



## Alice Springs Kennel & Dog Sports Club Inc.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2018

AGM

22<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2020

6 PM BLATHERSKITE PARK

2019 was an extraordinarily busy year for the ASK&DSC running 20 shows and assisting (running!) the Central Australian Show Society Championship Dog Show and the 2 Tennant Creek & District Show Society Championship Dog Shows. This has required a HUGE amount of preshow, show and post show paperwork, which appears to be ever increasing. There are more forms to fill out & more certificates to buy and complete, with the resultant increase in costs.

Unfortunately in these uncertain financial times, the ASK & DSC has noticed a fall in numbers of exhibitors. Qantas has cancelled many direct flights to the Red Centre and increased its freight charges - both accompanied and unaccompanied. Following a couple of avoidable deaths of dogs on flights, Qantas then banned a significant number of breeds from being flown. I believe both of these Qantas decisions had a detrimental effect on Championship Dog Showing in Alice Springs.

The ASK&DSC continues to be blessed with the number of intrastate and interstate exhibitors that regularly travel thousands of kilometres to attend its shows. This has meant that the ASK&DSC can just remain financially viable. The ASK&DSC will continue to consult with exhibitors to provide efficient shows in the future.

### Sponsorship.

The ASK&DSC provides accommodation, flights, meals, ribbons, certificates, prizes and Judges' fees/parking fees etc. All of these costs are rising and this is making it increasingly difficult to balance the books. In 2019 the ASK&DSC was generously sponsored by several local business, for which we are thankful. A particular sincere Thank You to Sandy Pengilly and "A Home Like Alice" for their packaging of prizes (and their sponsorship of a reduced cost for prizes) Many thanks to Marlene Douglas & Michelle Morelli for their huge amount of work in running the Chocolate Fund Raising Drive.

### Canteen.

The canteen has been run this year by Brad Sawyer and his helpers. They work long and hard to provide the delicious food they serve. I would like to thank the committee who donate salads every show weekend to the Canteen. Much more help is needed with produce for the canteen to make it truly successful.

## Stewards

I urge all members to consider training next year to assist with Ring Stewarding, Assembly Stewarding, Charts and Certificate Writing. DogsNT are currently reviewing the Stewards Training Scheme. We desperately need more stewards!! Marlene and I are not getting any younger.

## AGM

The last AGM was held in March 2019. This AGM was delayed due to COVID 19 restrictions and for the first time is being live streamed from FaceBook. It has allowed electronic attendance and we are still in process of exploration. A huge thank you to Suzie Ripper who bravely agreed to be the Returning Officer and has provided such a professional report.

## Constitution

The ASK&DSC constitution needs an urgent review to reflect changing IT technology and to bring it into line with the Model Constitution.

## Where to from here??

Due to COVID 19 restrictions and in the best interests of the health of Judges, Stewards and exhibitors the 2020 May and July Clusters were cancelled, which has meant a huge financial loss for the club. The numbers of local members has dwindled and the task of running shows again in the Red Centre is truly daunting.

Three weeks ago I called a Special General Meeting to discuss the future of the Club and was overwhelmed by the response of interest at our first ever electronic meeting. It was resolved to cancel the August and October Shows to allow the ASK&DSC a time for reflection and planning for the 2021 show year. At this time it is unclear what this will look like and will need a dedicated Fund Raising Sub Committee if there is any chance of success.

I have been involved with the ASK&DSC for almost 20 years, the past 12 years as President or Secretary. During that time the Club has undergone significant changes. I am proud of the club and all of its achievements.

I hope that it can continue.

Erica Whitehead

Secretary

ASK&DSC

20/07/2020