



NOMAD NEWS

Northern Magic Agility Dogs

NOVEMBER

2016

NOMAD Membership Annual Renewal –2017 Due by January 15, 2017

PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

___\$40 Working Member (10 hours of club-related activity*)

___\$75 Supporting Member

___\$0 Jr. Handler (under 17) (10 hours of club-related activity suggested)

*** Working Members: Keep track of your own working hours including the activities they support.**

New members who joined after June 30, 2016 are exempt from 2017 dues but **must return** this form.

Member Name: _____

I would like to join or continue on the following committee(s): Indicate committees on which you wish to serve for 2017 even if you were on the same committee(s) last year. Committee chairpersons will be selected early in 2017 by committee members.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NADAC Trial Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> USDAA Trial Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> CPE Trial Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Practice Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seminar Committee | | |

Sign the liability waiver below and send this form along with your check payable to “NOMAD” to: Billie Marsh, 110 Napper Road, Westport, NY 12993

Provide any updates or changes to the information requested below. If nothing has changed, then leave blank. If you have new dogs to join, please send that information to Dale Healy using the form that is on the NOMAD website (nomadagility.com). (If you no longer have a dog, please indicate below)

Name: _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ **Cell/Work Phone** _____

Email _____

Deletions to dog members _____

Liability Waiver

I understand that there are a variety of risks to me and my dog from attending NOMAD activities. These risks include, but are not limited to, getting hit by a car, bitten by a dog, tripping and falling, spraining ankles or breaking bones. Understanding these risks, I voluntarily and knowingly waive any right I (and others on my behalf) might otherwise have to make any claim against any member or officer of Northern Magic Agility Dogs, Inc. (NOMAD) and/or any other person or entity connected with NOMAD activities (including, but not limited to, the owner or lessee of any property used by NOMAD) for any and all injuries or damage related to any NOMAD event.

Signature: _____ - 1 - Date _____

MINUTES

NOMAD FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 10/24/16

Members present: Elaine Rossi, Caroline McKinney, Patty McMahon, Karen Clark, Judy Fry, Lynne von Trapp, Abby Bruce, Marty Abair, Dale Healy, Judy Kessler, Jen Hammond, Linda Ladd, Lisa Marcus, Don Dennette, Roberta Dumas, Maxine Holmes, Melissa Carter and Tatjana Salcedo

Called to order: 6:15 p.m. Apologies to all who arrived at 6:30 having read in the newsletter that the meeting would start then. We will be more careful to be sure that the same time appears in the newsletter and on the list.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Ad Hoc membership committee had a meeting in August where we devised the several options for the structure of membership in the future. After consultation with the SC, members were presented with three choices to vote on. There was a strong consensus at the meeting that a member of NOMAD, whether working or supporting, should get all the benefits of membership.

- Keep everything as it is—no changes. This was moved by Judy Kessler and seconded by Jen Hammond. It was defeated unanimously.
- Keep the present structure, but reduce the number of hours required for working members to fifteen (15) or even fewer. This might prevent some people from feeling that they must become supporting member because they cannot fulfill the hours requirement. Members could work more than 15 hours and submit these for coupons which could be redeemed for payment of the following year's membership or seminars. (See option 3 below for a more complete description of the coupon system.)

This was amended from the floor several times, with some amendments withdrawn by the makers.

The final motion, made by Linda Ladd and seconded by Jen Hammond, read as follows:

Keep the present structure, but reduce the number of hours recommended for working members to ten (10). Dues

for working members is set at \$40 a year. Supporting members will be charged \$75 a year. There will be no family membership. Each member must pay the full dues. Junior members will not be charged. This was passed by a yes vote of 19 with 4 no votes.

There will be further consideration of using a coupon method to reward those who work more than the recommended hours.

- Return to a single level of membership with all paying \$XX a year. (Details and cost would be finalized, if the plan is adopted.)
- Each member would keep track of his/her own hours worked, completely on the honor system using an Excel spreadsheet (paper or electronic). Clear guidelines would be included as to what counted towards "working hours".
- At the end of the year, a member would be presented with a coupon worth \$X per hour worked which could be applied to membership or seminars in the following year.
- It is hoped that this plan would reward people who work hard for the club. A system would be worked out that would prevent this from becoming an accounting nightmare. Coupons would be "charged" to the membership revenue/budget. A member of the membership committee would agree to compile and calculate hours, compile data for the club treasurer and distribute coupons on an annual basis (although this could be done more frequently, if desired).

The motion, made by Lisa Marcus and seconded by Abby Bruce was defeated by a vote of 18 to 6.

So, to summarize, dues for 2017 will be \$40 for each working member, who will try to work at least 10 hours for the club. Supporting members will have no recommend number of hours to work and will pay dues of \$75 each. There will be no family memberships. Junior members will be free.

We would like to do two things to help new members feel more at ease in

the club. First, we propose invigorating the "agility buddy" program by changing it to a system of NOMAD mentors. Each new member would be assigned a mentor to whom they could turn with questions about the club. The mentors would be expected to reach out to the new member and personally invite him/her to participate in club activities and volunteering opportunities. Of course, we would need a list of people willing to help out new members. Secondly, we will revitalize the document listing jobs available in the club with descriptions of these jobs. This would be provided to each new member and all old members to help all who are searching for ways to fulfill their hours. This was not discussed by the members because of a lack of time, but it should be brought up at the spring meeting.

PRACTICE COMMITTEE REPORT

The practice committee did not present a formal report. Don Dennette did present a summary of the survey taken earlier this year. A potential schedule for practice this winter based on the results of the survey taken by the committee and is presented as three options for a vote. Roberta Dumas pointed out that it would be very difficult to provide equipment for the few people who would be practicing at the Wildwood barn. It requires a lot of work to load and unload the trailer, transport the equipment and clean and repair it when it is returned. It was decided that, if NOMAD supports practice at Wildwood, the people who would use the barn would be happy with just jumps, tunnels and the tire and that they would pick these up from Roberta's and clean and return them in the spring. There was some concern that their use of their own equipment would be an insurance liability, but no one could clarify why this was the case.

There was also some concern that we did not know exactly which part of Cloverfield would be available to us. Marty Abair was sure that we were renting only the unheated space and all their equipment, but will verify this. We are voting on the use of Cloverfield assuming this is the case. The following options were presented for voting.

- **2 hrs on Wednesday at Wildwood** (21 weeks, 2hrs/week @ \$25/hr = \$1050 + PortaPotty rental (\$325). This was moved by Lisa Marcus and seconded by Jen Hammond. It was approved by a vote of 21 to 2.
- 2hrs on Wednesday at Cloverfield (21 weeks, 2hrs/week @ \$25/hr = \$1050. This motion, moved by Tatjana Salcedo and seconded by Jen Hammond was defeated by a vote of 17 no, 5 yes and 1 abstention.
- **3 hrs on Saturday at Cloverfield** (2weeks, 3 hrs/week @ \$25/hr = \$1575). Moved by Marty Abair and seconded by Jen Hammond, this was passes by a vote of 23 to 0.

DEMO COMMITTEE

This committee needs to be revitalized. Kit Erskine has volunteered to work to make it active again. It is one way that we can connect with the community and, perhaps, get new members. The club has stopped holding demos because so many are so busy trialing, but we need to make some effort to get our presence out in public again. Interested NOMADers should contact Kit to help with this committee.

SEMINAR COMMITTEE REPORT

The Seminar Committee offered camp and several seminars this year, with top instructors. Those who participated had excellent learning experiences, but the events didn't fill, due mostly to rising costs.

For 2017 we will offer camp and three seminars; have a variety of instructors, some who use the One Mind Dog method, some who don't; keep the costs as low as possible while still providing excellent learning experiences at comfortable sites; and offering a fun, supportive time for all, including the instructor. Camp NOMAD will have full day sessions with a social evening on Saturday.

We will ask the Steering Committee for subsidies to make camp and seminars more affordable.

Dates that have been set for 2017:

April 15/16, 2017 Karen Holik seminar, Cloverfield in Colchester

June 3/4, 2017 Camp NOMAD, Farr Field, Waterbury. Laura Dolan. 2nd instructor TBD (NOMAD's USDAA trial is June 16/17/18 at TFL)

Marty Abair and Dale Healey are the new co-chairs, replacing Lisa Barrett and Lynne von Trapp.

A motion was made from the floor by Tatjana Salcedo and seconded by Caroline McKinney that **all members, working and supporting, pay the same price for seminars for all of 2017. This was approved by a vote of 18 to 0.**

USDAA TRIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The 2016 USDAA trial was held on June 10, 11, and 12. The trial was held in the new stadium meadow at Trapp Family Lodge. After less than ideal grass growing conditions the field was not in the best shape for the trial. In the two weeks prior to the trial, Sam von Trapp, et al. worked nonstop at clearing rocks, filling in holes and adding more top soil and grass seed. All of their efforts paid off in preparing the field for the trial. The trial started off with nice early June weather but changed over the weekend into something that resembled late winter. We learned that we cannot set our large tents up perpendicular to the wind which flows right down the field. The three day trial saw 338 runs on Friday, 398 runs on Saturday and 341 runs on Sunday with a weekend total of 1077. The total entries for the trial were 147 dogs. We had a large starters class - with 41 standard runs on Saturday. Sunday saw some of the worst outdoor trial weather we have ever had and even with the less than ideal conditions we saw our agility community come together to complete the trial. And I must say the Canadians were dancing and singing as if it wasn't 40 F with 40 mph winds and pouring rain. The trial netted almost \$5,700. Next year's trial (2017) will return to the stadium field on June 16, 17, and 18. Lisa Marcus is stepping down as trial Chair and Jen Hammond will be taking over.

It was moved by Caroline McKinney and seconded by Judy Frye that we hold a USDAA trial on June 16, 17 and 18. This was approved by a yes vote of 17 with 1 abstention.

NADAC TRIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

I am so happy to report that we had a NADAC trial 2016. And I truly hope we have a 2017 NADAC trial. Nomad is so lucky to have three venues to use for competing for titles, or just practicing certain skills for fun.

I did a survey to see if folks coming from afar liked Topnotch field or Trapp Meadow Field and all the Rv. folks enjoyed the electric hook ups. One person liked Topnotch better.

I will chair this trial again, and really hope it could be at The Trapp Meadow field or Topnotch Field. Congrats to the CPE trial, I do realize more people participate in a that venue, but Nomad's NADAC trial was our first trial ever and I'd hate to stop it.

Thank you to all who helped make this trial run smooth. Sincerely, Randi Barrett

It was reported that this trial made around \$900. Lynne will check whether the Trapp Family Lodge is available for the NADAC weekend, August 19 and 20, 2017. The discussion pointed out that, although Randi Barrett did an excellent job as chair, having two trials on consecutive weekends was exhausting.

It was moved by Linda Ladd and seconded by Caroline McKinney that NOMAD will hold a NADAC trial again this year. 9 voted yes, 3 said no, and 6 abstained, so the trial passed.

CPE TRIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We held our first CPE trial on August 27-28 at Farr Field in Waterbury. The trial was very well attended and successful with a total of 652 runs over two days. Even with the initial outlay for ribbons of over \$2800, we made a small profit. The trial site was beautiful and came complete with a large tent that we can definitely make better use of next year. There was easy access to the river for dogs and their humans. There were some lessons learned and there will be some changes next year.

We've decided to hold a 3 day trial in 2017, with two classes on Friday and a full schedule Saturday and Sunday. We've reserved Farr Field for August 25-27, 2017. Mike Conroy will travel from New Jersey to judge. We'll be submitting our application to CPE soon. John Farr said that he may have a building with flush toilets and perhaps even a shower for next year! It was sometimes a long wait for food this year, so we will be investigating other options for a food vendor.

The major issue from this year's trial was the CPE-approved equipment conforms to AKC specs, rather than USDAA. This was a particularly difficult issue when it came to the contact equipment. Or A-frame had contact zones that met

CPE specs, but the teeter and dog walk did not. We had to borrow this equipment from a non-NOMAD participant in order to have the trial go forward. Our double and triple also don't meet CPE specs and Carol Thom graciously loaned us her equipment. Our tire does not meet CPE specs, but CPE has discontinued use of that piece of equipment, so it's a non-issue.

We will need to purchase equipment that will meet CPE specs. I believe we can purchase just a teeter board and hopefully we will be able to purchase just additional ramps for the dogwalk. I'll do further investigation as to cost in the upcoming months.

There was brief discussion around the fact that there is no room in the trailer for anymore equipment and that we will have to find some way of storing any more stuff, if it is purchased.

Jen Hammond moved and Abby Bruce seconded a motion to hold a three day CPE trial on August 25-27, 2017. This was passed unanimously.

BUDGET REPORT

Linda Ladd submitted her usual excellent report on the financial status and presented a proposed budget prepared by her and the SC at a meeting in October. This was modified at this meeting to reflect the seminar committee's request for a \$2000 subsidy and the club's votes to spend more than expected on practice sites and equipment this year. (Linda, is this really what made the difference? My notes were getting sparse because I was getting tired.) Lynne von Trapp made the motion that we accept a budget with a \$2034.50 deficit and Jen Hammond seconded it. The motion was passed unanimously. Careful spending and use of some of the \$32,000 we have in the bank should make this a livable budget.

STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Lisa Marcus moved and Judy Kessler seconded a motion to elect the following to the Steering Committee:

- Vice-president, replacing John Marcus, Tatjana Salcedo for a 2 year term.
- Member at large, replacing Marty Abair, Nicki Houghton for a 2 year term.
- Member at large, replacing Tatjana Salcedo, Kit Erskine for a 2 year term.
- Member at large, replacing Kelley Trombley, Jill Vigiani for a 1 year term.

There were no nominations from the floor and these people were elected unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was a brief discussion of the possibility that we could hold a fourth trial in the fall in one of the possibly available indoor sites, Shelburne Field House and Cloverfield Arena. It was decided that we should get to know the Cloverfield set-up better and how it works for us before we plan to use it for a trial.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Kessler

UPDATE - CLOVERFIELD PRACTICE - SATURDAYS (11:45-2:45) STARTING DECEMBER 10TH.

Since the meeting Marty has spoken extensively with Laura at Cloverfield. Here is what she discussed:

Heated Space - As far as the heated space goes - she wants to wait to have that discussion until the hammers have actually started and the space is being built. If NOMAD wants access every Saturday to BOTH areas, it will be more than \$20/hour. She's open to negotiation on a price.

Moving Equipment -

1. She is concerned about people getting hurt moving the contact equipment or damaging the contact equipment while attempting to move it. Specifically she's concerned about the dogwalk and A-frame.

2. There will be a course set when we arrive on Saturdays at 11:45. We're welcome to change the course around as we wish, but she wants to have a numbered course intact when we leave. If tunnels are pulled to the side, the tunnel bags should be pulled neatly to the side as well. Until she is OK with us moving the contact equipment, the dogwalk and A-frame cannot be moved (see #3 below).

3. She (and Marty) will be preparing an SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) for moving the equipment and using the space in general. It likely will involve training on moving the A-frame and dogwalk, regardless of whether or not we are already comfortable with moving it. Laura has to be confident that we can move it without getting hurt or hurting the equipment.

Waivers and Insurance

She is checking with her lawyer as to whether NOMAD members using the arena have to individually sign liability waivers or if NOMAD can sign a blanket waiver.

Contract

If we have a contract with Wildwood, we can see if that would be appropriate and she would have her lawyers review it. If there isn't a contract, we will need one. That will be the best vehicle to ensure that Cloverfield and NOMAD responsibilities and liabilities are clearly stated and agreed to. Note - since the discussion occurred we have confirmed that we do not have a Wildwood contract so we will need to work something up for Cloverfield.

Cancellations

If we give at least 24 hour notice of cancellation, we will not have to pay for that week's practice. Anything less than 24 hours and we still have to pay.

Miscellaneous - these are very important to maintaining a good relationship with Laura and Cloverfield

- The small Casella dumpster is for dog poop and other garbage. DO NOT put anything in the large roll-off dumpster.
- No one is allowed in the environmental challenges course area (to the rear of the arena).
- Lights off when we leave.
- Be sure the wire gate between the arena and parking area is closed when we leave.
- Be sure the wooden gate between the arena and the horse stalls is closed when we leave.
- Parking in the gravel lot - PLEASE DO NOT park in front of the barn doors.

NOMAD's Steering Committee

Contact them if you have questions or suggestions.

President: Jen Hammond, hammondjal@gmavt.net

VP: Tatjana Salcedo, gutetatjana@gmail.com

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

Treasurer: Linda Ladd, vtladds@comcast.net

Members at Large:

Nicki Houghton, nicolehoughyon802@gmail.com

Jill Vigiani, jillvigg@gmail.com

Kit Erskine, agilehounds@aol.com

<http://nomadagility.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/380848458622228/>

New Members

Please welcome another young agility star in training! **Alan and Pam Patunoff's** young girl **Heather**. Heather is a Weimaraner and she is 14 months old. She and Pam have trained with Lisa B., and Lo Baker, and they take classes at Waggles. I can't wait to meet her!

Please welcome **Michele Hemenway** and her Portuguese Water Dog **Figment**! Michele is a returning working member and Figment is 11 months old. They have been training at Waggles. Michele has been doing agility on and off since 1997. She is interested in our Practice Committee and/or our Demo Committee. Welcome Michele and Figment!



RAINBOW BRIDGE

by Pat Nolin

If heaven wasn't so far away,
Idgie and I would go for the day.
She and Cleo would play and have fun.
Falcon and I would go for one more agility run.
I wish we could go just to play.
I wish we could go if only for a day.
We would walk through the meadow to the stream.
It would be like walking in a dream.
The water would be so clean and blue.
It would be so much fun, this impromptu rendezvous.
We would hike and play.
We would wish we could stay.
Hugs and kisses all around
Time to get our feet back on the ground.
If heaven wasn't so far away.
Idgie and I would go for the day.



SHARING

If you read this newsletter and this section, I hope you will notice that I have changed the heading here. I would hope that this section could be where we can share our successes. Each of us may have a different definition of "success", so maybe you might share some trial success that is not a Q. Or breakthru at a seminar. I would love to put that in. I have added comments that some of you made under your Qs. And if you have a suggestion for the title above, please let me know.

October 28-30 BARK! USDAA All Dogs Nashua, NH

Judy Kessler and Monte

Veterans Jumpers 16" _____ 1st and Q
Veterans Gamblers 16" _____ 1st and Q
PII Standard 20" _____ 2nd and Q

APD TITLE !!!!

Masters for ever for this old team and such fun to share the celebrations with Jes and Jen, classmates for so long. It's been a long and sometimes discouraging run with my special boy, but he has always played with joy, if not so much attention. Thanks to all, particularly Lisa Barrett, for your support and help.

Lynne von Trapp and Brill

Ma C Biathlon Standard _____ 1st and Q
Grand Prix Qualifier _____ 1st and Q
and bye for Regional GP Finals!
Masters Jumpers _____ 3rd and Q
Masters Gamblers _____ 2nd and Q
Masters Gamblers _____ 4th and Q

We had a lot of fun at BARK, with the usual mix of exhilarating and humbling runs. Brill just did as he was told.

Kim and Captain

PII 20" gamblers _____ 1st and Q

AND APD!!!!

PIII 20" Jumpers _____ Q
PIII 20" Jumpers _____ 3rd and Q
PIII 20" Snooker _____ Q

My "little" Rocket Dutchiein just 13 total DAYS of usdaa trialing in his career (2 days last year, 11 days this year) he has his APD and PD and PII titles in Standard, Snooker and jumpers and his P1 standard title. He also has earned a first place PSJ and a Second place PSJ. And he has 2 PIII Jumpers Qs and 2 PIII Snooker Qs.

And even more importantly...he's the best family member we could ever hope to have!

Fin and Caroline (16")

P2 Standard _____ 1st and Q
P3 Gamblers _____ 2nd and Q

Malia and Caroline

P3 Jumpers _____ 1st and Q
P3 Snooker _____ 3rd and Q
P3 Gamblers _____ 2nd and Q
P3 Gamblers _____ 1st and Q
P3 Snooker _____ 1st and Q

Malia was brilliant. Her handler needs to learn to read a course map. ;-}

Jen and Jes

Advanced Standard _____ 1st and Q

AAD TITLE