

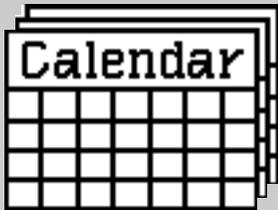


# Ruff Notes

## February 2003

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### What's Happening in February?

- 3 Board Meeting, Ap-  
point Nominating  
Committee, First Na-  
tional Bank, Watson-  
ville, 7:00
- 9 Morris Walkathon
- 9 AOCNC Workshop
- 18 Ruff Notes deadline
- 25 Watsonville final  
classes
- 25 CGC Test, Watsonville
- 26 Pet Pals, Soquel AM  
final classes
- 27 Capitola PM & Salinas  
final classes



### Paws for the President



Dear Members and Friends:

Time flies—it is 2003 and it feels as though it is passing by too quickly!

A quick note of thanks to **Sandi Pensinger** and her crew for putting together the Intersession. The participants thoroughly enjoyed themselves—another successful event! Thank you.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Our next General Meeting is March 17 (DINNER) at which time (along with other business), we will be voting by written ballot on the calculation method for the agility "Hot Dog Award." Please review the club's current calculation method as published in last month's Ruff Notes and please read the AKC's method of calculating it which is in this issue. If you have any questions prior to our General Meeting, please call either **Marilyn Runyan** or **Crissy Hastings-Baugh** for any clarification.

AOCNC's Workshop is February 9 where we are sponsoring an OPEN Ring. **Luane Vidak** has help lined up for this event, but call her if you would like to join in!

With May 3 as set up, our first Variable Surface Tracking Test will take place on the grounds of California State Monterey Bay in Seaside (old Fort Ord) grounds on May 4. No poison oak, no steep hills, no 4-wheel drive—a simple walk in the park on grass, concrete and some dirt thrown in! Now, who can beat that!!! **Luane Vidak** is chairing this event—you are welcome to call her to help out, and you are welcome to come and follow the participants as they "track" their dogs.

AOCNC's Interclub Match is June 1—more information to come.

Our Agility Trial, chaired by **Marion & Michael Bashista** (M&M Productions), will be at Skypark in Scotts Valley on June 14 & 15. Huge grounds with good public exposure, giving our club a chance to "show off" what we can do with our dogs.

June 28—the new date for our Obedience Workshop chaired by **Tammy DelConte**. When the Board meets next, the Board will recommend to the membership that we change our Annual Meeting from July 5 to June 28.

(continued on back page)

## Demonstrating Responsible Dog Ownership

# Bragg

## Linda Harbertson:

*Eclair* earned a second leg (second place) from Open A with a score of 191 1/2 at Golden Valley KC. At Palm Springs Kennel Club she completed her title with a 195 score for third place, completing the title in three shows.

## Christa Cordtz:

*Deva* won Winners Bitch at Skyline for her fourth win in a row.

## Dani Nelson:

*Bree* completed her championship at Kennel Club of Palm Springs from Open Bitches taking Winners Bitch for a 5-point major.

## AmandaNie:

*Tigger* was Best of Winners for 1 point at Skyline KC out of Open Mini Bitches. The next day she was Best of Winners for 1 more point. **Amanda** with *Tigger* in Open Juniors was third place out of eight entries.

## Crissy Hastings-Baugh:

*Logan* earned five scores of 100 in Excellent B Jumpers and Excellent B Standard, including two double Qs. *Gracie* earned five scores of 100 in Excellent B Jumpers, Excellent B Standard, and ISC Jumpers, including two fourth places and one double Q. *Gracie* is currently #8 for Double Qs in Shelties, and *Logan* is currently #5.

## No Surgery and No Pups!

via *Dog Fancy*, April 2002

Owners might one day vaccinate their dogs to keep them from having pups.

**John C. Herr**, Ph.D., director of the University of Virginia Center for Research in Contraceptive and Reproductive Health in Charlottesville, and **Scott Coonrod**, Ph.D., assistant professor of research in cell biology at the university, hope to develop an injectable that will trigger an immune response in female dogs and prevent pregnancy.

The project builds on Herr's research into proteins associated with the membrane of eggs in female mammals.

Genetic Savings & Clone Inc., a gene bank in College Station, Texas, and the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust of Cleveland will fund the five-year, \$837,800 research program.



"How many legs does a dog have if you call his tail a leg? Four. Calling a tail a leg doesn't make it a leg."

—Abraham Lincoln



**Eclair CDX  
Ch Bree**



This month's Hot Dog Awards run from January 19 through February 15.

*Trial Hot Dog*—This month the Trial Hot Dog Award goes to **Linda Harbertson** and *Eclair* for their 195 score at Palm Springs Kennel Club.

*Agility Trial Hot Dog*—This month the Agility Trial Hot Dog Award goes to **Crissy Hastings-Baugh** and *Gracie* for their 73.81% score at High Desert.

*Note:* Agility Hot Dog Awards are based on the score earned. In case of a tie, the dog who completed the course in the fastest time relative to the time allowed will be selected. When reporting agility scores, please include the time allotted for the course and the time in which your dog completed the course.

## Did You Know?

via *Dog Fancy*, April 1999

Thirty-eight percent of owners would spend any amount of money to save their pet's life.

—American Animal Hospital Association, 1998

# AOCNC Report

Luane Vidak

# Macadamia Nut Alert

## The Meeting:

The election was held with the following individuals elected:

President: Luane Vidak, MBDTC  
Vice President: Barbara Tonelli, Vallejo DTC  
Secretary: Ann Ghiorso, San Mateo DTC  
Treasurer: Pat Turpyn, Fremont DTC  
Director (CGC): Loretta Delinger, Mt. Diablo DTC  
Director (Interclub Obedience): Gerry Glanz, Napa Valley DTC  
Director (Interclub Agility): Cathy Dutra, Fremont DTC  
Director (Education): Wendy Friere, Deep Peninsula  
Director (Information System): Noelle Pilat, Oakland DTC  
Director (Workshop) Marianne Brannon, San Francisco DTC

from the Internet  
via **Sandi Pensinger**

## The Letter:

The delegates voted to send a letter to **Pat Krause** of AKC suggesting that the date and location not be required to be printed on Ribbons/Rosettes that are offered for obedience. This change would be most cost efficient by reducing the number of ribbons/rosettes that have to be thrown away if not used.

## The Next Event:

The Annual All Breed Obedience Workshop is being presented by AOCNC at the Cow Palace on Sunday February 9/03. (MBDTC is sponsoring an opening. **Luane, Lynette, Stacy, Delores** and **Lynn** are planning to volunteer to judge/steward the ring).

## Take a Look at the New Interclub Competition!

Interclub is scheduled for Sunday June 1/03 at Cal State Hayward. This year an Agility component and a Pre-Novice class will be offered. Each club may enter no more than 9 agility competitors. There will be a limit of 30 pre-novice entries accepted (drawn by lot if the number exceeds 30).

Jumpers with Weaves will be the only class offered. Only Standard heights (no preferred heights) will be offered. The class will be judged by AKC standards, but the scoring will be adjusted as it is in the obedience component. Rules Sheets will be available to the clubs when the entry forms are sent out later this spring.

The Agility awards are intended to parallel those offered in the Obedience component of the Interclub Competition. Awards will be given to clubs with the best two novice scores, the best two open scores, and the best two excellent scores. The club with the best six scores (N+O+E) will be awarded the Interclub Agility Rosette. There will be a club award for the best six scores from any class.

The agility is being added in an effort to present a competition that will be of interest to a broad spectrum of our club members. It is hoped that many club members will attend and enjoy the event and the company of their fellow members. A reduced entry fee will be available for any dog that is entered in both Obedience and Agility at the event.

The Pre-novice was added as a vehicle that will give individual clubs an opportunity to introduce their trainees to the sport of obedience. That class will operate exactly as spelled out in the AKC regulations in order that the trainees have an opportunity to sample obedience from inside the ring.

I became painfully aware of a very real danger to dogs over the past week and am sharing it with you to prevent it from happening to your dogs and those of your friends.

Two of my three dogs became temporarily paralyzed in their hindquarters as a result of macadamia nut toxicosis... those things are NASTY to dogs. They whack their neuro system really hard, as you will read in the links below.

Worse yet is that dogs will sniff the things out; so if you buy some macadamia nuts, seal them up tight and put them up high where the beasts can't get to them. My crew pawed four pounds of nuts down from the back of a second level pantry shelf to get to them, where I thought they were out of reach. And, it doesn't take a lot to paralyze them; as few as four or six nuts can do the job.

It isn't fatal, but it's really scary, and can't be too good for them, either. The links below explain the ugly details. By the way, when I first saw that one of my dogs couldn't walk, I took her to the vet...who had no idea what was wrong with her.

By the time I got her home, the other dog was down and unable to walk, so I suspected some kind of poison. I played a hunch and found the nuts were the toxin... luckily for all, just temporary. Takes about 48 hours to completely clear up, but in between, they're weak, miserable, paralyzed, and their legs have tremors... yuck...

Take care of them pooches, and PLEASE pass this on to everyone you know who has dogs. This is for real.



# Happy Birthday



To My  
Special  
Friend

February	1	Michael Fenoglio
	4	Linda Lang
	9	Marilyn Runyan
	14	Marji Coe
	16	Bob McCampbell
	17	Dani Nelson
	27	Jessica Hetrick

and to all our furry friends born in February

3	Ch Tora Howton (Akita)	age 6
5	Spirit Davis (German Shepherd Dog)	age 2
6	Reba Mitchell CD (German Shepherd Dog)	age 6
7	Merlin Bashista CD, CGC (Labrador Retriever)	age 3
14	Riff Raff Devlin NA, NAJ, CGC (Siberian Husky)	age 5
14	Molly Hetrick PT (Shetland Sheepdog)	age 5
14	Kye Vierra CGC (Dalmatian)	age 5
15	Ch Amber Lang CDX, AX, AXJ (Golden Retriever)	age 9
18	Tetsu Howton (Akita)	age 7
19	Sage Gomez (Pembroke Welsh Corgi)	age 11
20	Ch Keeper Slater UD, OA, OAJ, NAC, NJC (Border Collie)	age 7
20	Sonnet Meyer JC (Borzoi)	age 4
23	Alex Garcia CDX (Shetland Sheepdog)	age 9
23	Robbie Sheetz UD, NAJ, NA (Shetland Sheepdog)	age 8
25	Ch Misty Silva UD, NA, TDI, CGC (Chesapeake Bay Retr.)	age 10
27	Cuda Smith NA, NAJ, CGC, JHD (Shetland Sheepdog)	age 5
28	Astro Haines TDI, CGC (Great Dane)	age 4
28	Poindexter Haines TDI, CGC (Great Dane)	age 4

# Why Dogs Are Better Than Kids

Jennifer Berman

*Why Dogs Are Better Than Kids*  
(Andrew McMeel)

- It doesn't take 45 minutes to get a dog ready to go outside in the winter.
- Dogs cannot lie.
- Dogs never resist nap time.
- You don't need to get extra phone lines for a dog.
- Dogs don't pester you about getting a kid.
- Dogs don't care if the peas have been touched by the mashed potatoes.
- Average cost of sending a dog to school: \$42. Average cost of sending your kid: \$103,000.
- Dogs are housebroken by the time they're 12 weeks old.
- Your dog is not embarrassed if you sing in puppy.
- If your dog is a bad seed, your genes cannot be blamed.

# The top 15 Signs That You've Had Too Much of the Nineties—

from the Internet

- |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                               |                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15. You try to enter your password into the microwave.                                                       | to your next-door neighbor yet this year.                                                                     | 5. Cleaning up the Dining Area means getting the fast food bags out of the back seat of your car. |
| 14. You haven't played solitaire with a real deck of cards in years.                                         | 9. Your daughter just bought on CD all the records your college roommate used to play that you most despised. | 4. Your reason for not staying in touch with family is that they do not have e-mail addresses.    |
| 13. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of 3.                                           | 8. Every commercial on T.V. has a website address at the bottom of the screen.                                | 3. You consider 2nd day air delivery painfully slow.                                              |
| 12. You e-mail your son in his room to tell him that dinner is ready.                                        | 7. You buy a computer and a week later it is out of date, and now sells for half the price you paid.          | 2. You refer to your dining room table as the flat filing cabinet.                                |
| 11. Your daughter sells Girl Scout Cookies via her Website.                                                  | 6. The concept of using real money, instead of credit or debit, to make a purchase is foreign to you.         | And the #1 sign that you've had too much of the 90's....                                          |
| 10. You use a computer to chat several times a day with a stranger from Across the World, but haven't spoken |                                                                                                               | 1. You hear most of your jokes via e-mail instead of in person.                                   |



# Medicating Pets

from the Internet via Vicki Dudley

## Dog

- 1) Wrap pill in bacon, cheese or peanut butter.
- 2) Make him beg.

## Cat

- 1) Pick cat up and cradle it in the crook of your left arm as if holding a baby. Position right forefinger and thumb on either side of cat's mouth and gently apply pressure to cheeks while holding pill in right hand. As the cat opens mouth, pop pill into mouth. Allow cat to close mouth and swallow.
- 2) Retrieve pill from floor and cat from behind sofa. Cradle cat in left arm and repeat process.
- 3) Retrieve cat from bedroom, and throw soggy pill away.
- 4) Take new pill from foil wrap, cradle cat in left arm holding rear paws tightly with left hand. Force jaws open and push pill to back of mouth with right forefinger. Hold mouth shut for a count of ten.
- 5) Retrieve pill from goldfish bowl and cat from top of wardrobe. Call spouse in from garden.
- 6) Kneel on floor with cat wedged firmly between knees, hold front and rear paws. Ignore low growls emitted by cat. Get spouse to hold head firmly with one hand while forcing wooden ruler into mouth. Drop pill down ruler and vigorously rub cat's throat.
- 7) Retrieve cat from curtain rail, get another pill from foil wrap. Make a note to buy new ruler and repair curtains. Carefully sweep shattered figurines and vases from hearth and set to one side for gluing later.
- 8) Wrap cat in large towel and get spouse to lie on cat with head just visible from below armpit. Put pill in end of drinking straw, force mouth open with pencil and blow down drinking straw.



- 9) Check label to make sure pill is not harmful to humans, drink a beer to take taste away. Apply Band-Aid to spouse's forearm and remove blood from carpet with cold water and soap.

- 10) Retrieve cat from neighbor's shed. Get another pill. Open another beer. Place cat in cupboard and close door onto neck to leave head showing. Force mouth open with dessert spoon. Flick pill down throat with elastic band.

- 11) Fetch screwdriver from garage and put cupboard door back on hinges. Drink beer. Fetch bottle of scotch. Pour shot, drink. Apply cold compress to cheek and check records for date of your last tetanus shot. Apply whiskey compress to cheek to disinfect. Toss back another shot. Throw tee-shirt away and fetch new one from bedroom.

- 12) Call the Fire Department to retrieve the friggin' cat from tree across the street. Apologize to neighbor who crashed into fence while swerving to avoid cat. Take last pill from foil wrap.

- 13) Tie the little bastard's front paws to rear paws with garden twine and bind tightly to leg of dining room table. Find and put on heavy duty pruning gloves from shed. Push pill into mouth followed by large piece of fillet steak. Be rough about it. Hold head vertically and pour 2 pints of water down throat to wash pill down.

- 14) Consume remainder of Scotch. Get spouse to drive you to the emergency room, sit quietly while doctor stitches fingers and forearm and removes pill remnants from right eye. Call furniture shop on way home to order new table.

- 15) Arrange for Humane Society to collect mutant cat from hell and call local pet shop to see if they have any hamsters.

# Homeward Bound Cat

from the Internet via Verta Strametz

A man who absolutely hated his wife's cat decided to get rid of him one day by driving him 20 blocks from his home and leaving him at the park.

As he was nearing home, the cat was walking up the driveway.

The next day he decided to drive the cat 40 blocks away and do the same thing.

As he was driving back into his driveway, there was the cat! He kept taking the cat further and further away, but the darn cat would always beat him home.

At last, he decided to drive a few miles away, turn right, turn left, past the bridge, then right again and another right and on until he reached what he thought was a safe distance from home, and he left the cat there.

Hours later, the man calls home to his wife: "Jen, is the cat there?"

"Yes," the wife answers. "Why do you ask?"

Frustrated, the man answers: "Put that damn cat on the phone. I'm lost, and I need directions!"

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# Carpal Injuries

via *Dog Fancy*, April 1999

Dogs may suffer carpal injuries when running on uneven surfaces, jumping from excessive heights or stepping in holes, according to the Canine Sports Medical Update newsletter. Similar to a severe sprain, the injuries should be X-rayed to determine whether the joints require fusion.



# Christmas Dinner 2002

Betty Garcia, Chairman

I would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to **Dale** and **Pam** for putting on a great awards program. I know they must have put a lot of hard working hours to put it together.

I would also like to thank **Sue Adams** and **Judy Force** for the Silent Auction and **Marilyn Runyan** for making name tags for me.

But most of all I would like to thank everyone who came and made this dinner a wonderful time to spend with friends.



(continued from front page—President's Report)

And then there is August 3—our Obedience Trial with the "Mystery Trial Chair"—who will it be? I have an appointment with the local Palm Reader to find out! This year we are joining with the Dog Training Club of Salinas Valley with their Trial on August 2. We have met and secured Manzanita Park in Prunedale—great grounds for the trial with overnight parking—from Friday evening for setup through Sunday. Let's work together to make it a great event—plans are underway to spread the word about back-to-back trials, and flyers will be available to hand out prior to the premium list publishing.

That's All Folks—Honest!!



**Monterey Bay Dog Training Club**  
P. O. Box 1022  
Watsonville, CA 95077



## Really Needed

Marilyn Runyan

At this time **Lynn Schmitt** has agreed to be listed *temporarily* as Obedience Trial Chair for the August trial. No one else has yet stepped forward to accept this post.

**Lynn** has stepped in again and again to chair events that no one else would take on. We do not want to burn her out, so others need to accept the responsibilities that go with these events.

*Please* step up to the plate and accept this assignment—the Club really needs **YOU**. We cannot operate only with people who stand back and let others lead—we need all of our members!!

# Statement #1 Re Hot Dog Award Calculations

The current method for determining the award is not fair!

The most recent AKC Agility Seminar advises Judges the following:

“From the Score sheet or Catalog, take the High Score or the Fasted Dog with a score of “100” and input in formation into the chart below. Divide the Standard Course Distance (in yards) for each class by the dog’s actual running time (in seconds) to get the speed the dog negotiated the course, i.e.: Yards per Second. The “Highest Scoring Dog” is awarded on the basis of the highest score; however, if there is a tie for highest score, then the dog with the most Yards per Second prevails.”

In response to the club’s existing calculation method: Novice dogs have shorter courses with fewer obstacles, and more time. Without including the course distance, there is no way to divide the standard course time accurately. Also consider with the addition of the “Preferred” classes, dogs who are physically unable to jump their appropriate height are now allowed to jump 4 inches lower and are given an additional 5 seconds to the standard course time, which makes the current calculation even more incorrect.

In further checking, Cindy Snow recalls being involved in determining the calculations for this award at that time. I was the one who suggested offering an Agility Hot Dog award. Besides myself, I don’t know that we had any club members in Excellent at that time, or that there were enough members (either on the Board or in General membership) that had an understanding of the rules and course requirements to accurately determine a fair way for ALL levels and jump heights.

Regarding the “examination of the assumption”: Let’s examine the number of dogs that compete on a REGULAR basis (i.e. at least monthly during the regular season). The vast majority of members are in Excellent A or B. Few of the dogs in Open or Novice are entered in more than 2 trials a month (one weekend). Therefore, it is safe to assume that because there are more Excellent dogs entered in more trials monthly that we would have the highest percentage of wins. Also, because we are allowed faults in Open and Novice, but can still qualify, we are not earning a clean run (no faults) as frequently. To qualify in Excellent the run must have no faults (refusals, wrong courses or time faults). Since a clean run automatically gives you an advantage in the current “method”, that eliminates many of the Open/Novice runs. It’s not that the Excellent dogs suffer disproportionately, it is that the Novice/Open dogs have the advantage due to the shorter courses with fewer obstacles and greater amount of time allowed. I agree that the Novice and Open dogs will hopefully be in Excellent soon. Therefore, we need to make this fair and accurate for the next “generation” of new dogs.

I don’t feel that obedience can be compared to agility. That’s like comparing hunting to lure coursing — they are both dog sports, but one has nothing to do with how the other is judged.

Regarding a tie for HIT in obedience, a run off is done by using an exercise that both dogs can do efficiently. That is why agility is based on Yards per Second. If you put an Excellent dog on a Novice course, it is safe to assume that the Excellent dog would win. If you put a Novice dog on an Excellent course, again the Excellent dog definitely has the advantage. By using Yards per Second, it’s the fastest clean run, period — regardless of the degree of difficulty, course distance, number of obstacles, jump height and standard course time. Fast and clean is fast and clean.

I also contacted the AKC, Fellow agility competitors, trainers, trial secretaries, and 2 judges—when a HIT is offered in a trial it is based first on the most clean runs (aka double Q’s). If there is a tie, it’s decided by Yards per second — the lowest number of seconds for the total of the runs for the weekend. AKC does not require a club to have a HIT award; however, they have provided the calculation table to do so. It is up to each club to decide whether they wish to offer it or not. It’s usually not offered because of the added cost of the Rosette and time to calculate the runs overall. Also, there’s usually a cash prize offered, and not many clubs are willing to give money away.

By using Yards per Second as AKC recommends, ALL dogs will be scored fairly. It’s all based on speed. It has nothing to do with having to compete at a faster rate than what the AKC requires. Standard course time for each class is just that—fast and clean. Regardless of the level of the class, it is the most accurate and fair way to judge ALL dogs in ALL classes.

In further checking, 3 of the 4 past recipients agree that the current way of determining the Hot Dog Award is not correct.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me 831-332-6237 or email: ✕ [HYPERLINK "mailto:midoo1@hotmail.com"](mailto:midoo1@hotmail.com)  
✕✕ midoo1@hotmail.com.

**Christine Hastings-Baugh**



## **Statement #2 Re Hot Dog Award Calculations**

### **Letter to the Editor for Ruff Notes**

**Cindy Snow**

I was dismayed to see that there's contention in the club over the Hot Dog Agility recognition, for several reasons, not the least of which is that I helped initiate the award when I was on the board. I'm not sure I understand all the issues, since I am literally "far removed" from the club—my impression is that the handlers of the most accomplished agility dogs—those running at the highest levels, feel the current criteria doesn't afford them an equal opportunity for the recognition.

It was never anyone's intention, least of all mine, to "skew" the qualifications for the award in any way. Certainly at the time that we started the award, there was debate over what criteria to use because, unlike Obedience, a point total in and of itself probably wouldn't suffice. We anticipated that several dogs could wind up with a "100." There was a lot of discussion at the time, which resolved to using the dog's time on the course as the second determinant. The dog that had the faster time relative to the standard course time, regardless of the level of competition, would get the award.

I think most club members understand that our club awards, the Hot Dog for Obedience or for Agility, might put more advanced dogs at some disadvantage. It isn't uncommon to have a dog in Novice routinely score higher than a dog in Utility. And, if one chose to do so, you could certainly make a case that a 185 in Utility B was a more significant achievement than a 195 in Novice B. A "newbie" in Novice Jumpers with Weaves who "smokes" the course and runs it in 2/3 the course time might not sound very impressive to someone who is working on a MACH, as well...but I see nothing wrong with recognizing and encouraging the lower level accomplishment. No system's going to be perfect, certainly. If this is an informal, club award that is intended to encourage all levels of competition, then I believe that the current criteria is appropriate.

I would hope that the dogs and handlers campaigning for the extremely competitive titles, like the agility dogs that compete at the nationals, are getting recognition for that esteemed accomplishment for its own merit. If that is not happening, then there are other, perhaps larger, concerns besides who gets the monthly recognition. If a dog achieves a Master's level title that accomplishment in and of itself is cause for fanfare—whether the dog ever made "hot agility dog of the month" or whatever such an informal club award is called, or not.

For those concerned that the criteria is skewed or unfair, all I can say is that was NEVER my intent. If a majority of the club membership deems it appropriate to revise the criteria, that's within their rights and responsibilities. But if the basis of the revision is that the most advanced agility dogs aren't garnering the club's monthly award along with all their other accomplishments, I would ask that some thought be given to the whether that approach is consistent with the spirit of the awards.