

Larry Sorenson
AKC Delegate
89 S Two Does Ln
Clayton, NC 27520
919 550 7631

Delegate's Report for AKC Board Meeting February 2011

Complete Minutes of this meeting are located at:

http://www.akc.org/pdfs/about/delegates_meeting/dec09.pdf

Points of Interest from the complete minutes:

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Total annual revenues for 2010 of \$56.3 million were 7% below the prior year. 2010's total operating expenses of \$56.7 million were **2% less than 2009.** This resulted in an operating **deficit of \$413,000 for last year.**

Our investments generated a gain of \$6.5 million or 10% in 2010.

The report says it all. LLS

Article VII, Section 1 of AKC Bylaws

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Greater Collin Kennel Club to amend Article VII, Section 1 of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club to preclude someone from being re-elected to the AKC Board of Directors for a full term of four years after they have served two consecutive terms. The Board took no action. The amendment therefore will be read in March 2011, with a vote in June 2011, with no Board recommendation.

This is interesting; I would have believed the Board would have voted NO on this subject. However, forwarding the decision to the delegate body is very good. I believe it is good to let the fancy decide. LLS

Wikipedia

It had previously been noted that the Wikipedia content entry for The American Kennel Club included misleading and incorrect information. The Delegate Canine Health Committee had been requested to, and has provided, suggested changes. The American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation has also been asked for input. A final version will be prepared by AKC's Communications Department and an effort will be made to have this factual information placed on Wikipedia.

This is a good item. LLS

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Lisa Gonzalez, David Roberts, Mark Dunn, and Michelle Baker, participated via video

conference.

There was an update on the various initiatives and programs instituted to reduce the rate of decline in registrations. There was also an update on the Canine Partners program.

I would like to know much more about this. The decline in registration has NOT stopped, it is time for changes. LLS

Conformation Junior Showmanship Regulations – Master Class

Following a motion by Mr. Goodman, seconded by Mr. Marden, it was VOTED (unanimously) to add a new regular class called Master Class to Section 5. Classes and Divisions of the *Conformation Junior Showmanship Regulations*.

The new class regulation reads as follows:

Section 5, New Section (C)

(C) **Master.** This class will be for boys and girls who are at least 9 years old and under 18 years on the day of the show, and who have won the 10 first place wins in an Open Class Competition. The calendar for this class will be November 1- October 31 of the following year.

All Juniors meeting the criteria for this class are required to enter the Master Class and may change their entry without charge the day of the show if entries have already closed. Once the eligibility time frame for that year has passed all participants return to the Open Class to compete for the following year.

I think this will be a good change. LLS

Open Show

The Board reviewed a staff request to permit clubs to offer a pilot program, currently being called an “Open Show”, as a special attraction to help refine and validate the proposed regulations that would be used for a new AKC Sanctioned “Open Show” event in 2012. This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

This may be beneficial, let me know what you think. I need to know more about the plan to have a real opinion. LLS

Enriching Dog Shows

Based on a request from the Board, Staff presented an analysis on the number of All-Breed Conformation dogs shows held annually with recommendations to current policies. Additionally, they recommended new programs that could enrich the dog show experience for exhibitors and clubs which include the **Open Show proposal, an AKC Owner Handler Series and an Adult Handler Competition.**

Adult Handler Competition??? I don't believe this is beneficial, what do you think? AKC Owner Handler may have some benefits. LLS

New Conformation Events

There was a lengthy discussion on the proliferation of new shows and the negative impact this was having on the entries at long established events. With thirteen All-Breed, twenty Group, and one hundred and fifty-seven Specialty clubs at the Sanctioned Match level there could be as many as three hundred and eighty additional shows within the next year or two.

There was a motion by Mrs. Strand, seconded by Mr. Kalter, and it was VOTED (unanimously)

to place an indefinite moratorium on the licensing of new Conformation clubs, with the exception of new breed Parent clubs, while AKC studies the issue of the increase in the numbers of shows accompanied by average decline in entries.

There was a motion by Mr. Kalter, seconded by Mr. Davies, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to not approve any additional All-Breed or Group shows for existing clubs while the AKC studies the issue of the increase in the number of shows accompanied by declining entries. **Thus an All-Breed or Group club that has been holding one show a year will not be approved for more than one show a year.**

WE better think about this one, it is designed to limit the number of dog shows. No one in Utah, or other remote areas, thinks there are too many dog shows. It is largely the cities, populated area, which thinks there are too many dog shows. ????? LLS

Proposed Dog Show Rule Changes

In January the Board approved amendments which would have created a Reserve Best in Show Placement and fifth and sixth placements in the Groups. It was to have been read in March for a vote in June 2011. However, the Board agreed to postpone the read until June, with a vote in September.

DO we really need this????? LLS