

## **MINUTES OF NZKC AGILITY COMMITTEE MEETING: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2014.**

**Present:** Steve Chester, Joanne Rennell, Karen de Wit, Peter de Wit, Jocelyn Jensen, Lisa Duff, Nick Chester, Sue Willis. Also present Peter Dunne (Director/Secretary of the NZKC)

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** Accepted as a true account: Karen/Steve. Approved.

Feedback on volunteer awards was very positive.

No matters arising that are not covered in other parts of the agenda.

### **Outline of our achievements in past 12 months**

Peter gave a brief outline of what has been achieved in the past 12 months.

It included the encouragement and partial payment of training seminars, jump subsidies, COF's to update equipment, equipment grants, display grants, and the introduction of games.

### **Financial report:**

June, July, August financial reports presented by Joanne. Joanne/Sue. Approved.

Joanne and Peter presented the financial report for 2014/15 year to date. The AC budget for new equipment has almost been reached. The COF equipment budget is available therefore equipment grants will only be approved for equipment that has failed the Certificate of Fitness. (COF)

### **NZKC Executive Council Matters**

Steve reported that the meeting was held in Christchurch, and the group visited the Wigram Air Base which is the proposed venue for the 2016 National Dog show. He said there was potential for a Zone 4 Club to hold a championship event in conjunction with this show. The date of the National Dog Show is two weeks before NZDAC, which makes it difficult to attract competitors who have to travel long distances.

Passes for members putting on displays at the National Dog show in Auckland are available through the NZKC office. Nick

Peter Dunne said that he would recommend to the EC that an agility person be added to the Strategic Planning Sub Committee. PD

Karen has been working with the office on having Dog Photos on Milestone certificates (and other certificates where possible). These will be provided at a cost of \$20. Karen to liaise with the NZKC office to implement the photo option. Karen

### **Inward Correspondence:**

Letter regarding a 'dog incident' at an agility event in Gore. Not taken further by the parties involved.

Competitors are reminded that incidents should be reported to the Event Manager before

the show is completed. Clubs to be reminded that a disputes committee should be selected and their names put on the catalogue for view prior to the competition. Steve

Proposal to have a NZKC membership option with the Dog World magazine online for those who wished to receive it that way with an associated membership fee reduction. Peter Dunne will put this recommendation on the agenda for the next EC meeting. PD

Championship Wetting: Letter strongly against this method of celebration, particularly where it includes additional items such as milk, eggs, flour and dog food, the writer feels that it is a bad look for the general public and younger competitors. The action could be considered assault if the person was seriously injured, or had not consented to the procedure. A member of the AC has taken legal advice – if the person involved has consented to the action it may proceed. The AC is unable to regulate against it, but does advise that the competitor be asked first. This information to be included in the AC update. Steve

A letter of resignation from the judging panel was received from Irene Lock. Her expertise, patience and good humour will be greatly missed.

DAWG made a \$300 profit from a training seminar and ask what to do with it. Permission was given to keep the money and put it towards another seminar. Peter/Sue. Approved.

#### **Agility Committee roles and responsibilities:**

Chairperson: Steve Chester to work with the EC – to deal with disputes, and write the report following meetings to go to the agility community.

Deputy Chairperson: Peter de Wit – to deal with the running of the AC.

Secretary: Sue spoke of this as being approximately 8 – 10 hours a week, and has recommended that the AC look at procuring the services of a part-time person able to cover this aspect and perhaps incorporate the financial side for better continuity of services to the sport. To be considered.

#### **AC elections for 2015/16.**

Nominations by end of February 2015. Elections April 2015. The NZKC Office runs the elections.

Change to regulations and remit to NZKC for Rule change in regard to AC chair and Executive meeting, to be drafted for consultation and voting. Karen

To be promoted – individually, and on the dog agility website, facebook and group website, and through the clubs. Nick/Steve

#### **Certificate of Fitness Programme**

Two COF assessor training days were held in July, one in Christchurch and one in Rotorua, designed to help assessors establish an acceptable standard of equipment for consistency throughout the country. The training was considered to be highly successful.

Points of note:

- Photographs should be taken of equipment that fails.
- Where equipment is duplicated (such as tunnels) it should be numbered.
- Regional reps to coordinate with clubs to set dates for COF's.

A schedule of assessments is to be obtained from the assessors.

Steve

When the assessment is complete and the report is received Steve will update the schedule. Payments to Assessors will be made once the schedule has been updated (Joanne/Peter)

Reports following the COF's will be sent to the clubs with a covering letter to include:

- Failed equipment – cannot be used in any further competition until fixed and reassessed.
- Equipment that has not failed, but it is recommended that further work be done.

Lisa and Steve to finalise cover letter template and provide it to assessors.

Lisa/Steve

Failed equipment must be fixed by April 2015. Assessors are responsible for the recheck.

#### **Clubs: Training Seminars:**

The training seminars that have been subsidised by the AC, have been very well attended. Fiona Ferrar was complimented on her work in bringing Daisy Peel from the USA, and competitors benefited from the three days and one evening of intensive instruction.

Nick to write to Fiona Ferrar and thank her.

Nick

Other seminars using NZ instructors have been conducted throughout the country to date.

Waimakariri Club applied, and were granted a subsidy for a seminar in early 2015.

“Zone 4” and were granted a subsidy for a seminar early December 2014.

The budget set for training seminars has now been fully utilised.

#### **International Events:**

The IC needs additional members. Nick to liaise with FF on recommendations

Nick

International Sub Committee needs person(s) interested in contributing to the organisation of groups able to go to international events. A selection process may be necessary where there is the chance to handle at these events. The AC is unlikely to contribute funds to competitors at this time, but would consider paying to the entry fee for a NZ team, and supply team shirts.

Nick

For consideration: idea of an Australasian test match at the National Dog Show in Christchurch in 2016 - to further promote NZ/Australia competition.

PD

#### **NZDAC 2014:**

Organisation is well underway, and looking to cover budget.

Director/Secretary and a councillor from EC to attend.

Team shirts: Jo to quote price.

Team Subsidy. Proposed

The subsidy will be the price of a regular small car ferry crossing plus 10 cents per kilometre

(less first 200km)

Proposed Nick/????

Approved

**Recognition for Champions:**

Proposal for those who have reached championship/grand championship qualification in the past 12 months to be presented with a personalised lead at NZDAC.

Karen/Jocelyn Approved

Karen

**NZDAC 2015:**

Planning is going well. The programme is to include triple agility, triple jumpers both with finals, Champ of champs, YKC, and the Interzone event. Six of the judges have already confirmed.

Organising committee to provide a written budget for the December AC meeting. Jocelyn  
The formal programme to be approved at the December meeting. Jocelyn

Peter Dunne pointed out that the Events Manager at the NZKC is available to help if needed.

**Interzone Teams Event Review:**

Nick has conducted a survey to see if change is needed to increase the popularity of this event. Most people wanted change. Most people wanted to retain the zones as they are. Most wanted jumpers added permanently. The current structure is not appropriate with both agility and jumpers. (Teams trials and the event) Opinion on the proposed structures of the event was divided.

Two options for change will be proposed and consulted on around NZDAC time with a decision to be made at the AC March meeting. The new event structure will be in place for the NZDAC 2016. Nick

**Equipment:**

Equipment grants will only be granted for COF related issues for the remainder of the year.

- Wairarapa - request for tunnel approved if a COF issue (\$410) - remainder declined
- EBOP. Brush jump subsidy declined not a COF issue.
- Blenheim. Lisa to contact to establish what equipment will fail the COF. Lisa
- Hawkes Bay jump request. Application out of time.

Underweight rails. Weights to be recorded at COF so the regulation can be adjusted. Steve  
to confirm at the December AC meeting. Steve

Register of wing jumps: The AC has approved a number of wing jumps for use, however only the club knows this. A register was seen as impractical. It was decided to review the wing jump regulation so that more variation in wings jumps was accommodated. Karen/Steve

Tunnel cradle – Deb Jackson and Dyson Beasley pointed out the risk of injury to a dog with an unpadding cradle, at present quite commonly used to support the curve in a tunnel. They are not to be used, and judges will be asked for them to be removed if they appear in competition. Karen to add to Judges newsletter. Karen

Wishing well - Nick to look at the specification for this. Nick

Weave poles. Add number of poles to be used to regulation. Weave poles must be vertical. Karen

**Event entry Refunds:**

Clubs to form their own policy within the NZKC regulations. Communication - Steve

**AD/ADX:**

Change regulation to require the uploading of AD and ADX at ribbon trials. Karen

**Variable splits.** Idea to be discussed at next meeting.

**Regulations review:**

The regulations issues have been consulted on with Judges. The wider community will now be consulted on those items that now remain.

A final decision to be made at the Dec meeting. Karen

**Judges:**

Judges ability to exclude a dog from competition. Nick and Steve to consult with agility vets to try to establish a criteria of what would make a dog unsuitable for competition.

Steve/Nick

Judges: Maximum hours/dogs that one person should judge in one day. Nick to consult with the judges. Nick

**Certificates of appreciation to be present to long term judges.** Karen/Nick

New Judges required. Each Committee member to recruit a person interested in becoming a probationary judge. Hopefully person ready to sit the exam in February. Karen/Nick

Karen to write to Susan Sheppard to inform her that she does not meet the senior judge criteria. All judges to be reminded of their obligations to maintain their status. Karen

How to give judges feedback on course design? Perhaps peer review once a year? Judges workshop for a weekend? Seminars at competitions difficult because of time constraints and lack of leaders.

Feedback from judges to be requested: 'these are our problems, how can we fix them.'

Nick

**Website:**

Pete outlined latest enhancements to website. Games entries, AEM and results, Automated graduation with email to people, as well as some proposed ones to come.

Request for a copy of the results from the data base to perform calculations. Declined. Peter to write an explanation.

**Measuring:**

Two year measure to be done from 24 – 27 months of age. The two week period prior to

the second birthday still applies.

Maxi dogs over 540mm at interim won't require a permanent measure. Karen to change the regulations. Karen

A number of new measurers have been added to the list.

- Assistant measurers approved = Anna Snell, Chris Charleton.
- Main Measurer approved = Kathy Koniesky

### **Calendar:**

Mangawhai: 6<sup>th</sup> December 2014 date of first championship show.

South Rangitikei: application for championship date. Karen to remind club that it needs to re-establish championship status with the NZKC. With that done permission was given to add 1 x Jumpers. Karen

Tairei: Question over date of show and allocation of AD/ADX. Lisa to communicate with the club secretary. Lisa

A number of clubs have added Games to the calendar.

### **JDX Awards.**

Awards for those in Jumpers B and A based on clear rounds in competition. To start in 2015. Karen to announce criteria. Karen

**Training Methodology for Trainers:** A request to help with teaching methods.

Suggestions: Local sports associations have information and hold some short courses. Steve/Peter Dunne to pass info to Karen.

Obedience has a seminar in planning. Karen top contact Geoff. Karen

Online courses such as 'Waggit' are aimed at basic teaching methods.

### **Attendance allowance for meetings:**

Steve suggested an attendance allowance for AC meetings of \$50 to cover cost of travel such as airport parking, and food etc. If greater than \$50 need to put in claim.

Steve/Jocelyn Approved.

Apology. Lisa tendered apology for next meeting. Steve will organise his own food.

**Peter Dunne** then gave a brief outline of where the NZKC is at this time, and of how they are continually looking to improve within the restrictions of budget and membership numbers.

**NEXT MEETING: 13TH DECEMBER 2014.**