

10-7-26 Sherwood Dog Training Club Meeting Minutes, meeting was held via ZOOM, meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Danielle Silverstein

Secretary is absent, Treasurer will keep Attendance when people sign in

In attendance were:

Danielle Silverstein Jill Faulmann Darlene Brushwein Susie McClain Helen Hamilton Shannon Biondi Debra Christiansen Nikki Illias Cindy Bankston Laurie Rubin Jan Lewis Vello Koiv Betty Rose Dee Pigman Marti Park Carolyn Wray Debbie Gibbons Lisa Klein

President's Message, Danielle Silverstein: Our next 2 day Obedience Trial is coming up this weekend, all is set thanks to some great club workers.

Today AKC send out a memo about a concern about exhibitor's question Judges on their scores. Exhibitors for years have wanted to know about where points were lost, but apparently, recently some of these inquires have become confrontational to the point that Trial committee and club members had to get involved. Please keep in mind that when you sign your entry forms you are agreeing to AKC's Civility Isn't a Suggestion: Restoring Respect in the Obedience and Rally

Rings. **The entire communication is at the end of these minutes.**

Secretary Report, Robin Murphy September 2026 Minutes were posted on the club's website, Any changes or corrections to the September 2026 minutes? No corrections, Helen Hamiltom motioned to accept minutes, Debra Christensen seconded, all approved.

AKC Information

No report from Jill, Danielle covered in her Presidents message

Lori Sage has made plans for the December AKC Delegate meeting.

Website update: Jill Faulmann,. No changes, continual updates always done.

Treasurers Report Oct 7 2026 will report at meeting

Checking OnPoint checking: Cash Fidelity total

Money in: October Trial Entries, Oct Match Entries

Money Out: Cash for Stewards, \$240 Cash's Storage \$375 for the rest of the year, Microsoft \$10.50 Refunds for Oct Trials, Judges motel, \$528

Membership, new members this month

Morgandy Riggins Bullard, (Emilie's kid) now has her own membership, Sherwood, OR Golden Retrievers

Events:

2026 Obedience Trial October 10th & 11th Margaret Chandler, Judge CJ Johnson Chair, Darlene Brushwein Secretary Chief Ring Steward, Laurie Rubin, Hospitality, Danielle Silverstein Darlene, Jill and Danielle will be setting up on Friday the 9th, we will be ready, set, go for Saturday. CJ has communicated with our Judge about Friday night when she gets here. Saturday night Margaret will most likely be taken out to dinner,, let Danielle know if you would like attend.

2026 TD Tracking Test November 22nd AKC Fees have been paid. Judges are Kyla Smay, who the club loves and has had before, and Terry Southard. Terry will be flying in from California, she has sent her itinerary to Jill, will be picked up and then staying with Jill and Danielle's to save the club lots of money in lodging and food.

2027 Obedience April 24 & 25 Trial Chairs: Jill Faulmann & Darlene Brushwein will co-chair Trial Secretaries: Darlene Brushwein & Jill Faulmann will co-chair

Judge will be Michele Dembowski, contract signed and secured, Hospitality: Salomeja Garolis

2027 Variable Surface Tracking Test March 23, Western Oregon University Judges are Lisa Klein and Judy Stromquist. Contracts done, Chair is Joan Hagar, Secretary is Dave Vesely committee members still pending. A whole new in depth application was made with AKC, it is in their hands waiting to be listed on the Events Manager, then the fee will be paid.

2027 Rally June 5 & 6 Trial Chair: Jan Lewis Trial Secretary: Darlene Bruswein Judge Margorie Geiger, contract signed and secured. According to the AKC Event Manager and the Events Calendar Margorie is all set and approved for our Juding next June.

2027 Trial and Match Dates: at Cash's: these are still tentative pending Dwight Cash's checking his calendar.

April 2027

Match April 18

Set up for Trial April 23

Trial Dates April 24 & 25

June 2027

Match May 23

Set up for Trial June 4

Trial Dates June 5 & 6

October 2027

Match October 10

Set up for Trial October 15

Trial Dates October 16 & 17

Other Old Business:

New Business:

Oct is Nomination Month, the following is from our ByLaws,

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAD UP A NOINATION COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT JILL.

**Current Board members will be contacted if they want to carry on for the next year,,
if they do not, positions will be open**

Section 4. Nominations. No person may be a candidate in a club election who has not been nominated. The board shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom may be a member of the board. The nominating committee meeting should be held by October 1. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates of their selection. The board shall name a chairman for the committee and it shall be such person's duty to call a committee meeting, which shall be held on or before November 15.

(a) The committee shall nominate one candidate for each office need not be an officer or and positions on the board and, after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.

(b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report, the Secretary shall, at least two weeks before the **December** meeting, notify each member in writing of the candidates so nominated.

BRAGS: Done ----- GREAT brags

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:45 Dee Pigman made the motion, Marti Park seconded, all approved.

Minutes Respectfully submitted, Jill Faulmann, Treasurer SDTC

Attention All Obedience & Rally Participants

By AKC Companion Events Department on October 7, 2026

Civility Isn't a Suggestion: Restoring Respect in the Obedience and Rally
Rings

Disagreeing with a judge's score is nothing new in our sport; it has existed for as long as obedience trials have been held. What's changed isn't the disagreement itself, but how it plays out. With alarming frequency, these disputes occur publicly and loudly, with the apparent goal of making a judge back down rather than receiving an honest explanation.

The scenario is becoming familiar to anyone who spends time ringside. What starts as a reasonable question as to why that deduction was taken or what the judge saw turns into a flat refusal to accept the answer given. The exchange escalates, draws in stewards, other exhibitors, and spectators, and often becomes a public spectacle. Whether the judge holds their ground or the exhibitor walks off loudly declaring the judge doesn't know what they're doing,

the score has stopped being the point. The point has become getting the last word.

That puts judges in a difficult spot. They can't walk back a score midconversation, and defending a decision at length starts to look like litigating the score in front of an audience, which tends to make things worse. What's left is a one-sided, exhausting exchange that wears the judge down in front of everyone ringside. It's a bad look for the sport, and a particularly discouraging one for anyone new who's trying to decide whether this activity is for them.

The disagreement doesn't necessarily end when the trial ends for the day, either.

It often continues in dog-sport Facebook groups, replayed for an audience far larger than the original ringside. Sometimes it comes with a video clip, a

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larger than the original ringside. Sometimes it comes with a video clip, a screenshot, or a post tagging the judge outright. Comment threads tend to reward whoever tells the most aggrieved version of the story, and people who weren't even there weigh in as if they had been. Judges are expected to stay above that kind of exchange rather than engage with it directly, which leaves them with even less room to respond online than they have in the ring. A single disagreement at a trial can follow a judge indefinitely, with nothing on the other side to correct the record.

The AKC Code of Sportsmanship and Civility should be taken seriously. It isn't a loose set of suggestions; it spells out what's expected of everyone who steps into a ring. All participants are asked to treat exhibitors, judges, officials, and volunteers with dignity and courtesy, regardless of how they feel about a given decision. The Code is clear that strong competition and civility must coexist, not one at the expense of the other. It extends those same expectations online as well: courtesy doesn't stop applying just because people are off the show grounds and back on their phones.

None of this is solved by adding another regulation, since it was never really a regulation problem. Peer accountability still does more work than people realize.

A quiet word from someone a person respects lands harder than any policy ever will. Trial Chairpersons have a role in stepping in early. For conduct serious enough to warrant it, individuals can still make a formal complaint to an Event Committee. That process is reserved for real misconduct rather than everyday ringside friction. Most of what shows up ringside doesn't need a hearing. It needs someone willing to say something in the moment, long before it gets that far. Respect, in and out of the ring, isn't optional. Respect is why people keep showing up for the sport.