

The British Flyball Association



Minutes of Committee Meeting No 2-2002/2003

Held on Sunday 6th October 2002 at The Quays, Billing Aquadrome Approach

Present: Roy Hiscock, Robert Henshall, Doreen Smith, Alison Booth, Betty Potts, Peter Roberts, David Long and Graham Nye.

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

These had been circulated by the Secretary and were agreed to be a true record of the proceedings. They had already been posted to the Website.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Reports on progress as follows:

- a. Regional Representatives Co-ordinator - Vanessa Haith's report was presented together with the details of Teams willing to train/take in new members within each Regional Representative's Area. This information could now be circulated to the respective Representatives.
- b. Training and Education -
 - i. Getting Started Package - Awaiting loading to the Website due to the quality of some of the pictures, originals of which were not longer available.
 - ii. Measuring Hoops - Three new Sets were produced by Peter Roberts. The nine sets now in existence would be held by Roy Hiscock, Peter Roberts (Two - one in Anglesey and one in Northampton), Doreen Smith, Anton Wittwer, Penny Charlton, Alison Booth, Wayne O'Rourke and Alison Moyes. In addition, Betty Potts and Nuneaton Flyers had their own Sets. Peter Roberts would obtain two more sets for issue to Anne Johnson and Andy Bawden and after checking, any further 19" (to measure 14") hoops missing from existing sets.
 - iii. BFA Banners - Roy Hiscock displayed a completed 6' x 2' Banner. The remaining nine would be marked with the BFA Logo and PO Box and Website addresses. When completed all ten would be issued to Tournament Organisers - Two each to Modern Dog Sports, Barkshire Bandits, Pods and Yorkshire Bouncers, with one each to The Northern Bytes and Clatto Clangers.
 - iv. Judges Rosettes - Roy Hiscock produced fourteen sets (each comprising 10 Head Judge and 10 Judge), nine of which were or will be issued to Wolf Pack, Barkshire Bandits, Pods, Modern Dog Sports, The Northern Bytes, Nuneaton Flyers, Yorkshire Bouncers, Wakefield Tykes and Clatto Clangers. The remaining five sets to be retained in reserve by Roy.
 - v. Seminars - For various reasons it had not been possible to arrange a Seminar for this autumn. However, planning was in hand for a seminar to cover all aspects of a Flyball Tournament in February 2003. David Long was asked to ascertain availability of the Tomlinsons at Markfield facility for this purpose in that month (excluding the 15th/16th). The Committee also aimed to organise a second event in October/November 2003. Peter Roberts would produce a basic structured Agenda for Judges Seminars by 6th November 2002.

MATTERS ARISING (CONTINUED)

c. Show Secretary -

- i. Doreen Smith presented her first thoughts on the 'Show Organisers Guide' and all Committee members were asked to comment on amendments and additions as soon as possible so that she would produce a draft of the final version and circulate a copy for approval.

On the closing date for entries of each Tournament Doreen would ask the Statistics Co-ordinator to issue a current Seeding List to the Organiser to avoid problems/queries with the 'on-line' list.

A recommendation of a minimum length of an Indoor Hall at 120' to be included.

- ii. Following critical feedback on the designation of Tournament types it was decided that the following would be used in future:

Open

Or Limited Open (by number of Teams)

Or Multibreed

Or Limited Multibreed (by number of Teams)

This and other items identified would require revisions to the Tournament Application Form and Specimen Tournament Schedule.

- iii. Doreen was progressing the loading of Tournament Schedules and where relevant, Location Maps to the Website but was awaiting advise from Nigel Buckley.

d. Secretary's Correspondence -

Anton Wittwer had declined a request to become the Publicity Officer but had kindly offered his help and support to whoever takes on the post.

3. APPLICATIONS TO BECOME HEAD JUDGES

Applications received from Maria Brennan and Robert Henshall were reviewed and approved.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

Robert Henshall presented data for the Committee's consideration showing that the financial position remains healthy. Details are available to current BFA members on request.

5. SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2002/2003

The 2002 Championship was reviewed and it was felt that the introduction of Rosettes for all non-Trophy/Medal winners had been well received. Doreen Smith commented that a handle had come away from the 'Division 3' Cup presented to The Killa Bytes and she was asked to obtain an estimate for the repair/replacement. It was suggested that a note of advice on cleaning should accompany each Trophy in future.

Unless a better suggestion came to light, it was proposed to run the 2003 Championship over 5 or 6 Rounds on the same basis as 2002 with the worst points score being discounted. The possibility of both (or all) Teams involved in a tied result being present on the final day of the last Round meant that, whilst run-off was the preferred solution, the fastest time would probably be the ultimate decider. Only Teams that had run in a minimum of TWO Rounds would qualify for inclusion in the final 'Divisional' results.

All Rounds to be better publicised as such on the Tournament Schedules, the Website Diary and the Flyball Record.

6. ANNUAL AWARDS

The Secretary was asked to contact Sam Bawden (Award Secretary) to arrange for all Annual Awards to be returned to her earlier than usual so that the review all Awards, approved at the last Meeting, could be undertaken in good time for the April 2003 AGM. A similar review of the Summer Championship Trophies would follow in May/June 2003.

It was noted that the 2001 Annual Awards were not listed on the Website and Maureen Hiscock would be asked to progress this with Nigel Bouckley.

7. FLYBALL POINTS

The Secretary had written to all Team Captains advising them that it is their responsibility to ensure that their Team's Time Sheets are fully and accurately completed in future and that failure to do so would result in their Team's Flyball points being withheld for the Tournament in question. A marked improvement was noted and appreciated.

As dogs are now attaining higher and higher points, the following additional Certificate levels were approved:

30,000 points - Pearl

35,000 points - Jade

40,000 points - Ruby

45,000 points - Sapphire

50,000 points - Opal

Each of these new awards would, where possible, be named after the first dog to achieve the particular level unless a previous award already bore his or her name.

Circulation of a revised BFA Rules and Policies document incorporating these new awards would be delayed until at least after the 2003 AGM to save postage costs etc.

Certificates would be presented at all levels at and above 20,000 point in future and the Statistics Co-ordinator would be asked to produce these retrospectively for dogs already at 20,000 and above.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Suspension of Andy Bawden - Following investigation by the Disciplinary Sub Committee of an official complaint laid against Andy Bawden by Howard Campbell following incidents at Daventry in June, Andy's suspension was confirmed as:
'Banned from competing and/or officiating at BFA Sanctioned Tournaments for a period of three months from 1st October 2002.'
'Banned from holding office for a period of twelve months from the date of his original suspension 23rd July 2002.'

The wording of an entry in respect of this ban for the November issue of the Flyball Record was approved.

The Committee invoked its right under Rule 1.2(c) to decide that the ban on Andy Bawden be extended in terms of his membership of the Committee which could only be regained by election at the 2004 AGM. The Secretary to advise him accordingly.

As a result of the difficulties experienced in the use of Section 3 of the BFA Rules & Policies in this instance, it was agreed that the Committee would study comments made by the DSC and advise amendments/additions by 21st October. A reviewed and probably amended version of this Section to be ready for presentation to the membership at the 2003 AGM.

David Long would replace Andy Bawden on the Disciplinary and Safety Sub Committees.

- b. Lights - Roy Hiscock was given authority to pursue a possible source for a set of Lights based on certain laid down criteria that had to be agreed prior to purchase.
- c. Website Discussion Facility - following problems with entries on the Webboard in July additional Software was purchased and implemented which allows for the identification of subscribers and where necessary control of their ability to make entries.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

- d. To clarify the position with regard to Committee members running dogs in the same Team in apparent contravention of Rule 1.2(a) it was decided that this Rule applies to Open/Limited Open competition only and NOT to Multibreed/Limited Multibreed. In the Multibreed categories it may be necessary in order to encourage the growth of this element of our Sport.
- e. It was accepted that a 'Starters' event could be run in between Sanctioned Divisions if Time and Weather conditions allowed. To ensure no adverse effects on Divisional racing, Starters should be pre-entered. Doreen to include this item in the 'Guidelines for Show Organisers'.
- f. A further revision to the 7 Team Round Robin format had been proposed and was approved. It will be placed on the Website in due course.
- g. Tournament Head Judges - On the subject of the need for a Tournament Head Judge and his/her relationship with the Divisional Judges, it was agreed that the former would be overall BFA 'Technical Director' with the latter in control of their particular Division unless help and advise was required. Tournament Head Judge to be close by for reference when a Provisional Judge is involved.

9. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Next Meeting: Sunday 16th March 2003 at The Quays, Billing Aquadrome Approach.

The 2003 AGM is now booked for Sunday 6th April 2003 at Beoley Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 16.45hrs.