

# BCCA Herding Committee Report – Fiscal Year 2026 (August 24, 2026)

## Herding Committee

Chair: Jack Szalka

Members: Brian Wistrom, Barbara Claxton, Tish Pollock, Sonja Blanchard, Sharon Prassa, Elsa Sell

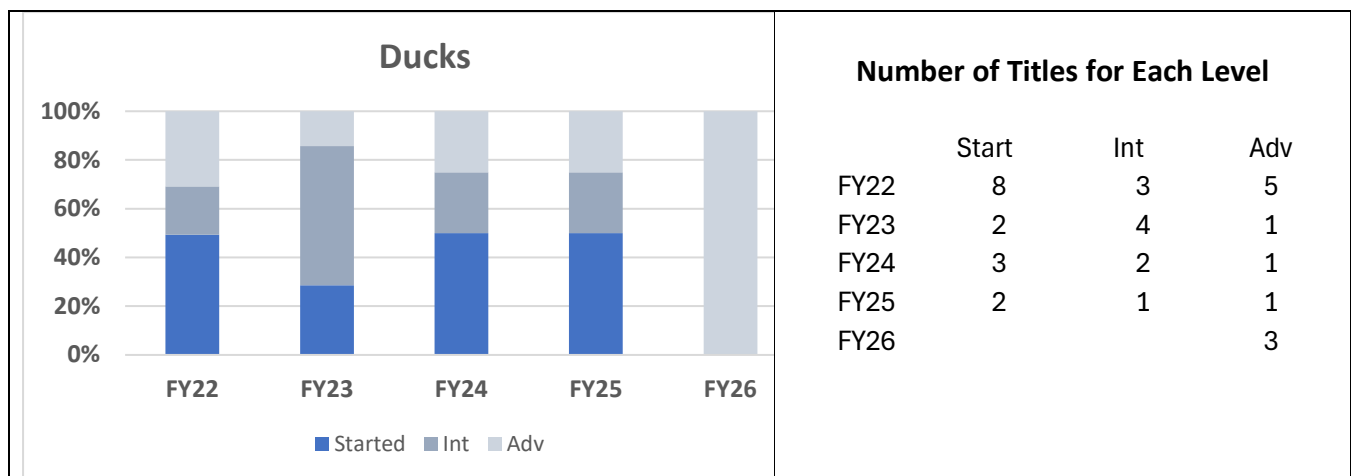
## Activities, Accomplishments

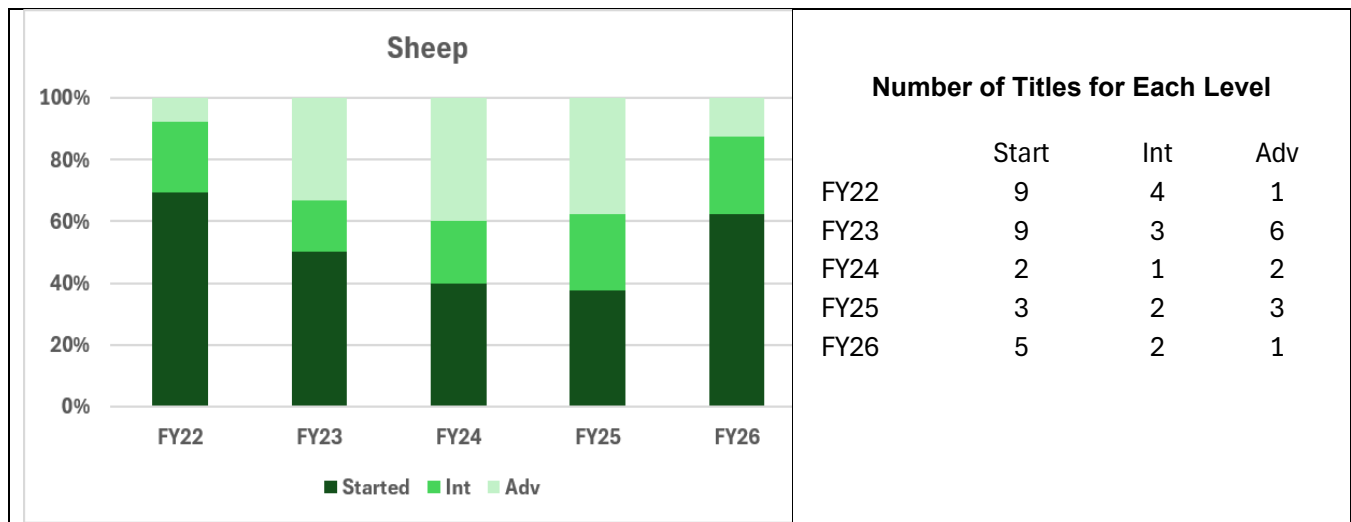
- Recorded AKC and AHBA herding trial stats in BCCA Herding online database
- Continue database server 'rental' and domain registration – fees paid by BCCA
- Periodic herding articles and reports for Bagpipes and Bulletin
- Calculated and reported yearly BCCA herding awards; results to website in a new attractive format on the herding webpages
- Training sessions for the stats subcommittee on software change from Azure Studio to Visual Studio Code (the interface for data extraction from the database): Jack, Sharon, Elsa
- Developed AI-augmented calculation tool for THD and HDOTY yearly awards. This completes a multi-year effort to create automatic calculation of herding awards and reports, reducing time and potential for error.
  - A remaining challenge to accuracy is hand entry of AKC report data and failure of AKC to include data in its report or error at AKC in initial hand entry of data to their database. At our committee level, two people work on data entry – one for the initial entry from the AKC report (or judges' sheet for instinct tests) and the other to proofread the initial entry.
  - Owners are encourage to also take an active role by checking their dog's(s') information recorded in the BCCA Herding Database.

## Planned Activities for FY 27.

- Continue current activities
- Continued provision of keepsake Bishop Award for winners 2026-2030; funding, private donor

## AKC Trial Title Stats – Recent Fiscal Years





## HIC, HT, PT, ROM) – Recent Fiscal Years

| Item                     | 2022             | 2023            | 2024             | 2025             | 2026            |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| HIC                      | 13<br>(3 events) | 9<br>(2 events) | 17<br>(3 events) | 10<br>(3 events) | 24<br>(3 event) |
| Herding Tested           | 7                | 3               | 2                | 10               | 3               |
| Pretrial Tested          | 9                | 2               | 10               | 4                | 4               |
| <b>HIT</b>               |                  |                 |                  |                  |                 |
| # Titles                 | 8                | 11              | 6                | 10               | 9               |
| # Dogs                   | 5                | 8               | 5                | 7                | 4               |
| <b>RHIT</b>              |                  |                 |                  |                  |                 |
| # Titles                 | 6                | 9               | 6                | 6                | 9               |
| # Dogs                   | 6                | 6               | 6                | 5                | 6               |
| <b>REGISTER OF MERIT</b> |                  |                 |                  |                  |                 |
| ROMI                     | 1                | 19              | 2                | -                | -               |
| ROMIX                    | -                | 9               | -                | -                | 3               |
| ROMH*                    | 3                | -               | 1                | -                | -               |
| ROMHX*                   | -                | -               | -                | -                | -               |

\* New Criteria account for the higher numbers in 2022.

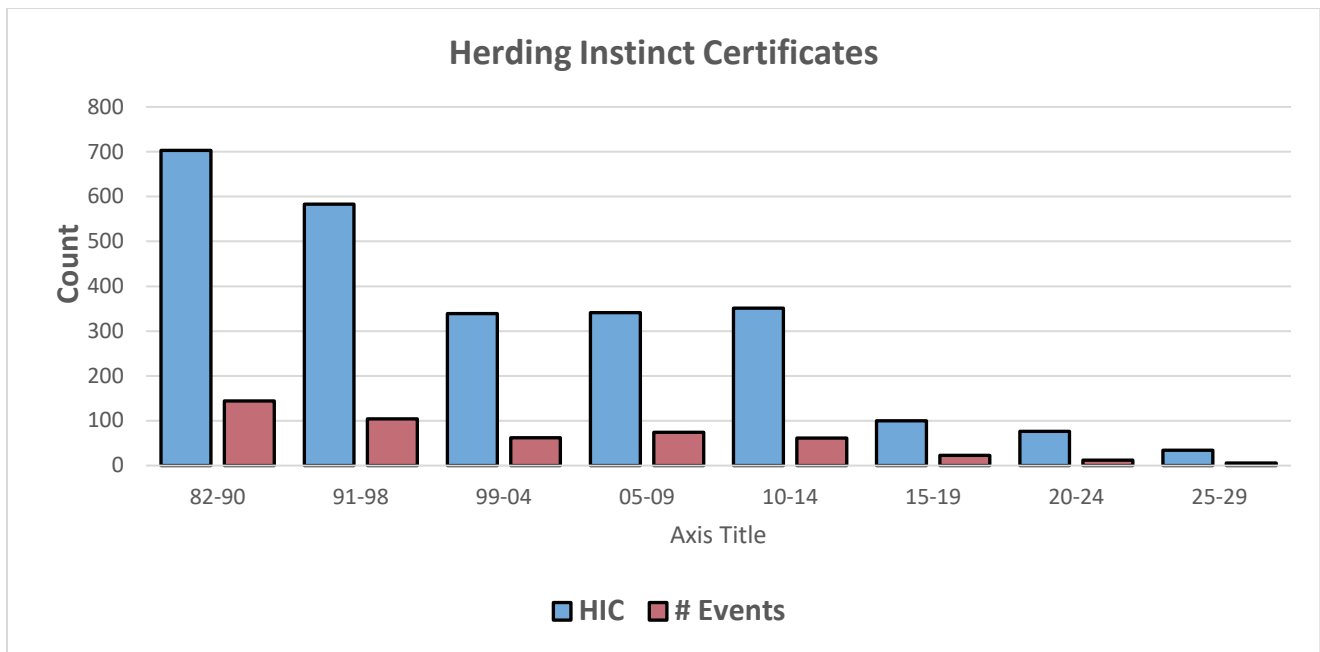
## Trends in AKC Herding Events and BCCA Instinct Certificates

AKC Herding was initiated in 1991 for started, intermediate, and advanced level; while course and livestock were also available, the official title certificates and printed pedigrees did not include course or stock until a rules change in 1999

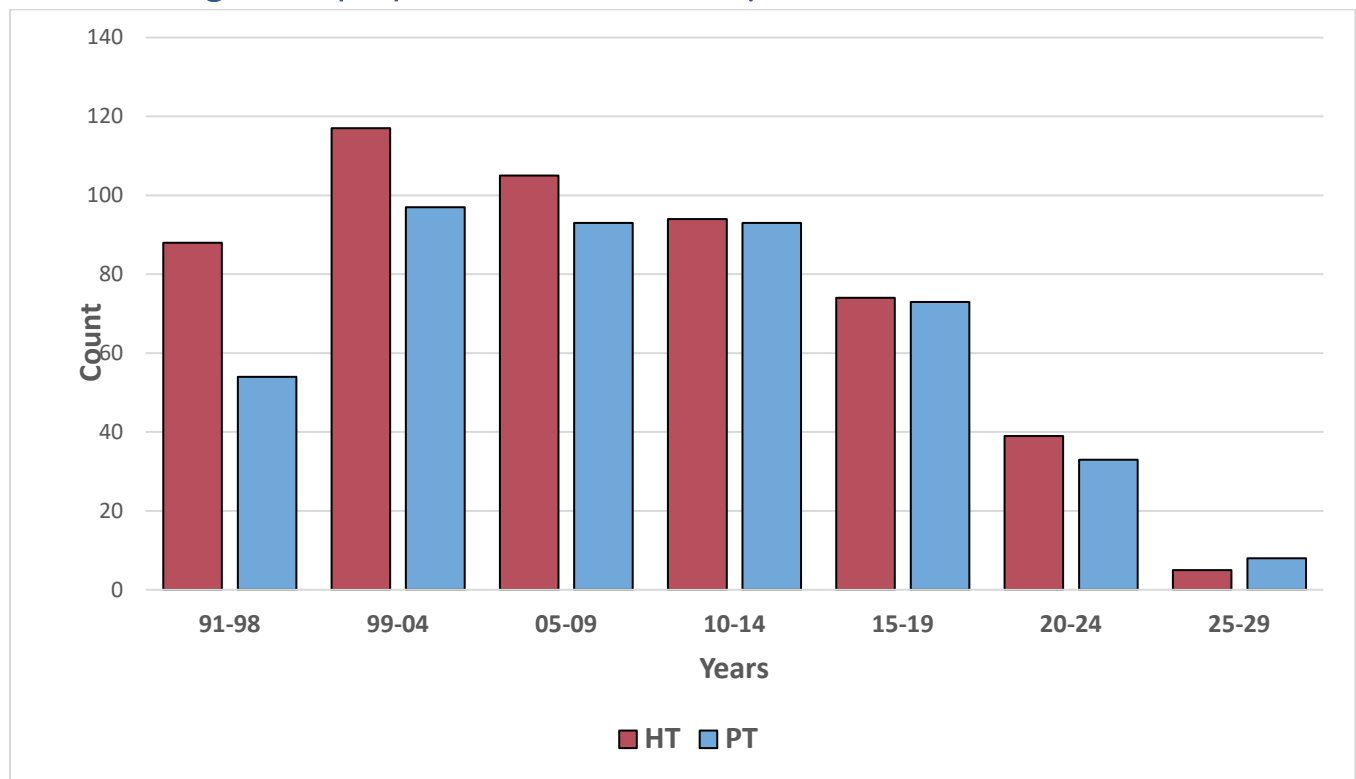
The BCCA initiated Instinct Testing in 1982 with adoption first on the west coast, then gradually spreading across the country. The number of HIC certificates before 1991 is at least 703; the judge's sheets had been retained for them.

### BCCA Herding Instinct Certificates (HC in the early years; HIC thereafter)

All groups in the following graphs are FY (7/1/YYYY – 6/30/YYYY) except prior to 1999



### AKC Herding Tests (HT) and Pre-Trial Tests (PT)



### Herding Champion (HC), High in Trial (HIT), Reserve High in Trial (RHIT)

| Years          | 91-98 | 99-04 | 05-09 | 10-14 | 15-19 | 20-24 | 25-29 |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| HC - # Titles  | 2     | 2     | 7     | 6     | 8     | 6     | 2     |
| HIT - # Titles |       |       | 17    | 48    | 56    | 34    | 19    |
| HIT - # Dogs   |       |       | 10    | 25    | 23    | 20    | 9     |

|                        |  |  |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------------------|--|--|----|----|----|----|----|
| <b>RHIT - # Dogs</b>   |  |  | 13 | 66 | 67 | 33 | 15 |
| <b>RHIT - # Titles</b> |  |  | 9  | 29 | 38 | 19 | 10 |