

THE RIDGELINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW ENGLAND RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK CLUB

JUNE 2024

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President's Letter

It seems we are finally getting the nice weather we have been waiting for and our dogs are enjoying the beautiful sunshine and warmer temperatures too!

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of NERRC and we hope to celebrate this milestone with you all throughout the year! We have a fun event coming up at The Guild Brewery in Pawtucket on June 16th and we really hope it's well attended by the membership! The Guild is dog friendly so if you have a well-behaved, well-socialized Ridgeback you are welcome to bring him/her along for the fun!

At the end of June we are holding four FastCat trials in conjunction with the dog shows being held at the CrackerBarrel Fairgrounds in Wrentham. Your dogs don't have to be entered in the dog show in order to run in the FastCat. Check out NERRC's website for updated event information.

We will be sending out a brief survey soon in hopes that we can figure out how to get our members more involved - please take the time to respond to the survey. Our hope is to get an idea of what the members want for fun events and hoping that some of you might consider helping out to run those events as well.

Happy Spring!

Helen McCune NERRC President





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The Taproom at the Guild Pawtucket is dog friendly, so bring your well-behaved, well-socialized Ridgeback along for the fun!

AKC FastCAT



Sure, you think your ridgeback is fast. But have you ever wondered how fast? Can your dog outrun Usain Bolt, who has been called the fastest runner in the world? They just might: Usain's fastest time has been clocked at almost 28 mph – according to the AKC's Top the current rankings, the #1 ridgeback clocked in at 30.17 mph.

And you no longer have to wonder how fast your dog can run. Fast CAT® – which stands for Coursing Ability Test – is a timed 100-yard dash where dogs run one at a time, chasing a lure. It's over before you know it — and it's nothing short of awe-inspiring to watch your dog run at top speed, ears back, eyes focused, legs strong.

Fast CAT® provides a terrific opportunity to introduce new participants to the world of AKC sports as one of the few events where all that is needed to compete is a dog's natural instincts.

NERRC is hosting 4 FastCAT trials at the Crackerbarrel Fairgrounds in partnership with the Hockamock Kennel Club and Wompanoag Kennel Club

June 29th and 30th

2 trials each day run concurrently using block timing Visit AKC.org for premiums and entry information



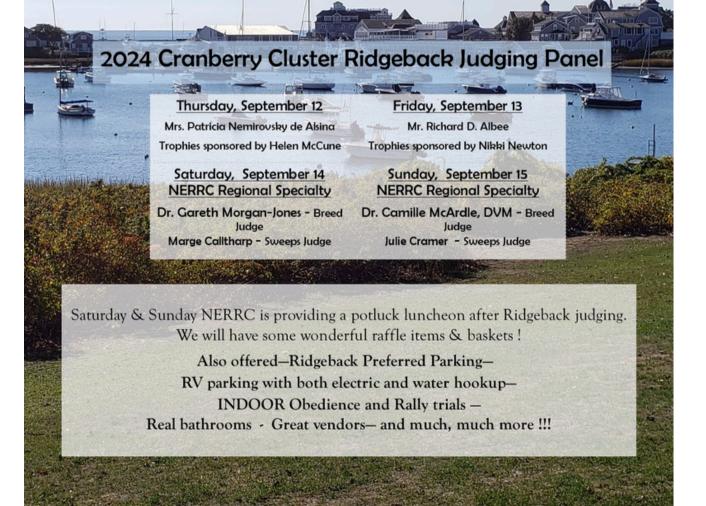


Save the Date!



The New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club cordially invites you to join us for our 8th Annual Regional Specialty Again this year, we will be holding Back to Back Regionals!! Entries Close Wednesday, August 28th

The Cape Cod Cranberry Cluster is a 4 day All-Breed Show held Thursday 9/12–Sunday 9/15 in Falmouth MA. Once again all 4 days are being supported by NERRC and RRCUS members.





RRCUS RIDGE STATEMENT THE RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK CLUB OF THE UNITED STATES, INC AKC Licensed Club Since 1971

The Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States wishes to remind judges about some key points regarding the hallmark of our breed: the ridge.

Underscoring the importance of this trait, the word "ridge" is part of the breed name, and the only disqualification in the Ridgeback standard is ridgelessness.

Additionally, the only serious fault mentioned in the AKC standard is: "One crown (whorl) or more than two crowns (whorls)."

While the standard calls for the crowns/whorls to be "directly opposite each other," a minor offset is considered acceptable. Please refer to the accompanying graphics of ideal and acceptable ridges.

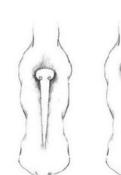
Judges should not mistake the natural parting of the hairs at the top of the ridge for a crown. This straight parting is where the ridge's hair pattern changes direction, and it does not have the spiral shape that defines a whorl/crown.

Judges should also note that the size of the crown/whorl is not addressed in the standard and is immaterial, as is the width of the ridge.

Finally, the standard says that the ridge should "start immediately behind the shoulders and continue to a point between the prominence of the hips." Short ridges that end in the middle of the back are also faulty; again, please refer to our graphics on acceptable ridges. Desirable Ridges

Like a good Ridgeback, balance is critical when it comes to factoring the ridge into your judging decisions. While we do not want judges to base their decisions solely on the perfection of a dog's ridge, we also do not want to see severe ridge faults rewarded in the ring.

Confirm that a dog has an adequate ridge — two crowns, no more, no less, placed relatively symmetrically no more than one-third of the way down the ridge, which should taper to the vicinity of the hipbones then move on to structure and movement, which are fundamentally important in this athletic endurancetrotter. There must be a typey and sound Ridgeback under that ridge.



Desirable ridge Desirable with box on top

Acceptable Ridges

Desirable with narrow ridge

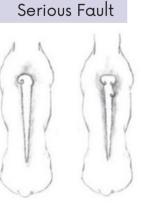
Undesirable



rowridge

Desirable with flattened top

Desirable with parting at top



Undesirable ridge: Too short

Serious fault ridges: Single crown (whorl) and more than two crowns (whorls)

Illustrations by Leisa Temple

Acceptable ridges: Asymmetrical fan and slightly offset crown

2024 Regional Specialty Trophy & Rosette Sponsorship Drive

This year's Regional Specialty will again be a back-to-back Regional Specialty on September 14 & 15 at the Cape Cod Fairgrounds in Falmouth, MA. and we are working hard toward making it another successful event!

Trophy sponsorship is a traditional way to help fund our Regional Specialty. Every sponsored trophy helps support a better show! You do not need to have a show dog to sponsor a trophy - this is open to all members to participate and support the club.

You may sponsor a Trophy or Rosette in a number of ways:

- 1. A dedication in honor of a living person or dog
- 2. Use your name (and kennel name, if you have one)
- 3. Dedicate a trophy in memory of a person or dog that has passed

(2 each except where noted otherwise)

Best in Sweepstakes - \$20.00 Best of Opposite Sex to BIS - \$20.00 Best in Veteran Sweepstakes - S20.00 Best of Opposite Sex to BIV - S20.00 Best of Breed - \$30.00 Best of Winners - \$20.00 Best of Opposite - \$20.00 Select Dog - S20.00 Select Bitch - S20.00 Award of Merit - \$20.00 (need 4 sponsors) Winners Dog -\$20.00 Reserve Winners Dog -\$10.00 Winners Bitch - S20.00 Reserve Winners Bitch - \$10.00 Stud Dog - S10 Brood Bitch - S10 Brace - S10 Owner Handled Best of Breed - \$10.00 Rally (Saturday and Sunday) - \$15.00 Obedience (Saturday and Sunday) \$15.00

Sweeps Judge "Thank you" gift - S50.00 (Sat and Sun)

All sponsorships and donations will be acknowledged in the show catalog. Please make your choices early so we can make the catalog entry deadline. Contact Cheryl Fraser at <u>chaza@pobox.com</u> to support the Regional Specialty.

Thank you for your consideration to sponsor a Trophy or Rosette this year.



Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2023 | The Beef Barn | Smithfield, RI

Meeting called to order by Meghan Terwilliger at 11:45 am

Attendees: Board Members: Vice-President/IPP- Meghan Terwilliger , Treasurer- Alan Fraser, Secretary- Cheryl Fraser Directors- Maura Bushior, Julie Paul, Michele Ruest

Board Members: Absent – President-Helen McCune,

Guests: Linda Hothan, Connie Friederichs

President's Report -- Helen McCune Helen was absent for the meeting.

Secretary's Report – Cheryl Fraser

Additional On-Line motions made since the September 27, 2023 NERRC BOD meeting-Background: Accepting the minutes from the NERRC BOD meeting held on September 27, 2023. A motion was made on October 29, 2023 by Cheryl Fraser to accept the NERRC BOD minutes from the meeting held on September 27, 2023. Alan Fraser provided a second to the motion. MOTION PASSED

Additional NEW READS No additional First Reads at this time.

NERRC Elections – As directed by the club's bylaws, the 2024-2025 candidate nomination letters were mailed out to the membership on September 15, 2023.

The following slate of candidates was sent to the membership:

VICE- PRESIDENT – Meghan Terwilliger SECRETARY – Cheryl Fraser BOARD MEMBER – Michele Ruest

As there were no additional nominations of eligible members received by October 15th, the Nominating Committee's slate is declared elected and no balloting required.

Treasurer's Report – Alan Fraser

Rescue Funds S 536.36 General Funds S 18,119.05 Show Funds S 1,467.52 Total S 19,725.81 Uncashed Checks S0.00 (N/A) Bank Balance S 20,122.85 (as of 11/30/23)

See Attachment A for details.

Regional Specialty Show – Cheryl Fraser

We are underway making plans for the Cranberry Cluster for 2024! The dates for the Cranberry Cluster for 2024 are September 12 – 15, 2024. Trophy selections and Sweeps Judges are in process.

Many thanks to all who helped make 2023 a great event!!

Mass Fed -- Vacant

Historian – Michele Ruest

- Received a box of items to be included in inventory.
 - Inventoried items in new box and update historian inventory to version 3 (included)
 Scanned pedigrees and sent to Cheryl via email.
- Establish secure and consistent storage methods for hard copy documents.
 - Pending inventory review from board
 - Not started: Send board images of some contents to aid in review.
- Build club history for website.
 - Not started: Will identify a few items to scan an add as links to timeline events (i.e. original logo, flyers for events)
- Found an interesting article that I suggest we republish in an upcoming Ridgeline (completed) as well as post under club history on the web site.
 - Not Started: Post this article in History section of website (after Ridgeline is out and people have had time to read it).

Membership Care – Don and Chris Melchior

No activity this Quarter. We're all up to date.

Rescue – Cheryl Fraser

An update on Beka...her foster family in Maine, Ellen & Dave, will be adopting Beka soon. They said she is a perfect fit for them.

FOSTER HOMES are in need. If you can foster, please contact Cheryl Fraser chaza@pobox.com

HOME CHECKS – The use of Zoom and FaceTime and other virtual means are being used. If you would be able to perform home checks for potential adoption applicants, please let us know. We have a checklist of questions to ask applicants while virtually visiting them in their home. Help is always needed to vet adoption applicants.

NERRC Website – Meghan Terwilliger & Cheryl Fraser

The website is up to date.

NERRC Policy & Procedures – Cheryl Fraser

Nothing to report.

The Ridgeline – Helen McCune & Maura Bushior

Issue #2 of The Ridgeline was published on November 29, 2023

Ways and Means – Cheryl Fraser

Ways & Means will be offered for purchasing at the NERRC Holiday party.

Bylaws – Alan Fraser Nothing to report.

Social Media – Meghan Terwilliger FACEBOOK is up to date.

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Bonnie Johnson No report

Lure Coursing – Nikki Newton

Due to the loss of volunteers for 3 vital roles close to the date of the October lure coursing trial it was necessary to cancel that event.

RI Kennel club would like to hire Nikki with use of the NERRC equipment for a FASTCAT May 4, 2024, as we did last year. They will host the trial and will pay NERRC S6/dog for use of our equipment and for Nikki to be Lure Operator. RIKC will provide fence and timing equipment. A vote is requested to approve this event. No vote was taken at this meeting.

The Board raised the question asking if our FASTCAT timing equipment had been fixed or was working correctly. Need to follow up with Nikki Newton.

Hockamock and Wampanoag Kennel Clubs are interested in having NERRC (and possibly also SANE, the Saluki club) host another FastCAT in conjunction with their conformation shows the first weekend in July. They would like more money from us. The coursing committee needs to determine how many days we can commit to, and discuss the fee. No vote is requested at this time.

If possible depending on weather, we would like to host a practice lure coursing day in the winter (between December and February), in Dartmouth. It would have to be planned very close to the date to account for weather. In the past these made the club a little money and were very popular. No vote is requested at this time.

Unfinished Business

New Business

NERRC's 40th anniversary is in 2024!!! Let's get planning!!!

Next Meeting: The 2024 BOD meeting schedule will be established in January 2024. Next NERRC BOD meeting dates suggested are January 10th or January 31st. Discuss via email.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm Respectfully submitted / Cheryl Fraser / NERRC Secretary

- January 8, 2023 10:30 am in person meeting
- March 14, 2023 6:00 pm ZOOM format
- May 17, 2023 6:00 pm ZOOM format
- August 6, 2023 10:00 am in person / NERRC BBQ planned for 12:00 pm start
- September 27, 2023 6:00 pm ZOOM format
- December 3, 2023 10:30 am in person / NERRC Holiday party 12:00 pm start



New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club Board of Directors Meeting February 13, 2024 ZOOM format

Meeting called to order by Helen McCune at 6:03 pm

Attendees: Board Members: President-Helen McCune, Vice-President/IPP- Meghan Terwilliger , Treasurer- Alan Fraser, Secretary- Cheryl Fraser Directors- Maura Bushior, Julie Paul, Michele Ruest

Board Members: Absent - None

Guests: None

President's Report -- Helen McCune

Helen welcomed all to 2024! As it is NERRC's 40th anniversary, LET'S CELEBRATE!! The Board will be brainstorming on some ideas for anniversary swag for offer this year.

Secretary's Report – Cheryl Fraser

The following 3 applicants have been included in the club newsletter and are available to be voted on by the Board for membership. A motion by Meghan Terwilliger to accept the following 3 applicants into membership, with a second provided by Helen McCune. Motion Passed.

Amy Morse -Attleboro, MA - Single / Sponsor: Julie Paul Darren Sauve & Carissa Sauve - Associate / Sponsor: Julie Paul Nicole DuVerger & Fred DuVerger - Family / Sponsor: Cheryl Fraser

NEW READS - to be published in the next Newsletter

Elaine Moore – Upton, MA – Single / Sponsor: Julie Paul

Additional On-Line motions made since the December 3, 2023 Background: Accepting the minutes from the NERRC BOD meeting held on December 3, 2023. A motion was made on December 9, 2023 by Cheryl Fraser to accept the NERRC BOD minutes from the meeting held on December 3, 2023. Alan Fraser provided a second to the motion. MOTION PASSED

Treasurer's Report – Alan Fraser

Rescue Funds	S 879.28
General Funds	S 19,640.15
Show Funds	\$1,467.52
Total	S 21,986.95
Uncashed Checks	s 0.00 (N/A)
Bank Balance	\$ 21,986.95 (as of 12/31/23)

Note:

Renewal Status (as of 2/11/24) Total Memberships 78 Renewed 65 New memberships 4 Directors Insurance Renewal:

I received an initial package for the renewal of our directors insurance. The cost will be \$609 due shortly (need a motion for this expense).

A motion by Helen McCune to pay the Director's Insurance invoice in the amount of S609.00. A second was provided by Julie Paul. Motion Passed. See Attachment A for details.

Regional Specialty Show – Cheryl Fraser

We are underway making plans for the Cranberry Cluster for 2024! The dates for the Cranberry Cluster for 2024 are September 12 – 15, 2024.

Trophy selections and Sweeps Judges are in process.

Cheryl will schedule a Show Committee meeting shortly.

Mass Fed -- Vacant

Historian – Michele Ruest

- Establish secure and consistent storage methods for hard copy documents.
 - Pending inventory review from board
 - Not started: Send board images of some contents to aid in review.
- Build club history for website.
 - Not started: Will identify a few items to scan an add as links to timeline events (i.e. original logo, flyers for events)
- Found an interesting article that I suggest we republish in an upcoming Ridgeline (completed) as well as post under club history on the web site.
 - Not Started: Post this article in History section of website (after Ridgeline is out and people have had time to read it).

Membership Care – Don and Chris Melchior

No activity this Quarter. We are all up to date.

Rescue – Cheryl Fraser

We are quiet here in New England for Ridgeback intakes for the moment. Other parts of the country are on fire with intakes of Ridgebacks. These areas are Florida, Texas, the Carolinas and the Northwest.

FOSTER HOMES are in need. If you can foster, please contact Cheryl Fraser chaza@pobox.com

HOME CHECKS –The use of Zoom and FaceTime and other virtual means are being used. If you would be able to perform home checks for potential adoption applicants, please let us know. We have a checklist of questions to ask applicants while virtually visiting them in their home. Help is always needed to vet adoption applicants.

NERRC Website – Meghan Terwilliger & Cheryl Fraser

The website is up to date.

NERRC Policy & Procedures – Cheryl Fraser

Nothing to report.

The Ridgeline – Helen McCune & Maura Bushior

The next newsletter is planned for the end of February.

Ways and Means – Cheryl Fraser

Ways & Means had an intake of \$376.10 in December.

With the clubs 40th anniversary, we should consider some swag to commemorate the anniversary.

Bylaws – Alan Fraser

Nothing to report.

Social Media – Meghan Terwilliger

FACEBOOK is up to date.

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Bonnie Johnson

No report

Lure Coursing – Nikki Newton

I request that NERRC approve the RIKC Fastcat for me to bring the bobbinators and lure equipment but not timing equipment on May 4, for the same agreement as we have for the past two years. This has brought revenue for NERRC.

A motion by Cheryl Fraser approve Nikki Newton to bring the bobbinators and lure equipment but not timing equipment on May 4, for the RIKC Fastcat event. A second was provided by Meghan Terwilliger. Motion Passed.

We are under discussion for the Fastcat the beginning of July for Saturday/Sunday at Wrentham. The hosting clubs want more money. I am still working on that.

There was a request to the NERRC Treasurer to pay for a membership to ASFA, some clarification is needed from the Lure Coursing committee as to the type of membership desired. It was determined that NERRC is an Affiliate club.

Unfinished Business

Establish a calendar for Board meetings and events for 2024

Board Meetings for 2024-

February 13, 2024 – 6 pm ZOOM format April 3, 2024 – 6 pm ZOOM format May 29, 2024 – 6 pm ZOOM format August 4, 2024 – in person Annual meeting/ Summer event September 25, 2024 – 6 pm ZOOM format December 8, 2024 – in person / Holiday party

Need to brainstorm on club events.

What activities and/or dog events does the membership want to participate in? Suggestions – Pet First Aid class, FIT Dog, Dog Walks, Fastcat or CAT trial, Dog Friendly Brewery meet up.

NERRC's 40th anniversary is in 2024!!! Let's get planning!!!

New Business

None

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm Respectfully submitted / Cheryl Fraser / NERRC Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2024 | Virtual

Meeting called to order by Helen McCune at 6:05 pm

Attendees: Board Members: President-Helen McCune, Treasurer- Alan Fraser, Secretary- Cheryl Fraser / Directors- Maura Bushior, Julie Paul, Michele Ruest

Board Members: Absent - Vice-President/IPP- Meghan Terwilliger

Guests: None

President's Report -- Helen McCune

Nothing to report at the start of the meeting.

Secretary's Report – Cheryl Fraser

NEW READS: Elaine Moore – Upton, MA – Single / Sponsor: Julie Paul

Additional On-Line motions made since the February 13, 2024

Background: Accepting the minutes from the NERRC BOD meeting held on December 3, 2023. A motion was made on February 24, 2024 by Cheryl Fraser to accept the NERRC BOD minutes from the meeting held on February 13, 2024. Alan Fraser provided a second to the motion. MOTION PASSED

Treasurer's Report – Alan Fraser

Rescue Funds	S 879.28
General Funds	S 18,957.33
Show Funds	S 1,467.52
Total	S 21,304.13
Uncashed Checks	S 50.00 (MASSFED)
Bank Balance	S 21,354.13 (as of 3/29/24)

Note:

- Membership status 70 total memberships; 12 not being renewed
- Latest membership files sent to board
- Insurance Paid the Directors Insurance
- General Paid AFSA membership
- Paid MassFed Membership
- Renewed the NERRC.ORG domain

See Attachment A for details.

Regional Specialty Show – Cheryl Fraser

We held a Show Committee meeting via ZOOM. Discussed ideas for Trophies and have made inquiries with Stone pony for Pottery items and with Woodbury Pewter. Trophy solicitations will be out soon.

The dates for the Cranberry Cluster for 2024 are September 12 – 15, 2024.

Cheryl Fraser will schedule another Show Committee meeting shortly.

Mass Fed -- Vacant

Historian – Michele Ruest

- Establish secure and consistent storage methods for hard copy documents.
 - Pending inventory review from board
 - Not started: Send board images of some contents to aid in review.
- Build club history for website.
 - Not started: Will identify a few items to scan an add as links to timeline events (i.e. original logo, flyers for events)
- Found an interesting article that I suggest we republish in an upcoming Ridgeline (completed) as well as post under club history on the web site.
 - Not Started: Post this article in History section of website (after Ridgeline is out and people have had time to read it).

Membership Care – Don and Chris Melchior

Membership Welcome Letters were sent to Nicole & Fred DuVerger, Amy Morse, and Darren & Carissa Sauve.

Condolence cards were went to Trish Hamilton for the passing of her husband Jack and to Marsa Hatfield for the passing of her husband Eric.

Rescue – Cheryl Fraser

Just this week, there have been 2 inquiries seeking to surrender Ridgebacks, one in CT and the other in MA. RRRI to follow up.

FOSTER HOMES are in need. If you can foster, please contact Cheryl Fraser <u>chaza@pobox.com</u>

HOME CHECKS –The use of Zoom and FaceTime and other virtual means are being used. If you would be able to perform home checks for potential adoption applicants, please let us know. We have a checklist of questions to ask applicants while virtually visiting them in their home. Help is always needed to vet adoption applicants.

NERRC Website – Meghan Terwilliger & Cheryl Fraser

Need to generate and add a Save-The-Date flyer for the 2024 NERRC Regional Specialty.

NERRC Policy & Procedures – Cheryl Fraser

Nothing to report.

The Ridgeline – Helen McCune & Maura Bushior

The next newsletter is planned for April.

Ways and Means – Cheryl Fraser

Ways & Means had an intake of \$25.80 for the month of March.

With the clubs 40th anniversary, we should consider some swag to commemorate the anniversary.

We will have another run of the "3 Puppies" artwork on wearables.

Bylaws – Alan Fraser

Nothing to report.

Social Media – Meghan Terwilliger

FACEBOOK is up to date.

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Bonnie Johnson

Need to have the NERRC BOD information updated in the RRCUS magazine.

Lure Coursing – Nikki Newton

Farmtek was contacted to seek a repair for the Fast cat Timing display. Helen McCune to follow up on this topic.

Unfinished Business

Establish a calendar for events for 2024 & Need to brainstorm on club events.

What activities and/or dog events does the membership want to participate in? Michele Ruest to craft a survey of ideas and choices for club events to send out the NERRC membership.

Maura Bushior is chairing a gathering at The Guild, a dog-friendly brewery in Pawtucket, RI. The date being planned is Sunday, June 16, 2024. More to come soon!!

Julie Paul is chairing the Summer BBQ and Annual Meeting event. Currently planned date is August 4, 2024, at the Beef Barn in North Smithfield, RI - More to come soon!! https://www.thebeefbarn.com/pages/Home.cfm

NERRC's 40th anniversary is in 2024!!! Let's get planning!!!

New Business

None

BOARD Meeting Schedule for 2024-

February 13, 2024 – 6 pm ZOOM format April 3, 2024 – 6pm ZOOM format May 29, 2024 – 6 pm ZOOM format August 4, 2024 – in person Annual meeting/ Summer event September 25, 2024 – 6 pm ZOOM format December 8, 2024 – in person / Holiday party

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm

Respectfully submitted / Cheryl Fraser / NERRC Secretary

Did you take the NERRC Activities Survey yet?

We would like to gauge your interest in the following group activities for NERRC membership. This information will enable us to budget funds and time toward events that are of interest and are well attended by the membership.

<u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc2pgg</u> <u>dLaUnpYflnj0_qD9PTk5MMSBIeB7qDe754a_7TwQgIw/</u> <u>viewform?usp=sf_link</u>

We value your input and response, so please take a few minutes to complete this survey.



MISSION STATEMENT

To have a group of Rhodesian Ridgeback owners and enthusiasts associated together for the improvement of the Rhodesian Ridgeback in the area and for the spirit of cooperation and good sportsmanship that prevails amongst us. To conduct functions, including but not limited to matches and educational seminars as well as conformation, obedience, tracking and lure coursing events for the Rhodesian Ridgebacks of the New England area. To provide support to organizations that provide for the rescue, care and adoption of Rhodesian Ridgeback dogs in need.