



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®

To: AKC Member Clubs Officers
From: Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee
Subject: The Importance of Your AKC Delegate
Date: June 30, 2011

Dear AKC Member Club Officer (President, etc.):

Your Delegate is the voice of your club to the AKC and can make a real difference in matters of great importance to the sport. Therefore understanding the roles and responsibilities of your Delegate is critical to the success of the missions of your club and the AKC.

The Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee (DAAC), a committee of eleven Delegates elected by the Delegate Body, was asked to establish guidelines for Clubs for both selecting and supporting Delegates who will be good for their respective Clubs, the Delegate Body, the AKC and the Sport of Dogs.

The memorandum below entitled The Importance of Your AKC Delegate, approved by the AKC Board of Directors on July 13, 2010, provides those guidelines. It is being distributed to AKC Member Clubs' Officers, and we suggest that it be distributed to the clubs board and members.

Our hope is that the information in this document will be a resource for your Club and that you will see the value that your Delegate brings to your Club and to your Club's position within the AKC's governance.

Thank you for your attention to this information and your support of your AKC Delegate.

Signed:
Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee

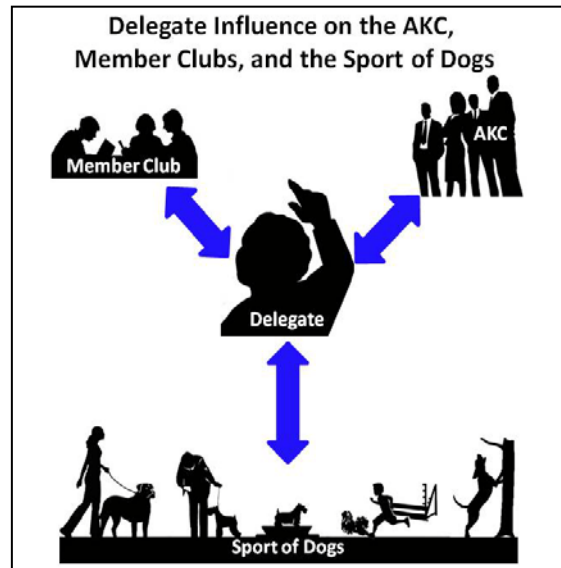
The Importance of Your AKC Delegate

What are the unique powers of a Delegate?

- Approves Rules governing dog shows and field trials
- Approves amendments to the AKC Bylaws
- Nominates and elects Delegates to serve on the AKC Board of Directors & Delegate Standing Committees
- Approves new member clubs
- Votes to uphold or overrule an AKC Board decision to disapprove a Delegate candidate or to remove a seated Delegate
- Only a Delegate may serve on the AKC Board
- Votes to discipline, and even to expel, a Member Club

How do they exercise these powers?

- Attends and votes at quarterly Delegate Meetings
- Attends and/or Participates with Delegate Standing Committees
- Brings Member Club's proposals to the Delegates and/or Delegate Standing Committees
- A Member Club, through its Delegate, may propose amendments to the AKC Bylaws or AKC Rules directly to the AKC Board
- Informs all members of their Member Club of Delegate actions
- Acts as ombudsman for Member Club members dealing with AKC



What are the qualifications for a person to become a Delegate?

Required -- Article VI of the AKC Bylaws

- Represents a Member Club
- Both Member Club and individual are in good standing with AKC
- Is a resident US citizen or has permanent resident alien status
- Meets all of the occupational eligibility criteria
- May not have been found guilty of or admitted to the theft, embezzlement or misappropriation of funds or property from an AKC Club

Suggested -- for perspective and continuity

- Ten year involvement in AKC events and/or activities
- Willingness to serve for five years or more
- Willingness to invest time, effort and expenses
- Willingness to speak up and become involved
- Willingness to engage others in crucial conversations
- Access and skills to use a computer or the support of someone with the access and skills

What should a Member Club expect from their Delegate?

- Long term (5 years or more) commitment to represent and serve the Member Club
- Commitment to attend and participate at Delegate Meetings
- A timely report on the actions taken at Delegate Meetings
- Presentation of actions/issues that will come before future Delegate Meetings
- When applicable, vote as directed by the Member Club

What should your Delegate expect from the Member Club?

- Long term appointment as Delegate
- A forum to report on what transpired at Delegate meetings
- Discussion and guidance on forthcoming actions/issues
- Assistance with Delegate expenses to expand who might become Delegates and to maximize their participation