

Draft Minutes – Subject to final approval at April 2011 Meeting

Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 7th March 2011.

Present: Jenny Millar, Ian Kendt, Brian Lindsay, Pat Byrne, Richard Mellon, Penny Lloyd, Josh Ellen, Julie Pamplin, Leoney Pritchard, Sue Norton, Ian Gauntlett, Wayne Stroop, Catherine Saberton, Lyn Clyde, and Kylie White.

Apologies –Maureen Williamson and Jo Parkes

Meeting Opened at 7. 50 pm

ITEM - Starred Items .

The following Items were adopted without discussion:

- 1) Minutes of 7th February meeting.
- 2) Renewals of Membership
- 3) Correspondence In and Out.
- 4) Stewards Passes – Andrew Metha CRN 2121
- 5) Timekeepers passes – Nil
- 7 Judge Written Exam Passes – Kevin Crane – passes theory Exam.

Moved and Seconded that starred Items be adopted CARRIED.

ITEM – Check of Action Sheet for Outstanding Matters .

Following Items outstanding:

Follow up NAFA re use of multiple Lights at single venue (Leoney).

Develop Jump Specification Standard (Richard).

ITEM – Treasurers Report

Treasurer Reported that end Feb bank balance was \$16,044.90. She recommended that the Committee approve a transfer of \$13,000 from the bank to an interest bearing deposit leaving approx \$3000 in bank. The transfer would include the 2011 Provision for Lights repair/replacement of \$3000. The Committee noted that this would take investments to \$31,000, of which \$12,000 was specifically earmarked as a replacement fund for existing Lights sets. CARRIED.

ITEM – New Members .

Following new members approved:

Geoffrey Dyer, Louise Hamilton, Denise Cronin, Camilla Sleeth, Ann Lising, Bella Reynolds, Sylvia Coad, Sue Quirk, Paul Jumikis, Sharon Zammit and Carol Creek.

ITEM – Sanctioned Events .

Proposed Beginners and Training ring at Norwest Competition – 3rd April

Training Day – Awesome Pawsome – 10th April – held at April Antics Comp venue on same day

Training Day – PDODC- 10th April – 12 to 4pm – PDODC Grounds – Training with new Lights , including timekeepers training.

Comp – Bellarine – 14th May - Bellarine Flyball Bonanza – GSDC Land Elcho Rd Lara.

Comp – Flyball Fanatics – 15th May 2011 – 2011 Qld M.P.W. The Murarrie Centre Cannon Hill

Comp – CDC – 15th May 2011 ACT MPW – Rond Terrace Canberra

Comp – Para District – 12th June – South East Flyball Challenge – Portland Dog Club Grounds

Comp – RAHS of S.A. – Royal Adelaide Show – 10 Sept 2011 – Adelaide Showground's.

Comp – Awesome Pawsome – 17th and 18th Sept 2011 – Qld State Championships – Varsity Lakes Queensland

Comp – PICS I – Holroyd Pet Fest – 18th Sept – Holroyd Gardens Pitt St Merrylands.

The Committee discussed the two planned training rings at Competitions, which could be used by both Beginners and racing dogs (Norwest and Awesome Pawsome) . After discussion the Committee agreed to provisionally approve the training rings at competitions subject to the two clubs notifying the AFA of a separate AFA representative who would supervise the activities in the Training ring from a safety and insurance viewpoint. All other events approved.

ITEM – Report from Dog Incident Sub Committee.

Sub Committee had meet to deal with two Black Card incidents of suspected aggression at Canberra Royal. There had been a third Black Card issued at Canberra for 3 incidents of crossing. This Card did not involve suspected aggression and accordingly only action was to record crossings in data base – matter did not need to be dealt with by Sub Committee.

The first suspected aggression incident involved Jasper (CRN 2298A) chasing the dog in the other lane. Sub Committee noted Judges Report and all Witness Reports and concluded that Jasper seemed intent on playing with the other dog and did not demonstrate any aggressive intent when chasing. No contact had been made and no growling. This was Jaspers first competition. Sub Committee recommends that a "No finding of aggression" be recorded. CARRIED.

Second incident involved Logan (CRN 326C) chasing a dog in other lane back from the box and attempting to approach the chased dog in the run back area. No contact made and no growling or snapping evident. Logan however did not respond to handler's calls to return and incident could have been more serious if other dog had responded. Whilst this incident was not assessed as involving any serious aggressive behavior the recommendation was that a Warning Letter 1 should be sent to Logan's owner simply to stress need for improved focus for dog. CARRIED.

All 3 dogs involved in Black Cards at Canberra Royal now free to take part in all AFA activities.

ITEM – Report from Rules Sub Committee.

No matters requiring action.

ITEM - Farmtek Timing System Update.

Still awaiting reply from NAFA contact as to how they successfully operate multiple light sets without interference. Leoney to continue to follow up.

ITEM - Purina Sponsored Competitions 2011.

Richard reported that Purina had decided not to approve the Queensland Redfest event as a Purina competition as it was not targeted at pet owners but rather was a cultural style event. Purina did not think they would get the required exposure to dog owners. Given the rejection of this event by Purina Jo Parkes had nominated the September two day Pet fest Queensland State Championships as a potential Purina sponsored event for Queensland in 2011. Richard advised he had submitted the proposal to Purina for consideration. If approved this would fill the 2011 Purina event allocation. NOTED.

ITEM - Purina Sponsored competitions 2012.

For 2012 there are currently two " approved events" - the National Championships to be held at the Canberra Royal Show in Feb 2012 and Sydney Royal Show.

Invitations for the other four sponsored events in 2012 were now to be issued. Secretary to arrange to invite all Clubs to submit bids for proposed Purina competitions in line with event guidelines (in summary – competitions at major events across Australia with likely spectators of 10,000 per day and preference for two day comps) with a closing date of end

June - with a view to AFA finalising the 2012 program of sponsored events by no later than end July 2011.

ITEM – Development of Flyball in W.A.

Secretary reported that he had been in correspondence with a dog club (Cuby K9 Club) located in the wheat belt area of W.A. (approx 200 km from Perth) who were interested in starting flyball. Information had been sent re how to join AFA, details of the necessary initial training gear and contacts for supply plus some training notes. He suggested that AFA appoint a contact person to assist the proposed club re any questions. Sue Norton volunteered to be contact. Secretary to send Sue details of the Club.

ITEM – Report regarding issue of standardisation of measuring Wickets .

Ian Kendt reported on feedback regarding the standing surface to be used on the bases. The preferred surface was non-slip matting that was quite thin and did not compress when stood on. The matting would be glued down before the wickets were calibrated. After discussion agreed to trial mat at next Victorian Competition and report to next Meeting.

ITEM - Standard Jump Design specification.

Richard advised that after trials the preferred length of the 1 inch board was between 680 and 690 mm's. Anything longer bowed and did not come out easily when hit. Some care was needed when placing the boards into wings to ensure it was in middle. These boards were trailed at Canberra Royal with satisfactory results. People still needed to be educated that the top board must be a 1-inch board. It was suggested that an article be included in next Flying times about the boards and inviting member comment before AFA issued a common Jump design specification which included 6 inch base boards and mandatory 1 inch boards of between 680 and 690 cm's length. Richard to draft article.

ITEM –Team Names Update.

Leoney reported that most Clubs had responded to the request to confirm team names and the database had been updated. Julie had trialed electronic entries with drop down index of names. After discussion it was agreed that the new paperwork system with registration of team names would be placed on trial effective now and if trial satisfactory would be mandatory from 1st July 2011. CARRIED.

ITEM – Judges Training Program

Sue suggested that trainee Judges should have to assist in dealing with end of competition paperwork and checking. She did not think this was being done at present. Secretary to contact Supervising judge to confirm situation and recommend that check of Competition paperwork be part of Judge training if not already included.

Committee noted Supervisory judges planned travel to Queensland to oversee the 3 Judges in training. Committee agree to planned travel with a Budget of up to \$350 and with date arrangements to be finalised between Supervisory Judge and the 3 trainee Judges.

ITEM – Incident Form Redesign

Sue suggested that this form be redesigned to eliminate unnecessary detail. Agreed that a group of Sue, Richard and Leoney look at form design and report back to next Meeting.

ITEM – AFA Support for Queensland Clubs impacted by floods.

Committee noted donations of \$375 were held in AFA accounts (\$250 Tassie Flying Paws; \$150 Para District Club and \$25 member donation). The Committee had also received a report from Berwick indicating that their Competition fundraiser had generated \$2,602.12 for the Queensland clubs impacted by the floods and this money would be paid into AFA. (AFA had waived the lights levy for this competition as a contribution). Muddies also reported they had raised \$400 from the Canberra Royal raffle – this was to be paid into AFA bank account to cover the freight on equipment to be sent to Queensland by Norwest ex their fundraiser. Norwest indicated it had raised \$ 2210 from its fundraiser and had ordered and would directly pay for the following equipment :

Flyball Fanatics – 2 Boxes from Phil Lea and 2 sets of jumps from Les.

Pine Rivers – 1 Box from Phil.

The AFA would hold \$ 3377.12 in total when all funds credited to bank account. This needed to cover equipment purchases and freight on transport. Suggested that AFA Secretary contact the two Clubs to request details of further equipment to be purchased on their behalf from the fund. CARRIED.

ITEM – AFA Rep report re Canberra Royal Comp.

Leoney submitted a written report covering a number of matters, including:

- Damaged Purina equipment. Richard to bring to Purina's attention – suggestion made to not transport umbrellas to interstate comps due to bulk. Also that a single crate be used for one ring so that it could be sent as a single item when only 1 ring needed.

-Question as to when a dog requiring a re-measure should be sent for measure – during a stopped heat or after. Consensus view – after heat concluded.

- Condition of the Canberra grounds whilst improved on 2010 still not up to standard required for Nationals. Kylie indicated she had a meeting planned with Show organizers to discuss ways to improve ground further for next year. She was planning to have area fenced off to prevent a repeat of vehicles driving over turf area before Show.

ITEM – Report re 2011 Nationals Entries .

34 Teams had entered for main Nationals competition on Good Friday and Easter Saturday. Format would be round robin followed by Champion Trophy.

5 Veterans team nominations had been received for Easter Sunday and 9 beginner singles; 23 open singles and 26 pairs entries also received. Should ensure a full days racing.

Good support also received for the first two Demonstrations (Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th April)- numbers a little down for Easter Monday Demo – but with enough dogs to cover the likely two 30 minute demo times minute on that day.

ITEM – Purchase of AFA Bumper Stickers .

Pat reported that she was out of the AFA Bumper stickers purchased 3 years ago and suggested a replacement order. Agreed quotes to be obtained and minimum number determined and reported to Committee for approval.

ITEM – General Business .

- 1) Suggestion that skype communication be used for Committee meetings – problems with hearing on the phone hook up seem to be getting worse. All members to download skype. Pat to set up trail meeting.
- 2) Josh raised issued of clarifying requirement to attend multiple comps to gain stewarding and timekeeping competency. Current Judges Training manual simply states minimum number of races needed and not that they have to be gained over a number of competitions. Clarification would ensure that trainee Judges were aware of need to cover a number of competitions. Agreed Secretary to suggest change to Supervisory judge.
- 3) Noted - the trial of not using stopwatches at competitions seems to have worked without serious issue. Suggested that trial continue and that Secretary draft an article for next Flying Times indicating that subject to members comments the plan is to abolish requirement for stop watch timing at competitions, unless lights fail.
- 4) Kylie raised issue of minimum distance between racing lanes and the confusion as between stated 10 ft between lanes and the drawing in the Rules, which showed 12 feet. Pointed out that the 12 feet shown in drawing is mid lane to mid lane. Both statements are correct.

Next meeting set for Monday 4th April at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business Meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

Signed as a true record.
President.