American Kennel Club

Delegate Committee Meetings June 9, 2025 Newark, NJ

Parent Club Committee Meeting:

*AKC staff report:* Over 1 million losses in the first quarter due to lower registration of litters and dogs as well as lower entries in events. Conformation entries are down, and litter registrations are down by 13%. Other world kennel clubs have also reported similar decreases.

*Parent Club Survey:*

86 parent clubs responded, indicating the following:

- 20% of the membership does 80% of the work.
- "Uncivilized comments" such as "I /me"
- Aging out + securing younger members
- Finances / "costs", AKC fees, tax status, contracts
- Education & Mentoring – lack of breed standards and promotion of personalized breed types.
- Use of websites as educational development
- Aging out of Legacy Breeders
- Venues of events / National Specialties are declining particularly in conformation entries.

*Discussion Items:*

- AKC reported on various breed colors indicating there are new online dog registrations as well as pre-paid registrations. AKC was advised to recognize Parent Club members who breed litters.
- Question asked? What is the percentage of litters bred and registered by Parent Club members?
- Advised that Parent Clubs do strategic planning including forecasting, financial development, events to add, vision and how far in the future to plan.

Field Trial Committee:

AKC Staff Report: Results from the last three survey report on ATV: The survey question was *"Do you believe it would be beneficial for the sport to allow judges to ride ATV's / UTV's in walking stakes with the consent of the host club"?*

| | 2018 Survey | 2022 Survey | 2025 Survey |
|---|---|---|---|
| Strongly Agree/Agree | 41% | 42% | 51% |
| Strongly Disagree/ Disagree | 45% | 40% | 33% |
| Uncertain | 14% | 18% | 16% |

If the AKC BOD approves the recommendation in July, it will take effect on January 1, 2026, pending venue approval.

Discussion occurred on the use of E-Collars & Non approved collars vs GPS collars and other various training items.

**AKC Delegates Meeting - June 10, 2025, Newark, NJ**

Forum Topics:

AKC Human Fund: Founded in 2008 as a 501c3 organization offering various type of scholarships; for those suffering domestic violence who own pets, breed rescue grants, hurricane funds, scholarships for aspiring young veterinarian students, as well as aspiring young handlers. ACE awards for canine excellence to recognized dog clubs / service dogs / and hero dogs.

AKC Museum of the Dog:

The purpose and the vision were for dog owners and dog lovers. The museum concept is an interactive program with live dogs as well as valuable art and art pieces.

"Furry Friday" is a weekly event in the museum where live dogs are on display.

The museum is located at 101 Park Ave., New York City, New York.

Town Hall Forum / Increase of Event Fees:

FY 2024 there were 29,300 events resulting in over 3 million entries & 25%> in event applications.

AKC indicated:

- The 2026 budget will be released in November 2025. All programs will be reviewed for potential re-programming or elimination.
- Delegates inquired about the considerations concerning the two AKC physical operations. (NYC & NC) the response was the NYC office has a lease until 2038, but sub-leasing is under review.
- Which event fees are considered? AKC indicated all fees are under consideration and a $.50 increment rather than one large amount at one time.

**Delegates Meeting:**

Called to order at 10:40 am

- March 2025 minutes were approved.
- Approval to accept the Beaver Terrier Club of America as a Delegate Club
- Chairmans Report (Dr. Thomas Davies)
  Welcomed new CEO & Executive Secretary.
  Addressed concerns regarding micro & macroeconomics, shared the "50 State Report", containing valuable information about dog related events, clubs, and canine medical information and data reviewed information from each state.
- Presidents Report (Gina DiNardo)
  Reported on the following:
  - AKC Canine College training programs in various sports events
  - Government Relations impact on legislative issues regarding animal rights welfare
  - AKC "Leads the Troops" initiative, working with the US Army with 3 premier marketing events which will air on ESPN TV on June 14th. The Army has a new mascot, a Bulldog donated by a breeder from OK.
  - Revised AKC brochure for public knowledge on AKC and AKC events.

- Financial Report (CFO, (Ted Phillips)
  - Reported on an update of financial information of the audit reports for FY 2023 as well as the MDA reports are available for review. Those reports contain Asset/Liability and Organizational Health. 2024 reports will be available in the fall of 2025. The reports also speak to both financial and non-financial aspects of the organization.
  - KPI (Key Performance Indicators)
    23 million in revenue or < 14% of budget
    24 million in expenses or > 1.7% of budget
    Interest and benefits income were negative for the first quarter.
    Expense reduction plans will begin in July.
    Litter Registration <18%
    Conformation events < 13% but overall, events did increase.
    Staff expenses remain constant to the same comparison to 2024.
    Total assets are $260 million w/ investment portfolio the largest.
    Liabilities = 76 million w/ pension & expenses the largest

- Vote on Article VI, Section 9, Charter & By-Laws: "Advice & Consent from BOD prior to obtaining appointment of President, VP" - Motion carried.

  Read on Article IV, Section 5 – Regarding publishing of BOD Candidates.

  (Shall vote on this in September)

  September's meeting will feature several "Read" items.

  Updates on marketing, broadcasting, junior task force involvement, and upcoming committee vacancies.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny D, Seymour
AKC Delegate