

North American Flyball Association[®], Inc.

Annual General Meeting

Irvine, California

Abridged Minutes

January 16, 2010

Present were: Executive Director Lee Heighton
Board of Directors Nancy Garcia,
Leerie Jenkins,
Dana Nichols,
Karen Oleson,
Kris Pickering,
Alisa Romaine,
Dale Smith,
Greg Stopay

Executive Director Lee Heighton called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM PST. Scott Stein was absent due to other commitments and gave his proxy to Kris Pickering. There were many guests in attendance.

Executive Director's comments

Lee Heighton welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting.

He expressed thanks to Orange Crush for hosting the tournament and dinner for the AGM.

He introduced the Board members in attendance – Nancy Garcia, Leerie Jenkins, Dana Nichols, Karen Oleson, Kris Pickering, Alisa Romaine, Dale Smith, and Greg Stopay.

Lee announced a last call for ballots. Dale Smith, Chair of the Election Committee, left the meeting to compile election results. He indicated there were fewer than a dozen paper ballots; almost all ballots were voted electronically.

Lee emphasized that the Board welcomes feedback from competitors to give us direction on what our body and competitors want us to do. One way to communicate is through the flyball@flyball.org address. Comments can also be sent to any of the Board members by phone, mail, or email, which are on the NAFA webpage. If anyone feels uncomfortable contacting the whole Board, you are more than welcome to send to a Board member you know better.

Lee reviewed some of the changes this year.

The supervising judge process was changed this year to include a public comment period. We are looking for feedback – positive or negative – so that we have more information to make educated decisions.

We've been making many small changes as we go through the year. The economy is difficult and it affects all of us. We have been doing our part to implement cost savings because NAFA[®]'s money is your money. We've reduced shipping costs by 25% for a \$10,000.00 cost savings. The costs of storage for EJS have been reduced.

We hosted events like the CanAm Classic to create exposure to our sport and hopefully grow NAFA[®] as a whole. NAFA[®] hosted exactly the same number of tournaments this year as last – that's impressive given

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the state of the economy. This is your sport. You did this. We're looking for your feedback. All of the Board members are very open to feedback.

Lee spoke about the 2009 CanAm Classic. Due to the great commitment from volunteers and Board members, we managed to pull off the largest flyball tournament ever held. There were 120 teams entered on the busiest day. Due to advances in technology, we managed to run four rings simultaneously with one schedule. We hope this year it might be five or even six rings. We rented a huge building this past year and found out it was actually too small. This coming year we have an even bigger building rented. Lee indicated that he knew the location made it difficult for western teams to attend, but encouraged people to come out as volunteers. He thanked Margaret Lyons who travelled out this year from California to be a dedicated worker all three days. NAFA[®] can help with travel expenses and provide food and lodging to volunteers. Volunteers are critical to our ability to put on a first class event.

This year we had great success with Dan Phillips livestreaming video of the event. He approached us with this concept and we were tried it. We paid \$1000.00 and it was well worth the cost. We had over 70,000 hits on the livestream site. We're planning to do it again this year.

We are actively marketing sponsors for this year's event. We want help. If anyone knows of potential sponsors—even ones unrelated to dog sports--please let us know. Lee announced that a sponsorship video has been developed. We are asking all of our membership, if you know of potential sponsor at any level, contact Nancy Garcia with the Marketing Committee. Any money we receive for this event goes back into our resources to benefit everyone.

Regional Champions

Lee announced the regional champions for the 2009 racing year:

2009 NAFA [®] Champions				
Region	States/Provinces	Champion	1st Runner Up	2nd Runner Up
Regional Champions - Regular				
1	MI OH	Slammers	Spring Loaded	RPM Dog Sports
2	ON	Rocket Relay	Instant Replay	Border Patrol
3	MN ND SD	Animal Inn	SuperNova	Balls Out
4	IL IN KY WI	Bordering on Insanity-Midwest	Synergy	Ulti-Mutts
5	AR LA OK TX	Texas Heat	Top Dog Racers	Lone Star Ruffnecks
6	AZ NV UT	Heat Wave	Stampede	Phoenix Hot Pawsuit
7	BC OR WA	The Flying Squad	Total Anarchy	Dogwood Pacesetters
8	MB SK	Holeshot Racers	KAOS	Prairie P.D.Q. Dogsports
9	NC SC VA WV	Blockade Runners	C.I.A.	DogGoneFast
10	NB NS PE	Fast 'n FURious	F.A.M.E	Prepare for Takeoff
11	FL	Ketch This	Sundogs	Florida Flash Flyball

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Region	States/Provinces	Champion	1st Runner Up	2nd Runner Up
12	AB ID MT	Redline Dogsports	Synergetic Surge	Northern Power Paws
13	CT MA ME NH NY RI VT	Ruff Enuff	Canine Mutiny	New England Trailblazers
14	AL GA MS TN	The Gamblers	Music City Road Dogs	Birmingham Bandits
15	DE MD NJ PA	Fur Fun	Hard Drive	Revolution Flyball
16	CA	INXS	Bark in the Park	Turn N' Spit
18	AK	N/A		
19	CO NM WY	LAUNCH	D.E.O. Speedwaggin'	Denver Speed Demons
20	ON QC	DogZworth	Paws on Fire	Burnin' Rubber
21	IA KS MO NE	Omaha Speedracers	Hawkeye Hustlers	Omaha 4-Play
Regional Champions - Multibreed				
1	MI OH	Spring Loaded	Fur in a Blur	Wooferines
2	ON	Extreme Chaos	Instant Replay	Rocket Relay
3	MN ND SD	SuperNova	Happy Hurdlers	N/A
4	IL IN KY WI	All Ruffed Up	Ulti-Mutts	BC Boomerangs
5	AR LA OK TX	N/A		
6	AZ NV UT	Sedona Red Rockets	N/A	N/A
7	BC OR WA	N/A		
8	MB SK	N/A		
9	NC SC VA WV	Go Dog Go	DogGoneFast	Carpe Pilam
10	NB NS PE	Fast'n Furious	Prepare for Takeoff	F.A.M.E.
11	FL	Sundogs	Ketch This	W.O.F.F. "Watch Our Fur Fly"
12	AB ID MT	Redline Dogsports	Synergetic Surge	N/A
13	CT MA ME NH NY RI VT	Ruff Enuff	Infurno	Jump Masters
14	AL GA MS TN	The Gamblers	Music City Road Dogs	Birmingham Bandits
15	DE MD NJ PA	Release the Hounds	Fur Fun	Revolution Flyball
16	CA	Bark in the Park	INXS	Marin Running Riot
18	AK	N/A		
19	CO NM WY	D.E.O. Speedwaggin'	Rocky Mountain Flyball	N/A
20	ON QC	DogZworth	Hot Diggity Dogs	N/A
21	IA KS MO NE	Omaha Speedracers	Skidmarkz	N/A
NAFA® Champion Regular – Slammers				
NAFA® Champion Multibreed – Spring Loaded				

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Statistics

Lee continued Sam Ford's trival pursuits tradition of giving a prize bottle of wine to the person in attendance who could get the closest answer without going over. The trivia question this year was:

"How many points were earned at the NAFA[®] CanAm Classic event this past October in Indianapolis?"

While guests were recording their answers, Lee reviewed some of the organization's statistics for the 2009 racing year.

- 352 events hosted in 41 states and provinces hosted by 137 different Clubs
- Same number of events as previous year (exactly)
- 8678 teams raced in these events from 371 different Clubs
 - 5149 teams raced in Regular
 - 943 in Multibreed
 - 327 in Vets
 - 2243 in Open
 - rest in misc classes
- 6258 new titles were earned during the racing year by 3462 different dogs
- 14,827,674 points were earned during the racing year by dogs from 158 different breeds (one breed being mix)
- 1118 new dogs registered

Lee announced the answer to the trivia question: 340,572 points

Those points were earned by 607 different dogs who raced and earned points at the CanAm Classic.

The winner was Disa Prince with an answer of 240,000.

Questions

Lee opened the floor for questions.

Steve O'Donnell of the Bay Racers Flyball Club asked about profit and loss at CanAm.

Lee responded that the exact figures would be in the Board meeting minutes, but that the rough figure was approximately a \$9,000.00 loss. Included in that number is about \$4,800.00 in one-time expenses for things such as backstops. Lee also indicated that we are hoping to have sponsors next year. The new building for this year is 4 acres under one roof. A survey of competitors indicated the event was a big success, but one need expressed was more space for crating. Not an issue with new building. The survey gave us some valuable feedback and suggestions for this year.

Steve expressed his congratulations to Lee and the Board for a successful event. He said it seemed to be a very favorable outcome. Lee indicated that Board members worked incredibly hard and put in unimaginable hours. Leerie was in charge of volunteers. Nancy put together all the awards. Karen ran the table and did all the scoring. Leerie helped run the score table and coordinate the rings. Dana coordinated judges and relief judges. Dale helped with scoring, scheduling, and ring coordination. Scott relief-judged. Dale and Karen used their optimizer program to work on the schedule. He commended

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their new optimizer program in that it allow regions to keep their unique flavor (formats the same, etc), but goes through and treats all clubs equally. They are trying to use the software on as many schedules as possible to see what tweaking needs to be done. The more clubs that use it, the better it will get.

Lee also mentioned that if anyone has suggestions for vendors for the CanAm Classic to let us know. This year, we realized that we had no dog food or treat vendors. We have great statistics for the 2009 event to encourage more vendors this year.

Lynnea Gillett from INXS asked about a definition for training in the ring. She expressed concern that there are no clarifications or guidelines for that rule. Lee suggested that she submit her request to the Rules Committee for review. He expressed that to cover all possible scenarios would be impossible and would make the rulebook unbearably long, but that she should contact the Rules Committee regarding her ideas. Dana invited Lynnea to send her an email with her suggestions and the Rules Committee would consider them.

There were no other questions.

Election Results

Lee announced that 1126 ballots were returned for a total of 58.65% of those issued. 11 paper ballots were submitted.

Board of Directors:

(three positions)

Karen Oleson – 899 votes

Leerie Jenkins – 750 votes

Dana Nichols – 747 votes

Ruth VanWert – 308 votes

Zac Chernik – 285 votes

Clyde Moore Hall of Fame:

(up to two inductees, requires at least 35%)

Radar (Border Collie) – 542 votes, 48.13%

Morgan (Great Dane) – 481 votes, 42.72%

Shadow (Mix) – 327 votes, 29.04%

Klondike (Staffordshire Bull Terrier) – 263, 23.36%

Roxanne (Border Collie) – 125, 11.10%

Regional MVPs:

Region 1: Dylan (Australian Cattle Dog)

Region 2: Trav (Belgian Malinois)

Region 3: Fizz (Mix)

Region 4: Sydney (Australian Shepherd)

Region 5: Georgia (Border Collie)

Region 6: Penny (Entlebucher Mountain Dog)

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Region 7: Brandi (Australian Shepherd)

Region 8: Argente (Weimaraner)

Region 9: Rufus (Mix)

Region 10: Static (Mix)

Region 11: Loki (Belgian Malinois)

Region 12: Kaos (German Shepherd Dog)

Region 13: Loki (German Shorthaired Pointer)

Region 14: Bailey (American Eskimo)

Region 15: Salty (Australian Shepherd)

Region 16: Fromage (Belgian Malinois)

Region 18: Willoughby (American Pit Bull Terrier)

Region 19: Cassi (Border Collie)

Region 21: Scooby (Border Collie)

Full election results are attached to these minutes.

Lee also told those in attendance about the new NAFA News yahoo group. Subscribers will receive updates about NAFA[®] changes and reminders.

Dave Gillett thanked the Board for all of their hard work. He also announced that Sunday's schedule was prepared using Dale and Karen's optimizer program. He wanted to get feedback. Dale and Karen indicated feedback could be sent to them. Their program tries to err on the side of making teams have a bigger break, rather than clubs. All clubs are treated equally through mathematic equations. They encouraged everyone to treat it with an open mind and see how it worked.

Lee recessed the meeting for election of officers for the Board of Directors at 8:33 PM PST.

Lee reconvened the meeting at 9:14 PM PST.

Election of Board Officers

Lee moved we enter Executive Session for election of officers.

The Board entered Executive Session at 9:14 PM

The Board exited Executive Session at 9:20 PM PST.

The following officers were elected:

Chair – Leerie Jenkins

Vice Chair – Dale Smith

Treasurer – Nancy Garcia

Secretary – Dana Nichols

There was a discussion about publishing vote returns.

Leerie & Lee both expressed their expectation of working well together.

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Future meeting dates and locations

There was discussion regarding a spring meeting date. It was decided to hold the meeting in Indianapolis, IN to allow Board members to view the new Can-Am building. After discussion, May 8, 2010 was agreed upon. Nancy will contact hotels. Several hotels had contacted us with requests to be the host hotel for our event. Many of the workers from the event surveyed indicated they would rather have a shuttle from the hotel to the event site if available. Nancy indicated one hotel did have a shuttle to the fairgrounds.

- The spring meeting will be held May 8, 2010 in Indianapolis, IN.

There was discussion about dates and locations for the summer meeting. Members agreed on August 7, 2010 in Las Vegas. Kris will make arrangements.

- The summer meeting will be held August 7, 2010 in Las Vegas, NV.

Rule modifications

Karen went through the rulebook today to determine what rules needed to be modified to eliminate mailing of results when tournaments are scored electronically.

Her recommendations were as follows:

She suggested we modify the tournament sanctioning secretary responsibilities as follows:

Section 1.2 – Tournament Sanctioning Secretary

The Tournament Sanctioning Secretary is appointed by the Executive Director and is responsible for:

- (i) The sanctioning of NAFA[®] tournaments,
- (ii) Confirmation of sanctioning,
- (iii) Confirmation of receipt of certificate of additional insured.

Dana thanked Karen for her work and moved to accept the language. Alisa seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Karen presented proposed modifications to tournament hosting requirements in Section 6.2:

CHAPTER 6 – HOSTING A NAFA[®] SANCTIONED EVENT

Section 6.1 – Requirements

(m) The following items will be sent to NAFA[®] within 14 days after the tournament:

- (i) When results are not submitted electronically:
 - (a.) A recording fee of \$25.00 (US funds) per scored team.
 - (b.) original time-sheets (NAFA[®] Form C.2);
 - (c.) completed Jump Heights Form (NAFA[®] Form C.9);
 - (d.) completed Tournament Results Form (NAFA[®] Form C.6).
 - (e.) if applicable, any statements with respect to conduct prejudicial to the

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- sport of NAFA[®] Flyball;
- (f.) if applicable, any protest(s).
- (ii) When results are submitted electronically:
 - (a.) A recording fee of \$20.00 (US funds) per scored team. Electronically filed data shall meet the criteria established by NAFA[®]. When multiple tournaments hosted by the same club occur on successive days, the fee is \$20.00 USD for the tournament with the largest entry and \$10.00 USD per team for each additional tournament;
 - (b.) original time-sheets (NAFA[®] Form C.2);
 - (c.) completed Jump Heights Form (NAFA[®] Form C.9);
 - (d.) completed Tournament Results Form (NAFA[®] Form C.6);
 - (e.) if applicable, any statements with respect to conduct prejudicial to the sport of Flyball;
 - (f.) if applicable, any protest(s).
- (iii) Original C.2 (timesheets) must be retained by the host club for at least 1 year following the tournament.

Dana moved to modify the language as suggested. Leerie seconded.

Kris suggested amending the motion to make the language in the electronic and manual results more parallel.

Karen modified her proposal to:

CHAPTER 6 – HOSTING A NAFA[®] SANCTIONED EVENT

Section 6.1 – Requirements

- (m) The Host club shall submit fees and paperwork within 14 days of the tournament.
 - (i) If results are submitted electronically:
 - (a.) A recording fee of \$20.00 (US funds) per scored team. Electronically filed data shall meet the criteria established by NAFA[®]. When multiple tournaments hosted by the same club occur on successive days, the fee is \$20.00 USD for the tournament with the largest entry and \$10.00 USD per team for each additional tournament;
 - (b.) Original C.2 (timesheets) must be retained by the host club for at least 1 year following the tournament.
 - (c.) completed Jump Heights Form (NAFA[®] Form C.9);
 - (d.) completed Tournament Results Form (NAFA[®] Form C.6);
 - (e.) if applicable, any statements with respect to conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA[®] Flyball;
 - (f.) if applicable, any protest(s).
 - (ii) If results are not submitted electronically:
 - (a.) A recording fee of \$25.00 (US funds) per scored team.
 - (b.) original time-sheets (NAFA[®] Form C.2);
 - (c.) completed Jump Heights Form (NAFA[®] Form C.9);
 - (d.) completed Tournament Results Form (NAFA[®] Form C.6).

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- (e.) if applicable, any statements with respect to conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA[®] Flyball;
- (f.) if applicable, any protest(s).

Dana and Leerie both accepted the amendment to the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy moved to have the rule change effective immediately. Leerie seconded.

There was discussion about wanting to implement this change now to save money on UPS shipping and also to prevent the problems with UPS not authorizing shipment. Kris expressed that we should not ordinarily make rules effective immediately, but have them be effective October 1 with the annual revision to the rulebook.

The motion passed unanimously.

Dana indicated we will need to post a notice of the rule change on webpage. Dana will meet with Dale to get the 2010 racing year rulebook finished. The current version on the web page does not include a table of contents or a list of changes.

Scott (by proxy) moved to adjourn the meeting. Leerie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 PM PST.