

THE FLYBALL RECORD

British Flyball



Association

November - December 1994



JETS WIN THE SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIP



FULL REPORT INSIDE

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FROM THE EDITOR.....

Well! The summer season is over (altogether now aaaaaagh!) the last outside event being Longleat, magnificent venue - shame about the weather, it was only marginally better than the previous year but on occasions we did see the sun and at least the rain was warm.

Apologies to those who were kept hanging about, I realise for those of you who had only come for the flyball it was quite a protracted day, but I am sure you will understand it wasn't any easier for those organising the event. It becomes a bit of a pain to have to move the racing lanes and continually cover up the electronics and retest them prior to restarting again, but on the plus side, it was nice rubbing up to some of you between the showers in the intimacy of that tent. It almost became a statistic for the guinness book of records. As for the racing - it was as good as ever.

Understandably no records broken but given the conditions, some fast times, the Wasps turning in the fastest time of the day with an 18.49 run, in one of the heats.

I would like to take the opportunity on behalf of all flyballers, to thank all those who have put on shows throughout the year, and your helpers. I do realise its not easy and on occasions you can well do without some of the hassle that accompanies these events, without you, there would be no sport, much less an association.

THANKS A MILLION.

As for the coming year, I am not sure what's in store other than increasing difficulties (no reply from the Kennel Club yet) but with a little resolve and a great deal of effort from all of us, I've no doubt we will succeed in whatever we set out to do.

In reply to the piece of prose received from Martin Pollard of:

What is the explanation?
Please give us information
On this subtle alteration
To the Flyball Association!

I assume it's about the change in Editor:

It's not easy to reply in rhyme
When I really can't spare the time
I was sitting at home on Sunday night
Warm, comfortable, and just a little tight
Little did I know when picking up the receiver
That I had been sold short by a deceiver
Our Kevin was finding life too tough
And his charming Shirley had had enough
She was party to this plot
To relieve her hero from his lot
Who has nowt to do she cried
"I know! that Ken in Mere" (he lied).
And so it was on that fateful night
That the plot has hatched (it wasn't right).
They picked up the phone and proceeded to fright us
How did they know! I had laryngitis.

On the serious side though, it was just a reshuffle to allow Kevin to concentrate on selling our sport to the Media, and attracting sponsors.

Ken Hickman

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JETS ENTER THE LIONS DEN.. ..AND WIN CHAMPIONSHIP

Report from *Kevin McNicholas*

The September autumn leaves sprinkled the precision cut lawns at Longleat House the superb stately home in Gloucestershire, which was the beautiful back drop to this year's prestigious final event in the British Flyball Associations exciting Summer League. An unrivalled competition that spans the whole of the Summer and now has heats all over the Country. This years League attracted entries from more than 80 teams and saw some of the most dramatic and exciting Flyball races ever seen in Britain. Flyball is certainly attracting media attention, this year we have had television crews filming Flyball, 'Radio 5 Live' the sports and news channel broadcasting "live" from a Flyball event, and the Sunday Observer who had a half page piece on the British Flyball Association event at the Royal Veterinary College.

Summer Flyball League competition is unique because rather than being sponsored by one company the Flyball Summer League is supported by five of the countries top dog food companies each one being involved in a single part of the Competition. The British Flyball Association and all of the Flyball Competitors wish to thank Eukanuba, Hills Science Diet, Spillers, Pedigree, Bowser and Fromm for their generous sponsorship and support.

This years League was never going to be a 'walk over' for any team, the Jets and Tornadoes took pole positions in the seedings from the Winter League, but they were always looking over their shoulders at the ever improving Wasps and Vikings teams. Sure enough the seemingly unbeatable Wasps with their dynamic Jack Russell Terrier, took the first two events and the Tornadoes slipped into third position. In August the midway stage of the League it looked as if it was going to be a 'two horse' race between the Jets and the Wasps. But nothing is predictable in the fast, exciting and exhilarating world of Flyball Tournaments, from an almost hopeless

position the Tornadoes started to claw their way back up the league table. By the time the teams were 'under orders to start' and first bulb of the Flyball starting lights sequence, was switched on at Longleat House, the mighty Jets had only a one point advantage over the revamped and win hungry Tornadoes.

To win the title and Summer league trophy each team would have to work to perfection and keep cool under enormous pressure. The Final eventually came after 28 storm soaked races, it was between the Jets and the Tornadoes. The final victors were the powerful and consistent JETS from Southampton beating the Tornadoes by a whisker. It was a championship full of drama and excitement and we all look forward to an even fuller Winter Programme of Indoor Flyball 'kicking off' with the Hill's Winter League series starting this year on December 12th in the huge Luton Regional Sports Centre, near Luton only 10 minutes from Junction 10 on the M1 motorway. For further details see page 27.

(This article first appeared in "Dog World" during October, for those of you that know Herbie, you will realise that the accompanying picture was in fact Stephanie Meadows dog Ben, from Bassett Allsorts and not Herbie as was publicised. - Ed)

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FLYBALL TEAM CAPTAINS CAN WRITE!!!!



In this section we are encouraging show reports, team reports or captains or the secretaries.

(If the captains can't write! - Ed)



Report from **Hilary Denyer**
(Bassett Allsorts)

Bassett Allsorts (named after Wooton Bassett in Wiltshire, where two of the team life) eventually commenced flyball training in May of this year, with the ultimate goal of competing at both Malvern and Longleat, this followed a wonderful training day that Anton conducted last year. Anton is a tremendous ambassador for the sport, and his enthusiasm highly infectious! Training went well, although starting up from absolute scratch did create a few problems. However, help was always at the other end of the phone..... On 16 July three of us went to Potters Bar, where Anton and Kevin gave us some valuable training, and we were able to "have a go" under competition conditions in the handicap pairs.

We were immediately struck by the friendly reception we received from everyone. We were soon ordering our "team colours" and begging tennis balls (ending up with a plentiful supply donated by our local tennis club). However, our attempts at obtaining sponsorship from Bassetts (as in Bertie!) fell on deaf ears. When "The Day" finally dawned, we were entered in the four breed class, with just four dogs and handlers, an no box loader..... Emma kindly box loaded, and the rest as they say, is history, when we exceeded our wildest dreams (and smashed our best training time) by coming 3rd.

Needless to say, Anton kindly helped us the whole way through.

We had a similar experience at Longleat, Kirsty acted as box loader, and we had help from so many people (I'm sorry but I can't remember all your names). We were delighted with our 3rd in the Eukanuba, and at our performance in the Open, with four very tired dogs (2 being O.A.P.s) We are essentially a four breed team, and were astounded by our best time of

sub 22 seconds.

We have been quite overcome by the encouragement and support we have received, and are eagerly looking forward to our next event. We have some more dogs in training, and eventually hope to have a second team, the "Bassett Doggie Mixtures".

Thank you all.

A HISTORY LESSON IN FLYBALL

(as we know it! - Ed)

Report from **Nigel Bouckley**
(Reckers Team Captain)

Flyball, an offshoot of scent hurdle racing, was introduced in California in the early 1970's by Herbert Wagner. Scent hurdle racing was already popular around much of the country. In scent hurdle racing the dogs must go over four jumps and pick up one of articles - the article scented by the handler. Each article is numbered 1 through 4. The dogs wore racing jackets identified with the same number as their article. Herbert Wagner did a flyball demonstration on the Tonight Show. Soon, dog training clubs around the US and Canada were putting on flyball demonstrations at dog shows, nursing homes, county fairs and schools. Many of the clubs had scent hurdle teams making the transition to flyball easy. Furthermore, flyball added another dimension to their programs.

Dog training clubs most notably Sportsman's Dog Training Club of Detroit and McCann vs McCann in the Toronto area, introduced flyball to the Great Lakes area. Other dog training clubs in the area picked up on the sport and tournaments were soon organized. As more and more tournaments were held it became apparent that it would be necessary to agree on one set of rules. Thus, in November, 1984, twelve teams from the Detroit/Toronto area founded the North American Flyball Association.

Today the governing body for most flyball competition is the North American Flyball Association (NAFA). The Association, founded in the interest of promoting good

sportsmanship in the training and exhibition of dogs competing in flyball, has set forth rules, regulations and a code of ethics to be followed by all who wish to participate in NAFA sanctioned flyball competitions

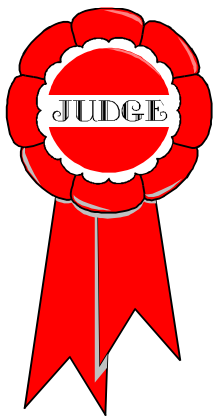
In 1985, 12 teams representing 9 clubs, competed in 4 NAFA sanctioned tournaments. In 1991, 154 teams representing 75 clubs competed in 35 NAFA sanctioned tournaments. Tournaments have been held in major cities across the US and Canada including Toronto, Detroit, Chicago, Louisville, Vancouver, Houston, Dallas, Kansas City, San Francisco, and Winnipeg. England has even been the site of several flyball tournaments. In 1991, teams competing from Michigan, Minnesota, Texas, California, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Indiana, Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Alberta and Manitoba with teams starting in 34 more states and 3 more provinces. Flyball has been introduced in England, Australia, Sweden, Holland, New Zealand, Argentina, South Africa, Japan, Mexico and Zimbabwe.

As of the fall of 1991, 1003 dogs had earned points towards a flyball title, 358 have earned the title flyball dog (FD), 261 have earned the title flyball dog excellent (FDX), and 218 have earned the title flyball dog champion (FDCH).

Flyball certainly has been one of the most popular events at dog shows, sporting events and fairs. In 1989, the state fair of Texas drew over 3.4 million visitors and featured flyball on the main stage. In 1990, Flyball was performed before a crowd of 63,000 during the half time show of the Detroit Lions football game. Teams in California have been performing for audiences at the San Francisco 49's football games and the L.A Lakers basketball games. Audiences all over the world cheer the fast paced action of Flyball.

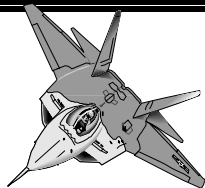
(Except those people who live in dog houses and are part of an association!)(work it out Kevin!!)

See You All Soon - Nigel



JUDGES REPORTS

THE MALVERN "AIR FAIR"



Thursday at the Malvern "Dogs in Need" week was Flyball day, a day when the two very different styles, C....s and B.F.A. were displayed side by side.

The C....s competition itself went quickly and without a hitch. This style of competition cannot be considered a speed event by any stretch of the imagination, but should at least provide C....s with a good mix of dogs, and entertainment for the crowds. Good luck to all the teams that qualified, and commiserations to the other four that missed out, fingers crossed for the remaining qualifiers.

After a brief interlude we moved on to the B.F.A. Open.

The race lanes were set up adjacent to the C....s event with all the electronics ready to go. In comparison to the previous type of racing, judging these events is a breeze. With the lights judging the actual racing I could concentrate on everything else going on. The sport as we all know is very fast moving, and safety is of the essence, stray dogs joining in is a problem we can do without. When they are not our dogs there is little we can do, but we must ensure that our dogs are kept secure.

On Wednesday, the day before the flyball, we were treated to an impromptu display by the RAF. A couple of training jets made a flypast, was this an omen for the Jets BB's. Later the same day yet another flypast, this time by a couple of Tornados, was this another omen for the real Tornados or maybe the Jets? Being on holiday we were of course pestered endlessly by the ever present Wasps, another omen maybe!

The racing started with the Pods v The Rascals. My immediate impression was how much the standard had improved. The Rascals put in very good

sub 22 seconds runs, but the standard is ever improving and they were pipped on the day by the Pods with a best time of sub 21 seconds. With the new dogs running, both these teams look to have a great future. The sub 20 second teams might find themselves having to work hard this winter.

Next came the Tornados v the Rabble. I had never seen the Rabble before, and a rabble they are not, in fact the name is probably best suited to the Tornados. The first leg was an easy win for the Rabble who put in a 20.50 time against the Tornados 27.25. Interesting start! The next leg went 45.32 to 27.55, I won't embarrass those concerned by letting you know which teams did what, but let's say that it made it one each.

The Tornados were not at this point living up to their RAF namesakes as far as speed was concerned, but they were bringing up at least the same number of lights on the display.

Is it a deliberate ploy making the Tornados run first to check that all the lights work? They did in all fairness get it together from this point on, taking this race 3-2, and putting in some very respectable times over the rest of the day. That shaky start could however have cost them dear.

The next teams were the Wasps v Tigers. The Wasps started well and maintained the standard throughout the competition, and on this day were just too hot for the Tigers who seemed a bit out of sorts. But the Tigers had no omens, perhaps their cousins at Longleat will inspire them.

We next saw the Vikings and BB's. The Vikings like the Wasps before them started very fast, putting in three runs at around 19.5 seconds and seeing off the BB's in the process. The last (but not least) team to make an appearance on the day were the Jets. They came in against the Pods, this went 3.0 to the Jets a result that does not do justice to the Pods challenge. Each of the legs was decided by only about a second, and the Pods missed a great opportunity to level at one each after the Jets were faulted and had to run five.

Interestingly the Pods put in the fastest time of the day in this their second round. Many moons ago when I was competing (okay box loading) for one of the top teams, Tony Veal (remember him?) pointed out to us that if we were pushing for the record the second round is the one to do it. Now, one day does not prove the point, but on this day, of the nine teams competing, five put in their fastest times in the second round, and three in the first. Only the Wasps broke the rule, being faster at the end of the day.

The racing after the first round went much to form, with the top four seeds in the semi-finals. The Tornadoes obviously fancied a crack at the record, having put their bad start behind them. The weather was good, being cool and dry, and the competition was fierce. The race lanes were however on a slope and this proved to be too much of a handicap. Their best time, and the best of the day, a very credible 18.47 was achieved in the second round, from there on the times worsened.

So for the semis, first off were the Tornadoes and Jets, and things were hotting up. The teams shared the first four legs with times between 18.70 and 19.74 with both teams pushing, the odd mistakes started to appear. The "magic eye" picked up the bad cross overs that I would never have been able to determine. The decider brought out the best in the teams, both could have picked up some on the changes, but having missed before, did not seem to be prepared to chance it. Both obviously knew that they could beat each other. The Jets came in at 19.24 but were pipped at the line by the Tornadoes in 19.14 (try judging that by eye). So the 3 seeds put out the favourites. Next in the firing line were the Wasps v Vikings. Now something unique happenedSilence!.....In all the other races we had the usual racket necessitating shouted instruction and wrecked vocal chords. But now I looked forward to a more civilised start to the racing. Everything was calm, orderly and quiet, until of course Herbie, the Wasps JR started barking his head off. (How I hate Jack Russells!).

The Vikings put up a good fight with three runs under 20 seconds, but eventually went down 1-4 to the Wasps, who were looking good, only having been beaten so far when they had been faulted. The Jets on the other hand had something to prove, they were after all number one seeds. Did I sense some needle? The Jets were good, putting in times of around 19.5, but perhaps by trying too hard, allowed the Wasps to edge them out in three straight runs.

So it was the Tornadoes and the Wasps pitched together in the final. The Tornadoes had to be beaten twice, having already seen the Wasps off 3-0 earlier in the tournament. But that result came about by way of three faulted runs, so it was anybody's final. The first four legs were shared, with the third going to the Wasps by just three hundredths of a second. A good time for them to put in their fastest time of the day. At 2-2 in the final you would have expected the tension to peak, but I don't know whether it was the prospect of doing it all over again, or simply fatigue, but the Wasps seemed to loose their edge, and allowed the Tornadoes to take the last leg and win the competition. Congratulations to the Tornadoes on the win, and to all the other teams on a good day at the races.

Tony Warren

(Many thanks Tony ..didn't miss much, did you!!)

EUKANUBA FLYBALL AT ROSELAND..... IN "SUNNY" CORNWALL

After a long tiring journey, I arrived in Cornwall 10 hours later shattered, but after a good nights sleep in a comfy bed and breakfast, I awoke refreshed and ready to tackle the day ahead --- Judging the Flyball.

I spent the morning getting the ring ready, and watching some Ferret and Camel racing - well, I was at a Game and Country Fair. Time soon came around to start the flyball. I had already roped in my team of helpers. After a rather nervous start, the racing was ready to begin.

I had been told that two of the five teams had not competed before in competition, and one in particular, had only been training together for about two weeks, and their box loader had never loaded before. Bearing all these points in mind, it was decided to do a Round Robin style competition, were all the teams get to run against each other. They score 2 points for each leg of the race that they win.

The racing was ready to start with the Rabble v CAC Comets in the first race. The Rabble won all three legs of this race easily, putting in a time of 21.64 seconds in the first leg. Race 2 was a good one to watch, between Dartmoor Dodgers and the Reckers. The Reckers won all three legs and a lot of it was down to the Springer Spaniel that ran last....boy, did it go!

Another up and coming team that were good to watch were Henry's Pirates. This was one of the teams that had only recently got together. The star was a Bearded Collie called Henry and what a crowd puller! He made it look so easy, flying out to the box, with his coat flying behind him, then turning, and his coat all falling back into place before racing back...what a star....and so fast! This is a team to watch out for

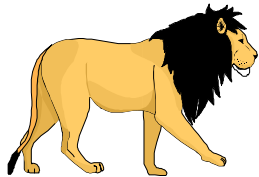
in the future.

The rest of the racing went well, with the Rabble being the favourites, but shock, horror, at the end of the ten races, we had a tie for first place. This was between the Rabble and Henry's Pirates (the team that hadn't competed before), they both scored 20 points. At this point a lot of the competitors had to go off and walk agility courses, so, as they dispersed, so did the crowd. It was given out over the tannoy, that a run-off would have to take place for the 1st place. They were back like bees to a honey pot. What an excellent crowd puller Flyball is (its probably the noise).

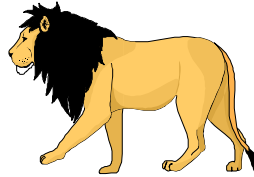
It was decided to run the best of three knockouts for the draw, and if it went to the third leg I would go on the best time of the first run. But as it was, it wasn't necessary.

The Rabble did it in two straight runs, putting Henry and his Pirates into a very worthy second place.

WELL DONE TO EVERYONE
Corrine Warren



FLYBALL AT LONGLEAT IN THE RAIN



Many thanks to Anton Wittwer for inviting me to judge at Longleat this year, it beats obedience any day!

Longleat is a superb venue with its various attractions, and provides a super climax to the summer championship.

Heavy rain early in the morning delayed the start of racing until after 10am Anton and his merry band of helpers had every jump in position, and two additional lanes marked out as insurance against the racing lanes being cut up. This proved to be the case later on, when the continual downpours made racing far too slippery for safety.

The electronic lights and timing were used, which seem to be preferred by all.

Dave and Dick were in control throughout- -thank you gentlemen. Box judges were constantly changing, with helpers from Jets, Tornadoes, Wasps, Reckers and Vikings. It would be good if more people from other teams helped in this area when not racing their dogs.

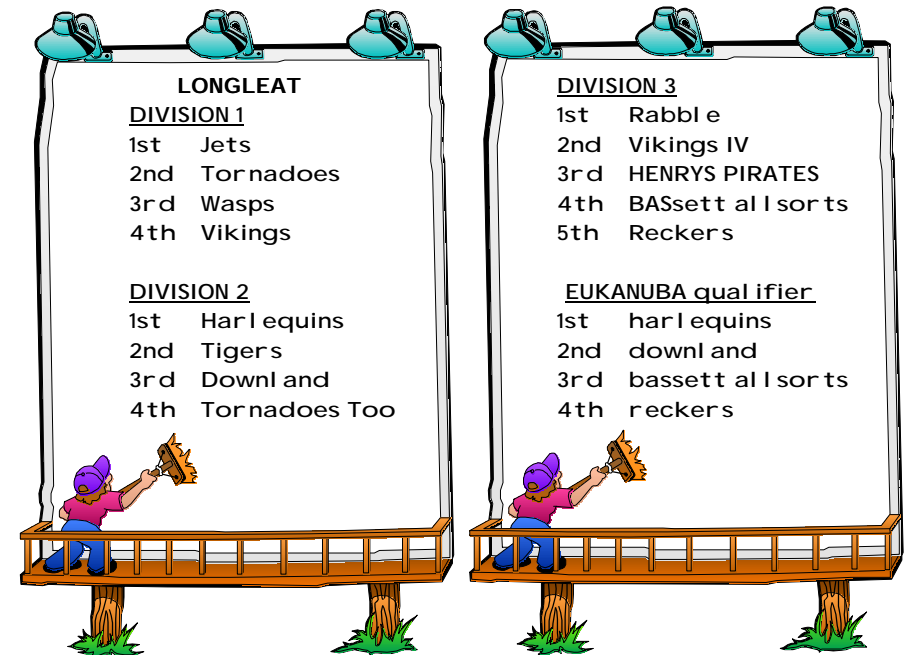
The first event was the Eukanuba Knockout qualifier which took the form of a Round Robin. The eventual winners being the Harlequins.

In the Fromm Open Championship event, 13 teams took part, several only making their second appearance, and producing times of 21 and 22 seconds. The Wasps had the fastest time of the day, and looked as though they would win, but several early changes in the semi-final were their downfall.

There was some superb racing, with three teams with sub 19 second times.

The Jets Won, with the Tornadoes in a close second.

Leslie Catchpole.



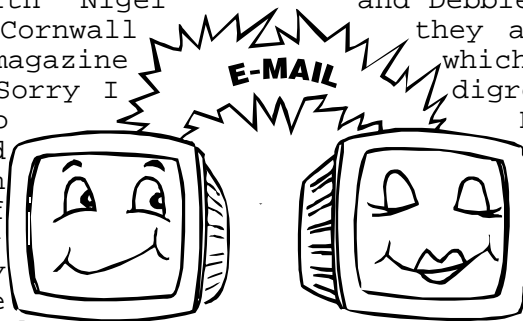


LETTERS



Electronic Communications and Flyball

When I was the Editor of the Record - (some months ago now). Which gives me the opportunity to say what a brilliant job Ken Hickman is doing as Editor and in liaison with Nigel and Debbie Bouckley in 'sunny' Cornwall they are producing a fine magazine which we are all proud of. Sorry I digress, going back to Electronic Mail and the Super Information Highway, if you have a computer and a modem it only takes a little time and patience to be up and running, communicating with people around Britain or all over the World (who are similarly linked up).



The costs are about £7.00 per month to a service provider and then the cost of a local off peak telephone call. Nigel and I communicate regularly and transfer information via a modem. All of my articles in this issue have gone down a telephone line. If Worldwide communications for the cost of a local phone call appeals to you, if an E-Mail address on your card will impress (baffle) your friends and acquaintances speak to Nigel or if you really want to be confused, speak to me! Now you know what to put on your Christmas Present list A MODEM and a CompuServe subscription.

Kevin McNicholas
Tornadoes

THE BRITISH FLYBALL ASSOCIATION EXTENDS A WARM WELCOME TO

Vicky Wilford from Malmesbury with Samuel Lab x Greyhound, Cassie a Collie X, Melfield a Lowchen. Dizzy a Greonendale, Wyn a W.S.D. and Fidele a Pyrean Sheepdog.

Stephanie Meadows from Slaughterford, Wiltshire. and the little whizz Ben a Terrier X.

Both ladies are with the Bassett Allsorts.

Lois Hooper of Knottingley, West Yorkshire, with her dogs Toby a Curly Coated Retreiver x G.S.D. Tinker a W.S.x G.S.D. and Nell a Curly Coated Retreiver.

Richard & Pat Harte of Northampton and their dog Gem a W.S.D. from the Daventry Podlets.

Apologies

(I'll see if I can get it right this time.)

Mrs P. Le Seelleur with Dasha a B.C. (Sorry Pam.)

Sally and Andre Rees from St Savior, Jersey with Raffles and Ben, both Schnauzers and Max their Mini Schnauzer.

Members of the Jersey Flyers.

And Terry Condra who is a Cippenham Cruiser (not Chippenham).

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS
15 DECEMBER 1994**

The Wasps

The Wasps were formed in the summer of 93 for the Dartford show, and competed in the 4 breed class as the Spitfires.

The name was changed to the Wasps for the Wellow Show at Hayling Island and they became a completely independent flyball team. In that year's summer championship the team ended up 3rd overall. The same line-up competed in the Hill's Winter League, and again took 3rd place in the Open.

Together with another breed, three dogs in the team also competed in the 4 breed class at the same shows and distinguished itself by winning 3 of the 4 classes. This summer the Wasps have competed in 4 of the 5 heats so far, and have achieved 2 wins, a 2nd and a 3rd. Their times have improved down to 18.41 seconds on the electronic timing, thanks mainly to the introduction of two young dogs. Best result to date is 2nd at the Spillers Final at the Middlesex Show.

The Line-up:

Lexi and Christine Dunning - Lexi is a 2 year old WSD bitch who made her début at the Thames Spillers heat this year, and has improved ever since. Lexi also competes at agility, and has won novice obedience. Christine as well as being the team captain, owns and runs a boarding cattery, and show British Shorthair cats.

Geisha and Kaye Faiers - Geisha is a 2 year old BC bitch who made her début in the rain at the Vet College in May this year. She has quickly established herself as the fastest dog in the team, and is happy running in any position. She is a senior agility dog and works A and B in obedience. Kaye is a medical rep, who has competed and judged in obedience in various countries, and who will judge the Obedience Championship at C....s in 1995. She has recently been asked to appear in a new programme for TV on dogs by the Kennel Club. Kaye used to breed show and judge Miniature Poodles.

Meg and Val Pearson and Dave Ives - Meg is a 4 year old collie X

GSD who first competed indoors in the spring of 93, and she has consistently performed well. She is an excellent start dog who is now happy to run any position. She is the most experienced dog in the team and a valuable member of the 4 breed team. Val who usually runs Meg, is a nurse, and Dave is a builder. Between them they have 3 or more dogs which they are busy training for flyball.

Patch and Kevin Riddles - patch is an 8 year old BC dog who competes in Open C obedience, senior agility, and also does sheep work. Patch first competed in Spring 93 and he has to fit his flyball in amongst all this other activities. Kevin is a partner in a Pet Accessory shop near Bordon in Hampshire, and this dictates much of Kevins time. Surprisingly he still finds additional time to ride his own horse.

Herbie and Allen Dunning - Herbie is "only a jack Russell" as was heard at one competition, but you tell that to the other teams. A 4 year old dog who was rescued from a boring existence. He is absolutely ball crazy - don't carry one in your hand when Herbie is about. He made his début in 1993 at the Dartford Show, and he's a real crowd pleaser, who now sports a new hair-do. Allen is a builder who also designs and builds show jumping courses in the South. He competed up to national level on ponies and horses before he got a proper job. Alfie - a 4 year old WSD dog who is usually run as a reserve by any member of the team. His main love is agility and he has competed up to B in obedience.

Box Loader - This is the most important of jobs and has been mainly undertaken by Tessa Driscoll at the Winter League, and Dereck Money this summer. Having a 2 hole box, they have to get their lefts and rights spot on, and this has been achieved splendidly.

Thanks must also go to all the members of the team for giving up some of their pursuits in order to compete and help at the flyball events in the last 12 months, and also to those members of other teams who have helped the Wasps during this period.

Thanks Allen. (The press gang will be out looking for another team profile for the next issueor will we get a volunteer?)

FROM THE OFFICE OF - THE BFA PRESS & PUBLICITY OFFICER



Contact The PPO (Kevin) on 081 449 7539 or E-Mail 100424.717@compuserve.com

Flyball has got on the telly again, this time 'The Learning Channel' on the Sky network showed a short 'filler' featuring the Tornadoes which they used as a sort of advert for The Learning Channel. We also have Sky Sports and Animal Country in the pipeline.

As press and publicity officer I have been trying to obtain corporate sponsorship for Flyball from a large (non doggy) company, we have not had a firm proposal yet but we are still working on it. If you work for a large organisation, point me in the right direction I will write to the Promotions Department. Flyball has a lot to offer a sponsor it has achieved more television time in a couple of years than Agility in ten or obedience has in thirty.

Dianne McWhinney Video; a hour and a half edited video of Dianne's brilliant course which she held in North London last January is now available. The quality is not great but the tape is professionally edited and the sound is OK, this video will give many hints, tips and training routines to every team from Starter to Advanced. The cost is £10.00 (including P&P). Make cheques payable to : Tornadoes Flyball.

A Flyball Display was put on by the Tornadoes at the grand opening of the Doberman Clubs new training ground in Hertfordshire. The display went down very well and I hope we will see some Dobes in Flyball teams in the near future.

The Flyball display at the Brentford Show - Working Dog Convention went down very well with the crowds. The PODS 'B' team pulled off an against the odds win in the morning display. The PODS 'B' first annihilated a strong Tornadoes team and then went on to slaughter the PODS 'A' team in the final. The Axe????- Tony and Corrine Warrens team put up a great show in the afternoon display and everyone had a bundle of fun especially me being the compère for the event.

Flyball displays at large country shows may be a good way of promoting the sport

during the Summer next year. One major dog food company is very interested in continuing its support for Flyball if it is seen in the main ring at the large Agricultural and Country Shows in the Summer. If anyone is interested in making a team available for any of these displays, or even if you would like to come along as an individual you will certainly have a run with your dog and a great fun day out. At some displays there will also be mini competitions and also training for dogs. We have a provisional booking for a display at the Guide Dog Show on 17 June 1995 which will have 10,000 visitors and most of them doggy.

Flyball training days North and South on 27 November 1994, Ken Hickman and Anton Wittwer are organising a training day 'up North' possibly even two over that weekend. The Tornadoes are organising an indoor training day in Enfield, contact me for further details.

FLYBALL IN FRANCE

Thanks to a recommendation from Mr Pollard at Alvah Developments I have been in touch with Jo Fournier in France who wants to run a Flyball Seminar in France. I have said I will do it, I will bring all of the equipment (in my new van) necessary but I could do with some help with the driving, and the lingo, as the seminar is near Lyon which is about 500 miles and I will have to try to do the journey in one day. If there are any Bi lingual, long distance drivers that can drive on the wrong side of the road, who are free for a few days in January, please give me a ring.

PS... I CAN PERSONALLY RECOMMEND ALL OF THE ALVAH AGILITY EQUIPMENT, AFTER YEARS OF LUGGING AROUND HEAVY 'A' FRAMES DOG WALKS AND SEE-SAWS (teeter totters for our North American Readers) OUR CLUB INVESTED IN SOME OF MARTIN'S SUPERB QUALITY EQUIPMENT. ALVAH CAN BE CONTACTED ON: 0621 852809 OR WRITE FOR A CATALOGUE: ALVAH DEVELOPMENTS, 33A BEELEIGH ROAD, MALDON, ESSEX, CM9 7QH, ENGLAND, G.B.

See you all at Reading, Kevin.

The British Open Flyball Championship 1994

TEAM	18/6	02/7	16/7	11/8	18/8	09/9	TOTAL
JETS	19+2	19+1	20+3	19+3	18+1	20+2	127
TORNADOES	16+3	18+2	19+2	20+1	20+3	19+1	124
VIKINGS	18	17+3	18+1	16	17	17	107
WASPS	20+1	20	00	18+2	19+2	18+3	103
JETS BB'S	14	16	17	17	16		80
TORNADOES TOO	14	15	15	15	00	13	72
TIGERS	17	11	14	00	14	15	71
PODS	16	12	13	13	13		67
HARLEQUINS	12	14	16	00	00	16	58
RABBLE	00	00	00	12	15	12	39
BOUNCERS / RASCALS	12	10	00	00	12		34
DYNAMOS	00	00	12	14	00		26
VIKINGS IV	00	13	00	00	00	11	24
DOWNLAND COMETS						14	14

For Information Contact Sue Jones Tel: 0707 274011

This will hopefully be a regular(ish) addition to the Flyball Record - a chance for all of you with "different breeds" (ie anything other than a collie/working sheepdog) to write about their breeds and hopefully, a forum for getting Multi and Four Breed teams together by putting people "in touch". Unfortunately, Four Breed competitions seem to have "died a death" during the summer months - a great shame especially after being so popular during last year's Winter League with anything between 10 and 12 teams entered at each event.

For the past few years Four Breed competitions have been run where 2 crosses of different types could run in one team. This is a possibly contentious subject as, sooner or later, a team is going to try to use 2 crossbreeds that are not sufficiently different and this may lead to an argument which we all want to avoid; however, while teams continue to enter into the 'spirit' of the competition everything will be OK. The best way forward long term is towards Multi Breed where four DIFFERENT breeds and only one crossbreed/mongrel can run in each race. The problem is that few teams have true Multi breed teams with only one crossbreed.

I asked Kevin McNicholas to raise this matter at the last BFA committee meeting and the outcome is that teams can use dogs and handlers from other teams to make up a new team which can only run in Multi Breed/Four Breed competitions. This will not be affected by the 6 month rule regarding members leaving or joining other teams.

So, for example, I can run my Flatcoat 'Giddy' in the Tornadoes Too team in Open Classes and make up a new Multi Breed team with dogs and handlers from other teams. That team can compete in Multi Breed competitions, the team will be included in the Multibreed Seedings list and the individual dogs will be awarded points towards their Flyball Titles. This is great, because in Open Competitions, it is often the 'other breed' in the team that does not get to run, therefore it is that dog which does not accumulate its points.

This year at the Hill's Winter League (subject to the approval of the BFA) a Multi Breed class will be included but entries will also be accepted from Four Breed teams. The disadvantage for the Four Breed teams will be that

their dogs will not accumulate points for their titles, nor will their times form part of the Multibreed Seedings list. Four Breed teams will be able to compete against Multi Breed teams on equal terms at the competition but Multi Breed teams will gain far more benefit in the long term. This will, hopefully, give true Multi Breed competition the kick start it needs.

Using the option of making up a new Multibreed team will also give members of teams that perhaps do not have enough other breeds in their team, or are part of a team that will not travel in the Winter, the opportunity to make up completely new teams just for Multi Breed Competitions. This is where this column can be used to put people with other breeds in touch with teams that are being formed.

So to start the ball rolling in the Flyball equivalent of the Exchange and Mart, here is my "ad":

GIDDY young female from Hertfordshire, with drive and motivation (a Flatcoat although she has been likened to Bambi) seeks others with similar ambitions to form an exciting new Multi Breed team. She can bring along a speedy partner (BC) who does his bit in under 5 seconds!! The ideal new members would be reliable, short in stature, athletic in build and be experienced in competition with a time of under 6 seconds. Send your CV to 55 Drovers Way, Hatfield, Herts AL10 0PU

FREE TRANSFER - CHESTER (another flattie), still young in mind and fit in body. Available to any team with friendly dogs and handlers who don't mind the odd change of lanes if there is a lady flattie running in the other team! Apply as above.

To get an idea of how many different breeds we have in flyball at the moment, Ken has very kindly gone through the membership list for me and currently the top six BFA breeds are as follows:

	BREED	No. Registered
1.	Working Sheepdog	51
2.	Border Collie	30
3.	German Shepherd Dog	10
4.	Flatcoated Retriever	7
5.	Groenendael	6
6.	English Springer Spaniel	3
	Jack Russell Terrier	3

Out of a total of 129 dogs registered, there are also 2 each of Schnauzer, Lurcher X, Mongrel, Terrier X and 1 each of Staffie, Irish Setter, Labrador, Miniature Schnauzer, Curly Coated Retriever, Golden Retriever, Doberman, Lowchen, Pyrennean, Lurcher and Goldie X. Quite a variety!!

THE WASPS FLYBALL TEAM

WILL BE HOLDING AN INDOOR TRAINING DAY
NEAR RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE - EARLY DECEMBER
DATE TO BE CONFIRMED
OPEN TO ALL INDIVIDUALS / TEAMS OF ALL STANDARDS

CONTACT Christine Dunning 0794 322553
or Kaye Faires 0202 523600

BRAIN TEASER - THE ANSWERS

1. 26 Letters of the Alphabet.
2. 7 Days of the Week.
3. 10001 Arabian Nights.
4. 54 Cards in a Deck (including Joker's).
5. 9 Planets in the Solar System.
6. 88 Piano Keys.
7. 13 Stripes on the American Flag.
8. 32 Degrees Fahrenheit at which we Freeze.
9. 18 Holes on a Golf Course.
10. 90 Degrees in a Right Angle.
11. £200 for Passing Go at Monopoly.
12. 100 Degrees Centigrade at which Water Boils.
13. 3 Blind Mice (see how they run).
14. 24 Hours in a Day.
15. 1 Wheel on a Unicycle.
16. 12 Days of Christmas.
17. 11 Players in a Football Team.
18. 20 Sections around a Dartboard.
19. 29 Days in February in a Leap Year.
20. 64 Squares on a Chess Board.

WE HEAR.....

That the Commadore of Watford Yacht Club met heavy weather the evening before he set sail on the annual fishing trip.

That the Rev Jones does a really good Mick Jagger impression with a tomato.

That Dave who shall remain nameless leads a dogs life, but only when it comes to his sleeping arrangements.

That Sharon is thinking about reviewing the payments to her mum - perhaps - maybe.

That Richard is the only Trent Park busker to use a piano.

That Wayne now realises that it was not a good idea to ask the boys in blue, which switch was used to turn off his lights.

That Clive is taking singing lessons, so he can serenade his workmates in Tune.

That Reish Green lists amongst its "other daily events", a moth trapping evening (and barbecue).



FROM ALL THE TEAM AT

**THE
FLYBALL RECORD**



The Tornadoes Flyball Team

proudly announce

The 3rd annual Hill's Science Diet Winter Flyball League

A series of Three INDOOR Flyball Events

To be held at:

Luton Regional Sports Centre, St Thomas's Road, Stopsley, Luton.

*This is the biggest and BEST Flyball venue ANYWHERE in the British Isles the racing lanes are over 150 feet long, it has tiered spectator seating with a separate (adjoining) hall for the dogs and handlers to relax in when not actually racing. These improvements will dramatically reduce the noise inside the venue and make Flyball an even more pleasurable day. With classes for Teams of all standards we look forward to seeing you and your dogs, **Hot and Cold refreshments will be available all day. Licensed bar in a comfortable lounge at Lunch time.***

on
Saturday 10 December 1994
Saturday 25 February 1995
Saturday 8 April 1995

To be held under British Flyball Association Rules
The Hills' Winter League series is kindly sponsored by:

Hill's Pet Nutrition Ltd

Teams to book in and dog measuring at 7.30am. Racing starts at 8.00am.

BFA Sanctioned Open Flyball Tournament in 4 divisions
Double Elimination with Consolation Rounds.

Entry fees £14.00 per class per team per event.

£36 for all three events if paid before 1st December 1994

Teams will be split into divisions according to entries as follows:

Division 1	(Advanced)	Times under	20.00 seconds
Division 2	(Intermediate)	Times under	22.00 seconds
Division 3	(Novice)	Times under	25.00 seconds
Division 4	(Starters)	Times over	25.00 seconds

Please note that ALL TEAMS are eligible and welcome in the Hill's Winter League.

Four Breed Flyball

Entry fee's £10.00 per class per team per event.

Closing date for entries: One week before the event date (postmark).

Please note: No entries will be accepted after the closing date.

For schedules: Kevin McNicholas, 50 Tudor Road, Barnet, Herts, EN5 5NP

Tel - 081 449 7539/ (mobile) 0836 747974

E-Mail 100424.717@compuserve.com

BRITISH FLYBALL ASSOCIATION HELPLINES

If you know anyone out there who would like assistance with any Flyball problem or enquiry, call:

South Coast & Channel Isles

Anton Wittwer
38 Bacon Lane
Hayling Island
Hants
0705 468162

Home Counties/Berks/Oxon

Penny Coulter-Smith
62 Paddock Heights
Twyford
Berks
0734 341 849

Kent/Essex/East Anglia

Julie Tate "The Titan"
87 Whitchurch Road
Harold Hill
Romford
Essex
0708 341100

Wiltshire & Dorset

Ken Hickman
Riverlea
Rook Street
Mere
Wilts
0747 861341

London/Herts/Middlesex

Kevin McNicholas
50 Tudor Road
Barnet
Herts
081 449 7539

Midlands & North

Peter Roberts
48 Northampton Lane
North Moulton
Northampton
0604 648085

Cornwall & Devon

Clive Hildersley
1 Court Mill Cottages
Coombe
St Austell
Cornwall
0726 882759

Records & Statistics

Christine Dunning
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Proud Lane
Sherfield English
Romsey, Hants
0794 322553

All Membership & Advertising enquiries to the BFA Treasurer Ken Hickman

ADVERTISING RATES

Trade	Full Page	£35.00	Half page	£20.00
Private	Half page	£10.00	Quarter	£5.00
Clubs	Half page	£10.00	Quarter	£5.00