

# North American Flyball Association Inc.

Scottsdale, Arizona

November 12, 2004

## Board of Directors Meeting Abridged Minutes

Present were: Executive Director - Steve McAvoy  
Board of Directors - Sam Ford,  
Jeff Kinsley,  
Brian Fay,  
Todd Morningstar,  
Ule James,  
Glenn Hamilton,  
Lee Heighton,  
Ken Eldridge,  
Aaron Hughes

Called to order at 8:11 AM Mountain Daylight Time by Sam Ford.

### Approval of Minutes from Prior Meetings

August 25, 2004. Todd moved that the minutes be adopted as presented. Brian seconded the motion. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

September 15, 2004. Lee moved that the minutes be adopted as presented. Todd seconded the motion. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Glenn made a motion that we enter Executive Session to review the minutes of September 29 which contain Executive Session material. Ken seconded the motion. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Lee, Aaron, Todd. Against: Ule. Motion Carried.

Executive Session entered at 8:56AM MDT.

Executive Session was left at 8:58: AM MDT.

The minutes of September 29, 2004 teleconference were accepted as read.

November 3, 2004. Lee moved that the minutes be adopted as amended. Todd seconded the motion. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Glenn will prepare abridged copies of these approved minutes for distribution in the NAFA® News and will forward them to Carle Lee Dembeck.

### A) Chairman's Comments

Sam recognized Steve McAvoy and congratulated him on his many years as NAFA Executive Director.

### Executive Director's Comments

As Steve will be retiring at the end of the Annual General Meeting, on November 13, he would like to thank the various boards, on-going staff, regional directors, Denise Delaney, Ron & Carol Mayeda and

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all of the others that he may not have mentioned directly for helping him as Executive Director over his term of office. Steve has seen tremendous change in the growth of the sport over the past years and expects that he will continue to see more in the years to come. He looks forward to returning to just playing Flyball.

### B) Committee Reports

#### **Finance Committee:**

Ule reported that the corporation continues to be profitable. Ule deferred much of his discussion to the report to be given by Jeff under the Marketing report.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

A review of the package from Dale as presented by Todd raised some questions that Todd was unable to answer. The acceptance of the data was tabled until we could reach Dale Smith later in the meeting.

#### **Technology:**

Ken indicated that the preview of the Signature Gear on Nov. 11 was enjoyed by all. Jeff will outline the results of that demonstration later in the meeting.

#### **Regulatory:**

There are no active issues to be discussed.

#### **Bylaws:**

Sam was appreciative of the efforts made by all to get the rules defined by year-end. The disciplined effort by all was reflective of the many changes introduced in the new rulebook. Ule will pass a copy of all rulebook related materials, i.e., charts, forms, covering letters etc. by email to the Secretary and a CD will be sent to the Chairman. *The new board will decide on a replacement for Ule in this capacity at an upcoming meeting.*

#### **Disciplinary:**

Sam reported that there are two on-going issues that will be continued into the next board. Two additional complaints, 2004-9 and 2004-10, have been received and will be reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee.

Ule made a motion that we enter Executive Session to continue discussion with Disciplinary Committee. Brian seconded. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Lee, Aaron, Ule, Todd. Motion Carried.

Executive Session entered at 9:19AM MDT to review a past set of charges.

Executive left at 9:41 AM MDT.

#### **Judges and Guidelines:**

The Judges Committee has met and is offering the following recommendations.

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Bobby Brown from Texas from Provisional to Approved status. Todd made a motion to accept with Lee seconding. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Dan Wood from Washington from Provisional to Approved status. Todd made a motion to accept with Aaron seconding. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Gail D'Avolio from New Hampshire from Provisional to Approved status. Todd made a motion to accept with Lee seconding. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Melinda Roast from Nova Scotia from Apprentice to Provisional status. Aaron made a motion to accept with Jeff seconding. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Randy Kenzie from British Columbia from Apprentice to Provisional status. Lee made a motion to accept with Aaron seconding. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Danny Fitz from Colorado from Apprentice to Provisional status. The Judges Committee is recommending that Danny remain as an Apprentice judge and gain more experience with a minimum of 3 more measuring assignments.

Cynthia Henderson from Massachusetts from Provisional to Approved status. The Judges Committee is recommending that Cynthia remain as a Provisional judge and gain more experience with a minimum of 2 more measuring assignments.

Elyse Wallingford from Ontario from Provisional to Approved status. The Judges Committee recommends that Elyse be dropped from any judging status. Elyse has failed to build the required confidence necessary to be a NAFA judge after several years of being a Provisional Judge. Lee made a motion to accept the Judges Committee recommendation of removing Elyse's judging status. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Scott Stein from Vermont from Head Judge status to Supervising status. Jeff made a motion to accept with Lee seconding. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

Seanna O'Neill from Alberta from Provisional to Head Judge status. Seanna was informed in 2003 that she needed to have completed an out of province assignment in the year ending August 3, 2004 before any promotion could occur. To date, Seanna has not completed this assignments and the board recommends that her judge's status be removed. Lee moved that the board accept the Judges Committee recommendation to remove her status. Ken seconded the motion. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried.

*Brian will contact each candidate and review the change to their status. Subsequent updates will be made to the Judge's List.*

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Discussion ensued over some of the information deficiencies in the current approval form C17. The Judges Committee will make recommendations for change.

Brian requested the board approve the authorization for purchase of additional judge's pins which was covered under existing company expenditures. Brian will arrange with Terrie O'Connor to have a new batch pins created.

### **Finance Committee continued:**

The Chairman recognized Dale Smith as a guest to the meeting and asked Dale to provide some additional background to the financial presentation. Dale reported that NAFA uses the Cash Accounting method for its book-keeping and is a 501-C4 Non-profit organization. Dale gave an explanation of the background for salaries and ED staff and prepared an analysis of manual versus automated scoring. Expenses are recognized in the year paid, not year incurred

Glenn made a motion that Dale obtains externally prepared financial statements with an outside financial service for the years 2000 – 2004. Ule seconded. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Against: None. Motion Carried. Dale will commission that reporting to be done.

### **Standing Rules Committee:**

There was nothing to report.

### **Education and Training Committee:**

There was nothing to report.

### **NAFA® Videos:**

There was nothing to report.

### **Marketing and Development:**

Jeff presented a chart detailing the annual achievement of titles, which he used as an indicator of new people joining the sports. Jeff forecasts a decline in newcomer involvement in the sport, which may indicate a decline in interest in the sport. He is in the process of developing new marketing materials for use by clubs, which will be obtained from the web site. New artwork has been made and will be incorporated into the new brochures.

Jeff presented a map showing states and provinces that have not yet held a tournament. The impact was understood as to which areas needed improved marketing efforts.

There is concern that the change in the regional championship rule, i.e., scoring only 1 event per weekend, may have impact on NAFA tournament revenues. The Marketing Committee will monitor that situation.

The board confirmed the need to react to the flyball community's request by introducing two new titles at 1,000 and 2,500 points. Jeff made a motion to restructure the title system to beginning October 1, 2005. Todd seconded the motion. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ken, Lee, Todd. Against: Aaron, Ule. Motion Carried. Two new awards will be defined at the 1000 and 2500 point mark with titles to be defined by the Marketing Committee. These new awards will be effective within the 2006 racing year.

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A proposal was made to offer a financial incentive to clubs host an event in a new market, i.e., state or province. The idea would be to waive NAFA fees to a maximum of \$500 for hosting the first event in that state. The board felt that a recommendation be made by the marketing committee to propose a better method to encourage this development.

### Regional Champions:

The Regional and National Champions listing was presented for approval. Todd made a motion to accept the committee's analysis and Glenn accepted. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ule, Lee, Todd, Aaron. Abstain: Ken. Motion Carried.

The 2004 NAFA® Regional Champions are as follows:

	<b>Region</b>	<b>Regular Class</b>	<b>Multibreed Class</b>
1	MI OH	Spring Loaded	Spring Loaded
2	ON	Rocket Relay	Some Ruff Competition
3	IA MN ND NE SD	Animal Inn	Balls Out
4	IL IN KS KY MO WI	Gateway Flyball	TNT
5	AR LA OK TX	XDOGS Flyball	Hyper Flight
6	AZ CO NM NV UT	Touch'N Go	Touch'N Go
7	BC OR WA	Dogwood Pacesetters	N/A
8	MB SK	Inner Drive K-9 Sports	KAOS
9	NC SC VA WV	Blockade Runners	Hairier Jump Jets
10	NB NS PE	Fast 'n FURious	N/A
11	FL GA	Ketch This	Palm City Punchers
12	AB ID MT WY	Northern Power Paws	Spectrum Speed
13	CT MA ME NH NY QB RI VT	New England Trail Blazers	New England Trail Blazers
14	AL MS TN	The Gamblers	N/A
15	DE MD NJ PA	Fur Fun	Fur Fun
16	CA	Leap of Faith	Aztec Lickety Splits

The 2004 NAFA® National Champions are:

Regular Class..... Spring Loaded

Multibreed Class.... Spring Loaded

Congratulations to all NAFA Winners!

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### NAFA® News:

Carle Lee Dembeck is still awaiting a copy of Adobe Acrobat. In the interim, Glenn has offered to convert the document while the software gets to Carle Lee. Glenn will contact Carle Lee on November 14<sup>th</sup> with this suggestion.

## Old Business

### 1) Letter to Aaron Hughes.

Glenn received a copy of the letter that was sent by Sam.

### 2) Container for Measuring Wickets

Todd obtained a quotation from SCS Cases for a canvas bag to transport the measuring wickets. Several wickets have become damaged and there is hope that this will solve that problem. Todd will order 20 wicket bags.

### 3) Auction Results

A listing of the auction winners was presented and the receipt of payment for 4 of the 5 sets was noted. Dale has received the other cheque and forwarded the set to Florida. Arrangements are being made to ship the remaining sets ASAP.

Ule made a motion to recess the meeting so that the board can review the Signature Gear in operation at the tournament site.

The board recessed the meeting at 12:00 PM MDT and journeyed to the Heat Wave tournament site for a review of the Signature Gear prototype.

The board reconvened the meeting at 3:15PM MDT.

### 4) Breed Ban in Ontario

The proposed Breed Specific Legislation in Ontario was reviewed. Updates from November 4 to current were presented for the board so that it could provide due diligence on the impact to the NAFA rules. Glenn explained that several of the major lobbying groups had combined their efforts under the umbrella name Banned Aid Coalition rather than leave their efforts fragmented. Todd proposed that NAFA donate the sum of \$5,000 to the Banned Aid Coalition to support the fight against Breed Specific Legislation. Glenn seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Ken, Lee, Todd. Against: Jeff, Ule, Aaron. Motion Carried. Glenn will write the letter and forward the cheque to the Banned Aid Coalition.

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**New Business**

**1) Letter about Suspension of Waggz at Del Mar Sept. 18, 2004.**

The Executive Director will review the incident and decide if the suspension of Waggz was warranted.

**2) Letter from Peggy Knapp concerning Doug May.**

The Executive Director has already handled the issue.

**3) Letter from Toonies Flyball Club concerning Val Culpin, Randy Kenzie and Dave Demers.**

The board received the letter for information only.

**4) Letter from Barbara Craig regarding NAFA support of Flyball at AKC Peach Blossom Cluster.**

Barbara has requested support from NAFA to help support the Peach Blossom Cluster in mid-April. Jeff will write Barbara and open a dialogue with her to determine what further help can be provided with a copy to the secretary.

**5) Letter from Brett Williams regarding Regional Championships**

Brett inquired about the workings of the revised Regional Championship rule. Lee will respond with a copy to the Secretary.

**6) Proposal from Walter Davis regarding improvement to Delegate structure**

Walter has proposed a method that would enable delegates to be determined within the fiscal year providing a much more current assignment of delegate votes. As it now, teams must wait for more than a year to participate in NAFA elections. The secondary question to Walter's proposal is the assignment of the NAFA web site as the official communications tool as opposed to the printed NAFA® News. Walter's proposal will be taken under advisement and passed to the Technology Committee for feasibility.

**7) Request from Amanda Brown for use of NAFA trademark**

In the past, when Flyball clubs have requested the use of the NAFA logo, they have been granted the right to use the logo for a fund raiser for the fee of \$1.00. Brian made a motion that DogGoneFast flyball club be granted the right. Todd seconded.

For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ule, Lee, Ken, Todd, Aaron. Motion Carried.

Glenn will write Amanda advising her of the approval.

**8) Flyball in Oklahoma City for OKC Classic**

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Jeff will respond to Georgia and Bill Harris to provide information. Copy of correspondence to the secretary.

**9) Flyball to be added the Cyanosport World Games in Scottsdale, AZ.**

The board felt that there were many positive benefits to be gained by associating the event but that our rules will preclude using the event to decide the National Championship. Jeff will write to Ken Tatsch to begin a dialogue. Copy of correspondence to the secretary.

**10) Director's Liability Insurance.**

Steve will provide Glenn with a contact person at Sportsmen's Insurance.

**11) NAFA Obtaining Corporate Insurance for events**

The concept of NAFA obtaining corporate insurance policy was discussed. Lee will meet with a Risk Management Advisor in Michigan to get an opinion. Additional thoughts involve NAFA needing to introduce a standardized entry form with waiver. Aaron will provide details to Lee from the BC method and Glenn will provide copies of policy from another sport.

**12) Replacement Web Site Administrator.**

Tabled pending committee assignments.

**13) Relocation of ED's Files.**

Todd will obtain a storage area to manage the files to be received from the retiring Executive Director.

**14) Jump Height Sheet Request**

Brian has received the forms as requested from the Executive Director.

**15) Motion to Petition for Reinstatement of Judging Privileges of Val Culpin, Dave Demers and Randy Kenzie**

A motion was made by Terri May requesting that judges Val Culpin, Dave Demers and Randy Kenzie be returned to their prior status and that reinstatement take place immediately following the Board of Directors meeting with the judges being notified by phone within 24 hours and in writing (via Federal Express) within seven (7) days following this decision as well as updating the Judge's List on the NAFA web site to reflect their restored status. Ule seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Brian made a move that we enter Executive Session. Jeff seconded. For the motion: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Ule, Lee, Todd, Ken, Aaron. Motion Carried.

Executive Session was entered at 5:29PM MDT



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Executive Session was left at 5:51PM MDT

For the motion to reinstate the three judges: Aaron, Ule. Against: Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Lee, Todd, Ken. Motion Denied.

As a follow-up to this decision, Aaron Hughes submitted charges to the head of the Disciplinary Committee, Sam Ford.

### 16) Presentation to Steve McAvoy

The board presented an engraved mantel clock to Steve McAvoy for his many years of service to the North American Flyball Association.

Steve McAvoy left the meeting at 5:58PM, clock in hand! Ule left the meeting with Steve. Ule left his proxy with Todd until his return.

### 17) Signature Gear Presentation Round Table Discussion

Sam expressed his thanks to Dale Smith for his commitment to helping the development of the Signature prototype EJS. Due to the Dale's extensive work with Mark Kuznitz of Signature Gear, he will act in Mark's place. Dale has indicated that he has no relationship with Signature Gear.

Individual comments from the board members were elicited.

Ken: Concerned that the maximum separation of 22 feet will create cross talk between the left lane and right lanes in a ring. Signature is working on a solution and does understand the problem.

Concerned that the automatic false start recognition may not be completely thought out. Dale indicated that in an unusual circumstance, the judge may resort to a manual over ride.

Todd: Concerned that light tree is not bright enough for outside usage. As a colour, blue was not efficient for outside usage. The LED tree has a very high life cycle and is much more rugged than conventional bulbs. SG to work out a solution.

Brian: Battery usage is perceived to be a problem. SG feels that the benefit of wireless connectivity will out weigh this concern in Dale's life.

Lee: Concerned that the console could be locked down to prevent tampering. Dale assured that it could be done.

Requested that a variable switch could be incorporated to reduce the battery usage. A double brightness switch could be incorporated. A maintenance menu that is user selectable will be built to handle this type of modification. An additional menu will exist that allows the corporation to handle unit set up separate from the user manual. SG to examine.

Jeff: Concerned that start dog's split time includes the start delay. This will be removed so that the systems work the same as the current systems. In other words, line to line times. Could a system integrate a printer? Not so much for a tournament usage but for the use of a privately owned system. Keep the hyper-terminal interface.

Concerned about the light tree capability. Can you use some black banding to shield the light from outside light source? Dale will pick up some material to do more testing at Cyanosport field on November 13, weather permitting.

Requires a trouble shooting listing be developed as part of the package that travels.

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Aaron: Nothing

Glenn: Would like to see a stronger brace for the uprights. SG will provide.

Spare battery holder in uprights should be provided in the case as backup. Will be provided. Availability? Signature has formally committed to producing 5 units by March 31, 2005

Sam: The smallest display on the control box is the time display. Could it be expanded? The display is a stock item and cannot be replaced. We have lost the back lighting option.

Dale: Concerned over the quantity of pieces involved. Must make some effort to coordinate all of the pieces. SG's warranty is based on using his cases. NAFA must have a case for the cases to simplify shipping. The development of the super-cases must ensure that the weight remains below the excessive shipping charge limit.

Lee made a motion to approve the final payment of \$5000 to Signature Gear for the development of the prototype as outlined in the memorandum signed by NAFA on September 27, 2004. Brian seconded.

For the motion: Ule by proxy, Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Lee, Todd, Ken. Abstain: Aaron. Motion Carried.

Ule returned to the meeting at 7:08PM MDT.

Todd made a motion that directs the Chairman or his designate, to enter into negotiation with Signature Gear to deliver 5 complete EJS sets by April 1, 2005 with a contingency of 5 additional sets to follow. Brian seconded. Discussion followed where the development of the super-case should not hold up the development of the systems.

For the motion: Ule, Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Lee, Todd, Ken. Abstain: Aaron. Motion Carried.

Todd made a motion that approves expenditure for the first 5 Signature Gear systems priced to a maximum of \$9600 each including a 2 year warranty on all parts. Jeff seconded.

For the motion: Ule, Brian, Glenn, Jeff, Lee, Todd, Ken. Abstain: Aaron. Motion Carried.

Brian made a motion to adjourn. Lee seconded. All in favour.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:24PM MDT.