

# **The British Flyball Association**



## **Minutes of Committee Meeting No 1 -2000/01 Held on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2000 at Peter Roberts' House**

**Present:** Roy Hiscock, Doreen Smith, Alison Booth, Betty Potts, Andy Bawden, Chris Fulford, Robert Henshall, Peter Roberts.

**By Invitation:** Graham Nye.

**Apologies:** Martin Dickenson who had expressed a wish to step down from the Committee due to personal circumstances and pressure of work. His wish was accepted with thanks for his efforts of last year.

- 1. Minutes of last Meeting (No 11):** - Had already been approved as a true record of proceedings.
- 2. Welcome:** - Roy Hiscock welcomed Betty Potts following her election to the Committee at the AGM and thanked Peter Roberts for providing the venue for this Meeting.
- 3. Election of Officers:**

**Chairman** - Roy Hiscock                      Proposed by: Doreen Smith                      Seconded by: Robert Henshall

**Secretary** - As Doreen Smith was still extremely busy in full employment and following Graham Nye's involvement in administration for the AGM and subsequent Rule changes, the latter confirmed that he, being semi-retired, had offered his services in the role of Secretary. He also explained his apparent change of mind since the AGM.

After discussion he was co-opted on to the Committee by a unanimous vote to be Acting Secretary in the place vacated by Martin Dickenson.

Doreen was thanked for her work during the very difficult year during which she had held the office of Secretary.

**Treasurer** - Robert Henshall                      Proposed by: Peter Roberts                      Seconded by: Andy Bawden

- 4. Allocation of Committee Duties: (All unanimously agreed)**

**Show Secretary** - Chris Fulford

**Regional Representatives Co-ordinator** - Doreen Smith

Peter Roberts had expressed a wish to stand down from this position and proposed a review of the Area Representatives role and set up which Doreen would now undertake. Meantime the revised list of Areas and their Representatives would be published in the imminent Flyball News and steps would be taken to revive the BFA e-mail list as a means of progressing enquiries from new interested parties.

**Training and Education Officer** - Peter Roberts

Peter would now concentrate on this position and produce proposals to cover all aspects of Training and Education, with a plan for the next twelve months including a Seminar for Head Judges.

**Disciplinary Sub Committee** - To comprise Andy Bawden, Robert Henshall and Betty Potts.

**Safety Sub Committee** - To comprise Andy Bawden, Peter Roberts and Doreen Smith.

**5. Confirmation of Non-Committee Duties: (All of whom would continue in their current roles)**

**Webmaster** - Nigel Bouckley

**Stats Officer** - Maureen Hiscock

**Membership Secretary** - Lorraine Fulford

**Awards Secretary** - Sam Bawden

- 6. Publicity Officer** - It was appreciated that there is an urgent need to appoint a Publicity Officer. It was unanimously agreed that Doreen would write to Kevin McNicholas to ask if he would accept this position as he had been very successful in the past in promoting Flyball.

- 7. Secretary's Correspondence** - Doreen raised the contents of a letter from Joanne Walton and another from Howard Campbell. These were discussed and the Acting Secretary asked to draft suitable replies.

Robert Henshall reported that he had been contacted by the BBC Natural History Unit, Bristol seeking permission to film at Charlton Park. He was in the process of obtaining this permission from interested parties.

**8. Matters Arising from the AGM:**

**Meeting with the Tornadoes** - It was confirmed that a letter had been sent to the Tornadoes requesting a list of available dates for the Meeting proposed at the AGM. Thus far no reply had been received and it was agreed that confirmation of receipt of this letter by the Tornadoes would be sought.

**The Business Plan/Budget** is in the process of being prepared and items for inclusion were discussed.

Robert Henshall to continue work on this project.

**Primary Team Names Renewal** - This item was referred back to Committee at the AGM. It was unanimously agreed that a fee of £2.00 for the annual renewal of Primary Team Names would now be introduced from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2001 to be paid by the Custodian of the Name with their Membership renewal fee. This renewal procedure, with its minimal cost, would enable the BFA to identify 'active' Teams and thereby limit expenditure for the BFA and Show Organizers involved in sending out paperwork.

In the interim an 'active' list would be prepared based on those Teams that have raced in the last twelve months (and whose Custodian is a current BFA member) for issue as a guide to Show Organizers.

Teams that have not raced in this period (or whose Custodian is not a current BFA member) will be advised accordingly on the basis that they will NOT receive Show Schedules unless they request them via the BFA P O Box.

**Head Judges** - As Head Judges must now be current members of the BFA, any whose membership has lapsed would be removed from the list. The names of new Head Judges would be posted on the Secretary's Webpage and printed in the Flyball News.

**New Teams Registration Fee** - Another item referred back. It was unanimously agreed that the Team Registration Fee would be increased to £10.00 from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2001 to more realistically cover the administration costs involved.

**Membership Fees** - Also referred back. It was suggested that the Single membership fee should increase to £12.00 per annum and the Joint/Family membership be merged with a fee of £18.00 per annum, all from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2001. This suggestion to be given further thought in the light of the Business Plan and reviewed at the next Meeting.

### **Sub-Committees/Working Parties:**

**Head Judges review of appointment and appraisal procedure** - Andy Bawden was appointed to co-ordinate suggestions and feedback from all interested parties

**Overseas Guest Teams** - It was unanimously agreed that to cover this eventuality a 'dummy' Primary Team Number should be allocated, say '900' for BFA Visitors, with initially up to four Secondary Teams. These Teams may be required to pay entry fees. They will be able to win or be placed in BFA Tournaments but be ineligible for Flyball points.

**Rule 5.2 Teams** - It was felt inappropriate to set up a Working Party at this time. However the subject would be kept under continuous review and be acted upon in future if the need arose.

- 9. Financial Report** - Robert Henshall reported on the current financial position that remained healthy. Details are available to current BFA members on request.
- 10. Summer Championships** - Chris Fulford confirmed the structure of this Championship based on three Tournaments at Daventry, Congleton and Althorne and stated that the format for establishing final placings would be published in the forthcoming Flyball News.
- 11. Flyball Record** - The Committee expressed their appreciation of Jean Meeking's efforts in producing her first Flyball Record so efficiently and on time.

Robert Henshall was authorized to provide Jean with a Float at his discretion to cover expenses incurred in producing and mailing her next edition.

- 12. Website problems** - Roy Hiscock explained the teething troubles that had caused a lack of information on Flyball points etc in recent times. These were now being addressed.

Chris Fulford advised of what appeared to be the new rather slow method of up dating Membership details and Stats whilst being 'on-line' to the Website. He asked if the BFA would pay that part of his Telephone Bill associated with this task. It was unanimously agreed that the BFA would cover this element of both his and Maureen Hiscock's Bills based on records they kept of time 'on-line'. Meantime Roy Hiscock would investigate a solution put forward by Nigel Bouckley whereby BT allowed up to five users to be set up on the same account which could be chargeable direct to the BFA.

A vote of thanks to Nigel Bouckley for all his work and help in setting up the new Website was unanimously agreed.

As a security measure a CD copy of the Website Database would be sent to the Acting Secretary every quarter for safekeeping.

- 13. Flyball News** - A draft copy of issue 1, 2000-01 was circulated and some amendments suggested. Roy Hiscock to progress to publication.
- 14. BFA Members Award and Most Improved Team of the Year Award** - Chris Fulford proposed the introduction of two new annual awards to be presented for the first time at the 2001 AGM and this was unanimously accepted. Details to be published in the Flyball News and feedback encouraged.
- 15. Additional Flyball Points Certificate** - A proposal that an additional Certificate be introduced to slot between those for 1000 and 5000 points with a threshold set at 3000 points was unanimously accepted.

It would be called 'Flyball Dog - Graduate' and be introduced immediately.

A member with any dog that has already passed the 3000 point mark but not yet attained 5000 points can apply to the Stats Officer for a retrospective Certificate.

For cost saving reasons, Rule 6.2 will not be amended at this time but the additional wording will be incorporated in the next issue of the Rules and Policies document.

**16. Flyball Points** - Betty Potts tabled a revised Points system for consideration and discussion at subsequent Meetings.

**17. Future Meetings Dates:** (All venues to be arranged)

**Committee** Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2000  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2000  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2001

**AGM** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2001

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 18.10 hrs with the Chairman's thanks to Peter and Delia Roberts for providing the Venue and Refreshments throughout the day.