



British Flyball Association
www.flyball.org.uk
Issue March 2013

Important AGM Information Inside

Having Fun
In the Snow



The problem with snow is you
can't find your ball!!!

Greetings Flyballers

It's that time of year again, the AGM is 'just around the corner'. It was disappointing last year that not enough members were put forward for election to the Committee to warrant a postal vote. It's worth noting that the rules stipulate that Committee members have to stand for re-election (should they wish) after each two years they have served. Each year half of the Committee has the choice to stand for re-election or to 'retire'. This means that there are potentially four or five places available. Hopefully this year we will have a postal vote for the election of members wishing to give back something to our wonderful sport. The reminder notice with information is on page 3 of this issue and should arrive in time to give you the chance to put in a last minute nomination or even a proposal for the agenda.

I was chatting to a fellow Officer recently and we recalled just how much Flyball has changed since we became members. As a member of Pods team, our team captains Peter and Delia would say 'We think we should put on a tournament (say) next month, there's nothing else on (no advance booking in those days!) Now, of course, tournaments have to be decided upon well in advance in fact the diary is filling up quite quickly for 2014. Potential tournament organisers need to 'get their act together' in order to find a date which is free and not too close to another tournament. Some teams have been very well organised and have thought well ahead and/or moved into another area where early bookings have been sparse hence the number of 2014 tournament already booked.

It was extremely frustrating that, despite our acting webmaster's hard work, the Committee was unable to launch the on-line membership renewal until later than had been planned. Plan B had to be put into place very quickly and most members seemed to react well to the measures that were introduced. Our thanks go to Sam Massey for organising and running the renewal help-line in order to assist team captains. It has been necessary to delay the input of points until after the renewal deadline (later than had been planned) but next year there won't be an extended deadline so points should be available in the normal timeline. There is still more work to be done on the website and those of you coming to the AGM will be able to learn of the progress made and thoughts for the further up-dating.

The Committee has been able to source a new venue for the Championships this year at Catton Hall in Derbyshire. Of course there will be winners and losers; some will have to travel a little further while others will find it a bit closer. The ground is flatter than at Arbury and it should be possible to have more room for the arenas in case of poor weather conditions.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the AGM and around the circuit this year, with everyone keeping to the *true spirit* of Flyball. Ed

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Items for the next Issue of the Flyball Record

must be received by

1st June 2013

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British Flyball Association

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Reminder Notice of Annual General Meeting

To be held at Wythall Community Hall, Wythall Park and House,

Silver Street, Wythall, Birmingham, B47 6LZ

On Sunday 7th April 2013, commencing at 10am.

Notice is hereby given that the **Annual General Meeting** of the **British Flyball Association** will be held on **Sunday 7th April 2013**, commencing at 10am. *All current members are cordially invited to attend and only current members will be entitled to vote.*

Nominations for membership of the Committee and all *proposals* for inclusion in the Agenda must be received by the Secretary on or before **8th March 2013**

Nominations for the Committee can be posted on the website via the secretary's page. All proposals for inclusion in the Agenda must be sent *in writing by post or e-mailed direct to* secretary@flyball.org.uk

Dog exercise area will be available.

Directions to the Venue

Leave M42 at Junction 3.

Take the A435 towards Birmingham

At the next roundabout, take the 3rd exit, signposted Wythall and Hollywood.

Silver Street is 2nd turning on left (approx half a mile from roundabout) opposite Sun Pub and Darren Blower Estate Agents

Wythall Park is on the right. The drive is opposite Wilmore Lane.

For More Information phone Rachel Child (BFA Secretary) on 07767 266916

Catering Arrangements

Arrangements have been made for the provision of drinks and biscuits as usual but as the take up of food last year was sparse, members will need to bring their own lunch with them.

Donna Hagland and her merry band of Water Orton Wonderdogs will be in attendance to serve you before the meeting begins, at 'coffee' break, at lunch time and if necessary for an afternoon break. We are very grateful for their offer to perform this service.

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An Invitation

With many teams being involved with doggy Charities the Committee have decided to offer teams the opportunity to have a stall to sell cakes/bakes to fellow members. If your team is interested please contact: **Rachel Child (BFA Secretary) by phone on 07767 266916**

Chairperson's Slot

As we have now welcomed in 2013, the last strands of tinsel have disappeared up the vacuum cleaner and the last of the Christmas cake has finally been eaten, it's the time of year that many reflect on the past twelve months and look forward to the next.

The committee has had a busy but enjoyable 2012. Someone once said to me, "Remember, it's ok to look back into the past but don't stop and stare" and I feel that this describes how, we as a committee, are aiming to take the Association forward over the next year or so. The history of the BFA is important to us all, and it is great when we remember certain dogs, teams, members and tournaments. Of the days when full height was 16 inches and teams travelled long distances to compete due to the few tournaments on the diary. How things have changed in the life of the UK flyballer and to maintain the development of our sport, we need to initiate change for a healthy future.

Early last year, we decided to appoint a veterinary advisor to the BFA committee. Dog welfare is a priority for the BFA committee and with an expanding association; it was felt that the advice and guidance of a veterinary surgeon ensured that the information shared by the committee with the membership was current and accurate. Kate Gilding is a qualified vet, experienced flyballer and tournament organiser and with all of these attributes she provides us with advice from her professional knowledge and expertise. Kate, alongside the committee, is an advocate for promoting dog welfare and we feel extremely fortunate to have her as our veterinary advisor.

As our sport continues to grow, we strive to provide the membership with support and education to ensure that the growth of the sport is from solid foundations. Our current junior flyballers are the future of the sport, so let's teach them well, so that in turn they will do the same in years to come and we can be assured that our wonderful sport will not only continue, but will go from strength to strength. Autumn 2012 saw the committee travelling to Scotland to host a judges/ring party seminar. I think it is fair to say, we all had a great time, learning from each other and meeting old and new friends. Flyball north of the border is flourishing and I am sure they have exciting times ahead.

As a committee, we realised that we could not provide enough hands on training for our developing membership so the recent reintroduction of the regional representatives network will assist greatly in supporting and guiding those in their region. I would like to thank all of our regional representatives for volunteering their time and commitment and to Dan Culley for taking on the role of regional reps co-ordinator. Our geographical knowledge has improved, however Michael Palin really does not need to worry, his job is safe!!

2012 saw the introduction of online renewals. This followed the work carried out by Ray Lewis and the website working party, which at times was a rollercoaster ride. Apparently, the merchant bank didn't know what flyball was let alone the BFA, and for a while we didn't fit into any of their categories – can you believe that? This resulted in a delayed launch of the system, but looking at the feedback, all of their efforts were not in vain. The website working party is now working on a new website which will be developed over the next year or so. Many thanks to all involved.

The new measuring device is now in the final stages of research, and development continues to get all the measuring equipment purchased, training materials written and HJ and measuring officials familiar with the system. I'm sure Tony Cain and the rest of the working party will continue to make great efforts to ensure the new measuring system is with us soon

Many of you have seen that the National Championships 2013 are being held at a new venue. Catton Hall is very much looking forward to us hosting this year's championships in their grounds. Members will be able to stay overnight Sunday, and I hope that this year we will all be able to celebrate UK flyball in great style. 2012 was a great success and the biggest Championships in BFA history, and I hope that this year that success continues.

Distal Denervating Disease.

A report on a strange condition suffered by Comet, my 8 year old WS.

Last Sept 23rd Comet was fit & healthy & achieved a placing in a KC agility show at Shrewsbury.

About a week later he was limping, one rear leg at first then after a few days both rear legs, & he had a strange rotational movement when running, he was not in pain and seemed happy. We also noticed he was chewing at his paws.

Our local vet suggested total rest & pain killers. After a week there was no improvement, in fact it seemed to be slightly worse, so X rays were done, but failed to show any reason.

So for another few days more rest etc. That is where we were on the 13th Oct, the day of the YMDTS HTM show. As we were concerned about him he came in the car with us to the show.

When I got him out of the car for a "comfort break" I was horrified to find he could hardly walk at all. So to an urgent visit to our vet, who suggested immediate referral to a canine neurological specialist at Chester Gate. The only alternative he could offer was euthanasia.

That afternoon the first suggestion at Chester gate was a disc pressing on the spinal cord and an operation on the Sunday morning.

When we rang them on the Sunday they were worried about Comet's continued deterioration & had ruled out the spinal disc diagnosis, by now Comet could not stand or bark but could still wag his tail & lift his head.

We visited him that afternoon, he was on total rest, catheterised, & on various drugs including strong antibiotics & Steroids.

We visited him every day, by end of the week some improvement was noticeable.

Comet was X rayed, scanned, tested for response with electrical stimulation & tested for all sorts of things (at a not inconsiderable cost)

After a week, just able to stand & walk one or two paces with help, Comet came home.

To assist him we used a Ruff wear Harness designed to help lift a dog, & a very short lead.

The specialists had concluded, by elimination & results of tests that Comet was suffering from DDD.

A week later Comet could walk a short distance on a good surface, when we took him back to Chester Gate they were pleased with his progress.

They confirmed that their diagnosis of DDD was correct, & told us a bit more about it.

DDD is caused by inflammation of the tissue that protects the nerves, the cause is unknown, it is similar to other conditions caused by infection, hence the antibiotics.

DDD is difficult to diagnose as there is no specific test although some indication is found from electrical stimulation.

- ❖ Most dogs recover fully, the fatality rate is low.
- ❖ Recovery is slow as damaged nerves regrow at a definitive slow rate.

If you want amore detailed explanation there is lots on Google.

We have taken Comet swimming twice a week at the Hydrotherapy pool starting with very short sessions

Hi tires very quickly, needs lots of rest, & has lost muscle tone.

It is now 6 weeks since the worse weekend. Comet can walk around the field (with frequent rests) & can jump into the car; he sometimes tries to run with his brother, not very successfully. His bark is back, although not quite normal yet.

We are due for a check up at Chester Gate this week.

We hope for a full recovery. The specialists have warned us that there may be lasting effects on Comet's stamina etc.

So we will have to wait a while to see if Comet will be able to return to his sports.

Peter Roberts (Pods) 26/11/12

Up-date 29/01/13

Good news on Comet - having been swimming twice a week since his illness, his muscles have built back up.

His movement is now virtually back to normal, I have let him jump some small & medium agility jumps, and he has tried a few flyball runs.

He has been to the vet for a check-up this morning and has been cleared to resume serious agility and flyball training.

BFA Juniors - We need your Voices!

The BFA Junior award was well received in 2012 with 36 juniors taking up the award. I am waiting for returned Files from most of those, so please send them to me quickly for collation.

I am looking to improve the BFA experience for Junior Members but in order to do that I need **your** input -what do **you** want ?

- Do you want more from the sport as a Junior or are you happy with what your own team provide?
- Would you like a specific website page just for juniors?
- Do you want specific training days, or seminars for Juniors only?
- Are you interested in learning about ring party duties with or without a view to Judging in the future?
- Would you like to learn to be a dog measurer?
- What about running tournaments? Are you a dab hand with the runner duties and tea making? Would you like to learn to do more?
- Would you like more activities included in the Junior award?

All these things are important to the BFA as you are the future stars of Flyball. So why not get chatting and let me know what you want from your flyball ,

All suggestions must have committee approval prior to publishing.

You can contact me: madmutt@hotmail.co.uk Tel. 07779 640465

Happy Flyballing **Sam Bawden** (Junior Award Co-ordinator)

BFA Diary 2013

Key – **CLD** = Closing date for entry **O** = Open **LO** = Limited Open **M** = Multibreed **LM** = Limited_Multibreed

Apr 6th	Perth Airport, Scone, Scotland Contact: <i>Sarah Wallace Tel. 07808 912599</i>	Lomond Raiders	LO(24 teams) CLD Mar 8 th
Apr 7th	AGM Wythall Community Centre, Silver Street, B'ham, West-Mids Contact: <i>flyballrachel@hotmail.com</i>	BFA Committee	O to members
Apr 13/14th	Littleport Leisure Centre, Cambs Contact: <i>Ellen Schofield Tel. - 07725 904831</i>	Cambs Canines Starters	LO(66 teams) LO(15 teams) CLD Mar13 th
Apr 13/14th	Acremead Kennels, Drayton, Abingdon, Oxfordshire Contact: <i>Sam Bawden Tel. - 07779 640465</i>	Mad Mutts	LO(54 teams) CLD Mar 15 th
Apr 13/14th	Sherbrooke Scout Camp, Calverton, Notts Contact: <i>Margaret Greaves Tel - 07580 303068</i>	Mansfield Marnicks	O CLD Mar 14 th
Apr 20/21st	RSPCA Block Fen, Wimblington, March, Cambs Contact: <i>David Flood Tel. - 07779 640465</i>	Fenland Firestorm	LO(48 teams) CLD Mar 22 nd
Apr 20/21st	Epworth Showground, North-Lincolnshire Contact: <i>Joanna Bonner Tel. - 01909 808904</i>	Notts Supadogs	LO(48 teams) CLD Mar22 nd
Apr 27/28th	Cantley Park, Wokingham, Berkshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team Starters & Fun classes	O CLD Mar29 th
Apr 27/28th	Parklands Sp & and Soc Club, Doncaster, Sth-Yorks Contact: <i>Genna Wilson Tel. - 07861 833978</i>	Extreme	LO(108 teams) CLD Mar 28 th
Apr 27th	Camperdown Country Park, Dundee, Scotland Contact: <i>Marguerite Fleming Tel. - 07770 724466</i>	Granite City Gems	LO(24 teams) CLD Mar 29 th
Apr 28th	Camperdown Country Park, Dundee, Scotland Contact: <i>Sarah Wallace Tel. 07808 912599</i>	Lomond Raiders	LO(24 teams) CLD Mar 29 th
May 4/5th May 6th	Drax Sports & Social Club, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Andrew James Tel. - 07933 840755</i>	Rotherham Rockets	LO(96 teams) LM(54 teams) CLD Apr 3 rd
May 4/5th May 6th	Apps Court Farm, Walton on Thames, Surrey Contact: <i>Kim Sermon Tel. - 07771 812862</i>	Lightning Strikes	LO(72 teams) LM(24 teams) CLD Apr 5 th
May 4/5th May 6th	Sandbach, Cheshire Contact: <i>Christina Burdett Tel. - 0161 4837245</i>	Allstars	LO(96 teams) LM(24 teams) CLD Apr 4 th
May 11/12th	Swallownest Miners Welfare, Sheffield, Sth-Yorks Contact: <i>Genna Wilson Tel. - 07861 833978</i>	Extreme	LO(90 teams) CLD Apr 11 th
Mat 11/12th	Larden Green Farm, Baddiley, Nantwich, Cheshire Contact: <i>Kate Gilding Tel. - 01270 524992</i>	Chilli Peppers	LO(60 teams) CLDApr 11 th
May 11/12th	Brentwood Centre, Essex Contact: <i>Jill Head Tel - 01702 231653</i>	Ramsden Rockers	LO(48 teams) CLD Apr 11 th
May 11/12th	Prissick Base, Middlesbrough, Cleveland Hosted with Cleveland Comets Contact: <i>Charlie Berry Tel. - 07971 184577</i>	Crazy Cannons Starters	LO(42 teams) CLDApr 12 th
May 18/19th	Padworth Village Hall, Nr Reading, Berkshire Contact: <i>Garry Black Tel - 07789 692326</i>	Kennet Zingers	LO(54 teams) CLD Apr 19 th
May 18/19th	Sutton Fields, Nr Runcorn, Cheshire Contact: <i>Anne Alcock Tel - 01925 267274</i>	Live Wires Starters	LO(60 teams) LO(24 teams) CLD

May 18/19 th	Hatton Country World, Warwickshire Contact: <i>Donna Hagland Tel - 0121 730 1168</i>	Water Orton Wonderdogs	LO(96 teams) CLD Apr 18 th
May 18/19 th	Drax Sports & Social Club, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Sue North Tel. 07840 806308</i>	Paws 8	LO(48 teams) CLD Apr 19 th
May 25/26 th May 27 th	Maple Durham House, Reading, Berkshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team Starters & Fun classes	O OM CLD Apr 26 th
May 25/26 th May 27 th	Eggborough Power Station, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Betty Potts Tel. 01757 703233</i>	Yorkshire Bouncers	LO(54 teams) LM(24 teams) CLD Apr 26 th
May 25/26 th May 27 th	Ryecroft Farm, Ashley, Cheshire Contact: <i>Vera Edge Tel. - 01565 873390</i>	Cheshire Set	LO(48 teams) M CLD Apr 25 th
Jun 1/2 nd	West Woodlands Showground, Frome, Somerset Contact: <i>Trudy Barnard Tel. - 07702 252954</i>	Somerset Scrupypys	LO(48 teams) CLD May 1 st
Jun 1/2 nd	Newark Showground, Notts Contact: <i>Stuart Harrison Tel. - 01827 707293</i>	Nuneaton Flyers	O CLD May 1 st
Jun 1/2 nd	York Racecourse, Bustardthorpe Field, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Terry Wilkinson Tel - 01377 254962</i>	Eastcoast Starters	LO(96 teams) CLD May 1 st
Jun 8/9 th	Ravensknowle Farm, Pontefract, W-Yorks Contact: <i>Hazell Brown Tel. - 07971 410223</i>	Reiver Rebels	LO(60 teams) CLD May 8 th
Jun 8/9 th	RSPCA Southridge, Potters Bar, Herts Contact: <i>Richie O'Neill Tel. - 01634 27044</i>	Hotshots	LO(54 teams) CLD May 10 th
Jun 8/9 th	Braunstone Park, Leics. Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team Starters & Fun classes	O CLD May 10 th
Jun 15/16 th	Swallownest Miners Welfare, Sheffield, Sth-Yorks Contact: <i>Genna Wilson Tel. - 07861 833978</i>	Extreme	LO(90 teams) CLD May 15 th
Jun 15/16 th	Acremead Kennels, Drayton, Abingdon, Oxfordshire Contact: <i>Sam Bawden Tel. - 07779 640465</i>	Mad Mutts	LO(54 teams) CLD May 15 th
Jun 15/16 th	Littleport Leisure Centre, Ely, Cambs Contact: <i>Ellen Schofield Tel. - 07725 904831</i>	Cambs Canines Starters	LO(66 teams) CLD May 15 th
Jun 15/16 th	Leverhulme Sports Fields, Eastham, Merseyside Contact: <i>Bridget Leek Tel.- 0151 336 8923</i>	Deva Dogmatix	LO(78 teams) CLD May 15 th
Jun 22/23 rd	Dogs Unleashed, Bakewell Showground, Derbys Contact: <i>Paula Merryman Tel. - 01246 414816</i>	Sheffield Speeders Teams & dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday	LO(48 teams) CLD May 21 st
Jun 29/30 th	War Memorial Park, Basingstoke, Hampshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team Starters & fun classes	O CLD May 31 st
Jun 29/30 th	Darley Moor M/C Club, Wyaston, Ashbourne, Derbys Contact: <i>Rachel Child Tel. - 07767 266916</i>	Alpha Dogz	LO(96 teams) CLD May 31 st
Jul 6/7 th	Eggborough Power Station, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Terry Wilkinson Tel - 01377 254962</i>	Eastcoast	LO(72 teams) CLD Jun 6 th
Jul 6/7 th	Barbury Castle, Marlborough, Wiltshire Contact: <i>Anne Alderman Tel. - 01793 849972</i>	Bassett Allsorts	LO(48 teams) CLD Jun 7 th
Jul 6/7 th	Hamilton House Farm, Preston, Lancs Contact: <i>Jo Crosswell Tel. - 01253 776162</i>	Ready2Fly Starters	LO(48 teams) CLD Jun 7 th

For your 'edification'
Some January rule changes

Most of the January rule changes were just clarifications following queries by members and shouldn't need any further explanation. [Famous last words? I hope not! Ed.]

However, looking at one or two and thinking about everyone following the same understanding – here's that 'every little extra helps'.

- ❖ **5.17(c) The Run** Each dog is to hurdle the four jumps in succession, trigger the box *to release the ball*, return with the ball *that was in the cup* over all 4 jumps and the start/finish line with the ball in its mouth.

A dog that does not take every jump, or does not trigger the box *to release the ball or does not return with that ball, or crosses the start/finish line before the preceding dog has completed its run*, must run again.

Ring partying as a Box Judge is not an easy option. It's difficult to keep your attention on the dog on the box (how many of us find ourselves watching the race instead of the box?) Watching the dog on the box is a vital and important role. Some dogs actually 'pinch' the ball and trigger the box with their hind paws when leaving the box. Many Box Judges listen for the click of the box instead of carefully watching the dog, the dog **must** trigger the box **first** to release the ball – it's a split second happening. You may not actually hear the box click, some boxes now are very quiet to help the few dogs that are spooked by a loud click, but you can see that the plunger has come forward.

Note: A fumbled/dropped ball is not a fault, but the ball the dog returns with **must** be the one that it triggers from the box.

- ❖ **5.17(i) Rules of racing**

Flyball is a sport of *racing* therefore

If during racing it is deemed that a handler or handlers are deliberately holding back for (either points or divisional) gain, the team will, at first, be warned by the divisional judge and the tournament Head Judge will be informed. Should the practice persist; at the discretion of the division judge and head judge, the team may be disqualified. (Should the tournament Head Judge be involved in the race an alternative Head Judge, if available, or, if not a Qualified Judge will act as adjudicator.)

The team may continue to race but will lose all points and placing for the day although their fastest time will be used, if appropriate, for a new seed time.

This one was discussed at great length at the QJ/HJ seminar. There was a feeling amongst judges that some teams were not running 'in the true spirit' of Flyball and it was causing unrest in opposing teams as well as disquiet to judges. The main concern was to make sure the many were not punished for the few thus the emphasis on '**for gain**', '**deliberately**' and '**holding back**'.

It was recognised that teams may well be running old dogs, dogs returning from injury, or 'iffy' dogs and would like to have the option of not running those dogs if the team got a light. It was felt that not running the rest of the team if a dog got a light was actually gaining an advantage as those dogs not running would be fresher. Teams who feel they have a justifiable reason not to run a dog in the event of a fault may consult with the division judge prior to racing in order to be given permission.

The holding back includes any form of holding back that is deemed to be 'bad sportmanship'.. Break out times will not be used to determine placing in the division so why not race properly and simply get your team a sensible seed time for the next tournament?

Congratulations to the following members of the Shaw Cross Racers
Flyball Teams

Flyball Dog Award – 200 Points

Yvonne and **Murphy** Jessie and **Willow**

Advanced Award – 5,000 Points

Linda and **Dale** Madi and **Kizzy** Linda and **Barney**

Silver Award – 10,000 Points

Kelly and **Holly**

Ice Blue Moon Award – 20,000 Points

Michael and **Bailey**

Platinum Award – 25,000 Points

Julie and **Gypsy**

Chica Chicana Award – 40,000 Points

John and **Bryn**

Well done to you all, and to all the Team members. None of us would
achieve these awards without everyone's help.

Michael

B.F.A Officers

Show Secretary Tel. 02476 404266	Judy Parker Email: judy.parker@flyball.org.uk
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Certificates & Awards Officer Tel. 07771 812862	Kim Sermon Email: kim.sermon@live.com
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Editor –Flyball Record Tel. 01772 467501	Val Currie Email: valcstitchers@gmail.com
Acting Web Master Tel. 07973 774141	Ray Lewis Email: ray@effects.co.uk

Welcome to our New Members

Rachel & Matthew Sample Yorkshire Bouncers
James Twisse Cheshire Set
Penny Fillingham TBC
Laura & David Miller Funky Fidos Flyballers
Jamie Phillips All4One
Michelle Wackett Cheshire Set
Judith Barritt Eastcoast
Abbie Acton-Jones High Flyers
Hannah Rhodes Mad Mutts
Helen Poole Red Rose Rockets
Margaret Richardson Pure Krackers
Gillian Roberts Happy Humbugs
Nicky Green Happy Humbugs
Nikki Dominguez Cambridgeshire Canines
Tania Tait Hampshire Harriers
Anne Wardle Happy Humbugs
David Bond FourPaws Racing
Ben & Charlie Silver Flea Jumperz
Martyn Runnacles Flea Jumperz
Patricia & Rowland Hiller Four in The Fast Lane
Ruth Martin Southdowns
Faith & Deacon White Dream Team
Oliver Mellow Red Rose Rockets
Denise Lowther Fenland Firestorm
Maxine Walmsley Tails We Win
Abbie Laing Banchory Bravehearts
Adele Le Moignan Wilmslow Wild Dogs
Harriet Wigmore-Welsh Dream Team
Ann Nesham Dukes Barking Balls
Linda Challis Cambridgeshire Canines
Elia Easey Cambridgeshire Canines
Joanne Asher Wuff N Ready Racers
Steven Finch Shawcross Racers
Deborah & Michael Lorraine Reiver Rebels
David Pickford Water Order Wonderdogs
Vicki Sermon & Steve Gore Blackpool Super Nova
Moira McDougall Banchory Bravehearts
Rhian Kemp Hatfield Hit & Run
Milton Fenton Hampshire Harriers
Lauren Newman Dream Team
Tina & Vas Patel The Doghouse
Andrew & Cali Hooton The Doghouse
Georgia Commandos
Alyce Evans-Wilks South Riding Vulcans
Eric Coxon Nottingham Flyers
Martin Webster Rooky Racers
John Thompson Fylde Coasters
Bethany Calhoun Barkshire Bandits
Robert & Amanda Griffiths Lichfield
Susan Latten Lichfield
Peter & Matthew Cole Lichfield

Olga Foster Lichfield
Dorothy McCombe Lichfield
Angela & John Keith Xavier-Smith Lichfield
Ken Chilcott Greetland Grasshoppers
Sean Richards Active8 Animals
Marna Simmons & Adam Sinclair Geordie Racers
Joshua, Jessica & Lily Sinclair Geordie Racers
Anthony Baker Whitley Wonders
Mark, Kaya & Dylan Cameron Eastcoast
Vikki Hastings Dream Team
Michael King Rooky Racers
Catherine & Jason Berry Springers
Donna Wales Eastcoast
Diana Watson Fun Fanatics
Katie Hibbert Storm Chasers
Sarah Ripley Cheshire Set
Dianne Buxton & Peter Davies Dukes Barking Balls
Finlay Harris Molten Magnets
Iona, Alexander & Lucy Tyler Delta Force
Charlie Hunn Geordie Racers
Jessica Garbutt Minster Monsters
Terry Lintott Kennet Zingers
Susan Byram Hatfield Hit & Run
Natalie Whitehead Hatfield Hit & Run
Debbie Boxall Rooky Racers
Francesca & Rachel Cooper Hampshire Harriers
Vicky Price Linnotts
Lydia Wales Mansfield Marnicks
Colin McFadyen Granite City Gems
Terry & Ruth Button Active8 Animals
Christopher & Helen Bligh Ready2Fly
Lesley, Abby & Kiera Murdoch Cambs Canines
Sue Lees Fylde Coasters
Oliver Gray High Flyers
Jessica Short FourPaws Racing
Summer Pearce Mansfield Marnicks
Adele Murray Rooky Racers
Chloe Cumbridge Cambridgeshire Canines
Rebecca Kirk Wuff N Ready Racers
Toni Austin Northants Falcons
Tracy Harvey Loud Barking
Lesley Morgan Happy Humbugs
Nicholas & Helen Taylor Buccaneers
Alexandra Wood Greetland Grasshoppers
Lindsey Berwick Triple-J-Stars
Catherine Swan & Chris Ward Lomond Raiders
Jane, Luke & Ellen Bickerdike Covert Catapults
Lauren Betts Covert Catapults
Hilary Blenman Four in The Fast Lane
Megan Preson Hinckley Hooligans
Samantha Corner Durham Bombers

Extremely Infectious Disease

At the beginning of February we took in a little blue staffy (Mist) she was 6 months old, she had had her initial vaccinations when she was a pup but in the early hours of 26th February (Extreme Experience) Mist started with diarrhoea. Later in the morning she started with sickness. Off we went to the vets who gave her some injections and tablets and sent her home. Sunday night she got worse, I was up all night with her being sick every half hour and diarrhoea with every motion.

First thing on Monday morning I rushed her to the vets (the picture attached is Mist on the way to the vets). She was kept in and put on fluids. We went up Monday tea time to see her and she didn't move, she wouldn't even lift her head.

I rang first thing Tuesday 28th and she had been really ill in the night and was passing blood, still being sick and hadn't eaten since Saturday morning (she made no improvement over the next 2 days). When she first became ill she weighed in at 11.8kg by day 5 she weight 9.2kg. Thursday morning we were told things were looking good, she was looking better and that we could collect her at tea time (I was over the moon!). This was a very short lived happiness as 2 hours later I got a phone call saying she had gone back down hill and they would be keeping her in. Friday morning the vet said 'She has had a good night and if she maintains this she can come home'. I called again at 4pm and was told to come and collect her, she was doing really well. When we arrived I was greeted in the pen by what looked like a Sharpei cross, I was devastated and I ran to get the vet. After a lot of discussion it was decided that the vets had done all they could for her and what she really needed to do was eat, so they sent her home with some liquid dog foods, anti-sickness injections and antibiotic injections.



For the next 2 days we had to syringe feed her liquid food, as quickly as we depressed the syringe she was bringing it back up and we looked as if we had been involved in a child's food fight, but the vet advised that some would be going in so we persisted (this was one of the hardest things I have had to do). the minute you picked up the food and a syringe she would try to escape (we became the worse owners a dog could have). She still had diarrhoea which was like turning on the hosepipe every time she went to the toilet, but the swelling had started to subside.

On Sunday morning I cooked some chicken breast and offered her a piece and after a lot of coaxing she ate it (me sat on floor with her in my arms crying again!). We managed to get her to eat 3 x 1cm cubes of chicken every 2 hours for the next 2 days but at least she was eating on her own now [We played games to get her to eat (throwing chunks of chicken across the kitchen floor etc)]

Monday bloods were taken and sent to the lab for testing, these all came back as the vets expected with nothing out of the ordinary. On the Wednesday we took in a faeces sample which was sent to Idexx lab for testing. Unfortunately the results that come back for this were not as my vet expected and it was confirmed that Mist not only was suffering from Parvovirus but also tested positive for Canine Enteric Coronavirus and Clostridium Prefringens.

The next step was to move to chicken and rice and she was getting hungry now and wanted to eat loads. If she managed a full saucer of chicken and rice, within the next hour it came back. After some thought, we decide this was due to the size of her stomach as she hadn't had a decent sized meal in over a week, so we started where she could have 1 tablespoon full for the first few meals and very very slowly got her back up to a full sized meal. She still had diarrhoea so with the vets advice we moved her off chicken and rice to Royal Canin Veterinary Diet Hypo Allergenic food. This worked as to



firming her up but due to her weight loss didn't provide her with enough proteins etc to build her back up. After a week on the vet diet we moved her onto the Pero Chicken and Rice (Hypoallergenic) and a part raw diet. We have to be very careful with Mist now as the Parvovirus has damaged her insides beyond the point of repair, she cannot eat anything that isn't hypoallergenic or raw. She only has to get a biscuit from one of the other dogs and she decorates my bedroom and lovely shade of brown!

Wednesday 28th March we took another poo sample for re testing. On Tuesday 3rd April the results came back and were still testing positive Parvovirus and Clostridium Prefringens so at least we had managed to get rid of 1.

We retested via Tom and Kate Gilding on the 27th April again Mists results returned that she was still positive.

Again on the 11th May the results returned as Positive. It was at this time that the lab advised that we didn't resample until 4 weeks after last sample was taken.

On the 6th June samples were sent to Tom and Kate, I bet Tom has never received some much S**T in the post. The results for this came back NEGATIVE. One of the best feelings as every time I sent a sample waiting for the results was like waiting for a sentencing.

Although all of the above was experienced by Mist, it affected everyone and everything that lived in my household. It wasn't only Mist that was placed in quarantine, we had to notify the neighbours who have dogs that we had got Parvovirus. We took the advice of our vet and quarantined all our dogs for 30 days. During this time we had to bleach the garden (concrete and mud), the floors, cupboards, and dog dishes every night. Once a week all the dogs beds, toys and collars were washed on a boil wash with bleach. We had a tray to dip feet on the way in and on the way back out. Clothes were left at the back door to be used in the house or with dogs.

After 30 days I spoke to my vet about my dogs and exercise, I was advised to not take Mist out as she would still be shedding but there was no reason, if I chose the places I walked my dogs wisely. I found a nice farmer in Rotherham who agreed to let us walk our dogs on his land. We walked in the middle of his fields to avoid places where other dogs and people may come into contact with us. We picked up every toilet my dogs did and washed away with bleach water. We also found some woods that are not frequented by people and dogs and again it was confirmed that we would be ok to use. As Groms parents live in Grimsby we not only had to scope walks round our area but also down there but it was easier down there. I found one farmer who had sixteen rape fields that he allowed us to walk all our dogs. This was the best walk my dogs got in the sixteen weeks Mist had Parvovirus but being a three to four hour walk they enjoyed every minute so we spent many weekends visiting Groms family. After 6 weeks of quarantine Mist was allowed to join us on a walk; to say she was crazy was an understatement, it's a good job we were walking away from the public as she would have been classed as out of control. But spending one and a half months not being allowed to burn off steam, for a 6 month old pup is the worst thing you can ever do. I do feel sorry for my now 6 month old Border Collie pup as normally my dogs are socialised with people and dogs from day one but due to the situation we found ourselves in, Dive is now very un-socialised. He hasn't been able to attend the normal class that we go to, he barks at children, dogs, people and bikes, all the things that a pup of his ages should have been in contact with.

I know I can't force anyone to vaccinate their own dogs but I do hope by reading this that people will seriously consider the life of their dog before making the decision (my vet to this day doesn't know how we got Mist through but we did). I have never been one to tempt fate so I will always vaccinate every one of my dogs from the first to the end of their life. I am not taking the risk that we contract this ever again in my entire lifetime.

Thanks for reading

Genna and Graeme (Extreme Racers)

Question Time

Why?

- **Do we have a veterinary adviser to the BFA when we are asked not to contact that vet directly?**

You may feel it to be very frustrating (understandably so) that you cannot contact our veterinary advisor when issues affecting the whole membership occur. You may have something pertinent to communicate and wish to go 'straight to the horse's mouth' ('Ere Kate, I think this is all a bit OTT if you ask me! Why not do...?) You may actually be registered with our advisor's practice and wish to consult with her ('Ere Kate, what's all this about... do I need to ...?)

What really happens

Our lovely veterinary advisor to the BFA is just that, *an advisor to the Committee* – so perhaps we should add that little bit extra to her title role. It's with great regret that our 6,000 + members can't chat on a one to one basis as Kate is a great vet and it would be lovely if we could all communicate with her but I'm guessing that most of us have our own lovely vet to help us out. When an issue arises that requires veterinary information, *one* member of the Committee speaks to Kate, she then gives the necessary advice that either Kate or the Committee can then communicate to the members.

The Committee can pass on any communications they receive to Kate so that she can then respond. Members should be aware that it is possible that to hassle our veterinary advisor might be breaking our Code of Ethics.

- **Do I have to book BFA lights via the lights co-ordinator and not just go direct to my nearest lights custodian?**

The lights co-ordinator is just that, he does 'what is says on the tin'. He needs to know how many sets of lights are required when and where. It could be red faces all round if two sets of lights turned up at your tournament when you only wanted one set and then to find out that another tournament had been told that the BFA couldn't supply lights that weekend and had to source lights from elsewhere.

So how can you help?

Order your lights as soon as possible after your tournament has been sanctioned and if you don't get a response think why? It may be that the email address hasn't worked so do try an alternative method of communication. Don't then go direct to your nearest light custodian who may well book lights for you – now we have two sets of lights going to the same tournament Whoops! Think, (teaching grandmother to suck eggs here Lol! Ed) is it worth checking about two weeks before your tournament that all is in order? [I have to admit to a certain amount of paranoia when I've been involved with a tournament – I check the venue, the loos, the skips etc. ED.]

- **Do I not receive an official reply when I pose a question on the forum?**

What really happens

Someone 'official' will have seen your posting and would really like to help you. However you haven't provided the necessary information to enable them to respond. Officials generally respond to postings privately not via the forum. With membership numbers now over 6,000 how does that official find you?

So how can you help?

If you want to contact an official the best way to do it is privately not via the forum, it sometimes comes across as whinging and somebody might 'bite back! The officials current contacts are published in the FR, you will find them very willing to help, provided of course, you follow the Code of Conduct. Always give your name and BFA membership number or the name and membership number of the person on whose behalf you are contacting. It also makes life easier if you give the name of the team you compete with, the primary team name not the one you race in.

➤ **Am I not receiving my FR?**

It really annoys me when I don't receive my FR after all it's part of my membership fee! This is an understandable reaction.

What really happens

When you renew/apply for your membership, particularly by post, you fill in various pieces of information. The membership secretary then puts that information onto our database. If you don't write this information clearly it may be entered incorrectly.

If you change any information during the course of the year you need to let the membership secretary know so that she can up-date the database otherwise Ooops! No FR! Someone else may be receiving your copy by post and wonder what on earth this is all about!

The membership secretary sends the editor the current mailing list just before each issue goes to print.

Incorrect email address? It bounces! The editor does her best to contact you to get the correct one but if you don't reply to her phone message, provided she has enough extra copies, she'll send it snail mail.

At the bottom of the membership form there's a request for you to circle the word 'yes' if you'd like to receive your copy by email. If you've circled the 'yes' and don't receive your copy, have you looked in your spam box? or is your inbox full? The editor has in the past experienced problems with the hotmail.com addresses so she now mails out 25 addresses at a time which has resolved the problem.

The FR comes out three times a year in March, July and November. The March one has to be sent out early in the month with important AGM information but the other two are more likely to arrive later in the month depending on which tournament the editor is attending. In order to save postage she distributes copies to team captains at a tournament. So – has your team captain given you your paper copy, have you asked?

What should I do if I don't receive my copy?

Contact the editor, including all that important information given on the previous page, she will be happy to help you. Ask someone on your team for her **current** contact as shown in the latest issue.



Rolling Rules

With the British weather currently being a dis-aaa-ster area I thought our doggie friends might like a little reminder of the etiquette of rolling! [Ed.]

Muddy puddles were made for dogs so: Always sit in the best available. This will encourage your human to shout angrily at you. Great! Wag your tail enthusiastically. The swishing movement has three positive outcomes.

It means more of your tail gets bathed in the aromatic water.

More of the smelliest bits that have sunk to the bottom of the puddle can be stirred up and attached to your tail as lovely, thick sticky globules.

These globules can then be thrown at your human's face with a quick flick, when they get close enough to you.

BFA Diary 2013

Key – CLD = Closing date for entry O = Open LO = Limited Open M = Multibreed LM = Limited_Multibreed

Jul 13/14th	Mapledurham House, Nr Reading, Berks Contact: <i>Penny Charlton Tel. - 01628 829623</i>	Barkshire Bandits DBARC fun day Sunday 14th	LO(72 teams) CLD Jun 14 th
Jul 13/14th	Epworth Showground, Nth-Lincs Contact: <i>Joanna Bonner Tel. - 01909 808904</i>	Notts Supadogs	LO(48 teams) CLD Jun 14 th
Jul 20/21st	Ravensknowle Farm, Pontefract, W-Yorks Contact: <i>Hazell Brown Tel. - 07971 410223</i>	Reiver Rebels Starters	LO(60 teams) CLD Jun 20 th
Jul 20/21st	Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey Contact: <i>Terry Condra Tel. - 01895 254427</i>	FourPaws Racing Starters	LO(72 teams) CLD Jun 21 st
Jul 27/28th	Tai Lawr, Brygwran, Anglesey Contact: <i>Delia Roberts Tel. - 01407 810610</i>	Pods	LO(84 teams) CLD Jun 27 th
Jul 27/28th	Olivers Mount, Scarborough, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Betty Potts Tel. 01757 703233</i>	Yorkshire Bouncers	LO(54 teams) CLD Jun 27 th
Jul 27/28th	Shalford Park, Guildford, Surrey Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team Starters & fun classes	O CLD Jun 28 th
Jul 31/Aug 1st	Tai Lawr, Brygwran, Anglesey Contact: <i>Delia Roberts Tel. - 01407 810610</i>	Pods	LO(84 teams) CLD Jun 27 th
Aug 3rd	Camperdown Country Park, Dundee, Scotland Contact: <i>Alan Wood Tel. - 01382 580443</i>	Tayside Roadrunners	LO(24 teams) CLD Jul 5 th
Aug 3/4^t	Fairview Farm, Stockbridge, Hampshire Contact: <i>Wayne O'Rourke Tel. - 02380 394370</i>	Jets	LO(48 teams) CLD Jul 5 th
Aug 3/4th	Larden Green Farm, Baddiley, Nantwich, Cheshire Contact: <i>Kate Gilding Tel. - 01270 524992</i>	Chilli Peppers	LO(60 teams) CLD Jul 3 rd
Aug 3/4th	Olivers Mount, Scarborough, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Betty Potts Tel. 01757 703233</i>	Yorkshire Bouncers	LO(54 teams) CLD Jun 27 th
Aug 3/4th	Woodgate Valley, Birmingham, West-Midlands Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team Starters & fun classes	O CLD Jul 5 th
Aug 4th	Camperdown Country Park, Scotland Contact: <i>Shian Corley Tel. - 01592 741529</i>	Dundee Dynamutz	LO(224 teams) CLD Jul 5 th
Aug 10/11th	Fairview Farm, Stockbridge, Hampshire Contact: <i>Wayne O'Rourke Tel. - 02380 394370</i>	Jets	LO(48 teams) CLD Jul 12 th
Aug 16/17/18th	BFA Championships, Catton Hall, Walton upon Trent, Derbys Contact: <i>Secretary@flyball.org.uk</i>	BFA Committee	LO(TBC) CLD Jul 16 th
Aug 24/25th Aug 26th	Drax Sports & Social Club, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Andrew James Tel. - 07933 840755</i>	Rotherham Rockets	LO(96 teams) LM(54 teams) CLD Jul 23 rd
Aug 24/25th Aug 26th	Cowgate Farm, Hawkinge, Folkestone, Kent Contact: <i>Janice Aird Tel. 07815 841045</i>	Shooting Stars	O LM(24 teams)
Aug 24/25th Aug 26th	Upton Court Park, Slough, Berkshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team	O OM

Aug 24/25th Aug 26th	Prissick Base, Middlesbrough, Cleveland Co-hosted with Crazy Cannons Contact: <i>Lynda Haworth Tel. - 01642 590409</i>	Cleveland Comets	LO(42 teams) LM(18 teams)
Aug31/Sep 1st	Padworth Village Hall, Nr Reading, Berkshire Contact: Garry Black Tel - 07789 692326	Kennet Zingers	LO(54 teams)
Aug 31/Sep 1st	Ryecroft Farm, Ashley, Cheshire Contact: <i>Vera Edge Tel. - 01565 873390</i>	Cheshire Set	LO(48 teams)
Sep 7/8th	Sutton Fields, Nr Runcorn, Cheshire Contact: <i>Anne Alcock Tel - 01925 267274</i>	Live Wires Starters	LO(60 teams)
Sep 7/8th	Hatton Country World, Warwickshire Contact: <i>Donna Hagland Tel - 0121 730 1168</i>	Water Orton Wonder Dogs	LO(96 teams)
Sep 7/8th	Wellington Country Park, Riseley, Berkshire Contact: <i>Kim Sermon Tel. - 07771 812862</i>	Lightning Strikes	LO(72 teams)
Sep 14/15th	Bakewell Showground, Derbys Camping available Thursday to Sunday nights Contact: <i>Paula Merryman Tel. - 01246 414816</i>	Sheffield Speeders	LO(96 teams)
Sep 14/15th	Hatton Country World, Warwickshire Contact: <i>Donna Hagland Tel - 0121 730 1168</i>	Water Orton Wonder Dogs	LO(96 teams)
Sep 14/15th	York Racecourse, Bustardthorpe Field, Nth-Yorks Contact: <i>Terry Wilkinson Tel - 01377 254962</i>	Eastcoast Starters	LO(96 teams)
Sep 14/15th	RSPCA Southridge, Potters Bar, Herts Contact: <i>Richie O'Neill Tel. - 01634 27044</i>	Hotshots	LO(54 teams)
Sep 21/22nd	Acremead Kennels, Drayton, Abingdon, Oxfordshire Contact: <i>Sam Bawden Tel. - 07779 640465</i>	Mad Mutts	LO(54 teams)
Sep 21/22nd	Larden Green Farm, Baddiley, Nantwich, Cheshire Contact: <i>Bridget Leek Tel.- 0151 336 8923</i>	Deva Dogmatix	LO(72 teams)
Sept 21/22nd	Sherbrooke Scout Camp,Calverton, Notts Contact: <i>Margaret Greaves Tel – 07580 303068</i>	Mansfield Marnicks	O
Sep 28/29th	Anstey Park, Alton, Hampshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team Starters	O
Sep 28/29th	RSPCA Block Fen, Wimblington, March, Cambs Contact:	Fenland Firestorm	LO(48 teams)
Oct 19th	St Johns Beaumont, Old Windsor, Berkshire Contact: <i>Michelle White Tel. - 01420 22334</i>	Dream Team Starters	LO(30 teams)
Oct 26/27th	Drax Sports & Social Club, Nth-Yorks Held in marquee. Teams & dogs may enter either Saturday or Sunday Contact: <i>Andrew James Tel. - 07933 840755</i>	Rotherham Rockets	LO(30 teams)
Oct 27th	Maidstone, Kent Contact: <i>Debbie Collins Tel. - 01689 607556</i>	Ball Busters	LO(35 teams)

European News

Unfortunately, the bad news is that there is no news at present.

EFC 13 is still under discussion as Austria can no longer host. Belgium is currently seeking a venue.

Injuries and Flyball, the future.

by **Sonya Nightingale** MCSP Cat A ACPAT, ACPAT Chair

My introduction to Flyball as a physiotherapist came when I met Jess Webb in early 2010. Jess is a Border Collie who was four and a half years old at the time. Up to that time I had watched the odd Flyball competition at Crufts and seen a few photos and videos but not actually been asked to treat a competitor.

She presented with a bilateral intermittent forelimb lameness, which, when it occurred, could be quite dramatic but short lived. At the time she was training weekly and competing fortnightly and this was largely uninterrupted. X-rays had showed a bilateral roughening of the bicipital grooves (a channel through which the biceps tendon runs at the front of the shoulder). I treated these areas with ultrasound and the lameness improved and resolved over four sessions.

However six months later the problem recurred and the Smart Clinic in Wales were asked for some advice and they added an exercise programme to strengthen this area to her regime. Although the biceps problems have now resolved Jess has suffered intermittently since from thoracic (mid back) and carpal (paw) pain. These other problems all treat out fairly easily but I am convinced that these are sports injuries, i.e problems directly related to the sport she participates in, rather than merely accidents.

Jess's owner then discovered an article by Katie Ford called 'Aetiology and Epidemiology of Injuries in dogs participating in Flyball'. This was written as part of a research project at Liverpool University in 2010 and does give some very useful leads, however it was limited by the small numbers involved and the problems that presents in producing statistically significant data. At a similar moment (Jan 12) I became aware of an International data collection project being started at the Royal Veterinary College named 'Vet Compass'. For various reasons I was consulted on the types of questions that should be asked on the collection sheets, and, because of my interest in Jess and Flyball, I suggested that Flyball should be included.

The Vet Compass project is setting out to try and determine whether different breeds are actually predisposed to certain injuries and/or does their sport and lifestyle affect the injuries that they suffer. It will be many years before this project gives us enough data to conclusively say what causes what and how to change sports to minimise injury, but it is all a start and can only improve the welfare of the dogs and therefore the enjoyment they can give to their owners in the long term. Let's all wish it luck and lots of data! To become involved ask your vet if they are data collecting for this project, and to add your dogs data should they become injured. Every little bit will help.

Thanks to **Neil Webb** (Basset Allsorts) for sending this article.

Up-date

Katie Ford, (mentioned in the above article) has posted the following on the **Flyballers World** page on facebook:

In 2010 I conducted a survey into injuries in flyball dogs as part of my dissertation whilst studying Veterinary Science at the University of Liverpool. Following analysis of my questionnaire from the previous study, given that UK flyball is always changing, teamed with my now increased clinical veterinary knowledge, I have chosen to re-run the survey. I'd be very, very grateful if people could take the time to fill this in for me and share the link too:). All countries fine, dogs have to be over 1 year and have participated in flyball(training or competing) within the last 5years. Thanks in advance :)

<http://kwiksurveys.com/s.asp?sid=zx0w2lmme2pvg0381411>

<http://kwiksurveys.com/s.asp?sid=zx0w2lmme2pvg0381411>

The more questionnaires completed the more accurate Katie's survey will be. It only takes a few minutes[Ed.]

Regional Representatives News

At the AGM 2012 the proposal to re-introduce Regional Representatives was accepted. This followed on from the 2011 AGM, after which a working party was enlisted to ascertain the suitability for the role to be reinstated and also the pros and cons of the system. The latter was made more important because of the previous experiences of members who were part of the regional reps system and subsequently the removal of it.

Those Team Captains with a regional representative allocated should have received an introductory e-mail asking for details from the team captains to include the location of the team, (some teams are registered in one county but train in another) and also whether the team is still active and competing. If any captains haven't received this e-mail please contact your representative as listed below.

Your regional representatives are there to help with any areas of the flyball system as well as to be a point of contact for people new to the sport or looking to set up their own team.

All the Representatives that have been appointed have good experience within the BFA and between them have a variety of skills and attributes which make them all unique but also means that across the country we can bring a wide breadth and knowledge to the sport.

We welcome suggestions from the membership as to how the Regional Representatives would be most effective as they would like to offer you the things that would help you grow and develop within the BFA. Some of our future ideas are to do things such as;

- ❖ Ring party training days
- ❖ New team introductory days
- ❖ 'Bring a box' a new idea where teams in a region can go to a central point and look at the variety of flyball boxes available.
- ❖ Paperwork training

Of course all of the above will only work with the support of the membership and co-operation of team captains. We have now a great foundation for improving the quality of existing competition but also improving the quality of those entering the sport by promoting the BFA as a well-structured and supported sport in which they can compete with their dog.

The regional Reps and their regions are as follows;

Scotland – Jenni and Sarah Wallace (Lomond Raiders)
North England – Leanne Hyde (Karma Kanines)
North and East Yorkshire – Rachel Short (Commandos)
West Yorkshire – Katie Ford (Leeds Owlers)
Humberside and South Yorkshire – Ryan Mills (Extreme racers)
Lancashire – Gail Baker (Water Orton Wonderdogs)
Severn – Katie Burns (Carry On's)
East Anglia – Kristian Allcorn (High Flyers)
South East – Joe Mitchell (Tails We Win)
South – Michelle White (Dream Team)

Areas not covered where we still welcome applications; East Midlands, Midlands, Wales, West England.

Dan Culley (Regional Representatives co-ordinator: Water Orton Wonderdogs)



Would like to congratulate the following on
their awards in 2012

Flyball Dog

Zeva and Christina **Honey** and Wendy
Levi and Hannah **Archie** & Lyn
Izzy and Hannah **Ollie** and Phil **Lexie** and Hannah
Ruby & Sarah

Flyball Dog Intermediate

Zeva and Christina **Honey** and Wendy **Izzy** and Hann **Ollie** and Phil **Levi** & Hannah

Flyball Dog Graduate

Flyte and Christina **Zeva** and Christina **Sasha** and John **Max** and Graham

Flyball Dog Advanced

Flyte and Christina **Zeva** and Christina **Phoebe** and Julie **Jake** & Jay

Silver

Flyte and Christina **Sky** and Sandra **Mist** and Hannah **Fern** and Al
Cody and Sandra **Molly** and Paul **Rosie** and Al **River** and Al

Gold

Tullulah and Christina **Summer** and Christina **Cona** and Paul
Eva and Hannah **Mist** and Hannah **River** and Al **Fern** and Al

Ice Blue Moon

Summer and Christina

Platinum

Tullulah and Christina

Pearl

Snoopy and Christina **Tullulah** and Christina **Dillon** and Jackie

Jade

Snoopy & Christina

A Ball of Fluff

A ball of fluff blew in today,
Rolling around as if in play
It skittered around the kitchen floor
It's antics I just couldn't ignore
It unravelled itself - to my surprise
Four paws, a nose, two ears and eyes
That gazed up appealingly into mine
As if to say 'take me in, I'm divine'



Space Dogs – Yellow Ribbon Campaign

So, how was Space Dogs Born?..

One day on my facebook news feed up popped the yellow ribbon campaign that had started in Sweden a few months prior. I knew nothing about it, so looked into it.

I was shocked to realise the yellow ribbon campaign is world-wide and having two rescues, one a nervous boy, it gripped me. For the next couple of weeks all I could think was, if this was promoted to the public it could help my boy, Fergus. He just wants to be left to play with us and his ball when out because things, dogs, people etc rushing at him, scare him and he wants to run and hide. I thought this could help lots of other dogs and owners.

Then I decided I couldn't spend my life thinking.... What if? and what was the worst thing that could happen? I could fall flat on my face, but hey at least I'd tried :). So I enlisted the help of a few of my friends and we were off. I owe them a great deal of thanks, because I worked them extremely hard at the start and still do at times, all because of my dream. But they are good friends who believe in me and what I am trying to achieve

I wanted to also help small dog rescues as well. Both my dogs come from such places and I am forever in their debt for bringing my two to me ♥ so the charity was formed. We have already helped Ostara Rescue and I am on the hunt for more small rescues to donate to x.

Many thanks go to Manda, Gill and Jon, Treesa and Sharon, as well as to every single person who has put up a poster, given out leaflets or told someone about the Space Dogs campaign... I could not have done this without you all and Together we will make this a success x

Judy's Space Dogs camplain has been featured in Dogs Today magazine.

Up-date

I was having a look at the Ireland yellow ribbon page and they have a brilliant idea, which is to compile a list of dog trainers, behaviourists, walkers, sitters etc who understand the needs of those dogs who need to wear the yellow ribbon. if you provide a service for dogs and would like to be included on this list please send us an email to info@spacedogs.org.uk with your name, contact details, location, training methods used (if applicable) and services offered. If there is someone you know of who you think should be on this list then please let them know about this page and ask them to send us an email with the details listed above. Please title email yellow ribbon trainer x



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Yellow Ribbon Campaign

A Yellow Ribbon on a collar or lead signifies that the owner would prefer that you do not approach the dog.

Please do not allow your dogs or children to run over to the dog.
Please give the dog some space whilst passing.
This can include when the dog is at play

Why might a dog appreciate more SPACE?

- Undergoing training and needs to concentrate.
- Recovering from injury or illness and may not be allowed excitement or boisterous play.
- A nervous dog; the world and everything in it can be a scary place for some dogs

The Yellow Ribbon is an invaluable tool with many uses
Buy a Yellow Ribbon at www.spacedogs.org.uk

All profits are donated to dog rescue centres and dog charities

Find us on Facebook:
Space Dogs Yellow Ribbon Campaign

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THE DOG TRUST



Hall of Shame?



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