



Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order

A meeting of the MANITOBA GAZEHOUND ASSOCIATION was held at CANDACE COOK'S HOME on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2017.

2. Attendees

Attendees included KARL SCHNABLEGGER, BRYAN PEAKE, TANNIS TINDALL, CHRISTINE GILLIES & CANDACE COOK

3. Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included VAL ANDREY, LAYNA & REED ALLAN, and PAULA MELLEEN.

Approval of minutes: Vote not taken to approve previous minutes however no comments were received.

4. Reports

NO REPORTS

5. Unfinished business

LIABILITY INSURANCE: The club's insurance is now in place. We were only able to afford General Insurance and not the Officer's Coverage. This makes it even more imperative that Waivers be used. This means at practices as well. No one runs a dog without signing a Waiver - club members included. I have created an annual waiver that is to be used at all practices. Karl and Christine have copies. Candace will send a soft copy of the Waiver to Karl. Additionally, a binder to keep signed waivers and a list has been created by Candace. Binder to be kept with field equipment.

BANK SIGNING AUTHORITY: Signing authority at the Bank of Montreal has been switched from Val Andrey to Candace Cook. New cheques have been received.

SPONSORED PULLEYS: Are still not marked with sponsor's names as was initially planned. Karl will have this done over the winter so that they are marked for our first run in 2018. Candace will resend the information/names to be marked on the pulleys to Karl.

CONSTITUTION: Copies provided to those in attendance. Candace will email copies to absent members. If everyone could review this very old document and suggest changes when we meet next (spring 2018).

ORANGE FLYER: Another copy of the flyer was provided to Bryan who will review and suggest changes. Once updated, this flyer can be used as a handout at shows, pet stores etc.

INVENTORY: Karl and Christine were asked to inventory the field items in their possession. To be completed over the winter so that we have a clear idea of what we have prior to first practice in the spring.

VIDEO CLIP FOR WEBSITE: Candace will contact Deb Robertson to ask for permission to include a video clip of her Papillon running Chase. Deb will need to upload the video and send to Karl.

CONTACT INFORMATION ON WEBSITE: Completed.

SIGHTHOUND SPECIALTY IN 2018: Specialty will be held at the Portage la Prairie show on Sunday, July 1st. The Portage Kennel Club was able to get Jocelyn Gagne under contract for the last 2 days of the show. She has been offered to us for our Specialty on the Sunday. PKC will be responsible for all of Jocelyn's travel and accommodation costs. It was agreed by members in attendance to contract Jocelyn for 1 Chase and 1 Lure Coursing Trial for the same day. PKC advises that they can free her up later in the afternoon. Christine has offered to judge 2 Chase Tests the day before - Saturday, June 30th - likely after Best in Show (around 6 pm).

\$200 was the dollar amount agreed upon for Specialty trophies. It was also suggested that sponsors for various classes be approached. Donations to be looked for as well. Candace will speak with Layna to discuss.

Field Trial judges are not normally paid however it was agreed that the MGA should provide Jocelyn with a gift card - Visa or MasterCard. \$ amount to be discussed at a later date.

The above information regarding the Specialty/Field Trial/Chase Tests was:

Motion to accept made by Tannis Tindall

2nd by Christine Gillies.

Vote was unanimous - ALL IN FAVOR.

Tannis to provide Candace with a sample judging contract as soon as possible.

6. New business

SEPT 9/17 CHASE REVIEW: Weather notwithstanding, the day was a success. Everyone had a lot of fun, the event ran smoothly and the MGA made \$285.95 after expenses. CKC took their cut of \$148.05 and the Field cost \$50.00. Only positive remarks were received.

HOLE IN FIELD:- Bryan brought up the possibility of finding dangerous holes in the running field and suggested that a bag of sand be on hand. After discussion, it was determined that dirt is better than sand and all we need to remember is to bring a shovel/spade to the field where we can scoop a bit of dirt from the edges to fill in any small holes.

2018 DATES FOR LURE COURSING TRIALS AND CHASEABILITY TESTS: After a bit of discussion the following dates were put forth:

JUNE 8/18 - 2 CHASE TESTS

JUNE 9/18 - 1 CHASE TEST - 1 LURE COURSING TRIAL

JUNE 10/18 - 1 LURE COURSING TRIAL

Vicki Fagre-Stroetz from Minnesota has agreed to come up to judge. Thank you Christine for contacting Vicki.

JUNE 30/18 - 1 CHASE TEST

JULY 1/18 - 1 CHASE TEST AND 1 LURE COURSING TRIAL

These will coincide with our Sighthound Specialty. Jocelyne Gagne has been asked to judge the Field Trials/Chase on July 1st however I have not yet received a reply.

SEPTEMBER 15/18 - 2 CHASE TESTS

SEPTEMBER 16/18 - 1 CHASE TEST

With pending rules regarding Chase Judges, we are hoping Tannis and/or Karl will be able to judge on these dates. If not, then Christine will judge.

Morning tests/trials will have a roll call time of 8:30 am with a start time of 9 am.

The above information regarding the Specialty/Field Trial/Chase Tests was:

Motion to accept made by Tannis Tindall

2nd by Karl Schnablegger

Vote was unanimous -ALL IN FAVOR

MEMBERSHIP DUES: MGA Membership dues are due January 1st of each year and are currently set at \$25 annually. Candace asked if the dues should be reduced to \$15 for NEW MEMBERS ONLY after JULY 10TH of any given year.

Motion at accept made by Candace

2nd by Tannis

Vote was unanimous -ALL IN FAVOR

Paula Mellen applied and paid for membership to the MGA this summer. According to the Constitution, all new memberships must be voted on.

Motion to accept Paula's membership made by Candace

Seconded by Tannis

Vote was unanimous - ALL IN FAVOR

EQUIPMENT WISH LIST: All members had suggestions and items were allocated to a NEED or WANT list as follows. As the club is just starting to build up a bit of a bank account we need to keep our spending in check however to grow the club we need good field equipment and some advertising.

NEEDS: 2 BATTERIES - DEEP CELL (Christine checking into prices and Tannis and Candace can check prices while in the US later this year)

PULLEYS - CORNER HOLD DOWN - QTY 3

BATTERY CHARGER (Karl to determine if he has one at home we can use)

EQUIPMENT DOLLY - (Karl has been shopping around and has found one that will cost approx. \$120.00. His brother has just purchased one himself so Karl is going to check it out before we order.

WANTS: SMALL TRAILER (This would be lovely however club would need a lot of money in order to pay for this luxury item.

WICKET - There is some discussion about needing to determine height on some of the non-purebred dogs that enter Chase Ability. Many pet owners don't actually know how tall their dogs are and it makes a difference on course length. Karl and Christine talking about the possibility of building our own.

3' x 3' DIRECTIONAL SIGN - A sign directing people to our practice locations would be very useful. Bryan knows of a number of people who could not find the practice site. This sign would need to be free standing.

MGA CLUB BUSINESS CARDS - This would allow us to all have a few in our wallets to hand out to people interested in learning more about the club, our practices and Trials/Tests. Candace has agreed to check into prices.

Motion made by CANDACE to PURCHASE 2 BATTERIES, 3 PULLYS & EQUIPMENT DOLLY (Wicket, Directional Sign and Business Cards to be purchased if sufficient funds available in spring of 2018)

Seconded by BRYAN

Vote was unanimous - ALL IN FAVOR

WEBSITE ADDITIONS: It was asked if a small map could be put on the website to direct people to our practices. Karl advised that a map was already on the site.

Another suggestion was that we all submit a bit of information about our dogs that are featured on the website. Karl said adding this type of information is possible so everyone should send Karl a wee bit of info to be added. (EXAMPLE: Show dog, Therapy dog, #1 Couch Potato etc.)

FACEBOOK - Bryan mentioned the possibility of creating a Face Book page and was advised that the MGA already has one.

SPONSORS: Members discussed the possibility of getting sponsors for our Trials/Tests. This might be a difficult task as we are not well known however everyone should keep sponsorship in mind. If you know of a company or person who might be interested please approach them.

VOLUNTEERS: Bryan advised members that perhaps we could advertise on-line for volunteers to assist with practices, fund raising etc. He knows volunteers are often utilized for a variety of activities. Bryan will check on-line for more information and report back. Volunteers, if they have dogs could be offered free practice runs.

FLYERS: It was agreed that we should have some flyers created to promote our 2018 events. These could be put up at pet stores, taken to dog shows, vet offices etc. Will someone please contact Candace to collaborate? I cannot do everything on my own.

PRE-PRACTICE ANNOUNCEMENT: A number of non-members, particularly those with non-purebred dogs have mentioned that they do not feel comfortable or welcomed at our practices and some have even stopped attending. It is in the MGA's best interest to change those initial impressions. We need to focus on their dogs and not our own, as our dogs accomplishments can be intimidating to others just starting out. It was agreed that we should be holding a short meeting prior to all practices (Not required at Trials and Tests as Registrations, Payments, Waivers & Lameness Check are done).

Karl has come up with a list of items that should go into our announcement meeting:

- **INTRODUCTIONS** (Present members and our capacities)
- **SAFETY DETAILS** (Where to release dogs and where to catch them, avoiding the line while in motion etc.)

- INSTRUCTIONS ON PROPER RELEASING (Perhaps even a demonstration)
- WAIVERS - (Confirmation that all have signed waiver)
- PAYMENT (Confirmation that everyone has paid the practice fee prior to running).
- UNDER 12" or BRACHYCEPHALIC DOGS - (Having owner identify such dogs)

THANK YOU KARL FOR THIS LIST - I BELIEVE THIS COVERS ALL IMPORTANT ITEMS. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A CLUB MEMBER IN ATTENDANCE TO ENSURE THIS PRE-MEETING TAKE PLACE.

DISPLAY FOR SPONSOR NAME: Christine brought up the idea of having something to display the names of those who have sponsored our club in some manner (monetary or with items such as the pulleys). She has seen this done in the Agility world where their jumps display names. Does anyone have any ideas of something that we can perhaps build inexpensively and transport easily? Waiting for comments from all members.

APPRECIATION FOR FORMER EXECUTIVE: It is imperative that our sincere thanks be extended to all MGA members (current or otherwise) that put so much time and work into their positions on the Executive. Ladies such as Val Andrey and Diane Ford deserve a real round of applause. Thanks again Val and Diane.

FUNDRAISING: The dreaded but necessary part of any club. We need ideas from everyone!!!

The idea of holding a FUN OBEDIENCE & RALLY MATCH. At our last match, Conformation entries were very low likely because most of the shows are now holding a match the night prior. Ideally, our match would be held just before a show. Christine is going to check the availability of the Bradford building in April 2018.

A second fundraising idea is a FUN CHASE. More thought needs to go into this idea as we would need some sort of a draw - what would make it any different than a practice? Prizes? For what? Again - ideas most welcome.

NEW WEBSITE HOSTING SERVER: Karl has advised that the website will be moved to a new server and he is willing to maintain the site in exchange for his annual membership. Karl will reconstruct the website and train Tannis so that we have access if Karl is unavailable.

Motion to accept made by Tannis Tindall

2nd by Candace Cook

Karl Abstained

Vote was unanimous -ALL IN FAVOR

RACING BLANKETS: Christine is going to speak to a seamstress about the cost of producing a set of blankets for the club. If the price is good, we may want to consider having a few sets on hand to sell (for a wee profit).

ROSETTES FOR TITLE ATTAINMENT: Currently there is nothing provided by the MGA to participants who has a dog that attains a title - Chase or Lure Coursing. It was thought that a Rosette might be a nice way to congratulate those that support the sport. Will need to discuss numbers and costs at a later date. Any further thoughts?

LURE COURSING COUNCIL: Christine had a number of issues that the Council discussed, dismissed and/or passed. Most of the issues do not have a direct effect on the MGA at this time however there was one issue is going to be beneficial to our club. This concerns Chase Ability Judges. The Council passed a recommendation to permit persons with Lure Coursing experience, who are CKC members in good standing and who has been involved in Coursing in some working capacity the opportunity to judge. The CKC will be holding a Board meeting in December so with fingers cross we hope they will not only approve this recommendation but make it valid for 2018. Should the approval be received, Tannis and Karl will need a letter of endorsement from the MGA.

Another Council topic was the possibility of having a Veterans class for Chase Ability. Not sure if this would benefit anyone since apparently the course would not be shortened for Veterans. Ribbons would be coloured SILVER.

KNIFE/SCISSORS AT HAND: Discussion centered on the importance of having a knife and/or scissors with the Huntmaster (at a minimum) in case a dog gets tangled. Safety must be of utmost importance. Candace will purchase a couple of pairs of scissors to have in the equipment box - which must be handed out at the beginning of the practice/trial/test.

Candace Cook

Secretary

Date of approval