



Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA)
In Person BOD MEETING
Yellowstone Dog Sports, Roberts, MT
Wednesday, September 15, 2026, 9:00am MST
AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 2, 2026, Video/Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes

(Please see: **Attachment A – September 2, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes**)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Respectfully Submitted by Annie Garwood, President

We have made it to the 2026 National Specialty! I'm sorry I am unable to join you in person. I hope those of you in Montana are having a wonderful week with each other and with your dogs. Thank you to each and every one who has made this event possible.

Though this year has brought its share of challenges, we have remained busy, continued to make progress, and moved forward.

Accomplishments of the Past Year:

- Our membership database is being utilized, allowing us to eliminate the task and expense of producing a printed roster. This has significantly improved the work of the Membership Chair, particularly the renewal and onboarding processes. Hopefully, these improvements will also make the position more manageable and help us recruit a new Membership Chair. Incorporating Records will be the next phase of this project.
- Our Social Media Committee has made its debut, and our Regional Facebook groups are now up and running.
- The Board of Directors continues to review the recommended updates from the Bylaws Committee, with the goal of completing this important work and submitting the revised bylaws to the AKC early next year.
- The Website Ad Hoc Committee was formed at the end of May and has had productive conversations about the laundry list of technological improvements needed. The committee is currently researching options to prepare recommendations.
- Events held include Backyard Classic, Sunflower Classic, Texas Two Step, Morris & Essex, and Meet the Breeds, along with numerous field tests and supported entries throughout the regions.

Above all, we need to remember that we are a club made up of volunteers. Every one of us has other responsibilities and obligations, including jobs, families, friends, homes, neighbors, other hobbies and clubs, health, and, of course, our beloved dogs.

We are a club that needs to make changes to bring our operations in line with current best practices, and those changes take significant time, thought, and consideration. We have many moving pieces, cover a

great deal of geography, and rely on members who are willing to step forward and help. Nothing is easy, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find those who have the time, ability, or capacity to take on additional responsibilities.

I want to sincerely thank every club member who has given their time, energy, and expertise to the club this past year. Your contributions make everything we do possible, and they are truly appreciated.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

None Submitted

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Respectfully submitted by Terri Krause, Secretary

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA),

ARTICLE V – CLUB YEAR, VOTING, NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS, Section 4. Nominations and Ballots.

This is to inform the Club Members that no additional nominations were received on or before July 18, 2026 for the following positions:

VICE PRESIDENT: Annie Garwood (NY)

[Second 2 – year Term]

SECRETARY: Shelby Westmoreland (CA)

[First 2 – year Term]

REGION 1 DIRECTOR: Susan Denault (NH)

[First 3 – year Term]

REGION 4 DIRECTOR: Elaine Chae (CA)

[First 3 – year Term]

REGION 7 DIRECTOR: Kristen Cooper (VA)

[First 3 – year Term]

It is with pleasure that I, as Secretary of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) cast one vote on July 18, 2026 for the positions of Vice President, Secretary, Region 1, Region 4, and Region 7 Director.

Regional Director terms begin on November 1, 2026 and run through October 31, 2029

Ballots were sent out to the membership due to additional nominations received on or before July 18, 2026 for the following positions:

PRESIDENT: To be announced at the General Meeting on September 16, 2026

[First 2 – year Term]

TREASURER: **Cynthia Richardson** (Un-opposed)

[First 2 – year Term]

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Judy Webb

Please see **ATTACHMENT B - FINANCIALS**

REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS

REGION 1

None Submitted

REGION 2

Respectfully Submitted by Jane Billman

Region 2 had quite a busy year.

Agility Trial In mid-February, Carolyn Finney chaired her annual 3-day agility trial in Northern Illinois. It was a full house with 350 entries per day.

New Minnesota Club One of the purposes of our national club is to encourage the formation of local specialty clubs. Minnesota has started to form their own local club and I wish them well. There is interest in forming other local clubs within region 2 as well.

Backyard Classic This year the BYC was held in West Bend WI on June 26-28. There was a concurrent specialty with 66 entries, sweepstakes with 42 entries, juniors with 5 entries and an all breed show with 47 entries. The cluster also offered obedience, rally, dock diving and FastCat, with Toller ribbons and trophies given for these events. Ron Gerth and Deacon won the inaugural Red Rocket Award for FastCat! And of course we had the Wet Dog contest, banquet and raffle. More details can be found in the next issue of Quackers. The committee is in the process of planning the 2027 Backyard Classic, also at West Bend on July 2-4 2027. Hooray! **BYC Field:** Nichole Bretibart chaired and had 38 entries, 34 dogs started and 16 passed. What impressed me most is that there were 5 WCX passes. In 1997, at my first BYC, the WCI and WCX weren't even offered. What a difference since then!

REGION 3

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Richardson

Region 3 has had a very busy and exciting year as we have worked toward the National Specialty. From the initial development of the logo through the planning and completion of the final event, it has been a rewarding experience filled with creativity, collaboration, and a great deal of enthusiasm.

It has been a pleasure to be part of the process and to see everything come together. The National Specialty provides a wonderful opportunity for our club members to come together, celebrate our breed, and enjoy the camaraderie that makes our club so special.

I am looking forward to a memorable event and to spending time with all of the Red Dog people and, of course, their beautiful red dogs. I am grateful for the friendships, teamwork, and shared love of our breed that make these experiences so meaningful.

REGION 4

None Submitted

REGION 5

Respectfully submitted by Amanda Kaiser

Region 5 had a great year offering multiple days of the NSDTRC-USA field, and a specialty. In addition, we added 14 new members to our region and are excited to see them out at different events around the region.

The Texas Toller Two Step 2026 was held April 17–19 and brought together an outstanding group of dogs, handlers, volunteers, sponsors, and guests for three days of testing and fellowship. The event was supported by favorable spring weather, strong participation, and the generosity of the club community.

Friday, April 17

WCX — Hawkeye, handled by Chris Spikberg (Lonestar's Vermilion Hawkeye)

WCI — Gunny, handled by Betty King (Quill's Dove Creek Gunnison)

WC — Tam, handled by Paul Kartes (WyldeWater's Tide Caller)

WC — Nami, handled by Paul Kartes (WyldeWater's Roman Empire)

Saturday, April 18

WCX — Hawkeye, handled by Chris Spikberg (Lonestar's Vermilion Hawkeye), earned another pass.

WCI — Nala, handled by Connie Owens (Geronimo's Nala Grace)

WC — Chili, handled by Brett Giroir (Tejas' What A Toller)

Sunday, April 19

WCX — Port, handled by Bill Vigrass (Lakota's First Port of Call)

WCX — Hawkeye, handled by Chris Spikberg (Lonestar's Vermilion Hawkeye), earned his third pass at the Two Step.

WCI — Gunny, handled by Betty King (Quill's Dove Creek Gunnison), earned another pass.

WC — Chili, handled by Brett Giroir (Tejas' What A Toller), earned another pass

In addition to the test, the weekend included several opportunities for handlers, volunteers, and guests to gather socially. On Friday evening, the committee hosted an event at a traditional Texas honky-tonk with live music and dancing. On Saturday, participants gathered at the event venue

for a barbecue dinner and live music. The setting offered a welcoming environment for fellowship, with amenities that included a pool, jacuzzi, and pickleball court.

The committee thanks all volunteers, and event sponsors whose contributions made the 2026 Texas Toller Two Step possible. Their time, effort, and donations supported a successful weekend for dogs, handlers, and guests alike. A special thank you is extended to Christy Oliver for opening her home and property to the club for the past two years. Congratulations to all dogs and handlers who earned passes throughout the weekend and thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success. We hope to see all of you at the Texas 2 Step next year.

The Sunflower Classic Specialty was held in Hutchinson, Kansas June 6-7, 2026. It started with the Toller Trailer Trash party on Friday night where everyone had a chance to relax, have some fun, mingle, and get to know more of our fellow Toller friends. There is always plenty of laughter, good food, and a few beverages. Saturday's Specialty had an entry of 41 Tollers.

2026 Sunflower Classic Specialty Results

BOB - GCHS CH FOXBROOKE'S THE MOUNTAINS ARE CALLING CGC

BOW - MYSTIC'S KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF

BOS - CH WILDGRASS GRIT N GLITTER CD RA WCI

SD - GCH DOVE CREEK'S HIGH COUNTRY BROMANCE WC

SB - GCHB CH TALL PINES WIND THROUGH THE WILLOWS OF KO

AOM - GCH CH SUNBURST'S NATAN OF GOOSE ISLAND RN

AOM - TEJAS' JIMBO'S BEST DUCKING WIDE RETRIEVER RA WCI

WD - MYSTIC'S KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF

WB - REDVINE'S LOVE LETTERS TO SHIREWAY

RWD - DOCHARA'S CLEAR EYES FULL HEARTS CAN'T LOSE

RWB - WILDGRASS MAYBE SHE'S BORN WITH IT

Best Veteran - CH HIGH COUNTRY'S YOU'RE SO BUSTED BEEKAUZ WC JH

Best Working Retriever - CH WILDGRASS GRIT N GLITTER CD RA WCI

2026 Sunflower Classic Performance Events Results -

Fast CAT Fastest Toller Run - "Maple" / Amy Tipton - 8.003/ MAPLE TKR

Obedience - High in Trial - CH MACH2 RACH2 DOCHARA SPUN A ROYAL FLOWER RM4 RA / Daniela Flores (197.0)

Obedience - High Combined (Open B/Utility) - CH MACH2 RACH2 DOCHARA SPUN A ROYAL FLOWER RM4 RA / Daniela Flores (197/195.5)

Rally - High Triple Score - CH MACH2 RACH2 DOCHARA SPUN A ROYAL FLOWER RM4 RA / Daniela Flores (100.0/99.0/100.0)

Rally - High Combined (Adv B/Exc B) - CH MACH2 RACH2 DOCHARA SPUN A ROYAL FLOWER RM4 RA / Daniela Flores (100.0 / 99.00)

Dock Diving - Longest Jump - "Flare" / Linda Kurtz - 23' 4" - SKYLARK'S WINTER SUPER NOVA

On Sunday, we moved into the field. Thank you to Taylor and Luke Vanderloo and family for generously allowing the use of their land to hold the test. Thank you to our judges, Brian and Jennifer Tucker for your time and feedback.

2026 Sunflower Classic NSDTRC-USA Field Results

WC Passes -

CH Dove Creek's High Country Bromance WC

Water's Edge Marcelo of the Rockies

CH Smoky Hill's light up the Sky

San Juan's First Charlie Day

Ch RedVine's Last Time I'll Ask Biotch

CH Smoky Hill's Find Me In High Country

Wildgrass Wu Song At Winterfrog

WCX Passes -

GCH SHR Wildgrass Grit N Glitter CD WCI RE VC

SHR Tejas' Jimbo's Best Ducking Wide Retriever WCI TKA RA CGC BCAT

Thank you to the entire committee who made these events a success. Hope to see you all next year, June 4th-6th, 2027 in Hutchinson Kansas for the next Sunflower Classic!

REGION 6

Respectfully submitted, Hillare' LaFond Parfait

It's been a steady year this go around! Region 6 hosted a supported entry in December and put on a fabulous field test in March that allowed for multiple breeds to strut their stuff over two days. The region, despite no major events planned, is actively growing gaining members across all the states. The community is strong with members gathering and supporting each other in Florida, Carolinas, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Unfortunately we will not be hosting an event at the AKC National Championship but hopes are alive that it maybe revived for 2027!

REGION 7

None Submitted

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AD HOC BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Romeiro

On February 19, 2025, the Board of Directors (BOD) approved the Proposal "To Form an Ad Hoc Committee to Recommend Revisions to the Bylaws of the NSDTRC (USA)".

On April 16, 2025, the BOD reviewed applications and appointed three members to the Bylaw Review Committee (BRC) – Patricia Romeiro (Region 4 Director), Michael Kasprick (Region 2), and Naz Eisensmith (Region 7).

Our CLUB Bylaws were last updated in October 2008, eighteen years ago. With technological and procedural advances over the years, we are behind the time to review. It has been necessary for us to complete a comprehensive review of the Bylaws. We are incorporated in the State of Alabama and thereby we must adhere to the Code of Alabama.

Other resources at our disposal provided by the AKC Member & License Club Specialist are: AKC Sample constitution and Bylaws for a Parent Specialty Club with Nationwide Membership; AKC Constitution and Bylaws; AKC Tips and Best Practices for Effective Club Bylaws; Electronic Balloting for AKC Parent Clubs and Managing Club Finances.

Our bylaws in Article XI – Parliamentary Authority state ... “The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws....” The current Edition is the 12th Edition.

On August 24, 2025, the Bylaw Survey was emailed to the membership and closed September 8th, 2025.

On January 5th, 2026, results of the survey were emailed to the Board.

On January 18, 2026, the results of the survey were emailed to the membership. There were 45 members who completed the Survey. There were 13 questions, four (4) were general, and 9 were questions about revisions to our bylaws. Log onto the Members Only website: <https://members.nsdtrc-usa.org> . The top banner has the topic “Surveys” Click on the file to view the results.

On February 23, 2026, a red-lined and final draft was emailed to the BOD. We expected the process to take 18 months or more and are on target.

From April 2026 through August 2026, the BOD has met many times and will continue our review of Article by Article to completion.

AKC BREED COLUMNIST

Respectfully submitted by Alicia Figueroa Carlo

This year, I published an article for *Showsight Magazine’s* November 2025 edition in collaboration with other club members November 2025. The article provided a general overview of the toller’s history within the show ring as well as I am currently working on additional articles for the *AKC Gazette* which seek to educate judges and other fanciers on the nuances of the toller breed standard. In particular, these next few articles seek to including the mistaken belief that a white-tipped tail (or white at all) is required.

Looking ahead, I hope to continue producing breed education that is useful to judges, exhibitors, breeders, owners, and anyone interested in learning more about the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever. My goal is to write about the breed as it actually is, including both their considerable strengths and the traits that can make living with a toller challenging. Providing a good and accessible understanding of the breed's history and purpose is essential to making informed decisions about its future.

I am grateful for the opportunity to represent the breed through the club and to continue contributing to toller's visibility within the wider dog community.

AKC DELEGATE

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Dorman

It is my privilege to submit the 2026 annual report as your representative to the American Kennel Club Delegate Body. Over the past year, I have represented the interests of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (USA) across quarterly AKC Delegate meetings, monitored legislative and regulatory developments, and event participation for our breed.

The year 2026 has been defined by modernizations in AKC performance and youth programming, sustained advocacy for working retriever traits, and strong participation numbers across conformation, agility, hunt tests, and companion sports. Below is a summary of delegate proceedings, breed participation interests, and recommendations for our parent club.

2026 NSDTR Participation & Events

The Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever continues to stand out as one of the most versatile sporting breeds in the American Kennel Club, maintaining high entry numbers across performance, field, and companion venues.

Key Highlights for 2026:

1. **Agility Dominance:** Tollers remain one of the top-performing medium-sized breeds in AKC Agility, particularly in the 16" and 20" jump height divisions. High-drive agility runs represent the single largest volume of individual entry titles for the breed in 2026.
2. **National Specialty Footprint:** The 2025-26 NSDTRC (USA) National Specialty events—including dedicated Agility trials, Working Certificate tests, Scentwork trials and regional designated specialties all saw sold-out entries across multiple venues.
3. **Field & Hunt Test Retention:** Participation in AKC Retriever Hunt Tests remained solid. Higher than average entries were recorded across Junior, Senior, and Master Hunt levels, proving our membership's continued commitment to preserving natural hunting instincts.
4. **Fast CAT Expansion:** The popularity of Fast CAT among Toller owners continues to climb, with top-ranking Tollers averaging speeds between 24 and 27 MPH in 100-yard dashes.

Key Delegate Body Proceedings & Voting Items

Throughout the 2026 quarterly sessions, the Delegate Body addressed several critical amendments to AKC Bylaws and Event Regulations:

1. Bylaws and Rule Amendments

- **Junior Handler Program Enhancements:** The Delegate Body approved structural revisions to Junior Showmanship guidelines, offering expanded age brackets and

establishing dedicated performance-event pathways for junior handlers. This initiative aims to foster youth engagement in sports such as Hunt Tests, Agility, and Rally.

- **Judge Approval Guidelines:** Proposals regarding judging eligibility, continuing education requirements, and observation protocols were refined to maintain high judging standards while lowering unnecessary financial and geographical barriers for aspiring judges.
- **Digital Event Management:** Permanent rules were adopted allowing clubs greater flexibility in electronic entry processing, digital catalog distribution, and modern event record-keeping.

2. AKC Board Elections & Governance

At the March meeting, Delegates voted to fill vacant seats on the AKC Board of Directors. Candidates were evaluated on their commitment to preserve breed standards, maintain fiscal responsibility, expand registry participation, and champion legislative defense against anti-purebred dog legislation.

Legislative Defense & Purebred Advocacy

Anti-breeder legislation and overly restrictive local ordinances remain a primary threat to purebred dog enthusiasts nationwide. The AKC Government Relations (GR) department provided updates throughout 2026:

1. **Canine Health and Importation Controls:** AKC GR actively supported federal initiatives aimed at strengthening health inspection standards for dogs imported into the U.S. for commercial resale, reducing the risk of foreign animal diseases.
2. **Breed-Neutral Local Legislation:** AKC continues to assist local parent club members in opposing arbitrary mandatory spay/neuter mandates and restrictive breeder licensing thresholds.

Recommendations for the NSDTRC (USA) Board & Membership

To ensure our club maintains a strong voice within the AKC and protects the future of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, I recommend the following actions:

1. **Leverage AKC Junior Incentives:** Utilize new AKC Junior Handler incentives by offering club-sponsored awards or entry fee assistance for junior handlers participating in Toller specialty events and hunt tests.
2. **Expand Field & Hunt Test Support:** Continue offering Working Certificate (WC/WCI/WCX) tests and supporting AKC Retriever Hunt Tests to preserve the working heritage of the Toller.
3. **Active Legislative Monitoring:** Provide communication with members of relevant states and legislative liaison within our club to monitor regional bill introductions and interface directly with the AKC Government Relations team.

4. **Promote Health Registry Participation:** Continue encouraging members to health-test breeding stock and submit results to the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) and CHIC database.
5. The AKC has announced the penalties for leaving dog(s) in a closed vehicle.

July 2026 Update to Clubs

Dealing with Misconduct at American Kennel Club Event

At its July meeting, the AKC Board approved adding a new offense under the Inappropriate Treatment of Animals category for violations of the American Kennel Club's Unattended Dogs in Vehicle Policy. The new offense and penalties take effect July 29, 2026.

The inclusion reads as follows:

Inappropriate Treatment of Animals

Violation of AKC's Unattended Dogs in Vehicles Policy

Mitigated: 1 yr/\$1,000 Standard: 5 yr/\$2,000 Aggravated: Up to life/up to \$10,000

For purposes of this provision, dogs shall not be left unattended in a vehicle that is fully enclosed or sealed from outside airflow. A vehicle containing unattended dogs must provide continuous ventilation and conditions reasonably sufficient to protect the dogs from heat-related injury, illness, distress, or death. The use of electronic monitoring devices, remote alerts, fans, or climate-control systems shall not constitute a defense to a violation of this provision.

Additionally, the AKC Board approved a change to Section VII Preliminary Investigation to require Event Committees to conduct a hearing when a dog is seriously injured or dies in connection with their event. The is effective July 29, 2026.

#akcclubdevelopment

Conclusion

It remains an honor to represent the NSDTRC (USA) within the AKC Delegate Body. I welcome feedback, questions, or specific directives from the Board and general membership prior to each quarterly meeting. Thank you for your continued dedication to preserving and protecting the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever.

BREEDER EDUCATION COORDINATOR

None submitted

BREEDER REFERRAL

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Richardson

Breeder Referral started acquiring electronic inquiries for the breeder list in February 2014. Below are the number of inquiries by year from that time.

2014 - 1105

2015 – 1702

2016 – 1782

2017 – 1461

2018 – 1399

2019 – 1147

2020 – 1420

2021 – 866

2022 – 703

2023 – 720

2024 – 698

2025 – 676

EVENTS CHAIR

Respectfully submitted by Betsy Boryczka

2026: Supported Entry/Specialty for Wine Country submitted but not in time frame so not approved. Nothing else submitted.

Suggestions:

Encourage smaller clubs as they are partners at regional level. Encourage development in areas that do not have local clubs.

Have a Performance/Show Chair position. Lots of performance events now. Think this is needed.

No funds or expenses.

As last two years of Show/Events Chair, I have had a lot of support and want to thank those members. As of November 1, 2026, I will step away from the chair position.

FIELD EVENTS

None submitted

HEALTH & GENETICS

None submitted

HISTORIAN

None submitted

JUDGES EDUCATION

Respectfully submitted by Deb Gibbs

During the last year we held a Judges Education seminar during the National Specialty at Purina Farms. We had an excellent team of Mentors. The Club received very good feedback from the participants. Thank you to everyone who helped with the seminar, and/or donated their time to exhibit dogs for Judges to learn and enjoy.

During our in-person time at Purina, we spent time working on an updated presentation. We are currently requesting a list of photos to assist in updating our presentation. We need photos of examples of the DQ's as listed in the Standard. Thank you in advance for helping us with this project.

The Committee has received an application for Parent Club Approved Mentor. This will be presented to the BOD at the in-person meeting in September. The Committee receives the application and accompanying material. It is reviewed to verify the applicant has met the basic criteria. It is then forwarded to the Board for review and a voting process. Please contact the JEC if you are interested in becoming a Parent Club Approved Mentor.

JUDGES SELECTION COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Parker

The annual notice was sent in April to be published in the Spring Quackers, asking for Nominations from the floor for the National Specialty Judge for 2027. On June 15th, on the Toller Announce list posted the link to the nominating site on-line and it went live. A list of all Judges who were not eligible were noted on the first page.

No Judge who has Judged the US or Canadian Toller National Specialty within the last 7 years is eligible. A list of this AKC approved or provisional Judges were listed there.

There were 73 Judges nominated with a total of 40 votes. The club members nominated Judges from June 15- July 31st. Multiple notices reminding club members were sent out via the Announce List. 40 people nominated Judges.

The top 7 were then calculated and put on the Club's website. An announcement stating the voting was open was sent on August 1st and the site went live. Several reminders to vote were sent to the membership. The voting closed on August 31st. 28 people voted.

There was a clear winner and that Judge was contacted. Thank you to all who participated.

JUNIOR COORDINATOR

Respectfully submitted by Justine Hubbard

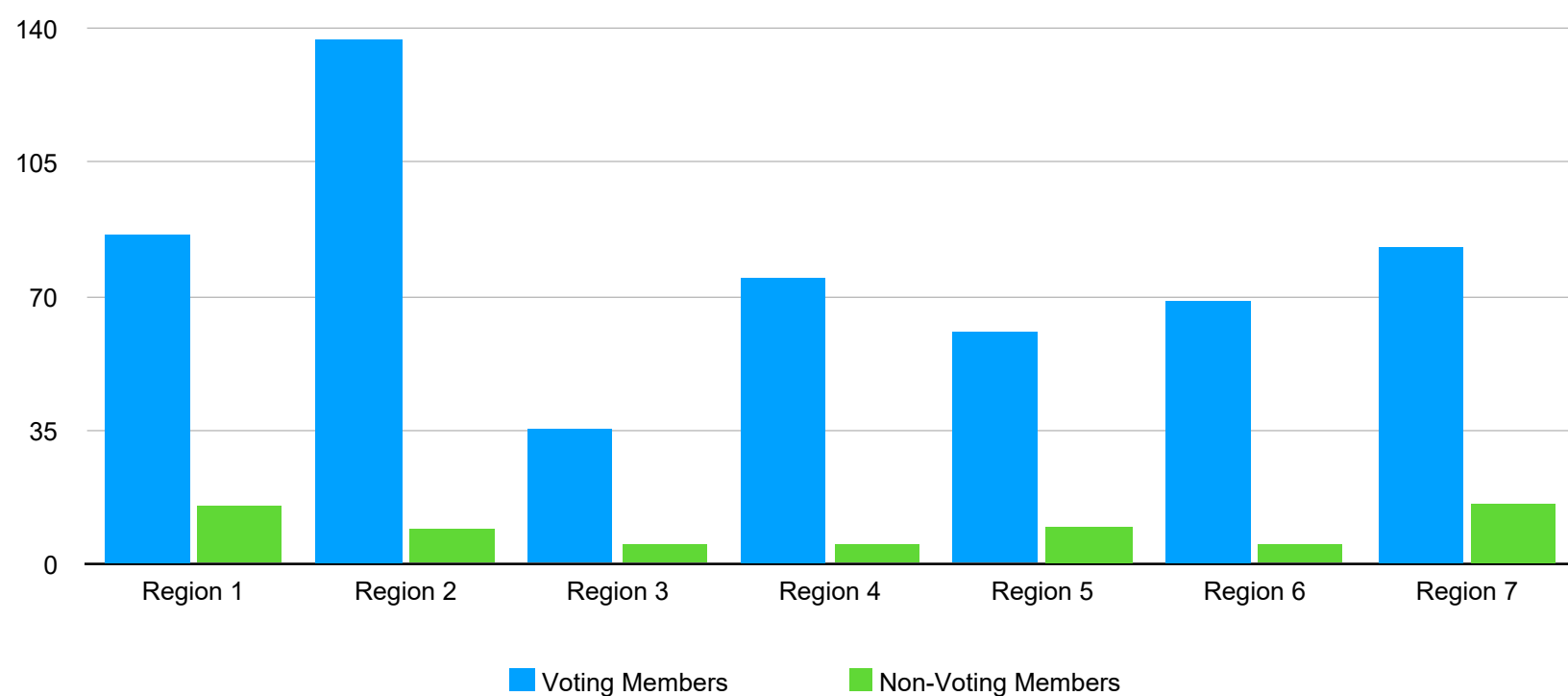
This year we have seen a great increase in participation with the number of Toller juniors. To my knowledge, all NSDTRC-USA specialties have offered Junior showmanship alongside the specialty/supported shows. I've assisted with making sure a few specialties have showmanship set up correctly for their event. We are continuing to assist juniors interested in the breed to find mentors and dogs in their area. Going forward I am going to continue to reach out to additional regions in the club, especially those with specialties, to make an effort to offer mentorship and dogs to juniors who are interested in the breed. Along with making sure specialties are offering junior showmanship competition with their show. The 2025 top 10 conformation ranked Toller junior handlers we mailed certificates and a letter of recognition for their dedication to the breed and sport. Still working to encourage more performance and field event junior participation. For the future I'm hoping juniors can earn a certificate, metal, or some sort of recognition if they complete a certain amount of legs/qualifying scores in different dog venues. This is an idea I am still working on. A few notes for the future, I would really like the club consider the national specialty dates to accommodate/encourage juniors to attend. Obviously, this comes down to people's proposals for the show, but something to think about. I'd also like to look into adjusting the clubs junior scholarship award to ensure a junior is receiving it each year. Overall I believe our Junior participation is increasing with each year, there is high interest in the breed and we will continue to support and recognize each one!

LEGISLATIVE COORDINATOR

None submitted

MEMBERSHIP

Respectfully submitted by Michele Levitt



2026 Membership Report as of August 2026

Region	Voting Members	Non-Voting Members	Junior Members	Total	Percentage
Region 1	86	15	2	103	16
Region 2	137	9	0	146	23
Region 3	35	5	0	40	6
Region 4	75	5	1	81	13
Region 5	61	10	0	71	11
Region 6	69	5	1	75	12
Region 7	83	16	0	99	15
International	0	4	0	4	0
Totals	546	69	4	619	100

MERCHANDISE

Respectfully submitted by Shelley Bakalis

Since last year's annual meeting there have been 8 club merchandise orders totaling \$333.90. There is still an ongoing issue of some people not being able to add the correct amount for shipping from the drop down list.

PUBLIC EDUCATION COORDINATORS

None submitted

QUACKER'S EDITOR

None submitted

RECORDS CHAIR

Respectfully submitted by Dierdre Simon

We have over 5000 Tollers in our database now! We earned over 2000 AKC titles this year as well as several club titles. Below in the charts are the breakdown of each event.

These are the title tables and totals for the year.

Agility	515
Conformation	144

Obedience	87
Rally	198
Scent Work	421
Hunt Tests	53
Dock Diving	47
Disc Dog	8
STAR Puppy	41
CGC	138
Barn Hunt	16
Fast CAT	120
Coursing	12
Farm Dog	12
Therapy Dog	3
Trick Dog	127
FETCH	57
FIT	25
ATT	12
Tracking	5
Versatility	1
Virtual at home titles	16

Total AKC Titles 2058

WC	57
WCI	18
WCX	27
BRT	13
Club CH	26
VC	13
VCX	11

Total Club Titles 165

RESCUE COORDINATOR

Respectfully submitted by Janis Dibert

Our Rescue did not have any dogs adopted this past year. We continue to long term foster from the Blue Chip rescue. “Gavin” is fostered by Linda Sullivan. We pay for his medical needs while Linda provides for his day-to-day care. We have also taken in a dog that Paul Kartes rescued from a neglect case. Lauger entered our program as a long-term foster- he is 12 years old and his breeder who was contacted no longer breeds and is no longer a club member does not want to take him back. The dog was severely flea infested, weak in the rear and overweight, as food was just thrown in the barn where he resided. His owner Max Hamilton has had a stroke and can no longer care for Lauger. Our rescue has helped Paul with Lauger’s medical bills, and he is doing better- flea allergy better weak rear coming along. We owe a debt of gratitude to Paul for stepping up to care for Lauger. At this time Lauger has been transported to Linda Sullivan to continue his care and recovery as Paul must go on the road and travel is not an option for Lauger. Our rescue has pledged our support for Lauger’s continued medical care. Both Paul and Linda should be commended for stepping up to help this dog.

I have received applications for dogs, mostly looking for young dogs under the age of 5. I try to call all applicants to get a better sense of what they want. I have found many times they have never met a Toller or even know what they are like. Most are looking for “Mini Goldens” so they get a Toller 101 lesson. I feel educating people is the best way to protect our redheads from winding up in rescue. I have also received two surrender forms, both with a bite history.

Advised their owners to contact their breeders and gave them some advice on how to introduce dogs to kids as it wasn’t the dog’s fault just lack knowledge on the owners’ part, but the dog takes the rap. Both dogs had reported history with authorities regarding bites.

I am hoping to continue in my position as I have been a member of our club rescue program for 22 years

RESCUE MERCHANDISE

None submitted

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

None submitted

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

None submitted

SOCIAL MEDIA CO-CHAIRS

Respectfully submitted by Annie Kubly & Carolyn Quackenbush

At the beginning of 2026, the Social Media Committee created 7 regional Facebook groups following the guidelines prepared in April of 2024. Groups were originally created as private and hidden. Setting up each group through the public facing NSDTRC-USA Facebook page and adding the Social Media Committee members as admins took some time. Having members of the Social Media Committee and our Club Board liaison present in all seven groups allows us to help route questions or information to the appropriate club contacts when needed. Once completed, we contacted regional directors to begin adding them to the groups and setting them up as admins.

In July, we launched the membership groups to members. We quickly learned that because the groups were hidden, the links we shared wouldn't work, so the groups were updated to be visible,

but still private. Since we launched 185 members have joined the groups with many expressing excitement about having a dedicated space to connect with members in their region. Some regional directors (and incoming regional directors) have already started creating posts to increase engagement across the regions. After the election is finalized, we will ensure that any new regional directors have admin rights and set outgoing regional directors back to regular members. We hope these pages will be an additional platform for regions to plan events together whether that be training days, performance events, or even small get-togethers.

The public facing page has gained 363 net followers, received 15 messages and had only 3 total posts since September 1, 2025. While the page continues to gain followers organically as people seek information about Tollers and the club, we currently aren't taking full advantage of that growing audience. The Social Media Committee and Public Education Committee have met a couple of times to discuss ideas for reviving the page.

Going into the next year, our focus will be on continuing to grow engagement within the regional groups while working with the Public Education Committee to establish a more consistent presence on the club's public-facing social media. We also hope to collaborate more closely with the club's various committees to help keep our membership informed about the work happening throughout the club while also finding opportunities to share educational and engaging content with the public.

TROPHY CHAIR

Respectfully submitted by Alyssa McGinnis-Metzler

TROPHY CHAIR REPORT 6/30/2025 TO 7/1/2026 for the reporting year:

- Has developed, maintained, and provided as requested the documentation for each perpetual trophy/award, including the history of the origin, the winners, and the eligibility requirements.
- Stored any trophies that are not currently awarded.
- Arranged for the creation of plaques for the Rusty Jones Award, and for the engraving of trophies as needed.
- Developed, maintained, and provided as requested the documentation for the Evelyn A Williams Award of Excellence, Admiral Halsey HOT Dog Awards, and provided certificate or trophy as appropriate.
- Responded to questions from members regarding club trophies.
- Sent awards won out to members, who were unable to attend last year's National.
- Maintained an accounting of expenses incurred in the administration of these duties.

It is a pleasure to be involved and able to hand out so many awards/trophies each year that I know so many dog and handler teams have worked so hard for! I love seeing how far everyone is able to go with your precious Tollers and seeing all of the hard work and dedication paying off. Keep up the great work! Thank you for a great year!

WEBMASTER

Submitted by Ann DiSilvestre

Both web hosting solutions continue to be extremely stable and reliable.

The management of the websites is very time-consuming and requires a very flexible schedule to accommodate user demands. The membership database has evolved with more functionality and reporting capabilities. Special thanks are extended to Lou Garwood for creating, maintaining, and adding features to this database. His work is invaluable.

AGENDA ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS

Proposal #1: Application to host the 2027 National Specialty Held in Virginia
Submitted by: Deirdre Simon – Show Chair/Hillare Parfait – Event Treasurer

Please see **Attachment C** – Application to Host the National Specialty in 2027
Supporting documentation – Budget and projections for entries

NEW BUSINESS

Proposal #1: Create A Formalized Internal Audit / Financial Review Process for the NSDTRC (USA) Fiscal Year End Finances
Submitted by: Patricia (Pat) Romeiro, Region 4 Director, patntux@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION:

What Is An Internal Audit

An internal audit is an independent, objective evaluation of an organization's internal processes, controls and risks. It is conducted by members of the organization (or outsourced professionals) who report to the board of directors.

What It Does

Financial Controls and Reporting: The Internal Audit process evaluates the effectiveness of an organization's financial controls, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of financial reporting. This includes reviewing accounting processes and activity, financial statement preparation, and compliance with financial reporting standards.

Operational Efficiency and Effectiveness: Internal auditors assess operational processes to ensure compliance and to identify inefficiencies, redundancies, and areas for improvement.

Assesses Risk: Internal Audit reviews the organization's risk management framework to ensure risks are identified, assessed, and managed effectively (i.e.: Bank activity scrutinized by both the President and Treasurer on an ongoing basis: Review and approval of transactions prior to payment: requirement for proper supporting source documentation for substantiate expenses: ensuring insurance certificates are obtained for all events in a timely manner: tax returns filed timely, etc...).

Compliance Checks: Ensures the team follows laws and internal policies.

Creation of a Formalized Internal Audit Process: The creation of a formalized process, timeline and committee specifically for our Club will improve fiscal accountability and give the membership Transparency, Accuracy and Verification of the Reports submitted to them.

How to Formalize the Process

Identify all potential areas for audit and define procedure for analyzing. For example;

- Area to audit - Invoices
 - Procedure – review invoices (or other documentation) adequately support any payments
- Area to audit - Bank Reconciliations
 - Procedure - verify that bank reconciliations are performed accurately each month on a timely basis.
- Area to audit - Quarterly Financials
 - Procedure - ensure balance sheet and income statements are supported by itemized listings of cash receipts and disbursements.
- Area to audit - Annual Membership Dues
 - Procedure - ensure that all annual membership dues are collected and deposited on a timely basis.
- Area to audit – PayPal Accounts
 - Procedure – reconcile balances with bank records, verify user access, reconcile transactions

Execute the audit according to the defined procedures. Internal auditors should systematically review each area, evaluate risks, assess controls, and report any findings.

JUSTIFICATION:

Why Is It Needed

Builds Trust: Gives members confidence that the ship is steered well.

Fraud Deterrent: Acting as a watchdog to deter and-/ or detect inappropriate activity in a timely manner.

Improves Efficiency: Pinpoints wasteful habits or redundant tasks.

Continuous Growth: Offers a “health check” to help the Club scale safely

External Readiness: Prepares the Club in the event a third-party audit or government audit is mandated.

The NSDTRC (USA) Bylaws are silent on audits, so we turn to Robert’s Rules of Order which the Club operates under. The relevant sections are:

“Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised 12th Edition Chapter 48. 48:20 – 48:26 Reports by the Treasurer. 48:21 “In addition, the treasurer is required to make a full financial report annually, and in some societies more often. **Such an annual report should always be audited.** (emphasis added) It is compiled and dated as of the last day of the fiscal year, if there is one, or December 31 if no different financial year is stated in the bylaws...

48.25: When the amounts involved are very large and the reports complicated...it is desirable to have the audits made by independent certified accountants. But **in ordinary societies and those in which the expense of a professional cannot be justified, it is practical to have the financial reports audited by an auditing committee or two or more members of the society – appointed in advance if there is not a standing auditing committee.** In some organizations...the financial reports are audited by elected officers known as “trustees” The adoption of the auditors’ report has the effect of relieving the treasurer of responsibility for the period covered by his report...”

The American Kennel Club (AKC) as written in their “Parent Club Managing Club Finances”, recommends an annual audit by an outside Accounting Firm or Qualified member. They also **recommend an Audit Committee to ensure ongoing accuracy.**

Our Club has not had a Financial Review or Audit in the last 18 years.

NSDTRC (USA) Town Hall meeting Monday April 20, 2026. As witnessed, most of the members present were in favor of an audit/financial review process. This proposal would satisfy the members’ desire for an audit without the huge financial burden.

ADMINISTRATION

The Board of Directors shall retain responsibility and oversight of the Formalized Internal Audit Process of the Club’s finances. The Club Treasurer would need to assist with the process. A timeline for completion would be mutually established. Results would be published to the membership.

Appoint a Committee of two (2) or three (3).

Review the duties and practices developed by AKC’s Executive Vice-President, Sports and Events, Doug Ljungren. Please see **ATTACHMENT D**

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None

SPECIFIC BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Approve the Creation of a Formalized Internal Audit / Financial Review Process (Process to be established by Calendar Year End). Upon review of the completed formalized audit/Financial Review process, approve implementation with any additions or deletions.

Proposal #2: Modifications/Expansions to the Event Chair Duties

Submitted by: Amanda Kaiser email: tollerlover@icloud.com

Proposal Description: To change the position description of the Event Chair to encompass all NSDTRC-USA sponsored events, with the exception of field.

Proposal Justification: The current function of the Event chair is to approve supported entries. The President approves Agility trial, and scent work event requests. With the ever expanding requests for the NSDTRC-USA club to hold events, I would like to modify the Event Chair position to be the point person for approval for Supported Entries, Agility, Obedience, Rally, Tracking, Fast Cat, Scent Work, Fetch Competitions, and Dock Diving events. This would allow one person, with the support of the committee (see proposal below) to be the contact person for all requests for NSDTRC-USA events. Field events: Working Certificate, Hunt tests and Upland tests will still be approved by the Field Chair. All specialities will still be approved by the Board of Directors.

Administration: As this club grows, we have seen an increase in event requests and events that Tollers are eligible to compete in. I would like to see a streamline process to the application and approval process for all AKC events. Changing the Event Chair position to be the contact person, encompassing all AKC events, which streamlines the process for application and approval.

The Event Chair will be the responsible party to ensure club does not exceed the limit of 12 agility trials each year.

In addition, the Event chair will develop an Event Calendar that will be published and updated on the Club Website that lists all NSDTRC-USA sponsored events. The Field chair will communicate with the event chair, any approved field events so they can be added to the Event Calendar, as well as any specialities approved by the BOD.

Financial Implications: None. There is no cost associated with modifying the Event Chair position.

Specific Board Action Requested: To modify the position description of the Event chair to encompass approval for not just NSDTRC-USA Supported Entries, but also Rally, Obedience, Agility, Tracking, Fast Cat, Scent Work, Fetch Competitions, and Dock Diving events.

Proposal #3: Formation of an Events Committee

Submitted by: Amanda Kaiser, tollerlover@icloud.com

Proposal Description: To approve the formation of an Events Committee to support the Event Chair and members who apply to host events.

Proposal Justification: As the club has grown, so has the number of events that the club sponsors, yet sometimes without mentorship, guidance, or financial stewardship. The purpose of this committee would be to provide guidance and coordination for club sponsored events. Ideally, the committee would consist of 3-5 members who possess experience in participating and chairing different events (Conformation, Obedience/Rally, Agility and Scentwork). The committee would be available to provide assistance with AKC applications, judge selection, contracts, ribbon purchases, and event budgets.

Administration: This committee would be chaired by the Events Chair.

Financial Implications: No additional costs for the club. I anticipate this may allow for some cost saving for the club, by assisting with budgets, AKC application timeliness, as well as bulk ordering of ribbons.

Proposal #4: Health & Genetics Committee - Breed CHIC and AKC testing recommendations
Submitted by: NSDTRC-USA Health and Genetics Committee

We recommend that the protocol for the NSDTRC-USA H & G Committee breed-wide testing review be every five years *or* if a health condition occurs (or a genetic test is developed) that has the potential for significant impact on the breed.

We recommend an objective decision tree be utilized for reviewing the breed-wide testing recommendations, with the understanding that the final version will be submitted to the Board for approval.

We request approval of the 2026-2028 recommended tests so that we may update the CHIC and AKC websites.

We request approval of our timing and plan to roll out of the proposed framework for monitoring breed-wide health and using data combined with an objective decision process to drive our testing recommendations.

As has been pointed out previously, our club testing recommendations on the CHIC and AKC websites are out-of-date and out-of-synch with one another. Ideally, these recommendations would tie to breed-wide health survey data, but as we work to gather those data, we request:

- 1) Board approval of a new method for the review of the NSDTRC-USA health testing recommendations
- 2) Board approval of testing recommendations for 2026/28 that will update the current recommendations and align the CHIC and AKC websites.
- 3) Board approval for the Health & Genetics (H & G) Committee's plan (with timeline) for future health surveys and testing recommendations (framework).

1) A new method for review of the NSDTRC-USA health testing recommendations

We can locate no documentation detailing when the current health testing recommendations were created and/or last reviewed. Also unknown is why the CHIC and AKC recommendations were dealt with separately in the past. Furthermore, no protocol currently exists that calls for a review of the breed-wide testing recommendations by the H & G Committee.

Given the speed at which genetic tests are now being developed and the remit of the H & G Committee to provide breed-relevant advice and expertise, we firmly believe there must be a protocol that triggers the H & G Committee to evaluate testing recommendations for the NSDTRC-USA. Having this in place will prevent long temporal review gaps and will assure that the AKC and CHIC testing recommendations are always synchronized. Rather than a simple time-based review, we propose a dual trigger protocol to create flexibility and responsiveness. Meaning rather than simply state testing needs to be reviewed every X years, reviews would be triggered *either* by time (X years) *or* if a health condition occurs (or a genetic test is developed) that has the potential for significant impact on the breed. For example, had this been in place, the discovery of CLAM would have triggered a review.

Beyond formalizing the protocol for the review of the testing recommendations, we also believe that there is a need for a method that uses objective criteria for evaluating the tests available for tollers in the NSDTRC-USA to determine which have breed-wide significance. Utilizing an objective method provides transparency, removes the potential for bias (intentional or unintentional) and allows for continuity going forward. To accomplish this, we created a decision tree (Figure 1) that guides the review team by asking questions about the genetic condition and associated test (if any). Questions such as: is this an inherited condition with significant health implications?, has the test for the condition been validated for tollers?, is the condition lethal?, and/or does this condition have breed-wide implications (in contrast to a condition that could be important for certain lines or may be one that some breeders have strong feelings about)?

2) 2026/2028 Testing recommendations that will update and align the CHIC and AKC website

As we work on our health survey to gather needed current data on what conditions are of a concern to tollers (and their owners), as well as the breed-wide prevalence of the many health conditions, the H & G Committee created breed testing recommendations for 2026 – 2028 below. We see these as a short-term, conservative first-pass, intended to align the two set of testing recommendations as move towards a formalized objective and data-driven review process; therefore we focused on known priorities – either lethal in tollers or conditions of concern to all tollers with established (published) high prevalence in the NSDTRC-USA population. It should be noted these recommendations may change as more information becomes available, for example, it may be that due to testing and careful breeding management a condition that was previously found in a high number of tollers, we learn is now less prevalent in the breed, or a researcher publishes key information on a gene test not previously validated in tollers.

Current AKC tests	Current CHIC tests	Recommended Tests for CHIC and AKC for 2026/2028 (interim during phase in)
Buff	Eye evaluation	CLAM
Cardiac exam	Hip evaluation	Eye exam
Cleft palate and syndactyly (CP1, CLPS)	PRA	Hip exam
Eye evaluation		JADD
Hip evaluation		PRA
JADD		
PRA- PRCD		

3) Building a framework – proposed timeline and plan for future health survey and testing recommendations (2026 through 2030).

Following approval of the proposals herein by the Board of Directors at their 2026 annual meeting, the H & G Committee would begin a phased roll out of this new framework (testing protocol, decision tree, and health survey). Specifically, following approval from the Board, we would make the 2026 -2028 changes to the testing recommendations listed by the AKC and CHIC.

Additionally, in 2027 we will convene several online meetings with outside reviewers with specific expertise to fully test and refine the decision tree, if needed. Reviewers may include Claire Wade, Danika Bannasch, and/or scientists identified by the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF). We will also meet with the staff from the OFA and other organizations that provide certification of hips, eyes, cardiac, etc. to determine how best to incorporate these types of tests into the decision tree.

A breed-wide health survey is overdue and has been previously approved by the Board using the OFA health survey tool which anonymizes (removes all identifying details) the results. Work has already begun to pick up where this left off, with new discussions with the Toller club in the United Kingdom and the Canadian Toller Club H & G providing ideas and suggestions. Our plan is for the survey to go out in 2027 to all NSDTRC-USA members, with a link made available to non-member toller owners who wish to participate; the review of the results will occur in 2028. Depending on the results, a smaller, targeted follow-up survey go out in 2028 or 2029 to acquire details that could inform testing recommendations, e.g. prevalence, or may assist the H & G in identifying priorities for future research.

In 2028 and 2029, the H & G committee will utilize the approved final version of the Decision Tree to create the next set of testing recommendations for submission to the Board for approval. The intent is that approved testing recommendations meet the 2030 deadline.

With all of the above accomplished by 2030, the new framework would be finalized and in place for the future, where surveys should go out two years prior to the testing review to inform the

review process, and the decision tree will be utilized the year prior to the deadline (e.g. 2035) to generate the testing recommendations for Board approval.

Please see **ATTACHMENT E** – Decision Tree

Proposal #5: Region 7 Scent Work Trial

Submitted by: Deirdre Simon, dezzaray1@gmail.com 618-204-0554

Proposal Description: I am requesting to hold a Region 7 Scent Work trial July 9-11, 2027. HD will be held on Friday with Container and Buried offered both Saturday and Sunday. Committee members include Brenda Dorman, Janna Drof, Ashley McLeod, Steven Simon and myself.

Proposal Justification: The first event was a big success and resulted in a \$7k profit to the club. I would like to contribute to the club again.

Administration: Approve all contracts for building, judges, and secretary. Also provide club insurance.

Financial Implications: Below is a budget roughly based on July's numbers, but slightly lower in the event the trial doesn't fill. The AKC recording fee is based off 500 runs at \$5.50 per run. I would also like to purchase containers for NSDTRC (USA) SW trials. I ended up borrowing some from other clubs, but because this was successful and recurring I would like to have our own equipment. In the event that these trials no longer happen, I will sell the items to local clubs and the money would go to NSDTRC (USA).

Specific Board Action Request: To approve the request to hold the trials.

Income	
Entry Fees	14,000
Expenses	
AKC Application Fee	210
AKC Recording Fee	2750
Building Rental	1,500
Judges Fee	1300
Judges Expense	250
Secretary Fee	1,000
Worker Lunch	120

Trial Supplies	350
Ribbons	1,700
Total	9180
Total Profit	4,820

Proposal #6: Online Application for Versatility

Submitted by: Deirdre Simon, dezzaray1@gmail.com 618-204-0554

Proposal Description: I would like an online application made for versatility and versatility excellent awards. It will cut out the hassle of members printing off the form, filling it out and then mailing it. It also makes my job as Records Chair easier to have digital applications.

Proposal Justification: The rest of our awards have online applications, it will streamline the process.

Administration: Work with the webmaster to create a wufoo form.

Financial Implications: None

Specific Board Action Request: Approve this proposal

Proposal #7: Sunflower Concurrent Specialties

Submitted by: Taylor Vanderloo

Please see **ATTACHMENT F** – Proposals to Hold A Specialty

Proposal to hold 2 concurrent specialties on Friday/Saturday June 4 & 5, 2027 (Sunflower Classic)

Taylor Vanderloo (Chair)

965 N 190th Rd

Minneapolis, KS 67467

Taylorm079@gmail.com 785-577-4829

Wendy Shumway

2385 Forest St.

Denver, Colorado 80207

wshumwa@gmail.com 303-618-8689

Judy Webb

2311 Hankamer loop
Hankamer Loop, TX 77560
Diverdog8@yahoo.com 281- 798-2997

Cindy Hanson (Treasurer)
1069 Talley Loop
Buda, Texas 78610
Cmhanson59@gmail.com 512-585-6210

I also already have the following Volunteers that have stepped up also to help make this event successful. Connie Owens & Judy Webb on performance events. Megan Hanson on Sweeps. Clara Breashears & Emma Strobel on Trophy's. Wendy Shumway and & Mckenzie Rudd on Ribbons. Cindy Hanson on Raffle. Julie Crain on Hospitality

Location: Hutchinson, Kansas in conjunction with all-breed shows Salina Kennel Club (4) and Wichita Kennel Club (5)

History/General Interest: This cluster of shows Thursday-Sunday offer's unique opportunities for Tollers. This request is for a concurrent specialty on both Friday and Saturday. In 2026 we had 1 current specialty that drew in over 40+ entries with 5pt majors, missed it by just a couple for reserve to make pts.. The two all-breed clubs do not charge our club to hold concurrent specialties. The club does not charge us for the specialty judges if we use them from their panel. We will have to find a sweeps judge for Saturday. The Host clubs/chair have been wonderful to work with on this and are very excited to make this 2 specialties. Last year Toller's had the highest counts breed counts over all the breeds. We also plan to have another Toller Hunt Test on that Sunday to bring in even more interest. We will use the same location as 2026-pending approval. While Kansas doesn't have a large gathering of Tollers, Region 5 does and everyone that comes to this show really does enjoy it and comes back. With it being right in the middle of the United States this show is known to bring members from outside our region.

In addition to back-to-back concurrent specialties Tollers would have many other activities to participate in. The Sunflower classic will offer the following (subject to change): obedience, rally, dock diving, fast cat, 4-6 month puppy, pee wee's, health clinic's, and junior scholarships. Onofrio is working on a contract for us. I will send those figures over as soon as I receive them. Between fundraising, raffles and getting trophies sponsored I know we will come out ahead as we did last year.

Proximity to National Specialty: No national specialty has been approved currently.

Past Attendance: 2026 on the Friday we had 30 entries, 9 class dogs and 7 class bitches-5 pt majors. In 2026 on Saturday we had 41 entries with 10 class dogs and 9 class bitches- 5 pt major also.

Selection of Judge: The all-breed clubs has provided a list of judges on their panel who are approved to judge tollers. We will choose from that panel for our Friday & Saturday Specialty and there will be no judge's cost to our club. The judge's fee and travel expense will be paid by the all-breed clubs.

Amenities:

Space can be reserved for grooming; free grooming also has electrical. Last year we marked off a spot for all tollers in free grooming.

Site has plenty of full hook up RV spots.

Entry Fee's for the specialties belong to NSDTRC. The Host club provides all the physical structures needed to hold the specialties (tents, tables, gates, ETC.) They also will provide a ring stewards for the specialties.

Hutchinson KS has many Air bnb's and Hotels that are dog friendly.

Sweeps and Non regular classes: Friday will offer Junior's, Hunting and Retriever sweeps, Veterans. Saturday we will offer the above plus Sweepstakes, puppy & mature puppy, and veteran sweeps.

Board Action: To approve a Concurrent specialty to be held on June 4 & 5 2027 in conjunction with the Salina Kennel Club and Wichita Kennel Club.

Proposal #8: Application to Host the National Specialty 2028

Submitted by: Rochelle Kurth

Please see **ATTACHMENT H** – Application and proposal

Proposal #9: Application to Host the National Specialty 2028 at Purina Farms

Submitted by: Cindy Hanson

Please see **ATTACHMENT I** - Application

Proposal #10: Liberty Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever Club (Liberty NSDTRC) – 2027 Club Year Specialty Date Approvals

Submitted by: William Burland, Corresponding Secretary, Liberty NSDTRC

Description: Liberty NSDTRC requests the following dates be approved for our Designated & Concurrent Specialties for 2027:

1. MD Sporting – March 6, 2027, West Friendship, MD. Designated Specialty & Sweeps.
2. Bryn Mawr – June 17, 2027, Ludwig's Corners, PA. Specialty, Sweeps & Jr. Showmanship.
3. Independent – October 30, 2027, Doswell, VA. Specialty, Sweeps & 4–6 Month Beginner Puppy.
4. Valley Forge KC – December 4, 2027, Oaks, PA. Specialty & Sweeps.

Justification: As an AKC Licensed Club, Liberty NSDTRC is granted 4 Specialties per year. Liberty's focus is the greater Philadelphia region and serves the needs of a vibrant and growing Toller community of exhibitors and breeders.

AKC rules provide that a local club obtain an approval letter from the National Breed Club approving the dates (similar to the last letter provided to Liberty for the Bryn Mawr Specialty and the letters provided to NSDTRC-NE). Therefore, Liberty is providing the dates of its upcoming Specialties and requests the Parent Club Board issue a letter of approval to the AKC.

Administration: N/A.

Financial Implications: Liberty assumes all financial risk and costs associated with events it sponsors.

Specific Board Action Requested: Issue letter to AKC approving the dates submitted for the 2027 Liberty NSDTRC club year specialties.

ADJOURNMENT

**CONFIDENTIAL
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

ADJOURNMENT