

Dear AKC Club President:

Another election year is upon us, and soon campaign season will be in full-swing. While canine issues may not be the topic of debates or major platforms for the vast majority of campaigns, successful candidates will certainly encounter these issues when in office.

The agenda of the animal rights movement is simple-to eliminate our rights to own and breed dogs. With significant financial resources and a biased media partial to their views, they will continue to vigorously pursue their radical agenda. The challenge they pose is daunting, but with your help, it is a battle we are up to.

The AKC Political Action Committee is an important tool that dog owners and breeders can use to influence the political process. The AKC PAC collects contributions from the members of AKC-affiliated clubs and combines them to support dog-friendly candidates in important federal and state races. The AKC PAC is here to help youresponsible breeders and owners-improve your access to elected officials and educate them about dog-related issues.

The hallmark of any political action committee is its record of success, and AKC PAC is a proven winner. In fact, almost 90% of candidates that AKC PAC supported in 2012 won their respective races. We want to build upon that success.

Donating to AKC PAC is an excellent value. Because AKC pays all of the PAC's administrative costs, 100% of the donations made to AKC PAC go directly to electing dog-friendly candidates.

A vital part of the AKC's legislative strategy has always been participation by club members. That's why we are writing you today. As a club president, you are a recognized leader, and we need your assistance. We are asking you to challenge the members of your club

8051 Arco Corporate Drive Suite 100 Raleigh, NC 27617-3390 Tel: 919-816-3720 Fax: 919-816-4275 Email: AKCPAC@akc.org

to join the fight to protect the future of dog ownership and breeding by making an individual contribution to AKC PAC.

It's easy for club members to make contributions to the AKC PAC. Going to <u>www.akc.org/pac</u> on a computer or smartphone is the best, most convenient way for individuals to contribute. Using this method, AKC PAC automatically collects all required information about contributors, which cuts down on administration for your club. Another, more traditional way is to collect checks from club members, have them complete a section of the enclosed AKC PAC Donor Identification Form, and submit all information to AKC PAC, 8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617.

Please consider conducting a fundraising drive at one of your upcoming club meetings. Both the individual members of your club who donate and your club will be recognized for supporting these important advocacy efforts.

This fundraising effort will help assure that the American Kennel Club and our 5,000+ clubs meet the animal rights challenge with the same vigor of our opponents. Encouraging your club's members to contribute by July 1 will help strengthen the PAC's ability to influence the 2014 midterm elections and beyond.

I am confident that you are up to this challenge, and I look forward to reporting that your leadership helped secure a strong future for responsible dog breeders and owners.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

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Carl C. Ashby, III Chairman, AKC PAC Board

2014 AKC PAC CHALLENGE Ways Club Members Can Contribute

With the 2014 mid-term election season upon us, it has never been more important for fanciers and enthusiasts to exert their political clout. The AKC PAC provides a powerful means of supporting candidates who support our right to responsibly breed and own dogs. Here are some ways your club members can contribute to AKC PAC.

Via Computer or Smartphone

The easiest way for individuals to contribute to AKC PAC is online. By accessing <u>www.akc.org/pac</u> via a computer or smartphone's web browser, the individual personally provides their required identification and payment information. Not only is this the easiest method for individuals, it's also easiest for the clubs—the individual handles everything, nothing is needed from the club!

At Club Meetings

Club meetings are a great place to encourage members to contribute to AKC PAC. Members with computers and smartphones on hand can go online to <u>www.akc.org/pac</u> to make their contributions. Members can also write personal checks made out to AKC PAC and complete their required information on the club's *Donor Information Form*. The club will then submit all checks and the *Donor Identification Form* to AKC PAC (address below).

Put a Donation Check-Off Box on Your Annual Dues Form

By putting an AKC PAC donation check-off box on your club's annual dues form, members would only have to write one check for their annual dues and PAC donation. Clubs should then submit one check for their members' total donation amount along with the *Donor Identification Form* to AKC PAC.

Helpful Hints

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- Remember, contributions to AKC PAC must be sourced from individuals. Your club may act as a conduit of funding by individuals—i.e., receive checks from members made out to the club, the club in-turn writes one check to AKC PAC for the total of the individual contributions collected and sends the check and the enclosed *Donor Identification Form* to AKC PAC. Contributions cannot be sourced directly from your club's treasury.
- If a club member contributes online, their required information does not need to be recorded on the *Donor Identification Form*. All required information is entered and saved online.
 - Return contribution checks and *Donor Identification Forms* to AKC PAC, 8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27513.
 - Have more donors contributing by check than can be listed on the enclosed Donor Identification Form? Simply make more copies of the form, complete them, and return them with contribution checks to AKC PAC.

Go to <u>www.akc.org/pac</u> or call (919) 816-3720 to contribute or for more information.

What the AKC PAC Does For You

The 2014 campaign season is upon us, and the rights of responsible dog owners are under attack like never before. State legislators across the country continue to introduce bills that seek to infringe on your ability to own dogs—including mandatory spay/neuter, ownership limits, warrantless search and seizure, and breed ownership bans.

The American Kennel Club Political Action Committee (AKC PAC) helps elect legislators who share our commitment to reasonable laws that protect our rights and promote responsible dog ownership and breeding. It demonstrates that dog owners will hold their representatives accountable for how they vote on dog issues, and that they stand behind leaders who share our beliefs.

You Can Make a Difference!

By contributing to the AKC PAC, you greatly enhance the efforts of the American Kennel Club to fight for your rights as a dog owner. Contributions to the AKC PAC are used to provide tangible support to the candidacy of leaders who defend your rights as a dog owner.

Your contribution to AKC PAC helps ensure that there are more elected officials who support our values.

No matter what amount you choose to

give, 100 percent of that money goes directly to support the campaigns of candidates who share our commitment to reasonable laws that protect your rights and promote responsible dog ownership and breeding. Although you cannot earmark funds for specific candidates, as a contributor, you can recommend legislators to the AKC Political Action Committee whom you believe deserve AKC PAC support.

You Can Make a Difference!

Contribute today so that we can spread the message that we stand behind those who protect our rights and promote responsible dog ownership.

Please visit <u>www.akc.org/pac</u> or call (919) 816-3720 and help ensure that your Congress and state legislature support your dog and your rights!

AKC PAC DONOR IDENTIFICATION FORM FOR CLUBS

Please collect the following information from each club member who makes a donation by cash or check to AKC PAC. Contributions to this committee are not deductible on federal tax returns. Federal & state laws require AKC PAC to use best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer of individuals who donate. The maximum annual contribution is \$5,000 to AKC PAC. All contributions are voluntary. **Return forms and contributions to AKC PAC, 8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.**

CLUB NAME:			
□ Mr. □ Mrs. □ Ms. □ Dr. Name: _			
Contribution Amount: □\$25 Bronze	□\$50 Silver □\$100 Go	ld □\$250+ Platinum	□Other:
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□ Mr. □ Mrs. □ Ms. □ Dr. Name: _			
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□ Mr. □ Mrs. □ Ms. □ Dr. Name: _			
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□ I am a U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident of the U.S. □ Check to opt-out of public recognition of your contribution.			

If additional space is needed, please copy this page. For more information, call (919) 816-3720 or email akcpac@akc.org.