

## The British Flyball Association



### **Minutes of the Committee Meeting No 2 2013/14 Held on Saturday 16 November 2013 At The Manor Hotel, Meriden, Coventry.**

Attendees; Sharon Allcorn, Jo Crosswell, Val Currie, Tony Cain, Ray Lewis, Ellen Schofield, Dan Culley

Apologies; Rachel Child, Dave Long

Prior to the meeting a presentation by Premium Force ([itsaboutsport.co.uk](http://itsaboutsport.co.uk)) was given. A new range of clothing with the BFA Logo will be available to be ordered by the membership. A link will be provided and placed on the BFA Forum soon.

**1. Minutes of last meeting (No 01-2013/14)** Confirmed as a true record of proceedings

**2. Chairs Opening Address** Sharon introduced a discussion on the future of the BFA; our association. We discussed our role as a committee and our purpose and future vision. We considered the questions 'Are we leading the BFA?', 'Is the BFA visible to the wider Flyball world?' and 'Is there more we can we learn from others to advance the BFA'.

The morning session of the meeting was devoted to future planning topics such as making more use of technology to involve the ever growing membership which currently stands at 3006. The Committee wish to take the sport forward, keeping the care and welfare of dogs central to all we do whilst at the same time improving standards. The rules of racing, judging and ring party education, Flyball etiquette, sportsmanship and what it means to 'be in good standing' were all discussed. The Committee propose to prepare a 12 month 'Statement of Intent' to demonstrate how, as the elected representatives of the association we will further the development of the BFA.

### **3. Matters arising: Working Party Updates**

- ❖ Website Working Party – The Invitation to Tender process for the Phase 1 work has taken longer than anticipated but has now resulted in three quotes which the Committee are close to making a decision on. The working party continue to consider the providers for the design element for Phase 1 and will, post development, provide the required end user testing, as well as concentrating their efforts on continuing the planning and scoping of Phase 2.
- ❖ Lights Development – work continues on the development for the Abtec order, the Committee was informed of various decisions arrived at for the build including the manufacturer of the sensors and the examples of the external displays. The intended timescales plan to enable a working prototype to be presented at the 2014 AGM.

- ❖ Measuring Device – The replacement measuring sticks have been rolled out to some but not all of the light custodians and owners, the remainder of these will be issued as soon as possible.

#### **4. Reports had been received from the following officials**

- Regional Representative Co-ordinator
- Awards Co-ordinator
- Membership Secretary
- Height Card Administrator
- Webmaster / Assistant Webmaster

Points raised by the officials were discussed at length by the committee and decisions were arrived at.

Suggestions for improvements were received and discussed; a check list proposed by the Height Card Administrator and a form to assist with the issuing of Awards were discussed, the Committee agreed for both of these suggestions to be trialled.

Two more Regional Representative Appointments were agreed, regional ring party training days have been successful in Ireland and Scotland with more planned in other regions. Regional Representatives are bringing suggestions from the membership to discuss at RR Skype calls and some consideration is being given to proposals for the AGM.

Plans were confirmed to update the Website payment portal; initially this will be to support the 2014 renewals with plans for new membership applications and other BFA payments being investigated for the future benefit of the Association.

#### **5. Finances**

- ❖ The use of electronic banking facility continues to enable the payments made to the BFA regular suppliers. Current balances as well as expenditure and income from the 2013 National Championships was discussed.
- ❖ Membership rates were considered at length, current rates of £12 & £18 have been the norm for many years with the Family rate of £24 being introduced in 2013.

A decision was made to increase the membership rates from January 2014 by 25pence per month. This will bring the membership rates to Single £15, Joint £21 and Family £27.

Renewals made from December 1<sup>st</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup> will remain at the previous rate; Renewals from January 2<sup>nd</sup> will reflect the new prices. Late Renewals (from February 1<sup>st</sup>) will also attract the £2.50 administration charge per membership.

The increased revenue will be used by the Association for the benefit of the Membership in the development of the new Electronic Judging System (Lights), the new BFA Website, and the 2014 National Championships; the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the BFA.

#### **6. Chairs Correspondence**

- ❖ Confidential correspondence received by the Chair had been dealt with by the committee prior to the meeting by email, responses had been agreed.

## **7. Secretary Correspondence**

Confidential correspondence received by the Secretary had been dealt with by the committee prior to the meeting by email, responses had been agreed

## **8. Judging Qualifications**

A review of the current qualification requirements and examinations will commence over winter lead by Sharon Allcorn and Val Currie.

## **9. HJ & QJ Meeting/s**

Dates were decided for the next two Head Judge and Qualified Judge Meetings

Sunday 26 January 2014

Saturday 8 November 2014

## **10. Any Other Business**

The Flyball Record was discussed with the current Editor; Val Currie carrying out the voluntary position for almost 10 years. The 10 years will be reached when Val edits her final edition in July 2014.

Consideration of an online Flyball Record will be discussed as part of the Phase 2 of the website which Val will still be happy to contribute some of the News items and Education articles.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next Face2Face meeting will be held on Saturday 15 February 2014. (Other committee business will continue via email and by Google Hangout on Monday 9 December 2013)