

Volunteer Opportunity Summaries

All these volunteer opportunities qualify for reduced training fees for the training session immediately following the volunteer activity.

Volunteers should expect to attend Club board meetings or send status reports, if applicable, and general meetings.

General Volunteer Opportunities

Yelp and Google Business Administrator

Monitor the Club's Yelp account and respond to any negative posts.

Maintain the Club's Google Business accounts. Three weeks before the start of each class session, post a notice of the new session start dates.

Collars & Leashes Helper, Watsonville

The first week of each class session, 6:00-8:30 pm, fit collars, help select a leash, write receipts, collect payments, make change if needed. Two or three members will be doing this job.

Collars & Leashes Helper, Capitola

The first week of each class session, 6:00-8:30 pm, fit collars, help select a leash, write receipts, collect payments, make change if needed. Two or three members will be doing this job.

Santa Cruz County Fair Board Meetings Liaison

Attend in person or listen to the recordings of all fair board meetings. The meetings are monthly, usually the fourth Tuesday, 1:00-3:00 pm. Report back to the board discussions and actions taken at the meetings.

Community Outreach Coordinator

Coordinate events:

Communicate with event sites.

Reserve location.

Determine what "equipment" is needed (i.e., whiteboard, slide projector/screen, etc.)

Solicit club members and their dogs to participate in events and demonstrations.

Existing: (2026 can work with Terri Gregson as mentor)

- Sunshine Villa Demonstration and Memory Care visitation, usually in October
- Morris Animal Foundation Walk to raise awareness and funds, usually in May, walk around Capitola Mall
- MBDTC Picnic with dog and handler games, annually, this year on September 19 at Scott Park

Identify new/different outreach opportunities for MBDTC.

Club Photographer- shared volunteer position for multiple people

Document the Members, Students, and activities of the club by taking photos on your phone or camera at meetings, trials, and events.

Post your photos on the Club Facebook page with and briefly describe the event. (Note: Most photos suitable for posting require the camera phone to “zoom” so that people, dogs, and subjects are large enough to be interesting.)

Holiday Photos Coordinator

As part of our Club philanthropy mission, each year the Monterey Bay Dog Training Club holds a fundraiser in October with our donation going to Gifts from the Heart Program, which was started by Marilyn Runyan. We continue to support this project in Marilyn’s memory.

The Coordinator of the Holiday/Christmas photos will do the following:

1. March-April -- Work with Linda Lang for photographer and date.
2. September - Line up 3-4 volunteers for the Photo night. Usually needed around 5:30 P.M. and run to about 8:30 P.M for 2 shifts.
3. Night of photos -- Arrive to meet and help Photographer set up her backdrops. (if needed).

Set up table, chairs, sign in sheet with pens, and a donation container. Put out flyers.

Take sign-ups and coordinate people waiting for the photographer.

At the end of event, help Photographer take down props, backdrops, and her equipment.

Contact Candice McLaren for complete details.

Trial Volunteer Opportunities

Each year the Monterey Bay Dog Training Club hosts competitions -- known as Trials -- in Scent Work, Agility, Obedience, and Rally. The club’s Scent Work Trials are usually held in April/May and November, Agility in mid-June, and Obedience at the end of July. All our Trials rely on Volunteers.

In addition, the club owns an Agility trailer and a Obedience/Rally trailer. The equipment is rented to other local dog clubs. This generates revenue to defray the cost of purchasing and maintaining regulation Agility and Obedience/Rally equipment. When we rent the equipment, volunteers are needed to help with unload/load and support the equipment needs during those events. Three volunteers receive complimentary runs as a thanks and an incentive.

Agility Trailer Assistant

Unload and load trailers at trial sites.

Locate small tools and equipment accessories during the trials.

Be available March through August on specific dates, presently for agility 6 times.

Obedience Trailer Assistant

Unload and Load trailers at trial sites.

Locate small tools and equipment accessories during the trials.

Be available in July on specific dates for the Workshop and for the Trial.

Annual Awards Volunteer Opportunities

Each year the Monterey Bay Dog Club acknowledges all members' dogs who have earned AKC titles at our annual Awards Luncheon and holiday party. The Board agrees on the location, the food that will be served, activities, the cost of the meal, and the agenda/timing of the event. It has been held at a local restaurant or rented facility. Volunteers make it all run.

Assistant/Co-chair for awards

Work with and report status to Board.

Help to gather and organize data on AKC title winners.

Order individual awards (ornaments) and have perpetual plaques engraved.

Help transport awards to luncheon location and set up display.

See Awards Chair Denise Weatherwax for more details.

Master of Ceremonies

Announce awards and Silent Auction

Centerpieces/Décor

Purchase vases and Holiday color flowers and ribbon.

Create the flower arrangements for approximately 7-8 tables

Place on tables at the luncheon

Distribute numbers on paper to all attendees.

Award centerpieces to Attendees by drawing numbers.

Silent Auction Chair/Assistant

Proceeds from the Silent Auction help offset the cost of the awards and luncheon items.

Collect donated items from our classes and Members.

Organize other volunteers to help organize and wrap items.

Help transport items to the Luncheon and set up items on tables with bidding sheets.

After auction is closed, organize items by the winner for announcements.

Activities

Suggest a short fun game or activity ; present details October Board meeting (held via zoom). Activities in past years have been Holiday coloring contests, bingo, and a "who am I guessing game, as a way to have Members get to better know each other.

If prizes are to be awarded, suggest gift cards, dog toys, etc. (\$10 or less, about 5-6 total based on expected number of attendees).

Set up, explain, and moderate activity at luncheon.

Photographer for awards

Take photos of the event, including the silent auction items, food table, activities, awarding of the Title ornaments, and of Members during the afternoon.

Post photos on Facebook within the week.