



RESULTS OF MAY 2005 SCJA QUESTIONNAIRE
The entire questions are repeated for ease of reference with percentages. *SCJA's comments appear in italics after each question.*)

Quoted from *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, Inc.*, ðARTICLE IX: BOARD OF DIRECTORS GENERAL POWERS - The Board of Directors shall have the general management of the business and affairs of the AKC 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 the Bylaws and to the statutes of the State of New York and all amendments thereof and additions thereto.ö

- 94% Yes 1. Reading the above, do you believe the AKC Board of Directors must comply with the statutes of the State of New York and all of the provisions of their own Bylaws?**

Years ago, the Supreme Court did away with the prohibition against lawyers and doctors advertising. The SCJA years ago suggested the AKC Board request, in a non confrontational manner, an opinion from the New York State Attorney General to ascertain if the AKC was in violation of any of the statutes of the State of New York by interfering with interstate commerce or by dictating that certain individuals must judge with no compensation, thereby fixing prices on the low side and giving a certain class of judges a distinct advantage and also stipulating that no judge could, in any way, solicit judging assignments. Although all but a few of the AKC Board members agree they must comply with the statutes of the State of New York, no one has come forward to make a motion to ask the New York Attorney General if they are violating the law.

Comment: Obviously the two questions were not asked in a manner easily understood since a number of members did not answer Ques. #1. However, some of those who did not answer Ques. #1 did answer Ques. #2?

- 88% Yes 2. Do you believe the SCJA should now, in a non adversarial manner, request this same opinion from the New York State Attorney General?**

- 93% No 3. Do you believe a Group judge that contributes a part of his/her normal judging fee to an all-breed club to help the club with expenses in hiring provisional judges (in accordance with AKC policy) should be considered soliciting assignments?**

Comment: We were surprised to see that even 7% of the members answering the questionnaire thought it was soliciting.

AKC judges approval process is too complicated, too long a period for approval, too expensive when compared to other licensing processes considering the average 10 years or longer it takes the average non-professional or unconnected individual to gain a Group vs. other professional licensing procedures?

Comment: It was interesting to note that the majority of the 10% who answered “No” were judges who had been judging for just a few years and consequently had not experienced the frustration of individuals judging 8, 9, 10 and more years.

83% Yes 5. Do you agree the SCJA should do all in its power to help our provisional judges get started in their judging careers, including asking the ACEF to consider utilizing their educational tax-exempt funds to assist with expenses involved in utilizing provisional judges (the AKC considers this part of judges education as does the ACEF) ?

94% Yes 6. Do you agree with the majority of positions the SCJA Board has taken on behalf of our members? If your answer is “no”, please list the exceptions

77% Yes 7. Has AKC’s judges’ approval process inhibited you from applying for additional breeds? (Years Judging _____)

Comment: The vast majority of individuals within the 77% answering this question had been judging more than 10 years and had a Group or more. Some of the most caustic comments received came with this question.