

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).

Ellen S. Pendergast
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Eau Claire, WI 54701
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esponder@wwt.net
Retired

How long have you owned Briards?

46 years

When did you join the BCA?

1979

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

BCA Representative – AKC National Parent Club Health Conference – 2011
Chair – Nominating Committee – 2013
BCA Recording Secretary – 2017 to the present

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

In the past my dogs have been shown in Conformation. As my two Briards are now retired from the show ring, I enjoy their constant love and companionship.

Have you bred any litters? If so, how many? I have bred three litters. One litter I bred in 1988: Ch. Oberon le Voyageur du Lhut/ U Know It Was Meant to Bea. I am proud that bitches from this letter became foundation bitches for lines that continue to this day and this breeding is in many pedigrees.

Are you active in any other dog organizations? In what capacity? Past member/secretary of the North Central Briarders. I am not active in other dog organizations at the present time.

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

Since 2017 I have been the BCA Recording Secretary. I take the responsibilities very seriously. I attend every Board meeting taking Minutes. I am responsible for all voting of the Board during meetings and online, as well as the voting of the membership. I maintain confidentiality in all voting. I am responsible for the Zoom account of the BCA Board, scheduling Board meetings as well as the BCA Annual Meeting. I have maintained all records since 2017.

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

Health issues such as cancer continue to take Briards way too soon. The dwindling number of Briards is of great concern to me.

How do you suggest addressing these issues?

The Briard is now considered a “low entry breed” by the AKC as of 2022. While the number of all purebred dogs has been harmed by the designer breeds; the public has to be continually educated as to the advantages of a purebred dog as opposed to i.e., Doodles. The buyers are being misled as to hypo-allergenic/non-shedding, etc.

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

The loss of members, whether by aging-out, members going to smaller breeds or just by disenchantment. The frustrations of the membership with the Board regarding many issues. The lack of participation in the BCA National.

How would you suggest addressing these issues?

Having been the Recording Secretary since 2017 I have had the opportunity to participate in many Board meetings. Every Director has brought their knowledge and experience to the table. While it may appear to the membership that the Board hasn't heard them or doesn't address their complaints; I have witnessed hard work by every member of every Board. In the past few years there has been a turnover of some very important positions. Many committees have lost their Chairs. The BCA cannot thrive without the members. All these positions are made up of volunteers and many more volunteers are needed.

The BCA National continues to be a problem for the Board and the membership. The Board and the membership want to have the National as more than just a conformation event. At a location that has a host hotel where seminars, social events and performance events can be held. The BCA needs the membership to step up, i.e., National proposals, volunteering to help during the events, and ideas that will encourage the membership to become involved.

How much time can you devote to Board activities?

I have devoted many hours to my job as Recording Secretary. If reelected will continue to devote as much time as necessary to the Board.

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

Please help in any way you can to revitalize the BCA. We all have our own opinions and beliefs. Our common thread is the love of the incredible Briard.

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: *Ellen S. Pendergast*

Date: 4/13/23

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.

3/21/2022