

There has been some very close racing, and much more to come.

EGM coming soon, 21st November

After a great deal of hard work and long meetings the proposals for the EGM are here, we have been bogged down in pretty much the same way as the previous committee. But we are on track again, and looking positively to the future. We have welcomed some new members to the Committee, Martin Dickenson of the Red Dragons, Graham Nye of the Maple Leafs, Gary Metherall of the Tornadoes unfortunately declined the invitation to join. Having lost Tim Toller, Betty Owen and Fiona Middleton. This really is a year of rebuilding. I am not sure that any of us knew exactly what we were letting ourselves in for at the AGM, except of course Peter Roberts, but those of us remaining are here to stay and are fully committed to our sport.

We remain responsive to the members views and opinions on our sport, as can be seen by the new layout of this publication. We would like to actively encourage your communications to the committee. This can be done by using the committee feedback page on the BFA's web site or by writing to either the BFA Chairman or Secretary at the PO Box:

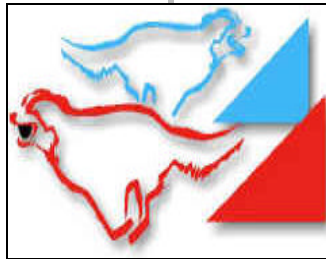
PO Box 263,
Fareham,
PO16 0XB.

Or contact your local Area Representative. The e-mail list should only be used for BFA official business.

There has been some very close racing this year, at the Royal Vet College the Jumping Jacks inched in front of the Pods with 18.24 and 18.25 respectively. Effectively this gave the Jacks 1st place in the tournament. At Stoneleigh there was

The Flyball News

Volume 1, Issue 2



The BFA Committee would like to wish Alison Sharp, of the Tornadoes Flyball Team, well. After her illness. We are sure that you will all join us in wishing her good luck on her road to, hopefully, a full and speedy recovery.

a three way run off for 2nd, 3rd and 4th. The Rocketeers had their fastest ever time, well done, and the fast improving Wakefield Tykes beat the Jumping Jacks who eventually came 4th. But all day long the racing was very, very close. The Rocketeers went on to do 18.04 at Blake Hall.

The BFA Committee's long term goal has to be a set of lights of their own, which can be transported to all sanctioned tournaments that require them, and lets face it, with many teams racing to within hundredths of a second, they are needed.

There has been some confusion over awards recently, anyone missing any award, or part of an

award please contact the Chairman ASAP. This could be the middle from an award shield or a certificate, we need to know who is missing what in order to correct the situation. A big welcome to the new Awards Secretary, Sam Bawden.

In America and Canada there have been new records set, Top Dog Racers in America ran 16.86, setting a new American record. In Canada Instant Replay-Gold ran 16.06, setting a new and current world record. Congratulations to these Teams for some great performances, may be we in Europe could start to push them again soon. Sloeber Super Plus ran 17.71, this August.

The BFA is taking seriously the wording in our rules that state “.....to promote co-operation and good sportsmanship in the sport through its, committees, rules and policies, tournaments and other activities”. To this end we have decided that we will support all Flyball in this country, not just Sanctioned Tournaments. We will take positive steps to promote training days, fun events and demonstrations throughout the country. This will encourage new membership, and help support those giving their time and effort for the good of our sport. We look on this as a positive measure, to further our sport. Anybody putting on such events, and wishing support, can fill in the form on the web site or you can forward the information to the Chairman or Secretary.

BFA Diary

October 2nd and 3rd

Sanctioned Tournament, Blake Hall, Ongar, Essex. Organiser: Modern Dog Sports.

October 9th and 10th

Sanctioned Tournament, Paddock Wood, Kent. Organiser Modern Dog Sports.

October 23rd

BFA Head Judges Seminar, Market Harborough. Organiser: The BFA.

October 24th

Sanctioned Tournament, Market Harborough. Organiser: Pods Flyball Team.

November 6th and 7th

Training Day, for Starters, Improvers and instructors. Petersfield. Organiser: The Jets Flyball Team.

November 27th and 28th

Sanctioned Tournament, Petersfield. Grand Prix Flyball UK Team Championships. Organiser: Modern Dog Sports.

They will ensure that the event is publicised and supported as far as is practical.

Congratulations to Andy and Tina Foster of the Bassett Allsorts on the birth of their daughter Rebecca. A budding box loader, with a high pitch scream.

Thank you to Steph for all her time and effort in producing The Flyball Record, please pass on to her anything that you would like to have included in the next issue.

The committee would like to thank all Show Organisers and Judges for their time and effort in putting on BFA sanctioned shows. Also to those who work on the lights and those who Box Judge. The unsung hero's and heroines of Flyball. Many do not fully appreciate just what it means to organise, and run a show. Thank you for your efforts, past and future. What about the box loader, always goes un-noticed, until it all goes wrong. Then they are the centre of attention.

Congratulations to Lizzy, the Pods lead dog, on the successful birth of nine puppies. Now the sleepless nights start, along with the tiring shifts looking after them.

At Blake hall we had visitors from Australia, Richard and Kirsty from The Croydon Rockets. Richard ran Andy Bawden's Moss in the Fun Pairs event. The Fun Pairs event was Judged by Kirsty. The both had a good time, and an invitation was extended to all for a reciprocal visit to Australia. Any takers. Kirsty re-

marked on the lack of noise around the ring, in Australia they tether or cage their dogs around the ring, and they bark all day.

With the impending start of Pet Passport's, the committee look forward to competing against our friends from mainland Europe

This would provide an exciting opportunity to compete against and learn from each other in the same ring.

It will happen that teams from all over Europe will compete against each other in the same ring, instead of comparing times. Racing each other is the only real comparison. It will happen one day.

The Committee had two members at the first European Championships In Kontich, Belgium. They ran Belgium Dogs against teams from across Europe, and won their Division. One day there will be a European Championship that has British teams running British dogs.

Who knows, we may get the chance to run against the Americans or Canadians, a scary thought at present. But

Tournament Results

Stoneleigh :30/08/99

Head Judge: Chris Fulford

Division 1 Head Judge:Chris Fulford

1st	PODS	18.51
2nd	Wakefield Tykes	19.03
3rd	Rocketeers	18.66
4th	Jumping Jacks	19.29

Division 3 Judge: Lorraine Fulford

1st	Red Dragons	18.73
2nd	The Mega Bytes	21.27
3rd	Barkshire Bullets	21.75
4th	Rocket Reaction	21.28
5th	Bassett Allsorts	24.61

Dartford 24/07/99

Head Judge: Gwain Theobald

Div 1 Judge: Steve Whatley

1st	Turbo Jets	17.90
2nd	Rocketeers	19.00
3rd	Jumping Jacks	18.88
4th	Barkshire Bandits	20.03
5th	Katies Cruisers	20.75
6th	Bristol Ball-istics	20.65

Nostell Priory 17/07/99

Division 1 Head Judge: Gwain Theobald

1st	Jumping Jacks	19.37
2nd	Wakefield Tykes	19.77
3rd	K9er's	20.15
4th	Four Runners	20.50
5th	Wolf Pack	20.42
6th	Northern Bytes	20.48

Royal Veterinary College 03/07/99

Division 1 Head Judge: Betty Owen

1st	Jumping Jacks	18.24
2nd	Pods	18.24
3rd	Barkshire Bandits	19.60
4th	Tornadoes	18.76
5th	Podlets	20.03

Division 3 Head Judge: Nigel Bouckly

1st	Melton Rovers	21.10
2nd	Barkshire Bandits	21.25
3rd	Mega Bytes	21.42
4th	Bassett Allsorts	21.18
5th	Winchats	21.58
6th	Tornadoes Too	21.38

Division 2 Judge: Lorraine Fulford

1st	Wolf Pack	19.72
2nd	Northern Bytes	20.45
3rd	Bassett Hotdogs	20.83
4th	Bristol Ball-istics	21.89
5th	Genesis Jumpers	21.89

Division 4 Head Judge: Chris Fulford

1st	PODlins	21.44
2nd	Border Patrol	23.80
3rd	Wakefield Terror Tykes	25.51
4th	Bristol Ball-istic Missiles	25.88
5th	Brat Pack	25.00

Division 2 Head Judge: Gwain Theobald

1st	K9er's	20.59
2nd	Maple Leafs	21.25
3rd	Mega Bytes	21.40
4th	Genesis Jumpers	22.15
5th	Ball Busters	24.04
6th	Hawks (withdrawn)	N/T

Division 2 Head Judge: Gwain Theobald

1st	Maple Leafs	21.00
2nd	Melton Rovers	20.45
3rd	Wakefield Terror Tykes	24.19
4th	Mega Bytes	21.40
5th	Springers	28.94
6th	Border Patrol UK (NFC)	25.83
7th	Fylde Coasters (NFC)	24.73

Division 2 Head Judge: Betty Owen

1st	Wakefield Tykes	20.19
2nd	Wacky Racers	19.86
3rd	Bristol-Ballistics	19.80
4th	Four Runners	20.97
5th	Wolf Pack	23.37
6th	Katies Cruisers	22.53

Division 4 Head Judge: Mo Van Mokum

1st	Wakefield Terror Tykes	24.77
2nd	Ball Busters	22.66
3rd	Brat Pack	26.56
4th	Podlings	27.94
5th	Ball-istic Missiles	25.70

Blake Hall, Ongar: 02/03/10/99

Round Robin Competition

Head Judge: Gwain Theobald

Judge: Robert Henshall

1st Jets again

2nd

3rd

4th

5th

Round Robin Consolation Division

1st

2nd

3rd

4th

5th

Division 2 Head Judge: Gwain Theobald

1st

2nd

3rd

4th

5th

Padock Wood, Kent: 10/10/99

Division 1 Head Judge : Gwian Theobald

Judge: Nicky XXXXXXXX

1st Jets 17.34

2nd Jumping Jacks 19.24

3rd Rocketeers 19.24

4th Barkshire Bandits 18.67

5th Turbo Jets 18.79

Division 2

1st Jet Setters 19.44

2nd Maple Leafs 21.29

3rd Katies Cruisers 20.42

4th Barkshire Bandits 22.23

Division 3

1st Springboks 21.49

2nd Bassett Alsorts 21.09

3rd Genesis Jumpers 21.34

4th Rocket Reaction N/T

The Judges Seminar to held in October has so far been well supported, thanks to our Training Officer Peter Roberts for providing the training and facilities. We hope that this will set the standard for others to follow, leading the way in Judges training and education. Our Judges can be accused of nothing less than honest decisions, and to keep it that way we will be holding regular seminars with workshops. This will encourage new Judges and avoid the inconsistency that troubles some other sports.

Dog measuring will be covered at the seminar, one of the many problems that the Committee are approaching at the moment. Looking at the height forms returns, there is mainly consistent measuring, there will always be borderline dogs. Our proposal is that there are two Head Judges at each measuring, they agree the dogs height. After measurements at three different Tournaments, within twelve months, attaining the same height, the handler may apply for a height card. A height card can then be produced at dog measuring, leaving more time for what we want to do, run our dogs.

Enclosed is the Notice of the EGM, the Committee's proposals for the EGM can be obtained from your Team Captain, Area Representative or the BFA Website. Please take time to read them over, and prepare your thoughts. There will be time to discuss and adjust them to the memberships wants. But there will be a lot to get through, so we must stick to the agenda, and try to progress rapidly. Many thanks to Andy and Sam Bawden for their efforts in arranging the facilities for this EGM and many committee meetings this year, especially to Sam for providing the food.

Once the new rule book has been agreed at the EGM, the committee will print and issue the new rule books, this is a much more cost effective method than updating at every change, when many changes are proposed all in one go for the EGM. We understand that it is your subscriptions that pay for the BFA, and should be spent responsibly.

And finally, the Committee have faced much criticism, but let us assure you that we will continue to do the best for Flyball in this country. We will face our critics, and answer their criticism's, at the AGM the membership will judge us on what we will have achieved this year: A new rule book, a growth in our sport, better promotion at grass roots encouraging new membership and improved competition, a new committee that can work well together and progress, but most of all a bright future for Flyball. Don't forget FLYBALL IS FUN.