**Elise McMahon**

Please respond in full to the questions stated below. By completion of this questionnaire, you agree to the distribution of this information to the entire membership of the Briard Club of America by insertion into Club publications or otherwise. By agreeing to become a candidate for the Board of Directors of the Briard Club of America you further agree that if elected you (i) will perform the duties of the position to which you are elected with diligence and in good faith and will make decisions that are in the best interest of the Breed and the Briard Club of America, (ii) will use your best effort to attend and participate in all regular meetings which include National Specialties, any Special Meetings, and any conference calls during your term and (iii) in the event you cannot, for any reason, fulfill the duties of the office to which you are elected for an extended period of time that you will voluntarily resign your position.

**Name-address-profession**

Elise McMahon

125 East Chestnut Hill Road, Montague, MA 01351

Animal Behaviorist

**Best method members can use to contact you (phone, email, and fax).**

413 218 3602

[emcmahon@canineheadstart.com](about:blank)

**How long have you owned Briards?**

I acquired my first Briard, Tristan, in 1982 when I lived in Munich, Germany. After Tristan passed and I had finished my doctoral field work in Chile, I got Tai in 2002 and have had Brairds ever since.

**When did you join the BCA?**

2003

**What positions have you held in the BCA and when (office, chairs, committee)?**

CGC tester 2007 & 2009 BCA fun day MA

CGC tester 2009 National

Dew Claw Special Features editor 2009 – 2014

ASBC Director 2009

Chair Parades 2010 National

Co-Chair Rass 2010

CGC/TDI chair 2010 National

Chair Parades 2011 National

Co-Chair Rass 2014

BCA Director 2021 - 2023

**What dog related activities do you participate in with your dogs?**

I have competed in Conformation, Rally & Obedience and done some training in Agility and Herding.

**Have you bred any litters?**

Yes.

**Are you active in any other dog organizations? If so, in what capacity?**

I am a member of ADPT, KPA, and IAABC.

**What specific skills, areas of expertise or qualifications could you contribute as a board member?**

I work in canid behavior and am happy to contribute my knowledge of this specialty area.

**What issues do you see facing the Briard that you would like to see the BCA addressing the next 2 years?**

Briards can exhibit behavioral traits then can be stressful and alarming to owners. I would like to see more education going out to the Briard owning public on science based, positive methods of counter conditioning behavioral issues as well as educating puppy owners on how to prevent certain behaviors from becoming fixed behavioral patterns.

**How do you suggest addressing these issues?**

By providing the membership with articles, links to helpful websites and possibly even establishing a behavior committee to serve as a resource for new puppy owners and owners who are struggling with behavioral issues.

**What issues do you see facing the BCA that you would like to see the Board address in the next 2 years?**

Inclusivity, or rather, the lack thereof.

**How would you suggest addressing these issues?**

Establishing outreach programs to bring new and extant Briard owners into the club.

**How much time can you devote to Board activities?**

I can participate in Board meetings and any other activity to which I have committed myself.

 I hereby certify that I am a member in good standing of the Briard Club of America and have agreed to abide by the BCA Code of Ethics, and that the information provided herein is true and correct. Signature: Date: Note: The policy of the BCA requires that all members employ complete honesty and accuracy in all Club business, particularly in written communications. This applies to applications for membership, resumes for office or Board positions in the Club, and applications to chair or serve on committees and/or as editors of Club publications and advertising. Even in issues not specifically covered by the Code of Ethics, honesty and accuracy are expected and valued.