

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

David Sullivan
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Mortgage Underwriter

How long have you owned Briards?

I obtained my first Briard in 2006

When did you join the BCA?

I joined the BCA in 2012

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

I was the show chair for the 2015 National Specialty

What dog related activities do you participate in with your dog? (Conformation, obedience, agility, tracking, herding, therapy, flyball, etc.)

Conformation primarily

Have you bred any litters? If so, how many?

I have co bred 3 litters with Meg Weitz and I bred several English Cocker Spaniel litters in the past.

Are you active in any other dog organizations? In what capacity?

I was the show chair for both the 2020 and 2021 Silky Terrier Club of America National Specialties and again this year for 2023. I was also the show chair for the 2022 English Cocker Spaniel Club of America and will be show chair for their 2024 National Specialty and unless someone else raises their hand will be show chair for Silky National in 2024 again.

I am in my 2nd term as President of the Chesapeake Silky Terrier Club. I am one of the founding members of the new Mid Atlantic Herding Group. We just held our first B match on April 1, 2023 in conjunction with

Southern Maryland Kennel Club. We will have our A match in October of this year and once all the reports are filed and approved we will be able to hold our first group show in 2024.

I am a member of the Mid Atlantic Stewards Association and steward as often as possible – try to do at least one weekend per month.

I am a member in good standing with the Braird Club of America, English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Silky Terrier Club of America, Pekingese Club of America, Atlantic States Briard Club, Chesapeake Silky Terrier Club and the Chesapeake English Cocker Spaniel Club and a new member of the Devon Dog Show Association.

I have judged the Sweepstakes for ASBC, multiple English Cocker Spaniel sweeps and the Barbet sweeps at the last Morris & Essex and several other Sporting dog sweepstakes.

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

I have been involved with dogs for 36 years, started in Junior Showmanship with a Pekingese when I was 15 years old. After a year or so later I knocked on Polly Pugh's door who bred Doberman Pinschers in Annapolis and asked her if she would co own a dog with me so I could be more competitive which she did and we had a great run until I aged out. I apprenticed for many top professional handlers, spent countless hours with top breeders learning and helping groom dogs, scoop poop etc to repay for their expertise.

My job requires me to be very detailed oriented and find solutions to make the loan approvable. I try to bring that experience to all aspects of any endeavor I undertake.

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

I see one of the biggest issues is the loss of younger breeders/exhibitors – the same problem many breeds are facing. When I attended my first Briard specialty at Harrisburg in 2006 – there was close to 100 Briards entered – this year we have 23. We don't seem to have a shortage of people who want Briards for their family pets, but we have to find a way to get them interested in showing and eventually breeding or like so many others we will be on the endangered list.

How do you suggest addressing these issues?

That's a tough one – I think we all need to be more welcoming and encouraging new people instead of complaining and talking bad about the "other" breeders just encourage them about their dog and try to help them do the best they can and support their wins. If the family has kids old enough to show in Jr. Showmanship maybe talk that up quite heavily -get the kids involved and the parents will follow.

Maybe we could do a Briard Fun Day in different areas of the country. Invite all owners to participate – make it free. Have a fun dog show, have someone show them obedience/rally/agility and let them give it a try. Find a place where we can rent sheep and show them herding – anything to get them interested in the many different activities the dog world offers.

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

Again, I think the biggest issue is getting new people involved. Like so many other breeds, we need new breeders and exhibitors.

How would you suggest addressing these issues?

See above answer

How much time can you devote to Board activities?

I could devote 5-10 per week

Is there anything else you would like to say to the membership?

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.

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.