

**SUMMARY**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday 28 November 2023**

**Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

A declaration of conflicts of interest on one item was noted for Duncan McAllister who had no involvement in discussions.

No other conflicts of interest were declared.

**Previous Minutes**

Minutes of Board Meeting – 24 October 2023

The minutes of the previous Board Meeting held on 24 October 2023, as amended, were adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Summary of Previous Minutes – 26 September 2023

The Summary of Minutes for 26 September 2023 was accepted, with the Summary to be published to members on the Dogs Queensland website.

**Action Items**

Action Items

The Action Items were noted, including updates, information provided in the Board papers and items completed.

**Ongoing Matters**

Dogs Queensland Knose/PD Insurance Proposal

General Manager advised urgent action was being taken to renew the Club's insurances which needed to be finalised this week. Difficulties had been encountered to secure insurance noting the expected cost was ~\$130k. It was noted other State bodies were also experiencing the same issues.

Directors **agreed** the Executive sign off on the insurance renewal when received, noting the expected increased cost. All information would be circulated to the Board.

It was noted there were two aspects to address with the Knose Pet Insurance proposal, namely:

- i) The Breeder side program which may still progress, with the Club's Insurance broker requesting further details for review.
- ii) The Authorised Rep Agreement and indemnity clause was considered unacceptable by the Club's Insurers and could not proceed.

The proposal with Knose Insurance would be deferred for the time being.

SprintDog- Summary and Update for DQ

Directors noted and discussed the detailed summary and letter provided in the Board papers.

## **REPORTS**

### **Finance**

#### Financial Report – October 2023

Directors noted and discussed the Financial Reports as at 31 October 2023.

#### Financial Summary – October 2023

Directors noted and discussed the Financial Summary as at 31 October 2023.

#### Budget 2024

Directors noted the Budget 2024 provided, with the General Manager requested to provide a response on various questions raised. There was a small profit forecast for 2024 noting the unknowns of the registration income and insurance costs (increased to \$130k).

Directors **agreed** with the Budget for 2024 and proposed 5% overall increase in fees.

Discussion followed on members not transferring their dogs noting the time periods set under the rules and guidelines. General Manager commented policing and imposing fines had not been successful in the past. It was suggested reminders be issued to members to lodge transfer and registration paperwork.

### **Office Reports**

Office Report – Week Ending – November 2023 - noted.

Social Media Report – November 2023 - noted.

## **OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

#### Board Meeting Dates for 2024

Directors noted and discussed the information provided, noting the optional Board meeting date for 12 December 2023 was not required.

Directors **agreed** to accept the Board Meeting dates for 2024 as proposed.

#### Progress Report from Canine Welfare and Liaison Officer

General Manager advised the Canine Welfare and Liaison Officer was currently on leave. Work was underway on breeder reporting with a target date of March 2024 for a voluntary breeder audit to be undertaken to gather data. The aim was for yearly audits to be undertaken. Dogs Queensland Rules regarding powers to undertake audits, notice provisions and the extent of any inspections and the like needed to be strengthened with consideration being given to adding an Appendix to cover inspection. A questionnaire would be issued to breeders and members to gather data for the Canine Welfare and Liaison Officer to review and flag any issues to address. It was noted the Canine Welfare and Liaison Officer was liaising with Dogs NSW and Dogs Vic on issues.

Directors were in favour of the questionnaire and suggested the benefits and advantages of answering the questionnaire and implementation of a compliance regime be promoted, for example compliance tick for the breeder on the Dogs Queensland website. A compliance form may also assist breeders to address any issues raised by local Councils.

#### Membership Dispensation Request re Title

Directors noted and discussed the information provided with the General Manager advising around one third of members had already renewed their membership for 2024.

Directors agreed the dispensation request regarding points and Titles be granted, noting Dogs Queensland's membership had been renewed.

### **ANKC (Dogs Australia) Matters**

October 2023 State Administrators Meeting – Minutes Confirmed - noted.

#### Notice of Special Dogs Australia Board Meeting: 10 February 2024

Directors discussed, with the following Agenda Items suggested:

- Change of the ANKC regulation on the order of judging for neuters.
- Approval provided for overseas judge should be for life, unless a problem was subsequently identified and approval withdrawn.

The Constitution and Rules Committee was to prepare a draft rule on changing the order of judging for neuters.

National Canine Health & Wellbeing Committee 2024 Meeting: Call for Agenda Items - noted.

October 2023 ANKC Ltd Annual General Meeting Minutes - noted.

October 2023 ANKC Ltd Board Meeting Minutes - noted.

### **COMMITTEES**

#### **Durack Grounds**

Grounds Committee Minutes – 8 November 2023

Directors noted the information provided, with discussion following on:

- A working bee had been completed with a significant amount of broken equipment and rubbish removed. The Grounds Committee were thanked for their efforts.
- General Manager was requested to follow up on the progress of the work and matting under the sheltered area.

#### **Queensland Dog Sports**

Financial Report for October 2023 - noted.

#### Lure Coursing Documents

Directors noted the information provided noting the Lure Coursing Rules were being rewritten with targeted completion being 15 December 2023.

#### **Conformation Judges & Events Managers**

CJC Minutes 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Directors noted the information provided, with discussion following on:

- Closing dates for show entries and issues caused for Show Managers and Club Secretaries. It was recommended the online closing date be seven (7) days prior to the Show, with the advertised closing date to be a minimum of 14 days prior to the first day of the show. Dogs Queensland Rules provided flexibility and discretion with the words 'at least' used and a realistic approach was required on time periods.
- Enforcing the dates and times set with no refunds provided should withdrawals occur after the closing date. Late entries were also not allowed. It was suggested the Constitution and Rules Committee consider the matter and the Dogs Queensland Rules.
- A judge or judges may withdraw before the show was held and refunds should be provided in those circumstances as the contract of service had altered. The flip side of the issue was often expenses were

higher or already incurred should a judge or exhibitor withdraw. Clubs should enforce their rules and make decisions noting the Rules that provided refunds were at the 'discretion of the club'.

- The CJC proposed North Queensland members be offered, as part of the advanced training for Stewards and Show Managers on tablet use, to have two trainers visit North Queensland to undertake a mock exam and provide face to face training. This would assist with developing and refining problem solving skills and filling the technical knowledge gap. The online training portal would also continue to be used. Directors requested a defined proposal be provided by the CJC for the Board to consider.
- Office workload to be considered noting the increased work on CJC matters. The initial set up of proposed portals, training seminars etc would be time consuming. The workload may decrease over time, however there was still an ongoing requirement to install updates and refresh information. It was suggested consideration be given to whether an additional, full time person was required as a point of contact for providing information and to undertake the required work.
- Developing portal information, establishing criteria, for example with tricks dogs and stewarding and producing written manuals. It was noted the Constitution and Rules Committee had discussed interactive learning and face to face training for trial managers having recognised there were knowledge gaps to be addressed.

General Manager advised only one judges fee was payable for lure coursing, obedience and conformation, with contact to be made with the Office should more than one fee be charged.

## **Canine Health**

### Proposed research project by JCU – Funding proposal

Directors noted the detailed information provided with EMC speaking to the proposed research project: Establishing the prevalence of vector borne pathogens in dogs in North Queensland (*Ehrlichia canis*, *Babesia canis*, *Babesia vogeli* and *Dirofilaria immitis* (heartworm)". It was a meritorious project and funds were available in the Canine Health budget for the research to obtain data which could be utilised to lobby Governments.

Discussion followed on:

- Whether other organisations or companies were approached to invest in the project. It was noted this was a prevalence study and it was not a matter for Dogs Queensland to pursue others.
- The information to be gathered was confidential and other organisations had not been approached although companies could provide product, for example tick collars. Other universities would not contribute and whilst JCU have Government approval to run testing, no funding was provided. It was suggested partnerships and other organisations should be pursued to contribute funding. However, without solid information available to show how serious the issue was and its prevalence, it was difficult to lobby partners to contribute.
- The return on investment was the health of dogs and obtaining data on the diseases. The project would be conducted in Townsville as this was considered the frontline area.

Directors resolved, by a majority, that \$10,000 in funding be provided to the proposed research project by James Cook University.

## **Constitution and Rules**

### Approved Rule Changes around Aggressive Dogs

Directors noted and discussed the information provided on the Rule changes regarding aggressive dogs.

Directors resolved the Rule and Appendix changes as proposed be accepted, with effect from 1 January 2024.

## Constitution and Rules Committee Agenda Items

Gordon Mayne advised:

- Work was underway in relation to further education and training for Breaches Panel members.
- Dissemination of information on Rule changes to clubs was via the magazine and Paw Prints. In addition, an email would also be sent from Dogs Queensland to all clubs detailing any Rule changes and dates the changes were effective from.

Directors noted the information provided to amend Rule 77.2 and Clause 4 of Appendix 5, with discussion following on the proposed additional sentence.

Directors resolved, by a majority, to accept the proposed amendment of Rule 77.2 and Clause 4 of Appendix 5.

Discussion followed on the proposed amendment of Rule 70.10 noting a wording change was required to reflect 'Best in Show' not 'Champion of Show'.

Directors resolved to amend Rule 70.10 as proposed and the wording change to reflect 'Best in Show'.

Discussion followed on the proposed amendment to Rule 77.2 noting any directions by the Panel needed to be within Dogs Queensland Rules. It was noted penalty guidelines were provided in Appendix 24.

Directors resolved to amend Rule 77.2 as proposed.

Directors noted the proposal to undertake a formal review of the Canine Control Queensland Ltd constitution. Suitable consultation would be undertaken with members and all committees.

Directors approved the commencement of a formal review of the CCCQ Ltd constitution.

## Fees for filing of Complaints/Appeals

Directors noted and discussed the information provided. Should an appeal be successful or the complaint found to be legitimate, the application fee would be refunded.

Directors agreed a fee of \$200 be payable for all complaints and appeals lodged, effective from 28 November 2023.

## **Government and Media Liaison**

### Proposed Reforms to the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act

Directors noted the information provided and thanked Elisa McCutcheon for the work undertaken and media interviews conducted on behalf of Dogs Queensland.

### Addition to Government and Media Liaison Committee

Directors agreed to appoint Ruth Best to the Government and Media Liaison Committee.

## **Junior Handlers**

### Clarification of State Final Winner

Directors agreed the State Final Winner would receive an airfare for themselves, their chaperone and dog, plus accommodation for one night. However, car hire and a second day accommodation was not covered.

## **Marketing and Public Relations**

### PR & Marketing Committee Minutes

A verbal update was provided, noting:

- Initial discussions with RightPaw regarding a possible partnership to promote better puppy sales online.
- Gwen Hovey-Jacobs had resigned from the committee, with her contribution acknowledged. Valley Horne had verbally advised she would be resigning from the committee.

Discussion was held, with differing views expressed, on whether reimbursement for expenses and travel should be provided to Committee Chairs and Committee members undertaking work to manage events noting the roles were voluntary for a not for profit (NFP) organisation. It was suggested consideration be given to costing the expenses against the event being held although this may require further consideration. Gordon Mayne commented there were numerous articles published on the complex issue of remunerating and providing benefits to Board members of an NFP organisation. There was no clear cut answer with Gordon Mayne to review past articles and provide a paper on remuneration expenses for an NFP for the January 2024 Board meeting.

Directors agreed to reimburse petrol costs and one night's accommodation for two events in December 2023 which Katrina Santas will be attending.

## **SHOW MATTERS, SHOW/TRIAL DATES AND CLUB MATTERS**

### **Show Dates**

#### Show Dates for Approval

Directors noted any changes or requests for show dates in 2024 were required to be submitted by June 2023. The requests made were outside the time period and, except for the Burdekin Canine Club, would not be considered.

Directors discussed the request for 2024 dates and an extra date in 2024 from the Burdekin Canine Club, noting the Club had recently become affiliated and had no show dates scheduled.

Directors agreed to the 2024 Show dates as requested by the Burdekin Canine Club.

General Manager was requested to write to the Pine Rivers Kennel Club and Redcliffe & Peninsula Kennel Club acknowledging the objections regarding the Samford AG Show. However, Dogs Queensland had no control over the scheduling of AG Shows. It was to be published in Paw Prints that any request for show date changes for 2024 which were received after the June 2023 cut-off date would not be considered.

### **Club Matters**

#### Mareeba Kennel Club – Change of Name

Directors discussed the information provided noting the name options provided.

Directors agreed the Mareeba Kennel Club be advised the selected name change to 'Northern Tropics Kennel Club' was accepted.

#### Cairns City Kennel Club – K9 Pro Sponsorship

Directors noted the information provided, with agreement Dogs Queensland and clubs should not accept sponsors whose practices did not align with Dogs Queensland values and ethics. General Manager was requested to issue information to all clubs highlighting the need for careful consideration accepting sponsorships from organisations whose practices which may not align with legislation, Dogs Queensland Rules or Club values.

Distribution of A20 Shows – Proposal for discussion and consideration by the Board from Burdekin Canine Club  
Directors noted Dogs Australia determined the four shows for 2025, with further investigations to be undertaken and the matter brought back to the January 2024 Board meeting.

#### **NEW MEMBERS FOR APPROVAL**

##### Flying Minutes re Membership

Directors ratified the memberships accepted by flying minutes as tabled.

#### **LATE ITEMS & GENERAL BUSINESS**

##### Gazebos for DOTY Event

Directors discussed the information provided noting no budget had been provided and the costs provided seemed excessive. Possible alternatives were considered noting equipment needed to be handled and stored correctly to minimise damage. It was noted Dogs Queensland had seven (7) gazebos in storage which could be used and this would reduce the number of gazebos needing to be purchased.

Directors resolved, by a majority, to purchase five (5) aluminium pop up gazebos, printed, at a cost of \$990.95 each plus GST, for a total cost of around \$5,000.

#### **CLOSURE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Board meeting is to be held Tuesday, 23 January 2024 at 6pm at the Dogs Queensland offices at Durack and by Zoom teleconference.