

RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.
MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 3, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club took place on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at the club building on Tomlynn Street. President Peter Lenk called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. 39 members were present.

Emily Chambers/ Arlene Dickson introduced our guest: Jodie Coutts

Minutes of the last meeting: The September 2023 minutes were approved as printed in the Pawprint.

Report of the Board: None

Report of the President: President Peter Lenk thanked club members for all the supporting our club and all our successful events. Our event committees are able to successfully plan, coordinate volunteers and overcome last minute issues so our events are successful and wonderful experiences for all exhibitors.

Report of the Secretaries:

Recording: None

Corresponding: Merilynn Bergstresser reported:

- The club received Thank You cards from:
 - Ruby DiVitttorio for the flowers we sent.
 - Cristol Klevinsky for the card and donation to the Morris Animal Foundation in memory of Mulligan.
- The club sent cards and donations to the Morris Animal Foundation in memory of:
 - Christy Nilo's Malcome
 - Cristol Klevinsky's Mulligan
 - Crystal Meadow's Breeze
 - Kimberly Osmonson's Flora Lu

Treasurer's Report: Rocky Altimore reported for September 2023:

Income	\$15,906.87
Expenses	\$16,358.28
Net (Loss)	(\$ 451.41)

- Our training revenue was down this month, but is expected to be more when resume our Basic classes. These numbers do not include final financial information for our FCAT.

Report of Committees

Membership and Orientation:

- The next Orientation meeting for new members is on Tuesday, 10/24.

Trials and Events:

- **Seminar:** - Judi Edwards reported the Julie Daniels, CCUI, Control Unleashed Seminar is this weekend, 10/7 and 10/8. There is 1 audit spot remaining.
- **FCAT:** - Dave Frazier reported the FCAT last weekend was a success. He showed all in attendance the ribbons exhibitors win – and they are BIG.
 - Our next FCAT is in March 2024 at the same venue, the Hanover / Cold Harbor Ruritan Park.
- **Obedience and Rally:**
 - **Dec 2023 Trials** - Dave Frazier and Mary Ann Massie reported our next Obedience and Rally Trials are on Saturday December 9th. The Obedience trial is in the morning and the Rally trial is in the afternoon. Volunteers to help make this event successful are welcome.
 - Trial entries open 10/28 at noon and are expected to fill quickly. Online entry is the best way to enter our trials.
 - There will be a Run-thru for exhibitors on Sunday, December 3. Run thru information will be in the email from our Trial Secretary confirming your trial entry.
 - **Feb 2024 Trials** – Mary Ann Massie reported Teri Frick has volunteered to be our trial chair for our trials on February 17 and 18 2024. There will be 2 Rally trials on Saturday, February 17 and 1 Obedience trial on Sunday, February 18. The judge has been hired. Think about volunteering to help with this event.
 - **June 2024 Trials** – Mary Ann Massie is looking for a member to volunteer to be the trial chair for our trials in June next year.
- **Variable Surface Tracking (VST) Test** – Maureen Woolley reported our 1st annual VST test is on track for January 2024 at Hampden Sydney College. Spectators are welcome.
- **Tracking Dog Test** – Maureen Woolley reported planning is underway for our TD and TDX tests in March 2024. Volunteers are welcome.

Unfinished Business:

- **Nominating Committee:** Richard Sullivan thanked his Nominating Committee members for all their help in getting a slate of club officers for 2024 ready to present to the membership. The following individuals were asked and have agreed to be nominated for the offices listed below:
 - President: Patti Kilcullen
 - Vice President: Carolyn Wilkerson
 - Recording Secretary: Richard Sullivan
 - Correspondence Secretary: Merilynn Bergstressor
 - Treasurer: Rocky Altimore
 - Training Directors: Gabrielle (Gabby) Hughes
 - Members At Large: Claiborne Jackson and Theresa Myers
- Maureen Woolley has volunteered to be Training Director for the remaining 1 year (ending 12/2024) of the current vacant Training Director position.

New Business:

- President Peter Lenk opened nominations for 2024 club officers to the members for any additions to the proposed slate from the Nominating Committee. No additional nominations were made. We will vote on the slate from the Nominating Committee at the November 2023 General Membership meeting.
- Judi Edwards made a motion that RDOC hold General Membership meetings on odd number months, January, March, May, July, September, and November, and have Board meetings on the even number months, February, April, June, August, and October. This will require changes to the club Standing Rules and By-Laws:
 - **Standing Rules:**
 - Section 4(a), General rules, reads: Membership meetings shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month, with the exception of the December meeting...
 - Proposed Change: *Membership meetings shall be held on the first Tuesday of every other month, **on the odd numbered months.***
 - Section 4(h)-General rules: Regular Board meeting shall start at.....on the second Tuesday of **each month**
 - Proposed change: *Regular Board meeting shall start at.....on the second Tuesday of **each even numbered month***
 - **By-Laws:**
 - Section 5: Nominations: During the month of **June** the Board shall elect a Nominating Committee....
 - Proposed change: *During the month of **July** the Board shall elect a Nominating Committee*
 - Section 5(a): The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office.....and make a report of all acceptances and declinations to the Board and to the Corresponding Secretary in writing by the **August** Board meeting
 - Proposed change: *...in writing by the **September** Board meeting*
 - Section 5(b): During the month of **August**, the Corresponding Secretary shall mail each nominee notification of his selection
 - Proposed change: *During the month of **September**, the Corresponding Secretary shall mail each nominee notification of his selection*
 - Section 5(d): A record of acceptances and declinations shall be incorporated in the notice for the **October** meeting. Those declining a nomination cannot be renominated.....
 - Proposed change: *...incorporated in the notice for the **September** meeting*
 - Section 5(e): Additional nominations can be made from the floor at the **October** meeting.....
 - Proposed change: *Additional nominations can be made from the floor at **September** meeting*
 - After much discussion Judi withdrew the motion.

- Carol Maupin made a motion to hold 6 General Membership meeting a year.
 - After additional discussion this motion was withdrawn.
- Richard Sullivan let members know that if elected as Recording Secretary for 2024, he will do his best but as a new member of our club he will need assistance from members.
- Arlene Dickson proposed that we change one future General Membership meeting to a ‘Train the Trainer’ session to share the program with members. This will be discussed by the Board.
- Dave Frazier shared:
 - There will be a FEMA alarm test on 10/4 at 2:20pm.
 - He and Claudia Frazier are volunteering to organize the title awards for the Christmas Celebration. The title form will be posted on the website. Please return the forms to Dave and Claudia.
 - The club should maybe look into getting a hotel membership to possibly save money for judge’s stays at area hotels. No action has been taken on this item.

Braggs were offered in abundance by many members.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Rocky Altimore, 2nd by Richard Sullivan. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Altimore, Recording Secretary

Approved as amended, November 7, 2023 sma