

American Kennel Club, Inc.

MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC Offices at 101 Park Avenue, New York, NY
July 13-14, 2026

The Board convened on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 8:40 a.m. Eastern Time.

Present in the New York office: Dr. Thomas Davies (Chairman), Dr. Michael Knight (Vice Chairman), Ms. Gina DiNardo (President & CEO), Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Ms. Sue Goldberg, Ms. Sally Fineburg, Mr. Eduardo Fugiwara, Dr. Charles Garvin, Mr. Steven Hamblin, Mr. Jason Hoke, Mr. Dan Smyth, and Mr. Robin Stansell. Mr. Dominic Carota joined via video conference. Absent: Ms. Sylvia Thomas.

The Executive Secretary and the Chief Financial Officer were also present.

May Minutes

Copies of the May 11-12, 2026 Board Meeting minutes had previously been provided to all Directors for review.

Upon a motion by Dr. Garvin, and seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the May 2026 Board Meeting minutes.

President's Update

Ms. DiNardo reported that the AKC continues to receive strong interest from foreign kennel clubs in establishing closer relationships. AKC has signed a mutual cooperation agreement with the Australian Kennel Club and entries are now open for the AKC FCM show this November in Mexico City. Additionally, plans are underway to develop an international conference that focuses on major issues impacting kennel clubs and dog enthusiasts internationally, including health and government policy.

AKC has hired a new Executive Vice President, Customer Growth & Strategy. AKC Staff are working closely with outside consultant BDO to transform business processes and improve customer experiences, value and outcomes. The discovery phase of this initiative is well underway, and programming is on schedule. Over the last reporting period, AKC has seen a significant increase in event entries.

Legal Update

Heather McManus, VP & General Counsel, and Patricia Hines, Corporate Counsel – Litigation, participated in this portion of the meeting.

The Board reviewed the Legal Status update as of July 2026.

Business Transformation Plan

Tim Pursell, Senior Director, IT, and Seth Fera-Schanes, Director of Strategic Planning, joined this portion of the meeting.

Since May, BDO has progressed through the early stages of their business transformation engagement with AKC, including establishment of a formal project charter and communication framework. Current efforts are on schedule and focused on developing a comprehensive understanding of AKC's existing operating environment across business and technology domains. BDO, leadership and key staff are meeting on a daily basis. The first phase of this work, discovery, is designed to translate AKC's strategic imperatives into an actionable transformation roadmap by identifying the business process, customer experience, data, and technology changes needed to support long-term business transformation and success.

The Board received a presentation from BDO.

AKC Strategic Plan Update

The AKC strategic three-year plan establishes a clear path to modernize operations, deepen relationships with today's dog owners, and strengthen AKC's position as the leading authority on dogs.

Over the next three years, AKC will focus its investments, resources, and organizational efforts around four strategic imperatives: Trust and accountability; quality customer service; brand awareness; and impact and sustainability.

These imperatives were approved by the AKC Board of Directors on May 12, 2025, and create a foundation that guide major decisions and positions AKC for long-term growth and sustainability.

Dogs in Closed Vehicles at AKC Events

Tim Thomas, VP of Conformation, and Bri Tesarz, Director of Compliance & Inspections, joined this portion of the meeting by video conference. Heather McManus, VP & General Counsel, and Brandi Hunter Munden, VP of Public Relations and Communications, joined this portion of the meeting.

Every year, dogs die after cooling or monitoring systems unexpectedly fail. The consequences can be catastrophic within minutes. There have been recent, avoidable dog deaths in enclosed, unattended and unventilated vehicles where the air-conditioning failed.

The *AKC Show Manual* includes a copy of a memorandum sent to all clubs in 1999 concerning the dangers associated with dogs confined in vehicles at AKC events. This followed the Board's approval of a notice of "Waiver of Rights" that may be included in premium lists to give the club the ability to rescue dogs in unventilated vehicles. AKC also produced the warning flyer: *Leaving*

Your Dog in a Hot Car that most may be familiar with, with the intention that clubs may reproduce and distribute it to warn exhibitors about the dangers of leaving a dog in a car. These warnings apply to dogs left in any unventilated vehicle, including vehicles left running with air conditioning on or equipped with air-conditioning units powered by an external generator or outlet. Tragedy has also occurred when additional external temperature monitors and alarms have failed.

Staff recently met to discuss incidents in which dogs were lost, or where tragedy was narrowly avoided due to dogs being left unattended in closed/insufficiently ventilated vehicles, and measures to prevent future incidents, including expanded education and communication to clubs and exhibitors regarding proper dog care in extreme conditions.

Staff presented the following new proposed policy to prevent dogs from dying or suffering heat related injury while left in vehicles. It is not a ban on leaving dogs in vehicles, but a reminder to exhibitors to ensure that their vehicle is properly ventilated and dogs are checked on frequently. Likewise, the policy is not a ban on air-conditioned vehicles, generators, fans, temperature monitors, or remote alert systems: It is a reminder technology and equipment can fail without warning due to mechanical problems, power loss, software issues, fuel depletion, weather conditions, or loss of cellular service.

The policy is designed to make it clear that the responsibility for a dog's safety always rests with the person caring for that dog – not with the equipment. It also gives AKC the ability to address situations where dogs are placed in obvious danger and to hold individuals accountable when preventable harm and death results.

Unattended Dogs in Vehicles Policy

Dogs shall not be left unattended in a vehicle that is fully enclosed or without sufficient ventilation or airflow from the outside environment. A vehicle containing unattended dogs must provide continuous ventilation and conditions reasonably sufficient to protect the dogs from heat-related injury, illness, distress, or death. The presence of fans, air-circulation devices, climate-control systems, temperature-monitoring systems, remote alerts, or other electronic monitoring technology shall not, by itself, establish that a vehicle provides adequate ventilation or a safe environment for unattended dogs.

Leaving dogs unattended in a vehicle that is fully enclosed or without sufficient ventilation is recognized to be conduct prejudicial to the best interest of purebred dogs, the sport of purebred dogs and the American Kennel Club. Accordingly, individuals who engage in conduct which constitutes a violation of this policy may be subject to discipline pursuant to *AKC's Charter and Bylaws*.

Upon a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to waive standard procedure to vote on the recommendation immediately.

Upon a motion by Dr. Garvin seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the new policy.

The policy is effective immediately.

Changes to Handling Deceased Dogs at Events

AKC Staff has reviewed the AKC Discipline Guidelines and *Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events* and recommend changes to address the handling of deceased dogs at AKC events.

The modification to *Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events* would require an Event Committee to conduct a hearing when a dog is seriously injured or dies in connection with an AKC event. Additionally, staff is requesting to add the offense "Violation of AKC's *Unattended Dogs in Vehicle Policy*", penalties, and footnote to the AKC Discipline Guidelines.

I. Inappropriate Treatment of Animals

m. Violation of AKC's *Unattended Dogs in Vehicles Policy*¹

Mitigated: 1 yr/\$1,000 Standard: 5 yr/\$2,000 Aggravated: Up to life/up to \$10,000

¹ For purposes of this provision, dogs shall not be left unattended in a vehicle that is fully enclosed or sealed from outside airflow. A vehicle containing unattended dogs must provide continuous ventilation and conditions reasonably sufficient to protect the dogs from heat-related injury, illness, distress, or death. The use of electronic monitoring devices, remote alerts, fans, or climate-control systems shall not constitute a defense to a violation of this provision.

Upon a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to waive standard procedure to vote on the recommendation immediately.

Upon a motion by Dr. Garvin seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the new policy.

The new offense and changes to *Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Events* are effective July 29, 2026.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss business matters. Nothing was reported out of this session.

AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) Q2 2026 Report

Dr. Stephanie Montgomery, AKC CHF President and CEO, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference and presented CHF's Q2 2026 update.

She reported a 55% increase in grant applications in 2025, reflecting both growing needs within the field and the strength of AKC CHF's reputation as a trusted funding partner. To date, AKC CHF has awarded 28 grants totaling \$2.7 million. Across all program areas the active grant portfolio now includes 159 studies representing more than \$14.5 million in research investments.

Financial Status: Research grants activity for the second quarter of 2026 totaled \$1.8 million and represented the majority of total expenses of \$2.5 million.

FINANCE

Interim Financial Statements (Unaudited) May 31, 2026

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, reported on interim financial results for the five months ended May 31, 2026. Net operating income was \$768 thousand, or two percent of total revenues as compared to a net operating loss of five percent in 2025. Total revenues were five percent lower than 2025 due to lower registration and event revenue. Total operating expenses were \$3.9 million or 10% lower than prior year.

Executive Secretary

Mari-Beth O'Neill, VP, Sport Services, joined this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Nominating Committee for 2027 Board Election

The Board elected the following members to the Nominating Committee, responsible for selecting candidates to fill three vacancies on the Board at the March 2027 Delegate meeting:

- John Ioia, Southern Adirondack Dog Club, Inc., Chair
- Marge Calltharp, Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, Inc.
- Connie Clark, American Fox Terrier Club
- Joellen Gregory, Otterhound Club of America
- Steven Sansone, Giant Schnauzer Club of America, Inc.

Alternates:

- Jacquelyn Fogel, Reno Kennel Club
- Bob Rynkiewicz, Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.

Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America, Inc. (PBGVCA), has submitted proposed revisions to the breed standard. The PBGV Standard was approved April 22, 2014. Staff recommended the Board approve the proposal to advance to a ballot by PBGVCA membership in accordance with the club's Constitution and Bylaws.

Upon a motion by Dr Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Hoke, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to advance the recommendation to the PBGVCA for a ballot.

American Bulldog – Recommendation to Advance to Miscellaneous Class

The Board of Directors approved the American Bulldog to be eligible for recording in the Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) program with a Working designation in November 2019. The American Bulldog has met the requirements of the Recognition of New Breeds Policy approved in January 2004 by the Board of Directors. Requirements include an active Parent Club, with serious and expanding breeding activity over a wide geographic area, and documented club activity.

Sport Services recommends that the National American Bulldog Club become the Parent Club for the breed and the American Bulldog be approved to advance to the Miscellaneous Class effective June 30, 2027.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

Dutch Shepherd Eligibility to Compete in the Herding Group

The American Dutch Shepherd Association has submitted a petition seeking acceptance into the AKC Stud Book and for the Dutch Shepherd to be eligible to compete in the Herding Group. Staff recommends that the AKC Board of Directors approve the petition as well as the proposed breed standard.

If approved by the Board, the breed will be moved from the Foundation Stock Service® into the Stud Book of the American Kennel Club on June 30, 2027.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

Parent Club Designation for Appenzeller Sennenhund Club of America

The Appenzeller Sennenhund Club of America requests to be designated as the Parent Club for the breed, allowing them to hold FSS Open Shows. Staff recommends the Appenzeller Sennenhund Club of America be designated as the Parent Club representing the Appenzeller Sennenhund with the AKC.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

Board and Delegate Meeting Dates for 2027

The Board discussed the following proposed Board and Delegate meeting dates for 2027.

AKC Board Meetings

- January 11-12, 2027
- February 3-4, 2027
- April 12-13, 2027
- May 10-11, 2027
- July 12-13, 2027
- August 9-10, 2027
- October 11-12, 2027
- November 8-9, 2027

AKC Delegate Meetings

March, June and September Delegate meeting dates are scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month, with the Delegate Standing Committee meetings held the Monday prior. The December Delegate meeting is scheduled for the Friday before the AKC National Championship, with

Delegate Standing Committee meetings the Thursday prior. Specific dates are:

- March 9, 2027
- June 8, 2027
- September 14, 2027
- December 17, 2027

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

2026-2027 Veterinary Student Scholarship Recipients

The Veterinary Student Scholarship Committee met to select the 2026-2027 veterinary scholarship recipients. The Kennel Club of Philadelphia contributed \$50,000 to the AKC Humane Fund designated to award five \$10,000 Scholarships to Veterinary Students at the University of Pennsylvania. The recipients will be invited to attend the Kennel Club of Philadelphia for a presentation prior to group judging, exposing the audience to the support provided by KCP.

Windham County Kennel Club and Springfield Kennel Club donated \$7,500 to the AKC Humane Fund designated to award scholarships to Veterinary Students at Tufts Veterinary School. The student receiving the scholarship participated in the Tufts AKC Whelping Selective.

This year's recipients consisted of individuals who are third generation dog breeders, breeders, as well as two individuals who competed on the AKC European Open Junior Agility Team. Other recipients are actively competing in multiple AKC Events including Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent Work, Hunt Tests and Fast CAT®.

The recipients of the AKC Veterinary Scholarships act as AKC Ambassadors assisting in organizing the "Meet the AKC" presentations conducted for the students as well as coordinating tours at local AKC events. These activities have assisted in providing veterinary students with positive experiences with purebred dog breeders and the fancy.

New Breed for Foundation Stock Service® – Nenets Laika

The Foundation Stock Service (FSS) Committee recently approved a petition for the Nenets Laika to be accepted into the FSS® Program.

Labrador Retriever Club Request to Require DNA for Registration

The Board considered a request by the Labrador Retriever Club Inc. (LRC), to require that all dogs to be registered by AKC as Labrador Retrievers be microchipped and provide a DNA sample that identifies the distinctive DNA marker(s) associated with the dilute (silver) colored dogs.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia and seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to not mandate genetic testing and microchipping to register a Labrador Retriever with the AKC.

Government Relations Update

Sheila Goffe, Executive Secretary and VP, Government Relations, updated the Board on recent legislation impacting dog ownership.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss business matters.

COMPANION & PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Executive VP, Sports & Events, and Caroline Murphy, Director of Performance Events, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

English Springer Spaniel Field Trials – Frequency of Judging

The English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association (ESSFTA), which is the Parent Club, is requesting judges be allowed to judge four field trials in a twelve-month period instead of three. This is a loosening of a restriction on frequency of judging.

This recommendation is a change made to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels*. The change would appear in an italicized section, which may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, this change would become effective September 21, 2026.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

Pointing Breed Hunting Test – Change to Judging Requirement

This is a recommendation to reduce the number of qualifying legs a Pointing Breed Hunting Test Judge must have earned while handling a dog at the test level to be judged, or at a higher level, from three qualifying legs to one qualifying leg.

This is a change to the *Pointing Breed Hunting Test Regulations* and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, the recommendation would become effective November 1, 2026.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

Retriever Field Trials – Max Distance for Retired Guns/Throwers

This is a recommendation to change the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers* so the maximum distance a retired gun or thrower can travel is 15 yards.

If approved by the Board, the amendment will be read at the December 2026 Delegate meeting and voted on at the March 2027 Delegate meeting. If approved by the Delegate Body, the effective date will be May 1, 2027.

The Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee was briefed at the June 2026 Delegate Meeting and had no issues with this recommendation.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

Beagle Field Trials – Five Changes from the Beagle Advisory Committee

This is a recommendation to make five changes to the *Beagle Field Trial Rules*; 1) allow clubs the option to combine Field Champion only classes either by sex or size, 2) allow clubs the option to pre-measure hounds prior to the start of their small pack trial, 3) if a tracking collar is worn it must match the same color as the assigned collar or be black, 4) judges must choose either the 10-7 or 5-4 scoring system, 5) hounds trailing deer is to be considered a serious fault deserving of elimination and when trailing other game shall be considered a demerit at the judge's discretion.

The first listed change regarding Field Champion Only Stakes is a rule change which requires approval of the Board and Delegate Body. If approved by the Board, the recommendation will be read at the December 2026 Delegate meeting and voted on at the March 2027 Delegate meeting. If approved by the Delegate Body, the effective date will be May 1, 2027.

All other recommendations are Standard Procedures and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, the effective date will be November 1, 2026.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

CAT and Fast CAT® – Clarifications & Updates

The Board considered a series of nine staff-recommended technical clarifications/updates to the *CAT and Fast CAT® Regulations* designed to offer clearer guidance to exhibitors and host clubs.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting. If approved at that time, the changes would be effective November 1, 2026.

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, EVP, Sports & Events; Tim Thomas, VP of Conformation; Guy Fisher, Director of Club Development; and Mark Desrosiers, Director, Event Programs, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Group and Best in Show Judges

The Board further considered the proposal to adopt a policy prohibiting judges assigned to the regular Group or Best in Show competitions from being assigned to judge a Four-to-Six-Month Beginner Puppy Competition or an FSS Open Show the same day. The Board took no action on the proposal and suggested a similar recommendation be added to the recently enhanced and renamed *Guidelines for Judging Panel Construction and Scheduling of Conformation Dog Shows*.

Required Number of Rings for Conformation Dog Shows

The Board further reviewed a proposal to adopt a Minimum Number of Rings Policy requirement for All-Breed and Limited-Breed dog shows to provide a minimum of one ring per 150 entries, inclusive

of all Conformation classes/competitions offered by the club, which included feedback from the Delegate All-Breed Clubs Committee as requested by the Board. The Board took no action on the proposal and suggested a similar recommendation be added to the recently enhanced and renamed *Guidelines for Judging Panel Construction and Scheduling of Conformation Dog Shows*.

Conformation Judges Daily Limit

The Board further considered a proposal to adopt a policy establishing a daily assignment limit of 150 entries for judges assigned to any regular or NOHS group (BIS excluded). The Board took no action on the proposal and asked staff to continue investigating other options including but not limited to restricting the number of groups one may be assigned and the scheduling of groups.

Premium Lists – Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Chapter 6, Section 2

Chapter 6, Section 2 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* specifies elements required to be published in premium list for AKC events. Consistent with existing policy, the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee has proposed amending the rule to require the publication in premium lists of: (1) notice and broadcast information of any commercial or club-sponsored recording and/or electronic transmission of the event, and (2) notice of any club-imposed recording restrictions.

If approved by the Board, the proposal will be read at the December 2026 Delegate meeting and voted on at the March 2027 Delegate meeting. If approved by the Delegate Body, the effective date will be July 1, 2027, to ensure publication in the premium list for any affected events.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

AKC National Champion Title

The Board reviewed a proposal to create a prefix AKC National Champion Title (ANC), to be awarded to the dog that wins Best in Show at the annual AKC National Championship show, similar to 11 current AKC titles awarded to the winner of national events in other AKC sports, with the title grandfathered to past Best in Show winners at the AKC National Championship show.

Upon a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to waive standard procedure to vote on the recommendation immediately.

Upon a motion by Mr. Hamblin, seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve creation of an ANC prefix title.

Multiple All-Breed or Limited-Breed Shows in One Day

The Multiple All-Breed or Limited-Breed Shows in One Day Program defines the criteria for holding two All-Breed or Limited-Breed shows back-to-back on the same day. The Board reviewed a proposal to modify this Board policy to require an allowance of 45-minutes to one hour for rest or meals when a judge's cumulative assignment on the day is more than five hours of judging.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting. If approved, the effective date will be October 7, 2026.

Silver State Kennel Club Third Show Request

Silver State Kennel Club requested approval of an exception to hold a third show at the Primm Valley Resort and Casino, 31900 S. Las Vegas Blvd, Primm, NV 89019, on week 12. The closest conflicting shows are with Oakland Kennel Club, whose site is 398 straight-line miles/ 539 driving miles from the Primm Valley site. Oakland Kennel Club does not oppose Silver State Kennel Club's request.

Staff recommend approving the exception based on the excessive driving distance of 8 hours and 24 minutes to the closest event. This is consistent with previous Board decisions.

Upon a motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Ms. Goldberg the Board VOTED (In favor: Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Mr. Carota, Ms. Fineburg, Mr. Fugiwara, Dr. Garvin, Ms. Goldberg, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Hoke, Mr. Smyth, and Mr. Stansell. Abstain: Dr. Battaglia) to waive standard procedure to vote on the recommendation immediately.

Upon a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Ms. Fineburg, the Board VOTED (In favor: Dr. Davies, Dr. Knight, Mr. Carota, Ms. Fineburg, Mr. Fugiwara, Dr. Garvin, Ms. Goldberg, Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Hoke, Mr. Smyth, and Mr. Stansell. Abstain: Dr. Battaglia) to approve the staff recommendation.

Junior Showmanship Regulations, Section 5

Staff recommends a revision to the *Junior Showmanship Regulations*, Section 5, Classes and Divisions; specifically, the addition of Reserve Best Junior with competition to count towards the eligibility to move from the Novice Class to the Open Class.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

Limited Group Show Awards

Staff updated the Board on the awards Limited Breed clubs may offer at their events, specifically clubs that were originally granted All-Breed status but now choose to offer competition for one group or fewer.

Fines and Reprimands

Staff updated the Board on recent fines and reprimands.

Events & Entries

Staff updated the Board on event and entry numbers.

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, EVP of Sports & Events, and Tim Thomas, VP of Conformation, joined this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Mandatory Ramp Examination – Welsh Springer Spaniel

The Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America, Inc. (“WSSCA”) has requested that the Board of Directors mandate the use of a ramp for the examination of the Welsh Springer Spaniel through all levels of Conformation competition. Currently, Welsh Springer Spaniels may be judged either on the ground or the ramp at the discretion of the judge.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting. If the WSSCA’s request is approved, the effective date will be January 1, 2027, as sufficient notice must be provided to superintendents to ensure inclusion in all premium lists.

Rules, Policies, and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges – Individual Examination of Dogs

The Board reviewed a proposal to amend the *Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges* to remove the requirement for Group and Best in Show Judges to re-examine dogs they individually judged earlier at the same event for standard disqualifications and checked for two normally descended testicles in males.

This will be discussed further at the September Board meeting.

Conformation Judging Statistics

Staff updated the Board on statistics related to Conformation judging applications considered by the department for the months April through June 2026.

FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY 2026 NEW BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS									
APPLICATIONS							BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	2	2	0	0	0	0	20	20	0
February	3	3	0	0	0	0	6	6	0
March	9	9	0	0	0	0	18	18	0
April	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
May	6	6	0	0	0	0	7	7	0
June	6	6	0	0	0	0	7	7	0
NB TOTAL	30	30	0	0	0	0	62	62	0

**FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2026 ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS**

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
January	28	27	1	0	0	0	165	163	0
February	33	33	0	0	0	0	123	123	0
March	40	40	0	0	0	0	189	189	0
April	45	44	0	1	0	0	229	221	0
May	49	49	0	0	0	0	255	255	0
June	31	31	0	0	0	0	162	162	0
AB TOTAL	226	224	1	1	0	0	1123	1113	0

**FINAL REVIEW ACTION SUMMARY
2026 YEAR-TO-DATE**

	APPLICATIONS						BREEDS		
	Total	Fully Appr.	Limited	Denied	Wthdrn	Held	Req.	Appr.	Pend.
NB	30	30	0	0	0	0	62	62	0
AB	226	224	1	1	0	0	1123	1113	0
TOTAL	256	254	1	1	0	0	1185	1175	0

AKC Judge Recertification

The Board discussed matters relating to the recertification of AKC Judges. Upon a motion by Ms. Fineburg, seconded by Mr. Fugiwara, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the appointment of Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Mr. Dan Smyth and Mr. Jason Hoke to a new committee to consider matters related to judges' recertification.

REGISTRATION DEVELOPMENT

Linda Duncklee, Senior Director, Registration, Vanessa Skou, Executive, Breeder Development, and Susan Myers, Senior Breeder Relations Field Rep., participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

AKC Breeder Focus Committee

Staff participating in the AKC Breeder Focus Committee provided an update on key findings, action items, next steps, and future plans.

Best Bred-by-Exhibitor Litter Registration Award Program Annual Update

Staff provided an annual update regarding the Best Bred-By-Exhibitor Litter Registration Award Program.

CLUBS

Lisa Cecin, Director of Club Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting.

Report on Member Club Bylaws Approved in May and June

Alaskan Malamute Club of America (1953)
Greater Ocala Dog Club, Marion County, FL (1996)
Hollywood Dog Obedience Club, Hollywood, CA (1956)
Spokane Kennel Club, Spokane, WA (1927)
Welsh Springer Spaniel Club of America (1990)

Report on Newly Licensed Clubs Approved in May and June

Ball Bluff Pointing Dog Club of Minnesota, greater Jacobson, MN area (including communities north to Deer River, south to Askov, east to Duluth and west to Route 6), 21 total households, 12 local.

Eastern Montgomery Agility Club, Willow Grove, PA (including communities in eastern Montgomery County, south of Route 202 and Interstate 476), 42 total households, 15 local.

Glen of Imaal Terrier Club of Pennsylvania, greater Philadelphia, PA, including all communities in the state of Pennsylvania, south along Interstate 95 to Eldersburg, MD, east-northeast to Sag Harbor, NY and northeast to Yalesville, CT along Interstate 95, including Mahwah, NJ and New York, NY), 36 total households, 12 local.

Golden Retriever Club of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas NV (including all communities in Clark County), 28 total households. 16 local.

Hawaii Cane Corso Association, Honolulu County, HI (including all communities on the island of Oahu), 22 total households, 18 local.

Heartland Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club, greater Minneapolis, MN (including communities north to Route 23 south to Route 14, west to Route 4 and east to the MN/WI state line).

Hound Club of Oklahoma, greater Tulsa, OK (including communities northeast to Vinita, southwest to Oklahoma City

Nederlandse Kooikerhondje Club of Texoma. greater Austin, Texas (including communities north to the Texas/Oklahoma state line, south to Route 10, west to Route 35 and east to Route 45), 23 total households, 16 local.

Southern Japanese Chin Club of Texas, greater Dallas/Fort Worth, TX area (including communities north to Oklahoma/Texas state line, south to Hico, TX in proximity of Route 22, east to Louisiana/Texas state line and west to Route to 281), 28 total households, 12 local.

COMPLIANCE

Heather McManus, VP & General Counsel, Patricia Hines, Corporate Counsel – Litigation, participated in this portion of the meeting. Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance & Inspections, and Jessica Lopez, Compliance Manager, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Staff Event Committee Report of Actions Taken

The Board received a report of actions taken.

Summary of Actions by Management Disciplinary Committee – Charges Preferred – Non-Inappropriate Treatment

The Board received a report of actions taken.

Summary of Actions by Management Disciplinary Committee – Charges Preferred – Inappropriate Treatment

The Board received a report of actions taken.

Summary of Finalized Disciplinary Actions as of June 24, 2026

The Board received a report of finalized disciplinary actions as of June 24, 2026.

(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss business matters. Nothing was reported out of this session.

CONSENT

Following a motion by Mr. Smyth, seconded by Mr. Hoke, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent agenda items.

Pointing Breed Field Trials – Retrieving Test

The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation to amend the *Standard Procedures for Pointing Breeds*, allowing clubs the option to host a retrieving test at Pointing Breed Field Trials. This is a pass-fail test where dogs that pass earn one retrieving credit which counts toward earning a Field Championship (FC) or Amateur Field Champion (AFC) title.

This change is effective November 1, 2026.

Lure Coursing – Allowing FSS® Breeds to Earn Prefix Titles

The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation to amend the *Lure Coursing Regulations*, allowing Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®) breeds to earn prefix titles in Lure Coursing. FSS® breeds have been eligible to earn prefix titles in Companion events.

The change will become effective upon the completion of programming.

Code of Sportsmanship & Civility Enforcement Policy Changes

The Board VOTED to approve a recommendation by the Compliance Department to incorporate the following clarifying language into the enforcement policy and continue to utilize the Discipline Guidelines to bring charges for more serious violations.

CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND CIVILITY ENFORCEMENT (AUGUST 2006 BOARD MEETING, AMENDED OCTOBER 2025, JULY 2026)

The Code of Sportsmanship and Civility is an affirmation of how registrants and participants should behave, and violations will be handled pursuant to the Charter and Bylaws and the Dealing with Misconduct at AKC Events booklet. Complaints will be handled by sending a copy to the subject of the complaint and giving him/her an opportunity to respond. ~~If the number or seriousness of the complaints against a person~~ Infractions of a lesser degree will be dealt with by an educational letter sent to the parties involved, affirming the Code of Sportsmanship and Civility.

If the AKC deems the seriousness of the conduct rises to the level requiring formal discipline (i.e. conduct prejudicial to purebred dogs, AKC events or the AKC), AKC will ~~consider preferring~~ prefer charges. ~~Infractions of a lesser degree will be dealt with by an educational letter sent to the parties involved, affirming the Code of Sportsmanship and Civility.~~

The changes are effective July 15, 2026.

Delegate Approvals

Colleen E. Kimble

To represent Glens Falls Kennel Club

Published in *AKC Gazette*: May, June 2026

William Maseth

To represent Progressive Dog Club

Published in *AKC Gazette*: June, July 2026

Sharon Smith

To represent Greenville Kennel Club

Published in *AKC Gazette*: April, May 2026

Barbara (Bobbie) J. Wood

To represent American Lhasa Apso Club

Published in *AKC Gazette*: April, May 2026

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss business matters. Nothing was reported out of this session.

Adjourned: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 12:35 p.m. Eastern Time.

Attest: _____
Sheila H. Goffe, Executive Secretary