

Calusa Dog Agility Club

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 7:00 PM

Location: Healing Paws-Abilities Training Facility

12140 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, FL

Present: Wayne Topolyn, Carolyn Keihing, Charlene Ewen, Candy Cohn, Katlynn Miller, Marval Miller, Stephany Sanchez, Candy Lynch, Janet Shipley, Joy Lowe, Marla Reznitsky, Lisa Beever, Mary Beck, Andrea Denton, Kay Henrion, Veit Bachmann, Anke Bachmann, Kelly Legarreta

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM. Welcome and review of previous minutes. Lisa Beever made a motion to accept minutes, the motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

President's Report: Marla has researched and created a list of detailed options for future events. (Please see attached Agility Venues document for descriptions of these). Pros and cons of each venue were discussed.

Stephany Sanchez mentioned another possibility in Davinci Farms, a horse facility with 20 acres, and lighted arenas. She is awaiting a return call.

No secretary's report.☺

Treasurer's Report: Stephany is having trouble acquiring the right kind of checking account for our club. The difficulty is because we have no profit or non-profit status.

Charlene Ewen, who is an officer with the Cesky Terrier Club, recommended that in the beginning we should go ahead and collect funds to deposit in one of our officers personal accounts, and put the stipulation in our temporary by-laws that any withdrawal over \$100 needs to have the approval/signature of at least two of the four officers (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer). It is a temporary solution to allow us to collect money until we can solidify the proper type of bank account.

Bank suggestions made were Suncoast and Wachovia for a free checking account to be opened by Stephany for this purpose and she will research this temporary option. Kelly Legarreta made a motion to approve this action, and it was seconded and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Outreach: Lisa Beever has created our website www.CalusaDog.org and is currently donating the \$9.99 monthly fee to host it. She presented a printed version of the layout for viewing/approval. The current "buttons/pages" on the site are: Home, Agenda, Minutes and Events. Suggestions for additional buttons or pages were: "Training"- for facilities & amenities for agility, tracking, Schutzhund, etc.; "Resources" – for AKC, UKC, CPE, APDT, NADAC rules and info; "Meetings"- for dates, times and agendas; "Members Only" – for members only and "Contact Us" – link to contact us for

information. No decision was made about the button/page names and as the club progresses the need to solidify the different types of pages will become apparent.

Stephany voiced the concern that at some point we need to reimburse Lisa for her efforts and she also motioned to accept the presentation of our website. It was seconded and accepted.

Fundraising Report: Marval Miller (reporting for Ron Miller who could not attend) suggested selling advertising on our website as well as selling “fun” agility equipment.

No old correspondences to review.

OLD BUSINESS:

Member Dues: Marla researched various clubs’ membership dues and \$25 was discussed as reasonable in comparison. It was suggested that January 1st through December 31 should be the fiscal calendar with October 1st being the due date for the following years’ membership. Dues would be non refundable. The secretary would send out membership forms in September, and the forms should be also able to be downloadable from our site. Marla will create a membership application form to be voted on and approved by the officers. Candy Lynch made a motion to accept the \$25 membership dues, Joy Lowe seconded it and it was approved.

Start Up Costs: The “Founders’ Fund” was presented. (Please see attached “Proposal for Dues” document for detailed explanation of this.) Stephany suggested that there should be an example of how the Founders’ Fund will work included in the explanation. Kelly Legarreta made a motion to approve the Founders’ Fund, and it was seconded and approved.

Calusa Dog Agility Club Perks and Benefits: Marla has put together a cohesive list of some of the answers to our “What’s in it for me?” and “Why should I join” questions. (Please see attached “Why Should I Join Document” for details).

NEW BUSINESS:

Meeting days and dates were discussed. Since most (if not all) of our club members are actively involved in dog sports and training, there is no one single night that everyone has free. Due to this and in order to accommodate as many schedules as we can, Stephany made the motion to investigate if we can change the meeting days and/or alternate them. The motion was seconded and approved.

The need for a Federal ID #, Articles of Incorporation, Not for Profit Status (501C-4 is what we will need) and officer’s/club Insurance was then discussed. Marla researched the costs and steps to get these necessities in motion. Getting our officers bonded (especially our treasurer) was also suggested instead of officer’s insurance as it is

cheaper with a one time renewable fee. It was strongly suggested that a CPA file the paperwork for us and especially not to attempt filing for a 501C-4 without one. Joy Lowe made the motion for Marla to go ahead and get the first two steps of a Federal ID # and the Articles of Incorporation, before we attempt the Not for Profit Process. The motion was seconded and approved.

Next up for discussion was the need to have our Fun Match. As far as equipment, depending on where we have it, we will need to borrow all of it and it does not have to be AKC approved. Joe Senich has volunteered to Judge the match for us. February dates are already too full. Since run throughs are already occurring every Thursday at Companion Dog Training Center, it was decided that the Fun Match would be Thursday, March 4th, 2010. This was motioned, seconded and approved. Bob Gale was asked to talk to Coralie about having the match at her facility as well as what she would charge.

A Fun Match committee was organized to gather the items, equipment and volunteers needed for the event. Volunteers for this committee are: Lisa Beever, Stephany Sanchez, Kelly Legarreta, Andrea Denton, Mary Beck, and Marla Reznitsky. Suggested volunteers are Bob Gale (to design course), and Joe Senich (because he is judging). The Fun Match committee meeting will be held Monday, January 11, 2010 at 8:00 PM at Healing Paws-Abilities Training Facility.

The Greater Fort Myers Dog Club has graciously offered to let us have a Fun Match at their show at the Lee Civic Center May 22 and 23! This is wonderful news and Marla pointed out the need to have a successful Fun Match under our belt before May so that we are confident and can have a smooth event at such a big venue. The GFMD C also invited anyone who is interested in being part of the Meet the Breed section of the show to contact Mary Beck.

The need for flyers, and business cards was discussed in order to direct people to our website and/or get information about our events. Candy Lynch and Lisa Beever will work together to create templates and designs for cards, brochures and flyers.

Upcoming Events: On January 16th Mary Beck will be doing an agility demo at the Labelle PetFest, and requested flyers and info to distribute to promote the club.

Next Meeting: Monday February 1st, 2010 at 7:30 PM at Healing Paws-Abilities Training Facility. (There will be an Officers Board Meeting beforehand from 6:30-7:30 to discuss and approve by-laws.)

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by, Kelly Legarreta, Secretary

Attachments: 1) Agility Venues
2) Proposal for Dues
3) Why Should I Join



Calusa Dog Agility Club – Agility Venues

Lee County Civic Center

Two outdoor arenas used for Equestrian Events: One with grass, the other packed dirt with lights
There is a covered pavilion 90' X 190' with cement.

- Could make two 90' X 90' rings
- AKC minimum for Excellent ring is 8,000 Sq. Ft.
- Still trying to make contact on cost for dirt, spreading & cleanup

Fees:

- \$100 per day for the grass arena, \$150 per day for the lighted arena. Each arena is big enough for two 100' X 100' rings.
- The Grass Arena is 262' long x 167' wide. The Sand Arena is 300' long and 151' wide.
- \$2 per car for parking (negotiable?)
- No food allowed, must use their concession (negotiable?)

Full RV Hookups available. RV Owners would deal directly with the Civic Center.

Indoor Civic Center cost is prohibitive

- \$1,500 per day with 4 hours of air conditioning, \$250 each additional hour, \$300 Utility costs, \$150 per day for event manager, \$12.50 per hour for security, Tables - \$5 each per day, \$7 on weekends, Chairs - \$.75 each per day on weekends

Contacts

- Alta Mosley – General Manager 239-543-8368
- Jeannie Braun – Administration 239-543-8368, jeannieb@leeciviccenter.com

Turner Agri-Civic Center

2250 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Two covered barns with dirt floors.

- Each barn is 80' X 100' (would meet AKC minimum). Includes electric, water & lights
- \$50 per day per barn

Exhibition Hall is available to Non-Profit groups at \$100 per day. Includes full kitchen & bathrooms

Full RV Hookups available, \$25 per day - electric, water, sewer, \$15 per day – electric, water, no sewer

Contacts - Jody Sullivan – jsullivan@turnercenter.com , www.turnercenter.com 863-993-4807

AAs Von Tente Kennels Inc.

Veit & Anke Bachmann
10911 Sharon Drive, Fort Myers, FL, 33917
239-543-5608, www.aasvtk.com
Large fields with lights

- Would meet fees quoted at other venues

3.5 Miles past Lee Civic Center off of Route 31

Other locations contacted

Manatee Fairgrounds

- Not for Profits - \$768 per day, Deposit on account \$500, prices not changed since 2003
- Contacts - Daniel West, 941-722-1639

Collier County Fairgrounds

- \$1500 per day, \$2500 for weekend - grounds or pavilion, even if we can't use pavilion
- Pavilion is 150' X 200' over asphalt - we would not be able to bring in dirt
- Contacts - Don Jolly, 239-289-4242
- RV hookups - \$30 per day

Special Equestrians - 5121 Staley Road, Fort Myers, FL

- Contact - Jan Fifer, 239-851-7070, tfifer@gmail.com
- Not able to host outside organizations at the facility

Koreasian Park

- Contact - Robert Brooks, Robert.brooks@dep.state.fl.us, 239-992-0311
- Responded. Has invited us to visit, but does not think the site would be satisfactory.

Lee County Parks - Dogs not allowed, except at dog parks

Orange Clover Farms - 12700 Washburn Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33905, 239-694-6935, No interest

Distances in hours.minutes

FROM	TO Lee Civic Center	TO Turner Center	TO Collier Fairgrounds
Tampa	1.57	1.43	2.36
Palmetto	1.25	1.11	2.02
Vero	2.46	2.25	3.14
Miami	2.33	3.10	2.09
Fort Myers	0.16	1.01	0.50



Calusa Dog Agility Club - Proposal for Dues & Start Up Costs

Annual Membership - \$25 Single / \$40 Family (2) / \$10 Junior/Associate

Upper Sun Coat Dog Training Club: \$20 Regular / \$30 Household / \$10 Junior
Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg: \$40 Single / \$50 Family
Sarasota Dog Training Club: \$20 Single / \$30 Family
Miami Obedience Club: \$20 Single / \$30 Family (2)
Dog Training Club of Tampa: could not find
Indian River Dog Training Club: could not find

Proposal for Start Up Costs – “Founders Fund”

In addition to Membership dues, contribute any amount to the **Founders Fund**. All money will be credited to the individual and used solely for the start up costs of the Calusa Dog Agility Club.

Contributors will be reimbursed by allowing 50% of their trial fees required to register for any AKC, CPE, NADAC, USDAA (or any other agility sanctioning organization) event held by the Calusa Dog Agility Club to be waived up until the amount of their Founders Fund contribution is reimbursed. Reimbursement is not eligible for fun matches, ‘A’ or ‘B’ Matches, fund raisers, agility organization memberships or seminars. There will be no interest calculated on contributions (see the next page for some examples on how this will work).

Examples of how the Founders Fund reimbursement will work

Example 1: Sally contributed \$100 to the Founders Fund.

When the Calusa Dog Agility Club has an AKC Trial, entry fees for Sally total \$66.

Sally is able to claim a waiver of up to \$33 for the Trial entry fee (50% of the total \$66 Trial entry fee).

Sally has contributed \$100 to the Founders Fund, so she is able to waive \$33 of her Trial entry fees and only pays \$33 for the Trial.

Sally still has \$67 in her Founders Fund account that can be applied to future trials until her Founders Fund account is used up.

Example 2: Ben contributed \$40 to the Founders Fund.

When the Calusa Dog Agility Club has a CPE Trial, entry fees for Ben total \$92.

Ben is able to claim a waiver of up to \$46 for the Trial entry fee (50% of the total \$92 Trial entry fee).

Ben has contributed \$40 to the Founders Fund, so he is able to waive \$40 of his Trial entry fees and only pays \$52 for the Trial.

Ben has now used up his full contribution to the Founders Fund and there is no additional amount that can be applied to future Trials.



Calusa Dog Agility Club

Annual Membership –

Why should I join... What's in it for me?

- Currently, our closest venues are: Palmetto, Tampa, Davie, Miami and Vero Beach. A Fort Myers Club will provide significant savings in travel costs and overnight expenses. You will save significantly more than the Annual Membership amount at the first trial.
- Opportunities to sponsor seminars and bring additional talent into our area
- Local Agility Club under our local control with local representation.
- Opportunities to partner with other local organizations.
- Resource and advocate for agility participants.
- Clearinghouse for agility questions.
- Fun with fellow enthusiasts.