



Clublicity

Dayton Dog Training Club
February 2020

News from AKC

Thanks to Barbara Mann, our AKC delegate, for this information.

Rally entries up, agility and obedience entries down in 2019

Rally entries had an explosive 20 percent growth in 2019 over 2018 with a 1.5 percent increase in Rally events. This improvement was the highlight of last year's numbers. Obedience and tracking declined the most with the former suffering a five percent drop and the latter tumbling nearly nine percent.

Agility entries were down two percent even though the number of trials increased by the same amount, and AKC announced two new pilot programs in an attempt to increase those entries. For Exhibition Only allows handlers in T2Beat and Fast classes to declare their entry is for exhibition only and can take a toy into the ring. Fix and Go On allows handlers to rework a sequence if the dog has made an error and then either leave the ring or finish the course. Both options result in an NQ performance.

Obedience entries and events continue to slide with entries down 5.4 percent and the number of trials down one percent. Tracking trials and entries were down 8.8 percent and 7.6 percent respectively. Rally entries and trials were the bright spot. Trials were up 1.5 percent and entries increased 20.4 percent.

Companion Events Statistics
January - October 2018 vs. 2019

YEAR	Entries	Entries	Growth	%	Events	Events	Growth	%
	2019	2018		Change	2019	2018		Change
Agility	1,014,085	1,035,086	-21,001	-2.0%	3,377	3,306	71	2.1%
Obedience	96,275	101,750	-5,475	-5.4%	2,275	2,300	-25	-1.1%
Rally	92,844	77,141	15,703	20.4%	2,194	2,162	32	1.5%
Tracking	1,241	1,360	-119	-8.8%	314	340	-26	-7.6%
Totals	1,204,445	1,215,337	-10,892	-0.9%	8,160	8,108	52	0.6%

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News from AKC

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National invitations set for the year

The AKC National Agility Championship will be held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter in Perry, Georgia on March 27-29, 2020.

The AKC Rally National Championship (RNC) and National Obedience Championship (NOC) will be returning to the Roberts Centre in Wilmington, Ohio on June 26-28, 2020. The RNC will be held on Friday and the NOC will be held on Saturday and Sunday.

The AKC National Tracking Invitational will be held on October 24-25, 2020 in Raymond, NE at the Branched Oak State Recreation Area; and will be hosted by the Cornhusker Kennel Club of Lincoln, NE & the Nebraska Kennel Club.

Why do novice competitors decide not to move on to open training

A Companion Events Committee subcommittee evaluated a survey taken in 2018 to help determine why novice competitors choose not to advance to open competition. The survey went to more than 2000 competitors who had completed a CD that year and had a return of 43 percent. About 209 had earned multiple CDs but no CDXs (the "dropouts"); about 164 had earned only one CD title and no CDXs (the "beginners").

Top answers included that the exhibitor:

- chose to invest time and energy in other dog sports;
- believed the dog was not enjoying obedience training/competition ; and
- doubted the ability of the dog to learn some of the Open exercises.

Yet, in both groups— dropouts and beginners – nearly half of the respondents noted that their goal was to move beyond the CD and achieve higher level obedience titles. The subcommittee discussed ideas that might be offered to exhibitors/clubs to address these issues. Among the suggestions were several that DDTC already embraces, including:

- Teach more advanced skills earlier in the dog's training life.
- Offer transition classes, such as an Advanced Basic, Graduate Novice, or Pre-Open/Utility, which could be focused on more advanced skills such as directed jumping, retrieving, and drop on recall.
- Offer short-duration (3-4 weeks) skills classes to concentrate on heeling, retrieving, or other advanced skills.
- Establish a mentor program where experienced exhibitors help newcomers.
- Use the AKC Trick Dog sequence to reinforce skills such as heeling, retrieving, signals and jumping that will be useful in higher level obedience competition within a context of fun with your dog.

One of the reasons that was consistently cited by about 20 percent of both beginners and dropouts who decided not to go on in obedience was "the atmosphere at obedience trials is unwelcoming." With entries in obedience declining and entries in Rally and Scent Work increasing, the subcommittee suggested that AKC might also consider a survey of exhibitors in these disciplines to try to determine what positive factors are driving these increases and whether these factors are also relevant to obedience.

Barbet and Dogo Argentino Join Ranks of AKC breeds

The, a French water retriever, and the Dogo Argentino, a big game hunting dog from Argentina, have graduated from the AKC Foundation Stock Service and are now eligible to compete in all-breed shows.



The Barbet is an affable, intelligent, devoted breed known in France for its prowess in flushing and retrieving water game. It will show in the Sporting Group. An excellent swimmer, the Barbet also helped fishermen in the manner of the Portuguese Water Dog. Medium-sized, the Barbet ranges from 19-24.5 inches tall and weighs 35-65 pounds. Life expectancy is 12-14 years. The shaggy coat comes in black, gray, brown, or fawn, sometimes with white markings. More information is on the AKC website at <https://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/barbet/>.

A large, imposing breed developed to hunt wild boar and mountain lions, the Dogo Argentino is a pack hunting dog. Tipping the scales at 90-100 pounds and reaching 26 inches tall (males), it has great strength, agility, courage, and intelligence. The short white coat can have a black patch near the eye. The Dogo entered the Working Group. For more information, go to <https://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/dogo-argentino/>.





Upcoming Events

*Visit our website for more information:
www.daytondogtraining.com*

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 3

Class Schedule—Spring 2020 Session

Classes begin March 9

Agility Run-Thrus

Saturday, February 8 (JWW course)

Saturday, February 15 (Standard course)

Registration begins at 5:00 p.m.; first run at 5:30 p.m.

Cost is \$5 per dog for two runs.

DDTC Events and Building Rentals

February 9 — Scent Work Sniff 'n' Go

February 29 - March 1 and May 2-3 — Sandra Ladwig seminar

March 7-8 (set up March 6) — Agility trials

March 28-29 (set-up March 27) — Unleashed Agility CPE Trials

April 4-5 (set-up April 3) — ASCA Agility Trials

April 5 (Track Plotting April 4) — Tracking Test

May 8-10 (set-up, May 7) — Clermont County Kennel Club Agility Trials

May 15-17 (set-up May 14) — Hamilton Agility Trials

May 22-24 (set-up May 21) — Unleashed Agility CPE trials

May 30-31 — FastCAT

Board Meetings

Generally the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Building Cleaning

Thursdays; no equipment set-up for practice

2019 Legislative Wrap-up

Submitted by Norma Bennett Woolf, Ohio Valley Dog Owners

Regulating private breeders as pet stores A major victory!

The year also saw an attempt at over-reach by the Ohio Department of Agriculture to regulate private breeders and commercial kennels as pet stores. Breeders formed a couple of Facebook groups to discuss the matter and spread information to breeders throughout the state, but the heavy lifting was done by AKC's Government Relations Department and a lobbyist for the commercial kennel industry in the state. Lawmakers listened and passed a law exempting dog breeders who sell puppies raised bred and raised on their own premises from the state's high volume kennel law. The bill passed as part of the state's budget package and was signed by the governor in July. For more information, see <https://tinyurl.com/v3breh7>.

Pending bills

The following is a list of bills affecting dogs and dog owners in the current session of the Ohio Legislature. Introduced in 2019, these bills have until December 31, 2020, for action. Those that do not pass by that date must be reintroduced for further consideration.

The three major bills pending are HB 24, HB 33, and HB 37.

- **HB 24 changes Ohio humane society law** to improve due process for animal owners accused of neglect or abuse, tightens requirements for hiring and training humane agents, increases transparency for county humane agencies, calls for court approval of non-prosecution agreements, and adds humane agents to the law governing solicitation of bribes by public officials. Representatives Steve Hambley of Medina and Representative Darrel Kick of Loudenville are the main sponsors of the bill and several Dayton-area representatives are among the many co-sponsors.

HB 24 passed the House of Representatives, had its first Senate hearing in December and is one to watch in 2020. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/uwq7oh6>.

- **HB 33 requires veterinarians, dog wardens, and social services professionals** to report suspected cases of companion animal abuse to law enforcement authorities, sets parameters for doing so, and outlines penalties for failure to make the report. HB 33 passed the House Criminal Justice Committee but did not get a vote in the full House. Laura Lanese of Grove City and Sara Carruthers are the sponsors of HB 33. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/rmaeoyc>.

- **HB 37** changes state law governing the ownership and actions of nuisance, dangerous, and vicious dogs. Introduced in the House Criminal Justice Committee last March, it had a single hearing in that committee. This bill has languished in one form or another in the past several legislative sessions.

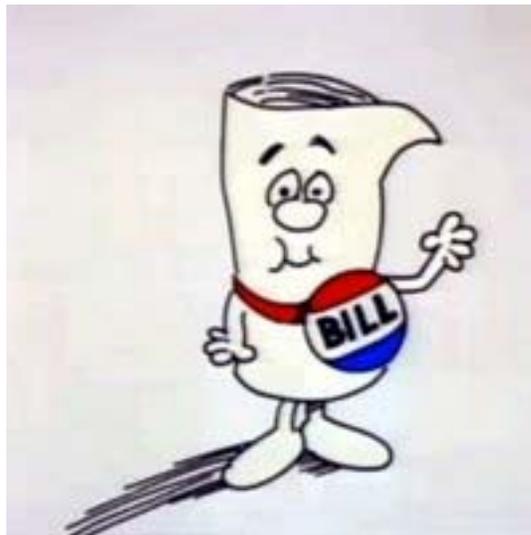
Representative Niraj Antani of Miamisburg sponsors HB 37. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/wq2yse7>.

Several other bills affecting dogs or dog ownership were introduced but received no hearings. They are:

- **HB 30**, a bill to prohibit the use of animals euthanized by injection in pet foods; **HB 67**, a bill to grant continuing education credits to veterinarians who perform free pet sterilizations; **HB 146**, a bill that prohibits anyone convicted of abusing a companion animal from owning another companion animal or living in a residence with someone who owns a companion animal; **SB 32**, a bill revising the state law governing pet cemeteries; and **SB 205**, a bill to increase penalties for animal abuse.

The Senate also passed a resolution recognizing July 22-26, 2019 as Service Dog Awareness Week in Ohio and another honoring the retiring Ohio state patrol dog K-9 Bady for outstanding service.

You can access these bills and resolutions at the Ohio Legislative website at <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/search>.



AKC's Legislative Team had its Busiest Year in 2019

In its continuing effort to protect dogs and dog owners from overbearing laws and to help lawmakers understand the nuances and consequences of badly-written bills, the AKC Government Relations department tracked more than 2300 bills on the federal, state and local levels – the most ever – in 2019.

This issue of *Taking Command*, the department newsletter, summarizes the department's activity in the past year. This is a truncated version of the 2019 wrap-up of department activities. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/u9pxrc7>.

Imports of Unhealthy Dogs – More than one million dogs are imported into the US each year, many of them intended for transfer or resale in retail rescue or other retail markets. A large number of these dogs arrive with minimal health checks and invalid health certificates. Combined with the “adopt don't shop” mantra, many of these animals undermine demand for well-bred purebred dogs and pose an imminent and significant health threat to humans, pets and livestock. AKC is working with the National Animal Interest Alliance on federal legislation to require that dogs entering the US for transfer (adoption, resale, etc.) have valid veterinary certificates that can be checked when they enter the US.

Service Dogs – Discussion about public access for service dogs is underway at the federal and state levels. AKC has provided input on proposed rules changes impacting the federal air carrier access act and other federal laws impacting assistance animals. (AKC's position statement on service dogs is at <https://tinyurl.com/uhp3d9>.)

The department is also working with the American Service Dog Access Coalition and industry leaders to develop a new authoritative, voluntary and verifiable credential to streamline access for service dog teams that meet specific behavioral, task-based and health standards.

Key state and local issues and legislative trends – As within previous years, animal cruelty was the top issue in legislation on the state and local levels. Some, such as New York Senate Bill 3828, made reasonable clarifications to the care standards for animals kept in kennels and was supported by the AKC.

Others were more problematic, including numerous bills regulating tethering and leaving dogs outdoors. Advocates and some lawmakers often perceive that certain conditions and temperatures are inherently cruel but fail to consider the needs and abilities of various breeds, a situation leading to inappropriate “one size fits all” legislative proposals. See <https://akcgr.org/akc/app/document/34541756?1> for AKC's position on canine adaptations to cold temperatures.

Another common issue involved recognizing, protecting, and regulating service and working dogs (as mentioned above in the federal updates). AKC supported bills that create an infraction to knowingly make a false claim that an animal is a service ani-

mal in an attempt to gain admission to a public place or housing accommodations to which they would otherwise not be entitled.

States and local jurisdictions also saw an increase in health and safety issues that led to bills that regulate shelters and rescues and efforts to ban the sale of purpose-bred dogs in retail stores.

Note: Ohio requires licensing of shelters and rescues under the commercial breeder law. Info is at <https://tinyurl.com/yafeu8z2>. The state also bans the passage of local laws that limit or ban the sale of commercially-bred dogs in pet stores.

Note: Dayton limits the use of tethers as a method of confinement for dogs outdoors. See Section **91.62. - Confinement of dogs in the city code of ordinances** at <https://tinyurl.com/y9n8fdgb>.

A New Year, a New Home for SICSA

SICSA, the private nonprofit animal shelter on Wilmington Pike, closed its Kettering facility in early January and began the move to a new state-of-the-art building on Washington Church Road in South Dayton. Visible from Interstate 675, the new building at 8172 Washington Church Road has been under construction since October 2018.

SICSA plans to move all services to Washington Township, mothballing the building on Wilmington Pike in Kettering and eventually putting it up for sale.

The new building on Washington Church has increased space for animal housing, a full service veterinary clinic, a dedicated Help Center, humane education classrooms, two adoption cafes, administrative and volunteer office space, and more. Grand opening was set for February 8. For more information, go to <https://www.sicsa.org/>.



BROWSING THE WEB



Gut biome influences canine health and well-being

The use of probiotics in dogs has increased in recent years with claims for their efficacy in supporting good digestive health, but recent work has indicated that the gut biome may be helpful in identifying or treating disease and even in exerting a calming influence on nervous or reactive dogs. Canine researchers are exploring connections between the organisms in the dog's gut and their influence on brain activity and on conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease, epilepsy, and bloat. The AKC Canine Health Foundation has awarded grants to study these associations

In a study on bloat in Great Danes that ended in 2019 (<http://www.akcchf.org/research/research-portfolio/2338.html>), researchers showed that the bacterial population living in the gut (the gut microbiome) is altered in dogs with bloat. The goal now is to find out if this work can be expanded to include other breeds at high risk of the disease. CHF has also funded research to determine the potential for using probiotics to aid in treating inflammatory bowel disease (<http://www.akcchf.org/research/research-portfolio/1609.html>).

The Canine Health Foundation also funded studies on the brain-gut axis and its influence on idiopathic epilepsy and reported on the work in the summer edition of Discoveries (<https://tinyurl.com/sn8yjfg>).

In 2019, Purina added Calming Care to Forti-flora, its aid in controlling diarrhea caused by digestive upset and stress. Calming Care contains *Bifidobacterium longum* (BL999), a strain of beneficial bacteria that helps dogs cope with external stressors and maintain calm behavior. For more information, see <https://tinyurl.com/scmmcsz>.

AKC honors sled dogs with museum exhibit

Sled dogs were indispensable in the opening of Arctic regions to settlement and to the native peoples living in these harsh lands. The dogs hauled mail and merchandise, provided transportation for explorers and trappers, connected indigenous people and settlements, and even kept people warm. AKC's Museum of the Dog honors the dogs in a new exhibit titled "Mush! A tribute to sled dogs from Arctic exploration to the Iditarod" to run through March 29. For more information, see <https://tinyurl.com/tmyj2mf/>.



Those Yips and Chortles in the Night Mean Breeding Season is in Full Swing!



It's breeding season for coyotes, so sightings and hearings may be on the upswing until the end of March. Gestation is the same as for dogs – about 63 days – and litters range from one pup to 12. Most common time for singing is after dusk when family packs hunt and males and females seek each other out. Sounds range from chuffs and huffs to growls and yips.

The latest map on the ODNR website (<http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/species-guide-index/mammals/coyote>) indicates that *Canis latrans* (barking dog) exists in all 88 Ohio counties with Montgomery, Greene, and Warren counties among those with high populations and adjoining counties with more moderate concentrations.

Coyotes have adapted well to sharing human habitation, especially in areas where prey and free food are abundant. Typical diet consists of small mammals such as voles, shrews, rabbits, and mice, carrion, birds, small cats and dogs, and cat food, barbecue leavings and other enticing leftovers in backyards and parks. They are not generally a threat to people but will occasionally attack small children or attack and kill small dogs and cats.

ODNR recommends the following to avoid confrontations with coyotes.

- Remove anything that could attract the animal. Make sure your garbage is in a proper and secure container, bring pet food inside before nightfall, wipe up drippings from your grill if you use it to cook outside, and never directly feed the coyotes.
- Make sure to keep small dogs and cats inside (especially at night) or on a six-foot leash when they're outside to keep them safe.
- If you notice a coyote watching you, make a noise: clap your hands, stomp your feet or shout. If it doesn't move on, use a noise maker or toss rocks near, not at, the animal to scare it off.
- If a coyote that's been visiting your property keeps returning and you aren't able to scare it off, contact a local trapper through WildOhio.gov or by calling the ODNR Division of Wildlife at 1-800-WILDLIFE. Trappers use regulated techniques to find and catch the animals.

Pet Sympathy / Sunshine Report

If you have a Pet Sympathy/Sunshine item, please contact Mary Savage (cliff414@frontier.com, 937-836-5280).

Pet Sympathy

BW (Cat)
Marcia Pittman

“Molly” — U-CDX Tav-A-Mac Good Golly Ms Molly, CDX, RAE, SCA, SBN, W-DD/HTM, W-DD/MF, PFD/MF, TDI (Border Collie)
Trish Clute

“Rion” — UKC GCH, AKC GCHB Blue Sky Desert Star Orion the Hunter, BN, RA, FDC, ICDCA-VC, CDCA-HCX, VA (Canaan Dog)
Norma Bennett Woolf & Denise Gordon

“Nessie” — AKC Dual Ch Select Inside the Box, SC, MC, BCAT (Basenji)
Jeff & Tracy Leonard

Deaths

Ralph Semrock
Husband of Leah Semrock (former DDTC member)

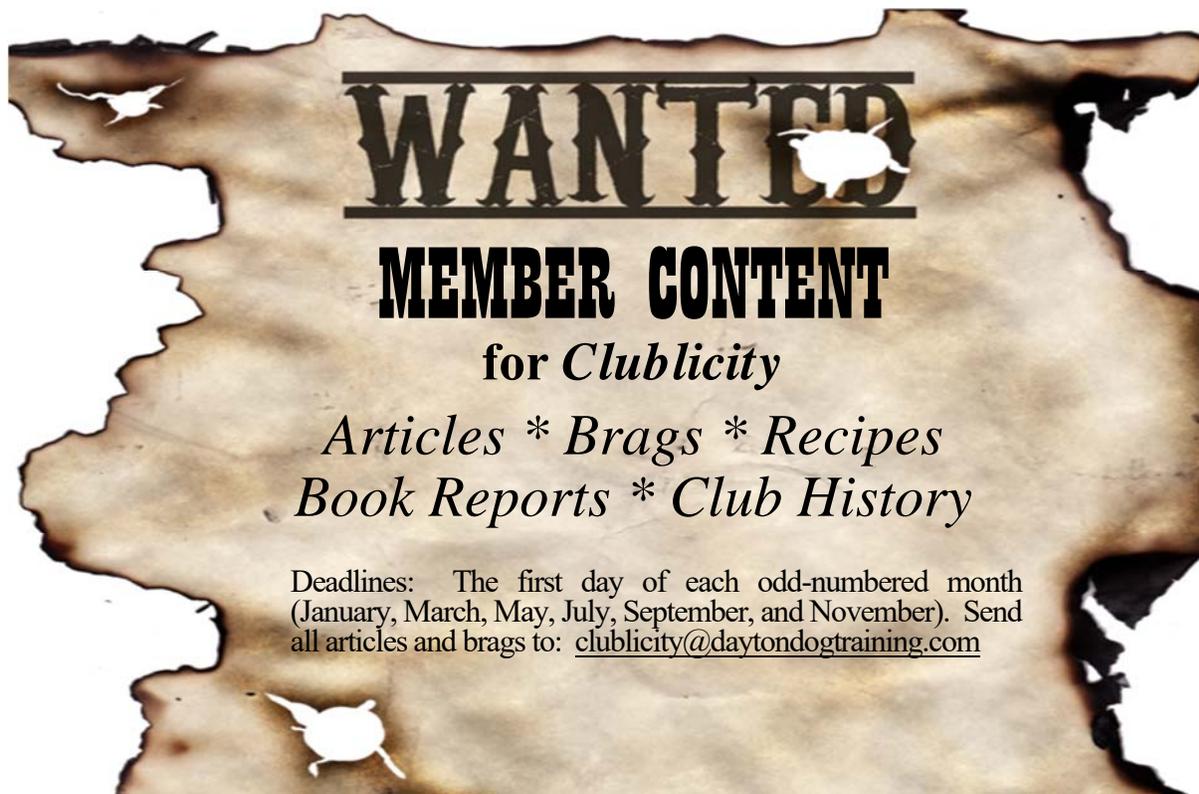
Sunshine

Marcia Pittman
Sue DeBord
Kathi Bigler

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AKC Delegate: Barbara Mann



Deadlines: The first day of each odd-numbered month (January, March, May, July, September, and November). Send all articles and brags to: clublicity@daytondogtraining.com



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