



Wellington Canine Obedience Club



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COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY 2008

Present: Mary Schneider; Lesley Lovatt; Sherlie Barr; Annette Flynn; Mike Martyn;
Edi Schneider; Barbara McLaughlin; Lesley Cobb, (minute taker)

Apologies: Thomas Lovatt; Xie Lovatt

Meeting called to order at 8.20 pm.

8. Class structure for 2008

The new class structure proposed for 2008 is to concentrate on domestic training (as opposed to competition training) and include some fun exercises in each class for variety and training purposes. Fees for the obedience training course and including the hour of fun exercises at 11 am will be \$30 per 9 week course. For people not wanting to do the course, but just the fun exercises at 11 am the charge will be \$2 per dog.

There were a few questions and short discussion about this proposal. Lesley Lovatt noted that we should ask people when they sign up if they are intending to go on to do competitions, so that instructors know to include competition tips for those people.

All voted in favour of the revised class structure above.

9. Qualifying certificates for Beginners

Currently attendance certificates are given to Puppies and qualifying certificates to Beginners who pass graduation, but there was a suggestion to award attendance certificates at Beginners level as well. Mike suggested we retain the qualifying certificate because it is good motivation. There was a short discussion.

All voted in favour of keeping the Beginners qualifying certificate.

10. Graduation

Lesley Lovatt recommended a change from someone other than the instructor taking graduation to instructors taking their own class for graduation. This is because the instructors know the dogs best; know what they are capable of and can more accurately assess if they are ready to go on to the next class.

All voted in favour.

11. Instructors for 2008

Sundays:

<u>10 am</u>	Puppies:	Mike
	Beginners:	Lesley C for 1 st course, then alternating with another instructor for following courses
	J1 & J2 combined class:	Mary
<u>11 am</u>	Intermediate and Senior combined class	Lesley L
	Fun exercises:	Edi

Notes:

12. Mike will take new puppies at any time during the course, and the other instructors can do the same if they wish. There is a sliding scale of course fees to accommodate late starters to a course
13. Barbara will do Beginners with Lesley C to get some instructor training
14. Sherlie will be available as a floating instructor/helper as needed.

Wednesdays

7 pm	All levels:	Mary (and Mike for the first course only).
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Notes:

15. Wednesday attendance has been low, especially in winter, so the Wednesday night courses will only be offered for the first course, then reviewed (but are unlikely to be held over winter).

16. First Sunday intake for 2008

Barbara and Sherlie - meet and greet

Mary – in charge of form filling out, assigning people to right class, advice to new members

Annette – receipting

Lesley C – membership list/forms/sight vaccination certificate

(Mary and Edi will print out the new class sheets)

17. Ribbon Trial 2008

Mike asked if the April 20 date was confirmed. Lesley C said it was in the Central Obedience Region calendar, so it is confirmed. There was a short discussion about what needs to be done, but it is still a bit soon to start. However Mike will start making a list of possible judges and stewards to approach later on. The organisation of the ribbon trial will be sorted out at the next committee meeting (on 17 February).

18. Dog scarves

Barbara showed samples in two sizes; small and med/large. All voted in favour of a first run of 20 scarves (the minimum order for printing) in the med/large size.

Barbara will keep receipts of her expenditure to be reimbursed. When all receipts are in, the price of the scarves can be set (probably about \$10 each). Lesley C will

help with sewing etc.

19. Other Business

Advertising: Barbara asked about advertising the training courses. Other members spoke about what had been done in the past, including paid advertising, which was not worth the expense. Word of mouth seems to be the most effective. Mary passed out cards and flyers for people to hand out/distribute/put up in shops etc.

Dog walks: Barbara and others made suggestions for alternative venues for the club dog walks, which Mary will incorporate into the events calendar.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Next meeting 9.15 am Sunday 17 February (to discuss ribbon trial and Wednesday classes)