

**Minutes of the New Zealand Kennel Club Agility Committee**  
**Soi Restaurant Wellington**  
**February 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 9.00 am**

**Present:** Lyn Sayers, Susan Tansey, Paul Taylor, Dyson Beasley, Paul Remon, Vickie Byford, Cam List, Ron Frater

**Apologies:** None

Lyn welcomed Cam List to the committee.

**1. Minutes of the previous meeting:**

Minutes of the previous meeting were taken as a true and correct record of proceedings

**2. Matters Arising from previous minutes, not reported elsewhere:**

None

**3. Competitions**

1. Height issues – The submissions received by the agility community were discussed, and key common elements were identified.

- The desire of clubs not to change their lug heights due to the expense
- The support for a micro class
- The general trend for competitions to be split on dog height basis to ensure the best chance of equitable competition
- The inconsistency of the current dog measuring procedure and historic poor measurements
- The desire for no dog to jump higher than it currently does
- For dog safety and the longevity of a dog's competing life to be a consideration
- Two distinct opinions that the more agile lighter maxis (border collies and heading type dogs) should all be placed in the same height class OR that height classes should occur at naturally identified splits
- That some consideration should be given to help the heavier larger dogs
- The desire by some to see a trial period

The committee then went through each point and discussed ways to address each element. After some discussion, key aspects were agreed to, which will form the basis of regulation changes effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2010. These will be formulated into a comprehensive report for clubs, and placed onto the website by February 28<sup>th</sup> in accordance with previously published timelines, allowing people to comment on the new regulations before implementation.

Included will be a summary of the submissions received, written by an independent author, as well as guidelines for implementation, for clubs to use.

2. IFCS – Membership applications are underway. There are 15 triallists throughout the country. The team will be selected on handling ability, not on results. Selectors will review video of all triallists competing in the trials.

3. Elementary Progression and Equipment – Correspondence has been received requesting that weaves be taken out of Elementary B, so that more new handlers can feel like they can compete

sooner. This was agreed to.

It was also agreed that Elementary A must have 6 weave poles in all courses. The 12 courses currently on the website for non judges to use, will be replaced so that there are 6 A courses and 6 B courses on a 30x30 ring (to enable any course regardless of ring set up to be chosen).

It was also agreed that dogs, once they have a win in Elementary B should be able to graduate into Elementary A. Currently they must go straight into Starters, which can be a difficult progression for new handlers to the sport. All regulation changes to come into effect 1 July 2010.

4. ADX and ADX forms – Application forms are being produced.

#### **4. Financial report**

1. The financial report was presented. Zone 5 NDTA accounts still to come in. The committee are working within their means.

2. It was agreed that Paul Taylor will take over the position of Treasurer from Ron Frater.

3. The purchase of the Zone 5 NDTA signs was approved.

#### **5. Correspondence**

1. Over 3000 emails and other correspondence was received or sent during the last three months.

#### **6. Calendar**

1. Allocation of AD and ADX – North Island clubs have been slow to respond to requests for AD and ADX dates for 2011. The 2011 draft calendar will go out to clubs without full allocation and the clubs will need to apply.

2. 2011 Calendar – draft and deadlines approved

#### **7. Judges**

1. Senior Panel Promotions – It was agreed to promote Cam List, Carole Logan, Amanda Benson, Martin Bush and David Cook to the Senior Agility panel.

2. Ribbon Trial Panel Promotions – It was agreed to promote Lisa Gatfield and Rebecca Sidwell to the Agility Ribbon Trial panel subject to passing of the examination.

3. Trainee Panel Promotion – It was agreed to promote Marie McDonald to the Agility Trainee Panel

4. Agility Ribbon Trial Exam – Examinations are being held on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. Venues have been organised.

5. Upcoming Judges' seminars – Seminars are organised for March – Tauranga (Fiona Hodgson organising) and Upper Hutt (Karen de Wit organising). There has been an excellent response from judges. The seminar organisers have been asked to submit notes for publishing on the website.

6. Judges Recognitions – An email was received suggesting badges to recognise the length of service a judge has contributed in agility. This was agreed to. Badges will be presented for the following yearly milestones - 7,10,15,20,25. Length of service is calculated from the time the judge enters the Agility Trainee panel, and any leave of absence will be deducted.

Yearly awards for judges was also suggested. This was not agreed to.

7. New Judges Pack – Currently being compiled.

*At this stage Ron Frater excused himself from the meeting due to a family emergency.*

## **8. Regulations**

1. Rewrite of Agility Regs – ongoing

2. Rates Of Travel/Measuring Courses – It was agreed that the current proposal trialled by clubs was not successful and did not have the support of the clubs. It was agreed to add to the regulations that courses must be measured as if the dog is on the left of the measurer. This will be consistent with the current AD and ADX course guidelines. Regulation to come into effect July 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.

3. Excessive delay – An email was received regarding handlers taking excessive time to commence a run. It was agreed that to regulate against this, would be a very subjective judging decision. The committee did not consider this a large issue at this time and often there are too many legitimate reasons for delay. It was decided not to proceed any further with this suggestion.

4. Judging the hoop – An email was received requesting that displacement of the hoop should incur a fault. After discussion, it was agreed that displacing or breaking a hoop will incur faults. The regulation will come into effect from July 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **9. Publicity**

1. Payment to Clubs for promoting Agility – The pamphlet is still in production. All clubs will be sent a copy once available. It was agreed to distribute 50 to each display. Two sponsors for the pamphlet have been secured.

The committee expressed disappointment that some clubs who had received a grant were not providing photos or articles for the Dog World. It was agreed that in the future, clubs will only receive their grant after the event and when suitable articles have been received.

2. SPARC ODT – An email was received regarding applying for recognition as a sport though SPARC. It was agreed to research this further.

## **10. Communications**

1. Website Updates – Results, catalogues, flyers and official communication updates had been added.

2. Website overhaul- Jo Miller is now helping with the current website.

3. Postcodes – Several club secretaries expressed concern that the NZKC database does not have their postcode. The NZKCAC will pass this onto the NZKC office.

## **11. Clubs**

1. “How to Run a Show” booklet – ongoing.

2. Zone 4 timing equipment – still waiting to hear from clubs.

3. 10% of entries for ribbons issue – An email was received regarding the guide sent out to clubs last year, requesting that clubs provide ribbons to 10% of the number entered in that class. It was agreed to remind clubs of this.

## **12. Disputes**

1. No formal complaints have been received.

## **13. Health and Safety**

1. Accident form – 3 accidents have been reported since the last meeting. One was equipment failure – the club has been asked to check the set up in future. One was the ground conditions.

2. Excluded Dogs regulations – It was agreed to accept these draft regulations into the regulations effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2010. It was agreed to accept the Dog Assessment into the standing orders as well.

3. Ground conditions – An email was received regarding the ground conditions at the 2009 NDTA. It was agreed to recommend to future NDTA committees to find the best ground condition possible. It was also agreed to remind clubs for their events as well.

4. Skid Test data collection – Ongoing.

## **14. Equipment**

1. COF progress – All clubs completed.

2. Dog Walk Ramps – An email was received suggesting that the regulations need to state that ramps must touch the ground. It was agreed not to proceed further with this suggestion.

3. Jump Lug examples – This has been put on hold for now through perceived lack of interest from clubs and the loss of a sponsor.

4. New equipment standards guideline – This is still progressing.

## **15. National Events**

1. 2010 National Dog Show – At this stage the NZKC Show Committee advise agility will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with one ring inside.

2. 2010 NDTA- A report was tabled. Saleyards are confirmed and the NDTA committee are waiting to hear from the Pony Club. The public will be informed by the NDTA committee, of the actual venue, as soon as this is known via their clubs and the website. Non powered camping is available on the grounds.

It was requested, in light of the new regulations agreed to at this meeting, to have a dispensation from competition splits at this late stage to assist with planning. This was agreed to.

3. 2011 NDTA- A report was tabled. It will be Christchurch and a committee of 12 has been formed, of mainly experienced previous NDTA committee members. Venues with camping, social event

rooms, catering etc are being looked at, and a venue should be booked within the next month.

4. NAC Competition – Nothing to report at this stage

#### **16. NZKC Executive**

1. Brian Priest has resigned from CEO. Pat Dance is the temporary replacement CEO.

#### **17. Obedience Matters**

1. Nothing to report. Rosemary Cleator advised the agility 2011 draft calendar seems to fit well with obedience events.

#### **18. Young Kennel Club**

1. The NZKCAC will approach the YKC regarding the status of the Jumpers competition.

#### **19. General Business**

1. Qualification Suffixes– NZKC have asked why dogs are still listing their ADX Gold suffix after achieving Grand Champion. This is not the current practice of other Champions. It was agreed that once a dog has Grand Champion as a title, previous suffixes should be dropped.

2. Signatures on subsidy/grant application – It was agreed that these forms do not need to be physically signed if clubs are wanting to send the form electronically. Applications received electronically need to be emailed from the club secretary's email address however.

**Meeting Closed at 5.00pm**  
**Next meeting: May 1<sup>st</sup> 2011, Soi Restaurant Wellington**