



## AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION

**Minutes - Subject to final approval at August Committee Meeting**

### **AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008 BY TELEPHONE HOOKUP.**

Present: Glenn Pritchard, Leoney Pritchard, Terry Hunter, Brian Lindsay, Eric van Zuyden, Richard Mellon, Pat Byrne, Catherine Saberton, Rosie Milton, Dot Baverstock, Jenny Millar and Lyn Clyde.

Apologies: Kylie White, Claire Ellis

Meeting Opened at 7.40 pm.

#### **ITEM - "Starred" Items.**

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

- 1) Minutes of Meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008
- 2) Accounts for Payment as per Treasurers Report
- 3) Membership renewals

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

#### **ITEM – Treasurers Report**

Treasurer presented end June Financial Report. Committee noted End June Bank Balance of \$7,754.04 after payment of ordered Signature Lights and Measuring wicket.

#### **ITEM - Sanctioned Events**

Following Events Approved:

Competition – Awesome Pawsome – 26<sup>th</sup> July 08 – Mt.Gavatt Show – Logans Rd Mt Gavatt.

Competition – Norwest Canine – 14<sup>th</sup> September – Eric Mobbs Reserve Baulkham Hills – Paws in the Park

Demonstration – AFA – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 08 – Norwest Grounds – Filming Totally Wild TV Show

Demonstration – Eastside Flyers – 26<sup>th</sup> October 08 – Main Hurstbridge Rd Diamond Creek

Demonstration – Eastside Flyers- Sat/Sun 20/21 and 27/28<sup>th</sup> September 08 – Melbourne Royal.



**ITEM - New Members**

New Members approved for membership as per the Treasurers Report.

**ITEM - Correspondence.**

Following correspondence noted for discussion:

- Resignation notifications received from Justin Allen and Amy Holmes – both indicated other priorities and work overload. Committee agreed to accept resignations with regret and President indicated he would send both members thank you letters for their efforts on behalf of the AFA during the last year;
- Copy of SACA Flyball Delegates Meeting Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> May 08. These Minutes at Para 4.6 contained the concerning statement that “Clubs cannot be affiliated with both AFA and SACA and run competitions for both. It is a conflict of interest for both constitutions and insurance policies.” The President suggested that this statement was incorrect and actually against the spirit of the Agreement between the AFA and ANKC. In discussion Catherine indicated that based on the Minutes PARA District Club had decided to delay affiliation with the AFA. Following discussion Moved and Seconded that the Secretary write to the ANKC Administrator querying the statement and seeking ANKC position on matter. CARRIED;
- Insurance clarification re ANKC Members competing in AFA Competitions. Committee noted response from Brokers that ANKC members would be fully covered by the AFA Public Liability Policy for any loss or damage arising from any negligent act by AFA or its members. Moved and Seconded that this advice be relayed to ANKC Administrator with request for ANKC to clarify with its Insurers the reciprocal situation for AFA Members competing in a ANKC competition;
- Request from Colin Bruce that AFA “remove “ the yellow card issued to Haley (CRN 1212B) at Chills in Hills for interference during the warm up period. Supervising Judge confirmed that under current AFA Rules the warm up period was separate from the Race period and that the Rules for Crossing and Interference refer only to such incidents during the race period. Technically the position expressed by Colin Bruce appeared correct. Whilst noting this situation the Supervising Judge also pointed out that in the past the AFA has taken the position of supporting the decision made by the Judge on the day and undertaking Rule clarification for future implementation. It was also pointed out that cards had in the past been issued for incidents during warm up periods. Several members of the Committee indicated that if necessary the AFA should put forward proposed Rule changes to include incidents from time dogs entered the Ring until leaving the ring, if for no other reason than dog safety. Moved and Seconded that Colin be informed that carding would stand but that the Rules Sub Committee would review the wording of the Interference Rules and clarify for future application. CARRIED



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### **ITEM - Administrative Matters.**

- Stewards and Timekeepers Exams. Rosie reported that the following members had passed the Stewards Exam: Cathy Trudinger, Kathryn Heber, Robert Pennington, Philip Lea, Sally Lea and Sandra Hindmarsh.
- Catherine asked if Honorary members could sit AFA Exams for Stewards and timekeepers. Moved and Seconded that Honorary Members be eligible to sit exams. CARRIED.
- Membership cards – Treasurer reported on issue of Cards and Committee noted much positive feed back.
- Treasurer requested Committee approval to replace the six year old AFA Computer Tower with a new H.P. Tower in order to speed up data processing and Data Base administration. The AFA could acquire the new Tower as a special deal from HP at a price of \$825, about half normal retail price. Moved and Seconded that Tower be replaced. CARRIED. (President then requested Webmaster to explain to Committee process involved in maintaining the AFA Data Base and the back up security features in place for the D.B. Leoney explained update process and that she, Treasurer, Secretary and Supervising judge had update access for various parts of D.B. She also explained that at each update two back up copies of the database are established for security.

### **ITEM - Matters arising from 2007 AGM discussions.**

- Dog measuring Report update – Draft Report to AGM as circulated approved. Noted NAFA were now in process of voting on matter of amending their Jump heights from 4 inches to 5 inches below the withers.
- Identification marking of equipment – Leoney reported that she had now acquired Security stickers and she and Terry would mark the Victorian lights at Albury. NSW set was in process of marking.

### **ITEM - Preparation for 2008 AGM**

Secretary reported on AGM preparation as follows:

- A) Venue and contact details confirmed by regional Reps. There will be 9 Venues.
- b) Appointment of Returning officer and need for Venue Scrutineers. Treasurer indicated her daughter, Belinda Matheson, had acted as Returning Officer in 2007 and was willing to do so again. Agreed. Secretary indicated it was responsibility of each Venue Co-ordinator to ensure there was an independent scrutineer available.
- c) Recommendation from AGM Sub Committee re Wording of Rules Ballot Explanation received. Wording approved.



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-d) Documents for Post out. AGM notification, Agenda, Minutes, Rules Ballot Explanation and Voting Form, Committee Nomination form, and Measuring Report should be ready for post out to members by 14<sup>th</sup> July. Total involves 26 pages (13 back to back) plus two ballot form. 600 copies needed.

-e) 2007/08 Awards determination check needed. Webmaster had produced required statistics. Catherine agreed to check Awards calculation;

-f) Committee Nominations. Nomination Forms will be included in post out and form placed on Web.

-g) Life Member Ballot Process at AGM ( In line with Constitution any nomination received from 5 members 30 days prior to AGM will be submitted to AGM for show of hands Ballot);

-h) Kylie to organise AGM Notice add in ACT Paper in first half of August.

-i) Rosie enquired about Notice to Venue co-ordinators explaining phone in process etc. Secretary indicated Notice is already drafted but is not normally dispatched till about one week before AGM with copies of Accounts and any member motions for voting. Rosie to confirm phone in number is still same 1800 number.

President thanked Secretary for all of the AGM preparation work undertaken.

### **ITEM - General Business**

#### **a) Report of Rules Sub Committee**

- **Combined Divisions Competition Points.** Members had been asked to offer comments on the Rule clarification issued after the June Meeting and six responses had been received. Strong support was evident for reversing original Committee decision that Competition points should only be awarded when a team was racing a team from within its own Division. Recognising the original “clarification” had been an extremely close ballot within Committee and in the light of Member input Moved and Seconded that the Committee amend its decision and rule that for combined divisions Competition points will be awarded to all winning teams racing in the combined Division. CARRIED. Secretary to arrange notification to Club Co-coordinators and Judges.
- **Manual Starts.** A number of Input comments had also been received regarding the Manual start clarification. Mixed views expressed as to how best to manually start races. Some favoured the Committee decision to use voice count down one, two, three and whistle: other suggested arm signals rather than voice, others supported voice command “three, two, one and whistle . Suggestion also received suggesting AFA use a auto reversing beeper and car battery. After consideration the original clarification of using one, two, three and whistle was confirmed with arm signals as optional.



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- Supervising Judge indicated Rules Sub Committee had undertaken a full review of the Forfeit Rules. A draft report had been prepared but she felt that the Sub Committee needed to undertake a final check .The report would be brought forward to the August Committee Meeting for consideration.
- Supervising Judge advised that discussion had also taken place on how best to get a more uniform basis for development of Race Division splits. She would document suggestion for Committee consideration and also check proposal to the existing Web statement on Division splits.

### **b) Report on Purchase of U.S. Measuring wicket**

President reported that he had received the Wicket which had been taken to the Bare Bones Comp but that it was not used as it had not been properly calibrated. It would be brought to Albury for trial and would also be available at the Sutherland Competition for trial.

### **c) Reported behaviour incident at Chills in the Hills Competition involving a disputed heat result.**

The Committee noted 5 Witness Statements submitted concerning a incident that took place at the end of Race 51 ( the final race of the day) at the Chills in the Hills Competition. The race involved Norwest Thunderdogs 2 team and Southern Cross Super Novas team. Members of Norwest and Southern Cross on the AFA Committee who were in any way involved in the incident abstained from discussion on grounds of possible conflict of interest.

A heat of race 51 had been awarded to Norwest and this decision was questioned by Southern Cross on basis the lights had signaled a early pass by one Norwest dog. The judge had checked with the line steward and confirmed her view that the lights had malfunctioned (which they were doing late in the day) and that no early pass had occurred. The judge confirmed the race result as a win to Norwest. A verbal exchange apparently then took place between one member of Super Nova and one member of Thunderdogs 2 teams. Three of the Witness Reports complained of the behaviour of the Southern Cross Team Member and two of the Reports complained about the behaviour of the Norwest Team member.

The Committee noted that neither the Judge nor the AFA Representative saw the need to submit a written report regarding the incident. Indeed the Judge (Rosie Milton) indicated to the Committee that she felt she had adequately dealt with the matter on the day and had advised both of the involved parties to get on with racing. She advised the Committee she did not view the incident as being sufficiently serious to put in a report to the AFA.

The Committee after discussion concluded that the incident had been appropriately dealt with on the day by the Judge and that no further action was needed. The Secretary was asked to so inform the 5 members who submitted Witness Statements about the incident.



**d) Competition Flags – Possible AFA Logo Flag**

Kylie reported that she had found a flag maker who could produce a AFA Logo flag of 450mm by 300mm. Cost was \$44 per flag with minimum order of 6 flags. Following brief discussion the Committee conclude it could not justify spending \$250 plus on competition flags.

**e) Problems with S.A. EJS**

The Committee noted that the lights levy money was being returned to each entered team and that Catherine had arrange to have the lights checked and it appeared that it was a connection short problem that could be easily rectified.

**f) Guidelines for Hosting a National Championship**

Kylie submitted an updated Draft of the Guidelines for hosting a National Championship. Moved and Seconded the Update Guidelines be adopted , dated for version identification and placed on the web. CARRIED

**g) AFA Web Development Project Update**

Leoney reported on completion of Phase two of the Project. Noted that the upgrade had received very positive feed back from members, particularly the secure access to member information including points details. Phase three was still under specification and Leoney asked for Committee input. Terry suggested that the matter of automated member production of their latest Title Certificate be explored. Concerns expressed re security and quality issues. President to discuss with Web Designer.

**h) Seed Times – Dapto Teams**

Webmaster reported she had noted that in two recent competitions Dapto had submitted new team names with declared seed times but the teams involved 4 dogs from prior teams and the Club should have used web seed times. She indicated she was aware that there had been a change in Club Coordinators and that the new person might not be aware of seed time rule. Agreed that Secretary should write to Dapto regarding this matter.

**ITEM - Other Business**

**a) Flying Times Production Delay**

Members of Committee again expressed concern as to the non-production of the Flying Times this year. President reported that he had been assured that the delayed February issue of the Flying Times was about to be released and that a second issue would follow shortly thereafter. He has spoken to Editor who was committed to getting the Flying Times up to date. Eric suggested that if the Newsletter was not ready to go out next week we should issue a apology to all members for delay. President undertook to take this on board.



**b) Proposal to purchase Headset microphone for Qld**

Rosie pointed out that Queensland does not have access to one of the AFA headset microphone for Judging. Proposed that an additional set be purchased at approx cost of \$632. President asked that we confirm that the set will be stored in a secure location before we proceed. Rosie undertook to confirm. Moved and Seconded that an additional Headset mike be purchased. CARRIED. Richard asked if it was possible to have a separate volume control for mikes and venue Pas. President suggested Richard discuss this with Philip Andrew who organizes purchases.

**c) Queensland Trailer.**

Treasurer asked if the Queensland trailer was registered as she has not received request to renew registration. Rosie to check with Steve.

**d) Change over times Rule**

Richard enquired as to whether there was a need to review the Rule re delay in change over for 5 minutes before team was penalized as this seemed to be a very long delay. Rosie indicated that after 90 seconds Judge could start race if there was no explanation as to cause of delay.

**e) Sub Committee Meetings**

- Meeting of Incidents Sub Committee scheduled for Tue 8<sup>th</sup> July 7.30 pm;
- Meeting of Rules Sub Committee scheduled for Wed 16<sup>th</sup> July 7.30 pm.

Next Meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm

Signed as a true record.

President.