



April 14, 2008

*Penny Leigh
AKC Internal Consultant
5580 Centerview Drive
Raleigh, NC 27606*

Dear Ms. Leigh:

Thank you for contacting the American Mixed Breed Obedience Registration (AMBOR) with regard to the AKC Mixed Breed survey. We are responding to the issue of mixed breed dogs participating in AKC companion events.

AMBOR would gladly support an AKC program for mixed breeds provided that it included the following specific features.

- a) Mixed breed dogs would be eligible to participate in all AKC companion events. Currently these are Obedience, Rally Obedience, Agility, and Tracking. If the AKC were to introduce additional companion events in the future, mixed breed dogs would automatically be eligible for them as well.*
- b) Mixed breeds would enter the same trials as purebreds and would compete side-by-side with purebreds for the same titles and prizes, including the OTCH and MACH titles and High in Trial designations. There would be no separate classes for mixed breeds. Qualifying mixed breeds would be eligible for AKC Invitationals in companion sports.*
- c) The same "breed" designation would be used for all dogs in the mixed breed program. No distinction would be made between crossbreeds, mixes including recognizable pure breeds, and any other mixed breeds.*
- d) Mixed breed dogs would have to be spayed or neutered to be eligible for the AKC program.*
- e) Clubs hosting all-breed trials in companion sports would be required to accept entries from mixed breeds, subject only to the same exclusions that are applied to other breeds.*

We believe that offering mixed breeds fair and equal access to AKC companion events would be a win-win situation for both the owners of mixed breed dogs and the AKC. If you wish to speak with us further about any aspect of inclusion of mixed breeds in the AKC program, we would be very happy to work with you.

Best regards,

*Mary Kathryn Cowles
On behalf of AMBOR (Mary Kathryn Cowles, Raymond Czubek, Elizabeth Kaufman, Debra Lazaro, and Heather Sather, Owners)*

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