

The Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria, Inc.

Incorporations Registration Number A0016353X

2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Alaskan Malamute Club, Victoria, Inc., held at the Bulla Exhibition Centre, 5 Uniting Lane, Bulla on Thursday, 9 October 2014 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Ian Luke (Chair), Ash Blackwood, Carla Brightwell, Sharon Easton, Mel Gray, Dale Green, Matthew Hutton, Annemarie Hutton, Simon Kirkpatrick, Ralph Koch, Sandy Koch, E Levett, Sharen McPhan, Colin McPhan, Alan Pitchforth, Joedy Neeleman, Jennifer Cornell, Dayna Manser, Olive Singer, Stuart Vanderpol, Antoinette Wagenvoort, Victor Young

Apologies: B Acht, L Green, K Bryson, A Paxton, M Turner, S Turner

The meeting commenced at 7.45 pm.

The President welcomed the club Patron, Olive Singer, and the members to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

1.	<u>Apologies</u> Motion: <i>That the apologies (as listed above) be accepted.</i> <i>Moved: D Green Secoded: J Cornell</i>	CARRIED
2.1	<u>Election of Scrutineers and Returning Officer</u> The election of Scrutineers and a Returning Officer was held over to be addressed later in the meeting if required (<i>see item 2.2 below</i>).	
3.	<u>Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting</u> Motion: <i>That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, 10 October 2013, and as published in the Spring 2013 issue of "The Malamute Mail", be accepted as read.</i> <i>Moved: M Gray Secoded: A Wagenvoort</i> Business Arising: Nil Motion: <i>That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, 10 October 2013 be accepted as a true and accurate record.</i> <i>Moved: M Gray Secoded: A Wagenvoort</i>	CARRIED CARRIED
4.	<u>Correspondence</u> Nil	
5.	<u>Treasurer's Report</u> - <i>see attached</i> Ralph Koch distributed and presented the 2013/2014 financial report and Auditor's report to the members. Motion: <i>That the Treasurer's report for the last financial year, 2013/2014 be accepted.</i> <i>Moved: R Koch Secoded: S McPhan</i>	CARRIED
6.	<u>Co-ordinators' & Office Bearers' Reports</u>	
6.1	<u>President's Report</u> - <i>see attached</i> Ian Luke presented his report to the members.	
6.2	<u>Secretary's Report</u> – <i>see attached</i> Sandy Koch presented her report to the members.	
6.3	<u>Vice President's Report on Breed Welfare</u> Nothing to report.	
6.4	<u>Health Officer's Report</u> - <i>see attached</i> Anna Paxton's report was presented to the members.	
6.5	<u>Puppy Register & Referral Report</u> – <i>see attached</i> Michele Nimmo's report was presented to the members.	
6.6	<u>Education & Publicity Report</u> - <i>see attached</i> Dayner Manser presented her report to the members.	
6.7	<u>Vice President's Report on Activities</u> – <i>see attached</i> Sharen McPhan presented her report to the members.	
6.8	<u>Show Secretary's Report</u> - <i>see attached</i> Lorraine Green's report was presented to the members.	
6.9	<u>Sledding Co-ordinator's Report</u> - <i>see attached</i> Ralph Koch presented his report to the members.	
6.10	<u>Weight-Pull Co-ordinator's Report</u> - <i>see attached</i> Mel Gray's report was presented to the members.	
6.11	<u>Backpacking Co-ordinator's Report</u> - <i>see attached</i> Stuart Vanderpol presented his report to the members.	

- 6.12 Obedience Co-ordinator's Report – *see attached*
Kellie Bryson's report was presented to the members.
- 6.13 Fundraising Coordinator's Report - *see attached*
Sharen McPhan presented her report to the members.
- 6.14 Newsletter Editor's Report - *see attached*
Sandy Koch presented her report to the members.

Motion: *That the coordinators' and office bearers' reports be accepted as presented.*

Moved: D Green Seconded: M Hutton

CARRIED

7. Presentation of Awards

The following presentations were made:

WORKING DOG TITLES

Working Weight Pull Dog Excellent

Kataku All Shadow "Shadow" owned by Bradley Acht

Associate Working Weight Pull Dog Excellent

Ravenswyke Apache Chief "Apache" owned by Joyce Winspear

Associate Working Weight Pull Dog

Wolfpack Red Baron "Kodiak" owned by Joyce Winspear

Working Lead Dog

Tanome Legend of the Knight (AI) "Rush" owned by Sharen McPhan

ANNUAL WEIGHT PULL COMPETITION

Under 36 kg Class:

1st: *Tanome Against the Grain* "Darcy" owned by Sharen McPhan

2nd: *Thomla Sweet Oopsa Daisy* "Daisy" owned by Ian Luke

3rd: *Kataku Mystical Dawn* "Luna" owned by Ian Luke

36-45 kg Class:

1st: *Kataku All Shadow* "Shadow" owned by Bradley Acht

2nd: *Chimo Ice Eagle* "Chardy" owned by Mel Gray

3rd: *Tanome Kiss Thiss* "Jai" owned by Sharen McPhan

Top Weight Pull Dog of the Year

Kataku All Shadow "Shadow" owned by Bradley Acht

Windchill Tawni Tugger Weight Pull Shield

Tanome Against the Grain "Darcy" owned by Sharen McPhan

SLEDDING STATE CUP

1-Dog Class: Ralph Koch & Bosco

2-Dog Class: Ash Blackwood, Mutie & Nukka

4-Dog Class: Merv Turner, Ava Iggy Claude & Elliott

SLEDDING DOG & DRIVER POINT SCORE COMPETITION

1-Dog Class:

1st Ralph Koch & Bosco

2nd Simon Kirkpatrick & Kaya

3rd: Alan Pitchforth & Tacoma

2-Dog Class:

1st: Stuart Vanderpol, Jethro & Meeca

2nd: Ash Blackwood, Mutie & Nukka

3rd: Joedy Neeleman, Midnight & Cheyenne

4-Dog Class:

1st: Colin McPhan, Jack, Darcy, Millie & Rush

2nd: Ian Luke, Daisy, Luna, Finn & Wilfred

3rd: Merv Turner, Ava, Iggy, Claude & Elliott

NEW CHAMPION

Ch Niltaran Karuzr Layla (AI) owned by Niltaran Kennels

8. Election of Officer Bearers and Committee Members

The President declared all Committee positions vacant.

8.1	President:	Sandy Koch was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.2	Secretary:	Sharen McPhan was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.3	Vice President (Activities):	Colin McPhan was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.4	Vice President (Breed Welfare):	Victor Young was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.5	Treasurer:	Ralph Koch was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.6	Newsletter Editor:	Sharon Easton was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.7	Malamute Health Officer:	Shelley Turner was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.8	Puppy Registrar/Referral Officer:	No nominations were received. Michele Nimmo has indicated that she would be happy to continue in the role should there be no interest – this will be dealt with at the Committee Meeting.
8.9	Publicity /Education Co-ordinator	Dayna Manser was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.10	Fundraising Officer:	There being no nominations received, nominations were invited from the floor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E'vette Levett accepted the nomination by R Koch, Seconded by D Green. • Matthew Hutton accepted the nomination by J Neeleman, Seconded by J Cornell <p><i>Agenda Item 8.10 was suspended pending appointment of a Returning Officer and 2 Scrutineers.</i></p>
2.2	<u>Election of Scrutineers and Returning Officer</u>	As more than one nomination was received for the position of Fundraising Officer, the appointment of a Returning Officer and 2 Scrutineers as per Item 2 was required. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being the sole nominee, Colin McPhan accepted the position of Returning Officer. • Being the sole nominees, Carla Brightwell & Alan Pitchforth accepted the roles of Scrutineers.
8.10 <i>cont.</i>	<i>Agenda Item 8.10 was resumed:</i>	Voting was carried out by secret ballot. E'vette Levett was the successful nominee for the position of Fundraising Officer and was declared. Matthew Hutton was thanked for his nomination.
8.11	Show Secretary:	There being no nominations received, nominations were invited from the floor. Dale Green accepted the nomination by O Singer, Seconded by E Levett. There being no other nominations, Dale Green was declared.
8.12	Obedience Co-ordinator:	Kellie Bryson was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.13	Weight-pull Co-ordinator:	Mel Gray was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.14	Backpacking Co-ordinator:	Stuart Vanderpol was the sole nominee and was declared.
8.15	Sledding Co-ordinator:	There being no nominations received, nominations were invited from the floor. <i>I Luke vacated the chair, S Koch took the chair.</i> Ian Luke accepted the nomination by C McPhan Seconded by R Koch. There being no other nominations, Ian Luke was declared.
9.	<u>Destruction of Ballot Papers</u>	Motion: That all ballot papers be destroyed. <i>Moved: O Singer Seconded: D Green</i> CARRIED

The President thanked the club patron, Olive Singer, and members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Annual General Meeting Reports

Treasurers' report

The club made a loss of \$1167.33 due mainly to the drop in membership numbers, \$600 in donations for Malamute rescue, and fewer weight pull and sledding events. In addition, there was an expenditure of around \$1000 for fundraising prior to the end of the financial year that has not received income until the current financial year.

Thanks again to Sharen for her efforts in the fundraising role. Although the annual report indicates a profit of around \$600 for fundraising, a further \$500 has come in over the months since July giving a profit of around \$1100. With fewer events for fundraising opportunities over the year and fundraising not being possible at the last Championship Show due to the poor weather, raising over \$1000 profit is quite an achievement.

Thanks also to all those who supported the club's fundraising efforts with donations, by purchasing chocolates and participation in raffles, auctions and other fundraising activities throughout the year.

Ralph Koch


Auditor's Report

MICHAEL R LINDSAY FIPA, FTIA

13 Woolwich Drive
MULGRAVE VIC 3170
(03) 9561 2131
5 September 2014

To the Committee and Members of the Alaskan Malamute Club Victoria Inc.

I have examined the records and financial books of the Alaskan Malamute Club Victoria Inc., and the final accounts for the year ending 30th June 2014, and in my opinion they present a true and accurate record of the finances of the Club.



Michael R Lindsay

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2014

Working Capital	2013 / 2014	2012 / 2013
Balance as at 1 July 2013	\$ 16,084.16	\$ 13,736.26
Excess / Loss for Year	\$ -1167.33	\$ 2,347.90
Total Capital	\$ 14,916.83	\$ 16,084.16

Members Funds are represented as follows:

	2013 / 2014	2012 / 2013
Balance of Cheque account	\$ 5213.65	\$ 6,438.93
Bendigo Oxfam Investment Account	\$ 9703.18	\$ 9,645.23
Total Members Funds	\$ 14916.83	\$ 16,084.16

Receipts and Payments for Financial Year ended 30 June 2014

Category	\$	\$
INCOME	Year to Date	Previous Year Total
Activities	10.00	0.00
Backpacking	45.00	88.00
Breeders Directory	75.00	125.00
Fundraising	2361.00	3123.00
Funds transfer: cheque to investment account	0.00	1000.00
Health - other	0.00	0.00
Interest	64.39	108.03
Litter registration	0.00	0.00
Membership - Fees	2421.00	2615.00
Merchandise - Embroidered clothing	15.00	143.00
Merchandise - Vets All Natural	0.00	5.00
Merchandise - Other	128.00	126.60
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
Newsletter - Advertising	385.00	220.00
Newsletter - Printing	0.00	0.00
Petty Cash Float	0.00	0.00
Referral	0.00	118.50
Show	1455.00	2392.00
Sledding	1195.50	1817.00
Weight Pull	565.00	641.00
Working Dog titles	310.00	270.00
Total Income	9029.89	12792.13
EXPENDITURE	Year to Date	Previous Year Total
Accounting	15.00	15.00
Activities	1190.57	1063.37
Administration costs - CAV	51.40	43.90
Administration - Meeting room hire	285.00	229.50
Administration - VCA Affiliation fee	314.00	303.00
Administration costs - other	0.00	0.00
Advertising - VCA	192.00	185.50
Bank fees	2.80	0.00
Donation - Oxfam account	6.44	9.90
Fundraising	1729.23	890.97
Funds transfer: cheque to investment account	0.00	1000.00
Health - Ch'd Scheme	0.00	0.00
Meetings	0.00	0.00
Membership - VCA Insurance levy	382.50	352.50
Membership - Other	0.00	0.00
Merchandise - Clothing	0.00	0.00
Merchandise - Vets All Natural	0.00	0.00
Merchandise - Other	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
Newsletter - Postage	230.80	418.75
Newsletter - Printing	709.80	1102.00
Newsletter - Other	0.00	0.00
Petty Cash Float - Secretary	0.00	0.00
Publicity & Education	279.49	0.00
Referral - donations	600.00	270.00
Show	2744.41	2858.15
Sledding	1258.21	1343.40
Stationery	80.63	0.00
Weight Pull	124.94	358.29
Total expenditure	10197.22	10444.23
PROFIT/LOSS	-1167.33	2347.90

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – 2013-2014 financial year

Category	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Year to Date	Previous Year Total
INCOME														
Activities						10.00							10.00	0.00
Backpacking			14.00						13.00		18.00		45.00	88.00
Breeders Directory	25.00	25.00										25.00	75.00	125.00
Fundraising		64.00	35.00	48.00	814.00	333.00	50.00		275.00		576.00	166.00	2361.00	3123.00
Funds transfer: cheque to investment account													0.00	1000.00
Health - other													0.00	0.00
Interest	6.66	6.88	5.96	4.92	5.09	4.93	5.09	5.10	4.61	5.10	4.94	5.11	64.39	108.03
Litter registration													0.00	0.00
Membership - Fees	706.00	703.00	83.00	118.00		30.00		46.00		71.00	142.00	522.00	2421.00	2615.00
Merchandise - Embroidered clothing							15.00						15.00	143.00
Merchandise - Vets All Natural													0.00	5.00
Merchandise - Other									128.00				128.00	126.60
Miscellaneous													0.00	0.00
Newsletter - Advertising	270.00				15.00				10.00			90.00	385.00	220.00
Newsletter - Printing													0.00	0.00
Petty Cash Float													0.00	0.00
Referral													0.00	118.50
Show				828.00	50.00		141.00		75.00	361.00			1455.00	2392.00
Sledding	366.00	284.00									76.50	469.00	1195.50	1817.00
Weight Pull		75.00	245.00							118.00	127.00		565.00	641.00
Working Dog titles			120.00	60.00	50.00				80.00				310.00	270.00
Total Income	1373.66	1157.88	502.96	1058.92	934.09	377.93	211.09	51.10	585.61	555.10	944.44	1277.11	9029.89	12792.13

EXPENDITURE	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Year to Date	Previous Year Total
Accounting			15.00										15.00	15.00
Activities		254.50	707.70	90.00		138.37							1190.57	1063.37
Administration costs - CAV				51.40									51.40	43.90
Administration - Meeting room hire			46.50		46.50	46.50			48.50	48.50		48.50	285.00	229.50
Administration - VCA Affiliation fee			314.00										314.00	303.00
Administration costs - other													0.00	0.00
Advertising - VCA						192.00							192.00	185.50
Bank fees						2.80							2.80	0.00
Donation - Oxfam account	0.67	0.69	0.60	0.49	0.51	0.49	0.51	0.51	0.46	0.51	0.49	0.51	6.44	9.90
Fundraising	13.00			467.96	143.71	56.59				887.92		160.05	1729.23	890.97
Funds transfer: cheque to investment account													0.00	1000.00
Health - Ch'd Scheme													0.00	0.00
Meetings													0.00	0.00
Membership - VCA Insurance levy	135.00			225.00				15.00		7.50			382.50	352.50
Membership - Other													0.00	0.00
Merchandise - Clothing													0.00	0.00
Merchandise - Vets All Natural													0.00	0.00
Merchandise - Other													0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous													0.00	0.00
Newsletter - Postage		76.80			84.00						70.00		230.80	418.75
Newsletter - Printing		172.00			172.00			172.80			193.00		709.80	1102.00
Newsletter - Other													0.00	0.00
Petty Cash Float - Secretary													0.00	0.00
Publicity & Education				256.00								23.49	279.49	0.00
Referral - donations					500.00		100.00						600.00	270.00
Show	45.90	113.47		967.85	611.14				278.80	478.12	249.13		2744.41	2858.15
Sledding	276.88	467.59		49.60						60.00	313.34	90.80	1258.21	1343.40
Stationery										80.63			80.63	0.00
Weight Pull		124.94											124.94	358.29
Total expenditure	471.45	1209.99	1083.80	2108.30	1557.86	436.75	100.51	188.31	327.76	1563.18	825.96	323.35	10197.22	10444.23
PROFIT/LOSS	902.21	-52.11	-580.84	-1049.38	-623.77	-58.82	110.58	-137.21	257.85	-1008.08	118.48	953.76	-1167.33	2347.90

President's report

As another year draws to a close, it's once again time to thank my fellow committee members for their hard work throughout the year. Changing circumstances limited my ability to attend many club events, and it's generally been a very quiet year.

We remain financially sound, and the members continue to benefit from steady, responsible management of Club affairs.

Congratulations to all those who have enjoyed success with their dogs this year, regardless of whether success is determined by results or participation. Whether your enjoyment has involved the show ring, sledding, backpacking, weight pulling, obedience, Endurance trials or just spending time with your dog no matter the end result you're a winner.

While numbers in the show ring seem to be dropping off, participation in other events remain steady and in weight pull in particular are increasing. This is encouraging as we move towards a new year.

This year sees our 24th Championship Show, to be judged by breed specialist Arie Schwarz. It is also the second and final year in an experimental attempt to pull bigger entries by proximity to the Sunbury weekend. Our 25th Anniversary Show will move back to September and the Melbourne Royal.

On behalf of the outgoing Committee, I thank the members for their ongoing support over the last year. And I offer my particular thanks to those Committee members who have elected not to re-stand. As usual, some die-hards will continue on, and I'm confident their steady presence will ensure another successful year for the Club.

As always, it has been my privilege to serve the membership. I leave the members in the safe and secure hands of our new President, Sandy Koch, and wish the new committee every success.

Ian Luke

Secretary's report

Membership numbers have been steadily dropping over the last few years and we currently have around 50 memberships and 80 members, however a reminder notice will be sent to prompt those who have forgotten. Lower membership numbers are not limited to our club, and are perhaps reflected in the lower numbers of exhibitors in the show ring and entries in events and the show point score competition. With so much information now being available on the website and Facebook, perhaps there is less need for people to join a club.

As always, the Committee has worked hard and well to achieve a larger number of events and activities over the past year and keep the club running smoothly. In particular, it has been a pleasure to work with Ian as President and his knowledge, support and expertise will be sorely missed now he has finally managed to get his wish and step down from the role – unfortunately for me he leaves big shoes to fill.

Thanks to all the Committee for their efforts over the past year, and I look forward to working with the new committee and am particularly looking forward to not being Secretary or Newsletter Editor in the coming term – thanks Sharen and Sharon!

Thanks also to Canidae who have provided generous sponsorship of our Open and Championship Shows and the Sledding State Cup event this year.

Sandy Koch

Health

It has been a fairly quiet year for me on the Health front, unfortunately due to some family circumstances my focus had to take another direction.

Over the course of the year I have had number of calls in relations to people with malamutes that have a lot of health problems. There is a large number of backyard breeders selling Malamutes with a large number of health issues and temperament issues. We need to keep on educating people and directing them to our registered, ethical breeders, whom do all the testing. There is a lot going on in the USA in relation to PN and other hereditary health issues and it is becoming easier for breeders to have their dogs tested.

I would like to wish the new health officer all the best in this role.

Anna Paxton

Publicity & Education

This year has been quiet as the publicity officer. As a committee we decided there had been not much value in the past at trade shows & pet events so none were represented by the club this year.

I implemented Facebook invitations for club events and request feedback from the members if this is something you want & what other ways you would like communication outside the Malamute Mail & Website?

As per the post on the AMCV Facebook page on 22nd September I will be continuing in my position as Publicity & Education Officer. In this coming year I will look at building an online membership form & renewal process on our website so members will no longer have to mail/email your membership forms & it will be easier for new members to join and the Secretary to manage memberships.

Dayna Manser

Puppy & Referral Service Report

Puppy Register – no registrations received.

Referrals – there have been a few people enquiring via email and application form re: adopting a Malamute which have been referred on to appropriate people.

There has been an unprecedented amount of abandoned pound dogs and surrendered Malamutes or their crosses to rescue groups in the various states. NSW currently have close to 40 Malamutes/Mal crosses with most all kennelled in Mandalong due to the inability to obtain any foster carers in NSW.

A new group has been set up this year in Queensland. SHAMROQ (Siberian Husky and Alaskan Malamute Rescue of Queensland). 25-30 of their current dogs are Malamute or Mally crosses with more in pounds, awaiting foster care. Foster carers are really what they are most in need of right now!

Victoria has at least 15 Malamutes or Mal x's from various rescues or impounded in pounds or shelters. AMRAA have had to resort in recent times to utilising kennelling due to the inability to source foster carers as well. Foster carers are crucial to the ability to be able to rescue more Malamutes.

There has been no 'quiet' period the past few years and the busiest time of the year is just starting.... a difficult and overwhelming period for all rescues. Malamute rescues are in DIRE need of more supporters and helpers with either offers of foster care, assistance with food or products, donations of items or financial assistance. Assisting by providing much needed exposure by sharing on Facebook/twitter or printing out pamphlets of the dogs and putting up in your local area is easy and a very worthwhile, extremely valuable way to help. Please consider helping in any way possible, those of our beautiful breed who are currently in need at the moment.

Michele Nimmo

Vice President Activities

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mel, Ralph, Stuart and Lorraine for all the work they have put in to organise the club's activities over the past 12 months. Without their hard work and dedication there would be no events for our members to enjoy. I would also like to thank the members who came along to these events, it is your support and participation that keeps the committee going each year.

Congratulations to the numerous winners and placegetters in the various Point Scores, and congratulations to all the winners at our Championship Show and Open Show. Also, well done to the people whose dogs have achieved Working Titles this year.

I will not be re-nominating for this position again, so I wish the person who takes on this role all the very best for the coming year.

Sharen McPhan

Weight Pull

Wow what a year, time has gone so fast...

This year for Weight Pull has been very exciting with being able to hold the 2nd Boot Camp to start off the year.

Each Weight Pull event was different to the next which showed a lot of different breeds improve, with many getting Personal Best's, Weight Pull Titles and many get extra legs to gain their titles.

It was such a pleasure to see a small handful of newbies to the sport and seeing how well their dogs went.

Each event grew in numbers for both the AMCV and Amstaff events.

The Tuggy Shield was a wonderful awesome way to finish the session, with a fantastic number of entries with all different breeds.

I have definitely enjoyed every event I have run for AMCV and have loved cheering on some amazing dogs.

I want to end on saying HUGE thank you to some amazing people and dogs that have helped support me this session,

My husband Alex, who never complains and is always coming up with new ideas or inventions to make my life and the event run smoothly.

My left hand and my life saver the very beautiful Sandy, I can't thank you enough for your friendship and help, you make my life less stressful.

To Ralph, Stu, Col, Shaz, TMan, Merv, Ian & other AMCV members thank you for helping me out in events and sorry if I was ever too bossy..

Also there is quite a few of amazing Amstaff members who have been fabulous too..

But last of all my very talented and beautiful Mallie Miss Chardy who is celebrating her 9th birthday today, who keeps inspiring to me help others develop a love for weight pull, to inspire other bitches that they can kick butt against the big boys (ha ha), but also the bond between myself, and her has grown stronger, hence why I wanted to continue my role as Weight Pull Co-ordinator for one more session.

Bring on a new and exciting 2015!! Wooo Hooo

Mel Gray

Backpacking

Generally the hikes were well attended, we were quite lucky with the weather except for the hike scheduled last weekend at Smiths Gully which was cancelled due to the temperature being over 25 degrees.

The first picnic walk for the year held at Brimbank Park was very well attended and the next picnic walk is to be held at Westerfolds Park on 19 October so please come along.

Congratulations to those who have completed legs towards the Working Pack Dog title.

At this stage the 3 day hike scheduled for Cup Weekend is not going ahead. The next 3 day hike is scheduled for Easter next year so hopefully there will be some interest and will go ahead.

Stuart Vanderpol

Show Secretary's Report

Last year's championship show was a success despite the change of date, although it was not all that well accepted by members and I am still receiving enquires why we did it and positive feedback on going back to the September date next year.

The Open show although small was also successful.

This year's Championship show judge has finally got his visa and ticket organised and is being subcontracted to the Siberian Husky Club. Next years judge, US breed specialist Pat Putnam, has been contacted and I am waiting on a reply from her.

It is disappointing that there have not been more entries in the point score this year, although not many Malamutes are being shown this year. It could improve next year now more people seem to have new puppies and are starting to enter, let's hope so.

I forgot nominations with too much going on, but I am willing to do the role again next year but that will be the final year - hopefully someone will take it on after that.

Lastly, a big thank you to Dale for all her help with the shows.

Lorraine Green

Sledding

Another enjoyable and successful sledding season has been run, and as per last year all races were held at the You Yangs. This year we also took advantage of the permanent toilet facility at the You Yangs horse corral area which meant not having to hire and drag a portaloos around.

Following a request from Parks Victoria we had to establish a new camping area to the north of the western plantation which allowed us to use some new and interesting trails even if it meant a bit of a stroll down to the toilet block.

We also took the opportunity to use one of the Northern Victorian Sled Dog Club events as part of our sledding point score, which meant one less weekend for the AMCV to organise and a bit of help was provided to NVSDC in exchange. We hope that this arrangement can be continued in 2015. We also used the Goldseekers event in the point score, however due to the high entry fees, distant venue and non-compliance with the rules at this year's race, this event will not be part of our point score next year.

Congratulations to those that won and placed in the events and point score, to Rush on obtaining his Working Lead Dog title and most of all to everyone who came along and had a good time out on the trails with their dogs regardless of where they were placed. Thanks to all those who helped out at events – without your assistance it would have been much more difficult for me to run and run in the events.

I have not renominated for this role and will be happy to support the lucky person who takes it over in 2015.

Ralph Koch

Obedience

A fairly quiet season on the Obedience front however several contributions to the club were made in other areas.

These included;

- Arranging generous sponsorship of the AMCV State Cup sledding event through CANIDAE
- Arranging generous Sponsorship of the AMCV Open Show through CANIDAE

There has been one obedience enquiry through the club which I am providing ongoing assistance with and my own employment with Buckley has provided ongoing representation of Malamute obedience ability, discussion and referrals to the club.

I look forward to staying on in this role and planning some fun and informative events in the future.

Kellie Bryson

Newsletter

I have managed to struggle on with the newsletter this year and, despite being only 4 issues per year now, have still managed to run fairly late with it. Don't get me wrong, I quite enjoy doing the newsletter and it is rewarding to see the final result in print, but it is time consuming so with all the other stuff that needs to get done it gets pushed to the bottom of the pile at times.

Accordingly, I am exceedingly grateful to be handing the newsletter over to Sharon Easton who I hope will enjoy doing it as much as I have over the past few years.

As the trend has been more towards getting information off the internet and via Facebook there has been a decrease in the amount of content provided for the newsletter, but nevertheless feedback, photos and items of interest are always welcome and I hope the members support Sharon in her role as Newsletter Editor.

Thank you.

Sandy Koch

Fundraising Report

There weren't many fundraising opportunities this year due to the poor turnout at our various events. We conducted a couple of online auctions on our Facebook page, but they didn't seem to attract much interest either.

The club has raised over \$1000 for the year, and this has mainly come from the Cadbury Fundraising Chocolates.

I will not be re-nominating for this position again, so I wish the person who takes on this role all the very best for the coming year.

Sharen McPhan
