American Pointer Club – AKC Delegate Report, March 2025

AKC Committee Meetings / Monday March 10, 2025

Dog Show Rules Committee

- AKC Meet the Breeds which was held this past January at the Javits Center in NYC had 150 breeds represented with over 3000 in attendance.
- AKC has produced a video on Agility of which there have been over 10k views to date.
- Chapter 11, Section 8 regarding alterations of dogs – Who makes the decision? The judge based upon the rules.
- Chapter 11, Section 6 regarding transfer to BOB/BOV – lengthy discussion on how it impacts dogs that finish on the same day there are two concurrent specialties. What is the permitted time to move a dog up? Do superintendents have adequate staff to handle requests in a minimum amount of time? Will superintendents increase their fees to cover additional labor or have time to manage move up requests?
- Juniors Committee Report – Clubs were encouraged to increase junior participation within their clubs and events. AKC continues to work with 4-H Clubs to have them support AKC events.

Parent Club Committee

- Parent Club Health Statements – AKC reviewing content of health statements to assure the following are addressed: 1. Puppy Buyers 2. New Breeders 3. Experienced Breeders
- Legislative Update – 1500 pieces of canine legislation has been introduced since January 1st. Major topic is "cruelty in breeding". Several state and local authorities are seeing proposed legislation regarding dog attacks. On the Federal level, the Farm Bill (under the jurisdiction of USDA) has still not advanced and expectation when it will be is uncertain. The kennel welfare act remains within the Farm Bill. CDC (Center for Disease Control) is expected to release import rules for dogs within the year but currently they are delayed. It was announced as a precaution that Hungary & Slovakia have reported an outbreak of Huff & Mouth Disease. It was also announced that the state of Florida has a law requiring any intact female dog in a household must be registered. AKC is working to change the regulation.
- AKC BOD liaison report: Registrations have declined. Litter registrations were down 15% in 2024. It was a record year for events with over 29k. Over 3million entries in events. Confirmation: 55k or down 3.8% compared to 2023. The greatest increase in events was Fast Cat with a 10.2% > compared to 2023. There was a 6% increase in media coverage. 41 clubs dissolved in 2024. Over the past 5 years, 80 specialty clubs have dissolved. Not all Breed clubs have dissolved in as great numbers as the Specialty clubs. The AKC BOD held a special Board Meeting on February 25th to delay implementation of the increase of event fees from $3.50 to $5.00. Implementation was to start in October of 2025

Delegate Meeting / March 11, 2025

Meeting called to order by CEO Dennis Sprung at 9:00 am.

- Vote on approving Cheyane Kennel Club as a new member / Motion approved.
- At this time, Mr. Sprung requested to speak before the Chairman's Report. He announced that as of March 31, 2025, he would step down as CEO. Mr. Sprung provided a history of his tenure at AKC, which involved over 30 years in purebred dogs and various positions within AKC, inclusive of two decades as CEO. He praised the AKC staff for their dedication and assistance in making it a great organization and expressed his appreciation for the BOD making him President Emeritus. Mr. Sprung received a standing ovation from the Delegates.

- Chairmans Report: (Dr. Thomas Davies)
  Dr. Davies began by saying March 31, 2025, will mark an end of an era in AKC with the departure of Dennis Sprung making AKC the premier authority in the world. He praised him for the major impact he made after 9-11-01 to bring AKC to the forefront of recognition. Dr. Davies praised Mr. Sprung for his decades of service and commitment to purebred dogs. At this time, Dr. Davies announced as of April 1, 2025, Executive Secretary, Gina DiNardo will assume

the position of CEO, and Director of Legislative Affairs, Sheila Goffe will assume the position of Executive Secretary as well as continuing to have oversite for Legislative Affairs.

- Financial Report (Ted Phillips, CFO)
  Operating Revenue: decreased by 8.9 million compared to 2023 as well as investments decreased by several hundred thousand in comparison to 2023. Registration decreased by 3.3 million compared to 2023 and litter registrations were down. Regarding event participation, Confirmation was down by 1% Companion increased by 8% and Performance increased by 7%
  Operating Expenses: Increased by 1.5% with Labor being of 50% of costs and Insurance representing 11% of costs.
- Vote on Proposed Amendments:
  Chapter 11, Section 8-A regarding conditions of dogs affecting eligibility. 2/3 was not reached in the affirmative and the proposed amendment **was not adopted.**
  Chapter 11, Section 8 regarding Dogs being neutered or spayed, may be eligible for Brace or Team classes. 2/3 in the affirmative was reached and the proposed amendment **was adopted.**
  Chapter 6, Section2 regarding verbiage in a premium list to allow neutered or spayed dogs to be eligible for Brace or Team classes. 2/3 in the affirmative was reached and the proposed amendment **was adopted.**
- Report on Canine College:
  The online program offers many educational and resource opportunities for the public, breeders and judges. Various courses are available are Puppy Training Course and coming soon the Preparing for a New Baby and Puppy which helps households prepare for training a new puppy when there is a new baby in the household.
- New Business
  The Delegate from the Lewiston-Auburn ME Kennel Club addressed the body by strongly encouraging BOD to be transparent and inclusive with the Delegate body when making major decisions which directly impact all kennel clubs. She referred to the recent moratorium on increase in event fees and mentioned several AKC projects which did not prove to be financially successful nor projects the AKC should venture into. She ended her presentation by underscoring how vital Delegates are as stakeholders in the AKC and remember the importance Delegates play.
- The Delegate from the Afghan Hound Club of America spoke about the last several months regarding BOD action and future ways of managing the organization which will show positive changes.

Report of the Election:

Nine candidates were nominated, of which four were elected

It took six rounds to elect four Directors which concluded at 2:00 pm.

The following were elected in order of the greatest number of votes

Class of 2029

1. Eduardo T. Fugiwara - Two Cities Kennel Club (First Director elected which came on the 3rd. Round)
2. Sylvia Thomas - Kennel Club of Riverside
3. Robin Stansell French Bulldog Club of America
4. Dr. Thomas Davies Springfield Kennel Club

Elected by the BOD for the position of:
Chairman: Dr. Thomas Davies Springfield Kennel Club
Vice Chair. Dr. Michael Knight Texas Kennel Club

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Danny D. Seymour
AKC Delegate

Complete minutes are posted on the Secretaries page within the AKC website