



Draft – Subject to final approval at July Meeting

Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 1st June 2009.

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

Apologies: NIL.

Meeting Opened by President at 7.50 pm.

ITEM - Starred Items.

The following Items were “starred” for adoption without discussion:

- 1) Minutes of Meeting of 4th May 2009;
- 2) Treasurers Report and Accounts for Payment
- 3) Correspondence received (all dealt with under separate Agenda items)
- 4) New and Renewal of Membership as per Treasurers Report

Moved and Seconded that starred Items be adopted CARRIED.

ITEM – Check of Action Sheet for Outstanding Matters.

The Committee noted there were no outstanding matters requiring action from earlier Meetings.

ITEM – Sanctioned Events.

Following AFA Events Approved:

Comp – Awesome Pawsome- 27th and 28th June – Gold Coast Pet and Animal Expo Comp
– Varsity Lakes Sports and Arts Centre- Varsity Lakes Qld.

Comp – South Coast Dog Training Club – 11th July 09 – Venue and name of Comp TBA.

Demo – PICSU – Sunday 28th June – Blacktown Pound.

Training Day – Belconnen – Sunday 19th July – 1.30 to 4.30 Club Grounds Mitchell.



ITEM - Notification of New Club

New Club “ Mudd on the Paws” applied for Affiliation. Approved..

ITEM - Administrative Matters – Exam Results.

Stewards Exam - passes for:

Frank Lux - Sutherland

Sarah Weston - Awesome Pawsome

Vic Plant - Awesome Pawsome

Michael Walkerdon – Dapto

Alana Jeffries – Awesome Pawsome

Timekeepers Exam - passes for :

Martin Watt – Para Districts

Lyn Clyde – Belconnen Bullets

ITEM - 2009 AGM Planning.

Secretary reported that the final date set for decision on Venues was the July Meeting and to date no notification of proposed venues for the AGM had been received. Eric indicated he was in process of finalizing Victorian venues. He indicated Albury/ had asked if they could hold Meeting in members house. President reminded members of decision at last Meeting -

“Venues in members private houses not supported and should only be allowed where no other reasonable option exists and very small numbers are involved- such as in Tasmania and S.A.”. In line with this decision Eric to request that Albury explores availability of external venue. Maureen indicated she understood Tasmania would hold Meeting at last years venue and she would follow up paperwork.

All Regional Reps asked to ensure venue details, including addresses and phone numbers plus Organiser details were available for approval at July meeting..

ITEM - Dog Incident Sub Committee Report.

No incidents requiring investigation or action since last Meeting.

ITEM - Report from Rules Sub Committee

No Items requiring action.



ITEM - Update re Sydney Royal and 2011 Nationals.

Royal Planning Committee had meet recently for debrief re the 2009 events. A meeting would now be set up with Purina and RAS to discuss 2010 Royal planning and to also pick up early planning for 2011 Nationals. AFA would be kept informed of progress.

ITEM - World Dog Games.

Secretary reported he had advised Tara of the items raised at the last Meeting and requested that they be reflected in the proposed Agreement between AFA and Event organisers. He had not heard anything back and we had not received a further draft of the Agreement for consideration. He understood that the event was still going ahead and would be formally announced shortly. Agreed Secretary to follow up matters with Tara and in particular the Agreement for AFA Consideration at July meeting

ITEM - Signature Lights Update

Secretary reported that Lights had not arrived and that repeated phone calls and emails had not resulted in any further information re situation. President had now made contact with the President of NAFA and asked for his intervention in an effort to resolve the matter. NAFA President had just responded indicating he would do his best to assist. President to make phone contact with NAFA President to fully brief him on situation.

ITEM - Judges Exam Format Review –

Rosie reported that Sub Committee had not yet been able to meet. Members agreed to meet by Skype/phone on Friday night the 5th June at 7 pm to commence the review. Pending any new process being agreed by the Committee the existing exam format would continue to be used.

ITEM - Clarification re authority of non-officiating Judges to issue cards outside the ring at competitions.

The Committee noted that this matter had been discussed at some length at last meeting and it was agreed to carry matter over to June Meeting to allow the Supervising judge to make input. Rosie indicated that in her opinion cards should only be issued in the ring by the officiating Judge. Where an incident occurred outside the ring she considered that the matter should be reported to the Officiating Judge and the AFA Representative for consideration and any action. She indicated the AFA Representative could excuse a dog from the Competition if circumstances warranted that action. This process should be followed whether the person reporting was an AFA Judge or simply an AFA

Member. The person reporting could also make a written report to the AFA Committee if they so wished.



Several members of the Committee indicated that their main concern was to ensure that a serious aggression incident occurring outside the ring could be dealt with promptly and the dog excluded. Rosie indicated this was certainly possible under the process she had outlined. The Officiating Judge and the AFA Representative could take action if a serious incident was reported.

Some concern was expressed that the powers of the AFA Representative were not clearly indicated in the current Rules and this needed to be addressed.

Moved and Seconded that the following clarification be issued to members

“ That “carding” should only be used in the flyball ring by the officiating Judge. Where an aggression incident occurred outside the ring which was witnessed by any AFA Member (non officiating judge or any other member) the matter should be immediately brought to the attention of the officiating judge and the AFA Representative for their consideration and appropriate action. The AFA Representative had the power to excuse a reported dog from taking further part in a competition or demonstration for reported aggression outside the ring should he/she consider the circumstances warranted that action. The incident should be reported in writing to the AFA so that it could be dealt with by the Dog Incident Sub Committee.” CARRIED.

Following agreement on the above clarification it was agreed that the issue of need to review the Rules to ensure that the AFA Representatives powers were clearly stated in the Rules should be referred to the Rules Sub Committee for consideration and report.

ITEM - Proposal from member to hold State Championships each year.

Suggestion put forward by Steve Pitt discussed. President suggested that Flyball had grown to a stage where we should be considering both State and National Championships. Views expressed that we needed to develop a set of procedures that would ensure uniform approaches to State Championships. For example matters seen as requiring consideration included:

Process for Clubs to bid to host State Championships ;

AFA approval system

Whether inter state teams could compete and whether the State Champion team had to be from the home State

Who supplied State Trophies – organizers or AFA.

Following discussion agreed that further consideration should be referred to a Sub Committee to consider these and any other issues and report back to AFA Committee. Sub Committee to be Ilona (Chair), Lyn Clyde, Eric and Steve Pitt. Suggested Sub Committee meet by phone Monday 8th June at 7 pm.



ITEM –Suggested amended process for recording Incident reports.

Committee noted the submission to have a single Form at timing table to allow Judges to record all minor incidents and cardings at a Competition and only use existing form for major incidents such as aggression. Webmaster indicated that part of the current web upgrade was to make Judges incident reporting a online process. Given this development the Committee agreed to continue with current process pending the likely early availability of an online data entry format for Judges to use for incident reports.

ITEM - 2009 Nationals - Judge nomination and selection.

The Committee noted that Norwest had called for expressions of interest from Judges available to Judge at 2009 Nationals. In addition to Rosie, who would act as a Supervising Judge for the Nationals the following 6 Judges had indicated their availability – Eric Van Zuyden, Ian Kendt, Ron Richardson, Karen Shields, Sue Norton, Trent Shepherd. All Judges other than Ian & Sue would be running one dog or box loading for a team.

Norwest had also arranged to fly out an experienced NAFA Judge, Brian Fay.

Following discussion with the Supervising Judge Norwest proposed that the following arrangements apply and that invitations be issued re Judges as follows :

Ring 1 Saturday and Sunday - Brian Fay and Eric van Zuyden as Judges

Ring 2 Saturday – Ian Kendt, Trent Shepherd and Sue Norton as Judges

Sunday - Ian Kendt, Karen Shields and Ron Richardson as Judges.

Judges only engaged for one day to be asked to assist with a level of line stewarding on other day.

Norwest to issue invitations to Judges and to indicate the level of travel subsidy proposed for interstate and local judges.

ITEM – Rule Book Amendments

The Committee noted an email from Sue Norton drawing attention to several matters still requiring review in the reprinted Rulebook. Sue's suggestion referred to rules Sub Committee for consideration.

ITEM PICS I Open letter to Committee re recent Notice on Dog Vaccination Policy.

The Committee noted letter dated 26th May from PICS I, which was in reaction to AFA Notification 10 to Clubs re AFA position on Vaccination Policy being a matter for Clubs to determine. PICS I indicated they strongly supported titre testing and indicating they also support ADAA Rules re exclusion of dogs exposed to kennel cough but would be



concerned if the AFA was considering a requirement for dogs to be vaccinated for kennel cough. PiCSI also offered to arrange to have a Uni. of Sydney researcher speak on subject at AGM.

The Committee again took the view that the matter of establishing a Policy for Vaccination, including the issue of Titre testing for antibody levels, was a matter for Clubs to determine and implement. It was suggested that the reference to kennel cough in Notification 10 may have been misinterpreted by some members as a statement from the AFA that dogs should be vaccinated for kennel cough. The Committee clarified that this was not the intent of the reference and that it had no intention of making ANY Policy re vaccination, reiterating it was a matter for Clubs to determine an appropriate Policy.

The Committee noted PiCSI's offer re the AGM but felt this was not appropriate given the AFA position that it was not involved in establishing a Vaccination Policy. Secretary to so inform PiCSI.

The Committee discussed whether it should also adopt the recently announced ADAA rule re exclusion of dogs exposed to kennel cough. Rosie to circulate ADAA Statement of Policy and matter to be listed for discussion next Meeting.

Other Business

Eric enquired re deadline for Flying Times. Ilona indicated still accepting input for a few days yet.

Eric clarified wording of Titles on certificates.

Pat indicated South Australian Measure wicket should be dispatched in carry bag in a week or so.

Next meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm Monday 6th July . There being no further business the Meeting was closed at 10.00 pm.

Signed as a true record.

President.