



## **SPORTING WHIPPET CLUB**

AGENDA of AGM Sunday 17th March 2019, 11.30 am

Down Ampney Village Hall, Cirencester, GL7 5 QR

### 1. Opening and apologies

Present: Jan Doherty, Tracy Chamberlain, Sharon Dalgleish, Gill McLatchie, Susie Logan, Mark Roughsedge, Mark Bicknell, Mike Florek, Duncan Nicholls, Greg McLatchie, Penny Abbott, Martin Abbott, Caroline Osborne, Fleur Chant, Freddie

#### Apologies:

Kate Bent, James Newman, Elizabeth Johnstone, Lilah & Richard Wainman, Jacqueline Kenyon, Angela Bayley, Pete & Helena Gaffney, Alec Dalgleish, Iain Logan

### 2. Minutes of last meeting

Accepted as true record, Proposed Susie seconded Gill

### 3. Matters arising

None

### 4. Chairman's report

2018 was a difficult season, first meeting had to be cancelled due to snow, subsequent meetings hampered by hard ground. We decided to go ahead with the meetings and give members the choice to run or not, and we are pleased to say no injuries were reported. We also had problems with the machine throughout the season, but are pleased to say a second machine has been ordered, and we also have new pulleys. We look forward to a good season ahead, and would like to remind members that all dogs are run at owners risk.

### 5. Treasurer's report

There was an operating loss of £381 for the year, however a significant investment in a quad and other equipment was made. Planned expenditure for further significant equipment (second lure machine, pulleys) was going to deplete the account. We need to ensure sufficient income from membership and entries to ensure stability. Susie Logan will no longer be running the tea stall so we will no longer have this income. All fees will remain unchanged this season, next year passport would increase to £5

### 6. Re-election of Officers and Committee

On rotation Mike Florek was re-elected to the committee, proposed by Penny Abbott, seconded by Tracy Chamberlain, all agreed.

Sarah Meadham re-elected as Secretary, Mark Bicknell as treasurer. Proposed by Sharon, seconded by Susie, agreed by all.

### 7. Other news and announcements.

After several instances of dogs being slipped in competition without required muzzle on, or incorrectly fitted muzzles, we will now be asking that all muzzles are put on and checked before leaving the paddock.

Susie will no longer be doing the tea stall so members will need to provide their own refreshments. Susie said she will continue to provide judges lunches. A suggestion was made to leave a pot for donations in the toilet. Fleur offered to do a whisky draw.

#### 8. Trials

Owners would now be able to hand slip their own dogs, under direction of Slipper and novices will be able to run short courses without muzzles due to a few simple changes with the lure.

#### 9. League Tables

Caroline Osborne queried the 'fairness' of the way the top dogs are calculated, and mentioned that other sports used the top results from only some of the competitions, so suggested using only 4 results. Sarah explained she had tried this method on 2018 season results, and it made no difference to the outcome or order of the top dogs. The proposed change was not seconded and the league tables will remain the same.

#### 10. Any other business

Fleur asked if we would consider dividing the Open category into dogs and bitches, due to safety concerns over the potential size difference, but also because she felt bitches were unfairly disadvantaged due to having seasons and that it was encouraging people to spay early. Sharon said if that were to happen, maximum height of bitches would have to be decreased, which would exclude some regular members. It was also felt that to keep the division every meeting would result in more bye runs and loss of competition. It was agreed to analyse the entries from each meeting and review at the end of the season, to see if a change would be warranted next year. Susie said 'thank you' for the finalist's rosettes.

Caroline Osborne said she was very impressed with the response and manner in which any accidents were dealt with.

Martin thanked the Club for allowing him to take photos. He said he won't publically post photos of any mishaps, or anything that puts any dog or person in a bad light, but said he will share privately any pictures with owners at request, especially as they can help vets treat injuries. He also asked that anyone sharing or using his photos would respectfully acknowledge him as the photographer. Sharon thanked him for his wonderful photographs on behalf of the Club.

Sharon mentioned the SWC ad in the new Whippet Biennial, featuring all 2018 Finals winners. A copy will be at all meets for anyone to see.

Lastly Caroline thanked the committee.

Meeting closed 12.39