



Washington State Obedience Training Club

The Canine Post

November 2025

An AKC Member Club

Club Officers

President
Melissa Knapp

Vice President
Nancy Light

Treasurer
Catherine Shaffer

Secretary
Rhonda Forman

Board Members
Terrie Sato
Neil Evans

Newsletter Editor
Elizabeth Soule

Email Us
Officers@wsotc.org

Canine Post is published ten times a year by the Washington State Obedience Training Club (WSOTC), an AKC member club. Subscription to the Canine Post is free for all WSOTC members. For more information about WSOTC and becoming a member, visit www.wsotc.org.

The views expressed in the Canine Post reflect those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of WSOTC, its board of directors or officers. Minutes are published as written by the secretary or other board member. Articles in the Canine Post may be reprinted provided credit is given to both the author and the Canine Post.

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Upcoming Club Events

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 11/5 | Board Meeting from 7-8:30pm
Zoom |
| 11/19 | General Membership Meeting 7-8:30pm
Zoom |
| 11/30 | Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test |
| 1/3/26 | WSOTC Fun Match at Country Classic
Kennels, 8:30-4:30 |
| 1/19/26 | Annual Awards Applications Due |
| 2/15/26 | Tracking Dog and Tracking Dog Excellent
Test |

Club Committee Chairs

Agility 2026

Linda Shea

Audit/Budget

Sue Cox

Awards

Nancy Light

Donations 2025-26

Nancy Harney

Hearts & Flowers

Karen Snee

Insurance

Sue Cox

Membership

Cathy Soule

Newsletter

Elizabeth Soule

January Fun Match

Terrie Sato

Property & Inventory

Don Rennick

Obedience and Rally Trial March 2026

Amanda Buse

August 2026

Looking for a volunteer!

Scent Work Trial 2026

Sarah Kahn

Tracking

Marta Brock

Website

Shea Hughes-Gorman

Content Updates

Melissa Knapp

Volunteers make our club and sports possible! If you would like to help with an event or committee, reach out to the committee chair. Have an idea for something new? Contact a board member. You can find contact information for all club members in the roster in the Member's Only section of the website.

AKC Delegate

Jack Cadalso
332 NE 30th Street
Wilton Manors, FL 33334
(518) 281-1050
jcadalso@gmail.com

It's Time to Renew!

Thank you to all our wonderful WSOTC members for your participation with the club this year! WSOTC membership renewal for 2026 is now available online through Cheddar Up or through a paper form (see page xx). All membership renewals are due by January 1, 2026.

Remember that you are welcome to switch between associate and full membership. If you are renewing with a full membership, the attendance for meetings in 2025 is available on the website.

Annual Awards

WSOTC members actively participating with the club have an opportunity to earn a name plaque and title bars for AKC performance event titles you earn with your dog(s) during the calendar year! In addition, teams earning specific Obedience and Rally titles are eligible to be added to the club perpetual plaques, and obedience title earners in Novice, Open, and Utility can submit their scores for the Top Dog award.

To earn an Annual Award, club members must submit the Awards Application and meet the criteria listed below. Awards are celebrated annually at the February or March general membership meeting.

Annual awards rules:

1. Any or all titles must be received while a member of WSOTC.
2. Dogs must be owned or co-owned and handled by the WSOTC member.
3. For individual plaque awards, the member must have acquired 4 points by attending membership meetings, assisting at trials/events, service to the club, the year the titles were earned. No points are required for inclusion on the Perpetual plaques or for Top Dog award.
4. One plaque per dog will be awarded with the first

Annual Awards (continued)

AKC title earned in Agility, Obedience, Rally, Scentwork, or Tracking. Title plates only will be awarded for subsequent titles

5. Completed plaque applications must be submitted to the Club Award Chair by **January 19, 2026**.

6. Dogs earning titles for UD, UDX, OTCH, MX, MXJ MXP, MJP, MACH, PACH, ADCH, CT, TDX, VST, RAE RACH will be inscribed on the WSOTC Perpetual Plaques with no charges.

7. Plaques (\$20.00) and plates (\$8.00) will be available at cost for members not meeting the point requirements, or for non-AKC titles, or for AKC titles not listed above (field, conformation, herding, etc.).

Note: The number of titles that can fit on one plate will be at the discretion of the engraver.

If you earned a title this year, make sure to submit the Awards Application to Nancy Light by January 19 so you can receive your award!

WSOTC Fun Match - January 3, 2026

WSOTC will hold a fun match on January 3, 2026 at Country Classic Kennels in Arlington, WA. The match will start at 8:30 and run until 4:30. The match format is 9 minute run throughs with a volunteer judge. Food and toys are allowed.

Volunteers may crate in the building. All others please leave when your runs are finished due to limited space in the building and parking.

The cost is \$15 for the first run, \$10 for the second run with the same dog, or \$15 for the second run with a different dog. Runs are limited to two per handler.

Registration will be available starting 11/19 to WSOTC members only, and open to all members on 11/27. Pre-registration is required, and all registrations must be received by December 31.

Once the registration opens, you can sign up online through Cheddar Up or mail your entry form and payment to Terrie Sato.

WSOTC Spring Obedience and Rally Trials

March 28-29 at Fun Fur Paws

Volunteer as a Steward

If you are able to help with stewarding for obedience or rally, please reach out to Sarah Kahn at pwtdtx3@gmail.com

Junior Handler Awards

We have some junior handler rosettes and gifts planned for the Highest Scoring Junior from Obedience and Rally any class on both days! It would be fun to see some more donated items for any Junior entered, not just the High Scoring winners for Obedience and Rally. Anyone who is interested in donating some fun items for our Junior winners or exhibitors should contact Amanda Buse and Jane Pitts.

Looking for Trophy Sponsors

Jane Pitts

I am the trophy and awards chairperson for the WSOTC Obedience and Rally Spring Trials, March 28-29, 2026. To make the event even more special we offer tangible prizes or cash in addition to rosettes for special awards. Please consider contributing for one or more of these awards. Sponsors will be acknowledged in the catalog for each donation.

We need sponsors for the following awards on Saturday and Sunday:

OBEDIENCE

Highest Score in Regular Classes - \$80
Highest Combined Score from Open B and Utility - \$50
Highest Score in Preferred Classes - \$50
Highest Combined Score in Preferred Open and Utility - \$50
Novice A First Place - \$20
Novice A 2nd-4th - \$15
Highest Scoring Junior - \$20

WSOTC Spring Obedience and Rally Trials

March 28-19 at Fun Fur Paws

Looking for Trophy Sponsors (continued)

RALLY

Highest Combined Triple Qualifier - \$80
Highest Combined Score Exc B and Adv B - \$50
Novice A First Place - \$20
Novice A Second Place - \$15

Multiple sponsors for one award is another way to pool resources and contribute. If you or your breed club would like to support a trophy or entries not listed here, please let me know.

Even though the trial is several months away there are many moving parts to be coordinated. Donating early will help it all come together more smoothly.

Please send donations in a check made out to WSOTC and mail to:

Jane Pitts
3028 W Blaine St
Seattle, WA 98199

Thank you for supporting the club and the trials!

Jane Pitts
Trophy and Awards Chairperson
WSOTC Spring Trials 2026

Board Meeting Minutes - October 8, 2025

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:13 by President Melissa Knapp.
Attendees: Melissa Knapp, Nancy Light, Rhonda Forman, Neil Evans and Terrie Sato
2. The minutes from the 9/3/25 meeting were approved.
3. **Report of the President:** Melissa reported that her bio will be presented in this month's Canine Post.
4. **Report of the Secretary:** Rhonda reported that AKC has communicated that they have not yet received the application or judges panel for the TD/TDX event to be held on 2/15/26.
5. **Report of the Treasurer:** Catherine was absent, but had sent an updated report which will be posted on the "members only" section of the website.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. Membership – No report.
 - b. Hearts and Flowers – No report.
 - c. Tracking
 - November 30, 2025 TDU (Shoreline) – Entries opened on 10/1.
 - February 15, 2026 TD/TDX – Melissa will follow up on the application and judges panel submission to AKC.
 - d. Summer 2025 Obedience and Rally trial (8/9-10 at Country Classic Kennels)
 - The financial report will be emailed to the Board.
 - e. Spring 2026 Obedience and Rally trial (3/28-29, Fun Fur Paws) – The budget was reviewed by the Board and will be presented at the next General Membership meeting. The Board approved a \$500 deposit for the facility and judges accommodations.
 - f. Summer 2026 Obedience and Rally trial (8/8-9, Country Classic Kennels) – Melissa will make sure we have secured this location. We are working on identifying a chair, chief ring steward and judges.
 - g. Agility (2026) – Linda Shea is chairing the event, the Mulligans will provide hospitality, the R2 Agility will be the event secretary and Nancy Light will track the financials. Judges have been selected and the contract with Fun Fur Paws should be completed soon.

Board Meeting Minutes - October 8, 2025

- h. Website – Melissa has arranged the home page to make it more obvious to access the Members Only portal. She has posted the recent financial report, the budget and audit report and the latest Canine Post.
 - i. Awards: Nancy Light is reviewing and updating the awards form.
 - j. Donation Committee – No report.
7. **Unfinished Business:**
- Melissa will send Rhonda the scent work trial wording for the Standing Rules.
 - There will be a rent-a-ring the day prior to the spring and summer obedience trials. In advance of the spring trial, we will need to make arrangements with Baray (set-up) and Melissa Burton (building use).
8. **New Business:**
- Terrie Sato will chair a fun match on January 3 at Country Classic Kennels. She will create a budget to send to the Board.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33

Submitted by Rhonda Forman, Secretary

Next Meetings (on Zoom):

Board Meeting: 11/5/25 at 7:00

General Membership Meeting: 11/19/25 at 7:00

Celebrations!



Stella Rowlett + Apple Pie

Apple Pie won her back to back majors at the Idaho Capital City KC shows in October. She was presented by Candace Heath flawlessly. She only needs a few singles to finish.

Celebrations!



Jill Petersen + Halo

Halo was a good boy this fall. He went 4 for 4 in novice, earning his CD and a bonus leg at the WSOTC and Vancouver Kennel Club trials. He was awarded 4 first placements, and 2 High in Trials, all with scores of 197. Super proud of this guy who is such an awesome partner!



Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.

2026 Membership Renewal

Payment Due by January 1, 2026

Member Name: _____

Please CHECK the type of membership you choose for 2026:

Check appropriate box

Full Membership: May vote and hold elected office. Must attend at least **three** general membership meetings per year and volunteer or provide **one** service to the club. *Please complete page 2 if you select Full Membership.*

\$25.00 ☐

Associate Membership: Non-voting member. This option is for individuals wishing Club affiliation but not able to regularly attend meetings. Associate members are encouraged to volunteer and participate at club events.

\$25.00 ☐

If you have been granted **Life Membership**, do you plan to participate next year as a

\$12.50

Full Member ☐ or Associate Member ☐ ?

Make checks payable to WSOTC and mail to:

Catherine Shaffer, 17522 6th Ave NW, Shoreline, WA 98177

Roster/Mailing List Information Updates

☐ Check here if there are no changes to your information from last year.

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: Cell _____ Home _____

Email: _____ Add to Club Email List: ☐

Breeds Currently Owned: _____

Please check activities you are interested in contributing to next year:

Agility Trials	Awards	Hospitality at Trials	Junior Handlers	Membership	Newsletter
Obedience Trials	Publicity	Social Media	Public Education	Programs	Property/Equipment
Rally Trials	Seminars	Club Social Events	Fun Matches	Tracking Tests	Officer or Board Member
Scent Work	Stewarding	Website	Host a Training Group	Other: _____	

The Canine Post newsletter and other official club notices will be sent by e-mail (except for members with no email address). This authorization releases the Club from any liability should the notification not be received due to circumstances beyond the Club's control. I agree: ☐

SIGNATURE: _____

Please return this form with your dues payment by 1/1/2026.

IMPORTANT: If you are renewing as a FULL member, please complete page 2.

Dues	\$
Friends of Obedience and Rally Donation (Spring Trial prizes)	\$
Total Enclosed	\$



Washington State Obedience Training Club, Inc.

2026 Membership Renewal

If you are renewing as a FULL member, please answer the following questions:

Which meetings did you attend in 2025? (Your meeting attendance can be found in the members only section of the website and in the meeting minutes).

January 29, 2025

February 19, 2025

March 19, 2025

April 16, 2025

May 21, 2025

June 18, 2025

July 16, 2025

September 17, 2025

November 19, 2025

List any trials, matches, or events you volunteered at and your role:

List any other services or roles you have held to support the club this year (i.e. newsletter, awards, board, committee chair, etc.)

Washington State Obedience Training Club Inc. thanks you for your commitment to our club, for your contribution to our continued success in dog training, and ongoing relationships with dog-related awareness and public education.

Thank you!

WSOTC AWARD RULES AND APPLICATION 2025

Agility – Obedience – Rally – Tracking – Versatility – Scent Work

Plaques will be awarded annually at the February/March membership meeting to members who have received American Kennel Club (AKC) title(s) on their dog(s) during the preceding calendar year. The following rules apply:

1. Any or all titles must be received while a member of WSOTC.
2. Dogs must be owned or co-owned and handled by the WSOTC member.
3. For individual plaque awards, the member must have acquired 4 points by attending membership meetings, assisting at trials/events, service to the club, the year the titles were earned. No points are required for inclusion on the Perpetual plaques or for Top Dog award.
4. One plaque per dog will be awarded with the first AKC title earned in Agility, Obedience, Rally, Scent work, or Tracking. Title plates only will be awarded for subsequent titles
5. Completed plaque applications must be submitted to the Club Award Chair by January 19, 2026.
6. Dogs earning titles for UD, UDX, OTCH, MX, MXJ MXP, MJP, MACH, PACH, ADCH, CT, TDX, VST, RAE RACH will be inscribed on the WSOTC Perpetual Plaques with no charges
7. Plaques (\$20.00) and plates (\$8.00) will be available at cost for members not meeting the point requirements, or for non-AKC titles, or for AKC titles not listed above (field, conformation, herding, etc.).

Note: The number of titles that can fit on one plate will be at the discretion of the engraver.

APPLICATION FOR AWARDS (one form per dog)

Owner of dog (registered owner):

Registered name of dog (do not list titles):

Call Name:

Breed:

AKC #

Do you need a plaque: Yes No

Check here if you DO NOT want a plaque or bars and just want to be listed in the awards catalog:

Obedience Titles earned in 2025

Rally Titles earned in 2025

Agility Titles earned in 2025

Tracking or Versatility Titles earned in 2025

Scent Work Titles earned in 2025

Other AKC or non-AKC titles (UKC, CKC, etc.) earned in 2025

WSOTC AWARD RULES AND APPLICATION 2025

Agility – Obedience – Rally – Tracking – Versatility – Scent Work

Top Dog Award

List three highest obedience scores in Novice, Open, or Utility

Class	Date	Club	Score	Placement	HIT?

Class	Date	Club	Score	Placement	HIT?

Please list how you have earned your four membership points: Meetings attended, events or trials that you attended and/or volunteer at, and also service to the club (newsletter, committees, etc.):

Meeting attendance:

January 29, 2025	April 16, 2025	July 16, 2025
February 19, 2025	May 21, 2025	September 17, 2025
March 19, 2025	June 18, 2025	November 19, 2025

Amount enclosed or paid online for extra plaques or title plates (see guidelines on page 1) \$ _____

MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Nancy Light | kylahgold@aol.com

PO Box 575, Duvall, WA 98019

Please make checks payable to WSOTC or pay online at <https://wsotc-awards.cheddarup.com>

Deadline: January 19, 2026