

My name is Mike Esch and I am running for President of the CCA. I started in Collies in 1970 when I was 14 years old and joined the CCA in 1978.

I was President of the CCA for four years, from 2000-2004, and have been Treasurer ever since. I judged bitches at the 2013 CCA National, I have been Show Chair for two Nationals and Show Treasurer for eleven Nationals, and I received the 2018 AKC Good Sportsman Award.

A few years ago, the CCA completed a long overdue upgrade of its Constitution and bylaws to be in compliance with New York State law. I was heavily involved in that project and spent a significant amount of my time with our outside New York State legal counsel and with AKC on what we can and cannot do as a Club and as a Board. I know them, and Robert's Rules of Order, very well.

When I retired from my career in late 2021, I had been running a \$2.4B international supply chain at a large consumer product company responsible for over 3,500 employee across 10 countries. During my working career, I served on two other Boards (one for profit and one non-profit). Since I retired in October 2021, I have been serving as the Board Treasurer for the non-profit HOA where I live now in Tennessee.

I believe the CCA needs to work on three areas. The **first involves developing good Board governance** including developing and implementing new Board member training, developing and implementing committee charters and regular reporting to the Board and CCA members, developing a policy for all major discussions so both the Board and CCA members have proper time to gather information before major Board votes, and finally developing a process for CCA members to communicate directly to the board. Committees and CCA members should be advising the Board both directly and through the Directors. The Board's job is to take those advisements and make decisions that are in the best interest of the Club and the breed.

The **second area is to look for opportunities for more education about the collie, general dog education, Club processes and juniors.** I would like to see us develop regional education seminars that are designed to provide opportunities around the country throughout the year and which support the effort at our Breed Education seminar at the National. This would be a great opportunity to identify, encourage, and engage the next generation to ensure Club continuity.

The **third area centers around our website.** We need to look at options that will allow us to use the website in significantly more ways than it does now including developing a “contact the Board” process, storing Board minutes and agendas on the website that members can access and, digitize our archives and store them on the website for all to access, along with a general update to the site to make it easier to access by both CCA members and the public.

In closing, I see a bright future for the CCA as we all pull together and listen to each other. Every member is important. Every collie is important. I ask for your consideration and vote.