

**Name** Ann Ferguson

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**How many years have you been a member?** 11

**Select your district** District 12: Alaska, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming

**Requirement 1: Directors elected must live in the District Zone you will serve.** I live in the District Zone I will serve

**Requirement 2: Directors elected must communicate with members of your District by sharing information, seeking input and answering inquiries as needed or requested.** I will communicate with members of my District by sharing information, seeking input and answering inquiries as needed or requested.

**Requirement 3: Directors elected must have a working knowledge of the CCA Bylaws (2021), CCA Board of Director Code of Ethics, CCA Code of Conduct (formerly known as the Code of Ethics), CCA website, CCA Newsletter, Public Outreach, and other CCA documents as needed to participate in discussions and actions of the Board of Directors.** I have a working knowledge of the CCA Bylaws (2021), CCA Board of Director Code of Ethics, CCA Code of Conduct (formerly known as the Code of Ethics), CCA website, CCA Newsletter, Public Outreach, and other CCA documents as needed to participate in discussions and actions of the Board of Directors.

**Requirement 4: Directors elected must be familiar with the organizational structure of the CCA and its Operations Manual (pending approval).**

I am familiar with the organizational structure of the CCA and its Operations Manual (pending approval).

**Requirement 5: Directors elected must have a basic understanding of Robert's Rules of Order (12th Edition) and why it is important.**

I have a basic understanding of Robert's Rules of Order (12th Edition) and why it is important.

**Requirement 6: Directors elected must be willing to commit to attending electronic or telephone meetings as scheduled on a regular basis (typically monthly).**

I am willing to commit to attending electronic or telephone meetings as scheduled on a regular basis (typically monthly).

**Requirement 7: Directors elected must have internet access to be able to actively participate in the Board Discussion Group, committee meetings, and Board meetings.**

I have internet access to be able to actively participate in the Board Discussion Group, committee meetings, and Board meetings.

**Requirement 8: Directors elected must have basic computer and word processing skills, including the ability to open and edit word processing documents and spreadsheets.**

I have basic computer and word processing skills, including the ability to open and edit word processing documents and spreadsheets.

**Requirement 9: Directors elected must agree to follow the District Director Guidelines, CCA Code of Conduct, Board of Director Code of Ethics, CCA Board Confidentiality Agreement, and disclose any conflicts of interest and sign the Pre-election and Annual Conflict of Interest form. Documents may be found at <https://www.colliclubofamerica.org>**

I agree to follow the District Director Guidelines, CCA Code of Conduct, Board of Director Code of Ethics, CCA Board Confidentiality Agreement, and disclose any conflicts of interest and sign the Pre-election and Annual Conflict of Interest form.

**Describe your qualifications and responsibilities relating to the role of District Director.**

I have been an active member of the Collie Club of Washington for over ten years. In that time I have served as Secretary, sat on the Board of Directors, and spent three years as the President of the Club. (I stepped back from that role to run for District Director.) I have been the Performance Chair at our Specialties for several years and have judged Obedience and Rally at our Fun Matches.

For the last two years, I have been honored to be asked to judge at some 4-H events, and it's been my delight to work with the bright and talented young people in my ring.

I have been the District Director in my region for four years. One two year term as the DD for Washington State, and one two year term for District 12 under the realignment. I served as the Obedience and Rally chair for both the Nationals in Utah and most recently in Fort Wayne Indiana. It was delightful to get to

know so many Collie competitors from around the country at these events.

I volunteered for Seattle Purebred Dog Rescue for over ten years, serving as their Collie Rep, and later on their Board of Directors. In my tenure, I worked close to two hundred cases, many of them trotting through our family home and hearts. I met many of the friends I have today through some of my rescues.

I am presently the Director of Marketing for Rose Point Navigation Systems, a marine navigation company. My title is deceiving, I also manage a good part of our accounting and billing, handle domestic and international shipping, and employee benefits. When you are part of a tight, fast growing company you can serve many roles. I worked at Microsoft for nine years, owned a consulting company, and a tech startup. My career has always centered around high tech.

I feel all of these diverse elements bring a unique perspective to my role as DD, something I hope I can continue.

**For your personal biography, in addition to the qualifications you have included above, please answer the following questions about the CCA District Director's role and responsibilities.**

**What is the District Director's role in relation to the CCA Board and club as a whole? Use the CCA Bylaws (2021), Director Code of Conduct, and Confidentiality Agreement in formulating your answer.**

It is my responsibility as a District Director to serve my membership by adhering to the rules and guidelines outline in our Bylaws, in accordance with New York State law. It is my role to exercise the best possible fiduciary responsibility for the Club according to the ByLaws. I have a duty of care to my members that I take very seriously.

**Given your understanding of the director role as developed in the previous question, how would you keep your CCA district membership informed of important information and seek member input and what tools would you use to do this?**

Email is my primary method of communication. I will frequently forward the Communique with comments and will often send emails on my own if there is a need. I have made it clear to my members that they are always able to call me if they would like to chat. I've had some great, long conversations with members this year that I find very helpful in getting a true feel for what my members are thinking about.

**What is the Director role in relationship to confidentiality? Use the principals outlined in the Board of Directors Confidentiality Statement when formulating your answer.**

Our Confidentiality Agreement is clear as to what we can and cannot share with our membership, and it is my responsibility to follow it, regardless of the pressure I may or not receive from members or friends. I have given my word to respect it and I do.

**What is the Director's role and responsibility regarding new membership applications, member reinstatement, and dues renewals?**

I owe it to applicants to handle their documents promptly and efficiently. If they have questions, I want to answer them completely and accurately.

I do my best to make sure everyone is aware of upcoming dues renewal dates, and this year sent multiple emails to that effect. I reached out individually to members who were close to lapsing, and have already helped a couple with the reinstatements.

**Why is having a working knowledge of the CCA Bylaws important to your role?**

Understanding the Bylaws is critical to my role. I cannot serve the Club or my members without a strong familiarity with the rules and guidelines to which we are bound, both in terms of our ByLaws themselves and by the State of New York.

**Why is a basic understanding of Robert’s Rules of Order (12th Edition) important for a Director?**

I have been involved in too many meeting over the course of my career that have devolved into chaos because they had no structure. Robert's Rules of Order ensure that all critical elements of a meeting are covered, and that everyone's voice is heard in a respectful and relevant manner. With each director having a working understanding of Robert's Rules, meetings run more efficiently and the recorder of the meeting, often the Secretary, has a much simpler time accurately recording the results.

**Describe your understanding of the fiduciary responsibility a District Director holds as it relates to running the club including implications for costs in decision making, interpreting treasurer reports, national show bids, and any other financial matters of the CCA.**

By definition a District Director has a duty of care requiring them to read and understand financial reports, track spending and participate in strategic planning. That means reading the documents, reviewing the spreadsheets, asking questions and making reasonable choices. It means making decisions in the best interest of the Club regardless of personal interests or the personal interests of friends.

**What is the significance of the following statement regarding NY Not-for-profit board responsibility (501(c)(7)): Directors must vote and make decisions based on the best interest and benefit of the entire organization and not just a particular group of beneficiaries or other directors.**

Much like I stated in my last answer, the responsibility of the Board of Directors is to protect the best interests of the Club, not any personal interests or those of others who would prefer to exert undue influence. Sometimes the best interest of the Club isn't always the most popular idea and it is important to recognize the difference and follow the responsibility of the Board.

**Why do you want to serve, or continue to serve, your District and the Collie Club of America?**

I have been smitten with Collies since I was a toddler. I couldn't have one, so I read every Terhune book I could get my hands on. Wept my way through "Lassie Come Home" over and over. Slept with a Velveteen Rabbit-esque stuffed collie that still holds a special place in my heart and home. I got my first collie from Jidge and Bill Holbrook the first minute I could in 1994 and I haven't been without one (or two, or three) since. I simply adore this breed. No dog is more beautiful, more clever or more devoted than the Collie - of this I am sure. I want to be certain we have a Club that promotes their health and well-being, ensures adherence to our Standard, and that our members have a place to showcase their dogs, whether that be in conformation, performance, service, or the all important devoted family pet. It is what I have tried to do as Director, and hope to continue to do so.

**This nomination form must be complete and include a signed Pre-election and Annual Conflict of Interest Statement, Board of Directors Code of Conduct, and Confidentiality Agreement. An electronic Pre-election and Annual Conflict of Interest Statement, Board of Directors Code of Conduct, and Confidentiality Agreement are included at the end of this form for your signature.**

**Signature**



Part 1 of 2

**Pre-election and Annual  
Conflict of Interest Statement**

I, the undersigned, am, or may become, a Director of Collie Club of America, Inc. (the "Club") and I hereby certify to the following:

**Part 1**

- I have received a copy of the Club's Conflict of Interest Policy, which is included in Article XIV of the Club's Bylaws.
- I have read the Club's Conflict of Interest Policy and I understand it.
- I acknowledge that I receive information which must remain confidential.
- I agree to fully comply with the Club's Conflict of Interest Policy.
- I understand that the Club is a tax-exempt organization and that in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.

**Part 2 of 2: To the best of your knowledge, are you an officer, director, trustee, member, owner, or employee of any entity with which the Club has a relationship?**

NO

**Part 2 of 2 continued: Is there any transaction in which the Club is a participant and which you have or may have a conflict of interest?**

NO

**Signature**



## **Board of Directors Code of Conduct**

Members of the Board of Directors for the Collie Club of America (hereafter referred to as "Club" in this document) serve in leadership positions and, therefore, are held to a higher standard of conduct than non-board Club members. By signing this Code of Conduct, each Board member demonstrates his/her commitment to honest and ethical Board service by agreeing to the following provisions.

**As a member of the Board of Directors for the Collie Club of America, I will**

Adhere to the Club's By-Laws and act within the boundaries of its authority as defined by New York State Non-Profit law.

**As a member of the Board of Directors for the Collie Club of America, I will**

Strive at all times to discharge my duties and serve the interests of the Club as a whole regardless of my personal interests. This includes being fully versed in the governing documents of the Club and Director Guidelines.

**As a member of the Board of Directors for the Collie Club of America, I will**

Use due diligence and sound judgment to make the best possible business decisions for the Club taking into consideration all available information, circumstances, and resources.

**As a member of the Board of Directors for the Collie Club of America, I will**

Immediately disclose to other Board members any conflict of interest as soon as I become aware of the potential conflict.

**As a member of the Board of Directors for the Collie Club of America, I will**

Treat other Directors and members of the Club with respect at all times and refrain from making personal attacks on, or inflammatory comments about, anyone.

**As a member of the Board of Directors for the Collie Club of America, I will**

Provide member feedback and participate in discussions on Club motions and actions, but support and abide by all duly adopted Board decisions once made.

**As a member of the Board of Directors for the Collie Club of America, I will**

Continue to remain a Club member in good standing for the duration of my term.

**As a member of the Board of Directors of the Collie Club of America, I will NOT**

Reveal any discussion or decisions made during any properly closed Executive session of the Board without prior approval of the Board.

**As a member of the Board of Directors of the Collie Club of America, I will NOT**

Use my position and/or decision-making authority for personal gain or to seek advantage over another Club member.

**As a member of the Board of Directors of the Collie Club of America, I will NOT**

Share specific comments or identifying information from the Board discussion group without permission.

**As a member of the Board of Directors of the Collie Club of America, I will NOT**

Divulge personal information about any Club member that was obtained in the performance of Board duties.

**As a member of the Board of Directors of the Collie Club of America, I will NOT**

Misrepresent known facts in any issue involving Club business.

**As a Board member, I have read the Board of Director Code of Conduct presented above. I agree to abide by the requirements of this policy and to inform the Board President immediately if I believe any violation (unintentional or otherwise) of the policy, has occurred.**

I agree

**Signature**



# Board of Directors Confidentiality Agreement

Confidentiality refers to the duty to preserve privileged information and to share entrusted information responsibly. Board of Director members are cautioned to demonstrate professionalism, good judgment, and care at all times in handling any information relating to the Collie Club of America (hereafter referred to as "Club" in this document) to avoid unauthorized or improper disclosures of confidential information. Board members are expected and encouraged to discuss Club business with one another and with members. However, there are limits to what is shared and how it is shared as outlined below. Therefore, the undersigned hereby acknowledges and agrees to the following:

**Any document or form created by conducting Club business is considered proprietary and all information contained therein shall be considered confidential and will not be discussed, duplicated, published or released in any format unless said document or form is originally intended to be non-confidential or until instructed to be disclosed or published by a majority vote of the CCA Board of Directors.**

I agree

**All information discussed or reviewed in a closed Executive Session meeting shall be interpreted as confidential and will not be discussed or released to anyone not in attendance at that meeting without prior Board approval.**

I agree

**Specific or identifying information shared or discussed on the Board discussion forum will not be shared outside the board without permission. General topics of discussion may be shared with members for feedback.**

I agree

**Any Club information, personal comments, or any member personal data collected by the Club will be considered confidential information and will not be discussed or released in any manner unless through an approved venue and/or for a clearly delineated specific purpose (such as the website, committee chairs, member and judge bios, election materials, etc.).**

I agree

**I agree with and shall abide by all provisions of this Confidentiality Agreement. I understand and agree that failure to abide with any and all provisions listed herein may result in immediate loss of access to information and potential disciplinary actions by the Club.**

I agree

**Signature**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. J. [unclear]', written in a cursive style.