

Draft Minutes – Subject to final approval at November 2010 Meeting

Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 4th October 2010.

Present: Jenny Millar, Ian Kendt, Brian Lindsay, Lyn Clyde, Richard Mellon, Josh Ellen, Maureen Williamson, Julie Pamplin. Leoney Pritchard, Sue Norton, Joanne Parkes, Ian Gauntlett, Wayne Stroop, Catherine Saberton and Pat Byrne.

Apologies –Kylie White and Penny Lloyd

Meeting Opened at 7. 50 pm

ITEM - Starred Items.

The following Items were adopted without discussion:

- 1) Minutes of 6th September meeting.
- 2) Renewals of Membership
- 3) Accounts for Payment.
- 4) Correspondence in and Out
- 5) Stewards Passes – Colin Hindson CRN 804 Fast and Furious; Joe Gilpin CRN 2008 Pine Rivers; Nicole Timms CRN 965 Bellarine Club.
- 6) New members –approved – Megan Gilpin; Kathryn Gilpin; Graeme Horne and Mat Sharp.

Moved and Seconded that starred Items be adopted CARRIED.

ITEM – Check of Action Sheet for Outstanding Matters.

Nil Outstanding

ITEM – Treasurers Report

Bank Balance \$ 14,750.59. No change to fixed deposits.

ITEM – Sanctioned Events.

Comp – Keilor – 19th Feb 2011 – SAFE Flyball Spectacular - Seymour

Comp – Awesome Pawesome - 9th and 10th July 2011 Bounding on the Border – Camp Tailwaggers, Carool Rd Carool, Gold Coast.

- Demo – Eric van Zuyden – 31st October 2010 – Nillumbik Pat Expo – Marngrook Oval, Main Hurstbridge rd Diamond Creek

- Demo – Tassie Flying paws – 31st October 2010 – Dogs on the Domain – Domain Area Hobart.

ITEM – Members Changing Clubs with exemption.

Nil.

ITEM – Report from Dog Incident Sub Committee.

The Committee noted the Sub Committee Report dealing with Black Card incidents at the Holroyd Competition involving Jolie CRN 1041B and Roxy 2125A. The Sub Committee had considered the Judges reports, Witness Statements and Statements from the handlers and had concluded that both incidents were at the lower end of the suspected aggression scale. In neither case did any contact occur.

The Sub Committee recommended that in case of Jolie the decision should be that no finding of aggression be recorded and the handler advised to consult with Club Instructors as to whether increased focus training may be needed.

In the case of Roxy the Committee noted that the dog had received a red cards for Crossing in a prior comp and also received a red card at Holroyd for crossing before the interference/suspected aggression incident. Accordingly the Sub Committee determined that whilst no finding of aggression should be recorded the handler should be requested to consult Club Instructors regarding any need for additional focus training for Roxy before entering further competitions.

Following consideration of the Sub Committee Report the Committee agreed to adopt the two recommendations and to immediately lift suspensions on both dogs. CARRIED.

ITEM – Report from Rules Sub Committee.

The Committee noted the Sub Committee Report dealing with development of an AFA Competition Cancellation Policy.

The Rules Sub Committee recommended a Policy framework that covered cancellation of a competition for a range of possible reasons, including wet weather, high temperature, outbreak of disease, major external events such as bushfires etc. The draft Policy was based on premise that cancellation should occur if it was assessed that circumstances were unsafe for dogs or people to take part in the event. The Policy outlined the decision making process that should be followed - which involved the Competition Organiser, the AFA Representative and the Judge/s.

The draft policy also covered the matter of refund of fees – which was linked to the timing of the cancellation i.e. whether before the event or during the event. Members of the

Committee questioned the need for the final paragraph in the draft policy relating to refund circumstances where a team withdrew from a competition that was not cancelled.

Following discussion the Committee resolved to adopt the Policy as drafted with the exclusion of the final paragraph. CARRIED. The new policy to be placed on the AFA web and circulated to all Judges and Club Co-coordinators.

The Committee also briefly discussed the issue of special circumstances that might be linked to cancellation of a major event like the Nationals and the refund of entry fees, leaving organizers with a large deficit. Secretary agreed to produce a discussion paper for the next meeting.

The Sub Committee report also sought guidance as to what the Committee had intended when it referred to the current NAFA review of its Rules for procedural clarity. The Committee confirmed that they were simply proposing that the Sub Committee hold a watching brief regarding any changes adopted by NAFA.

ITEM - Timing System Update.

Leoney reported that she had made arrangements regarding a US based person to receive the light poles and had contacted Farmtec to obtain firm quotes with a view to ordering the two Poles and then the remainder of two system. Leoney also advised she had asked Farmtec was it possible to replace the lowest frequency in the system with a higher upper frequency. No reply as yet. The Committee noted that the current exchange rate was a bonus if the order could be placed soon. Leoney to follow up.

ITEM - Purina Sponsorship Update – Keilor proposal re S.A.F.E. Competition scheduled for 19/2/11.

The Committee noted that Keilor had now submitted the request Application spreadsheet for a Purina sponsored competition to be allocated to the Seymour Alternative Farming Expo in Feb 2011. The Committee noted that this was a large crowd event and would be appropriate from that viewpoint. The Committee also noted that other Victorian Clubs should also have the opportunity to bid for 2011 Victorian based event and agreed that all Victorian Clubs should be advised that bids will close with AFA Secretary on 18th October and if interested they should submit Purina spread sheet.

ITEM – Development of Flyball in W.A.

The Committee again discussed how best to encourage introduction of flyball into Perth region. The Secretary reported that he had received a recent enquiry from a Perth based person who was a member of a central Perth based dog club active in obedience and agility. She advised she would raise possibility of the Club extending into flyball at next Committee meeting and get back to AFA. Joanne advised she was producing a draft submission to all Perth based dog clubs seeking to ascertain their interest in introducing flyball to W.A. Committee agreed to support contact with all listed dog clubs in Perth.

ITEM – Transport of NSW/ACT Lights to Nationals

Richard confirmed Les Scott would transport NSW/ACT lights to Nationals.

ITEM – Supervisory Judges report

The Committee noted the Report from the new Supervisory Judge, Trent Shepherd and the accompany results of Trent's recent survey of Judges regarding a range of issues linked to satisfaction with support available and any areas they would like to see improved. The Survey indicated that Judges were in the main quite positive about current support.

Trent proposed the development of a standardized Judge Training program, including the involvement of a professional Training Consultant who was willing to assist. As a start Trent proposed to undertake an Audit of judges methods of ring control via video record. This would then be used to develop a standard ring craft format for Judge training. Trent proposed that this commence at the Boorowa competition and advised that two of the Judges at Boorowa had already agreed to be recorded.

The Committee agreed to endorse the proposed process subject to Trent obtaining each Judges approval for the video prior to recording. The Committee also agreed in principal to reimburse Trent for travel expenses but asked the Secretary to request Trent to provide a plan and Budget for the project. Members of the Committee suggested that it may be more cost effective for Trent to ask local members to video Judges in the ring and send video to him rather than him traveling an extended distance. Sue Norton also advised that recent Queensland competitions had been video recorded and this included Judges in the ring and results were available on UTube. Secretary to so advise Trent.

The Report finally asked for Committee input on process for appointment of regional based Judges to oversee probationary Judges training. Committee agreed Supervisory Judge should make recommendations to Committee re any appointments. It was also agreed appointments should be for a twelve month period.

ITEM – General Business.

1) Nationals Planning. Leoney asked for approval to order an extra Nationals trophy as there would be nine Divisions this year. CARRIED. Maureen enquired as to timing of availability of Draw and Catalogue for Nationals – and in particular if it could be made available before the Tassie squad left Hobart . Agreed that every effort should be made to have Catalogue available early in week of Nationals.

2) Sue asked if it would be possible to have results from last two Queensland comps on the web before end of October. Pointed out paperwork for the border comp had only just been received by AFA and that both comps were with Joshua for processing. Whilst no promises - will try.

3) Sue asked if Rules Sub Committee could review the appropriateness of the \$500 Club donations level given it had not changed since AFA was started. Agreed to refer to rules Sub Committee.

4) Ian Gauntlett advised that at Yarram he had agreed, on a provisional basis, to be a second judge to undertake a measure of several SA dogs recognizing the difficulties S.A. members had in getting different Judges for measures. The Committee noted that an exemption from the single Judge measure Rule had been granted in the past for Tassie dogs who had similar problem. The Committee approved the second measures as valid. CARRIED.

5) Joshua advised the Committee that he wished to donate a perpetual trophy in memory of his dog Maggie who had recently passed away. He sought input from members of the Committee re any suggestions for the trophy – his current thinking was to donate it as a trophy to the winning team in Division 2 at each year's Nationals. Any suggestions from Committee to go to Joshua in next week.

Next meeting set for Monday 1st November at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business Meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

Signed as a true record.

President.