

BELGIAN BEAT

A Monthly Publication of the American Belgian Malinois Club

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A NOTE FROM THE BOARD:

Happy July to you all, we hope you had a fantastic and safe Independence Day and are enjoying your summer activities. The 2025 ABMC National Specialty planning is in full swing and all committee members and event chairs are working hard to make this specialty a great time for all who can attend. We have added a few new events recently, we will be having Scent Work, Tracking and we are adding C-Course to the Herding Trial. All of our committee positions are filled, however if you are interested in helping please reach out to Specialty Chairs Paige Johnson at conchomals@yahoo.com or Tiffany Holley at tiffanyholley@gmail.com. Please visit the website at: <https://malinoisclub.com/abmc2025/> and join the Facebook group at: www.facebook.com/groups/abmc2025/ Please be sure to answer BOTH questions when prompted by Facebook. This is not meant to single anyone out, it is simply a safety precaution to prevent scammers gaining access to our group.

The Board discussed forming a Sunshine Committee for the ABMC. This committee would be responsible for sending condolences on behalf of the ABMC to members during their time of need, i.e. loss of a dog death in the family, hard times, etc. The Board feels that it is important to support and stand by our members when they are facing hard times, and this a great way to show the membership that we care about them.

Membership renewal is open and in full swing, please remember that you late fees are now required. Also, any membership not renewed by 8/31/2024 will be considered lapsed and will require a new application. When renewing your ABMC membership, please consider signing the ABMC Breeder Code of Ethics (BCOE) that can be found at <https://form.jotform.com/211633222871045> Please note that the BCOE must be signed by 8/31/2024 as forms received after this date will not be accepted.

Lastly, are you or is someone you know and independent sales representative for any of the following: Scentsy, Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Thirty-One, etc? If so, please reach out to Miranda Genetti via email, miranda42913@gmail.com, or facebook message, she has a great idea for some fundraising opportunities that will benefit both you and the ABMC.

MEMBERSHIP INFO:

Individual Membership -- \$40

Family Membership – \$65

Junior Membership (10y-17y) – \$10

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

American Belgian Malinois Club

ABMC WEBSITE <https://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc>

NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS

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SPONSORED BY: Ann Blashford & Sara Andersen

****** UPCOMING EVENTS******

ABMC Regional Specialty & Supported Entry

August 31-September 1, 2024
Prarieland Belgian Malinois Club

Amana, IA
Closing Date: August 14, 2024

ABMC Regional Specialty & Supported Entry

September 27, 2024
Pacific Belgian Malinois Club

Carson City, NV
Closing Date: September 11, 2024

ABMC Regional Specialty

November 9, 2024
Springfield, MO

Closing Date: October 23, 2024

ABMC Agility Trials - 2025 National Specialty Fundraiser

February 7-9, 2025
Pinnacle Dog Sports

Westlake, OH
Closing Date: January 29, 2025

ABMC Agility Trials - 2025 National Specialty Fundraiser

February 28- March 2, 2025
Pinnacle Dog Sports

Westlake, OH
Closing Date: February 9, 2025

2025 ABMC National Specialty

May 3-10, 2025
Purina Farms
Grey Summit, MO

******Welcome New ABMC Members******

Susan Jaynes

Lisa Cronk

Wesley Tyres

Allison Kennedy

Annette Lynch

Braiden Parks

*****BOARD MEETING MINUTES*****

Minutes
ABMC BOD Meeting
June 11, 2024

1. Meeting was called to order by President Paige Johnson at 7:33 pm CST
 - 1.1 Paige Johnson
 - 1.2 Janet Lasater
 - 1.3 Sara Andersen
 - 1.4 Jeannine Daugherty
 - 1.5 Susie Williamson
 - 1.6 Suzanne Belger
 - 1.7 Miranda Genetti
 - 1.8 Tiffany Holley[All members were present]
2. Approved minutes of May 7, 2024 BOD Meeting. Suzanne moved to accept the Minutes as amended; Jeanine seconded; approved unanimously.
3. Treasurer's report: Discussed. Detailed account located elsewhere in The Performer.
4. Committee Reports
 - 4.1 2024 National Specialty – NONE; on behalf of the club Paige thanked Miranda for all her hard work and donations via her business.
 - 4.2 2025 National Specialty: Tiffany reported that the committee is ahead of schedule; will also offer Tracking and Scent Work. Kristen VandeBerg has agreed to handle merchandise and will be on site.
 - 4.3 Others: pending application.
5. Old Business
 - 5.1 Continuation of NS Manual revision: a committee has been established and we will receive updates from said committee. Tiffany will e-mail committee members with a reminder that an update is to be sent to the BOD every other month.
6. New Business
 - 6.1 Application for Lifetime Membership by Carolyn Kaiser. Suzanne moved to approve Carolyn's application. Susie seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - 6.2 Application for Regional Specialty in April 4,5 and 6, 2025 in Albany, Oregon by Laurie Kudna. Susie moved to approve the application. Tiffany seconded. Approved unanimously.

6.3 Letter of intent: designated specialty at the Sunshine State Herding Specialty in Orlando in December, 2024. Tiffany will send the letter of Intent, but will clarify with Lynn Daniels if the event is actually a Regional Specialty or a Supported Entry.

7. New Members: None.

8. Announcements:

8.1 AKC approval has been received for February, 2025 and March, 2025 Agility trials at Pinnacle Dog Sports in Westlake, Ohio.

8.2 Sara Andersen has volunteered to act as Vendor Chair. She will forward information to the Belgian Beat asking members who sell via Scentsy, Pampered Chef, etc., and are willing to offer commission items to use in the raffle baskets to contact her for coordination.

9. Next meeting: Monday, July 15, 2024

10. Adjournment: Tiffany moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm CST; Suzane seconded. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Lasater
Recording Secretary

****2024 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES****

MINUTES ABMC Annual Meeting May 22, 2024

1. Call to Order by President Paige Johnson at 4:04
2. Roll Call (via sign in). Quorum was met. Members present: Carol Aulick, Claudia Bailey, Wendy Cousino, Patti Cross, Jim Dagan, Lynne Dagan, Natalie Dagan, Lynn Daniel, Jeanine Daugherty, Rachel B. Fabrizi, Linda A. Friedow, Rory Friedow, DVM, Trish Gautier, Miranda Genetti, Kathy Greenwood, Tiffany Holley, Toby Holley, Paige Johnson, Carolyn Kaiser, Christine Klockenbrink, Tom Klockenbrink, Lisa Knock, Theresa Kulb, Janet Lasater, Kate Leary, Dina Ledger, Ann MacKay, Angela McCalla, Jim McLellan, JoAnne McLellan, Angela Mullaney, Scott Mullaney, Christine Nethery, Sue Olson, Pat Perkins, Carol Shields, Cynthia Tait. Guests: Braiden Parks, Tom Tait, Susan Jaynes, Annette Lynch, Allison Kennedy, Laurie Sype (sp?) and Renee Yirkovsky.
3. Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting Rachel Fabrizzi moved to approve Lisa Knock seconded; approved
4. Report of the President: Paige thanked Lisa and all volunteers and participants; she went on to explain goals of the BOD on behalf of the club; reminded that all members of the BOD are available to answer questions.
5. Report of the Corresponding Secretary: Tiffany thanked all the members for allowing her to become our Corresponding Secretary; she reminded us that membership renewals are open now; online renewal is now available; any other questions regarding the renewal form should be sent to Sara Andersen.
6. Report of the Treasurer (Suzanne joined the meeting on speaker). She is finalizing the 2024 National Specialty financials and the printed data will be found in The Performer.
7. Reports of Committees
 - 7.1 2023 National Specialty – Janet Lasater: thanked everyone who helped out last year and reiterated that part of the reason for the success was on-site sales, 50-50 raffle and use of Venmo and PayPal.
 - 7.3 2024 National Specialty – Lisa Knock: heartfelt thanks to all volunteers; started out a little rocky, but volunteers stepped up; she will add more information at the banquet.
 - 7.4 ABMC Website – Monique Buzzarte – No report.
 - 7.5 AKC Delegate – Carol Shields: after 2025, there will no longer be herding trials at Purina Farms; Carol will check again at the next delegates' meeting to see if this is final.
 - 7.6 AKC Gazette Columnist – Carilee will continue as the columnist.

- 7.7 Agility – Teresa Kulb; updating rules, etc. She reminded us that if you qualify for Agility HOF, you will receive the award the following year at the Banquet.
- 7.8 Awards and Merit Achievement – Barb Benner: Paige will distribute at the banquet.
- 7.9 Breeder Code of Ethics – Suzanne Belger: the committee has revised the sign-up dates so that it coincides with membership renewal dates; also revised were the consequences of pulling oneself off list; she will forward those revisions to the BOD.
- 7.10 Conformation – Allison Bath: No report.
- 7.11 Education (Judges and Members) – Linda Friedow
- 7.12 Health Committee – Peri Norman No report.
- 7.13 Herding – Monique Buzzarte via Carolyn Kaiser - See addendum
- 7.14 Historian/Archives – Ann MacKay: No report.
- 7.15 Legislative Issues/ADOA – Rob Squiers - No report.
- 7.16 Obedience – No report.
- 7.17 Public Education/Meet the Breeds – Tiffany Holley – No report.
- 7.18 Register of Merit – Carolyn Kaiser: see addendum
- 7.19 Rescue – Carol Aulick (current President of ABMR): see addendum.
- 7.20 Statistics – Terrie Janssen – No report.
- 7.21 Tracking – new volunteer Annette Lynch will chair.
- 7.22 Working Dog Sports – No report.

8. Unfinished Business

- 8.1 Club store – Carol Aulick. No additional information.
- 8.2 Update on ZOOM meeting for 2025: will try for it; listeners would not be able to vote or count toward a quorum.

9. New Business

- 9.1 Funding of National Specialties: After lengthy discussion, Pat Perkins moved that the BOD approves to spend NO more than 50% of the treasury at the end of the previous year for a National Specialty until the National Specialty manual is updated. Claudia Bailey seconded. Approved. Paige asked for volunteers to handle the updates. Lisa Knock will chair the committee; Angela McCalla will help. Christine Klockenbrink suggested that the

chairs of the last three (3) years National Specialties be on that committee; however, that has not been finalized.

10. Announcements

10.1 2025 National Specialty: Tiffany reported that tracking will be included along with 12 fast cat trials and dock diving. Scheduled at Purina Farms from May 4 - 10, 2025. There will be no scent work trials.

10.2 2026 National Specialty: Dina reported that judges are Sonny Strom for the National and Jeff Bouffard will judge Sweepstakes.

10.3 Miranda will raffle off the quilt tomorrow, with the proceeds going to the National Specialties.

10.4 Winners of the drawings were Susan Jaynes and Jody McLellan

11. Adjournment: Trish Gautier moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:23 pm. Carolyn Kaiser seconded. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Lasater

Recording Secretary

ADDENDUM - Herding Committee Report to ABMC 2024 National Specialty Harrisonburg, VA

The Herding Committee provides the ABMC Board with following information:

I. 2023 Herding Summary for Belgian Malinois: AKC, BSCA French Style, ATBA/AHBA/ ASCA, and Other

A. AKC 2023 Summary Information

1. 22 Malinois qualified in AKC herding trial classes in 2023, with a total of 114 qualifying runs at 81 trials on 14 farms in 13 states. [Figure 1, attached at the end of this report.] In terms of course type, 86% of the Malinois (19 dogs) had qualifying runs on A Course (including 1 dog that also had one qualifying run on B Course, 1 dog that also had qualifying runs on C Course, and 3 dogs that also had qualifying runs on D Course). 5% (1 dog) had qualifying runs just on C Course, 5% (1 dog) had qualifying runs on both C and D Courses, and 5% (1 dog) had qualifying runs just on D Course. [Figure 2, attached at the end of this report.] 45% of the Malinois ran in Advanced classes, 9% in Intermediate classes, and 68% in Started classes. (Some dogs ran in multiple class levels.) 45% of the runs came from the Advanced classes, with 4% from Intermediate classes, and 50% from Started classes. 72% of the stock for these runs were sheep (A, C, and D Courses; goats as sheep), with 24% ducks (A course; geese as ducks), and 3% cattle (A and B courses). 79% of the 14 farms with qualifying Malinois held A Course trials (65 trials on 11 farms in 10 states), 1 farm (7%) had one B course trial (1 trial), 2 farms (14%) had C course trials (6 trials), and 6 farms (43%) had D course trials (9 trials). 1 farm held A, B, & D Course trials while 4 farms held A & D Course trials. [Figure 3, attached at the end of this report.]

2. AKC Herding Rankings

a. The 2023 AKC Rankings will appear in the next Performer.

b. The first quarter 2024 AKC Rankings will also appear in the next Performer if the raw data from the AKC Herding Report for Belgian Malinois arrives in time. This report is now being received quarterly.

3. Rob Garret from AKC Reports provided Monique with a listing (gratis!) of all herding championships awarded to Belgian Malinois to date. There have been 28, breaking down into 8 HC, 12 DC, and 8 TC. All but one of these dogs appears/will appear next month in the ABMC's Herding Hall of Fame.

B. BSCA French Style 2023 Summary Information

1. The BSCA's French Course Chair Peggy Richter reported that 3 Malinois were awarded French Style titles in 2023: one in Advanced, one In both Intermediate and Started, and one in Started. These dogs will be listed in the next Performer.

2. Those who wish to be added to the BSCA's French Style mailing list for premiums should contact Peggy Richter directly: kuymalr@gmail.com. Information on the BSCA

French Style program and trial regulations is available on the BSCA's website at <https://bsca.info/french-style-herding/>.

C. ATBA, AHBA, and ASCA

No information is available regarding Malinois who may be competing in these registries as trial results either are not published (ABTA), do not indicate breed (AHBA), or are not available to non-members (ASCA).

D. Other Herding Malinois

There is no way to track Malinois who may train in herding or whose job in real-life is herding if they do not also trial and qualify in trial classes with AKC or BSCA.

II. Herding Hall of Fame

Two Malinois will be inducted into the ABMC Herding Hall of Fame at the 2024 National Specialty in May as the 26th & 27th dogs listed there. An AKC Herding championship (HC) is required and the owner of the dog must be a member of ABMC or have been a member of ABMC during the time the dog was being exhibited. Applications for induction into the Hall of Fame may be made retroactively.

Respectively submitted,

Monique Buzzarté, Chair

Carolyn Kaiser

Tasha Mesina

Sara Michelin

Lisa Dillman

ADDENDUM - Register of Merit Report to ABMC 2024 National Specialty Harrisonburg, VA

The ROM Committee has been working to streamline the entire ROM process for several years now. This began with changing the ROM application process to accept scans, screen shots, and photos of required material by email, rather than only paper by snail mail, and no longer requiring that each individual title certificate be submitted since the most recent one will show all AKC titles. This was followed by a one-time historical “audit” to bring all the ROM dog’s titles up-to-date. Now the process of digitalizing the boxes of ROM binders has begun. Until 2021 all ROM information for each dog was placed in a “sleeve” within a large binder. These boxes of binders were transported by car from Florida to the 2023 National Specialty in Ohio, went to the ABMC’s historian Ann MacKay’s home in Michigan, and were next delivered personally to Linda Friedow’s home in Iowa. While not a member of the ROM Committee, Linda very generously offered to scan each ROM dog’s title certificate and photograph from their paperwork, beginning with the ROM I dogs. The ROM committee received the scans from the ROM I binders and has updated the ROM I page with all those photos at

<https://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc/achievement-awards/abmc-register-of-merit-program/register-of-merit-1st-class/>

Next the same process will be done with the ROM II and ROM III binders. Additionally, we are investigating making a slideshow of the ROM I dogs that can be linked from the ROM page, and easily “taken on the road” to a National Specialty in order that this information become more readily accessible as an important part of Malinois history in the United States.

Recently Dana Huckestein of the Belgian Shepherd Archives added the ABMC ROM titles to Malinois listed there, and also made the ABMC’s ROM titles a searchable field (ROM, ROM_I, ROM₂ and ROM₃) from

<https://belgianshepherd.breedarchive.com/animal/index>

(ABMC Hall of Farm titles were also added and are searchable.)

Currently there are 93 ROM I dogs, 64 ROM II dogs, and 51 ROM III dogs. Each ROM class is linked from

<https://www.malinoisclub.com/abmc/achievement-awards/abmc-register-of-merit-program/>

Carolyn Kaiser, ROM Custodian

Susie Williamson

Monique Buzzarté

ADDENDUM - ABMR Report to ABMC 2024 National Specialty Harrisonburg, VA

Hi, My name is Carol Aulick and I am currently serving as President for ABMR. The ABMR BOD would like to give you an update on ABMR activity in 2023.

Our BOD are:

President: Carol Aulick

Vice President: Jeanine Daugherty

Secretary: Hedy Barton

Treasurer: Linda Redfield

Directors: Julie Bear, Maryfrances BeQs, Bonnie Craig, and Lin Karrels

Let us start with our statistics:

ABMR brought in approximately 289 dogs in 2023. Approximately 253 were adopted out in 2023 and 19 were euthanized.

As we reported last year, our requests for intake from shelters and owner surrenders continue to grow. The number of pregnant females and litters of puppies that we are bringing in has grown as well. We've also been contacted about and helped with several cruelty cases and this year.

We are constrained by the number of foster homes that are available. They are by far, our most scarce resource. The other challenge is that we are finding it even more difficult to find qualified forever homes for these dogs.

The number of people interested in adopting has dropped and of those that apply, a large number do not qualify. The "curse" of increased popularity has been a tipping point where we have a much larger supply of Malinois in need of forever homes versus the number of qualified homes. In past years, we had never had difficulty placing puppies before but now even this is becoming more difficult.

Our ABMR staff and volunteers do a phenomenal job. They work tirelessly to save as many dogs as possible while bearing the emotional toll that is unavoidable in rescue .

We are very blessed to have such a knowledgeable, dedicated group. Our ABMR family is vast and broad and it is also what keeps us going because without the many supporters that foster, help with home visits, transports, evaluating dogs, financial support, and providing training support or expert knowledge and education on all things Malinois, we could not do what we do.

We can always use more help, in many forms, please stop by our raffle booth and learn more about us!

Expenses have increased dramatically. This is due to the rise in costs for veterinary care, combined with intake of dogs in need of special veterinary care due to abuse, neglect, or poor genetics. So the ABMR fundraiser at the specialty each year is a lifesaver - literally. It is by far, our largest single fundraiser.

We are so grateful for the support, generosity, and kindness we receive from ABMC BOD and members. We could not take care of the large number of dogs we help without you.

We also hope that every Belgian Malinois enthusiast will become evangelists for our breed and take every opportunity to educate the public and provide resources to research their potential compatibility for this breed as well as where to find reputable breeders and rescues.

As always, we are so grateful to the dedicated and responsible breeders who are part of ABMC - we look to you to protect the integrity of our beloved Belgian Malinois.