

British Flyball Association

Committee Meeting

4th/5th November 2017

Minutes

Attendees

Sharon Allcorn (SA) Tony James (TJ) Val Currie (VC) David Murdoch (DM)
Katie Burns (KB) Rachel Short (RS) Will Whiteley (WW)

Apologies

Ali Kirk (AK) Jenni Wallace (JW)

SA opened the meeting by welcoming the three new committee members and thanking everyone for their continued work for the BFA. SA shared the format the meeting would take.

Incident Reports and Complaints

There was one formal complaint and five incident reports. Each incident report was discussed and action points made where required.

BFA Officials – Vacancies

Height Card Administrator

There has been a good response to the announcement regarding appointment of a new height card coordinator. The job description was reviewed. It was agreed that a good knowledge of Excel and data collection was advantageous. The job description to be sent to all applicants and a short sample data exercise to provide insight into the role. SA and KB to speak with all applicants individually (Skype).

Lights Coordinator

Dave Long is undertaking the role for the interim period. Lights spreadsheet being updated by Dave. Lights custodians (both BFA and private sets) to be contacted by Dave to discuss current and future bookings. Discussed system for tracking lights and reporting any issues. Agreed that the location of lights should always be known, who is transporting lights and where they are booked next. Discussed return of

lights and working alongside lights coordinator to resource further sets of lights in the future. Designated email address for lights coordinator for easier management of communications. (WW)

Stats Officer/Team

There have been applicants for this role. Everyone agreed that Ron and Vera Edge have been outstanding and will be a very hard act to follow. Will need to work with webmaster to ensure collaboration between stats and website. The closing date is 12/11/17.

Veterinary Advisor

This role has been beneficial since introduction. Kate Gilding has now stepped down due to family/work commitments and has been instrumental in developing the role. All agreed that the veterinary advisor is to advise and guide the committee only. Closing date 15/11/17

Accessibility Advisor

Discussion re job description and agreed that we would like further guidance to ensure that it addresses all aspects of the role. To liaise with person(s) with expertise in this field plus review other job descriptions for similar roles. Advertise the role. (DM)

Moving Forward

Measuring System Process

Discussion review current process and suggestions for areas that need to be improved. This included 12 inch dogs on C2, template form that owners can download to keep their own record, random checks for dogs that have not had measures but are still racing and methods to identify correct dog being measured – microchip reading suggested as in agility. Further information to be gained. A more formal approach (AGM proposal) to ensure that HJ/MOs are not measuring own or team dog(s). Suggested that another MO or JH be asked to measure for those dogs, where possible.

Comments section on C9 form for measurers to document border line measurements, if unable to obtain a measure (unsettled dog) data for training purposes and monitoring measuring process.

The new height card database flags up any dogs who are underage. All measurements to be added to the database as data base will only accept those dogs who meet the criteria for measure to be recorded. Agreed an announcement to membership to inform of this.

Any dogs who are not currently running on correct height (both higher and lower) owners to be contacted by email and offered a re measure. These are identified on the new data base. (KB)

Liaise with Judges Board to outline the updated measuring process at seminars (SA)

Staggered Format

Template to be made available to echo template available for TO for block format. Committee to liaise with member who developed current system being used by TO for staggered format.(DM)

Judges Seminar

Next judges seminar is 26th November 2017 at Padworth. There is a measuring official seminar on Saturday 25th November at the same venue. Both hosted by judges board. Topics to include holding back rule (implementing consistently), attitude towards judges during racing and how to support judges. Discussion re online reporting system for judges emailed to judges board for monitoring/support/action.

APE Monitoring System

This has been discussed before. The benefits, purpose and management discussed – already in use at CanAm to assist in spotting spat balls – would these be possible to use here in the future. Suggestion of 2019 Indoor Championships. For further discussion.

Number of Races per Day

Could the current number of races per day (per ring) be increased to 80? This would accommodate DE plus option to use alternate ring if ground worse. Agreed 78 races for one day tournaments or Outdoor/Indoor Championships. Increase to 78 would not allow for extra divisions but does provide other benefits.

Legal Representation – discussed retaining some form of legal representation. Practice within the sports speciality. Will ask for further guidance from BFA member(s) who work within the legal profession. (KB)

Rules Working Party

All candidates have agreed to be on the working party. Agreed that there is a good mix of professional backgrounds and knowledge of the sport on the working party. Remit to look at BFA rules with the aim to identify grey areas and any contradictive rules and address. Code of Ethics and

disciplinary process to be reviewed as suggested should be closer related. To consider looking at the rules from other flyball organisations. (RS)

Team Captain and Tournament Organiser Handbooks

Discussed content of handbooks and rationale. Suggestions included responsibilities of both, expectations of teams (do's and don't's) at tournaments, ring etiquette, code of ethics, all team captains to encourage team members to know the rules of racing prior to competing, entering tournaments, ring party training days and responsibilities at a tournament if registered team captain is not present. Starter tournaments also discussed – Should these be sanctioned as often hosted within BFA sanctioned tournaments or by BFA registered teams/members (JW)

Indoor/Outdoor Championships 2018

Outdoor Championships 336 entry limit. Indoor Championship 156 entry limit. Sponsors to be reviewed as contract with RC has now finished. All companies used for outdoor championships to be emailed from VC to all committee. All major components to be booked/confirmed. Trade stands fees to be reviewed. All to pay a set fee up front. Team entry fees to remain the same.

Tuff Spun matting

Discussed if BFA should purchase own matting for championships. Would need to consider storage. Only buy enough rolls for one ring. Get prices and discuss further(DM)

Promoting BFA

Suggestion of BFA merchandise available to purchase via website (non profit). Lisa Ashwood to contact breed clubs and give her contact details for assistance in holding any flyball demonstrations in the future. Ensure Lisa's details are on the website so anyone outside of BFA needing information media/flyball demonstrations can contact her directly. Liaise with Lisa re social media/media policies.(TJ)

AOB

Paypal – consider to be used for 2018 membership renewal. Reduces workload for membership secretary. To get further details.(AK/VC)

Next meeting – January 2018

Meeting closed.

