



## **The British Flyball Association**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

**Held on Sunday 6th April 2014 at Wythall Community Hall, Birmingham**

**Apologies** – were received from Katie Burns, Hazell Brown, Daniella Mann and Fylde Coasters, Sarah Wallace, Shona McNab, Andy Bawden, Penny Charlton, Dave Warren, Ruth Moor, Sue Allen, Shaun McDermitt and Jean Meeking.

**Minutes of last AGM** – 7th April 2013 – Copies have been distributed to all Team Captains, Head Judges and Officers with the revised copy of the BFA Rules and Policies and have been made available on the BFA website for all interested parties. They were therefore approved as a true record without a further reading.

#### **Concise reports for the year 2013/2014 by:**

##### **Chairperson's Report : Sharon Allcorn**

Welcome to all and thank you for attending the BFA AGM 2014. The turn out today is the highest in several years at 162 represents over 5% of the Membership. As you can see we have a full agenda with some thought provoking items, so I will keep this short and sweet. The Committee have had a busy but productive year, we have worked collaboratively on many things, some good, exciting and positive, other poor, disappointing and negative. However this is the role of a committee and we undertake each one with commitment to our sport.

For me the highlights have been the 2013 Championships; exciting, positive, the biggest ever. The first time at Catton Hall, gazebos over the lane, communication bus (please don't anyone say they couldn't hear the announcements as we were asked by the hall to lower the volume as our announcements were rattling the very expensive antiques every time an announcement was made). Another highlight was the Head Judges and Judges seminar and the subsequent agreement to revamp the system to improve standard and consistency of judging, also agreed was the introduction of an appointed judge's board to monitor and provide guidance and support to our officials. There has been the introduction of the new BFA Forums on social networking and work is progressing on the new BFA Website.

The negatives have been complaints and correspondence of concern, the disciplinary and subsequent ban of members who had breached welfare rules; a very disappointing scenario but one that was independently investigated and one which we hope makes our stance on dog welfare very clear. The disregard of dog welfare will not be tolerated and that is the bottom line. Our decision to appoint a Vet Advisor to the BFA Committee was totally correct, as the knowledge, support and guidance from Kate Gilding was invaluable during this time.

All our officials dedicate time and effort offering their knowledge and skills to ensure we can all race. Thank you to all of these members so remember next time you receive your awards, your tournament schedule, your membership is renewed and a host of other things, remember someone has taken their time to provide these things for you. Please continue to treat the officials with courtesy and appreciation and maybe thank them once in a while.

Going forward is exciting, we are using social networking to enable communications as to the direction of our sport, we are getting more input from members and we look forward to interesting debate. "To improve is to **change**; to be perfect is to **change often**." - **Winston Churchill**. We look to share a vision for the future; don't get left behind. Do you want to stagnate or be a part of positive change? The Committee intend to produce a future plan, committee membership will change and it is good to have new blood, but to aid consistency we need a vision. When inputting to discussions remember to respect the opinions of others, I will end with another quote from Winston Churchill; "**Courage** is what it takes to stand up and speak; **courage** is also what it takes to sit down and listen."

### **Secretary's Report : Jo Crosswell**

My first year serving as the BFA Secretary has been interesting, busy and for the most part rewarding. I am grateful to those who have supported me in the role; the list includes my family, friends and the many BFA Officials and members.

As a committee we have had 3 face2face meetings and an assortment of online video conference calls during 2013-14, Emails a plenty continue to enable the bulk of the Committee work.

On behalf of the Committee and the whole membership I would like to record thanks to our

Membership Secretary – Pat Wadby and Membership Assistant Jane Allan, to our Statistics Officers – Ron and Vera Edge, to Show Secretary – Judy Parker, our Height Card Secretary – Donna Culley and to our Webmaster – Ray Lewis. In thanking our Awards Secretary – I first need to thank Kim sermon who held this role for 3 and a half years, and from September 2013 thanks go to Jeff Hughes who now undertakes this role. Thanks to all our Regional Representatives and to their co-ordinator – Dan Culley – the regions develop at a pace with some having held ring party training and others enabling group discussions, but it's a two way street and the reps need to be supported by teams and captains, they need to hear from you, so respond with your requirements to help them best serve their regions. Thanks are also extended to; The Vet advisor to the Committee – Kate Gilding, to Flyball Record Editor of almost 10 years – Val Currie, to the Junior Handler Administrator throughout 2013 – Sam Bawden, and to all the Head Judges, Judges, Measuring Officials and Lights Co-ordinators. Indeed thanks are recorded to all of the BFA Volunteers who give of themselves to the sport of Flyball to enable fun and competition for all of us and our pets. Thanks also to those teams who host the tournaments that make it all possible.

2013 saw a great BFA Championships at Catton Hall and the venue is booked again for 2014, so here's hoping for a repeat of the fun, fellowship and Flyball at the forthcoming event.

Earlier this year a seminar was held for Head Judges and Qualified Judges which saw an excellent turn out and was well received; one output from the seminar will be discussed later

as we look to support high standards and continuity in Judging within our Association by appointing a Judges Board to enable a focussed approach.

Our association grows; we currently have 2,577 members (144 more than at April 2013) - 2,306 are renewing members and 271 are new members. 1805 online renewals and 772 paper membership applications or renewals have been received for the 2014 memberships. Primary teams number 349, though not all are currently active. There have been 35 new BFA registered primary teams since April 2013.

The social network site; Facebook has allowed closed groups for regions, hosted by the regional representatives and a BFA Members closed group and a BFA Judges closed group. Member numbers grow daily and it is hoped that these groups will support communications and provide a secure area for discussion that will bring members closer despite geographic spread, and help with sharing ideas and gaining understanding.

I have promised to keep this short and sweet, apparently we have quite an agenda to get through, but before I hand over the microphone, I would like to announce the new scheme for the BFA Young Members. Rather than an annual competition as in the past, the new scheme will be a milestone award scheme allowing all young members to work towards certificates and awards. Full details will be added to the website and links placed on the Facebook Groups in the next few days, allowing Young Members to register for the scheme before the Easter competitions.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Val Currie**

I'm pleased to say that, despite having had a difficult year personally especially around the time of the Championships, I was still able to get the accounts up to date eventually. Everything is now back on an even keel and I was praised by the bookkeepers for my accuracy – they get some clients who can make as many as 10 mistakes in a week, I had just 4 typo errors in the whole year.

As we have so many proposals today, I will launch straight into the accounts.

Looking at the summary, it would appear that we are in a very healthy state, but a word of caution, the size of the surplus is largely due to the fact that many more members paid their membership fee before January 1<sup>st</sup> in order to take advantage of our 'special offer' before membership fees were increased. Our decision to increase fees was taken in order to facilitate the projects of (a) a better website and (b) source new BFA lights.

The Championships (that members felt were the best ever) inevitably cost more due to rising costs but also we took into account members wishes and provided extras that had not been included in the past. I'm sure you will agree they were well worth the extra cost. Of course we do need to be careful with our expenditure and may have to look at increasing our income for the Championships this year.

The only other items that I think require an explanation are the unpaid cheques, re-presented cheques and over payments/refunds. Last year I simply did the necessary subtractions but this year I felt it was necessary for you to actually see the amount that 'bounced' cheques and pressing the submit button more than once etc. has occurred.

With bounced cheques, the bank usually re-presents them, sometimes more than once if they bounce again, so that's included twice in the accounts. At other times, with membership payments, the member then elects to pay online and this isn't shown on the accounts because our lovely membership Secretary pays into the bank in bulk so it doesn't show individuals. Some Tournament Organisers also elect to pay by bank transfer when a cheque has 'bounced' so that doesn't show in the bank statement as a re-presented cheque. Please do be aware that payments into the bank are not always made immediately, both the Membership Secretary and myself have to travel by car to the bank (and sometimes pay parking fees) so it is not possible to pay in on a daily or even weekly basis.

While the introduction of on-line membership payments has been good, it has also created some problems. Every transaction is charged a small amount by the payments company. If you press the submit button more than once and need to be refunded the BFA don't get that small charge back, so if you press the button twice we in effect pay that charge three times, twice for the two submits and a further charge for your refund. If you press the submit button more than twice obviously there's an extra charge for each time you have pressed it. The new Committee will possibly be considering a handling charge in future.

We do still need to investigate registering for VAT and the new Committee will be exploring various possible alternatives during the year and if we do have to register, the effect it might have on our membership.

Hopefully, everything else will be self-explanatory.

**Veterinary Advisor Report: Kate Gilding** (This report was not presented at the AGM – but is added here to inform all of the membership)

#### British Flyball Association Annual Report 2013-14

There have been several topics of discussion over the past twelve months. Many of them we have revisited as new cases have arisen....running with stitches, the use of bandages in the ring, and lameness issues. As we have previously advised many of these cannot receive specific rulings but fall on judges and head judges to make decisions which must be made with the welfare of the dog at their heart.

We have come up against infectious disease again, although thankfully this year it has only been Kennel cough. This will continue to challenge the flyball community and as a veterinary surgeon I would urge people to vaccinate their dogs. The vaccine not only reduces the incidence of the disease but also significantly reduces its spread. I would personally vaccinate all competing dogs against the common canine diseases not only as a sensible preventative measure to protect your dog, but also as a sensible preventative measure that affords protection to all those dogs that yours races with and comes in to contact with both in racing and in your own local dog communities.

This year we have sadly had to address the running of bitches in season, during pregnancy and within the eight weeks post whelping period. While I realise that in some cases this can occur due to silent seasons and unplanned or unknown pregnancies, most situations of this occurring are known to the owner and show a blatant disregard for dog welfare. Other than the obvious risk of abortion of the pregnancy and torsion and rupture of the uterus during pregnancy there are other concerns. The blood vessels supporting the reproductive tract are

markedly enlarged and engorged during seasons, in pregnancy and postnatally. The abdominal ligaments supporting these structures are slacker at these times and these changes put the bitch at greater risk of internal damage when competing. So next time people consider running their dogs during these periods they should consider these as significant reasons not to do so. It is not simply that the bitch will be distracted from running and distract other dogs around the ring. While we all acknowledge that our dogs will often, seemingly easily, partake in activities the vet has advised against (such as jumping post spay) the advice is given for a reason.

Please continue as a community to put dog welfare first, as with every organisation the majority do but there are always a few willing to put this at risk in their personal pursuit of a first place rosette.

Thank you to all those I have worked with over the past year, both members of the committee and of the BFA community alike.

### **BFA Development Working Parties**

Website Working Party – Rachel Child

A PowerPoint presentation was delivered to update Members of the development progress. (see appendix 3)

### **Electronic Judging System (EJS) BFA Lights Update: Dan Culley**

The membership were provided with an update in respect of a computer based EJS in development by ABTEC Network Systems. The BFA Committee had commissioned ABTEC Network Systems to provide one EJS for the BFA. The technology is ready and a professional Fabricator to build the set is now being sourced. The development document is attached as an appendix 1 to these minutes.

### **AGM Proposals**

ALL PROPOSALS WRITTEN AS RECEIVED AND LISTED IN RULE NUMBER ORDER

#### **One item submitted by George Parish**

1.3 Committee and Officers

The rule stating that to be nominated, you must have attended a previous AGM, be changed to [must be in attendance at the AGM when being proposed](#).

This would encompass that you would be at an AGM. Although a further consideration for a by line could also be written in, [that if a nominee cannot be present at the AGM, due to illness, or out of country for due to work commitments, for example. They may still be considered for post, if seconded and agreed by the standing committee](#).

**DEFEATED**

#### **One item submitted by The BFA Committee**

### 1.3 Committee and Officers

(b) Any member wishing to be elected onto the BFA Committee must have at least 3 years' experience in the association and must have attended at least one BFA AGM. At each AGM ~~(delete) half~~ ~~(delete) (rounded down where the Committee is made up of an uneven number)~~ (add) one third of the (add) nine Committee members shall retire. These members together with any other nominations received in writing to the Secretary and seconded by at least one current BFA member, 30 days before the AGM will be eligible for election to the new Committee. No Committee member shall remain on the Committee for more than ~~(delete) two~~ (add) three years without standing for re-election. Committee members will be expected to (add) comply with the Committee Job Description (issued Feb 2014) ~~(delete) correspond by email on a regular basis and attend as many meetings as required, after prior notice has been given. Committee members shall be expected to attend these meetings.~~

Explanation – The work load of the BFA Committee as the Governing Body of Flyball in the UK & Ireland increases in line with the growth of the Association. Presently the Committee can potentially lose experienced officers not wishing to re-stand or not re-elected numbering 5 or 4 in alternate years. The Committee propose increased continuity and a more robust exchange of knowledge and skills by extending the length of service to three years with only 1/3 of the Committee required to stand down or re-stand each year.

Explanation - To enable an informed choice for members wishing to stand for Committee and manage the expectation of the workload they are volunteering for, the current Committee unanimously approved a Committee Member Job Description. This will be made available to members at the appropriate time each year via the BFA Website and other forums. The Committee propose that the BFA Rule should refer to this Job Description rather than try to include more detailed roles and responsibility within the current BFA Rules.

### **CARRIED**

#### **One item submitted by The BFA Committee**

### 1.3 Committee and Officers

f) The Committee may at its discretion amend the BFA Rules and Policies (except Sections 1, 2 and 3) Any such rule changes are to be published by the Committee and will be implemented on the ~~(Delete) 1st January~~ (Add) first Monday in November each year, giving a minimum of 14 days and a maximum of 28 days' notice.

Explanation – The Committee see the date change for amendments to the rules bringing benefits to the committee and membership. Members can through the main summer racing periods contribute ideas and raise issues from their own experience during the season. Committee can give more time to the consideration of any changes or clarifications required at this proposed time, the 28 day and 14 day prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> are traditionally busy times for both Committee and Members, hence this proposed change.

### **CARRIED / minor change** with small change to wording

#### **One item submitted by The BFA Committee**

### Committee and Officers

#### 1.10 ~~(Delete) Training and Education Co-ordinator~~

*The Training and Education Co-ordinator will arrange training days and seminars on a regular basis.*

## (Add) Regional Representative Co-ordinator and Regional Representatives

The BFA Regional Representative Co-ordinator is the liaison point between the Regional Representatives and the BFA Committee. The role facilitates regular communication between the Regional Representatives for the sharing of best practice.

The BFA regions are served by appointed representatives who can be approached by prospective members, new teams, and existing members and teams for help and advice in respect of the BFA; examples include facilitating discussions, arranging ring party training seminars, providing advice and assistance to tournament hosts and answering enquires.

### 1.12 *(Delete) Publicity Officer*

*To promote and publicise Flyball and BFA activities in general within an agreed budget*

### (Add) Media and Communications Secretary

A developing role linked to the Website; includes the role for the online communications and the liaison point for members, prospective members, members of the public and media enquiries.

### 1.15 (Add) Judges Sub-Committee

The Judges Sub-Committee will oversee BFA Judges and Judging Qualifications; promoting high standards and consistency of BFA Judging decisions.

**CARRIED / minor change** with small change to wording

## **One item submitted by The BFA Committee**

## SECTION 2. - GENERAL MEETINGS

### 2.1 Annual General Meeting

a) The AGM will be attended by members and held for the following purposes:

- i. To receive the report of the Committee and the Annual Financial Report and Balance sheet.
- ii. To announce Committee members for the forthcoming year.
- iii. To (add) announce the results of the membership electronic vote (add) or postal vote on rule changes. *(See separate proposal to delete) Rules of the Association contained within Sections 1, 2 and 3 shall not be altered except at a General Meeting.*
- iv. Approve appointments to BFA approved lists of credited officials.
- v. Discuss any other business duly placed on the Agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Secretary. Only routine matters or those that in the opinion of the Chairperson are urgent may be exempt from such notice.

b) The Secretary will give a minimum of 45 days' notice of an AGM to current BFA members. Agenda items are to be received by the Secretary 30 days before the date of the AGM. After the closing date for proposals and Committee nominations and as soon as the Agenda is finalised, it will be published on the Website for members to (add); consider, discuss on regional and national closed groups and /or at regional or team gatherings, form opinion and vote via the secure electronic voting system or postal return *(delete) download.* (add) Votes cast will be validated against the current Membership.

c) No videoing or tape recording of proceedings will be allowed without prior consent from all members present.

## 2.2 Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at any time and shall be assembled within 28 days on the requisition of 30 members from 5 primary teams. Such requisition must state the purpose of such meeting which is required to be sent in writing to the Secretary of the BFA who is responsible for notifying all members at their home addresses. The business will be limited to the matter set out in the notice to convene the meeting. The Committee may call an EGM at any time at a reasonably central venue for the membership. Voting without proxy will take place at an EGM.

## 2.3 Voting

*(delete) In general those current BFA members present at the AGM will decide all proposals that require a vote. (Add) All proposals will be decided by secure electronic vote or postal return, with results announced at the AGM. All members should be actively encouraged to (add) use their voting right and attend the AGM (delete) attend such meetings. (Add) The voting period will open on the 20th day before the AGM and will close on the 10th day before the AGM, allowing a window for consideration, discussion and for members to vote on proposals. (Delete) However, if in the opinion of the Committee, a proposal is considered of sufficient importance that it should be decided by the whole membership, the Committee reserve the right to hold a postal or secure electronic vote of ALL current BFA members, except where the proposal has already been voted upon at the AGM. (Add) Postal voting will be available for anyone unable or unwilling to use the secure online voting; any postal votes must be received by the 10th day prior to the AGM. All postal return votes received after this will be void. The secure online voting system and any postal returns will be subject to appropriate checks to assure memberships are current.*

Explanation – the BFA continues to grow with registered members and teams throughout the country in; Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man, Cornwall, Wales and other distant locations. Attendance even at the central Birmingham location can be difficult and costly for members.

In recent years the proposals carried and defeated at the AGM have been voted on by approximately 3% of the current membership, despite two named family members, joint members and single members all have voting rights. Moving to a secure online voting tool with the option of casting postal votes will enable all voting members the opportunity to cast their votes.

The committee acknowledge that the discussions that take place at the AGM are useful to help form opinion prior to voting, we have therefore proposed a period of time for online secure voting (and postal option) to allow for discussions via the closed social network groups, regional or team discussions. The committee seek the introduction of this proposal to allow a wider contribution from the whole of the BFA Membership.

**Wording to reflect post AGM electronic vote – AGM support given to allow wording to be changed and confirmed by committee (see new agreed wording at appendix 2)**

### **One item submitted by The BFA Committee**

## 2.1 Annual General Meeting

a) The AGM will be attended by members and held for the following purposes:

- i. To receive the report of the Committee and the Annual Financial Report and Balance sheet.
- ii. To announce Committee members for the forthcoming year.

- iii. To announce the results of the membership electronic vote on rule changes. *(Delete) Rules of the Association contained within Sections 1,2 and 3 shall not be altered except at a General Meeting.*
- iv. Approve appointments to BFA approved lists of credited officials.
- v. Discuss any other business duly placed on the Agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Secretary. Only routine matters or those that in the opinion of the Chairperson are urgent may be exempt from such notice.

Explanation – Where the proposal to move to electronic voting (or postal where needed) is accepted, and where the new website and use of networking is enabled, consultation with the full membership will be; cost effective, timelier and more accessible. The Committee do not wish to make additional work, and foresee the majority of change required to apply post AGM and the one other rule change time already allowed by the rules. Having the option to go out to the full membership where a need is identified would serve the Association well, allowing benefit to be gained without having to wait until April. The Committee will not make use of this option without a clear benefit being identified. Rule Changes for sections 1, 2, or 3 will not be introduced without a vote by the Membership.

**Wording to reflect post AGM electronic vote to be confirmed by committee; changes to sections 1, 2 & 3 to only be changed at a general meeting or by a vote of the membership (see new agreed wording at appendix 2)**

#### **One item submitted by Karen Marks on behalf of the Regional Representatives**

2.1D Proposals for new rules or amendments to current rules will be made available to all regional reps prior to the AGM to ensure each is worded appropriately and to ensure there is no conflict with any other existing rule; proposal can be open for inter-regional discussion. Any proposal felt worded incorrectly will be returned to the proposer with advice on appropriate corrections. This will be done in a timely manner allowing the proposer sufficient time to re-submit their proposal.

Reason for Change: Currently proposals have no screening therefore new rules have previously been voted in without realising they conflict directly with another rule. Allowing the Regional Reps to screen will ensure this no longer happens and that all rules are appropriate to our sport and our rules are clear and concise.

**CARRIED**

#### **One item submitted by The BFA Committee**

##### **4.1 Requirements**

a) A BFA Registered Team wishing to host a Sanctioned Tournament (the Host Team) must submit an application (BFA Form C.3) to the BFA Show Secretary, complete with a £20 non-refundable deposit (per Sanctioned Tournament), *(Delete of which £10 will be deducted from the Race Registration fees after the tournament)*. The application should state the date, time and place of the tournament, the name, address and telephone number of the Tournament Organiser (and Tournament Secretary if different), any entry fee, whether the entries are limited and the closing date for entries.

Explanation – The Committee have decided that an increase in fees was appropriate and by introducing it in this way the administrative process is also simplified, without the need for the deduction from race fees collected.

**CARRIED**

### **One item submitted by Rachel Short on behalf of the Regional Representatives**

#### Rule 4.4 Seeding (links to 5.17I)

Teams should be seeded based on the information available from the BFA website. Seeding times for a tournament will be based on the fastest time recorded by a team during their last 3 sanctioned events and a seed list will be supplied from the latest available data on the 14th day before the tournament date. Any time recorded more than 4 months before this date is null and void. A declared time, to be used as the seeding time, may be submitted by the Team Captain at least 14 days prior to the Tournament, to be accompanied by a written justification for the change, which may be referred to the Committee. A declared time may be submitted but must be at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  second faster or  $\frac{1}{2}$  second slower than the Team's seeded time and will be subject to the Team break-out rule. (REMOVE - A declared time faster than the Team's seeded time will also be subject to the Team break-out rule but will be subject to the division break-out rule (see Rule 5.17 (I)) Teams not on the seed list must submit a time and will be subject to the Team break-out rule.

Explanation - All declared times should be treated consistently. Therefore by changing this rule, Teams will have a consistent approach to declaring a time either faster or slower than a seed time.

#### **CARRIED**

### **One item submitted by The BFA Committee**

#### 4.4 Seeding

Teams should be seeded based on the information available from the BFA website. Seeding times for a tournament will be based on the fastest time recorded by a team during their last 3 sanctioned events and a seed list will be supplied from the latest available data on the 14th day before the tournament date. Any time recorded more than 4 months before this date is null and void. A declared time, to be used as the seeding time, may be submitted by the Team Captain at least 14 days prior to the Tournament, to be accompanied by a written justification for the change, which may be referred to the Committee. A declared time may be submitted - if it is slower than the Team's seeded time it must be at least 1 second slower than that time and will be subject to the break-out rule. A declared time faster than the Team's seeded time will not be subject to the team break-out rule but will be subject to the division break-out rule. (see Rule 5.17 (I) )Teams not on the seed list must submit a time and will be subject to the team break-out rule. (Add) Where speed trials (ST) are used as a preliminary round at a tournament, the results from that ST can be used to re-seed the teams in those divisions into new divisions for the double elimination (DE) or round robin (RR) part of the event at that tournament. A dog must remain in the same team for both ST and DE/RR even though the team may move divisions.

Explanation –

The current Round Robin format continues to serve the sport well but can often result in a 3 way tie decided on times or a 'who beats who' scenario resulting in an overall win for a team not even in the ring. The proposal above offers an additional option to the current formats already available for Tournament Organisers. Guidance to Tournament Organisers wishing to introduce this format is provided below, with additional help being available from the BFA Show Secretary, Regional Representatives and Head Judges;

*Guidance: - A Tournament Organiser may choose to offer Speed Trials for some or all of the divisions at a Sanctioned Tournament. Where Speed Trials are offered, the fastest times recorded during the speed trials may be used to seed these divisions. Speed Trials should not involve an excessive number of heats; however each team will run the same number of heats. During Speed Trials, each dog of the four racing in each is required to be run. The dogs in each team must be registered prior to the start of the Speed Trials. Once the Speed Trials have started, it will not be permitted to add dogs to a team. Where a Tournament Organiser chooses to offer Speed Trials, this should be declared on the Tournament Schedule, indicating the maximum number of teams that will be accepted for the Speed Trials.*

## **CARRIED**

### **One item submitted by Karen Marks**

Rule 5.6 Judging Procedures b) Two Measuring Officials, shall measure dogs jumping less than 14" (Add) either at a gathering/meeting/event agreed by the Committee or at any day of a flyball tournament if time allows. It will be up to the discretion of the team whether to have their dogs measured or not prior to the competition. If the Judges are uncertain of the dog's height after 3 accurate measurements, the height shall be recorded as the lowest for the benefit of the dog.

Reason for change: to give more flexibility and availability for dog measuring

## **CARRIED**

### **One item submitted by Leanne Hyde on behalf of the Regional Representatives**

Height Cards – (Remove) A handler may apply for a dog to be granted a Height Card and not be required to have the dog measured after having been (Add) All dogs must be measured at three separate BFA Sanctioned Tournaments; a gathering/meeting/event agreed by the Committee or at any day of a flyball tournament, the dog's height having been agreed by two Measuring Officials on each occasion. The signatories to the Application Form must be at least four different Head Judges add -/Measuring official. A dog must be 18 months old prior to its first recorded measurement and at least 30 months old at final measurement. The final measurement is to be one of the required numbers of measurements in order to be issued with a height card. (Add) All height dogs must hold a height card by 36 months of age; if the above criteria cannot be met by 36 months of age then it must be met within the dogs first 10 sanctioned tournaments. Failure to do so shall result in loss of points for the dog and team on the day. When a Height Card is issued and recorded it must be available for inspection at each Tournament entered. The Records and Statistics Co-ordinator will produce an up-to-date list of all issued Height Cards for each Tournament so that it can be displayed and attached to the relevant Jump Height Form C.9. Jump Height Cards cannot be contested and will normally be applicable for the life of the dog. However, in some circumstances an Owner can re-apply if the dog's measurement is considered to be incorrect. Before re-applying, an explanation must be sent to the Committee in writing accompanied by a completed Form C.13, meeting the criteria set out above in this Rule. Once the Committee have agreed, arrangements will be made for two Head Judges, selected by the Committee, who have not previously measured the dog and do not belong to the applicant's own Team, to re-measure

the dog to confirm the height. Handlers who are unable to produce their cards may have their dog's jump height contested.

Explanation - Regional reps feel that the membership shouldn't be given a choice whether or not a height card is needed for the height dog in a team and it should be standard practise that all height dogs have a height card after the age of 36months or for dogs that cannot meet the criteria must then meet it within their first 10 sanctioned tournaments (example of this - a dog who starts flyball at 28 Months of age would not be expected to gain the sufficient measures by 36 months of age as number of tournaments attended may not allow this to be met)

**CARRIED / minor change** with small change to wording to include previous proposal

**One item submitted by Sonya Taylor**

5.12 (b) [To remove foam from jumps](#)

Difference in height where they are not taped. Poor quality so inconsistent in height. The 1 inch slate doesn't always sit correctly when the foam is taped on.

**DEFEATED**

**One item submitted by Chris Haslam**

5.13 (a) I propose that an amendment is made to rule 5.13a to the effect that a tolerance of + 1 inch is introduced to the 51 foot dimension of the measured portion of the racing lane i.e. the distance between the start/finish line and box line. The suggested wording being: - [The distance between the box line and the start/finish line shall be not less than 51 foot and not more than 51 foot 1 inch.](#)

Explanation - As a result of being involved in the setting out of the racing lanes at a number of indoor and outdoor competitions I have noticed that on occasions it is a struggle to get the 51 foot distance between start/finish line and the box line to measure exactly 51 foot, particularly, when setting out painted lines on grass. In engineering terms no dimension can be exact; therefore, it is standard engineering practice for all dimensions to have a tolerance. The current wording in rule 5.13a is that a lane must be 51 foot enclosed by the two lines - no tolerance is stated, however, judges up and down the country must be using their discretion to allow racing on courses set slightly wrong, particularly, those set on grass. Therefore, it would be an advantage to both clubs (setting out courses) and judges (checking setting out) to have an achievable and realistic tolerance for everyone to work to.

**CARRIED**

**One item submitted by Vicki Dawe**

**Rule 5.17(i)**

[In the case of faults; once a race has been won the judge may, at their own discretion allow a handler to re-send their dog in order to allow it to complete on a positive note where dog error or suffered from interference or distraction. If after 2 attempts of the re-send, the dog has still not managed to complete its run, the judge will declare the race complete. If throughout the](#)

racing day, that same dog continues to fail to complete, the judge may at his or her discretion request the dog be pulled for that race giving the dog opportunity to recharge prior to the next race. If both teams have a dog which cannot complete, rule 5.17 (i) will apply. Judges may also allow for 1 re-send when handler error, time permitting

Explanation - It is detrimental to any dog to persistently be set up to fail. There may be a number of reasons for the dog not completing; something frightened it, it may be carrying an injury, exhaustion, new to flyball, the list is endless. We all know even the most experienced of dogs can make mistakes, giving the dog 2 more chances (and a total of 3 attempted runs) is more than enough to try to rectify this mistake and give the dog a chance to be rewarded for its efforts. Allowing a dog to continually fail at the task is not only unfair on the dog, who may have it's own good reason for failing to complete, but it is also detrimental to any training it has undergone, you are effectively allowing the dog to practise getting it wrong! Secondly we must consider why the dog has failed it's run; hidden injuries, exhaustion or searing heat. It then becomes a welfare matter and we must remember we do this sport for fun and the love of our dogs and they must be our priority. Thirdly. Having already failed to complete after 2 re-sends, there is no win to be had nor points to be won. Fourthly with this rule in place it will enable the judge to continue racing in a timely manner

## **DEFEATED**

### **One item submitted by Glenn Foot**

Rule 5.17(i)

Only 1 rerun per dog. I propose that each faulted dog is restricted to one rerun. In the event that neither team can complete with only 1 rerun per dog then both teams should be declared a double loss.

Explanation - The reasoning behind this proposal is quite simple, any handler or dog can make a mistake and a single rerun should be enough to allow this to be corrected. However repeatedly rerunning a dog gains no benefit to the handler or dog. If a handler keeps making mistakes then this can be dealt with through training and education. If the dog is continually faulting then this could be down to training issue, without the introduction of training aids then rerunning could teach the dog bad habits. The dog could be tired and this is the reason that it is faulting. And worst case it could be injured and causing the dog pain by being rerun. The reasons for a dog faulting could be numerous and the above are only intended as examples. The fluidity of racing would also improve with a maximum of 4 reruns per race.

## **DEFEATED**

### **One item submitted by the BFA Committee**

5.17 Rules of Racing (I) Break-Outs NOTE: This rule applies to all Teams entered. The team may continue to race (Delete) but will lose all points and (add) but any wins will convert to losses on all racing paperwork and the team will therefore lose their placing for the day although their fastest time will be used, if appropriate, for a new seed time.

Explanation - Amended wording to clarify the use of the word 'points' in the current rule as this had the potential to be confused with BFA Award Points rather than race points indicating

race wins.

## **CARRIED**

### **One item submitted by Rachel Short on behalf of Regional Representatives**

(links to 4.4 Seeding)

Rule 5.17 I) Break-outs – With the exception of division 1, a team running more than ½-second faster than its (REMOVE) slower declared submitted time will be declared the loser of that heat. (REMOVE) - A declared time faster than the Team's seeded time will not be subject to the team break-out rule but will be subject to the division break-out rule

Explanation - All teams who declare a time should be subject to the same ruling, whether this be a declared faster time, declared slower time or an unseeded team's declared time to ensure consistency.

## **CARRIED**

### **One item submitted by Rachel Short on behalf of Regional Representatives**

(links to 4.4 Seeding)

Rule 5.17 I) Division Break-out – with the exception of division 1, a team running more than ½-second faster than the time of the top seeded team in a division (whether seeded time or (REMOVE) faster declared time) shall be the loser of that heat.

Explanation - By reducing the division break-out to ½ second, this would ensure consistency across the break-out rule, this will make the racing in the divisions closer and more exciting. This rule change would also make judging and ring party procedures clearer.

## **CARRIED**

### **One item submitted by BFA Committee**

6.1 Points See also Rules(delete)5.6(g)(ix)

This is a correction as rule 5.6 (g)(ix)is not present in the BFA rules.

## **CARRIED**

### **One item submitted by Glenn Foot**

6.1 Points - Alternative points system

The following system will focus on balancing the current points system by greater rewarding for consistency but at the same recognize the expanding gap between the pace of racing teams. It will recognise the much faster teams and award them accordingly. It will reward greater points for sub 18 teams, but also increase the amount of points slower teams receive recognising their consistency and commitment to the sport. Faster dogs in faster teams will still earn their awards faster than slower dogs in slower teams but at a more proportionate rate from 5x and 2.5x the points to 2x, 1.5x and 1.2x the points. It will allow for older dogs coming towards retirement to be able to still pick up a more reasonable amount of points as their pace

slows. It will still reward 25 points for sub 22 teams, so no teams will receive less points due to a change. An example would be, a 22.01 team to only earn 5 less points than a 21.99 team for being only 0.02 slower rather than 15 less points (2.5x less points) [Sub 18 earns 30 points](#)  
[Sub 22 earns 25 points](#) [Sub 26 earns 20 points](#) [Sub 30 earns 15 points](#)

## **DEFEATED**

### **Election of the BFA Committee**

Having been elected to the Committee at the last AGM, the following current members have expressed a willingness to remain on the Committee for a further year:

**Sharon Allcorn** (High Flyers)

**Tony Cain** (Dundee)

**Jo Crosswell** (Ready2Fly)

**Dave Long** (Nuneaton Flyers)

**Ray Lewis** (Delta)

Seeking re-election to the Committee

**Dan Culley** (Water Orton Wonderdogs)

Proposed by Tom Gilding, Seconded by Cat Connor

**Val Currie** (Muskerhounds)

Proposed by Lucy Hughes, Seconded by Sharon Allcorn

The one nomination for the remaining two places on the Committee is;

**Andrew Short** (Commandos)

Proposed by Rachel Child

Seconded By Shaun McDermott

TWO Members have decided to retire and are not seeking re-election;

**Rachel Child** (Alpha Dogz)

**Ellen Schofield** (Cambridgeshire Canines)

Gifts for the retiring Committee members; Rachel Child and Ellen Schofield and to the retiring Awards Secretary; Kim Sermon were presented by Sharon Allcorn.

### **Presentations of Annual Awards for 2013**

#### **Flyball Open Team Of The Year**

1<sup>st</sup> **Extreme Racers** at Epworth 21 April 2013 16.24

2<sup>nd</sup> **Mansfield Marnicks** at Sherbrook Scout Camp 29 September 2013 16.31

3<sup>rd</sup> **Live Wires** at Sutton Fields 18 May 2013 16.33

#### Multibreed Team Of The Year

1<sup>st</sup> **The Extremists** at Drax 6 May 2013 16.88

#### Claire Gristwood Trophy

4061B **Stella** Rotherham Rockets 9010 BFA Flyball Points

#### Agm Junior Awards

##### **Junior Handler Award (over 12)**

1<sup>st</sup> Abbi Reynolds Dobson Warwickshire Woofs

##### **Junior Handler Award (under 12)**

1<sup>st</sup> Madison Barraclough Paws8

2<sup>nd</sup> Jessica Short Commandos

3<sup>rd</sup> Owen Garrett Wilmslow Wild Dogs

4<sup>th</sup> Adele Le Moignan Wilmslow Wild Dogs

5<sup>th</sup> Millie Wallis Wilmslow Wild Dogs

##### **Junior Boxloader Award (over 12)**

1<sup>st</sup> Abbi Reynolds Dobson Warwickshire Woofs

##### **Junior Boxloader Award (under 12)**

1<sup>st</sup> Madison Barraclough Paws8

2<sup>nd</sup> Jessica Short Commandos

3<sup>rd</sup> Millie Wallis Wilmslow Wild Dogs

#### **Chairperson's closing speech.**

Sharon Allcorn closed the 2014 BFA AGM with thanks to all who had attended, discussed and voted, wishing everyone well for the flyball year ahead.

#### Appendix 1

## Flyball Race Timer Development

*Author: Andy Beynon 2/3/2014 (Mobile: 07885 215947)*

## Introduction

The Flyball Association are interested in investigating what would be required to construct a replacement for their ageing race timing equipment.

## Initial development

Having looked at the functionality required, I decided to base the development on an Arduino Mega board and developed a prototype breadboard with the required LEDs and switches to simulate the timing equipment. Output for messages and timing data was via USB serial to a laptop running Putty.

The software development is completed to a point where the system behaves like the current timing equipment. There have been some ideas for enhancements such as using the fault lights as a pre-race countdown, which could be easily incorporated.

Some hardware was identified for items such as the LCD time displays, where the goal is to choose displays which are low power and daylight readable. Other items are proving to be more difficult to source, such as large LEDs for fault and countdown lights.

I also sourced a sample gate optical sensor from SICK, who are the manufacturers of the gate sensors in the current timing equipment.

To complete the development, the physical design work needs to be completed and interfacing circuits need to be designed and produced.

## Microcontroller

The Arduino Mega is a microcontroller board based on the ATmega1280 ([datasheet](#)). It has 54 digital input/output pins (of which 14 can be used as PWM outputs), 16 analog inputs, 4 UARTs (hardware serial ports), a 16 MHz crystal oscillator, a USB connection, a power jack, an ICSP header, and a reset button.

## *Schematic & Reference Design*

EAGLE files: [arduino-mega-reference-design.zip](#)

Schematic: [arduino-mega-schematic.pdf](#)

## *Summary*

Microcontroller	ATmega1280
Operating Voltage	5V
Input Voltage (recommended)	7-12V
Input Voltage (limits)	6-20V
Digital I/O Pins	54 (of which 15 provide PWM output)
Analog Input Pins	16
DC Current per I/O Pin	40 mA
DC Current for 3.3V Pin	50 mA
Flash Memory	128 KB of which 4 KB used by bootloader
SRAM	8 KB
EEPROM	4 KB
Clock Speed	16 MHz

## *Power*

The Arduino Mega can be powered via the USB connection or with an external power supply. The power source is selected automatically.

External (non-USB) power can come either from an AC-to-DC adapter or battery. The adapter can be connected by plugging a 2.1mm center-positive plug into the board's power jack. Leads from a battery can be inserted in the Gnd and Vin pin headers of the POWER connector.

The board can operate on an external supply of 6 to 20 volts. If supplied with less than 7V, however, the 5V pin may supply less than five volts and the board may be unstable. If using more than 12V, the voltage regulator may overheat and damage the board. The recommended range is 7 to 12 volts.

The power pins are as follows:

**VIN.** The input voltage to the Arduino board when it's using an external power source (as opposed to 5 volts from the USB connection or other regulated power source). You can supply voltage through this pin, or, if supplying voltage via the power jack, access it through this pin.

**5V.** The regulated power supply used to power the microcontroller and other components on the board. This can come either from VIN via an on-board regulator, or be supplied by USB or another regulated 5V supply.

**3V3.** A 3.3 volt supply generated by the on-board FTDI chip. Maximum current draw is 50 mA.

**GND.** Ground pins.

## *Input and Output*

Each of the 54 digital pins on the Mega can be used as an input or output. They operate at 5 volts. Each pin can provide or receive a maximum of 40 mA and has an internal pull-up resistor of 20-50 kOhms. In addition, some pins have specialised functions:

**Serial:** 0 (RX) and 1 (TX); Serial 1: 19 (RX) and 18 (TX); Serial 2: 17 (RX) and 16 (TX); Serial 3: 15 (RX) and 14 (TX). Used to receive (RX) and transmit (TX) TTL serial data. Pins 0 and 1 are also connected to the corresponding pins of the FTDI USB-to-TTL Serial chip.

**External Interrupts:** 2 (interrupt 0), 3 (interrupt 1), 18 (interrupt 5), 19 (interrupt 4), 20 (interrupt 3), and 21 (interrupt 2). These pins can be configured to trigger an interrupt on a low value, a rising or falling edge, or a change in value.

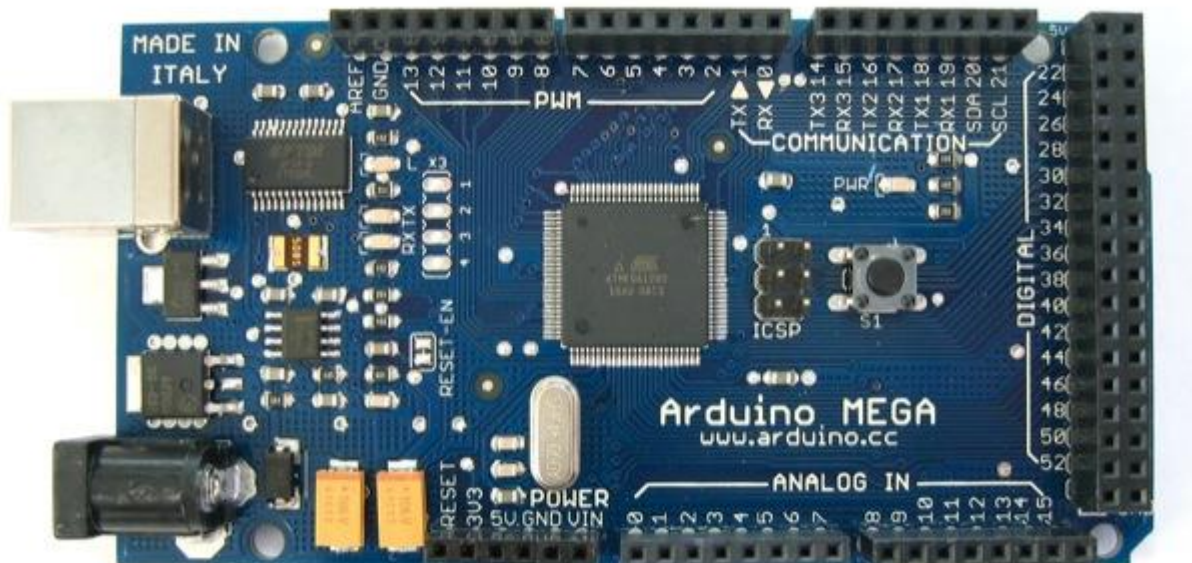
There are a couple of other pins on the board:

**Reset.** Bring this line LOW to reset the microcontroller. Typically used to add a reset button to shields which block the one on the board.

## *Communication*

The Arduino Mega has a number of facilities for communicating with a computer, another Arduino, or other microcontrollers. The ATmega1280 provides four hardware UARTs for TTL (5V) serial communication. An FTDI FT232RL on the board channels one of these over USB and the [FTDI drivers](#) (included with the Arduino software) provide a virtual com port to software on the computer. The

Arduino software includes a serial monitor which allows simple textual data to be sent to and from the Arduino board. The RX and TX LEDs on the board will flash when data is being transmitted via the FTDI chip and USB connection to the computer (but not for serial communication on pins 0 and 1).



## Switches

The Mega has integral pull-up resistors, so all switch inputs are push button types with one side connected to an input pin on the Mega and the other side connected to GND.

The required buttons are:

- Race Start
- Race Reset
- Hold Lane 1
- Hold Lane 2
- Lane 1 Dog Faults (Red, Blue, Yellow, Green) – 4 buttons
- Lane 2 Dog Faults (Red, Blue, Yellow, Green) – 4 buttons

An On/Off rocker switch should also be incorporated into the design.

## Lane Sensors

In order to accurately detect a dog passing through a gate, two vertical rows of laser sensors are used. The two rows have an approx. 6" gap between them.

I have identified a SICK sensor (ZL2-E2415) as a good candidate to use. These sensors incorporate the light source and detector into a single unit and are used with a reflector. These can be obtained in PNP or NPN types.

There are 2 lanes with 2 sets of sensors, which will connect to 4 interrupt driven inputs on the Mega. These sensors need to be combined to pull down the Mega inputs in the same way as the buttons. The use of interrupt inputs means that there should be the minimum latency in the timing.

## Lights

Ideally, large LEDs should be used as the indicator lights for the system. The following lights are required:

- Front facing 3 x Yellow and 1 x Green countdown lights.
- Front and rear facing 2 x Red Fault Lights
- Front and rear facing 2 x Red, Blue, Yellow, Green judge dog fault lights.

## Displays

Two large LCD readout displays are required to display timing information. These will ideally interface to the Mega with TTL serial connections. The displays will need to be large enough to read at distance and be readable in bright sunlight.

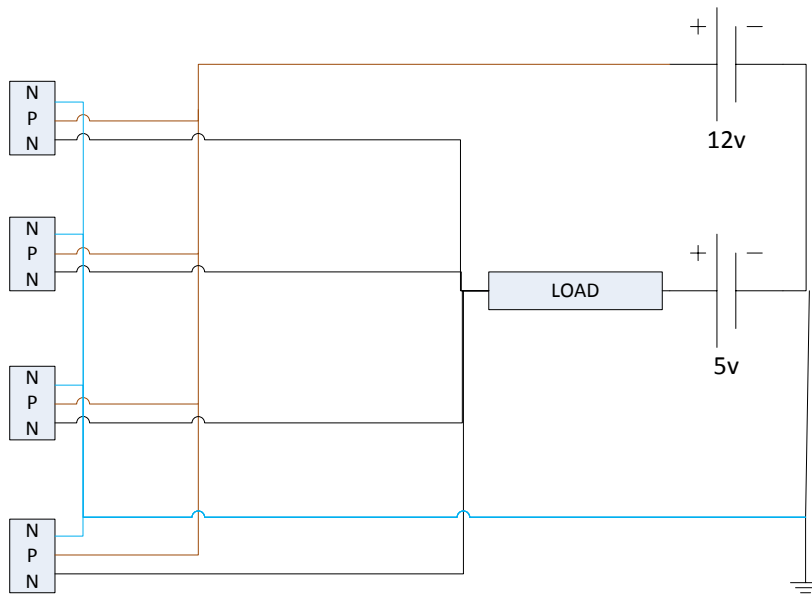
Dan Culley has been liaising with a manufacturer of a unit which would be suitable. I believe these also feature a serially controlled backlight which could also be incorporated into the design.

## Development needed to complete the project

There are areas of development required which fall outside of my experience and would probably be very simple for someone that has access to circuit board design and manufacturing. Another key area is the design and manufacture of the main enclosure and the lane gates so that it is reliable and professional looking.

Here is a list of the activities which I think are required to complete the system:

1. Decide on power source. I had thought that this could be driven from a small lead acid battery (like a Yuasa type) integrated into the enclosure if the system was low power enough to give the required runtime. This could be recharged from the mains and would save carrying leisure batteries. Alternatively, external batteries could be used like the current system.
2. Enclosure design. The size, layout and materials for the main enclosure needs to be decided. The tricky parts are how to mount the LEDs and LCD displays as well as the internal electronics. I had thought that a "top hat" that would be used in the base of a speaker could be put in the bottom of the unit to facilitate tripod mounting. It would be handy to be able to connect a laptop to the Mega USB easily for debugging and reprogramming.
3. Handheld button enclosures. Two handheld controllers are required for the judge buttons. It will need to be decided how the race start/stop/reset functions are going to be handled – are those buttons on one of the handsets? Design for cables and connectors for these will need to be done.
4. Gate design. The design for the sensor gates will need to be done. The sensors could be mounted in a vertical slot so they could be moved up or down to suit the size of the dogs racing. The wiring of the sensors will need to be developed so that the array of sensors for entry and exit events are distilled down to a 3 wire interface (Entry, Exit, Gnd) to the Mega so that if any sensor is triggered in an array, that control line is pulled to Gnd level. In addition, the sensors require 12v power. The following diagram is what I had imagined might work, but this is where my electronics knowledge runs out:



The LOAD indicated in the interrupt input on the Mega.

The gate design ideally should make it easy to transport and protect the sensors in transit.

5. Source panel mount LEDs in the correct colours that are large enough and bright enough. These seem to be surprisingly difficult to find and maybe white LEDs need to be used with coloured film.
6. Source appropriate push buttons. This should be easy.
7. Electronics. I think all of the required electronics could be built on a small board in Arduino “shield” format so that it would plug directly on top of the Mega board. There are Eagle files available for this layout. The board would need to provide the following functions:
  - a. Supply power to the Mega. This probably needs to be current limited in some way.
  - b. Bring out the button inputs required onto maybe screw terminals.
  - c. Implement power transistors to switch the indicator LEDs from the TTL outputs.
  - d. Provide connections to power and communicate with the LCD displays. There may be some interfacing electronics needed if the LCD displays work at RS232 levels.
  - e. Provide connections for the gate inputs with any required power or interfacing electronics.
  - f. Provide connections for main power in.
  - g. Maybe provide a charging circuit for the internal battery if this is chosen.

## Conclusion

There is quite a bit of work to do to end up with a reliable and professional product. I am happy to contribute with software development and other technical input where I can help, but I have limited electronics experience and no access to board design and production. It would be ideal to source some help from an engineer with CAD design skills to get the enclosures and gates designed and manufactured and some more help from an electronics designer to design and manufacture the board.

## **Appendix 2**

### **SECTION 2. - GENERAL MEETINGS**

#### **2.1 Annual General Meeting**

a) The AGM will be attended by members and held for the following purposes:

- i. To receive the report of the Committee and the Annual Financial Report and Balance sheet.
- ii. To announce Committee members for the forthcoming year.
- iii. To vote on rule changes. Rules of the Association contained within Sections 1, 2 and 3 shall not be altered except by votes at a General Meeting followed by an electronic or postal vote of all the eligible membership NOT present at the General Meeting. See also 2.3
- iv. Approve appointments to BFA approved lists of credited officials.
- v. Discuss any other business duly placed on the Agenda of which prior notice has been given to the Secretary. Only routine matters or those that in the opinion of the Chairperson are urgent may be exempt from such notice.

b) The Secretary will give a minimum of 45 days' notice of an AGM to current BFA members. Agenda items are to be received by the Secretary 30 days before the date of the AGM. After the closing date for proposals and Committee nominations and as soon as the Agenda is finalised, it will be published on the Website for members to consider, discuss on regional and national closed groups and /or at regional or team gatherings, form opinion and vote at the AGM or following the AGM via the secure electronic voting system or postal return. Votes cast will be validated against the current Membership.

c) No videoing or tape recording of proceedings will be allowed without prior consent from all members present.

#### **2.2 Extraordinary General Meeting**

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at any time and shall be assembled within 28 days on the requisition of 30 members from 5 primary teams. Such requisition must state the purpose of such meeting which is required to be sent in writing to the Secretary of the BFA who is responsible for notifying all members at their home addresses. The business will be limited to the matter set out in the notice to convene the meeting. The Committee may call an EGM at any time at a reasonably central venue for the membership. Voting without proxy will take place at an EGM.

#### **2.3 Voting**

All proposals will be decided by the total of votes cast at the AGM and votes cast by secure electronic vote or postal return. All members should be actively encouraged to use their voting right and attend the AGM. The voting period will open following the AGM and will close on the date published on the AGM Agenda. A window of at least 10 days will be allowed for consideration, discussion and for members to vote on proposals. Postal voting will be available for anyone unable or unwilling to attend the AGM or use the secure online voting; any postal votes must be received by the closure date as published on the AGM Agenda. All postal return votes received after this will be void. Voting at the AGM, the secure online voting system and any postal returns will be subject to appropriate checks to ensure memberships are current. See 2.1 (iii)

## **Appendix 3**

*BFA Website 2.0*

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The Story so far...

Website Working Party

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# The old BFA website

- ❖ Developed and maintained by Nigel Boukley (former BFA Chair) between 1996 and 2012
- ❖ Since 2012 maintained for the BFA by a professional company
- ❖ Contains a huge amount of historic data - for example points data for over 9000 dogs at over 1800 tournaments - this is more than 192,000 records of data



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# Why change?

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- ❖ Old technology - does not work well with current web browsers, mobile phones and so on
- ❖ Awkward to maintain - so rather costly

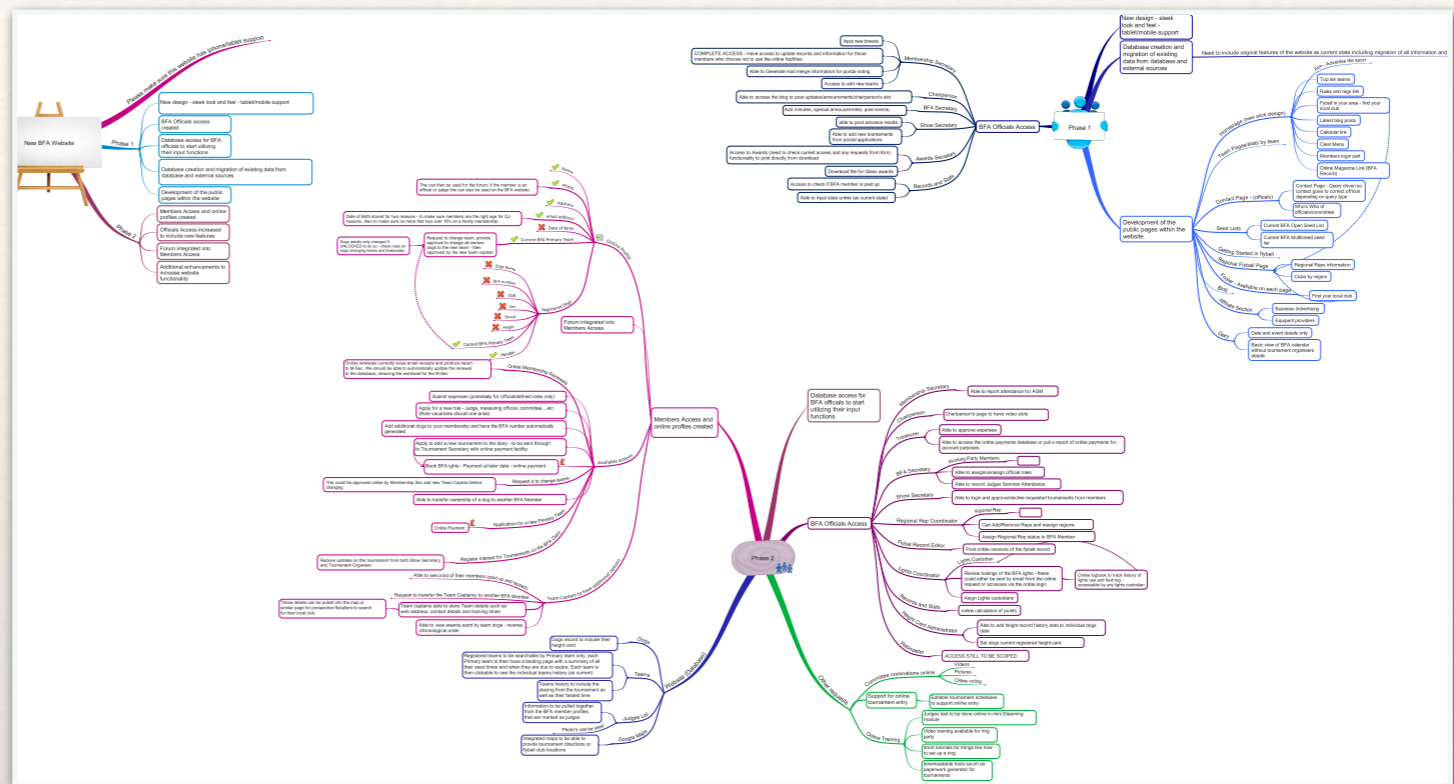
# What do we need?

- ❖ All (or at least most) of the existing content
- ❖ Some new features - e.g. Regions
- ❖ Let members manage their own membership info (e.g. change of address, registering new dogs etc.)
- ❖ Easy to maintain, and easy to use - including on phones and tablets



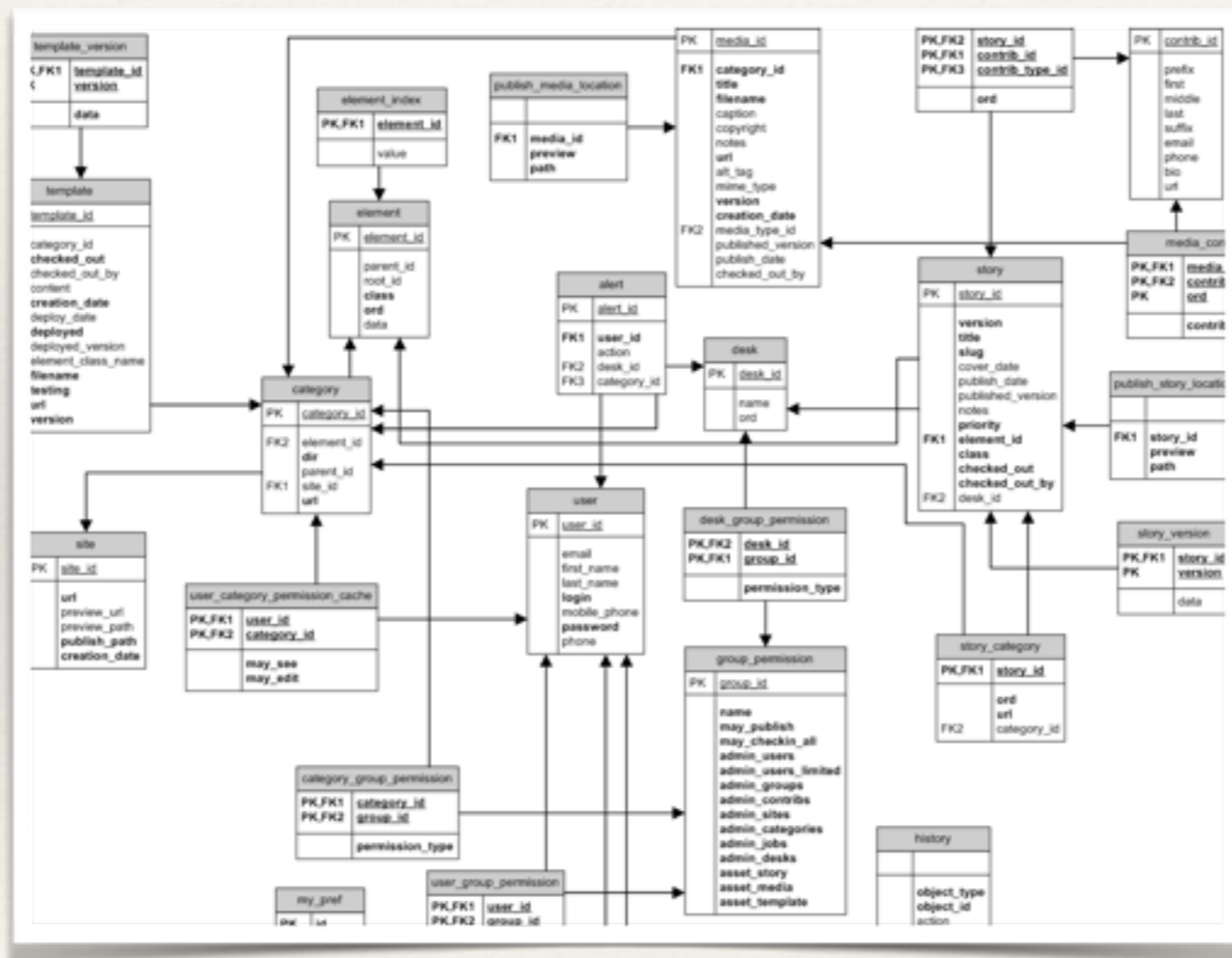
# Last AGM

- ❖ The working party presented its ideas for what the new web site would do



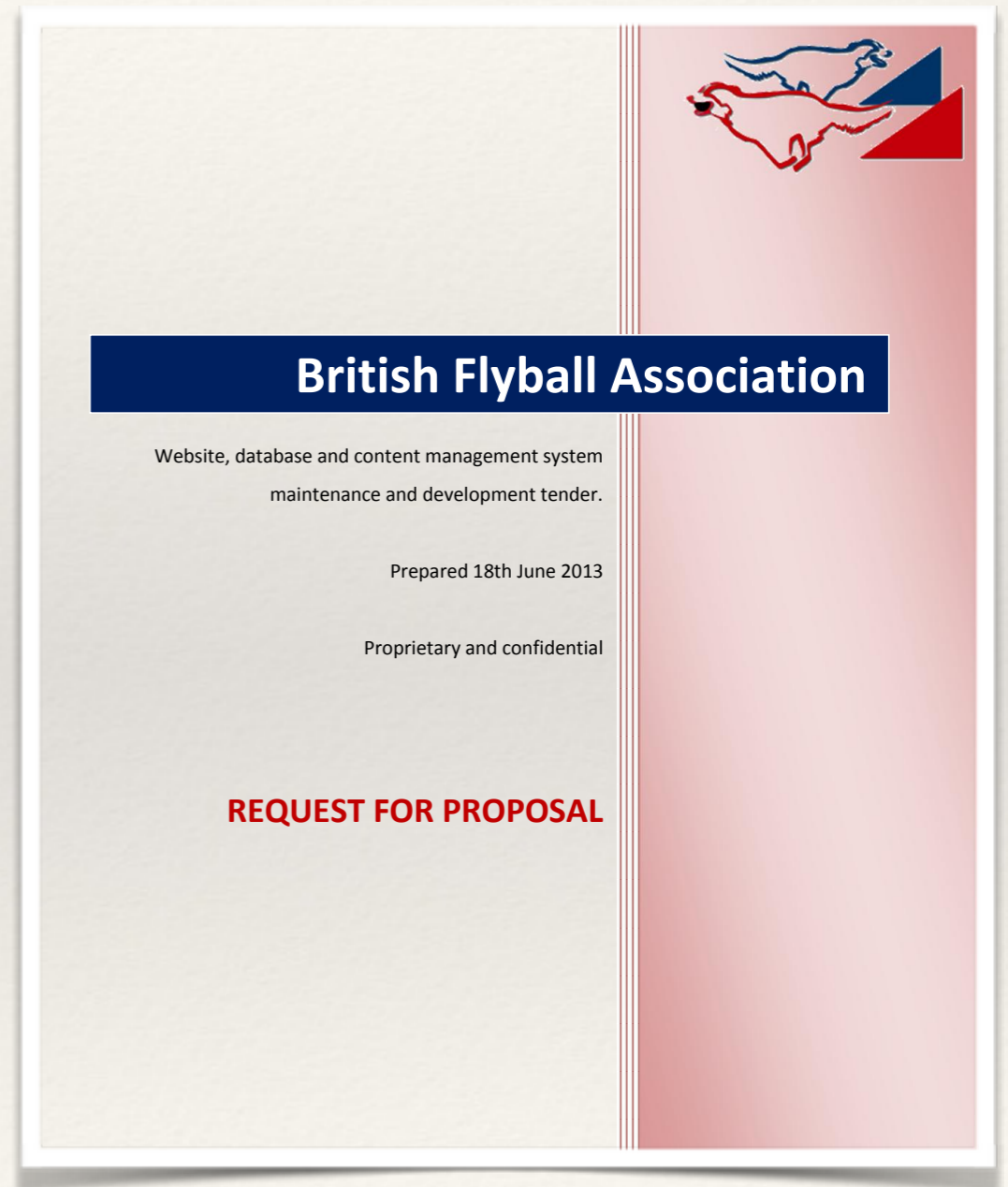
# Progress to date:

- ❖ We have designed a new structure for the database



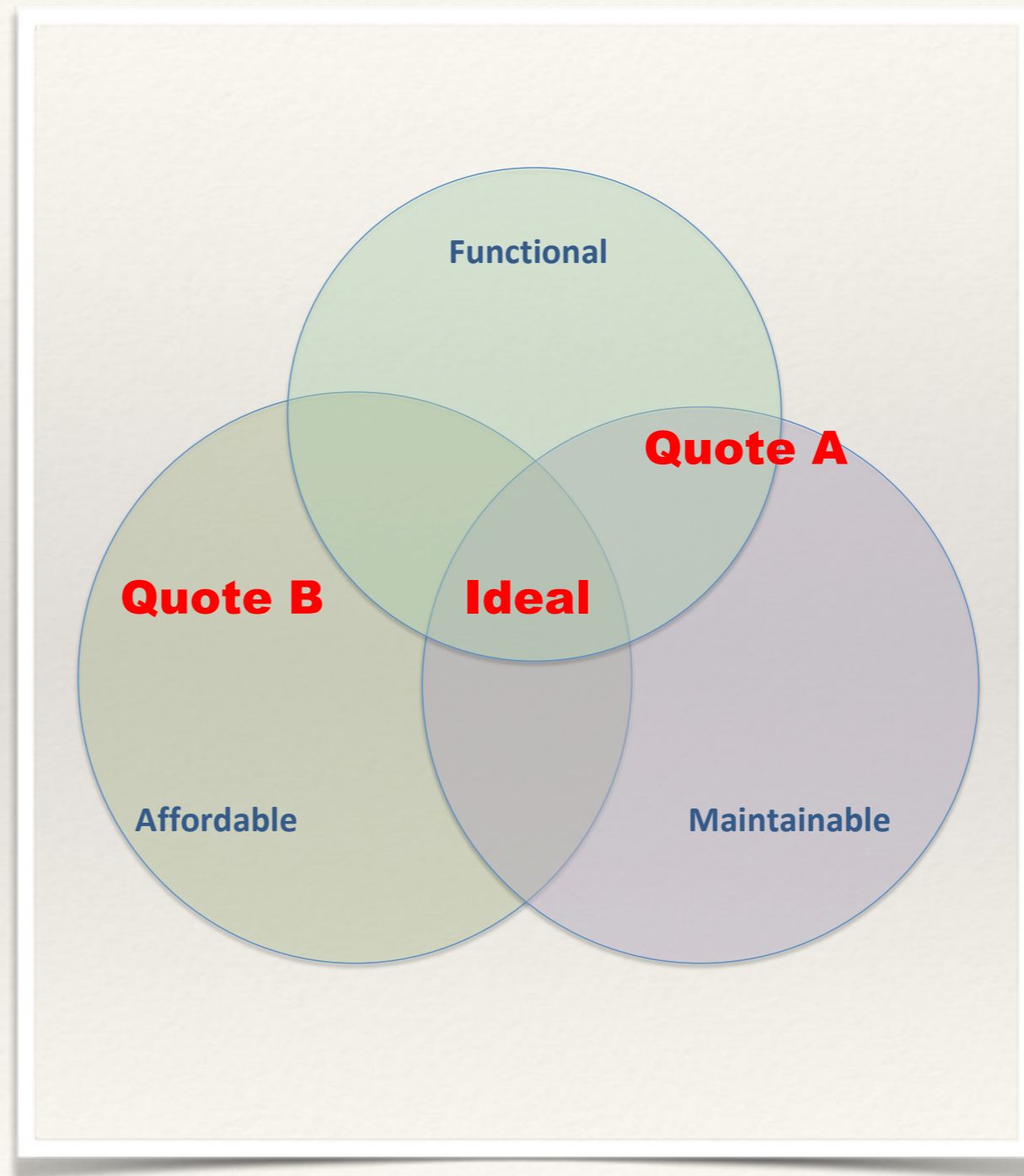
# Progress to date:

- ❖ We created a Request For Proposal document
- ❖ Submitted this to 4 independent suppliers
- ❖ We then considered the responses received



# Disappointing results of the tendering

- ❖ Two companies declined to tender
- ❖ One of the others did not fulfil the brief
- ❖ The final one was too costly



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# An alternative idea!

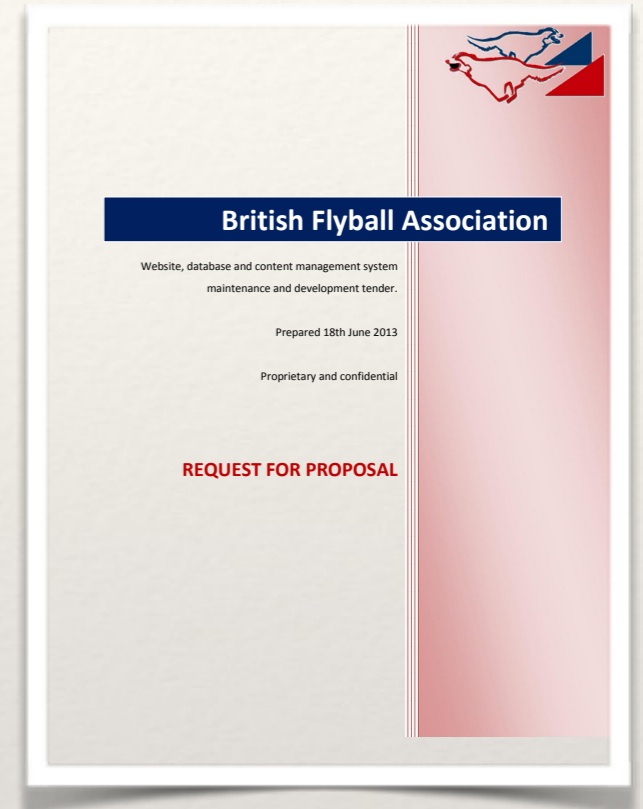
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- ❖ One of the specialists at the company tendering is actually a member of the BFA - why not let him quote on his own account?
- ❖ This was much more affordable for the development

# Tender for Design-only

- ❖ The tender document was then sent out to a number of web design companies to quote for just the design





We are the governing body of International Flyball Racing within the United Kingdom. Our website contains a wealth of information and utilities for flyballers around the globe, simply select the options from the menu bar above.

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2013 - NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE! ▶



#### TOP 3 SEEDED UK TEAMS

1. Extreme Racers (16.25)
2. Mansfield Marnicks (16.31)
3. Extreme Insanity (16.31)

[Full BFA Official Seedings Lists](#)



#### LATEST RESULTS

Fastest Times 29th September 2013, Anney Park

[All the BFA Tournament details](#)



#### INFORMATION

New to the sport or would just like to know more about Flyball  
[Click Here](#)

[See other information](#)



#### A FEW HIGHLIGHTS

- The Official BFA Diary
- Rules and Policies
- Awards and Prizes
- Flyball Discussion Lists
- Tournament Results

#### BFA MEMBERS PHOTO ALBUMS



FOR THE FULL BFA PHOTO ALBUMS CLICK HERE ▶

#### FOURTHCOMING EVENTS



##### OCTOBER 2013

1. Surrey (12th)
2. Scotland (13th)
3. Hampshire (19th)
4. North-Yorkshire (26th)
5. Kent (27th)
6. North-Yorkshire (27th)

##### NOVEMBER 2013

1. Cambridgeshire (2nd)
2. Cambridgeshire (3rd)
3. Nottinghamshire (9th)

[FULL BFA DIARY OF EVENTS](#) ▶

#### INTRO TO FLYBALL VIDEO



## BRITISH FLYBALL

HOME ABOUT UTILITIES EVENTS GET INVOLVED BLOGS CONTACT

GENERAL	ADMIN
<a href="#">BFA Member Database</a>	<a href="#">Get a CBFC Code</a>
<a href="#">Download BFA subbook</a>	<a href="#">Download BFA subbook</a>
<a href="#">Apply for a Freight Card</a>	<a href="#">Apply for a Freight Card</a>
<a href="#">Conduct A Tournament</a>	<a href="#">Conduct A Tournament</a>
<a href="#">Find A Team in My Area</a>	<a href="#">Find A Team in My Area</a>
<a href="#">Official Sponsor List</a>	<a href="#">Official Sponsor List</a>
<a href="#">Career Vacancies</a>	<a href="#">Career Vacancies</a>

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For dogs who like plenty of ready chunks in their joints, joints, joints or food, our new food provides the complete balanced diet they need.



#### BECOME PART OF A WINNING TEAM

Welcome to the website of the British Flyball Association, the governing body of International Flyball Racing within the United Kingdom.

[Read More...](#)



#### LEAGUE TABLES & TEAM NEWS

This Page contains details of changes of the British Flyball Association's Rules and Policies, including where applicable the reasons for the changes.

[Read More...](#)



#### BRITISH FLYBALL IMAGE GALLERY

The diary below is a comprehensive list of all forthcoming events. If you would like to see events only for a particular month or year, select it from the drop-down list.

[Read More...](#)



#### Contact

[Top 3 Seeded UK Teams](#)  
[Latest Results](#)  
[Information](#)  
[Highlights](#)  
[Forthcoming Events](#)

#### Top 3 Seeded UK Teams

1. Mansfield Marnicks (16.33)
2. Extreme Insanity (16.43)
3. Live Wires (16.43)

[Full BFA Official Seedings Lists](#)

#### Latest Results

##### Fastest Times

4th January 2014  
Bracknell

[All the BFA Tournament Results](#)

#### Forthcoming Events

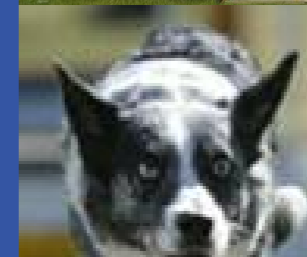
##### January

1. Nottinghamshire (11th)
2. Nottinghamshire (12th)
3. South-Yorkshire (18th)
4. Kent (19th)
5. South-Yorkshire (19th)
6. West-Midlands (26th)

##### February

1. Scotland (1st)
2. Surrey (8th)
3. Nottinghamshire (8th)

[Full BFA Diary of Events and Tournaments](#)



## Online Membership Renewals for 2014

Now available online

### Information

New to the sport or would just like to know more about Flyball [Click Here](#)

For a Map and details of Flyball clubs and teams in your area [Click Here](#)

To view Agenda Items for the AGM [Click Here](#)

To view Nominations for the Committee Election [Click Here](#)

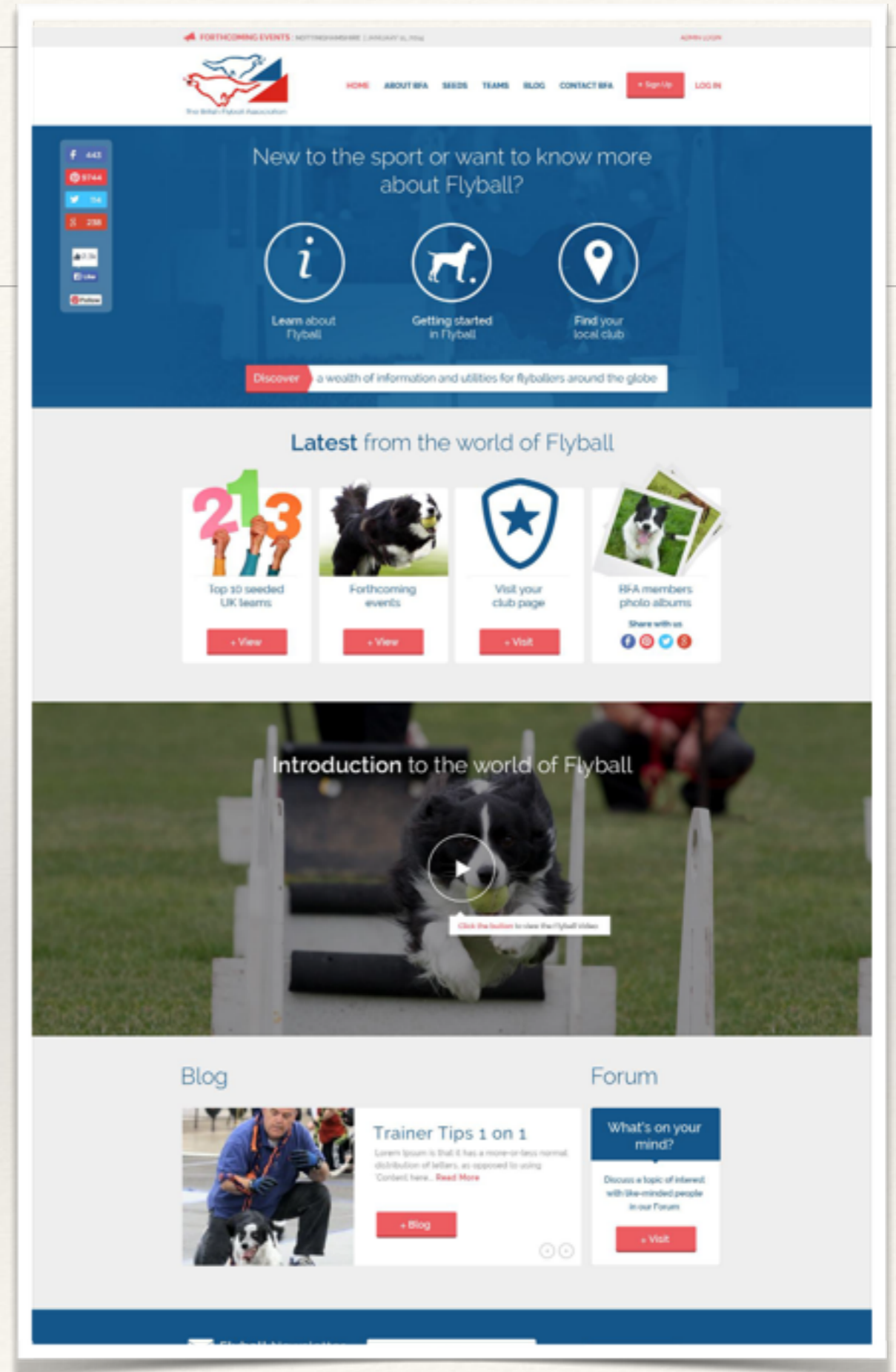
[Intro to Flyball Video](#)

#### Highlights

- The Official BFA Diary

# The choice of designer

- ❖ Huge variation in cost
- ❖ Huge variation in quality of portfolio
- ❖ Huge variation in creativity
- ❖ Choice made, based on cost, reputation, style and flexibility of approach



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# Where are we now?

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- ❖ The development of the site has begun, and is now ready to work with the designer
- ❖ The initial meeting with the designer has just taken place
- ❖ The Home page of the new site should be visible in the next few weeks