

Draft Minutes - Subject to approval at September Committee Meeting

AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4th August 2008 BY TELEPHONE HOOKUP.

Present: Glenn Pritchard, Leoney Pritchard, Terry Hunter, Brian Lindsay, Eric van Zuyden, Richard Mellon, Pat Byrne, Kylie White, Claire Ellis, Dot Baverstock, and Lyn Clyde.

Apologies: Rosie Milton, Catherine Saberton, and Jenny Millar

Meeting Opened at 7.40 pm.

ITEM - "Starred" Items.

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

- 1) Minutes of Meeting of 7th July 2008
- 2) Accounts for payment approval (10 Items in Treasurers Report)
- 3) Membership renewals
- 4) New Members (2)

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

ITEM – Treasurers Report

Treasurer presented end July Financial Report. Committee noted end July Account Balance \$9,808.94. Treasurer sought approval to pay two further Accounts just received – being reimbursement to Ian Gauntlett for restock of Victorian first aid kit \$20.36 and payment to Fred's Trophies \$101.00. Agreed

ITEM - Sanctioned Events

Following Events Approved:

Comp. – Flyball Fanatics – Saturday 6th September – Clem Jones Sports Centre, Creek Rd, Carina Qld;

Comp. – Hastings Dog Club- Sunday 12th October – Pets Day Out Frankston Vic (subject to receipt of paperwork)

Comp. – South Coast Dog Club – Sunday 19th October – Albion park Showground;

Comp. – Hastings Dog Club – Saturday 10th January 2009 – Bass Coast Show Wonthaggi Vic.(Subject to receipt of paperwork).

Demo. – Manna Gum Festival Saturday 15th November - Greensborough

ITEM - New Members

Two New Members approved as per the Treasurers Report.

ITEM - Correspondence.

Following correspondence noted for discussion:

- i) Email regarding circumstances resulting in Moby (CRN 554B) not being allocated points earned at Camden Competition 2008. Competition organisers confirmed that they had made an error in transcribing Moby's CRN to Time Sheet (as 594B rather than 554B). Southern Cross Team Captain apparently had not checked the Time sheet. In view of explanation Committee had approved by email adjustment to Moby's points to include Camden. Matter resolved.
- ii) Email from a member seeking Committee opinion regarding a matter of concern where a Judge at the Albury competition accused her of "unethical behaviour" when she presented several height card measure forms with different heights (some at 11 and some at 12 inches). In her submission she indicated the Judge accused her of "shopping for the lower height measure" because she had multiple forms. She indicated she had multiple forms because she kept forgetting to bring the old form and when measured she started a new form. One form had two measures at 11 inches and a second form had three measures at 12 inches and that she also had a third form. She indicated that the Judge had torn up all three of her height application forms. The Committee noted that the Rules required Members to present their form to the Judge BEFORE measuring but that there was no reference in the Rules to indicate that a member had to have all measures recorded on a single form. Several members of the Committee who were Judges indicated that in their experience it was not uncommon for members to have multiple forms. They also indicated that if a dog was boarder line between jump heights it was not uncommon to have different measures on the forms. Following discussion it was Moved and Seconded that the Committee resolve that based on the AFA Rules having multiple height card forms did not constitute " unethical behaviour " CARRIED. The Committee agreed that members should be reminded however that they must present the Judge with Height card measuring forms BEFORE measuring if they wanted a recorded measure. Recognising that the member in this case had all of her forms destroyed it was Moved and Seconded that the Forms be replaced if the member could provide details of which Judges had signed at which heights and this could be confirmed. CARRIED. The Committee finally suggested that the Supervisory judge advise all Judges of the submission and indicate that they should not take actions to destroy height forms but rather if they

had any concerns about multiple forms they should report matter to the AFA Representative at the Competition.

- iii) Letter from St.George Flyball Club complaining about the timing of a recent “Rule Change notification” and the process used to advise Club representatives. The Committee noted that the matter referred to was not in fact a Rule change but rather was a notification clarifying the “interpretation” of the Rule related to Combined Divisions racing points. The Committee had been asked in June to clarify whether in a Combined Division competition race points were to be awarded when a team from one Division was racing a team in the higher Division or whether race points should only applied when two teams from the same Division were racing each other. Both interpretations were being applied by different Competition organisers and a single approach was seen as essential. The Committee originally concluded (by very close vote) that race points should only be awarded when two teams within the same Division were racing. This clarification was notified to Clubs in June and members were asked for their views given the close Committee vote. Several members put strong submission forward supporting the alternative interpretation .These submissions were considered at the July Committee Meeting and the matter submitted to a new vote – resulting in the Committee changing its interpretation ruling and deciding that where a combined division operates race points will be awarded to all winning Teams and not only when they are racing within there own Division. The new interpretation had been recorded in the July meeting Minutes. The Committee in July decided that the new interpretation should apply immediately ie. effective from the next competition with combined divisions (Albury). Club Co-coordinators were advised of this decision as quickly as possible via the new Data base email group system. Unfortunately the email address for the St.George Club Co-ordinator was incorrectly recorded in the new database and hence the message did not reach her before the Albury competition. The Committee whilst noting St.George's concerns concluded that it had acted appropriately to ensure the interpretation of the Combined Division rules was implemented immediately. The change in interpretation was announced at the Judge briefing at Albury so all teams were aware of the approach to be followed. The Committee also noted that the process used to advise Club co-ordinators would included numbering such advices (so Clubs could sequentially maintain a record of each notice) and that a email Bounce report would be generated for any returned email. This was seen as an adequate control process. The Secretary was asked to relay the Committees consideration to the Secretary of St.George Club.

- iv) Email from Sue Norton seeking approval to purchase 4 leads and a Circuit Breaker board for the Qld light set. Committee agreed that AFA should supply leads and circuit breaker boards for all States that did not currently have same. Advice given that NSW did not have an AFA Circuit breaker board. Victoria to check. Noted Circuit breaker boards cost approx \$100. Moved and Seconded that Qld and NSW be

authorised to acquire boards at cost of approx \$100 each and Queensland also be authorised to purchase leads. CARRIED.

v) Email from Rosie Milton seeking approval to order a headset microphone for Queensland Judges at a cost of approx \$600. CARRIED.

vi) Reply email from ANKC Administrator simply acknowledging receipt of AFA letter questioning view expressed by ANKC official that “conflict of interest situation” applied if people were members of both AFA and ANKC and participated in flyball with both bodies.

vii) ITEM - Administrative Matters.

- Stewards and Timekeepers Exams. Rosie reported that the following members had passed the Stewards Exam: David Bandy, Christina Dalla Valle.
- Treasurer reported that she had now received the new computer tower authorised for purchase at last meeting and was in process of setting up the new computer.

ITEM - Matters arising from 2007 AGM discussions.

- Dog measuring update – President indicated that he had been advised that a Member motion will be submitted to the AGM supporting the continued use of the withers measurement system but using a “common” measuring wicket and adopting the new NAFA standard of heights being determined based on a 5 inch reduction from withers in range of 7 to 14 inches. In discussion it was noted that ulna measuring as an alternative approach could be considered in the future when measuring tool was available for use outside the U-Fli Association (AFA advised access to the measuring device was currently restricted to U-Fli and the device was subject to Patient restriction) and after it had been subject to test.
- Identification marking of equipment – Leoney reported that both the NSW/ACT and the Victorian Signature light sets had now been fully marked. Marking stickers were being sent to Queensland to make the Queensland set. A component listing was now being prepared for the older EJS systems that would also be security marked once all of the components were identified.

ITEM - Preparation for 2008 AGM

Secretary reported on AGM preparation as follows:

- 1) Post out to members completed and AGM details on web;
- 2) Venues finalise and co-coordinators appointed;
- 3) Awards for 2008 checked (Leoney still needs advice re new Clubs);
- 4) Required paperwork for voting, scrutinizers, venue co-coordinators would be produced by Secretary and webmaster once information available re Motions and Committee nominations;
- 5) Financial Statements are with Audits and certification expected within next two weeks;
- 6) Rosie still needs to confirm Conference call 1800 number is ok to use
- 7) Presidents Report needed by no later than 23rd August
- 8) Advice to venue co-coordinators drafted and ready to go out on 23 August with final papers
- 9) Membership list will be produced by Treasurer on Friday 29th August and emailed to venue co-coordinators;
- 10) Kylie to place add in Canberra Paper re AGM.

President thanked Secretary for all the work associated with arranging AGM.

ITEM - General Business

a) Report of Rules Sub Committee

Secretary reported that Rules Sub Committee had meet again to consider forfeit rules review. Whilst the Sub Committee had reached agreement in most areas there was still the need to draft and clear the rewording of Chapter 7. This was on his” to do “ list once arrangements for AGM completed.

Supervisory judge reported that Judge Karen Shield had submitted corrections to the Round Robin and Eliminations draw schedules and diagrams and these now needed to be checked by Rosie before they could be updated in Rules and Web.

b) Black Card Incident at Albury Comp.

The Committee noted the Judges report from Albury that indicated that a aggression incident had occurred in Race 22 involving Hades (CRN 705D) from the Western Wieners Team who had chased the start dog in the CDC team, caught up with that dog and appeared to bite the dog on the rear. The Committee also noted a Witness Declaration from Kylie Ellen the Wieners team captain giving an explanation of the circumstances that lead to Hades crossing over an approaching the other dog.

The Committee was informed that other Witness declarations from members of the CDC team were likely to be submitted this week.

The Committee agreed to refer the matter to the Dog Incident Sub Committee for investigation and review. The Secretary was asked to contact Hades registered owner and ask her if she wanted to submit any Statement regarding the incident and to remind her that Hades was suspended from Competition pending the conclusion of the review.

c) Problems with S.A. EJS

The Committee noted that the S.A. lights were now working. The Secretary was asked to notify Catherine that any expense incurred in fixing lights should be recovered from AFA.

d) Submission from Purina re sponsorship of Supercoat Challenge at Sydney Royal Show In 2009 and 2010 and interest in hosting 2011 National Championships as part of Sydney Royal.

The Committee noted the email submission from Take Two Events on behalf of Purina. The Committee also noted the letter from PICSJ advising RAS, Purina and the AFA that they were not in a position to host the Sydney Royal Show competition in 2009.

The Secretary advised that he had been in phone contact with Take Two Events to assure them that the AFA would do all it could to obtain a host club/clubs to organize and run the Sydney Royal Event. Purina remained keen to make flyball a larger part of the Royal Show, including the possibility of getting exposure in the main ring. They were willing to supply product for all places in all Divisions and would be happy to represent any AFA concerns regarding the event to the RAS. They understood concerns regarding access and egress for competitors and their gear and would raise this with the RAS. They were also keen to put a bid in to host the 2011 Nationals as part of the Show.

Following discussion NSW State Representative agreed to approach NSW Clubs to see if there was a consortium of say 3 Clubs who might jointly take on the Royal Show Competition in 2009 and 2010 and also consider bidding for the Nationals in 2011 in association with Purina. Secretary to notify Take Two Events of proposed action and that AFA were committed to making the Supercoat Challenge event a reality

e) Stage 3 of Web Site Development.

The Webmaster reported briefly on the development of a specification for the next stage of the AFA Web upgrade. She indicated that Stage 3 was the major upgrade as it involved making the AFA Web member interactive with on line payment options and on line data submission for membership, competition results, submission of forms etc. She advised that she had drafted a specification that she would now circulate to Committee for input and comment. Once cleared the specification could be submitted to the Web Designer for quote as to cost of the

upgrade. Suggestion made that the specification should be in tow parts – upgrades that fell into the “must have” category and upgrades seen as “ nice to have”.

ITEM Other Business

a) NSW representative asked for confirmation that having an honorary member as a Timekeeper at a Competition was acceptable – Confirmed.

b) Kylie requested that the Secretary check with Queensland regarding whether the Queensland trailer was registered and its state of repair. She also raised question of whether the AFA actually needed to have any trailers. She pointed out that the ACT Trailer was only used 3 or 4 times a year and that in between it sat in her driveway as an empty trailer. The trailer itself was not in good condition and needed repairs for registration purposes. She suggested that there would be no difficulty if the ACT trailer was sold and host Clubs made responsible for collection of competition gear. Following discussion Moved and Seconded that in view of limited use Kylie explore disposal of the ACT trailer at a ‘as is’ price of not less than \$300 in view of its condition. CARRIED.

c) The President noted that this was the last meeting of the 2007/08 Committee. He thanked all on Committee for their efforts throughout the year .He noted that several members of the Committee had indicated they would not be standing for re-election and he wished them well in their new found freedom.

Next Meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm Monday 1st September 2008

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm

Signed as a true record.

President.

