AMERICAN ESKIMO DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

The AKC National Breed Parent Club for the American Eskimo Dog

September 22, 2022

Gina M. DiNardo
Executive Secretary
The American Kennel Club
101 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10178

Re: American Eskimo Dog Club of America (AEDCA);
Formal Request to Open the AKC Stud Book

Dear Ms. DiNardo:

This letter is a formal request to the AKC Board of Directors to open the AKC Stud Book to a supplemental registration of United Kennel Club (UKC)-registered American Eskimo Dogs. This request is written as prescribed in the *Guidelines for Opening or Closing the AKC Stud Book (October 2002 Board meeting)*.

This request includes the required items from the *Guidelines*:

- A justification, and the Parent Club Board's assessment, as to whether the need is desirable, important or critical for the welfare of the breed.
- A summary of any arguments against the proposal of which the club is aware.
- A sample of a ballot the club would propose to use and an explanation of the procedure the club intends to use in conducting a vote of its members.

Please find this information in the enclosure.

The AEDCA looks forward to the Board's favorable decision so that we may conduct the poll of the membership as the *Guidelines* require. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Beynon, President, at her email or phone provided.

Sincerely,

Traci Anderson

Traci Anderson
Corresponding Secretary

Enclosure

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE AEDCA'S REQUEST TO REOPEN THE AKC STUD BOOK

After a thorough inspection by the AKC's Registration Department in 1992, the American Eskimo Dog ("AED" or "Eskie") was brought into the AKC when the American Eskimo Dog Club of America ("AEDCA") Stud Book was incorporated into the AKC Stud Book. Approximately 1760 American Eskimo Dogs AEDs were designated as Foundation Stock.

The AED was originally registered in 1913 with the United Kennel Club (UKC) of Kalamazoo, Michigan, a domestic multi-breed registry. The AKC's rules at the time prohibited registration of a breed from another domestic multi-breed registry, so the AEDCA was required to maintain its Stud Book which became the basis for AKC Foundation Stock.

As stated by the AEDCA in its *Request for Recognition* in 1992, the American Eskimo Dog's country of origin is the United States of America.

The Board of Directors of the AEDCA recently determined that the need to reopen the Stud Book is important for the welfare of the breed. The following sections highlight the requirements from the *Guidelines for Opening or Closing the AKC Stud Book (October 2002 Board meeting) ("Guidelines")* and contain arguments for and against each of the justifications for the request.

I. PUBLISHED WORK ON THE HEALTH AND GENETICS OF THE AMERICAN ESKIMO DOG

Little scientific work has been performed on the American Eskimo Dog. At least four university-based papers have been published to date:

Genetic Diversity Testing for American Eskimo Dog (2021). F. Avila, S. Hughes, and N. Pedersen, University of California at Davis and Better-Bred Laboratory. https://vgl.ucdavis.edu/canine-genetic-diversity/american-eskimo-dog

> This paper presents a preliminary study of 112AKC-registered AEDs (60 Standards, 38 Miniatures, and 14 Toys) to determine genetic breed diversity. The study analyzed population genetics based on 33 STR loci on 25 canine chromosomes. The authors determined that the Standard AED has a higher genetic Coefficient of Inbreeding ("COI") than either the Miniatures or Toys, meaning they are less genetic diverse than Miniatures and Toys.

The conclusion from the UC-Davis study that the Standard AED has a higher COI than Toys and Miniatures is a genetic confirmation of the pedigree analysis work of Beynon (2021) listed below.

Heritability and Complex Segregation Analysis of Diabetes Mellitus in American Eskimo Dogs (2019). S.V. Cai, T.R. Famula, A.M. Oberbauer, R.S. Hess, *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine.*

> This study was performed on an extended family of 156 Standard AEDs, including 71 without Diabetes Mellitus ("diabetes"), 47 with an unknown phenotype, and 38 with spontaneous diabetes. After a genetic analysis of each AED's DNA and statistical

calculations, the authors determined that the heritability of diabetes in AED is estimated at 0.62 (95% posterior interval 0.01-0.99). Complex segregation analysis suggested that the mode of inheritance of DM in AED is polygenetic, with no evidence for a single gene of large effect.

The authors concluded that the estimated heritability of diabetes in AED is high but has low precision. Diabetes mellitus transmission in AED appears to follow a polygenetic inheritance. Breeders could successfully implement a breeding program to decrease the incidence of diabetes in AED.

The Standard AEDs used for this study were from breeding lines which have a higher-than-average COI compared to the breed average. Researchers were required to compensate for the tight line-breeding when they created their pedigree chart used to illustrate the incidence of diabetes.

MyDogDNA website (2016). Institute of Canine Biology with University of California at Davis. https://www.instituteofcaninebiology.org/genetic-diversity-mydogdna.html

This site provides a compilation of DNA data correlated to the genetic diversity of dog breeds. Samples were collected from the entire world. After statistical analyses of the DNA data, researchers created graphs to depict the genetic diversity of each breed from each registry and/or continent. Increasing genetic diversity is shown by increasing percentage from 0- 100%.

Since the AED was developed in the USA, only data from the USA were included. The AED was shown to have a median genetic diversity of 36.5%. The median genetic diversity score for ALL dogs was 34.6%, lower than that of the AED.

To give further perspective on the meaning of this genetic diversity score, the scores of other AKC Non-Sporting breeds included in this study are provided:

Bichon Frise	37.8%	German Spitz	37.5%
Boston Terrier	34.6%	Keeshond	32.0%
Bulldog	28.2%	Lhasa Apso	35.1%
Chinese Shar-Pei	33.6%	Std. Poodle	36.2%
Chow Chow	27.3%	Schipperke	32.3%
Coton De Tulear	39.4%	Shiba Inu	30.4%
Dalmatian	32.3%	Tibetan Spaniel	34.1%
Finnish Spitz	31.3%	Tibetan Terrier	34.5%
French Bulldog	32.0%		

Analysis of Genetic Variation in 28 Dog Breed Populations With 100 Microsatellite Markers (2003). D.N. Irion, A.L. Schaffer, T.R. Famula, M.L. Eggelston, S.S. Hughes, and N.C. Pederson. *Journal of Heredity*.

This study analyzed 28 breeds, including the American Eskimo Dog, from the seven AKC Groups. One hundred autosomal microsatellite markers distributed across the canine genome were used to examine variation within breeds. The AED was shown to be one of the more genetically diverse breeds among those 28 studied.

II. OTHER WORK ON THE HEALTH AND GENETICS OF THE AMERICAN ESKIMO DOG

Has the AED's COI Changed over Time? (2021). B.E. Beynon. Publication in the *AEDCA Review* is pending. Paper is available upon request.

The author maintains a private database of over 9,500 American Eskimo Dogs based on parentage data gathered from publicly-available sources and from breeders and owners who provide pedigrees. A pedigree-analysis study of 5,236 AEDs was conducted in two parts. The first part attempted to determine the 10-generation average COI of the AED from early UKC registration through modern AKC registration to determine if the values had changed; and the second part attempted to determine the average COI for selected lines of Standard and Miniature/ Toy AEDs. The Miniature and Toy lines were not broken out separately because many of those breeders cross the two sizes in their breeding programs.

This 2021 study updated Beynon's 2018 COI study by calculating a new 10-generation breed average COI as 12.56%, up from the 11.66% reported in 2018.

UKC registrations were divided into two groups: "Initial registration through 1979" and "1979 through 1993". The year 1979 was selected as a break point because many AEDs born after 1979 became Foundation Stock for the AKC. 1993 was selected as a break point because that was the year that the AKC registered its Foundation Stock.

In the first part of the study, the two UKC groups were compared with the two AKC groups: "AKC Foundation Stock" and "AKC Registrations Since Foundation Stock". The average 10-generation COI for the oldest UKC group (through 1979) was 8.30%; the average COI for the second UKC group (1979-1993) was 7.04%; the AKC Foundation Stock COI was 10.70%; and the AKC Since Foundation Stock COI was 19.66%. These results demonstrate that breeders have increased the AED average COI since AKC registration.

The second part of the study determined the COIs of ten selected UKC foundation lines (no AEDs from these kennels became AKC Foundation Stock) and then determine the COI of selected modern individual Standard and Miniature/Toy lines, based on knowledge of kennel prefixes and the typical size AEDs produced by each line. The number of AEDs in the ten UKC Foundation Stock lines was 260, with an average COI of 8.72%. The number of AEDs in the modern Miniature/Toy AEDs was 726, with an average COI of 10.05%. The number of AEDs in the modern Standard AEDs was 653, with an average COI of 23.28%, over twice as high as either the UKC Foundation Stock or the modern AKC Miniature/Toy lines.

Update on the OFA Health Survey: What Does It Mean in 2019? (2019). B.E. Beynon. Paper may be found on the AEDCA Health Committee webpage: https://aedca.org/public/WhattheOFAHealthSurveyMeans_Updated_2019.pdf

This paper presented the findings of the OFA Health Survey which was open for more than five years and was closed in 2017. The survey included health data on any AED alive at any time. Owners provided health data on 877 AEDs.

"All endocrine disorders" were reported as the number 8 disorder in the breed. Diabetes Mellitus accounted for 42.4% of all AEDs with endocrine disorders. The rate of incidence of diabetes in the breed was 2.9%.

Status of the American Eskimo Dog in 2018: Another Breeder's Perspective (2018). B.E. Beynon. Presented at the 2018 AEDCA Annual Meeting and published in the *AEDCA Review*. Paper is available on the AEDCA Health Committee webpage: https://aedca.org/public/Status_of_the_AED_in_2018.pdf

> This presentation was made at the 2018 AEDCA Annual Meeting as a rebuttal to breeders who insisted that the American Eskimo Dog was doomed to extinction unless the AKC opens the Stud Book to a supplemental registration. Breeders who advocate for opening the AKC Stud Book argued that the AED is doomed to extinction after the publication of the Battaglia paper (2017) to the AKC Board of Directors, even though the American Eskimo Dog was not the list of 60 "endangered" breeds.
>
> This summary also presented AKC data documenting registrations between 2008- 2016. The conversion rate of puppies issued litter numbers and the actual numbers of those puppies being individually registered with the AKC during that period was 49.5%, almost identical to the conversion rate of 49.3% for registrations from 1993- 1996 (Beynon, 1996).

What Is the Coefficient of Inbreeding and What Does it Mean? (2018). B.E. Beynon. Published in the *AEDCA Review* and available on the AEDCA Health Committee webpage: https://aedca.org/public/COI_Meaning_in_the_AED.pdf

> A pedigree-analysis study of 3,641 AEDs, not divided by size, was performed to determine the average Coefficient of Inbreeding (COI) over 4,6,8,10,15, and 20 generations. Based on the findings, the AEDCA Health Committee determined that the "standard number of generations for COI calculation for the American Eskimo Dog" will be 10. The average 10-generation COI for this study cohort was 11.66%.

Potential Causes of Genetic Predisposition to Diabetes in American Eskimos (2015). W.J. Dodds, Report for Southeastern American Eskimo Dog Association. Paper is available upon request.

> Dr. Dodds work was the first study to examine the pedigrees of Diabetes Mellitus-affected AEDs. Her conclusion was that diabetes has a genetic relationship in the AED.

AKC Registration Statistics (1996). B.E. Beynon, Published in the *AEDCA Review*, Third Quarter, 1996. Paper is available upon request.

> This study looked at AKC registrations of 760 AED litters with the AKC between November, 1993, and September, 1996 to determine how many puppies from these litters were individually registered. The conversion rate was calculated to be 49.3%.

A Study of Litter Size in the American Eskimo Dog *(1996)*. B.E. Beynon. Published in the *AEDCA Review*, Second Quarter, 1996. Paper is available on the AEDCA Health Committee webpage: https://aedca.org/public/AED_Litter_Size_Paper.pdf

> This study was based on 463 AEDs included in the AEDCA Stud Book which were Single-Registered directly from UKC papers. Owners who presented AEDs for

Single-Registration were required to provide height and weight data on each individual Eskie. Based on the height data, the appropriate size (Toy, Miniature, or Standard) was assigned to the dams of each of the litters.

A total of 301 litters (84 litters from Standard dams; 91 litters from Miniature dams; and 126 litters from Toy dams) were studied to determine if the size of the dam influenced litter size. The study determined that the average litter size for the entire 301-litter cohort was 3.62 pups. Litters from Standard dams averaged 5.04 pups; litters from Miniature dams averaged 4.01 pups; and litters from Toy dams averaged 2.52 pups. The conclusion was that the size of the dam directly influences the number of pups in her litter (over 95% confidence).

III. OTHER NON BREED-SPECIFIC REFERENCES CITED

60 Breeds- Extinction in the Conformation Sport (2017). C. Battaglia. http://breedingbetterdogs.com/article/60-breeds- %E2%80%93-extinction-conformation-sport

This paper discussed the low registration and entry numbers of 60 AKC breeds which are, in the author's opinion, at risk of "extinction" from the Conformation ring. The contributing causes of the endangered breeds included: low conversion rates; "Low Entry" breeds; and Limited Registrations.

Lack of genetic diversity was ***NOT*** a listed factor. The AED is ***NOT*** on the list of 60 "endangered" breeds.

A Clinical Genetics Approach to Understanding Genetic, Multiplex, and Health Testing (2017). J.S. Bell, Canine Health Foundation and VetVine on-line seminar: http://www.akcchf.org/educational-resources/chf-and- vetvine-webinars.html

This video is **FREE**, available on-demand, and takes about 75- 90 minutes to watch. In the video, Dr. Bell stated that complexly-inherited (caused by more than one gene) diseases in the dog, including Hip Dysplasia (HD) and Diabetes Mellitus, are ***OLD*** mutations. He also stated that researchers do ***NOT*** see any evidence that any AKC breed is suffering from a lack of genetic diversity.

During the 2019 Canine Health Foundation bi-annual Parent Club Conference, Dr. Bell and several other presenters stated that genetic testing companies have convinced breeders that unless they screen all of their breeding stock through genetic marker testing, their breeds will have lowered genetic diversity.

Dr. Bell and the other presenters who agreed with the preceding statement also stated that no one has any evidence of a lack of genetic diversity in any breed. They also stated that no evidence exists that higher-than-average COIs cause an increasing lack of genetic diversity in any breed.

Small Population Breeds and Issues of Genetic Diversity (2007). J.S. Bell. https://www.vin.com/apputil/content/defaultadv1.aspx?meta=Generic&pld=11243&id=3861462

In this paper, Dr. Bell examined some possible causes of diminishing genetic diversity in modern dog breeds. He states that the most important factor is the popular sire syndrome.

IV. GENE POOL DIVERSITY

If the gene pool lacks quality specimens, or is overly inbred, resulting in genetic problems, this must be documented. The club's long and short-term strategic plan must be explained along with what educational initiatives the club would undertake...... from the *Guidelines*

Reasons FOR the Supplemental Registration Based on Genetic Diversity

1. *A supplemental registration of UKC-registered AEDs will re-introduce lost genetic diversity from over 40 years ago.*

> In the early 1980s, freezing canine semen for future use was not an option for the average breeder. Today, many breeders are freezing semen to use in the future should they find that their lines need an infusion of diversity. Allowing the registration of new UKC-registered AEDs will give breeders a chance to recover the diversity lost 40 years ago.

2. *AEDCA members claim that they cannot find suitable unrelated mates for their bitches today.*

> Most of these concerned members breed Standard AEDs. Miniature and Toy breeders are also concerned about the long-term availability of suitable mates for their bitches as well.
>
> Most Standard lines go back to ONE foundation line from the late 1970s and early 1980s. Almost no other UKC-registered Standard AEDs from that time has descendants in the modern AKC-registered Standard AEDs. Registering UKC-registered AEDs may bring in fresh genes. Even if the UKC-registered AEDs have common ancestors with the current AKC stock, they have likely been produced through different breeding lines, which will serve as fresh genes from within the breed foundations.

Reasons AGAINST the Supplemental Registration based on Genetic Diversity

1. *The AED has sufficient genetic diversity within the current gene pool to ensure the breed's future.*

> Both the MyDogDNA (2016) and the Irion, et.al., (2003) studies document that the AED has a better genetic diversity than many breeds. Even the Avila, et.al., (2021) study stated that the overall genetic diversity of the AED is comparable to many other dog breeds.

2. *Standard breeders can simply cross into existing Miniature and Toy lines.*

> Based on the UC-D study (Avila, et.al, 2021) and Beynon (2021), the Standard lines have the highest COIs based on genetics (Avila, et.al.) and pedigree-analysis (Beynon). Many Standard breeders state that they will not cross with Mini/Toy lines, and claim that bringing in new UKC-registered AEDs is the only solution.

3. *A supplemental registration could result in no new Standard AEDS or no new Standards who are not closely related to existing AKC stock.*

Both of these possibilities would not solve many Standard breeders' perceived problems.

V. TOO FEW DOGS REGISTERED WITH AKC

If this reason is given, the club must specify how many dogs it would expect to be registered with AKC and the basis of this expectation. As above, the club must document its long and short-term plan to encourage breeders and owners to register their dogs with AKC. .... from the *Guidelines*

Reasons FOR the Supplemental Registration Based on Too Few Dogs Registered with AKC

1. *Comparing AKC registrations for the period 1994-1999 to the period 2011-2016:*

   Total AED litter registrations declined by 38%, and total individual AED registrations declined by 45%. Concerned breeders say this means that we have too few AEDs for the long term.

2. *During the period 2008-2016:*

   A total of only 452 unique individuals were used in an AKC breeding program. Concerned breeders claim that his is too few AEDs to remain viable.

Reasons AGAINST the Supplemental Registration Based on Too Few Dogs Registered with AKC

1. *Comparison of AED registrations for the period 1994-1999 to 2011-2016:*

   Registrations of AED litters declined by 38%, but the number of individual AEDs registered declined by 45%. The greater decline in the number of individual AEDs registered is likely caused by the increase in popularity of the smaller size AEDs as more owners want smaller dogs. The average Toy and Miniature litters are smaller than Standard litters as demonstrated by Beynon (1996). This is the likely reason for the 45% decline in individual registrations compared to the decline of 38% of litter registrations. Because more Toy and Miniature litters were registered, not as many total puppies in the smaller-sized litters were born.

2. *Comparison of the conversion rate for the period November, 1993- September, 1996 to the period 2008-2016:*

   The conversion rate for the 1993- 1996 period was 49.3%, which compares to the conversion rate for the period 2008-2016 of 49.5%. Breeders are losing half of the genetic diversity of the breed by not individually registering their puppies and working with new owners to promote the breeding of quality AEDs.

3. *Comparing registrations for the period 1993-1999 to the period 2011-2016:*

   For all AKC breeds: Total litters declined 58% and total individual dogs by 63%.

   All Non-Sporting breeds: Total litters declined by 71% and total individual dogs by 71%.

American Eskimo Dogs: Total litters declined by 38% and individual dogs by 45%.

Based on these number, the American Eskimo Dog is doing better in AKC registrations than all AKC breeds and all Non-Sporting breeds.

4. *No one can provide an reliable estimated number of new registrations from a supplemental registration.*

VI. HEALTH

This must include documented scientific evidence that a problem exists, it is getting worse, and that there is a potential solution. Any studies cited must be credible and widely accepted. ... from the *Guidelines*

Reasons FOR the Supplemental Registration Based on Health

1. *Concerned breeders state that the incidence of Diabetes Mellitus in the Standard AED is too high and is increasing. Only a supplemental registration can bring in new diversity so that breeders do not produce affected dogs.*

Some breeders strongly believe that a supplemental registration is the only way to solve the problem of diabetes in the AED They point to the Cai, et.al. (2019) study which demonstrated a high probability that diabetes has a genetic component in the Standard AEDs studied.

Reasons AGAINST the Supplemental Registration Based on Health

1. *The breeders who claim that the only solution to Diabetes Mellitus is to open a supplemental registration are also many of the same breeders who refuse to cross their Standards to Miniatures and Toys.*

A supplemental registration of UKC-registered AEDs will not change these breeders' practices.

To date, no one has presented evidence that the rate of diabetes in the AED, much less in the Standard AED, is increasing. Beynon's (2019) paper provided statistics based on the OFA health survey that the rate of incidence of diabetes in the AED was 2.9%. No follow-up study has been done to document "an increase" in the rate of incidence of diabetes.

The AEDs in the Cai, et.al. (2019) study were Standards from one large, extended, closely line-bred family with higher-than-average COIs. Additionally, Cai, et.al., concluded that the estimated heritability of diabetes in the AED is high but has low precision. Diabetes mellitus transmission in AED appears to follow a polygenetic inheritance. According to the authors, ***"breeders could successfully implement a breeding program to decrease the incidence of diabetes in AED."***

The heritability is estimated as "high" because the statistical results fell into a small group. However, the precision is "low", meaning that the entire group could be skewed in

a false direction.

Because diabetes is a polygenetic disease, the "high" heritability may actually be a genetic predisposition to environmental conditions which results in epigenetic changes and the development of diabetes in a particular individual or breeding line. These environmental factors could be almost anything, including diet.

2. *Even though Standard AED breeders are aware of the perceived problem of Diabetes Mellitus in their lines, they will not openly discuss their affected AEDs and parentage. The reason most often cited by these breeders is that they fear being ostracized.*

Diabetes Mellitus is a late-onset disease in the AED, typically occurring between ages 7 and 10. The pedigrees of affected AEDs for the Cai, et. al., (2019) study and the Dobbs (2015) study were submitted from owners directly to the researchers because the owners would not share the data with other AED owners and breeders.

The AEDCA Health Committee has discussed setting up a public Diabetes Mellitus Registry whereby owners could register each affected AED, its sire and dam, and all pertinent AKC registration numbers. The Committee has offered to work with a neutral third party such as the OFA for the management of the registry. To date, no owner of an affected AED has agreed to participate.

A supplemental registration of UKC-registered AEDs will not change these breeders' practices.

3. *The majority of AEDCA members do not screen their AEDs for other diseases of concern.*

In 2008 the AEDCA established CHIC criteria (OFA hip evaluation and internal eye exam after the age of 24 months and a genetic test at any age for prcd-PRA), and to date only 87 AEDs have CHIC numbers. Of these 87 Eskies, over 55% belong to only 5 breeders. This is further evidence that many AED breeders often choose to forgo any health testing at all.

A supplemental registration of UKC-registered AEDs will not change these breeders' practices.

VII. OTHER REASONS

Any reason must include details on how the addition of dogs would improve the breed or address a specific problem. It should include the club's strategic plan to attract dogs to the AKC registry and to encourage breeding to these dogs. ... from the *Guidelines*

Reasons FOR the Supplemental Registration Based on Other Reasons

1. A supplemental registration of UKC-registered American Eskimo Dogs will likely bring in new breeders and owners who can become new AKC breeders and exhibitors. Under current AKC rules, UKC-only owners would be required to spay and neuter their AEDs if they want to compete in AKC Companion events. However, these owners are not willing to neuter their breeding stock. The supplemental registration will allow these owners to show in AKC Conformation and breed their AEDs, adding to AKC registration numbers.

Reasons AGAINST the Supplemental Registration Based on Other Reasons

None.

VIII. THE AEDCA's STRATEGIC AND EDUCATIONAL PLAN

The primary obstacle is that the AEDCA is a small club (less than 200 households) with members scattered across the country. The AED is a popular breed among the general public with demand far exceeding supply, but its registration numbers remain small.

When the AKC gives permission to open the AKC Stud Book, the AEDCA plans to use social media as the primary source of information for the general owner who has a non-AKC-registered AED and who does not participate in canine sports of any kind. In June, 2022, the AEDCA Board of Directors authorized one Board member to create a Social Media Committee to do public outreach through Tik Tok, Facebook, Instagram, etc. He is currently working to bring that idea to reality.

Also in June, 2022, the AEDCA Board of Directors purchased a Zoom subscription which will allow the Club to hold virtual educational meetings. The Board of Directors is preparing a survey to ask members if they want periodic informative meetings on topics of interest, such as health screening, breeding practices, etc.. This will be an excellent method for senior members to provide guidance to novices.

PROPOSED BALLOT AND ELECTION PROCEDURES

If the AKC Board of Directors approves the AEDCA's request to reopen the AKC Stud Book to a supplemental registration of UKC-registered AEDs, the following ballot procedure will be utilized:

1. The Corresponding Secretary, or her designee, will prepare ballot packages to be mailed to all AEDCA members in good standing. The ballot package will contain a cover letter explaining the purpose of the election, a ballot, a small "Ballot" envelope, and a large pre-addressed "Mailing" envelope.

2. Each member may read the letter and mark their ballot, then place the ballot inside the small Ballot envelope, place the Ballot envelope into the Mailing envelope, and return their ballot. Members will be given (30- 45) days to return their ballots.

3. Each Mailing envelope is pre-addressed with the member's name and address as the return addressee and the Corresponding Secretary, or her designee, as the mailing addressee.

4. After the deadline to submit ballots has passed, the Corresponding Secretary, or her designee, and two other AEDCA members in good standing will meet to count the ballots. The return name and address on each envelope will be checked against a current membership list. Each member who submits a ballot will be marked on the membership list. Any envelopes from non-members and members not in good standing will be excluded from the count.

5. Prior to opening the Mailing envelopes, the committee will ensure that the total number of Mailing envelopes to be counted plus the number of any disqualified Mailing envelopes is the same as the starting number of Mailing envelopes received. This will ensure that no eligible Mailing envelopes were lost in the verification and sorting process.

6. The committee will open all of the eligible Mailing envelopes and remove the Ballot envelopes. The Ballot envelopes will be placed in a pile and periodically shuffled so that no Ballot envelope may be traced to an individual member, thus ensuring secrecy in the ballot counting.

7. Before opening the Ballot envelopes, the committee will count the number of empty Mailing envelopes and unopened Ballot envelopes to ensure that no Ballot envelopes were misplaced during the opening process.

8. The committee will then open the Ballot envelopes and remove the ballots, unfolding them into a standard single-paper thickness if the ballots were folded. The committee will then count the number of opened Ballot envelopes and the number of ballots to ensure that no ballots were misplaced in the opening process.

9. The committee will then tally the votes from the individual ballots on the Tally Sheet. The committee will scan the Tally Sheet and the marked membership list and present the findings to the AEDCA Board of Directors.

10. The AEDCA Board will then notify the AKC Board of Directors of the results.

The Tally Sheet (following page) will summarize the committee's activity.

AEDCA STUD BOOK TALLY SHEET

1. Number of Mailing envelopes received _____

2. Number of Mailing envelopes from NON-members or members who are NOT in good standing _____

3. Number of VALID Mailing envelopes _____

STOP! Is Line 1 the same as the **sum** of Line 2 and Line 3? _____ Yes _____ No

4. Number of Ballot envelopes _____

STOP! Is Line 4 the same as Line 3? _____ Yes _____ No

5. Number of ballots to be tallied _____

STOP! Is Line 5 the same Line 4? _____ Yes _____ No

Tally of the ballots under each heading

YES	**NO**

Final Count:

Committee Member Printed Names and Signatures

_____

_____

_____

AEDCA BALLOT

In the matter of requesting that the AKC open the AKC Stud Book to a supplemental registration of UKC-registered American Eskimo Dogs, please mark clearly your choice below. Do **NOT** otherwise mark on this ballot.

_____ **YES** I WANT to formally request that the AKC open the AKC Stud Book to a supplemental registration of UKC-registered American Eskimo Dogs.

_____ **NO** I DO NOT WANT to formally request that the AKC open the AKC Stud Book to a supplemental registration of UKC-registered American Eskimo Dogs.

Place this ballot into the small Ballot envelope which was provided in the ballot package. Seal the Ballot envelope.

Place the Ballot envelope into the pre-addressed Mailing envelope which was provided in the ballot package. Seal the Mailing envelope.

Place the required postage on the envelope and mail. Ballots MUST be received by (date).