



AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION

Draft Minutes - Subject to approval at November Committee Meeting

AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6th October 2008 BY TELEPHONE HOOKUP.

Present: Glenn Pritchard, Ian Kendt, Leoney Pritchard, Brian Lindsay, Pat Byrne, Jenny Millar, Eric van Zuyden, Richard Mellon, Penny Lloyd, Kylie White, Jess McNamara, Maureen Williamson, Iona Van Galen and Catherine Saberton.

Apologies: Rosie Milton, Lyn Clyde

Meeting Opened at 7.40 pm and President welcomed Maureen Williamson to her first Meeting as Tasmania Representative.

ITEM - "Starred" Items.

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

- 1) Minutes of Meeting of 1st September 2008
- 2) Accounts for payment
- 3) New members and Membership renewals

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

ITEM – Treasurers Report

Current bank balance \$11,217.63, which includes the \$3,000 Lights Insurance provision which will be separately invested in October.

Question asked regarding a Title Certificates applied for and whether Treasurer checks point's database before authorizing the Certificate, Answer – yes.

ITEM – Correspondence

Committee Noted following correspondence that involved action:

- I) Letter from Ian Ferguson dated 22nd September advising Sydney Psychos had been dissolved and that he was joining Southern Cross Club and applying for exemption from 90 day Rule.
- II) Email from Mark Lloyd, Sydney Psychos Club contact, advising that due to internal problems Sydney psychos had been dissolved and that Members would advise AFA in due course of details of new Club/s

In discussion President indicated he had confirmed that Psychos had indeed been dissolved and hence the Rules did provide for exemption from 90 day Rule and Committee had approved exemption for Ian Ferguson. Committee agreed that Secretary should be delegated to approve similar treatment for other Members of Psychos who notified AFA of new Club/s and applied for exemption.



AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION

- III) Correspondence with ANKC notifying them of the amended Rules adopted at AGM.
- IV) Correspondence with Dogs S.A. indicating that AFA did not accept that any Conflict of interest situation existed if a Club was a member of both AFA and Dogs S.A.

ITEM - Sanctioned Events

Following Events Approved:

Demo – Tassie Flying Paws- Sun 5th October – Rosny Farm Complex

Demo – K9 Krusaders - 12 October – Charters Towers Markets

Demo – Albury/Wodonga – 12 October – Wodonga Showgrounds.

Demo - Tassie Flying Paws – 24 October – Hobart Royal Showgrounds Glenorchy.

Demo – AFA - Sydney Pet Expo – 7th, 8th and 9th November – Rosehill Gardens Race course.

Demo – AFA - ACTEW AGL Xmas Party – Sat 22nd November (was originally approved as a restricted Comp but now amended to Demo.

Comp – Albury/Wodonga – Saturday 29th November – TBA – Wodonga Exhibition Centre (restricted Comp max 20 Teams)

Comp – Tuggeranong Torpedoes – Sunday 30th November - Flyball Fun in the Sun - Venue Tuggeranong Town Park.

Comp – CDC - Saturday 6th December 2008 – Flyball frolic – Venue TBA

Comp – Berwick – Sunday 8th Feb 2009 – Berwick Highland Games – Berwick Showgrounds.

Comp – Sutherland- Saturday 8th August 2009 – Southerly Muster – Waratah Park Sutherland

Comp – Berwick – Saturday and Sunday 7th and 8th November 2009 – Dandy Drags “Paw Power” – Dandenong Showgrounds

ITEM - Administrative Matters.

- Stewards and Timekeepers Exams. Rosie had reported that Vickie McConachie had passed the Stewards exam. She also recommended that Jo Slade be approved as a Level 1 Judge having successfully completed all requirements and having fully passed evaluation. Moved and Seconded that Jo Slade be approved as a Level 1 Judge. CARRIED.
Catherine enquired as to results of Stewards exams sat by Helen Jansson and Helen Longhurst. Secretary undertook to follow up with Supervisory Judge.
- Treasurer submitted proposal for AFA to purchase a copy of QuickBooks Accounting Software. She indicated that the copy currently on the AFA Computer belonged to the prior Treasurer and was not the property of the AFA. There was a need to upgrade to the latest version of the Software



AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION

and we did not hold a license so upgrade would require us to purchase software. Cost of the latest version of the system in use was \$1415. Moved and seconded that AFA purchase QuickBooks software at an estimated cost of \$1415. CARRIED

ITEM – Change of Clubs.

- Committee noted that the following members had notified change of Clubs;
Ian Ferguson (from Psychos to Southern Cross with exemption from 90 day Rule);

Leah Bingham (from Dover Gardens to Para District);
Martin Watt (from Dover Gardens to Para District).

ITEM - Matters arising from 2008 AGM discussions.

- AGM Process Review

- The Committee agreed to defer to the November meeting a review of the 2008 AGM process and how it could be improved. Richard agreed to resubmit his original input on this matter. Meeting agreed that an important issue was the briefing of venues on the need for people to speak into mike/phone and to turn phone to mute when not speaking.

- Interpretation of Constitution re Voting

- The Committee noted that a legal interpretation of the wording in the AFA Constitution re the 75% majority vote (and in particular whether indication of abstaining was a “vote”) had been obtained and the opinion supported the view that a member indicating abstention was not a Vote in terms of the 75% majority Rule. The Committee had resolved by email to confirm that the Motion to amend the Rule for decision of tied results had accordingly been passed at AGM. This had been done and members/Judges/Clubs notified. Secretary to send thank you letter to lawyer who gave opinion.

- Jump Height Rule implementation

The new “on trial” Rule for dog jump height determination post 1st November 2008 requires the AFA to specify an approved, common style, measuring device that will be used in all States. Until such a device is available no “official measures” for height card purposes can be recorded under the new system. The AFA Committee is arranging to obtain the necessary measuring wickets and hopes to have these available in all States before the end of 2008.

The Committee, at its Meeting on the 6th October, considered the following procedure to implement the new Rule:

Members who have existing height card application forms recording measures under the current system can continue to have measures taken under the existing system up until 1st November 2008 and may apply for height cards when they received 3 identical measures. Any cards issued on the basis of these applications will be under the EXISTING height measure system i.e. it will reflect the jump height before the one inch reduction to be implemented from 1st November. No applications for height cards using 3 measures under the old system will be accepted after end December 2008;



AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION

Effective from 1st November where a member has a height card Judges are directed to automatically reduce indicated jump heights downward by one inch. Where the member does not have a height card all measures after 1st November are to reflect the On Trial Rule i.e. jump height to be 5 inches below dogs withers with a minimum of 7 inches and a maximum of 14 inches. No “official” measure for jump card issue purposes is to be recorded on jump height application forms however until a common measure device is available. Once a common measure device is available members who apply for height cards will be issued with a “new” system height card that will include a distinguishing mark to indicate it reflects the lower height Rule;

Replacement height cards will be issued to all Members, reflecting the lower jump height, as part of the 2009 Membership renewal. These cards will also include the distinguishing mark to indicate they were issued under the new measure rule;

Members will be entitled to use a combination of old measures (reduced by one inch) and at least one new measures in future height card application forms (i.e. they do not have to start again with 3 measures under the new system);

Judges and Clubs are to be notified of these procedural decisions and the procedures published on the AFA Web site.

Moved and Seconded that the above procedures be adopted. CARRIED

President to follow up with Rosie matter of obtaining new measure wickets for all states at earliest possible date so new measure system could be fully introduced.

- **Process for updating the Red Rule Book for amendments**

The Committee noted that the Rule Book needed substantial updating for both minor editorial changes and also the new Rules adopted at AGM. The suggestion was made and agreed that the Rule Book should contain both Rules and AFA Policies. It was also agreed that if Guidelines were included

(One option being that Guidelines should be removed from the Rule Book and shown on the Web) it should be made clear that the Guidelines did not overrule the Rules if any conflict of interpretation arose. Following discussion it was agreed that a small Sub Committee would be formed to progressively update the Rule master Word document and that the updated version would be circulated to the full Committee for review. Volunteers – Glenn, Ilona and Catherine to commence review. CARRIED.

Treasurer indicated that AFA was out of Rule Books – agreed that it was pointless to reprint current version and update should be finalized before reprint. Pending printing the existing and amended Rules were available to members via the AFA Web.

ITEM - General Business

a) Report of Rules Sub Committee

Richard provided a verbal Report. The Sub Committee had meet again to consider clarification of Forfeit Rules and a further draft had been circulated for Sub Committee consideration. Sub Committee



AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION

as also addressing clarification of process to be used to determine Divisions splits; clarification of fouling in the ring penalty and race format schedules. Hopefully Sub Committee would be in a position to report by November meeting.

Dog incident Sub Committee- Black Card Incident involving Hades (CRN 705D).

Sub Committee had meet and following discussion recommended that Hades 705D be given a 6 month suspended sentence, commencing from 19th July, the date of the incident and expiring on 19th January 2009. If during this time the dog were involved in any further aggression incident the 6-month suspension would be applied from the date of the new incident. Retraining info and log to be sent to handler. Moved and Seconded that Sub Committee recommendation be adopted and Secretary inform handler of outcome. CARRIED

c) 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.

Richard reported he had 6 members from 4 Sydney Clubs who had indicated an interest in being part of the Sydney Royal Competition organizing Committee. Secretary advised this had been advise to Purina. An initial meeting was being set up to start discussion between the parties.

d) Sydney Pet Expo Agreement.

Committee noted that issue of AFA involvement in both Sydney and Melbourne Pet Expo's had been resolved and organisers had agreed to donate \$1,000 to AFA. Richard reported that planning was well advanced for the 3-day event.

ITEM - Other Business

- Judges Shirts and Merchandise

- Treasurer put forward proposal that AFA look into replacing existing Judges shirts with a new shirts bearing the new Logo and consider also providing Judges with hats. She also sought approval to have a template made for embroidery of the new Logo on merchandise. Concern expressed regarding indicated price for the Judges shirt of around \$45. After discussion agreed that various Committee members would obtain quotes for shirts and Treasurer would circulate Logo/ design. Issue of template deferred. Treasurer also suggested AFA investigate obtaining merchandise for sale (shirts, caps etc). Views for and against expressed with concern expressed re stock control, cost, postage and likely limited demand for AFA items. Matter left undecided.

- Issue of Vomit in Ring

- Reported Incident at Kioloa Competition involving dog vomit in ring. Apparently a dog had vomited in the ring and the handler had not cleaned it up and another members dog had "discover" the vomit and proceeded to eat it. The Member reported the matter to the AFA Rep. on the day and had also written to the AFA in complaint, suggesting that where this occurs it should be treated as a



AUSTRALIAN FLYBALL ASSOCIATION

“fouling” under Rule 9.2 (e). In discussion the majority view emerged that vomiting was not in the same character as fouling as the handler could not control it by toileting before the race. Agreed that handlers should be encouraged to identify when their dog vomited and to clean up but that no Rule change re fouling was appropriate.

In discussion the matter of “appropriate behaviour” in and around the Ring was discussed, and in particular whether the AFA should have Rules regarding banning consumption of alcoholic drinks by competitors in or near to ring, eating or smoking in the Ring. View expressed that Judges and the AFA Representative already had power to deal with these types of matters under the general behavior code. Suggestion made to ask Rules Sub Committee to look into matter and issue advice to judges.

- AFA Promotional Material

- Eric raised matter of the non-availability of suitable AFA promotional material for large Demos such as the Melbourne Royal or Pet Expo. He indicated he had just completed the Royal demos and the AFA had received a donation of \$1500 after expenses paid to participants and suggested that part of these funds could be spent on promotional material. Kylie indicated she had just arranged for new stand alone Banners for CDC, which was very easy to show, and were good quality. A special deal was available re price at \$ 295 for two plus \$50 for artwork. Following discussion Moved and Seconded AFA purchase 6 Banners and base one in each state with the Light system. CARRIED. Kylie to order. President also reminded Committee that hand outs were available on the AFA Web site for down loading and printing. Ian suggested that there should be some AFA “spruiking” CDs made so that they could be played at demos if there was no one to do the announcing. Eric and Ian to investigate production.

- Dog Spectacular

- President reported he had received a submission outlining a commercial dog spectacular planned for next year involving Flyball as well as other dog activities. He had been asked by the originator to keep details of the event strictly CONFIDENTIAL within the AFA Committee for the time being. He had circulated the full proposal on the basis that it was a Committee Confidential document. Committee discussion generally supported AFA involvement in event. President to continue discussions with organisers.

- Trophies, Honour Board and Web Suggestion

Eric reported he had finalized Club Award Trophies and these had been distributed to 2008 Award winners. He suggested the AFA place a virtual Honour Board of Officials on web (Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers). Agreed that Eric should co-ordinate research and provide Webmaster with input. Suggestion also made that AFA explore adding video capacity to AFA web. Webmaster to investigate.

Next Meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm Monday 3rd November 2008.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10 pm

Signed as a true record.
President