

Midlands Border Collie Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held on
Saturday 31st January 2015
at the
West Hall, The Kennel Club Building, Stoneleigh Park, CV8 2LZ

Present: Valerie Earp, Juliette Wettertn, Paul Bloomfield, Kathie Kinton, Tracy Mills, Ella Mallabone, Joan Cattell, Ann Jordan, Sheilagh Hyde, Pat Wilkinson, Tracey Wilkinson, Rachel Spencer, Brian and Adrienne Marshall, Richard Lucas, Marion Turner, Bob Tunnicliff, Hilary Kerr, Chris Johnson, Joanna Lake

1. Apologies

Were received from Doreen Hutchinson (President), Sheila Gay, Voirrey Paesler, Val Tiller and Barrie James.

2. Minutes of the last AGM

Unfortunately minutes of the 2014 AGM were lost when the previous secretary moved house. Despite the best efforts of the committee to help locate these no full minutes were forthcoming for which the committee apologised unreservedly.

After due discussion those present who had attended the 2014 AGM agreed the précis minutes were as true a record as possible of the meeting. They were passed as the best record, proposed Joan Cattell, seconded Ann Jordan.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report

Dear Members, thank you for staying over and supporting your club's AGM.

We have had another year of ups and downs, we had a few panics and much success, so all in all an average year.

We lost our secretary, Jacky Lloyd, and I must thank her for her service, our new secretary Hilary was thrown in at the deep end but luckily she's a good swimmer and has done a fine job.

Midlands Border Collie Club

Our obedience show was a five day adventure, our team of helpers were magnificent and a very successful event is has become.

Breed show entries are still falling, so we have made a decision to hold our first outdoor Championship Show. We have spent hours trying to cover all eventualities and hopefully everybody will enjoy their day at Moira, I will wait to hear your thoughts.

Barrie and Sue James are our working trials enthusiasts and have worked tirelessly for years giving back to their sport and when Barrie had a health scare they rightly decided to show down and we asked the working trial folk to help with our championship trial. There was not one person from this sport that offered to take over Barrie's role and run the Championship WT with the MBCC committee and friends' help. I cannot put into print what I really think but I was very disappointed. Barrie and Sue continue to run the open trial, thanks to you both.

We have decided to make our stakes classes at our breed shows a class to remember past members of the MBCC. And we shall try and make these classes something special - any ideas?

I was asked by a member how members without the internet can keep up with the goings on in their club. To this end any members without internet can have a twice yearly paper letter of forthcoming events posted to them

I would also like the MBCC to try and organise the resurrection of our utility day, I know many enjoyed this and many have missed this enjoyable day. I must thank my fellow officers and our committee, your dedication to the Midlands Border Collie Club is outstanding,

5. Acting Secretary's Report

Seventeen weeks ago tomorrow I agreed to take on the job of secretary of Midlands. I knew help was needed. I didn't honestly realise how much and I'm certainly not going to bore you with the details but suffice to say it has been a very long and very hard 17 weeks. And I think we are nearly there, back on track, almost completely organised again... and yes I am happy to carry on doing it - it's taken over my life for quite a while but I think now it can revert to being less than full time!!

Midlands Border Collie Club

So I can only really report on what has happened since October 5th. I think the main thing is to say how very, very grateful I am to Bob and the rest of the committee for helping me and supporting me - and also thanks to people at the Kennel Club who have shown endless patience as I have fought my way through fog to get where we are now. There are others who have helped by giving me short cuts to the KC and helped me navigate their website and without that help I'd probably not have achieved as much as I have.

Easter sees the Obedience shows - very ably run by Sheilagh Hyde... complete madness really to have 3 shows and a rally competition in 4 days! But ... it works!

Our Championship show in May will be held at Moira, camping available - hopefully this venue will suit all and will certainly financially be a better choice. We just have to hope for a fine day!!

So please, all of you, bear with us while we continue to get the club back to the good, solid, reliable, supportive club it was - it lost its way a little but we're back... support us so we can stay right where we belong, recognised as one of the major BC clubs in the UK. We're all in it for the same reason - the good of the breed....

6. Treasurer's Report

I will open by stating that the accounts I am presenting to you today have not been signed off by our auditor Mr D Dawson. Due to a family tragedy the audit has been delayed and unless anyone objects I suggest we go through the accounts now and if there are any matters arising from the audit we will inform the membership and call a special EGM if necessary. If the accounts remain the same then I recommend that we vote to pass them but it is for the meeting to decide - of course I will abstain.

We started the year with a deficit of £3999.17 and ended the year in profit (just) - £655.97

Although the 2014 figures are shown for comparable purposes only they really do not show the pattern of income/expenditure and even trying to compare 2014 against 2012 is really not possible as we had additional loss making events during 2012 finishing with an overall loss of £1160.80 for that year.

To summarise this year we have sustained losses on the Open breed/obedience show at Stoneleigh and our Open day at Moira but profits on our Champ breed

Midlands Border Collie Club

show and our Easter obedience shows. I would say all other income and expenditure remains more or less the same.

The biggest challenge we face is attracting entries to our breed shows. All clubs are wrestling with this problem and unfortunately whilst the trend is away from pure bred breeds to the 'fashionable poos' we need to come up with ever more inventive ways of attracting new members and at the same time maintaining a happy balance with existing members,

With the problems we had at Stoneleigh it was decided in committee to move our Championship breed show to Moira in 2015 and if successful we will make the move permanently.

Finally I would advise that 2015 figures are also going to show losses as we will be holding two open breed shows instead of one but I am hopeful that by the end of 2016 we will be back on an even keel.

A donation of £250 was made to the Wessex working trials club.

7 Approval of accounts

It was proposed (Tracey Wilkinson) and seconded (Joan Cattell) that the accounts be passed in accordance with the Treasurer's suggestion. [The accounts were subsequently passed by the auditor without any problems]

8 Election of Auditors. Passed unanimously

9. Election of Officers and committee

Chairman: Bob Tunnicliff, proposed Hilary Kerr, seconded Val Earp. Carried unanimously

Secretary: Hilary Kerr, Proposed Bob Tunnicliff, seconded Sheilagh Hyde, carried unanimously

Treasurer: Chris Johnson, proposed Kathie Kinton, seconded Richard Lucas, Ella Jo Mallabone for committee, proposed Tracey Wilkinson, seconded Dave Kinton, all in favour.

Tracy Mills, proposed Kathie Kinton, seconded Ann Jordan, all in favour.

Brian Marshall, proposed Bob Tunnicliff, seconded Richard Lucas, all in favour

10. Proposals

MBCC Rule 10 (b) - regarding notice of AGM

Midlands Border Collie Club

Rule 10 (b) of the MBCC rules to be changed to read:

"Notice of such meetings will be published to the members via the website and social media and may be published in the canine press."

After discussion it was agreed that Rule 10 (b) would be changed to read as follows:

Rule 10 Financial Year/Annual General Meeting

10 (b)

Change from

"Notice of such meetings will be given to the members in writing and this notice may be published in the canine press, i.e. Dog World and/or Our Dogs."

to

"Notice of such meetings will be published to the members via the website and social media and may be published in the canine press, i.e. Dog World and/or Our Dogs ; for members who do not have access to electronic communication notice will be sent by post if so requested"

This was correctly proposed and seconded at the AGM on 31st January 2015 and passed unanimously by all present.

[This rule change has now been passed by the Kennel Club and forms part of the club's rules]

12 Any other business

Rachel Spencer brought up the subject of Best Veteran in Show and asked that BV be chosen from all veterans not just those in the veteran classes. The committee agreed to look into this and subsequently have agreed that BVIS will be chosen from all unbeaten veterans.