

Durham Kennel Club Member Meeting
Monday October 17, 2016
Potluck dinner: 6:30 PM
Program: 7:15 PM
Meeting to follow the program (about ½ hour)
Durham Kennel Club Building, Durham, NC

Program

Roger Akers presentation on Quickbooks and issues in the audit from books from last year. Roger reported there are issues that need to be resolved before a proper budget can be presented to the Board for approval. Discussion around the issues and how they might be resolved.

Meeting

Ann Carter called the meeting to order at 8:01 PM on Monday, 2016

Approve the minutes from the September 10, 2016 Member Meeting: Joe Zawadowski made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Tom Savarese, approved.

President's Report:

Ann Carter announced that Tom Savarese is the new chair of the Seminar Committee.

Read the 4 member comments that were collected regarding how members wanted to see the Club in the next 5 to 10 years. They were as follows:

- DKC being “a pre-eminent, cutting edge, dog training facility, where classes, seminars and events in ALL dog sport disciplines are supported: performance, conformation, and the newer, novel sports (nose work, treibball, barn hunt, etc).
- Continue work on the Memory Walk. It was designed so it could double in size. A second brick sidewalk can begin at the sidewalk and meet the circular court.
- DKC being a place that all dog owners and lovers can come with their dogs and feel comfortable. Offer classes for pet owners to build a relationship with their dog through training and for competitors to train and proof their dogs. Be a place where people can comfortably share their knowledge and passion for dogs.
- Suggestion to cover the agility field

Reported the Club has received several requests from other clubs to rent the field and agility equipment. Nancy Akers researched other facilities that rent fields and equipment. A larger committee needs to be formed to come up with a set of guidelines for rentals.

A Continuing Education policy has been approved for Club instructors and assistants. The policy is intended to provide instructors with a way to learn and improve on their training and teaching skills. A copy of the policy will be available in the members only area of the website.

Currently instructors and assistants are exempt from the requirement of having to provide a vaccine/health certificate in order to take a class. All other members and or general public class participants are required to provide this certificate. It has come to the attention of the Board that this added expense may be keeping some people from taking our classes. The Board realizes this issue needs to be addressed.

Treasurer's Report: Available upon request

Recording Secretary's Report: No report

Corresponding Secretary's Report: No report

AKC Delegate: See below

Committee Reports:

Barn Hunt: Reported upcoming October 22 and 23 trials. Still need a few volunteers

Membership (Terri Toohil)

Candidate Membership:

Jan and Jim Robles; Retired; Swedish Vallhund; Interested in Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Herding, Coursing, Therapy, Tracking and Barn Hunt; Learned about the DKC from the Website; Reasons for joining: They are returning to Durham to be near their daughter who will be teaching at Duke and are eager to engage in their new community.

Regular Membership:

Nancy Forrest: Toy Poodle; has required services and meetings; sponsored by Nancy Akers and Tommy Wood. Membership voted Nancy Forrest into Regular Membership unanimously.

Awards Committee (Lisa Roberts): Date for the banquet is Saturday, February 18, 2017

Old Business:

New Business:

Kim Tyndall made a motion to bring in an outside auditing firm to look at the Club books. Nancy Akers seconded and members approved.

The Meeting Adjourned at __8:30__PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Roberts

AKC DELEGATE'S UPDATE September 2016

New AKC Arbitration and Mediation Program voted on at the July Board meeting was reviewed. The Board was looking for an "arbitration procedure that could address disputes the AKC encounters in all sectors, whether AKC is a party to the dispute or not." The Board voted to adopt the following: AKC staff should continue to resolve informally non-AKC disputes such as internal arguments over club bylaws or policy matters and private arguments over ownership. For those (difficult) disputes that remain unresolved, AKC should offer and encourage post-dispute (voluntary) binding arbitration (and non-binding mediation preceding arbitration) through an outside, expert provider of neutral dispute resolution services. The post-dispute mediation and arbitration processes should be tailored to club and dog-related disputes and not be administered through costly, generic processes available through the American Arbitration Association. AKC will be working with the Conflict Prevention Resolution (CPR) Institute to develop a voluntary mediation/arbitration program tailored to club and dog related disputes. The cost of using the CPR services would be split between the parties involved in the case.

Board approved the formation of Coursing Ability Test (CAT) clubs. The consensus seemed to be that CAT events held with all breed club events might bring in new all breed members and could increase entries and revenue for those clubs. The committee was cautioned that we should be careful not to turn away new things. CAT events are becoming very popular although they do require a large amount of space.

The NOHS which has become a very popular attraction is going to be updated. There will be different judges for different groups each day. Question is being taken to the Board regarding what the financial impact on clubs might be if this new requirement is implemented.

The AKC National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) continues to gain popularity with exhibitors, resulting in an increasing number of clubs offering the NOHS at their events. Two changes were being considered with the intent of bringing greater consistency to the competition. 1) Convert the NOHS Policies & Best Practices into regulations, and 2) Add more structure to the NOHS judging panel requirements. The following changes to the NOHS judging requirements are being considered: a. A different judge is to be assigned to the same NOHS group for each day of a weekend/ cluster/circuit (approved by the Board at the April 2016 meeting). Bd. Pg. 5 August 8-9, 2016 b. A different judge is to be assigned to the regular and NOHS group/BIS at an event. c. Judges will not be approved to judge a breed, the NOHS Variety Group of which the breed is a part and NOHS Best in Show at the same show. d. The same person cannot judge all of the NOHS groups at an event. e. To be eligible to judge an NOHS group, a judge must be approved as a regular judge for at least one breed in that group or must be approved for at least three groups Discussion will continue in October.

Group realignment is again being discussed. A recent survey sent by the Group Realignment Committee indicated that 72% of delegates responding are in favor of having this issue reexamined. Another survey will be sent later this fall.

The Board has voted to change the road mileage between show sites from 100 driving miles to 75 driving miles allowing additional clubs the opportunity to apply for isolated status. There are currently 21 clubs designated as isolated. The change in number of driving miles could potentially affect 47 sites/clubs allowing them to hold additional shows

There was discussion of a staff proposal which would allow 2 all-breed shows to be spread over 2 days, i.e. the same 4 groups for both shows on the 1st day then the 3 remaining groups and BIS for both shows on the 2nd day. Questions were raised about the impact this would have on attracting professional handlers and the potentially negative financial impact this would have on the local communities. It was suggested that clubs should be given every opportunity to be successful and this might be a good option since it might allow clubs to use a smaller, less expensive, venue.

Based on a Board request, Staff proposed a new policy that would require Superintendents to validate entries at the time the entry is processed. Superintendents are bound by AKC Rules and Policies in order to be licensed. Proposed policy: Entry verification All superintendents, except those handling fewer than ten all-breed shows annually, are required to validate entries against AKC registration data at the time the entry is processed. Online entries should be validated in real time notifying the party as a part of the online entry submission process. Owners/agents of entries received via hardcopy should be notified of any inconsistencies within 7 days of the closing of entries for the event to which the entry is associated

Update to Agility FAST Class Regulations The Board reviewed a recommendation to modify the course design specifications for the FAST (Fifteen and Send) class in order to decrease the time it takes to reset the course between levels, thereby making it more efficient for clubs to offer the FAST class. The changes will not compromise the intent of the class. Currently, the FAST course design requires the club to reset the course between class levels. The course reset, coupled with separate briefings and walk-throughs for each level add about one hour to the class. Under the recommendation, a course may be designed which combines all three levels into one course with three different send locations. This allows for only one course build and one walk through for all levels. Proposal will be voted by board in Oct

Based on staff assessment, the AKC will move forward with relaunching AKC.org, which will result in driving additional traffic, conversion, engagement, and revenue. This project will take approximately one year to complete. It will involve all key stakeholders to assure that akc.org meets, to the extent possible, the diverse user base of the website. The website is considered a tool for the fancy, a way to join dog lovers everywhere, as well as an economic engine for AKC. The goal is to find the correct balance and to provide a world class web experience for all users.