

# North American Flyball Association Inc.

Scottsdale, Arizona

November 13, 2004

## Abridged Annual General Meeting Minutes

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

Absent was Steve McAvoy, Executive Director.

Called to order at 7:44 PM Mountain Time by Chairman Sam Ford.

Sam expressed his thanks to the Heat Wave Flyball club for all their efforts in organizing the AGM and the associated flyball tournament. He then introduced the members of the board.

The Election Committee was introduced: Ule James as Chairman, Jonnie Geen & Margaret Burke who then left to count ballots.

Sam announced that the board had presented an engraved mantel clock to Steve McAvoy for his 16 years of continuous service to the NAFA community as both a Board member and Executive Director. Thanks Steve!

Sam thanked all of the candidates for this year's election. Scott Stein, Kris Pickering, Todd Morningstar, John Rutkowski, Dale Smith and Justin Gillies were all present at the AGM. Also introduced were the other candidates unable to attend: Dan Phillips, Randy Kenzie, Brian Friya, Paul Ferlitto. Thank you to everyone for your offer to serve.

Sam Ford offered a series of interesting facts drawn from the NAFA database:

- 305 tournaments were held in 26 states & 8 provinces were hosted by 127 clubs.

- 7,982 teams from 328 Clubs participated and they were made up of 6,177 unique dogs.

- dogs earned a total of 15,136,279 points for 5,340 new titles including: 301 ONYX, 143 FGDCH and 122 40K and above.

- 1352 new dogs were registered (918 retired).

- Tournament count history: 2001 - 207, 2002 - 231, 2003 - 278, 2004 - 305.

- 15% annual increase in number of tournaments offered in each of the last 3 years

The account balances and financial statements will be published in an upcoming NAFA News but draft copies were circulated at the meeting.

Sam noted that the board acted on the marketing committee's recommendation and would be introducing two new awards in the 500 to 5000 point range in FY2006, i.e. October 1, 2005. The point awards will be at

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1,000 and 2,500 points. Award names have not yet been decided but they will be announced in the upcoming year.

NAFA will be negotiating for a next generation EJS system. New ideas such as wireless communication, large displays for all sets, more rugged construction and 3<sup>rd</sup> decimal place accuracy are all part of the newly defined requirements.

Breed Specific Legislation is being fought in the province of Ontario as it is a problem that directly effects our enjoyment of Flyball. Sam discussed the impact of the legislation on Flyball and its community. A basic tenet of Flyball is that ALL dogs must be allowed to play. To help fight the BSL, the NAFA Board has voted to support the anti-BSL effort in Ontario called the Banned Aid Coalition with a donation of \$5,000. The NAFA board will continue to fight the fight with personal efforts as well as involvement from NAFA clubs and members.

Regional Directors Nancy Garcia, Scott Stein and Doug May were introduced.

Sam announced the NAFA Regional and National champions.

### 2004 NAFA Regional Champions were as follows:

Region	Regular-Champion	Multibreed-Champion
1	Spring Loaded	Spring Loaded
2	Rocket Relay	Some Ruff Competition
3	Animal Inn	Balls Out
4	Gateway Flyball	TNT
5	XDOGS Flyball	Hyper Flight
6	Touch'N Go	Touch'N Go
7	Dogwood Pacesetters	N/A
8	Inner Drive K-9 Sports	KAOS
9	Blockade Runners	Hairier Jump Jets
10	Fast `n FURious	N/A
11	Ketch This	Palm City Punchers
12	Northern Power Paws	Spectrum Speed
13	New England Trail Blazers	New England Trail Blazers
14	The Gamblers	N/A
15	Fur Fun	Fur Fun
16	Leap of Faith	Aztec Lickety Splits

### 2004 NAFA National Champions

Regular - Spring Loaded

Multibreed - Spring Loaded

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Sam then opened the floor for questions. Please note that not all speakers identified themselves and so their names may have been omitted.

Val Pearson asked whether clubs should be fined for having 2 EJS's ordered when only 1 ring was used as her club had been charged. She is agreeable to the concept of the fine but the consistent application of fines seems to be failing when it appears that other clubs are not being fined. Todd Morningstar, as EJS Coordinator, replied that an announcement had been in the NAFA News 18 months ago that fines would be levied when extra systems were ordered and shipped but not used. NAFA paid over \$48,000 in shipping costs and this was an effort to make EJS systems available to more people as well as to prolong the life of the systems by minimizing shipping. The tournament sanctioning form and/or database will be updated to include a warning to teams that a fine may be in order.

Bill Pinder asked why EJS sets are being shipped out of a region when in following weeks, tournaments require lights in the same region. Todd replied that sometimes, when other regions also require lights, the second set has been sent elsewhere and a last minute request for a second set cannot be fulfilled because there is a lack of EJS systems. Also, there is no interchangeability between the Hughes and Jason systems. If a club requests a large display, the Hughes system must be shipped in to replace the Jason system to work the display.

Nancy Garcia inquired as to the board's policy of assignment of the new proposed EJS systems to the regions. Todd replied that clubs should continue to request the timer display when requesting EJS's.

Elaine Austin asked if NAFA would reduce the radius between tournaments to allow more tournaments in a smaller area. Sam indicated that Elaine should write a proposal to the board requesting the change. Sam then explained the process of how the board deals with such proposals and their review.

Stan Eskridge inquired why there was no agenda published for the NAFA board meetings. In his opinion, the meeting's location should be announced and an agenda should be published. Sam replied that the current communication tool is the NAFA News and that work was underway to use the web site as a replacement to the NAFA News. Lee replied that a teleconference is a "Special Meeting" as defined in the Bylaws and is not subject to public attendance. The Bylaws state that the sole meeting required by the bylaws is the Annual General meeting

Jane Horsefield requested that the board announce the location of the face-to-face meetings on the web site.

Jackie Gillies asked that the club owners' email addresses be used to facilitate mass communication to the community. The irregular publishing of the NAFA News has made it difficult to rely on as a communication tool. The board indicated that it was moving towards that goal.

Pam Beane indicated that she thought communications between the community and the board were at a low point. She would like to propose that NAFA restructure itself so that each region has a board member to act as a local member and be responsible to their area. Sam indicated that past boards have rejected the idea. Justin Gillies replied that such an answer was inadequate and that the board should authorize a delegate vote to see what the flyball community desires. Pam indicated that the board's decisions seem to be based on what worked in their eastern areas, not what the western states required. Lee replied that that the statement was unfounded and untrue. Marge Henderson indicated that the concerns of the regions should be communicated through the Regional Directors to the board. Sam indicated that people could also communicate directly the board.

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Kathy Pachinski requested that Regional Directors be elected and that they possess power to manage the region more effectively. The issue was reiterated that the flyball community was not generally aware of when meetings were held and so it was difficult to gain access. Sam indicated that the communications should be addressed to [flyball@flyball.org](mailto:flyball@flyball.org) for inclusion in future meetings.

Val Pearson requested that board members be more available to the community, which becomes another reason for regional representation. If the regional director is to be the communications vehicle and the RD is not agreeable to the board, then that region is not properly represented.

Jim Carley wanted an explanation of why candidates should not be dedicated to regions. What board made that decision? Lee replied that as a candidate, he put his name on the slate and campaigned as a candidate to be included on the board. He indicated that his contacts in various regions and clubs help him to get a feeling for the regional needs. Sam indicates that he works the same way. Aaron replied that as a member of the past board, the feeling of that board was that the restructuring of the complete organization would be required at that time and that they weren't prepared to do so. Board members repeated that they are elected by the whole community and that they represent the entire community, not just regional interests.

Elaine Austin indicated that the Board of Directors, as stewards of the sport, are responsible for not only the financial well-being but also for the spiritual well-being of the community. She believes that the onus is on the board to review the problem that has been identified. It was also suggested that the board seek opinions directly from club owners. This issue was addressed earlier in the request for open board meetings.

Doug May wanted to know why the board could remove judges without evidence. He felt that the three judges that are used by his region were unfairly treated. Ken indicated that the board has a well-defined process that it follows to protect the rights of the participants. Glenn indicated that the board and the Executive Director reviewed the evidence and uniformly were of the opinion that a problem existed. The Executive Director then suspended their measuring rights. Investigation was done, process was followed and the demotion of judging status was upheld.

Val Pearson inquired as to what the process of investigation included. Lee replied that when a complaint is received by the board, it is sent to the Disciplinary Committee for review. If the DC feels that it has merit, the DC recommends to the board that a hearing is required. The full board then votes on the merits of the charges. If founded, then a hearing is announced. The accused is then accorded a hearing by the board and a verdict is obtained and a result decreed. If the DC finds that there is not a basis for charges but that other remedial options may be used, then the board is empowered to use them.

Pam Beane requested that a board member should follow a judge around and review their skills before any action is taken.

Jackie Gillies inquired as to how the Regional Championship rule or any other rule was changed. Sam indicated when a proposal is received, it is evaluated and if found to be of merit, then it is approved.

The board was congratulated on their taking a stand with the judges. Opinions were varied on the matter.

A request was made by Greg Stopay that a region by region breakdown of revenues be generated for review.

Due to limitations on the usage of the AGM meeting room, the meeting was recessed to an outside area at 9:35 PM MT.

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The meeting resumed at 9:51PM MT.

Sam indicated that a significant number of paper ballots had been submitted. During the counting process, each serial number of the paper ballots was being checked for validity against the electronic ballots. The Annual General Meeting is moved geographically each year so that various regions input can be heard.

Robin Combs reiterated that the club captains should be consulted for input.

Then the votes arrived! Ule James thanked the election committee and noted that Jonnie and Margaret worked very hard tallying the results.

For the 2004 elections, 1465 ballots were mailed to delegates.

952 or 64.98% were returned electronically. 91 paper ballots were returned (5 of which were discarded due to alteration) leaving 86 or 5.87% to be counted

1038 total ballots of the 1465 were returned.

For Executive Director:

Sam Ford 527  
Dan Phillips 471

For the Board:

Dale Smith 658  
Scott Stein 512  
Todd Morningstar 406  
Kris Pickering 354  
Paul Ferlitto 274  
Randy Kenzie 242  
Brian Fryia 171  
John Rutkowski 147  
Justin Gillies 108

Clyde Moore Hall of Fame  
Hobbes

Regional Most Valuable Player Awards

Region 1 Cosmo  
Region 3 Mia  
Region 4 Lexi  
Region 5 Mandy  
Region 7 Rocket  
Region 8 Bayley  
Region 9 Maggie  
Region 10 Jovi  
Region 11 Goldeneye  
Region 12 Buddy Hendriks  
Region 13 Daisy  
Region 14 Bailey

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The meeting was recessed at 10:01PM MT.

The meeting was reconvened at the Hampton Inn at 10:47 PM MT.

Sam called the meeting to order. Dale Smith and Scott Stein were invited to attend the meeting.

Aaron, Brian and Jeff requested that the board enter Executive Session.

Executive Session was entered at 10:49PM MT to hold elections for the 2005 Board of Directors.

Executive Session was left at 11:10PM MT.

The 2005 Executive was elected as follows:

Chairman	- Lee Heighton
Vice Chairman	- Jeff Kinsley
Treasurer	- Dale Smith
Secretary	- Glenn Hamilton

Pursuant to the results of the 2004 election, Sam Ford respectfully submitted his resignation effective at the close of the meeting.

Lee made a motion that the board accept Sam's resignation from the board. Todd seconded.  
In favour: Lee, Aaron, Jeff, Todd, Ule, Brian, Glenn and Ken. Against: None. Motion carried.

Brian made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Lee seconded the motion.  
In favour: Lee, Aaron, Jeff, Todd, Ule, Brian, Glenn and Ken. Against: None. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:14PM MT.