

## Highlights of May 8, 2010 NAFA® Board meeting

### CanAm Guinness World Record Attempt:

Guinness World Records™ has approved an application for NAFA to attempt to set a world record in the newly established category, “largest flyball tournament.” In order for the record to be set, at least 500 dogs will need to participate in the tournament on Saturday, October 9, 2010.

### New Mailing address for NAFA:

- **North American Flyball Association, Inc.**  
1333 West Devon Avenue, #512  
Chicago, IL 60660

### CanAm Sponsorship Matching Program:

A group of anonymous NAFA flyball supporters is sponsoring a CanAm matching program to match any individual and club sponsorships up to \$5,000.00. A \$100 minimum donation is required to qualify for the program.

### Judges:

The following judges were granted advancement:

- Phil Getty, Kokomo IN – Approved to Supervising
- Amy Brubaker, Durham NC – Provisional to Approved
- Dirk Elber, Christiansburg VA – Provisional to Approved
- Hugh Morrow, Etobicoke ON - Apprentice to Provisional

### Rule Changes:

The following rule changes are effective October 1, 2010 (except where otherwise noted).

- **Balls.** Section 1.2 (page 3 of the current rulebook) was modified as follows:  
Each club shall have a supply of ~~unpunctured approved~~ round balls ~~(any color)~~. ~~Subject to the size, safety, and comfort of the dogs, racket balls, or approved balls may be used.~~ Approved balls must function like a tennis ball, i.e., they must bounce and roll to be retrieved from the box may be any color, must bounce when dropped onto a hard surface, must roll, and must perform as required per Chapter 1 Section 1.1(d). Balls may not contain a noise maker, e.g. bells or squeakers.
- **Modifications to Form C.6.** The results form was modified in light of the rule changes enacted in January regarding submission of electronic results. Please note that this modification was effective immediately.
- **Double running of dogs.** Several rules were modified as follows:  
Section 5.1 – Code of Ethics (page 23 of the current rulebook), modified to include:  
(d) Misconduct shall include, but not be limited to, abusive or foul language, demonstration of dissatisfaction with a judge’s decision, inhumane treatment of a dog, racing a dog who is not in

adequate physical condition for the number of heats the dog is asked to run, demonstration of poor sportsmanship, willful violation of the rules with the intent to gain an unfair advantage, or any other behavior or altercation that would leave a spectator or exhibitor with an unfavorable opinion of Flyball.

Chapter 3 - Teams and Timesheets (page 6 of the current rulebook), modified as follows:

- (e) A dog may be listed on two timesheets per day unless:
- (i) All entries received for a tournament's limited entry Regular Class were not accepted at the conclusion of the automated draw.
  - (ii) The timesheets are in the same class of competition.
  - (iii) The dog is listed on a timesheet in Veterans Class. A dog listed on a time sheet in the Veteran's class at a tournament may not be listed on a 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 a maximum of one additional class.

Section 6.2 - Classes of Competition (page 30 of the current rulebook), modified as follows:

- (a) NAFA® recognizes five classes of competition: Regular, Multibreed, Open, Veteran's 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 ...
- (d) In Multibreed competition, teams must consist of ...
- (e) The Open Class is subject to all existing NAFA® Rules of Racing and Corporate Policies and Procedures except that the 87 day rule stated in Section 7.5(a) of the Corporate Policies and Procedures does not apply to the Open Class. The Open Class is subject to the following additional specific rules:
- (i) Other Classes or Time Sheets. A dog that is listed on a timesheet for a team in the Open Class may be listed on the timesheet for one additional team in another Class on the same day, except in circumstances where a second entry would be prohibited by Sections 6.2(f) or (g) of the NAFA® Policies and Procedures.
  - (ii) Club Affiliation. A dog's club affiliation is not affected by reason of running in the Open Class.
  - (iii) Seeding. ...
  - (iv) Record Times and NAFA® Seed Times...
- (f) In the Veteran's class, every dog ...
- (i) Race Schedule...
  - (ii) False Starts. In the Veteran's class, ...
  - (iii) Jump Heights. In the Veteran's class, ...
- ~~(g) 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 Veteran's class at a tournament may not be listed on a 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 a maximum of one additional class.~~
- ~~(h) 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 at the conclusion of the automated draw.~~

- **Use of flaps/shields/or wings on boxes.** Section 1.1(e)(v) (page 2 of the current rulebook) was modified:  
 The box shall not exceed these dimensions at any time during the heat (including any ~~permanent~~ attachments to the box, e.g. carrying handles, cocking devices, or flaps/shields/wings). The boxloader may not change the configuration of the box during the heat except as needed to load the ball or to straighten the box if it has shifted during the heat. If the box exceeds these dimensions at any time during the heat the team shall be awarded a “No Finish.” Judges have the discretion to declare a box unsafe and therefore not usable.  
 \*note that the language “and the team shall be awarded a “No Finish.”” was added via unanimous consent on May 18, 2010.
- **Minimum runback.** The length of the racing lane shall include an area not less than 50 feet leading up to the start/finish line and an area behind the box line and in front of the backstops to a minimum of 5 feet and that the backstops may protrude up to 2 feet in front of the box line. For tournaments held in venues that will not accommodate 50 feet of runback, the tournament director may apply for an exception from the Executive Director if adequate notice is given to teams and appropriate safety measures are put in place. If the Executive Director grants an exception, the tournament will not count for regional points.
- **Tournaments held in adjacent regions by clubs who have elected into another region.** There was no rule modification, but there was clarification that events may be sanctioned by two clubs from different adjacent regions concurrently. Events that count for two regions are sanctioned as two events – one in each region – the entries and results are separated by region, but the actual tournament is run as one event. Both host clubs get delegate votes – one in each region.
- **Multiple tournaments in one region on the same weekend.** Section 8.3(f) (page 40 of the current rulebook) was modified:  
 When a region hosts events in more than 7 tournament weeks, a Club will earn regional points from up to 80 percent of the tournament weeks in that region based on the Club’s best finish from any event to a maximum of 10 tournaments held in separate tournament weeks. In the case where multiple events exist in a tournament week, regional points are still awarded based on in-region placement within each tournament. When regional points are not awarded due to a Club’s ~~prior~~ win in the same week, the points will not be awarded to teams finishing lower in the tournament. For example, if a Club finishes first on each day, then the fastest time will be used for that Club’s regional points but no first place points will be awarded on the second day as the winner has blocked out the win from other Clubs.
- **Training in the ring during racing.** Chapter 3 (page 5 of the current rulebook) modified:  
 (c) Each team is to consist of a minimum of four dogs and four handlers, with a maximum of six dogs and six handlers, plus a box loader and at the discretion of the team, a runner or two, to pick up loose tennis balls, to set up knocked down jumps, or to otherwise assist the team, provided doing so does not interfere with the judges or the opposing team and does not in any way assist the dogs in navigating the course or violate the rules.
- **Consolidation of rules for running without EJS.** Addition of a new Section 8.7:  
 The following rules apply when racing any heat without EJS for any reason:
  - a) The breakout rule (section 8.1) does not apply;
  - b) Racing procedures
    - (1) The Head Judge (starter and referee) shall be positioned between the racing lanes in the area between the start/finish line and the lead dogs to start the heat. If necessary, a Head Judge shall reposition himself/herself so as not to interfere with competing teams.

- (2) The Head Judge shall maintain a consistent starting cadence of approximately one (1) second intervals throughout the tournament, and shall indicate the start with a whistle. For example, please see illustration 5.1. In tournaments with multiple judges, uniform visual start signals should be used.

**INSERT: Illustration 5.1 – Starting positions without Electronic Judging System**

**“Ready” “Set” “Tweet”**

- (3) Early passes and other infractions will be indicated by the Line Judge and/or the head judge;
  - (4) If necessary, the Head Judge (starter and referee) should be in position to assist the Line Judges in determining winners of close heats.
  - (5) In determining the winner of the heat, the Line Judges’ decision must be unanimous and shall be based on their visual view of the finish line, **not on the clocks**. If the Line Judges are not in agreement, the Head Judge shall consult with the Line Judges and either declare a winner or declare the heat to be a tie.
- **Modifications to 7 and 8 team single eliminations brackets.** There were modifications to these brackets to correct typographical errors regarding placement of teams. Please note that this modification was effective immediately.

Review Panel:

The following dogs were excused for aggression.

- Calvin, CRN 080141 – April 17, 2010
- Fling!, CRN 090997 – April 24, 2010