



ONTARIO BORDER COLLIE CLUB
2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING

The annual general meeting was held December 6, 2020 via Zoom conference due to Covid-19 precautions. List of such members and proxy votes are available upon request. Meeting called to order at 1:06 pm by Tara Dier.

Agenda Item #1 – Declaration of Proxies

Rebecca Lawrence took attendance

Twenty-three (23) in attendance via Zoom. Three (3) proxies were noted for the record. We have a quorum.

Agenda Item #2 – Acceptance of Agenda

Helen Knibb moved to accept the agenda; Cynthia Palmer seconded it. All in favour.

Agenda Item #3A Acceptance of 2019 Minutes

Louise Hadley moved to accept 2019 minutes and seconded by Lorna Savage. All in favour.

Agenda Item #3B Old Business

Helen Knibb asked if the old business regarding the animal rights activist issue, would it be covered in the new Agriculture bill? To investigate.

Agenda Item #4 – Annual Reports

A – President's Report (synopsis)

Tara Dier presented. She will be stepping down from the Board this year, and her first wish is to thank the Board for the last two years. It has been very congenial, and they have been very speedy and helpful at resolving any issues as they come up. She is sure the incoming Board will benefit from what we have left behind.

A difficult year because of Covid. She thinks we did an amazing job with the Club with the number of trials that were held, the Learning & Outreach events, online scores and Pamela managing to still raise funds via merchandise without Grass Creek, and an excellent newsletter yet again. She has enjoyed her time on the Board.

B – Secretary's Report

Rebecca Lawrence worked with Kim Gretton to set up a Google Sheet to be able to share the members list with the Learning & Outreach Committee, Newsletter & Trials Committee to be able to view the members in good standing. Access is granted to the latter to review, no editing function. We can access the list with internet availability.

We also moved to online scores for trials this year to avoid the congregation around scoreboards during a pandemic.

Lorna Savage move to accept, Lene Band seconded it.

C – Treasurer's Report

The following was submitted by Kim Gretton. Lorna Savage accepted it, and Kevan Gretton seconded it.

There was a late start to the year, but the merchandise sales were very strong.

Kim notes that we have 10 new members this year!

ONTARIO BORDER COLLIE CLUB TREASURES REPORT AS OF OCT 30 2020 Bank balance Oct 30 2019 \$5974.91

	2020		2021
REVENUE	Budget	Actuals	Budget
Memberships	\$2,000.00	\$1,762.46	\$2,000.00
Donations & Clinic Fees	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Merchandise sales	\$4,000.00	\$1,575.00	\$4,000.00
Raffle & Silent Auction	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Total	\$7,200.00	\$3,337.46	\$7,200.00

EXPENSES			
Bank Charges	\$50.00	\$15.00	\$50.00
Insurance	\$550.00	\$470.88	\$550.00
Merchandise Costs	\$1,200.00	\$993.78	\$1,200.00
Newsletter printing	\$1,000.00	\$112.32	\$500.00
Office Supplies	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
Postage	\$300.00	\$47.45	\$150.00
Promotion of Club goals/outreach	\$700.00	\$255.00	\$700.00
Prize Expense/ribbons	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Event Support	\$800.00	\$600.00	\$800.00
Website Charges	\$30.00	\$89.28	\$0.00
Year End Rewards	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total	\$5,340.00	\$2,753.44	\$4,660.00

Bank balance as of October 30 2020 \$6064.95

•there is inventory on hand Pamela will advise (Rebecca Lawrence has asked Kim to forward the information), \$2,624 in inventory per email from Pamela to Kim

•56 members for 2020

**Catherine Rae has a barn quilt to donate for Kingston 2021

**Andrea de Kenedy had some questions regarding the Treasurer's Report and the approval.

- Wanted to why the budget for the newsletter for 2020 was \$1,000, though only year to date it was \$112.32, and why the 2021 budget is \$500. Are we sending fewer copies out?

- Rebecca Lawrence said we had only one newsletter to date, due to Covid-19 we had less trials/events at the start of the year, and therefore lacked content for it. One more newsletter to come out for this year via mail. Michelle Lawrence has been pushing for more members to go online since she took over. We also lost our printer this year due to Covid-19, and we will no longer be able to access the “family rate” we have been paying. Rebecca says that will be part of the newsletter portion. Andrea says she is happy to wait until that portion of the AGM to discuss.
- Kim says last year with 3 issues \$361 for printing for the total year, she says as we’ve been pushing for more electronic, she reduced the budget for 2021. Kim explained that the first column is the Budget, not the actuals. She reduced the budget for 2021 for newsletter & the postage. Andrea asked if we can see last year’s costs, Kim says we can post it. Rebecca noted that it was in the minutes for the AGM for 2019
- Andrea wanted to know what the event support is for? Where did the \$600 go to? Did we not list it? Why did we only spend \$600 if budgeted \$500? Kim says we approved \$100/day per trial that requested it. The requests come from the Trials Committee for the Board to approve. Tracy advised that it was to help any trial with the extra port-a-potties for the Covid-19 restrictions. \$300 – Handy Dog, \$200 Shepherds Crook, \$100 Jimmies per Kim’s records
 - Andrea wanted to know if people had also applied to the USBCHA as the latter was providing an additional \$150 for the increased port-a-potty rentals
 - Shepherds Crook and Handy Dog did apply, Amanda did not
 - Amanda brought up her perspective as Board member for the USBCHA that other regions for the latter were not as pro-active re: the global pandemic as the OBCC region has been, and suggested that small clubs should not request funds from USBCHA as it was to be used for the finals.

D – Trials Committee Report

In 2020 the trials committee consisted of:
 Janet Fahey
 Carol Guy
 Tracy Hinton (chair)
 John Palmer

2020 will forever be remembered and the year of pandemic lock down: Mandatory social distancing, controlled gathering sizes and a closed USA/Canadian border. It was certainly not normal. Despite all of that, we adapted and were lucky enough to have 7 OBCC sanctioned trials in Ontario this past year.

The trials were smaller without our USA or farther afield Canadian friends. Many trials ran all classes in one day, I personally enjoyed that change.

Rebecca stepped in and brought us online scoring on the website so that we did not have to “huddle” around a scoreboard. Thank you, Rebecca!
All our judges were local. Thank you to Lorna, Tara, John, Cynthia.

The 2020 trials were:

Date	What
Aug 1-2	80 Acres
Sept 5-6	Handy Dog
Sept 26-27	Shepherds Crook
Oct 3	Forfar
Oct 4	Jimmie's Farm
Oct 17-18	Indian River
Nov 7-8	Butternut

Many thanks to the trial managers/hosts who open your homes, farms and fields to us. We could not do it without you!

Finally, thank you our trial committee members for your time and efforts this year, it was a pleasure to serve with you.

****Tara Dier** would like to point out that it was a remarkable year, with people really working to honour the restrictions put in place, and with some having very last minute changes to the Public Health restrictions.

****Helen Knibb** would like to formalize a thank-you from the Club to all involved in hosting & putting on the trials this year who have overcome all the restrictions in place due to Covid-19, she would like it to be a visible thank you to them. Anne Wheatley seconded it. Motion passed.

E – Club Activities

a. Learning & Outreach

Committee Goals for 2020

Offer boots in the pasture learning opportunities for all levels of members and potential members while respecting COVID 19 protocols.

Create a contribution to the club's archives. We conducted a filmed interview with Amanda Milliken, based on questions submitted by the membership in the spring of 2020.

Events:

The L&O Committee, in partnership with other club members, planned and brought to life three practical learning events, accessible to everyone, with priority given to OBCC members. The events quickly filled with novice and open handler participants.

1. A Zoom clinic with Scott Glen held on May 23, 2020. Details of the clinic were written up in the Newsletter article by Andrea de Kenedy in the Winter/Spring 2020 publication.

2. Mary Thompson Lesson Days were held on June 20 and 21, 2020 at Scouts Run Farm. The lessons were enjoyable, and helpful. Look for an article about the event in the next newsletter.

3. A day of practice with feedback from Tracy Hinton, focused on trial handling skills, was held on July 13, 2020 at Apple Ridge Farm. It was successful and will be covered in the next newsletter.

An interview with Amanda Milliken was filmed on July 4, 2020 at her farm in Kingston, Ontario, and will be presented to the Board upon completion.

Accounting

The Committee requested funding for, and was granted:

a Porta potty for Mary Thomson Lessons \$120

Gas money for the cinematographer \$60.

Total expenses: \$180

With thanks to the board for supporting these projects.

Respectfully,

Anne Wheatley, Jane Kessler, Susan Shipton

**Anne presented, spoke regarding having to change the original plan for a Mary Thompson clinic to lessons due to the restrictions put into place with Covid-19. Susan Shipton was the leader behind the Zoom clinic with Scott Gen, his first. The L&O is working on the film regarding the interview with Amanda. "It is coming along really nicely & thinks everyone will like it a lot!" Jane also thanked the Board for supporting the events. She also stated it was really lovely that the "girls from Quebec came, it was a nice crossover! They are welcome anytime!"

**Amanda would like to add something regarding the footage that has been shot. The L&O had a professional soundperson & photographer come in to record the interview, Susan Shipton has been working on editing, Jane Kessler has been managing while Anne has been obtaining information. Tara has seen a rough cut and says it is very well done.

**The L&O committee is stepping down for 2021 but will be finishing the film. The Board will have to look for new members. "Big shoes to fill" as pointed out by Tara Dier

b. Merchandise Sales

Kim Gretton provided the report as Pamela Hall was unable to attend the meeting. Part of the above the treasurer report. Kim will forward the information to Rebecca.

c. **Newsletter**

2020 Issue	Qty Printed	# Pages in issue	Number Mailed			
			CAN	USA	Special	TOTAL
Winter/Spring	20	20		1	0	1
Summer/Fall						0
ANNUAL TOTALS						1

Printing Cost	Actual Mailing Costs per Issue						Total Cost of Issue Distribution (Print & Post)	Actual Annual Postage Paid	Incidentals	Total Costs Incurred
	CAN	CAD Special	Subtotal CAD Dist	HST 13% CAD Mail	USA	Actual Mail Costs Per Issue			Mailing Labels & Sealers *	
112.32	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	112.32	47.45	0.00	159.77
	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
112.32								47.45	0.00	159.77

** Mary would like to know if we have senior members who might not use a computer & would like to get a paper copy of the newsletter

**Tara Dier pointed out that the newsletter is very popular & well received

**Cynthia Palmer feels it is a good idea to move the newsletter to electronic, everyone is able to download PDF's now on phones, and rural internet has become a lot better

Cynthia Palmer motioned that we send out this next issue all electronically, and to continue to do so in 2021. Amanda Milliken seconded it. The Board will track any complaints & will address at next year's AGM.

2. Website update

Rebecca Lawrence reported to the group. She has been scanning the old newsletters and will be adding them to the website this winter. As part of the above film on Amanda Milliken, she found the records of all the club winners in the various classes going back to the inception of the OBCC. She will also be putting these on the website.

She is still working on making the website better, but “we are getting what we pay for”. We only pay for the domain renewal as pointed out by Kim Gretton, we have free hosting. The site isn't very friendly/modern due lack of access to coding, Rebecca keeps trying to bring the site down & update it but it doesn't really work. She is trying to fix what she can so she can make it more mobile friendly as well, we could consider paying more money so she has better access but doesn't really feel she can justify that cost to the Club. It would have to be a yearly payment from the Club's budget, once we leave the free hosting, we wouldn't be able to get it back.

Amanda Milliken made a motion to invest these funds in the site, she was looking at a cap of \$500.00. Don't feel it will cost that much for this year, but it would be an on-going cost to the Club.

Tracy pointed out it will be a yearly cost, so that the Club understands that it isn't a one time cost. Werner Reitboeck pointed out it will be a yearly cost like insurance. Tracy points that people need to understand that this will be an annual cost going forward to the Club, that we cannot go back on it

Amanda Milliken stands by her motion, Cynthia Palmer/Kevan Gretton seconded.

Rebecca is to investigate the costs, (likely around \$150/year) and will present to the Board.

Agenda Item #5 – Year End Awards

Tara announced and congratulated the 2020 OBCC Champions:

Open Champion	Mary Thompson	Teagan
Open Reserve Champion	Amanda Milliken	Howell
Pro Novice Champion	Amanda Milliken	Carl
Pro-Novice Reserve Champion	Mary Thompson	Daisy
Novice Champion	Florentine Maathuis	Darwin
Novice Reserve Champion	Susan Shipton	Gin

Tara Dier would like to congratulate all the winners on behalf of the Club! Asks if the winners would be willing to investigate their own engraving on the trophies. She will take care of the plaque distribution.

Agenda Item #6 – New Business

a. Election of Board of Directors

Tara Dier and Victoria Lamont are stepping down from the Board. The new Board for 2020 consists of:

Janet Fahey
Kim Gretton
Rebecca Lawrence
Mary Thompson
Marie Sawford

Cynthia Palmer moved to accept this Board; Amanda Milliken seconded. All in favour.

b. Committee Appointments

Committee Appointments were discussed but not finalized

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
TBD

TRIALS COMMITTEE
TBD

LEARNING, EDUCATION & OUTREACH
TBD

FUNDRAISING/Merchandising
TBD

c. Newsletter Editor & Webmaster Appointment

NEWSLETTER

Michelle Lawrence and Kris Kiviaho are both stepping down from the Newsletter. The Board will ask Club members to see if anyone is interested.

WEBMASTER
Rebecca Lawrence will remain.

d. Location and Timing of 2021 AGM

The proposed date for next years AGM is scheduled for November 14th, 2021 @ 1PM. Both Tara & Marie have offered to host.

Agenda Item #7 Other Business

Two new items to be discussed:

OBCC Trial Guidelines Proposed change #1

Proposed by Tracy Hinton

December 1, 2020

I wish to propose a change to section 5.1. of the OBCC Trial Guidelines.

The guidelines currently read:

5.0 OBCC CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

5.1 Eligibility for championship points

5.1.1 Only members in good standing, who have paid the current year's dues, prior to entering their first trial of the season or June 1st of that year – whichever comes first, may accumulate points for a dog toward the year-end awards.

I propose we change to:

5.0 OBCC CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

5.1 Eligibility for championship points

5.1.1 Only members in good standing, who have paid the current year's dues, prior to entering their first trial of the season ~~or June 1st of that year—~~ whichever comes first, may accumulate points for a dog toward the year-end awards. If dues are paid after their first trial, points shall accumulate from that day forward for the remainder of the season.

I wonder if the June 1st date was initially put in our guidelines to encourage the membership to pay earlier in the year so that the club had better cash flow. Regardless of the reason, it seems that we continually make an exception for those members who are tardy.

We also do not stipulate the June 1st data on our membership page on the website, which could be misleading.

****Tracy presented this guideline doesn't seem to be well known by the membership, and with the issues with the pandemic this year, many people had not paid prior to the June first date. They did pay prior to stepping to the post at their first trial, and while this did cause some issues, she feels we did the right thing as a Club. She feels it was probably put into place originally so that the Club had better cash flow, but many members seem to be unaware of it. She says at one time trials didn't happen in Ontario until September. If we are going to continue to make exceptions for members, we should not have it in our guidelines and she has put together the above proposal to change the eligibility requirements for the members**

****The attendees voted on this proposal, and it passed with 100% voting for the change. Tracy proposed it, Anne Wheatley seconded it. Motion carried.**

OBCC Membership Dues Proposed change #2

Proposed by Tracy Hinton

December 1, 2020

In order to encourage our membership to pay their dues earlier, than later, I propose the following changes to the membership dues:

Our dues currently read, on the website:

Annual Membership Costs for 2019 - Please note that the cost has increased:

\$30.00 for single

\$35.00 for family

I propose we change to:

Annual Membership Costs for 2021 forward:

New Members anytime during the year, or renewals, if paid prior to March 1st

\$30.00 for single

\$35.00 for family

Renewals, if paid on or after March 1st

\$45.00 for single

\$50.00 for family

I believe that this is important for the following reasons:

- Other than fundraising, the membership dues are what runs our club and therefore getting the monies in at the beginning of the year allows the club to plan and budget accordingly
- Members paying late, after the start of the trial season, causes hurt feelings and potentially the loss of championship points. It also causes extra work for the board and the trials committee.

Members paying throughout the year causes extra work for the treasurer

**Tracy Hinton presented this guideline. Tara Dier wonders if it should be a part of proposal #1. Tracy says this proposal is for the cash flow of the Club so that we can continue to support the Club's endeavours. Instead for renewals, the cost for membership would increase if not paid by March 1st. New members, and renewals paid on time would still pay the current membership fee.

**Andrea de Kenedy was not in agreement with the increase of membership. Feels that the loss of points should be enough.

**Kris Kiviaho pointed out that most organization she belongs to have a penalty for late payment, and therefore does not see any problems with the increase

**Victoria Lamont pointed out that "we need a stick to get people to pay because we depend on that money". She also brought up the idea of having the lower fee for non-trialers so that they still get a newsletter but no points.

**Anne Wheatley points out that it does encourage renewals to be paid on time

**Mary Thompson says a reminder notice before March 1st would be helpful, Cynthia agrees. The latter points out as newsletters were delayed due to Covid-19, she forget & missed the

reminder. Mary points out that we need to be careful not to overprice ourselves or people will drop off.

**Lorna Savage feels that the proposal to go from \$30.00 to \$45.00 is too high. Many people in agreement. Many felt that moving it to \$40.00 for single or \$45.00 for family if renewed late would be more appropriate.

**Janet Fahey noted that if we pay on time, we are not paying the increase then? Tara & Tracy confirmed that it is correct. Tara noted that the proposal came up due to the issue of people paying late: some felt that why should they bother paying on time if others are going to be allowed to pay late, others feel that the paying the fee is fine.

**Werner wanted to know how many non-trialers do we have that are supporting our Club, should we be penalizing them? At one time the Club had quite a few of this category who would pay later when they noticed trials started.

**Lene Band suggested different wording: Membership will be raised to \$40/year, but if you pay prior to March 1st, the discounted rate is \$30.00

*It becomes a reward, then a punishment though Tara brings up this won't help our non-trialing members

*Amanda Milliken thought this proposal was a good idea, and Tracy feels that this is better worded

*Tracy wondered if May 1st may be a better date to be more lenient to our non-trialing members?

*Amanda says a friendly reminder to the Club would be a nice. Janet says we could explore the non-trialing members being at a lower rate.

*Janet questioned doesn't the USBCHA have a tiered membership? Amanda pointed out that it costs the same, it is just voting eligibility that comes into play

**Janet Fahey says we need better communication to our members, not just relaying on the newsletter. We should probably email our members as a reminder though she is aware that there has been resistance to this form of communication in the past. Also put reminders on the Facebook as well reminding people that the deadline is coming up. She isn't against the setup as Tracy has written, just feels we need to help our members out with earlier notifications & stronger reminders. Rebecca Lawrence says the Board can do that, she has email lists already set up for the Club and it would be easy to send, as well as to post to Facebook.

*Amanda Milliken brought forward a motion to change the cost of the increase from the proposed \$45.00/single & \$50.00/family to \$40.00/single & \$45/family after the March 1st deadline, to make it a lesser penalty for being late. Bruce Lawrence seconded Amanda's change to the proposal.

****The attendees voted on this proposal with the amendment of the increased cost to be \$40.00/single and \$45.00 family if RENEWALS paid past March 1st, and it passed with 16 votes for, 5 votes against. Tracy proposed it, Anne Wheatley seconded it. Motion carried.**

**Tracy Hinton had Cynthia Palmer confirm for the AGM that the Guidelines can be changed during an AGM, by-laws have to go to next year's AGM to be voted upon by the members. Tracy says we could keep the lower cost for non-trialing members, Janet agrees. There isn't much benefit for the non-trial members to support us besides the newsletter.

**The Board will keep track of any member complaints regarding this change & will bring it up at next year's AGM.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2:30pm with all business concluded, Tara Dier made a motion that 2020 Annual General Meeting be adjourned, Cynthia Palmer seconded.