

NAFA Board of Directors Annual General Meeting January 18th, 2020

Hosted by No Speed Limit and Scallywags flyball clubs, The Oriole Dog Training Club, [9 Azar Ct, Halethorpe, MD 21227](#)

Steve called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Welcome

Steve thanked No Speed Limit and Scallywags for offering to host the AGM

Introduction of Board Members

- Steve Corona, Texas, Region 5
- John Hendriks, Alberta, Region 12
- Lynda Mantler, British Columbia, Region 7
- Dana Hanson, Georgia, Region 9
- Dirk Elber, Virginia, Region 9
- Kathy Haney, California, Region 16
- Leerie Jenkins, North Carolina, Region 9
- Emma Mak, Ontario, Region 2

ED Comments

- First, I'd like to apologize for not being able to be there in person for the AGM. Due to family commitments, I wasn't able to be there in person for this evening's meeting. I would like to thank No Speed Limit and Scallywags for hosting us for our annual meeting.
- Second, I'd like to take just a moment to thank a few people that are not board members, but whose contributions are critical to our day to day success.
 - Annie Taylor, who handles the tournament results and all awards for all of our competitors
 - Kelly Price - Kelly handles all the EJS coordination and trying to ensure that all 21 regions have all the right EJS at the right time, with as many as 7 events per weekend and multiple EJS at those events.
 - Gord & Emma Mak, who take care of all our database needs, including online sanctioning, scoring and points tracking
 - Kim Davis, who takes care of all our website needs
 - Emily Getty, who handles height cards
 - Dale Smith, who continues to assist the board with his contributions to the technology committee.
 - Karen Oleson, who handles or assists in almost all aspects of NAFA. She does more on a day to day basis for NAFA than anyone, and would be totally lost without her incredible contribution.
 - Our RDs are the Executive Director's eyes and ears throughout the regions. They perform most of their work behind the scenes and are an indispensable asset to NAFA, and I sincerely appreciate all the work they do for all of us. Steve noted that these hard working individuals perform all these duties as volunteers.

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1. This year we have two long serving board members that are rolling off the board, both of whom were elected 6 years ago, and I would like to thank each of them.
 - a. First, is Dirk Elber. Dirk has been a long serving judge in NAFA, on top of serving the NAFA Board for the past 6 years. Dirk has served across a number of committees over that time, and in particular provided a lot of passionate service to the Rules and Judges committees. Over the years, Dirk and I have had a lot of respectful debates over a number of issues, and I've always appreciated that he brings a different perspective to the board, and one that he is willing to fight for. I think it's important quality in a board member, and I will certainly miss having him on the board. In addition to both judging and serving the Board, Dirk has also been a critical member of our CanAm organizing committee, and thankfully he will continue to assist us going forward. I am sorry I couldn't be here for his last meeting, but a sincere thank you to Dirk for all his service to NAFA.
 - b. The other member rolling off is John Hendriks. John has also served the board the last 6 years. On top of being a board member, John has also served as the RD for region 12 all throughout that time. John has served the board selflessly, dedicating himself to trying to solve some of the long standing issue NAFA has experienced with respect to measuring. John served a number of years as rules committee chair, and helped clear up a number of rules that lead to a bunch of issues we faced. He's continued that work by dedicating his efforts to building a more dog and handler friendly device to measure dogs. John's sensibilities and level headedness have been incredible assets, and we will miss his contributions immensely. Thank you for all your service!
2. Highlights - Next, I would like to go over a few highlights from this past year.

Incredible Dog Challenge - This past summer, NAFA was approached by Purina to rekindle a flyball competition at the Incredible Dog Challenge in September. They wanted to invite four teams to compete in the event, which had not featured competitive flyball in well over a decade. Purina invited the finalist from the 2018 CanAm Championship, and the finalist from the UFLi Championships. It wasn't easy on any of the clubs, as the temperatures were hot, and all 4 clubs had to train their dogs to run outside on grass, which has become much more rare in the past decade for many regions. By all accounts it was a great event and excellent sportsmanship across the two organizations. I'd like to offer my thanks to all four clubs for a job well done. The four clubs that attended were:

Animal Inn, Region 3, Minnesota
Omaha Speedracers, Region 21, Nebraska
Skidmarkz, Region 21, Iowa
Hyperflight, Texas

- a. AKC TV. This past summer, Mr. Corona and I had the opportunity to meet with AKC TV. AKC TV is looking to expand their content and would like to feature flyball. They plan to livestream a few flyball tournaments this coming year, including CanAm. We are excited about this collaboration with the AKC and we hope to broaden the reach of our sport and organization.
- b. Online Sanctioning - we are very excited that online sanctioning is now available on our website, and a huge thank you to Emma Mak for all the work she did in getting this up and running!
- c. New Measuring - We got a lot of great feedback in a live environment today on the two new devices NAFA is considering for measuring. The devices are on their way to Region 9, then Region 3 for more feedback and testing.

d. World Cup - This coming May, NAFA will be sending 7 teams from 6 clubs to the Flyball World Cup hosted in Belgium. We are very excited to have representation from both Canada and the United States this time as well! It's a huge commitment from these clubs, so please offer you support. I hope they all do us proud and play hard, play fair and race fast. The following clubs will be going this spring:

Animal Inn, USA, Region 3, Minnesota
Crazy Train, USA, Region 6, Arizona
Engage Flyball, USA, Region 7, Washington
Unorthodogs, USA, Region 7, Washington
Defending Champion Fur Fun, USA, Region 9, North Carolina
Spring Loaded, Canada, Region 2, Ontario - they are sending 2 teams!

Trivia Question:

Since 10/1/98 - 12/31/2019 Carle Lee has judged in 442 divisions, 158 events, and 134 weekends.

How many of those divisions were in Region 15? 210

The tie breaker question: lis how many divisions were in Region 9? 175

Statistics for 2019

of events hosted: 304
of states: 35 different States/Provinces
of unique clubs hosting: 121
of teams that raced in the events: 6656
of clubs represented: 289
of total club entries: 3150
of teams by class:
 Regular: 2599
 Multibreed: 615
 Open: 3351
 Veterans: 79
 CanAm: 8
 CanAm-Multi: 4
of new titles: 4936
of new Iron Dogs: 177
of dogs earning titles: 2509
of points during the year: 11,040,713
of dogs earning points during the year: 4378
of different breeds earning points during the year: 130
of new dogs registered: 855

Steve invited Leerie to report on the progress of the new EJS. Recently Dave Thomas and the tech committee has been working on the next generation EJS to make it smaller, lighter and less expensive. He is working on a design that will utilize a single pole in the center and two side poles.

Leerie turned over the floor to John.

Board Election Results

John Bescher, Cindy Henderson and Leerie Jenkins were elected to the board. In addition, Kurt Johnson accepted a 1 year appointment to fill a vacancy on the board.

2020 NAFA Officers

Chairman – Steve Corona
Vice Chairman – Emma Mak
Secretary – Lynda Mantler
Treasurer – Dana Hanson

ED Election

Neil Flood was elected Executive Director

Judge of the Year

Paul Ferlitto was elected Judge of the Year

Clyde Moore Hall of Fame

Emma owned by Kate and Trey Corum, Chattanooga Chomp

Regional MVP

Region 1

No Nominees

Region 2

No Nominees

Region 3

Marbles - Mix - 130314 - (822) E-Z-Goin' - Bob Atol

Region 4

Chaos - Border Collie - 120185 - (85) Canine Dirt Diggers - Sarah Ketcham,
Boyd Rineck

Region 5

Scooter - Rat Terrier - 090427 - (343) Alamo Racing Canines - Micky Colson

Region 6

Kamikaze - Mix - 150134 - (757) Crazy Train - Heather Wright

Region 7

Luka - Golden Retriever - 090586 - (1041) Ruffin' Tuff - Kris McBride

Region 8

Camo - Mix - 110335 - (858) Wild - Brittney Voth

Region 9

Andy - Toy Poodle - 150192 - (1087) Carolina Overdrive - Margi Baldwin Moore

Region 10

Slice - Mix - 120628 - (1002) On My Go! - Amanda Keddy

Region 11

Ruckus - Border Collie - 090819 - (920) Terminal Velocity - Carla Parravani

Region 12

No Nominees

Region 13

No Nominees

Region 14

HeyU - Labrador Retriever - 120231 - (906) Dixie Flyers - Jeanne Harem

Region 15

No Nominees

Region 16

Singe - Mix - 150802 - (481) Bay Racers - Dawn/ Diana Painter/ Foster

Region 17

No Nominees

Region 18

Diva - Siberian Husky - 140646 - (695) Alaska Dogs Gone Wild - Maija Doggett

Region 19

DD - Mix - 140700 - (765) LAUNCH - Susi Evans

Region 20

Pauline - Mix - 190402 - (1060) Game On! - Mélody Taillon

Region 21

Thriller - Border Collie - 110316 - (1062) On the Flipside - Jamie Sue Scebold

Region 22

No Nominees

Region 23

No Nominees

Regional Champs_

2019 NAFA Regional Champions

	Regular	Multibreed
Region 1	Fur In A Blur (681)	-
Region 2	Spring Loaded (490)	Spring Loaded (490)
Region 3	Animal Inn (2)	-
Region 4	Canine Dirt Diggers (85)	Outrun (899)
Region 5	Lone Star Ruffnecks (406)	Texas Twisters (642)
Region 6	Crazy Train (757)	Crazy Train (757)
Region 7	Run Free (801)	-
Region 8	Holeshot Racers (734)	-
Region 9	Fur Fun (171)	Fur Fun (171)
Region 10	On My Go! (1002)	-
Region 11	Celtic Mayhem (1025)	Barkaholics (883)
Region 12	Northern Power Paws (475)	-
Region 13	2 Fast Fur U (763)	Mass Chaos (965)
Region 14	Dixie Flyers (906)	Dixie Flyers (906)
Region 15	Blue Ridge Blast (898)	Blue Ridge Blast (898)
Region 16	Mutts in Motion (626)	Pacific Pups (904)

Region 18	Alaska Dogs Gone Wild (695)	-
Region 19	LAUNCH (765)	-
Region 20	Muscle Memory (1019)	Fly Ball Insanity (508)
Region 21	Skidmarkz (532)	On the Flipside (1062)

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2019 NAFA Champions

2019 NAFA Champions	
Regular	Multibreed
Skidmarkz (532)	Fur Fun (171)

2019 ROCC (Regional Overall Club Champions) Official Standings

The following summary provides the top 3 finishes for ROCC in each region. Further details can be found at http://www.nafaflyball.com/database/report_ROCC.php?FY=2019

2019 ROCC			
	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place
Region 1	Slammers	Mighty Mutts, Rockin Flyball Gang, Fur in a Blur	Canine Express
Region 2	Pretty Darn Quick	Back Draft, Spring Loaded	Rocket Relay

Region 3	Animal Inn	E-Z-Goin'	High Velocity
Region 4	BC Boomerangs	Ruff Position	Canine Dirt Diggers
Region 5	Lone Star Ruffnecks	Texas Twisters	Barkworthy
Region 6	Crazy Train	Arizona Supercharged	K9 Outlaws
Region 7	Run Free	Stumptown Racers	Engage
Region 8	C.O.K.C. High Flyers	Holeshot Racers	Good2Go Flyball
Region 9	Fur Fun	DogGoneFast	Blockade Runners
Region 10	On My Go!	Maple Leaps	Fast 'n FURious
Region 11	Celtic Mayhem	Tampa Bay Barkaneers	All Revd Up
Region 12	Synergetic Surge	Redline Dogsports	Northern Power Paws
Region 13	Mass Chaos	2 Fast Fur U	Ruff Enuff, Flyball MAINEiacs
Region 14	Dixie Flyers	Panama City Sea Dogs	Music City Road Dogs
Region 15	Scallywags	Blue Ridge Blast	No Speed Limit
Region 16	SoCal Frequent Flyers	INXS	Pacific Pups
Region 18	Alaska Dogs Gone Wild	Glacier Shakers	Pawsitive Synergy

Region 19	LAUNCH	Altitude, Bad Company	Agents of Chaos
Region 20	Game On!	Muscle Memory	Paws on Fire
Region 21	Skidmarkz	Omaha Speedracers	Disorderly Conduct

John gave the floor back to Steve

Delegate Questions

Jump Heights

Jump heights are five inches lower than the height at the withers of the height dog. received 20.87% of the delegate votes.

Jump heights are six inches lower than the height at the withers of the height dog received 79.13% of the delegate vote.

Passed: With overwhelming delegate support, the Board of Directors chose to implement this change effective February 29, 2020.

Minimum Jump Height

- A. Minimum Jump Height is 7 inches received 42.55% of the delegate vote.
- B. Minimum Jump Height is 6 inches received 52.75% of the delegate vote.

Not passed: As there was not a 2/3rds majority for this vote, the minimum jump will not change and will remain at 7 inches.

Q&A

Beth Logue from Happily Evfer After - There are multiple regions that don't have MVPs. It seems like it is hard to nominate dogs for MVP because the form indicates you need your club owner's permission. Would the board consider changing that?

The regions without MVPs did not have any submissions for the MVP category.

Leerie - I think we are open minded to having something else. Need to avoid having too many nominations. Carle Lee suggest perhaps the RD could also give permission to nominate.

Julie Tune - Appreciated in R9 that they never nominated a dog from their own club. this is a regional MVP award and it should be that way. It would be nice if maybe NAFA more positively promotes nominations via social media.

Sheri Ralls BRB - Reading the transcripts from the candidate chats regarding how to promote flyball more. Do you have other ideas on how to get new people in?

Steve - The AKC Incredible Dog Challenge should be a large exposure for flyball. It will be up to Purina and Carson events to decide if that will continue. We get this question frequently. The marketing committee has flyers that can be put out at demos if you hold them. It is truly a grass roots effort to get more people involved in flyball. There is a link on the NAFA website to print or order brochures.

Julie Tune - On the chats, were discussing having town halls to reach out to the community. Would the board consider changing how members are elected so that more regions are represented? Perhaps consider Members-at-Large.

Steve - That would mean a change to the by-laws and can certainly be presented to the current board for consideration. Not everyone wants to run for the board, it wouldn't be helpful to have people who don't want to be on the board elected to the board.

Rose King, Revolution Flyball - In our region it's a struggle to find venues in which to host. We don't get real representation of our region in placements because the faster clubs don't race at the venue that hosts most of the events. Is NAFA doing anything to help or partnership with venues?

Steve - All the regions are feeling the pinch, even if we got into a partnership, where is the space? If you can't make money on an event because of the venue, then you need to raise the entry fees to break even. It used to be that R9 & 15 would travel to each other's tournaments, but now you don't because of either saturation, (too many events). Offering raffle items on-line prior to tournaments could be a way for clubs to help off-set a small portion of increased venue costs. Flyball still is an inexpensive sport.

John - as a region consider increasing across the board your event fees.

Dana spoke about ways his club is trying to break even by working with the venue for a discount

Julie Tune - using break time for green dog practice, this helped bring in additional monies. I'd like you to consider a green dog within a club allow a seasoned dog to practice with that green dog on a C.2.

Leerie - That is a day-to-day decision that is a policy Neil made. Mat time/single dog racing it is up to the host club to determine if mat time/single dog racing it can happen. Maybe allow a dog to be on only a single C.2 and also help the green dog during the day.

Julie Tune - What is NAFA doing to reduce their costs? How can NAFA reduce costs with regards to opt-in or opt-out of plaques/certificates.

Digital delivery of certificates has been discussed, there are some people who WANT the rosettes/ribbons etc. When you initially register your dog, you will be able to choose if you want or don't want to receive awards from NAFA.

Dana - this year we spent about \$40,000 in plaques/awards. Another area is in shipping costs. Everybody is excited when they have their first dog run, but after many years it isn't as important to receive those awards. The choice to opt in or out of receiving these plaques/awards is in the works.

Steve - We are all feeling the reduction in entries, we're very pleased to have Dana who is wonderful with accounting and seeing where the trouble points are. The new EJS being able to park multiple in each region will be a cost saving. As a board, there has been discussion of dropping an in-person meeting each year. It is very different than a tele-conference. The in-person meetings ensure engagement, drive participation and communication will be better understood.

Julie Tune- It is noted that when reading the minutes, the board goes in and out of executive sessions which makes the minutes hard to follow. Suggest have an open session and an executive session. Table till the executive session to see if anything further comes up and discuss those items all at once.

Adjourn – John Hendriks moves to adjourn the 2020 AGM, Dirk seconds. There was no opposition, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm.