

MILWAUKEE DOG TRAINING CLUB
Membership Meeting Wednesday, August 26, 2026

Meeting called to order by President Erin Ruppel at 8:00pm

Minutes from the July meeting were approved as distributed by automatic consent.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Secretary

We received a thank you card from the Hales Corners Library thanking us for our visit in July.

President

Thanks to everyone who made all of our activities this month a success!

Our State Fair booth and demos went great thanks to Mari Pavleje coordinating the booth and obedience demos, Tracy McCarty coordinating the agility demo, and all of the participants and volunteers who put on a show and made everything run smoothly.

The picnic was also a great time, as usual. We had about 40 people there to enjoy fun games and yummy food, especially fresh roasted corn by Mike Brauch! Thank you to Kris Conell for coordinating signups, setup, and teardown and to everyone else who helped with setup and teardown.

Remember that we need a 15% quorum to vote on the proposed dues increase at the September membership meeting, which means we need 40-45 members at the meeting. Please plan to stay for a little while after class on Wednesday, September 30. The meetings are quick and rarely go past about 8:30!

Treasurer

-Checking Beginning Balance as of August 1: \$8482.45

-Money Market Beginning Balance as of August 1: \$85051.08

Training Committee

Puppy Class-Puppy classes are starting up for the fall. The first class starts on Monday, August 31.

Agility-We are still unsure if there will be a new agility basic class this year due to lack of space/time/instructor availability. If we do have a class it would be a smaller class (about 6 people vs 15). If you are interested in joining agility, talk to Tracy McCarty.

Flyball-If anyone is interested in watching a flyball tournament, we will be at a tournament at the Jefferson County Fair grounds Labor Day weekend. It is free to attend, and this is the closest tournament to the club that we will be at this year.

AKC show-nothing to report.

Membership and Sales

August 30-Full

October 18- Full

December 6- Next open class with open spots

Member Engagement Committee

The club picnic was on Sunday, August 23.

The next Social Sunday is September 20.

Good and Welfare:

Leigh Anne Gerard's husband passed away.

Heidi Rodenkirch lost her dog Walter.

Facilities Committee

-We would like to fill in holes in the field this fall. Evan Emmons will have flags to mark holes in the field at the last outdoor class of the season, and will fill in the holes with dirt.

There will be a workday at the Cornell building this Saturday, August 29 from 12-2pm. We will be working outside.

Revenue and Finance Committee

Presentation later about need to increase dues.

Community Engagement Committee

We were the group of the day at the Wisconsin State Fair on August 7 & 14 and did an agility demo in the coliseum at the fair on August 14. Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the booth both days.

A retired library director from the Hales Corner Library donated \$200 to the club after our visit.

We will have a booth at Barktoberfest Sept 26. We will need volunteers.

We have been invited to participate in the South Shore Christmas parade in November.

Nominating Committee

Nothing to report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Finance Committee has prepared a presentation regarding increasing membership dues. Handouts were provided and a copy will be sent out with the meeting minutes.

If you have questions, please reach out to members of the board or finance committee, which include Patty Leonard, Alex Christopherson, Erin Ruppel, and Yaak Cohen.

We will need 15% of club members (about 45 people) at the September meeting to vote on the dues increase.

The holiday party is January 9, 2027 (a week earlier than originally planned) due to the Polaski Inn closing. We are starting to look for a new place to hold our annual holiday party/annual awards dinner in the future. We will be forming a committee to look at options and costs for the 2028 party. If you are interested or know of a place to consider, please talk with Erin Ruppel, Mari Pavleje, Sue Steinbach, Kris Connell, or Shayla Taylor.

We had a copier donated to the club. We have a line put in already to run it. We did receive an extra free toner. We print handouts for the basic classes, and had handouts for the tricks classes last winter. We can have digital copies, but some people do prefer a paper copy and don't have a printer at home. We can keep track of the use of the copier for the first year to make sure it makes sense to use it in terms of cost. We are starting to have more seminars and workshops which could also require handouts.

NEW BUSINESS

Congratulations to our basic class graduates!

MDTC Membership Meeting
8/26/2026

The Liver Lady is coming Sunday, October 11. Orders will be due Friday October 9. See the newsletter for more details or talk to Lory Valley with questions.

Show wins: Lots of great wins, titles, and qualifying scores! Be sure to submit your wins to the newsletter by filling out the form under the member resources tab on the website.

Motion to adjourn by Mari Pavleje. Second by Evan Emmons. No discussion. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Submitted by Katie Schmidt, Club Secretary