

AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT

February 2009

At AKC Board of Directors meeting held on January 15, 2009, the revisions of the Vizsla breed standard, as published in the AKC Gazette, were approved and are to become effective April 1, 2009.

The Agility Regulations were revised, effective March 1, 2009, to clarify the leash requirement when entering or leaving a ring. The criteria for approving Rally judges were modified to: (1) Allow applicants to apply provisionally for all levels at the same time, and (2) Change the requirements of judging a minimum of ten assignments with at least ten dogs competing in each assignment to judging a minimum of 350 dogs overall.

At the request of the AKC Delegates' Dock and Crop Committee to all involved parent clubs to respond to AVMA's (American Veterinary Medical Association) new policy on ear cropping and tail docking, the Vizsla Club of America responded and is recognized as being in the category that distinguishes tail docking for therapeutic or preventive purposes and not cosmetic purposes.

Doug Ljungren, Assistant Vice-President for AKC Performance Events, sent a communication to all pointing breed parent clubs that hold field events on the subject of *The Use of GPS Tracking Collars at Pointing Breed Field Events*. The document gave background information, current situation, the weight issue, and the issue of misuse. It requested that all pointing breed parent clubs respond to the following questions by April 16, 2009: (1) Should the weight limitation policy pertaining to the use of tracking collars at Pointing Breed field events be modified? (2) Is the potential for misuse so significant that the use of GPS tracking collars should be denied? If not, are there reasonable restrictions that should be implemented in order to minimize the opportunity to misuse the unit? In order to assist the VCA in developing their response, please contact VCA Board members and the Field Advisory Committee.

Elsewhere in this issue of The Vizsla News you will find a communication from Doug Ljungren addressed to all pointing breed clubs that give hunting tests. Clubs in "remote" areas will be allowed to hold up to six tests annually. AKC has produced a new brochure explaining the basics of the Pointing Breed Hunting Test program. This brochure can be viewed and downloaded at: www.akc.org/events/hunting_tests/pointing_breeds/. To correspond with AKC, e-mail: huntingtests@akc.org. This e-mail address is used for ordering the pamphlets, scheduling seminars and obtaining written tests. These can also be obtained at (919) 816-3900.

Remember, I represent you with The American Kennel Club. Please feel free to contact me anytime. Phone and fax: (434) 374-4051. E-mail: Lynhar@verizon.net.

Lynn Worth Smith
AKC Delegate

