

Minutes – Subject to final approval at September 2018 Meeting.

Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 6th August 2018.

Present: Richard Mellon, Brian Lindsay, Jennifer Crane, Julie Pamplin, Louise Stephen, Steve Pitt, Frank Lux, Pat Byrne, Helen Strong, Shireen Pitt, Carolyn Shrives, Martin Watt, Jenny Millar Josh Ellen.

Apologies: Leah Dutch and Candice Leighton.

Meeting Opened at 7.30 pm via Go to Meetings Conference.

ITEM 1. Starred Items.

The following Items were adopted without discussion:

- 1) Minutes of the July Meeting.
- 2) Renewals of Memberships
- 3) Treasurers Report. End July Bank Balance \$ 11582.74 plus invested funds of \$ 82568.21.
- 4) Correspondence Out

ITEM 2 Correspondences In.

- Certificate of Appreciation from Dogs NSW for attendance at the Dogs on Show event on 16th June 2018. – Noted
- Report from Shell Gurney re ANKC Developments. (See New Business)
- Fouling in the ring - input from member (See New Business)
- Report re dog with e- collar at NSW competition (See New Business).

ITEM 3 Sanctioned Events Approved.

Demo – Awesome Pawsome – 30/07/18 – Jimboomba Flyball
Demo – Beryl Parade North Maclean. (Approved under delegation).

Demo – Awesome Pawsome – 26/08/18 – ADSS Dogs Qld, Durack, Demo during Lunch break of Comp – only dogs not racing to take part in Demo.

Comp – All Paws Airborne – 25/08/18 – Airborne Canungra Clash – 1 Coburg Rd Canungra. (note close date moved to 10th August).

Comp – Sydney Psychos - amended Sanction for Welcome to the Asylum 20/10/18 – add Champions Trophy and delete lunchtime Training in ring.

Comp – Para District – 27/10/18 – October Fair – Broadview Oval Collingrove Ave Broadview SA (Open with Handicap option, Regular handicap, Training in ring).

Comp – Belconnen – 23rd and 24th Feb 2019 – ACTEWagl Royal Canberra Show Flyball 2019 – Canberra Royal Show Flemington Rd Mitchell.(Open with Handicap option, Training in ring).

ITEM 4 – Admin Matters.

- i) New Members:

Beth Fulton
Jacqui Walsh
Jessica Gillies
Lisa Murfin
Joanne Parker
Julia
McMahon
Cassie Parker
Helen
Edwards
Susan

Humphreys
Nerida O'Kell
Kirsten Fixter

- Stewards Exam Passes – Emily Pawluck CRN 2549, Graham McGregor CRN 2758 , Jo McGregor CRN 2758A.1, Megan Brigden CRN 2459 , Kathryn Samuels CRN 2791 and Clancy Penny Parker CRN 2784.
- Timekeepers Written Exam Pass – Charmaine Murray CRN 2781 and Emma Gaffney CRN 2893
- Timekeepers Written and Practical completed -- Charmaine Murray CRN 2781 and Kate Moskal CRN 2511
- Judges Exam – Lyn Clyde has passed her level 1 Exam and has completed the required 25 assignments and is recommended for promotion to L1. CARRIED.
- AGM Update – Test successfully completed of use of Go to Meetings for AGM. Rules Ballot Voting now closed. Member Motions also closed – two Member Motions have been received. One deals with proposed change to measuring using the ulna method and the second deals with Rule wording for declared seed times. Both will be uploaded to Web asap and submitted to members at AGM.
- At close of Nominations date for Presidents Appreciation Award two nominations had been received. After discussion the Committee agreed to approve both for the Award – to be announced at AGM. As at close of nominations no submissions had been received for Life Membership.

Item 5 General Business.

a) Report from Dog Incident Sub Committee.

The Committee noted that the Dog Incident Sub Committee had dealt with 3 Black Card Incidents. The

first incident involved Tugga CRN 2645A at the Canberra competition on 8th July 2018. The incident involved Tugga crossing and approaching another dog in an aggressive manner at the back of the ring. When the Judge approached the owner to discuss the dog lunged towards the Judge and actually made contact with the Judges upper leg. The Dog Incident Sub Committee recommended that a Warning 2 letter be issued with the Dog required to undergo 3 months retraining with requirement to submit weekly retraining logs. CARRIED.

The second incident involved Bentley CRN 2937A at the Canberra comp on 7th July 2018. The incident involved Bentley crossing and charging at another dog in an aggressive manner with teeth showing. The Dog Incident Sub Committee also had a report from a second Judge that on leaving the ring to return to its cabana area he observed Bentley lunging and snapped at other dogs in an aggressive manner. The Sub Committee noted that a Judge had spoken to Bentley's owner pre competition regarding inappropriate disciplining of the dog outside the ring. The Sub Committee recommended that a Warning letter 2 be issued with requirement for 3 months retraining with Logs. It was suggested that the retraining include situation awareness training for Bentley's owner so he could better recognise potential aggression situations and take corrective action. CARRIED.

The 3rd Incident involved Ghost CRN 757E at the Norwest Mock Comp on 21st July 2018. The Judges Report indicated that in the warm up before the first singles race Ghost had crossed through the barrier between the lanes and proceeded to chase the dog warming up in the other lane. The other dog took off and left the ring yapping with Ghost chasing – the other dog ran under the timing table in an effort to avoid Ghost – at that point the Timekeeper tried to separate the dogs and was bitten by Ghost – with puncture and bite marks evident. It was reported that contact had also been made with the chased dog but without injury. The Sub Committee recommended that given the extent of intent involved in the chase and the bite injury involved Ghost be issued with a minimum 6 Months suspension and

requirement for retraining with logs and that an assessment be made at end of retraining period by a panel of 3 experienced members before Ghost is reinstated. CARRIED.

b) Report from Rules Sub Committee. Nil to report.

c) Report from Sub Committee on Flyball Development.

Steve reported that he had received details of the proposed Premiership seasons for all Regions except NSW – Louise advised she had received only 2 inputs from NSW clubs and that she would chase others to make input and advise Steve. Steve reported that he and Shireen had developed a spreadsheet to indicate required data for Premiership calculations and that they were awaiting input from Alex re how best to include in data base. The date for commencement of the Premiership was discussed and it was agreed to start with the Victorian season on 1st September if at all possible.

d) Nationals Update – Frank reported that they had 53 teams entered (48 Regular and 5 Open) plus singles and pairs on the Friday. They also had received Training in the ring numbers for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Frank advised that they were considering if there was a need to go to 4 rings – consensus vie that 3 rings would be able to handle numbers.

ITEM 6 – New Business.

- Report from Shell Gurney re ANKC developments. The Committee noted the Report that indicated that ANKC was in the process of possibly reconsidering the recognition of flyball as an ANKC approved dog sport. A Flyball Working Party was being formed to report to ANKC and State Bodies have until 3rd August to nominate State Reps to the Working Party. It was anticipated that Shell would be the

NSW Rep on the Working Party and would be able to keep AFA informed of developments.

- Fouling in the ring - input from member. After the Committee had approved the change of wording for Rule 9.2 (f) a member had suggested that the wording used by NAFA was actually clearer. He also suggested that the FCI Regulations should consider for adoption. The members input to be referred to Rules Sub Committee for consideration.
- Report re dog with shock e-collar at competition. The President reported that the Executive had received an email from a concerned member advising that they had been informed that a Judge in NSW had been advised that a dog at a recent NSW competition was found to be wearing an e-collar. The member advised that they understood the Judge had approached the owner outside the ring and had confirmed that the dog was indeed wearing the e-collar. The owner had pointed out that the collar could not be turned on as it did not contain contacts and hence could not have been used to give shocks whilst the dog was in the ring. The Committee expressed concern in that the collar had to have been used at some stage to condition the dog to respond to shocks. The member in the email to the Committee pointed out that the use of e-shock collars for behavior training are illegal in NSW (and in some other States and Territories) and that the use of such collars would not seem to be in line with Flyball Rule 2.1 re treatment of dogs.
The President advised that subsequent to receipt of the members email he had spoken to the Judge identified who confirmed the above information re inspection of the dog and discussions with the owner. The Judge advised that at the time she was not aware e-collars were illegal to use in training in NSW or she would have reported the incident. The Committee after discussion determined to write to the owner to inform them that any use of e-collars would be deemed to involve a breach of Rule 2.1 and would be dealt with as a discipline matter. Members also to be informed of this decision in Minutes and via notice.

- AFA Merchandise. Louise suggested that the AFA consider acquiring merchandise promoting flyball for sale to members. It was suggested that such merchandise could include items such as bumper stickers, coffee mugs, key rings, T shirts and the like. Concerns were expressed with items such as T shirts regarding need to carry and store stocks in various sizes. Given limited time agreed to carry this item over to next meeting and to seek input from Committee members re suitable promotional material to consider for sale or even give away.

- Training in the ring – maximum number of beginner dogs allowed in the ring together. The Committee noted that at a recent competition there had been 27 dogs registered for beginners training at lunch-time. The Competition Organisers had decided to accept all nominations and reduce training time to 4 minutes. In order to accommodate all 27 dogs up to 4 beginner dogs were scheduled in the ring at one time. Concern was expressed that having 4 beginner dogs in the ring together raised safety issues for the dogs. It was suggested that given the growth in numbers of beginner dogs now presenting for Training in the ring it might be opportune to review the conditions under which training could be offered. Agreed to refer this matter to Rules Sub Committee for consideration.

- Suggested review of Seed Time Rules – it was noted that there seemed to be a growing number of teams that were achieving significantly faster actual times at competitions compared to nominated seed times whilst not actually breaking out. The suggestion was made to look at amending the time needed to be able to use a declared time to 1.5 seconds thus increasing use of web times. It was however pointed out that a simple change in Team names could defeat any change. After a brief discussion it was agreed to refer the whole issue of seed times to the Rules Sub Committee for consideration.

- System for monitoring input of retraining logs. The Secretary reported that there were currently 4 dogs with

the requirement to submit retraining logs and that a process for monitoring the receipt of such logs and their acceptability was now necessary. It was suggested that a member of the Dog Incident Sub Committee be given the role of monitoring Logs and reporting thereon to Committee. Shireen offered to develop an appropriate process.

Item 7 Other Business. – The President noted that this was the final Meeting of the current Committee and he took the opportunity to thank all Committee members for their input over the last year.

Date of Next Meeting- Monday 3rd September 2018. There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 9.45 p.m.
Signed as a true record.

President.