

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FEBRUARY 2008 BOARD MEETING

New York, NY - Highlights from the February 2008 meeting of the AKC Board of Directors are as follows:

* The Malta Kennel Club was added to the list of registries with pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration.

* The Regulations for AKC Coonhound Bench Shows, Field Trials, Nite Hunts and Water Races were amended to prohibit individuals currently under AKC suspension from accompanying casts to the field in Nite Hunt competition.

* The approval criteria for Obedience judges were revised as follows, effective immediately.

Provisional judges must judge a minimum of ten (10) assignments and have judged a minimum of one hundred and fifty (150) dogs prior to applying for regular status. In addition, two (2) satisfactory observations must be completed with the second observation being done within one year prior to the request for regular status.

Upon completion of the requirements for provisional status, the applicant may apply for regular status as well as for provisional status for the next class level.

* The approval criteria for Beagle Field Trial judges were revised to provide that in order to maintain judging eligibility an "advanced" seminar must be attended once every six years. After three advanced seminars, no further seminars are required. This change is effective December 31, 2009. After January 1, 2011 no one will be approved to judge a Beagle Field Trial events if they have not attended a semester in the past six years.

* All Beagle field event judges who last attended a seminar prior to the year 2000 have until the end of 2009 to attend the Advanced Seminar.

* By the end of 2010, all Beagle field event judges must meet the "seminar in the last six years" qualification.

* After January 1, 2011 no one will be approved to judge a Beagle field event if they have not attended a seminar in the past six years.

The following Delegates were approved:

* Joanne E. Kinnelly, Ann Arbor, MI, to represent Kalamazoo Kennel Club

* Rose Robischon, New Hampton, NY, to represent Wallkill Kennel Club

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The American Kennel Club, founded in 1884, is a not-for-profit organization which maintains the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world and oversees the sport of purebred dogs in the United States. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. More than 20,000 competitions for AKC-registered purebred dogs are held under AKC rules and regulations each year including conformation, agility, obedience, rally, tracking, herding, lure coursing, coonhound events, hunt tests, field and earthdog tests. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Companion Animal Recovery and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit www.akc.org.

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