



# Ontario Border Collie Club

December 3, 2023

## AGENDA

**Agenda Item #1** – Declaration of Proxies

**Agenda Item #2** – Acceptance of Agenda

**Agenda Item #3** - Acceptance of 2022 AGM Minutes

**Agenda Item #4** - Old Business

**Agenda Item #5** – Annual Reports

- A. President
- B. Treasurer
- C. Trials Committee
- D. Learning and Development
- E. Digital Newsletter
- F. Website

**Agenda Item #6**– Year End Awards

**Agenda Item #7** – New Business

Election of Board of Directors - Proposed Slate for 2024

**Agenda Item #8** - Other Business

- Should OBCC sanction Arena trials?
- Should OBCC set conditions for posting on Facebook page?

**Location and Timing of 2024 AGM**

## ADJOURNMENT

### OBCC Mandate

Promote the traditional herding ability of the Border Collie;

Encourage the responsible breeding of the Border Collie;

Arrange trials (competitions) and establish and grant prizes, awards and distinctions;

Foster interest in the Border Collie as a working farm dog;

Arrange training clinics;

Encourage obedience and other non-traditional uses of the Border Collie.

**ANNUAL  
GENERAL  
MEETING**

**DECEMBER 3,  
2023**

**1 PM**

## **AGENDA ITEM #3** **Acceptance of 2022 AGM Minutes**

**OBCC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Sunday, November 20, 2022,**  
**convened at 1:00 pm via Zoom**

**Agenda Item #1** – Declaration of Proxies  
2 received                      participant list available on request

**Agenda Item #2** – Acceptance of Agenda

1<sup>st</sup> Anne Wheatley                      2<sup>nd</sup> Andrea de Kenedy                      CARRIED

**Agenda Item #3** - Acceptance of 2021 AGM Minutes

Corrections

Item #1 - Discrepancy between recorded attendance -Twenty-three (21)? It was noted that 2 people left midway through the meeting.

No written Secretary report. Written is unavailable

Item #7 – incorrect date (November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020) corrected to November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

1<sup>st</sup> Kim Gretton                      2<sup>nd</sup> Patrick Gosselin                      CARRIED

**Agenda Item #4** - Old Business

Update - Liability Insurance for OBCC

The old policy was held under the Sports Dog Association and covered only the club not the directors, volunteers or membership at large. The premium was increasing from \$550 to \$1085 annually. The decision was made to let the policy lapse and Trial organizers were asked to add OBCC to the waiver on entry forms.

**Agenda Item #5** – Annual Reports

A – President's Report

Many thanks to:

- The current OBCC directors and especially Teresa for her endless help.
  - To the Trials Committee and all the hosts of the clinics and trials this year
  - The Learning and Development committee for the well-received clinics. Hopefully more next year.
  - To Pamela Hall who is retiring as fundraiser. Your efforts in the past few years are greatly appreciated. Anybody looking for a job let us know!
  - To Tracy Hinton for her expertise and energy in revamping our website. She has agreed to continue as webmaster.
- The Board opted to use a 'blog' format to report on the Club's activities. Our 'view' stats show that this has been a popular move. I encourage anyone with a blog idea or article to forward it to Tracy to be posted.

Congratulations to all the winners in 2022.

See you on the trial field in 2023!

Kevan Gretton, President

B – Secretary's Report

It was decided to remove the password protected pages of the website as members found it difficult. Much of the club administrative business such as meeting minutes is now open access on the website. To maintain a more streamlined site previous years documents are being moved to the cloud (OneDrive). It was decided to only retain two years of minutes and newsletters on the website. We are gradually moving years prior to 2020 from the website into the archives. These are still available upon request and will be accessible to incoming boards and webmasters. Thanks to the previous Board and its Secretary OBCC archival files had been moved to OneDrive. It was this year's task to organize them into an accessible and hopefully user-friendly system. As decided by a previous Board the OBCC membership list is protected and is now maintained in the cloud with only a simplified list available to committee members to verify members' status. Communications around club business is being done via email. A business Zoom account has been purchased to facilitate meetings of all kinds. Other OBCC communications are via The Official OBCC Facebook page and the website both of which are open to members and non-members.

Teresa Castonguay, Secretary

## C – Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance as of November 1, 2022, **\$8692.19****83 current members**

REVENUE	2021 ACTUALS	2022 BUDGET	2022 YTD	2023 BUDGET
Membership	\$ 2,699.98	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 2,849.10	\$ 2,900.00
L&D Income			\$ 913.00	\$ 500.00
Merchandise Sales	\$ 1,476.22	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,745.50	\$ 3,000.00
Raffle & Silent Auction	\$ 1,176.50	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 984.50	\$ 800.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 5,352.70</b>	<b>\$ 6,700.00</b>	<b>\$11,492.10</b>	<b>\$ 7,200.00</b>
EXPENSES				
Bank Charges	\$ 18.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 29.50	\$ 50.00
Insurance/Legal	\$ 550.10	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Merchandise Costs	\$ 1,181.32	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 5,850.89	\$ 1,800.00
Meeting Expenses	\$ -	\$ 485.00	\$ 158.20	\$ 200.00
Promotion of Club Goals	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 937.21	\$ 500.00
Learning and Development	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,500.00
Prize Expense/ribbons	\$ 68.48	\$ 100.00	\$ 180.76	\$ 200.00
Trial Support	\$ 450.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,500.00
Website Charges	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 935.00	\$ 500.00
Year End Awards	\$ 444.30	\$ 700.00	\$ 594.38	\$ 700.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,712.20</b>	<b>\$ 7,135.00</b>	<b>\$10,885.94</b>	<b>\$ 7,050.00</b>

## Inventory

2022 Merchandise in stock wholesale value \$2426 and old stock retail value \$625

Kim Gretton, Treasurer

DISCUSSION

It was pointed out that Total Revenue Year to Date was missing the 1 and should read \$11,492.10

The Promotion of Club Goals Year to Date was overspent. The request to place OBCC items in the Grass Creek Handlers bags were more expensive than anticipated. It was recommended that this line item not exceed the amount given as trial support (\$400). A suggestion was made that an award for highest placing OBCC member at the Grass Creek trial be considered to show support for this trial.

## D – Trials Committee Report

2022 was a very busy season with great turnouts at every trial. Attendance was high as we entered the new pandemic normal.

The TC sanctioned 9 trials:

Handy Dog Benefit trial- July 9 &amp; 10

Shepherd's Crook Novice (cancelled) -July 23

80 Acres Open -July 28 – August 1

Kingston SDT Open – August 2 – 7

Handy Open - September-10 &amp; 11

Shepherd's Crook – September 30 – October 1

Jimmie's Farm – Novice – October 13

Kitley Corners October 14 – 16

Indian River October 28- 30

Trial Funding

Requests for financial support are listed below:

Association Border Collie Quebec \$400 (trial cancelled)

Handy Dog July trial \$400

Handy Dog September trial \$400

Kitley Corners \$400

Jimmie' Novice Trial \$200

Indian River - \$400

**Total trial funding provided =\$1600**

It was an extraordinary year for upcoming handlers. Novice classes historically have had 10 or less entries- this season had 20 to 25 entries per trial. These novice handlers demonstrated very good skills in running their dogs and managing the livestock around the courses. Many of these Novice handlers were from various locations in Quebec as well as Ontario. They brought with them a wonderful spirit of comradery and enthusiasm in addition to some very skilled handling. It is very exciting that this sport is very much alive and growing. Brian Epp and Celeste LaCroix hosted not only their first trial in Ontario but several days of clinics and lessons – both were well attended.

Given how busy the season was- it is unsurprising that there were a few concerns brought to the attention of the Trials Committee.

The first was one about some Trial Managers not being current members of the OBCC. The Trial Guidelines state that **Trial Managers must be members in good standing 6.1.3.**

A second concern was that a Judge permitted a handler to stay at the post during a Novice Novice class - instead of leaving the post to wear/assist in driving the sheep. OBCC article 1.1.2 states: **It is at the trial manager's discretion to allow assisted driving in sanctioned trials where OBCC rules prevail. Such a decision is to be announced prior to the start of the class. 6.2.2 OBCC rules and guidelines will prevail first and foremost for sanctioned trials that have applied for and received club funding.**

Several members complained that Judges from overseas were not following USBCHA guidelines. This was addressed several times at trials and noted. They were given the link to the USBCHA guidelines. A suggestion is that, perhaps, Trial Hosts & Managers could provide judges with copies of the OBCC and USBCHA guidelines in advance of their trials

The Trials Committee would like to recommend an amendment to the current guidelines: Sanctioning Trials: **6.1.2 Only trials within Ontario will be considered for sanctioning.** We suggest amending this to read Only trials within Ontario will be considered for sanctioning **and funding.**

The Trials Committee does not oppose the continued approval for funding for Events in special circumstances - such as providing financial assistance to the CBCA Championships and the USBCHA Finals when they are taking place in eastern Canada and the US; etc.

In addition, the Trials Committee recommends developing their own form for trial reports. This year's results were often not reported, reported incorrectly, or illegible photos of trial scoresheets sent to us. We would like to have a form that is easily used by everyone and list the results in descending order. Tracy Hinton has agreed to assist with this and our thanks to her for all her support this year.

In closing, many thanks to all the Hosts and Managers for continuing to provide trials in this province. We are most fortunate for their support. Also let us not forget a big thank you to all those who volunteered to help trial hosts in their endeavours.

The current Trials Committee members are happy to volunteer again for 2023. Stay safe and see you next season on the trial field.

The Trials Committee- Carol Guy, Andrea de Kenedy, Louise Hadley

## DISCUSSION

The concerns raised in the committee reports were emphasized by several members. In addition to the concerns raised in the report, it was pointed out that one trial received funding for two trials but that Trial Guidelines 6.2.1 state that **“Trial managers may apply for such funds only once per trial season.”**

Benefit trials were also mentioned. While neither Trial nor Funding Guidelines exclude Benefit (or Fundraising) trials, it was not an appropriate use of funds.

It was worrying that many trials did not appear to be familiar with or follow the published guidelines. Kevan noted that these concerns would be communicated to trial organizers.

Changes to the Trial Guidelines were proposed as follows:

### TRIAL GUIDELINES

6.1.2

From

Only trials within Ontario will be considered for sanctioning.

To

Only trials within Ontario will be considered for sanctioning **and funding. Funding exceptions would be at the discretion of the Trials Committee and Board of Directors.**

6.1.3

From

Trial Managers must be members in good standing

To

Trial Managers **and/or Trial Hosts** must be members in good standing

A discussion and vote on the above 6.1.3 wording ‘**and**’ or ‘**and/or**’ was held. The majority (19) were in favour of ‘**and/or**’

Motion to Approve above changes to **TRIAL GUIDELINES 6.1.2 and 6.1.3**

1<sup>st</sup> Anne Wheatley

2<sup>nd</sup> Andrea deKenedy

CARRIED

E – Learning & Development Committee Report

Zoom Judging Clinic with Lee Lumb

March 20, 2022, 1pm est on Zoom

31 people in attendance

Questions were posed in advance by participants through L&D

Lee gave very thoughtful responses that emphasized good workmanship

Participants reported enjoying and getting a lot out of the session.

Net Profit to club \$417

International Shedding Practice Day

May 7, 2022, 9am to 4pm at Applewood Ridge Farm

Tracy designed and facilitated the day

L&D helped w Promotion

15 active participants

Auditors

Contribution from the club \$200

Amanda Driving Clinic (held over from 2021)

June 5, 2022, at Amanda's Farm

L&D arranged the event

8 active participants

4 Auditors

Net \$87

Training Kina with Patrick Gosselin  
June 18,19, 2022, 8am to 4pm at Patrick's Farm  
Patrick brought this popular event to L&D  
15 people attended  
Contribution from club \$200  
Returned to the club \$409.20  
Net \$209.20

James McGee Young Dog Day  
James McGee all subjects clinic  
October 17, 18, 19 2022  
Celeste Lacroix applied to the L&D for funding assistance  
OBCC members had first access  
Contribution from the club \$200  
\*Total net to the club \$313.20 (It is not a goal of the Committee to profit)

Thank you to all those who worked on these events to make them a success:  
Lee Lumb, Tracy Hinton, Kevan Gretton, John Palmer, Amanda Milliken, Patrick Gosselin,  
Celeste Lacroix, Brian Epp and James McGee.  
The Learning & Development Committee Members - Cynthia Palmer, Anne Wheatley, Genevieve [Pronovost](#)

#### F – Other Club Activities

##### Fundraising & Merchandise Sales

The fundraising committee had another event filled year. We attended many trials taking all the merchandise with us to have on hand for club members and the public to purchase. Our biggest purchase and sale was at Kingston sheepdog trial, which as usual was a big hit. I'd like to give special thanks to Genevieve Pronovost and Annie-Claude Laniel for being my 50/50 girls, (their name not mine) they did an awesome job of patrolling the crowd and selling tickets. Thank you to all the volunteers that came to Kingston and helped out it's always a huge help. There's a good amount of clothing stock left if people are looking for gifts or items for next year. I still have Stock Sticks and the plastic whistles in multiple colors. It's been a great four years heading up this committee I will be around to assist and give any direction that's required in the upcoming year or years.

Thank you everyone for your support and helping with fundraising events.

Sincerely,

Pamela and the other 2 Hall girls.

##### Digital Newsletter

The decision to go to a digital newsletter was made at the 2021 AGM. No newsletter editor or content editor stepped forward this year. While a redesign of the website was undertaken an interim solution was agreed to. A new blog page was created, and trial and clinic reports were requested. Permission to republish previous newsletter articles was obtained. Four categories were created; **Ewe Herd it Here** (trial and clinic reports) **Follow the Flock** (interviews with judges and general interest) **I Bought A Farm!** (or a dog, and another dog, trailer) and **What the Flank!** (training related articles). Stories and reports began appearing this fall.

Teresa Castonguay, interim editor

##### Website

The website revamping is ongoing. This year we accomplished the following:

Reviewed website content and determined what should be held

Crafted a new website structure with proposed menu tree and content

Website changes that were implemented this year:

Reworked the HOME tree and added the About Us landing page

Implemented a BLOG with 4 categories

Follow the Flock

I Bought a Farm!

What the Flank?

Ewe Herd it Here

Opened the Members Info page to be accessible to all and resurrected the News section.

Removed old documents

Implemented Membership mass mailing campaigns  
 Normal updates as required throughout the year  
 Capture and report to the board website traffic on a monthly basis

Although it was my hope, I have been unable to have all planned website changes completed prior to this AGM. I will continue to work on the remaining changes with completion planned in early 2023.

Website Update

By Tracy Hinton

Motion to accept all reports                      1<sup>st</sup> Kelly Morrow 2<sup>nd</sup> Lynn Johnston                      CARRIED

#### **Agenda Item #6**– Year End Awards

Novice Novice Champion	Beth Harris & Finn
Novice Novice Reserve	Daniel Turcotte & Denver
Pro Novice Champion	Hillary Flower & Daisy
Pro Novice Reserve	Rebecca Lawrence & Meabh
Open Champion	Kevan Gretton & Bud
Open Reserve	Tracy Hinton & Tye

Kevan congratulated all the winners

#### **Agenda Item #7** – New Business

Election of Board of Directors - Proposed Slate for 2023

Kevan Gretton – President  
 Marie Sawford – VP  
 Kim Gretton – Treasurer  
 Teresa Castonguay – Secretary  
 Kelly Morrow – Director

#### **Committees to be appointed by the new board**

Trials Committee  
 Learning and Development Committee  
 Fundraising and Merchandise Committee  
 Nominating Committee  
 Digital Newsletter Editor and Content Collection  
 Webmaster

**Motion to accept**                      1<sup>st</sup> Lynn Johnston 2<sup>nd</sup> Lorna Savage CARRIED

#### **Agenda Item #8** - Other Business

Most Promising Bi-Annual Novice Handler Award 2022

Congratulations to Pamela Hall

#### Discussion

Suggestions were made that this award be modified to include all levels of handlers, volunteers, and non-competitors. Name changes and modification were put on the table for further consideration.

#### Proposal #1

To retire the perpetual trophies

#### Discussion

A majority (18) voted to continue the tradition of perpetual trophies. Suggestions and ideas around repair, transport or alternative logistics were discussed. An investigation into the cost of maintaining will be undertaken with further decisions tabled once determined.

Proposal #2

Offer members a choice between placement ribbons or club carabiner

DISCUSSION

Response was generally positive provided design and cost to the club was appropriate.

Proposal #3

Acknowledging 3 long time OBCC Members with an Honorary Membership

Michelle Lawrence

Lorna Savage

Bruce Smart

*OBCC Membership Bylaws #4.0 include:*

*HONORARY – A person who has shown a special interest and support for the Club or the Border Collie breed, who has the affirmative vote of the membership in attendance at an Annual General Meeting*

Motion to approve above 3 members be granted honorary memberships

1<sup>st</sup> Jim Murphy 2<sup>nd</sup> Carol Guy

CARRIED

Proposal #4

Amending Trial Guidelines as below:

**8.0 GUIDELINES FOR TRIAL MANAGERS**

**8.2 Results**

8.2.1 Trial managers must report trial results to the Secretary within 21 days after the trial.

To

8.2 .1 Trial managers must report trial results to the **Chair of the Trials Committee** within 21 days after the trial **using the OBCC form.**

Moved 1<sup>st</sup> Carol Guy

2<sup>nd</sup> Genevieve Pronovost

**Location and Timing of 2023 AGM**

November 19, 2023, at 1 pm

Moved for ADJOURNMENT at 2:36 Lorna Savage

## **Agenda Item #5 – Annual Reports**

### **A—PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Another year has gone by at light speed it seems!

Many thanks to all the trial hosts and the many volunteers it takes to put on a trial. We lost a few trials in 2023; it would be nice to see a few more trials in 2024.

The Learning & Development Committee had another outstanding year.

Many thanks to Anne Wheatley and her committee members for all their hard work and time commitment.

Tracy Hinton has been kept busy looking after the website. Your expertise and time are very much appreciated.

Special thank you to our Secretary, Teresa Castonguay, for all you do for

the club.

Congrats to this years' Trophy winners.

On a personal note, I would like to say a BIG Thank you to the OBCC members for your support and encouragement for the World Trials.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevan Gretton



## B -Treasurer Report as of November 30, 2023

REVENUE	2022 YTD	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUALS	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
Membership (78 MEMBERS)	\$2,849.10	\$2,900.00	\$2,701.53	\$2,900.00
L&D Income	\$913.20	\$500.00	\$1,411.33	\$1,000.00
Merchandise Sales	\$6,745.50	\$3,000.00	\$2,291.38	\$500.00
Raffle & Silent Auction	\$984.50	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$11,492.30</b>	<b>\$7,200.00</b>	<b>\$6,404.24</b>	<b>\$4,400.00</b>
EXPENSES	2022 YTD	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUALS	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
Bank Charges	\$29.50	\$50.00	\$7.50	\$30.00
Legal	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Merchandise Costs	\$5,850.89	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Meeting Expenses (Zoom account)	\$158.20	\$200.00	\$226.00	\$300.00
Promotion of Club Goals (CBCA Championships & World Team)	\$937.21	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Learning & Development	\$600.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Prize Expense/ribbons	\$180.76	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Trial Support	\$1,600.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Website Charges (2024 budget includes upgrade)	\$935.00	\$500.00	\$405.86	\$500.00
Year End Awards (Champions' Club jackets & trophy engraving)	\$594.38	\$700.00	\$736.87	\$800.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$10,885.94</b>	<b>\$7,050.00</b>	<b>\$2,376.23</b>	<b>\$4,830.00</b>
<p><b>Bank Balance at November 30/2023 \$13,189.10</b></p> <p><i>Inventory on hand: 26 tshirts, 8 ladies golf shirts, 17 hoodies</i></p>				

## C - Trials Committee Report 2023

The TC sanctioned 5 trials this season and received no requests for funding.

1. Handy Dog July 8 & 9 all classes
2. 80 Acres August 4-6 Open
3. Kingston SDT August 8 – 13 Open & CBCA Championships
4. Shepherd's Crook October 7-9 all classes
5. Indian River October 10 -12 all classes

Many thanks to all the trial hosts for their continued hard work to ensure their trials continue. All handlers really appreciate their willingness to host such fine events. Much missed this year was the Handy Dog Fall trial – the field being under renovations.

The committee also received complaints about handler/host behaviour. One complaint was about a handler who questioned 3 judges about the scoring of both their runs and those of others while the trials were in progress.

The TC received complaints about commentary during the Kingston Sheepdog Trials. The Board has made the KSDT committee & the CBCA aware of these complaints.

The Trials Committee recommends that the Ontario Border Collie Club initiate a formal response to grievances received in the future by amending the Trial Guidelines Conduct section. The current committee members would like to proceed with this during the off season and report back to the Board with their draft.

The Trial Committee would like to congratulate the 2023 Champions

Open Tracy Hinton & Lad  
Open Reserve Tracy Hinton & Tye  
Pronovice Mary Thompson & Rain  
Pronovice Reserve Andrea de Kenedy & Sweep  
Novice Novice Lynn Inia & Fleetwood  
Novice Novice Reserve Mike Rember & Nan

Louise Hadley will be stepping down as a committee member & Lorna Savage has volunteered to come on board. Andrea & Carol would like to remain another year.

Thank you to all – both handlers, hosts & other volunteers who make trialing in Ontario such a success.!

The Trials Committee Louise Hadley Andrea de Kenedy Carol Guy

## D - Learning & Development Committee Report 2023

The 2023 L&D Committee members, Jaline Kroll, Lorna Savage and Anne Wheatley worked intently planning events and productions during the winter of 2022/23.

The planning included generating ideas and exploring the logistics of each. Then arranging for venues and a clinician in one case, and negotiating remuneration, exploring dates, deciding on promotional details and designs, finding good photos and obtaining permission for their use, then timing the posting of promotions, and executing events and productions - the work of an L&D Committee.

There was a successful Sheep and Lamb Day at Handy Dog Farm compliments of clinician Viki Kidd. Nine participants attended on March 11th. There was a link to an excellent blog post about the event on the fb page and the blog was posted to the webpage. Viki volunteered her time and expertise and after lunch expenses the Committee netted \$230.00 that was given to the club

An interview by Kathy Keats with Kevan Gretton was completed in April. Kathy Keats is a Mindset and Peak Performance Coach. Kevan as we know was on the Canadian Team, going to the World Trials. We arranged for Kathy to talk with Kevan about some of the tools that can help all of us as handlers, to get into the mindset to train effectively and compete at a higher level.

The Committee's intent in April was to promote the interview on the OBCC fb page and arrange with Tracy to send a link to all OBCC members as - a production to which members can enjoy first access - that until it was shared around to others. Sharing would not have mattered significantly, it was the thought that counted. Although this was the Committee's original intent it was decided later to just put it out for all to see. Access was through the club website. Detailed reporting on the number of hits on the interview are difficult to access on the site's limited domain, but we think people enjoyed it.

During the month of May the Committee held 3 Learn to Trial Better events at different farms on different sheep in eastern Ontario. Participants had an opportunity to run their dogs twice on a course at their level of either NN or PN, take home a video of their runs if they wanted it, and have one run judged.

Information was shared about entering a trial, prepping, trial etiquette, course challenges like pressure, wind etc. .. discussion was encouraged.

Each of these events were opportunities for handlers to meet and greet and experience some mock trialing in a relaxed atmosphere. See the promo and entry forms on the OBCC Website for more detail. The Learn to Trial Better Events netted \$1180.72 for the club.

Each of these events and presentations happened only with the considerable generosity of volunteers.

The L&D thanks Viki Kidd, Kathy Keats, Kevan Gretton, Carol Guy, Andrea de Kenedy, Janet Fahey, Louise Hadley, Teresa Castonguay, Beth Devereaux, Tara Dier, Lynn Johnston, Sue Moore, Helen Knibb, Catherine Rae and Tracy Hinton.

## E - Digital Newsletter Report 2023

Since its inception in June 2022, there have been 56 postings to the blog. By category, this breaks down as follows:

- 28: You Herd it Here. This is where timely articles are posted, news items and trial reports
- 4: Follow the Flock. Interviews, FAQs, handler views
- 14: What the Flank. Training and clinic reports
- 10: I Bought a Farm (or a dog etc). Managing a sheepdog or a sheep farm, Up and Coming sheepdogs

Members (and others) have been very accommodating in stepping up to requests for new material. Past articles from the OBCC Newsletter have been republished if they are still considered relevant. All postings are linked on the OBCC Official Facebook page as they are

published, so that the 700+ folks on the Facebook page are aware of any new entries.

The feedback has been very positive in the comments section on Facebook, and in some cases, there has been dialogue on a topic. The blog should be maintained as long as there is material. It has been a pleasure to serve in the role of blog editor. Thanks go out to Tracy Hinton who manages the website and posts all the entries, and to Teresa Castonguay for maintaining a permanent archive. And thanks to all of those who have provided material. Posting ideas can be PM'd to Lynn Johnston from the Facebook page.

Lynn Johnston, Digital Newsletter Editor and Content Collection

## F - Website Report 2023

The website revamp was completed in the spring. I continue to try to enhance and improve as needed.

The following was accomplished this year:

Removed old documents.

Revamped the following sections:

News & Minutes

Policies & Forms

Events Calendar

Posted the following on a regular basis:

Events

Points and Standings

Minutes

News updates

Blog entries

Managed mass email communications to our members.

Managed incoming visitor submissions/emails.

I was able to capture and report to the board website traffic on a monthly basis until that functionality was removed for our account.

We are a "free" account, and this detailed reporting is no longer available for our account type. The cost to upgrade our account is \$16.62/month, billed annually, should the membership want to upgrade.

It will also allow us to have unlimited pages and have a store to sell physical and digital products, commission-free should we wish to do that.

I am happy to continue to look after the website updates, should the board wish it.

Tracy Hinton, Webmaster

## Agenda Item #7

### Election of Board of Directors - Proposed Slate for 2024

Kelly Morrow – President

Patrick Gosselin – Vice President

Celeste Lacroix – Treasurer

Teresa Castonguay – Secretary

Susan Moore – Director

### **Committees to be appointed by the new board**

Trials Committee

Learning and Development Committee

Fundraising and Merchandise Committee

Nominating Committee

Digital Newsletter Editor and Content Collection

Webmaster

