



05 NOV. 2008



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### **Letter of Understanding between FCI and AKC**

WHEREAS the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) and The American Kennel Club (AKC) share the common goals of promoting and protecting purebred dogs ; and

WHEREAS the parties hereto have in the past cooperated to a certain extent in carrying out this object and have been acting pursuant to certain informal agreements made from time to time for that purpose ; and

WHEREAS it is agreed that the relations between AKC and FCI and its member registries should be explicitly written with a view towards future cooperation ;

NOW, this letter of understanding encompasses the mutually agreed to basis for the relationship between the parties as follows :

1. AKC will recognize the pedigree for any FCI registry that meets AKC requirements and that wishes to have such recognition.
2. AKC will not automatically give exclusive recognition to the FCI registry in any country in which there are multiple registries and FCI will not automatically give exclusive recognition to AKC's registry in the United States.
3. AKC will not register any dog born in an FCI member country until that dog has been registered in the Stud Book of the FCI registry or the AKC-recognised registry in that country. No dog born in the USA, belonging to breeds recognised by the AKC, will be registered by an FCI member registry unless the dog has been registered in the FCI-recognised registry in the United States. It is up to the FCI to decide about the registration of dogs born in the USA belonging to breeds not recognised by the AKC.
4. Each of the parties agree that when any information comes to its knowledge which might reasonably affect or be useful to the other party (AKC judges suspension, amended standards, etc.), it will immediately communicate such information to the other party.
5. FCI and AKC will deal with the judging approval reciprocity in a separate document (see attachment).

6. AKC will not sponsor any event in the country of an FCI member without the express permission of FCI and the FCI member. FCI will not sponsor any event within the territory of the United States without the express permission of AKC. Puerto Rico is exempted from this provision as both AKC and FCI have been previously sponsoring activities on that island.
7. While not an FCI member, FCI has graciously agreed to permit AKC to participate in its World or Section Agility, Utility, Obedience, etc. Championship Event provided that this participation does not prevent representative teams of FCI member organisations from taking part. If the AKC teams win the competition, they are not eligible for the title of FCI Winner at these events.
8. AKC registered dogs are eligible for the title of FCI International Champion under specific conditions to be agreed upon by the AKC and FCI.
9. Except with the agreement of the AKC, the FCI will not register kennel names for breeders living in USA (with exception of Puerto Rico) and, except with the agreement of the FCI, the AKC will not register kennel names for breeders living in countries where the FCI has a member, which the AKC has accepted.
10. FCI agrees to send to the AKC headquarters all revised breed standards and AKC agrees to send to the FCI headquarters copies of its Complete Dog Book, which includes all AKC standards, each time that such publication is revised.
11. The terms of this letter of understanding is agreed to by the parties listed below. This agreement may be terminated by either party upon reasonable notification to the other party.

**Agreed upon further to the meeting held in New York, July 16, 2008**

**For the FCI**

**For the AKC**



**H.W. Müller**

**President**



**K.P. Reisinger**

**Vice President**



**R. Menaker**

**Chairman**



**D. Sprung**

**President**



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### **Breed Judging**

At FCI CACIB international shows, the AKC judges are eligible to judge and award the CACIB provided that the two following conditions are fulfilled:

1. the breeds they are scheduled to judge are recognised by the AKC (this does not include FSS and Miscellaneous classes).
2. the judges in question are allowed to judge, under AKC regulations, the breeds in question at AKC events and award them championship points. An AKC judge, residing in the United States, may not be approved as an FCI judge (breed, group, all breed) eligible to award CACIB.

At AKC events, the FCI judges are eligible to judge and award championship points provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:

1. the breeds they are scheduled to judge are recognised by the FCI and by the national kennel club, in their country of residence, which has jurisdiction over the judges in question
2. the judges are members of their national kennel club, in their country of residence, which is an FCI member or contract partner
3. the judges in question are allowed to judge, under FCI regulations, the breeds in question at FCI International CACIB shows and award them the CACIB

### **Group and BIS Judging**

It is up to both, the AKC and the FCI members, to choose to invite or not a judge to judge a particular group (according to FCI or AKC breed nomenclature) at an AKC event or at an international FCI CACIB show taking into consideration the experience of the judge, his judging credentials and the breeds and their numbers in the groups to judge.



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