

British Flyball Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on Sunday 16th April 2000 at Southmoor Village Hall

1. The Chairman welcomed those present (55 in number), thanked Andy Bawden for arranging the venue and Sam Bawden for providing refreshments and lunches. He then made the following opening statement:

Do we really need to go through all this again?

The very same people that brought the BFA to a standstill last year have been trying to do it again this year. All that last year achieved was a 3 way split, with both sides beating up the middle. We have tried our best, whatever we did was wrong somewhere. There was no right decision to be made, just a decision. We were hounded and undermined at every turn. Trying to tie us up in knots and forcing some mistakes. I assure you that we all did our best, despite the best efforts of so called supporters. We did what we thought to be right at the time.

We have no wish to continue under these conditions without the support of the membership, tell us you support us despite our opponents. Tell us that we can carry the good we have done this year, achieved in the face of some strong opposition. Without you there is no point for us.

This year we have achieved

142 new Members AGM to AGM we have had some not renew, maybe driven away by people always looking for trouble.

10 New Teams AGM to AGM

We have brought in the new Height card Scheme, in order to reduce the time that can be better spent. Some members should already be in receipt of them.

£1200 profit to be re-invested for the good of Flyball in training dogs, handlers, judges, Team Captains, as we have done this year. When a successful and well-supported Head Judges Seminar was held at Market Harborough for the benefit of all Flyball. Given more time to attend to what we should be doing rather than what we have to do, we could have achieved more as is our intention. And promoting Flyball in this country, if allowed to do so.

We have a new Rule Book, currently opposed by those who did nothing towards it. The membership that did bother voted for the changes, this is a democracy. The changes at the EGM were voted for by the membership.

The Flyball diary is full for this summer, we are not being held to ransom over the BFA Summer Championships. There are shows already booked for next year, we are planning for the future of Flyball where we work together and have fun running our dogs and do not waste time grinding old axes and holding grudges. Which is what the proposals we propose to disregard are. Lets put a stop to this nonsense once and for all, let us continue to build of the foundation laid this year, enough is enough the arguments and engineered situations should stop here. We have put in a lot of hard work, many hours spent for the BFA and it's members, nearly all at our own expense, and all of this for what. Don't let it be wasted, don't let it go into a black hole, followed closely by the BFA and Flyball as we know it in this country. We are a united Committee that can work together to progress Flyball, as we have shown this year. We achieved all of the previous despite the actions of some of our membership. It is now up to you to decide if it was all worthwhile.

This statement was followed by a supporting address from Peter Roberts

Although we don't want to rake over the past I feel that some explanation of what at least part of the arguments were about is needed for the information of members who have little idea.

At the start of the 1999 summer season an event held by Modern Dog Sports was criticised by members of The Tornados team, This criticism caused offence to the organiser who stated that he would not accept their entry for forthcoming events.

In order to try and keep sanctioned Flyball events running, the Committee (probably wrongly, with hindsight) decided that the show organiser could implement the Rule that was on most schedules "The Organiser reserves the right to refuse entries."

Gwain then announced that he would not accept an entry from the Tornados, for the Jumping Jacks event at Dartford.

This should not have been allowed to happen, but the Committee was then presented with a choice- Either de-sanction at Very short notice and upset all the teams who were entered, or, allow the event to continue.

At an emergency meeting (one of many) it was decided that this could not be allowed to happen again, and a proposal suggested an approach to The Tornados offering Full points for their dogs as if they had competed successfully at Dartford.

If teams slate each other or call to question the Integrity of an organiser in future we can either ignore it, or if necessary use disciplinary procedures. Disciplinary procedure is another cause of previous lock up of the normal committee business, so should not be entered into unless absolutely essential. At last years AGM the Committee were charged with reviewing some rules and organising an EGM to ratify these, this we did and those who were present at that EGM voted on all proposed changes.

We unfortunately had no option but to de-sanction a show at Petersfield as the show organiser stated that the show would not be run according to Current BFA rules. In fact several irregularities were reported from the previous show including no box judges - against rules of many years standing. The show organiser (Gwain) refused to accept rule changes as published, in spite of the fact that he was present at the EGM and voted against some of these changes. He could hardly therefore claim not to have had prior knowledge.

Why did not more members attend the EGM? Was it because they trusted their Committee? Or was it because they just want to enjoy the sport and not take part in sometimes acrimonious meetings?

Now what Roy is proposing is that we should forget the past arguments and only consider the present and future.

I have probably upset some people with this statement but what I and my Team try to do is organise and take part in the sport of Flyball. I owe it to my Team who have worked so hard this year running 5 Indoor Shows and 1 Outdoor, the Seminar and many demos and Training days to promote Flyball, to do what I can to present the story to the members.

We just want to enjoy the Sport.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Sarah Gray, Gill Frost, Pat Booth, Peter Sleath, Doreen Smith, Carol Lenaghan, Robert Allan and Ron Edge (all Northern Bytes). Sue Owen, Chris Waddoups, Jim and Eileen Durrans, Dennis Eales, Dave Green, Hilary Skinner and Michael Roberts (all PODs). Anne Alderman, Berit Aherne, David Biddulph, Bob Austin, Samantha Clarke, Tina and Andy Foster, John Shuker, Claire Thompson, David and Karon Killick (all Bassett Allsorts). Toni Hooper (Wakefield Tykes). Julia Kearney (Jumping Jacks). Sue Goddard (Barkshire Bandits). Debbie Harding (Bristol Ball-istics). Sally and Gary Sanford (Whinchats). Anton Wittwer, Alison and Wayne O'Rourke (all Jets). Steph Rendall and Martin Dickinson (both Red Dragons).

3. Presentation of Annual Awards by Roy Hiscock and Sam Bawden

The following Awards were presented where the recipients or their colleagues were in attendance. The remainder will be given out in the near future.

Team of the Year	1st	Barkshire Bandits		13,224 pts
	2nd	Jumping Jacks		12,512 pts
	3rd	Northern Bytes		9,822 pts
BFA Special Award		The Jets		293 pts
Flyball Dog of the Year	1st	Tweed	Maureen Hiscock	4,260 pts
	2nd	Mork	Doreen Smith	3,018 pts
	3rd	Toby	Gwain Theobald	2,638 pts
Flyball Bitch of the Year	1st	Jet	Gwain Theobald	4,160 pts
	2nd	Amy	Sue Goddard	3,721 pts
	3rd	Gillie	Penny Charlton	3,590 pts
Best Breed Specific Border Collie/ Working Sheepdog	1st	Tweed	Maureen Hiscock	4,260 pts
	2nd	Gillie	Penny Charlton	3,590 pts
	3rd	Mork	Doreen Smith	3,018 pts
Best Cross Breed	1st	Jet	Gwain Theobald	4,160 pts
	2nd	Amy	Sue Goddard	3,721 pts
	3rd	Py	Pat Booth	2,528 pts
Best Breed Specific Spanish Water Dogs	1st	Rayo	Sarah Grey	2,537 pts
	2nd	Azor	Faye Allen	2,505 pts
	3rd	Bonita	Faye Allen	1,791 pts
Best Breed Specific Jack Russell Terrier	1st	Ted	Alison O'Rourke	2,328 pts
	2nd	Binnie	Lorraine Fulford	922 pts
	3rd	Spud	Alison O'Rourke	913 pts
Best Breed Specific Labrador	1st	Mac	Julia Kearney	1,723 pts
	2nd	Freddie	Jean Sloman	976 pts
	3rd	Jet	Debbie Lucas	201 pts
Best Breed Specific Lakeland Terrier		Toby	Gwain Theobald	2,638 pts
Best of the Rest		William	Sam Spurgeon	2,104 pts

Special presentations were made to Nigel Bouckley (a Tankard) and would have been made to Steph Banyard (a Glass on a plinth) in recognition and appreciation of their past efforts on the Website/Records and Statistics and the Flyball Record respectively. Steph's will be given to her as soon as possible.

In receiving Awards on behalf of Alison O'Rourke, Lorraine Fulford read out a note from Alison and Wayne thanking everyone for their support and sympathy on the tragic loss of Barney and Casper.

Area Representatives and Head Judges present were given BFA Key Rings.

Sam Bawden was thanked for all her efforts which were much appreciated.

4. Proposal submitted by the Committee

That the items listed below should be disregarded:

5. Censure Motions

11.1.1 Rule changes

11.3.7 Non BFA registered teams host and compete

11.3.11 Flat ground

11.4.4 Break-out rule

11.4.6 Break-out rule/submitted times.

This proposal was discussed at length and as a result it was agreed that Item 5.2 be the subject of a separate meeting between all involved parties aimed at resolving the situation. This meeting to be arranged at the earliest possible time. It was therefore proposed that this Item be removed from the Agenda.

Proposed by: Nigel Bouckley Seconded by: Ann Johnson CARRIED.

Kevin McNicholas then agreed to withdraw Item 5.1.

The remaining five proposals to remain on the Agenda for consideration.

Alison Sharpe commented that some of her proposals were not on the Agenda. It was explained that these were queries not proposals and would be dealt with if time permitted or be the subject of a written response.

5. **Censure Motions**

1. Kevin McNicholas proposed a vote be taken to invalidate the EGM. This meeting did not take place in accordance with the rules as set out at the AGM in 1999.
2. He also complained that the Committee acted unconstitutionally last summer 1999 by adding a rule that clearly contravened a rule in Sections 1 – 3. This action caused great hardship to a particular team and to date the Committee has not apologised for their error nor righted the wrong this action caused. I propose that a vote be taken by the membership to censure the Committee and require the new Committee to deal with this matter immediately to remedy the problem to the satisfaction of the team concerned.

Both these points were dealt with in Section 4 above. - 5.1 withdrawn, 5.2 the subject of a separate meeting.

6. **Minutes of last AGM – 20th March 1999** were read and approved as a true record.

Proposed by: Neil Meeking Seconded by: Maureen Hiscock

Nigel Bouckley suggested that draft Minutes of the previous year's AGM should be sent to all Team Captains prior to the next AGM to save time reading them out at that Meeting.

7. **Matters arising from last year's AGM** had been dealt with at the EGM.

8. **Election of the BFA Committee**- The following current members will stay on the Committee for a second year

Roy Hiscock (Mad Mutts)

Chris Fulford (Bad Dog Racers)

Robert Henshall (Basset Allsorts)

Andy Bawden (Bristol Ball-istics)

The nominations for the remaining FIVE places on the Committee are as follows:

Peter Roberts (PODs) – seeking re-election

Proposed by: Robert Henshall

Seconded by: Andy Bawden

Doreen Smith (Northern Bytes) – seeking re-election

Proposed by: Peter Roberts

Seconded by: Alison Booth

Martin Dickenson (Red Dragons) – co-opted onto 1999/2000 Committee

Proposed by: Roy Hiscock

Seconded by: Chris Fulford

Alison Booth (Wakefield Tykes) – co-opted onto 1999/2000 Committee

Proposed by: Chris Fulford

Seconded by: Roy Hiscock

Nigel Bouckley urged that nominees must have sufficient time to devote to BFA business to do the job properly and suggested that Proposer and Seconder should be responsible for ensuring this would be the case. He was assured that this would be the case. He also commented that in this context, the limitation of one member per Team might need re-considering.

All nominations approved as one position remained vacant.

Proposed by: Tony Bagge

Seconded by: Betty Potts

CARRIED

Proposed that **Betty Potts** (Yorkshire Bouncers) be co-opted on to the Committee to fill this vacancy

Proposed by: Lorraine Fulford

Seconded by: Sam Bawden

CARRIED

Kevin McNicholas proposed that Graham Nye should take the position of Secretary but the offer was declined.

9 **Reports for the year 1999/2000 by**

The Chairman - Roy Hiscock

I have not had a lot of time to contemplate the past year since my return from holiday 8 days ago, 61 e-mails from BFA members Officers and enquiries. Add that to the 2 weeks backlog that I sifted through, it's been hectic to say the least.

We must look forward, promoting Flyball. Last year membership was up, 142 new members. 10 new BFA registered Teams. Most importantly new Teams stepping up to host shows. We must wish them well and support them in their efforts to promote Flyball across the country. The height card scheme is progressing, there are still many yet to apply. But the first batch of them are now out in the Flyball world.

The BFA are now in a position to support all Teams and members, we now have to put on more Training for all those who show the enthusiasm to take Flyball forward. We intend to put on more Judges Seminars, in fact the new Rules dictate that we must. A high standard was set by the Pod's earlier this year, and I would like to thank every one of them for their efforts and support throughout this year, they have been the mainstay of the BFA, and their Team Captain's efforts on the BFA Committee should not be overlooked. We want to put on Seminars for Handlers and trainers alike, as well as the Teams who put on shows. Two problems there, most important one being when to put it on, with such a full diary it is hard to find the opportunity.

I hope that there is a new horizon approaching, one where we can all work together. It still will not be easy, the BFA still faces obstacles. We can overcome them with teamwork.

The Secretary – Doreen Smith (read in her absence by Roy Hiscock)

Firstly please accept my apologies for not being able to attend the AGM this year. This was not an easy decision to take but frankly my team and I could not resist the opportunity to put on a Flyball demonstration and hopefully bring more people into the sport.

As anyone who attended the 1999 AGM will doubtless remember your last Secretary retired in a very stressed out state having been pushed beyond the limits by the demands of the job and the criticism levelled at her by certain members of the Association. She has my sympathies! Acting as BFA Secretary is without doubt stressful and demanding.

Having listened to our former Secretary and taken heed of her warnings the first action the Committee took following election was to split off the job of Show Secretary, an action which did indeed take some of the pressure of the Secretary. I feel this new appointment has worked well and, with the continued growth of the BFA, was doubtless inevitable.

The manner of the election of this year's Committee, the amount of work put on their shoulders by the retiring Committee, the outstanding matters arising from the AGM and the actions of certain members of the BFA has without doubt caused an unprecedented number of meetings to be called during the year. Thus the workload has been onerous and difficult maintain. However I believe that at the end of my year as Secretary most of the outstanding work has now been dealt with although doubtless there will be those within the membership who think it was not done quick enough.

One action by members which has added to the stress of the job this year has been the number of letters which have been addressed to my home via 'recorded delivery'. As many of you will be aware I work full time, am out training 3 or 4 nights a week and away competing during most weekends. This does not leave time to collect registered or recorded delivery letters from the post office. Whilst I do not object to receiving mail at home, receiving registered or recorded delivery letters is virtually impossible as I am seldom, if ever, at home when the postman calls. May I therefore suggest that the BFA PO Box is a more appropriate address for any such correspondence.

I believe it would be appropriate at this point to tender a gentle reminder to members that an Association cannot exist without someone willing to act as Secretary. Our last Secretary left her position in a very stressed out state. Please remember if as an Association we continue to allow our Secretaries to be treated in this manner we may end up with no-one willing to stand. A Secretary is basically only the 'voice' of the Committee. She cannot act in isolation and reply to correspondence without reference to her Chairman and/or Committee. Therefore demanding (often with menaces!) a reply by return or within a certain period of time is, I believe, not acceptable.

Finally I should just like to put on record my personal thanks to all who have helped keep me sane during the year. Many members have taken the time and trouble to stop and chat, offer advice, help and support. Thanks also to the Chairman and Committee who have given their help and support unstintingly during the year. I am proud to have been part of a Committee which, during a difficult and stressful year, has nevertheless demonstrated that Committees can and do work!

The Treasurer – Robert Henshall

The Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st January 2000 (Income & Expenditure Account and Auditors Report) was presented, explained and queries answered.

Peter Roberts proposed a big vote of thanks to Robert.

Acceptance proposed by: Neil Meeking Seconded by: Howard Campbell CARRIED

Copies of the documents would be available on request to those not at the AGM.

The Records and Statistics Co-ordinator – Nigel Bouckley

Nigel took the opportunity to up-date the meeting on the current state of the new and improved Website that was now Worldwide. It has facilities for Teams to enter their details. In answer to a question from Chris Fulford he also confirmed that Maureen Hiscock has taken over responsibility for Records and Statistics and would have the ability to up-date Tournament Results and Points even if he was away.

10. Lunch

11. Proposals - All proposals were discussed, amended as necessary and voted upon as follows:

Rule changes.

11.1 Section 1 – Committee and Officers

11.1.1 Rule 1.2 Committee and Officers (f) Proposal - Amended to read:

All Rule changes are to be published by the Committee with an implementation date giving a minimum 14 days and a maximum 28 days notice to the recipients. The only exception will be safety issues which can be implemented with immediate effect.

Proposed by: Alison Sharpe Seconded by: Sue Hagger CARRIED

11.2 Section 3 – Discipline

11.2.1 Rule 3.1 Charges – BFA Sanctioned Events Proposal – Add at the beginning of the final sentence ‘Within 14 days of the Tournament’

Proposed by: Robert Henshall Seconded by: Peter Roberts CARRIED

11.2.2 Rule 3.9 Charges Proposal – Amend the Heading to read ‘Charges – Excluding BFA Sanctioned Events’

Proposed by: Robert Henshall Seconded by: Peter Roberts CARRIED

11.2.3 Rule 3.1 Charges – BFA Sanctioned Events Proposal - Complaints accompanied by the correct fee should be received by the Committee no later than 21 days after the alleged offence took place.

Combined with Item **11.2.1** above.

11.3 Section 4 – Sanctioned Competition

11.3.1 Rule 4.1 Requirements (f) Proposal – Add to the end of first sentence ‘BFA Registered Teams’.

Proposed by: Robert Henshall Seconded by: Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

11.3.2 Rule 4.1 Requirements (h) – Proposal – To re-write this Rule

This proposal was combined with Items **11.3.4** and **11.3.5**

If the Records and Statistics Co-ordinator is present at the Tournament the Original Time Sheets, Jump Height form(s) and Tournament Results form should be handed to him/her at the time. Otherwise, following the Tournament, the Organiser must post the Original Time Sheets (BFA Form C.2), Jump Height form(s) (BFA Form C.9) and Tournament Results form (BFA Form C.6) to the Records and Statistics Co-ordinator within 2 days to ensure that the latter is in receipt of the same within 7 days after the Tournament. The Records and Statistics Co-ordinator will advise the Treasurer if the Organiser has failed to meet the 7-day deadline period. The Organiser is to forward a copy of the Tournament Results form (BFA Form C.6) together with a cheque for the Race Registration fees of £2 per team per class for BFA Registered Teams (less the £10 deposit) to the Treasurer by the same 7 day deadline period. After the 7 days the Treasurer shall assess the Organiser’s liability for a £25 late penalty.

Peter Roberts commented that when documents were to be posted, it would be wise for the Organiser to keep copies.

Proposed by: Robert Henshall Seconded by Lorraine Fulford CARRIED

11.3.3 Rule 4.1 Requirements Proposal - Revision to the Entry of Teams. ‘Teams must enter their teams in team order, i.e. Buccaneers (025), Extrabuccs (025A), Buckaroos (025B) etc’.

If first team dogs are not available then second team dogs must be entered as first team. This will stop teams manipulating submitted times and allow Tournament Organisers to work on Official seed times.

Proposed by: Nigel Bouckley DEFEATED

11.3.4 Rule 4.1 Requirements (h) Proposal - To decrease the time allowed for return of tournament results to the Records and Statistics Co-ordinator from 14 to 7 days (received by, not postmarked).

Combined with Item **11.3.2** above

11.3.5 Rule 4.1 Requirements (h) Proposal - All Team sheets are submitted to the Records and Statistics Co-ordinator at the end of the Tournament or if they are not present, posted as soon as possible to arrive not more than 2 days after the next available posting day.

Combined with Item **11.3.2** above.

11.3.6 Rule 4.1 Requirements Proposal - Clear guidance is needed to ensure that dogs in teams are awarded the correct points and all additional paper work is attached to the sheets when submitted to the BFA

The old NAFA lights used in the UK have given rise to a major problem of BFA team sheet marking and point checking.

Amended to include necessity to direct Organisers to return ALL paperwork to Record and Statistics Co-ordinator where timing are taken from central console and recorded on paper separate from that used to identify dogs running heat by heat. These separate Sheets to be attached and related together.

Proposed by: Kevin McNicholas Seconded by: Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

Note: Should be considered with Item 11.3.2 when amending Rule 4.1 (h).

11.3.7 Rule 4.1 Requirements Proposal - Amended to read:

At the beginning of Rule 4.1 (a) replace 'The host team' with 'A BFA Registered Host Team'

Insert a new section in Rule 5.2 between existing (d) and (e) 'A BFA Registered Team must comprise all BFA Registered dogs and all Handlers must be current members of the BFA'

Note: Amend the current Time Sheet to include each Handler's BFA number.

Proposed by: Kevin McNicholas Seconded by: Peter Roberts CARRIED

11.3.8 Rule 4.1 Requirements (or Rule 7.5 (b)?) Proposal - Amended to read:

That there should be a set of Guidelines for Organisers detailing what the BFA expects. Organisers should also indicate on the Application form for a Sanctioned Show the number of Races each Team might expect.

Proposed by: Kevin McNicholas Seconded by: Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

11.3.9 Rule 4.1 Requirements Proposal – Amended to read:

Tournament organisers who de-sanction a tournament at short notice without good reason or have a tournament de-sanctioned will not be allowed to apply for further sanctions for a maximum of 12 months.

Proposed by: Kevin McNicholas Seconded by: Andy Bawden CARRIED

11.3.10 Rule 4.1 Requirements Proposal - Show Organisers must be named individuals and current members of the BFA.

Combined with Item **11.3.7** above.

Proposal – Show Organisers should not be Head Judge at their own Show.

Proposed by: Alison Sharpe Seconded by: Sam Bawden CARRIED

11.3.11 Rule 4.4 Layout Proposal – Amended to read:

Show Organisers should endeavour to find flat ground.

Proposed by: Alison Sharpe Seconded by Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

11.4 Section 5 – Rules for Competition

11.4.1 Rule 5.2 Teams Proposal – As elements of this rule appear to be open to possible manipulation, it is proposed that a Working Party be set up to investigate and recommend a sensible solution.

Proposed by: Peter Roberts Seconded by: Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

11.4.2 Rule 5.2 Teams Proposal - The formation of a rule to prevent dogs being seconded to teams for 'convenience' and then being precluded when no longer required. As yet we have not IMHO seen any real cases of this being abused, but as more teams become more and more confident in doing this, a rule now will nip this in the bud. Remember our rules exist to promote fairness and equality. They are not there simply to be circumnavigated.

Proposed by: Nigel Bouckley Seconded by: Peter Roberts CARRIED

11.4.3 Rule 5.5 Judges Proposal - Amended to read:

A working party of Head Judges to produce a considered method for approving new and appraising existing Head Judges

Proposed by: Nigel Bouckley Seconded by: Roy Hiscock CARRIED

11.4.4 Rule 5.18 (m) Break-outs Proposal – Amended to read:

The Break-out rule only applies to Teams that submit times

Proposed by: Nigel Bouckley Seconded by: Peter Roberts CARRIED

Note: Rule 7.5(a) appears to state this already.

11.4.5 Rule 5.18 (j) The Finish Proposal – Add to the second sentence 'and the Judge has declared the winner of the Heat.'

Proposed by: Howard Campbell Seconded by: Sam Bawden DEFEATED

Proposal - In the third sentence amend the word 'Tournament' to 'Heat'

Proposed by: Howard Campbell Seconded by: Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

11.4.6 Rule 5.18 (m) Break-outs (or Rule 7.5 (a)?) Break-out rule – Proposal - Every team must submit a time.

Combined with Item **11.4.4** above.

11.4.7 Rule 5.13 Jumps © Proposal - Lower the maximum jump height to 14 inches for general safety

Proposed by: Alison Sharpe Seconded by: Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

Note: Rule 5.7(e) should be considered when amending this Rule.

11.4.8 Rule 5.18 (d) - Box Malfunction Proposal – Amended to read:

No one may tamper with the box after a malfunction until it has been checked by the Head Judge.

Proposed by: Alison Sharpe Seconded by: Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

11.5 Section 6 – Flyball Points

11.5.1 Rule 6.1 – Points Proposal – Amend end of first sentence to read 'BFA officer is present and at least four BFA registered teams compete'

Already covered in Item **11.3.7** above.

11.5.2 Rule 6.1 – Points Proposal (Original by Robert Henshall) - Amend the fifth sentence to read 'All four teams may be from within the same Team number provided at least four are registered with the BFA and that each team registered with the BFA was given an equal opportunity to enter but declined to do so'

It was suggested that an amendment to **Rule 4.2** would satisfy this Item, to read:

Points towards Flyball titles will be awarded provided a BFA judge or officer is present and certifies that at least four BFA Registered Teams actually competed.

Proposed by: Nigel Bouckley Seconded by: Lorraine Fulford CARRIED

11.6 Section 7 – Tournament Format

11.6.1 Rule 7.1 Round Robin Competitions Proposal - Show Organisers should be allowed to decide which run-off method is used, provided that it is clearly displayed prior to the start of competition, as only the show organiser will know the time constraints of his or her show.

Proposed by: Alison Sharpe Seconded by: Peter Roberts CARRIED

Other

11.7.1 Proposal – For changes to Membership Procedures and Fees.

Change the Membership Renewal date for all members to be 1st April each year with effect from 1st April 2001.

With effect from 1st May 2000 existing Members who fail to pay their fees within one month of their renewal date will have their membership lapsed and will be liable to a proposed 'Joining Fee'.

A pro-rata system introduced for New Members and Lapsed Members renewing membership from 1st May 2000 to 31st March 2001.

A pro-rata system introduced for Members Renewals from 1st May 2000 to 31st March 2001.

Introduction of a 'Joining Fee' of £2.50 with effect from 1st May 2000 for New Members and Lapsed Members renewing membership.

Proposed by: Robert Henshall Seconded by: Lorraine Fulford CARRIED

Proposal - Membership fees increased by 10% with effect from 1st April 2001 for existing members and with effect from 1st May 2000 for New Members and Lapsed Members renewing membership.

This proposal involving fee increases was referred back to the Committee who were asked to produce a Business Plan/Budget for the current financial year which could justify any appropriate increase in membership fees

11.7.2 Proposal – As this Item was similar in principle to Item **11.7.4** below it was dealt with under that Item.

11.7.3 Proposal - As this proposal was in essence similar to Item **11.7.1** above it was dealt with in conjunction with that Item.

11.7.4 Proposal – With effect from 1st May 2000 increase the Team Registration Fee from £5.00 to £15.00

With effect from 1st April 2001 introduce an annual renewal of Primary Team Registrations with a fee set at £1.00. (Can be paid with the Custodian's membership fees).

NOTE: The Custodian of the Primary Team Registration must be a current member of the BFA.

Whilst the principles of annual renewal of Primary Team Names and the need for the Custodian to be a current BFA member were agreed, as the fees for the renewal could be set by the Committee, implementation of these changes should be delayed until the Business Plan/Budget, referred to in Item **11.7.1** above, is finalised.

Proposed by: Peter Roberts Seconded by: Betty Potts CARRIED

11.7.5 Proposal – That a Sub Committee be set up to consider and recommend a procedure for allowing Overseas guest Teams/Dogs to compete at BFA Sanctioned Shows.

Proposed by: Roy Hiscock Seconded by: Nigel Bouckley CARRIED

11.7.6 Proposal - That the BFA change from a 'people' type membership to a 'Registered Dog' type membership, to come in line with NAFA and other prominent canine organisations around the globe. I am prepared to explain the benefits of this system at the AGM.

Withdrawn by Nigel Bouckley (the Proposer)

12. The Chairman thanked all those present for their attendance and contributions and formally closed the Meeting