

Fall Meeting November 5, 2024

The Ville Cooperative



Members Presents:

Jeri, Melissa, Anna-Leah, Meghan S, Elizabeth, Ariel G, Megan A, Courtney, Leah

Welcome and Last Meeting:

- Anna-Leigh welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes from the last meeting were not read over as they were emailed prior to the meeting for everyone to read.
- Moved by Elizabeth to accept the minutes. Seconded by Leah. Carried.

Financial Report:

- Melissa went over the financial report from April 2024 to Nov 2024.
 - April 2024 balance: \$26,460.67.
 - Income: \$29,191.86 coming from membership, lessons/training, trials and venue rental.
 - Expenses: \$22,227.11 on venue, trainers, trials, and insurance fees.
 - Nov 2024 balance: \$33,425.52
- Moved by Jeri to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Meghan S. Carried.

Website:

- Refreshed in June 2024. Updated photos.
- Would be ideal to find a member/someone who can take photos of dogs at TNT who would then allow us to post to our website.
- June 2025 will refresh the website - so send in your photos when Leah requests them.
- Leah/Jeri to add new intermediate students to the private facebook group.
- Jeri suggested creating helpful videos - tips and tricks - and posting to the private facebook group. Things like setting tunnels, jumps, distances, etc.

Education and Training:

- Intermediate class is finished - in the dark the last 9 weeks, using solar lights.
 - We can't put up permanent light poles because we don't own the property. Next season Jeri is going to have a better plan in place for lighting the area for the late classes - the darkness is very challenging to teach and learn in. Open to suggestions for non permanent solar light ideas.

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- Jeri proposed changing Intro and Foundations classes each from 6 weeks to 5 weeks, while keeping the price of class the same. We are still the cheapest group classes in the area. This allows 2 more weeks of daylight in the fall for Intermediate class.
 - Melissa updated the policy doc to reflect this change - Completed on Nov 11.
 - Leah to update website to reflect this change.
 - Moved by Meghan S to reduce each class as above to 5 weeks, Seconded by Leah. Carried.
- Jeri has sent all the TNT tracking that she did this year to Melissa. An invoice will be sent out to anyone who has an unpaid balance.

TNT Review:

- Overall, TNT went well. No punch cards this year as they were hard to keep track of who paid for them and to punch them when people entered the ring.
- Jeri tracked on a paper weekly who attended, number of runs, and if they paid cash. Jeri collected the cash, kept track of these payments and submitted all information to the treasurer.
- People can e-transfer money for TNT at any time and it's applied to their TNT balance. Please indicate the e-transfer is for TNT.
- Proposed new groupings for 2025 to ensure all heights get an equal opportunity to go first in the rotation. Special and vets fall into their jump height category.
 - Small/Puppy - 0 to 12"
 - Medium - 16"
 - Large - 20" and 24"

Field/Barn:

- Pickup Watch for email, proposed date is Nov 24, 2024. Sooner if it snows!
- Barn. Treva has agreed to rent the Kapers the barn again for 2024/2025.
 - Use the white board. Rotate by dog, not human.
 - 5 slots is good.
- Field:
 - Too much poop in the field! People are not watching their dogs while they set courses/walk courses/fix jumps/etc. Dogs shouldn't be loose in the training fields when not training. Leash or crate dogs when not training.
 - Report broken fence/equipment to equipment rep. Some equipment is left too long broken before it is noticed by the equipment rep and repaired.
 - Fence is sagging - Don't lean anything on the fence.

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- Field rules:
 - Meghan S will build a sign for next spring that includes important field use rules.
 - Put tunnel bags on carts.
 - Put cotter pins into equipment, not pockets.
 - Trash in the trash can, not beside the fence or in the shed.
 - Close the gates.
 - No loose dogs in the field - crate or leash dogs when not training.
 - Report broken fence/equipment to equipment rep.
 - Private Property/Members only.
 - Don't lean anything on the fence
- Field use:
 - We don't have a contract to rent our field to other organizations. Only the Kapers can host events that support the Kapers.
 - Members can create a proposal to host an event/seminar, however, the event must be hosted by the Kapers, financially and by membership.
 - Most of our equipment is used by membership, and we don't carry insurance to rent our equipment for off site use.
 - Policy doc states:
 - The facility is not available for use or rent by non-club members (unless they are a Visitor as per Section 3: Facility Users/Fees - Visitors) or to be used for non-agility related events.
 - Equipment rental is on a case by case basis and is only available for official agility trial events by a recognized association, such as UKI, AAC. Equipment is not available to rent for private use off site.
- An email will be going out about packing up the field. The date discussed at the meeting was November 24.

Equipment:

- Wagons - need 10 in total. Keep watch on Princess Auto for upcoming sale, and purchase 6 more wagons.
 - Moved by Leah we purchase 6 more wagons. Seconded by Elizabeth. Carried.
- Wagons - look at buying foam tires to replace as needed in the future.
- Discussed Wall Jump purchase. They cost \$600-\$1200 with taxes and delivery.
 - Agility world wall jump might be too lightweight for outdoor use.
 - Galican wall jump is good quality - cost is \$1200 with taxes, shipping.
 - Meghan S will compare the possible options.

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- Brittany and Meghan S will host the May long weekend fun match in 2025 to cover the cost of the wall jump.
- Moved by Meghan S that we purchase a wall jump with funds raised at the fun match. Seconded by Leah. Carried.
- Will need to replace the training field wing jumps in a couple years.
 - Muskoka Wing Jump are good quality and heavier to stand up to the wind.
- Selling old equipment - Meghan S will look into this in the spring.
- Missing 2x2 weave pole base - # 5. Keep your eyes open for it at fall pack-up.
- Missing A frame stride regulator. Stride regulators must be attached to a frame or dog walk when not in use. Keep your eyes open for it at fall pack-up.

Member Engagement:

- Ideas to get people more involved.
 - Kapers bucks - more money/value for different work events or more work?
 - Discussed increasing membership fees for people who would rather pay more than complete volunteer jobs. Not everyone has extra time helping and would rather pay a larger membership fee.
 - Discussed how to recognize people who volunteer.
 - Discussed creating a signup sheet for all members, and every member must sign up for a decided upon number of activities per year. Or if they can't help, they can pay a larger membership fee. This is something that other local Fredericton organizations have implemented and it works well.
- Increase membership fee:
 - Need more awareness ahead of the meeting if a membership fee increase is going to be incorporated. Will add to the agenda in 2025 and anyone who wants to discuss it can plan to attend the meeting.

Trials:

- Prizes: Meghan S will coordinate volunteer prizes.
- Top dog prizes:
 - Coastal graphics for hats for top advanced dog. Anna-Leigh
 - Glasses for top masters dog. Meghan Shaw.
 - Key chains for top starter dog. Anna-Leigh
 - Pens - "My dog won me this pen at K9 Kapers!" Anna-Leigh
- Discussed hosting the new Biathlon event at the June and September trials. Everyone agreed as long as we can get a judge that is approved to judge the event.

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- Meghan S will be the trial secretary for our June trial, the date will be June 6-9, 2025.
 - Friday night: Steeplechase and Snooker.
 - Saturday: Standard, Biathlon Agility, Gamblers, and Jumpers.
 - Sunday: Gamblers, Standard, Biathlon Jumping, and Jumpers,
- Brittany will be the trial secretary for our September trial, the date will be September 5-7, 2025.
 - Friday night: 2 Steeplechase.
 - Saturday: Standard, Biathlon Agility, Snooker, Jumpers.
 - Sunday: Gamblers, Standard, Biathlon Jumping, and Jumpers.

Christmas Party:

- Leah has volunteered to host the Christmas party at her home. Dec 15. 6pm-9pm. With a Yankee swap and a potluck. All members are welcome, please join in the fun and get to know other members.

Jeri moved to adjourn the meeting.