



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUBSM

Curt A. Curtis
Assistant Vice President
Companion Events

February 15, 2008

Dear Parent Club Official:

We wish to express our gratitude to the Parent Clubs and fanciers who responded to the recent Draft Test surveys. We appreciate that many of you took the time to thoroughly review the proposed regulations, weighing in on both the positive and negative aspects, especially as they compare to existing programs.

Utilizing your input, AKC staff prepared a Drafting Business Case that was presented last week at the February Board Meeting. After thoughtful consideration, Board and staff agreed that development of an AKC Drafting Program should not proceed.

Several factors were considered in reaching this decision, including concerns that were expressed by Parent Clubs and fanciers. Among those factors were:

- One-size-fits-all Draft Test regulations may not be suitable for all breeds. Fanciers may best be served by Parent Club sponsored programs that recognize and preserve the historic working functions specific to each breed.
- Establishing a single set of regulations could pose administrative and safety issues for test-giving clubs due to the variations in size, hauling ability, and working speeds of eligible breeds.
- Parent Club feedback revealed that many existing drafting programs are subsidized by event-giving clubs. Adding AKC event application and event service fees to current event expenses would impose additional financial burdens and could make offering AKC sanctioned Draft Tests less attractive to clubs with limited resources.
- Based on current and projected participation levels, the program development and administrative costs to AKC would be significant.

We thank you again for your participation in this project.

Respectfully,

Curt A. Curtis