

**Draft Minutes - Subject to approval at July Committee Meeting**

**AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008 BY TELEPHONE HOOKUP.**

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

**Apologies: Catherine Saberton, Rosie Milton, Dot Baverstock, Clare Ellis, Justin Allen, Jenny Miller and Amy Holmes**

**Meeting Opened at 7.40 pm.**

**ITEM - "Starred" Items.**

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

- 1) Minutes of Meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> May 2008**
- 2) Correspondence; (Schedule of all correspondence in and out)**
- 3) Accounts for Payment as per Treasurers Report**
- 4) Membership renewals**

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

**ITEM - Treasurers Report**

**Treasurer presented end May Financial Report. Income for month \$1638, Expenditure (4 Accounts) total \$2465, which included \$2046 for Membership Cards. End Month Account Balance \$14,165. Paid Accounts –Membership Cards \$2046, Web Hosting fee -6 months \$100, Web Site Development cost \$275 and Internet use reimbursement Treasurer \$44.**

**ITEM - Sanctioned Events**

**Following Events Approved:**

**Croydon – Competition – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2008 – Yarram - Best Friends Retreat Comp**

**Croydon – Competition – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2008 Euroa Showgrounds – Euroa Flyball Euphoria Comp.**

**Eastside Flyers – Competition – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009 – Kings Domain Gardens Melb – RACV Australia Day Flyball Celebration**

**St.George – Competition – Sat 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009 Camden Show – Limited Entries – 20 Teams Max.**

**Eastside Flyers – Competition – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2009 – Jubilee Park Ringwood – Ringwood Highland and Flyball Games.**

**ITEM \_ New Members**

**Following new members admitted:**

**Claire Stanley, Leah Guillan, Francis Canning, Ruth Cooper, Narella Smith**

**ITEM - Administrative Matters.**

- **Membership renewal and Club renewal reminders had been sent to all Members with email addresses and to Club Co-ordinators with a notice also placed on Flyball Oz.;**
- **Stewards and Timekeepers Exams. Rosie reported that Michelle Lewer had passed Stewards Exam and Richard Mellon and Eric Van Zuyden had both passed Timekeepers Exam.**
- **Membership cards – Treasurer reported she had ordered and paid for the Membership Cards and expected to take delivery within two weeks. Cards would then be sent out to Members when they renewed Membership.**

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

- **Dog measuring Report update - Report had been on Web for three months and very little member comment had been received. Noted NAFA are now in process of voting on matter of amending their Jump heights from 4 inches to 5 inches below the withers. After discussion Moved and Seconded that the Committee should report at 2008 AGM that it had decided not to put any recommendation forward re amending basis of measuring and determining jump heights pending the outcome of the NAFA vote and also experience with the new measuring wicket. CARRIED**
- **Engraving of equipment – Terry reported that the trial of engraving had not worked well and that an alternative system of marking might be preferred. The alternative was to use special security stickers designed for identification of scientific equipment. These were easy to apply, very hard to remove and less likely to damage electrical equipment. Cost of approx 100 stickers was around \$100. Moved and Seconded that AFA approve purchase of 100 stickers to mark the Lights sets. CARRIED. Terry to arrange purchase.**

## **ITEM - General Business**

### **a) Report from ANKC Sub Committee.**

The report from the Sub Committee Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> May noted. Leoney advised that she had now updated the various AFA Forms to accommodate ANKC entries to AFA events. President reported that members had been advised via Web of availability of ANKC Titles provided member and dog was registered with ANKC at time Title obtained. Issue of insurance of other bodies Members at each others competitions still needed to be clarified with Brokers (Secretary to write to insurers). Secretary to reply to Rae Hedger email of 14<sup>th</sup> May regarding how each Body will swap records of points earned - suggested answer each to send copies of relevant Points Sheets and Workbooks to other with record of other Bodies dogs and points earned at Competition. These to go to nominated State Co-ordinator.

### **b) AFA Logo update. President reported lots of positive feedback received re the New Logo design.**

### **c) Report of Rules Sub Committee.**

The Meeting noted that the Rule Amendments and clarifications agreed at last Committee Meeting had been posted on Web and sent to all Judges and Club Co-ordinators. Several feed back comments had been received from Judges, including a specific submission from Ian Gauntlett suggesting several changes. The Meeting agreed to review all input received.

- Suggestion that Red Book was confusing as to what was a Rule verses what was a Guideline and that book should be fully reviewed and rewritten separating Rules from Policies, from Guidelines. Whilst Committee accepted this was a desirable objective the point was made that this would be a MAJOR rewrite exercise and there was not enough time to undertake such a review before the 2008 AGM. The decision of the Committee to recommend to the AGM the Amendment to Rule 12.1 was confirmed as a sensible start point for a more complete review latter.
- Suggestion that the wording of the Rule amendment regarding determining the winner of a Round Robin where a tie existed should include count back of number of heats won before moving to Average heat times. Committee noted that this was one option already considered by the Rules Sub Committee but that the final recommendation had not included count back of heats. Committee agreed that existing recommended wording should stand for Members ballot.
- Suggestion that the Amendment requiring a Centreline to be marked should allow the option of both paint and tape in outdoor arena's. Whilst the Committee accepted that in a small number of cases it might be difficult to mark the centreline in an outdoor arena with paint it was reluctant to suggest

the tape option as this introduced another trip hazard, especially for Judges. Current suggested wording confirmed.

- Suggestion that Combined Divisions Rule clarification - that Race points only be awarded when teams were racing teams within own Division - was not well received by Members and should be altered to allow points to be awarded for all races in the combined Division. Committee recognised that this matter had involved a very close vote at last Committee Meeting. Agreed that the decision should be reviewed by the full Committee at its July Meeting with member feedback invited before hand.
- Suggestion that Manual start signals clarification should be altered to “three. Two, one and whistle” (not one two three whistle) and that hand signals should also be specified. Again agreed to defer consideration to July Meeting.

#### **d) Possible acquisition of fourth set of Signature lights**

The Committee again discussed the acquisition of a 4<sup>th</sup> Set of Signature lights to be based in ACT (NSW and ACT currently share a set of lights which “travels” between the two locations.) Treasurer reported that projected funds balance after membership renewals and meeting all known costs over next few months would allow purchase and still have a bank balance of several thousand dollars.

The Committee noted that the existing shared set of Lights necessitated transport between NSW and ACT and that this increased risk of damage. Both NSW and ACT had sufficient volume of competition to warrant dedicated lights sets. Acquisition would also allow the S.A. lights to be upgraded by relocation of the ACT’s older EJS set. Final point was that the current \$a to \$us conversion was very good. Moved and Seconded that the AFA now order a fourth set of Signature Lights to be based in ACT. President to “negotiate” issue of required part payment at time of order. CARRIED.

#### **e) Processing of Correspondence from St.George Club regarding 2008 Nationals Results.**

The Sub Committee appointed to deal with this matter (excluding any input from Norwest Committee Members) had meet and Eric as Chair reported that the Sub Committee had unanimously determined that the process used to determine the winner of Division 1 at Nationals was exactly as per the Program statement of what would apply to decide ties and that the correct decision was that Norwest had won the Division. This conclusion had been circulated to all Committee members other than the 4 Norwest members and the Committee had endorsed the Sub Committee findings. Eric had advised this outcome to the St.George Club.

#### **f) Request to appoint official to oversee Sprockette CRN 752A at Million Paws Comp**

The Committee noted the report from Kylie White indicating that Sprockette’s behavior at Million Paws Walk Competition was well controlled and that no problems or signs of any aggression were evident either inside or outside of

the ring. Accordingly it was recommended that Sprockette be permanently cleared to return to racing. CARRIED. Secretary to write to Club and handler re decision.

**g) Report on Purchase of U.S. Measuring wicket**

President reported that he had been advised that Wicket had been bought and would be shipped shortly.

**h) Lights Flag - issue of not using a Australian Flag**

Kylie raised issue of possible view that we were disrespecting the Australian flag when it was placed on ground between races and suggested that AFA make decision to not use the Australian Flag but have a AFA Flag designed using the new logo. After discussion Moved and Seconded that Kylie be authorized to explore printing of logo on a cloth flag for use in Racing. CARRIED. Pending availability Competition organisers to be requested to use other than Australian Flag.

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

Committee noted that at Million Paws Walk competition the S.A. EJS had malfunctioned and whilst attempts had been made to get the lights to work they were not successful. The lights had sound but no light tree. The Competition organisers had enquired as to situation re payment of the AFA Lights levy in these circumstances. Following discussion it was Moved and Seconded that the AFA lights levy be waived and the money be returned to each entered team and that Catherine be requested to arrange to get an assessment done of the lights, including estimated cost of repairs. CARRIED

**j) Berwick enquiry re possible access to a second set of start lights for Dandanong Show in November 2008.**

Secretary reported on enquire as to what was lights situation if Berwick decided they needed to run two rings at Dandanong Show this year due to number of entries. Following discussion it was agreed as follows:

- Provided a second Signature light set was available (priority of use would be for events in the location state) it would be made available to Berwick on basis of Club meeting transport and travel insurance costs of getting lights to/from Victoria or arranging suitable transport arrangements by say a visiting team.
- In event of non-availability of a Signature light set it may be necessary to use the older EJS system as the second set.

### **k) Guidelines for Hosting a National Championship**

Kylie indicated she had received feed back on the draft Guidelines she had prepared as a Guide to Clubs considering bidding to host a National Championship. She indicated she would update the Draft and circulate for approval. Leoney suggested approval be done via email so once approved it could be placed on Web. Agreed.

### **l) Preparations for 2008 AGM.**

Committee noted Draft Agenda as circulated and that the mail out to Members would need to include at least the Agenda, last years Minutes, the Rules Ballot Form and the support explanation document, Committee Nomination Form, and Notice re time limit for receipt of any member Motions to be put at AGM. Estimate was this would involve at least 10 pages of back to back print (20 printed pages) plus two single page Forms (Ballot Paper and Nomination form). Treasurer reported she had obtained 3 quotes for printing of 600 copies and cheapest quote was Office Works at \$672. Kylie agree to get further quote from Printer she knew. Post out needed to be dispatched by mid July at latest.

Secretary reported he had sought and obtained clarification that under Rule 12.1 we should ballot members by mail for changes to Rules or Policies of AFA but that other Motions should be submitted to members in writing at least 14 days before the Meeting for ballot at Meeting. Informal legal advice received was that proposals for Amendments to any notified Motions should not be accepted during Meeting but rather notified Motions should be voted upon and if lost an alternative Motion could then be put forward for vote PROVIDED members agreed to accept that Motion without having the 14 days notice.

Regional Representatives were in process of arranging venues and contact details. Secretary indicated we should attempt to have venue addresses, venue co-ordinators names, venue phone numbers, co-ordinators phone number and a venue scrutineer decided by the July Committee Meeting. Regional Reps to submit details to Secretary, as they are available. Committee agreed that at smaller locations it was acceptable to hold Meeting in a Members home.

Secretary suggested that the Committee appoint a small Sub Committee to deal with other AGM preparation matters. Sub Committee comprising Secretary, Richard Mellon and Lyn Clyde agreed.

### **m) AFA Web Development Project Update**

Leoney reported on Phase two of the Project which was underway. The Web Designer had set up the member Log on Protocol and this was now in test via Committee members who had been issued with log on passwords. Leoney asked for feedback after people access the site.

Time line was to have Phase two finished before the AGM.

## **Other Business**

### **a) Flying Times Delay**

President again expressed concern as to the non-production of the Flying Times this year. He observed that the Feb. edition was not produced and that the April edition was also not yet available. Kylie indicated she had spoken to both Clare and Justin and both were currently very busy. Kylie offered to further follow up this matter with a view to resolving production arrangements.

### **b) Upgrade of AFA Computer Software.**

Treasurer requested approval to upgrade the Office software on the AFA Computer at a cost of \$196. Existing software was 5 years old. Upgrade agreed.

### **c) Trophy Invoices**

Terry requested approval for reimbursement of \$46 spent on Trophy Invoices. Agreed.

### **d) Membership Change query**

Eric enquired re swapping an existing member and their Associate so they retained same dog number. Answer – simply change names of Member and Associate on Membership renewal form.

Next Meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.40 pm

Signed as a true record.

President.