

Cowichan Beekeepers
www.cowichanbeekeepers.ca
May 19th 2021 General Meeting Agenda

** Cowichan Beekeepers doesn't pay for Zoom therefore our zoom sessions are now two – 45 minute sessions. Zoom was free-unlimited during COVID, but now “COVID” free “unlimited” license period is over. Our on-line offering will now be two 45 minute sessions. Members are asked to login for each of the 45 minute sessions.

Location: Meeting on Zoom.

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/4831679400?pwd=a0RYTnQ4bXNVUDdKcW1lWk5saWV1dz09>

Dates: 3rd Wed. of each month This month = (May 19th)

Times: 6:25 – 7:50 pm.

Session 1 – 6:25 – 7:10 pm Beekeeping techniques and Local News

We encourage all community members to join, regardless (bee owner or not).

1. Discussion/Questions and sharing
 - a. Hiving bees – what do I do with my nucleus hive to be successful
 - b. Feeding bees (when, how long, and what to feed)
 - c. What to expect with bees.
 - d. Pollinators, hive strength
 - e. Predators and parasites
2. Events this year
 - a. May 22nd 3103 Cobble Hill Rd. 10 am – **Drone marking and bee handling** –
 - i. Learn more about the social nature of drones and join research project
 1. Learning how to document the social nature of drones with local research.
 2. Looking for beekeepers near other beekeepers to participate
 3. Social distancing is possible outdoors in groups of 10 to meet COVID regulations (there may be more than one cohort if numbers are more than 10)
 - b. June (21st- 27th) at Duncan Market –**Pollinator Week** –
 - c. May 29th **Day of the Honey Bee**
3. **Website development.** Hours are being spent.
 - a. Photos for website needed (submit to the photo contest as well)
 - b. What topics do you want to see improved on the Cowichan beekeeper website?
4. Executive voted in favor of Supporting the city of Duncan as a Bee City.
 - a. What does it mean to support?
 - i. Support would be to participate during pollinator week and attend bee day and helping to educate the public at a stand with the CVRD.
 - ii. No financial support needed.
 - b. Queen Margaret's has done a lot of work with Ted Leischner and they have a presentation.
 - c. Use “Backyard Beekeeping” pamphlet to educate people about bees.
5. **Photo contest reminder.** Prizes. 6 t-shirts as 2nd place prizes. First prize is with donated cash or certificate from businesses email full quality pictures to cowichanbeekeepers@gmail.com

Session 2

7:10 – 7:50 pm Nosema and Bee Health

7:10 pm 2nd session will commence..

7:15 pm Discussion about what Nosema is, and techniques about how to move weak hives into healthy positions.

1. Bee Health in the spring with regard to Nosema
2. Nosema test and what it looks like.
3. How to get your bees tested for Nosema.
4. Hopefully viewing of a locally made video with slides from local bees or at least pictures of slides taken from samples of bees looking for Nosema.

5. Drone Bee study – Social Nature of Drones. *(Please consider joining)*

- a. **May 22nd Saturday 10 am** (Location 3103 Cobble Hill Rd. Mill Bay) (Alternate day is May 23rd)
 - Drone marking and how to handle bees bare handed without getting stung. This will also be about how to mark drones in your own apiary and organize teams to make this marking a pile of fun
 - People who are in attendance will be introduced to the equipment purchased with the Bee BC grant money.
 - Suits and gloves are available for those who are interested in checking out beekeeping for the first time before spending money on equipment.(gloves are not necessary)
 - Social distancing is expected when that is not possible, please have a mask especially if you would like to enter a building with the microscopes.

Pre register.— email bees@happylo.net or text 250 709-1661 (To gauge numbers and for planning.)

- Please bring clean bee apparel. There are some suits available to use from the Bee BC grant. No experience necessary. Come and learn!