



January 4, 2026 – Business Meeting

Suffield Veterinary Hospital, 577 East St. S, Suffield, CT - ZOOM Available

Meeting called to order at 6:03PM by Michele Kowalski

Present: Gretchen Boss, Anne Crouss, Ann Huntington, Trish Kadlewicz, Annmarie Wilson

ZOOM: Michele, Kowalski, Debi Baker, Laura Bauver, Keith Blanchard, Lyn Blanchard, Susan Brownell, Deb Brunell, Hazel Holman, Laura Lafreniere, Fran Lloyd, Chris Misseri, Maria Nardi, Mike Richards, Bill Ross, Nancy Ross, Lenore Severni, Sarah Boss-Sullivan

Treasurer's Report

Laura L. provided us with the Treasurer's report. There are still some membership dues coming in as well as a deposit that came in after the December report.

Minutes

The meeting minutes from the December 6, 2025 were emailed to all members.

MOTION to accept the minutes as distributed. (Ann H./Gretchen B.) Motion carried.

Correspondence

Laura B. received an email regarding our Domain name expiration. Anmarie W. questioned whether it was a SPAM email. Anmarie will check on the Domain's renewal date online.

Website

Anmarie W. reported the website is currently being worked on by Bryant Inc. She will send an email to the developer to check on the progress.

Judge Selection Committee

Jessica B. and Trish K. will organize, Trish K. said she would send an email out to members. They will have information for our February meeting.

January 2026 Match

Deb B. and Karin B. have secured Tails U Win in Manchester, CT for January 11.

Current helpers as of meeting:

- Set Up: Keith B., Mike R., Annmarie W. --- **ARRIVE at TAILS 6PM**
- All Day: Karin B., Susan B., Fran L., Mike R.,
- Morning: Debi B., Chris M.
- Afternoon: Chris B., Gretchen B., Trish K.
- Judges: Danette Chorney, Erika Duke, Linda Friedrich, Annmarie W.
- Lunch: Gretchen B. and Trish K. – Pizza for lunch and Gretchen will assist with cleanup.
- Judges Gifts: Gretchen B.
 - Three gifts are needed, a \$25 gift card is planned

- As is our practice, Club members do not receive a gift.

Deb B. questioned whether they had the new jumps. Laura B. mentioned they do for agility so we could use those if necessary.

Coffee will be available in the morning.

We will need Rally Box and Easels from the trailer for the match. Gretchen B. to get to Annmarie W. before Sunday.

Currently have 45 entries for Obedience. Low entry for Rally.

There will be Day Of Entries for Rally, Obedience is full.

Laura L. mailed balance of fee for Tails to Deb B. Deb will forward to Tails.

Deb B. will have a list of set up needs for Saturday.

January Supported Entry

Laura L. will provide two crate pads for BOB and BOS. She will deliver to Sandy Meadow Farm (Missy Kielbasa) and Gretchen B. will pick them up.

Michele K. asked Gretchen B. to pick up toys for the Sweeps prizes.

These are the only prizes awarded for a Supported Entry.

Nominating Committee

Committee will be meeting Wednesday to finalize their slate for 2026.

May Specialty

Michele K. mentioned the judges all need to be contacted for their travel and hotel needs. We should request a copy of their flight information. Maria N. will email them.

Laura L. will book the hotels. The Cluster usually has judges pay for their rooms and then reimburses them; Laura is going to try to have our credit card charged directly for our judges.

Maria N. reminded Laura L. that she will require a hotel room also.

Danette C. will need a camper spot with electricity and water. Deb B. will also need a similar spot.

Laura L. will ask Trish H. if she needs a camper spot.

Annmarie W. asked who we cover financially. Laura L. said we cover the person monitoring the camp grounds and any judges.

Michele K. asked we confirm that our Supported Entry sweepstakes judge and fee for the Sunday after our Specialty was all set. Gretchen B. to double check.

Gretchen B. to check with Susan Follansbee for her judging contract.

Annmarie W. to set up a ZOOM with Gretchen B. and Maria N. to finalize Specialty forms with AKC. Meeting to be January 8 at 6PM.

Field

Annmarie W. said the Nod Brook meeting is Tuesday, January 13. After that we should have our 2026 dates to share with the Club. She will try to move the WC date closer to what we had in previous years which is better for Tami W. (one of our judges) as well.

Clinic

We are still looking for a chairperson for the September Clinic. The date is September 27. Currently all doctors are confirmed for that date. Annmarie W. may not be here for the Clinic but has offered to set up the workers.

November Designated Specialty

Gretchen B. said many exhibitors would like to keep it a three day specialty. Discussion ensued regarding having any Sweepstakes or reducing the number of days for Sweepstakes. Concerns over finding local, qualified folks to judge. Decision made to hold one day of Sweepstakes in 2026. Sweepstakes will be on Saturday of that weekend but keep three days of Specialties.

Annual Meeting and Awards will be March 28, 2026 (a week early due to Easter weekend)

New Business

Annmarie W. renewed the discussion of developing a tiered membership from 2025. The only opportunity to change membership levels and fees is the Annual meeting. There were concerns with what was proposed in 2025. She would like to have a proposal for the membership available to be reviewed so voting can occur at our Annual Meeting. The Board will meet January 22 at 7:30PM to discuss the topic.

Sarah S. has a new email: sarahbosssullivan@gmail.com Please adjust your mailing lists.

Doris Alleman has a new address. Gretchen B. to follow up.

Chris M. is having difficulty accessing the Members Only page on the website. Annmarie W. to send Chris the password.

Annmarie W. reminded everyone to watch their emails for the 2025 Awards Form.

The Issue of the Dilute Labrador

Michele K. distributed a draft of the letter to the AKC and LRC. She opened the floor to comments on the letter as written.

Susan B. had a concern with the wording that required all Labrador registered to be tested for Dilute. Susan, as others, register their litters of puppies and it would be difficult and cost prohibitive to test all the puppies in a litter prior to registering them individually. Discussion ensued. The group agreed on the following wording, and Michele K. will adjust the letter to reflect the change.

Require DNA proof of non-dilute parents to be able to register a litter of Labrador Retrievers.

Braggs:

Meredith (Bruen & Boss) finished her GCH and is going to Westminster, Jessica B. will show her Nina (Bowler & Boss) achieved her Championship.

Izzy (Brunell) achieved her Championship.

Jenny (Brownell) was Winners Bitch and Reserve Winners Bitch at the Springfield shows.

Litters: Deb B. has two litters. A chocolate with one female available and a black and yellow, all reserved.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at approximately 7:15 (Laura B./Ann H.) Motion carried

Next Meeting

Sunday February 1, 2026. At 6PM

Suffield Veterinary Hospital

Suffield, CT 06078

Zoom will be available

Respectfully submitted

Annmarie Wilson

LRCPV Recording Secretary