

Minutes

NAFA® Board of Directors Meeting, January 13, 2023

Held via Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Board Members:

Emily-Rose Allred
Jonathan Bescher
Kathy Haney
Cindy Henderson
Leerie Jenkins
Meagan Langs
Emma Mak
Lynda Mantler
Jayne McQuillen

Executive Director:

Neil Flood

Guests:

Karen Oleson
Steve Corona

Jayne called the meeting to order at 10:31 am CST.

Officer's Reports

Chair's Comments:

Jayne welcomed the board, thanking them for making time to attend the meeting. Jayne gave special thanks to Leerie for serving on the board for two terms and to Neil for his service as Executive Director for the past six years.

Jayne also welcomed guest Steve Corona.

Executive Director's Comments:

Neil requested Steve be allowed to stay in the meeting during executive sessions as, having run unopposed, he will be the next Executive Director and will benefit by being included.

Jon moved to allow Steve into executive sessions, Leerie seconded. The motion carried with no opposition.

1. Invitational Update

AKC.TV notified NAFA last week that they will shoot the next Flyball segment in Ocala, Florida, February 24-26, 2023. The location was based on the facilities AKC.TV was able to find. They have been asked to begin planning for the 2024 segments in

June 2023.

As of the board meeting, five clubs have accepted invitations to the competition and three more have yet to answer.

Two of the invited clubs from Canada declined invitations as well as western clubs.

Neil reminded the board that during the AKC.TV segments, we follow NAFA regular rules. The Head Judge will be Joan Weesies from FL.

A board member noted that it would be nice to highlight Multibreed. Neil has asked AKC.TV about adding multibreed and they have been clear that what they want to see is “cool competitive racing”. There is not an indication that the target audience will understand the difference between regular racing and multibreed racing.

2. The Emily Getty Cup

The new name for the CanAm Multibreed Championship trophy will be the Emily Getty Cup. The cup is back from the graphics updates and is stunning. Neil thanked Leerie for his assistance in the endeavor.

Announcement that will be sent out.

On October 30th, 2022, the Flyball community lost an amazing competitor and contributor far too soon with the passing of Emily Getty. Our condolences are with the Getty family, her teammates, and her many friends who loved her dearly.

For the past 8 years Emily raced in Region 9 with Fur Fun, had previously raced in Regions 2, 4, and 15, and her presence will be missed across all our regions. She was an incredible handler and teammate, having raced at the highest level, while always maintaining a down to earth perspective and was always a gracious and respected competitor.

Each and every year since CanAm II she has worked tirelessly by organizing and providing CanAm competitors the best possible awards and prizes. She always came through, somehow finding a way to outdo the previous year. I cannot understate how much I've appreciated her contributions and devotion to CanAm. I truly could not have done it without her, and I have no doubt whatsoever that my predecessors felt the same way.

In her memory, I am honored to announce that NAFA will rename the CanAm Multibreed Championship trophy the Emily Getty Cup. We look forward to displaying the trophy at the next CanAm.

Thank you,

Neil Flood
North American Flyball Association, Executive Director

3. Measuring issues in various regions

Everyone has done a good job in trying to communicate the massive measuring rule changes, however, there have been a few of the same mistakes made in more than one region and additional clarified communication is in order.

ONLY Judges can make the decision for ALL measurements to be For Event Only, or NO measurements to be For Event Only. This is meant to cover events when there are issues with the measuring device or area that affect all dogs being measured.

Leerie visited the rules and noted Section 4.1 (c) there CANNOT be a mix of dogs being measured for event only, or not for event only and that the judge determines if the measurements will, or will not be for event only.

Section 4.1 – Measuring Process When and Where Measuring Takes Place

(c) If the judge determines that an appropriate Measuring Surface or a NAFA Measuring Apparatus is not available, the NAFA Recorded Measurements shall be designated as 'For Event Only' on the C.9 Jump Heights Form.

Jon suggested changing the C.9 form by putting a check mark at the top to indicate FEO for all the dogs on the form and removing the column where FEO can be selected.

Neil asked that the Rules/Judges (Measuring Official) be assigned to clearly communicate when measuring for event only is acceptable.

RDs should be encouraged to contact the ED when in question.

The board discussed possible ways to make this clearer.

Jayne took the board into Executive Session at 11:06 am.

The board left executive session an 11:41 am

The board discussed measuring issues and CanAm related issues.

4. Exception to the rules.

Neil informed the board of an exception he made to the rules for a new club.

Neil noted that the club received no competitive advantage for the tournament or in regional standing.

The board took a recess at 11:46 am.

The board reconvened at 12:03 pm.

Treasurer's Report:

Cindy shared the balance sheet and profit and loss sheet with the board.

- Income from tournaments and new CRNs are up
- Awards expenses are up due to double points.
- EJS shipping due to more tournaments, fuel costs, inflation.

- It was a profitable year.
- Cindy shared the CanAm balance sheet with the board.
- The bottom line from CanAm is a bit better than predicted.
- More team entries and additional sponsorships will increase the bottom line.
- Overall, a good year.

Secretary's Report:

September 5, 2022 and September 12, 2022 minutes have been approved and posted on the NAFA website.

Election Committee:

A special thank you to Terry McClean and Curtis Smith for their assistance in the election process. Emma and Jayne also did a lot of work behind the scenes.

The board entered executive session at 12:29 pm.

The board left executive session at 12:46 pm.

The board ratified election results and elected officers.

Executive Director

Steve Corona, Region 5

Board of Directors:

Jonathan Bescher, Region 9

Dana Nichols, Region 19

Cindy Henderson, Region 13

The Board of Directors elected the following officers to the Executive Committee:

Jayne McQuillen - Chairperson

Dana Nichols – Vice Chair

Lynda Mantler - Secretary

Cindy Henderson – Treasurer

Clyde Moore Memorial Hall of Fame:

It was a close election; however, no dogs received the minimum 35% required votes to be elected.

Judge of the Year:

Amy Brubaker Stewart, Region 9

REGIONAL MVPs:

REGION 4

- Rudy - Border Collie - Janis & Phyllis Martin - BC Boomerangs

REGION 5

- Ranger - Mix - Ashley Stricklin - Alamo Racing Canines

REGION 6

- Zoom - Mix - Kathy Haney - Surf City Flyball

REGION 7

- Maddie - Mix - Jessi Pierce - Stumptown Racers

REGION 8

- Mystic - Border Collie - Karen Machin - Diamonds in the Ruff

REGION 9

- Shady - Labrador Retriever - Donna Shelton - Fur Fun

REGION 10

- Grip - Border Collie - Diana Murphy - Fast 'n FURious

REGION 11

- Phantom - Border Collie - Lucy Meyo – Barkaholics

REGION 12

- Sydney - Jack/Russell Terrier - Tam Ha – Aftershock

REGION 13

- Henry - Mix - Kathy Allen - Patriot Flyball

REGION 14

- Worth - Australian Shepherd - Jane Kline - Music City Road Dogs

REGION 15

- Lexi - Mix - Dawn Adler - Obsessed K-9's

REGION 16

- Freedom - Mix - Michelle Largent - Pacific Pups

REGION 18

- Ricochet - Mix - Cindy Rabe - Alaska Dogs Gone Wild

REGION 19

- Rusty - Jack Russell Terrier - Rob & Mindy Trombley - Bad Company

REGION 21

- Holmes - Border Collie - Carol Freeman - Mutter Chaos

Standing Committee Reports

Judges Committee:

1. Judge Status Update

- The committee reported that there are four new novice judges and two apprentice judges in the training program.
- The committee continues to work with some judges who need to complete assignments and be certified as measuring officials.

Treasurer's Report:

Nothing to report

The board took a recess at 12:53 pm.

The board reconvened at 1:06 pm.

Rules Committee:

1. Review of RD Handbook (updates from changes to measuring system).
Emma reported that Meagan has reviewed and revised the RD document adding any changes needed for the new measuring rules. The committee has reviewed the document for accuracy.
2. Proposal from Mike Smith - Making Iron Dog award available for dogs participating in 10 non-consecutive racing years.

Letter from Mike Smith:

"I feel that the iron dog award should be changed to a dog who runs 10 years in flyball but that it doesn't have to be consecutively.

I have seen many dogs in the past run 10 years of flyball but have a year or two years taken off because of various factors.....mostly injuries. I feel if a dog that has been running three or four years in flyball and then suffers an injury like an ACL tear and is out for a year or so and then gets back into it enough to qualify for 10 years of running should definitely to be deserving of an iron dog award.

The way the current rule is written now is that a dog could run three or four years be out for a year because of injury or some other reason and then run five or six years before they retire and not be qualified for an iron dog award.

So what my proposal would be to take out the word consecutively when it says they have to run 10 years.

A dog that has sustained an injury and then is able to make a full comeback and run enough years to total 10 after a major injury is definitely an iron dog!"

RC Recommendation:

The RC does not support this proposal. In general, we're not keen to support awards that encourage people to push elderly dogs to compete. We recognize that it is disappointing when a dog has raced for many years, possibly made a comeback after an injury, and misses out on the Iron Dog award. We would like to suggest the marketing committee consider creating a plaque as an optional purchase for competitors that could celebrate a dog's accomplishments over their lifetime.

Emma moved to accept the RC recommendation to not change the Iron Dog requirement to ten nonconsecutive years. Leerie seconded.

Discussion: It was noted that this request has been made multiple times in the past and has not received support from the board.

The motion carried with no opposition.

3. Proposal from Mike Smith - Awarding double points to teams that win the race by the majority of heats to discourage no finishes.

Letter from Mike Smith:

“Being in flyball for over 30 years now I've seen a ton of changes! And most every one of them for the better of the sport and the competitors within it.

I for one have enjoyed the double points that the board has extended till the end of this year. It has only motivated me to travel even more outside of my region to compete in events and work on those titles for my dog. But, I still enjoy the winning of the races and defeating the team in the other lane just as well!

There are a lot of those in flyball throughout the year who have raced the sport simply to win to run the fastest they can and then there are those that run just for titles only. Either way, it keeps our sport going!

I have however, noticed a significant increase in the number of no finishes simply because the club or the team members on the club are racing for points and rerunning a dog would mean not getting that 25-point run or perhaps no points so they decide not to finish and take the loss. In a lot of cases, there are double no finishes for the same reason, no points for their dogs.

In competitions, especially those with a large crowd attendance like the one at reliant here in Houston in July and many others across the country, I think this is poor for the sport. A lot of people outside of flyball are watching and not understanding why teams are not finishing..... I won't say this is poor sportsmanship or not because it is the team's choice to not finish when they have to rerun a dog but I've noticed a big increase in the number of occurrences that this has happened.

So, that being said, my proposal is this.....

At the end of the calendar year when the double points are finished, allow teams to compete for double points. To make it simple, for each race, if a team wins the race by the majority of heats, then their points are doubled for that race. If they lose the race, they simply get the points that we are always used to.

I know that the 20% bonus in the regular divisions has helped some with competing and increase the number of teams entering as regular teams. By implementing this rule, I think it would increase competition throughout all divisions and for the tournament in general.

I realize that a lot of tournaments have a four of four format and in this case if the two teams end up tied to heats a piece then the points are awarded as normal and there's no doubling of any points. A team must win the majority number of heat in a race regardless of format in order for them to get double points.

I think in this way it will satisfy both sides. I think this will encourage more competition between the teams, less no finishes and still reward those that run for those titles only.

I know it sounds like a strange thing to add to the rules but I've got a lot of positive feedback from a lot of people in different regions when I presented this to them.

That's basically it. I think it would be easy to implement this into the software when submitting the results to the NAFA database. I submit mine electronically but I put it in by hand and don't have the use of a software program to do it automatically for me but when I type in the times for each heat in a race, there could simply be a checkbox next to each race that would signal a win and therefore a doubling of points.

I would like to see what the board thinks about this.

RC Recommendation:

The RC does not support this proposal.

- Mike's observation not consistent across regions. Several RC members noted that in their regions, competitors only rerun if there is a chance to win the heat. Many competitors have the philosophy that if the dog didn't make a mistake (bad pass, false start), why make them rerun and think they did something wrong?
- Doubling of points for wins could encourage extra running of dogs, tiring them out, without necessarily increasing the competitiveness of racing. The dog's best interest should be considered.
- The whole scoring system would have to be reworked, as the scoring file doesn't contain info about individual heats, only best time and dog points.
- This wouldn't be that many more points, as a rerun would likely only result in 1 point

If there are an increased number of NFs in a region, this could be raised with the RD and ED; however, it is the right of competitors to push back and give valid reasons for not wanting to rerun their dogs.

Emma moved to accept the RC recommendation. Emily-Rose seconded.

Discussion: The board discussed the effect this proposal could have on heats where infractions have occurred and dogs could be run multiple times in order to garner the point. This could lead to very long heats. The proposal would also require revamping the scoring system. Most board members indicated they do not see this (heats with a no-finish) as an issue in most areas.

Jayne took the board into executive session at 1:16 pm.

The board left executive session at 1:22 pm.

The board discussed the proposal from Mike Smith.

The motion carried with no opposition.

4. Some clean-up of rulebook wording (typos and clarification of forfeit wording).

Correction from Karen:

"4.2 Measuring

e. Each NAFA Jump Height Form (Form C.9) will reflect all measurements performed by an individual judge at an event.

Should change judge to Measuring Official."

5. Letter from Dave Collett:

'Below are some things that stood out to me today as I was reading the rulebook in preparation for a tournament this weekend. Many of them are referring to a forfeit. It may be better to use "loss of heat" because of the wording in section 6(b)

Section 6(b) Winning by forfeit. Teams that win by forfeit must complete the minimum required heats scheduled to qualify for points awarded in round-robin or to advance in double elimination competition.

Section 8.3 (c) The box loader shall indicate to the head judge when there is a box malfunction. The heat shall be stopped. The head judge is to examine the box. If, in the opinion of the head judge, the box has malfunctioned the heat shall be run again. If the box is found to be working, then the heat shall be forfeited. If another box is not available and the box cannot be repaired in a reasonable time, the heat and any remaining heats are to be forfeited. If the box malfunctions a second time (or the spare box malfunctions) in the same race, the heat shall be forfeited and all remaining heats in that race shall be forfeited.

If the heat is stopped for a box malfunction, then it is determined the heat should be forfeited, does the other team have to run unopposed for that heat as in section 6(b)? I recommend the heat not be stopped just for a box malfunction. If there is no box malfunction, and the other team completes, they can use that time as normal and count the other side as a no finish. If there is a box malfunction the heat can be re-run

Section 8.3 (f) Inside Interference. If a dog or any team member interferes with the opposing team during a heat, the team causing the interference will forfeit the heat. This includes interference in the racing lane, in all in bound areas, and in the area where dogs are waiting to run. Interference is defined as impeding the other team's dog from running its race. A dog chasing a loose ball into the other team's area is not necessarily interference. In the event of interference, **the judge will assign an estimated time to the team that was interfered with.**

This conflicts with section 6(b) saying the team must complete the minimum required heats. In this case of a forfeit, the other team is awarded an estimated time.

Section 8.3 (h) (iii) Infractions resulting in forfeiture of the race:

1. Children who are too young to be able to participate safely (e.g., children in strollers, car seats, baby carriers, or being held in a person's arms) are not permitted in the ring during racing or warm-up periods. If a judge excuses a child and the club either refuses to have the child leave, or the club re-enters the ring with that child at that tournament during warm-up or racing, the team will forfeit the race (retroactively is if the child enters the ring after the race has begun).

Should the other infractions, such as late to the ring, that result in a forfeit be listed here also? Most of the others should probably say loss of the heat instead of forfeit.

Glossary

Forfeit - Where a team cannot, or chooses not to complete, and thus loses the race. See Chapter 6 – Reporting for Races (b) & (c) (RR).

Should there be something added that says "or is prohibited by the rules from completing the race?"

Section 3.2 (h) ...Once the division has begun, dogs listed on the time sheet may not be changed on the time sheet.

Section 7.5 (a)(ii) forfeit all NAFA points earned prior to the discovery of the violation. Note: after the violation is corrected, affected team(s) are eligible to earn NAFA points

How can this be corrected after the team has already earned points? Should it read “if the violation is corrected before the division begins...”

Section 7.6 (f) Upon timely receipt of the breed review packets, the executive director shall distribute it to a Review Committee. The committee shall review the packets within ~~ten~~ **fifteen** **(15)** days of

receipt.’

RC Recommendation:

Section 7.6 (f) Upon timely receipt of the breed review packets, the executive director shall distribute it to a Review Committee. The committee shall review the packets within **fifteen** (15) days of receipt.’

Section 8.3 (h) (iii) Infractions resulting in forfeiture of the race:

Children who are too young to be able to participate safely (e.g., children in strollers, car seats, baby carriers, or being held in a person’s arms) are not permitted in the ring during racing or warm-up periods. If a judge excuses a child and the club either refuses to have the child leave, or the club re-enters the ring with that child at that tournament during warm-up or racing, the team will forfeit the race (retroactively **if** the child enters the ring after the race has begun)

Emma moved to accept RC recommended typo corrections found in the current rule book. Leerie seconded.

Motion carried with no opposition.

RC Recommendation:

Section 6(b) is intended to mean that you can’t win a race just by having your opponent forfeit; you must actually come out and complete “the minimum required heats” (basically one heat) to win. It’s not talking about forfeited heats (because of fouling in the ring, etc.). The RC notes there has been confusion over the years regarding this paragraph.

Current version:

Section 6(b) Winning by forfeit. Teams that win by forfeit must complete the minimum required heats scheduled to qualify for points awarded in round-robin or to advance in double elimination competition.

RC recommendation for new wording:

Section 6(b) Winning by forfeit. When a team forfeits, the opposing team must still complete the minimum required heats to win the race.

Emma moved to accept the RCs recommendation for new wording for Section 6(b), Winning by Forfeit. Leerie seconded.

The motion carried with no opposition.

Current definition:

Forfeit - Where a team cannot, or chooses not to complete, and thus loses the race. See Chapter 6 – Reporting for Races (b) & (c) (RR).

The RC does not support adding “or is prohibited by the rules from completing the race” to the glossary definition for “Forfeit” as it’s redundant. A team that is prohibited by the rules from competing (baby strollers) is already covered in the definition “a team cannot”.

RC recommends changing the word “complete” to be “compete”. This makes more sense, as if a team chooses not to complete a heat, we don’t tell them they have forfeited the heat. When the heat is forfeited, the team does not compete.

Emma moved to accept the RC recommendation to change the word “complete” to “compete” in the glossary definition of Forfeit. Cindy seconded.

The motion carried with no opposition.

6. Section 7.5 (a)(ii) “forfeit all NAFA points earned prior to the discovery of the violation...”
Dave asked “How can this be corrected after the team has already earned points? Should it read “if the violation is corrected before the division begins...”

The RC does not support this suggested word change. Consider the following scenario:

- TeamA has the following dogs listed on their timesheet: Dog1, Dog2, Dog3, Dog4, Dog5, Dog6, and WUDog.
- They run their first race. They accidentally run Dog1, Dog2, Dog3, and Dog9 in their entire race. This isn't discovered until after the race is done.
- Once it's discovered, they don't run Dog9 on TeamA anymore. So, they've corrected the error. They lose the points from race1, but are now eligible to earn NAFA points in their subsequent races.

We don't need to say "if the violation is discovered before the division begins," because there can be no violation before the division begins.

Section 8.3 (c) “The box loader shall indicate to the head judge when there is a box malfunction. The heat shall be stopped...” Dave recommends the heat not be stopped just for a box malfunction. If there is no box malfunction, and the other team completes, they can use that

time as normal and count the other side as a no finish. If there is a box malfunction the heat can be re-run.

The RC doesn't have time to review this for the January meeting, but will review this in the coming year.

The chair has assigned the box malfunction proposal to the rules committee for review.

Section 8.3 (f) "Inside Interference. If a dog or any team member interferes.....the judge will assign an estimated time to the team that was interfered with." Dave suggests this is a conflict with Section 6(b).

The RC noted that awarding an estimated time is the equivalent of saying a team completed and won the heat. The RC will consider exploring how to state this in the glossary in the coming year.

The chair has assigned the clarification of Section 8.3 (f) "Inside Interference" to the Rules Committee for review.

Nominating Committee:

Nothing to report

Marketing Committee:

Jayne took board into executive session at 1:37 pm

The board left executive session at 1:42 pm.

The board discussed distribution of patches.

At the September 12 board meeting, Marketing was asked to look into an Iron Dog patch and a 30-year participant pin.

1. Title Patches:

Here are the current patches that are available. There is a link to this on the home page of the NAFA website.

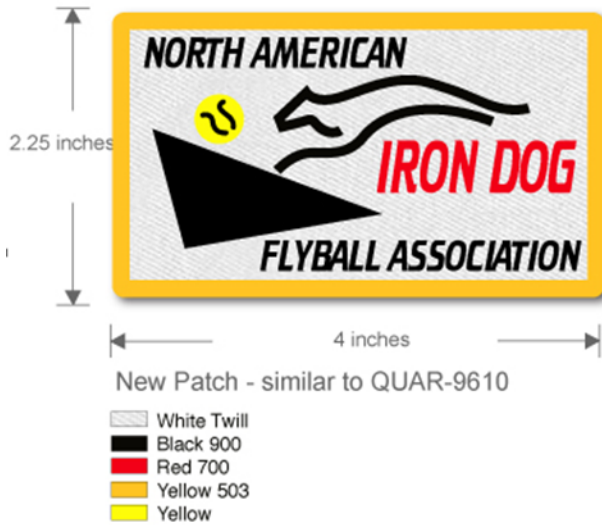
Available from NAFA - Title Patches!

Contact your [Regional Director](#) or Regional Patch contact or [Kim Davis](#) to purchase!! Patches are \$6.00 each.

In your email, please include your mailing address, which patches you need and how many of each.



Proposal for an Iron Dog patch.



NAFA Iron Dog Patch, 50 custom made embroidered patches in a 4x2.5 inch size with a merrow border are \$2.99 each.

Kim Davis will advise if other title patches need to be ordered.

Approval for the new Iron Dog Patch will be tabled until the new board convenes.

2. Participant Pins

The committee reported that there are now requests for a 30-year pin. A 30-year pin design was presented.

Proposal for a 30-year participant pin.



NAFA 30 Year Pin

- Raised Shiny Gold Brass Metal
- Recessed Matte Metal



Picture of simialr pin for reference

NAFA 30 Year Pin, 50 custom made 1 inch die struck gold brass plated with matte metal in the recessed areas, 1 clutch back are \$3.75 each

The current participant pins have never been reordered since their inception. Annie Taylor will be taking stock of what she has and will need to reorder.

Cindy moved to approve the 30-year pin design. Lynda seconded. The motion carried with no opposition.

3. Multibreed Pins

There is no title for Multibreed 40,000 and 50,000 point levels, however, it was decided at a previous meeting that pins will be awarded.

Here are the current Multibreed pins.



Proposal for 40,000 and 50,000 point multibreed pins.



NAFA 40,000 PTS, 50 custom made 1 7/8 inch hard enamel pins, 2 clutches on the back are \$4.90 each.

NAFA 50,000 PTS, 50 custom made 1 7/8 inch hard enamel pins, 2 clutches on the back are \$4.90 each.

Jon moved to approve the multibreed pins presented by the marketing committee. Cindy seconded. The motion carried with no opposition.

Jon noted that the Judges tenure pins have been well received.

Disciplinary Committee:

Disciplinary Committee Report:			Effective Date
Terry Griffin	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	09/21/2022
Bonnie Szoka	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	05/01/2020
Grizzly, 160097	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Preacher, 140875	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Snickers, 150646	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Strut, 110221	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Whisper, 110704	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Prank, 140408	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Ripple, 120746	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Daisy, 120612	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Envy, 120477	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Scout, 110222	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020

Torch, 100047	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Zonda, 090536	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Style, 090142	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
Tonka, 080349	Suspension	Administrative excusal	05/01/2020
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	1998
Dave Mueller	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	1998
Cheryl Mueller	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	1998
Jennifer Nelson	Suspension	Conduct prejudicial to the sport of NAFA flyball	1998

Review Panel

The board entered executive session at 1:51 pm.

Jayne took the board out of executive session at 2:00 pm.

The board discussed suspensions and reinstatements.

- a. Shelby – 200093 – Aggression Excusal
[Appeal rejected](#)
- b. Reba – 180311 – Aggression Excusal
- c. Frantic – 200123 – Aggression Excusal
- d. Lwaxana – 170596 – Excusal Removal

Appeal approved and the excusal will be expunged.

Special Committee Reports:

Technology Committee:

1. EJS updates

Dave Thomas is preparing to order electronic parts for the horizontal light trees. He has enough for one more tree and would like the board to determine if the new trees are consistent with the direction NAFA intends to go when existing light trees are replaced. There is a price break for ordering a small quantity and it is noted that Farmtek can no longer make the trees. He'll order extra if he knows that NAFA will be going in this direction.

There was discussion about how the light trees will be put together.
Finance, Technology, ED will need to discuss how to proceed.

2. Heat Tracker Remotes

The remotes for the CanAm heat trackers were not working at CanAm 2022. Dave would like NAFA to look into replacing the current heat trackers. Jon promotes going to the newest heat trackers at approximately \$400 apiece (lower depending upon the price of one component) The older working remotes could be sold for about \$200 apiece. The purchase of a TV to be mounted on the heat tracker stand is required to get the most use out of the newest heat trackers. The TV would mount to the heat tracker stand and will display race numbers. Different options with the heat trackers were discussed. Leerie urged the board to make a decision on this soon in order to have working heat trackers in place for CanAm 2023. Heat trackers are critical for the CanAm pit boss to keep the rings moving smoothly. Neil suggested Steve reach out to Dave and noted that he has the authority to make the purchase without written approval. The board supports this.

The board took a recess at 2:32 pm.

The board reconvened at 2:45 pm.

Jayne took the board into executive session at 2:45pm.

The board left executive session at 2:47 pm.

The board discussed website maintenance.

3. Website updates

Leerie and Emma have been working on updates starting with the CanAm site. The site was started as a desktop site. Work is currently underway to make the site mobile device responsive. Feedback was that it has a modern, clean design with easier navigation.

Communications Committee:

1. Use of social media (Cindy Henderson) We need to find ways to increase our social media presence and make it interesting and exciting. It would help engage our sponsors for CanAm as well.
2. Virtual regional town halls using ZOOM. Perhaps have several regions involved and have a specific topic decided on in advance. This will be worked on going forward.

CanAm Steering Committee:

Steve suggested that we look at the head judge situation and have another judge work some of the division races to not overtax the head judge.

Old Business:

A check box for 24" or 30" jumps will be added to the online sanctioning form.

New Business:

1. Proposal from Kristin Montoya for changing minimum teams required for regular class.

I would like to suggest the board consider changing the number of regular teams required for a tournament eligible for regional points to be 3 instead of 4. COVID has made a big impact to flyball in our Region (Region 6) - there have been clubs disbanded and also clubs that lost a lot of members either to disinterest, dogs aging, or moves. Especially in our area, clubs are in a rebuilding stage and many can only field maybe one regular team but multiple open teams. The tournaments that we just got done hosting only had 12 teams entered, with 3 of those being regular teams. Because of this, the tournament didn't meet the minimum requirement of 4 regular teams and was disqualified.

I'd like the board to consider reducing the quantity to 3 and reinstating tournaments 23087400 and 23087401 eligibility for regional points.

*Thank you for your consideration,
Kristin Montoya
Arizona Supercharged (874)*

The board does not typically change rules mid-year. Ideas to increase regular class entries are to have different fees for various classes to incent increased entries to the desired class.

Entries could be unlimited for regular class and limited for open, for example. This is being referred to the rules committee.

2. Proposal from Veronica Miller for using registries to verify breed

One thought on relations with AKC would be requiring verification of breed for multi-teams, breed records, etc. NADD does this easily by having individuals provide registration numbers for purebreds and these dogs are marked in their system. No breed records are awarded if the dog earning it isn't verified. It would also help with potential for breed challenges. Having dogs that have been threatened multiple times with challenges I'd love a way to have them verified in the NAFA database.

Discussion: We don't want to make it harder to get entries into multibreed by requiring people to register their dogs with organizations they may not wish to register with. We have a breed challenge in place and feel that is adequate at this time.

3. Neil suggested a name change to regular class to Premier or Elite class could be merited. Jayne is going to send this to the Rules and Marketing Committee for consideration.

4. AGM Planning

Trivia quiz question will be based on the outgoing ED's region.

A question about Leerie will be the tiebreaker.

The prize will be a Chewy gift card.

Statistics will be presented.

22 registrations have been received.

5. Morgan Jarvis also submitted a request for an Iron Dog exception.

A dog running on our team that missed out on her 10th year Iron Dog points by 12 days. The dog's name is Lexi, a 12 year old poodle mix CRN 120907. Lexi was hoping to obtain her Onyx but that will not be a possibility even with double points due to her health and physical abilities. Lexi had battled illness over the last year and was well enough to race with us in hopes at our last tournament to obtain her final ID point. Is there any way NAFA could honor Lexi the Iron Dog Plaque?

The precedent has been set to not make exceptions for the Iron Dog requirements. An exception will not be granted. Suggestion was made to let Morgan know she can apply for an honorary Onyx plaque.

Discussion: Honorary plaques are paid for by the recipient. If they are sent to the RD, NAFA pays for the shipping. If they are sent directly to the recipient, the recipient should pay for the shipping. Company stores can be set up online to order pins, plaques, shirts, patches, etc. Possibly something for the marketing committee to explore. NAFA did have an online store some years ago. We would want to control our own brand. The 40,000 plaque has room for plates to be added. Perhaps that could be used to add an honorary plate. Marketing will

investigate a lifetime achievement award. We will ask Annie to update the honorary plaque pricing form.

Cindy moved to suspend the meeting. Emily-Rose seconded. Motion passed with no opposition.

The meeting was suspended at 4:17 pm Friday, January 13, 2023.

