

Minutes

NAFA® Board of Directors Meeting, August 18, 2021

Held via Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 Travel Restrictions

Attendees

Jonathan Bescher
Steve Corona
Leerie Jenkins
Kathy Haney
Dana Hanson
Cindy Henderson
Emma Mak
Lynda Mantler
Jayne McQuillen

Executive Director: Neil Flood

Guest: Karen Oleson

Officers' Reports

Chair's Comments:

1. Welcome. Meeting called to order at 7:05pm CST.
Steve thanked the board members for making time in the week to attend.

Executive Director's Comments: Neil

1. CanAm update.
Entries are coming in.
We have not yet received a contract from the fairgrounds. It is expected to be received in the next few days.
Neil is trying very hard to be conscious about cost. Trying to get high quality welcome gifts instead of prizes for Friday and Saturday.
CanAm plans continue to move forward. The crating map may change to allow for more vendor space if needed.
Cindy has offered to assist in obtaining sponsors along with one of her teammates.
Lynda is working with MyLogoShop who will design the 2021 CanAm t-shirt and will target September 1, 2021 as the opening date for the online CanAm Apparel store.
We have procured volunteers for up to three rings as of the meeting. It will help immensely if each club that board members belong to and are camping at the fairgrounds could to take responsibility for a ring seat for the weekend.
Neil reminded the board that it will need to determine if box judges will be required for the non-championship racing at CanAm.
2. Mask policy update.
We will continue to follow whatever the CDC recommends, or what local municipalities mandate for indoor gatherings.

Jayne asked that dates in the wording be removed so that the wording will follow current guidelines. Jayne offered to update the wording.

3. ESPN Dog Days Update.

The ESPN Dog Days will be held in a minor league park in Hartford, CT. Steve and Cindy will attend as representatives of NAFA. Approximately 14 dogs representing a good selection of breeds will participate. Human participants will include junior handlers.

4. Flyball World Cup 2022.

NAFA has received confirmation that the World Cup will be held at the end of May 2022.

It is expected that exceptions in entries will be allowed due to the postponement. Some clubs selected to attend in 2020 are interested in attending in 2022 while others are not certain. If the board is agreeable, Neil would like to give clubs that planned to attend in 2020 first right of refusal for attendance in 2022. If some clubs choose not to attend the opening can be made available to other interested clubs. Additional expenditures by NAFA are not expected.

Leerie moved to allow clubs slated to go to the World Cup in 2020, a two-week window to respond yea or nay if they will attend in 2022 before opening available entries to other NAFA clubs, Cindy seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

Treasurer's Report: Dana

NAFA fiscal year 2020 tax returns have been filed after having received an extension.

Secretary's Report: Lynda

Minutes of the July 6, 2021 board meeting have been sent to the board for comment and approval.

Election Committee:

BigPulse has been contacted to provide the quote for conducting the 2021/2022 election.

Nominations are open and are scheduled to close September 30, 2021. Once nominations are closed, the nominees will be vetted to ensure they are eligible to run. Once again, the Q&A will be set up along with one live chat.

The board took a short break from 8:00pm - 8:12pm. Leerie did not rejoin the meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Judges Committee: Jon

1. Supervising Judges Not Meeting Minimum Yearly Requirements for Judging or Measurements.

Overall, the judges committee feels a Supervising judge that did not meet their annual requirements to remain a judge should not need to go through the judges training program to be reinstated as an approved judge. The committee suggests they should perform two (2) judging assignments, after which they should complete and submit the paperwork necessary to become a Supervising Judge.

Jon moved to require Supervising Judges who have lapsed in their judging requirements for the previous NAFA year to complete two judging assignments before they can reapply for supervising status. One of the two assignments must include the measuring of dogs. Jayne seconded. Motion passed with no objections.

Jon moved to allow Supervising judges who have not met their judging requirements for the previous NAFA year be allowed to reapply for Supervisory status by submitting a Supervising Judge application after successfully regaining their approved status. Lynda seconded.

Discussion:

This eliminates the need for a comment period. Once submitted, the Supervising Judge application will be reviewed by the Judges Committee and a recommendation will be made to the board.

Motion passed with no objections.

2. Certification of an Apprentice Measuring Official.

The judges committee has not come to a consensus regarding requirements for advancing judges-in-training through the Measuring Official program.

Item goes back to the Judges Committee for further consideration.

Emma clarified that the training and certification of current judges on the laser measuring device will be put in the front of the rulebook and not be part of Chapter 2.

Steve took the board into executive session at 9:00pm:

The board exited the executive session at 9:03pm.

CanAm Ring Judging invitations have been extended to four judges.

Rules Committee:

1. Section 4.4.3 Mandatory Measuring Exceptions - dogs who have previously obtained an initial measurement from the tournament Measuring Official.

Change to Section 4.4.3 proposed wording expected to be in effect on or after October 1, 2022

Proposed Wording:

Section 4.4.3 Mandatory Measuring Exceptions

The following are granted exceptions to Section 4.4.2.1:

1) *Dogs ten (10) years in age or over. Dogs ten years in age or over are exempt from Mandatory Measuring; however, failure to jump their correct jump height when used as the Height Dog is considered unsportsmanlike conduct.*

~~2) *Dogs who have previously obtained an Initial Measurement from the tournament Measuring Official.*~~

Emma moved to remove 4.4.3.2 “2) *Dogs who have previously obtained an Initial Measurement from the tournament Measuring Official.*” from new wording in the rulebook to become effective approximately October 1, 2022. Jayne seconded.

Discussion:

Further thought will be put into ensuring that competitors can obtain the two measurements for their Permanent Measurement within a few tournaments. For example, having a primary judge assigned for measuring, and encouraging as many alternates to be available as possible. Also, allowing videoed measurements to be submitted to Judges Committee for regions with a limited number of judges.

The motion passed with no objections.

2. Section 1.6 Clarification of Regional Director authorities.

Proposed Wording:

Section 1.6 - Regional Directors

Section 1.6.2 Responsibilities and Authorities

Section 1.6.2.2 At Events

2. Regional Directors have the following authorities:

a. To put on notice the Tournament Director, host club, competing club, individuals, or Measuring Official/Judge for violating NAFA® Rules or policies or for engaging in conduct prejudicial to the sport;

b. To excuse any individual from a tournament for breach of Code of Ethics;

c. To excuse a dog showing undue aggression at any time outside of the ring in conjunction with a NAFA event. The Regional Director may excuse the dog from the event regardless of entry in the competition.

Section 1.6.2.2.2.c currently appears in Section 5.7(b) Aggressive Dogs.

Cindy moved to accept the clarification of Regional Director authorities. Kathy seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed with no objections

Minor changes in Chapter 4 were reviewed, updated, and approved.

3. Minor changes to proposed C.9 and C.7 forms.

C.7:

After discussion and amendment, the following motion was adopted, approve the C.7 RD Measuring Worksheet with removal of the “no issues/concerns” column

The C.7 form is to be completed only if there is a problem during measuring.

Emma moved to accept the new C.9 noting that it will not be in effect immediately. Cindy seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed with no objections.

Emma requested a timeline be published on the website noting the expected date of Phase II measuring to take effect beginning in April 2022.

Finance:

Nominating Committee

Nominations for Board of Directors, Judge of the Year, Hall of Fame and Regional MVP opened on August 12, 2021 and will close on September 30, 2021.

The committee chose to have all categories open for voting in FY 2021.

Marketing Committee:

1. Junior Participant Pins.

The Junior Participant Pin contest for NAFA year 2022 has been announced. A link on the NAFA website incorrectly showed an end date of July 13, 2021. The date will be updated to September.

2. Judges Tenure Recognition.

- a. The marketing committee is working on creating a design for the pin.
- b. A suggestion from a committee member was to add the number of years of service recognition to the existing pin, however, it does not seem practical.
- c. The committee will continue to work on this.

3. CanAm Logo.

- a. The online 2021 CanAm gear store is expected to open September 1, 2021.

Disciplinary Committee:

Disciplinary Committee Report:			Effective Date
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:

1. Indigo – CRN 180120 – Aggression Excusal
 - a. The review panel upheld the excusal
2. Ziggy – CRN 190694 – Aggression Excusal
 - a. The review panel upheld the excusal

Special Committee Reports

Technology Committee:

Communications Committee:

CanAm Steering Committee:

1. Revised Sponsorship Opportunities.

No additional information provided.

Special Measuring Committee: Cindy

1. Measuring Training Videos.

Preliminary Measuring Videos have been reviewed by board members.

There was a question about adding a comment regarding conflict of interest and taking video of measurements. In general, the board did not feel it was necessary to include this information in the training video. There was also a request to include an example of measuring on the floor.

[It was hard to get the laser to be consistent measure-wise from one end of the table to the other. Jon and Steve noted that the table must be level in order to make the measurements accurate from both ends of the table.](#)

The video for Supervising Judges with information on training other judges to measure is missing. The committee would like input from Supervising Judges for the tips/tricks they use when teaching judges in the training program.

Emma thanked Cindy for the videos and noted that they were very well done.

Old Business:

New Business:

7th dog on timesheet

Since April 1, 2021, a seventh dog has been allowed to be listed on the timesheet as a warmup dog only. The dog must have a valid CRN and is not allowed to race. This temporary practice has been well received.

Cindy moved to maintain a seventh dog on each team to warm up during NAFA sanctioned events. Jon seconded.

Discussion:

Emma suggests we adjust the C.2 so that the seventh dog shows up on the timesheet. Dana asked if we will be ensuring that the dog doesn't appear on multiple timesheets. Discussion indicated that NAFA will not monitor this, however, a team will lose the heat if the seventh dog listed runs. In a heat it is treated as running an ineligible dog. Information regarding a seventh dog that is eligible to warm up only will appear in the October 1, 2021 rulebook.

The motion passed with no objections.

The Rules Committee will act on this to update wording as necessary.

Double Points:

Jayne moved to double the points dogs earn from October 1, 2021 until the end of NAFA FY 2022. Cindy seconded.

Discussion:

Some regions are unable to take advantage of 12 months of double points as they span (or draw clubs from) both Canada and the US making event hosting difficult at this time.

After discussion and amendment, the following motion was adopted; dogs will earn double title points from October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47pm.