

Draft – Subject to final approval at April 2010 Meeting

Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 1st March 2010.

Present: Ian Kendt, Brian Lindsay, Leoney Pritchard, Jenny Millar, Eric van Zuyden, Lyn Clyde, Richard Mellon, Josh Ellen, Joanne Parkes, Kylie White, Penny Lloyd, and Maureen Williamson.

Apologies Catherine Saberton, Wayne Stroop, Ilona Van Gallen and Pat Byrne

Meeting Opened at 7.48 pm.

ITEM - Starred Items.

The following Items were adoption without discussion:

- 1) Renewal of Membership (as per Treasurers Report)
- 2) Change of Clubs –Rosemary Lane CRN 2146 with Charlie (2146A) and Penny (2146B) from Pine Rivers to the new Fast and Furious Team on Sunshine Coast effective from 1st March – with waiver of 90 day Rule on exemption condition of joining a newly formed Club.
- 3) Stewards Exam Passes –Tim Slade CRN834, Francis Cox CRN 97 and David Bailey CRN 1329. Timekeeper Exam Pass Tim Slade CRN 834

Moved and Seconded that starred Items be adopted CARRIED.

ITEM – Check of Action Sheet for Outstanding Matters.

The Committee noted there was no outstanding matter requiring action from earlier Meetings.

ITEM – Minutes of February Meeting

The Meeting noted that an amendment had been proposed to the February Draft Minutes dealing with the Protocol to be followed for submission of new race formats. Amended wording approved. Secretary to send Webmaster amended Minutes and Protocol statement for posting to web. Lyn Clyde also requested minor amendment to Starred Item no 5 - replace Lyn with Les. Agreed.

ITEM – Treasurers Report

Committee noted. Bank Balance as at 24th Feb at \$12,282.46.

ITEM – Correspondence

1) Resignation of President. The Committee noted the correspondence received from the President, Glenn Pritchard, tendering his resignation from the Presidency and also the AFA Committee, as a result of increased work commitments and the need to focus on his teaching career. The Committee reluctantly accepted the resignation and expressed thanks to Glenn for his contribution to the leadership and development of the AFA over the last 4 years. Secretary to formally write to Glenn expressing Committee's thanks for his contribution to the AFA.

As a result of the resignation the Vice President, Ian Kendt accepted the appointment as President. The Committee agreed that it should also appoint a replacement Vice President to cover any absences of President. Richard Mellon was nominated and appointed as Vice President. The Committee congratulated Ian and Richard on appointments.

2) Letter from D.Lennox CRN 357 supporting idea of ball shaggers as well as box loaders being given ribbons at Competition. The Committee noted the letter was in support of the earlier suggestion from Tassie Flying Paws that consideration be given to awarding ribbons to all ball shaggers as well as box loaders. The Committee noted that this was really a matter for individual Competition organisers to consider and that there was no AFA requirement for ribbons to be awarded to any competitors or box loaders. The Committee also noted that most ball shaggers were involved in running dogs and would get a ribbon as a competitor.

ITEM – Sanctioned Events.

Demo – Berwick – Sunday 14th March 2010 – Haileybury Keysborough Campus

Training Day and Demo – Tassie Flying Paws – Sunday 28th March – Dog Walkers Assoc - Howden.

Comp – Mudd on the Paws – Sunday 2nd May – Muddy's Madness – Lions Park Burrill Lakes (Ulladulla).

Comp – Bellarine Dog Activities Group – 15th May – Flyball at Geelong – German shepherd Dog Club - Elcho Rd Lara

Comp – CDC – Sunday 16th May – Million Paws Walk - ACT Venue to be decided.

Comp – CDC - Saturday 4th September- Surf n Turf – Kioloa

Comp – Awesome Pawsome – 4th and 5th Sept – Queensland State Flyball Championships- Gold Coast Pet and Animal Expo - Varsity lakes

Comp – RA&H Society of S.A. – 11th Sept - Royal Adelaide Show Flyball Comp – Dairy cattle Lawn Adelaide Showground's.

Moved and Seconded that all events are approved. CARRIED

ITEM - New Members

Following new members approved:

Myke Sutherland; Kerry Coomes; Belinda Markwell; Garry Woollard; Nikki Fisher; Eleanor Parisson; Lila Varcoe; Christine Ramplin; Kym Dillon and Teresa Crich, Tanya Heycott and Rochelle Stevenson.

ITEM - 2009 AGM Follow up:

Junior Handler Scheme. Lyn Clyde reported that Liz Coombes was designing the Junior Stewards Badges and once design finalized Badges would be ordered. A list of accredited junior Stewards needed to be produced from Data Base (Treasurer to arrange).

ITEM - Dog Incident Sub Committee Report.

No Incidents to report.

ITEM - Report from Rules Sub Committee

No Meeting since January Committee.

ITEM - Update re Sydney Royal and 2011 Nationals.

Richard reported that his Sub Committee had again met and were progressing well with 2010 Royal planning. He reported that entry/exit arrangements would hopefully be easier in 2010 and ticketing better organized. Format for competitions and demonstrations was same as in 2009 – a one-Day Competition on Good Friday and then a two-Day Competition on Easter Saturday and Sunday followed by a Demo on Monday and both Days of following weekend. Entries had to close early (19th Feb) to allow arrangements to be finalized with RAS re Tickets and with Purina for trophies and prizes.

Dates for 2011 Nationals at Sydney Royal will be Friday and Saturday 22nd and 23rd April followed by a one day Competition on Easter Monday likely to involve Veterans Class and Single and Pairs racing. A Competition Sanction Form would be submitted shortly after Sub Committee finishes with 2010 Royal arrangements – Richard requested details of nationals be placed on web as Sanction Pending.

ITEM - Signature Lights Update

Secretary reported he had continued to negotiate a solution with Lyn Sawyers – the NZ Agent for Signature Lights. Lyn had now agreed that if he was not in a position to ensure delivery of lights by Mid March he would process a full refund of the AFA payment. Secretary on behalf of AFA had accepted this offer.

Secretary suggested Committee await outcome – if Lights are not forthcoming by Mid March the Committee will need to consider what action it takes to source a replacement

supplier. Richard suggested that Committee also needed to consider what options were available for any repairs needed to existing Signature light sets. Agreed for discussion at April meeting.

ITEM - Judges Exam Format Review.

Ian reported that the Sub Committee had meet 3 weeks ago and had produced a draft exam paper based on the multiple choice format and scenarios questions .The Draft was under consideration within Sub Committee and once cleared would be circulated to Committee for consideration.

ITEM - Purina Sponsorship Proposal

The Committee noted the amended Agreement submitted to Purina covering possible sponsorship of up to 6 major annual Competition each year, including the National Championships. Kylie indicated that Purina had accepted the changes put forward by the AFA. There was however one outstanding issue related to responsibility and cost of arranging transport of Sponsors equipment from Sydney to each Competition venue. This was still under discussion. The Committee provided Kylie with advice re preferred arrangements for discussion with Purina. It was expected that a Sponsorship Contract would be finalized before the next Committee Meeting.

ITEM - AFA MATTING Protocol

Secretary had produced a Draft Procedure re control and use of the AFA matting, including guidance instructions for taping matting to floor. Following consideration the Committee agreed that a matting use fee of \$10 per team would apply for daily competition use (without any minimum charge) and that no fee would apply for use in approved Demos or Training days. The Committee proposed several minor amendments to the Draft Procedure and asked Secretary to update and circulate for final approval before placement on Web. CARRIED.

Leoney suggested the Committee consider adding a further 30 ft of anti fatigue matting for Judges walk lane. Committee agreed to consider purchase at April meeting once a cost quote was available.

ITEM – 2012 Nationals Bid.

The Committee was reminded that the bids for the 2012 Nationals were due to close at end March 2011. The Secretary advised no Bids currently submitted. A member of the Committee indicated that one Bid was under consideration by a Club. The Committee requested the Webmaster to place a reminder re Bids on Web and to send an email to all Club co-coordinators.

ITEM – Request for clarification re Title Points to be awarded in a Tied Heat result.

The Committee noted the request for clarification. The Committee noted that the current Rules make it clear Teams only get a bonus point for a WIN - with a Tie there is no winner so result is one Title point to each team provided they ran clean. The Committee noted that this was the procedure which had been applied in awarding points in past and no change was proposed.

ITEM – ANKC Query re Insurance Clause in AFA/ANKC Agreement

The Secretary had received from ANKC a request to clarify the insurance clause in the follow on Agreement. This clause provided that at any Competition involving both AFA and ANKC teams that the AFA was to ensure its members were covered under AFA Insurance and for the ANKC to ensure its members were covered under its insurance. The Clause had not altered form the original Agreement. Dogs NSW had queried why the ANKC should be involved in insurance if it was an AFA sponsored Competition. After discussion it was agreed that Secretary would reply to ANKC outlining original discussion on insurance and confirming wording should stand. CARRIED.

ITEM – Suspended Dog rejoining AFA.

The Committee noted that a Member had recently rejoined the AFA with a dog that had been suspended with the requirement to log retraining and to have dog assessed prior to attending any AFA event. The Committee confirmed that these requirements should now be followed up and the member asked to submit a record of retraining undertaken and availability of dog for assessment.

ITEM – Team Uniforms

The NSW Representative advised he had been asked to take up with the Committee the fact that some new teams had selected Uniform designs and colors virtually identical to existing teams in same state. He suggested that AFA should consider inviting Clubs if they wished to advise the AFA of their colors and shirt designs so that they could be posted on the Web under Team details page. This would be an optional input likely to be accepted by Clubs that had a strong view on this matter. This would then allow new teams to see what existing colors and designs were in use and hopefully avoid duplication. CARRIED.

General Business

1. Eric raised as a matter of concern the fact that some dogs that had obtained height cards under the old measure system when re-measured under the new wicket were proving to be incorrectly height recorded on their cards. He enquired whether the AFA should consider re measuring all dogs that gained height cards under old system. Concern was expressed that this would involve significant inconvenience for a lot of members who would have to start again with the 3 measures. The view was put that dogs can be randomly measured by Judges – if a Judge was concerned that a dog seemed to be running at an incorrect height a measure would be appropriate

to confirm height. It was also pointed out that any member can request that a dog in another team should be measured provided they did so within 30 minutes of a heat. After discussion it was agreed to refer the matter to the Rules Sub Committee for consideration with the Committees comments.

2. Joshua raised a matter brought to his attention regarding a team that was shown as having been withdrawn from a competition resulting in Teams racing against an empty lane. Based on limited enquiry it appeared that the team involved had not actually lodged an Entry Form and that the fact that they were not planning to compete was known to the Competition organizer at least one week before the event. After discussion agreed Victorian Rep would follow matter up with both the team involved and the Competition organizer with a view to clarifying situation and reporting back to AFA at April meeting.
3. Brian raised a matter for clarification involving Box malfunctions. Question – if a Box malfunctions towards end of warm up period and box loader stands in front of box, which leads to Judge not starting the first heat, is this considered to be “ the first malfunction of box under the Rules”? . If same box malfunctions during the race is this then the second malfunction of that box? This had happened at Canberra and Judges seemed to have different views as to ruling. Matter referred to Rules Sub Committee.
4. A concern was raised that where a decision had been made to move to 60 second changeovers it seemed to be more common for some teams to be deliberately early releasing start dogs in order to gain additional time for teammates to set up. This was not in spirit of Rules and could be penalised as deliberately delaying start of race. Matter referred to Rules Sub Committee for consideration.
5. Date of next Meeting. Given Meeting was scheduled for Easter Monday proposed that it be deferred one week to 12th April CARRIED.

There being no further business Meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

Signed as a true record.

President.