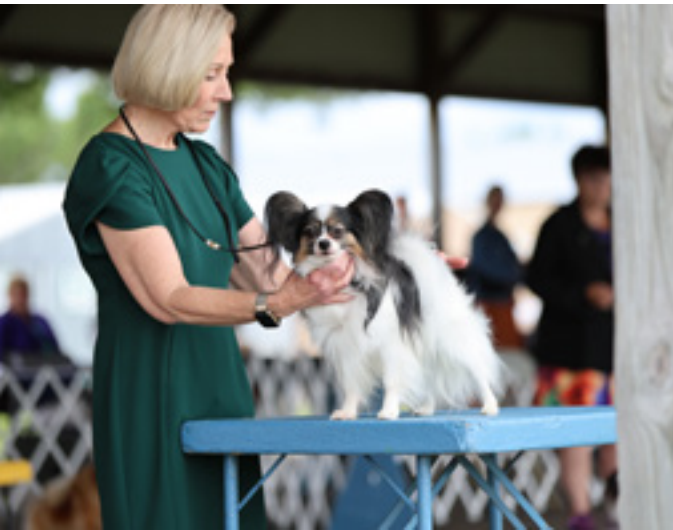
RINGSIDE

Summer Solstice Cluster | Cambridge, Minnesota

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NOHS: 14 Years and Going Strong

The National Owner-Handled Series recognizes the core of our sport. By Carl C. Ashby

There has been a good deal of discussion regarding the National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) over the years. I am a breeder-owner-handler, one of the 85 percent

STEPHANIELLEN PHOTOGRAPHY ©AKC

FEATURE



of exhibitors who show their own dogs and experience the challenges owner-handlers encounter. As a past AKC Director, who strongly pushed for NOHS, I have had the opportunity to study the state of conformation shows in the past and today and, in my opinion, the outlook is not bright. In the following paragraphs I will highlight why and then directly focus on the impact of the NOHS.

Although our conformation event entries (all-breed, specialty, and group) have remained relatively constant over the past four years excluding 2020 and 2021, the number of unique dogs in competition continues to decline. In 2011, 128,468 unique dogs competed, compared with 100,066 in 2023—a decline of 22 percent. During the same period the number of conformation events has

increased by 18 percent.

During this same period, we have seen the number of low-entry breeds grow to over 50 percent of our Stud Book. For example, breeder/exhibitors of 67 breeds have a less than 50 percent chance of having an entry at an event, and 30 breeds less than a 70 percent chance. This has huge implications for the future as it impacts both entries and participants. To

COURTESY: HOTDOG PHOTO

FEATURE

make things worse, in 2011, 3.5 percent of the pups in all registered litters were shown, where in 2022 the number was 1.8 percent.

Bottom line: We are redistributing a shrinking number of conformation participants across more entry opportunities. Redistribution will *not* sustain the sport.

The reality of these figures validates the importance of keeping as many dogs and people as possible involved in conformation events. The NOHS was not intended to solve all the challenges of our sport, but to contribute to sustaining it and the core mission of the American Kennel Club.

Attitude surveys have shown that many owner-handlers believe (right or wrong) there is little room for them to be successful at the breed and/or group level. The result is, people are simply not showing beyond the classes, being highly selective where they showed based on internet



research of a judging panel, or simply dropping out.

Keeping an existing exhibitor (owner-handler) is always easier than gaining a new one. Changing cultural norms, and restrictive pet ownership ordinances and laws, make it increasingly difficult to have multiple dogs and, simply, the 24/7 commitment to their dogs forms barriers for new participants.

FOUR KEYS

When the AKC Board

of Directors established the NOHS, we considered several factors impacting conformation:

1. People have a lot of recreational choices which don't require a 24/7 commitment as do dogs. They need a reason to stay at the show after breed judging rather than "one and done and gone."

2. Success is measured by recognition for the 24/7 commitment to their dogs.

3. There is a role for the professional in the sport,

COURTESY: HOTDOG PHOTO

FEATURE



but success must be balanced across all participants if the sport is to survive at a reasonable scale. (Interestingly, dogs listed with agents have actually declined over the years from about 19 percent pre-COVID to 15 percent in 2023—recognizing there are dogs shown by agents not listed with them, but the data is directional.)

4. There is a strong need to find ways for a person to participate with a smaller number of dogs. Keeping a dog in the ring for longer than achieving their

championship is not only important but necessary.

THEN AND NOW

The National Owner-Handled Series was created to provide an opportunity at the breed, group and BIS levels to recognize the core of our sport and to provide an opportunity for success that may be difficult to achieve otherwise.

After three years of spotty participation (offered at 13 percent of the all-breed shows in

2013) the data for those who did offer it showed a correlation to an increase in entries, while other competition special attractions (Bred by Exhibitor, Best Puppy) had *no* impact on entries. Furthermore, those who were participating were making entry decisions based on whether a club offered the NOHS or not, with entries increasing at those shows.

With only 13 percent of the clubs offering NOHS competition and the proven benefit to the club and participants, it became clear that ways had to be found to increase availability of the NOHS competition. This resulted in Board policy, a policy [MS1] driven by a deep belief this competition is truly in the long-term best interest of the conformation sport. Although that policy no longer exists, approximately 87 percent of events now offer NOHS competition, reflecting its importance to exhibitors.

COURTESY HOTDOG PHOTO

FEATURE



GROWING PAINS

As with any new competition there have been growing pains. These include exhibitors under-

standing eligibility guidelines as well as indicating their eligibility on the entry form, stewards getting their heads around

how to assist the judge in ring management, and judges understanding just how important this award is to the future of the sport.

DAVID WOO ©AKC

FEATURE

More Info

More than 80 percent of show dogs are handled by their owners. The AKC National Owner-Handled Series celebrates enthusiastic, hardworking owner-handlers and allows their dogs to compete head-to-head in the show ring.

NOHS competition is held after Best of Breed judging in each breed ring. Dogs ranking in the top 10 for their breed during the qualifying period are eligible to participate in this competition.

[NOHS Ranking](#)
[Point schedule](#)
[NOHS Finals](#)



These challenges have diminished over time.

The National Owner-Handled Series is approaching its 15th year as part of our conformation sport. Over that time, it has become an integral part of the conformation event. While there may still be some who believe this is a second-class competition, the vast majority find it to be a great addition, evidenced by exhibitors who “check the box.” At a time when class entries are dropping (from

approximately 74 percent of total entry in 2010 to 59 percent in 2023), the NOHS is more important than ever.

THE TAKEAWAY

There are differences in points of view regarding NOHS, as well as other areas of conformation. In spite of our differences, we must come together. We are the ones who give our dogs a voice. They are counting on us to ensure they don't become extinct. While the NOHS, on its own, will not ensure the future of our sport, it serves as a bridge to that end. If you are not checking the box, please do. If your club(s) are not offering the competition, please encourage them to do so for the future of our dogs and sport. **GZ**

*Carl C. Ashby is the AKC Delegate from the [United States Kerry Blue Terrier Club](#). His article first appeared in *Perspectives*, the Delegates' publication.*

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REACH FOR THE SKY!

AT THE HARVEST MOON CLASSIC

AKC

NOHS

REGIONAL EVENT



- NOHS REGIONAL -
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Santa Rosa, CA 95404

This will be a stand-alone event at the same time as the all-breed show
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TERRIER - Mrs. Betty-Anne Stenmark
HOUND - Mr. Shawn James Nichols
TOY - Ms. Janet M Allen
NON-SPORTING - Ms. Janet M Allen
WORKING - Mrs. Sandra Pretari Hickson
SPORTING - Mr. Shawn James Nichols
BEST IN SHOW - Mr. David J Kirkland

Each NOHS Regional Judge is licensed for the AKC group they are judging

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A Gazette Gallery
CANINE ROYALTY

German Shepherd Dogs from the pages of the AKC Gazette

Generally considered dogkind’s finest all-purpose workers, German Shepherd Dogs are large, agile, muscular dogs of noble bearing and high intelligence. Remarkably versatile, steady, and beautiful, the GSD is truly a dog lover’s delight.

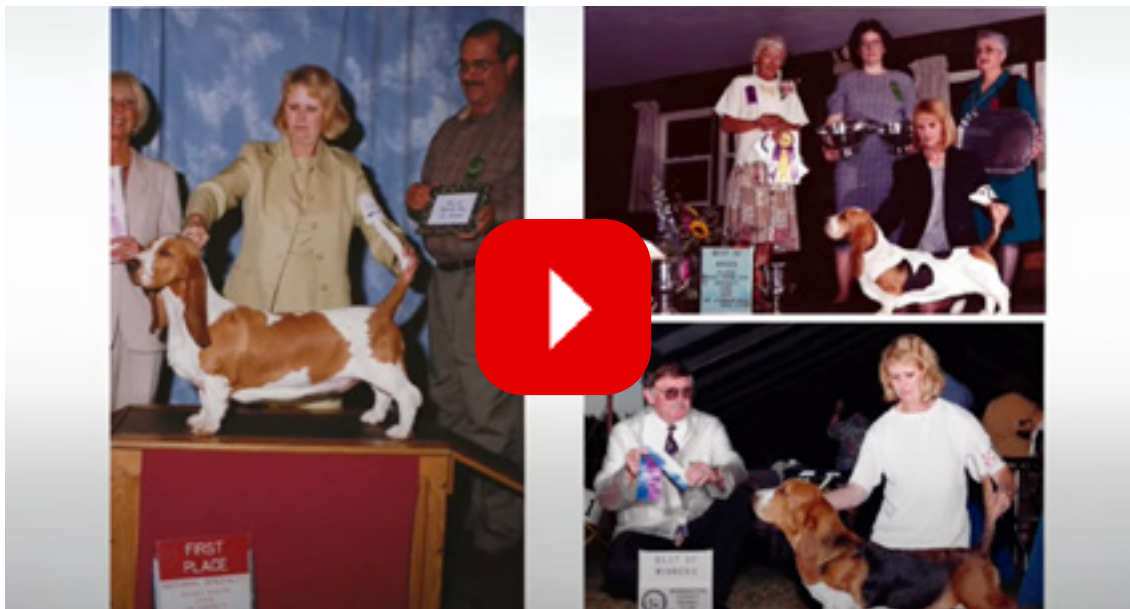
GSDs can stand as high as 26 inches at the shoulder and, when viewed in outline,

present a picture of smooth, graceful curves rather than angles.

The natural gait is a free-and-easy trot, but GSDs can turn it up a notch or two and reach great speeds.

There are many reasons why GSDs stand in the front rank of canine royalty, but experts say their defining attribute is character: loyalty,

courage, confidence, the ability to learn commands for many tasks, and the willingness to put their life on the line in defense of loved ones. GSDs will be gentle family pets and steadfast guardians but, the breed standard says, there’s a “certain aloofness that does not lend itself to immediate and indiscriminate friendships.”

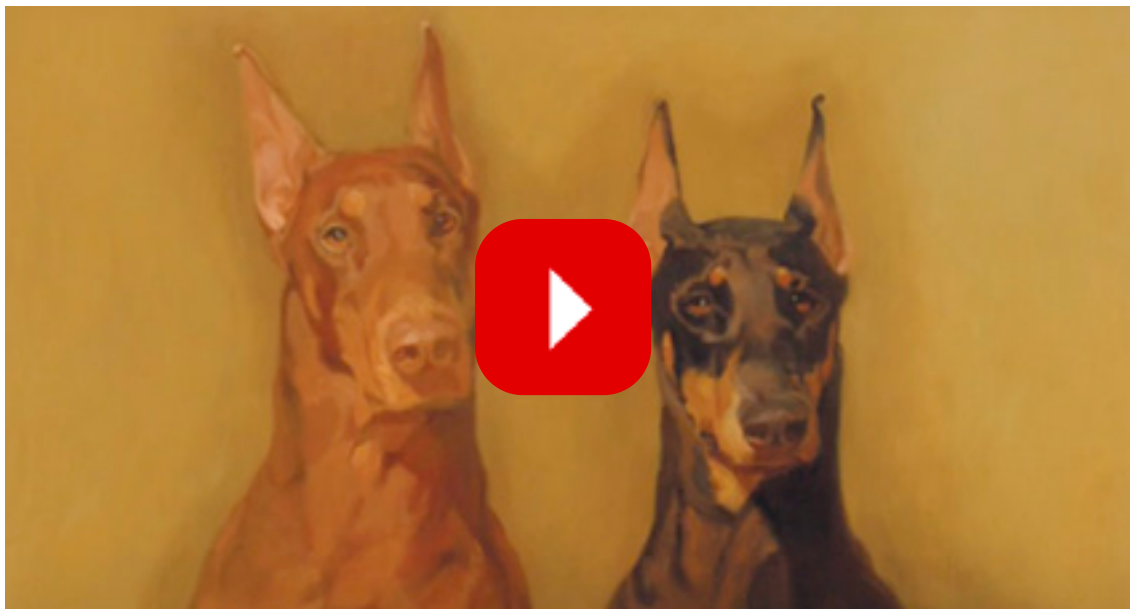


AKC Legacy Breeder interview: Dr. Claudia Orlandi 4:57



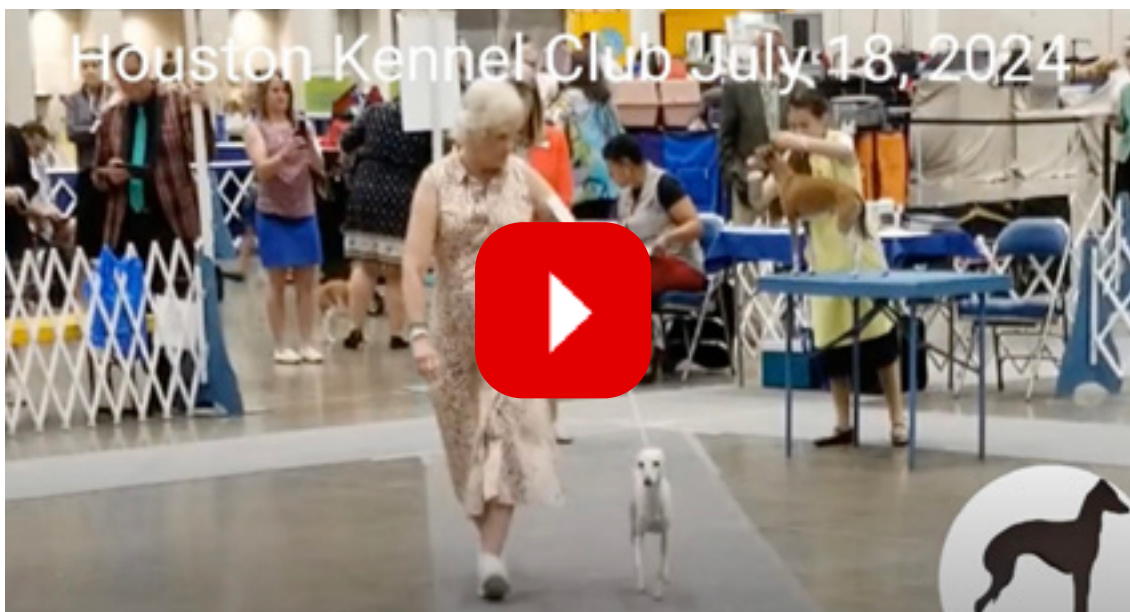
AKC Legacy Breeder interview: Joan Savage 7:22

VIDEOS



Breeder of the Year Portraits

Great champions from the kennels of top breeders, including this month's two Legacy Breeders. 1:06



Elegance in Motion

Angela Pickett judges Italian Greyhounds at Houston KC. 3:12



Margery Good

“In a breeding program, you need to concentrate virtues and minimize faults when you breed. So, you need to be able to see what a stud dog can give in virtues and what faults you might get and not double

on what you have in your female. See what her strengths are and not double on the faults that they have. So, generation after generation, you do that.”—Margery Good, *Pure Dog Talk* podcast

BUD BOCCONE ©2024

BREED COLUMNS



Edited by **Arliss Paddock**

This month we pay tribute to our late, great Shih Tzu breed columnist Jo Ann White with a reprint of one her wisest columns: "The Best Advice I Ever Got," from 2018.



DAVID WOO ©AKC

BREED COLUMNS

ABOUT THE BREED COLUMNS

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



THIS MONTH

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TOY GROUP

Brussels Griffons

THE HARDEST THING ABOUT BREEDING GRIFFONS

My friend Judy stopped by at the farm to play with my 20 Brussels Griffons. She asked, “What’s the hardest part of breeding dogs?”

Then she answered her own question. “It’s picking up the poop, right?”

Laughing, I shook my head. “No.”

My mentor as a breeder was Carol Harris. I visited her Ocala farm and kennels whenever I got a weekend off from work. Early in our friendship, she handed me pooper-scoopers, picked up her own, and we set off across her broad front lawn.

Carol said, “To be a good breeder, you have to like *everything* about taking care of your dogs. Even picking up. In fact, you have to *love* picking up, because you can tell a lot about your dogs by what you pick up.”

From that day forward, I have loved picking up after my dogs.

What is the hardest thing?



I had to think about that.

Getting up every morning at 6 or 7 A.M. to let dogs out? Shaking out the blankets and rinsing the water buckets and sweeping and mopping the kennel floor? The expensive trips to the vet?

Judy suggested, “Selling the puppies?”

Not that, I told her. My mentor used to say, “I love

all the wonderful friends the dogs have brought into my life.” That’s how I feel, too. Because I am careful to get to know a bit about every potential buyer, with nearly every puppy I make a friend. My Christmas card pile is high with cards from people who own puppies that were born here. When they stay in touch and send photos, we always respond.

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

Retiring the older Griffons is hard. When they will no longer be going to shows or breeding puppies, I let my ladies and gentlemen go to family or friends or neighbors, or to new people pleading for a Griffon to take the place of one who recently passed. In all those situations, the Griffon becomes the cherished child, taken everywhere, given the best veterinary care, and hugged constantly, which is a wonderful life for a Griff. So the sadness I feel about their leaving is replaced by happiness at knowing the great life they will have as a beloved only dog.

My assistant, Baily Libengood, makes a good point when she says, “The hardest thing is making a decision which is not beneficial for you, but beneficial to the dog.” There are some puppies we think will be great for showing, only to see the muzzle grow too long or the gait too stilted. We have already started training, grooming, and loving this puppy. Now that

he can’t be shown or bred (which would pass on the unwanted trait), his life on the farm would be uneventful. It’s better to let him go to one of the many loving owners who are waiting, even though we invested our hearts in him. That’s hard.

Conclusion: There are many hard things about breeding dogs. But there are not enough to discourage us from loving it.

—Sharon Sakson

[American Brussels Griffon Association](#)

Chihuahuas

WHAT DO YOU FEED YOUR DOG?

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

I’ve tried them all: the most expensive, the most

popular, the newest trend, the organic, and the less expensive brands.

To be honest, with the different foods I couldn’t tell much difference in how my dogs looked or felt. Their coats are always shiny, their teeth are good, their attitudes are happy, and they are not picky eaters.

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

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



TOY GROUP



Chihuahua: “Dog with a Ball,” Malcom S. Tucker, 1893

needed for my breed.

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

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

regular pet food stores. What I found was very interesting.

It all came down the amount of protein and fat contained in the product. The dog’s stage of life also factors into what their body requires. I was so surprised to see some of the top puppy foods did not contain what I consider to be a good percentage of fat and protein. Plus, those “all stages” foods are just not enough for puppies, and sometimes too much for the seniors.

I have found the best percentage of protein for my dogs is 28 to 30 percent, with fat percentages ranging from 18 to 20 percent. When I find a food I like but the percentages are too high or two low, I may blend two foods to get the exact effect I want with my dogs. Too much fat can cause obesity, and too much protein can be problematic in terms of liver and kidney issues, so seek your vet’s advice and be careful to stay with a diet that works best for your dogs. —Virginia (Jenny) Hauber, 2015

[Chihuahua Club of America](#)

Havanese

HARD PROBLEMS, MORE EASY ANSWERS

Following up on my last column, published in the March issue, I wanted to continue with some of the helpful solutions I have found over the last 54 years of being a preservation breeder.

Living in the middle of a forest, my dogs often come

TOY GROUP



Havanese

in with tree sap stuck to their long coats. *Hmmm*. It took a lot of experimentation with various safe substances to find that a small amount of rubbing alcohol dabbed on the sap dissolves it, fast, with no harm to the coat.

Long before everyone had a cell phone (with camera) attached to an ear, we took pictures with actual still and video cameras—big, bulky things. Film needed developing, and the whole process was clumsy at best. Today, taking pictures and videos couldn't be easier, and the results are immediate. Back in the “dark ages,” it was a lot harder to see your dog in the ring as others (judges) see him. So why aren't more people asking a friend to video dogs so that

they can analyze and critique the dog as he is? I find it shocking to observe highly promoted dogs and think, “Have they looked at the rear on that dog?”

Take a video and show it to a trusted, experienced dog show friend, handler, judge, or trainer. Be sure that they will give you an honest and educated opinion. No dog is perfect, and pictures (usually) don't lie. We have been videoing and analyzing our dogs for decades. Look and learn!

Very smelly dog? Is it urine? Or skunk? Sometimes no matter how well you think you bathe your dogs, there is a lingering foul odor. There are a number of remedies right on your shelf that can ame-

liorate that problem. (Test everything first on a small spot to be sure your dog has no adverse reaction.)

Try diluting a little Dawn liquid detergent in a spray-bottle and spray it on the problem area. Doesn't work? Try diluted white vinegar, sprayed on and left in for 10 minutes before washing out. Regular Listerine mouthwash is also great for removing coat odors. Listerine White also works on stained coat areas. Lemon juice concentrate is an old handler's remedy for mouth stains, too, mixed with corn starch to a paste and left on a beard for 20 minutes.

Speaking of mouth stains, I personally hate dogs with wet beards. To minimize how wet (and consequently stained) beards can get, I have designed a water-bowl system that holds plenty of water but limits how wet a face can get. Take any bowl from small to large and create a “moat” by putting something in the middle of the bowl so the only water exposed is a narrow

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perimeter, like a moat. For example, a clean rock in the middle of the bowl works well to hold the bowl in place and limit the drinking area to the space between the rock and the edge of the bowl. Don't like a rock? Use a smaller bowl, inverted in the larger bowl, to create the narrow perimeter. Don't like that? Get a steel ball to have the same effect. Yes, the heavy ball does bob around a bit, but the end result is to limit the dog's face to exposed water.

Helpful hints from Alice! Let me know what works for you.

Opinions expressed here are those of the author, not of the Havanese Club of America.

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

Italian Greyhounds

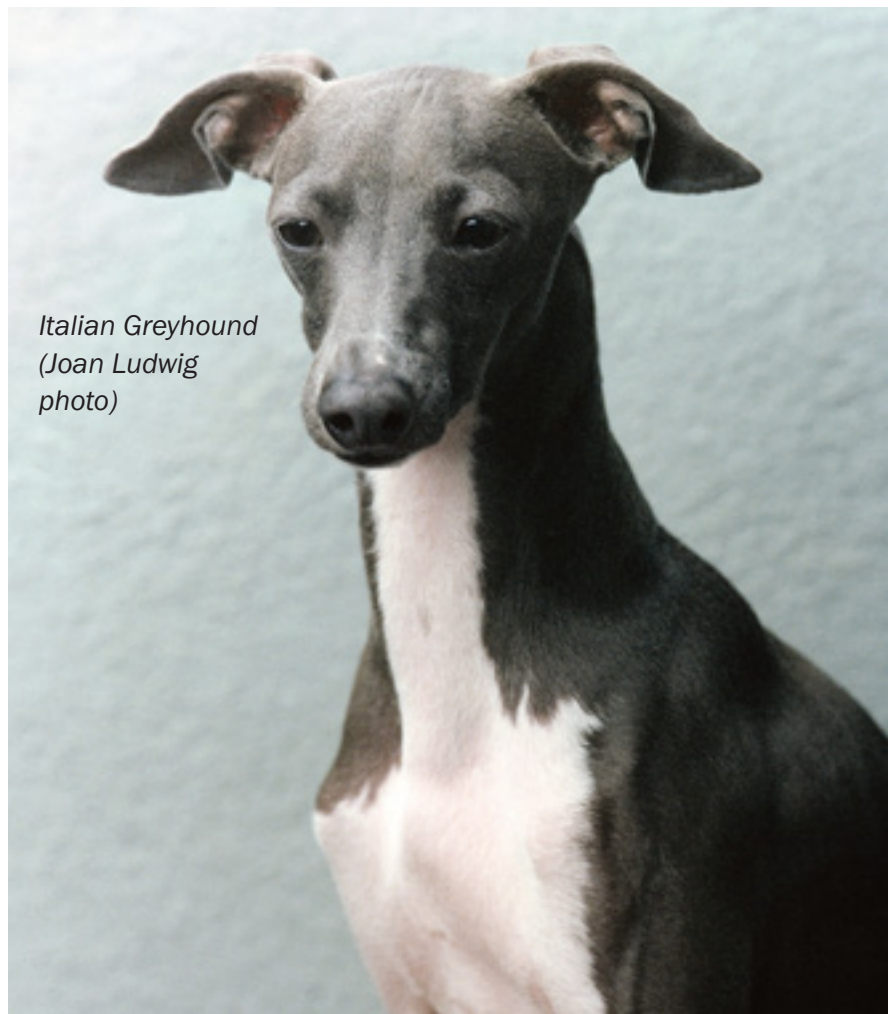
Our guest writer is Meredith Persinger, who shares a two-part look at an example of language used in the Italian

Greyhound breed standard.

LEARNING THE LANGUAGE OF AKC STANDARDS PART ONE

Language does not stagnate. Rather, it adapts and reflects the rapid changes of society. With the introduction of technology and social media, these changes have only accelerated exponen-

tially. However, with these rapid changes, our memory grows increasingly short and we forget how to analyze literature within the context it was written. As a result, meaning becomes skewed or completely lost altogether and this phenomenon does present a threat to our calling as preservation dog



*Italian Greyhound
 (Joan Ludwig photo)*

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



TOY GROUP

breeders.

Consider how every breed has its “bible,” *the standard*, that defines and determines how that breed should look, move, and behave. In Italian Greyhounds, the bible is the AKC standard that has remained unchanged since 1976 and, more notably, the *language* of that standard has been kept true to its original state which was penned in 1886.

Therefore, every time I read the IG standard, I must recognize that the context and *language* is very different from the current layman’s English. Fortunately, many resources and tools are available to help reset my understanding for an accurate interpretation.

To illustrate my point, I will highlight one word in the IG standard that has been the source of consternation for many people: *drooping*.

First, I must read where the word is applied in the Italian Greyhound standard: “Body: Of medium length,

short coupled; high at withers, back curved and *drooping* at hindquarters, the highest point of curve at start of loin, creating a definite tuck-up at flanks.”

What picture does that sentence create, without any additional context? Probably not a pleasing one, and this is why many IG breeders either vehemently dislike the word “drooping” or ignore its existence completely. It presents an uncomfortable problem breeders must navigate.

“Drooping” appears to work against the picture of elegance and grace the Italian Greyhound is meant to be. For many people, it produces a mental picture of a crouching IG with his tail tucked tightly between his knees, communicating timidity and nervousness.

Should the word be simply ignored? Should it be deleted completely from the standard?

Time to build some context. I must assume that the original authors felt that this word had significant

meaning to include it in the standard; therefore, the word must have merit.

Droop evolved from the Middle English word *drōu-pen*, which means “to sag, slump.” In the earliest written instances (13th century), *drōu-pen* was often used to describe the shape of the shoulder when a person was downcast, or how someone would hang their head in discouragement.

So far, not off to a good start! There is more to learn, however. —M.P.

(To continue in Part Two, to appear in the December 2024 AKC GAZETTE.)

Thank you, Meredith, for sharing this interesting discussion.

—Harry Bennett,
harryonly@aol.com

Japanese Chin

My name is Karen Markin Wolfer, and I am thrilled to be the new GAZETTE writer for the Japanese Chin Club of America. While I am new to the breed club, I am not

TOY GROUP



Alexandra of Denmark and her Japanese Chin—her favorites were with her night and day.

new to the breed. Chin have been a part of our family since we met our first, a rescue that we named Bambui. We never could have known then how much these little dogs would become part of our lives. During the week I am a school principal, and on the weekends I enjoy dog sports with our Chin and Scottish Collies.

ROYAL COMPANIONS

The British crown has long been known for its love of dogs. Today we connect Queen Elizabeth with her beloved Corgis, and historically Queen Victoria's love for dogs was legendary.

However, another British royal was a passionate fancier as well. Alexandra of Denmark, daughter-in-law of Victoria and eventually Queen Consort to King Edward VII of England, brought the Japanese Chin to fame.

Alexandra and Edward were wed March 10, 1863, and the royal family gifted her with her first Chin. She began collecting the breed, all of them being imported from Japan and China.

Alexandra was well known for her sense of humor and love for her children, and she was famed for her style of dress and stately nature.

She became an early fashion icon, so the near-constant presence of a Japanese Chin in her arms made them popular as well.

The dogs who lived in the kennels lived lives of luxury, but her most beloved dogs were her constant companions. Her Japanese Spaniels (the historical name for the Japanese Chin) were with her night and day, usually tucked under her arm. The Chin slept in Alexandra's dressing room on silk cushions and traveled with her everywhere she went. She would have at least a half-dozen Chin chasing



TOY GROUP

behind her as she walked the halls and grounds. There are several accounts of Alexandra playing the piano with a Chin on her feet and one laying across her lap.

There are dozens of photographs of her, and almost all feature one or more of her little Chin. The most famous of these were Billy, Punchy, Haru, and Togo. Unfortunately, the dogs are sometimes misidentified today as Pekingese, but a discerning eye can see that Togo was a red and white and Haru a black and white Chin.

Many of these photos were used as picture-postcards that people could purchase and mail as correspondence. Looking at these portraits, it is easy to see how much she adored her little dogs.

Any home that has a Japanese Chin today understands that these lovely companions consider themselves royal—perhaps recalling the days of silk cushions and castles of their

ancestors.

—Karen Wolfer

[Japanese Chin Club of America](#)

Papillons

BEWARE THE DANGERS OF CHEWS AND TOYS

Puppies are so inquisitive. They just love exploring the world around them and tasting everything that comes within their view. It could be their chews, toys, or even your fingers! However, we need to be proactive and know that the choices we give them will not be dangerous, are safe, and will not compromise their health and well-being. Manufacturers want to sell their products and assure customers that their chews and toys are safe. However, there are issues that we must be aware of, and the last thing we want to do is harm our precious puppies.

Be aware of long, hairlike acrylic fibers in toys. When one of my pups had a hard time swallowing, I realized he had been chewing on a

toy with long fibers. I immediately removed the toy and watched him closely. Then I gave him baby food consisting of small meat-sticks that was less irritating to his trachea, and easier for him to swallow rather than tiny, dry kibble. In a few days all was well, and he was back to swallowing and eating normally again.

There are dangers in allowing your dogs to chew on hard items like antlers, hooves, and beef knucklebones, which will splinter. Whether cooked or uncooked, these can still be hard enough to break teeth or cause digestive irritation.

Dogs will experience pain from having an exposed pulp canal that could become infected or abscessed. All of these problems could be avoided rather than creating health conditions or tooth loss or decay.

Rawhides are another issue. First is a concern regarding where they are manufactured, because many contain dangerous chemicals. Also, chunks

TOY GROUP



Papillon

that are chewed can lead to choking hazards if left unattended.

Many years ago, a family member gave me some rawhide “shoestrings” for my dogs. I brought them to a specialty, gave one to my puppy, and the thin rawhide slid right down his

throat, cutting off his airway. Fortunately I did not leave him alone and was able to retrieve the rawhide.

There are other toys to be concerned with, such as hard plastic bones and hard nylon chews, like Nylabones, all of which can be damaging for your dog’s teeth.

These toys have little or no “give” and also, like bones, can lead to tooth fractures. Swallowing chards that break off from hard plastic bones can lead to a digestive obstruction requiring expensive surgery.

Another issue raises concern regarding plastic bones and chew-toys. There has been an enormous amount of research that has proven the detriment of plastics to the human body. When I learned of this, it made me wonder if this might be a cause of reproductive abnormalities in dogs. According to one of many studies, this one being in *Environmental Health Perspectives*, “Most plastic products can release a chemical that mimics the sex hormone estrogen.”

This certainly gave me food for thought and made me discontinue usage of plastic bones and all plastic chew-toys. —Roseann Fucillo, 2019

[Papillon Club of America](#)

STEPHANIELLEN PHOTOGRAPHY © AKC

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Pekingese

PEKINGESE VERSATILITY— WITH A FLAIR

Although the newly minted Pekingese Versatility Program was launched just this year by the Pekingese Club of America (PCA), Pekingese have been competing for some time in sports not readily associated with the breed.

The word *Pekingese* conjures up images of colorful Oriental silk cushions occupied by aloof, dignified dogs or regal, luxuriously coated canines slowly trotting around rings at conformation dog shows. These images may lead an observer to the conclusion that Pekingese are merely beautiful dogs who lie around all day on ice-packs, expecting to be waited on by their human servants.

Additionally, this breed is notoriously stubborn and willful. However, once their interest is aroused, they become highly motivated, and people are astonished at the vigor and zeal with

which a Pekingese with a strong prey drive pursues a Walmart-bag lure as the dog hurtles himself down the 100-yard stretch of a Fast CAT course.

The Pekingese Versatility Program includes conformation, companion sports (agility, obedience, rally), performance sports (Farm Dog, Fast CAT, scent work), and AKC Recognition Program events (Barn Hunt, Trick Dog, Therapy Dog, Canine Good Citizen, and Temperament Test). Dogs must accrue points in different categories in order to earn Versatility titles.

Reese, the first Pekingese to earn a Versatility award, went for the gold. Owned and trained by Sharon Sipple, Reese is a two-time Rally Champion (RACH), with accomplishments in two other categories as well, titling in Fast CAT, Trick Dog, and CGC, which vaulted him to a Versatile Pekingese Gold award.

Sharon credits Reese's breeder with giving him an early foundation to succeed

by clicker training him as a tiny puppy. Sharon took her new boy to training classes where she was introduced to rally. She thought that was a great way to bond, so they started competing. After Reese earned his Novice title, Sharon realized she and Reese were becoming breed ambassadors. "People are fascinated by watching these beautiful dogs perform," she said.

Cheryl Chang, who has owned the Da Mao kennel in Hawaii for almost 50 years, has been participating since the late 1970s with her Pekes in obedience, agility, rally, Canine Good Citizen, Temperament Test, Trick Dog, and scent work. (She tried Fast CAT, but her bitch just sat and looked at her.)

People don't usually associate Pekingese with scent work, since the breed has a short nose, but some have a great sense of smell. Cheryl said scent work is a lot of fun with a food-motivated Pekingese. The training starts with the dog sniffing



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Pekingese Reese enjoys a wide range of activities including agility, rally, tricks, and Fast CAT. Owned and trained by Sharon Sipple, Reese earned the PCA's Versatile Pekingese Gold award.

out food, then finding food paired with an essential oil, then hunting for a Q-tip dabbed with the oil. Cheryl said the Pekingese who

smelled then stole food off her coffee table became her scent work dog.

One of Cheryl's proudest memories was when her Pekingese, Monk, earned the first leg of an agility title. She told herself, "Now I know I can do this." She said a lot of judges in these events have never had a Pekingese in their trials before, and some judges

do not even recognize the breed. When enlightened, they say, "I didn't know a Pekingese could do this."

Cheryl did have a stellar conformation memory when her Forest, Da Mao Black Forest Cake, took a Best in Show. Forest also earned an Beginner Novice title in obedience, a Rally Novice title, and a CGC.

Seeing Reese participate in

COURTESY SHARON SIPPLE / PIXN'PAGES PHOTOGRAPHY / MLBAER PHOTOGRAPHY



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different sports can inspire others to start doing fun things with their Pekingese and may help increase ownership and participation.

Sharon was thrilled when the Pekingese Club of America started the Versatility Program. She said, “I felt really good that PCA would start to recognize us in some way. Because I was in performance sports, I was always an outsider. By adding the Versatility Program, that gives a place in the club for others.”

Sharon urged Cindy Lutian, a Pekingese owner who is not a breeder and participates in events other than conformation, to apply to join PCA as an Associate member, which she did. PCA welcomes applications for Associate membership from those interested in achieving Versatility titles on their Pekingese.

—Colleen Doolin Skinner,
colleen.doolin.skinner@gmail.com

[Pekingese Club of America](#)

Pomeranians

LEAD-TRAINING POM PUPPIES

After years in the breed, I am convinced that there are few things more stubborn than a Pomeranian puppy being taught to walk on a leash. I have seen even the most confident and outgoing of puppies hesitate to walk on a leash at home, and even more so away from home. For a breed that should be “cocky, commanding, and animated” as they gait, it can be challenging for judges and exhibitors to be patient with a puppy who refuses to walk.

From the puppy’s perspective, it makes sense. The world is a large place that towers over them. Different surfaces, from slick cement to the ribbed mats in the show rings, reflect light differently, which can be very overwhelming to a puppy who stands only several inches off the ground.

Then of course there is the duct tape, which puppies love to balk at or jump over, or both all at once!

Even when we think we

have our puppies trained at home, the shows have loud dryers and collapsing crates that frequently spook young dogs.

What should we do to best prepare our puppies? As breeders and owners, we need to start early and expose puppies to many different situations away from home—which is sometimes easier said than done.

Traveling with puppies to shows has become more difficult. Puppy matches have nearly gone extinct, although clubs have started to offer more 4–6 Months competitions. However, even these events are fairly restrictive in who can compete. No professional handlers, nor anyone who has ever assisted a professional handler, even if they bred the dog, are eligible to show.

Shows in general are not welcoming to young, unentered dogs. For example, at one show this year, the kennel club allowed companion dogs into the building to participate in fun events

TOY GROUP



Pomeranian

with their owners but turned away an exhibitor who had her two puppies entered in the 4–6 Months puppy competition the following day.

Conformation classes are hard to find and are often held at inconvenient times during the week that conflict with work or other family events. All this often means that a puppy's first exposure to a dog show is once they have turned 6 months and they are entered in the puppy class.

It is important for the

puppy to have a good experience, but puppies also learn very quickly that if they stop walking, they will be carried.

Judges need to be mindful of this and give extra time to the exhibitor and puppy. Allow the puppy to take shortcuts through the ring or do the down-and-back off the mat. Offer the puppy a piece of food, or give the handler time to let the puppy play with a toy. Do not simply excuse the puppy for not acting like a seasoned show dog. Sometimes a reluctant puppy will follow

another dog, and it can be helpful to give a puppy in a single-entry class the opportunity to come back into the Winners class for additional exposure and the chance to walk with a large group.

As breeders, exhibitors, and owners, we owe it to our puppies to expose them to new situations and to begin training early. Whether our puppies will grow up to be show dogs or valued family companions, they need the confidence to handle all types of situations. Our judges need to recognize



TOY GROUP

that it may take more time for puppies to walk confidently in the show ring, and they can help owners and exhibitors by creating a positive experience.

Always remember, patience is key and will help transform a hesitant puppy into the outgoing, animated dog we love so much.

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

Shih Tzu

Following is a classic column from the American Shih Tzu Club's longtime columnist Jo Ann White, who passed away earlier this year. A memorial tribute to Jo Ann appeared in the [June issue](#).

BEST ADVICE I EVER GOT

At a recent national specialty I asked exhibitors old and new to tell me, in a single sentence, the most valuable tip on dogs they had ever received—the thing that someone had told them



Shih Tzu, May 1978 (Creszentia Allen photo)

or shared that really stuck in their mind. Here are some of their responses, which might inspire those in Shih Tzu as well as other breeds as they try to mentor and inspire newcomers.

Look at the whole picture.

Have fun!

Be a good sport—always congratulate the winners, and be kind.

Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater.

They don't walk on their mouths.

Don't give up.

Remember that you have a different judge every day.

Train before you go into the

ring to make sure your dog is going to do what you want him to do.

Balance, balance, balance—moving and standing.

Your first impression is usually the best.

Breed to the older dog first.

Find the right products for your dog's coat, and learn how to use them.

Good sportsmanship is essential.

A good mentor willing to share makes all the difference.

Remember that you always go home with the best dog!

Rinse thoroughly.

Brush daily.

When brushing, don't flip your wrist or dig—brush straight.

Act like you know what you are doing—with chin up, back straight, and long strides.

You can't groom or show as well as a handler, so you have to breed a better dog.

Start with the best.

Just be calm and smile.

Don't take anything too seriously—it's just a dog show.

The judges put their pants

BREED COLUMNS

TOY GROUP

on just like you do—they're just people.

Concentrate on the advantages of your dog, and ignore the faults; your real competition is yourself and your dog.

Only show your best.

Relax, and have fun!—Jo Ann White, 2018

[American Shih Tzu Club](#)

Toy Fox Terriers

A CASE FOR BRUSHING—TEETH, THAT IS!

Did you brush your teeth last night? I bet you did. It's a habit instilled in us from the time we are young. We do it to avoid bad breath and gum disease, and to have pearly white teeth.

Did you brush your Toy Fox Terrier's teeth last night? For most pet owners, brushing their dog's teeth is not the daily habit it is for us humans. And yet, brushing your dog's teeth can have the same positive results.

Your Toy Fox Terrier has the same number of teeth in his mouth as a Great Dane. The problem for toy dogs is those 42 teeth are a lot

more crowded in the very small mouths of the toy breeds. This makes it easier for toy dogs to get gum (periodontal) disease. With the crowded teeth, food gets lodged, plaque and calculus build up, tartar forms, and gums get irritated. From there, it's downhill to gum disease.

According to veterinary associations, periodontal disease is linked to heart diseases such as endocarditis and is also linked to tooth loss, sinus infections, and other physical ailments caused by the gum infection allowing bacteria to get into the bloodstream.

There are many products marketed to clean dogs' teeth and breath. I find that many have drawbacks. If I put ingredients in the water that are supposed to fight the plaque and bacteria, most of my dogs won't drink sufficient amounts of water. With the summer heat that could be dangerous.

My Toy Foxes don't just chew on bones, they devour them—and that can lead to

stomach issues. Many veterinarians warn against hard chews like antlers due to the high numbers of fractured teeth they see. Edible dental chews are appreciated by Toy Fox Terriers, but for many of us who have dogs watching their calories, eating those can add to unwelcome weight gain.

Veterinarians are an important part of your dog's oral health. Dental cleanings with ultrasonic cleaners can be performed in the clinic. These are usually done under light sedation so your veterinarian can reach all areas of each tooth.

For some dogs, however, it seems that even an annual cleaning isn't sufficient. I have one dog who would have serious tartar forming within a few months of a cleaning. He's not interested in bones, and none of the typical options seemed to work. That's when I discovered that brushing dogs' teeth is an effective way to keep their mouths healthy.

A fellow breeder advised me to get a generic son-

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Attention to your Toy Fox Terrier's oral hygiene helps to ensure his better breath and a longer, healthier life.

ic-type toothbrush and poultry-flavored enzymatic dog toothpaste. Of course, then I had to convince my dog to let me brush his teeth.

First, I introduced the flavored toothpaste on my finger and gently rubbed his teeth with it. He loved the flavor and wanted more. I then put it on the toothbrush and gently rubbed the toothbrush on his teeth, with lots of praise. Next I began actually brushing his teeth. Finally, I turned

the toothbrush on using the “soft” setting. I gently pulled his lip out enough to get all the way back to the molars.

We have been brushing his teeth four years now, and at his annual exams the vet declares his teeth look great—no dental work necessary.

As a result of that success, I began brushing all my dogs' teeth every night, and my dogs actually like the toothpaste so much they line up for it.

Be careful only to use toothpaste for dogs; the toothpastes for people are dangerous for your pet. Work with your vet to develop a good oral hygiene protocol. It will pay off with better breath and a longer, healthier life for your Toy Fox Terrier.

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

COURTESY SUSAN THIBODEAUX

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Bichons Frises

BFCA CODE OF ETHICS IN BRIEF

All members of the Bichon Frise Club of America should be familiar with and observe the rules and regulations of the AKC, the BFCA, and the complete Code of Ethics, and should protect the interest of the breed and the club by conducting themselves in a manner which will reflect credit upon themselves, their breed, and the club they represent. They shall exhibit goodwill at all dog-related events.

No members shall knowingly engage in false or misleading advertising or misrepresentation of their dogs. No members shall malign the competition by making false or misleading statements about a competitor, a competitor's dogs, or a competitor's breeding practices.

Members shall put the welfare of each dog above personal gain, profit, and/or personal convenience, remembering that each dog



(purchased, bred, or sold) is a lifetime responsibility.

Members shall be familiar with the breed standard and be responsible for breeding

only those specimens with merit.

Members shall abide by AKC rules concerning record keeping, registration,

COURTESY MAYNO BLANDING



NON-SPORTING GROUP

sale, and transfer of dogs.

Members, when contemplating breeding a litter or allowing the use of their stud dog to the same end, shall do so with every effort toward producing dogs of exceptional quality, temperament, and condition.

Members shall use for breeding only those dogs which are healthy and free from serious congenital and hereditary defects and shall cease breeding any animals which have been found to produce such defects in their offspring.

Members shall breed only when they have the time and facilities to provide adequate attention to puppies' physical and emotional development and shall provide this attention until the puppies are sold.

Members shall refuse to breed stud dogs to any bitch whose owner is directly involved with any puppy broker, puppy mill, litter lot sales, or any other commercial enterprise whose business is involved in like activities.

Should a Bichon bred by any member of BFCA end up in BFCA Rescue, the member should endeavor to do one of the following: take back the Bichon, assist Rescue in rehoming the Bichon, and/or make a donation to Rescue, to the extent the member can afford to do so, to assist in the care and rehoming of the Bichon.

Members must be concerned with the proper placement of Bichons, both for pet and show potential. It is highly recommended that breeders do a thorough background check (to the best of their ability) of prospective buyers to ensure that the buyers will provide a good home and proper care.

Contracts must be clear and complete, with all conditions agreed upon between the buyer and breeder/seller stated. A member signing any contract must honor all contractual conditions agreed upon at the time of signing.

All Bichons sold should be

healthy and at least 10 weeks old before placement.

The member should supply written instructions on feeding, care, training, and grooming, and medical records that include the dates and types of vaccinations given and the dates of deworming.

Members will *never* sell puppies or adults to pet stores, either on consignment or outright, or supply any Bichon for raffles or other such enterprises, including donations for fundraisers or shelters. Likewise, no intact Bichon puppy or adult shall be sold, traded, or bartered to any commercial breeding facility.

Members will never knowingly falsify pedigree or breeding information.

This is a brief summary of the Code of Ethics; breeders are encouraged to review the entire Code online.

Best of luck to you in your breeding program!

—Mayno Blanding,

maynob@gmail.com

[Bichon Frise Club of America](#)

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Boston Terriers

FIRE ANT DANGER

The Boston Terrier is considered brachycephalic and prone to upper-airway obstruction. Like many small flat-faced breeds that have flat noses, short muzzles, and sometimes an elongated soft palate, they can't afford to have their throat swell up.

Fire ants can pose a special risk. These are not like other ants in the yard; they are very aggressive and will attack, stinging anything that disturbs their mound. They target body parts with little or no hair such as eyes, ears, muzzle, and abdomen. A curious dog may decide to investigate by smelling or may accidentally step on the mound, inducing them to attack.

If a person or animal messes with the mound, the ants will go straight up their body, swarming and making you wish you had never bothered them. Don't try to spray to kill them like other ants, because it will not work. If a substance is put



Boston Terrier

down to destroy them, they move to another place with the queen. Many people don't understand that when disturbed they just move their home to make a new mound.

My dentist, who rides around his farm on a four-wheeler spraying to get rid of the little guys, didn't comprehend why new mounds pop up and the farm animals get attacked. I feel if he doesn't understand about this, then other people with animals might not either.

The fire ant is omnivorous,

feeding on plants, insects, and small animals. They also are attracted to fatty or sweet food substances.

If you want to see if you're dealing with fire ants, lay a potato chip on the mound, and the next day it will be gone.

Their sting releases a venom that causes a burning sensation, leading to itchy, red welts, and can result in a severe allergic reaction requiring medical attention. Often there will be a white pustule at the center of the sting.



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Fire ants don't like cinnamon, coffee grounds, and citrus oil. Natural repellents may help them not want to be around.

Symptoms from the stings can include difficulty breathing, vomiting and diarrhea, collapse, salivating, drooling, and swelling. If the dog eats the ants, effects of the venom can include rashes and raised pustules, and even can cause death if the throat closes from swelling. Multiple stings around eyes can cause clouded corneas, which could lead to permanent blindness.

If fire ants get on your dog, move to a safe area, put on a pair of gloves to be protected, then brush and pick off any remaining ants. Monitor the animal and call a veterinarian. While waiting, apply a cold compress to the bite every five to 10 minutes to help with the swelling. While on the phone with the vet ask if there is any medication you can give. An infection can follow, so it is very important to reduce inflammation.

To kill fire ants, ask your veterinarian's advice on what products are safe. Boston Terriers are famous to getting into trouble, so as a precaution, put an ex-pen around any known fire ant mound.

The reason I'm knowledgeable on this subject is having a K-pesticide applicator license (Ag. Pest Animal) with the State of North Carolina Pesticide Board.

I hope this information will help keep your Boston Terrier safe.

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

Bulldogs

CORRECTING MISCONCEPTIONS

Over the years we have heard many general opinions on the nature and composition of the Bulldog as a breed. Often the most outlandish or incorrect opinions come from people

who don't know very much about them.

One statement that has been around for quite a while goes something like this: "What is wrong in my breed is right in a Bulldog." Hopefully those with common sense will see the flaws in this rationale. If it were accurate, one could also say something like, "What is wrong in my German Shorthaired Pointer is right in an Afghan." Of course this doesn't make sense.

The unfortunate after-effect of this often-quoted statement among some dog show enthusiasts is that it assumes basic structural defects are acceptable in a Bulldog. Nothing could be farther from the truth. That the Bulldog has unique features does not make them faulty. There absolutely can be faulty versions of the correct form, but being unique doesn't mean being deformed.

Understanding that the breed is described in the official standard under "General Appearance" as

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having an appearance that suggests great stability and strength should hopefully encourage people to expect breeders to produce such vibrant dogs.

Another misconception is that Bulldogs cannot run or jump. Hopefully the growing number of active, normal Bulldogs being featured in social media posts as well as participating in AKC performance events will put that myth to rest.

While it can be expected that a pup kept completely

out of condition and obese will struggle with even the most basic activities, that becomes owner error. Granted, some careless breeders do not take the basic requirements for soundness into consideration when choosing breeding pairs, and resulting puppies may be the ones who pay the price; that's not the fault of the entire breed. And certainly not the standard.

And of course the most overused of all is that

the breed is inherently unhealthy by virtue of their conformation. Through our BCA Health Ambassador Program and other means, we have proved that to be a false blanket claim.

Owners seeking to add a Bulldog to their families would be wise to find breeders who have demonstrably normal dogs.

And speaking of the standard, it describes a strong dog who moves with unrestrained, free, and vigorous action.

2024 National Specialty

The Bulldog Club of America's 2024 national specialty will be held at the Eisenhower Hotel in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on November 24–30.

Submissions for the Ambassador for Health program are due on October 1. Certificates will be handed out during national week, with the Platinum and Diamond recipients being announced at the annual awards banquet.

Hall of Fame submissions

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are due before the closing date of the show. Details for both programs can be found on the Bulldog Club of America [website](#).

We hope to see you there!
 —Elizabeth Milam,
celticdogges@me.com
 Bulldog Club of America

Chinese Shar-Pei

PRESERVING OUR BREED

As I sit to write this, the opening ceremony of the 2024 Summer Olympics is starting. It feels like lately there have been a lot of losses of entertainers, and also losses of judges and breeders. There is a big election on the horizon that is taking up a lot of air time (TV, radio, you name it). All of this leads to a lot of noise—some good and fun, some tedious or sad. And through it all, we dog people keep moving forward. We keep entering shows, training for events, planning litters, and learning the latest about good animal care or breed-specific health tests.

The Olympics can be a



Chinese Shar-Pei

great distraction (as can most non-dog sports!). The losses around us will continue to occur. (Or “pile on,” as they feel to me!) The election will happen, and we will all live with those results, as we do every time. And we will have dogs. We will love dogs. We will do with dogs whatever makes our hearts happy: breed, show in conformation or any of a number of amazing events,

rescue, or sit on the sofa with the comfort of dogs nearby.

We think that much like the entertainers we love, the dogs, our breeds, will always be here. But they might not. We must pay attention! After all, we all love and adore a breed that was *saved* from extinction less than 75 years ago. We almost never had these amazing Chinese Shar-Pei at all. If not for

COURTESY LYNDY BEAM



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Matgo Law, and those who heard his call, and those who were the first roster of fanciers, and the breeders and fanciers they brought in, and so on—if not for them, this breed could be lost, just a rumor or a story in a history book. And as our sport shrinks, as our numbers dwindle to fewer breeders, fewer dogs, we have to pay attention!

Marge Calltharp, the CSPCA’s AKC Delegate, brought a topic to the CSPCA Board Meeting last week that is something breeders and clubs should become familiar with: The American Kennel Club Purebred Preservation Bank (akcppb.org). The introduction on the site says:

“The Mission of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank (AKC PPB) is to ensure the viability of purebred dogs. This valuable service is necessary to salvage or restore endangered dog breeds now and in the future. While coordinating efforts with non-profit breed-specific clubs, the AKC PPB will

educate breeders, clubs, and the public about the importance of safeguarding frozen semen and protecting purebred dog breeds for future decades.”

I know it’s easy to say, “Nah, that will never happen, no worries.” *But.* But we lost or nearly lost some breeds during the World Wars. When you are fighting for your life, barely surviving, saving a breed is not at the top of the list. Beyond that, as our sport ages out, there are fewer fanciers to replace us, to keep our bloodline and even our very breed in existence.

How many have said, “Oh, my kids won’t want those photos, those trophies ...” For the reason that a cave exists containing the seeds of every plant on Earth, just in case, we should look into storing our breed in ways that we can recover them, should they be lost or nearly extinct. And this is a possible start in that direction.

Check it out, give it your attention, and even if right now you don’t see a need, well, I wouldn’t have seen

it as a need 30 years ago either. But those years passed fast, and as friends quit breeding, as long-timers have passed on, many lines have been lost! Let’s not wait until we need another Matgo Law, because that lightning may not strike twice.

—Karen Kleinhans DeSilva,
kasupe@aol.com
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America

Chow Chows

CHOW CHOWS: PRESERVING THE ESSENTIALS

One of the foremost goals of every Chow Chow breeder should be to practice and promote the breeding of quality in Chow Chows—not only in health matters, but also in accordance with the description of the ideal Chow Chow as defined in the breed standard. It is the responsibility of breeders to ensure our breed continues to be healthy and exemplifies the essential characteristics

NON-SPORTING GROUP



“Chow VIII”—the Chow Chow upon whom the breed’s standard in England was based in 1895. This is still the standard that is used in England.

of the breed so the Chow Chow will survive well into the future.

This effort depends upon a consistent international effort by dedicated fanciers who share a common vision.

Ours is one of the oldest breeds, recognized by their square profile, correct proportions, coat and breed type, with unique characteristics: square profile, scowling expression, stilted gait, and blue-black pigmen-

tation.

The breed standard says, “While primarily a companion today, his working origin must always be remembered when assessing true Chow type.” Throughout history the Chow Chow has served mankind by performing a variety of tasks, such as drafting, protection, and herding.

The first Chows were brought to England in 1781 from the Canton area

of China by a member of the East India Company. As news of the arrival of the new breed spread, the importation of Chows into England increased in the mid-1800s, and the breed began its ascent to present popularity after Queen Victoria took an interest in this “Wild Dog of China,” as it was called when on display in the London Zoo. Queen Victoria was given a Chow in 1865, and in 1881 the Prince of Wales had one which was exhibited.

The Chow Chow Club was founded in England in 1895. The breed standard was based on a famous dog of the day, Chow VIII, and this is still the standard that is used in England.

The Chow was recognized by The Kennel Club of England in 1894. A number of Chow Chows were exhibited at the Crufts dog show of 1925.

Chow Chows were exhibited for the first time in the United States in 1890. The American Kennel Club officially recognized the breed



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in 1903, and the Chow Chow Club was admitted as an AKC member club in 1906.

Through the dedication and tenacious efforts of Chow Chow fanciers through the years, our breed has continued to flourish. Education of new fanciers has always been and must continue to be a foremost effort of the clubs and fanciers. In the United States, the AKC, the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), and the Chow Chow Club, Inc. have invested a great amount of time, talent, knowledge, and financial support to assist us in protecting our breed and educating our fanciers. Please continue to use and share these resources as we move forward.

Long live the Chow Chow!
—Love Banghart,
Lkendr4300@aol.com
Chow Chow Club, Inc.

Dalmatians

CREATING TOMORROW TODAY

It's our duty and responsibility to ensure the sport of dogs continues for generations to come. One of the best ways we can do that is by investing our energies and resources into encouraging children to participate in Junior Showmanship.

Around for decades, the first AKC classes for children were offered in 1920 and were considered a great opportunity for lifelong training in dogs shows and for the upcoming challenges of life.

This sport offers a great chance for kids to develop so many essential skills that they can also carry forward into adulthood. Not only will they learn a sense of responsibility in caring for others dependent on them, they will also learn sportsmanship—as we all know, you win some and lose a lot.

In addition, they will learn lessons in how to be respectful, fair, humble, and how to develop positive relationships with others.

The Dalmatian Club of America (DCA) enthusiastically supports and encourages this aspect of our sport with lots of incentives and rewards.

- The DCA annually awards a \$500 scholarship to a qualified and deserving DCA Junior Showmanship member.

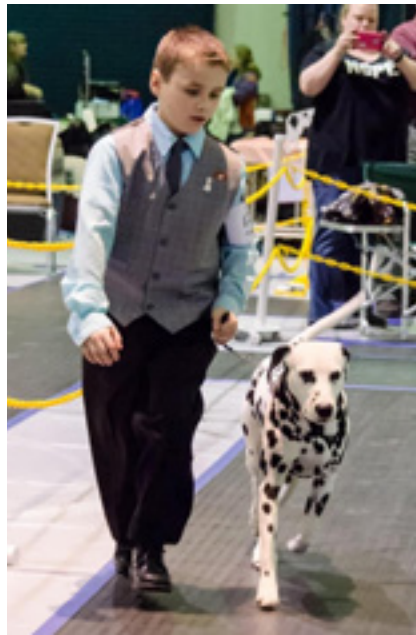
- The top-winning junior handler showing a Dalmatian during the previous year who is a current DCA member will be presented with a bronze medallion, preferably at the annual banquet if possible. The AKC statistics will be used to determine the top junior handler during the respective year.

- The DCA will also provide a \$250 stipend to the AKC National Championship and/or the Westminster Kennel Club show to qualifying and competing juniors showing a Dalmatian. Timely application for this stipend is the responsibility of the junior.

- The DCA will also offer a \$100 stipend to any junior at

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Proud juniors with their Dals. Top left: Best Junior winner at the DCA national specialty.

the DCA national specialty if they are DCA member for a complete year as of the first day of the national they are applying for. They must show proof of competition at the national and have shown their dog in all Junior classes. The applicant must submit the stipend request with supporting AKC documentation to The DCA Junior Showmanship Chair

and must be postmarked within one month after the final date of the national.

- DCA Junior members will receive a copy of the *Spotter*.
- They will also receive a discounted *Spotter* advertisement.
- DCA Junior membership is a discounted \$10 per year. In order to qualify for these benefits, the Junior must be a 9–18 years of age and must have a DCA member as a sponsor.

But while Junior

Showmanship is educational and a training ground, let us not forget the words of Charles Schultz, the creator of Snoopy: “Try not to have a good time ... this is supposed to be educational.”

Well, actually we will amend those words to “Even though it’s educational, you will have a good time.”

—Jan Warren Linné,
janlinne56@yahoo.com
 Dalmatian Club of America

COURTESY DALMATIAN CLUB OF AMERICA

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French Bulldogs

WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

Choosing a food for your dog can be a challenge due to the hundreds of available choices in kibble and canned food. Or we can choose to feed a raw diet or home cook for them. So many choices make it necessary to educate ourselves about what a dog needs in its particular diet.

It is not the intent of this article to tell you what to feed your dog, but rather to give you a guide to researching available foods and methods.

We are all familiar with kibble, dehydrated, and canned food, and most of us have found various ratings sites online. Among the top-ranked foods you will need to discern which are best suited for your dog's needs.

If the food is listed as a high protein and there are ingredients such as peas, lentils, and beans listed, you then might consider that these items are adding to the protein content of the food and be skeptical of



French Bulldog

the quantity of high-quality meat the food contains.

There is the option of home cooking for your canine family, and this does not mean table scraps. Books and recipes abound for those interested in cooking. However, there are many elements to consider in terms of mineral and vitamin requirements, oils, and so on. You should only attempt

this under the guidance of a veterinary nutritionist. New information appears frequently and changes what we thought we knew.

Think about how many times you have changed food over the years. Your dog may simply not be thriving—maybe the dog is older, and his or her needs have changed—so you start the search for the perfect

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food all over.

My dogs were eating a human-grade dehydrated food for seven years, and I was happy with it. But as my dogs got older, they tolerated it less. The food contained a lot of high fiber and high-glycemic vegetables and fruits. Some of my dogs were defecating five and six times a day. So, the new search began. A highly rated food that seemed to meet the requirements was introduced and eagerly consumed. We were all happy again—until I discovered that a class-action lawsuit had been filed against the manufacturer due to a large number of toxins found to be in the food.

There is not necessarily one perfect commercial food for all of our dogs. We have to deal with changing needs, health issues, new and conflicting information, and recalls, too.—*Sande Abernathy, 2018*

[French Bull Dog Club of America](#)

Keeshonden

KEESHOND HEAD TYPE AND EXPRESSION

The late Dick Beauchamp, respected dog writer, breeder, and judge, once said that head type was one of the hallmarks of breed type. So in exploring the aspects of Keeshond head type, we need to examine the wording in the breed standard and apply that to our dogs.

“Spectacles” are the first thing mentioned in the standard. Judges new to the breed often confuse the reference to spectacles as the appearance of light areas around the eyes circled with darker hair—like glasses.

However, the standard states that spectacles are not only the orbital area, but “the delicate line slanting from the outer corner of each eye toward the lower corner of each ear.” This, combined with the eyebrows, gives the dog an alert and intelligent expression. This is essential to breed type. A dull and lackluster expression is not true to the

breed. A very serious fault is the lack of the dark line forming the spectacles.

The next descriptors in Keeshond standard have to do with the eyes and the ears. These are hallmarks of true Arctic breed type. Both have practical applications in the Arctic environment.

Eyes are to be dark brown in color, medium size, almond in shape, and set obliquely (at an angle slanting upward) and not too close together or too far apart. One can imagine that in an outdoor Arctic environment, a round, protruding eye would be a disadvantage, and round eyes would be more prone to injury.

Dark eyes and eye-rims are also required. Why? Arctic breeds are required to “squint down” in the snow—much easier to do with almond-shaped, dark eyes. Faults are round, light, or protruding eyes.

Ears are required to be small, triangular in shape, and mounted high on the head. There are functional reasons as well for these

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ear requirements in Arctic breeds. You can imagine that large ears would be subject to freezing, and the dog would lose at least the tips of the ears in subzero temperatures. The smaller, higher-placed ear is also more mobile and alert to the many sounds of the outdoor environment.

One test that breeders can do (not suggested for judges) when evaluating puppies or adults is to fold the ear down toward the corner of the eye. The ears should just reach the corner of the eye. If the ear covers the eye, it is probably too large.

The standard says that the shape of the head should be in proportion to the body. When viewed from above, not just the muzzle but the whole head should give the appearance of a wedge. Dogs who are cheeky or coarse will not have smooth wedge, and there will be a distinct break where the muzzle fits into the back-skull.

In profile the head should



Keeshond Ch. Patriot von Fitz, Bill Deopaul photo, c. 1949

exhibit *a definite stop*. The amount of stop is somewhat controversial, but *definite* is definite, and most would agree that ski-slope is not definite. Faults are an apple head or absence of stop.

David Cavill, an English judge and expert on Arctic breeds, says that the rise of the stop over the nasal sinus is required in Arctic breeds, as it gives space for the air to warm as the dog breathes in. One can imagine the difficulty that a brachycephalic breed would have in this challenging and very cold

climate.

The muzzle is called to be of medium length, neither coarse nor snipy. Bitches, of course, will have more delicate muzzles than dogs.

One illustration of a beautiful Keeshond head is the portrait of Eng. Ch. Furstin of Evenlode. Her muzzle is delicate but strong and fits into a smooth wedge. The mouth is called to be neither overshot nor undershot, and lips should be black with no wrinkle or sagging. A scissors bite is called for, and a fault is misaligned teeth.



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Given this outline, balance is the key in seeking the ideal Keeshond head type.

Breeding a true Keeshond expression can be a challenge for breeders. I think breeders fall in love with their dog's head and expression and sometimes find it difficult to fault their heads, while they may find it much easier to fault, color, coat, and structure.

As in all breeding decisions, objectivity is the key. It is helpful in evaluating head type, as in other areas, to take measurements. You will find that those with the most pleasing expressions will have many measurements that equal, such as the distance from the corner of the eye to the base of the ear, the length of the muzzle, the depth of the muzzle, the length of the back-skull, and so on. Keep the measurements on hand and compare generations. The information will be enlightening.

Every generation of Keeshonden has individuals that are known for ideal head type. Observe them,

and look at generations past. What they all have in common is balance and the exquisite alert and intelligent expression called for in the Keeshond standard.

—Debbie Lynch,
dlnpoconsult@gmail.com
Keeshond Club of
America

Lhasa Apsos

BE A LIFELONG LEARNER

As summer ebbs, millions of children have headed back to school. Learning is neither just for children, nor limited to fall through spring. Each of us should be a lifelong learner, eager to assimilate new ideas and test new theories.

Serious dog fanciers and breeders know that expertise and growth are fueled by new information and experiences. While learning styles differ, each of us builds knowledge through a combination of reading, listening, observation, technology, and experience.

Planning a breeding program requires having a goal,

understanding strengths and weaknesses, and planning a course of action to achieve it. Decisions can't be just data driven or gut reactions. Instinct drives the creative part of breeding but is most valuable when backed by knowledge and experience.

The internet affords access to books, articles, and magazines, both breed-specific and general. Books specifically on the Lhasa Apso authored by noted breed authorities Robert Berndt and the Herbels are readily available.

Treasures such as *The Lhasa Apso* by the late Frances Sefton are out of print but a must-read if you can find one to learn seminal breed information.

Mastering structure, movement, genetics, and health issues are non-negotiable, so works such as *The Genetics of the Dog* by Malcolm Willis are valuable.

Presently, only one periodical is devoted solely to our breed, the *American Lhasa Apso Club Bulletin*, published by the American

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Lhasa Apso Club. One must be a club member or a judge to receive it. For general canine information, the AKC GAZETTE is invaluable. Read it online cover to cover. The insights and tidbits throughout the publication constitute a liberal arts education in dogs. Columns

written by serious breeders share ideas or solutions to problems common to many breeds.

Read magazines devoted to other breeds, and study them to better understand your own. All-breed magazines have more than glossy ads. The columns are writ-

ten by serious dog people with extensive experience to share.

Be critical of the written word. Use good judgment to determine whether what you've read is valid. When in doubt, ask someone whose opinion you respect or search further for differing opinions and balance them against one another. This is especially true of information found on social media, which abounds with both treasures and trash. Anyone can write anything. Proving it is another matter.

Listening requires opening your mind, not just your ears. Find experienced dog people whose work you admire, and listen to what they will share with you. Engage in meaningful conversations with peers.

Do you consistently talk to mirrors—those who agree with everything you say and believe? A constructive discourse of differing ideas and opinions challenges the depth of our understanding of an issue and is invaluable as a means of improving it.

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Attend relevant workshops and seminars. Webinars, some free, are available at your convenience.

DNA tests now reveal some of your dog’s genotype, replacing the need for testing or test-breeding for some conditions. Some companies now offer webinars to help you interpret DNA data.

Watch your breed; watch other breeds; watch those whose achievements you admire. Study what you see and ask questions. Time your questions carefully, and avoid asking when someone is in a time crunch or ready to go in the ring. Otherwise, questions are usually welcomed.

Careful observation expands knowledge, whether learning the latest grooming technique or recognizing outstanding (or poor) conformation without touching the dog. Value diversity.

For comparison purposes, observe events with large entries from various regions, such as national specialties or major events.

An open mind welcomes information. Don’t ignore lessons that can be learned from someone you envy or dislike. Learn and grow so that you have experience commensurate with the number of years you devote to dogs, rather than one year’s experience repeated multiple times.

—Cassandra de la Rosa,
dlrcas@msn.com

[The American Lhasa Apso Club](#)

Poodles

This is the third of a multi-part series on whelping by guest author Madeline Patterson, who has granted permission to publish. (To read Parts One and Two, see the [March 2024](#) and [June 2024](#) issues.)

WHELPING PART THREE

How long do you let your bitch labor before the first puppy is born? How long can they be allowed to labor between puppies?

Again, when I say “labor,” I mean hard straining. If

she has been in true labor for two hours, either before the first puppy or between puppies, and nothing has happened, I would recommend contacting your vet.

If you have a good working relationship with your vet, you will have alerted him/her to your impending delivery and have a backup plan in case he is unavailable.

There are numerous possible reasons why there has been no puppy, but it’s not worth the life of a puppy or the bitch to wait.

Again, we’re talking about two hours of labor, not just two hours of sleeping and nursing the other pups.

I once had a Standard take 24 hours to whelp six healthy puppies. But in between she slept, ate, washed her puppies, and then would strain twice and have another puppy. She never even woke up for the last one. It just slid out, and luckily we were there to unwrap it. This was a small Standard, and her first litter to boot!

I always have water avail-

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able for the bitch. And although they usually don't want food, I let them eat if they do. I also take them out frequently, especially if nothing has happened for a while. The stimulation of getting up and going out will often get things started again.

When I think all the puppies have been born, I lay the bitch on her side and slide one hand under her, just below the ribs, and the other hand on top. When I can feel my fingers touching each other, I massage her abdominal cavity all the way down between her legs.

Remember, the uterus will

be very lumpy, so don't be fooled. If there is another puppy you will feel a hard "walnut," which is a puppy head. If you feel that, you're not done yet.

If you're sure there are no other puppies and all the placentas are accounted for, congratulations. You have your new litter!

If there are still placentas, you can try to get them out. If you have help, have the other person stand the bitch comfortably on her hind legs, not stretched too tall, while you massage her from just below the ribcage toward the vulva. Fluid will often come out, but look for

that little piece of tissue or string that you can grab with a cloth and gently pull out.

If necessary, wash your hands well and insert your first two fingers as described and feel around for something to grab onto.

If you are unsuccessful, then I would recommend an oxytocin injection, which will expel any retained placentas and clean out the uterus. If left inside the bitch, a retained placenta can result in a nasty infection.

After delivery it's a good idea to take the temperature of the bitch for a few days anyway, just to check for infection. Uterine infections can get bad quickly and cause problems for the bitch as well as the puppies.

I don't think it's necessary to go to the emergency clinic in the middle of the night for the injection to expel the retained placenta. First thing in the morning at your regular vet is just fine.

After everything is over, I give the bitch a quick rear-end bath. Put clean bedding



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into the box where they will be spending the next eight weeks, and put mom in with her pups.

For Standards or even Miniatures, a whelping box with a “pig rail” will prevent the bitch from trapping a puppy between herself and the side of the box. Make sure she has food and water available, but most likely she will just settle in and begin cleaning her pups and probably have a good nap.

Spend the first few nights or longer with the new family to make sure no puppies get trapped under the mom. This is particularly true with larger dogs, larger litters, or first-time moms.

Make sure that every puppy has nursed—and that the bitch knows about cleaning the puppies, if this is her first litter.

If you really want to be cautious, weighing each puppy every day will show you that everyone is nursing and thriving, and it will alert you to catch a potential problem early. Most breeders have different-colored

yarn or paper collars to help keep tabs on each puppy.

If it’s been more than two hours of real straining before or between puppies, it’s time to call your vet. Your vet will probably begin with a manual exam, which should include feeling inside the vulva to see if a puppy is present in the birth canal and if the presentation seems normal.

Assuming there are no problems discovered, it might be a good time for an oxytocin injection to stimulate labor. This may be all it takes to get things going.

I try not to give oxytocin too early, if possible, because in cases of large litters giving it too early can wear her out so that there is nothing left to get out the last couple of puppies. This is called uterine inertia and will result in a C-section to deliver the last one or two puppies.

If the oxytocin does not cause the bitch to strain almost immediately, or if a puppy doesn’t come pretty quickly—say within a half-hour—then the next step

is an X-ray. This can tell if there is a puppy in an impossible position, or two puppies coming together, or some other problem in presentation. Probably a Caesarian section will be needed.

By the way, in my experience, whenever I have had a bitch go into labor normally and do all the textbook things, and after an hour or so just stop everything and go to sleep, it always means a section.—M.P.

Thank you, Madeline.

(To continue in the December 2024 issue.)

[Poodle Club of America](#)

Schipperkes

IF TOMORROW NEVER COMES

It’s really a tough subject none of us wants to think about: What would happen to my dog(s) if something happens to me? We have lost club members to sudden illness or accidents, especially the past several years. Some of these situations have been prepared for by the individual, and others not so much.

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Schipperke

Have you taken any measures to ensure the care and welfare of your Schipperke in the event you are no longer able to?

First of all, do not assume family members or friends will be willing to take your dogs on a temporary or permanent basis. Have this very real, hard conversation with them.

Designate one or (preferably) two trusted and clearly defined people to be notified and who can take charge

of your animals should the need arise. Have your dogs identified, be it microchip or tattoo—as we all know, people who are not familiar with Schipperkes may not be able to tell them apart. Don't assume anyone but you can do so. This is essential if you are a breeder who keeps more than one or two dogs.

Leave clear written instructions and permission to treat or make decisions in your file at your vet. Have a folder or notebook with

all pertinent information on each dog. A binder with plastic sheaths for each dog works great! AKC papers, health records, medication list, feeding instructions, and any other important information should be kept here. Let your designated person know where this is kept.

Write down your instructions/wishes for the disposition of each dog. Preferably in a legal document—but at least write it down somewhere! Consider having more than one person who knows the whereabouts of the “dog files.”

I got some great advice from a club member who is single and lives alone. He suffered a serious heart attack while out shopping. Following are things he feels contributed to the welfare of his dogs while he was in intensive care:

- His phone was unlocked, so EMS was able to find out and reach his “in case of emergency” contacts.
- Additionally, they contacted his last-called number, who happened



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to be a close friend and breeder—she galvanized action for his dogs. (Dog people are absolutely the best when help is needed!)

- Several close friends had keys to his home. Having those keys with a neighbor or nearby friend is an important factor. Try to have multiple trusted people with spare keys.

- Keeping a kennel lead easily accessible for each dog—another good idea.

I spoke with AKC, because I myself didn't know exactly how they deal with ownership/papers in the event of one's death. I wondered, would it help to pre-sign papers and leave them in your dog file just in case?

Well, the answer to that is no—it is technically against AKC rules to pre-sign papers in blank. So here is some valuable guidance:

The AKC's [Procedures for Registration Matters](#) outlines what the AKC requires for someone to sign on behalf of a decedent. The person signing

for the deceased must complete a [Statement of Legal Rights](#) form. They should submit it to AKC along with the paperwork showing they are the executor (if applicable) and a copy of the death certificate.

And while we are organizing ourselves and planning, check out this [Emergency Preparedness Plan](#) as well: <http://images.akc.org/pdf/EmergencyPreparednessPlan.pdf>

Lastly, if at all possible, set up some sort of financial arrangement to pay for the cost of caring for your pets. If for any reason “tomorrow never comes,” rest easy knowing your beloved Schips will be cared for the way you'd want them to be.

And if you have extra funds, please donate to one of our amazing rescue groups who so often step in and step up to care for Schipperkes in need.

May your tomorrows be many! —Virginia Larioza
[Schipperke Club of America](#)

Shiba Inu

ENJOY DOING MORE WITH YOUR DOG

The Shiba Inu was originally bred to hunt by sight and scent in the dense undergrowth of Japan's mountainous areas to flush birds and small game, and occasionally to hunt wild boar. This requires the Shiba's movement to be nimble, light, and elastic to allow for agility and the skill to turn on a dime.

Shibas possess a spirited boldness and an unaffected forthrightness, which yield dignity and natural beauty with an independent nature. This package has led many people to believe a common misconception that this spirited breed is difficult to train for the performance ring, with their unreliable recall and their tenacity to hunt.

A Shiba owner will agree on the latter, but this breed is quite easy to train with the handler who understands how a Shiba thinks.

While I say “easy to train,” however, the handler will have their challenges. The

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Shiba Inu

Shiba’s mind is highly intelligent and picks up training concepts quickly but frowns upon a lot of repetition.

The handler must see the training through a Shiba’s eyes: “I am not here to please you, and furthermore, how are all your requests

advantageous to me?”

Understanding this, as well as the breed’s independent hunting nature, allows the Shiba Inu and handler to excel in the performance world.

Increasingly more Shibas and their owners are dip-

ping feet and paws into the wide array of events offered by the AKC and other organizations. Coursing ability tests—CATs, Fast CATs—scent work, and Barn Hunts are weekend favorites for the highly active Shiba who can show off their skills chasing and seeking out critters.

A recent scenario described to me depicted a Barn Hunt event set up near the conformation ring, and the Shiba let loose the breed’s typical “Shiba scream” outside the show ring once his keen sense of smell picked up the rat scent. I can only imagine the handler diligently working to gain the focus of their Shiba before entering the ring.

The owner who is looking for a little more challenge and has a nearby facility can try dock diving. According to the National Shiba Club of America (NSCA) website, there are two Shibas with dock diving titles, one of whom has earned a Dock Diving Advanced title. This is quite the achievement for a breed that is not particu-

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BREED COLUMNS

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larly fond of water.

The opportunities to earn titles such as Trick Dog and rally through AKC’s virtual program allow the Shiba and their owner to explore performance in a low-stress and safe environment at home or a training facility.

The NSCA is seeing more of the membership participate in these activities and earn titles, which in return can be applied toward the club’s annual award program.

I personally took the opportunity this past year to explore trick titles with my Shibas. I’ll admit tricks with my crew were never on the list; however, I quickly realized the fun I missed, and it was me, the handler, who needed to learn how to teach the trick! These fun events extend beyond being a great pastime to challenge the Shiba mind and their athletic, compact body—they enhance the relationship between handler and dog, build confidence in a young Shiba for the show ring, help an older senior be

active, and increase skills of the new or advanced handler.

—Letty Hughes,
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National Shiba Club of America

Tibetan Spaniels

HOW DID YOU DISCOVER TIBBIES?

We often hear Tibetan Spaniels referred to as the “best-kept secret in the dog world.” No argument from me! So with that being the case, how did you first discover Tibbies? We reached out to a number of active Tibbie people and asked them to share their stories.

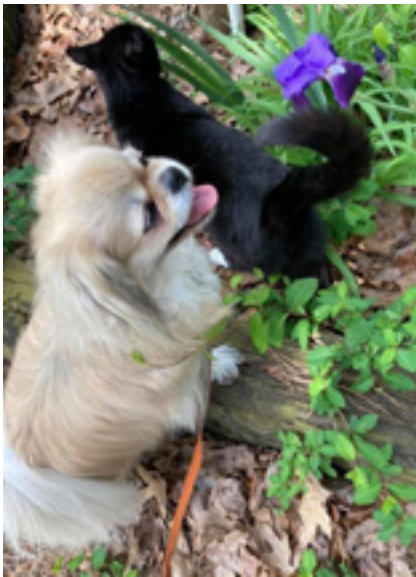
Deb Lindsay recalls that she was stewarding for AKC judge David Kirkland at a show in June 2015. David was a longtime friend from their days of showing Miniature Schnauzers. “While on a break during judging, I mentioned that grooming the Miniature Schnauzer was taking a toll on my wrist, and I

was interested in finding a small breed that required less demanding grooming,” says Deb. “David excitedly mentioned the Tibetan Spaniel and called them ‘the best-kept secret in the dog world!’”

At lunch Deb quickly researched Tibbies on the parent club website, and “I was in love.” Eight months later, the first of Deb’s current three male Tibbies arrived. “This little black and tan, a very inquisitive boy, completely hooked me in!” Deb is amazed that “one sentence, spoken at the right time, changed the course of my life in purebred dogs. Finding success in the breed ring with owner-handled Tibbies was a dream come true.”

Connie Buckland discovered the breed shortly after it entered the AKC Non-Sporting Group in 1983. She was asked to help show a Tibbie that summer. “At first, I had a hard time accepting their bite. It looked like teeth everywhere! But the more I was

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Tibetan Spaniels: The standard says the breed is “small, active, and alert,” with temperament “gay and assertive, highly intelligent, and aloof with strangers.”

around them, the more I fell in love with them. I finally got my first Tibbie in 1985, and from then on, it has always been Tibbies for me.”

Victoria (“Torie”) Marks was introduced to Tibbies by a close friend, Carol Stevens of Kenwood Kennels, who was in the breed. “I had attended her obedience classes with a pet-quality Peke, but I was looking for something of similar size with less coat, more nose, healthier and more active. Carol suggested I read Susan Miccio’s Tibbie book. I have had four now and

enjoy the breed immensely due to their good health and independence. Each of mine has had a slightly different personality.”

Lexine Thompson remembers her Labrador coming into the house one day and looking like she had hurt her back leg. Further inspection revealed that attached to the Lab’s leg was their Chin/Peke cross, Mitzie. “We realized then that Mitzie needed a playmate her own size to terrorize,” says Lexine. “Hubby, daughter and I sat down and went through *The Encyclopedia of*

the Dog, page by page, until we stopped on page 278. There it was! The Tibetan Spaniel!”

Lexine dove into her research and connected with breeders in Northern California. “After meeting some Tibbies, we knew it was the breed for us. Now, after 21 years, we have had seven Tibbies and are on our third generation of bred-by dogs.”

Susan and John Mullins had Samoyeds, but their youngest daughter, Samantha, wanted a dog small enough that she alone

COURTESY ALLAN REZNIK



NON-SPORTING GROUP

could bathe, groom, train, feed, and put on a table. “While on the Tarheel Circuit when Samantha was around seven, she was spending a lot of time at Carol and Dick Jeffery’s RV. It seems they had a litter of Tibbies that Sam had fallen in love with. Sam finished Empi quickly, even showing against adult handlers. And that’s how we got into Tibetan Spaniels 40-plus years ago.”

Susan adds that when Samantha would arrive ringside, adults would say “Hi, Sam” and pat her on the head. “Hence our kennel name became Hysams.”

Lary Hesdorffer and Ed Jimenez were living in a high-rise apartment in Atlanta in 1999 and went about finding the right breed for them in a very organized way. The breed had to comfortably fit their urban lifestyle and meet their preferences in type and aesthetics.

“We each had had different breeds before but didn’t want to repeat those

choices. We sat down with an encyclopedia of dogs and a package of Post-it notes. We placed a Post-it on any breed page that interested us in the slightest. Then we read through the pros and cons to further refine the quick reviews. As the sticky little tabs became fewer and fewer, we studied more of the details of each breed: health concerns, exercise needs, grooming requirements.”

At the end of the review, their strongest interest was in the Tibetan Spaniel—a breed that neither of them had ever seen before. After that, they found a breeder who was expecting a litter in a few months’ time.

“Now, more than 25 years later, I’d say the decision to acquire a Tibbie was not just right; it was perfect,” concludes Lary.

Headed to shows in Virginia Beach hoping to win a major on her Golden Retriever, Dianne Tyree recalls she’d been looking for a small breed that didn’t require a great deal

of grooming and was owner-handler friendly.

“I watched Tibbie breed judging and was enchanted by these delightful little dogs. My friend and I visited a local restaurant for lunch that day and were discussing the breed, when from a table away, a woman said she had Tibetan Spaniels, and they were [you guessed it!] the best-kept secret in the dog world.” Dianne says, “I came home without the major but knowing that my next breed would be a Tibetan Spaniel.”

Colleen Bias Chaffee obtained her first show dog, an English Springer Spaniel, in 1972, and continued breeding and showing Springers until the mid-1990s. “When an arm injury would not allow me to do the intense grooming needed for Springers in the show ring, I began my search for a smaller, easy-to-care-for breed. I looked at a lot of breeds but kept coming back to Tibetan Spaniels,” says Colleen. “Thanks to Margie Wikerd,



BREED COLUMNS

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Bluvali Alvin joined our family in September 1993, and the rest is history. Alvin was quickly joined by Jemari Last Rose of Summer, along with several champions from Ellen Klein before her move to England. These dogs provided part of the strong foundation for Shenanwood Tibetan Spaniels.”

—Allan Reznik,
reznikallan@gmail.com
Tibetan Spaniel Club of America

Tibetan Terriers

GROW IT, FLOW IT, SHOW IT!

“Forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair.”—Khalil Gibran

Good news! Scientists have discovered that dog hair, particularly when consumed in small, nearly indiscernible amounts consistently over many years, contributes to longevity and prevents dementia in humans! Just kidding ... but please do remember, when

that study emerges, you read it here first. In any event, I do have other news that pertains to dog hair that might very well contribute to your longevity and prevent premature insanity. Are you sitting down? Your Tibetan Terrier does not need to be bathed or groomed as often as you think he does!

“What’s this?” you ask. “How can this possibly be true, when my whole life I’ve been dutifully following the protocol that we must frequently be grooming these prodigiously coated dogs?”

Steady your nerves, dear reader. Maybe you have been observing, we are living in an era where nearly everything all of us were advised to do or not to do, to eat or not to eat, to avoid or not to avoid has, well, pretty much been debunked. I know we’ve all been told in the ownership manual that comes with a well-bred TT that you’ll need to be grooming your little person a minimum of two times a week, with subtext that strongly suggests you are an

abusive owner if you are not de-matting at least two times a day. I am here today to break these grooming chains of oppression and set you and your dog free.

You may be feeling a mix of horror and delight as you are realizing, “But what will I do with all this extra time in my life, if I’m not obsessively cleaning and removing every unsightly tangle in my dog?” Well, have you thought about writing your autobiography? Maybe apply to med school? Perhaps plant that vineyard you’ve always dreamed about. Or you could even obtain a few more TTs, as this (non-)grooming discovery will free up so much time, your dog can now be joyfully occupied playing with his fellow pack-members rather than standing on a grooming table continuously being coiffed.

The TT coat is designed to interact with the environment in a complementary fashion. You may have noticed it is somewhat difficult to even get a TT wet.

NON-SPORTING GROUP



Tibetan Terrier

That wool undercoat isn't there by accident. You may also have noticed that when your dog gets out to play in the real world of dirt, grass, and sand, grooming can become a passive activity. Simply allowing the dog to relax and dry out on a mat or the tile floor of a laundry room does wonders. You'll

likely need to vacuum the floor a bit, but you'll discover a TT's coat is resistant to dirt, and it shakes out rather easily when dry. The dog looks better than clean! He looks natural, ready to engage with the world, wearing a coat that is the very definition of "air and wear."

The bonus to this passive

grooming is frequently there is a nice wave and texture that settles into a double coat when a TT is not over-bathed. This is part of what is intended in the "rugged" part of "rugged mountain dog" description of a TT.

Now that you may be re-examining your grooming beliefs, you should not imagine that I suggest you give up grooming completely. I love grooming. I love washing my dog and going over every part of him to see if all is well. I love having my TT enjoy lying on his side patiently while I dry and de-mat him, checking nails, pads, ears, teeth, and so on. It is an important part of building mutual trust in our relationship. It's just that there are so many other things I love doing with my TTs. I have discovered less is more in grooming. Groom on your own terms. Go, play, and be joyful! —
Andrea Reiman, 2019

[Tibetan Terrier Club of America](#)

HERDING GROUP



Bearded Collie

Bearded Collies

WHAT ARE THE CHANCES?

It's a quiet day. Nothing happening. A good day to bathe the Beardie.

A short time later you have her in the tub, sopping wet and suds from stem to stern. What are the chances that (A) the FedEx man will arrive at your door with the package you've been anxiously awaiting, signature required; (B) the phone will ring and ring and ring; or (C) there is a loud crash from the kitchen and the sound of glass shattering?

Or your Beardie has emerged from the bath sparkling clean but still

somewhat wet. What are the chances (A) someone will open the door, and she'll dash out for a roll in the dirt; (B) she'll sneak into your bedroom to take a nap on your bed with her slightly soggy body; or (C) it will rain for the next three days, and she'll look like she's never been near a bath?

Or your girl produces gorgeous pups but only comes into season once a year. That time is near. What are the chances the stud dog you'd picked for her (A) is being campaigned and is on the other side of the continent at present; (B) has been sold to a new owner who lives in the

Czech Republic; or (C) has gone sterile?

You've found a suitable mate for your Beardie, and you're awaiting the birth of a promising litter. What are the chances the litter will be due (A) the date of your only child's wedding, (B) Christmas Day, or (C) the week of the national specialty?

Your female presents you with a handsome litter of three black boys and three brown girls. What are the chances prospective buyers will request (A) brown boys, (B) black girls, or (C) blues or fawns?

Your male is looking especially handsome, so you optimistically enter him in a six-day show cluster. What are the chances he (A) will roll in burrs and scratch out half his coat before you realize, (B) will notice your female has come into season and stops eating until he looks anorexic, or (C) will start limping for no discernible reason? (Don't worry. The limping will clear up the day after the shows end.)



HERDING GROUP

Just when you've decided there's nothing in the ring who can defeat your special, what are the chances (A) he'll be bored by the whole business and mope around the ring, (B) he'll relieve himself in the ring, or (C) he'll lose to a 6-month-old at her first show?

A friend has a family emergency and has to leave town. Out of the goodness of your heart you agree to look after her dog while she's away. What are the chances the dog will (A) come down with kennel cough the following day, (B) come into season, or (C) be so miserable missing her mom that she'll chew up your new sofa?

You've been training your Bearded Collie for her debut in Novice obedience, and she's letter perfect. You walk into the ring, and (A) when you say "sit" she looks at you as though she's never heard the word, (B) she does the entire heeling exercise on the right side and six feet in arrears, or (C) she does everything perfectly until the Long

Down—which she does on her back with all four feet waving in the air.

With any luck, you have progressed to Open obedience. What are the chances your boy will (A) walk through the broad jump, stepping carefully between the boards; (B) happily retrieve the dumbbell but return it to the judge; or (C) drop perfectly on the recall—but not until his nose is almost touching your toes?

So, have any of these things happened to you? Or is it just me?

—Alice Bixler,
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Bearded Collie Club of America

Belgian Malinois

THE WEIGHT OF THE EVIDENCE

When I left off in the June 2024 issue, I had just introduced the height data that I collected on Malinois and other Belgians. Height requirements are well documented in our standards, and don't depend on much of anything except

genetic predisposition (early nutrition is likely not a problem in this subpopulation). Remember, we are working our way around to considering whether our Belgians have the right amount of "substance"—or, as the Belgian Sheepdog standard used to put it, "timber."

To me, "substance" is a word that describes the range of builds from delicate, reedy, and fine-boned to "built like a tank," with heavy bone. Dogs of the same height could be this different. Consider the Whippet and the Australian Shepherd, which have approximately the same height range but do not have the same amount of skeletal and bodily heft. While each might be appropriate to its function and standard, they do not have the same amount of "substance." A dog of the same height may be built more or less heavily. Presumably, even for dogs of the same height this would show up as a weight difference. Indeed, to compare two breeds of similar

COURTESY CARILEE (COLE) MORAN

BREED COLUMNS

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A healthy but underweight Belgian Tervuren; a more portly Tervuren; a Belgian Malinois monidoring competitor in France. (Mondioring is a sport that combines obedience, agility, and protection.)

height range, Whippets are characterized as typically weighing 25 to 45 pounds, while Australian Shepherds may weigh 40 to 65 pounds.

Weight is a logical place to begin to try to characterize substance. Now that we know the heights of our

sample of dogs (see the June 2024 column), we can more easily interpret the weight data that we collected. Height will certainly influence weight.

Apart from height, the most obvious characteristic that could influence our

Belgians’ weight data is body condition. This may range from “too ribby” to “Does that dog actually *have* ribs?”

Other important factors might be age, muscle development, and body volume (as described by depth of chest and length of back). Fortunately, our data set includes information on these variables.

First, though, the weight data.

Recall that none of the AKC standards has weight guidelines. The guidelines that we will use here are from the FCI (Fédération Cynologique Internationale) standard, which suggests that females should weigh approximately 45–55 pounds, and males should weigh about 55–65 pounds.

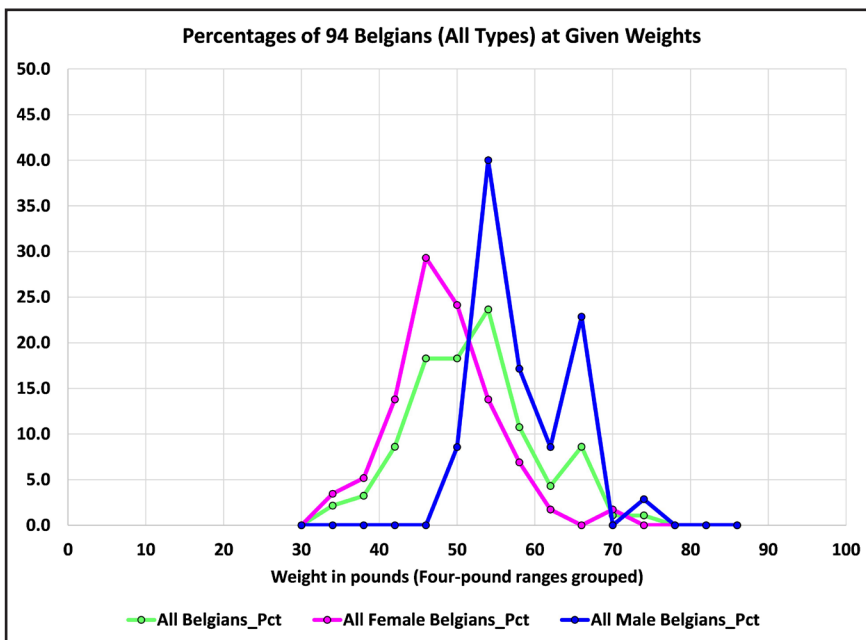


Figure 1

COURTESY OWNERS
CHART: CARLEE MORAN

BREED COLUMNS

HERDING GROUP

I term the midpoints of these ranges, 50 and 60 pounds respectively, the “ideal” weights.

Figure 1: Weight ranges in Belgian breeds. Figure 1 shows a histogram of the weights of all 94 measured Belgians of all types, reported as the percent of the sample group within each four-pound interval. Since males and females are expected to have different weights, I’ve shown separate lines for them.

You can see that the most common weight in females was around 45 pounds, and

the most common weight in males was around 54.

There is a lot of variability, from 33 to 70 pounds. Maybe it’s not surprising that the weights are shifted to the low end of the expected range, since height tended to run in the low half of the range as well, particularly for the female Malinois and Tervuren.

Figure 2: Relationship between height and weight.

Let’s look at how strong the relationship is between weight and height. Figure 2 shows weight plotted against height. Also shown are the

results of a linear regression, including the equation of the line that best represents the data, and which gives you the ability to predict the average weight of a dog of known height. Based on this sample group, about 61percent of the variation in the weight data is explained by variation in the dog’s height (r²-adjusted). Something else explains the other 39 percent of the variation in weight.

Now we are on a hunt for that other 39 percent. We have data we can use for that! We have:

- Body condition
- Age
- Sex
- Muzzle circumference
- Circumference of the front and rear legs
- Chest circumference
- Body length

We don’t know if any of these parameters will explain the variability, but we will give it a shot in my next column.

—Carilee (Cole) Moran,
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 American Belgian Malinois Club

CARILEE MORAN

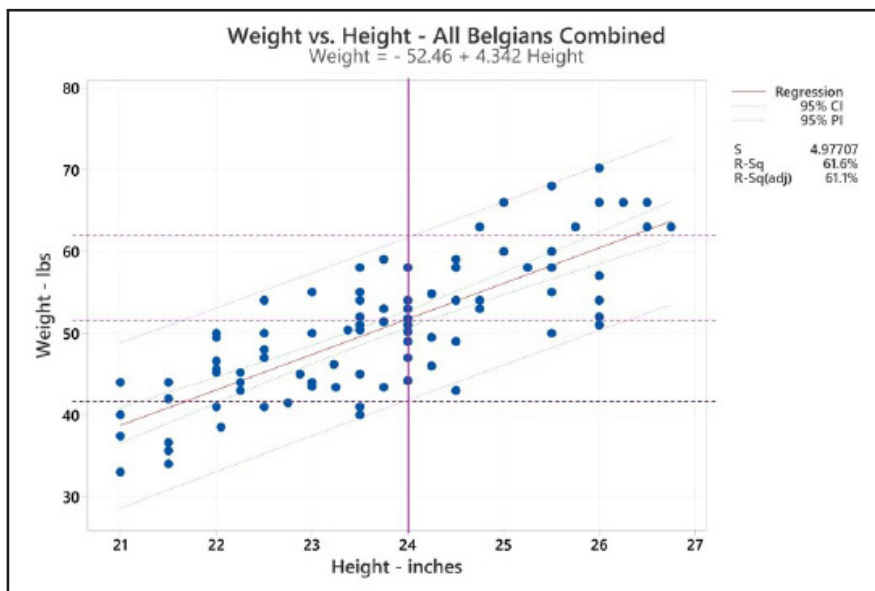


Figure 2

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Belgian Sheepdog

Belgian Sheepdogs

SO YOU THINK YOU WANT A BELGIAN?

The breed standard for the Belgian Sheepdog says, “He should be watchful, attentive, and always in motion when not under command.” For the right home, a Belgian Sheepdog can be a lot of fun. Left to their own ideas, your shoes may be the new favorite toy for a Belgian Sheepdog who is running circles in the backyard.

A Belgian Sheepdog is always happiest when he knows his job. Agility, con-

formation, herding, obedience, rally and tracking are the staples for many a Belgian Sheepdog competitor. As younger generations emerge, we are seeing many Belgian

Sheepdogs thriving in newer titling events like dock diving, Fast CAT, scent work, and Trick Dog.

Finding a Belgian Sheepdog breeder can be hard. The website of the breed’s national parent club, the [Belgian Sheepdog Club of America](#), offers national and regional club contacts, as well as a Breeder’s Directory and many other resources for both current and prospective Belgian Sheepdog owners. Go to a club meeting or event and meet local breeders, owners, and fanciers of the breed, as

this is typically the best way to get an idea of whether you and your prospective Belgian will be suitable for each other. You may also find that your home is not for a Belgian, due to the breed’s necessary early socialization needs and high energy level. That’s OK! Better for all to find out now rather than being heartbroken and having to return the puppy later on.

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

Yes, as with any breed, there are things to be aware of when considering a Belgian Sheepdog. A responsible breeder will have assessed each puppy individually by 8–9 weeks of

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM



HERDING GROUP

age and have a solid understanding of each puppy's natural aptitude, instinct, and temperament.

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

I have two mentors; the first introduced me to my second breeder, who is also a dear friend and mentor. My situation is not uncommon. Most Belgian folks are always ready to offer a hand if needed. You simply just have to ask.

As a newcomer to the breed you may wonder your importance level to the breed and to the club. Why join my regional and national breed clubs? The answer is while you may be new to the breed, you have a huge opportunity to get involved and learn from those who are working so fiercely to ensure the

preservation of our Belgian Sheepdog. You are the future. The degree of your impact and influence is up to you, as you have chosen to participate in the preservation of a purebred Belgian Sheepdog.

In the end, if you decide a Belgian Sheepdog is really the best fit for your family, then hooray! Remember, it's typically a 10- to 14-year journey. Be patient, be wise, and listen to your dog as well as those people who are far more experienced in dogs than you. There will be highs and there will be lows.

I used to physically shake from nerves anytime I entered a competition ring with a dog. Even after finishing my first Belgian's championship myself, I still got nervous. We've been working in dock diving and agility—we found our working relationship on the dock, and we found our confidence in agility. She still humbles me regularly and reminds me that we are a team.

Find your confidence.

Find it with your Belgian Sheepdog—and most importantly, don't forget to *have fun!*—Susan Reed Davis, 2019

[Belgian Sheepdog Club of America](#)

Belgian Tervuren

SHOWING YOUR DOG'S BITE

In recent years, judges are advised to ask the exhibitor to show the bite/open the mouth when conducting oral exams. What does this mean for you as a Tervuren owner?

If you are already showing your dog, you should have trained him to accept someone placing their hand on his muzzle, lifting the front and side lips, and possibly rubbing their fingers over his teeth. This type of exam is done because the Tervuren standard references missing teeth or dentition. This exam requires either the judge or the exhibitor to separate the front of the lips to display the meshing of the incisors and canines. It also requires

HERDING GROUP



Belgian Tervuren

lifting the flews on each side of the mouth to see the premolars and molars on the upper and lower jaw for each side.

Most likely this type of exam has been done by a judge (or, in training the dog, someone pretending to be the judge). When you are expected to show your dog's bite yourself, the same type of exam is done, but only it is performed by you.

Now here comes the tricky part in doing it yourself: You are going to do this while at your dog's side, and without blocking the vision of the judge.

Be sure to practice doing both sides of the dog's mouth. You may need to turn your dog's head slightly when showing the side bite. Be sure the dog is comfortable with this. Your hands may at times be blocking the

dog's eyes by performing this examination with you at his side. Be sure to get the dog used to this—it may not be intentional when this happens but may be just how the judge is approaching or looking at the bite and where you need to be during this approach. You want your dogs to be comfortable in all situations.

The other “hint” I can share is to remember that you are fully aware of what your dogs' bite looks like. Keep your head out of the judge's way, and don't block his vision with your head, body, or hands.

If your dog has a level bite that may look a slight bit off, a judge might run the flat of her thumb across the front of your dog's teeth to “feel” if the bite is truly level.

The Tervuren standard does not require a “mouth” exam that includes opening the mouth and counting all the teeth. Our judges' education program does train judges that a mouth exam is not used in our breed, but occasionally that informa-

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

HERDING GROUP

tion may slip through the cracks, and you will see a judge perform this type of exam. It may not be a bad idea to train your dog to accept this type of exam so they don't have a meltdown if it happens. Do not expect it to be the norm.

The entire bite exam should take seconds. Practice until you feel you are doing a smooth presentation.

In the event a judge still wants to check the bite on his own, remember that you may ask if you can show the bite instead. Most judges will comply, but remember that it is their choice.

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

Briards

IN A CHANGING WORLD

In a world where the only constant is change, the Briard is a breed that has remained relatively true to its original roots, both in appearance and character.



September 2020 (Lynda Beam photo)

A photo of a Briard of 1921 looks amazingly like the black roadblock slumbering at my feet. (Both could benefit from a proper grooming.)

While some other breeds have rambled through a half-dozen different names and myriad manifestations, the *Chien Berger de Brie* (sheep herding dog of Brie), or Briard, has long been the appellation of this sturdy, long-coated French sheep dog.

Fortunately, the breed has

never suffered the pangs of popularity. Aficionados will tell you this is not a breed for everyone, and that's all to the good.

The only real changes to the Briard's appearance have been the result of better nutrition, advanced grooming equipment, and enhanced coat-care products.

When it comes to comparing the Briards of a century or more ago with the dogs of today, *The Shepherd Dog of Brie* is a positive treasure. The book was written in 1925 by M. Sedir and was later translated and reprinted in an illustrated, spiral-bound format by the Atlantic States Briard Club. (It shows some things never change, as two authorities of the time argue in print if the breed's requisite double dewclaws are genuinely useful or just a

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

HERDING GROUP

tradition.)

In describing the character of the Briard, Sedir's portrayal might stir the ire of some owners of short-coated breeds. However, I agree with him—though I just might be prejudiced. He wrote:

“Generally speaking, long-haired dogs seem to be more intelligent than those with short hair. They understand better what their master demands of them, and they learn more quickly. They have a gentleness, a loyalty, a fidelity superior to that of the average dog. The Briard has these qualities to the highest degree. However, he has a strong personality, he possesses a certain dignity, and if he is punished unjustly, he resists.” Amen.

Some of Sedir's comments on the standard of 1925 are well worth reading.

On General Appearance: “While walking, especially while trotting and galloping, the Briard's gait must be light and supple, almost like that of a large cat. The trot is short, enabling the dog to

turn about suddenly in every direction; the full gallop consists of long steps, the back curving at each leap.”

On the head: “The head, as seen from profile, including the beard and mustache, must present a rectangular silhouette. Seen from above and from full face, the head again must present a rectangle. The nose must be square, always black. The nostrils wide open, a sign of courage and of good lungs.”

On the tail: “It must come down to the knee-joint and there curve into a hook; not any longer however. Some good cynologues think that if the head shows the character of the dog, the tail reveals the purity of his lineage, and I am of their opinion.”

On “fur and coat”: “The hair of the she-goat, falling along the length of the body with slight waves, dry and rough to the touch, is what is wanted. As for the color of the coat, I do not see any reason to desire one or the other except for esthetic convenience. I must say,

however, that certain old breeders affirm that the true color of the Briard is black and that the tawny coats are the result of crossings.”

“From an account of the competition of sheepdogs in 1900”: “The long-haired Briard stock includes two varieties: the black and the tawny. For the first time the prize was bestowed upon Capitaine, an excellent dog belonging to M. Antoine. I wonder if they should encourage the excess of hair characteristics of Capitaine, which seems to indicate an infusion of blood of the Russian dog with its woolly coat. As much as I like a work dog to have almost straight hair which I shall call goat hair, that much I hate hair that is too long and too curly and which is thickly packed and sheds freely if it is not brushed daily.”

“At the Market of La Villette”: “The Briard is black or a silverish tawny, with long goat-like hair which resembles the hair of a bison, and his little brown

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eyes, gentle, laughing, keen, shine in the dark like rubies. He is jovial, timid, friendly, and when grown up, has the good large head of a gay lion.”

From “Generalities”: “The Briard has a somewhat stern appearance because of its long mustache and the thick eyebrows covering its eyes, but its look is most intelligent and affectionate.”

The world has made immense revisions since M. Sedir authored his book, but our Briards are relatively unchanged over the centuries. It’s a comforting thought.—*Alice Bixler, 2016*

[Briard Club of America](#)

Cardigan Welsh Corgis

WHAT MAKES A GOOD MENTOR?

As has been said before, the Cardigan is not an easy breed to learn. This is one reason why finding a very good mentor is so important. Yet a top mentor does not necessarily only mean a person who is very knowledgeable about



Cardigan Welsh Corgi

the breed. It can also mean someone who is able to educate, one who can explain the standard, the living dog, the goals of a responsible breeder, the need to understand faults and virtues when looking for a stud dog, plus any number of other elements—and do it all in a way the student can easily grasp.

A good mentor will also continue her own educa-

tion by regularly attending breeders’ and judges’ seminars at the breed’s national and regional specialties. She will attend health and reproductive seminars. She will expand her own knowledge so that she can in turn correctly expand the knowledge of her own students. She does not merely rely on her personal experiences, though they are highly informative, but the experiences

COURTESY REE SMYTH



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of other trusted breeders in order to present as complete a picture of the Cardigan as is possible.

She will mentor at ring-side, so the student can see what the mentor is indicating and explaining. She will critique the student’s young dog against very good examples of the breed, so the student may grasp the good about her own dog, and the elements of the dog that can use improving—an improvement that comes, one hopes, in the next generation if the correct stud dog is selected.

A good mentor, too, is not necessarily always the best-known breeder or exhibitor. There are older breeders who may have ceased being as active in the ring or whelping box, but whose deep knowledge remains invaluable to a newer breeder or exhibitor.

A good mentor understands that she should not attempt to make a clone of herself. That the student must learn to think for or herself himself and make

their own decisions, which may not mirror the mentor’s. A mentor’s influence may play a large or small role in the student’s decisions down the road, but it does play a role.

Additionally, a student should not limit himself to the input of only one mentor. He should talk with several breeders he respects. A good mentor understands this. And the student should understand that not all mentors will be in agreement about what constitutes a correct Cardigan.

There is one “mentor” that knows everything about the breed and should always be relied upon to direct the student: the breed standard, as written by the Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America. Breed mentors, too, should be guided by this document, because it is, as is so often stated, the “blueprint” of our breed. While mentors will have developed their own ideas about how to attain that blueprint, they should also explain that they have not attained it. No

one has. We are all working toward breeding Cardigans to perfectly match the standard, and yet we never will.

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

Collies

THE SEARCH FOR INSPIRATION

These days, when we talk about an “influencer,” we usually think of person who’s popular on TikTok or YouTube. But influencers come in all shapes and sizes. Social media is a big one, but things that shape our thinking and people who inspire us also come from our personal interactions, our experiences at work, what we watch, what we read, and in our “extracurricular” activities.

My influences in dogs came, and still do come, from a variety of places. Magazines were a big part of seeing who was winning, what families were prominent, and general knowledge. Books too added to the impressions made

HERDING GROUP

on me: Bobbi Roos' *Collie Concept*, any of the CCA books and Yearbooks, and then later the Library of Champions.

Going to the national specialties was another influence. There I could see different families of Collies that I would not normally have an opportunity to study.

Reading about athletes and how they succeed was also a significant influence—people like Jane Savoie, who wrote about her process in dressage competition; sports writing like the book *The Inner Game of Tennis*; and interviews with those at the top of their game, like Tiger Woods, all gave me something to think about.

Influences came from discussions during long car drives to and from dog shows, where we analyzed results and compared thoughts on the entries but also delved into a broad range of topics, not just dogs.

“Kennel-hopping” stirred thinking about things, too: how distinct the dogs were in different parts of the



Collie

country, even how the way people kept or kenneled their dogs was reflected in the things they bred for. All culminated in how I was to set goals and make choices in my own showing and breeding.

But how can one person you don't even know influence you?

Years ago, when I was getting back into showing, I spent time studying the handlers I admired in the ring. They could be Collie handlers or in other breeds, but I was drawn to the ones who

were quiet and subtle.

My role models were the ones who showcased the dogs instead of themselves—the ones who made it look effortless, who had a connection to the dog, whose handling drew you in. I eschewed the leash-jerkers, the one-knee-lifted-up fad, the frenetic ones, the indifferent ones.

I recall a handler who came into the ring one day at a large all-breed show and immediately caught my eye. He showed a Miniature Poodle like he was present-



HERDING GROUP

ing a precious artifact. His hands were light and sensitive to the dog, inviting the judge to rest his eyes on this exquisite piece of artwork. It was like he was bringing something truly special for the judge to see.

I'd never seen anything like it. I decided that was how I would like to present my dog—"Look, judge, this is beautiful and worthy, more than worthy, of your consideration." I was invested in my dogs, believed in them, and wanted the judge to feel obliged to look. Did it always succeed? Oh, hell no, but I never forgot the influence of that handler. A lot of people knew Kaz Hosaka personally. I never met him or spoke to him, but he made a lasting, positive impression on me.

That's the thing about influencers; I think they become one by their own striving for excellence and success, however they define it. They are examples of what we want to emulate—how to be better.

We all have choices on

who influences us, so we need to choose wisely and find those who elevate our sport and make it and us better.

—Marianne Sullivan,
Charlottesville, Virginia,
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[Collie Club of America](#)

Finnish Lapphunds

2024 FINNISH LAPPHUND NATIONAL: THE ONE TO REMEMBER

The Finnish Lapphund Club of America's 2024 national specialty took place at Laurel Spring Farms, in Sterling, Massachusetts, in late May.

What do you get when you have a novice show committee with a lot of show experience? Big plans! With the ambitious goal of five events in three days, as well as the breed's first-ever standalone national specialty, we did not blame anyone for being skeptical that it could be pulled off. But after 15 months of hard work and dedication from the show committee, we are

thrilled to say the results speak for themselves!

Our theme was "The One to Remember," as it followed Memorial Day and celebrated the FLCA's first standalone national specialty, as well as the newly licensed New England Finnish Lapphund Club's first regional specialty.

As visitors traveled through the Massachusetts countryside and arrived at the secluded lakeside meadow, they were greeted with a stunning view, complete with a gazebo overflowing with many beautiful raffle baskets. Tents and campers lined up directly opposite a single, large show ring, highlighting how close and personal the standalone specialty would be. The warm and inviting atmosphere felt more like a gathering of old friends and family than just another event. It was immediately obvious this was going to be a special week.

With events scheduled from dawn to dusk, there was never a lack of activities!

BREED COLUMNS

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The Finnish Lapphund Club of America celebrated the breed's first standalone national specialty in May at Laurel Springs Farm in Sterling, Massachusetts.

Our humble gathering managed to pack in plenty of events, including 4–6 Puppy, Junior Showmanship, Brood Bitch, Stud Dog, and even our first Brace event!

In addition to the rings, we also offered breeder education, CGC/TKN testing, a raffle with many amazing prizes, a hilarious auction, and a roaring bonfire to

close out each evening.

The event resulted with a handful of new conformation champions and many new titles in CGC and Trick Dog, with testing by Candy Wright.

COURTESY OWNERS / FINNISH LAPPHUND CLUB OF AMERICA

HERDING GROUP

There was truly something for everyone, and we cannot thank our show committee enough for pulling it all together!

A recap of the highlights:

Tuesday, May 28. The morning FLCA regional specialty began with 4-6 Beginner Puppy and Sweepstakes judged by Sue Williamson, followed by Junior Showmanship and the regular and nonregular classes judged by Edward Hall. Our afternoon regional specialty was judged by James Albrecht. Next up was a Breeder Education eminar by Sue Patterson.

Ariel Curtice of New Jersey said, “As a fairly new exhibitor, and soon breeder, I found the breeder education to be extremely helpful. There was a wealth of information shared within the PowerPoint for both bitch and stud owners. The whelping equipment supply list provided is valuable to me!” The day ended with a massive bonfire, complete with s’mores.

Jessica Loy of New York

summed it up the best by saying, “The bonfire reminded me of camping out in tents at the dog shows when I was a kid with my mom. Cookouts and personal interactions with people—we need those connections back. It’s so easy to become divided with the ‘show and go’ mentality we all have.”

Wednesday, May 29. The 2024 Finnish Lapphund Club of America National Specialty was judged by Donna Gilbert. Bandit, GCh.G Lapinkaunis I Want It All, BCAT, owned by Jackie Barbour, Daniel Nash, and Cheryl Minnier, took Best in Specialty. The national sweepstakes was judged by Neil Goodwin, and 4-6 Beginner Puppy, Junior Showmanship, and PeeWee were judged by Jeannette Neider.

Larissa Savage of Maine said, “This was my first national and my daughter Ember’s first PeeWee event! We stepped into the ring with Ember holding the leash and bouncing with

excitement. When we went down and back and around, everyone clapped and cheered for her. Ember was given a gorgeous large pink rosette and a bag of goodies, but what mattered most is she left the ring with such excitement to come back and do it all again, hopefully very soon.”

The festivities continued with an impromptu Happy Anniversary parade for a couple who attended on their wedding anniversary! At the annual dinner, our judges gave beautiful speeches on the entries before our catered BBQ dinner. After dinner we held an auction that was such a blast, and everyone had an amazing time!

Thursday, May 30. The New England Finnish Lapphund Club held their first Regional Specialties. Sandra Walker judged the morning specialty, including 4-6 Beginner Puppy, Junior Showmanship, and nonregular classes. The afternoon specialty was judged by Krista Hansen.

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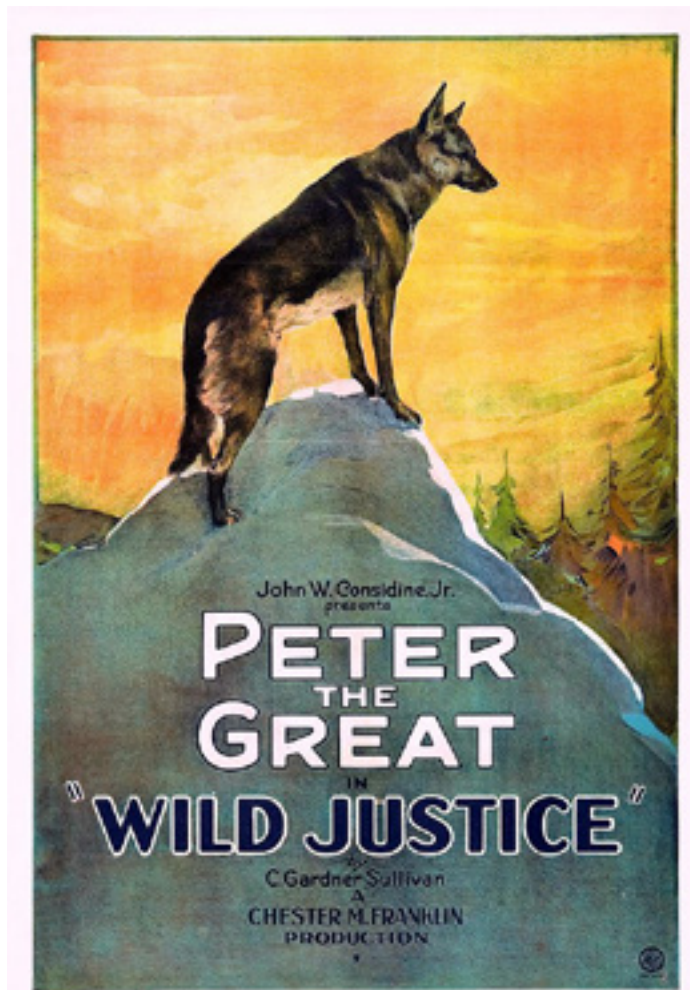
Cherie Test Roberts of Maine said, “These shows were a Lappy extravaganza—truly an event to remember!”

To everyone—those who donated their time and money; the exhibitors who showed their hearts out despite the weather; the vendors who made the ribbons, prizes, and meals special; and all the wonderful friends and family who filled each day with such excitement—thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Such a memorable week would not have been possible without each and every one of you. We are so proud of what we accomplished for our breed, for our members, and for both clubs.

As our breed continues to grow, we look forward to the future knowing that with this dedicated

community, anything is possible!

—Justin Crawford, justincrawford001@gmail.com, and Liane Winslow, liane.winslow@gmail.com
Finnish Lapphund Club of America



German Shepherd Dog: movie poster, 1925

German Shepherd Dogs

2024 GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA NATIONAL

The time is rapidly approaching for one of the most exciting weeks of the year for German Shepherd Dog enthusiasts.

The German Shepherd Dog Club of America will host an outstanding week of activity on October 6–13, with the annual National Specialty extravaganza! The location will be the Reno Livestock Events Center in Reno, Nevada.

For serious Shepherdists, this is a time to come and see old friends and make new ones. The opportunity presents itself to see some of our top winners and top producers.

The annual Parade of Greats and Stud Dog/



HERDING GROUP

Brood Bitch presentations are fabulous spectacles of the breed and are not to be missed. For performance enthusiasts there will be obedience, rally, agility, scent work, and so much more.

The German Shepherd Dog was originally a tending dog used for herding. AKC Course C comes the closest to replicating the work that is fundamental to our breed. There will be two days of Course C, and other AKC herding courses will be offered as well.

The educational seminar should be on everyone's list of "must do" events to attend. Spoiler alert: The hardworking education committee will be rolling out the first-ever animated standard presentation. You absolutely don't want to miss this!

Prepare to immerse yourself in the German Shepherd Dog. The [GSDCA website](#) gives you information on how to enter and where to stay.

I look forward to seeing all of you there!

—Vicki Bemont,
[The German Shepherd Dog Club of America](#)

Icelandic Sheepdogs

"AN ICELANDIC FOR ALL SEASONS": 2024 NATIONAL SPECIALTY

The Icelandic Sheepdog Association of America (ISAA) will be holding its 2024 national specialty September 22 to 25, centered at the Cowlitz County Event Center in Longview, Washington. Bookending these days are other events the ISAA is supporting in various capacities that will offer opportunities for performance titling, conformation showing, and learning more about the conformation and qualities of the Icelandic Sheepdog, and getting acquainted with Icelandic owners from across the country and around the world. There will be an event for everyone and every interest!

On Saturday and Sunday (September 21 and 22), the ISAA will be offering

awards for the highest-scoring Icelandics in each agility class at the trials of the Portland Agility Club (all-breed), to be held at the Clark County Fairgrounds Equestrian Building in Ridgefield, Washington. Judges are Debby Wheeler and Dan Butcher. Closing date for the agility trials is September 6. (Secretary is Barbara Behan, agiletervs@comcast.net.)

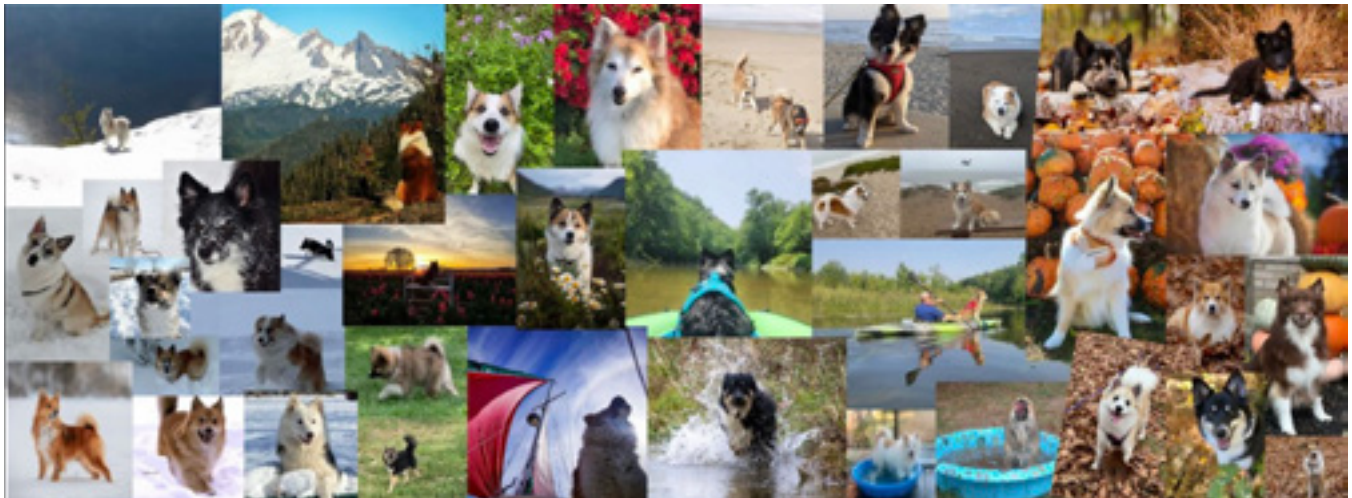
For those not competing in agility, on Sunday (September 22) there will be a "Farm Day Fun Day" sponsored by the club, to be held at Brigand's Hideout in Battle Ground, Washington. Teams with some experience on livestock may try for a Herding Tested title. Other titles may be earned by successfully participating in herding instinct testing, Farm Dog certification, Trick Dog testing, Canine Good Citizen testing, AKC Temperament Testing, and the new AKC Fetch tests.

Of course, these events may be tried just for fun!

Scent games will be

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Icelandic Sheepdogs and their people will gather in Longview, Washington, this month for the breed's 2024 national specialty.

offered to introduce dogs and handlers to AKC Scent Work and Tracking.

On Sunday evening the group will migrate to the Louis Rasmussen Beach Park in Kalama, Washington, where there will be a “Yappy Hour” and welcome gathering.

Monday (September 23) will see AKC companion

events (Icelandic preferred) at the Cowlitz Event Center, with morning and afternoon all-breed rally trials judged by Carolyn Wray (A.M.) and Chip Taylor (P.M.), which will include all the regular classes plus Rally Novice Team and Rally Novice Pairs.

Ms. Wray will also judge all-breed obedience (Beginner Novice and

Novice only) following the morning rally trial.

An educational symposium will be offered on Monday afternoon, and the ISAA annual meeting will be held in the late afternoon, with heavy hors d’oeuvres.

Conformation judging will take place at the Cowlitz Event Center on Tuesday (September 24), with Junior

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Showmanship judged by Penny King of Chehalis, Washington. Puppy and Veteran Sweepstakes will be judged by Bryan Martin of Milwaukie, Oregon. Regular classes and non-regular classes (Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, Brace, and Generations) will be judged by Sóley Ragna of Reykjavik, Iceland.

Judge Ragna will present an educational seminar after her judging, and in the evening a dinner and auction will be held at McMenamins Kalama Harbor Lodge in Kalama.

Many may know Ms. Ragna's name because of her involvement with organizing the annual *Dagur íslenska fjárhundsins* ("Day of the Icelandic Sheepdog") on July 18, the birthdate of British archaeologist Mark Watson, who was instrumental in reviving the purebred Icelandic.

Sóley has been involved with the breed from a young age and in 2014 became an authorized FCI judge. She continues to deepen

her knowledge base of the breed through conversation with experienced breeders and by living with Icelandic Sheepdogs, daily learning more about their structure and character. She is a sought-after educator in the breed, and the ISAA is delighted she is willing to come to Washington this year to judge and to offer breed education.

Wednesday (September 25) will offer additional time for club activities, including a breeders' roundtable and private dog evaluations by Judge Ragna.

The club will support conformation entries at the all-breed shows September 26–29 held by the Walla Walla Kennel Club and the Richland Kennel Club at Columbia Park, in Kennewick, Washington. Fast CAT, rally, and obedience will also be available at the Kennewick shows. (See <https://www.barayevents.com> for more information.)

More detailed information about the events related to the specialty is available

at <https://www.icelanddogs.com/2024-national-specialty>. Advanced registration is required for most of these events, so please check the website for deadlines. The Fun Day is expected to fill quickly, so do not delay registering for that event.

Many thanks to the members of the Show Committee who are making these multiple events possible: Marlys Nettet (chair), Tamara Schomer, Sarah Stremming, Crystal Allison, Maiya McAuliffe, Judi Vittetoe, Leslie Ems-Walker, Patty Eztorn, Scotti Harvey, Gail Hill, Heather Kovis, and Pat Putman.

—Dr. Karen B. Westerfield Tucker,

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Icelandic Sheepdog
Association of America

Lancashire Heelers

SOLO ACTS

Since the Lancashire Heeler achieved full AKC recognition, I've made an effort to show my dog as many weekends as I can.

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I like to joke that we're undefeated in breed—because, at most shows in my area, we're the *only* entry in our breed.

Introducing local fanciers to the Lancashire Heeler has been a delight and a privilege, but sometimes I wonder if our “solo act” is having the desired effect.

Are we representing the breed well?

Do judges appreciate the opportunity to put their hands on a Heeler—even just one?

If we aren't earning any championship points, what's our goal?

After a lovely experience in her NOHS group ring, I contacted Mrs. Lorna Menaker, who, as a U.K. native, is already acquainted with our dear little drovers.

“It's a public service announcement every time you go out with your breed,” Mrs. Menaker said in a phone interview. “Everywhere you go, even in the show ring, wherever you go, people are seeing your dog and you're getting



Points at conformation shows can be few and far between for a rare breed such as the Lancashire Heeler—luckily, however, for multitalented dogs like Scoop there are plenty of other events to compete in as well, such as Fast CAT.

an opportunity to promote the breed.”

She speaks from experience. Mrs. Menaker is a fellow exhibitor of two low-entry breeds—the Canaan Dog and Polish Lowland Sheepdog.

A lack of breed representation should not prevent a worthy dog from earning his championship, Mrs. Menaker says. Her PON gained a five-point major from a Group 4 placement on a day that she was the only entry of her breed.

“The most important

thing is that the judges educate themselves, that the judges do their research, whether there's a low-entry breed or whether it's a numerically strong breed,” Mrs. Menaker says. “Each dog is judged to the AKC breed standard when you're judging in America. So it's not comparing each dog with each other; it's comparing each dog and how does that measure up to its breed standard. What are all the virtues of that dog, in your assessment and your evaluation of the individual dog?”

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A detailed, high-quality judges' education presentation should sufficiently equip prospective judges to evaluate a breed, Mrs. Menaker says. But experiencing the dogs in person paints a much fuller picture, especially for Heelers, who should radiate a courage and intensity that cannot be captured on screen.

"The breed standard is a blueprint—but that blueprint is a basic blueprint," she says. "There's much more to a breed with the characteristics you see live, in person. And when you've got your hands on [a dog], there's an interaction there—a human-dog interaction. So when you've got dogs or breeds that have big characters, or that have a strong drive or have determination, there is a presence about those types of dogs."

However, to give judges the best introduction to our breed, Mrs. Menaker encourages exhibitors to be intentional in showing sound, well-constructed representatives. Going over

poor specimens that do not fulfill the breed standard is not a good learning experience for judges.

"As a breeder, that dog will represent your breeding program," she says. "Even in the U.K., there is diversity within the breed. There's variance within breed type—you know, the good and the not so good. You're doing your best to establish the breed, and by establishing the breed, proper messaging is important. So you've got to ask yourself, 'What are we—as fanciers and aficionados and guardians of the breed—what do we want to portray the breed as?'"

So if being the "only" feels a bit lonely, don't lose heart—the benefits of showing your Lancashire Heeler go beyond the ribbons. You're contributing to judges' education. You're promoting the breed to the larger dog show community. And most importantly, you and your Heeler are taking joy in a shared activity—and that joy is contagious.

"When you're really pas-

sionate about something," Mrs. Menaker says, "you can convince other people that, 'Wow! This is the best thing since sliced bread!'"

Thank you, Mrs. Lorna Menaker, for sharing your wisdom with our club! I look forward to sharing more from our discussion in future columns.

—Lindsey Dobruck,
lindseydobruck@gmail.com
United States Lancashire Heeler Club

Norwegian Buhunds

PROTOCOLS FOR THERAPY DOGS

Therapy dogs are a wonderful adjunct to other forms of therapy. However, do therapeutic activities involving dogs increase well-being in people at the expense of the well-being of dogs? Not if the dogs are appropriately selected and trained for therapy work and there are adequate protocols in place to ensure the welfare of therapy dogs.

Most therapy organizations have established

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guidelines to ensure the welfare of dogs engaging in therapy work. For example, the International Association of Human-Animal Interaction Organizations (IAHAIO) published the white paper “[Definitions for Animal Assisted Intervention and Guidelines for Wellness of Animals Involved](#)” (2018) that specifies best practices in animal assisted therapy. These best practices emphasize that handlers should be aware of human participants and implement safety measures to ensure that “clients do not have species or breed specific allergies, be aware of high risk in some population and of exclusion criteria depending on the risk (e.g., infection in immunosuppressed patients, and diseases which can be spread from client to client via the animal).”

The IAHAIO guidelines also emphasize the importance of appropriate selection criteria for therapy dogs. According to the guidelines, therapy



Norwegian Buhund

dogs should “be carefully evaluated for behavior and temperament by experts in animal behavior such as veterinarians and animal behaviorists. Only those with the proper disposition and training should be selected for AAI [Animal Assisted Interventions]. Regular evaluations should be performed to ensure that the animals continue to show proper disposition.”

Therapy organizations such as the Alliance of Therapy Dogs, Love on a Leash, or Pet Partners emphasize careful selection by certifying only those dogs that have been trained and tested to meet their criteria.

The testing involves measuring the ability of dogs to remain calm and confident under stressful situations, reliably respond to handlers, and be happy to interact with unfamiliar people.

When I certified my Buhunds, our certification process also tested reactions to strangers, medical equipment, loud and novel stimuli, and crowds of people.

Dogs selected for participation in therapy activities should be healthy. For example, the organization through which my Buhunds are certified requires an annual veterinary examination, screening for common diseases, and preventative



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care including vaccinations and parasite prevention measures.

In addition to a general selection process, a few therapy organizations go a step further and try to match the temperament of the dog with the type of program. For example, some dogs might be more suited for library reading programs, others for hospital visits, and still others for activity-based school programs.

Selection and training go hand in hand for therapy dogs. My therapy dog organization has a general training program along with an advanced one specific to hospital settings. The advanced training focuses on hospital protocols such as disinfecting hands before and after interacting with patients, appropriate interactions with patients, and knowing which rooms to visit.

The best part of the advanced training includes practicing in a simulation room at a hospital, which enables both dogs and

handlers to get used to hospital rooms with the smells, sights, and sounds of various machines and other hospital paraphernalia.

Therapy organizations also have protocols in place to ensure dog well-being. My therapy organizations requires that dogs work a maximum of one hour per visit and have a day off between visits. Where possible, we also try to give dogs the opportunity to get acclimated to new therapy locations.

In animal-assisted therapy, dogs are often brought into a variety of settings, with new smells and sights and have to interact with a variety of people. In their 2021 article in *Veterinary Sciences*, Glenk and her colleagues suggest that therapy dogs should be allowed time to acclimate to each new setting before engaging in therapy work.

For library reading programs, my therapy organization has the dogs come into the room 10 to 15 minutes early and get settled

before the children come in to read to them. Since this might not always be possible in other settings such as classrooms, I typically spend a few minutes talking to the children and teachers while my dog acclimates on her mat.

As handlers we need to be aware of our therapy dogs' needs and ensure that we minimize fatigue and stress. We also need to recognize that there will come a time when our therapy dog needs a reduced workload or modified interactions or, perhaps, even retirement. Only then can both humans and dogs benefit from animal-assisted therapy.

—Jasmine Tata, 41285 N. Point Drive, Antioch, Illinois 60002; jtata2@yahoo.com

[Norwegian Buhund Club of America](#)

Old English Sheepdogs WALKIN' THE DOG

If you are part of a multi-dog household, that energetic young dog will likely be the focus of your

HERDING GROUP

attention. Maybe you find him digging in the flower bed or barking at the kids playing next door. Thus, some training time is in order.

At the same time, if you look around you may notice that an older dog has gone off to find a quiet spot for a nap. You will also want to interact with this older dog to make sure he remains happy and healthy as he ages.

Of course this could also apply if you are a single-dog family where your furry companion is getting along in years.

There is a certain amount of truth to that old adage, “Use it or lose it.” If your older dog’s naps seem to be running together, you need to get him up and moving again. However, when you do this, some care is in order. The inactivity may be the result of a developing medical condition or another problem.

A likely candidate for the latter is some extra inches



Old English Sheepdog Ch. Kinnelon Tower, October 1925 (Tauskey photo)

around the middle. Just being spayed or neutered can slow the metabolism and add weight if the food portions are not adjusted. Any extra weight will put added stress on those old joints and ligaments. If you remember one of my previous columns on Body Condition Score, or BCS, the ideal rating for an older dog would be somewhere between 2 (underweight) and 3 (normal). This will minimize possible joint damage, but

still provide the energy to undertake a variety of activities. If the dog’s BCS is more like a 4 (overweight) or even 5 (obese), then it is time for action.

However, crash diets are not the answer. A good target is to lose about five percent body weight per month. A more rapid decline can cause some health problems, especially with an older dog.

Before you undertake some regime of increased activity, you also need to involve your veterinarian and have a wellness exam done on your oldster. A senior blood panel will indicate the status of various organ systems. If problems are identified, appropriate action can be taken so that your dog can become more active.

The vet should also check for any mobility issues that might limit activities. If necessary, your activity program could be designed to sidestep any serious issues.

Once you are getting any weight issues under control



HERDING GROUP

and the vet has given you a thumb's up, you can start to focus on an increased level of activity.

For older dogs there seems to be little doubt that swimming is ideal. This allows the dog to work muscles and ligaments without putting a load on his joints. Unfortunately, most of us do not have the necessary aquatic facilities. In addition, a large, wet, shaggy dog wandering around shaking and dripping may not be your cup of tea.

For older dogs, is there much else besides walking? This has many advantages and may benefit you as well as the dog. Knowing that your dog is in need of some exercise can be the motivation to get off your duff and out the door with your partner.

Once you two are on your way, there will likely be some mental as well as physical benefits. Most dogs like being outdoors, with the changing sights and smells. The two of you can also be bonding without distractions from family members, be they four-legged

or two-legged.

There are many variables you can change as your walking program evolves. Duration is obviously one. You can start with short walks, then add to the distance covered as your conditioning improves. A level route also seems like the way to start, eventually adding some inclines.

You should even give some thought to your walking surface. A sandy beach, mowed grass or a synthetic sports surface will cause less damage to joints than hard surfaces like concrete sidewalks.

If you try walking, you can also look for other ways to vary the activity.

Finally, let me close with a tip of the hat to that R&B singer Rufus Thomas, whose 1964 hit song "Walkin' the Dog" provided the title for this column and some good advice.

—Joe Schlitt,
wylecotejs@earthlink.net
Old English Sheepdog
Club of America

Pembroke Welsh Corgis

AGILITY TRAINING TIPS

The last time a Pembroke Welsh Corgi won a regular height division at the AKC National Agility Championships (NAC) was 23 years ago, the year in which Janelle Julyan started training her first Pembroke, Zippy. She showed Zippy to several AKC agility titles and became hooked.

Janelle is the trainer, owner, and best friend of Chelsea, the winner of the 8-inch class at this year's AKC National Agility Championship. We chatted about some training tips for Pembrokes.

Janelle has a background in working with horses, so she came into dog training with the philosophy that what we are trying to teach a dog is not natural or instinctual for them, so it was up to her to find a way to communicate what she wanted the dog to do in a way that they enjoyed and that motivated them to want to work for her. She never

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Pembroke Welsh Corgi Chelsea and owner-trainer Janelle Julyan, winners of the 8-inch class at the 2024 AKC National Agility Championship. Here they demonstrate a few training strategies: Teaching a dog to go around a cone in both directions helps to build focus on the handler when working close; playing the “bang” game with the teeter, which accustoms the dog to both the movement and sound of the obstacle, allows the dog to become self-confident as they control the movement of the teeter—something they will later do when they are on top of the teeter and riding it down.

subscribed to the idea that they should do something “because I said so.” She never wanted to use force or cause her dog to fear her.

She thinks this approach is important for Pembrokes, who often have their own ideas about things, or if you are teaching something new like agility to an adult dog.

Janelle’s basic approach to training is using reward, choice-based training. It starts with teaching the dog to have value for a reward and then quickly progresses to teaching them that doing specific behaviors earns them the reward. The only consequence for doing something other than whatever behavior you are teaching is that the dog does not get the reward.

When the dog makes good choices towards the behavior you are training, it earns the reward as well as an excited verbal marker. Once they understand the concept of offering behaviors for rewards, the dog typically really “turns on” to training, and it becomes a fun game

COURTESY JANELLE JULYAN



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for them.

For agility training, she progresses using this basic concept to build a lot of value for being with her, chasing her, coming to her, interacting with different objects, and so on.

These early behaviors then lead into body awareness games such as walking on raised planks and different surfaces, pivoting, and placing their front feet on items. These activities form the foundation of the dog learning to use and control its body and helps as they progress through their agility training.

The theme of growing simple behaviors while increasing their confidence and desire to work transfers to all aspects of agility training.

Currently, the duo goes to a class once a week to run courses. When preparing for a big event, they also do some sessions of skill training once or twice a week reinforcing dog walk criteria, jump skills, obstacle discriminations, proofing

verbal cues, and so on. The skill sessions are usually less than 15 minutes and include breaks.

The only thing that really changes on trial weekends is that they do not train, and Chelsea always gets at least a day off from agility after an event. Off weekends are spent hiking for fitness.

Janelle offered some other advice: “Do not be ashamed to get help! Training and knowing where to begin can be daunting. There are tons of online resources, like the Facebook page Agility Corgis, as well as on-line courses that you can take.

... Take responsibility for your dog’s performance and understanding of skills. If they are not doing something the way that you think you have taught them, please believe that they do not understand. Go back to foundation layers, and try to figure out where the breakdown is in understanding. Do not beat yourself up about it; every dog will provide unique challenges and surprise you with how they

learn. That is part of the fun! Enjoy their uniqueness and the process.” Thanks, Janelle!

We invite you to watch Pembrokes run agility and compete in other events the last week of this month at the national specialty. Events take place in and near Bowling Green, Kentucky, with agility in Watertown, Tennessee. For more information, [click here](#).

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

Pulik

IS FAILURE TO EMBRACE FUTURITY A FAILURE TO EMBRACE OUR BREED’S FUTURE?

Futurity is a longstanding core event at national specialties for many AKC breed clubs. It was designed to provide a “look into the future.” The futurity provides a platform for breeders to showcase young dogs and bitches produced through their breeding programs. It

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Puli

is also an opportunity for others to compare, contrast, and learn from each other's efforts.

Futurity is a nonregular event best described as a competition with prizes. Futurity is almost identical to other conformation

competitions, in that judges look for the individuals who most conform to the breed's approved standard, except that no championship points are awarded. Futurities are essentially a breeder's bet made at the time of breeding; entries are

made well in advance of the national specialty. In entering the futurity, breeders are expressing confidence in the quality of a particular breeding.

Futurity is entered by nominating a litter. Individual puppies from a nominated litter are eligible to compete in the first Futurity held on or after the date they reach 6 months of age. Some AKC breed clubs offer both futurity and maturity stakes. Maturity competition has slightly different rules from Futurity: In Maturity, any puppy from a Futurity-nominated litter is eligible, but they must be nominated in the year following their "Futurity year."

The first Futurity held by the Puli Club of America (PCA) was in 1989, with the last in 2007. The following is a list of the winners of Best in Futurity (BIF) and Best of Opposite Sex in Futurity (BOSIF). Information is from archived issues of *Puli News* (available at the PCA website), where specialty

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information was published.

Apologies to anyone I might have missed in my efforts to produce this compilation. Pulik are listed here with their adult titles as they appear in PCA's Online Book of Titleholders (pedigree information is also found there):

1989 – BIF: Ch. Szeder's Show Girl; BOSIF: Ch. Wallbanger Abo Thunder

1990 – BIF: Ch. Mi-Tonka's Midnite Obsession

1991 – BIF: Ch. Szeder's Terminator of Tordor; BOSIF: Ch. Csatar Mopsa of Woolrider

1992 – BIF: Ch. Moonshadows Home Alone; BOSIF: Ch. Pajkos Murphy Brown

1993 – BIF: Ch. Tordor's Big Mac Attack; BOSIF: Szeder's More Trouble

1994 – BIF: Ch. MT Hood's Sparkler; BOSIF: Ragg Mopp Winter Night

1995 – BIF: Ch. Tordor's Kirivo Kirohanas, CDX, RE, PT, MX, AXJ, MJP2, TT, CGC, VPM; BOSIF: Bartok's String Concerto

1996 – [no information posted] (no Futurity entries?)

1997 – BIF: Ch. Tordor's The Divine Miss M, CD

1998 – BIF: Ch. Prydain Lightning Strike twice; BOSIF: Ch. Prydain Love at First Sight

1999 – BIF: Ch. Catsun Colusa; BOSIF: Ch. Moonshadows Mind Over Matter

2000 – BIF: Ch. Bowmaker Southern Belle

2001 – [no information posted] (no Futurity entries?)

2002 – BIF: Ch. Loakespark Pretty Smart; BOSIF: Bowmaker U Da Man

2003 – BIF: GCh. Weatherby Great Expectations; BOSIF: Ch. Bokar Polly-Wolly-Doodle

2004 – BIF: Ch. Prydain Dobby; BOSIF: Ch. Prydain Trade Secret

2005 – [no information posted] (no Futurity entries?)

2006 – BIF: OTCH Bartok's Little Black Note, UDX2, OM4, HSAs, VP

2007 – BIF: Ch. MACH PACH Loakespark Too Hot to Handle, MXS, MJS, MXP4, MXPB, MJP4, MJPB, PAX, XFT2B

These Pulik represented not only the best efforts of PCA breeders but also the future of our breed. Since the Futurity competition for the Puli was inaugurated, many of its winners went on to become Top Ten Pulik and outstanding producers of new generations.

Interesting trivia includes:

- There was no sex difference noted for likelihood of being awarded BIF.

- The vast majority of BIF or BOSIF went on to finish their conformation championship titles.

- A few Futurity winners finished championships not only in conformation, but also in obedience (OTCH) and agility (MACH, PACH).

- Some Futurity winners went on to be winners of national specialty Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex, and/or Award of Merit. Some individuals were



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multi-group or even multi-Best in Show awardees.

- A challenge trophy was offered, starting in 2003, the Grand Futurity Breeder's Cup, donated by Deb and Zach Stadelman and Stephanie and Terry Horan. Sadly, the trophy was not able to be retired; its current whereabouts are unknown.

- Best in Maturity was offered starting in 2005, with the winner being [adult title listed] Ch. Casablanca Mr. H. Bogart. Unlike all the futurity winners over the years who were black, this was a white Puli. I found no other maturity winners mentioned.

Futurity is one of the most exciting events that may be held during a national specialty weekend. Other breed clubs have noted that Futurity is "part of the glue that holds this national club together." Many PCA members have told me how much they enjoyed Futurity, being able to have a pedigree in hand while watching the puppies in the class, laughing at puppy

antics, and feeling a great rush of pride and hope for our breed and for its future. There was a real sense of camaraderie during those days. Many great Puli breeders/owners/handlers have lamented the lack of Futurity (as well as other events) at our specialties.

The recognition of quality Pulik is important for breeding programs to flourish. I have much appreciation for all the breeders who have worked tirelessly in their efforts to preserve and improve our beloved breed. It became very apparent that certain breeders and their kennel lines have made significant contributions to where we are with the Puli in the U.S.

Breeders should take great pride in participating in any opportunity to showcase their accomplishments, including championing Futurity.

In nominating a litter for the Futurity, PCA members were casting votes in their breeding decisions and indicating their com-

mitment to improving the quality of our dogs (and the breed). Futurity sought to encourage highly selective breeding practices and to reward breeders for their achievements in attempting to breed the best possible Puli. Without responsible breeders, there is no future for our breed.

Many thanks to Patty Anspach and Linda Hall for their assistance in tracking archived information.

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

Shetland Sheepdogs

LOSING HISTORY

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

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mentors, or teachers.

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

Fortunately, our breed's national parent club, the [American Shetland Sheepdog Association](#), started many years ago developing programs, seminars, and an archive of historical records to save much of the knowledge possessed by these people.

I think the ASSA has done a commendable job of trying to preserve the thoughts and history of our early breeders. For many years, seminars and panel discussions at the national specialty and articles in the club handbook have featured these giants of our breed and allowed many students of our breed access to these people.

Lately even social media groups have provided platforms where group members can pose questions about the breed and

the standard and even ask for photos of examples of virtues mentioned in the standard.

It can be a useful educational tool to join a group where longstanding breeders participate and offer answers and further the discussion in positive ways. This can be very valuable for those who wish to absorb as much as possible from those who have been in the breed for a long time.

(Take care to be sure the advice you get is based on the person's duration in the breed. Strive for knowledge, not opinion.)

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



Shetland Sheepdog

COURTESY LYNDY BEAM



HERDING GROUP

the country.

Most important is to always avail yourself to all the available learning opportunities. Stay at the show after you have shown your dog. Often it is when the dust has settled at a show and dogs are being taken care of that people in the breed gather around someone's grooming table or in a grooming spot to go over a dog or just talk. This is when people get into some very interesting discussions.

Listen to people who knew the early dogs and breeders—people you may have wished to chat with, or dogs you may have wished to see. This may be as close as you will get to them.

I spent many years doing just that: Listening. Asking questions. Filing away the answers. Watching how things were done. Taking and practicing what I liked. A lot can be learned watching knowledgeable people go over a dog and discuss it with someone else.

This education in the breed is your responsibility.

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

Swedish Vallhunds

EASY KEEPERS

Part of my job at a veterinary clinic is assessing and discussing pets' body condition. A simple estimation of body condition can be made by running your hands lightly over the dog's sides and comparing it with your hand: If the ribs feel like your knuckles do when you make a fist, the dog is too thin; if the ribs feel like your knuckles do (on the back of your hand) when you hold your hand flat, the dog is just about right; and if the ribs feel like the base of your fingers on the palm of your hand, the dog is overweight. In veterinary medicine, body condition is scored on a scale of either 1–5 or 1–9, with 1/5 or 1/9 being severely underweight, and 5/5 or 9/9 being morbidly obese. The middle (3/5 or 4–5/9) is ideal. Many,

many dogs today are overweight (54 percent in 2015 according to the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention), to the extent that a dog at a healthy lean body weight might look “skinny” to some.

Obesity can lead to shorter lifespans (up to 2.5 years shorter!), not to mention increasing the risk of many health issues, including osteoarthritis, diabetes, hypertension, cruciate ligament rupture, kidney disease, and various cancers (<http://www.petobesityprevention.org/pet-obesity-fact-risks/>).

Most dogs seem to be “hard wired” to eat when there is food available (“opportunistic feeders”)—perhaps a leftover from their scavenger ancestors, who had to eat whatever they could find because they didn't know where their next meal was coming from, and free feeding is not generally a good idea for this and other reasons.

Many/most Swedish Vallhunds are very food

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motivated, and most Vallhund owners learn pretty quickly that their dogs will get overweight easily if left to their own devices as regards food. In addition, most Vallhunds are “easy keepers” and may need far less food than you’d think to maintain a healthy body condition.

I see rather more overweight Vallhunds than I’d like to. It can happen almost without your notice, so refreshing your knowledge of what a healthy lean dog looks and feels like is very important (especially because that double coat can hide quite a bit!).

My Vallhunds are competitive agility dogs, so they get considerably more exercise than most average pet dogs (several miles of walking, conditioning exercise, agility practice, training, and trialing), and they still eat far less than you’d think (and *far* less than the guide-



Swedish Vallhund

lines on their food say to feed them). It’s important to remember that weight in dogs (as in people) is much more calorie-driven than exercise-driven. Exercise is very important for mental and physical health, but it only has a small influence on weight compared to calories unless the dog is running in the Iditarod or something.

I pay attention to my dogs’ body condition on a regular basis, and I adjust their food intake up or

down as needed to keep them at the body condition they should be at. Sometimes they need more, sometimes they need less.

There are exceptions, of course, intact males are often hard to keep weight on, and some Vallhunds, especially when young, are quite good at regulating their calorie

intake, but as a general rule, we need to be the ones in charge of how much they eat, and we need to be aware of what a healthy lean body weight feels and looks like (and it’s probably leaner than you’d think!). So the next time your dog asks for a cookie, maybe take them for a walk instead. Both of you will be better off for it!
—Amanda Lowery

[Swedish Vallhund Club of America](#)

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM



SECRETARY'S PAGES

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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 at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel on **Tuesday, September 10, 2024**. For the sole purpose of conducting the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees, the meeting will be called to order at 9:30 a.m. After those present at that time have voted, the Delegate Meeting will recess to begin the Forum (approximately 1 hour in duration). The Delegate Meeting will reconvene following the conclusion of the Forum at which time anyone who had not yet voted will have the opportunity to do so, then the polls will be closed.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

American Hairless Terrier of America
Greeley Kennel Club

DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

Barbara Steinbacher Dalane, Sussex, NJ,
Border Terrier Club of America
Sara Gildersleeve, Lake Katrine, NY,
Rockland County Kennel Club
June Johnston, Ashland City, TN,
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of
America



gazette

Click here to read the
September 2024 issue!

Dr. Erin Kerfoot, Marion, VA,
Roanoke Kennel Club

Sylvie McGee, Olympia, WA,
Nisqually Kennel Club

Leslie Puppo-Rogers, Salisbury, NC,
Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America

Leslie Savoye, Lafayette, CA,
Contra Costa Kennel Club

Allison Schultz, Badger, MN,
Bracco Italiano Club of America

Dale Suzanne Tarbox, Columbus, NC,
Great Dane Club of America

NOTICE

Ms. Deborah McKenna (Parker, CO). Action was taken by the Flatirons Kennel Club for conduct at its June 2, 2024 event. Ms. McKenna was charged with public criticism of a judge that causes a disruption at an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty as a three-month event suspension and imposed a \$300 fine, effective June 11, 2024. (Cocker Spaniels)

NOTICE

Mr. Robert Shailer (Benson, AZ). Action was taken by the Sangre de Cristo Kennel Club of Peoria for conduct at its July 7, 2024 event. Mr. Shailer was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the pen-

alty as a reprimand and imposed a \$100 fine. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

Mr. Charles Stephen Williams (Riverview, FL). Action was taken by the Citrus County Kennel Club for conduct at its July 6, 2024 event. Mr. Williams was charged with inappropriate, abusive, or foul language. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set penalty as a one-month suspension of event privileges and imposed a \$500 fine, effective July 6, 2024. (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Mr. John McCartney (Orlando, FL) for a lifetime of all AKC privileges, imposed a \$10,000 fine, prohibited him from being on the grounds of AKC events, and can administratively remove his name of registrations, for violating AKC's Personal Conduct Policy, effective July 9, 2024. (American Staffordshire Terriers)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Elisa Brandvik (Ozark, AR) for five-years from all AKC privileges and imposed a \$5,000 fine, for non-compliance with AKC's Care



SECRETARY'S PAGES

and Conditions Policy (unacceptable conditions, dogs, and/or facility), effective February 13, 2024.

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended the following individuals for six-months from all AKC privileges and imposed a \$500 fine for refusal to make their dogs and records available for inspection.

Effective August 13, 2024

Ms. Tobi Staudacher (Multiple Breeds)

Ms. Lights Wilhour (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Dr. Kammi Kai Hefner (Pleasant Hall, PA) for a lifetime of all AKC privileges and imposed a \$10,000 fine, for violating AKC's Judicial or Administrative Determination of Inappropriate Treatment policy. Dr. Hefner appealed this decision to the Board Appeals Committee who modified the penalty to a five-year suspension of all AKC privileges and a \$1,000 fine, effective January 9, 2024.

NOTICE

REPRIMANDS AND FINES

Notification of fine imposed on a Show Secretary for failure to submit all event records, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*,

Chapter 17, Section 2

Judy Lowther \$300

Notification of fine imposed on a club for failure to follow all AKC Rules and Regulations, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 9, Section 10.

Texas Gulf Coast Bull Terrier Club.... \$300

Notification of fine imposed on a club for late submission of event records, *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, Chapter 17, Section 2

Golden State Chinese Shar-Pei Club ... \$50

Notification of fines imposed on Performance Clubs for late submission of results, *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers*, Chapter 1, Section 21.

Sand and Sage Retriever Club..... \$100

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

Judges Farm Dog Certified Test (Darlene Schmucker) \$50.00

PROPOSED RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK 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: The Ridgeback represents a strong, muscular and active hound, symmetrical and balanced in outline. A mature Ridgeback is a handsome, upstanding and athletic dog, capable of great endurance with a fair (good) amount of speed. Of even, dignified temperament, the Ridgeback is devoted and affectionate to his master, reserved with strangers. The peculiarity of this breed is the ridge on the back. The ridge must be regarded as the characteristic feature of the breed.

Size, Proportion, Substance: A mature Ridgeback should be symmetrical in outline, slightly longer than tall but well balanced. Dogs – 25 to 27 inches in height; Bitches – 24 to 26 inches in height. Desirable weight – Dogs – 85 pounds; Bitches – 70 pounds.

Head: Should be of fair length, the *skull* flat and rather broad between the ears and should be free from wrinkles when in repose. The stop should be reasonably well defined. *Eyes* – Should be moderately well apart and should be round, bright

and sparkling with intelligent expression, their color harmonizing with the pigmentation color of the dog. *Ears* – Should be set rather high, of medium size, rather wide at the base and tapering to a rounded point. They should be carried close to the head. *Muzzle* – Should be long, deep and powerful. The lips clean, closely fitting the jaws. Clear faced or masked dogs are equally correct and neither is preferred. A clear face with black or brown/liver pigmentation only on nose, lips and around the eyes, or a masked face with black or brown/liver pigmentation is correct as long as the color is not continuing with a solid mask over the eyes. A darker ear often accompanies the darker masked dog. *Nose* – Should be black, ~~brown or liver~~ or brown, also known as liver, in keeping with the color of the dog. No other colored nose is permissible. A black nose should be accompanied by dark eyes, a brown or liver nose with amber eyes. *Bite* – Jaws level and strong with well-developed teeth, especially the canines or holders. Scissors *bite* preferred.

Neck, Topline, Body: The *neck* should be fairly long. It should be strong, free from throatiness and in balance with the dog. The chest should not be too wide, but very deep and capacious, ribs moderately well sprung, never rounded like barrel hoops (which would indicate want

of speed). The back is powerful and firm with strong loins which are muscular and slightly arched. The *tail* should be strong at the insertion and generally tapering towards the end, free from coarseness. It should not be inserted too high or too low and should be carried with a slight curve upwards, never curled or gay.

Forequarters: The shoulders should be sloping, clean and muscular, denoting speed. Elbows close to the body. The forelegs should be perfectly straight, strong and heavy in bone. The feet should be compact with well-arched toes, round, tough, elastic pads, protected by hair between the toes and pads. Dewclaws may be removed.

Hindquarters: In the hind legs the muscles should be clean, well defined and hocks well down. Feet as in front.

Coat: Should be short and dense, sleek and glossy in appearance but never woolly nor silky.

Color: Light wheaten to red wheaten. A little white on the chest and toes permissible but excessive white there, on the belly or above the toes is undesirable (See muzzle). Disqualification: Solid black. Black and tan, or brown and tan in brown/liver nosed dogs.

Ridge: The hallmark of this breed is the ridge on the back which is formed by the hair growing in the opposite direction to the rest of the coat. The ridge must be regarded as the characteristic feature of the breed. The ridge should be clearly defined, tapering and symmetrical. It should start immediately behind the shoulders and continue to a point between the prominence of the hips and should contain two identical crowns (whorls) directly opposite each other. The lower edge of the crowns (whorls) should not extend further down the ridge than one third of the ridge. Disqualification – Ridgelessness. Serious Fault – One crown (whorl) or more than two crowns (whorls).

Gait: At the trot, the back is held level and the stride is efficient, long, free and unrestricted. Reach and drive expressing a perfect balance between power and elegance. At the chase, the Ridgeback demonstrates great coursing ability and endurance.

Temperament: Dignified and even tempered. Reserved with strangers.

Scale of Points:

General appearance, size, symmetry and balance 15

Ridge 20

Head 15

Legs and Feet 15

Neck and Shoulders 10
 Body, Back, Chest and Loin 10
 Gait 10
 Coat and Color 3
 Tail 2
 Total 100

Disqualifications:

Solid black.

Black and tan, or brown and tan in brown/liver nosed dogs.

Ridgelessness.

PROPOSED BULL 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: ~~The Bull Terrier must be strongly built, and muscular, symmetrical and active, with a keen determined and intelligent expression, full of fire but of sweet disposition and amenable to discipline with a keen and determined expression. They are confident and spirited, with an amenable disposition. Identifiable characteristics of breed type are: its unique egg-shaped head and “var-~~

minty” expression, an impression of maximum substance for size with short coupling, and soundness of both structure and temperament.

Colored and White Varieties

The standard for the Colored and White Varieties is the same except when dealing with coat color.

Size, Proportion, Substance: Bull

Terriers should be of medium size, compact, short coupled and strongly built. There should be the impression of maximum substance for size of dog consistent with quality and sex, while at times appearing balanced. The outline is just off-square, slightly longer from the forechest to point of buttocks than height from withers to ground. The distance from the withers to the elbow is approximately equal to the distance from the elbow to the ground. Dogs should look masculine and bitches feminine.

Head: ~~Should be~~ Long, strong and deep right to the end of the *muzzle*, but not coarse. Full face ~~it should be~~ view is oval in outline and filled completely up, giving the impression of fullness with a surface devoid of hollows or indentations, i.e., egg shaped. In profile it should curve gently downwards from the top of the *skull* to the tip of the a black nose with well-developed nostrils and bent downwards at the tip, commonly referred to as Roman fin-

ish. The forehead ~~should be~~ is flat across from ear to ear. The distance from tip of the nose to the eyes should be perceptibly greater than from the eyes to the top of the skull. The underjaw ~~should be~~ is deep and well defined. ~~Nose: Should be black,~~ with well-developed nostrils bent downward at the tip. Lips: ~~Should be~~ Clean and tight. Ears: ~~Should be~~ Small, thin, and when alert are held stiffly erect and point upwards. Eyes: ~~Should be well sunken and as dark as possible, with a piercing glint and they should be~~ Small, triangular, obliquely placed; set near together and high on the head, well sunken, and as dark as possible with a piercing glint, creating the unique “varminty” expression. Disqualification: Blue eyes are a disqualification. Teeth: ~~Should meet in either a level or a complete scissors bite. In the scissors bite, the upper teeth should fit in front of and closely against the lower teeth, and they should be sound, strong and perfectly regular.~~ Incisors are sound, strong and perfectly regular meeting in a scissor or level bite, with correctly placed canines. While correct dentition is desirable, it should never be ascribed higher value than the identifying traits of the breed.

Neck, Topline, Body: *Neck* – ~~Should be very~~ Muscular, long, arched and clean, tapering from the shoulders to the head and it should be free of loose skin. Chest:

~~Should be~~ Broad when viewed from in front and deep. The brisket having great depth ~~from withers to brisket, so that the latter reaches just below the elbow and~~ is nearer the ground than the belly. *Body:* ~~Should be~~ Well-rounded with marked spring of rib, the back should be short and strong with the back ribs deep. Slightly arched over the loin. The Shoulders ~~should be~~ are strong and muscular but without heaviness. The shoulder blades should be wide and flat and there should be with a very pronounced backward slope from the bottom edge of the blade to the top edge. The upper arm approximately the same length as the shoulder blade, producing a noticeable forechest when viewed from the side. Behind the shoulders withers there should be no slackness or dip at the withers whether standing or on the move. The underline from the brisket to the belly should form a graceful upward curve. *Tail* – Short, ~~straight, set on low, fine, and ideally be~~ carried horizontally. It should be thick where it joins the body, and should taper to a fine point, thick where it joins the body, tapering to a fine point, and carried horizontally.

Legs: ~~Should be~~ Big round boned but not to the point of coarseness; the forelegs ~~should be~~ are of moderate length, perfectly straight, and the dog must stand firmly

upon them. The elbows must turn neither in nor out, and the pasterns ~~should be~~ strong and upright. The hind legs should be parallel viewed from behind with muscular thighs and hocks well let down. Hind pasterns short and upright. The stifle joint ~~should be~~ well bent with a well-developed second thigh.

Feet: Round and compact with well-arched toes like a cat.

Coat: ~~Should be~~ Short, harsh to the touch and with a fine gloss straight, lying flat and close to the skin. Dense and stiff to the touch with a fine gloss. The dog's skin should fit tightly.

Coat Color

Colored: ~~The Standard for the Colored Variety is the same as for the White except for the sub head "Color" which reads:~~ Any color other than white, or any color with white markings. Other things being equal, the preferred color is brindle. Acceptable colors and patterns are brindle, black brindle, red, fawn, black and tan, or any of these colors with white markings. Black and tan with white markings is commonly known as Tricolor. Smut markings are acceptable. All things being equal, the brindle pattern (mahogany to silver) is preferred. Liver or blue are highly undesirable. Disqualifications: A colored

Bull Terrier that is predominantly white. Merle pattern marking is unknown in Bull Terriers and disqualifies.

White: ~~Color is white, though colored markings on the head and ears are permissible. Any markings elsewhere on the coat are to be severely faulted. Color markings of acceptable colors are common on the head and ears, but are highly undesirable elsewhere. Skin pigmentation is not to be penalized. Liver or blue markings are highly undesirable. Disqualification:~~ Merle pattern marking is unknown in Bull Terriers and disqualifies.

Movement: The dog shall move smoothly, covering the ground with free, easy strides, fore and hind legs should move parallel to each other when viewed from in front or behind. The forelegs reaching out well and the hind legs moving smoothly at the hip and flexing well at the stifle and hock, while the back remains level and firm. The dog ~~should move~~ moves compactly, in one piece with a typical jaunty air that suggests agility and power.

Temperament: The Bull Terrier has evolved into a companion that is courageous, confident, and full of spirit. Although often focused on self-interest, they should be of even temperament and tractable. Active, agile, and comical, they

are particularly engaging with people.

Faults: This is a breed to be judged on the sum of its virtue without undue emphasis on its faults. Any departure from the Any deviation from the Standard's foregoing points shall be considered a fault and the seriousness of the fault is in exact proportion to its degree, i.e. a very crooked front is a very bad fault; a rather crooked front is a rather bad fault; and a slightly crooked front is a slight fault.

Disqualifications:

Blue eyes.

Any colored Bull Terrier that is predominantly white.

Merle pattern is unknown in Bull Terriers and disqualifies.

PROPOSED MUDI 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: The Mudi is an extremely versatile, intelligent, alert, agile all-purpose Hungarian farm dog. The

Mudi has courage, a trait useful for working the most stubborn livestock. The breed is a loyal protector of property and family members without being overly aggressive. The Mudi is sometimes used for flushing out wild boar in Hungary. The Mudi is Medium sized, moderate in conformation. The profile is nearly square, slightly longer than tall with a slightly sloping topline from withers to croup. The head is wedge shaped with erect ears. The coat is short and straight on the face and front of the legs. The rest of the body is covered by a coat that is very wavy to curly, growing to a length of up to approximately 3 inches. Wedge-shaped head and prick ears. The distinctive low maintenance coat is wavy to curly on the body and is short and straight on the face and front of the legs. There are variations in color and tail length.

Size, Proportion, Substance: The Mudi is medium boned. The height from the withers to the ground is nearly equal to the body length from the point of the shoulder to the point of the buttocks. The depth of the brisket is slightly less than half of the height at the withers. The Mudi should stand squarely on all fours and when viewed from the side, the topline, front legs and back legs should closely approximate a square. Height is measured from withers to the ground and is slightly longer than tall when measured from point of shoul-

der to point of buttocks. Brisket comes to the elbow and is mid-way between withers and the ground. *Substance* – The Mudi is medium boned. *Size* – Dogs are from 16 15.5 inches to 18 ½ 19 inches, bitches from 15 14.5 inches to 17 ½ 18 inches. Ideal height for dogs is 17 ½, for bitches is 16 ½. Disqualification – Dogs less than 15 ½ inches and over 19 inches, and bitches less than 14 ½ inches and over 18 inches. Over or under listed height. *Weight* – Ideal weight in dogs is 14 pounds to 29 pounds and in bitches 18 pounds to 24 pounds.

Head: The head is wedge shaped when viewed from the top and from the side with sufficient fill under the eyes to make a smooth wedge line from ear to nose. The length of the muzzle is slightly less than half of the total length of the head creating a wedge shape when viewed from the side. The stop is defined by not obvious. *Expression* – The Mudi expression is alert, lively and intelligent. A “daredevil”, lively, intelligent and alert expression. *Eyes* – The eyes are almond shaped and set slightly oblique thus giving the Mudi a “dare devil” expression. The eyes should be eyes, as dark as possible, are set slightly obliquely. The rims of lids are tight, close-fitting to the eyeball and completely pigmented. The following variations are permitted: Merle patterned dogs can have solid brown, blue, or brown speckled with blue eye(s). Brown,

gray and gray-brown dogs can have lighter brown eyes. Yellow and white colored dogs can have dark brown, lighter brown, blue, or brown speckled with blue eye(s). Rims of lids are tight, close-fitting to the eyeball and completely pigmented. Brown and gray-brown dogs have brown pigmentation and gray dogs have gray pigmentation. Yellow and white dogs may have black, brown or gray pigmentation. Disqualification – Yellow eyes in black dogs. Pink (albino) eyes in white dogs. Incomplete or pink pigmentation of the eye rims. *Eyes: Black Dogs* – Dark as possible. *Merle* – Brown, blue or partially blue eyes. Brown, gray and gray-brown may have lighter brown eyes. Yellow and white dogs may have brown, blue or partially blue eyes. *Eye Pigment:* Black Dogs – Black. Merle Dogs – Match base color. Brown and gray-brown – Brown. Gray dogs – Gray. Disqualification – Incomplete or pink pigmentation of the eyes and eye rims, yellow eyes in black dogs. *Ears* – The Mudi Ears are high set, fully erect and covered with abundant hair reaching beyond the edges of the ear leather. The ears are triangular and only slightly taller than the width at the base. The ears are very mobile and alert, able to move independently in reaction to any stimulation. Disqualification – Drop or semi-pricked ears. *Skull* – The skull and forehead are slightly domed. The occiput and brows are only slightly apparent. *Muzzle* – The

muzzle is strong with the bridge of the nose straight and tapering to a blunt end at the nose. ~~The lips are light and the lip pigment corresponds with the pigment of the nose and eye rims. Whiskers shall be present and may be curly.~~ Nose – ~~The nose is rounded in front with moderately wide nostrils. The bridge is straight. The nose color is black with the following exceptions: Brown and gray brown dogs have brown noses. Gray dogs have gray noses. Yellow and white colored dogs may have black, brown or gray noses.~~ Nose Color: Black Dogs – Black nose. Brown and gray-brown dogs – Brown nose. Gray dogs – Gray noses. Yellow and white colored dogs – Black, brown or gray noses. The nose pigmentation is ~~solid complete.~~ Disqualification – Pink or spotted nose. *Bite* – ~~Full dentition preferred. Scissors bite preferred, level bite acceptable.~~ Fault – One or more missing teeth are a serious fault. Disqualification – Over or undershot mouth, wry mouth.

Neck, Topline and Body: The slightly high set neck is of medium length in proportion to the body, placed slightly high on the shoulders, slightly barely arched and is well-muscled. The skin at the throat is tight, dry, and without a dewlap. Topline – Withers are slightly higher with the topline slightly sloping towards the croup. Body – The body is smooth and tight with hard, but not bulging muscles. Forechest

is slightly curved, the point of the sternum only slightly protruding. The chest is moderate in depth with ribs that are slightly spring that extends back to a slight tuck-up. The back is ~~short~~ medium length, straight and taught. The loin is short, straight, and firmly coupled. The croup is slightly sloped, and of medium breadth. The tail follows the natural line of the croup. *Tail* – ~~Tails come in all natural lengths including a natural bob. When alert and during active movement all tail lengths can be carried higher than the topline. All tail lengths are acceptable, none is preferred over any other.~~ The tail can be carried over the back in a loose, semi-circular fashion. When relaxed all tail lengths may hang below the topline. The tail is abundantly coated; the hair on the underside can be 4 to 5 inches long. ~~No tail length is preferred over any other length.~~ Fault – A tightly curled tail or “pigs-tail” should be faulted.

Forequarters: The shoulders are moderately angulated (100-110 degrees), with long, well-knit shoulder blades and an upper arm matching in length. ~~The angle formed between the shoulder blade and upper arm should be 100 to 110 degrees.~~ The elbows are tucked firmly against the brisket. ~~The legs are long and straight, with medium bone.~~ The pastern is very slightly sloped. Feet are compact, oval in shape; pads deep and strong, toes moderately

arched and close. The nails are hard and preferably black or slate gray strong. Front dewclaws are desirable.

Hindquarters: The hindquarters are well-developed and muscular, and in balance with the forequarters having moderate angulation. The upper thigh is thick and strong, with a long, strong lower thigh. The hocks are short, vertical, and parallel to each other. A vertical line drawn from the point of buttocks down to the ground almost touches the front of the rear toes when viewed from the side. Hind feet same as the forefeet. Rear dewclaws are not desirable.

Coat: Face and front of legs are covered by short, straight and smooth hair. On other parts of the body, the coat is uniformly very wavy to curly, dense and about 1 inch to 3 inches long. At some spots, cow-licks and ridges are formed. The coat is longer on the back of the forearms and the upper thighs, where it forms pronounced featherings. The tail is abundantly coated; the hair on the underside may be as much as 4 inches to 5 inches long. The unique nature of the easy care, self-cleaning Mudi coat is reliant on having enough texture to its coat that it does not mat. The Mudi is presented in a natural coat, never appearing sculpted, wooly, fluffed nor blown dry so as to obscure the natural curls and texture of the

coat. The weather resistant coat is presented naturally, never sculpted, fluffed nor blown dry. Disqualification – Short, smooth, flat coat on the whole or straight coat on the whole body; long hair on the face.

Color: No color is preferred over any other color and there is no preference of the solid vs. merle pattern. Allowed colors are: Black – All over with no shading. Brown – All shades color can range from a light brown to chocolate with lighter shades of brown on the breeches and underbelly. Gray – all over with no shading. Gray-brown – Color is a dilute of brown (Isabella) with lighter shades on the breeches and underbelly. Yellow and White – All shades color can range from white to a near-white cream to a darker shade approaching golden with lighter shades on the breeches and underbelly. Merle – The merle pattern may be present with any color. No color is preferred over any other color and there is no preference of the solid vs. merle pattern. Minimal white markings are tolerated but not desired on any color or pattern; This includes a white patch on the chest less than 2 inches in diameter and small white markings on the toes. Fault – Any white markings more extensive than the foregoing are a serious fault. Allowable light shadings are not to be confused with white markings. Disqualification – Wolf gray (agouti – alternating bands of color along each hair shaft),

black and tan, albino (pure white with pale pink skin and pink eyes) or any other color or marking not listed.

Gait: Action is true, free, supple and tireless, exhibiting facility of movement rather than hard driving action. The trot is not long striding yet covers the ground with a minimum of effort. The capability of quick and sudden movement is essential.

Temperament: ~~The Mudi is~~ Alert, energetic, intelligent, biddable, adaptable and always enthusiastic about any job that needs to be done. The Mudi is sensibly suspicious and therefore an excellent watchdog.

Faults: Any deviation from the foregoing should be considered a fault, the seriousness of the fault depending upon the extent of the deviation.

Disqualifications:

~~Dogs less than 15 ½ inches and over 19 inches, and bitches less than 14 ½ inches and over 18 inches. Over or under listed height.~~

~~Yellow eyes in black dogs. Pink (albino) eyes in white dogs. Incomplete or pink pigmentation of the eye rims. Incomplete or pink pigmentation of the eyes and eye rims, yellow eyes in black dogs.~~

~~Drop or semi-pricked ears.~~

~~Pink or spotted nose.~~

~~Over or undershot mouth, wry mouth.~~

~~Short, smooth, flat coat or straight coat on the body, long hair on the face.~~

~~Wolf gray (agouti – alternating bands of color along each hair shaft), black and tan, albino (Pure white with pale pink eyes) or any other color or markings not listed.~~

CONFORMATION JUDGES

Letters concerning judges and provisional judges should be addressed to the Judging Operations Department at PO Box 900062, Raleigh, NC 27675-9062. Letters concerning Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, and VST applicants should be addressed to the Companion Events Department in North Carolina.

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

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

Please notify Judging Operations by email at judgingops@akc.org.

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

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debarah@gmail.com
Biewer Terriers

Alexa Keetch (116029) UT

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Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Kelley (Kasie) McGee (115997) NE

kc4dogs@gmail.com
Border Collies, JS

Ms. Qingyu (Sanny) Pan (116125) CA

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Borzois

Mr. Shawn Petersen (116127) NV

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Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervurens

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

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Ms. Kathi Brown (55262) MA

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Dr. Ryan Buzard (99221) AZ

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Pharaoh Hounds, Salukis, Whippets, American Hairless Terriers

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Balance of Sporting Group (Barbets, Bracci Italiani, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani)

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Affenpinschers, Border Collies, Canaan Dogs, Pulik, Spanish Water Dogs

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Azawakhs, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds

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Azawakhs, Greyhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Sloughi

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Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Irish Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Welsh Terriers

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Bracci Italiani, Lagotti Romagnoli, Nederlandse Kooikerhondjes, Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, Flat Coated Retrievers, English Cocker Spaniels

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Chinese Shar-Pei, Lowchen, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Spaniels

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Curly-Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, English Cocker Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Vizslas, Wirehaired Vizslas

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Balance of Hound Group (American Foxhounds, Basenjis, Basset Hounds, Harriers, Irish Wolfhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Scottish Deerhounds),

Affenpinschers, Silky Terriers

Mrs. Lisa Graser (37267) TN

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Marlene Groves (108243) CO

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Airedale Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Scottish Terriers, West Highland White Terriers.

Border Collies, Canaan Dogs, Old English Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds

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American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Beagles, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, English Foxhounds, Harri-

ers, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Ms. Jennifer Lazowski (105991) VA

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Black and Tan Coonhounds, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Greyhounds

Mrs. Julie M. Lux (94129) MO

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Poodles, Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Mrs. Carol Makowski (18958) CO

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Harriers, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds

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Golden Retrievers, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Bearded Collies

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Balance of Sporting Group (Brittanys, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers)

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Balance of Herding Group (Bearded Collies, Belgian Laekenois, Collies, Entlebu-

cher Mountain Dogs, Lancashire Heelers, Miniature American Shepherds, Mudik, Pumik, Spanish Water Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds)

Ms. Laura Munro (101581) CA

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Doberman Pinschers, Great Pyrenees

Mr. Jerry Parisek (97009) FL

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Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Italian Greyhounds, Manchester Terriers, Pekingese, Shih Tzu

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Japanese Chins, Russian Toys, Toy Fox Terriers

Adrian Quesada (96331) CA

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Balance of Non-Sporting Group (Cotons du Tulear, Finnish Spitz, Norwegian Lundehunds)

Mr. Cameron Riegel (105311) NM

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Balance of Toy Group (Brussels Griffons, English Toy Spaniels, Japanese Chins, Miniature Pinschers, Poodles, Pugs, Russian Toys, Toy Fox Terriers)

Ms. Kathleen Ronald (29180) FL

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Norwegian Elkhounds, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Bearded Collies, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Norwegian Buhunds, Pulik, Pumik, Swedish Vallhunds

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Newfoundlands, Saint Bernards

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Harriers, Whippets

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Australian Cattle Dogs, Mudik

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Bearded Collies, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Old English Sheepdogs, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

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Smooth Fox Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers, Rat Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers

Mr. Jon Titus Steele (55162) MI

(989) 860-9677
jonauroral@gmail.com

Belgian Malinois, Belgain Sheepdogs, Canaan Dogs, Old English Sheepdogs, Pulik, Swedish Vallhunds

Dr. Donald Sturz, Jr. (5449) NY

dgs32561@aol.com
Balance of Working Group (Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Black Russian Terriers, Boerboels, Cane Corsos, Chinooks, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Kuvaszok, Leonbergers, Portuguese Water Dogs, Tibetan Mastiffs)

Ms. Sylvia Thomas (101708) CA

(951) 236-6474
justsylviat2155@cs.com
Shiba Inu

Ms. Anna M. Vaughn (102565) OK

(918) 906-3776
anna@cme-usa.com
German Wirehaired Pointers, English Cocker Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Dachshunds, JS

Mr. Cledith M. Wakefield (80829) MO

(573) 760-3616
n2rotts@yahoo.com
Canaan Dogs, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Lancashire Heelers, Miniature

American Shepherds, Old English Sheepdogs, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pyrenean Shepherds

Ms. Sandy Weaver (94535) GA

(770) 310-6932
golfdogs@att.net
Bichons Frises, Boston Terriers, Cotons du Tulear, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs

Ms. Jennifer Weiner (108653) CA

(916) 425-8418
jwedenrock@sbcglobal.net
Shetland Sheepdogs

Claire Wisch Abraham (100709) VA

(571) 318-2768
outlawgwp@aol.com
Biewer Terriers, Silky Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING
APPLICANTS**

Mrs. Sherry Deeds (108018) MO

(417) 861-9060
bdhairdy123@aol.com

Mrs. Taylor Fisher-Johnson (116035) VA

taylorhfisher420.95@gmail.com

Miss Lily Holzem (116141) WI

(920) 545-9113
sholzem817@yahoo.com

Ms. Shannon Holzem (116139) WI

(920) 605-0186
sholzem817@yahoo.com

Mr. Fred Hyer (94219) MI

(616) 874-3647
fred@hyerluv.com

Ms. Lindsey Mullen (116047) AZ

lindsevmullen00@gmail.com

Dr. Vicki Sandage (98425) KY

(606) 922-9552

sandfoxdvm@gmail.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

Dennis Balanag (115731) CA

(760) 686-6648

dennilane@msn.com

Bulldogs

Dianne Mullikin (115691) CA

rycroft.geo@yahoo.com

Labrador Retrievers

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Mr. James S. Albrecht (100017) MA

(603) 770-6933

nhbriard@aol.com

Bulldogs, Chow Chows, Finnish Spitz, Lowchen, Norwegian Lundehunds, Tibetan Terriers

Ms. Nancy S. Amburgey (42492) OH

(614) 264-7524

lopat@aol.com

Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers,

Brussels Griffons, Manchester Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Russian Toys, Toy Fox Terriers)

Candace L. Ardizzone (102229) NY

(315) 481-1200

ardizzonefamily@verizon.net

Shetland Sheepdogs

Maria Arechaederra (110565) CA

(949) 981-7646

ederrakuv@aol.com

Dogo Argentinos, Great Pyrenees, Newfoundlanders, Rottweilers, Samoyeds, Glen of Imaal Terriers

Ms. Shira Lee Barkon (108315) PA

snocrest1@gmail.com

Akitas, Black Russian Terriers, Chinooks, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mrs. Mary Benedict (66054) NY

(585) 747-5380

longacrecollies@yahoo.com

Balance of Herding Group (Lancashire Heelers, Mudik, Pulik), Doberman Pinschers, Siberian Huskies, American Eskimo Dogs

Ms. Sandy Bingham-Porter (94107) IL

(217) 345-7571

sbinghampoter@eiu.edu

Basenjis, Borzois, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Irish Wolfhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendéens, Pharaoh Hounds, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds, Whippets

Mr. Douglas Broadfoot (96999) NC

broadstrider@gmail.com

Afghan Hounds

Kimberly Cardona (110939) FL

(407) 460-0089
vomdrakkenfels@gmail.com
Black Russian Terriers, Cane Corsos,
Great Danes

Mrs. Dawn Cox (97685) PA

dawncox215@gmail.com
Alaskan Malamutes

Ms. Denise Dean (7044) AZ

(626) 241-6733
dean7044@gmail.com
Balance of Toy Group (Manchester Terriers, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Yorkshire Terriers)

Mrs. Penny DiSiena (76729) FL

(330) 421-3618
pennyd1954@gmail.com
American English Coonhounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Sloughi

Mrs. Edy Dykstra-Blum (20342) FL

(352) 208-6502
bizzeebootsoes@gmail.com
Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Chihuahuas, Havanese

Mrs. Nancy Eilks (23143) WI

(920) 650-2299
eilks@gdinet.com
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, American Water Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels

Cathy Eke (101345) IN

(317) 695-2829
onlybdogs@aol.com
Bernese Mountain Dogs

Mrs. Brenda Fontanos (111809) OR

(541) 405-6896
cuddleums@gmail.com
American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, French Bulldogs, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Mr. Rick Fowler (105295) TX

(214) 914-9335
richf45882@aol.com
Cairn Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

Mrs. Dawn L. Gabig (103897) NC

(660) 342-6555
dawngababig@gmail.com
Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdogs, Belgian Tervurens, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Icelandic Sheepdogs, Mudik

Mrs. Junko Guichon (111435) VA

(540) 247-1121
junko@guichonchi.com
Russian Toys, Silky Terriers

Mr. Duff M. Harris (91790) CA

(714) 425-0454
allegro6@ix.netcom.com
Cane Corsos, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Leonbergers, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Saint Bernards, Standard Schnauzers

Jody (Jo Ann) Hill (112835) FL

(407) 353-6275
findjody2@gmail.com
Boxers, Doberman Pinschers

Dr. Vandra L. Huber (6857) WA

(425) 881-5809

vlhuber.88@gmail.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Bichons Frises, Bulldogs, Chow Chows, Dalmatians, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Shiba Inu, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Mrs. Betsy Horn Humer (5156) VA

(757)442-3672

tiderunr2@verizon.net

American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Lowchen, Tibetan Spaniels

Dr. Laura J. LaBounty (96455) NH

(603) 352-8597

specialcollies@msn.com

Beaucerons, Briards, Spanish Water Dogs, Swedish Vallhunds

Mr. Dale R. Martenson (111413) OK

(817) 517-3304

castlemar3@hotmail.com

Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers, Havanese, Manchester Terriers, Pugs), Lhasa Apsos

Ms. Bonnie Money (105681) IN

(317) 452-2204

blmoney@att.net

Australian Shepherds, Border Collies

Ms. Donna R. O'Connell (81640) TX

(214) 724-6629

tuscanydoc@comcast.net

Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, Boykin Spaniels, Wirehaired Vizslas

Dr. Tracy Powell (101481) CT

(203) 631-7110

dulcedanes@yahoo.com

Vizslas, American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Beagles, Cirnechi dell'Etna, Ibizan Hounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Sloughi

Dr. Valeria Rickard (92450) VA

(703) 919-8753

vrickard@jovalairedales.com

Gordon Setters, American Water Spaniels, Boykin Spaniels, Field Spaniels, Irish Water Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels

Dr. Judi Roller (102261) WI

(608) 370-2679

judir7024@gmail.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Azawakhs, Beagles, Cirnechi dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Harriers, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds)

Ms. Mary Beth (Betsy) Ross (101591) CA

nichibei33@gmail.com

Golden Retrievers, Irish Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, Basenjis, Chinese Shar-Pei

Mr. John Schoeneman (98359) NC

(704) 363-7238

schohaus1@aol.com

Brittanys, Pointers, Flat Coated Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Weimaraners



SECRETARY'S PAGES

Mrs. Karen Scholz (100177) WA

(425) 877-9537

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Papillons, Pomeranians, Pugs, Shih Tzu

Ms. Pamela Schroeder (108285) WA

(778) 834-0059

pam@schroeder.bc.ca

Great Pyrenees

Rhonda Silveira (100061) OR

(503) 428-2021

rsilveira.akcjudge@outlook.com

American English Coonhounds, Beagles, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendéens, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds

Mr. Daniel J. Smyth, Esq. (6347) CA

(609) 351-3647

danieljsmythesq@aol.com

Bracci Italiani, Brittanys, Pointers, Irish Setters, Sussex Spaniels, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Mrs. Wendy Sorrell (75680) TN

(865) 900-2112

sorrellwendy2@gmail.com

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Bernese Mountain Dogs, Leonbergers

Marilyn Van Vleit (67040) OR

(503) 510-1332

mvanvleit@gmail.com

Cirnechi dell'Etna, Norwegian Elkhounds, Plott Hounds, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds

Mr. Tad Walden (64597) CO

(720) 273-0494

waldent@earthlink.net

German Shorthaired Pointers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Gordon Setters, Clumber Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Weimaraners

Ms. Kathy L. Wilkins (6799) GA

(770) 315-4452

lochlynfarm@gmail.com

Berger Picards, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Lancashire Heelers, Miniature American Shepherds

Pamela Wilson (64914) TX

(512) 280-3103

wilscot@sbcglobal.net

Balance of Toy Group (Biewer Terriers, Miniature Pinschers, Pekingese, Poodles)

Ms. Erika Wyatt (107433) IL

(708) 612-3647

erika@sloughi.us

American English Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, Harriers, Norwegian Elkhounds, Whippets

Mrs. Lisa Young (43070) AZ

(605) 390-1135

youngsongbeagles@gmail.com

Bloodhounds, Salukis

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGES

Mrs. Tami Rose Bradford (110125) TN

(865)680-8264

sibemom2002@gmail.com

Ms. Joanne Chaplek (97963) NY

(578) 796-1770

joanne.chaplek@gmail.com

Ms. Julianna Falk (115685) WA

julianna262@yahoo.com

Ms. Emilie Hooker (115687) CA

(805)231-4828

emilie.hooker27@gmail.com

BEST IN SHOW

The following person, has 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.

Ms. Sheila Dee Paske (46304) CA

(530) 306-8889

sheilapaske@gmail.com

CONFORMATION JUDGES: RESIGNED BREED OR JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP

The judges below have notified AKC to resign their privileges for the following:

Dr. Elizabeth (Betty) F. Lewis

Junior Showmanship

Mrs. Sharon Marples

Junior Showmanship

Dr. Gareth Morgan-Jones

Junior Showmanship

Mr. Herni B. Tuthill

Junior Showmanship

Ms. Marjorie Underwood

Junior Showmanship

RESIGNED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Ms. Christine E. Carter

Mrs. Billie Hayes

C. Gill Ullom

Mrs. Marjorie A. Wikerd

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGES

Kay F. Dickeson

Mrs. Edeltraud Laurin

Ms. Ann Smith Martin

Ms. Susan L. MacMillan

Mr. Robert Michael (Mike) McKenzie

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mrs. Doris Cozart

Mr. P. Levi Marsman

Sue S. Woodle

REGULAR STATUS APPROVED OBEDIENCE/ RALLY/TRACKING JUDGES

The following persons have completed their Provisional Judging assignments and their names have been added to the list of **regular approved** judges for the class indicated.

Lisa Mitchell (40966) NY

(607) 351-5639

lmm13@cornell.edu

Obedience – Utility

Cheryl Tisdale (94543) TN

(615) 653-5523

eqwynd@peoplepc.com

Obedience – Utility

Patricia John (107359) NY

(315) 480-4493

pjohn173@gmail.com

Rally – All

Joyce Rienzo (103169) NY

(315) 841-3272
jrienzo2@gmail.com
Rally – All

mariamurphy2@cox.net
Tracking – VST

Kayelene Hawthorne (108326) CA

(949) 246-3114
tutu619@yahoo.com
Tracking - VST

**NEW PROVISIONAL OBEDIENCE/RALLY/
TRACKING JUDGES**

The following persons have been approved as a judge on a **Provisional** basis for the class/test indicated in accordance with the Provisional judging system. *They may now accept assignments.*

Sarah Schroeder (34510) MO

(417) 234-6141
wicklowsetters@gmail.com
Obedience – Utility

Teresa Czaplinski (112933) IN

(317) 509-8473
gantski@gmail.com
Obedience – Novice

Daniela Flores (114221) KS

(763) 772-4245
dvflores791@gmail.com
Rally – All

Sarah Matteau (114423) OH

(413) 325-5871
smatteau76@gmail.com
Rally – All

Karen Scheiner (103945) NJ

(856) 428-3745
doxyladynj@gmail.com
Rally – All

Maria Murphy (110906) CA

(925) 788-9749

**DECEASED OBEDIENCE/RALLY/TRACKING
JUDGES**

Dorothy Kaye Hall – Tracking

**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.

BORZESSION- Borzoi-Yevgeniya Goldenberg & Victor Goldenberg

DEL REY- Xoloitzcuintli- Richard E. Yenchesky

FIST FACE- Brussels Griffons- Linda G. Vance & Kambria L. Ledesma

GREYWOOD- Australian Shepherds- Patricia Thompson

LAFLEUR- Poodles- Nancy N. Laurent
MAJESTIC PEARLE- Poodles- Susan A. Ciastko

MASHURY- Lancashire Heelers- Sheryl Bradbury

MENAGERIE- Mudi- Thersa A, Stilger

QUAIL ROOST- German Shorthaired Pointers- Glenn T. Blackwell

QUESTAN-Golden Retrievers- Theresa A
Stilger

SOURMUG- Bulldogs- Shannon L. Cusac
& John C. Cusac

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

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

ARUBMEC- Basenjis- Patricia E. Cembura

AZELEE- Cane Corso- Amber D. Wagers

BACCARET- Boxers- Tiffany Brigante

CALYPSO- Peruvian Inca Orchids- Barbara
A. DuBois

CUSPEIRE- Irish Wolfhounds- Susan D. Fife

DARMOOR- Golden Retrievers- Darla A.

Morris & Keith A. Morris

JOVIEL- English Cocker- Kelly J. But-
kiewicz

L'AURORA- Golden Retriever- Debra
Lindsay- Hudgins

MERIDIAN- Labrador Retrievers- Roberta
R. Primeau

RED-DAWN- Golden Retrievers- Alicia Ward

SHIISAA- Japanese Chins- Tiffany L.
Howard

SOUTHERNSTAR- Alaskan Mala-
mutes- Dayna Padgett

STAR MOUNTAIN- Estrela Mountain
Dogs- Kevin E. Pries

TRILOGY- French Bulldogs- Susan Cooper

TRUFFLE WORLD- Lagotto Romagnolo-
Olha Ogrady

WEE LIL'RASCALS- Chihuahuas- Jeanette
S. Honzay



**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVENUE,
NEW YORK, NY
AUGUST 12-13, 2024**

The Board convened on Monday, August 12, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

Tom Powers was unable to attend the meeting. All other Directors were present in the New York office except for Ms. Biddle, who participated via video conference. The Executive Secretary was also present.

Copies of the July 8-9, 2024, Board Meeting minutes had previously been provided to all Directors for review. Upon a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED to approve the July 2024 Board Meeting minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Sprung reported on registration through July. Litters are down 6 % to bud-

get, and individual dog registrations are down 12%. There is a worldwide slump in dog and pet acquisition and the sale of related products. This is evident from the talks with the UK, Canada, Mexico, the WPA and APPA trade organizations, and major manufacturers.

The number of Events through June has increased by 11% or 1,472 year over year. Through June, there were 14,675 events across sports. Conformation events are led by Specialties and NOHS, followed by Fast CAT®, Scent Work, and Agility. Also, the new Fetch was held 576 times with over 12,000 entries.

Entries are up 4%, or 67,610, totaling 1,894,320 through the end of June.

Leading the entry growth is Agility, which increased by 22,830, Fast CAT® by 21,042, Scent Work by 16,216, and Rally by 9,421.

Mr. Sprung has asked Staff to research new revenue initiatives that will be incorporated into the 2025 proposed budget.

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, joined the meeting and was present for its remainder.

Legal Update

The Board reviewed the Legal Department

update as of July 2024.

AKC Insurance Program Overview

Jade B. Whitehead, CPCU Senior Vice President; Lewis L. Scruggs Jr., CPCU, Senior Vice President; and Elliott D. Johnson, Senior Account Executive from McGriff Insurance Services, LLC, gave an overview of AKC's Insurance Program.

Cyber Security Update

Keith Frazier, EVP of Business Support Services, and Tim Pursell, Director of IT, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Based on a Board request, AKC Staff provided an update on the company's cyber security program. This included an assessment of current threats and the status of operational controls that are in place to manage those threats.

FINANCE

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, presented unaudited interim financial results as of June 30, 2024. Net operating income for the six months ending June 30, 2024, is \$2.5 million. Operating revenues are \$47.8 million, excluding interest and dividends. Registration fees for litters and dogs total \$17.8 million. Recording and event service fees, title recognition, and event application fees total \$8.8 million. Advertising, Sponsorship, and Royalties total \$9.8 mil-

lion. Controllable expenses total \$41.6 million. Non-controllable expenses are higher than budget by \$268k.

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

Mark Dunn, EVP Registration, and Seth Fera-Schanes, Director of Strategic Planning, participated in this portion of the meeting. Kassandra Pickel, Business Intelligence Manager, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

History and Evolution of Business Intelligence at AKC

Kassandra Pickel presented a historical overview of the Business Intelligence Department, its evolution over time, and the work performed to provide data to the corporation, which helps to inform company planning and business decision-making.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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

Bull Terrier Proposed Breed Standard

Revision

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Powers) to approve the proposed revisions to be Bull Terrier Breed Standard as submitted by the Bull Terrier Club of America, Inc. to be published for comment in the September Secretary's Page of the *AKC Gazette*.

Rhodesian Ridgeback Proposed Breed Standard Revision

Following a motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Powers) to approve the proposed revisions to the Rhodesian Ridgeback breed standard, as submitted by the Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States, for publication for comment in the September Secretary's Page of the *AKC Gazette*.

Mudi Proposed Breed Standard Revision

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Powers) to approve the proposed revisions to the Mudi breed standard, as submitted by the Mudi Club of America, for publication for comment in the September Secretary's Page of the *AKC Gazette*.

Bluetick Coonhound Stud Book

The National Bluetick Coonhound Association Club has submitted a request to keep the Stud Book for the breed open. The Bluetick Coonhound Stud Book is scheduled to close on January 1, 2025.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

Boerboel Stud Book

The American Boerboel Club has submitted a request to keep the Stud Book for the breed open. The Boerboel Stud Book is scheduled to close on January 1, 2025.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

2025 and 2026 Board and Delegate Meeting Dates Review

In November 2023, the Board approved the 2025 Board meeting dates. At that time, the February meeting date was set to be the traditional second Monday and Tuesday of the month. The Westminster Kennel Club dog show will be held on the days that the meeting is currently scheduled, February 10-11, 2025.

Following a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr.

Powers) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Powers) to change the February 2025 Board meeting dates to February 6th & 7th, 2025.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Powers) to set the 2026 Board and Delegates meeting dates.

AKC Communications Q2 Report

Brandi Hunter Munden presented the Communications Department Q2 report.

Clips Evaluated in Q2: 6,502 (+9% from 5,946 in 2023).

Highlights:

- 6.23% increase in media relations and press coverage in Mandarin language and Spanish language publications (vs 4.12% in 2023).
- 15% increase in the media visibility of our Chief Veterinary Officer (vs. 11% in 2023).
- Maintained a 95.41% positivity rating. (vs. 94.1% in 2023).
- Increased McClatchy pick up (up to over 700 newspapers weekly) (on par with 2023).

- 12 % increase media coverage of AKC Affiliates (AKC Reunite, AKC MoD, AKC Humane Fund and AKC CHF) (vs. 13.3% in 2023).

COMMUNICATIONS/PR ACTIVITIES

- Ongoing media pitching executed to key audiences with stories that speak to positive qualities of AKC purebreds and breeders. Distributed 17 press releases to appropriate media outlets.
- Continued raising the visibility of the Chief Veterinary Officer as an expert in an increasing number of media requests.
- Promoted all major AKC events and broadcasts on ESPN with press releases and media alerts.
- Began work on AKC Meet the Breeds® New York, including drafting the return to Javits Center press release.
- Started planning PR campaign for 140th anniversary.

AKC Education Q2 2024 Review

AKC Canine College

In Quarter 2, the AKC Canine College (AKCCC) developed and published 10 new courses, adding 47 modules to the catalog. The Learning Management System (LMS) now hosts 460 courses, totaling 1,082 modules. Between April 1 and June 30, 2024, over 6,000 active learners com-

pleted more than 11,000 tasks, and the AKCCC team responded to over 300 customer phone calls and emails.

Breed-Specific Courses and Exams

A total of 74 breed-specific courses are available on AKCCC. In Quarter 2, three courses were launched, four courses are under Parent Club and Judging Operations review, and two breed courses are under development.

AKC Puppy Training Series

The complete AKC Puppy Training Series program has launched on AKC Canine College. This flexible, home-based online program is ideal for new puppy owners. It covers everything from potty training to basic commands through 50 interactive video lessons.

Breeder Development

7 webinar sessions have been hosted, with 12 more currently planned.

Public Education

In Quarter 2, the AKC Public Education team worked collaboratively with the Sports Services Department to develop easy-to-use 4-H materials that encourage 4-H leaders to use products and services available through AKC.

Breeder Legacy Program

Ashley Jacot updated the Board on AKC's Breeder Legacy Interview program. Breeder Legacy interviews seek to record the knowledge of our most experienced breeders for both historical purposes and to provide quality, breed-specific education to current and future breeders.

AKC Breeders of the Year and Breeders of the Year by Sport are the first breeders to be interviewed. AKC Parent Clubs will be consulted to nominate additional interviewees.

Government Relations (GR) Update

Second Quarter 2024

Sheila Goffe highlighted numerous active priority legislation and administrative regulations in Congress and State Legislation.

As of July 17, 2024, the AKC GR team has been monitoring more than 1,600 legislative bills that could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the sport and the American Kennel Club.

To date, AKC GR has published 165 legislative alerts delivered via geo-targeted emails to impacted constituents, the AKC GR legislative action center, and social media.

A key area of legislative focus in the second quarter was the federal Farm Bill.

AKC GR is monitoring more than 350 pending proposed regulations (administrative or implementing changes) to dog laws at the state and federal level.

For the most up-to-date information on legislative issues, visit legislative/regulatory alerts and the legislative tracking tool on AKC GR's Legislative Action Center, <https://www.akcgr.org>, or contact the AKC GR Department.

MARKETING

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President of Marketing, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Update on AKC Brand Awareness Campaign

Leap Group, AKC's Agency of Record, presented brand planning elements and ad campaign creative concepts for Board input.

Q2 2024 Social Media Update

Highlights of our social media coverage in Q2 2024 included our on-the-ground coverage of the Westminster Kennel Club show, breed education, ESPN broadcast coverage, National Purebred Dog Day, and responsible dog ownership advice.

Q2 2024 TOTALS:

Total: 5,311,321 followers

3.8% total follower increase YOY

Marketing Incremental Funding Request

Based on a Board request, Staff presented costs associated with an additional headcount in the Email and Social Media Departments to address the changing social landscape, traffic volume, and future brand awareness campaign needs.

The Board VOTED not to approve the two requested positions but approved the funding of one.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Hamblin, the Board VOTED (unanimously; absent Mr. Powers) to approve the funding for an unbudgeted headcount for the Email area of the Marketing Department.

Updates on Organic Search Landscape

The Board reviewed a memo on plans to promote and grow organic search traffic.

AKC Shop Email & SMS Performance Mid-Year Review

The Board was presented with metrics on AKC Shop and SMS performance. For the remainder of 2024, the focus will be on increasing our subscriber base. Staff will be rolling out an SMS (texting) program

for Registration initiatives, first focusing on customers who have abandoned their registration.

The Board recessed at 5:22 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. All Directors were present in the New York office except for Ms. Biddle, who participated via video conference. The Executive Secretary and CFO were also present.

COMPANION and PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, EVP of Sports & Events; Mary Burch, Director of the AKC Family Dog Program; Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President of Sports Services; and Caroline Murphy, Director of Performance Events, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

FSS History and Prefix Performance Titles

Staff recommended allowing Foundation Stock Services (FSS) breeds to obtain prefix titles in Performance Events. Currently, these breeds may only earn Performance Event suffix titles. This change would have the greatest application for the 15 FSS breeds allowed to participate in herding.

There are two elements to the recommen-

ation. (1) Modify the general practice to allow FSS breeds to earn prefix titles in Performance Events, and (2) To specifically allow FSS breeds in herding to earn the Herding Champion (HC) title. There are 15 FSS breeds allowed to participate in herding trials.

Currently, FSS breeds are not allowed to obtain prefix titles in Performance Events until the breed becomes fully recognized.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Title

Currently, dogs that take an AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy class and pass the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy test receive an award certificate if the owner applies for it. This is not considered a title or listed on the dog's record. Staff recommends providing the owner an option to apply for a title certificate, and the suffix title of STR will be added to the dog's record.

Dogs that have previously earned the S.T.A.R. Puppy certificate would be eligible for the S.T.A.R. Puppy title by applying and submitting the processing fee.

If approved by the Board, the S.T.A.R. titling option would be offered starting January 15, 2025.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

Saint Bernard – Draft Dog Titles

The Saint Bernard Club of America (SBCA) has requested that their breed be eligible to apply for four additional types of drafting dog titles: Novice Draft Dog (NDD), Excellent Draft Dog (DDX), Team Novice Draft Dog (TNDD), and Team Excellent Draft Dog (TDDX).

The Saint Bernard Club of America has developed and utilized its own drafting dog program. The Saint Bernard is currently eligible for a Draft Dog (DD) title and a Team Draft Dog (TDD) title under the Title Recognition Program.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, EVP of Sports & Events; Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President of Sports Services; Tim Thomas, Vice President of Conformation; Glenn Lycan, Director of Event Operations Support; and Mark Desrosiers, Director of Event Programs, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Dog Aggression - Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 11 Section 8-A

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee (DSRC) to revise Chapter 11, Section 8-A of *The Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, such that a dog shall be administratively disqualified by the American Kennel Club if, on three occasions, an Event Committee had filed a report with the American Kennel Club stating the committee determined the dog attacked a person or dog at an AKC event, presents a hazard to persons or other dogs, even if no injury resulted.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

Show Territory 2006 Board Policy

In 2006 the AKC Board approved a policy to clarify the intent of Chapter 2, Sections 3, 5 and 6 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* as it was written at the time. In the years that followed, the three sections have been removed or altered by the Delegate Body, making the 2006 policy obsolete and therefore the policy should be removed from the online Board Policy Manual.

The Staff recommends removing the 2006 Show Territory Policy from the online Board Policy Manual.

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

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to remove the policy.

Eligibility Requirements to Hold Future Dog Shows

The Board reviewed a recommendation from the Junior Task Force, endorsed by the Sports Services and Event Operations Departments, to modify the *Eligibility Requirements to Hold Future Dog Shows* to add the offering of Junior Showcase Events, as an activity accredited toward a club's compliance requirements to hold dog shows. Junior Showcase Events allow Juniors to compete in events for Juniors only in Obedience, Rally, Agility, or Junior Showmanship.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Tim Thomas, Vice President of Conformation, and Doug Ljungren, EVP of Sports & Events, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Exhibiting Restriction for Sweepstakes and Futurity Judges

At its May 2024 meeting, the Board requested Staff review the current exhibiting restrictions for Futurity Judges and report back to the Board any recommendations to modify them to assist clubs in filling these assignments.

Effective January 1, 2009, the exhibiting restriction for Sweepstake and Futurity judges was modified, prohibiting one from exhibiting at events within 200 miles of the day(s) they judge. The revised policy maintained the allowance to exhibit the day before and the day after the event they judged. The policy also defines when a Sweepstakes and/or Futurity is held as part of a multi-day specialty; the restriction ran the entire event length.

Acting on a recommendation by Staff, the Board, at its February 2024 meeting, approved a modification to the exhibiting restriction for Sweepstakes and Futurity judges, whereas one may not exhibit the breed they judge the same day. Effective March 6, 2024, the revised policy permits Sweepstakes and Futurity judges to exhibit in any breed other than the one they judge on the day of their assignment. It did maintain the application of the restriction "to the day" as well as the entire length of the event when held as part of a multi-day show.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

Mandatory Ramp Examination – Spanish Water Dog

The Spanish Water Dog Club of America (SWDCA) has requested that the Board of Directors mandate the use of a ramp for the examination of the Spanish Water Dog through all levels of Conformation competition. Currently, the Spanish Water Dog may be judged either on the ground or the ramp at the discretion of the judge.

The Board requests that the SWDCA poll its membership on the question and provide the results to the Board before there is further consideration of its request.

Staff will advise the Parent Club of the request.

AKC Educational Requirements Policy Update

Staff updated the Board on the progress of implementing the *AKC Educational Requirements Policy and Recommendations* adopted by the Board at its April 2024 meeting.

On May 1, 2024, notice was sent to 2295 AKC-approved Junior Showmanship Judges informing them of the need to com-

plete the Stewards of Children® course, which must be completed by the date of August 1, 2024.

When this memorandum was submitted for inclusion in the August 2024 Board Book, 1,016 Junior Showmanship Judges had successfully completed the course. In addition, 33 individuals had resigned their Junior Showmanship privileges.

COMPLIANCE

Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance, and Jessica Lopez, Compliance Manager, participated in this meeting portion via video conference.

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

CLUBS

Doug Ljungren, EVP, Sports & Events, Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support, and Lisa Cecin, Director of Club Relations participated in this portion of the meeting.

REPORT ON MEMBER CLUB BYLAWS APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY

Des Moines Kennel Club, Polk County, IA (1935)

Papillon Club of America (1935)

REPORT ON NEWLY LICENSED CLUBS APPROVED IN JUNE AND JULY

Colorado Portuguese Water Dog Club, greater Denver, CO (including communities in proximity to Interstate 25, north to Longmont, south to Highlands Ranch), 51 total households, 35 local.

Flathead Lake Retriever Club, Ronan, MT (including St. Ignatius and Charlo), has 21 total households, 13 local.

Greater Fort Worth Samoyed Club, greater Fort Worth, TX, 25 total households, 22 local.

Lake Norman Kennel Club, Mooresville, NC (including communities in Iredell, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Gaston, and Lincoln counties), has 42 total households, 26 local.

Liberty Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club, greater Philadelphia, PA (including communities northeast to Yardley/Levittown, west to East Berlin, north to Newton Township, south to the Delaware/Pennsylvania/New Jersey state lines), 29 total households, 14 local.

CONSENT

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

Retriever Hunting Test Regulations – Six Clarifications

The Board VOTED to allow six clarification changes to the *Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers*.

- 1) Specify the hunt test application is required 3 months before the opening date.
- 2) Clarify the exact point at which honoring begins when the working dog is sent for a marked retrieve.
- 3) Clarify judges can call the next dog to the line by saying the word “dog”.
- 4) Clarify the blind must be clearly marked by a conspicuous object.
- 5) Clarify inspection of birds is required by a judge when the damage to a bird is suspected due to a hard mouth or unusual situation.
- 6) Specify for a senior test; blinds shall not be run between marks unless they are run first.

The changes are effective October 1, 2024.

Regulations & Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers.

Chapter 1. General Regulations

Section 3. Making Application. A licensed or member club that meets all

the requirements of the American Kennel Club and wishes to hold a Hunting Test at which Qualifying scores toward titles may be awarded, must make application to The American Kennel Club on the official event application form provided or by using the AKC online event plan system for permission to hold a Hunting Test. This includes the judges panel which is part of the event application and is not to be thought of as separate. If the club is not a member of The American Kennel Club, it shall pay a license fee for the privilege of holding such event, the amount of which shall be determined by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club. Completed applications for AKC licensed and member club Retriever Hunting Tests must be received at least three (3) months prior to the closing opening date. This is to allow adequate time for processing and for the host club to prepare advertising in their premium list of all event details in advance of the event. Clubs applying to host a retriever hunting test are to submit their event application directly to AKC for processing to avoid delays or late fees.

Section 15. Premium Lists. The following information shall be included in the premium list for a licensed or member club Hunting Test: name of club, location and date, names and city/ state addresses of officers, time judging will commence, entry

fees, Tests offered, names and city/state addresses of Judges together with their specific assignments, name, complete address and telephone number of Hunting Test Secretary, date and time of opening and closing of entries and drawing of entries, and the official AKC entry form. Premium lists shall also specify type or types of birds to be used. Premium lists shall conform to the official size of from 5 ½” x 8 ½” to 6”x 9”.

Premium lists shall also contain the name and city, state address of the Hunting Test Committee Chairman and the names of the Hunting Test Committee members.

Before the Premium list is printed, a Judges Panel, containing the names and city, state addresses of the Judges and their assignments, must be submitted to AKC: Attention, Performance Events at least three months prior to the closing opening date of the event. Fines may be imposed for late submission of the Judges Panel which is considered to be part of the event application.

Chapter 3. Instructions to Judges and Hunting Test Committees

Section 6. Honoring. In Senior and Master Tests, every dog shall honor in at least one hunting situation involving the retrieve of a marked fall(s) by remaining

on the line off-lead while the working dog retrieves, ~~unless otherwise directed or until dismissed by the Judges~~ is sent for a marked retrieve.

Section 10. Send to Retrieve. Dogs shall be sent to retrieve by handlers only when released by the Judges, who shall then score each retrieve accordingly. Judges shall call the number of the dog ordered to retrieve or say “dog” rather than the name of the handler of the dog.

Chapter 5. Test Requirements for Junior, Senior, and Master Hunting Tests

Part I – Hunting Test Planning, Mechanics, and Setup Planning Hunting Situations.

On blind retrieves, wherever possible, the Judges shall plan their hunting situations taking advantage of hazards, such as islands, decoys, points of land, sandbars, ditches, hedges, small bushes, adjacent heavy cover, and rolling terrain. The blind must be clearly marked with a conspicuous object. Despite such natural distractions, it shall be possible for a dog to find a well-planned blind-retrieve on the initial line from its handler; that it will do so is highly improbable because of those natural hazards, so it must be handled to the blind. The hunting situation should be planned so that the dog should be in sight

continuously. A blind retrieve is a test of Trainability (control, response). A dog that is out of sight for a considerable period cannot be said to be under control. Utilizing natural hazards provides a better opportunity to evaluate the abilities required of a superb Retriever.

Judges' Responsibilities.

(4) Every bird retrieved and delivered to the handler and suspected of damage due to hard mouth or unusual situations shall be inspected by one of the Judges. Failure to inspect retrieved birds must be cataloged as carelessness and as an undesirable practice. It is unfair to the dog whose abilities are being evaluated — not only in respect to the question of “hard-mouth,” but more particularly, since it may furnish the explanation for a slow pick-up or some other oddity in the dog’s pick-up. Any unusual condition of a bird shall be brought to the attention of the Judges.

Chapter 5. Test Requirements for Junior, Senior and Master Hunting Tests

Section 6. Senior Hunting Test. Dogs shall be tested in a minimum of four hunting situations that shall include one land blind, one water blind (that may be run as a double blind on land and water), one double land mark, and one double water mark. There shall be at least one diversion shot and

at least one of the hunting situations shall include a walk-up. In Senior tests, a double mark is defined as two marks presented before the dog is sent to retrieve. Blinds shall not be run between marks in Senior Hunting Tests unless they are run first.

Tripod Dog Pilot Program for Obedience & Rally Non-Jumping Classes

At the May 2023 Board meeting, the Board approved an 18-month pilot program to allow three-legged dogs (tripods) to participate in the non-jumping classes in Rally and Obedience. The pilot program became effective July 1, 2023, and expires at the end of 2024. The Board VOTED to extend the pilot program through June 30, 2025

Specialty Show Event Application Fee

The Board VOTED to modify the event application fee for specialty shows to make it consistent with the other sports that use the “30 or less entries” application fee structure. Previously, there was no application fee for specialty shows when the entry was 30 or less at the previous year’s corresponding event. For Rally, Obedience, and Agility events where the entry was 30 or less at the previous year’s corresponding event, the application fee is \$25. The application fee for specialty shows where the entry is 30 or less at the previous year’s corresponding event will be \$25.

This is a change to policy and will become effective for events held after July 2, 2025.

Miniature American Shepherd Stud Book

The Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA submitted a request to keep the Stud Book Open for the Breed beyond January 1, 2025. The Board VOTED that the Miniature American Shepherd Stud Book will be closed on January 1, 2025.

Parent Club Designation for Large Munsterlander

The Large Munsterlander Association of America requests to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed, allowing it to hold FSS Open Shows. The board voted to approve this request.

Delegates Approved

Robert Lamm

To represent Bearded Collie Club of America

Published June 2024, July 2024

Desmond J. Murphy

To represent Los Encinos Kennel Club

Published July 2024, August 2024

Karen L. Smith

To represent Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California

Published July 2024, August 2024

Jefferson Sossamon

To represent Columbia Missouri Kennel Club

Published June 2024, July 2024

Cynthia J. Weight-Carter

To represent Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA

Published June 2024, July 2024

Berna Hart Welch

To represent Putnam Kennel Club

Published January 2024, February 2024

NEW BUSINESS

Conformation Judges Recertification Exam

Dr. Battaglia asked the Board to create a committee of the Board to review the Recertification Exam.

Ms. Biddle moved, seconded by Mr. Tatro, to create a committee to review the Recertification Exam and, if necessary, make changes to it. The Board VOTED to approve this motion (Dr. Garvin was opposed). The Board members on the Committee are Dr. Battaglia, Chair, Ms. Biddle, and Mr. Smyth. Staff Committee members are Tim Thomas, Vice President of Conformation and Ashley Jacot, Director of Education.

Process for Conformation Judges to Appeal Judging Department Decisions

Staff was asked to provide a memo outlining the current process for a Judge applying for breeds to appeal the determination of the Judges Department.

This will be discussed further at the October Board meeting.

Conformation Judges who Self-Limit to 150 entries per Day

Dr. Davies asked the Staff to create a list of the Conformation Judges who have self-limited their judging assignments to 150 dogs per day. The list will be placed on the landing page of the Judges section of AKC.org.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

It was VOTED to adjourn on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 12:20 p.m. Eastern Time.

Adjourned

Attest: _____

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary

PARENT CLUB LINKS



SPORTING GROUP



American Water Spaniel



Barbet



Boykin Spaniel



Brittany



Chesapeake Bay Retriever



Clumber Spaniel



Cocker Spaniel



Curly-Coated Retriever



English Cocker Spaniel



English Setter



English Springer Spaniel



Field Spaniel



Flat-Coated Retriever



German Shorthaired Pointer



German Wirehaired Pointer



Golden Retriever



Gordon Setter



Irish Red and White Setter



Irish Setter



Irish Water Spaniel



Labrador Retriever



Lagotto Romagnolo



Nederlandse Kooikerhondje



Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever



Pointer



Spinone Italiano



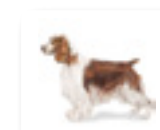
Sussex Spaniel



Vizsla



Weimaraner



Welsh Springer Spaniel



Wirehaired Pointing Griffon



Wirehaired Vizsla

PARENT CLUB LINKS



HOUND GROUP



Afghan Hound



American English Coonhound



American Foxhound



Azawakh



Basenji



Basset Hound



Beagle



Black and Tan Coonhound



Bloodhound



Bluetick Coonhound



Borzoi



Bracco Italiano



Cirneco dell'Etna



Dachshund



English Foxhound



Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen



Greyhound



Harrier



Ibizan Hound



Irish Wolfhound



Norwegian Elkhound



Otterhound



Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen



Pharaoh Hound



Plott



Portuguese Podengo Pequeno



Redbone Coonhound



Rhodesian Ridgeback



Saluki



Scottish Deerhound



Sloughi



Treeing Walker Coonhound



Whippet

PARENT CLUB LINKS



WORKING GROUP



Akita



Alaskan Malamute



Anatolian Shepherd Dog



Bernese Mountain Dog



Black Russian Terrier



Boerboel



Boxer



Bullmastiff



Cane Corso



Chinook



Doberman Pinscher



Dogo Argentino



Dogue de Bordeaux



German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

PARENT CLUB LINKS



TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



Fox Terrier (Smooth)



Glen of Imaal Terrier



Irish Terrier



Kerry Blue Terrier



Lakeland Terrier



Manchester Terrier



Miniature Bull Terrier



Miniature Schnauzer



Norfolk Terrier



Norwich Terrier



Parson Russell Terrier



Rat Terrier



Russell Terrier



Scottish Terrier



Sealyham Terrier



Skye Terrier



Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Welsh Terrier



West Highland White Terrier



Wire Fox Terrier

PARENT CLUB LINKS



TOY GROUP



Affenpinscher



Biewer Terrier



Brussels Griffon



Cavalier King
Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese Crested



English Toy Spaniel



Havanese



Italian Greyhound



Japanese Chin



Maltese



Manchester
Terrier (Toy)



Miniature
Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

PARENT CLUB LINKS



NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



Schipperke



Poodle (Standard)



Shiba Inu



Tibetan Spaniel



Tibetan Terrier



Xoloitzcuintli

PARENT CLUB LINKS



HERDING GROUP



Australian Cattle Dog



Australian Shepherd



Bearded Collie



Beauceron



Belgian Laekenois



Belgian Malinois



Belgian Sheepdog



Belgian Tervuren



Bergamasco



Berger Picard



Border Collie



Bouvier des Flandres



Briard



Canaan Dog



Cardigan Welsh Corgi



Collie (Rough)



Collie (Smooth)



English Shepherd
Mudponier



Erlober Mapharid



German Shepherd Dog



Icelandic Sheepdog



Lancashire Heeler



Miniature American Shepherd



Mudi



Norwegian Buhund



Old English Sheepdog



Pembroke Welsh Corgi



Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Puli



Pumi



Pyrenean Shepherd



Shetland Sheepdog



Spanish Water Dog



Swedish Vallhund



AKC REGISTERED HANDLERS

The American Kennel Club Registered Handlers Program establishes criteria and standards for responsible, knowledgeable professional handlers. All handlers enrolled in the Program have met these criteria and made the commitment to follow the guidelines and Code of Ethics as set forth by the AKC.

For additional information concerning the Registered Handlers Program, click here:

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/>

For information on upcoming RHP Handling Clinics

<http://www.akc.org/events/junior-showmanship/junior-clinics/>

<http://www.akc.org/events/handlers/adult-clinics/>