

2012 ANNUAL DUES NOTICE

SENIOR CONFORMATION JUDGES ASSOCIATION

Web Site: www.scja.org Email Address: scja@cox.net

Our annual dues of \$40.00 (\$50.00 for husband & wife or those at the same address) are now due. For those members who were on the ball and sent their dues in on their own, and for our recently joined members, there will be a highlighted **“NO DUES DUE!”** line at the bottom of the enclosed dues notice. Do not send your dues in, but please return the form since it asks for other information. Please take the time to fill out the dues notice completely, responding to the questions concerning your interests in upcoming events and return it as soon as possible!!!

 LAST NAME (please print) (address label preferred) FIRST NAME (please print)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK _____ CELL _____
 (if it is OK to call)

ANNUAL DUES....\$40 HUSBAND & WIFE (or members same household)....\$50

Please send check payable to SCJA and return to: SCJA 7200 Tanager St. Springfield, VA 22150 or if using PayPal, PayPal payment address is scja@scja.org, **BUT PLEASE** remember to fill out this form and return to SCJA (address above).

Change of address, phone, or email:

 Address (address label preferred)

 Phone Email Address (please print clearly)

INTERESTED IN OR MAY ATTEND:

Plan to Attend Send Info

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. NEW YORK Feb. 2012 | _____ | |
| 2. GRADUATE INSTITUTE ON ALL HERDING BREEDS | _____ | _____ |
| 3. For Group judges: Are you interested in donating one or two shows a year (as in our original program) in order to help the provisional judges and the clubs? | | |
| _____ YES _____ NO | | |

4. Please indicate if you are a Show Chair, President, Officer or Delegate (circle any that apply)

WHY NOT SEND IN YOUR DUES TODAY WHILE IT IS FRESH ON YOUR MIND?



Sound Judgment

Senior Conformation Judges Association, Inc.

Newsletter Vol. XXVII111 #1 Fall 2011

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

THIS EDITION OF THE SCJA NEWSLETTER HAS YOUR DUES NOTICE. We request you take five minutes to answer the questions on the dues notice (enclosed) concerning your interests in upcoming events and mail it in with your dues. Our annual dues of \$40.00 (\$50.00 for husband & wife or those living at the same address) are now due. For those members who were on the ball and sent their dues in on their own, and for our recently joined members, there will be a highlighted "**NO DUES DUE!**" line at the bottom of the enclosed dues notice. Do not send your dues in, but please return the form since it asks for other information. Please take the time to fill out the dues notice completely and return it with your dues as soon as possible to: SCJA 7200 Tanager St. Springfield, VA 22150!!!

SCJA IS NOW SET UP TO USE PAYPAL www.paypal.com for those who wish to use it to pay their dues. SCJA's PayPal payment address is scja@scja.org. Please remember that this is the SCJA PayPal payment address only – any email correspondence should still be directed to scja@cox.net.

(In the past, to make it easy for you, we enclosed a self-addressed envelope to return your dues & answers. In order to save the association \$500 or \$600 and many hours of work, we are emailing this trusting that you won't mind volunteering the few minutes to address an envelope to mail in your dues and answers.)

(Just think about how many minutes it took us to put out this newsletter.) 😊 Your cooperation is appreciated. **WHY NOT DO IT NOW WHILE IT IS FRESH ON YOUR MIND?**

WE WANT TO REITERATE ANY MEMBER IS FREE TO DISCUSS AND SEEK ADVICE ON HOW TO HANDLE ANY MATTER YOU PERCEIVE TO BE A PROBLEM INCLUDING ANY REPORT OR CONVERSATION WITH ANYONE IN AUTHORITY AT THE AKC. YOUR ORGANIZATION WAS INCORPORATED 28 YEARS AGO AND IS HERE TO HELP YOU IN ANY WAY AND ALL AREAS INVOLVING YOUR JUDGING CAREER.

WORTHY OF NOTE - NO SCJA funds have ever been spent for office space or utilities except for communication. No members have ever received any remuneration for their services. Some of our members donate their own funds for travel and other expenses.

IMPORTANT – Always include a phone number with all emails. We simply do not have the staff to answer all the emails, and mainly, Col. Pedé is not known for his typing skills. The phone is another story. 😊

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW YORK FEBRUARY 8th – 15th, 2012 WESTMINSTER WEEK

We strongly recommend you make your reservations ASAP!

NEW YORK'S HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA, 401 7th Ave., New York, NY 10001 (across from the front entrance to the Garden on 7th Ave.) 1-800-223-8585 or 1-212-736-5000. Be sure you tell them you want the "**SENIOR CONFORMATION JUDGES BLOCK**". Rates for Wednesday & Thursday, February 8th, 9th and Wednesday, February 15th are \$99 for one bed and \$119 for two beds, with or without dogs. Without dogs, rates for Friday, February 10th through Tuesday, February 14th are \$179 for one bed and \$199 for two beds. With dogs, rates for Friday, February 10th – Tuesday, February 14th are \$199 for one bed and \$219 for two beds. Premium rooms with dogs are \$299 for one or two beds. Two-night minimum stay required. The above rates are subject to all taxes. Check in 3PM and check out 12 noon.

NEW YORKER HOTEL, 481 Eighth Ave. at 34th St., New York, NY 10001 (behind the Garden on 8th Ave.) 1-800-764-4680 or 1-212-971-0101. Tuesday, February 7th through Thursday, February 16th, 2012. **Be sure you tell them you want the block** for "**SENIOR CONFORMATION JUDGES ASSOCIATION ROOM BLOCK**" Booking Code: CGSCJ12. Standard 1 queen bed - \$229, two double beds, single or double from \$249; triple from \$269; quad from \$289 and plaza suite, two double beds - \$319. Above rates are subject to all taxes.

AGAIN, WE SUGGEST YOU MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY! Anyone interested in looking for a roommate, let us know via email but include a phone number and address. We will put you in touch with each other.

THE AMERICAN CANINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION (ACEF) & THE SENIOR CONFORMATION JUDGES ASSOCIATION (SCJA) 29th ANNUAL BUFFET RECEPTION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, 2012. COME CELEBRATE OUR 29th ANNUAL BUFFET RECEPTION at the New York's Hotel Pennsylvania in the Penn Top Ballroom from 7:30PM to Midnight. Mark your calendar, and don't miss a really fun party that is well represented by a true cross-section of our sport. Our members and others enjoy the opportunity to meet and exchange views with their fellow judges, breeders, exhibitors and show officials. Everyone agrees the ACEF Sunday night party is the place to be for a friendly and enjoyable evening.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

IF YOU WILL BE IN NEW YORK, DO PLAN TO ATTEND. No speeches, no programs. Dress: Semi-Formal. A few of the men wear a tux but you will be perfectly at ease in a coat & tie, and the ladies like their evening gowns but others will be perfectly at ease in a dressy dress. **The cost of our buffet reception remains once again at \$50.00 per person.** There will be plenty of good food, a cash bar and most of all, there will be an "across the board" representation of the Dog World from newcomers to old timers and all in between: judges, professional handlers and their enthusiastic young assistants, exhibitors, superintendents and officials. Let us know if you plan to be in New York during the Westminster week (on the dues notice form or via email scja@cox.net). REFRESHINGLY DIFFERENT FOR A NEW YORK PARTY, EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO SIT DOWN, ENJOY A DRINK AND CONVERSATION. Party form is enclosed with this newsletter and on our web site www.scja.org as well as the ACEF web site www.k9education.org.

BOX SEATS FOR WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB SHOW

The Westminster Kennel Club has placed severe restrictions on the number of available box seats. The SCJA has reserved a number of box seats through the years, and priority will go to SCJA members and ACEF patrons for 10 days. Checks should be made out to the SCJA and mailed to the Chief Executive Officer by November 28th, 2011. Box seats are good for both dates' admission (Monday, February 13th and Tuesday, February 14th, 2012). A reserved box seat ticket is \$140.00 per ticket. Tickets and judging programs will be mailed in the latter part of January 2012. Box seat ticket request forms are enclosed with this newsletter and on our web site. **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE! THERE IS A LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE.**

Every year there are a number of people looking for a decent box seat. Additional seats will not be available this year. **DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 28th, 2012 BUT REMEMBER FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE. PRIORITY TO SCJA MEMBERS AND ACEF PATRONS FOR THE FIRST 10 DAYS.** When you send your check, **PLEASE INCLUDE A LARGE SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE - at least 4 ¾" x 11" - WITH AT LEAST 3 STAMPS FOR POSTAGE PER TWO TICKETS & PROGRAM (MORE POSTAGE FOR A LARGER NUMBER OF TICKETS) FOR US TO RETURN YOUR TICKETS. REMEMBER PROGRAMS ARE INCLUDED WITH TICKETS. IMPORTANT - BE SURE YOUR ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER ARE ON YOUR CHECK!!!** Checks made out to the **SCJA** for \$140.00 per box seat ticket (good for both days). If you email us for any reason, always include a day and evening phone number.

ACEF GRADUATE INSTITUTE ON THE HERDING GROUP

The ACEF has scheduled the Herding Group for our Graduate Institute in Louisville, KY, for Wednesday, March 14th through Sunday, March 18th, 2012 (registration check-in on Tuesday evening, March 13th). No matter which Herding breed you need, it will be covered. Onofrio Dog Show staff cooperate 100% to maintain the success it has been. All Herding breeds will be covered by parent club approved mentors. You may advise us on the dues notice that you return, or we can be reached by email scja@cox.net or phone (703) 451-5656, or emailing ACEF Director of Education, Nina Sherrer, at nina@k9education.org. Please, when emailing us, put **2012 HERDING GROUP. Always include a day and evening telephone number with your emails. Tuition for the Herding Group Graduate Institute if registered by January 27th, 2012: SCJA Members & ACEF Patrons - \$195; non-members \$245.** Refunds up until 48 hours before classes begin. Complete details on the ACEF web site www.k9education.org. **REGISTRATION FORM ATTACHED. ACEF IS NOW SET UP TO USE PAYPAL www.paypal.com for those who wish to use it. ACEF's PayPal payment address is ACEF@k9education.org.**

DRAWING FOR A REFUND ON YOUR TUITION IF YOU REGISTER FOR THE HERDING GROUP AND HOTEL RESERVATION BY NOVEMBER 30th, 2011.

SCJA'S ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Plans are to hold SCJA's Annual Dinner Meeting in Louisville, KY in conjunction with the ACEF Herding Group Graduate Institute and the Kentuckiana cluster of shows. The dinner and meeting will be held on Saturday, March 17th, 2012. **Details will be sent to those indicating on their returned dues notice they plan to be in Louisville in March.**

SCJA HELP THE PROVISIONAL JUDGES PROGRAM

For our member Group judges, see specific question on dues notice. For Group judges, please indicate if you are willing to donate one or two shows a year to those clubs participating in our Help The Provisional Judges Program. You will, of course, receive expenses, and if it is a two or three day show and big enough, you will be used a second day with regular fee. We want to take this opportunity to thank those member Group judges who have volunteered to donate one to two shows a year to help the provisional judges as well as the clubs.

SCJA HELP THE PROVISIONAL JUDGES PROGRAM (continued)

Just a reminder to please let us know when your provisional status changes, i.e. no longer need provisional assignments, when new provisional breeds are approved or you have new provisional breeds. If any of your information changes such as address, phone, email, please keep us updated. Forms can be found on our web site at www.scja.org. You should resubmit a new form every 12 months since so many fail to let us know when you have completed your provisionals. Form enclosed here as well.

ENCOUNTERS WITH AKC FIELD REPS AND/OR AKC JUDGES DEPARTMENT

If any member has what they consider an unprofessional experience with an AKC Rep or the AKC Judges Department, please feel free to advise the SCJA. All information will be held in strictest confidence.

Likewise, we certainly want to hear if you have had an extremely positive experience, so please be sure to let us know.

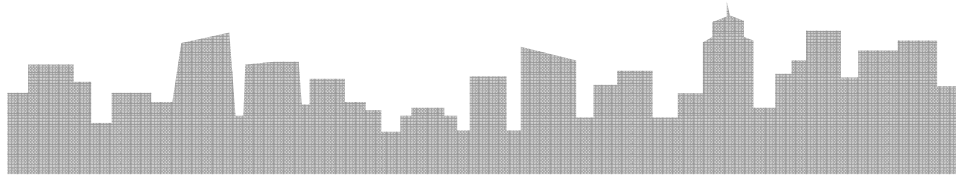
BOB SMITH COMMITTEE REPORT ON JUDGING APPROVAL

Our attached letter to the AKC Board and all Delegates speaks for itself. It was prepared before the AKC Board approved the proposals with further considerations. Some members have questioned what appears to be a minor concession, i.e., having senior judges on the Judges Review Committee appointed by the AKC Board. The Senior Conformation Judges Association suggested a similar proposal years ago with the big exception that there was at least one member of this committee appointed by the three national judges groups and the utilization of some of our retired senior judges. We also had a number of the five-man committees appointed geographically in five or six sections of the country, and the person being interviewed could select three individuals out of the five. This obviously would have done away with 99% of the objections. The main shortcoming, brought up throughout the years, was the fact that AKC Field Reps and even judges (including Group judges) are not qualified to pass judgment on an individual judging of all the different breeds. **THE ATTACHED LETTER IS A MUST READ IF YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT THE SCJA BOARD HAS DONE ON ITS OWN AND IS ATTEMPTING TO DO FOR THE BEST INTEREST OF ALL AKC JUDGES.**

Thus far, the SCJA has prevailed on our positions of no licensing fee for our judges, the restrictions from judging for anyone other than the AKC and the ability for the SCJA to proceed with our Help The Provisional Judges Program. We had to point out some Internal Revenue Service rules concerning independent contractors. We tried sitting around a table but that didn't work.

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, PLEASE ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ON THE BOTTOM OF THE DUES NOTICE AND RETURN IT ASAP – WHY NOT TODAY?

Our members should feel free to call or write to us on any set of circumstances they feel needs addressing.



NEW YORK PARTY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, 2012

NEW YORK'S HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA
7th Ave. & 33rd St. across from the Garden

BUFFET 7:30PM - 9:30PM

\$50.00 Per Person CASH Bar Dress: Semi-Formal

ACEF IS NOW SET UP TO USE PAYPAL www.paypal.com for those who wish to use it. ACEF's PayPal payment address is ACEF @k9education.org. BUT PLEASE remember to fill out this form and return to ACEF (address below).

A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO THE ACEF MAY BE ADDED TO YOUR CHECK OR PAYPAL PAYMENT AND WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

***** CUT HERE *****

2012 NEW YORK PARTY

PLEASE PRINT (Address Label Preferred)

Last Name First

Address City State/ZC

Day Phone (incl. area code) Evening Phone (incl. area code) Email Address

Guest Name, Address & Email Address

OF PEOPLE _____ x \$50.00 @ person = \$ _____ TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION \$ _____

CHECK TO ACEF ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____ or PAYPAL PAYMENT MADE ON _____

Date

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO ACEF and mail to ACEF 7200 Tanager St. Springfield, VA 22150
DO NOT BE CONCERNED THAT YOUR PLANS MAY CHANGE AT THE LAST MINUTE. REFUNDS
WILL BE MADE AS LATE AS FEBRUARY 9th, 2012. A CALL WILL SUFFICE FOR NOTIFICATION OF
CANCELLATION: (703) 451-5656.



REQUEST FOR WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB BOX SEATS 2012

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE: DAY _____ EVENING _____ CELL _____

NUMBER OF BOX SEATS _____ @ \$140.00/ticket

CHECK TO SCJA ENCLOSED \$ _____ or

PAYPAL PAYMENT MADE ON _____
Date

SCJA IS NOW SET UP TO USE PAYPAL www.paypal.com for those who wish to use it to pay for their box seat tickets. SCJA's PayPal payment address is scja@scja.org. **BUT PLEASE** remember to fill out this form and return with **A LARGE ENVELOPE STAMPED AND SELF ADDRESSED. LEGAL SIZE ENVELOPE (4 3/4 " X 11") FOR 2 BOX SEATS (3 STAMPS) APPROPRIATELY LARGER ENVELOPES AND POSTAGE REQUIRED FOR MORE TICKETS. (TICKETS ARE HEAVY STOCK PAPER AND ALSO INCLUDES A PROGRAM.)** Send to this completed form and self-addressed, stamped envelope to SCJA at 7200 Tanager St., Springfield, VA 22150. Any questions, please call (703) 451-5656.

8. I will travel up to _____miles (realize if you limit yourself to 300 or so miles, you are reducing considerably the number of shows that will be able to consider you for an assignment.)

SIGNATURE OF JUDGE NEEDING PROVISIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

DATE

***** FOR APPROVED GROUP JUDGES ONLY:**

Are you willing to donate your judging fee for one or two shows a year for those clubs that have agreed to use provisional judges within their respective Group(s)?

YES

NO

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU KEEP THE ABOVE INFORMATION CURRENT AT ALL TIMES. A NEW FORM SHOULD BE SUBMITTED OR, WHEN APPROPRIATE, THE FORM WITHDRAWN. INDIVIDUALS WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE REMOVED AFTER 12 MONTHS UNLESS WE ARE ADVISED THAT YOU STILL NEED YOUR PROVISIONAL ASSIGNMENTS.



Registration Form

American Canine Education Foundation Group Institute

On All 25 HERDING Breeds

and the Bergamasco, Belgian Laekenois, and Pumi

Wednesday, March 14th - Sunday, March 18th, 2012

All Presentations will be at the HOST HOTEL!

HOST HOTEL is the **CROWNE PLAZA-Louisville Airport**, 830 Phillips Lane, Louisville, KY 40209
The room rate is \$119 per night. Make reservations as soon as possible by *calling the host hotel reservation number (888) 233-9527 and asking for the AMERICAN CANINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION (ACEF) BLOCK.*

Shuttle service between airport, hotel, and EXPO Center courtesy of the host hotel.

Plan to arrive for TUE. Night registration 6:30pm-7:15pm. Classes begin 7:45am on Wed. March 14th and end on Sun. March 18th by 2:00pm.

Parent clubs are invited to provide approved breed presenters to conduct their breed presentations.

**With your registration, you will be able to attend ALL 25 breeds,
plus the Bergamasco, Belgian Laekenois, and Pumi, or just the ones you want.**

Tuition for the entire Institute is \$245 for ACEF/SCJA members or \$295 non-members.

Deduct an EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT of \$50 if you register by January 27, 2012

Registrations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Class book cannot be Guaranteed for Registrations after February 21st, 2012.

For additional information go to www.k9education.org or

Email Nina Sherrer: nina@k9education.org or Call Wally Pedé (703) 451-5656

Email subject should be "ACEF Herding Group". Please include your phone number.

More Info and Keep Up To Date at: www.k9education.org

Return by Email to Nina or mail the Registration below with your Tuition by Check or using PayPal.

ACEF 2012 HERDING GROUP INSTITUTE, Louisville, KY

Checks should be made out to the **ACEF** and mailed to:

ACEF, c/o N. Sherrer, PO Box 7476, Loveland, CO 80537

Register by Jan 27, 2012 and deduct \$50. Please PRINT information clearly. Thanks!

Per ACEF/SCJA Member \$245* = \$ _____ Per student \$295* = \$ _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Telephone Day: () _____ Telephone Evening: () _____

Cell: () _____ Email: _____

Reservations made at **HOST HOTEL**? Yes: _____ No: _____ Roommate Name: _____

SAVE EXPENSES!! Want a Roommate? Send an email to: nina@k9education.org to be put on the ROOMMATE list. You will be paired up as requests come in.

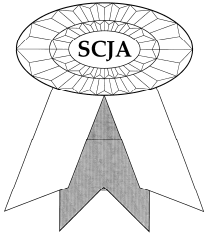
*** IMPORTANT:** Register EARLY by Jan 27, 2012 and deduct \$50 per registration.

Tuition payment can be made at www.PayPal.com. Click on "Send Money". Use ACEF@k9education.org for PayPal "payment to" address. Credit cards are accepted through PayPal. A PayPal account is not necessary.

Add \$100 (per person) to the cost of the Institute if you are NOT STAYING at the HOST HOTEL.

Please indicate how your tuition is being paid: PAYPAL _____ CHECK _____ OTHER _____

You may make a Non-Refundable Deposit of \$50 to insure your spot. BALANCE (\$145 or \$195) DUE BY: January 21, 2012



Senior Conformation Judges Association, Inc.

Wallace H. Pedé *Chief Executive Officer* 7200 Tanager St., Springfield, VA 22150 (703) 451-5656 Fax (703) 451-5979

November 1st, 2011

Mr. Ronald Menaker, AKC Chairman of the Board
All AKC Board Members
Mr. Dennis Sprung, AKC President
The American Kennel Club
260 Madison Ave.
New York, NY 10016

Subject: Chairman Bob Smith's Committee's Report on Proposal for Judges Approval Process

Dear Ron, All AKC Board Members and Dennis:

Note: the following letter (bottom of this page) was prepared and the time-consuming coordination effected prior to the action and comments made at AKC's October 2011 Board meeting which obviously bears on some of the letters' contents. The SCJA will offer further comments concerning the AKC's Board actions at their October 2011 meeting. It is essential that the AKC Board and Delegates be aware of the contents without further delay, for any action they deem appropriate.

Reference the published comments of the committee chair concerning other AKC Board members' actions and comments on this issue. Notwithstanding, we trust the AKC Chairman, Committee Chairman and other AKC Board members realize that here in the United States, we have a good number of our sovereign states asking the Supreme Court for a decision questioning the action of the U.S. President and federal government and a number of State Attorney Generals questioning their differences with the U. S. Government and asking for a decision. In view of actions such as these and others, we trust it is acceptable for the AKC President, AKC Chairman and other AKC Board members to listen to and consider comments offered by organizations whose Board members have equal, and in some cases, due to the greater numbers, more versatile experience including at the national level.

Incidentally, SCJA's one and two-page letters have proven ineffective. One such letter addressed to VP for Dog Show Judges criticizing the action of the Director of Judging Operations was sent through AKC's Chief Operating Officer (at his personal request) and was actually answered by the very person whose actions were being questioned. Hard to believe, but a fact. Another recent letter to AKC's Chairman and Board asked for their leadership to solve a problem involving thousands of judges. Unbeknownst to the AKC Board, our letter was answered by a fifth echelon staff member and referred to a forthcoming unapproved committee report. The staff member obviously did not realize his reply indicated our request for leadership was being accomplished by a committee!!

FOLLOWING IS OUR ORIGINAL LETTER FINALIZED PRIOR TO AKC'S OCTOBER 2011 BOARD MEETING.

We want to congratulate all AKC Board members who realized the necessity of the motion to grant an extension to submit comments on subject report. Notwithstanding, we find it incomprehensible for the AKC Board to expect meaningful input and effective coordination with the national judges groups

Board members to say nothing of their other members in the time frame mentioned. An experienced management analyst knows very well you gain little when the authors of a proposal critique the criticism of their own efforts or products. A number of Board members on the national judges groups, like the AKC Board members, have all kinds of business, law, military and senior government experience. This of course applies to the AKC Delegate body as well. It most certainly should be taken advantage of. You can rest assured, in the process, they have collectively analyzed things just a bit more complicated than the subject at hand.

Over a year ago, the SCJA made a request personally to the chairman of subject committee before initial action by the committee - that an independent representative from each of the national judges groups be made a member of the AKC committee. Obviously, this never occurred.

The most egregious issue in this entire matter is the fact that the AKC Board realizes full well that any change ***involving an increase in the number of approved Groups*** must be voted on by the Delegates! (This fact was included in AKC's official letter on this subject.) Yet somehow they believe the Delegates are not the sole authority for voting on changes on just who can judge an AKC dog show? **(Last time we checked, the clubs formed to conduct dogs shows needed both dogs and judges to put on a dog show!!!!)** The AKC Board has repeatedly ignored the issue of the Delegates' sole authority on this issue.

AKC's Bylaws are crystal clear – the AKC Board has no authority to arbitrarily change any provision in AKC's Bylaws or a rule governing a dog show or any association or club formed to conduct the dog show.

“ARTICLE IX: BOARD OF DIRECTORS GENERAL POWERS

The Board of Directors shall have the general management of the business and affairs of the Club and generally perform all duties appertaining to the office of director provided, however, that all the powers conferred by this Article of the Bylaws shall be exercised subject to all other provisions of these Bylaws and to the statutes of the State of New York and all amendments thereof and additions thereto.” (underlining added)

This Article gives the AKC Board the general power to run the AKC provided they comply with all the other provisions of the Bylaws and to the **statutes of the State of New York** and all amendments thereof and additions thereto.

We are somewhat surprised, on occasion, as to how many individuals in authority are not aware of ARTICLE XIX of AKC's *Charter, Constitution and Bylaws*. ARTICLE XIX quoted below certainly is an unequivocal statement. Sole power means sole power. It trumps any words that individuals use to bring up a perceived conflict.

Remember, we are stressing ARTICLE XIX of AKC's *Charter, Constitution and Bylaws*, titled “RULES”. Individuals often get it confused with a rule but it is a Bylaw entitled “RULES”. To quote ARTICLE XIX of AKC's *Charter, Constitution and Bylaws*:

“ARTICLE XIX: RULES

The Delegates to the AKC shall have sole power to make the rules governing dog shows and field trials and the clubs or associations formed to conduct them.”
(underlining added)

Since the Delegates have the “sole power” to make a rule, it does not include the AKC President, AKC Board of Directors and obviously no AKC staff member. The SCJA wants to point out that no one, including the AKC Board of Directors, can use ARTICLE X SPECIFIC POWERS of AKC’s *Charter, Constitution and Bylaws* as authority to take the action they have taken in changing a rule. ARTICLE X outlines in 16 sections the AKC’s Board of Directors’ “SPECIFIC POWERS” without detracting from any general powers of the AKC Board of Directors or the bylaws.

ARTICLE X Section 9 gives the AKC Board the power to issue and revoke licenses to judges, superintendents and handlers. The power is given to the AKC Board, not to their subordinates on the staff or some committee. This in no way alters the “sole power” of the Delegates to make or change a rule. The AKC Board was involved in another apparent violation a few years back which the SCJA brought up at the time. After 120+ years of approving judges, as required by the Bylaws, the AKC Board of Directors, many of whom were judges, including the Chairman, on their own decided they would like more breeds while serving on the AKC Board - - - and what do you know? The AKC Board delegates the very important “judges approval” to the subordinate AKC staff. Some folks wonder how many AKC Board members or their wives have been turned down for breeds by their subordinates or committee since the change???? Something that no one is aware of happening before – a very senior AKC Board member was approved for the remainder of the breeds in a Group and a number of breeds into their next Group in the same issue of the Gazette!

Section 3 of ARTICLE X indicates that the AKC Board of Directors should indeed examine all proposed amendments or alterations to the Bylaws, Rules or Regulations of the AKC and **report thereon to the AKC for action**. Note - the AKC Board reports - they don’t take action - the Delegates have the “sole power” to take action on rules governing dog shows. ARTICLE X also clearly indicates without a shadow of a doubt in Section 4 “All matters in dispute as to interpretation of the Rules or Regulations of the AKC shall be submitted to the Board for its construction, which shall be decisive.” Obviously, the AKC Board cannot illegally make a rule for dog shows without the Delegates approval, publish it, put it in effect, then when it’s in dispute, take action on it. Remember, that is if there is a dispute with a rule or regulation, **NOT A BYLAW**, Article XIX gives the Delegates the “sole power” to make the rules governing dog shows. If there is a dispute, between a bylaw and a rule and the AKC Board somehow wants to argue with the Delegates, it can only be settled by a government entity, state or federal. **The Senior Conformation Judges Association has already had two disputes in past years settled by federal statutes and settled in accordance with the laws of the land and the statutes cited by the Senior Conformation Judges Association. As the more senior AKC Board members realize, there have been a good many other AKC policies established by the Board that the SCJA has recommended be discontinued and that in fact, have been discontinued from Hands On Testing many years ago to the infamous Slay’s list of punishment and fines for our judges. Amazing how many individuals within the sport aren’t aware of what prompted the changes.**

One especially egregious provision in the Smith Committee Report still remains – AKC’s insistence that a new provisional judge “**must attend**” the AKC Institute thereby making it necessary for new provisional judges to attend **two** basic courses should they want to attend the original, and by far, the most comprehensive basic course a new judge could attend – the ACEF Basic Institute. One AKC Board member covers the fact that the AKC should get out of judges education and leave it up to judges that have been judging 30 – 50 years. He also talks about the hundreds of thousands of dollars that would be saved.

To his credit and with previous thanks from SCJA Board members, Committee Chair Bob Smith was a motivating factor and indeed played a leading role in assisting the SCJA CEO in putting on the very first national judges institute in the early 80's even paying his own travel expenses in the process. Presently, the committee chair and other AKC Board members who agree that the oldest most experienced judges institute should be acceptable apparently were unable to convince the AKC Judges Department to give up the dictatorial power they enjoy irrespective of the cost saved for the improved quality of judges education. Worth mentioning, AKC must be extremely mindful of their financial liability concerning the IRS when you treat individuals as employees rather than independent contractors. We should not have to continually bring up the subject of IRS rules concerning the limited authority an organization has over independent contractors! If you want to make our judges employees, that's another story, and with it goes all of the ramifications involved. This really should not enter into the equation. We apparently were misled into believing this problem would be solved in the committee report. Apparently, it was not.

The SCJA suggests once again that one of the AKC Board members, who has indicated personally that they agree, make the motion that the SCJA's (now ACEF) five-day original Judges Institute be accepted along with AKC's own one or two-day course. (Do away with the "MUST ATTEND AKC'S INSTITUTE".) NOTE – Since the ACEF's very first Judges Institute, the AKC has always had a full day of the top individual within AKC to lecture on *AKC Rules, Regulations and Judging Guidelines* and *Bench Committee Hearings and Trial Boards* – AKC's Executive Secretary, Mr. James Crowley – who has always been the after-dinner speaker as well. Also, all the time necessary has been allotted for an AKC Rep to speak, and on many occasions, we have had a number of AKC Board members address the class as well as an AKC Board Chairman and President or two. The change in AKC Rep attendance and approval status occurred sometime after a change in the AKC Judges Department. Strong exceptions were expressed concerning SCJA official correspondence containing written recommendations made to the AKC Chairman of the Board, Board members and AKC's President.

We were somewhat disappointed when the subject of appointing a member from each of the national judges groups was suggested, and we were told, in effect, that that wasn't a good idea since the judges groups just look out for the judges!! Inferring that the judges had little regard for the good of the overall sport and couldn't be trusted to offer constructive criticism! The SCJA finds this rather insulting to infer that those of us on the Board of Directors and SCJA members don't have the best interest of the sport at heart. In case anyone didn't realize it, all of us are very much a part of and deeply involved in the entire sport, and we get zero compensation and many members donate expenses as opposed to the AKC Board of Directors who, for well over a hundred years received no compensation for their services until the latest change in leadership.

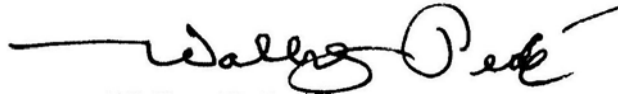
AN INTERESTING THOUGHT!

Just suppose ARTICLE XIX did not mandate that the Delegates had the "sole power" – what on earth would be wrong in having the Delegates confirm something as important as the judges approval process that some committee and the AKC Board approved? Remember the AKC Board reports – it doesn't take action on certain items. THIS SUPPOSITION doesn't change the unequivocal clarity of ARTICLE XIX. It appears the AKC Board does not trust the intelligence and good intentions of the Delegates to confirm the decisions the AKC Judges Department and committee and the AKC Board want.

THE SCJA BELIEVES THE SMITH COMMITTEE REPORT HAS SOME REDEEMING FEATURES, BUT IT COULD DO WITH A LITTLE TWEAKING – IT ALSO NEEDS PROPER APPROVAL - - - - - WHAT MAKES THE BOARD BELIEVE THE DELEGATES WILL NOT APPROVE IT???

The SCJA agrees with many of the others who have called for more time before it can be properly resolved. It is therefore requested that final action be delayed, and the report be administratively handled as mandated in AKC's *Charter, Constitution and Bylaws*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wallace H. Pedé". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Wallace H. Pedé
Chief Executive Officer

WHP/kms

cc: AKC Executive Secretary, James P. Crowley
Info copy: AKC Delegates