



AMERICAN SHETLAND SHEEPDOG ASSOCIATION

Member of the American Kennel Club

Application for Membership

STATEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Because a crucial function of the American Shetland Sheepdog Association (ASSA) is the preservation and improvement of the Shetland Sheepdog in accordance with the AKC Standard, membership is suggested for serious fanciers who have demonstrated a lasting interest in the breed. Application for membership is open to persons over 18 years of age who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club (AKC), subscribe to the purposes of the ASSA, and agree to abide by the constitution and by-laws of the ASSA and the rules of the AKC.

The ASSA is dedicated to promoting the breeding and exhibiting of Shetland Sheepdog that conform as closely as possible to the official Standard and to preserving the unique qualities and characteristics of the breed. The ASSA is the only body that determines the Standard accepted by the American Kennel Club. The ASSA is dedicated to the practice of good sportsmanship and expects sportsmanlike behavior from all members.

APPLICANTS

United States citizens and permanent legal residents of the United States qualify for full individual membership which includes voting rights and the right to hold office. Non-citizens residing in foreign countries qualify for associate membership. This class of membership shall be non-voting and non-office holding.

Applicants must have owned and exhibited a Shetland Sheepdog in AKC member-club-sponsored or licensed shows in breed or performance events in the United States for a minimum of five (5) years, not necessarily over a continuous period. The applicant must have obtained at least one (1) championship on an AKC registered Shetland Sheepdog owned or co-owned by the applicant. AKC championship title: Champion (CH), Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH), Master Agility Champion (MACH), Herding Champion (HC), Tracking Champion (TC).

Applicants must have the written endorsement of two ASSA members in good standing (see sponsor rules below). Dog breeders who sell dogs to commercial outlets will not be considered for membership. Membership in a local Shetland Sheepdog club in the applicant's geographical area is recommended. A list of regional member clubs may be obtained from the treasurer or may be found on the ASSA website (www.assa.org). Associate memberships are offered for individuals who reside in foreign countries. For associate members, the U.S. exhibition requirements are waived, but all other requirements shall apply.

SPONSORS

Sponsors must be members in good standing with the ASSA and must have known the applicant for a minimum of one (1) year. Sponsors may not share the same kennel prefix or be family members. *At least one sponsor* must reside in the applicant's geographical area (**the same state or an adjoining state**). At least one of the sponsors must have personally inspected the quarters where the applicant maintains his/her dogs within the **past six (6) months** of application and attest to the conditions of the quarters being acceptable. Sponsors must include a letter of endorsement to the application and attest to meeting the following criteria: state the applicant's interest in the breed, e.g. sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and methods by which the individual assumes responsibility for dogs produced; estimate number of litters produced annually; describe breeding and showing activities, AKC titles earned and club participation; and state why the sponsors feel the applicant would be a valuable member of ASSA. Sponsors must have been a member of ASSA for **three (3) years**, and may only endorse two (2) applicants per calendar year.

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Sponsorships should be viewed as a personal endorsement of the applicant and not just a signature. A sponsor's endorsement should signify that the sponsor has personal knowledge of the individual and is confident the applicant would be a member the ASSA would be proud to have on its roster

Per the by-laws of the organization, if an applicant is not elected by the sitting board of directors, the sponsor may elect to present the applicant at the general membership meeting to be voted on by the members in attendance. A favorable vote of 75 percent of the members in attendance will override the board's decision not to accept the applicant and vote the applicant into membership, provided the applicant meets the residency and sponsorship requirements.

APPLICATIONS

Applicant's name, address, and telephone number will be posted in the member newsletter *The Bulletin Board* and screened initially by the director in the applicant's region. The by-laws of the ASSA require secret affirmative votes from two-thirds of the board of directors present at a meeting of the board in order to elect an applicant.

An application fee of \$25.00 per applicant and the first year's dues of \$35.00 per applicant (\$60.00 total per applicant) must accompany each application along with the sponsors' letter of endorsement. If an application for membership is not approved, the application fee will not be refunded.

All applications are acknowledged. Incomplete or ineligible applications will be returned with explanation. Attach proper fees and send the complete application to:

**ASSA Membership Chair
Carl Skinner
3921 Donner Trail
Placerville, CA 95667-9218
homewood_shelties@earthlink.net
530-626-6160**

revised 9/25/08

American Shetland Sheepdog Association Application for Membership

The American Shetland Sheepdog Association (ASSA) welcomes membership applications from serious Shetland Sheepdog fanciers who are dedicated to breeding and exhibiting shelties that conform to the American Kennel Club (AKC) Shetland Sheepdog breed standard who engage in ethical breeding and exhibiting practices, and who demonstrate an active interest in promoting shelties, ASSA, and the sport of dogs in a positive and constructive way.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:
 Address:
 Phone number:
 E-mail:
 Kennel name:

Number of dogs currently owned or co-owned	
Breeds owned or co-owned	
Number of litters bred in past five years- all breeds	
Date of first Sheltie purchase (mo/year)	
Date of first dog show entry for a Sheltie in any venue (mo/year)	

TITLES ACHIEVED

To qualify, you must have achieved an AKC championship on a Shetland Sheepdog. (Attach a copy of the qualifying championship certificate). AKC championship title: Championship (CH), Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH), Master Agility Champion (MACH), Herding Champion (HC), Tracking Champion (TC).

Please indicate the number of each AKC title achieved on a Shetland Sheepdog owned or co-owned by you.

Conformation

Champions owned or co-owned	Champions bred	Champions owner-handled by applicant	Registry Of Merit dogs owned	Registry Of Merit dogs bred

Obedience

Companion Dog (CD)	Companion Dog Excellent (CDX)	Utility Dog (UD)	Utility Dog Excellent (UDX)	Obedience Trial Champion (OTCh)

Rally

Rally Novice (RN)	Rally Advanced (RA)	Rally Excellent (RE)	Rally Advanced Excellent(RAE)

Agility - Standard

Novice (NA or NAP)	Open (OA or OAP)	Excellent (AX or AXP)	Masters (MX or MXP)	Agility Championship (MACH)

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Agility - Jumpers

Novice (NAJ or NJP)	Open (OAJ or OJP)	Excellent (AXJ or AJP)	Masters (MXJ or MJP)	Preferred Agility Excellent (PAX)

Herding Test

Herding Tested (HT)	Pre-trial Tested (PT)

Herding Trial – any course, any livestock

Herding Started (HS)	Herding Intermediate (HI)	Herding Excellent (HX)	Herding Champion (HC)

Tracking

Tracking Dog (TD)	Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX)	Variable Surface Tracking (VST)	Champion Tracker (CT)

PARTICIPATION/EXPERIENCE IN EACH VENUE (AKC ONLY)

Please indicate your level of experience in each of the following venues. Please also list if you have been listed as the trial or show chair or secretary for any venue within the past three years.

	Active (within 1 yr.)	Work experience (steward)	Chairperson	Secretary	Spectator	Interested	Not interested
Conformation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Obedience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rally	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Herding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tracking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Junior Showmanship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Years competed:		Parent of Junior <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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CLUB EXPERIENCE

List all recent club memberships. Please list current Sheltie specialty club(s) first.

Name of club	Year joined	Position(s) held
I certify that the applicant is a member in good standing. Signature of club secretary: _____		

If you are not a member of a local Sheltie specialty club, please indicate why:

Please use this space to tell us about yourself, and describe why you wish to become a member of ASSA and what you believe you can contribute to the organization and its members.

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RESCUE

Please indicate your level of support of either your local or national Sheltie rescue organizations.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rescue coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> Grooming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rescue volunteer | <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term fostering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Donated funds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Short-term boarding | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

EDUCATION/ SEMINARS

Please list the most recent Sheltie-related seminars you have attended. If you have attended a seminar more than once, please list the most recent year.

Name of seminar	Presenter	Year

SERVICES

What services can you, or do you, offer at a local level?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stud service | <input type="checkbox"/> Grooming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whelping | <input type="checkbox"/> Boarding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Puppies | <input type="checkbox"/> Handling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog evaluation | <input type="checkbox"/> Training, any venue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring at specialties | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation activism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring, general dog information | <input type="checkbox"/> None of these |

COMMENTS

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BY SIGNATURE BELOW, EACH APPLICANT CERTIFIES:

1. I am 18 years or older, and a citizen or permanent legal resident of the USA. (If you are not a citizen or permanent legal resident of the USA and are applying for an associate membership, check here:)
2. I am not nor have I ever been under suspension by the AKC. If you have, please explain here:
3. I am not in debt to the ASSA for sums pledged or contracted for any purpose.
4. I agree to abide by the constitution and by-laws of the ASSA and the rules of the AKC.
5. I agree at all times and under all circumstances to consider the welfare and best interests of the breed and of the dogs I keep, breed, exhibit, or sell and to maintain in all such activities the highest standards of ethical conduct. I have read and understand the *ASSA Statement of Membership Policy*. I share and uphold the objectives stated therein.
6. I have read, understand and agree to abide by the ASSA's guidelines for ethical behavior.

Signature of applicant: _____

Date: _____

Signature of applicant: _____

Date: _____

Please use this checklist to ensure that all forms are included. Incomplete applications will be returned.

- Application, signed and dated
- Sponsor #1 endorsement
- Sponsor #2 endorsement
- Application fee of \$25
- First year's dues of \$35

American Shetland Sheepdog Association Application for Membership

SPONSOR # 1

Sponsors are responsible for checking the accuracy of the information stated on the application. Sponsor must be prepared to respond to questions from the ASSA. In addition to signing the application, sponsors must include a letter as to his/her knowledge of the applicant's dedication and involvement in the breed, satisfying the criteria stated on the membership application form under "sponsors." Applications received without such letters of endorsement will be deemed incomplete.

Endorsement criteria

Please state the applicant's interest in the breed, e.g. sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and methods by which the individual assumes responsibility for dogs produced; estimate number of litters produced annually; describe breeding and showing activities, AKC titles earned and club participation; and state the sponsor's basis for his/her opinion that the applicant would be a valuable member of ASSA. Sponsors should include what their relationship is to the applicant including how long they have known the applicant. At least one sponsor must have visited the quarters where the applicant maintains his/her dogs. If applicable, a statement that the conditions are acceptable should be included.

Statement of endorsement

To the best of my personal knowledge, the applicant's statements are true and correct and do not omit to state any fact which would be relevant in the ASSA's membership determination. I believe the applicant(s) under all circumstances will consider the welfare and best interests of the breed and of the dogs they keep. I believe the applicant(s) will fully support the objectives of the ASSA, and I do therefore endorse this application, stating the following from actual personal knowledge:

- Yes I have been a member in good standing of the ASSA for three years
- Yes I have been acquainted with the applicant for at least one year
- Yes I have visited the quarters in which the applicant maintains his/her dogs
- Yes I have checked the information and found it to be true

Signature of sponsor: _____

Date: _____

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SPONSOR # 2

Sponsors are responsible for checking the accuracy of the information stated on the application. Sponsor must be prepared to respond to questions from the ASSA. In addition to signing the application, sponsors must include a letter as to his/her knowledge of the applicant's dedication and involvement in the breed, satisfying the criteria stated on the membership application form under "sponsors." Applications received without such letters of endorsement will be deemed incomplete.

Endorsement criteria

Please state the applicant's interest in the breed, e.g. sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and methods by which the individual assumes responsibility for dogs produced; estimate number of litters produced annually; describe breeding and showing activities, AKC titles earned and club participation; and state the sponsor's basis for his/her opinion that the applicant would be a valuable member of ASSA. Sponsors should include what their relationship is to the applicant including how long they have known the applicant. At least one sponsor must have visited the quarters where the applicant maintains his/her dogs. If applicable, a statement that the conditions are acceptable should be included.

Statement of endorsement

To the best of my personal knowledge, the applicant's statements are true and correct and do not omit to state any fact which would be relevant in the ASSA's membership determination. I believe the applicant(s) under all circumstances will consider the welfare and best interests of the breed and of the dogs they keep. I believe the applicant(s) will fully support the objectives of the American Shetland Sheepdog Association, and I do therefore endorse this application, stating the following from actual personal knowledge:

- Yes I have been a member in good standing of the ASSA for three years
- Yes I have been acquainted with the applicant for at least one year
- Yes I have visited the quarters in which the applicant maintains his/her dogs
- Yes I have checked the information and found it to be true

Signature of sponsor: _____

Date: _____