



## AKC DELEGATE REPORT

August 2020

Prudence G. Hlatky

This Delegate meeting was novel as it was the AKC's first attempt at a Zoom Delegate's meeting. The format was for the officers and staff of the AKC to present and there was no interaction, voting etc., by the Delegates. It was a bit rocky at the start, but eventually all the presentations were made, and the entire meeting took less than an hour. The Delegate Committee meetings were held in the preceding week. Unfortunately, due to the spread-out scheduling and work conflicts I was not able to attend all those that I wanted to listen in on.

As Delegate, I receive a continual stream of emails from the AKC. I've passed many on to the Health Chair, the Legislative Chair and to the BCOA Board/Governors to share with the membership.

This report will include items from the June Delegate meeting and forthcoming items from the September meeting. I have also pulled items of interest from the June and July AKC Board of Directors meetings. If you are not in the habit of reading the AKC Board Reports or the AKC Secretary's report in the Gazette, please take a minute to scan for items of interest. I have referenced these reports several times in the items listed below. I know that questions I have seen raised on social media have been addressed in one or both of these meetings.

### Items of interest from the Delegate Committee Meetings

- Parent club vs local (regional) club. Only the Parent Club is to be considered the National Club. AKC defines all other specialty clubs as local clubs. See voting proposal below
- Legislative update (Parent Club) – Trending Legislation – Movement Prohibiting Breeders from any involvement in Rescue. AKC Govt Relations is following and educating about troublesome new type of bill. (Irresponsible breeders have been selling dogs they bred to pet shops and retail rescues as “rescue dogs”.) This mainly applies in states that restrict pet shops to selling only “rescue dogs”.
- Fanciers in Need - At Risk (Parent Club & All-Breed ). Health, Age, Financial constraints – Committee is developing basic documents that individual clubs can use for dogs/fanciers in crisis situations. Club members need to check in on elderly members, members who experience any natural disaster or weather event.
- Breeder's Education Committee (Parent Club) – Lot of Breeder Education information on AKC site. See *Products & Services*, select *Breeder Programs & Services*, then *Breeder Education*. Committee recommends clubs develop a program for Interviews with Older Breeders. Looking to capture the knowledge and experience of our older breeders and breed icons.
- Mentoring and Breeder Outreach Programs (Parent Club) encourage breeders to become members of Parent Clubs, encouraging Jrs., to become breeders, develop Parent Club breeder mentoring programs.
- Annual Meeting (All-Breed) – If a club's Constitution and By-laws require the club to hold an Annual Meeting and if one isn't held within the current year due to COVID-19 depending on the state the club is registered in, if it doesn't allow for an electronic Annual Meetings, then the Club's constitution and By-laws need to be amended, with the AKC.
- Election Year (All-Breed) Learn about your local candidates and their positions regarding dog related issues. Donations to AKC Political Action Committee can include recommendations in support of your local candidates.

### Items of interest from the AKC Board or AKC Secretary's Reports:

Due to COVID-19 constraints the following rulings have been made or will be voted on by the Delegates.

- The 2020-point schedule will remain in effect through 2021

- Juniors will be allowed to continue to compete in Jr Showmanship through their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday or 12/31/2021 or whichever occurs first.
- Two National Specialties – a club that had to cancel its 2020 National may hold two in 2021.

New Proposals – to be voted on by the Delegates in Sept or December

- Proposed change of AKC By-law Article IV, Sec 1 – Proposed amendment, if approved, will prohibit local\* bred specialty clubs from becoming Member Clubs of the AKC. *\*All specialty clubs, regardless of territory or name, are considered local clubs. The Parent club is considered the only National club.*
- Offer Bred-by-Exhibitor Puppy classes for 6-9 and 9-12-month-old puppies
- Offer 12-15- and 15-18-month regular classes, breaking up the 12-18-month age group (Club choice)

Of Interest

- Approved the coloring of dogs in Agility (Please check the AKC publication for details)
- Discussion of AKC ATT Title – AKC Temperament Test is a Prescriptive Canine Temperament Test vs a Predictive Temperament Test. (Please check the AKC publications for details)
- A new list of dock diving titles (Please check the AKC publications for details)

Respectfully submitted,

Prudence G. Hlatky

BCOA AKC Delegate

[AKCDel@BorzoiClubofAmerica.org](mailto:AKCDel@BorzoiClubofAmerica.org)