

MINUTES

Haute Dawgs Agility Group Board Meeting

May 22, 2020 | *Meeting called to order by* Debbie Campbell at 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance via WebEx

Board members: Acting President Debbie Campbell, Vice President Sandy Taylor, Interim Treasurer and Past President Anna Potter, Secretary Kris Backus, Directors-at-Large Diane Adams, Daniel Edwards, Gail Gomes, Ann Kitchen

Guests: Cherie Singer (President of Ready to Run), Karin Bell (NADAC lead for HD), Justine Bradley (CPE Trial Chair)

Also invited but unable to attend: Susan Rapillus and Sue Horn

Discussion Topics

The following topics were discussed with the guests attending to get their ideas and input.

1. May Fun Match

Debbie had an extensive conversation with Susan about possibly running the fun match next weekend, but we did not have time to execute. Because we are running into hot weather, she has offered us two weekends to run the fun match – two weekends in a row, utilizing mornings on all four days. We will take this up with the board later in the meeting (2nd and/or 3rd week in June)

Susan said she would like us as a group to try to pull off our July CPE trial.

2. July CPE Trial

Justine reported her discussion with Ken Perlmutter, who is the judge for the July CPE trial. At this point he said he would come. Her goal is to start at 7 and be done by noon. Debbie asked if Anna could stand in for Ken if he decided not to judge, but she cannot due to knee surgery. Justine said she is willing to do the trial but has not put the premium together. Other local judges to consider: Todd Benson, Candy Rapp.

Diane said that we should discuss hospitality – should it even be a committee position at this point? Debbie and Susan talked about this and suggested we not provide any hospitality. Sandy suggested we should have access to bottled water.

3. Suggested protocols

Points from Ready 2 Run (Debbie and Cherie have the full list) – basically no hospitality, two course builders only (+ judge), try to nest courses, everything done electronically as much as can be, results posted on wall or just electronically, limited sealed containers or no hospitality at all, (no ice chests), masks worn except when running, limit spectators within building (including handlers entered in trial), limit who can come to trial (even spouses) unless they are designated all-day workers.

We need protocols for bathrooms, exercise areas, etc.

Daniel's suggestions:

- take mask off when you run
- leash in pocket when you run

Other's thoughts:

- Allow cancellations at last minute to allow people who are sick to enter and then leave
- Are we willing to take a loss for a while as we figure out the situation?
- Consider limiting the amount of gift certificates and other free entries that you will accept at a trial to help your bottom line.
- Debbie said she and Susan said 1) we will save money on hospitality, 2) instead of a full-blown worker's raffle, maybe just consider offering gift certificates, 3) have ring stewards put raffle tickets in for workers so we don't have to be passing out tickets
- We need to procure hand sanitizer to provide at our trials (WAG should not be supplying them at our trials.)
- We may need more than two course builders for CPE.
- Anna said exhibitors need to take more responsibility for things, such as for bringing their own water, food, hand sanitizer.

4. Financial considerations

Cherie reported that NADAC has done well financially because we can run 6-8 runs per dog. With the current situation, we will have to limit the number of runs. We have the potential to lose a lot of money. We may need to change our pricing policy.

5. Summer trials

Karin said: one of the best things you can do to limit your expenses is to try to get a local judge.

For July CPE, Anna said we have limited the # of runs, limited the # classes, and we always bring in a CA judge. And we've also never really made a lot of money on that trial. And this year we will be sharing judge expenses with WAG because Ken will be judging WAG's trial the next weekend.

August NADAC Disco Nights trial has made some money in the past. A couple notes: for this year Daniel secured Merlette, a local judge. He has not put in the application for the trial yet.

Justine asked if we were going to be giving out ribbons at our trials? She suggested maybe not offering any ribbons except title ribbons (NATCH, CATCH, etc.)

Kris suggested using our website to disseminate up-to-date information for our trials, particularly if we have waivers that must be completed.

Karin said that all attendees who come to a trial, whether they are running or not, are required by NADAC to complete a waiver. We need to include these waivers either with the premium or with the confirmation sent to the handler.

Karin brought up Day-of-Entries and suggested allowing these going forward for NADAC.

Guests left meeting 7:35 pm.

Board-Only Portion of the Meeting

1. SHOULD WE MOVE FORWARD WITH JUNE FUN MATCH?

Susan at WAG has offered us two weekends in June to hold fun matches, from 8am to 1 each day. 10 competitors each hour, 4 runs at \$7.25 per run, a total of 50 runs each day. 20 minutes each ring. We would need 2 workers in each ring. Overall, need 3 dedicated workers each day, and course builders (at least two) day before or morning of. Probably 14-18 different workers.

Anna asked how much enforcement of COVID 19 safety protocols we would do, such as using gloves when you open/close a gate or touch railings, etc. Should we require people to bring their own gloves, hand sanitizers? And how are we going to enforce the physical distancing.

MOTION

Ann moved that we cancel the fun match and do not request repayment from WAG. Anna seconded.

In favor: Ann, Anna, Diane, Kris, Gail, Sandy

Against: --

Abstain: Daniel, Debbie

Motion passed to CANCEL fun match. The money has already been paid to WAG. We will not request a refund.

2. SHOULD WE MOVE FORWARD WITH THE JULY CPE AND AUGUST NADAC TRIALS?

Debbie would like to see both go forward. Anna feels like we are not ready. Ann said that she thinks that as a club we have a responsibility to ourselves and others. She, as a judge, is only going to outdoor facilities, and she will only go where exhibitors are wearing masks. Debbie said that in CPE most judges can distance themselves far enough away, but Ann said that when people are running the distance needs to be more like 30 feet, not just 6.

Daniel suggested that if we want to require masks at our trials that we have a box of the blue disposable masks available for purchase (at cost), as these seem to restrict air flow less than a cloth mask.

Debbie had another thought, from a discussion with Susan: for ADA compliance, we cannot require anyone to wear a mask. If they say they have a medical condition we cannot require them to wear a mask. Others refuted this.

Ann suggested that we cancel our July/August trials to minimize losses (but still pay WAG the rental fee.)

Daniel thought it was too early to cancel the August trial.

Debbie would like to move forward with the July trial. She suggests that on June 24th we meet again to determine whether or not we cancel it. (Note: CPE allows trials to be cancelled up to July 31, 2020 with application fees applied to a future trial.) Ann said that we should include the COVID 19 waiver with our premium for any trials we move forward with.

MOTION

Anna moved to move forward with the July CPE trial, ask Justine to create and send the premium to CPE, and that on June 24th we will reconvene to determine if we will be moving forward with the trial.

Gail and Diane seconded.

In favor: Anna, Diane, Daniel, Gail, Debbie, Kris

Against: Ann

Abstain: Sandy

Motion passed. We will move forward with the July CPE trial, and reconvene the board on June 24th – changed to 26th at 6:30 - to revisit CPE guidelines and Sac County guidelines and reserve the right to cancel the trial at that time.

MOTION

Daniel moved that we move forward similarly with the August NADAC trial, creating and sending the premium to NADAC.

Discussion: Ann asked what we are out financially if we have to cancel. Daniel said he believes it is similar to CPE – we will either get a refund or fees applied to future trial.

Anna seconded it.

In favor: Ann, Diane, Daniel, Gail, Debbie, Kris, Anna

Against:

Abstain: Sandy

Motion passed. We will move forward with the August NADAC trial. We will revisit whether we will cancel or continue on at our meeting scheduled for June 26th.

3. SURVEY

Debbie will put together a survey to gauge interest and potential participation in upcoming trials. She will do this with Susan and Justine's help.

Anna suggested sending it to the Haute Dawgs members list, Haute Dawgs events list, and Susan's WAG list.

4. FINANCES

Anna reported that we have about \$36,500 in the bank right now. We had to reimburse Trisha Stall, our judge for the May CPE trial – we paid her \$500 for her airfare. But we got a \$1700 refund from Dixon Fairgrounds for the April USDAA that we cancelled. For the May trial, one of our exhibitors donated her entry fees (\$130), so we used that to purchase t-shirts for the WAG fundraiser.

We have not made any donations this year except to CCI for Christine Johnson, and to WAG (our rental fees in May and June – fun match.)

WAG fees owed for the May trial and fun match were sent to WAG - \$900 fun match and \$2330 for May trial.

We will be paying for our annual insurance premium in the next month, which currently is about \$2,500.

5. INSURANCE

The executive board will set up a separate meeting to discuss our insurance this upcoming year. We are considering adding coverage but need more information from our insurance agency.

Summary of Action items:

- Debbie: notify Susan that fun match is cancelled.

- Debbie: notify Justine to move forward with July CPE, with caveat that we will revisit on June 26th whether we will go forward or not.
- Daniel: move forward with August NADAC, with caveat that we will revisit on June 26th whether we will go forward or not.
- Debbie: work with Susan and Justine to craft a survey to gauge interest/participation at upcoming trials and send to various lists noted above.
- Debbie: notify Kris when all notifications are done so she can update website.

Next meetings:

- June 26th 6:30 p.m. – revisit July CPE and August NADAC trials
- May 28th 6:30 p.m. – (executive board only) discuss insurance

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.