

# Midlands Border Collie Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016  
in the meeting room, Stoneleigh Park Lodge, CV8 2LZ

**Present:** Bob Tunnicliff, Hilary Kerr, Chris Johnson, Joan Cattell, Val Earp, Annette Walters, Marion Turner, Sheila Gay, Angela Hughes

Meeting commenced 7pm.

**1. Apologies** were received from Richard Lucas, Brian and Adrienne Marshall, Tracy Mills, Barrie James, Ella Jo Mallabone, Rachel Spencer, Tracey & Pat Wilkinson, Voirrey Paesler, Sheilagh Hyde, Kathie Kinton, Val Tiller, Bernice Emmanuel

**2. Minutes of the last AGM** were read and approved by all present. Proposed Marion Turner seconded Val Earp.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes.** The name for the charity stakes classes has caused some confusion. This will be discussed in committee and a new more easily understood wording chosen.

#### **4. Chairman's Report.**

2015 has been another eventful year for many reasons; every event has given us many different challenges. Our obedience show was the first and biggest challenge, we started setting up as usual and as soon as the caravans and motor homes started to arrive the ground became a mud bath. Our team of workers were brilliant and nothing became too much trouble. I thank you all sincerely. We have moved our Championship breed show from Stoneleigh to Moira and outdoors, last year was a learning curve and overall a success. I have two concerns with this decision, if we have a very wet show at this venue opinions may alter, the other concern is the cost maybe as much as £500 more than Stoneleigh.

Barry James is retiring this year, Barry has been our working trial expert for many years, through his and his wife's dedication and the support of the MBCC we were able to gain Championship status in working trials. Thanks Barry and Sue.

I would like to thank my fellow officers for their support, it's reassuring for me to give you a ring and receive advice and help. To the MBCC committee thank

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you for another year's dedication to your sport your tireless work is very appreciated by the members.

## 5. Secretary's Report

Well that's another year over - or should I say another one just begun? We have our Obedience and Rally shows next weekend and then at the end of April the Championship show and the seminar on the following day (there are still places for Toni Jackson's talk but the exam has been full since before Christmas)

Last year's Obedience weekend can be summed up with the word 'mud'.... the perils of any outdoor event in the UK!

Moving the Ch Sh to Moira last year was an experiment as so many don't like Stoneleigh and wanted outdoor rings (and we listen to our members). The weather wasn't that kind to us but I think the show was a success (ice cream always helps) - and we are at Moira again this year - BUT it is expensive to run this show there. This year the cost of the bigger and better marquee is huge... so after this show we will be asking the exhibitors for an honest opinion of the venue compared to Stoneleigh. We have a small committee and setting up the Ch Sh takes a lot of time and hard work....

I cajoled Bob into letting me organise the seminar - as a club it is our job to educate about the breed and we desperately need to get younger people to join us and to start judging. I hope we can continue to run educational seminars in the future.

As a club we are a proactive member of the Border Collie breed council - our 'voice' at the Kennel Club. We aim to work for the good of the breed at all times.

I couldn't do this job without Bob - and the rest of the committee. I appreciate everyone's efforts - and Joan has to be singled out as the one who reminds me to bring my decaf teabags and makes sure I get my tea!! Secretaries function best when powered by Twinings!

Thank you all for your continued support of the club - I look forward to the next couple of busy months and hope to see you at the various events. My car now knows the way from Kent to all of our venues!

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## 6. Treasurer's Report

I will open by confirming that the 2014 accounts were signed off without any queries arising and that the year end 2015 has also been signed off.

We have had quite a busy year during 2015 with two Open Breed Shows, one Championship Breed show, one Working Trial, one Rally show and three obedience shows. The result of all of these efforts has produced a net profit of £4362.78 which is a vast improvement on the last few years.

Although the figures of 2015 are exceptionally good they have been achieved in part by holding an additional obedience show and a new discipline, Rally show that has helped to offset the losses incurred on the two open breed shows.

Our first championship breed held at Moira was a success although the profit we made was comparable with the past ones made from the Championship Breed shows held at Stoneleigh in the past.

Going forward we are only holding two obedience shows, one rally show, one breed championship show and one open breed and limited obedience show. Barrie James is stepping down from the position of Working Trials Manager and we have been unable to replace him and therefore it has been decided in committee to withdraw from the working trials and concentrate on rally instead.

From an accounts point of view the two areas we need to monitor are the usual open breed and limited obedience, which is run at a loss, but is underwritten by the obedience and breed shows as agreed, a number of years ago, for the benefit of new participants in breed and obedience as well as up and coming judges. The other slight concern is the Breed Championship show which although very successful relies heavily on the British weather, and one way recommended by nearly all concerned during 2015 was to hire a marquee, which we have done for 2016 at a cost of £1250. We have passed on part of this cost (less than half) to our competitors via increased entry fees and the remainder will be offset against the profits we make from other shows.

Finally I am pleased to state that I feel the Club is going forward now we just need some new, strong able-bodied WORKERS!!

## 7. Approval of accounts

The accounts were approved by all present and passed.

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## 8. Election of auditors

It was agreed to continue using the same auditors - proposed Chris Johnson, seconded Hilary Kerr

## 9. Election of Officers and Committee

The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were all willing to serve for another year. No other nominations were received. All three were re-elected unanimously, proposed by Sheila Gay and seconded by Annette Walters

Under the rules of the club the following members of the committee were due for re-election and were willing to continue:

Valerie Earp and Joan Cattell were proposed by Hilary Kerr, seconded by Sheila Gay

Ann Jordan was absent and therefore will be co-opted at the next meeting.

There were no other nominations.

## 10. Any other business

Angela Jones asked about the Utility Days which the club used to run; it was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next committee meeting. Both Angela and Sheila Gay expressed a willingness to help.

Bob Tunnicliff mentioned a topic he had brought up at the BCC of Great Britain AGM regarding the possibility of purchasing land for the two clubs to use for event etc. After much discussion it was agreed that this will need a lot more investigation, but it will be on a future committee agenda.

Sheila Gay proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for their hard work. Carried.

Meeting closed 7.45 pm