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FROM THE EDITORS

Hi again and welcome to the new look Flying Times. Both Justin and I would like to welcome you all to 2008 and we hope that you had a great

Christmas and New Year . The AFA will be looking forward to a great year this year kicking off with the 10th Anniversary Australian Nationals at the Canberra Show. This looks like it is panning out to be a huge

event with 38 teams in attendance. We are also very lucky to have 2 international judges and the competition will be on the Main Arena - We are a main attraction! Good luck everyone! Justin & Clare

February 2008

FLYING TIMES



10TH AUSTRALIAN NATIONALS - CANBERRA SHOW

With what is going on at the Nationals - We may as well update you all so that you don't miss out on merchandise, the dinner and the competition!

With the Nationals fast approaching, we would like to remind people of what is going on. This is bound to be a packed weekend of activities and it would be great to see everyone involved.

Here we go with the information dump:

- Dinner at Belconnen Dog Club just up the road from the show ground. It is taking place Friday night 22 Feb. Measuring will be taking place, the international judges will be there for a chance to all members to meet them. The dinner is \$20/person and is great value. Measuring will take place at 4.
- T-shirts have been ordered and have been sent to their respective owners. But don't fret - there will still be some at the show and people will be able to order the shirts for 2

weeks after the show. Keep your eye out for the shirts as there will be people that will be wearing them! Find an X-Factor person for help.

- Please refer to the maps on the website for parking information. It has all changed this year and please make sure your teams are informed. Unfortunately we have only been allocated 3 parking passes per team.
- There will be no car access on to the main arena, but those cars with a pass, will be able to drive on the track to drop off their equipment closer than the carpark!

We look forward to seeing you all at the Nationals and we hope that everyone will enjoy the 2 days!



GOODBYE.....

Joanne Drake - NSW Rep

The AFA committee would like to thank Jo Drake for the commitment and dedication she has shown for her representation on the AFA Committee.

We wish Jo the best of luck with her well earned spare time.

Thankyou again Jo.

The AFA Committee



TIME FOR THE REMINDERS.....

- 1. Competition organisers** please remember that there is a new title workbook available on the web. This workbook is there to make recording the final results and title point calculations for those who have the lucky job of doing this.
- 2. Seed Time Clarification** The AFA Committee has recently been asked to clarify the situation where a Team notify a declared seed time which is actually faster than their time published on the web. One question was does the faster time have to be one second faster than the web time (slower declared times have to be one second slower than the Web time to be accepted). The answer to this question is that any declared time that is faster than the Web time will be accepted – the one second difference does not apply to faster times. The next question was where a declared faster time is submitted what is that teams breakout time. The answer is the breakout time is one second faster than the declared time –it is not subject to the Divisional breakout time.
- 3. Membership Renewal** The committee have approved the following process due to slow renewal memberships - The AFA will issue a Group email notice to all members with email contact details in early June 08 reminding them of fact that renewals are due by 30th June 2008 and the new fee levels (including for Associate and Junior Members) and indicating we will be issuing a AFA Membership Card to all members as part of the renewal process. A similar email be sent to all Club/Team contacts in early June asking them to remind all of their members of need to renew AFA memberships by 30th June. Hopefully this will cover any members not on email. A final reminder email be sent to all non financial members who have not renewed by end of third week in July. That the normal 30 day grace period be allowed (up to end July) for renewals. After end July members who have not renewed are deemed non financial and hence cease to be AFA Members. Where a renewal request is received after that date it will be treated in same way as a new member application (i.e. it will have to go to the next Committee Meeting for approval and will be subject to the \$5 higher new membership fee.
- 4. Nationals 2010** This is the final call for those clubs who are brave enough to put in their nomination for the Nationals in 2010. The committee will need to have your nomination by 31 March 2008. Please send the nomination to the usual address!

Please check the website for new updates: www.flyball.org.au

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THE PRESIDENT

A word from Glenn....

The Aussie flyball scene is buzzing with excitement as we approach the special celebration of the Tenth National Flyball Championship with Advance as major sponsor (Friday 22nd February, 2008). Kylie White and her team at Canberra X-Factor with help from the Canberra Royal Show Society, Belconnen Bullets & K9 Krusaders have planned an action packed three day weekend of flyball and more. We kick off at the Exhibition Park in Canberra main arena with singles and pairs racing including beginners and veteran classes. The AFA Committee will give an update on recent developments and conduct a session to meet the USA NAFA Judges Todd Morningstar and Brian Faye from 4:30pm to 6pm at the Belconnen Club. Lyn Clyde from Belconnen has indicated that we will have over 75 people attending at the 10th Anniversary dinner and many of our life members and past committee members will be there. We are guaranteed two full days of flyball fun in parallel rings, "poll position" directly front of the main grandstand at EPIC, which will determine our National Champions across 38 teams and eight divisions.

The outbreak of equine flu in Australia has inadvertently favoured flyball. The show societies are searching for extra animal entertainment, as they have been forced to cancel horse events and flyball "fits the slot". Maria Tsoromokos and the PICS Club have resecured flyball as an event at the Sydney Royal Show. The RAS organisers and Purina as major sponsors are very keen to see flyball continue as part of the program for years to come. Well done and thanks to Maria for negotiating this event back onto the flyball calendar.

At the 2007 AFA AGM the members passed a Resolution "That the AFA form a Sub Committee to investigate methods of dog measuring and determination of corresponding jump height in order to determine best practice with respect to varying canine conformation as opposed to current methodology which only considers height measurement." The report will be published on the AFA website within the next few weeks. NAFA are currently reviewing the withers measurement, which could change their jump measure from 4 inches below to 5 inches below the withers. I urge all AFA members to consider all options and be aware of how any changes will pact in the nature of how we play flyball.

The monthly AFA Committee Minutes are now published on the AFA website. Please find the time to read the latest AFA minutes, so that you can keep in touch with what's happening within the Association.

We are still encouraging people to become ticketed as timekeepers and stewards. Congratulations to the 10 timekeepers and 28 stewards who have passed the exam, as listed on the AFA website.

Many State K9 Control Bodies under the Australian Nation Kennel Council have recently formed flyball committees and the South Australian Canine Association is scheduling their own flyball events under the common rules. The ANKA/AFA agreement will allow members of both parties to participate in reciprocal flyball events. The ANKC is currently being bombarded with enquiries from AFA flyballers (with co-membership) who are requesting ANKC/ Control body acknowledgement of their flyball title points, as this was part of the agreement. Flyball dogs which are members of the ANKC/State Control Body will be acknowledged for their achievements and breeders will be able to promote their official ANKC Flyball Titles. If you wish to enquire about this, please contact your ANKC/ State Canine Control Body.

See you at the Tenth National Flyball Championships.

Yours in flyball,

Glenn Pritchard
AFA President



DOGS WHO DESERVE A MENTION

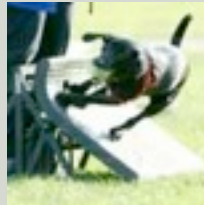


EZRI



ASTRO

JEDDAH AWARDS



Congratulations to Ian and Wendy Gauntlett and their dogs Astro and Ezri on the achievement of the Jeddah Awards. This is the highest title that a dog can owner can achieve. On an informative note Astro's (253A) first competition was Croydon Spring Flyball Frenzy held on 4 September, 1999 and Ezri's (336A) first competition was Wonthaggi – Pro Plan on 13th January, 2001. This is a huge deal so all put your paws together for this dynamic duo.



FROM THE APPLE ISLE

Hi everyone. I guess by now you are all getting excited about the upcoming Flyball Nationals. How I wish I could be there but I wish you all good luck and hope you have a lovely weekend.

Our guys in Tassie Flying Paws Team are having their own excitement about their trip to Melbourne on 30th March for a one day competition - their first ever comp. A bit scary but they need to get the experience.

We had fun running a stall at the Hobart Market place on Sunday and have now raised the grand sum of \$415 toward our travel expenses. Still have a few weeks left to raise a bit more. Hopefully we will be meeting quite a few of you when we come over and look forward to that.

Hopefully in the next year we will be able to hold a competition ourselves and would love to see lots of you coming over to Tassie - maybe make a holiday of it and stay a week or two. By then we will have two or more teams to compete in our own club. It has been very dry and extremely hot some days - we desperately need some rain which has been forecast but it hasn't happened yet.

Once again good luck to you all - Happy flyballing

Dot Baverstock - Regional Rep.
Tasmania



FROM THE JUDGE

I would like to put to rest a few misconceptions regarding the Dog Behaviour Policy which has been put onto the AFA website.

The Crossing and Interference sections of the policy have not changed from the old policy. The only change is that crossing is now reported as a separate incident from interference. This allows the AFA Incident database to show which dogs are merely crossing and which dogs are interfering with the other teams race. Crossing will be looked upon as an incident of lesser importance than interfering. The AFA Committee wants the database to clearly show this.

This means that dogs who are crossing as well as dogs who interfere still require extra training, extra focus and extra motivation to minimise the problem as it is still a safety issue for dogs in the other team. The Judge cannot tell whether a dog who crosses the centreline is going to cross the line or is going to interfere with the other team. The race must be stopped by any crossing of the centreline in the racing area. The Judge does have the discretion to give a first warning for crossing in the back of the ring.

The rest of the policy has been set out to define Aggression and Suspected Aggression as well as to advise members what actions can be taken.

A couple of other queries I have been asked over the last few months are:

Q: Does a dog have to go through the starting gates or can a dog merely cross the Start/Finish line (which is usually drawn right across the ring). There was a dog who would be released, go around the start gates and then over the four jumps and return the same way.

A: Yes a dog must go through the start gates. Unless a dog goes through the gates, the timing system will not trigger and the dog will not get a time and in actual fact is awarded a foul and must run again.

Q: Fouling in the ring: What happens when a dog fouls in the ring before the heats have begun and what happens to AFA title points for the other team?

A: If a dog from Team A fouls in the ring, that team forfeits the next heat. However that heat is run so that Team B who did no wrong, can gain title points.

Please be respectful to our Judges who are all volunteers and who have all taken the time to pass examinations, do practical work in all areas of flyball and who usually run dogs themselves. If you have a query please ask one of our Judges. All our Judges are trying very hard to make flyball a fun time for all handlers and dogs.



Eastside Flyers at the end of a long day. This group photo was taken after they were photographed by the Herald Sun on Australia Day.



UPCOMING COMPS

Sun 10 Feb - Berwick Highland Games VIC

Sat & Sun 23 & 24 Feb Australian Nationals Canberra Show ACT

Sat 1 Mar Hounds in the Hills - Castle Hill NSW

Sat 8 Mar Camden Show Flyball VIC

Sat 8 Mar Begonia Ball Bitz - Ballarat Pet Expo VIC

Fri 21 Mar Good Friday Fast and Furious Frenzy Supercoat Challenge - Sydney Royal Easter Show NSW

Sat 22 Mar Easter Saturday Supercoat Flyball Frolic Sydney Royal Easter Show NSW

Sun 30 Mar Ringwood Highland Flyball Games - Vic

Sat 19 Apr Awesome April Antics - QLD

Sat & Sun 26 & 27 Apr Gold Rush Flyball - Vic

Sat 17 May Flyball at Geelong Vic

Sun 18 May Million Paws Walk - Adelaide SA

Sat & Sun 8 & 9 June Flyball State of Origin - QLD

PARRA PARK AUSSIE DAY



VICTORIA'S INPUT...

Now that Xmas and the New Year has passed us by, we are now well and truly into the flyball calendar with events at Wonthaggi (Bass Coast) Jan 12, RACV (Melb) Jan 26 and the Berwick Highland Games on Feb 10. We have also just had the biggest and best demonstration in Australia at the Melbourne Pet & Animal Expo over three days on Feb 1, 2 & 3. It seems that flyball never stops. Probably when this issue of the Flying Times comes out the Nationals in Canberra will have come and gone. Talking of the Nationals what an exciting event that will be, full credit to Kylie White and her committee. It will be great to catch up with the two US judges again whom I had the pleasure of meeting on my visits to the States and Canada, although this will be Todd Morningstar's second visit here in Australia. We have 38 teams entered and all roads are now definitely leading up the Hume Highway to see if we Victorians can steal a National title or two.

WOW!!! A Tassie team

For the first time in Australia we will be host to a flyball team from Tasmania, well done Dot who has been working feverishly behind the scenes in Tasmania to have her team up and running to be ready for competitions. This team 'the 'Tassie Flying Paws' will be entering a team at the Ringwood Highland & Flyball Games in Ringwood, Melbourne on March 30. That's not all either, Dot is already working at hosting a competition in Tasmania in 2009. keep all your eyes peeled for this date and see if we can get some teams over to help Dot run a great competition. Well done Dot!!!

Congratulations!!! - must go to the three Victorian dogs and their handlers who have now achieved their 'Jeddah Award' 3,000pts, the only dogs in Australia to have achieved this award, It takes a supreme effort to enter all these competitions in Victoria & interstate. Of course the recipients are "Jeddah" who was the first dog to have achieved this title, hence the naming of this award and handled by Cathy Trudinger, "Astro" was the second dog to gain this title handled by Wendy Gauntlett & "Ezri" handled by Ian Gauntlett the third. Well done guys! I think that it will be a while before we will have the next dog for this award as my dog "Jagger" who was part of this team once and now retired (well sort of) is still the fourth dog in line with the most title points and a long way off.

Accreditation as a Judge, Timekeeper & Steward

If anyone out there thinks that they could make a good judge could they please come and see me and I can steer them in the right direction, we are in need of some more good judges. It doesn't matter if you are running a dog or not, all you need is a good knowledge of the rules and at least two years experience as a handler in the ring. Also if you want to have accreditation as a timekeeper or steward there are exams out there now for that as well.

Till next time & Happy flyballin'

Eric van Zuyden (Vic. Regional Rep.)

COMPETITION RESULTS

BASS COAST SHOW - SAT 11 JANUARY 2008

Division	Place	Team	Seed time	Best Time
1	1	Western Weiners Hot Dogs	18.642	19.074
1	2	Croydon Rocket Scientists	20.127	21.184
2	1	Bellarine Breakers	21.096	21.505
2	2	Berwick Burnouts	21.434	21.079
2	3	Western Weiners Chilli Dogs	21.322	21.189
2	4	Eastside Flyers Spitfires	21.418	21.890
2	5	Croydon Rocket Secret Weapons	21.133	21.674
3	1	Croydon Cosmonauts	22.996	21.911
3	2	T-Keilor Slammers	23.256	23.087
3	3	Hastings Howlers Hit & Run	22.752	23.972
4	1	Frankston Thunderbolts	24.300 d	23.628
4	2	Berwick Bits & Pieces	24.000 d	23.909
4	3	Croydon Rocket Blasters	24.000	24.887
5	1	Bellarine Bandits	25.096	24.641
5	2	T-Keilor Shots	25.400 d	25.623
5	3	Ballarat Eureka Miners	25.735	25.571
5	4	Hastings Howlers Hit & Miss	30.487	31.506

DAPTO SHOW FLYBALL GOES TO THE DOGS - SAT 19 JANUARY 2008

Division	Place	Team	Seed time	Best Time
1	1	St George Phoenix	20.328	19.050
1	2	Southern Cross Orbit	20.100	19.760
2	1	Southern Cross Star Struck	23.200	21.760
2	2	Dish Lickers	23.682	23.46
2	3	Der Dish Lickers	25.50	26.480



RACV AUSTRALIA DAY FLYBALL CELEBRATIONS - SAT 26 JANUARY 2008

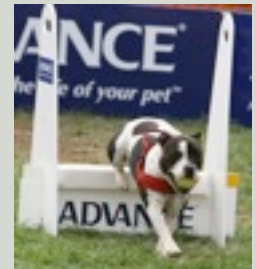
Division	Place	Team	Seed time	Best Time
1	1	Croydon Rocket Scientists	20.127	20.633
1	2	Western Weiners Hot Dogs	18.642	20.694
2	1	Bellarine Breakers	22.000	21.809
2	2	Western Weiners Chilli Dog	21.322	20.764
2	3	Berwick Burnouts	21.434	20.966
2	4	Eastside Flyers Spitfires	21.418	21.500
2	5	Croydon Rocket Secret Weapon	21.133	22.185
3	1	Croydon Rocket Cosmonauts	22.996	22.078
3	2	Frankston Thunderbolts	23.284	23.020
3	3	Albury Advance Flyball Dogs 1	23.012	25.172
4	1	Albury Advance Flyball Dogs 2	24.419	24.228
4	2	T'Keilor Sunrises	24.651	25.598
4	3	Croydon Rocket Blasters	24.000	25.057
4	4	Eastside Flyers Mustang	23.816	23.659
5	1	Advance Flyball Dogs Seniors	26.006	24.300B/O
5	2	Eastside Flyers B52's	26.780	26.100
5	3	T'Keilor Laidbacks	26.869	26.210
5	4	Hastings Howlers Hit & Hope	27.000	27.810
5	5	Ballarat Eureka Miners	25.735	28.550

PARRA PARK AUSSIE CELEBRATION - SAT 26 JANUARY 2008

Division	Place	Team	Seed time	Best Time
1	1	Norwest Thunderdogs 1	17.300	17.923
2	1	Southern Cross Orbits	19.035	19.688
2	2	Norwest Thunderdogs 2	19.000 D	19.271
3	1	K-9 Krusaders	20.888	21.815
3	2	Norwest Thunderdogs 3	20.400 D	21.763
3	3	Sydney Psychos	20.752	21.572
4	1	Southern Cross Star Struck	23.200 D	21.500 BO
4	2	Belconnen Speeding Bullets	23.000 D	23.815
4	3	X Factor APM	22.259	20.966 BO
4		Norwest Thunderdogs 4	23.843	24.025
5	1	Norwest Thunderdogs 5	25.400 D	25.614
5	2	Tuggeranong Torpedoes	27.021	31.729
5	3	K-9 All Stars	26.314	30.583
6	1	Belconnen Chocolate Bullets	28.000 D	27.689
6	2	Leaps & Bounds Coyotes	28.884	26.830 BO



FRONT PAGE DOGS



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