

2010 – 73rd Annual Meeting AKC Beagle Advisory Committee

The meeting of the 2010 Beagle Advisory Committee convened via teleconference on June 25, 2010 at 10:00 AM EST. Performance Events staff present were Field Director Mel Stewart, AVP Doug Ljungren, Manager Lisa Carroll and PE Staff Lisa King. Committee members and AKC staff participating via phone:

# of Clubs	Committee Member:	Clubs:
1	Ron Anderson 15 Jermyn Court Sterling, VA 20165 703-421-8186	National Beagle Club
19	Gerald Ells 185 Regency Road Castle Rock, WA 98611 360-695-7419	Golden Bear Association of Beagle Clubs, Northwest Association of Beagle Club & California
49	Jerry Knuth 911 4 th Street Plover, WI 54467 715-344-0017	Abe Lincoln, Hoosier, Illiana, Northern South Hoosier, Western & Wisconsin
46	Jewell Francisco PO Box 273 Evansville, TN 37332 423-775-3765	Dixie Association of Beagle Clubs, Deep South, Delta, Southern, Southwestern & Tennessee Valley
39	Richard C. Scranton 4346 Good Road Seville, OH 44273 330-336-6921 330-612-2921	Central Association of Beagle Clubs, Eastern Ohio, Miami, Northern Ohio, Southern Ohio, West Virginia
65	George Fields 2973 Bridgepoint Drive Sophia, NC 27350 336-431-5490	Atlantic, Delaware, Delaware Valley, Carolinas, South Atlantic, Southeastern & Virginia
44	Chris Keenan 5571 Rt. 82 Clinton Corners, NY 12514 845-868-7854	Tri-State Association of Beagle Clubs, Eastern Lake Erie, Penn Central, Penn Mountain, West Penn, New England, Eastern New England, North Atlantic, & Red Jacket
53	Richie Houde 14 Westside Drive Atkinson, NH 03811 603-362-5106	Northern Michigan Hare Association, Maine, New Hampshire-Vermont, New York & Pioneer Valley
47	Bob Silva 5 Staysail Circle Marston Mills, MA 02648 508-428-6573	Northeastern Beagle Gundog Federation, Pennsylvania Beagle Gundog Federation, Iriquois Beagle Gundog Assn., Northeast Hunting Beagle Assn.

38	Art W. Clay PO Box 681 Dallas, GA 30132	Deep South Beagle Gundog Federation, Mid - South Beagle Gundog Federation
79	Fred Scheetz 529 Coppage Road Russell Springs, KY 42642 270-384-1095	United Beagle Gundog Federation
37	Gary Hanks PO Box 67 Price, TX 75687 903-861-3533	Lone Star Beagle Assn., Mid - Atlantic Beagle Assn., Mid- West Beagle Assn.
32	John Prianti 5157 Orangeport Road Brewerton, NY 13029 315-676-4850	Appalachian Beagle Gundog Federation, Mid America Gun Dog Fed, all unaffiliated Gundog Brace Clubs
	Jim Odle	AKC Staff
	Mike Sergio	AKC Staff
	Robert Oliver	AKC Staff

Reporting on the current state of the sport, the following event statistics were presented:

Format	2008 Trials	2008 Entries	2009 Trials	2009 Entries	Change in Trials	Change in Entries
Brace	310	19,577	315	19,910	+5	+333
Gun Dog Brace	53	5,646	50	5,432	-3	-214
Large Pack	64	5,680	63	5,245	-1	-435
Small Pack	36	1,821	35	1,780	-1	-41
Small Pack Option	260	23,605	262	24,856	+2	+1,251
Two Couple Pack	30	1,728	38	2,332	+8	+604
Total	753	58,057	763	59,555	+10	+1,498

Total entries during the calendar year 2008 were 58,057 versus 59,555 in 2009, which was an increase of 1,498. A total of 495 Beagles earned Field Championship titles in 2008, compared to 520 Field Championship titles in 2009.

Note: 2010 events are up 2% compared to last year at this time.

Beagles were in fifth place on the ranking of breed registrations with 30,672 registered in 2009 compared with another fifth placement of 33,772 in 2008.

Ten regular judges' seminars were held in 2009 with over 150 attendees. Twenty four Advanced Judges Seminars were put on with over 400 attendees.

Items To Be Voted On

- 1) Chapter 5, Judges and Their Decisions, Paragraph 2 – Remove wording to **allow officers of a club to judge their own club’s events**. At present it reads:

No officer of a club, or any member of the Field Trial Committee, or the Field Trial Secretary, will be approved to be advertised as a Judge of the club’s licensed or member trial.

Revise as follows:

No member of the Field Trial Committee or the Field Trial Secretary will be approved to be advertised as a Judge of the club’s licensed or member trial.

Ron Anderson	Yes
Gerald Ells	Yes
Jerry Knuth	Yes
Jewell Francisco	Yes
Richard Scranton	Yes
George Fields	Yes
Chris Keenan	Yes
Richie Houde	Yes
Bob Silva	No
Art Clay	No
Fred Scheetz	Yes
Gary Hanks	No
John Prianti	Yes

10 For, 3 Against

- 2) Procedure 7-A, Instructions to Judges - **Remove the wording that allows handlers to agree to a different running order in the second and subsequent series**. At present it reads:

Whenever practicable, the hounds shall be cast to search for game, but the decision as to whether the hounds are to be cast or whether they are to be kept on leash until they are laid on a line where game has been sighted, shall be made by the Judges alone.

Note: At a brace/trio trial, the hounds shall be laid on the line in order drawn or in the order called back for second & subsequent series, unless all handlers involved in the brace/trio agree to a different order.

Revise as follows:

Whenever practicable, the hounds shall be cast to search for game, but the decision as to whether the hounds are to be cast or whether they are to be kept on leash until they are laid on a line where game has been sighted, shall be made by the Judges alone.

Note: At a brace/trio trial, after first series the hounds shall be laid on the line in the order called back.

Ron Anderson	Yes
Gerald Ells	Abstain
Jerry Knuth	Yes
Jewell Francisco	Abstain
Richard Scranton	Yes
George Fields	Yes
Chris Keenan	Yes

5 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstain (Brace only)

3) Procedure 9, Beagle Hunting Test for Two Couple Pack, Paragraph 15: At present the Regulation pertaining to the **credit time clock in Two Couple Pack events** reads:

Three hounds must be tonguing the line, making forward progress, and the fourth hound must be in the pack before **credit time clock** can run. The **credit time clock** will be stopped if less than three hounds are tonguing the line, the pack is split, stuck at a check, the pack in general is non productive or not making forward progress.

The original proposal was to eliminate the use of the credit time clock, instead allowing judges to apply their judgment regarding the pack’s performance. However several committee members felt the total elimination of the credit time clock was not appropriate. They argued that the clock provided judges additional information that they may find useful in their evaluation of the pack. After a lengthy discussion the recommendation was revised as follows:

Judges’ evaluation of the pack’s performance is of primary importance in determining the packs placement. A credit time clock will be maintained and should be used as a secondary evaluation tool. The credit time clock is run when three hounds are tonguing the line, making forward progress, and the fourth hound is in the pack. The credit time clock will be stopped when this is not the case, the pack is split, stuck at a check, the pack in general is not productive or not making forward progress.

It was felt this compromise statement allowed judges to better apply their judgment regarding a pack’s performance but still retains the credit time clock as additional information that the judges should consider.

Ron Anderson	Yes
Gerald Ells	Yes
Jerry Knuth	Yes
Jewell Francisco	Yes
Richard Scranton	Yes
George Fields	Yes
Chris Keenan	Yes
Richie Houde	Yes
Bob Silva	Yes
Art Clay	Yes
Fred Scheetz	Yes
Gary Hanks	Yes
John Prianti	Yes

13 For, 0 Against

Items for Discussion/Vote in 2011

- 1) Procedure 2, Entries, 2-B – Remove wording to allow **spayed and neutered dogs** to compete in Beagle field trials. At present it reads:

Castrated dogs and spayed bitches are ineligible for entry and shall not be permitted to compete in Beagle field trials.

Revise as follows:

Neutered dogs and spayed bitches are eligible for entry and shall be permitted to compete in Beagle field trials.

Ron Anderson	No
Gerald Ells	Yes
Jerry Knuth	Yes
Jewell Francisco	Yes
Richard Scranton	Yes
George Fields	No
Chris Keenan	Yes
Richie Houde	No
Bob Silva	No
Art Clay	No
Fred Scheetz	No
Gary Hanks	No
John Prianti	No

5 For, 8 Against.....will not be brought back for a vote.

- 2) There was a motion to award a **Grand Field Champion title** for dogs that have earned an adequate number of wins and points in Federation Championship trials. This motion was initially introduced for placements earned in Brace Federation Field Champion Trials. Following discussion, the committee felt the idea should also be explored for Gundog Federation Championship Trials. These trials must be licensed by the AKC. The staff will develop a recommended number of wins and points based on their discussions at the events they attend. This will be included in the agenda for next year’s meeting.

There was unanimous support that this idea be brought back for a vote – 13 For, 0 Against.

- 3) There was a motion to bring forward the **Next Best Qualifier move up** for discussion and vote in 2011. This would allow the NBQ to move up when a dog that placed is found to be ineligible.

Ron Anderson	Yes
Gerald Ells	Yes
Jerry Knuth	No
Jewell Francisco	Yes
Richard Scranton	Yes
George Fields	No
Chris Keenan	No

Richie Houde	Yes
Bob Silva	Yes
Art Clay	Yes
Fred Scheetz	Yes
Gary Hanks	Yes
John Prianti	No

9 For, 4 Against.....will be brought back for a vote in 2011.

4) **Change the Championship point schedule** by allowing 10 bonus points for wins over three.

Ron Anderson	No
Gerald Ells	No
Jerry Knuth	Yes
Jewell Francisco	Yes
Richard Scranton	No
George Fields	No
Chris Keenan	No
Richie Houde	No
Bob Silva	No
Art Clay	No
Fred Scheetz	No
Gary Hanks	No
John Prianti	No

2 For, 11 Against.....will not be brought back for a vote.

5) Procedure 6. Paragraph 6-B. **In first series, run dogs as drawn.** Drop “Should a second hound owned by the same person be drawn in the same brace or trio, that hound will change places with the next hound drawn which is not so owned. This change will be made with a hound drawn later if possible, but may be made with a hound drawn earlier if necessary. The running together of two or three such hounds may be permitted in the first series when a separation is impossible but in no other case.”

There was unanimous support that this idea be brought back for a vote – 13 For, 0 Against.