

Highlights from the 8/22/09 Board Meeting

Election Information:

- **Hall of Fame** – There were 14 nominees, narrowed down to five finalists:
 - Klondike – 010611, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, owned by Chris Romaine
 - Morgan – 011573, Great Dane, owned by Keri Caraher
 - Radar – 960326, Border Collie, owned by Aaron Robbins
 - Roxanne – 970122, Border Collie, owned by Jane Horsfield
 - Shadow – 980128, Mix, owned by Karen Larkin

Other nominees included: Bainbridge Savannah (Australian Shepherd owned by Sharon Atkinson), Divit (Border Collie owned by Russell Rex), Highwater Bennington (Jack/Parson Russell Terrier owned by Valerie Whiterock), Indy (Mini Australian/North American Shepherd), Sophie (Mix owned by Neil Flood), Steele (Shetland Sheepdog owned by Cheryl Steadman), Stimp (Yorkshire Terrier owned by Kristie Pope), Whiskey (Border Collie owned by Jeremy Traas), and Zack (Chesapeake Bay Retriever owned by Janice Grimes-Davis).

- **Regional MVP nominees** – (two nominees were disqualified for not racing in past year)
 - Region 1 – Absolut . . . Straight Up, Dylan, Tess
 - Region 2 – J.Jay, Trav
 - Region 3 – Fizz
 - Region 4 – Siobhan, Sydney
 - Region 5 – Buster, Chavano's Hail to Ebby Savanna, Georgia, Jack
 - Region 6 – Penny
 - Region 7 – Boomer, Brandi, Flag
 - Region 8 – Argente, Guinness
 - Region 9 – Rufus
 - Region 10 – Aléa, Brandi, Chevy, Megs, Static
 - Region 11 – Loki
 - Region 12 – Blaze, Buddy Simon, Kaos
 - Region 13 – Highwater Bennington, Loki, Reese, Sally, Shiva, Tegan, Walker
 - Region 14 – Bailey, Casey, Griffin, PDQ
 - Region 15 – Salty
 - Region 16 – Fromage, Spooky
 - Region 18 – Willoughby
 - Region 19 – Cassi, Lickity Split Nifty, Mariah, Mickey, Tessie
 - Region 21 – Chloe, Ruckus, Scooby, Sketcher

- **Nominees for Board of Directors:**
 - Zachary Chernik
 - Leerie Jenkins
 - Dana Nichols
 - Karen Oleson
 - Ruth VanWert

Rule Changes effective 10/1/09:

- Modification to Section 6.1(f):

“NAFA® will not sanction a tournament within ~~250~~ 200 road miles of a previously sanctioned NAFA® tournament, without written approval from the sanctioned tournament’s club owner.”

- Changes to NAFA Judges Program
 - Supervising judge applicants –
 - requires letters of recommendation
 - names of applicants will be posted on webpage for comment prior to voting by Board
 - applicants will be required to meet with Judges Committee via teleconference before voting
 - Minor changes to apprentice requirements and to forms
- Modifications to aggression excusal form to conform with rule changes implemented at 3/21/09 meeting
- Amendments to Chapter 5 – Judges regarding procedures for manual starts
- Definition of “not measurable” adopted:

“Refuses to stand; refuses to stand still; refuses to stand in an appropriate measuring stance as set forth in Chapter 4 (e) and illustration 4.1, Rules of Racing, which results in the measuring judge being unable to take an accurate measurement. At any time before a final measurement is taken and committed to paper, a handler may walk away and the dog will be treated as if it had not been presented for measuring.”

- Adopted rule regarding use of video in racing:

Section 8.3 – The Heat (m)(iii): *“Video shall not be used to override, or help determine the winner of a heat. Video can be used to remove a malfunctioning EJS from the ring, but it may not be used by a judge as the basis to rerun a heat.”*

- Modified definition of racing day to eliminate 30 minute waiting period after racing:

“Racing day – the racing day begins thirty minutes before the first scheduled race and ends after the conclusion of the last race of the day and the Electronic Judging System has been

removed (unless the Executive Director has granted permission for use of the EJS outside of racing)."

- Modified 6.1(k) to clarify that not all classes in a tournament must be limited
- Approved amendment to Section 6.1 regarding sanctioning, as follows:

"(p) NAFA reserves the right to deny or revoke tournament sanctioning in the event that the tournament proposed would not in the best interest of NAFA®. This includes, but is not limited to, sanctioning an event at the same venue, on the same weekend, as an event scheduled by another flyball sanctioning organization."

- Did not modify the Section 8.3(h) to allow judges to assign a no finish when stopping a heat for safety reasons due to knocked jumps, but did make the following change to Section 8.3(j):

"(j) Knocked down jumps. A team whose dog(s) knocks down a jump(s) during its run shall not be penalized, provided all dog(s) clear the jump(s) as if it were standing. A "runner" or handler may set up knocked down jump(s) if so doing does not interfere with either team or guide the dog in any way. Even if the judge does not stop the heat for a knocked down jump(s), it is up to the individual competitor to decide whether it is appropriate to run his or her dog, or to accept a no finish."

- Modified bylaws to Article VII, Section 2 to add:

"Delegate votes will be determined once each year at the close of the NAFA® Racing Year based on the activities of the club or individual during the year just completed. Delegate votes exercisable in FY 2010 shall be determined by the number of delegate votes a club earned by virtue of activities in either FY 2008 or FY 2009, whichever yields the higher number of votes."

This also required a change in the timing of the Annual General Meeting to allow for delegate votes to be tabulated based on tournament results. The new time frame for the AGM will be December 1 – January 31. The Board will be soliciting requests from tournaments to host the AGM this year during this new time frame.

- Modification to Section 1.6 – Regional Directors in conformance with prior Board votes as follows:

"(b) Regional Directors shall be appointed by the Executive Director, and approved by the Board of Directors. Upon a change of Executive Director, the slate of Regional Directors shall be tendered for approval at the next in-person meeting of the Board of Directors"

- Modification to Chapter 4 – Measuring, as follows:

"(m) After a protest or a measuring performed at the head judge's request, if the head judge determines a team is not jumping at least the minimum height in a round robin format, the team shall forfeit any heats ~~won~~ run at the improper jump height. In the case of an elimination format, the team shall be excused."

- Modification to Chapter 4 – Measuring, as follows:

“(I) Any protest with respect to a dog's jump height must be verbalized to the Tournament Director and/or the Regional Director within 30 minutes of the heat in question by the Captain of a competing team in that division or combined division. The head judge may at any time measure a dog. At the time a dog is measured pursuant to a protest, all racing should stop until measuring has concluded.”

- Modification to Chapter 6 – Hosting a NAFA® sanctioned tournament, subsection (i), (ii), as follows:

*“Whenever it is necessary to seed a division of fewer than 4 teams, the division shall be combined with an adjacent division for race scheduling purposes, **unless permission is received from the Executive Director**. If an elimination format is used, the divisions shall not be combined for that portion of the schedule. Division placements and break-out times for each individual division still apply.”*

Coming soon:

- Measuring training video has been completed and will be posted on the web page soon
- Will begin utilizing electronic distribution of ballots for delegates who opt in
- Developing a Judge of Year award – Judges Committee to develop language for implementation in 2010
- Hughes lights sets will be decommissioned effective 3/31/2010
- Announcement email list – opt in for updates from NAFA
- Online sanctioning to be introduced
- Schedule Optimizing Program in development