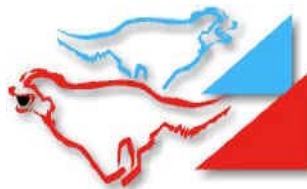


# **The British Flyball Association**



## **Minutes of Committee Meeting No. 3-2006/07 Held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2006 at the Manor Hotel, Coventry Commencing at 10.00 am**

**Present:** Chris Fulford, Penny Charlton, Wayne O' Rourke, Anne Alcock, Tony Cain, Howard Campbell, Judy Parker, Steve Leek, Anne Johnson.

### **1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (NO 2006/07- 02)**

Confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

### **2. MATTERS ARISING**

2.1 Hall of Fame – No updates at this time.

2.2 Update on Lights – A few problems still occurring and are being looked into to try to get them ironed out. A survey had been done at two shows recently to find out if the members had any major problems with the new BFA lights. No member felt that they had any issues with these lights. We are investigating the possibility of adapting the lights to have timers on both sides but it was agreed that these should be supplied in separate boxes to cut down any problems. It is also being looked into whether we can buy a spare timer box to go with each set of lights in case of any faults that may occur. Chris is looking into a frame that can be used to set up the start gates in order to make sure they are set up at the required distances.

2.3 European Championships – A venue is still being looked into but there is the possibility that this should be confirmed very soon. Arrangement were being made to see Losley park in Guildford on Monday. Although the BFA will be running this tournament the Berkshire Bandits and Maple Leafs will be the main organisers.

2.4 Summer Championships 2007 – At present no teams have come forward to host this event. It was agreed that as this event should be for the fastest teams in the country, there would be no qualifying shows for next year but may still be reviewed at our next meeting. The top 54 teams would be invited on the seed list going down the list if some teams declined the invitation until all places were filled. It was agreed to look into the possibility of running a three-day event in order to take more than 54 teams.

2.5 Judges Seminars – Schedules for both seminars should be due out early January. Wayne to liaise with Graham regarding putting another judges seminar at Wantage Leisure centre in February.

2.6 Postal vote for committee members – In order to keep to the rules and policies it was agreed that if it was necessary to have a postal vote then no voting slips would be opened until the day of the AGM.

2.7 Declared Times and Break-out rule – This has been discussed at the last two meetings and it was agreed a change to this was needed. All teams that submit slower times than their seeded times will now break out if they run  $\frac{1}{2}$  a second faster than that time.

### **3. SECRETARY'S CORRESPONDANCE**

3.1 Regional Representative Coordinator – Rachel had agreed to carry on in her position as coordinator and the outstanding issues have now been sorted.

3.2 Points Postal vote – It was agreed to publish the break down on the recent postal vote. It was also noted that it was disappointing that such a low return was received.

Total slips Issued	1268
Total slips Returned	458
Total slips Counted	439
Total slips Void	19
Total slips not Returned	810
Total Votes For Change	339
Total Votes Against Change	100

3.3 Gwain Theobald – A letter had been sent to Gwain regarding an incident at Maidstone. An apology had been received and it was decided no further action was needed, except a reply to his apology.

### **4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

4.1 Total membership as of 9th December 2006 is 1445. Teams for schedules are now 96.

4.2 It was agreed that there would be no increase to the membership fees next year.

### **5. FINANCES**

5.1 A detailed report was presented to the committee and they reviewed the current financial position.

5.2 As there has been a large increase to the cost of the Flyball Record it was suggested to see if we could cut down the cost by emailing it to the membership. The committee will be looking into the possibility of how many members have email facility and if they would be happy to receive theirs by this method. Any member who would rather have it by post can still receive theirs in this way.

### **6. SHOW SECRETARY'S REPORT**

6.1 All up to date at present.

6.2 Judy confirmed with the committee that she was advising any Tournament Organisers that have their shows over subscribed by the first days post to put all entries into a hat and pull out the number of teams required for their show.

### **7. MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

7.1 Measuring Hoops – New measuring hoops are being designed but there had been a hold up on the supply of the prototype.

7.2 DSC Report and Recommendations – The committee are looking into non-members competing in starters competitions due to the recent DSC complaint. Anne is looking at designing new forms to be used in starters competitions only.

7.3 Clarification was discussed that head judges according to the rules do have the power to reduce racing to the best of three legs due to inclement weather conditions and a slight amendment to the rules was needed.

7.4 It had been observed that some Tournament Organiser don't always abide by the BFA rules and policies. It was discussed that Head Judges and Committee members should be encouraged to keep an eye on this and fill in an incident report form, which should be sent to the BFA secretary.

## **7. MATTERS ARISING (CONTINUED)**

7.5 Netting in the run back area – There were a few concerns regarding the use of this following a few incidents that have happened whilst this has been used. No action would be taken at this time.

7.6 Junior Handler Award - The junior handler forms have been amended and will be in use next year. This is in order to take the responsibility off Tournament Organiser needing to supply the forms and having to post them back. The sole responsibility will now reside with the juniors.

7.7 Head Judges – Clarification was asked for regarding applications for a Logbook. It was confirmed that any candidate wishing to become a Head Judge must have been a member of the association for three years before starting to complete the Logbook.

7.8 An inquiry had been received regarding an age limit of juniors wishing to line judge. It was agreed that no age limit would be set but it would be left up to Head Judges and Division Judges to determine if a junior was capable of completing the job correctly. It was agreed that it was advisable that juniors under 14 should not sit together but have an adult along side them.

7.9 Interference – It was noted that some Judges were not applying this rule correctly and a slight change to rule 5.17(h) was needed.

7.10 It was agreed that all competitors including the box loaders should be members of the association. A slight change to rule 5.7 (a) is needed to clarify that box loaders should be members as there has been some confusion if this was necessary. As the box loader is part of the team and for insurance purposes, it was agreed that they should be members.

7.11 Seeding Times – A letter had been received regarding seeded or submitted times for some shows. It highlighted that some divisions are being won by teams running two seconds faster than any other team in their division. It had already been agreed that a change to the Break out rule was required but the committee felt this was not going to stop teams running under a different team name. It was suggested that when teams run on their seeded time, they could be subject to a break out if they run one second faster than their seed time. However, it was felt at this time that the committee would monitor the situation next year with the change to ½ second on submitted times and review it again at a later date.

## **10. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2007**

Meeting closed at 6.20pm

**Agreed as a true copy of events**

**Chairman Signature.....(BFA CHAIRMAN)**