



Washington State Obedience Trial Club

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The Canine Post August 2016

An AKC Member Club

NEXT MEETINGS & EVENTS

September 11th—time and place TBD

Meeting our senior dogs—plan to bring your senior dogs for fun activities! There will be a prize for the oldest dog in attendance.

Oct. 22, 23rd

Lori Drouin seminar
Canine College

Agility Trial Report

The July Agility Trial at Argus Ranch held on July 15, 16, and 17 was a success on many fronts. I took on the chair at a late date, but thankfully, Robin Cohen and Robin Kletke of R2 agility, who were the Secretaries for the event had all of the details well taken care of. As usual, they can claim much of the responsibility for making the event run smoothly. We are one of the few trials in the area to be outdoors, and for the most part the weather gods were friendly, giving us lots of cloud cover to tamp down the temperature for most of the time. Our July dates have often been quite hot and uncomfortable for dogs and humans, so this was a welcome relief. So the pleasure of running on grass with mild temperatures with nary a drop of rain was appreciated by many.

Our judges Franna Pitt and Susan Leitner provided fun and interesting courses, and the percentage of Q's seemed about in line with the usual rates. Our numbers of entries were a bit lower than last year, though according to the Robins well in line or slightly better than those of other area trials. Our expenses were down as well, so the bottom line was pretty close to last year. The financial report should be up soon on our members only page as usual. **Continued on next page...**

Sanctioned C Match Nov. 27th *reported by Sue Cox*

This is just to let you and your students know about an Obedience Sanctioned Match being planned for Sunday, November 27th, 2016 at Canine College (indoors) in Redmond WA. A flyer with details will be forthcoming when a second judge for the advanced classes is lined up, which I hope will be soon. If you have a student interested in becoming a judge who could use Sanctioned Match judging experience with the advanced classes, please have them contact me by August 7th.

Thanks for your help in promoting this event so we can help train new judges for our sport!

*Club Committees and
Chairs*

Agility- Wanda Diemert
 Audit/ budget- Don Rennick
 Awards- Awards- Gloria
 Newby and David Jackson
 Hearts & Flowers - Gloria
 Newby
 Insurance- Sue Cox
 Membership- Nancy Light
 Newsletter- Laura Burns
 AKC Sanctioned Match
 Chair-Sue Cox
 Obedience/Rally Trials-
 Spring 2016-Linda Shea
 Printing/Mailing-Nancy
 Griffin/Debbie Addicoat
 Programs-vacant
 Property/inventory- Don
 Rennick
 Tracking 2016- Nikki King
 Website-Ane Brusendorff

AKC Delegate

James W. Smith
 800-448-1222, 8:30 am
 to 4:30 pm EST and 716-
 208-9788 other times.
 daldel@hotmail.com

BRAGS!*Agility Trial report, continued*

Many thanks to Marilyn Ashby, who once again took care of ribbons and rosettes. This was her last year for this task, which she has done for many years, so we would be looking for someone to take on this job, with Marilyn promising to mentor and let you know what is required. This year we had a box for folks to “give back” rosettes they did not keep, with a donation going to Old Dog Haven, so we will be sending a check to them for \$80.00. Other Club members who showed up to help included Dick Ashby, Michelle Fuqua, Claudia Hegdahl, Judy Peterson, Cheryl Jackson, Linda Shea, Ingrida Robinson, Sue Cox, and Betty Winthers.

I did take a very informal survey from participants asking whether they preferred us to repeat the outdoor show or go indoors for next year. We can always set it outdoors with the option to go inside, but personally I don't like to have to make this decision at the last minute. Safety would of course be a factor, but my sense is that those preferring indoor shows had the edge and despite it being a little more expensive, that would be the way I am leaning, assuming I will be chairing again.

I apologize for lack of photos to go with this report, it just was not on my radar as I was preparing my chairly duties. If any of you have photos of your dogs taken at this event, or took photos of the trial yourself, feel free to submit to the Post for the next issue. Thank you so much to all who helped and if you have been contemplating getting involved with your own dog, I encourage you to do so. Not only is it a lot of fun, but all the obedience you have been doing is a definite advantage in this sport.

Nancy Light
 Agility Trial Chair

Facebook page for finding stewards

info provided by Amanda Buse

Did you know that there is a WA Facebook page for finding event trial stewards? To help clubs and event chairs get the word out about stewarding opportunities and needs, a Facebook group page called, WA State Dog Show Stewards

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/447615875439420/>), was created to assist in this need. If you are looking for stewards, feel free to post your needs in this group page. The group is “Closed” (to control for spam), but a simple request to be added is all that is needed. Feel free to spread the word about this page so that other clubs and event chairs can also find much needed stewards.

Stewards needed for August shows!

posted by Michelle Fuqua

If you are available, or know others whom might be available, both OKC and MRWD still need stewards for the August Enumclaw show circuit (MRWD is Aug 18th & 19th; OKC is Aug 20th & 21st). Both clubs are paying stewards who are non-club members.

To steward for Rally with OKC contact Regina at: randrotts@aol.com
<mailto:randrotts@aol.com>

To steward for Obedience or Rally with MRWD contact Fran at:
mistihil@comcast.net <mailto:mistihil@comcast.net>

Feel free to pass this on to your students, club, or others.

Minutes from WSOTC July Board Meeting July 11, 2016 7:30 pm at Whole Foods, Bellevue, WA

1. Call to Order- Meeting was called to order on July 11, 2016, at 7:28 pm by President Michelle Fuqua, at Whole Foods, Bellevue WA.

Present- Michelle Fuqua, Nancy Light, Ingrida Robinson, and Amanda Buse. Absent Janice Bergman and Terrie Sato

2. Review and approve minutes- Minutes of June Board meeting approved as printed in the June Post

3. Report of the President- Thank you Amanda, for creating the fillable ballot for the Spring Trial judges. Thank you, Nancy, for taking over as agility chair for 2016. Key events for August we need to cover: a) appoint audit/budget committee. b) appoint tracking chair for 2017, if there will be a spring test c) Past President Plaque d) appoint committee liaisons (to discuss when reviewing committee reports) e. Have moved agility appointment to September.

4. Report of the Secretary- Incoming Correspondence: 1) Thank you letter from the family of Susan Kevin for the donation in her name to Old Dog Haven. 2) Two thank you letters from Old Dog Haven for the donation in Susan's name and for the donation from WSOTC (as part of the general donations distributed).

5. Report of the Treasurer (Ingrida). Ingrida is working on the year-end financial report, but it is more complicated due to the change in banks, so there will be a bit of a delay.

6. Committee Reports

Agility Trials 2016- July 15, 16, 17 (Nancy) All going well. Insurance has been taken care of. Trial numbers are similar to last year for Friday and Saturday, down about 40 on Saturday. MOTION: to appoint Nancy as agility liaison. APPROVED

Audit/Budget- Since Janice could not be here tonight, Board delayed appointment of Audit/Budget since Janice was going to do some recruiting. They can't begin work anyway since the year-end report is not yet completed. MOTION: to appoint Janice as audit/budget liaison. APPROVED.

Awards- MOTION: to appoint Nancy as liaison to the awards committee. APPROVED

Donations- Appointment of committee will await audit budget report. MOTION: to appoint Michelle as liaison to donations committee. APPROVED

Hearts and Flowers- MOTION: to appoint Ingrida as liaison to Hearts and Flowers. APPROVED.

Membership MOTION: to appoint Nancy as liaison to membership committee. APPROVED

Newsletter- Laura will publish a July/August Post about August 1. MOTION: to appoint Michelle as liaison for the newsletter. APPROVED.

*Obedience Seminar-*Lori Drouin- October 22/23 at Canine College. MOTION: to appoint Terrie Sato as liaison for the obedience seminar. APPROVED.

Obedience trial Spring 2016- Ingrida distributed the financial report (comparing budgeted to actual), showing a small gain. She will send to Ane for the members' only section of the website. Amanda will get some more detail for production of the 2017 trial budget.

Obedience/Rally Trial Spring 2017- Linda is working with Don on contacting judges. MOTION: to appoint Amanda as liaison for the 2017 Spring Trial committee. APPROVED.

Printing/Mailing-

Property/Inventory- MOTION to appoint Ingrida liaison to property/inventory committee. APPROVED

TDX Fall 2016 - It is on the AKC website. Judges Jan Wesen, Stephanie Gonyeau. JBLM.

Tracking - MOTION to appoint Amanda liaison to tracking committee. Appointment of tracking chair delayed until we know if we are going to have tracking event in the spring.

Sanctioned/C match- MOTION to appoint Terrie liaison to Sanctioned/C match committee APPROVED. We still need to figure out if we can do both at same date/location. Kathy Lang has offered her building for this.

Website- MOTION to appoint Nancy as liaison to the website and Yahoo committee. APPROVED

7. Upcoming meetings/programs: The next GM will be on July 16 @ Argus at 12:00; as previously discussed there will be no GM in August. September meeting- previously discussed Sept 11, hopefully a meeting to celebrate our Senior dogs (7 and older), with a prize for oldest dog in attendance.

8. Old Business

a. Board reviewed and approved the revised job description for membership chair, with one addition. Approved job descriptions now include membership, newsletter, hearts and flowers.

b. Nancy reported on meeting regarding Cherry Valley with the Department of Fish and Wildlife with Nancy and Sil Sanders attending representing WSOTC. Not much new happened, hopefully the next meeting will have an action plan. The hope is that tracking training and events could be possible there.

9. New Business

a. Amanda will be working with Nancy and Linda on the trial/rally chair job descriptions. Nancy will have Insurance Advisor for next month.

b. President's plaque: We are in the process of finding the plaque. We have the original but cannot find the addendum plaque with president's since 1993.

c. Set date for next Board meeting, August 15. Plan to do this as phone meeting 7:30.

Adjourn- Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Light, Acting Secretary



Below is the next in a series of Random Little Tidbits of information.

Today's Random Little Tidbit – [AKC Freestyle Teamwork – Test Phase #1](#)



The American Kennel Club is interested in promoting the enthusiasm we shared when we watched a small and very talented group of obedience exhibitors with their dogs perform personally designed creative routines at Westminster in February 2015. The Companion Events Department received an overwhelming positive response and numerous requests to pursue creating a format that would encourage others to be able to participate in the fun.

Please see the attached document (following pages) explaining the details of *AKC Freestyle Teamwork - TEST PHASE #1*.

We hope you will share our enthusiasm and assist us with exploring this new format together.

After reading the attached document, if you have any questions please email them to freestyleteamwork@akc.org

[Details in the following pages of this document...](#)

Dog Talk & Random Little Tidbits articles: <http://clubs.akc.org/saints/Archives/newsroom.htm>

Index for *only* the Random Little Tidbits articles: <http://clubs.akc.org/saints/Archives/Tidbit%20Index.pdf>

John Cox,
AKC obedience judge,
dog-talk@comcast.net



Freestyle Teamwork Level I, Level II, Level III – TEST PHASE # 1

Purpose: Freestyle Teamwork is a sport where the handler creates a performance routine to showcase the essence of teamwork between a handler and their dog. Each routine should create a visually appealing presentation, which demonstrates the joy of the handler/dog relationship and is entertaining for spectators to watch.

Club/School –Event Host Information:

1. Clubs/schools may offer this event with other events or as stand-alone events.
2. The ring size must be stated in all event publications. The ring shall be between 2,000 and 3,000 square feet with a minimum width of 30 feet. If a club/school is aware of which sides of the ring will have spectators this information should be published in the event flyer.
3. Three standard obedience and/or rally jumps will be available: High, Broad and Bar.
4. Music may be allowed but is optional. The club/school must state in event flyers/premiums if music will or will not be allowed. When deciding to allow music or not, consider the timing of the event, the proximity of the ring to other rings and if music would be a distraction to any other events. If music is allowed the music and the sound machine must be supplied by the exhibitor. The sound machine must be battery powered.
5. A timing device will be used for set up and performance. The device may either be visible to the judge and handler or a person will be designated to alert the handler and judge at the “30 seconds” remaining point.
6. Two stewards should be available to assist the judge as needed.
7. **JUDGE’S BOOKS** are available by emailing freestyleteamwork@akc.org

General Information/Requirements:

1. The routine must start, continue, and finish within the confines of the ring area.
2. A maximum of two minutes set-up time will be allowed.
3. All levels will be performed off-leash.
4. Food is not allowed in the ring.
5. No special training collars such as electronic or prong collars will be permitted.
6. Props, including jumps may be provided by the handler. Props, including any costumes may not make noise or require clean up between teams. No live animal props will be allowed.
7. Exhibitors may use any type of prop (including themselves) to demonstrate the dogs jumping ability.
8. Props may be stationary or movable. Dog and/or handlers may carry or retrieve stationary or tossed props.
9. The dog(s) and handler(s) should cover as much of the total ring area as possible, presenting moves in various areas of the ring and balancing the routine throughout the ring space.
10. Any move is allowed, as long as it does not endanger the dog or handler.
11. Distance work, weaves, jumps, send-outs, and/or innovative new moves are encouraged.
12. Moves may be performed from any position.
13. Routines, performances, props, music and lyrics should conform to generally accepted rules of decorum and not be offensive or sexually suggestive in language or presentation.
14. Any type of item may be used for retrieves. Retrieve objects must not make noise or be disruptive to other rings.
15. Exhibitors may use their own assistants in setting up the ring and throughout the performance but the exhibitor must be the only person to handle the dog throughout the performance and the assistants should not detract from the overall performance.
16. Required elements may be combined with each other and blended into the overall performance.
17. Handlers may talk throughout the performance and use their hands/body in whatever manner.
18. Touching of the dog is allowed without penalty unless otherwise noted.
19. Applause during and throughout the performance is encouraged and exhibitors should be prepared for it.
20. With each higher level of competition, the team will be expected to perform a higher quality / level of interpretive movements in their routine.
21. As this is a creative sport, subjective judging will apply.

Heelwork is defined as any position between the handler and the dog within 360 degrees radius and includes, but is not limited to: right heel; left heel; face-to-face; face-to-back; back-to-back; back-to-face; and all angled positions between handler and dog within 360 degrees.

Jump is defined as purposely propelling the body rapidly upward such that the momentum causes the body to become momentarily airborne with the feet leaving the floor.

Judging and Scoring:

- The judge must use a score sheet. The required elements should be listed on the score sheet in order for the judge to check them off as they are performed. Additionally there should be a scoring section for miscellaneous penalties and a comments section. **SCORE SHEETS** are available by emailing freestyleteamwork@akc.org
- The Judge does not call any orders. The handler enters the ring, sets up to begin the performance, indicates to the judge they are ready, and the judge acknowledges with “You may begin.”
- Timing of the performance begins at this time.
- During the testing phase any AKC non-regular or regular obedience or rally judge may act as a judge for this event. Other qualified individuals interested in judging should contact AKC at freestyleteamwork@akc.org

Scoring: Points are awarded in each category with 25 points available in each.

The teams will be evaluated on the following categories:

1. **Teamwork** - the shared appearance of connection and togetherness throughout the performance including when the dog and handler are working away from each other; the handler’s performance choices create a clear spirit of cooperation, connection and harmony.
 2. **Willingness & Enjoyment** – the dogs responsiveness to its handler, honor and trust; the teams display of joy and harmony.
 3. **Technical Execution** –the manner and style of the performance, accuracy, flow, smoothness, coordinated effort and ability.
 4. **Performance Originality & Presentation** – the overall performance impression and presentation.
- The total maximum score is 100 points. Total scores will be posted at the conclusion of each level.
 - Penalties:
 - 🐾 1-point penalty will be assessed for each second over the allotted two-minute set-up time
 - 🐾 1-point penalty for each second over the allotted maximum performance time for each level
 - 🐾 2 point penalty will be assessed for failure to perform/complete a required element
 - 🐾 2 point penalty for excessive barking
 - 🐾 2 point penalty will be assessed for any error listed under general information/requirements

The purpose of the test phase is to vet this initial concept and to provide AKC information from a club’s, judge’s and exhibitor’s perspective. During “TEST PHASE # 1” placements and/or awards are discouraged.

Any club, school, instructor or interested party that would like to assist AKC during the TEST PHASE is encouraged to write to freestyleteamwork@akc.org .

Clubs/schools who wish to host a test event please submit your request using this form:

<https://www.tfaforms.com/430440>

AFTER the test event please provide feedback by completing the form at: <https://www.tfaforms.com/431396>

Clubs/Schools-Event Hosts – Please submit copies of the **Judge’s Books** to freestyleteamwork@akc.org

Here is a link to a **FLYER** <http://images.akc.org/pdf/events/obedience/freestyle/AKCFreestyleFlyer.pdf>

CLUBS/SCHOOLS Please print and distribute to exhibitors at the events in order for them to provide us feedback.

Level I: <u>Two (2) minute</u> maximum performance time limit allowed.	Level II: <u>Three (3) minute</u> maximum performance time limit allowed.	Level III: <u>Four (4) minute</u> maximum performance time limit allowed.
Elements may be performed in any order or sequence.	Elements may be performed in any order or sequence.	Elements may be performed in any order or sequence.
REQUIRED ELEMENTS	REQUIRED ELEMENTS	REQUIRED ELEMENTS
Heelwork: The dog must demonstrate the ability to do <u>heelwork on two sides</u> of the handler. At least <u>two changes of direction</u> and <u>one change of speed</u> is required.	Heelwork: The dog must demonstrate the ability to do <u>heelwork on three sides</u> of the handler. At least <u>four changes of direction</u> and <u>two changes of speed</u> are required.	Heelwork: The dog must demonstrate the ability to do <u>heelwork on four sides</u> of the handler. At least <u>four changes of direction</u> and <u>two changes of speed</u> are required.
Response work: The dog is required to perform at least <u>three different body position changes</u> and/or moving behaviors on command and/or signal. (Traditional obedience sit, down, stand, come, finish or backups, spins in either direction, crawl, weaves, and so on.)	Distance work: The handler may leave the dog in any position. The dog must demonstrate the <u>ability to stay</u> while the handler walks away. The dog is required to perform at least <u>three different body position changes</u> and/or moving behaviors on command and/or signal from a distance.	Distance work: The handler may leave the dog in any position. The dog must demonstrate the <u>ability to stay</u> while the handler walks away. The dog is required to perform at least <u>four different body position changes</u> and/or moving behaviors on command and/or signal from a distance.
	Recall: The handler may leave the dog in any position. The dog must demonstrate the ability to stay while the handler walks away. The dog must come on the handlers command and/or signal. (Front and Finish not required)	Go Away: The dog must demonstrate the ability to go away from the handler (forward/backward/sideways) and stop in whatever position the handler chooses. The handler may return to the dog or command the dog to perform other additional behaviors.
Retrieve: The dog must demonstrate the ability to deliver an object to the handler's hands. The object may be dropped, placed or tossed by the handler or the handler's assistant. <u>The handler may gently restrain the dog prior to sending the dog to retrieve while taking into consideration the overall impression.</u> The object may be anything that does not make noise.	Retrieve: The dog must demonstrate the ability to deliver an object to the handler's hands. The object may be dropped, placed or tossed by the handler or the handler's assistant. The object may be anything that does not make noise. <u>The handler may not physically restrain the dog.</u>	Retrieve: After the object is dropped, placed or tossed by the handler or the handler's assistant <u>the team must heel past the object before the handler sends the dog to retrieve.</u> The dog must deliver the object to the handler's hands. <u>The handler may not physically restrain the dog.</u>
Jump: The dog must jump <u>once</u> . It is up to the handler how best to demonstrate the dogs jumping ability.	Jump: The dog must jump <u>twice</u> . It is up to the handler how best to demonstrate the dogs jumping ability.	Jump: The dog must jump <u>twice</u> . It is up to the handler how best to demonstrate the dogs jumping ability.