

Minutes – Subject to final approval at December 2016 Meeting.

Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 7th November 2016.

Present – Jenny Millar, Julie Pamplin, Jennifer Crane, Shireen Pitt, Frank Lux, Jo Grant, Phil Lea, Robyn Ferguson, Anne Coleman, Carolyn Shrives, Catherine Stroop, Candice Leighton, Steve Pitt and Richard Mellon

Apologies - Brian Lindsay, Pat Byrne and Josh Ellen

Meeting Opened at 7.30pm (AEDST) via Go to Meetings Conference.

ITEM 1. Starred Items

The following items were adopted without discussion:

- 1) Minutes of the October Meeting
- 2) Renewals of Memberships
- 3) Treasurers Report. End of October Bank Balance \$17208.69 plus invested funds of \$52985.87
- 4) Correspondence Out – NIL
- 5) Sanctioned Events Approved

ITEM 2. Correspondence In.

- 1) Email proposal to abolish rear steward position – see New Business.
- 2) Email from Supervising Judge re breakout and DNF situation – see New business.
- 3) Email from member re comments on Facebook – see New Business.

ITEM 3. Task List

Steve Pitt to submit letter of invitation to committee for out of session approval – see General Business; Development Sub Committee

Candice Leighton to finalise purchase of storage bag for Queensland.

ITEM 4. Letter recommending Mike McChesney for Senior Timekeeper

Jenny Crane and Steve Pitt both outlined the contribution made by Mr. McChesney to the sport of Flyball Racing in Queensland. Discussion followed the role and importance of Senior Timekeeper. The criteria for Senior Timekeeper is 30 appointments. It was discussed that Mike had indeed met the criteria. It was asked by a committee member how could it be proved since there is no record of timekeepers kept in the database. It was accepted that those from the state of the person in question could verify the experience. The consensus of Mike McChesney being awarded Senior Timekeeper was passed and it will be awarded upon receipt of written (in the form of email) response verifying the experience of Mike McChesney. Jenni Crane to email Brian outlining Mike McChesney's experience and contribution.

ITEM 5. Honour Memory of Les Scott

The proposal to insert a title at 712 (Les Scott's CRN) as a lasting memorial. It was discussed overhauling the titles to more evenly space the awards and to include the 'Les Scott' title. Frank had approached Southern Cross regarding a name, they support the concept and have left the AFA to name the award. After discussion of the ramifications of changes, it was decided that with the suggested changes benefit members and followed a more rational sequence. It was discussed that changes must be approved by members. The constitution would need to be examined as to how to introduce these changes, if a postal ballot was catered for under the constitution. It was suggested that by putting it to the AGM next year it would also mark the anniversary of his passing. Two things that need to be done are the circulation of the points table, the established and proposed. And a name to be chosen for the Les Scott title. Committee members to email suggestions and Frank to approach Southern Cross to finalise name.

ITEM 6. Storage of the Victorian Matting.

Committee waiting for a report from Victorian Rep on update of the situation. Carolyn raised the issue that Belconnen were going to submit a proposal to store the matting. If possible, we would like to deal with this before the December meeting as we have made a commitment to Rodney Gooch to deal with as soon as possible.

Item 7. Dog Incident Sub Committee

Nil to report

Item 8. Rules Sub Committee

Carolyn reported that due to work commitments the RSC had not held a meeting, however the issues raised involving the Competition Guidelines had been dealt with via email and were ready for circulation to the committee. It was asked if the committee could give an out of session approval for the changes involving competition guidelines, the request was granted. The Rules Sub Committee will be holding a meeting on or about 16th November to address the remaining issues.

Item 9. Development Sub Committee

Steve Pitt reported that the letter of invitation to the members is ready to be circulated. Steve asked for an out of session approval from the Committee re: invitation. He will forward the letter of invitation for approval to the committee in the next day or so.

Item 10. Recommendations for Supervisory Judge.

Robyn outlined the summary of the interviews of the candidates. She outlined the responses of both candidates and reasons as to why the panel came to their decision. The panel recommended Phil Lea for the position of Supervisory Judge for the next two years. Discussion amongst the committee members ensued and the committee accepted the recommendation from the panel. Phil Lea was asked to re-join the meeting. He accepted the position. Sue Norton will be notified of the Committees decision. The minutes from 2014 were accessed and the date of the beginning of November as the changeover date was confirmed. It was discussed that the next meeting of the rules subcommittee both Sue and Phil would attend. It was noted that confirmation to Sue Norton re: Supervisory Judge position be obtained before minutes be published.

Item 11. On Trial Judges Accreditation Process.

Trial due to end in December. Phil reported that he is comfortable with the process, and he will head up the discussions with Sue and others involved to get feedback and report to the committee at the next meeting.

Item 12. Abolish Rear Steward positions.

Phil Lea proposed that the sport has evolved to a point where the rear steward is redundant. It was noted that to find stewards was difficult at times and to not have a rear steward is one less steward. It was noted by a committee member that occasionally the rear steward was called upon. The committee agreed on several reasons as to why the rear steward was no longer required. It was discussed as to why the rear steward came into being originally, the reasons for the introduction no longer exist with most competitors having a good knowledge base of the rules. Unlike when the rear steward was first implemented, the sport had a lot of green dogs and handlers where not familiar with rules of racing. Members of the committee who are Judges reported their experiences with rear stewards and it was agreed that it was now a defunct role. Proposal passed to abolish rear ring steward and agreed to go on trial from the 1st December.

Item 13. DNF / BO situation.

Sue Norton raised the issue of DNF and BO situations, being the win awarded to the team that did not breakout even if the team did not finish. It was agreed that a team that 'Did Not Finish' cannot automatically be given the win. It was agreed that the common-sense rule of raising be applied. It was suggested that the rules sub-committee review the wording for clarification.

Item 14. Comments on Facebook.

A member brought to the attention of the committee comments made on a closed Facebook group. The Committee wishes to remind members to familiarize themselves with Policy 8 – Anti Bullying Policy and Policy 9 – Social Media Policy and the standards of behaviour expected by members of the Australian Flyball Association.

Other Business – Height Card for SA Member.

Member who doesn't travel interstate is requesting a height card. Due to lack of Judges in South Australia, Phil Lea will measure the dog in March. Affording the member the required height card.

Nationals 2017

Jenny Millar was asked how the arrangements for the 2017 Nationals, a report will be given to the Committee for the December meeting and she asked for a copy of the letter "Expressions of Interest" be forwarded to her.

Next meeting Monday 5th December.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 8.20pm (AEST), 9.20pm (AEDST).