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Delegates' Report for December 16, 2011 Meeting
Held in Orlando, FL

This is the highlights of the Delegates' Meeting; a complete set of Delegates' Meeting Minutes is located at http://www.akc.org/pdfs/about/delegates_meeting/dec11.pdf

I have a reply from AKC Registration on the subject of not publishing the names of the BOM on the website. It has been approved and is on the waiting list to be implemented by the IT Department. I believe it will be a while before it is completed.

All the board candidate speeches for the seven individuals running for the board are in the complete minutes. Please go to the AKC website to review them.

Points of interest from the Delegates' Meeting

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The Chair introduced Jim Stevens who presented the Chief Financial Officer's report. A summary follows:

Mr. Stevens provided an update on an article he had previously prepared for *Perspectives* in March 2008 **on the need for AKC to retain a New York headquarters. The lease for the headquarters expires in 2018. A number of factors were reviewed in substantiating the benefits of having a headquarters location in New York. Management will conduct a comprehensive review in 2016 of the feasibility of combining AKC's two offices into one location as the current lease expires.**

Total revenues of \$49.1 million for the first eleven months of **2011 were 6 1/2% lower than last year.** The major sources of our revenues continued to be adversely impacted by a shrinking number of breeders, limited sponsorship and licensing opportunities and a dwindling number of affinity credit card holders spending less money. Successful ongoing cost containment efforts resulted in total year-to-date expenses being slightly less than the previous year.

This resulted in **a year-to-date operating deficit of \$4.4 million.** However, our operations maintained a positive cash flow of \$1.5 million during this period. This was due to certain expenses being of a non-cash nature, such as depreciation.

A difficult stock market environment over the past few months of this year resulted in a year-to-date investment loss of \$1.7 million. This represented a negative return of (minus) 2.1%.

I have in bold the parts, I would like you to take interest in. LLS

Items voted on:

The Delegates considered the proposed amendment to Chapter 7, Section 1 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, which would eliminate the prohibition of a person connected with dog food, dog remedy or kennel supply companies in the capacity of solicitor or salesman, from becoming an AKC judge.

The next Bylaw vote was on the proposed amendment to Article VI, Section 7 of the *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club*, which would allow that when the

Board has determined that a seated Delegate is ineligible to serve under Section 5, the Delegate's club may appeal to the Delegate Body. The Delegate's club has been permitted to appeal that decision under Section 7, even though this is not specifically provided for in this section. So this amendment would make such provision, thus bringing this section of the Bylaws into alignment with actual practice. The proposal was read to you in June and published in two issues of the *Gazette*, and was on the worksheet previously distributed. The amendment was approved by AKC's Board of Directors. (The amendment is effective September 13, 2011).

The proposal was read at the September 2011 meeting. It was published in two issues of the *Gazette*. The proposed amendment was brought forward by the Colorado Springs Kennel Club and was not approved by the Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Sidney Marx, Delegate for the Colorado Springs Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Good morning, Delegates, and Happy Holidays. Since I first brought this proposal on behalf of the Colorado Springs Kennel Club, I have received many emails and phone calls in support of it, understanding that this is an archaic rule that needs to be changed. However, there seems to be a need to simplify it. And for that reason, I want to amend my proposal. All I want to do is take out the words "connected with" and change it to "employed by." Our goal in this is very simply that we feel that those good breeders and exhibitors who may have a retail booth at a show, who may sell some dog food retail, should be allowed the same opportunity to apply to judge as everybody else. We just want to eliminate that problem.

So at this point, all I want to do is change "connected with" to "employed by."

Mr. Sprung: What we have now is a proposed amendment that would be within the scope. We want to retain the current sentence changing the words "connected with" to "employed by." Is there a second?

The amendment to the proposed amendment was adopted.

The Delegates voted on the original amendment as amended, which now had the words "employed by" added.

This one had a majority but failed to obtain the 2/3 majority required. I am not sure what the objections were. LLS

To be voted on in the future:

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 16, Section 1, new sixth paragraph, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* which would create a new three-point major for the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and the bitch designated Reserve Winners Bitch at one national specialty each year, provided the number of dogs competing in the Reserve Winners sex qualifies for a five-point major, specified by the AKC Breed Parent Club.

This amendment was brought forward by the Progressive Dog Club and the AKC Board of Directors has not made a recommendation. It will be published in two issue of AKC *Gazette* and voted on at the March 2012 meeting.

This one has run into some resistance. We need to discuss this at the DCA board meeting. LLS

The Executive Secretary gave an overview on the amendments pertaining to the Group Realignment as follows:

The effect of the amendments will be to increase the number of variety groups at an

all-breed show from seven to eleven. The changes include splitting the Sporting Group into two groups, the Hound Group into two groups, and the Working Group into three groups. The full list of the proposed groups are included on the worksheet previously distributed and is on the Portal. You will be asked to vote on increasing the number of groups as well as the name of these groups. **The actual assignment of breed groups will be made by the AKC Board, considering the recommendations of the Realignment Committee and all pertinent input from the breed Parent Clubs.**

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Section 1, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows-Dog Show Classifications*, **which would increase the number of groups from seven to eleven.** The amendment is made by the Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the March 2012 meeting.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 6, Section 3, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows - Premium Lists and Closing Entries*, **which would remove all references to seven groups and eliminate a specific number.**

This amendment was brought forward by the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on it at the March 2012 meeting.

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 3, Section 15-20, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows-Dog Show Classifications*, which would remove all references to seven groups and eliminate a specific number. **The Delegates must still approve any increase in the number of groups listed in Chapter 3, Section 1, so that all of the references to a number are unnecessary.**

This amendment was made by the Board of Directors and will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on at the March 2012 meeting.

[Here are the issues: The delegates decide the number and the names of the groups and the Board places the breeds in the groups. If we eliminate a specific number of groups in the rules, the board could then go to any number without Delegate oversight. This action in Chapter 3, Section 1 leaves the Groups approval as it now stands. LLS](#)

The Chair recognized Patricia Laurans, Delegate for the Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, who spoke as follows:

This is a request, not a question. As a result of discussions held at the Parent Club Committee meeting, we understand the role and responsibility of the Board to assign the breeds to a group. We request that the breeds assigned to each group, which would be approved by the Board, be made public to all of us so we can contact our clubs to be able to do a more knowledgeable vote at the time of the March meeting. Thank you.

[This is right on track. Do not surprise the delegate body. LLS](#)

The Executive Secretary read the proposed amendment to Chapter 2 of the *Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline-Registrable Breeds by Group*, which would increase the number of groups from seven to eleven.

This amendment was adopted by the Board of Directors and it will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and voted on it at the March 2012 meeting.

[Dachshunds are easy, we go to the Scent Hound Group. Not all breeds are so lucky. I need DCA Board input about voting on this. LLS](#)
http://www.akc.org/events/conformation/group_realignment.cfm