



ONTARIO BORDER COLLIE CLUB
2015 DRAFT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING

The annual general meeting was held November 21, 2015 at the home of Helen and Gordon Dunning with members present, and proxies presented. List of such members and proxy votes are available upon request. Meeting called to order at 1:26 pm by Vice President Cynthia Palmer. Cynthia welcomed all present and thanked all for coming on behalf of Teresa.

Agenda Item #1 – Declaration of Proxies

Tracy Hinton took attendance of members (15) present in person and (1) on the phone. 3 proxies were noted for the record.

Note: 2 additional members arrived late at 1:40 and 1:45, not included in the above total.

Agenda Item #2 – Acceptance of Agenda

Kevan Gretton moved to accept the agenda, Michelle Lawrence seconded it.

Agenda Item #3 – Old Business

A Acceptance of 2014 Minutes

Andrea deKenedy moved to accept 2014 minutes and seconded by Rebecca Lawrence.

B Business arising from 2014 Minutes

none

Agenda Item #4 – Annual Reports

A – President's Report

The following report was read by Cynthia Palmer as Teresa was delayed:

In January of 2015, the Board drafted our goals for the upcoming year. They were

1. Continue to provide support and learning opportunities to novices;
2. Provide opportunities for Open handlers to polish advanced skills e.g. double lifts;
3. Learn more about what the membership wants;
4. Investigate and implement changes to reduce the creation and delivery costs of our newsletter
5. Investigate opportunities to work with local sheep groups to promote border collie use;
6. Implement a central repository of club key files that has appropriate backup and recovery.

I am very pleased to say that these goals were achieved.

Goal One - A very enthusiastic and organized Outreach Committee were instrumental in achieving a wide range of opportunities for novices. Their detailed report will cover all of their initiatives. I believe one of the talents of this board was identifying and delegating the perfect jobs to the perfect people . This committee performed brilliantly all year – a huge thanks to Helen Dunning, Lynn Johnson, Helen Knibbs, and Cathy Vodden.

Goal Two -The recently held double lift / international shed event was a huge success. Pulling together the complex components needed to do this activity fell to Tracy Hinton and Kevan Gretton and everyone who participated owes them a big round of applause.

Goals three and four took place over the winter with a poll of our members via survey monkey. Members were asked about their preferred delivery method for the newsletter. The majority of the members wanted the newsletter delivered via email therefor new protocols were developed for the production and distribution of the newsletter. Members were also asked to indicate their areas of greatest interest. The results helped solidify our goals and were shared with everyone in the spring newsletter.

Mia Lane (the original designer of the OBCC logo) was contacted and very kindly helped Michelle Lawrence with the updating and clean up of the logo. Its new digital footprint allows for cleaner reproduction in a variety of mediums.

We tabled Goal 5 based on the survey results.

Goal 6 - Many thanks to Rebecca Lawrence who was instrumental in setting up a One Drive account in the “cloud” for the OBCC corporate key files.

And, naturally, the normal club business continued along with these initiatives. The club newsletter is looking more and more beautiful thanks to Anne Wheatley, Lynn Johnson and Michelle Lawrence. Anne will give us her overview shortly. The website as well looks fantastic and the trial and standing information appears speedily once it is received from trial managers – all thanks to Rebecca Lawrence. Club merchandise was well received this year and John Milloy presided over the fundraising at Grass Creek with wonderful contributions to the Silent Auction. Another big thanks to all the volunteers who represented the club so well “under the tent”. The Trials Committee of Andre deKenedy, Amanda Milliken and Lorna Savage smoothly sanctioned this seasons' trials.

Finally, of course, thanks to the handlers, volunteers, trial hosts, managers and secretaries . Congratulations to the dogs, and this seasons' champions – the real reason all of us are here.

In closing, I know I say this every year but it is none the less true that it has been a great pleasure working with my fellow Board members. Andrea deKenedy, Tracy Hinton, Cynthia Palmer and Sheri Purcell all brought skill, receptiveness, and insight to the board. We maintained a culture of civility and openness and I believe we added more than just the sum of our parts to the OBCC.

B – Secretary's Report

Cynthia Palmer reported that there were 74 members at the close of 2014 this is a combination of single and family membership numbers.

C – Treasurer's Report

Cynthia Palmer presented members present with a Treasury report:



ONTARIO BORDER COLLIE CLUB
2015 TREASURER'S REPORT

Opening Bank Balance	\$ 5,629.14	
REVENUE	2015 Proposed Budget	Actuals to DATE
Membership	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,693.04
Donations & Clinic Fees	\$ 500.00	\$ 270.00
Merchandise Sales	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,101.67
Raffle & Silent Auction Sales	\$ 700.00	\$ 458.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 5,522.71
EXPENSES		
Bank Charges	\$ -	\$ 20.00
Insurance	\$ 410.00	\$ 369.36
Merchandise Costs	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,443.34
Newsletter & Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 960.50
Office supplies	\$ 50.00	\$ 45.13
Postage	\$ 400.00	\$ 381.21
Promotion (CBCA Finals donation)	\$ 300.00	\$ 105.32
Raffle licenses & prize expense	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Ribbons	\$ 300.00	\$ -
Event Support	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 450.00
Website Charges	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.80
Year End Awards	\$ 200.00	\$ 959.03
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,330.00	\$ 6,759.69
In year Surplus/(Deficit)	-\$1,030.00	-\$1,236.98
Closing Bank Balance	\$4,599.14	\$4,392.16
ASSETS		
Merchandise Inventory	# in stock	value
TShirts	18	\$225
Golf shirts	2	\$32
Whistles	14	\$196
jackets	5	\$174
Vests	8	\$176
Hoodies	1	\$25
Stock Sticks	11	\$165
Hats	26	\$411
lanyards, stained glass lip balm		\$262
TOTAL INVENTORY		\$1,656

We have \$200 more in deficit than planned because:

- Sold less than expected and have items in inventory
- Year end awards were more expensive as we needed a new base on the Pro Novice trophy
- Lunch at last years AGM was a big expense

Helping our cause was:

- Amanda Milliken who declined plaques for her championship dogs
- Newsletter costs are down.

D – Trials Committee Report

Andrea deKenedy presented.

This year there were eight OBCC trials sanctioned by the Trials Committee. This was one down from last year as there was no Swaledale trial.

No issues arose making it a quiet year for the Trials Committee.

The trials were:

Shepherds Crook New Years' Trial
Summer Novice Trial
80 Acres
Kingston Sheep Dog Trials
Stirling Novice Sheep Dog Trail
Indian River Sheep Dog Trial
Shepherd's Crook Sheep Dog Trial
Butternut Sheep Dog Trial

Thanks to the hard work of all the trial managers and their volunteers.

E – Club Activities

a. Learning & Outreach:

The following report was summarized for the members by Helen Dunning.

Committee Membership

The Education and Outreach Committee was formed at the 2014 OBCC Annual General Meeting. Membership comprised Helen Dunning (chair and board liaison), and Lynn Johnson, Helen Knibb and Cathie Vodden.

Planning

Early in 2015, the committee held a series of planning meetings (via conference call) in order to establish goals and priorities for the year. The committee considered what OBCC already does well, opportunities for new kinds of activities, and the challenges of meeting the needs of a small, widely dispersed OBCC membership. We reflected on our own learning experiences and needs on the trial field, in farm work, or in practice. We asked some difficult questions – why do so few novice handlers in Ontario continue through to competition? How do we recruit and promote skill development when there are few, accessible, flocks and coaches? Through brainstorming, discussion and some reality checks we began to develop a program for the 2015 season that focused on the needs of novice handlers and newly started dogs.

2015 Program Goals

The activities were selected and designed to serve several purposes. These included:

- a) Piloting some new and different formats for delivery of training and education as well including established models such as clinics
- b) Facilitating increased access to training for novice handlers, particularly those challenged by distance and location to get help starting young dogs, as well as personal skill development
- c) Promoting continuity between and across events by linking activities; the goal being to help members build on their skills during the season

- d) Assessing member needs and evaluating program delivery so that we could continue to improve on the type, format and delivery of events
- e) Ensuring that new handlers were truly supported and welcomed at OBCC events.
- f) Building an OBCC education program that would be recognized as a valued and useful member benefit and provide incentives for membership through differentiated pricing
- g) Providing a mentoring and hands-on learning opportunity for the novice handlers on the committee - planning, coordinating and implementing events such as clinics and lessons.

2015 Program

Activities included:

1. Assisting in the development of the education/training needs assessment for the OBCC member survey
2. Planning and co-ordination of a late March 2 ½ day clinic and lessons with Corey Perry, aimed at novice handlers with novice dogs. Corey, who judged at Swaledale in 2014, was chosen for his easy-going, personable style and flexibility in developing a thoughtful program that matched the dog's needs with the handler's abilities. Both events were highly rated by those attending, despite the frigid temperatures.
3. Piloting a coaching program by bringing an open handler/trainer to a relatively central location, periodically, throughout the season. The goal was to provide important continuity in training with the same person while reducing overall travel time and costs for multiple handlers. This year, the guest coach was Mary Thompson, and the central location, Swaledale, near Port Perry. Four blocks of lessons were scheduled over the trial season: Sat/Sun May 23-24; Sat/Sun June 20-21; Tues July 21; and Wed Sept 2. This totalled approximately 45 individual lessons, with some handlers working several dogs.

The Committee is grateful for the support of the OBCC board which subsidized transportation costs for Mary and thereby kept the price of lessons reasonable.

Based on formal and informal evaluations we believed the model was successful and could be replicated next year, possibly with a different coach and/or location depending on interest.

4. The committee was also opportunist. Although Herding House League is not an OBCC sponsored activity, lessons were scheduled so that handlers could pace their lessons with the opportunity for skill development and guided practice in a more informal context. House League has proven to be a useful (and fun) format for handlers to work through some common issues and exercises with peers and has been

guided by Tracy Hinton and Helen Dunning at Swaledale with events scheduled for Thurs April 30, Mon June 1, Thurs July 9, and Sept 10.

5. The committee connected with and/or updated OBCC membership through use of Facebook, the OBCC web site and features in the newsletter, as well as maintaining a presence at events such as the Kingston Sheep Dog Trials.

Forthcoming, is an article based on interviews with the judges at this year's Double Diamond. The judges were all asked the same questions about their process, and their answers are presented in a comparative format.

Formal written reports were regularly submitted for board approval. Meeting notes are also on record.

Plans for the 2016 Season

Proposed activities may include, but not necessarily be limited to:

A judging clinic (we would like to see this event offered on a rotational basis every 2-3 years using different judges to provide multiple perspectives)

A mentorship program for novice handlers, (such as that offered by NEBCA), especially those moving up a level

Periodic lessons using the 2015 model; place and trainer to be determined

A non-sanctioned 'farm' trial

Rotation of informal practice sessions across members' farms in order to get experience with different types, and breeds, of sheep and terrain.

Concluding Remarks

The committee investment in front end planning was critical, in not only developing a coherent program, (not just stand alone activities), for the year, but also identifying follow-on activity through 2016-17.

The committee was small, but the work was distributed evenly among committee members based on an ideal mix of skills and ability to make significant commitments of time. The small size also helped in scheduling meetings. Meetings were mostly by conference call. The format worked well.

The committee wishes to thank the OBCC board for their support and guidance.

Many activities occurred at Swaledale; the committee acknowledges the support of Sheri Purcell and Hugh Grant in providing facilities that are well suited for these kinds of training events.

The novice handlers on the committee, (Lynn, Cathie, and Helen K) were engaged fully in all aspects of planning and implementing the activities, including costing, promotion, and stock handling. They wish to acknowledge, and are deeply indebted to Helen Dunning, without whom this year's program would not have been possible. Her leadership, contacts, negotiation skills, guidance and generosity of time were critical in making this a successful year.

All four committee members wish to continue in their roles for 2016.

Respectfully submitted by:
Helen Dunning, Lynn Johnston, Helen Knibb and Cathie Vodden

b. & c. Fundraising/Merchandise/Newsletter sales

Cynthia reviewed Fundraising/Merchandise on behalf of John Milloy.

- We purchased different items this year
- Raised \$500 at Grass Creek silent auction. Next year people must pick up their items on the same day as the auction to eliminate shipping.
- We have a base inventory for next year
- We took orders for specific logo items that members wanted, worked well

Anne Wheatley reviewed Newsletter

- We produced 4 newsletters
- Reported on OBCC trials, number of key articles and photo features
- Now less than \$1000 to produce.
- Mailing costs \$45 per edition. Would like to reduce mail, if possible.
- \$4.50 is the cost of printing, per copy
- Archiving was discussed and electronic copies are being placed on the OneDrive
- Members were asked to send any old copies to Rebecca at her OBCC email address for archiving on the website.

d. Website update

Presented by Rebecca Lawrence.

- This year a lot of work was done to update the look of the website, provide member only access and board on access.
- OBCC will be “hosting” the CBCA 2016 finals page as part of our site. No financial implications.
- Rebecca is looking for pictures to update the website. Send to her OBCC email address.

*Note Teresa Castonguay, president, took over as chair at this point. 1:55.

Agenda Item #5 – Year End Awards

Cynthia Palmer announced and congratulated the 2015 OBCC Champions:

Open Champion	A. Milliken	Howell
Open Reserve Champion	A. Milliken	Monty
Pro Novice Champion	A. Milliken	Puppa
Pro-Novice Reserve Champion	K. Knowlton	Bryn
Novice Champion	K. Bryant	Bea
Novice Reserve Champion	S. Rember	Shep

Agenda Item #6 – New Business

a. Election of Board of Directors

Tracy Hinton announced that Teresa Castonguay and Andrea deKenedy were both stepping down from the board. She thanked them for their hard work. Two nominations presented: Werner Reitboeck and Victoria Lamont.

Andrea deKenedy moved to accept the slate and Lynn Johnston seconded. All in favour.

Therefore, the OBCC executive for the trial year 2016 is:

- Cynthia Palmer
- Sheri Purcell
- Werner Reitboeck
- Victoria Lamont
- Tracy Hinton

At the time of the meeting the board has yet had an opportunity to meet to determine actual roles. This will be done at the first meeting in December and then announced.

b. Committee Appointments

Your board, has made the following Committee Appointments

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tara Dier and Tracy Hinton

TRIALS COMMITTEE

Lorna Savage, chair

Amanda Milliken

Open position

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lynn Johnson and Michelle Lawrence

Anne Wheatley - advisor

LEARNING, EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Helen Dunning Chair

Helen Knibbs

Lynn Johnston

Cathy Vodden

FUNDRAISING/Merchandising

John Milloy and Teresa Castonguay

c. Webmaster Appointment

Rebecca Lawrence will remain.

d. 2016 Novice Award

We have given out the novice award every other year. 2016 is intended to be a year to give. Much discussion came up around how to recognize novices. The following points were raised:

- Should we have a Long Road Award?
 - Worried such an award does not encourage new handlers to get help
- How to encourage new handlers in the sport vs existing novice handlers?
- Suggested a Rooky award?
- How to encourage new faces?
- Limit the number of times a person can win novice novice?

It was decided to table the discussion for the new board to review and present back to the membership.

e. Location and Timing of 2016 AGM

The proposed date for next years AGM is scheduled for November 19th, 2016 @ 1PM - It was suggested that a west GTA location would be good. Tracy Hinton offered her house in Sunderland, ON. Helen Dunning also offered to host again.

Agenda Item #7 Other Business

The following topics were discussed:

- Do we want to do another Survey?
 - If we do have one then it needs to now go into more detail in the topics.
 - Board will review
- CBCA finals 2016 - Member asked what is the OBCC involvement
 - The organizing committee is made up with all OBCC members, and it is being hosted in Ontario.
 - Discussed making the same donation as was done in 2010, which was \$1000
 - OBCC will be hosting the finals page on our webserver for ease of maintenance. Rebecca will be doing this for us. No cost to OBCC
- Payment by email
 - The members would like to be able to pay their membership via email transfer.
 - Rebecca knows of other services that may also be used
 - PayPal not a great option, but there may be new features we are unaware of
 - Rebecca will look into.
 - Board will discuss.
 - May be a good survey question.
- Newsletter fees
 - Discussed possibly increasing the membership for those who get the newsletter electronically
 - It costs the club \$28.00 to print and send out 4 newsletters. That is more than the membership fee.
 - Should we have a surcharge when you pay your membership of \$5 if you take your newsletter printed?
 - Then discussed raising membership across the board, discussed if we needed the money...decided no
 - We need to poll membership again and ask if they will take the newsletter electronically. We suspect there are many who would. We do not want to stop printing. We respect that there are those who still want hardcopy and do not want to stop that.
 - New members, make electronic the default..they have to ask for print.
- Webmaster pay
 - Asked by a member that the board should look into paying the Webmaster.

At 2.50pm with all business concluded, Kevan Gretton made a motion that 2015 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

