

# North American Flyball Association Inc.

Teleconference  
September 7, 2005

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Present were: Executive Director Sam Ford  
Board of Directors Glenn Hamilton,  
Brian Fay,  
Jeff Kinsley,  
Todd Morningstar,  
Kris Pickering,  
Dale Smith,  
Scott Stein

Called to order at 7:39 PM Central Time by Vice Chairman Jeff Kinsley. Ken Eldridge and Lee Heighton were unable to attend due to business commitments.

### Opening Remarks

The special meeting was called to review immediate issues requiring discussion by the board. In Lee's absence, Jeff assumed the role of chairing the meeting.

### Judge's Training Program

The Judges Committee has upgraded the draft proposal based on the feed back obtained in the Detroit board meeting. Grammatical corrections were made and cross references were added as requested. Brian made a motion that the board accept the proposal as submitted. Kris seconded the motion. Scott noted that the Judges forms, C16 and C17, would need to have the titles changed to reflect the new judging titles and additional assignments. The new training program will be published in the rulebook as Appendix D. There was no opposition to the motion.

The forms will be circulated to the Judges committee to approve the forms seeking approval before publishing.

### Veterans Class

The draft of the proposed class structure was distributed to the board prior to this discussion. The Rules committee is divided in its support of the proposal. The belief is that there are older dogs who would continue to play Flyball if the jump heights were reduced to a minimum, if the false start was removed and the racing limited to a discrete number of heats in keeping with the reduced abilities of the older dogs. The possibility of a Regional Championship was originally proposed but again the board was divided and on balance felt there was no requirement for a regional championship at this time.

In discussion, several other issues were discussed. What is the purpose of the class? Will there be a demand for the class? How can we protect the abilities of the older dogs? Should we remove the false start rule from Veteran's? Will the points earned at the reduced heights be deemed to be less difficult than in the Regular and Multi-breed classes? Consensus was reached on the following points.

Minimum Jump height  
Maximum 16 heats per day

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No 5 of 5 format  
No false start  
Seeding list to be established  
No Regional Champions  
1 year trial basis until September 30, 2006  
Can run on Veterans one day and Regular or Multi the next day in a two day tournament

These considerations have been incorporated into the following rule changes that define the new Veterans class. Additions to the existing rules have been underscored. The class can be offered effective October 1, 2005 and will be run on a trial basis for 1 year until September 30, 2006.

### **RULES OF RACING – page 10 - 11**

#### **B) Section 8.2 - Jump Heights**

(a) Except as provided in paragraph 8(c) below, jump heights shall be set at a minimum of four inches lower than the height at the withers of the smallest dog on the team (running, not stand-by), to a minimum of 8 inches. Maximum jump height shall be 16 inches;

(b) Jump heights shall be adjusted in one inch increments, to the lowest whole number (14 and 3/4 inches becomes 14 inches).

(c) In the Veterans class, jump heights shall be set at the minimum jump height stated in paragraph 8.2 (a) without regard to the height of the dogs racing.

#### **Section 8.3 - The Heat**

(a) The Run: Dogs may start from a stationary or running start. Each dog is to hurdle the four jumps in succession, trigger the box, and return over all four jumps and the start/finish line with the ball in its mouth. Only when the first dog has reached the start/finish line with any part of its body (on the ground or in the air) may the second dog reach the start/finish line with any part of its body (generally this is a nose to nose pass at the start/finish line), and so on for all four dogs as well as dogs that must run again.

(b) False starts: Except in the Veteran's class:

(i) When any part of the dog's body, whether in the air or on the ground, or any part of the handler's body or their objects passes the start/finish line before the timing of the race begins, an infraction will be called by the line judge and the head judge and the heat will be restarted;

(ii) If a second such infraction is called against the same team for that heat, an infraction will be indicated and the dog must run again;

(iii) If a second false start is called coincidental with the opposing team's first false start, the heat is to be restarted.

In the Veteran's class, heats will not be restarted for false starts but shall continue, with the dog that committed the false start being required to rerun for the team to complete the heat.

### **CORPORATE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – page 27**

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### Section 6.2 - Classes of Competition

(a) NAFA® recognizes four classes of competition: Regular, Multibreed, Veterans and Non-Regular.

(b) The NAFA® Regular class of competition includes teams made up of any breed(s) of dog and/or mixed breeds and **must be offered at every sanctioned tournament.**

(c) A Non-Regular class (Pee-wee, four-of-a-kind, etc.), is any class other than the NAFA® Regular, Multibreed, and Veterans class.

(d) In Multibreed competition, teams must consist of different breeds (minimum of 4, maximum of 6 with 4 different breeds running in a heat) recognized by any of the following Kennel Club's: American Kennel Club, Canadian Kennel Club, United Kennel Club, Mexican Kennel Club, American Rare Breed Association, American Herding Breed Association or a dog of mixed breeding.

(e) In the Veterans' class, every dog on the team must be at least 8 years old. The Veteran's class shall be subject to the following additional rules:

- (i) Race Schedule. The race schedule in the Veterans Class shall not call for more than a total of 16 possible heats per day, and the racing format shall not include a 5/5 or more strenuous format;
- (ii) False Starts. In the Veterans class, in the event of a false start as defined in Rule 8.3(b)(i) of the Rules of Racing, the heat shall not be restarted but the heat shall continue to be run. For the team to finish the heat, the dog that committed the false start must run again as the fifth dog in the heat;
- (iii) Jump Heights. In the Veterans class, jump heights shall be set at the minimum height stated in Rule 8.2(a) of the Rules of Racing, without regard to the height of the racing dogs.

(f) No dog shall be listed on more than one time sheet in any given class of competition. A dog listed on a time sheet in the Veterans class at a tournament, may not be listed on time sheet for any other class of competition in that tournament unless the classes are scheduled so as to be run on separate days to maximum of one additional class. No dog shall be listed on the timesheets from more than one club at any given event.

- (g) Dogs may not compete in more than one class at a NAFA® sanctioned tournament except
- (i) When the tournament's regular class is unlimited or;
  - (ii) When all entries received for a tournament's limited entry regular class are accepted.

Todd made a motion to accept the proposed rule changes as revised throughout the discussion. Dale. In favour: Todd, Brian, Scott, Dale, Kris, Glenn. The proposed class will be added to the upcoming rule book.

### Ballots

The 2005 ballots have been sent to the delegates. The biographies for board candidate are currently published at <http://nafadb.flyball.org/vote2005>

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**NAFA News**

The NAFA News will be published with the candidate biographies by September 30, 2005.

Scott moved that we adjourn the meeting. Brian seconded. There was unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 10:31PM Central.