

Agenda  
NAFA® Board of Directors Meeting – April 13, 2019 – 9:00 AM  
Holiday Inn Express Atlanta Airport  
4601 Best Road / College Park, GA 30337

**Officers' Reports**

Chair's Comments:

- Welcome

Executive Director's Comments:

Treasurer's Report:

Secretary's Report:

Election Committee:

**Standing Committee Reports**

Judges Committee:

- James Scott Wilhelm – Silt, CO - New Novice
- Ally Boni – Dugald, MB - New Novice
- Paula Johnson – Hamilton, ON – New Apprentice
- Joan Weesies – Gulfport, FL – Provisional to Approved

Rules Committee:

1. "Sweater balls" - Ferne Browne

A letter was submitted to the Rules Committee by Ferne Browne asking whether the "sweater ball" she uses is permissible under the rules. By her description, these balls are hard rubber balls covered with tightly crocheted webbing. She has provided a prototype.

2. Green dog mat time during the racing day

At the last meeting the Rules Committee was tasked with coming up with some recommendations for guidelines for green dog mat time during the racing day. Over the past twelve months where requested, and when it would fit appropriately into the schedule, ED permission has been granted for hosts to provide this as an option to competitors.

3. Choke Chains - Sharon Atkinson

The rule book states that slip collars are permissible, which could include choke chains. A request was made to add wording for the rule book to disallow choke chains while racing, and possibly outside of the ring as well.

Finance:

Quarterly P&L Review

Nominating Committee:

Marketing Committee:

Disciplinary Committee:

Disciplinary Committee Report:			Effective Date(s)
Cash, 140545	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	04/25/2015
Tommie, 100016	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	06/08/2014
Taj, 090259	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	05/04/2014
Tux, 100191	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	10/29/2013
Roxie, 051102	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	8/22/2011
Gimli, 040608	Suspension	Two aggression excusals	11/17/2008
Marion Brinkman	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	Indefinitely
Mike Mattos	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	Indefinitely
Janet Nelson Morris	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	Indefinitely
Dave Mueller	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	Indefinitely
Cheryl Mueller	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	Indefinitely
Jennifer Nelson	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	Indefinitely

Review Panel:

- Gordie – CRN 170591 - Aggression Excusal
- Sadi – CRN 170551 – Aggression Excusal

**Special Committee Reports**

Technology Committee:

- Update on current project to cover the existing 20 sets of Farmtek EJS.

Communications Committee:

CanAm Steering Committee:

Old Business:

- Measuring methodology and additional analysis of measuring data collected on October 12-13, 2018 during CanAm.

New Business:

Email from Terri Botsford, Region 13 to Neil Flood, regarding matting versus artificial turf.

1. There is a lot of controversy about running flyball on Turf. I'd like to request NAFA to do some sort of research and decide if turf is good or bad to run flyball on. I know the fast flyball teams don't like it, but the fast agility people/dogs love it. I've run my dogs on it years ago, they did their best times and I didn't see anyone who had any problems with it, other than it being more

difficult for some dogs to enter the lanes without the “runway” of the matting. (We ended up putting down tape to show them where to go). Is it truly not good to run dogs on turf? Logic tells me that if dogs slide into the box on matting and burn their paws on matting (which they then tape their dogs), that they would on turf too. But it seems like they would be able to grip the turf better than they can on matting. I’ve also seen and run on matting that was placed on top of the turf. That worked but it seems like a big waste of time and money having to use mats on top of turf when it would be just as good, if not better, to just run on turf. I’m concerned that the concern with turf is just an old wives’ tale and not based on any scientific or medical information. Can NAFA do some research so we can put an end to this debate?

2. Meanwhile, to try and compromise on this debate would it be possible for us to:
  - a. Just run matting down the middle of the lane and not on each side?
  - b. Just run matting from the 1<sup>st</sup> jump to the box?

Follow-up to original e-mail between Neil Flood and Terri Botsford:

1 - You are asking the board to research, which is fine, but what is the question you need answered? I say that because matting is allowed. The flyball community as a whole can debate if they like it, or not, but at this point we do allow, as long as it is safe. **I would like to know if turf is safe. To my knowledge there has been no research as to if turf is more harmful than matting. I’m asking if NAFA would somehow do a research study on the difference between matting and turf in doing flyball.**

2 - for you two part question in the original email.

a) a number of factors on whether or not you need to put matting on the sides will be related to both what is underneath, and the height. So, if you are laying turf on top of concrete, then yes, you have to lay turf on the sides as the rulebook outlines. **No, this is not the case.** If it is on top of turf spun matting, then you may not need to, however, I would have serious safety concerns due to the uneven surface. This would impact both people transitioning from the side to racing mats, but also dogs as the run back jumping from one to other. I am inclined to want the surface, and texture, the same for the dogs. **In our case, we are putting turf on top of matting, the whole 3/4s of the building will be like this. The flyball area will be only on half this area. Specifically I’m asking if we could put the matting on top of the turf, tape it down like we do now, but only have one long area of 3’ by over 60’ rather than 9’ by over 60’.**

b) are you asking just from the jump closest to the box? **Yes, the jump closest to the box.** I’ve seen people number the jumps totally different. In my mind, i think of jump 1 as the closest to the start line. So we are talking the same way, i would lable the jumps 1,2,3,4 from start line to box, then 5, 6, 7, and 8 returning from box to start line. Are you talking about matting jump 4/5 to box? **Yes**