

Paws 2 Dance General Meeting

Sunday, July 17, 2011

In Attendance: Karen Eskilson, Lin MacDonald, Jan Hodge, Lyd Francescutti, Gail Walsh, Joan Strick, Grazyna Pstrong, Ray Underwood, Tristan Underwood, Anne Grue, Nina Green, Rachel Malloy

Karen opened the meeting at 10:48 with twelve members present.

Competitions:

Moved (Lyd/Lin) that Novice 3 should be the prerequisite for Intermediate dressage divisions. Carried

Note needed in guide to clarify that competitors may choose to start at any of the Novice levels but must earn a Novice 3 level title before moving up to Intermediate.

Judges: When Paws 2 Dance first started, Ray recruited obedience judges to judge technical merit and dancers to judge artistic impression. He found people with some freestyle experience to be the overall judges. The combination proved effective. But, since most of the obedience and dance people did not have strong ties to P2D, they did not stay long. As our club grew, we were able to draw judges from our members. While many members prefer experienced freestylers as judges, they also find it awkward to be judged by a person with whom they train. As awkward as it is for competitors to be judged by a peer or coach, it is even more awkward for the judges.

Fortunately, we do have some former freestylers to draw from. But, these judges are not always available on the dates of our events or are unable to travel. As a result, only a few judges judge most of the events. This situation is not the best for the competitors who prefer, in general, to compete under a variety of judges.

Ideally, we would have a longer list of judges comprised of a combination of judges with freestyle and dressage experience, dance or figure skating (or some kind of artistic) experience, and obedience (or other form of technical) experience.

If this meets with the members' approval, we invite members to suggest candidates to the club.

Consensus: Should have one freestyler on a judging panel if possible but definitely recruit. It was also agreed that panels should always have at least one experienced judge.

If a judge wants to compete, must do so before the other competitors. No scores announced. Not eligible for any place or special awards. If possible someone would step in to judge so that the individual has feedback.

Moved (Lin/Ray) to replace all existing non-titling Freestyle 'C' classes (Novice C, Novice XC, Intermediate C), with a single non-titling 'Open' class, open to all levels.

Purpose: to streamline the Competitions while still allowing a Handler who does not feel he or she is ready to go on to the next Titling level to compete and receive a score and the Judge's remarks/criticisms. Carried

Note: Competitors in this class would not be judged against one another but simply on the skills they demonstrate, using the comprehensive Freestyle score sheet. This Division is not eligible for any Awards, i.e. High Artistic, Versatility, etc.

Competition Guide Wording: Open (non-titling) Dogs may be on or off leash. Competitors in this division must have competed and attained a Title, but may feel that they or their dog is not yet ready to compete at the next level. This is a judged, non-titling division. Routines must be complete and competition-ready; this is not a Training class.

Ray recommends putting the "Open" Class first on the entry so that judges can also make good use of this division to calibrate their judging, confer, etc.

Boot Scootin Boogie 10th Anniversary:

The executive discussed ways in which they could support Emerald City with their 10th Anniversary celebration.

Moved (Lin/Gail) to donate \$250 to Emerald City to support their celebration. Carried

We will also bring a couple gift baskets and some other items.

BSB premium list will go up today.

Fun Match: Barking Lounge Daycare across from Tysol off the Langley By-Pass: \$35 per hour. No mats needed so we could do it in three hours either Saturday or Sunday. Only date available in August is 14th. There seems to be enough interest. Gail will book. For future reference: Sullivan Hall charges \$400 for the day. Meanwhile, we'll check with curling rinks. Sharon's horse ring is now ready for dogs.

Moved (Lyd/Jan) to adopt the following voting protocol.

Mail voting: for a logical mail-voting process that will enable all members to participate, the executive proposes the following format for proposals affecting working rules and bylaws (Paws 2 Dance Constitution) and that could be used for any significant club matters:

- Any member can send a proposal to executive
- Subject to the executive's approval, the executive would send the proposal out to membership and ask for discussion – setting a limit of seven days for discussion.
- upon considering the discussion, the executive, along with the original proposer, would compose the motion and send it out. Executive would ask for any amendments – seven-day limit.
- The motion would be amended as necessary
- The motion would be sent out to all members for vote – seven-day limit
- The results would published and the constitution amended

Carried

Moved (Lyd/Jan) to adopt all housekeeping amendments to the bylaws.

Carried

These amendments arise from the previous motion.

Summary of Housekeeping Amendments:

(under 2.8 All Members:) i. Affiliate Members:

- i. Live outside the Lower Mainland area of BC.
- ii. May not vote at any of the P2D home based meetings (OMIT)
- iii. May put forward suggestions to put on the P2D Home Based meeting's agenda for consideration.
- iv. May form their own independent clubs, with separate assets
 - a. They maintain separate legal operations, including liabilities and legal responsibilities.
- v. Upon approval by the Elected Executive, Affiliate clubs and its members may hold a Paws 2 Dance sanctioned competition
 - a. are responsible for all the organizing, funding, insurance, and music licensing
 - b. are legally responsible for the entire event.
 - c. The Home Based club is exempt from all of the above.
 - d. must ensure that **all** Entrants are Members of Paws 2 Dance, in good standing (NEW)
- vi. All money raised at a competition stays with the host affiliate club
 - a. except for a pre-determined tracking fee that is collected from each participant that is not a P2D member.

(OMIT)

- b. This money is remitted to the Home Base P2D club by the host affiliate club. (OMIT)

2.10 Membership Fees for new Members are due within 30 days of approval of the Membership Application,

- a. The full yearly fee is required; it is not pro-rated
- b. A new Member, having paid their initial Membership Fee within the three months prior to May 1st of the same year, is exempt from that year's Fees
- c. Membership Fees can only be refunded within the first 30 days, subject to a \$5. Admin fee. (NEW)

Lower Mainland Demo report & upcoming demos

Jan has been extremely busy organizing 8 demos so far and setting up several more for the summer. Honorariums have totaled \$1690.

Upcoming events:

July 9/10: Critter Care Sat: 12:45; Sun: 1 p.m.

July 12, Tuesday, noonish: BSC

July 20: Fairhaven United Church, 2720 East 48th Ave. Vancouver, 1:30

July 25: Crofton Manor, 41st Ave. Vancouver. 2 p.m.

July 26: Fairhaven, 7557 Sussex Avenue, Burnaby, 1:30

August 16: Youville Residence, 4950 Heather St. Vancouver

August 20: Tapestry, UBC.

September 16: Friday. Kinsmen Adult Day Care, Richmond. (return visit)

September 24th: Chilliwack (not confirmed) Long way to go. Pomeranian Specialty

October 6: Langley Adult Day Program, Langley.

October 12: Pleasant View Care Home, Hurd St. Mission

November 25: Friday, Christmas Theme. Inglewood

Whistler Dog group day conflicts with another demo so we can't do it this year.

Have not heard from sponsors who donated enough to warrant a demo.

Karen suggests acknowledging sponsors at other demos and letting them know.

Gail will check with her vet re. a summer demo outdoors at the mall honoring his sponsorship.

Moved (Lyd/Joan) to reimburse Jan 50¢ per kilometer plus toll-bridge fees for checking out the facilities. Carried

WAG

- this issue is late. Waiting for a couple articles. Will be out by end of the month.

Jean is recovering in hospital. She would appreciate short visits.

Karen adjourned the General Meeting at 12 noon.