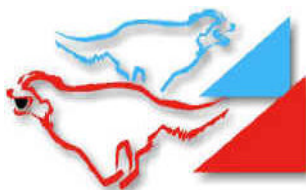


# **The British Flyball Association**



## **Minutes of Committee Meeting No 4-2000/2001 Held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2001 at Southmoor Village Hall**

**Present:** Roy Hiscock, Alison Booth, Betty Potts, Robert Henshall, Doreen Smith, Andy Bawden, Peter Roberts and Graham Nye.

**Apologies for Absence:** Chris Fulford.

### **1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

These had been circulated by the Acting Secretary and were agreed to be a true record of the proceedings.

### **2. MATTERS ARISING**

Reports on progress as follows:

- a. Regional Representatives Co-ordinator - It was agreed the idea that in future anyone asking to join in with Flyball should have their name and area published in the Flyball Record should be withdrawn, as they would possibly lose interest in the time between enquiry, publication and response. Doreen Smith had raised a new list of Area Representatives, sent copy to the Editor of the Flyball Record and arranged up-date of the Website records. She would now progress to contact all Team Captains to enquire whether they are willing to train/take in new members. On the strength of their replies, a database would be created for selective availability to Area Representatives.
- b. Training and Education –
  - i. Getting Started Package - An up-dated version was presented to the Meeting. Further amendment/improvement was discussed with particular reference to the Lane Layout and Roy Hiscock agreed to action the changes.
  - ii. Video and Training Aids - No progress.
  - iii. Three additional sets of measuring Hoops are on order.
  - iv. There is a need to promote Training days in a diary on the Website.
- c. Show Secretary -
  - i. It was confirmed that due to the implications of the Foot and Mouth outbreak, the Market Harborough Tournament due to take place on 25<sup>th</sup> March had been cancelled.
  - ii. In this context, it was agreed that the Committee would consider, on its merits, a request for a contribution towards non-recoverable expenses from any Organiser who had to cancel a Sanctioned Show for reasons outside his/her control (e.g. the Foot and Mouth outbreak).
  - iii. Following the change of dates for Crufts, which would now clash with the Nuneaton Flyers Tournament, the latter had requested a revised date, which in turn would conflict with an application from the Wolf Pack for a sanctioned tournament at Walsall. Alison Booth was asked to contact the Nuneaton Flyers to sort out a mutually acceptable solution.

- iv. Selby Game Fair and other subsequent Shows were going ahead at the moment unless the areas involved became part of a Foot and Mouth exclusion zone. Each Show would need to be considered in the light of the changing F&M situation nearer its date. Alison Booth to maintain contact with Organisers and advise accordingly.
  - v. Roy Hiscock tabled a revised version of the C.3 Form (Application for a Sanctioned Tournament) which was approved and would be brought into use as soon as possible.
  - vi. Following a discussion on its content, Alison Booth was asked to revise the 'Rules' for Show Schedules and circulate a draft for approval.
- d. Appointment and Review Procedure for Head Judges –
- i. An application from Roy Hiscock to become a Head Judge was considered (while he left the Meeting) and approved.
  - ii. There was a need to provide more training opportunities for Head Judges and encourage more applications. This fact to be publicised in the Flyball Record. Peter Roberts to try and organise a Judges Seminar in the North linked to an Event. There was also the probability of a further Seminar at Thetford later in the year.
  - iii. Apart from the requirements listed in Rule 5.5 (g), (h) and (j) an applicant for Head Judge must have judged at three separate Sanctioned Tournaments under three different Organisers. This Rule needs expanding and 'tidying up' accordingly when the opportunity presents itself.
- e. Secretary's Correspondence -
- i. Tornadoes/Committee meeting - A third letter on this matter had been sent to Kevin McNicholas in reply to his communication of 6<sup>th</sup> October - no response so far.
  - ii. Lists of current Committee, Head Judges and 'Active' Teams - These had been improved and up-dated with copies issued to relevant parties as necessary.

### **3. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Robert Henshall produced various financial statements including the Year-end Accounts.

- a. The financial position remains healthy. Details are available to current BFA members on request.
- b. He confirmed that a new Insurance Policy with Trenwick International Limited was in place. The Policy document was handed to the Acting Secretary for safekeeping.
- c. A Business Plan for the five year period from 2001 was discussed ready for presentation at the AGM.
- d. The possibility of opening up a separate account into which monies could be transferred, to build a reserve fund for a set of Lights, to be investigated - with particular reference to the Tax implications.

### **4. MEMBERSHIP PROCESS CHANGE**

Following the last Meeting contact had been made with Chris Fulford and by mutual agreement he had relinquished the position of Membership Secretary. Graham Nye had taken over responsibility for this task in the meantime.

## **5. SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2000/2001**

A letter had been sent to Captains of participating teams covering the revised results of the 2000 Championship and it was confirmed that the relevant team medals would be forwarded under separate cover, to arrive before the AGM.

The format for 2001 was discussed and subject to the limitations of Foot and Mouth, it would be run over five Tournaments (unlimited) with the best four results qualifying for a final position. Points allocation would be similar to last year and the rules for deciding places in the event of a tie on points would be simplified.

Alison Booth to confirm the Tournaments and dates for the Championship before the AGM. Full details of these dates and the final format to be published prior to the first event.

## **6. FLAP ON FLYBALL BOXES**

Following the use of a flap on a Box at the Slough Tournament, it was re-emphasised that no item considered to be a training aid is allowed in competition and that Boxes must conform to designated dimensions. Checks on Boxes to be carried out prior to racing whenever time permits.

## **7. FLYBALL RECORD**

It was agreed that the next print run of this Magazine would be increased to 500 copies to satisfy demand created by the overall increase in membership.

## **8. WEBSITE**

Nigel Bouckley had provided the Show Secretary with a password to enable her to enter Show details directly onto the site, thus ensuring that members are given as much notice as possible of forthcoming events.

The Acting Secretary now had the facility to up-date Area Representatives details on-line and maintain accurate relationships between them and the Counties for which they have responsibility.

Thanks were again due to Nigel for producing the new and improved Website.

It was confirmed that a Disclaimer had been added to the site to ensure that the BFA is not held responsible for the wrongdoing of Advertisers.

## **9. BFA MEMBERS AWARD AND MOST IMPROVED TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The two rounds of voting had been completed and the results were circulated. Comments on the format for nominations appear on the AGM Agenda and should invoke discussion on the future of these Awards.

## **10. TOURNAMENT RULES**

Betty Potts had reviewed the 7 Team Round Robin format since it had been noted that in this format the 4<sup>th</sup> seeded team had to change lanes for consecutive Races 14 and 15. The results of her deliberations would be circulated to the Committee.

## **11. AGM AGENDA**

A draft Agenda for the AGM was discussed and approved subject to minor alterations that the Acting Secretary would put in hand prior to distribution.

## **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There had been a request for clarification of the Break-out Rule and revision of Rule 5.18 (m) will be proposed to the membership at the AGM.

In answer to a query from Doreen Smith, it was stated that dogs from different Teams can run together in Multi Breed but having done so, cannot change Multi Breed Team for four months.

In the light of the continuing increase in the number of trophies under the heading 'Breed Specific', it was agreed that in future they would be limited to four. A dog winning the overall first place trophy in this category three years running would be invited to retain it.

### **13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The AGM - Sunday 1st April 2001 at Southmoor Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 16.30hrs with the Chairman's thanks to Sam Bawden for arranging the Venue and providing Refreshments throughout the day.

### **14. ADDENDUM COVERING PERIOD 15<sup>TH</sup>-18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2001 - FOOT & MOUTH/AGM**

In the week following this Meeting it became obvious that the Foot and Mouth outbreak was escalating rapidly and its effect on the timing of the AGM became a matter for urgent consideration by the Committee. Conflicting messages from Government coupled with concerns expressed by our Membership about non-essential journeys from, through and to infected areas convinced the Committee that, regrettably, postponement was the only sensible option. As a result of e-mail exchanges this was unanimously agreed and Notice was therefore sent to all Team Captains, Head Judges and Officers of the BFA in a letter dated 18<sup>th</sup> March.

This Notice was posted on the Website on the same day.

The situation will be closely monitored and a new date fixed when it is wise so to do. In the meantime the Committee will continue to administer the business of the BFA on a day-to-day basis.

It was noted that subsequent to the Meeting the Selby Game Fair had been postponed by the Organisers until 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> May (with a closing date for entries of 28<sup>th</sup> April) and Newark due on 13<sup>th</sup> May had been cancelled.