AKC Delegates Report / June 2023

On Monday June 12th the committee meetings were scheduled of which there is one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The most beneficial to APC is Parent Club, Field Trials & Hunt Test and Canine Health committees. Unfortunately, all three of these committees were scheduled in the morning!

The agendas for the Parent Club and Field Trial & Hunt Test committee's both had some informative items, so I was able to jockey back and forth to each committee. The following are highlights:

Field Trial & Hunt Test Committee:

- Carolyn Mac Ateer has been appointed AKC Board liaison to this committee. Carolyn represents the Irish Setter Club of America and is active in field work and brings experience and knowledge as Board liaison.
- Carolyn reported that litter registration is down 6% and new registrations are down 22%
- AKC projects breeders will produce 22% less in the near future as a result of Covid being over during which time litter registration rose significantly.
- AKC has purchased new litter registration software which will simplify the process
- AKC is financially in "good" shape even with the market going up and down over the last several months.
- Staff liaison, Doug Loungdron reported that only 12% of dogs registered participate in AKC Sports Events. Hunt Tests are down 2.5% / Hunting licenses have been declining for the last 30 years / In 2022; entries rose 35,000 above 2019 (2020 & 2021 was impacted by Covid)
- Doug showed the video "Meet the Pointing Breeds in the Field" / The video is available on the AKC website. If you haven't viewed it I urge you to do so as it is well done. APC was represented by long time Dual Champion breeder Erica Bandes. Both the dogs represented and the grounds they were on are beautiful! I asked Doug if the 45 min video will count as Continuing Education Credits for prospective Pointing breed judges? He indicated discussion is under way with Judges Operation. As we have a "Form & Function" breed this video (as well as on site attendance of Field Events) is a crucial component to judging our breed.

- The Committee as a whole discussed the following:

> Rule change on tracking collars: AKC will only regulate collars not the tracking devices.
> Recently there has been a couple of deaths on site at field events by participants due to heart attacks. AKC strongly recommends all clubs follow recommendations for events which include identifying closest emergency care units, providing Automated Defibrillator, First Aid kits for humans and dogs, gun safety, additional required insurance. Also discussed; how important issues such as hospitality, dietary needs for judges and helpers, club greeters, participant sign ins and being aware of ADA Requirements (Americans with Disability Act)
> Current introduction in the Oregon HOR of a proposed resolution which is so strict it could prevent "all" outside dog events in the state.

Parent Club Committee:

- New AKC librarian and archivist was introduced, and she presented a report of AKC archive storage expansion, accepting more club collectibles such as 1st National catalogs, past pedigrees, etc.
- Request again made to clubs to provide Breeder Education Coordinator (to Marie Beth O'Neil) as well as Parent Club breed Health Statements
- Important that Parent Clubs remind their members (and particularly member families & include in estate planning) that Parent Clubs may like to review any deceased members breed collectibles which may be of important value to the parent club.

Dog Show Rules Committee (attended in the afternoon**)**

- Lengthy discussion on "Major Reserve" provided by Specialty Clubs which will be discussed by the AKC BOD and brought forward for discussion at the September Delegates meeting.

Discussion occurred regarding: Specialty Clubs to have the option to offer at all Specialties? 2X5 point schedule to apply? (twice the 5 point major offered) How much jurisdiction will Parent Clubs have? May they "Opt Out"?

- Discussion regarding Chapter 11, Section 8 : text revised effective 6/28/23 that *neutered dogs and spayed bitches may be allowed to compete in veterans and all other single entry non-regular classes at independent specialty and/or all-breed shows without competition beyond Best of Breed*.
- Committee does not recommend a Group Realignment at this time

Delegates Meeting / June 13,2023

- FORUM / "Purebred Preservation Bank" - Excellent presentation on the history, obstacles and challenges of breed preservation banks, the legalities and the future to preserve all breeds. The presentation is available on the AKC website.

Highlights of the Delegates Meeting:

- Delegates confirmed the approval of the American Toy Fox Terrier Club of America as a new AKC member.
- Chairman's Report /Thomas Davies

/ Dr. Stephanie Montgomery has been appointed the new head of the Canine Health Foundation
/ $3.7 million has been provide to the "Adopt A Cop" program
/ The May gala for the Museum of the Dog was a huge success

- Presidents Report / Dennis Sprung

/ 1st quarter of 2023 showed a gain of 33% in sports events from 2022
/ Slow down on individual dog registrations
/Dr. Strauss presented a report on the Canine Humane Fund which was focused on responsible dog ownership through education and funding. CHF is a 501c3, public tax deduction charitable organization. Scholarships and donations towards domestic violent shelters receive the largest donations. (Very often domestic violent victims will not leave their dogs) Covid was a key reason for the increase of domestic violence

- Financial Report / Ted Phillips, CFO

/ 1st Quarter ending 3/31/23: Litter registration 79k, Dog Registrations 84k – lower than 2022
/ Sports Events; 5087 events or 9% higher than previous year and represents 757k entries or 3% higher than previous year
/ Registration & Events is the highest area of income of 18.8 million or 16% of all income
/ Operations & Staff Expense is the highest at 11 million or 50% of all expenses
/ Total Assets: $4 million & Total Liabilities $1.2 million

- Vote on Proposed Amendment: *Article VI, Section 6 of the Charter and By Laws of the AKC, which removes the reference to professional judges (one who charges a fee in excess of expenses) as it relates to Delegate occupational eligibility (*The amendment allows judges to charge a fee for judging services) The amendment was adopted and is effective immediately.

Your Delegate voted in favor of the amendment as instructed by vote of the APC, BOD.

- Read on the proposed amendment to *Chapter 2, Section 14,* of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows - (Basically, this will permit the inclusion of digital copies of required booklets at events thus eliminating the requirement to have The Complete Dog Book available. The Delegates will vote on this in September)

- Staff report on AKC Technology / The customer service center of AKC has 31 FT, 39 PT (who work from home) and 50 FT Equivalents. / The system is a Phone Tree Selection process with Auto Call Back or Email Phone System by category and contains Live Chats as well as Private Face Book messages. All customer service representatives go through an extensive 6-week training process.