

FINAL

This will be discussed further at the May Board meeting.

Allow Special Event Obedience & Rally Trials

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow clubs licensed for obedience and/or rally to hold two Special Event Obedience Trials and two Special Event Rally Trials per year. A Special Event Trial is defined as one where the club proposes a unique mix of AKC classes and/or a unique eligibility criterion. The purpose of a Special Event Trial is to keep the sports fresh and fun. A club holding a Special Event Trial may not change the other Regulations pertaining to a

regulations provided it is consistent with the purpose of the Special Event. Permission to hold a Special Event hunting test is granted on a one-time basis. The Special Event shall count as one of the club's annual events.

This

Puppy of Achievement (POA) Program. Based on the favorable results of a survey of puppy exhibitors following a one-year pilot, it was decided to continue and enhance the POA program. Enhancements included adding POA points to the dog's record and sending an encouragement email when the dog is half-way to being awarded its Certificate of Achievement. Puppy entries in the regular classes grew for the first time since 2003. In addition, entries in the 4-6 month Puppy classes were up 17%.

Implemented the 1+1 Initiative. Impact: (1) Increased all-breed shows entries by an average of 3.9 per show, (2) reduced absentee rate for dogs entered in the 1+1 situation by 50%, and (3) greatest impact was experienced by the lowest entry breeds. Lowest 20% of the breeds experienced a 4.7% increase in entries due to the 1+1 Initiative.

Assistance to All-Breed clubs – implemented third show for clubs that meet the criteria designed to not impact neighboring clubs.

Assistance to Specialty clubs – implemented larger territories for the less common breed Specialty clubs.

Scent Work grew rapidly to become AKC's third largest sport.

Rally grew by 20% - fastest growth since 2006.

Implemented modifications to the RACH (Rally) and OTCH (obedience) titles.

Brought focus to temperament – launched the AKC Temperament Test November 1, 2019.

Launched Fit Dog Club program – 384 clubs have signed up.

Affiliated with UpDog (disc dog organization) as part of the Title Recognition Program.

Held AKC's first ever virtual competition for dogs that had earned the Trick Dog Elite Performer title.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; and Tim Thomas, Vice President, Dog Show Judges, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Oral Exam Key in Judges Books

The Board reviewed a memorandum which presented a request from the American Dog Show Judges to add information to the judge's book to indicate the appropriate oral exam for the respective breed based on AKC's Oral Exam Chart.

This will be discussed further at the May meeting.

Dr. Battaglia did not participate in the next portion of the meeting.

Conformation Dog Show Judges Annual Report

APPLICATION DATA

New Breed Applications (first time applicants) continue with the variance traditionally seen from year to year. As in the previous year, the number of Additional Breed applications submitted in 2019 displayed a significant decrease in the volume in the two years preceding the January 1, 2018 implementation of the revised Judging Approval Process (9/15-11/17) but an increase when compared to 2018. This was the expected and intended result of specific modifications made to temper the rate at which judges could apply and the maximum number of permit breeds judges could have at one time.

The number of applications received in 2019 versus previous years:

2019 Actions

Expanded Mentored Conformation Event Option for Local Specialty Clubs which want to return to AKC after not holding events or filling a void of a club which dissolved in the area (effective October 2019) – one club approved under this program: Heart of Ohio St. Bernard Fanciers; and one club pending information for processing: Irish Wolfhound Association of the Mid-South.

Continued Encouraging the Formation of Local Specialty Clubs to promote the creation of local specialty clubs for low entry breeds (effective August 2018). Two new clubs approved under this program: German Pinscher Club of the Southwest and Heartland Belgian Tervuren Club; and one club pending information for processing: Heartland Kerry Blue Terrier Club.

Making life easier for Parent Clubs at the member and license levels by considering five experienced voting members to qualify to hold performance events.

Continued to conduct outreach for clubs which have not held an AKC event in 3+ years as a proactive approach to minimizing inactive and dissolving clubs.

COMPLIANCE

The following AKC Management actions were reported:

 B F C L GB F CBG B G G L F

Dr. Battaglia rejoined the meeting via video conference.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. There was nothing reported out of this session.

It was VOTED to adjourn Thursday, April 23 at 5:20 p.m.

Adjourned

Attest: _____

Gina M. DiNardo, Executive Secretary