

# **The British Flyball Association**



## **Minutes of Committee Meeting No 2 -2000/01 Held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2000 at Cogenhoe & Whiston Village Hall**

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

**Apologies for Absence:** Doreen Smith.

- 1. Minutes of the last meeting (No 1-2000/01):** - Had already been approved as a true record of proceedings and posted to the Website.
- 2. Committee Personnel and BFA Officers:** - Chris Fulford's letters of resignation and retraction were read and after a short discussion it was unanimously decided to restore him to the Committee with immediate effect.

Lorraine Fulford's letter of resignation as Membership Secretary was also read and accepted with much regret after her efforts in this area over the previous eighteen months.

Alison Booth was confirmed as Show Secretary and Andy Bawden was unanimously accorded the position of Vice Chairman.

It was agreed that Chris would be offered the position of Membership Secretary (that held by Lorraine Fulford before her resignation) and his acceptance was subsequently confirmed.

Graham Nye would convey these changes to Nigel Bouckley for appropriate up-date of Website records.

It was noted that as Alison Booth had no PC at present, e-mail contact to and from her would be via Betty Potts.

Graham Nye would produce a list showing names and addresses etc. of the current Committee and other Officers, together with a list of current Head Judges, both for record purposes.

### **3. Progress Reports:**

**Regional Representatives Co-ordinator** – as Doreen was not present this was delayed until the next Meeting, although it was reported that she was preparing a List of Teams willing to train new and potential members.

**Getting Started Package** – Roy Hiscock presented his first thoughts on this subject, which were discussed. Additions and amendments were proposed and he agreed to progress and circulate to the Committee.

**Training and Education** – On behalf of the BFA:

Betty Potts is organising a Training Day for Trainers, Team Captains and Handlers in the Snaith Community Sports Centre, Snaith, Nr Goole, East Yorkshire on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2000.

Roy Hiscock is organising a Judges/Head Judges' Seminar at the Breckland Leisure Centre in Thetford, Norfolk on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2000.

In conjunction with the 'Getting Started Package' the production of a Video was discussed and Robert Henshall was asked to explore the possibility of arranging for the editing of footage available from Alison Booth, who could also provide some photographs.

Robert reported that the BBC Natural History Unit from Bristol had not filmed at Charlton Park but were still in contact and interested in arranging something for Spring/Summer 2001. In this context Betty Potts would provide a contact at BBC Look North who had already done some filming.

**Head Judges review of appointment and appraisal procedure** – Andy Bawden reported little feedback so far but expected discussions to take place at the forthcoming Judges Seminar.

**Overseas Guest Teams** – TRN's 991,991A, 991B and 991C would be set up to accommodate such Teams.

**Show Diary for 2001** – Alison Booth was asked to co-ordinate Tournament dates for the period January to April next year ready for publication at the earliest opportunity.

The production of a list covering 'active' Primary Teams who would be sent Show Schedules in future was in hand and would be available to Alison Booth within the week.

4. **Publicity Officer** – It was reported that the intended letter to Kevin McNicholas had not been sent.
5. **Meeting with the Tornados** – As no official reaction had been received to the letter sent after the AGM, the Secretary would write again on this subject and incorporate reference to the position of Publicity Officer.
6. **Secretary's Correspondence** – Three letters were read:

From Anton Wittwer confirming that contrary to rumour, all BFA members would be most welcome at future MDS Shows. He had been sent a suitable reply.

From Howard Campbell concerning the vote on his proposal at the AGM. Discussion took place and the Secretary would write to him accordingly.

From Jean Meeking raising questions which were dealt with later in the Meeting.

7. **Financial Report** - Robert Henshall reported on the financial position at 2<sup>nd</sup> September and confirmed that it remained healthy. Details are available to current BFA members on request. A plan to allow Membership and Team Fees to be paid into the Bank Account locally by the Secretary was subsequently abandoned.

**The Business Plan/Budget** - Continues to be prepared and items for inclusion were again discussed. It is intended to have it ready for presentation at the AGM.

8. **Summer Championships** – Congratulations were due to the PODs for winning this Championship. It had been generally well accepted and something similar would be organised for 2001.

- 9. Flyball Record** - Robert Henshall had provided Jean Meeking with a replaceable Float to cover expenses incurred in producing and mailing future editions.

Discussion took place on the future of the Flyball Record and the Flyball Newsletter and it was agreed that the former would continue quarterly. The latter would be discontinued meantime. Any matter needing to be advised to the membership urgently between issues of the Record would be the subject of a separate Note from an appropriate source.

- 10. Website** - Roy Hiscock explained that the BT facility suggested by Nigel Bouckley as a means of updating data required by the Website was no longer available. It was understood that BT would introduce a possible alternative in future.

The backlog of data awaiting addition to the Website had now been cleared.

In the light of reported difficulties in Teams obtaining Equipment it was agreed that the possibility of 'advertising' possible Suppliers on the Website should be explored. Graham Nye would contact Nigel Bouckley to progress.

- 11. BFA Members Award and Most Improved Team of the Year Award** – No feedback so far from publication in the August edition of the Flyball Record.

- 12. Other Business** – The following points were raised, discussed and decisions made:

- a. Entering more than one Tournament in one weekend – Considered up to individual choice.
- b. Use of non-BFA Round Robin formats and reversed Lane layouts – Guidance to Show Organisers to include the use of BFA standard forms and layout. Alison Booth to action.
- c. The BFA should have its own set of Lights – Accepted in principle but efforts by individual Teams to produce a satisfactory set had not been entirely successful. Subject would be kept under constant review. Costs possibly running into thousands are a stumbling block but would be considered within the framework of the Business Plan. Roy Hiscock would produce a 'wish list' of the operational requirements, which subject to approval, would become the BFA basic rules for a set.
- d. Is hand timing to be accepted on the Team Seeding List and if so, it should be indicated as such (a consensus view is that it cannot be a true record) – Whilst having some sympathy with this view, it was felt that it was not right to make such a decision until Electronic Timing is readily available.

When hand timing is to be used, this fact should be advised beforehand to competing Teams. Ideally only Head Judges should man the Lines and operate the Stopwatches. Alison Booth to include this and the following item in Show Organizers' Guidelines

- e. On a similar subject, it was decided that Show Organizers should have the right to query and if necessary, alter submitted times.
- f. Splitting of the racing within one Division over two days – Would be acceptable if clearly specified on the Tournament Schedule. Experiment with this may be tried next year.

- 13. Flyball Points** - Betty Potts proposed revised Points system was again discussed and Alison Booth agreed to research various permutations for consideration at subsequent Meetings and possible submission to the membership at the AGM.

- 14. Future Meetings Dates:** (All venues to be arranged/confirmed)

<b>Committee</b>	Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2000	Venue – Cogenhoe & Whiston Village Hall
	Sunday	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2001	
<b>AGM</b>	Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2001	

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 17.00 hrs with the Chairman's thanks to Peter and Delia Roberts for arranging the Venue and providing Refreshments throughout the day.