MILWAUKEE DOG TRAINING CLUB
Membership Meeting Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Meeting called to order by President Erin Ruppel at 8:07pm

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

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Secretary

Nothing to report.

President

Indoor training season is upon us! Make sure you check the schedule to know when and where your class meets.

I've heard a couple reports of unsportsmanlike conduct recently. Please review the club's Code of Conduct (included below) and the AKC's Code of Sportsmanship and Civility (https://images.akc.org/pdf/AKC_code_of_sportsmanship.pdf). Both codes are posted throughout the indoor club buildings.

These codes apply to all club property, club events, and club social media. I would also encourage members to hold each other accountable by either saying something in the moment when they witness conduct that violates these codes, or reporting conduct to me and/or the Director of Training.

MDTC is a wonderful, supportive, welcoming club, and it's up to all of us to keep it that way.

Speaking of wonderful, supportive club members, we received some generous donations in October! Kelly Remondino and Joel Kucher donated a shipping container for the outdoor field. We could really use the storage space, and the purchase of a shipping container has been on the backburner for a while. So having them donate this one is a huge gift to the club! Kira Haslan also donated an enormous number of poop bags that will be used at the club and for raffle baskets, etc. Thank you, Kelly, Joel, and Kira!!!

Milwaukee Dog Training Club Code of Conduct

Our Commitment

The Milwaukee Dog Training Club is built on a foundation of respect, learning, and shared love for dogs. All members are expected to uphold these values through their words and actions.

Expectations

Respectful Communication

- Treat everyone with courtesy and respect in all interactions, whether in person, online, or in written communications
- Contribute to a positive atmosphere by avoiding negative gossip, disparagement, or malicious behavior

Class Conduct

- Give instructors full attention during training sessions and avoid behavior that is disruptive to the class
- Follow instructor directions and maintain a positive, supportive learning environment for all students

Conflict Resolution

- Address concerns by contacting the person involved or club leadership directly rather than engaging in indirect or public complaints, gossip, or criticism
- Participate constructively in any conflict resolution processes

Community Standards

- Welcome newcomers with patience and encouragement
- Maintain a safe, supportive environment for all participants and uphold club policies

Enforcement

Members who violate this Code of Conduct may face disciplinary action, including but not limited to verbal warnings, written warnings, temporary suspension from activities, or termination of membership, as determined by the Board of Directors.

Our Shared Goal

By following these principles, we ensure that MDTC remains a place where everyone - from first-time dog owners to experienced trainers - can learn and succeed in a supportive environment.

<u>Treasurer</u>

Treasurer's report for September:
Checking ending balance 9/30/26: 22,343.55
Money Market ending balance 9/30/26: 85,114.92
Dues accounted for 80% of our revenue for the 3rd quarter.
We earned $1063 from the Sendik's fundraisers over the summer.

Training Committee

We are moving indoors on Sunday, November 1st. Make sure to come at the right time and the right room for your class.

Awards dinner-title information for awards earned in 2026 needs to be received by 11/28/26 for the holiday party in January. This is earlier than previous years because the holiday party is a week earlier than previous years. Agility titles should go to Tracy McCarty. Obedience titles should be sent to Lory Valley. Mari Pavleje will collect flyball titles, and Ellen Mack will collect scentwork titles. All other titles should be sent to Kayden Rinzel.

We are looking at holding a scentwork seminar (full day workshop) in February 2027. More details to come.

Lindsey Moore will run the Foundations of Rally class again this year on Tuesday evenings from 11/10-12/15. Registration is open, and there are still some open spots.
Registration is open for the Happy Ratters (Intro to Urban Barn Hunt) seminar, which will take place on December 13. There are three sessions available with up to 4 dogs per session.
Basic Classes are full through the January 2027 class. The January Basic class will have 17 members instead of 15.

Scentwork classes are continuing.

Canine Good Citizen testing is scheduled for 11/22 at 2pm. We will need volunteers to help.

Puppy Class-Registration is open for the next puppy class.

Agility-Tryouts for the new Basic class were last Saturday, and the new class will start in November.

Flyball- We had 3 teams going to the national championships last weekend. New flyball students will be moving to the team practice. We are looking for new members.

AKC show-nothing to report.

Membership and Sales

New Basic Classes:
December 6- Full
January 31 2027-Full
March 14 is next open class

Member Engagement Committee

Ghost Night was cancelled due to low registration. We will have Ghost Night again next year.

Social Sunday will be the second Sunday of the month. November 8.

Good and Welfare: Nothing to report

Facilities Committee

The dirt was delivered last week to fill in holes in the field.
The shipping container was delivered last week.
We have sandbag alternatives in Room 2, and they seem to be working so far.
The fencing project is moving forward. We had to rent a jackhammer to dig holes for the fence posts due to large rocks in the ground.
On November 7th & 8th, we are putting wire fencing on the posts. We will need volunteers to help with this. We also need U-shaped nail guns.
We have 15 Fence tags left to sell for the fencing fundraiser. The fundraiser will cover the cost of materials and equipment rental for the fencing project. We would also like to plant trees in the back area to provide shade in the future.

Revenue and Finance Committee

We will move the vote to increase dues to the next membership meeting due to not having quorum this month.

Community Engagement Committee

Upcoming Events:
-Cudahy Holiday Parade-November 28
-West Allis Holiday Parade-December 5

-Sign up sheets and information sheets for both parades are available at the indoor club.

Nominating Committee

If anyone is interested in joining the nominating committee, please let us know. Erin Ruppel is not running for president again next year, so we will be looking for someone to run for President next year.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Membership dues increase-We do not have quorum, so the vote will be moved to the November meeting.

The copier is up and running.

We are still looking for a place to hold future holiday parties after Pulaski Inn closes next year.

NEW BUSINESS

Kayden Rinzel is starting to collect raffle items for the holiday party.

Kira Haslam donated a large quantity of dog poop bags to the club.

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.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Submitted by Katie Schmidt, Club Secretary