

**DELEGATES REPORT
FOR SEPTEMBER & DECEMBER MEETINGS, 2022
BY SUSANNE BURGESS**

The AKC Delegate meetings are in March, June, September, & December of each year.. If you have items, you would like me to cover in the meetings please send your information to me. As a member of the Field Trial & Hunt Test Committee, I regularly attend that meeting. Depending on the schedule I also attend the Parent Club and Canine Health Committee meetings. In addition I am also a member of the Parent Club Best Practices committee. The following are items of interest so far this year,

- From the Field Trial and Hunt Test meeting.
 - A report was given on the Canine Detection Dog Challenge. 20 teams of dogs from field lines competed. 75% of the dogs were trained by their breeders.
 - AKC gave items to Florida rescue including water bottles and cool vests. Items were gathered and sent to Florida within 24 hours.
 - A retriever parent club may hold up to 2 Hunt Tests per year, limited to its own breed.
- From the Parent Club meeting.
 - To date the total funds raised for disaster trailers is \$2,346,000
 - For Vet outreach, 28 presentations have been held. Vet students were also invited to attend. 45 attended the Kennel Club of Philadelphia.
 - A new best practices document for Juniors has been posted to the AKC website. Clubs need to add a Junior coordinator to their organization.
 - Check Market Place to review and/or update the breed health statement.
 - Breed Preservation Program deals with maintaining frozen semen. Charles Garvin is the Chairman the newly approved organization. They are working on the criteria for accepting and distribution of semen.
 - Parent Club Best Practices Committee. The committee was formed in the early months of 2020 and represents the collective efforts of nearly a dozen AKC Delegates, Parent Club Presidents or Officers and AKC Staff. NOTE: I am a member of this committee and will be reaching out to parent club members for input on the topics. Please contact me if you have any questions,
 - Our overarching goal has been to create a roadmap for success by isolating and defining those components which are critical to the successful operation of an AKC Parent Club. Our final product documents existing practices within Parent Clubs of varying sizes to provide a template that allows them to compare and contrast their practices with other clubs. A webinar on each topic will be presented beginning 2023.
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- The number of clubs nationwide are continuing to flourish. Statistics represent 5 years of data, 2017-2021. Current total number of clubs is 4,992. 645 Member Clubs, Licensed clubs 4,166, 95 Sanctioned A and 86 Sanctioned B
 - Conformation
 - Group Clubs add 8, none left
 - All Breed gained 7, 6 dissolved.
 - Specialty Clubs gained 65, 28 dissolved
 - Summary 236 clubs were recognized, 39 dissolving for a net gain of 37;
 - Performance
 - Hunt Tests 10 new clubs, none dissolving
 - Herding added 11 with leaving
 - Lure Coursing, plus 7
 - Coonhound plus 139

- Scent Work plus 36
 - Field Trial Clubs gained 51 with 1 dissolving
 - Companion
 - Rally no changes
 - Obedience gained 3 and lost 1
 - Tacking gained 2
 - Agility increased by 11
 - The reasons for clubs leaving are aging out, lack of membership and/or new members, and the loss of convenient suitable and available sites in the area, or general loss of interest in the Sport by club members over time. *As we look to the future of our sport, all clubs including ESSFTA need to include in their strategic plans actions to address these issues. In upcoming club meetings an agenda item to solicit input (action items) from the membership is recommended.*
- AKC has recommended for some time now that clubs appoint a Junior Coordinator. We need to have Junior Coordinators so that AKC can reach your club and your club members with all of the important information about Juniors.
- The Club Development Department has been initiating a number of programs to help clubs communicate with new owners of their breed. One program is the ***Pupdate***.
 - As a new owner registers their dog,” they’re going to get specific emails talking about the life of that dog, from when they get it, to a certain age, it’s going to help them with training, it’s going to help them with various aspects of the breed. What we do, and what the Pupdate people have decided to do, was we put a Parent Club promotion in there. What we’re trying to do is what we send these people, it’s great information, but it’s very general, and a lot of people want to know more information. They want to get into the weeds about their dog, what exactly is this dog, what is the history? We send them to the Parent Club website as the experts. If you want to know everything about your breed, go to the Parent Club. We’ve worked with parent clubs to make their websites friendlier, "make them more welcoming, and then we’ve started putting this out in Pupdate. Over 50 Parent Clubs have signed up for this program.”
- Amendments voted on at the meetings.
 - ADOPTED: Chapter 11, Section 6, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility which reformats the section for easier comprehension. It inserts verbiage to allow transfer between the divisions of the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class (puppy/adult) if offered, adds verbiage to specify transfer between the divisions of the Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class and permits age divisions of the Veterans Class. It also inserts language to recognize that transfer between Puppy and Twelve-toEighteen Month Classes may involve divisions of either and adds language for clarity as to when a transfer between classes must be completed at multi-day events.
 - ADOPTED Article IV, Section 1, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which adds “Multi-Breed Clubs” back to the list of club types eligible for membership. A prior amendment from the floor to the original amendment removed multi-breed clubs and substituted All-Breed and Group Clubs. This change may have unintentionally excluded a category of clubs permitted to become members for many years, the multi-breed Retriever Field Trial Clubs.
 - ADOPTED Article VI, New Section 2, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, to which the addition of this Section to Article VI makes clear that proxy voting is prohibited. The remaining sections of Article VI will be renumbered to 3-12.
 - NOT ADOPTED Article VII, Section 1, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, removes term limits for AKC Board members.

- ADOPTED Chapter 9, Section 3, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries, deletes Chapter 9, Section 3 and inserts into the associated proposed amendment to Chapter 8. It has the effect of relocating content pertaining to the arranging of the Show Veterinarian from Chapter 9 which is specific to Superintendents and Show Secretaries into the more appropriate Chapter 8. Sections 4-12 of Chapter 9 will be renumbered.
- NOT ADOPTED Chapter 10, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – (Duties and Responsibilities of) Show Veterinarians, deletes verbiage related to duty of the club which is proposed to be inserted into Chapter 8 in a corresponding recommendation. It replaces “On call” veterinarian with Show Veterinarian clarifying that whether in-attendance or on-call, the Show Veterinarian must be available to treat dogs during show hours.
- ADOPTED Chapter 16, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Championships, removes “or height” from two places in the current rule, brings into line with the current execution of shows. It amends the rule to provide the opportunity for class dogs placing 2nd, 3rd or 4th in the group to be awarded Championship points. It adds language to define how any Championship points to be awarded would be calculated whereas a class dog placing 2nd, 3rd, or 4th in the group competition would receive the greatest number of Championship points earned in the breeds from the same group excluding any breed which received a higher placement in the group at the same event.
- ADOPTED Chapter 9, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries, which inserts the allowance for the AKC to approve individuals to serve as an on-site show secretary for more than the show or shows of only one Group or All-Breed Club and any Group or All-Breed show held on the same day and site in a calendar year. Approval would be limited to events where the individual is serving only as the “on-site” show secretary. The AKC would establish the criteria under which one may be considered.
- ADOPTED Chapter 14, Section 2 and New Section 2A, of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds – Regular Stakes That May Be Offered, refines how Derby Stake placements qualify a dog to enter a Limited stake by allowing additional placements depending on the size of the Open Derby Stake. It provides for qualifying placements depending on the size of the Open Derby Stake.
- Covid modifications to AKC rules adopted as permanent procedures.
 - Chapter 9, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries, which inserts the allowance for the AKC to approve individuals to serve as an on-site show secretary for more than the show or shows of only one Group or All-Breed Club and any Group or All-Breed show held on the same day and site in a calendar year. Approval would be limited to events where the individual is serving only as the “on-site” show secretary. The AKC would establish the criteria under which one may be considered.
 - “In January of 2019, a rule change went into effect that awards a maximum of one championship point to Best of Winners when no points are awarded to Winners in either sex if the combined number of regular class exhibitors for both sexes meets the minimum required for one point for the sex or division.”
 - “Now, Specialty Clubs can travel up to 300 miles out of their territory to join another Specialty Club in the same breed. Formerly, the limit was 200 miles. Specialty Clubs may now hold up to four designated Specialties in addition to independent or concurrent

Specialties. Recall that a designated Specialty is one in which a Specialty Club considers the regular breed judging at an All-Breed or Group show as its Specialty show.”

- “A new provision also allows clubs and clusters to add a third conformation event on a single day, as long as one of the three events is a Specialty show. Modification of the earlier policy now means that there can be three opportunities for Championship points in a single day.”
 - “A permanent policy now allows individuals who are judging NOHS groups or NOHS Best in Show only, to exhibit in regular competition on the day they judge.”
 - “In Companion and Performance Events, certain COVID-times modifications have been permanently adapted to ease the need for volunteers. These include using cones in Obedience, permitting exhibitors to carry leashes in Agility, a friendly greeting instead of a handshake for Canine Good Citizen, and a designated container for Retriever Hunting Tests. Each of these measures reduces a club’s dependence on stewards.”
 - “A number of date and mileage restrictions in our Companion Events sports that were lifted during the pandemic will continue indefinitely. These changes will make it easier to show and title when judges are in short supply. Clubs offering Companion Events will now have the option to keep entries open up to seven days prior to their trials in order to gain more entries. “
- Amendments voted on at the December meeting
- ADOPTED The amendment is to Article VIII, Section 1, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which brings the bylaws into alignment with the current practice for designating the Nominating Committee by the Board of Directors.
 - ADOPTED The amendment is to Article X, Section 1, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which reflects the current state of business where the Chief Financial Officer manages the day-to-day financial operations of the AKC.
- Amendments to be voted on at the March, 2023 meeting
- The amendment to Chapter 6, Section 2A, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Premium Lists and Closing of Entries, deletes verbiage eliminating outdated means of production and inserts distribution methods consistent with current technology and practices. It also inserts show secretary as a required contact to be included in notice published in premium lists where applicable.
 - The amendment to Chapter 7, Section 6, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Judges, inserts “show secretaries” to bring current with existing and long-standing expectations for those serving as a show secretary.
 - The amendment to Chapter 7, Section 7, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Judges, inserts “show secretaries” to bring current with existing and long-standing expectations for those serving as a show secretary. It also replaces gender pronouns for consistency within the Rules.
 - The amendment to Chapter 7, Section 9, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Judges, inserts “Superintendent or Show Secretary” to the list of individuals responsible to ensure notice of a change of judge is posted at an event. It also replaces gender pronouns for consistency within the Rules.
 - The amendment to Chapter 7, Section 13, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Judges replaces the word “other” with “another” for clarity. It also replaces gender pronouns for consistency within the Rules.
 - The amendment to Chapter 7, Section 17, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Judges, inserts “Superintendent or Show Secretary” to the list of individuals who may be in 17

possession of judge's books. It also replaces gender pronouns for consistency within the Rules.

- The amendment to Chapter 9, Section 10, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries, inserts “show secretaries” to bring current with existing and long-standing expectations for those serving as show secretary.
- The amendment to Chapter 11, Section 6, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, revises and inserts language for clarity about who may make a correction to an entry after closing, and under what conditions.
- The amendment to Chapter 8, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Selection of Superintendent, Show Secretary and Veterinarians, replaces “obedience trial or tracking test” with generic “companion event” per the recommendation of the Companion Events Committee. It also inserts content from the deleted Chapter 9, Section 3, addressing the event committee's responsibility to complete arrangements with a veterinarian to service its show either in attendance or on call. Additionally, it is revised to be consistent with current application procedures which do not ask or require for the name of the Show Veterinarian. Lastly, it relocates content into Chapter 8 which is proposed to be deleted from Chapter 10, Section 2.
- The amendment to Chapter 10, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Show Veterinarians deletes verbiage related to duty of the club proposed to be inserted into Chapter 8. It also replaces “On call” veterinarian with Show Veterinarian, clarifying that whether in attendance or on call, the Show Veterinarian must be available to examine dogs during show hours. Lastly, the word “treat” is replaced with “examine” for veterinary procedural purposes.
- The amendment to Chapter 11, Section 8, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, inserts “and all other single entry non-regular classes” to expand the classes in which neutered dogs or spayed bitches may be allowed to compete. It maintains the allowance to only be permissible at independent specialties or All-Breed dog shows where there is no competition beyond Best of Breed. It also maintains that to achieve a Conformation title, a neutered or spayed entrant must have first attained its Championship title by competing unaltered in the regular classes. It corresponds to the proposal to Chapter 6, Section 2, which adds verbiage to clarify that information must be included in the premium list if the club elects to permit neutered dogs and spayed bitches to compete in Veterans, or any other single-entry non-regular class.
- The amendment to Chapter 6, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Premium Lists and Closing of Entries, inserts “and/” to reflect the need, when applicable, to list both a superintendent and individual show secretary in the premium list. It also inserts for clarity that notification must be included in the premium list for an independent specialty or AllBreed dog show that does not offer Groups or Best in Show, if the club has elected to allow neutered dogs or spayed bitches to compete in non-regular classes.
- : The amendment to Chapter 14, Section 11, of the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers, will not allow Local Retriever Field Trials that award championship points to do so during the two National Championship events. This provision does not prohibit clubs from holding derby stakes, qualifying stakes or owner-handler qualifying stakes.