



Supplied by Rosemarie Baker
rjbagility2020@gmail.com

Agility Committee Elections

Nominations for this year's Agility Committee elections are open now. The Agility Committee consists of eight members, with at least one member from each of the North Island and the South Island.

Previously, all eight members were elected every two years. However, a recent regulation change means that Agility will adopt the same split-committee model as Dogs New Zealand's Executive Council, with four members stepping down each year. Members will each serve a two-year term meaning that each year there will be elections for four members, with four members remaining. Members who step down after two years can stand for re-election. If you are thinking about standing for AC here are some things you might like to know:

Meetings

The Agility Committee must meet at least six times a year. Online meetings are an option but it has been the experience of the past few committees that while online meetings are fine for discussing a specific topic, face-to-face meetings are much more productive when there is a lot of business to get through.

Dates and locations of meetings are decided by AC members, but meetings are generally held in a main centre (due to availability and cost of flights) and run over both days of a weekend. Depending on where they live, some AC members may have to fly to meetings on Friday night to maximise the time available.

Every year the Agility Committee attends the Dogs NZ Annual Conference of Delegates (ACOD) in Wellington. In recent years this has been held over Matariki weekend. ACOD takes up one full day (usually Saturday) and the AC meets on the other two days.

How the AC Works

For the past few terms, there has been a private Facebook group for each AC and a group chat for day-to-day discussion and communication. Documents are stored on Google Drive. Voting outside of meetings is done by polls on the Facebook group and all votes are recorded and added to the minutes of the next meeting. Urgent matters and some things which can easily be dealt with by an online discussion or vote are discussed between meetings.

Time Commitment

The time commitment is not insignificant. As well as attending the face-to-face meetings and ACOD, AC members regularly discuss and vote on issues online. At times, discussion can be daily. AC members also devote time to their additional roles, both within and outside the Agility Committee. AC members may variously be working on special projects, developing resources and documents, or reviewing regulations.

Roles and Responsibilities

As well as the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer positions, various AC members take responsibility for the following:

- Executive Council Representative
- Calendar maintenance
- Website maintenance
- Dogs on Report – South Island
- Dogs on Report - North Island
- Equipment Liaison (organising COF inspections)

- Measurer's Liaison
- Judges' Subcommittee Liaison
- JDT Liaison
- NZ Dog World Liaison

The Executive Council Representative is required to attend approximately six face-to-face EC meetings a year and is our very important liaison between AC and Dogs NZ.

Currently there are AC members serving on the various Dogs NZ sub-committees, including Canine Health and Welfare, Governance and Strategy, Regulations, and Disputes. The time commitment for these sub-committees varies, with some requiring weekend or weekday face-to-face meetings in addition to AC meetings.

Attributes

Agility Committee members should be willing to participate in discussions but should also be respectful and open to others' opinions: 'Strong opinions loosely held' is a good description!

Confidentiality is one of the most important attributes of an AC member: discussions and comments in meetings and online must remain confidential. Committee members also need to protect the confidentiality of sensitive matters brought to the attention of the AC, including the identity of those involved.

All matters should be dealt with fairly and without prejudice and AC members should try to always remain impartial. Committee members are expected to recuse themselves from discussions and/or abstain from voting on matters where they have a conflict of interest.

Being on the Agility Committee means you need to ensure that people can differentiate between your personal opinion(s) and the opinion(s) of the Agility Committee.

A good understanding of how Agility works nationwide is a useful attribute, as is a working knowledge of the Agility Regulations, Show Regulations and Rules of the New Zealand Kennel Club.

Submitting A Nomination

Nominations can be made using the form published alongside this article; it is also available for download at www.dogagility.org.nz/elections.html. Candidates must be a financial member of a registered Agility club and financial member of Dogs NZ. They must be nominated and seconded by two people who are also financial members of an Agility club and Dogs NZ.

Nominations must be accompanied by a biography and optional photo. Nominations close at 5:00pm on **1 October 2024**. If nominations exceed the number of positions available, an election will take place, concluding on 29 November.

Election of Agility Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Any candidate or sitting AC member who wishes to stand as Agility Committee Chairperson or Vice Chairperson needs to send an expression of interest, along with a profile to Dogs NZ by the closing date of nominations for the Agility Committee. These positions will be elected by the members of the Agility Committee at their first meeting. 🐾

Karen Grant

Agility Committee Secretary

NOTICE OF 2024 AGILITY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Nominations are now open and will close on 1 October 2024. Nominations must be accompanied by a biography of the candidate, and only persons who are financial members of Dogs New Zealand and a current financial member of a Dogs NZ Agility club are eligible for nomination. The person must be nominated and seconded by financial members of Dogs NZ, and who are also registered as members of a Dogs NZ Agility club. If nominations exceed the number of positions available, an election will take place concluding on 29 November 2024.

This form as set out below is also available online in an editable format on the Dogs NZ Agility Committee website, www.dogagility.org.nz/elections.html

Candidate Form

Complete the form if you wish to nominate an eligible individual as a candidate for the Agility Committee. If elected, the term of office will be for two years from 29 November 2024.

Nominations must be accompanied by a biography of the candidate (photo optional but recommended).

Form to be received via email no later than 5:00pm Tuesday **1 October 2024**.

Nominee Detail

Name: _____ Dogs NZ Number: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Dogs NZ Agility Club: _____

Nominator and Seconder Detail

Nominated By:

Name: _____ Dogs NZ Number: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Dogs NZ Agility Club: _____

Secoded By:

Name: _____ Dogs NZ Number: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Dogs NZ Agility Club: _____

By submitting this form, I (the nominator) hereby declare that the nominee has confirmed their interest and availability and that all the information provided is true and correct.

Postal forms are to be sent to:

Dogs New Zealand, AC Elections, Private Bag 50903,
Porirua 5240

or to be emailed, with biography of candidate and photo
(optional) to members@dogsnz.org.nz

**TO BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN
5:00PM TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2024**

