Canadian Association of Rally Obedience

Board Meeting Minutes for the Month of Sept 2026

In Attendance:

Chair – Patricia Hunt
Vice Chair – Kate Zinggl
Treasurer – Debby DaCosta
Secretary – Maria Adams
Western Director – Julia Schwark
Ontario Director – Lilian Cook
Eastern Director – Saundra Clow

Absent:

Exec at Large – Jessica Cohen
Prairies Director – Vacant

Key Dates:

Sept 5 – Board meeting via Zoom
Sept 27 – Rally & Working Judge Clinics via Zoom

Discussion Points:

- Chair provided an update on the 2026 elections; email to go out in the next week or so.
- Discussed level participation required by board members.
- Discussed course approval process.
- Discussed the use of coloured arrows on Team maps. Decided that it is a judge's choice. Email to go to course approvers for clarity.
- Discussed judges selecting their own approver.
- Discussed late fees procedure. Reminders to be added before late fee.
- Vice Chair provided a Fall Virtual Trial update.
- Discussion about updating the Virtual Trial Guide.

Motions:

2026 083 That the August 2026 minutes be approved and published. (Motion passed; 7 in favour, 1 absent)

2026 084 To remove the Executive At Large with cause. (Motion passed; 7 in favour, 1 absent)

2026 085 Judges must submit all their course maps for the trial as a single PDF to the Course Approvers, effective Oct 1, 2026. (Motion passed; 6 in favour, 1 absent)

2026 086 Judge's may request a specific course approver, as per the Course Approval Process Document, effective Oct 1, 2026. (Motion passed; 5 in favour, 1 opposed, 1 abstain)

2026 087 As per the late fee policy, the late fees for Eden Dog Academy, trial T26-066, and Bark Avenue Remarkable K9s, trial T26-038, will stand. (Motion passed; 6 in favour, 1 abstain)

2026 088 ID tags may be worn at both in person and virtual trials; at guardian's own risk, effective Jan 1, 2027. (Motion passed; 5 in favour, 1 opposed, 1 abstain)

2026 089 Embellished collars may be worn in VT only; at guardian's own risk, effective Jan 1, 2027. (Motion passed; 5 in favour, 1 opposed, 1 abstain)

2026 090 That Erika Eden be granted permission as part of the small ring project to host a trials at the Eden Dog Academy Team, in Belwood, Ontario, with a ring size of 27'x 45'. (Motion passed; 7 in favour)

2026 091 That Danielle Dunlop be approved as an NAE judge. (Motion passed; 7 in favour)

2026 092 That Katherine Rockwell be approved as a V/VX judge. (Motion passed; 7 in favour)

2026 093 That the results of the elections for Vice Chair, Executive at Large and Secretary be accepted as published on Sept 22. (Executive vote only - Motion failed; 1 in favour, 3 opposed)

2026 094 Nominations for the BOD be accepted as published on Sept 22. (Motion failed; 2 in favour, 5 opposed)

2026 095 That the new Board takes office on November 1, 2026. (Motion passed; 7 in favour)

2026 096 That the results of the executive election for Secretary be accepted as published on Sept 22. (Motion passed; 7 in favour)

2026 097 That the results of the Director election for Western Director and Ontario East Director be accepted as published on Sept 22. (Motion passed; 7 in favour)

2026 098 That nominations reopen from October 2 to October 16 for Vice Chair and Prairie Director, (with the residency requirement and the new Prairie region clearly stated). (Motion passed; 6 in favour, 1 opposed)

2026 099 That Jackie McGowan St. Croix be contacted to confirm interest, then given 48 hours to resubmit a complete nomination for Executive at Large. (Motion passed; 5 in favour, 2 opposed)