

TOPKNOT NEWS
ISSUE 4, JUNE 2006 (Web Issue 22)



THE AHCA MISSION:

To preserve and protect the breeding of pure-bred Afghan Hounds and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.

2006 AHCA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Officers

President - Dr. Duane Butherus
1st Vice President - Abbe Shaw
2nd Vice President - Gill Ullom
Corresponding Secretary - Donna Amos
Recording Secretary - Sandy Nelson
Treasurer - Linda Jackson

Board of Directors

Helen Stein (2008)
Sandy Weinraub (2008)
Harry Bennett (2007)
Le Hedstrom (2007)
Dorma Sue Busby (2006)
Claudia Jakus (2006)

AKC Delegate - Connie Butherus

Topknot News co-editors - Ed & Pat Gilbert

topknotnewseditors@sbcglobal.net

The Objectives of

THE AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA INCORPORATED

1. To preserve and protect the breeding of pure-bred Afghan Hounds and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection.
2. To encourage the organization of independent local Afghan Hound Specialty Clubs in those areas where there are sufficient fanciers of the breed.
3. To urge members and breeders to be guided by the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club and to accept it as the only standard of excellence by which the Afghan Hound is to be judged.
4. To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the Afghan Hound and to encourage sportsmanlike conduct at dog shows.
5. To conduct sanctioned matches and specialty shows under the rules of the American Kennel Club.

2006 AHCA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Agility/Versatility – Janet Lenobel
AKC Gazette Column – Georgie Guthrie
Awards – Terry Chacon
Breed and Public Education – Linda Shipley
National Events Liaison – Abbe Shaw
Breeders Cup – Sharon Watson & Wynne Kalish
Budget and Finance – Gill Ullom
Canine Health – Sandy Frei & Edna “Midge” Martin
Canine Health Outreach - Eileen Laudermlch
Complaints – Board of Directors
Inventory – Sue Busby
Judges' Education - Harry Bennett
Junior Showmanship - Jody Gardner
Legislative Affairs – Stir Greer
Librarian - Helen Stein
Lure Coursing – Janet Lenobel
Membership – Sandy Weinraub
Mentor Program - Bobbi Keller
National Events Mailing – Helen Stein
National Events Liaison – Abbe Shaw
National Specialty - 2005 - Judy Bloom
National Specialty - 2006 - Tony Saia & JoAnne Buehler
National Specialty - 2007 – Stephen Fisher
Obedience – Not filled at time of issuing
Parliamentarian – Helen Stein/Conni Butherus
Policies & Procedures – Donna Amos
PPCPP Committee - Helen Stein
Publications Coordinator – Helen Stein
Regional Clubs - Harry Bennett
Rescue - Russ & Barb Hastings
Rescue Charitable Trust - Linda Jackson
Statistics - Sharon Watson
Topknot News – Ed & Pat Gilbert
Ways and Means – Sue Busby
Web Page – Webmaster- Chris Kaiser
Designer- Perry Rooks

THE AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA 70th ANNUAL SPECIALTY SHOW

The Afghan Hound Club of America proudly presents the 70th Annual Specialty Show on Sunday, September 17, 2006 through Thursday, September 21, 2006 at the Lancaster Host Resort and Conference Center

2300 Lincoln Highway East (Route30)
Lancaster, PA 17602
[e-mail: info@lancasterhost.com](mailto:info@lancasterhost.com)

Nestled in the heart of Lancaster County's historic Pennsylvania Dutch Country is the Lancaster Host Resort- a perfect venue to showcase our beautiful breed and a great location to enjoy following the Specialties. You can take a swing at the 18-hole championship golf course, dive into the indoor/outdoor swimming pools, play tennis, basketball, volleyball and even ride a bicycle on the 225 acre property. The show area is a totally secured 24,000 square foot Expo Hall with convenient access from all sides.

Hotel & Reservations: Hotel information can be accessed at: www.lancasterhost.com Call 1-800-233-0121 to make reservations. A special \$90.00 plus tax per day room rate has been arranged for us. Please be sure to mention the AHCA event when making reservations.

Judges

The judges for 2006 are: Betty Richards Dogs and Intersex
Romayne Strilka-Switch Bitches
Barbara Cassidy - Sweepstakes

Show Superintendent

Bob Peters
PO Box 579
Wake Forest, NC 27588
Tel 919-556-9516
Fax 919-554-0519
email: info@bpdsonline.com

Closing date is **WEDNESDAY August 30, 2006 FOR ALL EVENTS**

The AHCA National Specialty will be followed by these specialties at the same location:

Friday Sept 22nd: The Potomac Afghan Hound Club
Saturday Sept 23rd: The Lehigh Valley Afghan Hound Club

For additional information, please contact

Show Chairman: Tony Saia email: beachbrook@prodigy.net
Co-Chair: JoAnne Buehler e-mail: tazihound@his.com

AKC DELEGATE REPORT ON MEETING

March 13 & 14, 2006

The March 14 & 14 AKC delegates meeting was the annual meeting and election of the AKC Board of Directors. Thus the focus of the Caucus and Forum consisted of candidate's speeches and responses to questions. There were six candidates running for 3 positions. The voting by the 364 Delegates present and casting ballots took 3 attempts to complete the election. On the first ballot Nina Schaefer (Pa) and Bill Newman (Pa) garnered the required votes to be elected. The second ballot yielded no one obtaining the needed votes. On the third ballot, David Keane of Texas emerged as the victor.

The Delegates voted to amend the Bylaws regarding the AKC seal by adding "Founded 1884" to differentiate the AKC from other registries by emphasizing the longevity of the organization.

An update on the PAWS proposal legislation was again presented. Dennis Sprung provided us with his new toll-free numbers, 1-866-252-0095, for those of us in heed of bending his ear. He is a most responsible and responsive President.

The Parent Club Committee voted to support the request of four Parent Clubs regarding the Working Dog Sport. This will go to the Board for their consideration and required stamp of approval

Several delegates questioned the recent letter sent by AKC staff to "Commercial Breeders" offering financial inducements for obtaining AKC registration. The same consideration was apparently not made applicable to other breeders. It was stated that the Board had not voted to reduce the fee, however it was apparently part of the offer. Decline in AKC registration has been steady and of concern to all. However this staff innovation was not well received by the Delegate body.

Respectfully Submitted
Connie Butherus
AKC Delegate

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

No membership report because we have no new members applying as of 8 June 2006. If anyone needs or requests membership applications I now have them in my possession. Sandy Weinraub

NEW MEMBERS (6/10/06)

Ulrike Silvia Reinisch, DVM
5212 Allendale Rd.
Vacaville, CA 95688
Phone 707-678-7484

Amy Mero
1181 Pleasant St.
Brockton, MA 02301
Phone: 508-584-8411

SPONSORSHIP OF NEW MEMBERS

The Policies and Procedures, Section 154.0, Sponsorships of Applicants, covers the responsibilities for sponsoring a new member for AHCA membership. Sponsors must be fully committed to supporting any applicant they recommend.

154.0 SPONSORSHIP OF APPLICANTS:

154.1 Two letters of sponsorship from AHCA members in good standing must be submitted for each applicant. The sponsorship letters are to be forwarded directly to the membership chairperson. No action will be taken on an application unless both sponsoring letters have been received.

154.2 Letters of sponsorship must originate from separate households; that is, letters from a husband and wife or two persons residing in the same household do not constitute two letters of sponsorship for an applicant. However, a single sponsoring letter may apply to husband and wife applicants.

154.3 At least one of the sponsors must have visited the applicant's home and have viewed the facilities provided for housing dogs. The acceptability and/or nature of such facilities must be referenced in the sponsorship letter. Sponsors should be more than passing acquaintances of the applicant—sponsorship should not be taken lightly.

154.4 Members of the board of directors may sponsor applicants for membership. Only one sponsorship letter may originate from a member of the board of directors for an applicant. (3/04)

154.5 AHCA members may encourage persons they feel meet the requirements to apply for membership. Sponsorship of applicants is limited to two (2) per calendar year. (7/02)

154.6 Sponsorship of a prospective new member requires that the sponsoring member be a member of the AHCA continuously from the time the application is submitted until it is either accepted or rejected by the board.

TRIBUTE TO KAREN ARMISTEAD

There have been a lot of great champions in the world of Afghan Hounds, and Karen Armistead surely was one of them. Her fierce loyalty to the King of Dogs inspired her collection and guardianship of our historical materials, her advocacy for health issues, and the education of old and new fanciers. Tough and gruff, straightforward but sincere, precise and single-minded ... all of these, she was. She stepped on a few human toes along the way, but the Afghan Hound never had a greater advocate and protector than Karen, the longtime historian of the Afghan Hound Club of America.

This is how I'll remember her: Sitting in the front row at the parent club annual meetings, making her points and asking tough questions, all with the goal of doing something for the breed; Calling me at all hours of the day and night with something that she wanted to be discussed at the next board meeting; Her being genuinely touched when the AHCA made her an honorary life member a few years ago, accepting the designation only when she was assured that she could still have a real vote in all club issues.

She fought a long, difficult battle in her final years, but the same toughness that she exhibited on behalf of our breed also helped her last longer than anyone could have expected. Afghan Hound

people and Afghan Hounds alike are better off because we had her in our world for as long as we did.
Thanks, Karen, from all of us. May the Good Lord rest your soul.

Courtesy of The Afghan Hound Review, March – April 2006.

A TOAST TO KAREN ARMISTEAD AT THE RAINBOW BRIDGE Marijane MJ Moss

We have lost one of the Grande Dames of the breed. Opinionated, tough, smart, educated, devoted to our Hounds, profane and funny, she was an original. I am so fortunate to have got to know her at least a bit. I purchased her tape "A Key to Movement" about 5 years ago, watched it about 6 times and wrote her a note thanking her for the resource. This began a correspondence and, for a time, biweekly phone calls that sometimes lasted for hours of her tutelage and stories. Always the stories of Jane and Bob, of Sunny and Babie and Reigh, of the great hounds of the past and the instructions on care. I was fortunate to meet her at the Westchester show several years ago and spend the day in her company looking at dogs. Larry Wilt of Asia, had taken me to the show to meet some of the "important people" in the breed and I had a grand time. About a half hour into the tour I spotted a slight woman with brown hair carefully coiffed, flowery dress of a somewhat dated style, makeup impeccable and puffing on one of the many cigarettes of the day. I walked over and introduced myself and we were off. Knowing of her childhood and education, I was floored the first time she spewed a set of expletives to make a longshoreman weak. She was always supportive of my minor ambitions and never failed to comment on the pictures of our hounds I sent. With the exception of the long coma time, we stayed in touch by phone and note until two weeks before she went to the Rainbow Bridge. I will miss her, but it was time to see Silky, David and Cora and her Cairns again. They stride free and easy beyond the Bridge and be sure she is taking notes against the time you arrive. Thank you Karen Armistead for your care of our breed. (Editor's Note: The Thank You is extended by every one who has ever owned or now owns an Afghan Hound.)

OBEEDIENCE REPORT

Claudia Jakus

The following are the Obedience winners for 2005:

Top Obedience Dog: CAN CH, U-CD Charteroak Leprekan V Zuran, CDX RA, CAN CD, ASCA CD, Owner Gisela Bailey

Rally: What a Twist of Fate, CDX, RA, JC. NA OAJ-Owner Kathy Pugh

Agility: CH Bijan-Lyrix Megabucks, MX, MXJ, MACH-Owner Robin Kletke and Robin Cohen

The board made a motion to allow only Rally Advance or Rally Excellent for the Triathlon and the Versatility Award beginning in 2006.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, June 8, 2006

PAWS (S 1139/HR 2669):

This Legislation COULD affect your right to breed dogs.

On 11/8/2005, a Senate Committee hearing was held. Notably, testimony was scheduled and heard ONLY from supporters, with the AVMA and PIJAC representatives indicating need for revision of the bill. The bill is still in committee in both the Senate. The language has NOT been amended since its introduction.*

39 (of 150+) AKC Parent Clubs have formally stated opposition. See a listing of opposing organizations and AKC member clubs at www.saova.org. The Lehigh Valley Afghan Hound Association is listed among them.

On 11/17/2005, I sent an UNOFFICIAL email poll to 180+ Members (you received one if your email address was in the Membership list). 10 Responded. The AHCA Board is not ~~taking an~~ official stance on the PAWS issue (see Delegate Report and Board Minutes, last TN). I support this decision: a Board decision would not necessarily represent the majority of the Club; the AHCA is not centered in any one voting district; few AHCA members have expressed an interest in legislation.

However, if AHCA Members would like to see the CLUB take a vote on whether or not to take an official stance on this legislation, it would behoove them to make this wish known so that it could be put on the Agenda for the Annual Meeting.

Recently AKC Board Chairman Menaker used the recent Wolf kennel seizure (300+dogs in PA) as evidence of the need for legislation like PAWS, which is an interesting shift of focus of the "purpose" of legislation (which initially, was to go after internet puppy sales and importation). It should be noted that State laws already exist to cover this situation.

Also of note, PAWS author, Senator Rick Santorum (PA) has among his constituents a considerable puppy-producing industry (wholesale, though many do direct sale). Senator Santorum is up for re-election this Fall. Two cosponsors of PAWS have withdrawn their support.

*March 2006, Santorum released a "discussion draft" of PAWS, with a few changes, but the hobby breeder is STILL limited to 6 litters or 25 individual puppies, and there is STILL the inspection requirement by a third party (not APHIS) every 3 years. These are the two primary concerns of this bill to the hobby breeder.

If you have not contacted your legislators or the subcommittees, you still have the opportunity to do so, and voice your opposition or support. For more information about PAWS:

PRO—www.akc.org

CON—www.nopaws.org

OTHER Legislation:

--PETS Act is proposed (Federal) to require provisions to be made for pets in evacuations (rescue, shelter, care, etc.) (AKC supports)

--A New York (State) bill has been proposed to prohibit tail docking and ear cropping (AKC opposes).

--Los Angeles County (California) passed a Mandatory Spay Neuter policy (some dogs exempted). Riverside County is trying to follow suit.

--A California (State) bill prohibiting open-field coursing (and other stuff) did not make it out of committee.

--Albuquerque (NM) is facing extreme AR city legislation (see AKC site for more details).

GENERAL:

If you would like to look up US bills, go to thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.html

If you would like to receive emails from the AKC regarding proposed legislation, go to www.akc.org On the right, in the brown box, see Legislative Alerts Signup.

//Stir Greer

AFGHAN HOUND CLUB OF AMERICA LIBRARY REPORT (updated 6/8/06)

Scrapbooks and Photos

Barb Bornstein has scanned all of the AHCA's "scrapbook" photos and has put them on CDs. These will be available to the membership at a reasonable price in the near future, as a Library fundraiser.

Kennel Histories

The AHCA Library has plans to include a section of "Kennel Histories" in its archives.

We invite all breeders and fanciers of Afghan Hounds to submit a short but thorough biography of your involvement with the breed – what kennel(s) your original dogs came from, what pedigrees influenced your breeding and so forth. While this is not intended to be a "brag box" we would like to have a history of how bloodlines and kennels have come to be. Photos – clearly identified and with as much information you can include – will be most welcome!

Please submit your information including your Kennel Name (if applicable) as a Word document to Melinda Brown at the following e-mail address: LibraryAHCA@aol.com. Photos should be sent in jpeg format, please.

Note that any typos will remain as typos – so be sure your spelling is accurate!

This is an ongoing project and a big undertaking for Melinda.

On a side note – any photos of Afghan Hounds are welcome to be included in the Library's scrapbook collection. Please send photos (photos will be returned) to:

Helen Stein, PO Box 1177, Grants Pass, OR 97528 or email jpeg files to BeanieSue@aol.com. Please include as much information as you can – dog's registered name, sire & dam, breeders and owners, and date of photo.

The out-of-print Introduction to the Afghan Hound, originally published in 1974 should be available by Fall.

Thank you Melinda and Barb for all the hard work!
Helen Stein
AHCA Librarian

PURINA PARENT CLUB PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (PPCPP) Report for January-December, 2005:

There are 150 National Parent Clubs participating in the PPCPP. The Afghan Hound Club of America has 202 individuals who have signed up for the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program (you submit weight circles for credit to AHCA). This is an increase of 36 people from 9/05. Not all are AHCA members; they are anyone who designates that their weight circles be credited to AHCA.

From 1/1/05 through 12/31/05, 60 Pro Club members (for AHCA) have submitted weight circles resulting in a total of \$1,508.42 accumulated for the 2005 program. Half of that money -- \$754.21 – is given to the AHCA. The other half is donated to the Canine Health Foundation for use in our donor advised fund.

The money given to AHCA from Purina is to be spent only on Rescue, Education, or Health Research.

Statistics 2004 vs 2005

	2004	2005
Individuals enrolled	166	202
Individuals redeeming weight circles	58	60
Money earned	\$1,156.31	\$1,508.42
AHCA Share	\$ 578.16	\$ 754.21

I have renewed our participation in this program through December, 2008.

Helen Stein
PPCPP Committee

2006 BREEDERS' CUP FINANCIAL REPORT

Oct. 1, 2005 through June 18, 2006

Total Income - \$5,873.00

Total Expense - \$5,210.64

Net Income – 662.36

DEBBIE WEBB, GAZON, JUDGED THE 2006 BREEDERS' CUP

It was an honor to be selected by my peers to judge the Eighteenth annual AHCA Breeders Cup in Mesa, Arizona on March 24, 2006. I would like to thank the AHCA and the Breeders Cup show committee headed by Eileen Laudermilch for their hospitality. I would like to commend them on the excellent job they did putting together such a wonderful show. The show site was beautiful and the atmosphere relaxed. The trophy table reflected the Southwest venue with Horse Hair pottery with Southwestern adornment made by Denise Ross for the class placements and the BOB and BOS trophies being Afghan Hound puppy statues created by Dianne Kresevich also reflecting the Southwest. The dinner following the show was excellent and the setting, an outside courtyard with fountains and twinkling lights in the surrounding trees, quite beautiful.

Overall I was very pleased with the quality of the entry. Muscle tone and conditioning were strong in most cases as was coat quality and natural patterning. I was pleased to see puppies with faces full of monkey whiskers and fuzzy saddles that were not prematurely plucked. There was a good percentage of level, strong toplines as well as short, strong hocks. Tail set and croup angle was varied with a few exhibits showing tails hitting their back. Probably the most variance existed in head type and expression.

My class winners are described below:

6-9 Dog: ABACA SHA-CONE FREE SPIRIT - Black masked red. A houndy, leggy puppy with good overall balance, long strong neck and keen expression. He has effortless, balanced movement.

9-12 Dog: WINSONG HOLLYWOOD PARK – Blue brindle. Another houndy, leggy puppy with beautiful detailing. He has a long arched neck, strong level top, excellent croup angle and tail set. He has prominent hip bones and a beautiful long tail finished off with a ring. He also has a very detailed headpiece and exotic expression. His front assembly is flawless with excellent shoulder angulation and return of upper arm which is complemented by an equally angled, strong rear. His movement is effortless, ground covering and strong. This was my eventual BOB winner.

12- 15 Dog: ALLURE'S SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER - Black masked red. This is a powerful, strong dog in excellent condition. He has a beautiful headpiece with fierce expression. A very balanced dog with good angles. He moves with determination and power.

15-18 Dog: GWICH'IN PEYTON TOUCHDOWN - Cream. A nicely balanced dog with good angulation front and rear, a strong neck and prominent hip bones.

18-21 Dog: HORIZON PRIME TIME - Blue/Cream domino. The most striking feature of this dog was his headpiece and expression. He has excellent eye shape and placement, a strong underjaw and beautiful detailing. He has a strong easy gait.

6-9 Bitch: SHA-CONE ABACA KACHINA SPIRIT - Red brindle. This is a littermate to the 6-9 Dog class winner. A bit more compact than her brother she has beautiful balance and excellent muscle tone. Like her brother her movement is balanced and effortless.

9-12 Bitch: THAON'S BARBARELLA. Red Brindle - This is a very feminine, beautifully balanced puppy. She has a long strong neck with a beautiful fit into correctly angled shoulders with excellent return of upper arm. She has a strong topline with prominent hip bones, excellent croup angle and tail set. Her rear is well angulated with short, strong hocks. Her movement is effortless, her timing impeccable. In an extremely strong class her balance and consistency pushed her to the top. This was my eventual BOS winner.

12-15 Bitch: HILLSIDE DUBBONET - Black and blue? This is a very leggy, houndy young bitch with beautiful detailing, long neck, prominent hip bones good croup and tail set. A balanced mover.

15-18 Bitch: GWICH'IN CANDYLAND - Blue. This bitch has a great ring presence. She is moderately angled and balanced. She has good detailing across the top with a level topline and prominent hip bones. She has a very feminine head and excellent expression.

BOB - Winsong Hollywood Park
BOS - Thaon's Barbarella

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the breeders and exhibitors at the Breeders Cup this year. It was a pleasure judging this promising group of youngsters!

**UPCOMING AFGHAN HOUND REGIONAL SPECIALTIES for
2006 & 2007**
Ed and Pat Gilbert

July 1 Greater Pittsburg AHC
Mrs. S. W. Frei: Breed, Junior Showmanship
Kathryn Carr: Puppy Sweeps

July 2 Greater Pittsburg AHC
R. A. Godfrey: Breed
Anita Richards: Puppy Sweeps

July 7 Sand 'N' Sea AHC of Florida
Mrs. L. Gindlesperger: Breed
Carol Penta: Puppy Sweeps

July 7 Finger Lakes AHC
M. Coccozza: Breed
Mrs. D. M. O'Brien: Obedience
Floyd Gale: Puppy Sweeps

July 14 AHC of Greater Portland
Mrs. Delberta Gogulski: Breed
Charles A. Bagnell: Junior Showmanship
Ms. T. Temple: Obedience
Marilyn Thompson: Puppy Sweeps & Veteran Sweeps

July 28 Monterey Bay AHC
Stephen Fisher: Breed
Sweeps

July 28 AHC of Greater Milwaukee
Arlyne (Diane) Ross: Breed
James A. Prosapio: Puppy Sweeps

August 5 Evergreen AHC
Ms. M. L. Mercer: Breed, Junior Showmanship
Debbie Webb: Puppy Sweeps & Veteran Sweeps

August 19 AHC of Memphis
Russell McFadden: Breed
Dorothy Edge: Sweeps

August 25 Greater Twin Cities AHC, Inc.
Mrs. H. W. Stein: Breed, Junior Showmanship
Sandy Nelson: Puppy Sweeps

September 8 AHC of Greater Denver, Inc.
David R. Cochran: Breed
Jean Pero: Junior Showmanship
Joanne Weatherly: Puppy Sweeps & Veteran Sweeps

September 22 Potomac AHC
Steve Kelly: Dogs
Janis Reital: Bitches & Intersex

September 23 Lehigh Valley AHC
Roberto Velez-Pico: Regular Classes
Stephen Fisher: Breed
Honi Reisman: Sweeps

November 10 AHC of Greater Houston
Terry Wilcox (Australia): Breed
Tim Robbins: Junior Showmanship & Sweeps

February 10, 2007 Nutmeg AHC
Reginald Nesbitt: Breed
Julie Roche: Sweeps

April 27, 2007 Nineteenth Annual Breeders' Cup
Fort Worth, TX
April 28, 2007 AHC of Dallas
April 29, 2007 AHC of Dallas

**AHCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY PROPOSALS FOR 2008 and
2009**

Contact Abbe Shaw, ABACA101@aol.com, for submitting AHCA National Specialty proposals. The following provides the Guidelines. Abbe has a few show sites that are seeking National Specialties. Abbe will share this information with interested parties.

**GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING AN AHCA NATIONAL
SPECIALTY SHOW PROPOSAL**

If you would like to submit a proposal to Chair the Afghan Hound Club of America National Specialty Show here are guidelines to use in putting your proposal together. The more complete your proposal, the better your possibility of receiving acceptance by the AHCA Board of Directors. AHCA NATIONAL SPECIALTIES
The AHCA Policies & Procedures:
Document 800.1. The Board of the Afghan Hound Club of America shall have the responsibility for selecting the show site and dates, in accordance with existing guidelines, and the show Chairman (who must be a member of the AHCA) for its National Specialty. Thereafter, the Show Chairman, working closely with the AHCA events Coordinator, will have primary responsibility for the event. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the National Specialty must be held during the months of September, October or November.
Document 801.2 Effective 2003. When the National Specialty Show is held in conjunction with Regional Club Specialty Shows

the National must be the lead show with the Regional Specialty Shows following the National. (GM 11/01)
Document 801.3 The parent club and its individual members put on the National Specialty independently of Regional Clubs. While the AHCA will endeavor to work with Regional Clubs and their Specialties, the Premium List for the National will not be combined with Regional Specialty Premium Lists. (Revised 6/98) (10/99, 7/02)

Document 401.1 When a site and date is approved by the Board of Directors for a national event, the Board Liaison to that event will contact the Regional Clubs Director to reference which regional Clubs might have a conflicting date. The Board Liaison will notify any and all of these clubs of the conflicting date giving the club(s) the option to remain on the same date, apply for a different date for that year, or pass on holding a Specialty Show.

Host Hotel & Conformation Judging:

Site: Location of Host Hotel (city, distance from airport, shuttle service if available, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, etc.). Please describe the hotel and submit brochures if possible.

Use of Facilities: Normal size of the area which should include the show ring, spectator seating, grooming and possibly vendors is 10,000 square feet. Please include the following:

1. Room rate and rate based on a sliding scale; i.e. the number of rooms you expect to book
2. Number of hotel rooms available at this facility
3. Number of nights we will require use of the ballroom for such events as the Awards Dinner, Breeder Symposium Dinner, Parties, etc.
4. Number of complimentary rooms received per number of rooms booked; the recommendation is usually four complimentary rooms per night but always get these rooms for free if you can
5. Clean up charge for the ballroom, etc. if required by the hotel
6. Ring equipment such as speakers platform, trophy table, public address system, tables and chairs necessary for vendors
7. Location and size of room where the dinners will be held if not held in the ballroom
8. Location and size of room where the vendor booths will be placed
9. Location and size of room for grooming
10. Tenting if show is held outdoors
11. A secure room for the storage of trophies, rosettes, etc. during the evening hours
12. Need for smaller rooms for meetings, such as Rescue, Regional Club, etc.
13. Location for annual membership meeting for approximate 75-100 people
14. Cost of all the above.

Lure Coursing

Site: Location of the field to be used for the Lure Trial (city & distance from the host hotel).

Please include the following:

1. Approximate size of the Lure Coursing field with minimum size of 300 ft. x 300 ft. or two connected football fields
2. Type of fencing around the field
3. Amount of liability insurance required by facility or city for use of the field

(803.8) The first page of the Lure Coursing Premium List shall state if the Lure Coursing Field is enclosed by boundaries and if so what type of boundaries. (3/04)

Equipment: Knowledgeable people in your area to assist in transport, set up and running the equipment.
Include cost of lure trial equipment rental.

Agility Trial

Site: Location of the facilities to be used for the Agility Trial (city & distance from the host hotel).

Please include the following:

1. Approximate size of the Agility field with a minimum size of the agility ring at 80 ft. x 100 ft. to 100 ft. x 100 ft. or a minimum of 8,000 square feet
2. Type of fencing around agility site

3. Amount of liability insurance required by facility or city where held

Equipment: Knowledgeable people in your area to help transport and set up the agility equipment.

Include cost of equipment rental.

Obedience

Site: Location of the Obedience Trial (city & distance from the host hotel). Please include the following:

1. Size of the facility for the obedience trial with a minimum size of 40 ft. x 50 ft. required

2. Type of fencing if this trial is held outdoors

3. Amount of liability insurance if required

Equipment: Knowledgeable people available to transport and set up the equipment

1. Use of mats or other suitable flooring, including cost of mats, if trial is held indoors

2. Type of fencing if trial is held outdoors

3. Cost of obedience equipment

Miscellaneous But Important

1 You must have a Show Secretary/Superintendent for this event who is knowledgeable in Conformation, Obedience, Lure Coursing and Agility and include their cost or fee.

2 You must have an Assistant Show Chairman and three (3) additional AHCA members who are qualified to sit on your Bench Show Committee and are familiar with the AKC Rules and Regulations.

The Assistant Show Chairman and the three additional Bench Show Committee members do not have to be local to your area.

TOPKNOT NEWS

Any input for Topknot News should be sent to Topknot News E-mail address - topknotnewseditors@sbcglobal.net