

**Minutes – Subject to final approval at October 2020 Meeting.
Australian Flyball Association Inc. – Minutes of Meeting held on 7th
September 2020.**

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

Apologies: Phil Lea and Konrad Moskal.

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 September Meeting.
- 2) Renewals of Memberships
- 3) Treasurers Report. End August Bank Balance \$2682.33 plus invested funds of \$84142.71.

ITEM 2. Matters Arising

The Committee reviewed the Action Sheet for August.

ITEM 3. Correspondences In.

Letter of complaint re behaviour of an Official at Chills in Hills Competition. Discussed under New Business.

ITEM 4 Sanctioned Events

Nil new events. See Item 7 New Business re cancellations of 2020 Nationals.

ITEM 5 – Admin Matter

I) New Members –

Jessy Flynn
Caitlyn Wardrope
Ben Royes
Amy Anger
Brooke George

II) Exam Passes – Nil advised.

lii) Corona Virus update – The Committee noted that a new recommendation from NSW Health re restrictions on travel to sports events from different regions of the State of NSW made the holding of competitions impossible. The recommendation had an end date of

30th September and would be reviewed at that time. All competitions scheduled up to end September had either been cancelled by organisers or, where this had not happened, the Sanction had been withdrawn by AFA. No other changes in circumstance had occurred in August. The Committee agreed to review situation again at its October Meeting.

Iv) Information for AGM.

The Committee noted that the date of the AGM had been set as Sat 17th October. The Committee had received two nominations for Presidents Appreciation Awards and one nomination for Life Members by the close of Nominations date of 1st September. The Committee approved the two nominations for the Presidents Appreciation Award and these Awards would be announced at the AGM. The Nomination for Life Membership was discussed and it was agreed that it meet the nomination criteria, having the support of Nominator and 4 other members, and that it should be submitted to the AGM for member ballot. The Committee agreed to review the Life Member nomination process and the specified criteria for the Award after the AGM.

The Committee agreed to call for Nominations for 2020/21 Committee with a close date of 9th October. Secretary to prepare Nomination Form.

The issue of how best to conduct the 2020 AGM was again discussed. The Reginal Reps had considered options and based on attendance numbers at the recent AGMs recommended that the normal use of multiple venues and Go to Meetings should still be possible in most States. The situation in Victoria in mid - October however restricted any gathering greater than 5 people from two households. It was suggested that Victorian members who wanted to attend the AGM should be asked to pre- register and then be linked by a Victoria wide Zoom meeting, with the Zoom coordinator supervising and relaying voting numbers via a link to main Meeting. Secretary to prepare a suitable Notice that Regional reps could use to contact clubs re Venue selection. Venues to be finalized at October Meeting.

V) Change in Bank Signatories

The Committee noted that currently the Treasurer and Secretary had authority to jointly sign. Question was asked do we need to have a back-up Signature. It was decided to add the President (Richard Mellon) as the third signature with any two to sign.

vi) Policy re fees for use of AFA equipment – Lights and Matts.

The Committee noted that occasionally a request was made to access and use either the Lights or mats, or both, for events other than competitions. In such cases the issue arose of whether a charge should be made for such use. Events that had arisen that fell into this category included training schools, demonstrations and Training Days. The

Committee agreed that where the event was a sanctioned activity open to all members and did not involve other than a nominal cost recovery type entry fee then the AFA would not impose a fee for equipment use. In other circumstances, such as where access was limited or where a more substantial fee was applied, the AFA would charge rental recognising the wear and tear factor. Such fees would be determined on a case by case basis taking into account circumstances of each application (length of hire, type of use and charges to be applied by event organizer) and normal level of income generated by similar use in competition format use. Agreed that Secretary would draft a framework of a Policy and submit to Rules Sub Committee for consideration.

vii) New Australian Record – approval.

The Committee noted that a new Australian record of 16.349 had been set at the recent Chills in the Hills Competition. The record had been subject to the necessary review on the day and the video had been reviewed by the required two neutral members of the Committee. Record approved. It was suggested that the Record Approval Form – C 13 be reviewed as the tick boxes could be confusing.

viii) Ulna Measure Update.

It was noted that the current situation was that each State holds a On Trial Ulna Measure (the design updated and printed by Phil Lea). Limited testing of the measures had been possible due to current restrictions on competitions. It was agreed to continue the On Trial status until sufficient testing could be conducted. It was also agreed that in due course all Judges would be supplied with an individual measure by AFA.

ix) Supervisory Judge Qualifications specification.

The Committee noted the qualification specification developed for this position and agreed that the wording was appropriate and should be uploaded to the web.

Item 6 General Business.

Report from Dog Incident Sub Committee.

Martin advised that Committee that the Sub Committee had considered a Black Card Report from Chills in Hills competition. The card had been issued to CRN 1350 Rizzo. Rizzo was a green dog at his first competition and had crossed to opposition lane, interfered with the dog returning and appeared to have attempted to nip at that dog – no evidence of contact had been found. Rizzo had no prior cards. The recommendation was to record No Finding of aggression. The recommendation was adopted. The Committee requested that in future written recommendations be provided to Committee prior to meeting so they could be reviewed prior to discussion.

Report of Rules Sub Committee.

Next drafts of sections of the Rules rewrite had been received from Paul and a Meeting would be arranged shortly to consider and report to Committee in October.

Report from Sub Committee on Flyball Development.

The Landing Page was to be discussed with the Web Designer shortly to ensure functional understanding.

ITEM 7 New Business.

i) Letter of complaint – correspondence in.

The Committee noted that the reported incident involved claimed use of loud and intimidatory language by a Hounds in the Hills competition official when requesting several members and their dogs to leave an area near Timekeepers table that was in a restricted zone due to corona virus. The Official had indicated that given the matter took place in the undercover arena, whilst a race was underway, it would have been necessary to use a loud voice to be heard, but did not consider the conversation was aggressive or intimidatory. After consideration of the complaint the Committee determined that no action was necessary given the minor nature of the incident.

ii) 2020 Nationals – cancelled.

The Committee was advised that the 3 Clubs jointly hosting the deferred 2020 Nationals had reconsidered the likely situation in Victoria at Easter 2021 and had reluctantly made the decision to cancel the 2020 Nationals scheduled for Easter. Formal written notice of the cancellation would be submitted to AFA.

iii) QR codes to be considered as a means of handover control of AFA equipment.

Frank advised that he and Pat were considering the use of QR codes to record hand over of AFA Equipment (Lights and other items). This combined with the Check List might offer a better control check on who is holding equipment at any given time.

Item 8 Other Business.

Date of Next Meeting- **Monday 5th October 2020** There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 9.40 p.m.

Signed as a true record.

President.