

NZKC AGILITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, Teleconference

January 27th 2009 at 7.30pm

Apologies: Roy Thorndycraft

Minutes of previous meeting. Correction: Paul has the equipment job.

Business arising from Minutes

1. Behaviour of competitors and Judges at shows A specific incident was discussed. As no formal complaint had been received and it was being dealt with by another organisation, no action was taken.
2. Certificates – Milestone, AD, JD etc. Lyn reported that JD, JDX, AD and ADX certificates are now all available. There is a backlog of applications already which is a sign that the agility community perception is positive.
3. Long Jump trial –Nick advised that the report will be out within the week
4. Sportsmanship article for Dog World – Steve has not written this. The committee confirmed the article needs to be written for March issue of Dog World.
5. Communications re regulation changes, Dog world and Clubs. Karen confirmed that she and Fiona had distributed information on this via a variety of methods.

Financial Report -Allan Rohde

1. Various NDTA financial matters were discussed including outstanding historical NDTA money from CDTC, Historical Zone 3 NDTA funds, NDTA 2009 budget and minutes request, and future NDTA income stream.
2. It was decided to further advertise the Levies change
3. Course designer units –Nick is to advertise the availability in NALA and the Judges list of 6 units.
4. Judges annual licensing fee was discussed and it was decided that those judges requiring hard copies of regulations would pay a fee.
5. Milestone certificates – the option of supplying these with a frame was discussed and will be available for a cost.

Correspondence - Karen de Wit.

1. Rosemary Cleator - Judging agility in Singapore. It was noted that she resigned Agility panel many years ago. It was decided that she should rejoin the agility panel prior to judging overseas. The precedent for rejoining the panel has been established and this should be followed.
2. DAWG requested permission to hold a long jump trial in April. Nick confirmed he would finish and distribute his long jump trial report within 7 days. A document outlining the procedure required for the running of trails is to be produced. This will include trials being approved by the Agility Committee, supervised, data collected and a report produced. Once the document has been agreed to by the committee it will be forwarded to DAWG. Under these conditions the trial will be permitted.
3. DAWG advised that they intend, at a ribbon trial, to make jump the height for minis lower than normal and maintain normal midi and max heights. The regulations do not prevent the club lowering one height and not the others, however common practice is to lower all the heights if one is lowered.
4. Proposals for separate height competitions. A number of submissions had been received on this matter. The committee agreed that in the future NZ agility would almost certainly have split height competitions, with the major difficulties being how and when. The committee recommended that the newly elected Agility Committee start a consultation process on this subject.
5. It was confirmed that any Elementary class held at a Championship competition should be advertised in the schedule as would any other standard class.
6. Elementary class, course design. It was agreed that no change be made to these courses.
7. Milestone awards. The committee confirmed that the following clear round certificates qualify:
 - a. any standard agility class prior to 1-1-2009, including AD and ADX, and
 - b. any standard class post 1-1-2009, which includes agility, jumpers and games classes.
8. Judges panels. Letters are to be written to judges resigning from the panel.
9. YKC proposal. It was confirmed that as YKC classes will be novelties they do not attract any levies.
10. Two letters relating to Judging were referred to the Judges subcommittee for response.

Notices of Motion. Entry Forms for agility –. It was agreed that the Agility committee action this.

Sub-Committee Reports

Regulations Subcommittee Report – Peter de Wit

Peter de Wit reported on progress of the regulations which had been reviewed, received NZKC executive sign off and been published. The revisions were agreed to, including the removal of any reference to different agility, jumpers and games judges panels.

Calendar Report. The calendar has been updated and is available on the website in various views. Peter is liaising with the NZKC office to update the calendar of championship competitions in NZ Dog World. Issues regarding the calendar for 2010 were discussed. It was decided to produce a 2010 calendar now and publish it so that Clubs have plenty of time to respond with changes. AD and ADX advanced allocations were discussed. It was decided that committee members in various areas need to inform Peter what precedents currently exist.

Awarding of prizes and ribbons. There was discussion over the level of prizes and ribbons now that there are no splits. It was decided to make a recommendation to all clubs.

Judges Subcommittee Report – Nick Chester.

Nick Chester reported on progress related to the production of the Agility judges exam and the scheduling of it. A number of applications to join the judges panel and for promotions to the senior panel were discussed. Nick to contact the applicants advise them of the requirements.

ADX course reruns. It was confirmed that usual rerun rules apply. If a time is not available the competitor will re-run for time.

Judges discussion document . A small number of submissions were received. The Judges subcommittee is working on a second draft of the document, using new ideas that have come out of submissions, and this will go out for consultation with the wider agility community.

Competitions Subcommittee Report - Karen de Wit

Dog measurements. Data has been collected from over 850 dogs. It was decided to distribute the height data if requested and suggest that people check their own height details on the NZKC site.

Certificate of fitness. Four clubs have been assessed so far. The major problems appears to be with tunnels, particularly entries and sagging. It was agreed that the aim was not to lumber clubs with expensive equipment costs. The committee should liaise as much as possible with equipment suppliers to help ensure any new equipment meets the specifications. The safety of the dogs is paramount. Where equipment is unsafe it must not be used. Where equipment is safe but not compliant, Clubs will be informed and will be given a period of 6 months to make the item comply. It was decided to add pictures of tunnels to the website. (Karen, Pete). Aframe measurements- The ease or otherwise of doing this was discussed. An alternative method using a cardboard triangle cut to the correct angles was discussed, it was agreed this method should be used.

COF assessors. It was decided that Judges could be asked to assess equipment and when they do they must be supplied with all the relevant information.

Other.

- Jumpers recommendations, had been sent to all judges.
- The faulting of the hoop was discussed and it was decided that no action be taken at this stage.
- Regional awards information. It was agreed that the Agility Committee should be aware of the awards that are available and that this information should be added to the standing orders. Members of the committee to forward details to Karen.

Obedience Committee Liaison and sponsorship report – Lyn Sayers. Liaison will occur when it is required.

Website – Peter de Wit. Recent additions to the website – List of measurers, Protocols for measuring, Milestone awards application form, past issues of Kiwi Dog Agility (from NZKC Dog World) and updates of the calendars. It was agreed that the website was becoming a valuable tool for the committee to use as a simple method of communication with the agility community. There was discussion on other things that could go on the website.

Clubs Sub-Committee - Paul, Karen, Nick. No report. An email had been received suggesting a booklet on Advice for Secretaries and it was decided to action this

Communications -Steve Chester .No report. Steve is working on getting “official” email addresses on the NZ Agility and Judges lists for the committee

Equipment report - Paul Remon. It was agreed that when a dog is injured during an agility competition a report should be done. It was decided to produce an Incident report for people to use, and publish it on the website. Steve to assist Peter with a health and safety type report. It was noted that a person could make a claim against a club where it has used substandard equipment.

Handler Safety issues –Steve, Paul.No report

National Dog Training Assemblies and National Dog Show.

NDTA 2009 – Paul confirmed that the obedience input of half of the cost of hire of the NDTA grounds for 2009 has not been received by the NDTA Committee.

NDTA 2010 – venue + committee. It was decided that a decision regarding a venue is becoming urgent. Steve is to liaise with Sue Howe and a decision is to be made by mid-February as to where the NDTA will be held, Rotorua or Taupo. Steve is to form a steering committee and liaise on the Region 2 NDTA (Easter 2010) Benefit show request

Nationals 2009 at Manfield Park – Lyn Sayers. The outdoor scheduling of this event with an indoor back-up was discussed at some length. There was discussion on the ways to attract competitors including level of prize-money and number of ribbons.

General Business

1. Future ideas to encourage people to the sport. Brian reported on two NZKC initiatives that will be distributed to the general public and advised that agility could take some space in them.
2. Projects List – IFCS Affiliation, Club resource library, Club Instructor training, History of NZ Agility. A letter regarding IFCS membership and participation in the WAC in Great Britain was received for discussion at the next meeting.
3. Nominations for Certificate of Achievement. A nomination has been forwarded to NZKC.
4. Agility Committee Elections. Lyn is to liaise with database owners to collect names to ensure all potential voters are targeted. The NZKC site now asks you to register your prime area of interest.
5. Trans-Tasman challenge 2009. Lyn reported that one in Wellington in 2011 is planned.
6. Calendar issue, Otago. Peter to follow up. AD/ADX, Napier area, Lyn to liaise with Steve
7. Publication of minutes/notices. Paul made comment and is to clarify
8. Reminder: NZKC agility supplement is in May.
9. It was requested that a report be forwarded to the committee if NZKC receives an official complaint made against an agility member