

Vice President's 2021 Report of the Committee Chairs

It is nice to be back and in the company of our Sussex Spaniel club members and of course with so many Sussex Spaniels that bring us all together.

Thank you to all the committee chairs who sent in their respective reports.

It should be mentioned that Showsight Magazine, June 2021, Volume 29, Number 6 featured the Sussex Spaniel.

Bobby Lewis wrote a complete descriptive article on the 'golden liver color' of the Sussex Spaniel.

Marcia Deugan wrote an article on the expression of the Sussex Spaniel and why they were bred this way. Marcia also wrote an article on the importance of breeding to the standard and because of that the Sussex is the same dog as was in the 1800's.

The Breeder Referral Report from Jenni Toebben is that she had approximately 65 people requesting information about Sussex Spaniels. This number is higher than other years due to the fact so many people are working from home and thought this would be a good time to get a dog. Jenni said she rarely hears back after the initial inquiry.

The Heart of Ohio Report from Tom Launder is that their regional show was a great success. There were 26 Sussex entered from as far away as Maryland, Michigan and Illinois with many chances for major wins. The dinner was attended by 28 people .

The Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club Report from Patrica Shaw was in Olympia, Washington and it was a great success with many exhibitors from the west coast. The complete list of winning dogs is included in this report.

The Judges Selection Committee from Patricia Petraglia is there was no activity as we have already voted on judges for several years ahead.

The Field Committee from Patricia Petraglia reports that there was no activity this past year.

The Membership Committee from Karen Silensky is that we had 6 members that did not renew their membership in 2021, but we have inducted 6 new members and there are 2 new members waiting for final approval.

Kitty Cahoon published and mailed out the 2021 Membership directory, with the commemorate 40 year Sussex Spaniel Magnet.

The Archives Committee Report from Marian Kasker is not much activity in the past two years, though Gazette columns and Membership directory was added this year. When Marian is ready to hand over the Archives, Eileen Tarrago will be taking over this committee. Marian said that she has appreciated the opportunity to serve us all and our wonderful Little Brown Dogs.

The New Sussex Spaniel Store Committee from Eileen Tarrago is that she is excited to be apart of the store and is opening with 4 new items as well as the 2022 SSCA Calendar. These items are the Sussex Spaniel Puzzle, the Large Orange Tote, the Large Clutch and the Small Clutch. All items are of the SSCA website homepage picture. They are all remarkable and all on sale this weekend.

The Public Education Committee from Marcia Deugan is Covid put a stop to most Meet the breed events. There was one in California that charged \$27. Per person admission and was under staffed and most breed clubs could not provide members or dogs. Marcia hopes that it

will return in conjunction with the National Championship Show in Orlando and the Westminster Show in New York City.

The AKC Gazette Columns from Marcia Deugan is that four articles were written this year. The January 2021 Column spoke about the joy of a healthy Sussex puppy being born. There were 4 Sussex litters born in the fall of 2020, totaling about 22 puppies. At the end of 2020 our club lost three people of great value to the club. Michael Coltham, husband of Betty for 62 years. John Lewis, father of lifetime member John Robert Lewis Jr. and Doris Engbertson, long time member and board member. We lost all three to age related causes, not to covid. We will miss these stalwart supporters of the Sussex breed. The April 2021 column discusses the importance of the standard of our breed and why they are the way they are. The July 2021 column spoke of the challenges involved in a rare breed and the importance of even one breeder with one litter can make. The last column addressed how the bond between a Sussex Spaniel and its family is so strong. Sussex are a 'long haul' dog. Don't get one unless you plan to go the distance and be there for him.

The Judges Education Committee from Marcia Deugan is that the next scheduled Judges Seminar is this weekend in conjunction with our National Specialty. Light turnout is expected because of covid and the difficulties of travel. This is sad as there is no equal to putting one's hands on a number of Sussex to actually feel what you have been told. Marcia continues to suggest that judges take advantage of the AKC Canine College course on Sussex.

The Health Report Committee from Marcia Deugan is

The Website Committee Report from Lee Silensky is When we got our first Sussex it was because they are a medium sized dog, hardly sheds and bonds with the entire family, not just the one who feeds them. Added bonus of the Sussex Spaniel is they can walk under the coffee table without bending down.

In working on the Sussex Spaniel Club of America website... let me pause here to say Lisa Falconer got it off to a great start. Susan Wagenhals spent countless hours scanning the Sussex Scentinels, so we have in our Members Only page a 40 year history of our club. Sue Caniff worked hard and it was not easy at all to get us PayPal and the card reader for everything we will be able to do financially in the club. Toni McCord and Eileen Tarrago are putting together our store and the great beginning items in it. ~~All for sale this weekend~~. Marcia Deugan found that Show Sight magazine was starting up a service to help set up websites for dog clubs and I believe we were one of the first to take advantage of this new service. So they were learning along with us. The present board voted to take on professional services to get it up and functioning. Alexandra Gebhardt from Showsight Creative, after seeing all about the Sussex Spaniel, fell in love and went above and beyond for us! The members who sent in photos and videos and articles to help make it the fact filled and educational place to go to learn about our Sussex Spaniels. It took a lot of everyone contributing to put this together. We did pick Wordpress for the website, a format that has the ability to grow with the club. So it is not done, just a start. Even this phase 1 is not quite completed.

The thing that came out in working on this was how versatile the Sussex Spaniel can be. When called on, they deliver in Tracking, Agility, Therapy, Confirmation, Field Work, Dock Diving, and keeping us busy explaining that they are not a long hair basset hound.

coming soon: A change to the bylaws to allow voting online!

The AKC Delegates Report from Bobby Lewis is

Please expect that vote coming.

Search & Rescue

Sussex Spaniel Club of America Breeder Referral Report 2021

Since September of 2020 (since I last submitted a report) I have had requests from approximately 65 people for information about Sussex Spaniels. The number of requests has really increased with more people staying at home. I also had someone contact me about a possible mate for her "Sussex Spaniel". Per the photo she sent me, it was not a Sussex. I told her this in the nicest way I could- also told her that prospective stud dog owners would want to see a pedigree of her dog, and I never heard back from her.

Most people contact me via email, although I occasionally receive a phone call for the first contact. Some people have also written on the SSCA Facebook page, and I ask them to email me and give them my email. I send them a copy of the Breeder List, as well as an information sheet about Sussex. When I send the information, I usually mention that there are not many Sussex Spaniel available, and relay the 50+ dogs registered in 2019 number to them. If I am aware of any recent litters, I do mention that also.

During email conversations, I encourage people to let me know how their search is going. I rarely hear back from people who have requested information.

It is fun to try and help people in their search for a Sussex, and easy to understand why someone would want one of our quirky brown dogs.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Jenni Toebben

402.681.8966

Jenni.toebben@bhhsamb.com

Submitted 9/20/2021

**Show Results for Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club
Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club - AM Saturday, September 11,
2021**

**The Olympic Hotel at Capital Lake (Hotel RL) - 2300 Evergreen Park Drive - Olympia,
WA 98502**

**Breed Conformation Classes - Spaniels (Sussex)
Judge: Mrs. Janice Schreiber**

**BB GCH JUBILWELL COUSIN JACK (Dog)
Pluis Davern / Juliet Clendenon**

**WB/BOS LEXXFIELD EVERLEY (Bitch)
Pnts Kristl-Michele Howard**

**WD/BW RAVENCREEK DONT TUG ON SUPERMAN CAPE
Pnts Renada Selbach / Tracy Ferris**

**RWD HELLFIRES DANCING IN THE DARK
Jann Grant / Angela Monaghan**

**RWB OL WEST LADY LIBERTY
Dr. Barbara Brooks-Worrell**

**SELD CH SUNDOWNERS FERRARI RACING IN THE RAIN SH
Pluis Davern / Jeane Haverick, Kaileigh Gonzalez & Juliet Clendenon**

**SELB GCHB HELLFIRES MIZZ MARVEL
Angela Monaghan**

**Show Results for Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club
Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club - AM Saturday, September 11,
2021**

**The Olympic Hotel at Capital Lake (Hotel RL) - 2300 Evergreen Park Drive - Olympia,
WA 98502**

Puppy Sweepstakes - Spaniels (Sussex)

**Judge: Eleesa Markham-Hoffman - Dogs Entered: 3 = 1d - 2b Dogs
Competing: 3 = 1d - 2b**

**BISW OL WEST INDEPENDENCE FOR ALL (Dog)
Dr. Barbara Brooks-Worrell**

**BOSBISW OL WEST LADY LIBERTY (Bitch)
Dr. Barbara Brooks-Worrell**

WA 98502

Junior Showmanship

Judge: Mrs. Carla M Mathies - Juniors Entered: 1 Entry Juniors Competing: 1 Entry

**BJRSH Audrey Long
(XSEVA PRIMETIME COAST TO COAST - Bitch)**

Show Results for Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club

**Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club - AM Sunday, September 12, 2021
The Olympic Hotel at Capital Lake (Hotel RL) - 2300 Evergreen Park Drive - Olympia,
WA 98502**

Breed Conformation Classes - Spaniels (Sussex)

Judge: Mr. Richard Anton

**BOS CH HELLFIRE MARVELOUS SERENDIPITY (Bitch)
Angela Monaghan**

**WD/BW HELLFIRE DANCING IN THE DARK
N/A Pnts Jann Grant / Angela Monaghan**

**WB CLUSSEX START YOUR ENGINES AT SUNDOWNERS
N/A Pnts Teresa M Herigstad / Pluis Davern**

**RWD RAVENCREEK DONT TUG ON SUPERMAN CAPE
Renada Selbach / Tracy Ferris**

**RWB HELLFIRE KATE'S SERENDIPITY MOVE ON
Katharine Clarke / Angela Monaghan**

**STUDD GCHB SUNDOWNERS REPEAT FIRE CD RAE RATO TKA CGC
Angela Monaghan**

**BROODB CH HELLFIRE MARVELOUS SERENDIPITY
Angela Monaghan**

**SELD CH SUNDOWNERS FERRARI RACING IN THE RAIN SH
Pluis Davern / Jeane Haverick, Kaileigh Gonzalez & Juliet Clendenon**

Show Results for Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club

**Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club - AM Sunday, September 12, 2021
The Olympic Hotel at Capital Lake (Hotel RL) - 2300 Evergreen Park Drive - Olympia,
WA 98502**

Dunny Sweetcakes Spaniels (Sussex)

SELD CH SUNDOWNERS FERRARI RACING IN THE RAIN SH
Pluis Davern / Jeane Haverick, Kaileigh Gonzalez & Juliet Clendenon

BB GCh: 5 BOS GCh: 5 SelD GCh: 2 SelB GCh: 0

Show Results for Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club
Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club - Sunday, September 12, 2021
The Olympic Hotel at Capital Lake (Hotel RL) - 2300 Evergreen Park Drive - Olympia,
WA 98502

Junior Showmanship

Judge: Jane Treiber - Juniors Entered: 1 Entry Juniors Competing: 1 Entry

BJRSH Audrey Long
(XSEVA PRIMETIME COAST TO COAST - Bitch)

From: Karen Silensky karenjsilensky@gmail.com
Subject: 2021 SSCA Membership Report. Kitty Cahoon and Karen Silensky
Date: September 21, 2021 at 1:42 PM
To: Lee Silensky silensky@comcast.net



Hello to all our SSCA Board of Directors, and Members,

The SSCA had 6 Members that didn't renew for 2021, but we did have 3 New Members already approved by the board and 3 more in the process. One Applicant had applied last year and it was lost in the mail, she was so worried she made her check for two years. The Membership Committee feels it's important to let all Applicants know that the Membership Committee did receive their Application paperwork and checks.

Membership Committee wishes to acknowledge how appreciated and important that our dedicated Breeders continue to sponsor and promote the benefits to all individuals and families receiving a Sussex's Spaniel puppy or older, whether new to the breed or returning because they know how SPECIAL this breed is. That becoming a Member of the SSCA is an inclusive way to having information and knowledge about the Breed's uniqueness, abilities, splendid characteristics and shared interest in the BREED. Having our website will make for an easy way for most people to access information and Membership application paperwork.

The SSCA Membership Committee is looking and working towards growth for our Club Membership, which is an important component for the future. We're hopeful to try making contact with as many new owners to inform and encourage them that they have a welcome space to feel included in the club. We would greatly appreciate any possibilities (names with phone numbers or emails) with this. We've come across this mistaken perception that to be a Member is mainly for those that SHOW their Sussex's, or TRACKING etc. It's a missed opportunity that is worth trying for future Membership participation.

SSCA ARCHIVES REPORT

2020 - 2021

There was not much activity the past two years. Marcia continues to email copies of her Gazette columns and I received copies of the Membership Directories. As there was no Specialty last year, there is no information on that. This year's Specialty information seems to be all on the Sussex Spaniel web page, plus some emails. At least I hope so, as there was no nice snail mail package as there has been in previous years.

Susan Wagenhals provided me with copies of all the News Scents as there were some I couldn't find, for some strange reason. Susan has been very good with help and suggestions for the Archives, but I was unable to convince her that she wanted to take over.

Eileen Tarrago has kindly agreed to become the next SSCA Archivist. (I think at Marcia's suggestion.) Since she has a SUV, we will eventually agree on a time when she will drive all the way from Florida to collect the two filing cabinets.

I apologize for letting things slip these past few years. (There is a lot of filing to catch up with.) I hope Eileen is much more computer savvy than I am, because I think there are a lot of useful things that could be done besides just "filing things". Maybe even bringing the Board Decisions Database up-to-date although that is difficult without the Scentine!

I appreciate the opportunity I have had to serve you all and your wonderful LBD's.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Kasker

From: Graciano Tarrago tarrago@verizon.net
Subject: Re: Sussex Store recap
Date: October 11, 2021 at 2:15 PM
To: Lee S Silensky silensky@comcast.net



Sussex Store:

I am excited to be part of the Sussex Spaniels Club of America Sussex Store. Since given this opportunity in early 2021, I've been able to source some incredible product for the Sussex fans. We have been able to source fun products at great pricing to give the Club a 10-40% profit over cost. The store will open with 4 new items and 1 Sussex favorite, the 2022 Sussex Calendar. In addition to the calendar we have:

Sussex Spaniel puzzle: Sussex Spaniel "Home Page" Picture Puzzle has 500 pieces, matte finish that gives true-to-life colors and measures 16 X 20. Made in the USA. The puzzle comes in a sturdy black storage box with the picture of the scenic cobblestone street lined with the beloved Sussex Spaniels on the label.

A large Orange Tote: High-quality, sturdy Sussex Spaniel tote bag. This lovely tote is 18H x 18L x 3.15W, 100% polyester, boxed corners, black cotton handles with black lining. The soft orange totes have a double handle of 11.81" by 1" wide. The front, all over print provides comfort with Sussex style at dog shows, beach or at your local grocery store.

Large Clutch: This large Clutch can be used for pretty much anything from pencils cases, cosmetics, travel bags to grooming utensils/products, collars and leashes. The clutch is constructed from a durables material with a black zipper closure, 100% polyester, flat corners and a non-woven black laminate inside. Clutch size is 11.8"L x 8.35"H. Clutch also comes in a smaller version with a white zipper top vis this larger one with a black zipper top.

Small Clutch: Our small clutch is the smaller version of the large clutch also being sold on our Sussex Store. The clutch is 100% polyester, flat corners, non-woven white laminate inside, 8.35"L x 6"H. It can be used for pretty much anything from cash/credit cards, cosmetics, travel bags to grooming utensils/products, collars and leashes.

From: Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com
Subject: Public Education Committee Report
Date: November 2, 2021 at 3:03 PM
To: silensky@comcast.net



Public Education Committee Report

Lucky for us that the Website is up and people can go to it for information on the breed.

Covid has put a stop to most Meet The Breed events that were planned by AKC. The one they did hold in CA was, I understand, over priced (\$27 admission) and under staffed as most breed clubs could not provide members and dogs to staff a venue not associated with a dog show. I wish they would go back to the ones they had in conjunction with the National Championship show in Orlando and the one with Westminster in NYC.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Deugan, Chair

SUSSEX SPANIEL CLUB OF AMERICA GAZETTE COLUMN
DUE JAN. 2021

Having live healthy Sussex puppies born brightens even the most dismal year, like 2020. There were 4 Sussex litters born this fall, totaling about 22 puppies. Unusually, there were many more girls than boys, a trend that seems to have started last spring. It will be interesting to see if that continues, as historically there have always been more boys than girls, including the 6 year period in England back in the sixties when not a single female puppy was born and survived.

Of course, that is the way things go sometimes. Over the years I have found that:

If your waiting list has people wanting girls you will have all boys.

If your waiting list has people wanting boys, you will have girls.

If you enter a bitch in an obedience class at a show, she will come in season just after entries close.

If you enter a Special in a show under a judge who has liked him or her in the past, your dog will either blow all their coat or limp.

And on and on.

The end of 2020 brought tears to many in the club as we lost three people of great value to the breed. Michael Coltham, who with his wife of 62 years, Betty, bred the Colbenn Sussex died shortly before Thanksgiving. Michael donated some beautiful paintings to our National auctions over the years and I am happy to have one of them. Betty is one of our Board members and we send her our sympathy.

John Lewis, father of lifetime member John Robert Lewis Jr., died in Dec. "Mr. Johnv" was not only a well known musician.

but proved to be excellent at whelping and helping to raise Sussex puppies. Bobby depended on him for driving him and dogs to shows in the years before he was old enough to get a drivers license.

On New Years Eve we lost Doris Engbertson, long time member , board member , breeder and owner of both Sussex and Labs. Doris was always ready to help and did much to introduce new people to the breed. She was super at doing Meet The Breed events in California. She was a very talented lady.

We lost all three to age related causes, not to covid.

Not only will we miss these stalwart supporters of the breed, but the breed needs new people to carry on. We welcome new members and are happy to mentor new people. Especially ones interested in breeding, showing, performance, etc. The Sussex still makes a fine hunting dog as well.

Marcia Deugan
239-947-2426

ZIYADAHreg@aol.com

Gazette Column due April 1, 2021

LET'S TALK ABOUT TOPKNOTS

The Sussex standard states clearly that:

Serious faults are a narrow head, weak muzzle, the presence of a topknot, and a general appearance that is sour and crouching.

When, years ago, the SSCA was required by AKC to re-word the standard, Bobby Lewis, Craig Heugal, and I vowed to stick to the original standard in every way. Part of this was "Faults".

Where before there were numerical assignments for the severity of each fault, the revision required only "major" "serious" and "minor". Numerically, topknots fell into the serious category.

Many have wondered over the years why a topknot should be considered a serious fault.

Especially when a few hairs sticking up on top of the head can be so quickly smoothed away with a grooming stone. Well, there are different degrees of topknots. The question became more evident to me in the last year as many photos on social media show pet Sussex with varying topknots. The "so cute" comments on this fault reminded me of the many times I have been asked to groom a dog for a novice before he goes into the ring and then the gasp when that "cute" topknot disappears!

This is one of the many questions that meanders around in my head at times. However, this year one of my males developed (grew) quite a serious topknot. Before, I had been lucky to never have more than a few stray hairs to deal with. This was serious. Even more so, but with an answer, when I went out to the kennel because EVERYONE was barking madly and found that this particular male had acquired a ringneck dove that flew or wandered into his run. I have had this happen before, never with a good outcome for the bird. However, this time not only had the male grabbed the dove (which are much bigger than a mourning dove but not quite as big as a pigeon) but the bird had fought back and entangled his feet in that long messy topknot! Picture if you will a Sussex shaking his head and biting at this bird that was screaming and fighting to get free! Trying to hold the dog still long enough to disentangle the bird was impossible - it took a pair of scissors to get the bird loose and then it was too late (for the bird). It probably had a heart attack.

Anyway, my opinion is that since Sussex were bred to: "penetrating the dense undergrowth and flushing game" and to retrieve same, hunters would not want to have to cut any bird or goodly amount of undergrowth out of a Sussex topknot! Look at most Sporting breeds, you don't generally see topknots or much hair unless on dogs that were bred more for retrieving in water - Poodles, Irish and American Water Spaniels, etc.

So this is another reason why Standards shouldn't be changed, that dogs should be bred to the standard not the other way around.

On another note, Sussex Spaniels are thieves.

Most Sussex won't share toys or food. You can buy 7 toys all the same and give them to 2 dogs and there will be one that is the favorite and must have for both dogs. Or one dog will carry all 7 into one crate or hiding place and guard them all. I have found that the best way to introduce a new toy that was just so adorable that you had to buy it is to put it in a pile of other toys or under a table or something and pretend that it has been there all along. It does cut down on the competition aspect.

Marcia Deugan
239-947-2426

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Reply Reply All Forward

SUSSEX SPANIEL ARTICLE DUE JULY1, 2021

There are so many challenges when you are involved in a rare breed.

I remember back in 1970 we found someone near Chicago , IL that had a male Sussex. Researching found that he was a littermate to the lovely Sh. Ch. Chesara Chervil of Sedora. His owner was Walter Mantzler. We made a special trip to meet him in hope that he could be used for breeding. Sadly, they had had him neutered because their vet told them he would get prostate cancer if they didn't. That one dog could have contributed so much to the breed. He was beautiful, but due to being neutered at a young age did not have the bone and body he would have had if he had been kept intact. His name, as I recall, was Sussy. To this day, I find so many vets that advise new puppy owners to neuter their dogs – it is outrageous. Why so many of them get the idea that the only good dog is a neutered dog I do not understand – don't they understand that if no one breeds that eventually they will have no customers? There is even a vet in a city close to me that will not even do a c-section on a dog unless the owner agrees to have the bitch spayed at the same time.

I wish people would also understand that not only is the Sussex Spaniel a breed that is small in number, but also that their owners and breeders are small in number. Often, one breeder with one litter can make a difference in a breed like this. Our parent club gets many requests from clubs and organizations asking for people and dogs to man meet the

breed events and to do judges education presentations and they all want the same thing – someone to do the presentation and for there to be “several dogs”. Some get quite peeved that we can't fly in to do this for them and bring several dogs. They don't seem to understand that there are many states that do not have even one Sussex Spaniel and more states that have only one or two pets . Addressing this with the AKC Video Canine College has helped a bit , but people still want (and I understand) the hands on experience.

We do our best to help where we can but always have a Judges Education Seminar and hands on at our National Specialty. This year's (2021) will be held in Salisbury, MD on Sat. Nov. 13. Our National will be on Fri. Nov. 12. All breed supported entries on both Sat. and Sun. following. Contact Georgia Perdue , Show Chair, at georg665dnp@gmail.com for time and directions.

It was so lovely 2 weeks ago to attend shows again – without masks and distancing. So good to see old friends and to get pups and young dogs out for their first exposure to shows after being at home for a year and a half!

Marcia Deugan ZIYADAHreg@aol.com

SUSSEX HAVE FEELINGS

Most (note I did not say all) Sussex are very empathetic. They often feel what their people feel, sad, happy, excited. This is especially apparent when one of their favorite people is not feeling well, they are right there and ready to lend a kiss or a cuddle or to just lie quietly watching and making sure you are not alone. This can, however, become a bit of a problem if their person has a long debilitating disease as they tend to become extremely protective of their person, often having to be put in another room while a doctor or other needs to care for that person.

This empathy generally makes Sussex a really good therapy dog as they seem to immediately want to comfort someone in a rest home or retirement facility and they are quite good (with some training) at airports for relaxing people between flights or with long waits.

Sussex certainly do have feelings and they can even experience a broken heart. Many many years ago shortly after my husband and I finally got our first Sussex, we had a call from a woman who worked in a boarding kennel in California. She said she wanted to tell us about her experience with a lovely, loving Sussex dog. She said that there was a couple that would sometimes leave their Sussex there for a long weekend while they traveled. They had done this several times and the dog had done well and was so happy to see them when they came to pick him up. They had done this for 3 or 4 years. Then came the day when they were to pick him up, as usual. They didn't

come. The kennel staff weren't worried at first, sometimes people would be a day late. But they didn't come the next day or the next. This poor Sussex had never been left so long before. He looked for them every day. The staff was very fond of him and this woman told us she would take extra time every day to pet and walk him, but he got sadder and sadder . They could not reach the owners, the 'phone had been disconnected. Letters were written but not answered. After 2 months the dog had almost stopped eating and drinking and they called a vet to look at him. He said that physically there was nothing wrong with him and suggested another food and treats but it didn't help. Two days later he sat in the corner and as she told me "put his face to the wall" and died. His people had deserted him and he died of a broken heart. She said she and others working there cried and they buried him there under a tree. The owners who left him never called or returned. Maybe they had been in an accident and died, maybe they just left. The kennel never found out. That happened over 50 years ago and the "put his face to the wall" still haunts me.

Be sure wherever you go or where ever you might leave your dog that someone knows . Family, friends, someone. Sussex need their family and if not their family they need someone who understands Sussex. This is why almost every Sussex breeder will take back one of their breeding if something happens that owners cannot keep the dog. This is why the SSCA has a Sussex Rescue that not too long ago re-homed a 13 year old from a hospital situation. Sussex need us as much (or more) than we need them.

Sussex are a “long haul” dog. Don't get one unless you plan on keeping him. If life or death intervenes, the SSCA will help find a good home.

Marcia Deugan
239-947-2426

ZIYADAHreg@aol.com

From: Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com
Subject: Judges Education Report
Date: November 2, 2021 at 2:54 PM
To: silensky@comcast.net



Judges Education Committee Report Nov. 2021

Our next scheduled Judges Seminar will be held in conjunction with our National Specialty in Salisbury, MD.

As of right now, turn out will be light – with covid and difficult 'plane travel most judges seem to opt for on line instruction instead of in person. This is sad as there is no equal to being able to actually put one's hands on a number of Sussex and actually feel what you have been told.

I continue to suggest that judges take advantage of the AKC Canine College course on Sussex that we all worked so hard to bring about.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Deugan, Chair

From: Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com
Subject: Health report
Date: November 2, 2021 at 2:47 PM
To: silensky@comcast.net



HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT NOV. 2021

It seems that the health concerns in Sussex remain much the same, with an occasional heart problem, a couple of vestibular events, ear infections, etc.

The major problem remains getting live healthy puppies. Missed breedings, neo natal or early loss of puppies, and simply the fact that many Sussex just don't come in season very often.

These are problems that continue over the 50 plus years since I have been in the breed. So many people have tried progesterone testing and I must say that it doesn't seem to work as well in Sussex as in other breeds. I know of many litters that weren't bred because the vet in charge stated that it was either too early or too late and if and when the dogs were bred anyway litters did result.

I recently lost my last "dwarf". The last acrodoplastic dog of my breeding. He was never bred, of course and I totally credit pedigree research to being able to basically eliminate it in my lines.

I do encourage everyone who hasn't, to do the PDP1 test as that can be eliminated as well.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Deugan
John Robert Lewis, JR

Report of the Website Committee

By Lee Silensky

When we got our first Sussex it was because they are a medium sized dog, hardly sheds and bonds with the entire family, not just the one who feeds them. Added bonus of the Sussex Spaniel is they can walk under the coffee table without bending down.

In working on the Sussex Spaniel Club of America website... let me pause here to say Lisa Falconer got it off to a great start. Susan Wagenhals spent countless hours scanning the Sussex Scentinels, so we have in our Members Only page a 40 year history of our club. Sue Caniff worked hard and it was not easy at all to get us PayPal and the card reader for everything we will be able to do financially in the club. Toni McCord and Eileen Tarrago are putting together our store and the great beginning items in it. All for sale this weekend. Marcia Deugan found that Show Sight magazine was starting up a service to help set up websites for dog clubs and I believe we were one of the first to take advantage of this new service. So they were learning along with us. The present board voted to take on professional services to get it up and functioning. Alexandra Gebhardt from Showsight Creative after seeing all about the Sussex Spaniel fell in love and went above and beyond for us! The members who sent in photos and videos and articles to help make it the fact filled and educational place to go to learn about our Sussex Spaniels. It took a lot of everyone contributing to put this together. We did pick Wordpress for the website, a format that has the ability to grow with the club. So it is not done, just a start. Even this phase 1 is not quite completed.

The thing that came out in working on this was how versatile the Sussex Spaniel can be. When called on, they deliver in Tracking, Agility, Therapy, Confirmation, Field Work, Dock Diving, and keeping us busy explaining that they are not a long hair basset hound.

Delegate's Report 2021

September 2020 Meeting

The September 2020 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held, via Zoom Webinar. In attendance at this meeting were 376 delegates.

Dr. Thomas Davies in his chairman's report encouraged clubs to contact the Club Development Department should any issues arise. He also mentioned that inquiries into AKC Marketplace had increased 85% during the first half of 2020.

Following the financial report by CFO Ted Phillips, the delegates voted on several amendments to *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*. The first vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 2, Section 10, Making Application to Hold a Dog Show, which generalizes the language by removing the references to a form and whether the futurity or sweepstakes will be open to nonmembers, providing flexibility to remain consistent with any modification to the application procedures without further amendment to the Rule. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors. This amendment passed with the required two-thirds majority. Chapter 2, Section 10 now reads:

SECTION 10. *A specialty club that wishes to hold a futurity or sweepstake, either in conjunction with a show or as a separate event, must apply to The American Kennel Club for permission to hold the event.*

The second vote was on the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 3, Section 8-A – Dog Show Classifications, which proposed a new Section 8-A that would create a new class, Bred-by- 12 Exhibitor Puppy, to be offered at conformation dog shows at the discretion of the club. This class will provide the opportunity for breeders to exhibit their puppies in an age-appropriate class without risk of sacrificing their opportunity to attain the Bred-by-Exhibitor medallion. The amendment was proposed by a member of the Board of Directors and presented by Staff and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors. This amendment failed as two-thirds of the delegates did not vote in the affirmative.

The third vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 11, Section 9 – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, which proposed replacing current language with generalized language and eliminating references to specific communicable diseases, so that the revised section would address any health issues or diseases currently being experienced. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors. The amendments passed by two-thirds vote of the delegates. Chapter 11, Section 9 now reads:

SECTION 9. *No dog with a communicable disease shall be on the show grounds or premises. Exhibitors should follow their veterinarian's recommendations to ensure that their dogs are free of internal and external parasites, any communicable disease, and have appropriate vaccinations.*

The next four votes were on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14 – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of Awards*. Four Separate votes occurred on the following Sections – 3, 4, 6, and 6-A. This amendment modified text for additional clarity, as to when an entry may or may not be measured, the judge's procedural responsibilities, and the impact on any dog measured out and the associated limitations. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors. All four amendments passed on a two-thirds vote of the delegates. Chapter 14, Section 3, 4, 6 and 6-A now read:

SECTION 3. *In those breeds where certain heights are specified in the breed standard as disqualifications, or in any class specifying height limits, the judge has the authority to determine whether any dog measures within those limits, provided the dog has not been previously measured during any competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities, and other special attractions*

If, in the opinion of a competing exhibitor in the ring, the height of a dog in that ring appears to be outside the limits of the breed standard or the conditions of that class, such exhibitor may, before every dog has been individually examined and individually gaited, request that the judge measure the dog and the judge shall comply provided the dog has not been previously measured during any competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities, and other special attractions.

If the judge finds that the dog's height is within the breed standard or the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge's book "Measured in." If the judge finds that the dog's height is outside the allowable limits of the breed standard, s/he shall disqualify the dog and mark and initial the judge's book "Measured out – disqualified."

A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If the judge finds that the dog's height is not in accordance with the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge's book "Measured out – ineligible." A dog thus declared ineligible for its class shall be considered entered incorrectly and cannot be transferred to any other class at that show. A dog thus found ineligible by three different judges may not again be shown in that class. In subsequent shows, this dog may be entered in another class for which the dog meets the height limit or transferred to an eligible Open Class per Chapter 11, Section 6.

In all cases, the judge shall use a wicket that meets American Kennel Club requirements.

SECTION 4. *In those breeds where certain weights are specified in the breed standard as disqualifications, or in any class specifying weight limits, the judge has the authority to determine whether any dog weighs within those limits, provided the dog has not been previously weighed during any competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities and other special attractions.*

If, in the opinion of a competing exhibitor in the ring, the weight of a dog in that ring appears to be outside the limits of the breed standard or the conditions of that class, such exhibitor may, before every dog has been individually examined and individually gaited, request that the judge weigh the dog, and the judge shall comply provided the dog has not been previously weighed during any competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities and other special attractions.

If the judge finds that the dog's weight is within the breed standard or the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge's book "Weighed in." If the judge finds that the dog's weight is outside the allowable limits of the breed standard, s/he shall disqualify the dog and mark and initial the judge's book "Weighed out - disqualified."

A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If the judge finds that the dog's weight is not in accordance with the conditions of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge's book, "Weighed out - ineligible." A dog thus declared ineligible for its class or division shall be considered entered incorrectly and cannot be transferred to any other class at that show. A dog thus found ineligible by three different judges may not again be shown in that class. In subsequent shows, this dog may be entered in another class for which the dog meets the weight limit or transferred to an eligible Open Class per Chapter 11, Section 6.

In all cases, the judge shall use a scale that meets AKC requirements including a platform of sufficient size as determined by the American Kennel Club to safely accommodate all applicable breeds.

SECTION 6. *In those breeds where certain color(s), pattern or markings are specified in the breed standard as disqualifications, or in any class or division of a class where certain color(s), pattern or markings are required, the judge shall determine if a dog is to be disqualified or declared to be ineligible for the class provided that such determination has not been previously made during competition at that show, excluding sweepstakes, futurities, and other special attractions.*

If, in the opinion of the judge, the dog's color(s), pattern or markings require disqualification, the judge shall disqualify the dog, and mark and initial the judge's book "Disqualified – Color (or Pattern or Markings)".

If, in the opinion of the judge, the dog's color(s) pattern or markings do not meet the requirements of the class or division of a class in which the dog is competing, the judge shall declare the dog ineligible to compete in 55 that class or division of class, and, s/he shall mark and initial the judge's book, "Ineligible – Color (or Pattern or Markings)".

If, in the opinion of any competing exhibitor then in the ring, the color(s), pattern or markings of a dog in the ring are disqualifications under the breed standard or do not meet the requirements of the class or division of a class, such exhibitor may, before every dog in the ring has been individually examined and individually gaited, request that the judge render an opinion of the dog's color(s), pattern or markings, and the judge shall comply provided that such determination has not been previously made during competition at that show. If the judge finds that the dog's color(s), pattern or markings are disqualifications under the breed standard, the judge shall disqualify the dog and mark and initial the judge's book "Disqualified – Color (or Pattern or Markings)". A dog that has thus been disqualified by three different judges may not again be shown.

If the judge finds that the color(s), pattern or markings of the dog do not meet the requirements of the class or division specified by the breed standard, s/ he shall mark and initial the judge's book, "Ineligible – Color (or Pattern or Markings)".

Any dog thus declared ineligible for its class shall be considered entered incorrectly and cannot be transferred to any other class or division at that show. In subsequent shows, this dog may be entered in another class for which the dog meets the requirements or transferred to an eligible Open Class per Chapter 11, Section 6.

SECTION 6-A. *In those breeds where certain physical traits (ear carriage, coat length, etc.) are specified as a condition of a class or a division of a class, the judge has the authority to make a determination as to whether a dog meets those requirements. If the judge finds that the dog does not meet the requirements of the class, s/he shall mark and initial the judge's book, "Excused, ineligible for class." Any dog thus declared ineligible for a class or division of a class shall be considered to have been incorrectly entered and cannot be transferred to any other class or division at that show. In subsequent shows, this dog may be entered in or transferred to another class for which the dog meets the requirements or transferred to an eligible Open Class per Chapter 11, Section 6.*

The eighth vote of the meeting was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 15, Section 2 – Protests Against Dogs. This proposal was based on the approval of consistent language in Chapter 14, Section 6-A. It adds the proposed new Section 6-A to the list of sections where conditions of class are to allow for protest by competing exhibitors in the same class. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors. This amendment passed on a two-thirds vote of the delegates. Chapter 15, Section 2 now reads:

SECTION 2. *Any person who is handling a competing dog in the ring in any conformation competition may then verbally protest to the judge before every dog in the class has been individually examined and individually gaited, alleging that a dog being shown in the competition has a condition which makes it ineligible to compete under Chapter 11, Section 8, or Chapter 11, Section 8-C, of these rules or a condition requiring disqualification under the standard for the breed; except that a verbal protest alleging that the height or weight or natural color and markings of a dog requiring its disqualification under the breed standard or a determination of its ineligibility under the conditions of its class must be made under Chapter 14, Sections 3, 4, 6 or 6-A.*

When such a protest is made, it shall be the judge's responsibility to examine the dog for the alleged condition. If, following the examination the judge determines that disqualification is required under Chapter 11, Section 8, or under the breed standard, he shall mark the book "disqualified" stating the reason. If the judge finds that the protest is not sustained, he shall note in the judge's book the condition protested and his findings. He shall not obtain the opinion of the show veterinarian.

If the judge determines that the dog is ineligible to compete because of violation of Chapter 11, Section 8-C, he shall withhold any award to the dog and mark the judge's book "Ineligible to compete—award withheld," stating the reason for his decision.

A dog determined by a judge to be ineligible to compete under Chapter 11, Section 8-C, unless such determination is based on the use of a substance only for cleaning purposes, may not again be shown until an official record has been made by The American Kennel Club of its true color or

markings. If the color and markings of the dog as recorded are such as not to be a disqualification under the standard of its breed, the dog's show eligibility will be reinstated.

The ninth vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 16, Section 6 – Championships. This amendment proposed the same logic to grand championship points as championship points at independent specialties with inter-variety competition, as defined in Chapter 16, Section 3. It also proposed to insert language into the section defining, that at independent specialty shows for breeds divided into recognized varieties and offering a Best of Breed competition, the dog awarded Best of Breed, would receive the highest number of grand championship points awarded in any variety at the specialty show. The dog awarded Best of Opposite, would receive the highest number of grand championship points awarded in its sex, in any variety at the specialty show. The amendment was proposed by Staff, endorsed by the Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative and the amendment passed. Chapter 16, Section 6 now reads:

SECTION 6. *Champions of Record and dogs which have completed the requirements for a championship but whose championships are unconfirmed that are entered in Best of Breed competition are eligible for Grand Championship competition.*

Grand Championship points may be recorded for: Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Select Dog, and Select Bitch. Grand Championship points will be recorded according to the number of eligible dogs competing in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/ Variety) classes of each breed or variety, as well as dogs competing in Best of Breed competition, according to the Schedule of Points established by the Board of Directors.

- *Grand Championship Points will not be awarded for competition beyond Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition.*
- *Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, and Non-Regular Class winners that are not conformation Champions, are not eligible for Grand Championship points.*

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed shall count all eligible dogs of their sex competing in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points.

A dog awarded Best of Breed will be credited with the number of Grand Champion points calculated for Best of Breed or for the Best of Opposite Sex, whichever is greater.

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Select Dog or Select Bitch shall count all eligible dogs of their sex in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition less the dog awarded Best of Breed or Variety or Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/ Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points.

At independently held specialty shows for breeds divided into recognized varieties, if a dog designated Best of Variety is also awarded Best of Breed in intervariety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of any variety entered at that specialty show. If a dog designated Best of Variety or Best of Opposite Sex in its variety is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed in intervariety competition, it shall receive

Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of its sex in any variety entered at that specialty show. Such points shall not be in addition to, but inclusive of, any Grand Championship points previously awarded the dog in its variety competition.

The tenth and last vote of the meeting was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 11, Section 8-A – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility. This amendment proposed to remove the requirement for an injury to have occurred for an Event Committee to disqualify a dog that has attacked a person or a dog at an event, presenting a hazard to persons or other dogs. This vote was postponed from the December 2019 meeting to allow for questions to be addressed by Staff regarding this amendment. The amendment was proposed by Staff, supported and brought forward with approval from the Board of Directors. Fewer than two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative, and the amendment failed.

December 2020 Meeting

The December 2020 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held via Zoom Webinar on December 2, 2020. There were 376 delegates in attendance.

In his report, President Sprung noted that expanded the AKC brand with ESPN.

Following the Financial report, the delegates voted on several amendments. The first vote was on the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club* Article IV, Section 1, which would prohibit a local Specialty Club from applying to AKC for Member Club status in accordance with Article IV of the Bylaws. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Parent Club Committee and brought forward by Staff with the approval from the Board of Directors. While there are a few local specialty clubs that are AKC member clubs, the last one was admitted to membership in 1945. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative and the amendment passed. The implication of this amendment is that neither the Heart of Ohio Sussex Spaniel Club nor the Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club may seek AKC membership. Article IV, Section 1 now reads:

SECTION 1. *All All-Breed Clubs, Group Clubs or Associations which have held at least three Dog Shows, Obedience Trials, Field Trials, or Agility Trials in consecutive years under rules of the AKC and all Parent Specialty Clubs which have been or shall be formed for the improvement of any breed of purebred dogs shall be eligible to become members of the AKC.*

The second vote was on the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club* Article VIII, Section 7, which would eliminate costly balloting for unopposed Board candidates during the annual election. It also would save the time that it normally takes during the Annual meeting to conduct such elections. This amendment was proposed by the Beaumont Kennel Club and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. The amendment passed by a two-thirds vote of the delegates. Article VIII, Section 7, now reads:

SECTION 7. All elections shall be by ballot; except, if no valid additional nominations are received by the Executive Secretary by November 15; the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected at the annual meeting and no balloting will be required. If no valid additional nomination(s) are received by the Executive Secretary by November 15; for any partial term up for election, the partial term candidate shall be declared elected at the annual meeting and no balloting will be required.

The third vote of the meeting was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 16, Section 1 – Championships, which proposed to incorporate a new paragraph 8 to permit a 2020 National Specialty to be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty. This amendment was suggested by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. The amendment passed by a two-thirds vote. Chapter 16, Section 1 now reads:

SECTION 1. *Championship points will be recorded for Winners Dog and Winners Bitch, for each breed or variety listed in Chapter 3, Section 1, at licensed or member dog shows approved by The American Kennel Club, provided the certification of the Secretary as described in Chapter 6, Section 1, has been printed in the premium list for the show.*

Championship points will be recorded according to the number of eligible dogs competing in the regular classes of each sex in each breed or variety, and according to the Schedule of Points established by the Board of Directors.

If the dog designated Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is also awarded Best of Breed or Variety, the dogs of both sexes that have been entered for Best of Breed or Variety competition and that have been defeated in such competition, shall be counted in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular classes for its sex in calculating championship points

If the dog designated Winners Dog or Winners Bitch is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety, the dogs of its own sex that have been entered for Best of Breed or Variety competition and that have been defeated in competition for Best of Opposite Sex shall be counted in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular classes for its sex in calculating championship points.

The dog awarded the Best of Winners shall be credited with the number of points calculated for Winners Dog or Winners Bitch, whichever is greater. If no points are credited to the dog awarded Best of Winners, the regular class dogs of both sexes shall be counted in calculating championship points. A maximum of one championship point can be awarded when combining sexes for the Best of Winners point calculation.

Each AKC Breed Parent Specialty Club shall have one designated Parent Club National Specialty show per year. All others shall be termed a Parent Club Specialty show.

Unless the Parent Club, in its Application to the AKC to hold its National Specialty, chooses to exclude the following award: At the National Specialty the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch will be awarded a three-point major, provided that the number of dogs competing in the regular classes of the Reserve Winner's sex totals at least twice the number required for a five point major, in the region in which the event is held.

No major for Reserve Winners shall be given based upon an award of Best of Winners. In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all awards are withheld, shall not be included.

In counting the number of eligible dogs in competition, a dog that is disqualified, or that is dismissed, excused or ordered from the ring by the judge, or from which all awards are withheld, shall not be included.

A 2020 National Specialty may be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Specialty. If a Parent Club chooses to hold either one or two National Specialties in the 2021 calendar year, the Parent Club may exercise an option with its application to exclude the Reserve Winners three-point major from one or both National Specialties. This paragraph is applicable to 2021 only and will self-eliminate on December 31, 2021.

The fourth vote was on *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds* Chapter 14, new Section 36 – Rules for Pointing Breeds Trials, which provides those Parent Clubs that were forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Field Trial due to COVID-19, an exception to hold their 2020 and 2021 National Field Trial Championship in 2021. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. The amendment passed upon a two-thirds vote of the delegates, Chapter 14, Section 36 reads:

SECTION 36. *A 2020 National Field Trial Championship held by a Parent Club may be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Field Trial Championship held by the same Parent Club. This paragraph is applicable to 2021 only and will self-eliminate on December 31, 2021.*

The fifth vote was on *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels* Chapter 15, new Section 27 – Rules for Spaniel Trials. This proposal would allow those Parent Clubs that were forced to cancel or postpone their 2020 National Field Trial due to COVID-19, an exception to hold their 2020 and 2021 National Field Trial Championship in 2021. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. The amendment passed by a two-thirds votes. Chapter 15, Section 27 reads:

SECTION 27. *A 2020 National Field Trial Championship held by a Parent Club may be held in 2021 in addition to a 2021 National Field Trial Championship held by the same Parent Club. This paragraph is applicable to 2021 only and will self-eliminate on December 31, 2021.*

The sixth vote was on *Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures* Chapter 9, Section 1 – Description of Classes and Championship Requirements, which provided clubs with the option when applying to hold a traditional brace trial, the ability to offer two classes and avoid having to combine classes later during the trial due to lower entries. This amendment was proposed by the Beagle Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative and the amendment passed. Chapter 9 Section 1 reads:

SECTION 1. *At a licensed or member Beagle field trial, the regular classes shall be:*

- Open Dogs not exceeding 13 inches in height.*
- Open Bitches not exceeding 13 inches in height.*
- Open Dogs over 13 inches but not exceeding 15 inches in height.*
- Open Bitches over 13 inches but not exceeding 15 inches in height.*

However, if when the entries are closed, it is found that there are fewer than six hounds of a sex eligible to compete in any class, the Field Trial Committee shall have the option of combining that class either by gender or size into a single class. However, only in the case of traditional Brace trials, the host club has the option to offer only two classes – Open Dogs and Open Bitches. The advertisement for the trial must clearly identify the classes offered. Once approved by the AKC, a club may not decide to split a class by size.

The last vote of the December 2020 meeting was on *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds* Chapter 3, Section 1 – Making Application to Hold a Field Trial, which increases the maximum number of trials a club can hold from 2 to 4. This amendment was proposed by the Basset Hound Club of America and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. The delegates passed the amendment with a two-thirds vote. Chapter 3, Section 1 now reads:

SECTION 1. *A club which wishes to hold a licensed or member field trial must apply to The American Kennel Club on a form which will be supplied on request to clubs that meet the requirements of The American Kennel Club. This application will be referred to the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club which will consider it and notify the club of its approval or disapproval. A licensed or member club is allowed to hold up to four field trials per calendar year.*

March 2021 Meeting

The March 2021 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held via Zoom on March 9, 2021. There were 405 delegates in attendance.

Dr. Thomas Davis in his chairman's report noted that AKC Canine College now has over 600 courses and over 35,000 people have taken at least one course from the College's curriculum. He also noted that the AKC board had changed over 40 regulations to help club deal with the hardships that the pandemic had brought. He also revealed the AKC's new tagline: "if it barks, it's AKC."

Ted Phillips, CFO, presented the financial report. For the year ending December 31, 2020, litter registrations litter registrations totaled 288,527. This represents 12% percent growth over 2019. For the months of August through December, litter registrations increased 20% over the same months the previous year. Individual registrations totaled 702,917 in 2020. This result was growth of 20% over 2019. From April through December the increase was 26%. Certificate transfers surpassed 2019 by 18 percent and 2020 DNA samples received were 9.2 percent higher than 2019. As of December 31, 2020, events and entries were lower than 2019 by both 44 and 46 percent respectively. The year 2020 was a financial success for AKC. Net operating income as of December 31, 2020 was \$13.5 million. These results were generated by a combination of increased revenues and lower expenses over 2019. Revenue increased by 7 percent while expenses decreased by 8 percent. Online registrations were the largest contributor to overall revenue increases in 2020. Also contributing to revenue growth in 2020 were pedigree and other litter fees, product and service sales, and sponsorship activities. For the year ended December 31, 2020, registration fees totaled \$38.7 million. This was \$6.6 million or 20 percent higher than the prior year. This increase was led by dog registrations of \$5.6 million followed by litter registrations of \$1 million. Pedigree and other program fees generated revenue of \$12 million and is 19 percent or \$1.9 million higher than the same period in 2019. Revenues from events, recording services, and other fees total \$9.2 million and was 35 percent of \$5 million lower when compared to 2019. Product and service sales total \$11.9 million, which was 20 percent or \$2 million higher than 2019, and this led by merchandise sales and admission fees. Merchandise sales of \$3.4 million come from both e-commerce and traditional order fulfillment. Advertising, sponsorship, and royalties revenue totaled \$11.8 million in 2020 and was consistent with 2019. Investment performance as of December 31, 2020, was positive returning 13.69 percent which beat the balanced index benchmark by 2.87 percent. Total assets of AKC at December 31, 2020 were \$151 million or \$18.9 million higher than December 31, 2019.

There was only one amendment to vote upon at the March 2021 meeting. The vote was vote is on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 6, Section 2 – Premium Lists and Closing of Entries. The proposed amendment would modify required publication components of premium lists including address information and entry fee(s). The section is also reformatted into a bulleted list for easier understanding, made gender neutral and veterinary reference updated for consistency. The amendment was proposed

by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. At least two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor of the amendment. Chapter 6, Section 2 now reads:

SECTION 2. *The premium list shall contain the following:*

- *a list of the officers of the show-giving club and the club address*
- *a list of the members of the Event Committee (there must be at least five) together with the designation of "Chair" and the Chair's address (and "Obedience Trial Chair" if an obedience trial is being held by a club in connection with its dog show)*
- *the name(s) of the veterinarian(s) or name of local Veterinary Clinic and whether the veterinarian(s) will be in attendance throughout the show hours or "on call,"*
- *the names of the judges with the city and state of their residence and their assignments*
- *the name and address of the superintendent or show secretary who has been approved by The American Kennel Club*
- *the entry fee(s)*
- *whether the show is benched or unbenched*
- *the exact location of the show*
- *the date or dates on which it is to be held*
- *the times of opening and closing of the show*

Notification must be printed in the Premium List only if the club is not offering the three-point major to the Reserve Winners at the National Specialty.

Ashley Jacot, Director of Education, gave a report on the work of the department. Included in the update was information on the AKC Pup Pals project which is designed to send uplifting messages to children in need.

The March meeting always has the election for the AKC Board of Directors. The results of the ballots were as follows: Rita Biddle, Esq., 247; Dominic Carota, 282; Patricia Cruz, 207; Dr. Thomas Davies, 229; Dr. Gregory Paveza, 141; and Thomas Powers, 208. As a result, Rita Biddle, Dominic Carota, Tom Davies, and Tom Powers were duly elected as members of the Class of 2025.

June 2021 Meeting

The June 2021 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held, via Zoom Webinar, on June 8, 2021. Delegate attendance at this meeting was 364.

Dr. Tom Davies delivered his chairman's report. In this report, Dr. Davies noted that AKC events for the second quarter of 2021 were 99% of what they were in the second quarter of 2019.

In Mr. Sprung's president report, he stated that registration figures were the highest since 2006.

In the financial report, Ted Phillips stated that for the first quarter ending March 31, 2021, comparison to 2020, litter registrations totaled 82,026. This result was 22 percent higher when compared to the same period in 2020. Litter registrations were 12 percent of total revenue for the quarter ended March 31, 2021. The aforementioned double-digit growth began in August of 2020 and continued through the end of March 2021. The average growth over this period was an increase of 21 percent.

Two amendments were voted on during this meeting. The first vote was on the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club* which provided for a deletion of Article VIII, Section 7, with similar language provided for in a new Article VII, Section 2. The amendment would renumber the remaining sections of the Bylaws in Article VII and Article VIII. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. The delegates voted to pass the amendment.

Article VIII, Section was deleted as follows:

~~**SECTION 5.** *The names of all candidates for election as directors shall be published in alphabetical order on the Secretary's Page of the March AKC GAZETTE of the year in which they come before the annual meeting to be voted upon.*~~

The new Article VII, Section 2 provides:

SECTION 2. *The names of all candidates for election as directors shall be published in alphabetical order on the Secretary's Page of the March AKC GAZETTE of the year in which they come before the annual meeting to be voted upon.*

The second vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 16, Section 6 – Championships. The amendment proposed to remove the phrase referencing one type of independent specialty to generalize the language, provides consistency within the section and allows for future inclusion of additional independent specialties that may be developed without further modification of the section. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. The vote was two-thirds in the affirmative and the measure passed. Chapter 16, Section 6 now reads:

SECTION 6. *Champions of Record and dogs which have completed the requirements for a championship but whose championships are unconfirmed that are entered in Best of Breed competition are eligible for Grand Championship competition.*

Grand Championship points may be recorded for: Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed, Select Dog, and Select Bitch. Grand Championship points will be recorded according to the number of eligible dogs competing in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/ Variety) classes of each breed or variety, as well as dogs competing in Best of Breed competition, according to the Schedule of Points established by the Board of Directors

- *Grand Championship Points will not be awarded for competition beyond Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition.*
- *Winners Dog, Winners Bitch, and Non-Regular Class winners that are not conformation Champions, are not eligible for Grand Championship points.*

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed shall count all eligible dogs of their sex competing in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points.

A dog awarded Best of Breed will be credited with the number of Grand Champion points calculated for Best of Breed or for the Best of Opposite Sex, whichever is greater.

Grand Championship points for a dog awarded Select Dog or Select Bitch shall count all eligible dogs of their sex in Best of Breed or Best of Variety of Breed competition less the dog awarded Best of Breed or Variety or Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed or Variety in addition to the dogs that competed in the regular and non-regular (eligible for Best of Breed/ Variety) classes for their sex in calculating Grand Championship points.

At independently held specialty shows for breeds divided into recognized varieties, if a dog designated Best of Variety is also awarded Best of Breed in intervariety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of any variety entered at that specialty show. If a dog designated Best of Variety or Best of Opposite Sex in its variety is also awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed in intervariety competition, it shall receive Grand Championship points figured at the highest point rating of its sex in any variety entered at that specialty show. Such points shall not be in addition to, but inclusive of, any Grand Championship points previously awarded the dog in its variety competition.

September 2021 Meeting

The September 2021 meeting was held in Newark , New Jersey, on September 14, 2021. The number of delegates in attendance was 192.

Dr. Thomas Davies presented his chairman's report. In the report, he noted that from May through September 2021, AKC events exceed those in 2019 by 3%.

In his president's report, Mr. Sprung commented that 288 delegates were at the AKC Delegates Meeting on 9/11/2021. I was one of the delegates. Of those 288, only 71 continue to serve as delegates. Mr. Sprung gave a history of DOGSNY project which allowed the American Kennel Club to honor search and rescue dogs that helped in New York City, Pennsylvania and Washington on and after 9/11.

In Ted Phillips financial report, he committed on registration figures for the first half of 2021. For the six-months ended June 30, 2021 litter registration totaled 164,520, an increase of 19.6% when compared to the same period in 2020. These results continue a double-digit trend in growth over the past three fiscal quarters. Litter registrations represent 12 percent of total revenue for the six months ended June 30, 2021. For the six-month period ended June 30, 2021 individual dog registrations totaled 426,484 which represented a 21.6% increase over the same period last year. Dog registrations represents 33 percent of total revenue year-to-date. When combined, these two areas make up 46 percent of total revenue for the six-months ended June 30, 2021. As of June 30, 2021, the total number of events is higher than the same period in 2020 by 109%, climbing to 9,782 from 4,671. The total number of event entries for the first six months of 2021 were 1.4 million, which is 86 percent higher than the same period in 2020.

The only vote of the delegates involved an amendment to the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, Article VII, Sections 5, 6, and a New Section 7, which affirmatively sets forth the ability of AKC's Board to meet virtually in whole or in part and clarifies the other sections related to Board meetings. As a result of the Bylaw amendment approved at the June 2021 Delegate Meeting, these section numbers were changed accordingly. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. The delegates adopted these amendments by a two-thirds vote. Article VII Sections 5, 6, and 7 now read:

SECTION 5. *There shall be at least eight regular meetings of the Board each year. Additional meetings may also be scheduled at the direction of the Board. The date, time, method and location of all regular meetings shall be determined by the Board. Fourteen (14) days' notice of said date must be given to each Director by United States mail, telephone or electronic mail.*

At the four quarterly Delegate Meetings, Directors should attend the Delegate Meetings and other appropriate Delegate functions.

SECTION 6. *Special meetings of the Board shall be called by the Executive Secretary at the direction of the President, Chairman of the Board, or on the written request of three (3) Directors. Five (5) days' notice of the date, time, method and location of such special meeting must be given to each Director by United States mail, telephone or electronic mail unless a waiver of notice of such meetings shall have been signed by every Director.*

SECTION 7. *Any one or more members of the Board or of any committee thereof who is not physically present at a meeting of the Board or a committee may participate by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment or by electronic video screen communication. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting as long as all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time and each Director can participate in all matters before the Board, including, without limitation, the ability to propose, object to, and vote upon a specific action to be taken by the Board or committee.*

Dr. Charles Garvin, AKC Board Member and Delegate for the Dalmatian Club of America, gave the following presentation concerning the proposed AKC Purebred Preservation Bank. "... Good morning, everyone. It's really nice to see everyone's smiling faces here, alive and in person. Although I guess in this day and age, it's nice to see everyone's smiling eyes. So today we're going to talk about the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank, and for many of you this is going to be familiar material, and others not so much. We'll talk about why does semen preservation matter, various solutions, what has been done, and what are the next steps. You have all heard about the problem of low entry breeds. Of our 196 recognized breeds, literally half, 98 of the breeds, are considered low entry breeds. And there is a correlation between low entry breeds and low breeding breeds. For example, 14 breeds in 2020, a year where registrations surged, 14 breeds registered fewer than ten litters during the entire year. In the past, there have been episodes of grave concern. There were devastating effects during World War II in the 1940s. Rottweilers had five consecutive years of fewer than ten dogs registered per year. Bernese Mountain Dogs had five years in a row of zero dogs registered. Think what that does to your gene pool. These are not low entry breeds. Alaskan Malamutes and Flat-Coats had three consecutive years of zero dogs registered. When you have numbers like that, it makes your gene pool fragile. Frozen semen was first used successfully in dogs in 1969 and has proved to be very successful. However, there is a significant amount that is forgotten, abandoned, or destroyed. You heard about Juniors this morning, and if you think about it, even the best Junior eventually ages out. But, in the same way, even the best breeders are going to age out, where their breeding program will come to an end. The owners are no longer interested or able to pay for storage. They may become incapacitated or pass on. Their executors and heirs really don't appreciate the value, really don't care about that frozen semen that they're asked to pay for. If you happen to have a great, great, great granddaughter that is intent on carrying on your line, you're in luck. Other people, probably not so much. We're losing the genetic influence of our historic breed superstars every day. How much of this is lost? Well, that is a difficult number to come by. I do want to clarify a number that was mentioned yesterday, but our best estimate is that approximately 1,000 breeding units are destroyed every month. So, what's the solution? We can prioritize preservation. Not just focusing on the low entry breeds, but any breed that could have a genetic bottleneck. New diseases crop up and are discovered. Unanticipated crises occur. Imagine, if you will, some novel, never seen before virus, that

comes in and wipes out a significant portion of the population. Gosh, if something like that happened to our dogs! If we look at the definition of preservation it is the carefully maintaining and protection of something valuable, especially in its natural state. But if we don't do that, then we look at the opposite. Ruin, waste, squander, neglect and dereliction. We recognize that preservation is critically important, but how can we put preservation into action? The Otterhounds have taken a lead here, and in 2017 the AKC Board at their request approved a procedure so the AKC Parent Club could create an individual entity, a separate entity, for the use of frozen semen. The Otterhound Club of America successfully developed their own 501(c) organization for preservation purposes. However, four years later, no other club has completely launched an operational reproduction bank. There are a few that are in process – Akitas, Boxers, Goldens, for example. And the reason is because it's difficult. There are significant barriers that individual clubs need to overcome to create a new organization. As you can imagine, significant legal issues, procedural, financial, and of course the biggest one is political issues inside the club. So, our Mr. Idea, our key man, Dennis Sprung, suggested, what about if AKC established an all-encompassing, all breed preservation bank, that could benefit all Parent Clubs. AKC agreed with this and created a working group to explore this idea. I recognize you may have a hard time seeing some of these names, but they're all familiar to you, Dr. Joellen Gregory, Dr. Marty Greer, Dr. Jerry Klein DVM, Mark Dunn, Mari-Beth O'Neill, Ted Phillips, and me as Chair. Vanessa Skou on AKC Staff has been tremendously helpful in doing a lot of the leg work for us. I would like to take this time to thank the members of the work group who have put in a tremendous amount of time and effort in working on this project. The things we explored – we surveyed the Parent Club leadership, we conducted outreach to theriogenology veterinarians and semen storage companies, we reviewed the Otterhound success. This topic, as you know, has been discussed at Delegate Committee Meetings, there is an article in Perspectives about this, and we've had extensive consultation with outside legal counsel. Some of the valuable findings from the Parent Club survey, where we had 80 percent of the Parent Clubs responding, which is a gratifyingly high number: one of the key questions, "What if the AKC were to set up such a bank? Do you think it's a good idea?" On a one to ten scale, 30 percent thought it was a ten out of ten, a great idea; and conversely, only 4 percent thought it was a bad idea. That is without knowing any of the details. We used such information to develop a detailed proposal. In July of this year the AKC Board officially approved both the creation and the funding of an AKC Purebred Preservation Bank to be a new separate 501(c)3 organization with a ten-year budget and business plan. Now, strictly speaking, this is not a semen bank, rather, we will be dealing with the semen banks that now exist and use them as vendors for us. The bank is also designed to be sure it does not compete with current breeders in any way. So now the real work begins. We have broken it out into five main categories. Developing the governance structure and organization, that is, creating the 501(c)3, developing Bylaws, the Board and so forth. Second, to develop policies, procedures, and processes regarding coordination with Parent Clubs. This is the real key, where the devil is in the details. We'll work with Parent Clubs to help them develop semen donation approval processes and semen distribution approval processes. Third, is to develop storage cost optimization plan. What that means is to try to work with the existing semen banks to figure out where we can get the best deal. We have already located a low cost but high-quality provider. But we also need to make sure that they are in a safe situation to mitigate the potential risks of what could possibly go wrong. We need to develop an extensive database describing the sires that are available, and we hope to have this on an interactive website. Finally, we need to develop a communication and public relations plan. We need to explain the process. We need to promote it. We recognize that Parent Clubs are going to be integral and key to the success of this. We're dedicated to the concept that Parent Clubs will have options, they'll have choices to make, but they'll not have mandates. As far as timeline, we hope to be up and running in 6 to 9 months. We recognize that this is a long-term project and will require a shift in thinking. A shift from what benefits the breeders of today and today's breeding programs, to what is best for the breed itself in 25, 50, or 100 years. My prediction, and predictions are always a challenge, but I would predict that in 50 years there are very few of us sitting in this room that are going to still be breeding dogs actively. What's going to be needed from the Parent Clubs? Obviously, first is a desire to participate, but second is developing the criteria for the

acceptance and the use of the frozen semen. The third is developing a decision-making process; that is, who in the Parent Club is going to be making the decisions and how will those decisions be made. Finally, having a point person to work with the AKC bank. Now, the Purebred Preservation Bank is not going to leave the Parent Clubs out on an island all by themselves. We're going to be providing guidance and help in making these decisions and providing recommendations, alternatives, best practices, and frequently asked questions. In summary, we're developing this AKC Purebred Preservation Bank to assist Parent Clubs to preserve the genetic heritage of their individual breeds. Parent Clubs themselves will be providing the decisions in the selection criteria. The Bank will be providing the organization, the infrastructure, the funding and the implementation. Again, the focus is not on today's breeders, or breeding programs, but rather, the long-term future of your breed. Along the way we have always welcomed your questions, comments, and suggestions. My email is easy to remember, charles.garvin@gmail.com. We thank you very much for your attention."

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Lewis, Jr.
Delegate, Sussex Spaniel Club of America