



Dogs NZ Scent Work Committee Minutes for 1st September 2024

Commenced 7:33pm

1. **Roll:** Arend Van den Bos (AvdB) - Chairperson, Karen Magorian (KM), Lyn Clearwater (LC), Jo Searle (JS), Judy Wilson (JW), Rachel Rait (RR), Joanna Upton (JU), Fiona Hodgson
2. **Apologies:** Nil
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Recorded as accepted. **Moved:** JS; **Seconded:** RR
4. **Matters Arising from previous Minutes:**

Offline Searches – AvdB reported that information had now been received from the American Kennel Club, indicating that they allow Offline Searches only within contained or confined environments. Same therefore as the criteria set by the Australian National Kennel Council, other than Australia does not permit Offline Searches for Vehicle Searches.

Based on the information now received, AvdB presented a proposed regulation addition to allow for Offline Searches to be an available option for Container, Interior and Exterior Searches, within contained or confined environments.

Proposal was accepted, with some additional information to be added regarding collar and harness still being worn by the dog and the lead being required to be held by the handler during Offline searches. Neither will a Penalty be awarded if the handler reattaches the line to their dog during an Offline search.

Scent Work Finance – AvdB advised that Dogs NZ Treasurer has advised that approximately \$1900 is available for specific Scent Work activity.

Some concern was raised at the amount being surprisingly low, given that two thirds of each Trials Subsidy and annual Judges Licence Fees are supposed to be paid into the Scent Work account.

Awards/Titles – AvdB presented a proposal which simplified the presentation of Titles/Awards after a dog's name. After some discussion, it was resolved to maintain for the present the status quo until the new Scent Work Register currently being constructed is active.

5. **Report from EC meetings:** No Report as FH was overseas at the time of the last Dogs NZ EC Meeting.
6. **Email votes: All Endorsed**
Matilda van Rijnberk – Excellent Exterior - Promotion
Chris Richardson – All Advanced Classes
Barabara Nolan – Advanced Vehicle - Promotion
Trudy Hutchison – All Novice Classes – First Appointment
Kim Burford – All Novice Classes – First Appointment
Counties Dog Training Club – 9/10 November 2024 -Scent Work Trial
7. **Regulations:** AvdB submitted a proposal to amend Reg 10.3 to clarify the number of entries being permitted to be accepted for a Trial per day. **Accepted Unanimously.**
8. **General Business:**
 - a) Qualifying Scent Work Trials. - Other than Counties DTC, nil others received.
 - b) Appointments/Promotions – Other than those voted upon electronically, nil further received.
 - c) A request was made to abbreviate the Judges Application for Promotion Form to eliminate detail already filed. AvdB advised that such a form already exists but appears not to be well known or used.

- d) Several Scent Work committee members had recently received written and verbal concerns regarding a Master Vehicle that appeared to have not been conducted in accordance with the Dogs NZ Scent Work Regulations. This matter was discussed, and the allegations were substantiated.

AvdB stated that he shall write to the presiding Scent Work Judge and hosting Society stating that a Master Vehicle Search, during a Qualifying Dogs NZ Scent Work Trial, was reported as having been conducted in contradiction to the Dogs NZ Scent Work Regulations, and that this incident shall be reported to Dogs New Zealand along with a recommendation that all results for this specific Search be voided.

- e) FH raised the point that it appeared Scent Work Judges were able to graduate quite swiftly without significant background experience.

The matter is to be further investigated.

- f) A question was raised as to whether the Minutes of the Scent Work Committee were published on the Dogs NZ Scent Work Webpage. A confirmation that this was being done was expressed, but that there had been a delay by Dogs NZ in doing so recently.

- g) Scent Work Calendar and Judges listing on Dogs NZ Webpage requires updating.

KM stated that all required information had been presented to Dogs NZ, but with a change of staff, delays had occurred in having the information displayed.

- h) Clarification was sought regarding whether an Alert called on a previously called Hide was regarded as a Penalty or a Disqualification. Consensus was that, as was always the intent, that it be regarded as a Penalty.

Meeting Closed: 9.30 PM

- 9. **Next meeting: 9th October 2024 (7.30 PM via Zoom)**