

ECSCA BOARD MEMORANDUM

DATE: 28 December 2010
TO: ECSCA Board of Directors
FROM: Barbara A. Penny/AKC Delegate
RE: December 2010 AKC Delegates Meeting

AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT December Meeting 2010 Hyatt Regency Long Beach, CA

I. Canine Health Committee

CHIC: There are 12,000 DNA sample in the CHIC bank with 154 breeds represented. 43 of these breeds have over 50% participation by the parent club. A partnership has been formed with Van Andle, a researcher looking for samples, to split the collections so other researchers can benefit and to not exhaust the sample.

Bloat Survey: Carmen Battaglia reported that the survey has been completed worldwide and the report is being assembled. Participating were 4,000 breeders in 35 countries representing 105 breeds.

Breeder of Merit Program: John Lyons reported that in the 8 weeks since the start of the program in October, 1200 breeders have signed up to date. 15,000 are projected by the end of 2011. The program is still in its infancy, but the AKC would like parent clubs to realize that the purpose of this program is the "recognition factor." Its goal is to positively influence rather than enforcement.

Health screenings must be performed as mandated by the parent club; however, compliance is complaint driven. The AKC would like to continue this program at no cost to the breeders. To continue this, AKC staff cost must be kept to a minimum. In reviewing parent club health requirements, the AKC has found significant inconsistencies in parent club Code of Ethics, parent club health testing requirements, CHIC requirements, registrations of puppies, and parent club website posted health requirements.

The AKC is suggesting that the parent club monitor Breeder of Merit health testing requirements through their Open Registry. John also noted positive actions taken by several parent clubs. Both Vizlas and Gordon Setter parent clubs require DNA number to entire their respective national specialties. The Collie Club of America felt it had the worst Code of Ethics and spent 9 mos. with members fighting over health requirements before drafting an acceptable document. The Bearded Collie Club waged a huge battle to get parent club members to incorporate health requirements in its Code of Ethics. The Afghan Hound Club offers \$1,000 bonus if DNA parentage is provided for its Futurity winner.

John Lyons emphasized once again that the breeder maintains all control at the time the puppy buyer picks up their puppy and that it is critical that the breeder understands it role as an advocate for the

AKC. 147,000 puppies were produced but went unregistered. If breeders went from 50% registered to 75% registered, the AKC operating loss would be eliminated and a profit reported in its place.

Multiple Sire Litter Penalty: The proposed elimination of this \$200 penalty was met with resistance by the AKC staff. They were reluctant to eliminate this fee because of the intensive labor involved in the validation process when multiple sires were involved. The Committee accepted their recommendation to continue its charge for the foreseeable future.

II. Parent Club Committee

Dog Show Rules Enhancements: Being considered are the following:

1. Awarding of Group Placements 5 and 6 (although impact on smaller shows);
2. 4 to 6 mos. puppy competition;
3. Owner Handler special event;
4. Reserve Best In Show

These enhancements can be incorporated on a trial basis. A rule change requires 2/3rd majority vote to approve.

Performance Test Titles: Every parent club who has applied to the AKC Board for approval has been approved. Bloodhounds and Nova Scotia Duck Tollers were the most recent.

Juniors: Suggestion from AKC staff to add Reserve Best Junior and Best Bred-by Exhibitor awards and offering a Master class.

III. Chairman and President's Report

Eukanuba National Championship: Filmed by ABC and televised on Sunday, January 23rd, 2011. 2011 Eukanuba National will be held in Orlando, FL on December 17th/18th, 2011.

Grand Championship: New title has resulted in a 9.6% increase in Best of Breed entries and revenue of \$750,000. There are currently 3,420 Grand Champions representing every breed. Ranking system will reflect the top 25 in each breed.

Meet the Breeds NYC: Huge success with gate of 39,000 and 500 million media impressions. The AKC is extremely grateful to the parent clubs for their support of this event.

PAC Report: AKC PAC Fund is designated to support and facilitate state and local legislative efforts. Our current balance is \$11,000 as compared with HSUS at \$250,000. AKC gifts are approximately \$500 per legislator as compared with HSUS at \$2,500. Individual contributions to the PAC Fund are encouraged and would be gratefully appreciated. The AKC is grateful to the parent clubs for their support through the Legislative Support Fund.

Respectively submitted,

Barbara A. Penny
AKC Delegate