

Minutes – Subject to final approval at December 2019 Meeting.

Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 4th November 2019.

Present: Richard Mellon, Jenny Millar, Brian Lindsay, Jennifer Crane, Frank Lux, Pat Byrne, Shireen Pitt, David Strong, Josh Ellen, Martin Watt, Sally Elsom, Peter Samuels, Phil Lea, Sam Brown Michael Ashton, Konrad Moskal and Steve Pitt

Apologies: Nil

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 two October Meetings.
- 2) Renewals of Memberships
- 3) Treasurers Report. End October Bank Balance \$ 21,281.23 plus invested funds of \$82161.
- 4) Correspondence Out

ITEM 2. Matters Arising

Nil

ITEM 3. Correspondences In.

- Member email suggesting purchase of Defibrillators, one for each set of AFA Lights. (Web search indicates cost around \$2400 per set). Dealt with under Other Business.
- Email request from Member Lyn Cutajar to allow her to race at meeting on 7th December which is the final day of the 90 day exclusion due to change of Clubs. Approval given for the requested one day reduction.
- Email from Michelle Gurney seeking approval to commence Judges training. Approved – Phil to advise and send Theory exam to member.
- Letter from member complaining re a Judges behavior at Kobe Klassic Competition. Dealt with under Other Business.

ITEM 4 Sanctioned Events Approved.

Demo – Tassie flying Paws – 23/11/2019 – Pontville Tassie.

Training Day – Belconnen – 30/11/19 – Belconnen Dog Club
Flemington Rd Mitchell.

Comp – Norwest – 14/03/20 – Hounds in the Hills – Dog
Grounds Castle Hill Showground (Open with handicap option,
Training in ring).

Comp – Norwest – 2/05/20 – Hawkesbury Show Flyball – Dog
Ring Hawkesbury Showground Clarendon NSW – (Training in
ring).

Comp – ACT Companion Dog Club – 23/05/20 – Mayhem race
Meet – Narrabundah Lane Symonston ACT (Open with
handicap option, Training in ring).

ITEM 5 – Admin Matters.

New Members*:

Melissa Hyde, Leo Driessen, Jeremy Ellis, Emily Beange,
Jeremy Provan, Danielle Healey and Catherine Midgley.
Late renewals – Melissa Starling, Tull Luttrell, Jo Grant
and Conrad Wagner.

Stewards Exams Passes

Rebecca Scott CRN 3154

Kim Kaim CRN 2936

Timekeepers Exam pass

Carmel Nottle CRN 2507

Ben Samuels CRN 2747A.1

Probationary Judges Exam pass

Gordon Chalmers CRN 462

Daniel Popic CRN 2364

Level 1 Judges Upgrade Exam

Tim Slade CRN 834

2020 Nationals – Judges and Officials.

Josh advised that Organisers have recommended appointment of 8 Judges and 2 AFA Reps – Judges Phil Lea (Supervising Judge), Steve Pitt, Ian Kendt, Catherine Stroop, Verdelle Townsend, Josh Ellen, Chris Bates and Paul Newman. AFA Reps. Brian Lindsay and Robyn Ferguson. Committee approved appointments and agreed that Josh should be the AFA rep on the Committee. Josh was asked to check on who was going to be the independent entry receiver.

Item 6 General Business.

- a) **Report from Dog Incident Sub Committee.** Nil to report

- b) **Report from Rules Sub Committee.** Nil to report – The Sub Committee still does not have a Chair however a Meeting will be arranged and the selection of a Chair will be top of business.

- c) **Report on Ulna Measuring System.** Nil to report – Sub Committee requested to follow up prices for additional measures as quickly as possible so that a decision can be made on number required before Xmas break.

- d) **Report from Sub Committee on Flyball Development.** Sub Committee still formatting a working mock- up of Landing Page.

Item 7 New Business.

- Steve raised concerns regarding the ongoing use of Single Team Divisions in competitions. With the advent of handicap formats available in both Open and Regular format there should not be any need for single Team Divisions. Steve indicated his concern was heightened given the potential to impact on places in a States Premiership. Committee agreed to refer consideration of this matter to the Rules Sub Committee with the request that the Sub Committee review the Guidelines on hosting a competition and to indicate that formats including single

team Divisions should now be avoided via the use of the handicap format.

- Jenni raised the issue of the criteria used to select Novice Club of the year. Her concern was that there was no element in the criteria to recognise the difference between a completely new Club with lots of members and dogs that had not competed in flyball before versus a Club that had been formed by separation from an established club with the majority of members having been in the AFA for some time. She suggested that the selection criteria should include some form of weighting for attraction of new members by new clubs. David suggested that a criteria that should be recognized was the number of AFA Sanctioned Demonstrations organized and hosted by the new clubs, as this reflected development towards hosting competitions. A Sub Committee of Jenni, Sally, Shireen and Sam was formed to examine the selection criteria and recommend any additions.
- Frank commented upon the Sub Committee reviewing options to encourage new Judges – we've up-dated the Timekeepers exam document to include the test sheets and Sally has updated the Judges capability booklet but we still need to add in the process for a Supervisory judge position.
- He pointed out that as a result of Phil's efforts to encourage people to become Judges we now have a number of trainee Judges starting to undertake practical training and also a number doing theory exams. Phil commented that we can expect half a dozen new Judges in next 6 months – he would however still like to identify at least one new ACT based Judge.

Item 8 Other Business.

- The Committee considered the submission from a member that the AFA Purchase defibrillator to be located with the AFA Light sets in each State and that members be trained in the use of the machines. The Committee noted that this would involve a significant outlay as each machine would likely cost around \$2500. Question was asked as to how long a life span a defibrillator has and what was the annual maintenance requirement and cost. The Committee agreed

that availability of defibrillators at AFA events was desirable from an added member safety viewpoint. In order to make an informed decision the Committee decided to obtain additional information on costs of machines, maintenance requirements and costs and any need for training in operation and if so how best to organise. David agreed to undertake research and report to December meeting.

- The Committee discussed the member complaint related to an incident at the Kobe Klassic Competition involving the Member and a Judge and the claim that the Judge made belittling remarks, in a loud voice, from outside the ring causing offence to the member. The Committee agreed that the behaviour identified, if confirmed, was unbecoming and unacceptable from an AFA Official and agreed that the Judge should be contacted regarding the content of the complaint and asked for explanation or comment prior to the Committee dealing with the issue. Secretary to contact Judge.

Date of Next Meeting- **Monday 2nd December 2019**. There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 8.55 p.m.
Signed as a true record.

President.