2016 AGM Minutes—Barrie Ontario
May 28, 2016
These minutes are unapproved until the 2017 AGM

Attendees: Judy Miller, Jeanne Shaw, Brian Smith, Bev Hurst, Debby DaCosta, Brenda Zeng, Joan Richard, Joan Reid, Gwen Little, Barb Gaffney, Billie McLean, Linda Lehouillier, Sarah Hughes, Sandra Cumming

Meeting Opened at 12:05pm

1. **Roll Call**

2. **Chair's Opening Statement**

Judy read the following letter from Sarah Jane Petti

"Greetings and welcome to the 2016 AGM!

I regret that I am not able to be at the meeting and trial in person to get to know all of you, but I am busy at home adjusting to life with my first child.

The two main areas of change that occurred in the past year have been less visible to members than in previous years, as they have not focused on the rules. In November, new by-laws were passed by a large portion of the membership. The new by-laws clarified membership requirements for voting, the voting process, and most importantly, introduced the Board of Directors which allows for 4 directors, elected by region. The first election for these roles has yet to be held, but setting the bylaws to do this was an important first step which required a good deal of time and effort.

The second main focus of the executive this year was the migration of the website and the database to a new programming host. The company used for many years by CARO was no longer able, due to other larger contracts, to re respond in a timely manner to requested changes and fixes. This took considerably more time than expected, but will allow us to get to the heart of a number of problems with issuing titles and certificates, as well as allow us to examine new titling possibilities. A big thank you to all the competitors for your patience as we work to resolve the data problems, and a big thank you to Bev for her patience with the data entry as we work to resolve the problem.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of CARO In many regions of the country, times have been tough and the executive recognizes that all competitors are choosing where to put their dog sport dollars amongst an ever increasing number of dog sports and venues. I believe that the continued success of CARO has to do with the friendly and warm attitude that everyone brings to the ring, the knowledge and professionalism of our judges, and the organization and pleasantness of our trial hosts.

Enjoy the rest of the AGM and the trial!
Sarah Jane Petti

Chair—Canadian Association of Rally Obedience

3. Review and acceptance of 2015 minutes

The 2015 minutes have been posted on the website for several months; additional copies were handed out.
Motion: that the minutes be accepted as presented
Moved by Brian; Seconded by Jeanne
No discussion
Motion carried

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Question regarding election of directors
As stated in Sarah Jane's letter, the election will be by region but the first election for these roles has yet to be held.

5. Reports

a) **Secretary**—verbal report from Jeanne--Jeanne was appointed secretary by the board when Sarah Jane became president; nominations for the position were taken in the spring and Jeanne was acclaimed secretary

b) **Treasurer**—Brian handed out copies of the 2015 financial report. Debbie moved acceptance of the financial report; Jeanne seconded; no questions or discussion; motion passed

c) **Website**—Jennifer Oldfield not present; nothing to report

d) **Membership / Dog ID**

a. 60 new members in 2015
b. 425 dogs registered

e) **Trial**--verbal report from Bev

a. 2015-- 89 trials
b. 2016 so far--50

f) **Judges** --Judy

a. 47 active judges

g) **Rules Committee**—verbal report from Debby

There is a steady flow of requests for rule changes/modifications coming in. Would like the process to happen faster but lives get in the way. When Debby gets a request and as it is discussed, she documents and summarizes the discussion and sends this document back to the person who requested the rule change. Right now there are 3 outstanding requests that need to be completed and then go to the executive; one rule has passed and needs to be updated in the MGH

Suggestion from the floor to deal with ONE rule change at a time, discuss it, and then move on to the next. This is what will be done in the future since it's too confusing otherwise

6. **Old Business**
   a) More levels (brought forward from 2015)
      --level between novice and advanced
         --this is in process but presently on hold until data base is finished; data base is making too many mistakes (not Bev, the data base) Bev having to manually assign 50% of titles
      --we hope to have this straightened out in last couple of months

7. **New Business**
   a) Can we send in electronic results?
      Action: on hold till database finished

   b) Appendices of forms is numbered incorrectly in the MGH—and some have no form number
      Action: Need to redo appendix to match the form numbers

   c) Removal of stand for exam in Advanced
      Reason: rescue dogs, slow judge affects someone's time, safety to judges
      Options—walk around; stand stay;
      Action: survey members using survey monkey to get input of replacement exercises or if it should just be removed (and at what level or all levels?)

   d) Length of time for trial approval
      Need letter back from approver—should come within 48 hours; there may have been issues with email fwded from carotrialapprover@gmail.com being sent to spam on Ayoka's personal email
      Action: Amend trial application to include a like that that if you have not received acknowledgement within 48 hours you should contact again.

   e) Advanced Team when there is no bye dog
      In the works—one of the 3 rules committee requests that have not yet been completed yet. (don't have to have an advanced title to be a bye dog)
      What about using non-relatives run dogs in team? Can one person run both dogs with someone holding the second dog?—part of this is promotion of caro in a small remote area—
      Can one person with two dogs do a team run, perhaps by having someone else stand with the dog that is not running?
      Action: send to the rules committee (anyone can run a dog in team?)

   f) Versatility Team

"*Each pair side / course must be designed so that one dog/handler pair has either a tunnel or weave to complete and the second pair either completes the obstacle a second time or completes either the Moving Side Step Left or a Fast station"*

Action: This needs to be reworded so that it is clearer for designing judges---perhaps 2 sentences?

g) Moving Side Step in Versatility

Why is this advanced sign in versatility? Because moving side step was a novice exercise years ago and it was after we developed versatility that we changed the novice sign to halt side step halt.

There is no Halt Side Step Right Halt for Versatility Excellent

Action: Bev will make a sign

h) Touching of dog

Rule book says that the dog can be petted but doesn't say at what level(s)…need to clarify this since petting is a 'reward'. There is one place in the MGH where it is clear that petting cannot happen in Versatility but another place where it sounds like it is appropriate at any level.

Action: MGH needs to be clarified

i) Need for the AGM to be in Ontario every 2 years so that judges can meet the requirement of attending one every 3 years.

Action: Reminder that judges seminars do not have to be held only in conjunction with the AGM

j) Location and Date 2017--in Pitt Meadows (near Abbotsford) and hosted by Anthea Young Miller and Dove Cresswell of DogWorks.

k) Location and Date 2018—in Regina, hosted by KAOS

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Jeanne;
Seconded by Brian
Motion carried at 12:58 pm