



# **BELCONNEN DOG OBEEDIENCE CLUB**

## **Annual General Meeting – Minutes**

Tuesday 20 October 2020 at 7:30pm

---

### **1. Welcome by President**

The meeting was opened at 7:44 pm with President Chris Bates welcoming attendees in person and online.

A total of 17 members attended in person – Christine Bates; Sally Provins; Lyndal Hasselman; David Walsh; Maelyn Draper; Anne Lewis; Kat Waterhouse; Cheryl Neal; Monique Meacham; Leesa Jess; Kimberly Shrives; Carolyn Shrives; Caroline Lemerle, Fiona Fraser; Ross Miller; Wendy Twiss, Niccola Hardaker.

A total of six members attended online – Barbara Brown; Geoff Tracey; Catherine Griffin; Jacqui Vandebroek; Janny (no surname); Margo Hellyer and Lisa Borthwick.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Heather Swinbourn.

### **2. Minutes from previous AGM, Wednesday 21 August 2019**

With a correction to the spelling of Carolyn Shrives, the meeting participants approved the minutes from the previous AGM motion (raised by Cheryl Neal and seconded by Niccola Hardaker).

### **3. President's report 2019–2020**

President Chris Bates acknowledged this year has been a very tough time for the club – and how great to see everyone back out on the paddock again.

Chris noted the committee membership period spanned 14 instead of the usual 12 months, with the decision to delay the AGM being a COVID-19 measure. Drought, bushfires and COVID-19 have all required additional effort from many people from across all facets of the club, and for this Chris thanked everyone – sports and canine companion instructors and supporters, those administering and serving in the shop and office, organising and promoting events and courses, keeping the club house clean and tidy our grounds maintainers, tree waterers, bin emptiers, equipment fixers – BDOC wouldn't have a club without you!

Chris noted it is wonderful to see beginner classes filling quickly. In adjusting to COVID-19 requirements to minimise contact risk, the club changed to seven-week CC sessions and dropped assessment night. Dog sports are more popular than ever – and we look forward to being able to welcome new teams, who are currently on waitlists, when conditions allow. Trials, demos and comps have been very limited this year, but happily some agility, obedience and disc dog events have been held.

A special thanks to:

- Canine Companion (CC) Coordinator David Walsh for building CC morale and his dedication to sanitising the equipment used for classes each Thursday and Sunday.
- Barbara Brown, John Williamson, Charlie Giles and Margo Hellyer for looking after the grounds, keeping them safe and looking great
- David, Maelyn Draper, Cheryl and Charlie for organising the instructor course
- Maelyn for her extraordinary organisational and administrative efforts.

A full written report was provided to all present.

#### **4. Treasurer's report 2019–2020, financial position and audit report**

Treasurer Monique Meacham presented the Treasurer's report, which was also provided to all present along with the independent auditor report and financial statements.

Monique noted that in financial terms the club has not performed as well as it did last year. As at 30 June 2020 we were 61 percent down on renewals. Costs were lower (because of lower activity levels) but unfortunately so was revenue. Monique confirmed the club is in a reasonable financial position, given the circumstances but that we should be seeking to offset this drop into the future.

In response to questions from Fiona Fraser and Lyndall Hasselman about the lower membership numbers, Monique and Maelyn explained renewals did continue to come in after the 30 June date. Beginner memberships have been particularly numerous but there have been fewer renewals.

Chris suggested this could be because, until sports are able to accept intakes, there is no progression pathway for those finishing CC. In response to a suggestion to counterbalance this with more beginner classes, Chris and Monique explained that this would require more instructors and would create a difficult to manage 'bulge' for subsequent classes.

Monique reiterated the club is in reasonable financial shape. Chris and Monique cautioned that if conditions are locked down again there may be a need to utilise term deposits and be very careful about spending.

Participating members

- accepted the Treasurer's report (moved by Sally Provins and seconded by Carolyn)
- agreed CW Partners will undertake the 2020-21 audit (moved by Caroline Lemerle and seconded by Sally).

#### **5. Cappy Award**

Darrell Porter and Karl Newport were each awarded the Cappy Award for 2020, in recognition of their contribution to the club – Darrell for his dedicated garden watering over the very hot dry summer and Karl for his regular emptying of bins.

Participating members thanked Darrell and Karl.

## **6. Life membership**

Chris congratulated Ross Miller on being awarded life membership. Ross is a valued and long serving member of the club, having made an extraordinary contribution over many years, particularly in Flyball.

Sally congratulated Chris on being awarded life membership. Chris has made an extraordinary contribution as an instructor for Flyball and Disc Dog, a regular in the shop and office, and as a committee member for the past nine years, including as secretary, treasurer and president.

Participating members thanked and congratulated Ross and Chris.

## **7. Election of Committee for 2020-2021**

Chris Bates thanked Committee members not re-standing, Maelyn Draper, Lisa Borthwick and Margo Hellyer, for their efforts this year. Chris also confirmed she will not be re-standing. Monique and Kat Waterhouse thanked all Committee members not re-standing and pass across small gifts of appreciation.

Participating members accepted all nominations for the Committee (motion to agree moved by Carolyn and seconded by Kimberly Shrives).

The Committee for 2020-21 will be:

- President: Sally Provins (and Flyball rep, assisted informally by Chris)
- Secretary: Kat Waterhouse
- Treasurer: Monique Meacham
- General members: Catherine Griffin (Disc Dog rep); Heather Swinbourn (Dances with Dogs rep); Dorothy Xu (Agility rep); David Walsh (Canine Companion rep); Cheryl Neal (Obedience & Rally Obedience rep) and Geoff Tracey and Leesa Jess.

There were no nominations for Vice President.

## **8. General and other business**

Fiona queried whether there is any more information available about the development of EPIC. Chris confirmed there has been no further correspondence.

The meeting closed at 8:05pm.