

**RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 9, 2021**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club took place on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 6:33p.m.

**The following Board Members were present:**

President: Peter Lenk (2021)

Vice President: Mary Ann Massie (2021)

Corresponding Secretary: Rhea McCaffrey (2021)

Training Directors: Valerie Pascal (2021/2022), Nicole Allen (2020/2021)

Recording Secretary: Betty Swenson (2021)

Treasurer: Rocky Altimore (2021)

Member at Large: Emily Chambers (2020/2021), Les Foldesi (2020/2021), Linda Heimiller (2021/2022)

Board Members absent: Member at Large: Ellen McNelly (2021/2022)

**Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the October 2021 board meeting were approved on voice vote after a motion made by Valerie Pascal and seconded by Nicole Allen.

**Report of the Secretaries:**

**Corresponding Secretaries Report:** Rhea McCaffrey has sent letters to all the new board members welcoming them to the board and inviting them to the December 7 meeting. She has also sent a list of our new officers for 2022 to the AKC.

**Recording Secretaries Report:** n/a

**Report of the Treasurer:** n/a

**Report of Committees**

**-Buildings and Grounds:** Les Foldesi has notified the neighbors of the upcoming trial weekend. He is still working on getting the outdoor lighting situation corrected. He and Nicole Allen are working on negotiating upgrades in our lease renewal.

**-Matches:** Entrants in the December Obedience & Rally trials have begun contacting Mary Ann Massie to sign up for the Thanksgiving weekend run-thrus.

**-Trials and Events:** Mary Ann Massie reported that: "Both the Dec 11 obedience and rally trials are full and both have a waitlist. Reade Johnson reached out to Mary Ann via email with a request that the Board consider eliminating the mask requirement for exhibitors when they are in the ring Dec 11. Mary Ann presented Reade's request and discussion followed. The premium and covid-19 waiver both reference the mask requirement but the trial committee has been aware that should the Board change that requirement, we could change to mimic the Board's decision. This discussion also included Rocky Altimore reporting on the current Virginia Department of Health's 'substantial transmission level' for Henrico County (VDH website). The Board agreed that at this level we would continue with the mandatory mask requirement

with no exceptions for the Dec 11 exhibitors. The Board will revisit the VDH site on Dec 7 when the Board holds their next meeting. Transmission levels will be reviewed and will be a starting point for conversations on mask requirements“. Mary Ann reported this decision to the trial committee whose next meeting is Tuesday Nov 23rd at 9:30 a.m.

Les Foldesi said there are 10 entrants for one Farm Dog test and 9 for the other.

Nicole Allen is planning FCATs for March & October of 2022.

**-Training:** Valerie Pascal has gotten 2 requests for classes which students were unable to complete. She moved, and Mary Ann Massie seconded to refund the class fee for the student who broke her wrist. The other issue, which was the result of poor communication among family members, will be resolved by giving a credit for another class, rather than a ref

**Unfinished Business:** The Virginia Federation of Dog Clubs and Breeders will be using our building to hold their meeting on Sunday, 11-14, from around 9am to 2pm.

**New Business:** Mary Ann Massie made a motion, seconded by Betty Swenson, to send a donation of \$50.00 to the Virginia War Memorial in memory of Frank Hargrove, as well as a sympathy card to his daughter Dale.

Peter Lenk reported that Diane Lenk has injured her knee and may require surgery.

Rocky Altimore said that a member has questioned the publishing of both member and non-member rates for class fees on the website, and made a motion, seconded by Les Foldesi, to leave things as they are.

Valerie Pascal would like the club to have an official policy that no student can take more than one spot in a class unless there is space available 48 hours before the class starts. She will make a proposal to add this to the standing rules.

Peter Lenk reminded board members to think about who the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award should be, and for the Training Directors to decide on Instructor of the Year.

**Adjournment:** 7:25 p.m, following motion made by Mary Ann Massie & seconded by Valerie Pascal

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Swenson, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved as amended 12-7-21