

Draft Minutes – Subject to final approval at October 2010 Meeting

Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 6th September 2010.

Present: Jenny Millar, Ian Kendt, Brian Lindsay, Lyn Clyde, Richard Mellon, Josh Ellen, Kylie White, Maureen Williamson, Penny Lloyd, Julie Pamplin. Leoney Pritchard, Sue Norton and Joanne Parkes.

Apologies – Ian Gauntlett, Wayne Stroop, Catherine Saberton and Pat Byrne.

Meeting Opened at 7. 55 pm

ITEM - Starred Items .

The following Items were adopted without discussion:

- 1) Minutes of 2nd August meeting.
- 2) Renewals of Membership
- 3) Accounts for Payment.
- 4) Correspondence Out
- 5) Stewards Passes – Ula Tourloupis CRN 1134, Nealle Best CRN 2174

Moved and Seconded that starred Items be adopted CARRIED.

ITEM – Check of Action Sheet for Outstanding Matters .

Nil Outstanding

ITEM – Treasurers Report

Nil Report

ITEM – Correspondence in:

The Committee noted and dealt with the following Correspondence:

- Email from Sue Norton with suggested amendment to Timesheets. After discussion the Committee determined no action was necessary other than for Queensland Team Captains to be reminded of new process for advising timekeepers of racing dogs and need to check all dogs circled when checking Sheets at end of Comp.
- Letter from Bellarine with Club explanation as to circumstances leading to inclusion of a non entered team in Competition draw. Whilst the explanation provided was

noted the Committee also noted the advice that Croydon had made it clear to the Bellarine competition organisers the weekend before the competition that Croydon had not and would not be entering any teams. This position was confirmed by Joshua from Western Wieners who advised they were approached by the competition organisers the weekend before the competition to see if they could “replace” the Croydon team. Given the information obtained the Committee took the view that the Bellarine Competition organisers had acted inappropriately by assuming a non-entered team from Croydon would compete and then not redoing the draw when advised the weekend before that this would not be the case. In these circumstances the Committee determined that this was not a misunderstanding but a serious breach of behaviour and that a formal reprimand should be issued to the Bellarine Competition organisers. CARRIED.

- Emails from Myke Sutherland suggesting AFA celebrate the 15th anniversary of flyball in Australia. After discussion the Committee did not support the need for such a celebration and accordingly no action was deemed necessary.
- Letter from Keilor re hosting a Purina Sponsored comp. Dealt with under separate Agenda Item for Purina Sponsorship.
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ITEM – Sanctioned Events.

Comp – Tuggeranong Torpedoes – Fun in the Sun – Sat 27th November – Tuggeranong Town Centre Park ACT

Comp – Para District – Xmas Flyball Romp IV – Saturday 4th Dec – Jenkins Reserve Salisbury.

ITEM – Members Changing Clubs with exemption.

Nil.

ITEM – Committee Task allocation

After discussion the following allocation of tasks agreed:

Webmaster: Leoney Pritchard.

Assistant Webmaster: Joanne Parkes

Points co-ordinator: Josh Ellen

Flying Times Editor: Patrick White

Seed Times co-coordinator: Julie Pamplin

Titles and Awards: Eric van Zuyden

Purina co-coordinator: Richard Mellon

Supervisory Judge liaison: Jenny Millar

Chair Rules Sub Comm.: Ian Kendt

Sec. Rules Sub Committee: Richard Mellon

Member Rules Sub Comm.: Penny Lloyd , Ian Gauntlett + Sup. Judge

Chair Incident Sub Comm.: Catherine Saberton

Sec. Incident Sub Committee; Brian Lindsay

Member Incident Sub Comm. : Jenny Millar, Josh Ellen

Public Officer

Kylie White

ITEM – AFA 2010/11 Budget

Draft Budget for year noted showing a surplus of \$14,000 after “normal” operating expenditure. The Committee also noted that the AFA currently had a cash holding of approx \$50,000. Taking this into account the Committee approved the following equipment purchases:

- two sets of Farmtec timing systems - at estimated cost of \$24,000.

The Committee noted that the Supervisory Judge was planning a Judges development program that would require a Budget allocation. Matter deferred till report and cost estimate available.

The Committee determined that at current income and expense levels a maximum annual project and equipment allocation of \$30,000 should be adopted. CARRIED.

ITEM – Web update for AGM Decisions

The Committee noted that the Webmaster was in the process of updating the web for recent decisions on Rules and other matters. Webmaster requested that if possible the Treasurer obtain a formatted copy of the reprinted Rules Booklet as this could then be uploaded to web in PDF format.

ITEM – Report from Dog Incident Sub Committee.

The Committee noted the Report dealing with the request to reassess and reinstate Flea (CRN 1007A) following a period of retraining. The Recommendations for the Sub Committee were discussed and supported. The Committee determined that:

- Flea's behaviour should be reassessed after the conclusion of the Euroa competition on 23rd October 2010. with Ian Kendt and Eric van Zuyden appointed to conduct the reassessment and report thereon to the November Committee Meeting;
- That subject to the report being satisfactory Flea's suspension be lifted effective from Friday 12 th November.

CARRIED.

ITEM - Timing System Update.

The Committee noted the following development re Timing Systems:

Surge protectors for Signature Lights (4 Eaton SSFi surge filter at a cost of \$240 each) had been obtained and distributed to NSW, Qld. Victoria and S.A.

Ian reported that the Victorian Display Boards had been repaired and were now operational.

Wayne had reported that SA and ACT lights consoles had now been repaired by Dave Blow.

In the circumstances the Committee decided not to proceed for the time being with the acquisition of the St.George Timing System.

Leoney reported that she had made contact with Farmtec to order the two Poles and to obtain quotes for remainder of two system. She would follow up and report further at next Meeting. Suggestion made that we order 6 replacement green separators and 6 base screws at same time. Suggestion also made that Leoney ask Farmtec was it possible to replace the lowest frequency in the system with a higher upper frequency.

ITEM – 2010 AGM Review.

The Committee noted the report submitted by the Secretary indicating that the AGM cost the AFA over \$2000 – with the main cost related to the printing and post out of papers to members. In 2010 this process generated only 44 returned ballot papers (approx 5% response rate) and only 82 Members attended the AGM.

The Committee agreed that the AGM costs were disproportionate to the level of interest being shown by Members.

Suggestion made that in future the AFA make use of electronic mail and the AFA Web site to communicate with members and to limit post out to those members who had requested hard copy of Flying Times. Ballot forms to also be made electronic format. This would save the AFA approx. \$1500. CARRIED.

ITEM - Purina Sponsorship Proposal Update.

Joanne reported on the success of the Queensland State Championships that were the first Purina sponsored event. The ring looked very professional and the competitors loved the product prizes and trophies. The thank you hampers were also well received. Only issue of concern was difficulty with handling of the transport of the Purina gear – the carry box required a forklift to offload. Joanne indicated she would write a thank you letter to Purina. Richard to discuss with Les the possibility of altering the transport boxes.

The Committee noted that Keilor had submitted a request to have a Purina sponsored competition 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. Richard suggested we ask Keilor to complete the Purina Sponsorship Proforma he had developed so he had all of the information needed to allow Purina to approve the event as one of the 6 sponsored events in 2010 /11. Leoney asked if she could be sent a copy of the proforma to load to web. Richard to send copy to Leoney and to Keilor for completion.

ITEM - Possible acquisition of Open Racing Format developed by Member

Kylie advised that the semi developed Open Race format was no longer available for purchase in its unfinished state. She advised that Trent Shepherd was looking at developing a similar system and she would keep Committee updated.

ITEM – Development of Flyball in W.A.

The Committee noted the high number of enquiries about flyball from W.A. Many of the enquiries seemed to be from “remote” areas of the state (the most recent from Paraburdoo – 1500 kms from Perth).

The Committee discussed how best to encourage introduction of flyball into Perth region in first instance. Suggestion – that AFA consider subsidizing a existing club for cost of equipment. Start point suggested as being the establishment of a listing of existing dogs clubs in Perth and then seeking an expression of interest from these clubs with an offer to assist with equipment subsidy. Committee members asked to send any information re Clubs in Perth to Joanne for correlation.

ITEM – Seed times for Nationals

Issue of seedtime cut off for Nationals discussed. Suggestion made to defer the close date for Nations to Tuesday the 21st September to allow seed times from the two Competitions on the weekend of the 18th and 19th September to be uploaded to web. Ian undertook to relay suggestion to Nationals organiser and to advise Leoney of outcome.

ITEM – Transport of NSW/ACT Lights to Nationals

Kylie indicated she presumed that the NSW/ACT Lights would be the second set for Nationals and asked about transport arrangements. Richard offered to discuss with Les and report to next Committee. Question asked – was it planned to have the Queensland third set on stand by- Ian to check with Nationals Organiser.

ITEM – Request from Berwick to get advance payment of Purina cash sponsorship.

Committee noted that there was a delay in getting the AFA allocated a supplier code by Purina and this would delay the Invoicing for the cash sponsorship. In circumstance Berwick asked could AFA advance pay the sponsorship. Committee agreed request was reasonable in circumstances and authorized the Treasurer to make the payment to Berwick. CARRIED

ITEM – Suggested need for AFA to establish a formal Wet weather Policy.

Secretary suggested that the AFA should have a formal policy regarding issue of how to determine whether it was “safe” for an event to be conducted in wet weather. It was pointed out that the old Judges Manual provided for a vote of Team Captains to decide whether to proceed. Secretary indicated he was concerned that in the absence of a formal Policy the AFA could have an insurance exposure if it could not demonstrate it followed a reasonable approach to determining safety issue. In his opinion the AFA needed to control this basic decision and not have it made by participating team captains. Team captains could then be involved IF grounds were assessed as safe. Committed agreed to refer this matter to Rules Sub Committee for consideration.

ITEM – General Business .

- Joanne suggested that the AFA remind Clubs and competition organisers that only good quality batteries should be used in Lights and that they should be removed from Light poles and console at end of event. Agreed.
- Penny enquired about costs of transporting matting to Victoria as there was a suitable indoor venue that could be hired at low cost. Kylie agreed to obtain quote for transport of 3 pallets and an approx half ton weight.
- Leoney advised that she had noted that NAFA were in the process of reviewing their Rules for clarity and suggested Rules Sub Committee monitor this process via NAFA Minutes.

There being no further business Meeting closed at 10.15 pm.

Signed as a true record.

President.