

Minutes from Sept 11, 2016 meeting at Haggis', Brooklyn, CT

Meeting was called to order at 12:32pm

Lyn Scribner led a moment of silence for 9/11.

Members present - Michael Kurdzo, Francine Guerra, Kathie Chouinard, Anne Hubbard, Pauli Haggis, Gull Gullicksen, Deb Keach-Tomes, Bill Haggis, Wendy Richmond, Ellen Kurdzo, Dottie Duclos, Dianne Barrett, Lyn Scribner, Pete Dolan, Mary Ann Stoddart, Joe Stoddart.
Guest: Sue Kaemmerlen

Secretary's report - Francine Guerra

The minutes from the June 11, 2016 meeting were passed around. Kathie Chouinard made a motion and Dottie Duclos seconded to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion accepted. Kathie and Dottie also made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes from the June meeting. Motion accepted.

Treasurer's report - Kathie Chouinard read the report she received from Lee Prager.

	Income	Expense	Notes
Beginning Balance	\$ 27,450.44		
Jun 11 COS:	\$ 1,797.35		
Agility	\$ 210.13		
Conformation	\$ 870.85		
Rally/Obedience	\$ 716.37		
Jun 30 Rally/Obedience	\$ (602.55)		
Aug 6 Stock Trial	\$ 398.52		
ASCA finals donation		\$1,200.00	
Dues			
TOTALS	\$ 1,593.32	\$ 1,200.00	
Balance (4 Sep 16)	\$ 27,889.68		Balance not inclusive from above

These are profits and losses for events, not “income” as column title says

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the treasurer's report with the date correction of June 30 to July 30.

Affiliate report - submitted by Pauli Haggis, Affiliate Representative

The ASCA BOD is hard at work at the Specialty, taking care of ASCA business. The most recent motions passed which will be included in the next rulebook are as follows.

OBEDIENCE

1: The current rule states that a competitor cannot show under a judge they have trained with within one year of the last training session. The new rule will change to a limit of 1 month. The rationale for the change is for affiliates to be able to hire local judges, and for local judges to accept local assignments knowing that dogs can show under them after training sessions which occurred 2-12 months ago.

2: A Versatility Optional Titling Class will be offered to give higher level obedience teams more opportunities to show and earn titles. To be eligible dogs will need to be at least 6 months old and be trained to compete at Utility level exercises. Dogs can be cross-entered in any Regular or Non-regular class for which they are eligible at the the same trial. The dogs may be shown by their owner or a non-owner, Handlers may handle multiple dogs in the class, and are expected to supply a dumbbell, scent discrimination exercise article, and directed retrieve gloves. The class can be judged by any approved Utility Judge. Scores from the Versatility Class cannot be used for HIT, merit standings, Finals standings, or HOF. Titles will be awarded after 3 qualifying scores under 2 different judges. The judge is to decide the order of the exercises and which glove will be retrieved, to be posted 30 mins before the class begins.

3. There is a rule change to remove restrictions on hand position on the leash for Novice handlers in an attempt to make Novice more appealing and comfortable to the Novice Handler.

STOCK

1: There is a clarification on the use of a leash and restraint while on course. The dog is to enter and leave the arena on lead. The handler cannot restrain the dog while it is working except to check for injury, lameness, or to remove a foreign body from the foot. Unwarranted restraint will result in a warning for the first offense and dismissal for continued infraction.

2. New courses G and H will have wording changes regarding obstacle order and performance criteria to keep them consistent with the older courses. They will also be listed as courses that with count toward the new Titles WTCH-m AND WTCH -x.

Library report - John Andrade

no report

Newsletter

We need a newsletter editor. Due to her new job commitments Francine Guerra will be unable to do the newsletter.

ASCA BOD report

no report

Sunshine report

ASCNE sent a card to Peter Kontos who had surgery on his leg.

Event updates

- COS - Lee sent a report

total profit of \$1,797.35

agility profit \$210.13

conformation profit \$870.85

rally/obedience profit \$716.37

- July 30-31 rally & obedience in Seekonk - loss of \$602.55

- Aug 6-7 stock trial / NH - profit of \$398.52 - Jen Chase reported competitors were happy with facilities and stock, filled with waitlist, received a nice email after from the judge

- Aug 20-21 Act Up agility trial / N. Smithfield, RI - Michelle Whall said it went well and they are looking forward to hosting it again next year

- Sept stock trial / Canterbury, NH - Art Landry said - Sat is filled with about 8 runs on waitlist, Sun had a few runs available but people may switch around. If anyone wants a little stock handling experience Art can use a few volunteers for either day

- Oct 14-16 HMM Westfield, MA - Lee sent a status report:

All judges are hired, all chairs are in place, judges hotels and flights are arranged, we have a discounted block of rooms at the Quality Inn Westfield. Also cattle filled, 1/2 full on sheep and ducks, Barbara said obedience entries were low, Mark was allowing a work crew to come in and set up on Monday, Columbus Day.

- Nov 6 meeting / Francine Guerra hosting / Holiday Inn Express, Ludlow MA

- Nov 12-13 rally & obedience / Seekonk, MA, Jim Ashton obedience judge on Sat, Denise LaCroix rally judge on Sunday

- Nov 19-20 agility / Westboro, MA 6 runs a day, same judge as COS

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept all reports.

Old business

New member applications 4 applications were read at the COS meeting. These were posted to ASCNE-L and the ASCNE Facebook page on 8/27/16. The membership has 30 days to comment after publication so timeframe for comments will end 9/26.

Exploratory committee - Wendy Richmond

A survey was posted on ASCNE-L and Facebook. The survey results were 40 yes, 12 no (Question was Do you think ASCNE should form a consortium with other clubs to host the 2019 ASCA Nationals?) Only 54 people voted out of 170 or so members. On the second question (If you do think ASCNE should pursue hosting the 2019 Nationals, in what capacity would you be willing to participate?) 40 total responses - 17 cannot commit, 16 general workers, 7 take a leadership position. It would appear we do not have enough support to even put the proposal before the membership. Someone already put in for 2019 and the ASCA BOD would probably vote to accept at their Nationals meeting. Which would mean we were already too late for 2019. Pete Dolan suggested if we were still interested in doing 2020 that first a core group of people be put in place and then a proposal be put on the agenda for the March meeting. Wendy said she would check with the fairgrounds about the availability of 2020, and with other area clubs. Wendy says she is not right for overall chair, someone else will have to step up for that position.

Calendar for 2017

- May 27-28 agility, American K9 Country, no judge yet
 - COS needs overall chair
 - NH stock trial checking end of July or beginning of August dates
 - Sept stock trial - haven't heard if will have yet
 - We need people to host meetings (July, Sept, Nov)
- Dianne Barrett will host the July 9 meeting (Putnam, CT)

Banners

We had talked about getting some banners at one point. No one seems to have a logo that will work when blown up to banner size. Michael Kurdzo spoke to Laurie Grace who said it was the wrong format and would have to be professionally redrawn which was a couple of hours work. Francine Guerra said she would see if she could do it if someone sent her the current logo. Pauli also said she would see if she could get ahold of John Spivey to see if he still had the tif or eps file.

New Business**Member applications** - Dottie Duclos

No new applications

Bylaws review committee - Anne Hubbard

The board has been discussing the bylaws. Some of them may be outdated (for example don't mention email or web based communications such as Skype). Michael Kurdzo also mentioned the possibility of allowing club members outside of the New England states to be on the board. We'd like to put together a committee to read over the bylaws and give any recommendations. Anne Hubbard will be on the committee and will be the point of contact with the board.

Wendy received a letter of thanks from ASGHI for donations.

Next meeting - Nov 6 - Francine is hosting at Holiday Inn Express in Ludlow, MA.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50pm

Respectively submitted,

Francine Guerra