

Draft Minutes - Subject to approval at February Committee Meeting

AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
14th January 2008 BY TELEPHONE HOOKUP.

Present: Glenn Pritchard, Leoney Pritchard, Jenny Millar, Terry Hunter, Kylie White, Dot Baverstock, Brian Lindsay, Eric van Zuyden, Lyn Clyde, Rosie Milton, Joanne Drake and Amy Williams

Apologies: Justin Allen, Clare Ellis, Pat Byrne and Catherine Saberton.

Meeting Opened at 7.40 pm.

ITEM - "Starred" Items.

The following Items were 'starred' for adoption without discussion:

- 1) Minutes of Meeting of 3rd December 2007;
- 2) Correspondence Listing; (Schedule of all correspondence in and out);
- 3) Treasurers Report (end December Bank Balance noted as \$12,973.12);
- 4) 4 Accounts for Payment :
 - Reimbursement to Treasurer for Internet use Nov to Jan \$62.44
 - Hawkesbury Stationery Supplies \$58.50
 - Ford Kinter Insurance (Qld Trailer) \$110
 - Reimbursement to Kylie White for ACT Trailer Rego \$51

5) Sanctioned Events,

- Demo, Eastside Flyers, 1, 2 and 3rd Feb 2008 Caulfield Racecourse
 - Demo, Milton/Ulladulla dog training club, 1st March – Milton Showground
 - Demo, Eastside Flyers, 16 March 2008 RSPCA Burwood East
 - Demo, Awesome Pawsome, 6th April 2008 Rathdowney Heritage Show.
 - Competition, PICS I, Friday 21st March Sydney Royal Show – Fast and Furious Flyball Frenzy
 - Competition , PICS I Saturday 22nd March Sydney Royal Show – Easter Saturday Supercoat Flyball Frolic
- 16 New members, as per Agenda List.

Moved and Seconded that the above Agenda Items be adopted. CARRIED

ITEM - Review of Action Sheet

The December meeting Action Sheet was reviewed and all tasks other than those shown below have been actioned:

**Engraving of equipment – to be progressed at Nationals;
Lights Insurance Provision transfer (with Treasurer)
8Purchase of second headset microphone (with Treasurer)
Design Judges Certificate (under development by Pat)
Develop Exam for AFA Rep position (under development by Rosie)
Produce Champion Trophy Rules (under development by Kylie)
Obtain Group email software (approved -Treasurer to purchase up to \$250)**

ITEM - Applications to Change Clubs with exemption from 90 days Rule .

Committee noted letter from two members from Western Wieners Club seeking exemption from the 90 days Rule when transferring to another Club and indicating as the main reason the significant travel distance involved in attending training with Weiners. In one case Member had moved address but only within same suburb. Committee did not feel that a case had been made to warrant exemption from 90 day Rule.

Following discussion it was agreed that Victorian Representative would contact both Members and advise them of Committees decision not to grant exemption on the grounds submitted.

In considering this matter the Committee noted that it had received informal advice indicating that there was some conflict and stress between members of Weiners Club. Whilst noting this informal input the Committee was of the view that this should be left as a Club matter unless a formal submission indicating some breach of AFA Rules was submitted to the AFA for consideration.

ITEM - Administrative Matters.

- Acquisition of Group email Software. The Meeting noted that the AFA needed to acquire this software so that a single group email could be sent to 600 + members. Most free group email systems had a group size limitation. In view of plan to use the system to remind members of fees being due it was Moved and Seconded that Treasurer be authorized to purchase the software within a budget of \$250.

- Stewards and Timekeepers Exams – Rosie advised of 5 further members who had satisfactorily completed the Stewards or Timekeepers Exam. She Moved that we establish on AFA Web a listing of accredited Stewards and Timekeepers. Seconded and CARRIED. Rosie to send webmaster list of all Stewards and Timekeepers. Rosie to advise current successful candidates

they had passed. Rosie also sought approval for Jo Slade to move to next stage of Judges accreditation having successfully passed the Exam stage. **CARRIED.**

- Treatment of late payments for renewals in future. The Committee noted that in 2007/08 this seemed to be a growing problem and hence the paper prepared by the Secretary outlining a proposed approach to dealing with late membership renewals in future years (individuals and Clubs) and any requests for urgent approval of new memberships between meetings. The Paper noted that the AFA was moving to be in a position where it would send an email to Members (copy to Club Contacts) in early June reminding them of need to renew membership by year end and that it was proposed to continue to allow the 30 days grace period (until end July) for members to renew. The paper proposed that after that date membership would lapse and renewal applications would then be treated as NEW member applications (with \$5 higher fee and requirement to go before Committee at next Meeting for approval). Same proposal for Club/ Team affiliations. The Paper also proposed that where a new member requested urgent approval from the AFA Committee between meetings a new “Urgent Membership Approval Fee” of \$10 would be applied. Following discussion of these proposals Moved and Seconded that the proposals as outlined in Paper be adopted and placed on web for Member information. **CARRIED.**

ITEM - Matters arising from AGM discussions.

Committee noted that there were still three items raised at last AGM where action had not yet been finalized.

- The Sub Committee for Dog measuring was still undertaking its task of reviewing systems of measurement and translation of measure to jump height. Eric reported good progress was being made and the Sub Committee had a further meeting scheduled for 17th January. Hopefully the Sub Committee would be in a position to report by the February Committee meeting
- Engraving of equipment still needed to be undertaken – planned to undertake at Nationals. (Terry to bring engraving tool to Nationals).
- Laminated membership Cards. Treasurer ready to purchase supply of cards for 2008 renewals as soon as Logo design finalised.

ITEM - General Business

a) Report from Dog incidents Sub Committee

The Committee noted that no Incidents requiring investigation had been reported since the December Committee meeting. Rosie had extracted a listing of dogs who had repeated cardings (8 or more) with a view to writing to members involved. Following discussion it was agreed that the list would be

refined by looking at when the latest incidence occurred and whether the dog was still an active Competitor. Rosie to produce revised listing once this was done.

b) Breakout policy finalisation

The Committee noted the final wording as circulated .Moved and Seconded that the revised wording be adopted and placed on AFA web. Necessary adjustments would need to be made to Timesheets and Stewards Exam to cover the new wording.

c) AFA Logo design

President advised he had followed up this matter with Ilona who was coordinating new design options. Final design was now being progressed following a delay caused by the Xmas break. Hopefully design options would be before the February Committee Meeting for consideration.

d) Champion Trophy Format Rules.

Kylie indicated she was still developing the Rules for this new format.

e) ANKC Agreement

President reported he had signed the Agreement and sent to ANKC. The Agreement is effective from 1 st January 2008. ANKC was now in process of forming Stat2e based Sub Committees to implement flyball and that most of the Sub Committee already formed included AFA Members. ANKC were still looking for a AFA representative for the NSW Committee. (Not sure if a Sub Committee was as yet happening in Qld).

f) Hiring of AFA Signature Lights

The enquiry from a representative of Dogs Victoria re possible hiring of the AFA Signature Lig2hts for the Agility Nationals was discussed. Terry advised that the Flyball lights were not set up for use at Agility and that the Agility Light sets were quite different technically. Concern was also expressed that given we only had 3 sets and they were in heavy use there was a danger in considering hiring (both from risk of loss or damage to components and also from fact that hiring would in all likelihood involve a long lead time and this could prevent AFA use for a later scheduled Competition). Agreed that in circumstances we should advise the Dogs Victoria Rep that lights were not suitable for Agility use. Discussion also covered whether the AFA should be willing to hire the lights to ANKC for Flyball Comp use if requested. This matter to be deferred to Feb Meeting so Committee could consider implications.

g) Appointment of Supervising Judge and appointment of a Overseer of Probationary Judges for Qld.

Rosie indicated that she was recommending that Eric van Zuyden be appointed as a Supervising judge to assist her in dealing with Judge upgrade assessment and that there be an appointment of a Overseer position in Queensland to monitor and report on Probationary Judges. She recommended that the AFA's prior Supervisory Judge be appointed. Moved and Seconded. CARRIED.

h) Nationals Update

Kylie White advised that we had received 38 Team entries for the Nationals in Canberra. Planning was well underway for the Friday Singles and Pairs program. Kylie asked for approval of the format that involved Beginners and Veterans Racing dogs classes. Format APPROVED.

Kylie advised that she was in the process of checking Declared Seed Times to ensure they complied with AFA Policy. She advised that she had noted several teams where she was concerned that the Declared Time was not appropriate as the team contained at least 4 dogs who were part of team with a lower web based seed time. The Committee confirmed that The AFA Policy on Seed Times must be fully complied with and that the Seed Time had to be based on the 4 fastest dogs in the team and that the other two dogs times were not relevant. Kylie indicated she would check and advise any teams of need to apply web time.

Appointment of AFA representatives – two needed, following discussion Jenny Miller and Lyn Clyde appointed.

Kylie indicated that Patrick was developing a Power Point display of the history of flyball over the past ten years for display at Nationals. If anyone had suitable photos could they send them to Kylie.

i) Seed Time Query from Parramatta Australia Day Competition Secretary.

Committee noted a query as to AFA Seed Time Rules . Competition Secretary had noted a Team with a declared time that was slower than the Web Time for a team which contained 4 of the entered dogs. Entry indicated “ New Team” but the only change was the two new dogs. Committee noted this was same situation as Nationals entries and Committee concluded that this was outside the AFA Seed Time Policy. Secretary asked to contact team and explain web time would have to apply.

ITEM - Interference, Distraction, Aggression and Suspected Aggression - Policy Update.

Rosie reported she had circulated the proposed Policy update to Judges for comment. Majority of comments received were related to the proposed new “Crossing” policy wording and were opposed to the suggestion that the race not

be stopped. Safety concerns were involved and the view that it was too difficult for Judges to guess whether the dog would or would not interfere once it crossed.

Based on feed back Rosie suggested the new Policy wording be amended to reflect Crossing as a separate breach to Interference but that in both cases the race would be stopped and a yellow card issued – but with either Crossing or Interference shown in report. All other changes to Policy to stand. Moved and Seconded. CARRIED. Agreed that Rosie would update Policy and circulate for Committee comment before updated Policy placed on web.

ITEM - Other Business not on Agenda.

- a) Eric indicated he had an enquiry from a 13 year old who planned to join AFA as a Junior member(Wade Cameron) but who wanted to handle a dog at a competition before next Committee Meeting. Question - could he simply do this as a Honorary member? Answer – no. Committee however agreed to approve Wade’s admittance as a Junior AFA Members, subject to receipt of paperwork.
- b) Rosie reported she had received a final report from Eric regarding his assessment at Wonthaggi Competition of June Hunter for Level 1 Judge status. Eric’s assessment was very positive and he recommended that June be appointed as a Level 1 Judge. Moved and seconded that June be elevated to Level 1 status. CARRIED. Webmaster to update entry on web.
- c) President reported on recent discussions with a promoter who was interested in arranging a major dog event for January 2009 which would include flyball as part of the program. She envisaged that the dog spectacular would move around state capitals on weekends in January 2009. She advised she was anticipating crowds of 10,000+ and multi media promotion. AFA would not be involved in any financial exposure - our involvement would be to select 4 very fast teams of 6 dogs and to ensure that the selected team members were willing to contractually commit to the Program itinerary. All travel costs would be met by organiser and prize money may be involved. On basis that AFA was not involved in actual event organization nor had any financial exposure Committee endorsed the event subject to seeing full details as the plans developed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10. 35 pm.

Signed as a true record

President