

## MEMORANDUM

To: ECSCA Board  
From: Barbara A. Penny/AKC Delegate  
Date: 30 April 2012  
RE: Delegate's Report on March 2012 Delegates Meeting and AKC BOD Actions

The March Delegates Meeting focused on two significant issues – the election of three Delegates to the Board of Directors and the Group Realignment.

1. AKC Board Election Results;
2. Group Realignment Vote;
3. AKC Staff Promotions;
4. Major Reserve at National Specialty;
5. Spaniel Hunting Tests "Advanced" Titles;
6. Breed Standard Revision Guidelines;
7. AKC/Eukanuba National Championship 2012;
8. Point Schedule Revision.

**1. AKC Board Election Results:** There were three vacancies for the Class of 2016. The Nominating Committee endorsed candidates William J. Feeney, Sir Francis Drake Kennel Club; Thomas Powers, Kennel Club of Beverly Hills, and Lynn Worth-Smith, Vizsla Club of America. Additional candidates endorsed in writing were Patricia M. Cruz, Heart of the Plains Kennel Club; John Ronald, Samoyed Club of America; Robert A. Schroll, Clarksville Kennel Club and Larry Sorenson, Dachshund Club of America. Three votes of the Delegate body were required to reach majority consensus with the election of Patricia M. Cruz, Heart of the Plains KC (219 votes – 1<sup>st</sup> ballot); Thomas Powers, KC of Beverly Hills (197 votes – 1<sup>st</sup> ballot), and William J. Feeney, Sir Francis Drake KC (207 votes – 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot).

**2. Group Realignment Vote:** 231 Delegates voted in favor of the proposed amendment for Group Realignment; however, 165 Delegates voted in opposition. There were not two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was not adopted.

**3. AKC Staff Promotions:** As a result of a number of recent retirements, the AKC has announced staff promotions in several departments.

- Doug Ljungren: Doug will be promoted to VP of the newly consolidated Companion and Performance Events Department, effective 02 May 2012. Doug has been responsible for all facets of AKC Field Trials, Hunting Tests, Herding, Lure Coursing, Earthdog and Coonhound events. He has also assisted in the development and launch of several new programs, including Canine Partners, the Coursing Ability Test and AKC Therapy dog title program. Prior to joining the AKC in March 2007, Doug was involved with Pointing Breed field events for over 30 years.

- Curt Curtis: As AVP of Companion Events, Curt will retire, the effective date being 02 May 2012. Hired in 2005, Curt oversaw the Companion Events Dept., which included Obedience, Tracking, Agility, and Rally events as well as organized the National Obedience Invitational and National Tracking Invitational.
- Robin L. Stansell: Robin retired in March 2012 as VP of Event Operations after 11 years of service with the Executive Field Staff. In the Event Operations Department, he oversaw all aspects of event approval and result recording, including rules, regs, and policies governing them as well as AKC Global Services and the licensed superintendents.
- Alan Slay: Alan has been promoted to Director of Event Programs from the Information Services Dept. where he served as Principal Software Engineer. In his new role, he will focus on system efficiencies providing AKC clubs with enhanced services by means of a new online competition management system. Slay will be joining 17-year AKC veteran Director of Event Operations Bobby Birdsong. Events Operations processes all Conformation and Companion event applications and results, computation of the schedule of points for conformation events and supervision of the processing of AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) results and evaluator approvals.
- Darrell L. Hayes: With a career which began in 1993 as an Executive Field Rep and most recently as VP of Dog Show Judges, Darrell retired in March 2012. In 1996, Darrell began overseeing Judging Operations and the Conformation Field Staff. Over the years, his job expanded to include Judges Education and the Registered Handlers Program.
- Pattie Proctor: Pattie has been promoted to Senior Executive Field Representative responsible for managing the field staff at conformation events. Field Representative Lee Herr, who assisted in both Event Operations and the Judging Department in the North Carolina office during the transition period is returning to the field. Tim Thomas continues his responsibilities as Judging Liaison.

**4. Major Reserve at National Specialty:** This proposal was submitted for a vote at the last Delegates Meeting in March 2012; however, it was pulled for further refinement by the sponsoring club, the Progressive Dog Club, and should be resubmitted for a read at the June Delegates Meeting. The initial response has been favorable. To restate the intention of the proposal: To add a new sixth paragraph to Chapter 16, Section 1, of Rules Applying to Dog Shows to create a new three point major for the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch at one National Specialty per year as specified by the AKC Parent Club, provided that the number of dogs competing totals at least twice the number required for a five point major. The resubmission will contain two changes from the previous iteration: 1) giving a Parent Club the ability to opt out, and 2) stipulating that points given for Best of Winners do not go into the calculation for reserve points.

**5. Spaniel Hunting Tests "Advanced" Titles:** The Board reviewed a staff recommendation to add an Advanced Title to each of the three existing levels of Spaniel

Hunting Tests – Junior Hunter Advanced, Senior Hunter Advanced and Master Hunter Advanced. Further Board discussion will follow at the next Board Meeting.

**6. Breed Standard Revision Guidelines:** Based on a request from the Board, Staff presented a revised procedure for the consideration and approval of breed standard changes. Proposed revisions to the standard will now be published for comment prior to the AKC Board granting approval to the Parent Club to ballot its membership. In doing so, the Board will be provided with any concerns that may exist within the fancy regarding the proposed changes prior to its vote. The Breed Standard Guidelines, as included in Attachment A, were approved by the Board and are effective immediately.

**7. 2012 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship:** The American Kennel Club and Eukanuba are pleased to announce that the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship will become an “open show” awarding Championship and Grand Championship points. This new format will begin with the upcoming AKC/Eukanuba National Championship on December 15-16th, 2012 in Orlando, Florida at the Orange County Convention Center. The top 25 dogs from each breed as well as Bred-By Exhibitor Champions and other special qualifiers will continue to be celebrated with an invitation granting special recognition.

In addition to the conformation competition, the show will still feature the AKC Agility Invitational and National Obedience Invitational, the Bred-By Exhibitor competition, the Eukanuba World Challenge and AKC Meet the Breeds®. The Convention Center will also again host The Space Coast KC of Palm Bay, Brevard KC, and Central Florida KC shows on Dec. 12-14, 2012 for five full days of dog shows.

**8. Point Schedule Revision:** Explanation follows as to how points are determined per division and the new Point Schedule for English Cocker is included under Attachment B.

### **Point Schedule, Calculations for the New Year**

#### **How does the AKC determine the dog and bitch counts necessary for attaining certain sets of points for the different divisions each year?**

Divisions are normally a grouping of adjacent states that share the same schedule of points. However, HI, AK, and PR (because of their geographic isolation) are of a single state or territory.

The calculations only take into account the number of dogs that actually competed (not those that were entered, but marked absent) during the previous year.

In each division, except AK, HI, and PR, the schedule is set according to the following formula, considering the dogs in regular class competition for the previous year.

- One point-95% of the shows where there was competition carry one or more points for dogs and bitches.
- Two Points-set at half the difference between the one and three point breaks.

- Three Points-As close as possible to 18%, but should not exceed 20%, of the shows in a division are to carry major points (3, 4, or 5) for both dogs and bitches. Majors created by Best of Winners, Best of Breed and Best of Opposite are not counted in this calculation and are in effect bonus majors over and above the 18%.
- Four Points-Set at 2/3 of the difference between the three and five point breaks.
- Five points-As close as possible to 2% of the shows are to carry 5 points for both dogs and bitches.

Independent Parent Club specialties or Designated Parent Club specialties held in conjunction with an All Breed are not counted. Independent Local Specialties and Designated Local Specialties with All Breed shows are included in the computations. Additionally, events held in conjunction with the AKC Eukanuba National Championship Show (+ 3 days) are not included.

Because there are so few shows in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, we calculate the schedule of points per the above formula, and then adjust to assure a fair and equitable distribution of points that result in similar distribution as the divisions within continental United States.

Respectively submitted,

Barbara A. Penny/AKC Delegate

## ATTACHMENT A

### GUIDELINES FOR WRITING BREED STANDARDS

\*Excerpt from The American Kennel Club By-Laws, Article IV, Section 4:  
It shall be the duty and privilege of each parent member Specialty Club to define precisely the true type of the breed of pure-bred dogs which it was organized to promote and improve and its definition when approved by the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club, shall and will be recognized by the American Kennel Club as the sole standard of excellence for which such breed of pure-bred dogs shall be bred and by which specimens of such breed must be judged in the awarding of prizes of merit. The standards of excellence of all breeds of pure-bred dogs now adopted by parent member Specialty Clubs and approved by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club shall not be changed in any respect until the wording of any proposed change or changes first has been submitted to the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club and its approval of the same has been obtained.

#### **Breed Standard Revision Procedures**

A revision consists of any change, deletion, interpretation, or clarification to a standard. Once the Board of Directors has approved a standard there is a five year moratorium on revisions.

- A. Parent Club Breed Standard Committee is formed to review and formulate revisions;
- B. Notify staff of the American Kennel Club that the club is in the process of reviewing the standard;
- C. Submit revisions to AKC staff for input while being developed. Staff will present final revisions to The Board of Directors for their comment. At this time the proposed revisions will be published on the Secretary's page of the AKC Gazette, allowing 60 days for comment;
- D. Following publication, comments received and response to such comments from the club will be presented to the AKC Board for approval to ballot the membership;
- E. The membership will be balloted in accordance with Club's Constitution and By-Laws. The sample letter and ballot will be submitted to staff for review prior to balloting the membership and must inform the membership of the five year moratorium;
- F. Submit results of balloting, copy of the ballot, cover letter, and standard to the AKC. If the proposed revisions do not receive the sufficient numbers of votes to be approved notify AKC Staff with the tabulated results;
- G. Ballot results that support a revision to the standard will be scheduled for inclusion on the agenda of the AKC Board for approval. The approved standard will be published on the Secretary's Page and the club will be notified in writing of the final approval with the

reminder of the five year moratorium.

## **POINTS TO CONSIDER IN WRITING BREED STANDARDS**

1. The purpose of a standard is to be a guide for breeders and judges. As such, it is important to keep in mind those features that make the breed unique, those qualities the breed must possess to do the job for which it was created. A standard should emphasize what is important in the breed. Conversely those qualities that are of little or no importance are mentioned only in passing or not at all.
2. The text of the standard must be as clear and concise as possible. Sentence structure should be simple and straightforward. When verbs are used they should to the extent possible indicate the present tense: “is” or “are” rather than “should be”.
3. The Complete Dog Book Glossary is the reference source for terminology. Every word used must have the same definition as in the glossary in the AKC’s Complete Dog Book. Because of the encyclopedic nature of these references, some words cited may not be acceptable for use in standards. For example, words like forechest, breastbone and prosternum all describe the same thing. A concerted effort is being made to use the same word, with the same definition, from standard to standard. The concern with terminology is to be certain that what needs to be communicated is actually being communicated. There is no desire to limit language or the special flavor standards communicate about their breeds.
4. Any fault to be cited should be included under the appropriate descriptive section of the standard. Care ought to be taken to list only faults that are of special concern to the breed. In general, there is no need to list faults which are obvious from the positive description of the dog. For instance, if the positive description reads, “topline straight and level”, it would be unnecessary to state that, “a roach or sway back is a fault.” Standards listing many of the more common faults can be misleading because any omission from the listing could be interpreted that this particular problem is not considered a fault.
5. Disqualifying faults should be listed in the appropriate sections in the body of the standard (AKC summarizes all disqualifications in italics at the end of the standard in our standard booklets for judges and in The Complete Dog Book). Thorough consideration should be given before a specific fault is made a disqualification. A disqualification must be clearly stated, defined, or measurable with no room for interpretation.
6. Those faults which AKC rules make disqualifications for all breeds are not necessary to list in a standard.
7. Disqualifying heights, like all disqualifications, should be put in a standard only when a club is completely satisfied that disqualifying a dog over or under the specific limit is the best way to deal with size.

8. In describing the bite, the standard should refer to the position of the teeth rather than of the jaws, since it is the teeth which judges will examine and on which they will make their decision.
9. The standard should specify whether tails may be, or should not be, docked; in the case of any newly recognized breeds, the club will be encouraged to include a description of the natural tail if a docked breed. The standard should specify if dewclaws may be, are generally, should be, or should not be, removed, distinguishing between dewclaws on the forelegs and those on the hind legs in each case.
10. For those breeds of which the ears are usually or sometimes cropped, whether the ears may be cropped; in the case of any newly recognized breed, the club will be encouraged to include a description of the natural ears. This is necessary so that the application of Chapter 14, Section 9 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows to the particular breed will be clear. This section requires disqualification of any dog that has been changed in appearance by artificial means except as specified in the standard for its breed.
11. In the case of new breeds being accepted into Miscellaneous, the standard must conform with the Guidelines for Writing Breed Standards in the format below. There must be descriptions for all major headings and for the italicized subheadings. Some commonly used subheadings have been listed. These have been included for illustrative purposes only and do not have to be used. Other subheadings appropriate for the specific breed may be used in all sections.
12. Breeds recognized prior to 1989 may make a revision to the breed standard without reformatting.

## **STANDARD FORMAT**

**I. General Appearance.** This is the most important paragraph in the standard, in the sense that it should spell out what the breed's most important qualities are. The General Appearance section should describe the breed's purpose and emphasize those qualities that are critical to fulfilling its function. In a sense, everything in a standard should relate form to function. Remember, the General Appearance section is not the standard. It is the place to cite the breed's most important qualities. These features would then be fully described under their appropriate heading in the body of the standard.

**II. Size, Proportion, Substance.** Height is described in inches measured from the ground to the highest point of the shoulder blades. In those breeds where weight is important it is given in pounds. Proportion is the ratio of height to length. Length is usually expressed as the distance from the point of the shoulder to the rearmost projection of the upper thigh (or point of the buttocks). Practically speaking, breeds are either square or rectangular. Some breeds are just "off" square, while others are extremely rectangular. Some indication of what is appropriate for the breed should be included, even if the indication is that a wide range is acceptable. Substance includes the amount of bone.

**III. Head.** Includes the following:

- i. Expression
- ii. Eyes (include color and rim pigmentation)
- iii. Ears
- iv. Skull
- v. Stop
- vi. Muzzle
- vii. Planes (Muzzle and Skull)
- viii. Nose (include pigmentation)
- ix. Lips
- x. Flews
- xi. Bite
- xii. Teeth

**IV. Neck, Topline and Body.** Includes the following:

- i. Neck
- ii. Topline
- iii. Body
- iv. Chest
- v. Ribs
- vi. Underline
- vii. Tuck-up
- viii. Back
- ix. Loin
- x. Croup
- xi. Tail

**V. Forequarters.** Includes the following:

- i. Angulation
- ii. Shoulders
- iii. Shoulder Blades
- iv. Point of Shoulder
- v. Upper Arm
- vi. Elbow
- vii. Legs
- viii. Pasterns
- ix. Dewclaws
- x. Feet
- xi. Toes
- xii. Pads
- xiii. Nails

**VI. Hindquarters.** Includes the following:

- i. Angulation
- ii. Legs
- iii. Upper Thigh
- iv. Stifle
- v. Second Thigh



- vi. Hock Joint
- vii. Hocks (Rear Pastern)
- viii. Dewclaws
- ix. Feet
- x. Toes
- xi. Pads
- xii. Nails

**VII. Coat.** Include under this heading the description of the hair on all parts of the dog, and describe any trimming of the coat.

**VIII. Color.** Include under this heading the color and markings of the coat (and the skin under the coat if skin color description is to be included). In breeds where multiple colors or color combinations are acceptable, but not all colors are permitted, the complete list of all acceptable colors and color combinations must be included in the standard. In such cases, any color or color combination not mentioned are unacceptable, and judges are to pass judgment on this basis. Color of eyes, eye rims, mouth, lips, nose, nails, etc., are to be given under their respective headings.

**IX. Gait.** A complete, positive description of the breed's gait should be given. Care should be taken to adequately express the importance of the breed's overall ability to move, which is usually best evaluated from the side.

**X. Temperament.** Such temperament description as is appropriate for the breed would not, in any way, bear on the following examination requirements of any dog brought into the show ring. (All dogs in all breeds are expected to stand for examination by a judge, such examination to be as thorough as deemed necessary by the judge, including close inspection of the bite and thorough feeling for muscle tone, testicles and any other factors the judge desires to check. Breeds normally judged on the table are expected to stand for examination on the table. In addition, all dogs must gait for the judge's examination.)

**ATTACHMENT B**

**2012 POINT SCHEDULE**

Effective: May 16, 2012

**ENGLISH COCKER SPANIELS**

**(D – B)**

<b>DIVISION</b>	<b><u>1 Pt.</u></b>	<b><u>2 Pts.</u></b>	<b><u>3 Pts.</u></b>	<b><u>4 Pts.</u></b>	<b><u>5 Pts.</u></b>
<b>1. CT-MA-ME-NH-RI-VT</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>7 - 9</b>	<b>9-13</b>
<b>2. DE-NJ-NY-PA</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>5-7</b>	<b>7-12</b>	<b>11-21</b>
<b>3. DC-MD-NC-TN-VA-WV</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>8 - 9</b>	<b>12-12</b>
<b>4. FL-GA-SC</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>5-4</b>	<b>7-7</b>	<b>10-10</b>	<b>15-18</b>
<b>5. IN-KY-OH</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>6-8</b>	<b>9 -11</b>	<b>15-16</b>
<b>6. IA-KS-MO-NE</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-3</b>	<b>6-4</b>	<b>9 - 9</b>	<b>17-15</b>
<b>7. CO-OK-TX</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>5-6</b>	<b>8 - 8</b>	<b>10 - 9</b>
<b>8. OR-WA</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>5-6</b>	<b>7-12</b>	<b>11-21</b>
<b>9. AR-CA</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>5-6</b>	<b>7-11</b>	<b>12-17</b>	<b>18-26</b>
<b>10. ALASKA</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>3-3</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>5 - 5</b>	<b>6 - 6</b>
<b>11. HAWAII</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>3-3</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>5 - 5</b>	<b>6 - 6</b>
<b>12. PUERTO RICO</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>3-3</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>5 - 5</b>	<b>6 - 6</b>
<b>13. ID-MT-NV-NM-ND-SD-UT-WY</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-3</b>	<b>5-4</b>	<b>6 - 5</b>	<b>8 - 8</b>
<b>14. AL-AK-LA-MS</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>3-3</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>6 - 7</b>	<b>7 - 8</b>
<b>15. IL-MI-MN-WI</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>6-8</b>	<b>10-12</b>	<b>14-25</b>