

Training Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 27, 2008
6:30 p.m.
Laura's House
Minutes

Present: Lea, Gary, Jim, Mar, Lynda, Trudy, Rhonda, Linda, Sandy, Mary, Kelly, Laura, Teresa

1. Building
 - a. Safety & Security: Each trainer and assistant needs to make sure they lock the door, both the doorknob lock and the deadbolt. Pull the door towards you to effectively lock the deadbolt.
 - b. Please remember to put equipment away after use, as well as clean up after each class.
 - c. Marlene will check to see that the first aid kit in the office (above the lockers) is fully stocked.
2. Membership Reminder
 - a. If you are a trainer or an assistant, please make sure your membership dues are up to date
3. Review New Pricing Structure – Session 3: Session 2 prices are: \$100 per seven week session, with \$20 discount for junior/senior/rescue/second class. Costs for Session 3 will be \$115, with the discounts being \$15 for junior/senior/rescue/second class.
4. New policy
 - a. All classes are first come, first serve basis (*no spots will be held on Tuesday nights for people coming out of Puppy going to GM I*) Trainers can still tell handlers, at orientation, and at any class night, that class enrollment is first-come, first-served. We will encourage handlers to sign-up as early as possible, provided they have a strong intent of actually attending.
5. Soda Pricing Policy: Drinks are 50 cents apiece for all trainers and assistants. Trainers and assistants should be cautious not to take sodas and pay later as this gives an inaccurate message to handlers. Cost of sodas should be announced at orientation.
6. Handouts
 - a. Committee Volunteers: Lea, Marilane, Mar, and Kelly will review all handouts to eliminate redundancy and to update all of the handouts. Proposed “standardized” handouts will be brought back to training committee for consensus. These standard handouts for each week (like jumping, crate training, etc), along with the standard weekly homework handouts will be copied by the office manager. Specialized handouts will have to be copied by the trainer who wishes to use them. We’re also talking about posting handouts on the member section of the website. We’re also looking at putting up a bulletin board with pockets for handouts. We’ll discuss the handouts at our next meeting.

7. Puppy & GM Certificates
 - a. Only use for those that attend graduation (don't waste and fill out in advance)
8. Marilane Availability

Marilane will have knee replacement surgery in June and we are not sure when she will return to the club.
9. Assistants
 - a. Contact information-Kelly is collecting contact information for all trainers and assistants, including home, cell, and work numbers.
 - b. Is Stefanie M. Approved? M/S/C to recommend Stephanie for Puppy, GM I and GMII.
 - c. How to get more; Kelly will ask Sue Ingalls if she wants to assist again as a provisional, given her lack of confidence, or if she is not interested in assisting. Lea is recommending that Wendy Piscia be approved as a provisional assistant. She has trained many of her own dogs and has rescued many dogs. M/S/C to recommend her to board as a provisional for session 3, pending board approval. Katie Susemani has already been approved to be a provisional; she is just too busy at this time. M/S/C Sherry Fournier to be a provisional when she's available. She is active with the Napa County Animal Shelter. Will take this to board. Everyone needs to keep their eyes open for new assistants.
 - d. Any current Assistants needing help? Agreed that practice fitting gentle leaders is needed for several assistants. Trainers should work with their assistants to make sure they're feeling confident fitting them.
 - e. Recommendations for board: M/S/C to recommend to board to approve Trudy Brutsche to assist in GMII. M/S/C to recommend to board to approve Kelly and Trudy to assist in CGC. M/S/C to recommend to board to approve Jim to be a provisional assistant for Puppy. M/S/C to recommend to board to approve Steven Ward to assist in GMII and CGC classes. M/S/C to recommend to board to approve Teresa to assist agility. Laura will be asking Stefanie if she's interested in assisting in agility because many approved assistants for agility are taking the classes. Will bring this back to a later meeting.
10. Mini Sessions (Teresa)
 - a. Fun & Games
 - b. Small Dog Obedience
 - c. Suggestions
11. Orientation Ideas: Discussed concept of combining puppy and GM orientations to allow for more time. Pro's: more time; Con's: lose group cohesiveness. Issues of what to actually cover was discussed, including rules vs. behaviors vs. building group cohesiveness. There was a suggestion to have handlers arrive fifteen minutes early to fill out paperwork; have tables either set up outside or in the entry area, with an office person and assistants handing out paperwork. With current orientation, only have about ½ hour for orientation because paperwork takes so long. Group did not support combining Puppy and GM, primarily because there was concern that there would be disruption and handlers might not be able to come at a different time just for orientation and probably wouldn't want to stay for two hours. It was agreed that trainers will cover basic safety rules, but they had license to cover what they feel is appropriate to orientation.

12. Introduce Rescue Dog Class Ideas (tabled to next meeting) – In the interest of time, this topic is deferred to the next Training Committee Meeting
 - a. Potentially for Session 5 or 6
13. Review Session 2 Schedule: Sandy is taking the 5:00 GM I on Tuesdays. Teresa is teaching both Monday advanced obedience classes. The morning Rally classes on Thursdays may be combined into one class. The 8:00 Intro Rally is contingent on number of dogs. CGC Wednesday morning is low in enrollment, so it will be cancelled. At least one dog from Wednesday will move to Friday CGC in order for that class to go.
See spreadsheet
14. Set Session Schedule
 - a. Session 3 (see spreadsheet)

 - b. Session 4 (see spreadsheet)
15. Adjourn