

# Updates

from the

BASENJI CLUB OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



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Hello all!

Without dog events to bring us together we are bringing back our club newsletter to help us all stay informed and connected. Stormy and Eunice will work together to get the news out.

At our last board meeting, we chose to cancel our fall supported specialty in Dixon. The specialty was already compromised by the timing of the national specialty in Texas. COVID-19 concerns exacerbated it. But we will be back! We are looking at other breed clubs for 2021 show collaboration.

Our website gets inquiries from people who are interested in the breed/club. Eunice has volunteered to respond to those inquiries.

BCONC continues to have gear stored with Terry Gavaletz. No action at this time. BCONC trailer payment—we may need to re-issue payment as check has not been cashed.

Stay safe: practice social distancing, wear masks when in close contact. Be smart!

*Pat Cembura*  
**BCONC President**

# Covid19 : Staying Safe



*While we may no longer enjoy close contact with our friends and competitors, there still may be a way to hold events.*



**C**COVID19 HAS IMPACTED dog owners across breeds and ages. As noted in the President's letter, BCONC has cancelled our fall specialty in face of the double whammy presented by the National falling a week prior to our date and the onslaught of Covide-19. Returning to normal will depend on a number of factors (testing, tracing, quarantine, and readiness); when that will be is uncertain.

The American Kennel Club is providing general suggestions for events beyond the Center for Disease Controls guidelines as

well as state, local and facility guidelines that apply to the area and site where the event is held.

These include social distancing, wearing masks, gloves, and providing multiple hand washing stations and disinfectant wipes. It is suggested that exhibitors provide their own chairs, pens, and hand sanitizer.

Various types of activities require different adaptations to address health concerns.

## ACTIVITIES & PERFORMANCE EVENTS

### COVID19 : STAYING SAFE

#### CONFORMATION SHOWS

Some suggestions may present a logistical challenge for clubs and venues. Parking can be scarce at some venues and providing adequate distance between vehicles will be difficult. The recommendation to provide an entrance gate and a separate exit gate is excellent but difficult to execute when also providing separate rings or buffering adjacent rings.

On the West Coast most shows do provide areas near the rings for exhibitors to set-up personal pop-up tents for outdoor shows as well as indoors. In addition, the AKC suggests creating "a ready ring area outside the show ring for exhibitors showing the breed being judged."

#### COURSING ABILITY TESTS & FAST CATS

In addition to the general guidelines for personal care and parking, the AKC recommends that communal meals be put on hold and participants (save for judges and volunteers) be asked to bring their own meals.

AKC's scheduling ideas make so much sense most are included here in their entirety:

- Consider scheduling participants in blocks in order to reduce crowds.
- Use **SIGNUP GENIUS** (free downloadable app) or another online scheduling application if possible or the event secretary assigns dogs to a time block. Possible 20 minute blocks with 10 dogs per block.
- Set aside times for day-of-event entries—assign day-of-event participants a time and number.

- Ask participants to wait by their vehicles until immediately prior to their block time.
- Use **REMIND** (free downloadable app) or another online reminder application to inform participants when their block is to line up.
- Participants provide cell phone numbers for the event secretary to call or text.
- Use a bull horn or PA system to inform participants when their block is to line up.
- Roll call and inspection committee functions can be performed in the parking areas one dog at a time.

#### LURE COURSING TRIALS

The AKC guidelines for coursing build on the recommendations for CATs and FastCats: Again, interpersonal protection through masks, social distancing, and safe handling of payment, controlled roll call & inspection. What might be problematic is spacing dogs six feet apart at the start.

#### THE BEST PRACTICE IS YOU

Only you can decide what you are comfortable with. The AKC recognizes that adjusting to COVID-19 may result in longer shows. Not all shows or judges or exhibitors will decide to follow what the CDC recommends or the AKC suggests.

You can review the recommendations for all competitive events at [www.akc.org/press-center/covid-19-updates-from-the-american-kennel-club/](http://www.akc.org/press-center/covid-19-updates-from-the-american-kennel-club/).

