

The Golden West

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE EVERGREEN GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB

May 2020

Volume 52, Issue 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—NANCY LIGHT

Please note that the May meeting is the 28th and will be held via Zoom.

Hi, all,

Cornonovirus continues to dominate our lives, both in regard to our dog activities and otherwise. We have now had two Board meetings via Zoom and will be trying it for our membership meeting on May 28. See elsewhere in the GW for instructions. You should be getting a Zoom invitation by email about May 25 so keep an eye out for it.

Note that the Board has now cancelled the August 14 Specialty including Conformation,

Obedience and Rally. Also in this issue are the AKC guidelines for holding an agility trial in order to enforce social distancing required, even if under Governor Inslee's directives the trial would still be allowed. The guidelines for Conformation Obedience and Rally are similar. The Board felt the financial and health risks were too great to make it feasible, and we needed to let AKC and Baray know our decision. Since the General Meeting was coming up, we wanted to get membership input before agility was cancelled. It appears that under our contract with Argus, we could be subject to fines if we cancel after May 28, though that is somewhat unclear. So, we definitely need to make the final decision at the meeting.

The Board also cancelled the June Hunt Test, again because the social distancing requirements would be too onerous to be practical and safe. Frankly, doing all of the things to make events safe don't seem like a lot of fun to me. EGRC was not holding the WC/WCX as it is the Northwest Flat-coated Retriever Club's turn. Due to a conflict with the Golden Retriever Club of BC's Hunt Test, the date of the WC/WCX has been changed from September 12 to September 19. Whether the test can be held at all will be dependent on conditions at the time. Stay tuned. I suspect it is unlikely that we will be holding any health clinics or the CCA during 2020, but no final decision yet. We are still planning on a holiday party, which would be at Shari Phillips workplace instead of the Kirkland Women's Club. That is long enough in the future that we don't need to cancel yet.

Another item that we will be addressing at the general meeting is Rescue. Please review the Rescue report from the April GW. As noted, Desiree will be in attendance to answer questions about SPDR.

I think the Board is unanimously pleased with the way that Zoom has worked out for the Board meetings, so we hope you are willing to try it too. Most of us are not particularly tech oriented and with Sharmin's help we managed OK. We are fortunate to have her in the Club and willing to help any of you who need it.

Evergreen Golden Retriever Club May Board Meeting Minutes Date: Monday May 4, 2020 Place: Via Zoom Conference Call

I. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6.33 p.m. by Nancy Light, President. Present: Nancy, Deb, Claudia, Sheila, Linda, Laila, Sharmin, Marian

II. Approval of Minutes: MOTION was made to approve the minutes of the April board meeting. **APPROVED.** Minutes were printed in the April GW.

The Minutes of the March 2020 board meeting were corrected to remove Deborah Blair as being a member of the Technology Team.

III. Report of the President (Nancy)

Thank you to Sharmin for setting up this meeting.

Need for discussion as to the effects of the Governor's 4 phase plan to reopen the State and its effect on our events and finances.

Discuss setting a general meeting in May via Zoom and the logistics for bringing membership on board with Zoom.

IV. Report of Corresponding Secretary: (Deb) -

AKC performance events impacted by COVID-19 was sent to the board by Nancy. New AKC Rally Nov ice Virtual Pilot Program is available until 12/31/2020.

Tracking Certifications that expire March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 will be granted a one-

year extension.

AKC established a Golden Retriever Rescue Task Force

EGRC By-Laws were sent to AKC per their request along with Affirmation of By-Laws review.

2020 GRCA National Specialty hosted by Mid-Florida GRC has been cancelled.

V. Report of Treasurer: (Linda)

Checking and Money Market balances were presented.

VI. Reports of Committees:

Events:

Agility - (Nancy) August 28, 29, 30, 2020.

Our contract with Argus allows us to cancel within 90 days of the event without penalties, taking us to end of May.

Ane will speak with Jordan regarding no penalties if cancellation due to Covid-19.

Specialty – August 14, 2020 (Sheila)

OKC reports that they will continue going forward.

They will be in Phase 4 by the time of the event.

There will be requirements of distancing; face masks; OKC will decide on the rules and we will be required to abide by their rules. The rules can be changed up to the date of the show.

There are lots of questions: do we have a raffle; how will the grooming be set up; what will be the spacing; etc.

Is the club prepared to risk a loss of about \$1500 with all of this uncertainty?

If we cancel now, we would be out \$125 paid to AKC but they would apply it to our next show; AIRBNB deposit judge \$378.00; cancelling the premium with BaRay is soon enough to not be charged; cannot recoup the logo expense of \$70 but we might be able to get the logo fixed to read 2021.

With all the uncertainty and the current finances of the Club, it was decided to not hold the Specialty.

MOTION: To cancel the August 14, 2020 Specialty with the possibility of holding it at a later date. **APPROVED**

Judges Selection Committee (Sheila) no report

Hunt Test: (Linda) June 27-28, 2020

Linda suggested cancelling.

Could lose a significant amount of money, not to mention all the close contact there would be between judges, kids, and the rest of the participants.

We have invested zero dollars so far and cannot guarantee that we would break even if it was held. **MOTION:** To cancel the Hunt Test. **APPROVED**

Tracking: TD/TDX (Nancy) - no report

WC/WCX: (Sheila) September 12, 2020. No word yet if they will cancel. Ron has an email into Steve to confirm, Flat Coat National has been cancelled for August. Could possibly be held in September.

Holiday Party: (Deb) December 5, 2020 – We received our \$200 deposit back from Kirkland Women's Club. Party will take place at Youth Eastside Services' facility in Bellevue.

Health Clinic - no report

Finances:

Budget Committee (Linda) – no report Donation Committee (Linda) – No report

C. Club Affairs:

1. Membership (Marian)

31 voting; 32 non-voting

Bobbi has sent out the Membership Roster to members via Mail Chimp. It's more secure and she is using the free version.

Golden West (Nancy) – Deadline for May GW is May 11th. It will go out May 15th.

Website/Facebook - (Marian) - will discuss under Technology committee.

Puppy Referral (Claudia) Lots of inquiries for puppies due to the Covid-19 stay at home order.

Rescue (Claudia) – See Motion under New Business. Will be on the General Meeting agenda.

Meetings:

Monday June 8th – Board Meeting via ZOOM

General Meeting May 28th via Zoom. Sharmin will prepare a Zoom tutorial for members which will be published in the May GW.

Awards (Claudia) – Discussion deferred.

Awards Banquet – (Laila) no report

CCA (Claudia) no report

Sunshine Committee (Nancy) no report

Nominating Committee – we will appoint in July.

- (a) Technology Committee (Laila) No meeting has yet been set since the quarantine. Since Zoom is working so well for our board meetings, suggestion to use Zoom for Tech committee meetings. Annual cost is \$149.90 + tax.
- MOTION: To have EGRC purchase a one year subscription to ZOOM. APPROVED.

As soon as the account is active, Laila will call a meeting with the Tech Team.

(b) Website -

- It was agreed that the Standing Rules and By-laws should be on the Website. Marian will ask Bobbi to move them over from Teams.
- Regarding the May 28th General Meeting: Bobbi will put a blurb on our website directing those who are not members but wish to attend as a guest to contact a club member for instructions on how to join the Zoom meeting.

VII. Unfinished Business:

Standing Rules - Marian has updated the Standing Rules.

VIII. New Business: -

Rescue - A Motion will be presented at the General Meeting on May 28th for EGRC to affiliate with, and support, SPDR, although not with a direct donation this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Respectfully submitted Marian Tillman, Recording Secretary

THE JUNE HUNT TEST HAS BEEN CANCELLED

THE AUGUST SPECIALTY HAS BEEN CANCELLED



IN MEMORIUM

Firemark's The Right Stuff CCA

May 11, 2007 — April 27, 2020

Chuck was the last of my four dogs that had come with me from Michigan in 2012. And he had been with me the longest. He was "always here." Everybody loved him. Especially me.

Marj Deupree

Information on using Zoom for EGRC general meetings

As many may have heard we are going to try to have our EGRC general membership meeting on May 28 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Zoom it is quite easy to use and very user friendly. You will receive a meeting invite typically via email. Within that invite should be a "live" link that you can just click on.

For those who already have Zoom downloaded on their device the link should work immediately. For those who have never used Zoom it will prompt you to download the Zoom Client for Meetings. You will need to have this on your device to have video on a zoom meeting. And do not worry you do not always have to have the video on. You can always turn it off once you are in the meeting. If you do not care about video then at the bottom of the email invite is a phone number you can simply call in. This will let you listen to and talk at the meeting if necessary.

For any of these options, when you go to join the meeting make sure to have the meeting ID and password handy in case you are prompted to enter it. We will always use a password because this is an important security feature, and it may change from meeting to meeting to enhance that security.

You are NOT required to open an account with zoom to join a meeting. If you have a chance prior to the meeting date click on this link <u>https://zoom.us/download</u> It should open to a page with a subheading of Zoom Client for Meetings. Below it will be a blue download button for Version 5.0.2 (24046.0510) Click on that download button and the zoom client should begin loading on your device. Once this is completed when you get the meeting invite you can then just click on the link.

Again, the meeting is May 28 at 7:00 pm .Sharmin Dominke is the administrator of the meeting. You should receive your invitation to the meeting by about May 25.

Sharmin Dominke has offered to provide one on one help for anyone who needs it. Please contact her at 206-795-0804 or <u>sharminbaumann@hotmail.com</u> but please reach out to her sooner rather than later so the meeting can run smoothly with as many attending as possible!!

Nancy also has information about Zoom and you can contact her as well at 425-254-3609 or kylahgold@aol.com

AKC Updates on COVID-19 Pandemic

The link below lists all the AKC events and links to specific information on that event:

https://www.akc.org/press-center/covid-19-updates-from-the-american-kennel-club/? utm_medium=email&utm_source=sailthru&utm_campaign=20200513_clubs_agility-covid19best-practices

The following 4 pages are the Agility specific required changes.

May 12, 2020



Agility

Suggested Best Practices for the Well-Being of Dog Sport Participants

The AKC supports each club's informed decision to reschedule, postpone or cancel their respective events, as well as supporting clubs ready to hold events in locations that are open and permit gatherings. As events resume across the country, people need to feel safe while enjoying their dog activities. The AKC urges clubs to take appropriate precautions for the benefit of their participants. Events need to be held in a manner that emphasizes the safety of participants and event officials over efficiency.

The following is a list of suggested best practices that may be helpful when planning or attending an event. Event locations, facilities and dates will differ. With a situation that is continually evolving, it is up to the clubs to determine the guidelines that best fit their event. In order to inform participants, specific guidelines established by the club should be published in the premium, club website and posted on signage/flyers at their event.

General Practices for Clubs and Exhibitors

- 1. Clubs, officials and participants are required to follow state, local and facility guidelines that apply to the area and site where the event is held.
- 2. Practice social distancing consistent with current guidelines. Avoid congregating to the extent possible.
- 3. Consider wearing masks when in close proximity to others. Clubs should provide masks if desired for officials, judges and volunteers.
- 4. Exhibitors and committee should consider wearing disposable or washable gloves.
- 5. Have plenty of hand sanitizer placed for people to use and soap in restrooms.
- 6. Wash hands as frequently as possible. Have disinfecting spray at bathroom facilities for people to spray door handles (or anything else they touch). Leave doors open if possible.
- 7. If you utilize portable toilets, please ask for a handwashing station to be delivered as well and make sure it is kept functional for the full event.
- 8. Avoid shaking hands or hugging.
- 9. Avoid touching dogs that are not your responsibility.
- 10. Avoid common use pens/pencils bring your own.
- 11. Crating should be at least six feet apart, except for "family" groups of exhibitors and dogs.

- 12. Disinfect surfaces in common use areas as often as possible (tables, chairs, doorknobs, etc.) Clubs and facilities may consider not providing chairs.
- 13. Meals No potlucks. No MACH cakes. Hospitality areas should avoid community items such as salt and pepper shakers, condiments, creamers, etc. It is recommended that club supply boxed lunches for judges and volunteers and a separate cooler for each judge. Participants should consider bringing their own lunch/drinks.
- 14. Parking areas Park with sufficient distance between vehicles if possible.

Trial Planning

- 1. Clubs may need to limit the number of exhibitors based on state or local guidelines.
 - Clubs may choose to limit trials based on the number of exhibitors allowed in the event space. For example, 50 people (exhibitors, volunteers, judges, event committee) and runs not to exceed 350 for the trial.
 - Consider running the trial in shifts in order to reduce congregating and accommodate more entrants.
 - Clubs may consider grouping exhibitors by blocks and add expected start times for each block. One example would be Large Dogs (20, 24, 24C) Ex/M Standard & JWW then Small Dogs (4,8,12,16) Ex/M Standard & JWW. Then run all Open and Novice.
 - Clubs may be able to have more people at outdoor events where people can spread out.
- 2. Crating
 - · If possible, ask exhibitors to crate from vehicles.
 - If indoor space is limited, the club may want to request the next group to not show up earlier than 30 minutes before their start time.
- Awards area Recommend that this area will need the space to have exhibitors line up six feet apart to pick up ribbons and stickers. No self-serve boxes. Will need volunteer for awards area. If prizes are offered have them spaced out for people to pick up.
- 4. Trial Secretary Area Recommend that it is set up with a minimum of six feet between the Trial Secretary area and exhibitors.
- 5. Judges Table Judges should have a separate worktable that is not accessible to exhibitors.
- 6. Ring Set-Up Evaluate current set-up and see if rings can be reoriented to allow for better spacing of exhibitors. This may include looking at entrance/exit doors of building to see if a different setup can help set up a one way flow.

Trial Practices

 Consider recommending that exhibitors wear masks. Exhibitors should be able to run without a mask if they desire. Judges may wear masks at their discretion if not required by the club.

- 2. Surfaces need to be wiped down. This includes agility equipment that is touched. Clubs will need to make sure that restrooms, doors, tables, chairs, etc. are clean/sanitized during the day.
- 3. Ring Crew
 - Masks suggested for all. Hand sanitizer should be available ringside or at volunteer
 positions. Ring crew may also wear gloves. Recommend that ring crew use their own
 chairs. If not, then they should be wiped down between use.
 - Gate Steward should be provided at least a 6' buffer. Recommend using gating or flagging tape to designate gate steward's space. They should be the only one to mark the gate board once the boards are at the ring entrance. Recommend they do not leave their pens unattended.
 - Gate boards can be laid out before class for exhibitors to check in but exhibitors must use their own pens.
 - Leash Runner Can either use and then dispose of a paper towel to handle each leash, or can apply hand sanitizer between handling of each leash or use a "grabber". If using a grabber, wipe down between leashes. Note For the rest of 2020 exhibitors may place leashes in their pockets or wear them when running the course. Leash must fully fit in pocket.
 - Course Builders Recommend gloves or hand sanitizer for them. Do not share course maps with others. Make sure to wipe down the measuring wheel before/after use.
 - Timer/Scribe should sit at the ends of the table. Scribe should only use-their pens. The table, timer console and chairs should be wiped down with each shift change. If more than 2 people working than proper spacing should still be adhered too.
- 4. Score Sheet Runner Recommend the use of gloves and limit the number of pick-ups from the Scribe area. Suggest that the scribe puts sheets in a basket and score runner carries basket over instead of having the score runner touch each individual sheet. Suggest not using duplicate scribe sheets.
- 5. Briefings may be done in the parking lot or over a PA system/ring speaker so exhibitors may stay spread out. Exhibitors do not have to come into the ring for briefing they may stay outside of the ring. Briefings will not be required for Excellent/Master level classes.
- 6. Recommend only VMOs can measure dogs. No measurements will be done by the judge of record. VMOs may choose to not measure dogs. If they do, the measuring devices and table should be wiped down between dogs. VMO should consider wearing a mask if not required by the club and must sanitize their hands between dogs.
- 7. Walk-thru group sizes should be reduced. Suggest a maximum of 25 exhibitors per walk-thru.
- 8. Space out exhibitors when lining up to run. Place cones or tape lines at intervals in the area that dogs are lined up. May also set up holding areas for the on-deck team, in the hole and third team in line.
- 9. Suggest using chutes for dogs to enter and leave the ring to reduce contact with gating. If the club wants to use gates, add "Gate Opener/Closer" ring crew position since exhibitors would

not have gloves on at that point or available hand sanitizer. They could wear gloves, use a paper towel to open/close gates and sanitize gate/hands as needed.

- 10. Recommend that results be posted to a wall so that exhibitors are not all trying to flip thru results notebooks. This will help exhibitors stay spread out and not touching items.
- 11. Course maps must be posted per AKC Agility Regulations. Suggest not printing copies for all exhibitors. Recommend that exhibitors take pictures of the maps. To help facilitate the process and physical spacing post course copies in two locations minimum. Trial Secretaries could also email out or post to their website the morning of the trial the course maps for exhibitors to access. It is recommended that there are 5-10 course maps per course available for those that cannot take photos or access website with course maps and that these are passed out by a club volunteer if needed.
- 12. Judges should not have the next team come into the ring until the finishing dog is leashed up if leashes are not at the finish area.
- 13. If the trial is being held in a building, consider designating one-way entrance and exit doors.

Policies that Have Been Temporarily Suspended

- 1. Event Application Late Fees Event application late fees are waived through the end of October. This provides clubs more flexibility in planning or rescheduling their events.
- Judges Waive the judge's assignment limitations of 30 days within 200 miles until December 30, 2020
- Closing Date Through December 30, 2020, clubs are allowed to have a closing date 7 days prior to the event. (Currently 14 days). This will provide clubs and exhibitors greater flexibility.
- 4. For 2020 exhibitors may place leashes in their pockets when running the course or wear on themselves (i.e., clip like a belt around the waist). Note: if the dog grabs the leash while running this will be scored as an "E".

Participants are expected to follow State, local government, facility and event guidelines. Clubs should be prepared to enforce the guidelines that apply to their event.

These Suggested Best Practices may be periodically updated. Please check the AKC Agility website (<u>www.akc.org/sports/agility/</u>) for the most up-to-date version.

CDC - How to Protect Yourself and Others: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html

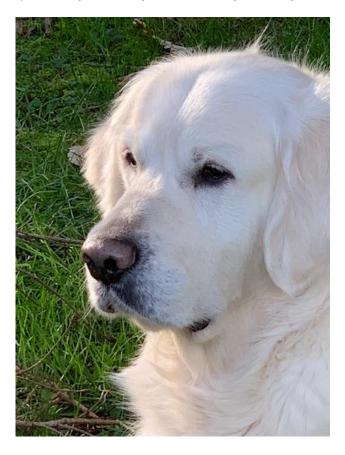
For questions or additional suggestions, please contact the Agility Department at <u>agility@akc.org</u>.

Stay Safe – Enjoy Your Dog





NEW - Please send dog related pictures, stories, whatever you'd like to share! Especially what you're doing with your dogs during this stay-at-home time.







Thank you to the club members who responded to my plea for a golden retriever. Here I am with Thorin, a 4 year old male bred by Carole and Hach Hatchel. Thank goodness or I would be golden-less (gasp!). I have also acquired a 5 year old rescue Toller who has been a great buddy for Thorin.

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Committee Chairs

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The Objectives of the Evergreen Golden Retriever Club

- a) To preserve the structure, soundness, temperament, natural abilities and personality of the Golden Retriever as described in the breed standard and to do all possible to bring their natural abilities and qualities to perfection.
- b) To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the AKC as the only standard of excellence by which the Golden Retriever shall be judged.
- c) To protect and advance the interest of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike conduct at dog shows, field events, obedience trials and all functions and events where EGRC is being represented.
- d) To conduct sanctioned matches and specialty shows, field events, obedience trials and tracking under the rules of AKC and
- e) To educate members and the public in all aspects of owning a Golden Retriever.

General Information

General Meetings are usually held on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Check the calendar on the web site at <u>www.egrc.org.</u> The **Board of Directors** usually meets once a month. Contact a Board member for upcoming meeting dates. Members wishing to attend must call the President to state their business.

Application for Membership: Prospective members must attend either one or two meetings or functions before application of intent to join is accepted. Application forms may be obtained from Board members, the Membership Chair, or from the web site.

Change of Address. If you have moved, changed your phone number or your e-mail address, please email our Membership Chair, Marian Tillman, marian@ridesoft.com, with this change. This is the only way we will be able to keep our membership rosters up to date.

