

NOMAD NEWS

Northern Magic Agility Dogs

MAY

2016

SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING (4/18/16) MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: L. Ladd, J. Kessler, T. Salcedo, L. Barrett, J. Frey, A. Ramsay, P. McMahon, T. Lyon-Hart, E. Rossi, D. Denette, M. Holmes, N. Houghton, M. Carter, J. Hammond, M. Abair, K. Trombley, A. Bruce, J. Marcus, L. Marcus, B. Nye, K. Erskine

TREASURER'S REPORT: The first quarter of the year is over and the club has a deficit of \$2942 at this time. We have \$30,865.37 in the bank. All of our taxes have been filed. A \$500 deposit has been paid to CPE for the trial and we are warned that the CPE ribbons will be expensive since it is a start up year.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: The Audit Committee chose to review three months instead of two. They presented this report.

On March 7, 2016, Judy Frey, Betsy Nye and I met to conduct an audit of NOMAD's financial records for 2015

We chose the three months of May, June and August to capture Camp NOMAD, the USDAA trial, and the NADAC trial. We thoroughly reviewed the files and reconciled all receipts with the ledger.

As usual, Linda had done a great job and everything appeared to be in order.

Respectfully submitted: Marty Abair, Judy Frey, Betsy Nye

SEMINAR COMMITTEE REPORT: The December 5/6 Fall Seminar with Amanda Shyne at Wildwood Farm was well attended and successful. Our Spring Seminar with Tara Baggerman was cancelled by Tara because of the imminent death of one of her dogs. The seminar had not filled. We did not try to reschedule as it had been very difficult to find a date for the original seminar.

Camp Nomad will be held outdoors at the Trapp Family Lodge May 28 and 29, with Amanda Shyne returning to teach for the 3rd year, and Laura Dolan teaching for the first time. Camp has opened to non-members now, and there are a couple of openings in each group of 10. We will be using the format of 5 teams working half days, with the other 5 teams observing and setting bars. The five-team format has worked very well for workshops and seminars. Rotations come up quickly, and the learning time is concentrated, with no long breaks between turns. Observers can learn with full attention on the instructor, watching them help participants work through challenges.

Upcoming seminars are scheduled for July 30/31 and September 10/11 with Amanda Shyne, and October 22/13 with Anne Andrie. All three are at Shelburne Field House.

Submitted by Co-Chairs Lynne von Trapp and Lisa Barrett

USDAA COMMITTEE REPORT: The preparations for the trial are well under control. Abby Bruce volunteered for the one major job still unfilled and she will take care of the trash. Lisa Barrett requested help to find a new food vendor, since the one she had been negotiating with turned the job down. Jen Hammond will try and find a new food vendor.

CPE COMMITTEE REPORT: We have finally been approved to hold our first CPE trial on August 27-28, 2016 at Farr Field in Waterbury. Very popular Doreen Lucius has agreed to be our judge. The trial site is in a large, level field behind the Waterbury Flea Market and less than two miles from I-89. The trial premium has been submitted for approval and we are impatiently waiting for approval and posting on the CPE event page. We've started a Facebook Page and posted a "Save the Date". Betsy will be ordering ribbons soon.

We need to fill the following jobs and would love to have people volunteer:

- Ring layout-
- Chief course builder(s)
- Ring manager(s)
- Equipment movers (haul trailer to site and back to Roberta's)
- Judge buddy – take care of judge needs (snack, lunch, refreshments, etc.)
- Hospitality
- Trash
- Set-Up
- Take-down
- Camper organizers (quiet vs generator) marking out space for each
- Signage – people to put up signs from interstate on Friday and take down on Sunday
- Person responsible for timers (making sure batteries are charged and extras are available)
- Vendors – I think Maxine has been dealing with this
- PA system person – someone who is good at describing what is going on with spectators
- Chief Scorer (table and computer)

We're also looking for additional committee members to add to the following group:

- Marty Abair Co-Chair
- Linda Ladd Co-Chair

- Patty McMahon
- Billie Marsh
- Judy Kessler
- Judy Frey
- Tatjana Salcedo
- Karen Clark

Respectfully Submitted, Marty Abair and Linda Ladd. Co-Chairs

Several of the major positions were filled from the floor and Marty will be sending an email to the list to request volunteers for the remaining jobs.

NADAC COMMITTEE REPORT:

Trial site..... Trapps

Dates:.....Aug. 20th and 22nd

Judge: Ben Philbert

Trial Sec.: Erin Wadja

Trial Application sent

All is going as planned. There will be a mini-seminar Friday after set up. Food vendor is Nick. Looking forward to all three Nomad trials this year. Please be thinking about raffle prizes for this trial. I will be sending the committee an e-mail soon to firm up duties. Looking for ring managers and tunnel bag fillers. Also a person who could set up a workers schedule.

Sincerely, Randi Barrett

EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: At the November 2015 annual meeting, a budget of \$1000.00 was approved. At this time, we have purchased 4 NADAC type hoops. Since they were purchased in mid-March, they are still in the box at Roberta's house. We have not had to purchase any others budgeted items at this time (propane canisters, equipment maintenance, equipment replacement). Our total expenditures as of April, 2016 are \$107.54. That leaves a balance of \$892.46.

The equipment will be moved from the barn in Waterbury to Roberta's on Saturday, May 7. Members who can help load the trailer in Waterbury should meet at the barn at 10:00 a.m. We will not need to unload the trailer at Roberta's

At this time a firm date has not been set for the equipment cleaning. It will probably be either Friday, May 13 or Saturday, May 14.

Respectfully submitted by Roberta Dumas.

PRACTICE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Winter Practice: Saturday barn practices began in November and are scheduled to end on 4/16/16. They started at 9:30 AM and went until 12:30 PM. Kit facilitated the course practices on the first and third Saturdays and Kate facilitated the sequences and course practices on the second and fourth Saturdays. Reports from participants were that the practices were relaxed, fun, and provided sufficient time and good course challenges.

The first few practices in November were very well attended, with anywhere from 6 to 19 teams on those Saturdays. After November, attendance declined. There were 1-4 teams in December, and 3-6 teams during January, February and March.

Budget: At the fall membership meeting, it was decided that practices would be free for participants, so the facilitators did not collect money. The cost of the winter practices should be in the Treasurer's report.

Cancellation Policy Discussion: Under current policy, weather is the only reason that NOMAD cancels Saturday practices. NOMAD and Barn owner, Stephanie Brinkman, have an agreement that NOMAD does not pay for any practices we cancel. In contrast, the Wednesday practice group decided the previous winter that they would not expect refunds for missed practices, unless Stephanie herself cancelled.

In February, the Club policy became a topic of discussion among some Practice Committee members, several of whom also participate in the Wednesday group. A majority felt that NOMAD should change the club policy and pay for barn rental regardless of subsequent cancellations. A recommendation was made, and the Steering Committee decided to put this issue on the agenda for the membership to consider at the Spring meeting. Further explanation and data from the Wednesday group are attached to this report.

Questions for the Membership:

Should NOMAD's cancellation policy with Stephanie Brinkman be changed?

Should the Wednesday practices become a NOMAD activity?

Are there any recommendations for winter practice to increase participation?

Should the Practice Committee look into a different time for next winter? (This would require coordination with the barn owner.)

Summer practices - when should they start, and on what days and times?

The Practice Committee is considering sending a survey to the club based on these questions.

Respectfully submitted, Kit Erskine and Trudy Lyon-Hart, Co-Chairs 4/11/16

The group discussed the request that NOMAD change its policy on barn payment for Saturday practices in the winter. At this time, NOMAD does not pay for the barn if practice has been cancelled because of weather. Several felt that this was unfair to the barn owner because she cannot use the barn for other purposes if we have reserved it and because she is making considerably less overall from NOMAD because attendance is down on Wednesday. Kit Erskine, co-chair of the practice committee, contacted Stephanie to discuss this issue and he reported that she does not seem to be unhappy with NOMAD's use of the barn and the present payment policy.

It was moved by Nicky Houghton and seconded by Judy Frey that we maintain current practices and agreements with Stephanie and that we do not pay for the barn on days that we cancel because of weather. There were 19 votes for this motion and 5 against, so the motion passed and we will continue the present policy.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: The committee did not submit a report. However, as a result of a request at the last Steering Committee meeting there was a vote on a membership issue. We were to vote on whether one's membership status for the current year, not the prior year, should be what determines the status of a member when they apply for seminars/workshops.

The discussion rapidly turned to consideration of the entire membership structure. It was suggested that there should be no difference between working and supporting members when people are applying for seminars or workshops. Some felt that incentives other than seminar/workshop priority or cost should be offered as a reward for being a working member. It was pointed out that several new (and some old) members had felt it was difficult to find working hours and would like us to help other new people get used to the club and its operation. It was decided that these questions should be passed on to the Membership Committee which will bring to the fall annual meeting recommendations for improving the membership structure of the club. Ann Ramsay, Tatjana Salcedo, Kit Erskine, and Nicki Houghton have joined the committee to help current members (Judy Kessler, Dale Healy and Billie Marsh) work on this issue.

Kit Erskine moved and John Marcus seconded a motion to vote on the item as presented in the newsletter and stated above. This would mean that a vote for the item would change the policy and a vote against would leave it the same, one's status for the prior year would determine one's status when applying for seminars or workshops. This item received 4 votes for and 20 against so it was defeated.

The membership structure will stay the same.

REQUEST FOR LAPTOP AND PRINTER: Linda Ladd stated that her main reason for requesting these items was to avoid putting trial software on the same computer as all the financial data for the club. She is concerned that the safety and security of that information might be compromised. People questioned whether it would be wise to spend \$700-\$1000 for equipment for the new CPE trial. Should we wait until we know that this will be an ongoing event for NOMAD. There was a strong feeling that the equipment could be obtained for much less than the price proposed. This was accompanied by offers of laptops and printers for use by the club.

It was moved by Kit Erskine and seconded by Abby Bruce that the club invest a maximum of \$400 for a computer for the CPE trial. Marty Abair amended the motion to change the amount to \$500. Lisa Barrett seconded this amendment which was accepted by voice vote. 21 people voted to accept this new motion. The three proxy votes against this were not counted because the motion was so different from what they voted on.

NEW BUSINESS: It was announced that the Shelburne Field House would be available for our use on weekends through October. A notion of doing an indoor trial sometime was floated, but most felt we are already doing enough.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Kessler

NOMAD's Steering Committee

Contact them if you have questions or suggestions.

President: Jen Hammond, hammondjal@gmavt.net

Vice President: John Marcus, John.Marcus@uvm.edu

Secretary: Judy Kessler, judith.kessler@uvm.edu

Treasurer: Linda Ladd, vtladds@comcast.net

Members at Large:

Marty Abair, corgitown@yahoo.com

Tatjana Salcedo, gutetatjana@gmail.com

Kelley Trombley, kelly@therunningdog.net

<http://nomadagility.com>

BRAGS

**April 10, 2016, American Beauceron/
Tartan Gordon Setter Club AKC Trial, AK9C,
Amherst, NH**

Marty and Kirby

Open Preferred JWW 8" _____ 1st and Q
TITLE!

April 16 – 17/ 2016, BARK NH USDAA

Judy Kessler and Monte

PIII Snooker, 20" _____ 4th and Q

PII Gamblers, 20" _____ 1st and Q

PII Jumpers, 20" _____ 1st and Q

TITLE

Caroline and Fin

We have a lot to learn but there is hope.

P2 Gamblers _____ 50 pts, 1st and Q

P1 Standard _____ 1st and Q

scary and spectacular Aframe one stride over the top and into the yellow

Caroline and Malia

Not trialing is not good practice for trialing.

Malia was wonderful, her handler not so much.

PSJ Round 1 _____ 1st and Q

Fastest of all in both categories

PSJ Round 2 _____ 1st and Q

Faster than R1 and fastest of both

P3 Gamblers _____ 2nd and Q

P3 Standard _____ 2nd and Q

Kathy Fretz and Rio _____ ADD TITLE

NOMAD's First CPE Trial will be held August 27-28 at Farris Field in Waterbury. Judge will be Doreen Lucius. Premium will be available on the CPE website: k9cpe.com.