AGM—May 15, 2021 via Zoom

Meeting opened at 3:07 Pacific Time

1. **Roll Call (and identification of voting members)**

Jeanne Shaw (m), Judy Miller (m), Barb Burgess (m), Sarah Jane Petti (m), Patricia Hunt (m), Joan Richard (m), Julia Schwark (m), Shianna Fairley, Neil Slack (m), Melody Murray (m), Brenda Zeng (m), Lillian Cook (m), Shelly Lyck (m), Patricia Tschanen, Lisa Hasebe (m), Christine Ryder (m), Maggie Bird (m), Sharon Cameron, Chantal Rioux (m), Marion McLean, Heather Hunter, Kimberly Masiak (m), Gwen Little (m), Alexandra Lawson, Joyce Baker (m), Leanne Hurl (m), Paula Hanson (m), Gwen Ruddick

2. **Chair's Opening Statement**

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend this year's AGM. A couple weeks ago my father had a heart attack plus we discovered he has chronic kidney disease. I am excited to report both his heart surgeries went well this week. To say the least it has been a stressful time. The saying when it rains it pours is fitting as I was also hospitalized Thursday, home now recovering slowly. This has caused me to step aside and let Judy, our Vice President, step in.

I just wanted to say a few words. First a huge thank you to the BOD, a lot is happening behind the scenes with many tasks completed and so many more in the works. A special thanks to Sarah-Jane for stepping into the webmaster position when Jennifer Oldfield had to step down. Thank you Jennifer for all your contributions.

It certainly has been trying times as we enter our second year of COVID-19. This pandemic continues to create stress and anxiety for many. Please ensure you reach out for help if needed and stay safe in these unusual times.

"Wishing her family well" from members in the chat

3. **Review of previous minutes**

Sarah Jane quickly read out the 2020 minutes and Julia posted a link in the chat. The 2020 minutes were previously posted on the website.

4. **Acceptance of minutes**

Motion to accept the 2020 AGM minutes as presented. Sarah Jane/Jeanne
Motion passed unanimously

5. Reports

a) Secretary--Jeanne nothing to report

b) Treasurer--Barb

Looking at financial statements:
Major differences from 2019:

Renewals were $1400 higher (this varies year to year depending on when members renew)
Dog registrations up $700
Trial run fees revenue down $3,200 due to cancellations; expenses down $1,200
No CARO sponsored trials – we spent $2,106 in 2019
Virtual Trial – Net revenue of $4,307
Website – $5,850 versus $1,177…..majority spent software upgrade – several versions necessary as it hadn't been upgraded in several years, increased security

2021
Some database issues still to be cleaned up
Working Level has never worked properly and needs to be redone—titles don't assign automatically, they have to be entered manually—this may be a costly item.

Motion to accept the 2020 financials as presented Sarah Jane / Lillian
Motion passed unanimously

Question from member: How often are financial statements audited? Never have been….not in bylaws that we need to do regular audits
(**Action:** maybe needs to be in new business—modification to bylaws)

c) Website—Sarah Jane
Been doing this for just 2 weeks now so there has been a gap in getting updates done. Flurry of updates and changes right now. Removed excess menus from website (especially trying to keep up to date where there are changes necessary in multiple places) Please use the email: website@canadianrallyo.ca if you see anything that needs to be done, isn't working or not up to date.

d) Membership / Dog ID—Barb
2020 57 new members; 61 in 2019
2020 187 renewals; 147 in 2019; 173 in 2018
2020 281 dogs registered; 257 in 2019; 321 in 2018
2020 43 in person trials; 76 in 2019
Questions: none

e) Trial Approver—Ayoka
2020
2020 was a slightly smaller year than 2019 with 73 trials approved (including our very first virtual trials) compared to 80 last year.
COVID 19 caused approximately 40 trials to be cancelled and among those, the majority have been rescheduled.

2021
For 2021, as of May 13th, 2021, 29 trials have been approved with more cancellations happening this spring/summer due to the second and third wave of COVID.

f) Judges—Judy

This year we added judge #98 to our list.
At the moment there are 40 – 45 active judges listed, which is about average over the years

g) Rules Committee—retired by BOD; Board has been working outstanding rule suggestions and these will be rolled out as quickly as we can (clarifications were to be immediate). Some going into effect in September. Working to have a new MGH so that people have an opportunity see them and train them. Sherrie Goulet is in charge of the documents.

h) Signs Committee—preparation and report is completed….approved signs are with Debby, she is creating station descriptions and new signs. Need someone who is skilled in graphic design. If you know someone, then email BOD. Lillian may know someone (Patricia Hunt). Judy warns that we cannot change present signs because they are copyright to Bud Kramer. Be careful when creating new signs that they are not copyright of another club's signs.

6. Old Business

a) **additional titles for working level (Julia)**….individual title streams for exercises and new champion titles for earning extra titles in working class. Info will be posted. Titles to be applied retroactively but didn't clarify WHEN it goes into effect.

Barb—because these titles are retroactive, it is a lot of work with the database (hours of work going through dog by dog).

Action—post to website. Needs to be on titles earned list and hosts need to order ribbons or tabs.

Action—programming for working class database!!!!!!

b) **opening up c stream earlier**—once a competitor has passed their Advanced title, they can earn advanced c stream Qs without having to earn their Excellent title….still can't earn gold or silver but can start collecting advanced. **Has been posted to the website.**

c) **standardization of judges' fees**….original question was "will Judy do a judges survey so that judges are in the same ball park?" If a judge sent Judy an answer, the judge got the answers from the survey.

For many judges, this works out to about $25 a course……but one person wanted to pay less based on size of trial—want to work out specifically with judge. But in reality, no judge felt that they really needed to standardize. Judges and clubs need to compromise when they can.

Judy does this survey every couple of years…new judges can always get the report. Judy is happy to continue doing this

No action needed

d) **Rally Games**….this came from Dawn Flemming and Tanya Strom …..there has been no action on this. Explained to a member what rally games are.

Action: Board to decide if we want a committee or post to FB if there is interest…..CWAGS has specialized rally courses where there are games….do we want something similar? Some people play this in class…might make an interesting stream.

e) **Dogs sitting in slow, 270s, 360s**--dealt with and posted to website

f) **Can versatility be promoted it earlier?….**would not be able to include jump, distance tunnel, discussed and decided no

g) **Pause on walk around**—because in AKC, CKC, ASCA, UKC, competitors have to pause on walk arounds, CARO is one of the only where there is no pause—what is the deduction if they pause? Under current rules not supposed to pause……rules committee was approached. Are both acceptable? People need to know what to do when they get back.

Action: needs to be clarified in the handbook when it is updated….

Sarah Jane / Julia "I move that in all walk around exercises the competitor may pause beside the dog after the walk around or they may choose to move out of the walk around without pause with no deductions either way". All members at the AGM voted in favour. This is JUST a clarification so can just go on the FB page immediately. Motion passed.

h) **Score Sheets** What can we remove from the score sheets so the boxes can be bigger or could there be a section for heel deductions between sections.

Score sheets don't come into CARO so really the judge can use whatever they want….maybe need to clarify what is allowed on the score sheets….1 of 3 versions vs anything goes…….certain things need to be on there. Board needs to decide what is on the score sheet….like the course map or what? There are certain things that need to be on there (dog id/trial number/etc)

Somewhere in the handbook it says once the judge has handed in the score sheet to the table steward, they cannot change the score. This needs to be changed because it's not fair

Action item: find this spot and correct this for the MGH update

Action item: discuss and suggest options for sheets

Member thought: I like the idea of the score sheet being the course map. That way you can score between signs as well. The handler then has a clear indication of what sign they made an error on, rather than having to cross reference with the map. We can consider this as an option.

i) **Heeling between signs where does it go?** Was to go to rules committee…presently at board level. Discussion: score towards the next station once they have left the current station…for redo purposes, this gets grey…….is it in terms of a -10…..ASCA uses start box as between station heeling and you cannot nq on that box.

Action: The board needs to discuss this further

7. New Business

a) **Virtual Trials**—2 virtual trials a year spring and fall

b) **Would it be possible to set the trial dates all in advance (Tanya):** This would allow for planning locally by clubs, judges and training.
The board has checked those dates so that local trials aren't overlapping.
Action items: To plan the dates for next trials, considering all the moving parts and variables.
We made sure that the virtual trial date did not overlap with clubs and the one club that was impacted graciously agreed to move their trial
Probably can't do 4 (as suggested by Tanya) because it draws revenue away from local clubs.

c) **Locally Hosted Virtual Trials (Tanya)**
Questions: This might be a database issue and how would they restrict who enters
In some areas of the country it is not going to be a problem, but in other areas it might be. But would they be sponsored by CARO; would this take away from local groups….CARO is there for virtual trials and local clubs for in person.trials
Action item: discuss more…..could Tanya do a funmatch set up for this and we can see what happens??
Member comment:

- Clubs could limit classes on a virtual trial to reduce the judges needed etc.
- Would the host club receive information about setting up for a virtual trial?

Info would be in handbook if BOD decided that there could be locally hosted virtual trials.

d) Future Virtual Trial Judging Application/Assignments by Certificate Levels (Tanya). This would allow for newer judges to get experience and allow for more judges, across the country, to get some judging hours in to keep up their skills.
Can a judge that only has the NAE judge at the virtual trial……Novice makes up most of the runs so we need to split those up and to spread out numbers of runs per judge the judge also had to do V and WC. Going forward we could split it up more but this is a lot of organization. Slightly easier if you are a seasoned judge…very challenging to judge virtually because of the time frame, etc.

Questions from members:

1. What is the cap for the virtual trial… premium says limited entry.
1000 runs
858 runs last year

2. How long to receive results if entered in another trial?
Within 3 days of the end of the trial. With normal trials, the trial host has one month to get results in and the results are entered in trial order of trial date…AND with a virtual trial you would get score sheets within a couple of days.

3. I think the AKC virtual trials are judged by a pool of judges. Could we not have the runs that are submitted go to the next judge in line. i.e. 7 or 8 judges are judging the VT, the next run submitted goes to the next judge. Then the runs judged are even across the board. They have one person coordinating this and actively assigning this.

4. Is the BOD considering allowing virtual trial experience to be used to meet criteria to become a judge? ie virtual shadow judging. Because travel is challenging.

Can there be shadow judging meetings so you can view a run on zoom and shadow judge it? Would judges who are judging the virtual trial be able to get permission to use the video as interesting judging dilemma….so that people could practice judging it? This could be used for shadow judge….release form that includes reason for watching it and wont' be shared beyond the learning judges. On the trial entry form they could check off if video can be used for training. There has been a massive leap in ability to work virtually through the pandemic. It is a great time to adopt a virtual training program for new judges to be certified. What would be the next steps toward allowing this for folks to meet judging criteria?

Action item: To be further discussed by the board and fleshed out. And how the judging criteria will be met.

Question from member: are judges in the VT replaying the videos to judge? YES

Virtual judges… this issue came up on a discussion recently…. How many times do judges view virtual videos… using slo mo etc… in the UK virtual judges are only allowed to view an exhibitors run once … as in an in person event. AKC virtual judging is very very strict, likely because judges are using tools to view. A few members in the chat strongly disagreed with the ability of judges to view and review.

Question from member: Do you have to have audio? Yes have to have audio to participate in the virtual trial. Be mindful when there is wind etc. Clearer the audio the better.

Ongoing discussion about how new judges can become new judges virtually…..action for BOD

e) Sarah Jane—judges continuing ed ASCA did continuing ed through fb group and word document Find the problems with the course maps, how do you judge these stations….2 video clips of those stations and give the score and what is the reason. Everyone got back the info from the judges' education panel and how they would have scored it. It took a couple hours of time.
SJ would be willing to work with someone on it.
And how would you score the full course?
That sounds like a great idea. It would be a good confidence building experience for us newer judges.
Action item: Board to look at this and put out requests for

SJ will post to judges fb group and
Motion for Sarah Jane to post to judges fb group and send email out to recruit volunteers to create a judges education opportunity. Sarah Jane/Judy passed
Not all judges are on FB group….email list to SJ.
Reminder that this fb group is: https://www.facebook.com/groups/803096506846838 and is only for judges only
Passed

f) Julia Schwark—can we do a judges seminar virtually? Could we also set specific criteria now that it can be virtually……new rules.
Do we have the power to enforce this? We accept their professional membership payment that enables them to judge. It would be just one of the criteria of being of a judge. APDT rally you had to meet 3 of 5 criteria—one of which is attendance at a seminar. But who tracks it? Requires a lot of consideration and a lot of thought so that people have ample opportunity to meet criteria.
From the chat: It sounds like it would be the equivalent of CEUs required to maintain accreditation for the CCPDT as an example?
From the chat: I love the idea of judges having continuing education criteria
From the chat: When is the next judges clinic? We had tried to put something together for this weekend but it couldn't come together. It will be advertised well.
Action item: To be discussed by the board.

Questions about Virtual trial boardofdirectors@canadianrallyo.ca.

g) Barb—CARO lifetime achievement award….working and master championship….Barb showed us hers. She will be getting certificates and ribbons to people who earned them

h) Maggie—on website can we date the updates on the website, please. Sarah Jane will make sure this gets done.

Julia updated on rule changes that are upcoming.

10. Location and Date of next AGM
Must be held between April 15 and May 30 (in bylaws)
Must be notice to members a month or two before (in bylaws)
Will meet the bylaw requirements
KEEP it virtual…need to make sure that that there is nothing in the bylaws about moving it around
Action item: Look at bylaws and standing resolutions about what we need to do……Barb looked quickly and it looks like there is nothing in the bylaws.
Motion to have all future AGMs held virtually Sarah Jane / Brenda Zeng
Passed

11. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn 5:12pm PACIFIC time Sarah Jane / Barb Passed