

Dear Fanciers,

The Board, management and staff of the American Kennel Club feel tremendously fortunate to be able to host the AKC National Championship in 2020 despite the pandemic.

Since authorities remind us that there is risk in any type of large gathering, we are proceeding with our National Championship Week events with great care and

implementing health and safety protocols beyond those recommended to mitigate

risks to the best of our ability. We know how important these events are to our

breeders, handlers, owners, vendors, superintendents and show secretaries and we

owe it to our Sport to uphold this important annual tradition even if under modified

conditions.

Social Distancing and masks are two of the many safety precautions that will be required at the Orange County Convention Center this year. It is a responsibility we must all share to safely hold and enjoy the events during National Championship Week.

Social distancing means staying at least six feet apart from individuals outside of one's household and not congregating unnecessarily. Therefore, the Show Committee has instituted a "Show and Go" policy for this year's competitions in conformation, agility, obedience, rally, Fast Cat, and diving dogs. No owners, handlers or exhibitors may remain ringside once their dog has completed competition. Unless you have been asked to remain nearby for further judging, you must return to your crating area or grooming set-up or leave the convention center. No ringside seats will be provided or permitted.

We recognize that participating in the AKC National Championship is not only about competing and meeting personal goals, it's about studying one's breed(s), evaluating the quality of the entries, observing judges' procedures and selections, and reuniting with friends. We also understand that it will take more than the usual amount of effort to be a part of our events this year. A "Show and Go" policy is not the ideal way to



experience the Championship, but it is a decision made to best keep our participants safe.

In light of the necessary changes due to the pandemic, we are pleased to offer a viewing solution to enhance your experience of the National Championship: **daytime conformation breed judging in all rings will be live streamed all day on Saturday, December 12 and Sunday, December 13, 2020.** Our participants and dog show enthusiasts around the world who are unable to travel can now view the entire competition while away from the rings.

Breed judging live streams will be available at AKCChampionshipLive.com. This will mark the first time that the judging of every single breed will be viewable online, in real time. To provide this level of coverage, there will be a one-time streaming fee of \$3 for one day of all-breed judging or \$5 for both days.

Fees to watch the breed live streams are purely at cost. One-hundred percent of any net proceeds will be donated equally to the following dog related charities; **Take the Lead** to further the care of fellow exhibitors; **AKC Humane Fund** to support Parent Club breed rescue and domestic violence shelters that permit pets; the **AKC Canine Health Foundation** to support Parent Club research grants; **AKC Reunite** to help support AKC Pet Disaster Relief and the **AKC Museum of the Dog**.

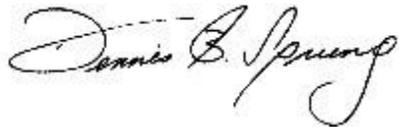
As always, the National Championship Groups and Best in Show, Best Bred-by Exhibitor and BBE Groups, NOHS Groups and Finals, Puppy & Junior Stakes Groups and Best in Stakes, Junior Showmanship Finals, Agility, Obedience, and Rally will continue to be live streamed on a complimentary basis on **AKCtv** and will remain available on demand.

To download the AKCtv app, visit the app store on your iPhone or Android device. For more ways to watch, visit akc.tv/support.

2020 has been a year like no other, and this year's AKC National Championship Week will certainly feel different from those that have come before it. We appreciate the sacrifices you will all make to be a part of this year's events in Orlando. This year, more than ever, our National Championship will depend on the flexibility, sportsmanship and camaraderie that defines our dog show community.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dennis B. Sprung". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'S' at the end.

Dennis Sprung

AKC National Championship Show Chairman