

NZKC AGILITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR 21 AUGUST 2007
TELECONFERENCE

Meeting by Teleconference commencing at 7.34pm.

Apologies – Nil – Roy Thorndycraft (late)

Roll Call: Alan McClumpha (chair), Karen deWit, Allan Rohde, Paul Remon, Lyn Sayers, Nick Chester, Fiona Hodgson, Brian Priest (NZKC CEO)

Business arising from Minutes. Meeting Protocols not yet written up – Alan Mc to get onto this

Financial Report

Levies: outstanding levies and comments regarding retrospective levies were discussed.

Benefit Show levies – Some discussion on this but decided that they will be applicable.

Open Show levies – These are also to be levied as for Champ shows. **Fiona** to amend levy form accordingly.

Business arising from Correspondence

Most correspondence was ART applications etc with nothing too much of note otherwise. A reminder is required for those clubs who have not yet returned their form.

Avalon Club was discussed with concern over their new very small committee. It was decided that **Brian** would check their status and contact them to see if they would like help with anything.

General Business

Sub-Committee Reports

Regulations - Fiona reported:

The Regulations Sub-Committee have looked at terms of reference as follows:

The Regulations Sub-Committee of the NZKC Agility Committee will be responsible for the following

Continued and ongoing maintenance of the existing Agility Regulations

Drafting of regulations to invoke changes proposed by other NZKC AC sub-committees

Dove-tailing of our proposed changes with existing Show and Judges Regulations and NZKC rules.

Development and maintenance of the NZKC Agility Committee Standing Orders and Policy Document

In accordance with our discussions at the last meeting, the Agility Regulations have been re-drafted with the inclusion of those parts which got lost in transit from the DT regs

Judges Sub-Committee - Nick reported

The Judge's subcommittee has begun talks on how to shape the future of judging standards and practises in Agility. As emailed to all members of committee, our terms of reference are:

The initial focus of the Judges Sub-Committee is to complete a total review of the Agility Judges Training and Management System.

Points of importance:

Recruitment and Initial Judges Training - including process from initial interest through to completion of probationaries, exam and first year on the panel. Introductory workshops/seminars prior to probationaries. Judges handbook of basic judging techniques (ie positions, course design etc.)

Support/Monitoring of New Judges - course checking, availability of mentors etc

Promotion Prerequisites - automatic at present - is this good? Further training/assessments before promotion.

Management of Ongoing Training of Senior Panel, mandatory attendance of seminars/workshops
Judges training and resource for Possible new classes (jumpers/games etc) as above, before judging new classes.

Avenue for Concerns re Judges and Judging Standards to be addressed. Guidelines for class standards.

Ongoing Maintenance and Upgrading of NZ Agility Judges Skills (eg Do we need a judges assn?)

A questionnaire is to go out to all Agility Judges seeking input on all aspects of the Judging area.

This to be followed by input from others with a review of input received and recommendations for change made.

Agility Judges Exam 2009 discussed with ideas gathered for the production of this paper

NDTA Agility Judges Meeting discussed and planned

Judges Probationary Guidelines – These were discussed and need to be circulated to all judges and prospective judges. A note to go with them that they are not new but have not been circulated as widely as possible previously.

NDTA/Competition + Awards – NDTA discussion document – Karen reported

NDTA discussion document

This has been distributed via a variety of methods. Small number of responses have been received so far but still time for others to come in.

Finances – Allan Rohde reported:

Levies coming in now and most clubs seem to understand the levy form ok.

There was discussion re banking and the possibility of reduction of fees through using the NZKC name and banking power.

Obedience Committee Liaison – Alan McC reported:

No formal communication has been received from the Obedience Committee. A copy of the NDTA funding letter was sent to all Ob Comm members.

Sponsorship – Lyn reported:

Our sub group has not yet met although from the tenor of our face to face meeting it was obvious that there was broad agreement on the following principals:-

(A) Design a strategy to lift the public profile of our sport so as to make us an attractive object for Sponsorship by:-

Re-branding our organisation to make us more memorable and widen the appeal of Agility

2) Applying to SPARC to be included on their list of "NSO's" - (National Sports Organisations)

3) Working closely with the "Young Kennel Club" to capture and hold the imagination of our youth

4) Building relationships with the media to optimise the "free advertising" aspect of their reporting.

5) Achieving closer relations with kindred organisations in other countries (Starting with Australia)

(B) Conduct an initial survey to establish the public perception of the sport of Agility and follow up in 2 - 3 years.

(C) Co-ordinate fund-raising where necessary for National events (viz NDTA, NAC) to supplement the current National Sponsor.

Other General Business

YKC

It was suggested that it would be good to have a small group of enthusiasts from agility who would be willing to work with YKC in the future. Everyone is to think of names of people who may be interested.

Executive report – A McC

Meeting this weekend. Only formal Agility item on agenda is the formalisation of the reciprocal agreement with Australia. There was some discussion regarding aggressive/dangerous/difficult dogs at club training. Some clubs would like a set of guidelines as to how to deal with these situations.

Calendar - ARTs and ADs etc – Fiona has almost completed filling in the National calendar – draft has been sent to Agility Committee members. Still some clubs to send requests for ARTs/ADs etc. Clashes and Alterations- AD/ADX – some Zones under subscribed others over. To be sorted with thought about spread around the zone. Reminder to go to those clubs who have not yet replied.

“Trialing of new things at ARTs”. Much discussion was had regarding this. It was noted that any trials run at ARTs need to be approved by the Agility Committee and run with good documentation of results.

Website – Karen reported – Name and content.

The latest draft looks good. Approval from Agility Committee was given to Karen to get this finalised.

Gazette Page – Lyn. This issue looks great and will be in the next gazette. Further issues to contain content from a number of different sources.

NDTA Funding letter has gone out to all clubs. This is to be followed up to establish the fund for NDTAs beyond 2008.

Measuring.

Measuring protocols are required and will be drafted. Alan M also to look at pricing for new measuring sticks. The meeting was in favour of going back to mm measurement as a way of future-proofing the measuring system so hoops did not need to be changed should heights be altered in times to come. A measuring database to be instituted with all dogs measured recorded with their height.

Judges Contracts

Recent discussion regarding what clubs should be providing to judges and what judges are entitled to ask for. Judges Sub-Committee is to add protocols for judges to his “to-do” list. Once complete they need to be distributed to all judges and sent out to clubs as well.

There being no further General Business the meeting was closed at 11pm.