

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

Present were: Executive Director Lee Heighton  
Board of Directors Sam Ford,  
Nancy Garcia,  
Leerie Jenkins,  
Dana Nichols,  
Karen Oleson,  
Curtis Smith,  
Dale Smith.

Chair Leerie Jenkins called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. CST. Dave Walt and Ally Stern were absent due to scheduling conflicts.

Guests: Kim Davis

## **Officers' Reports**

### Chair's Comments – Leerie Jenkins

Leerie welcomed our guest, Kim Davis. He thanked everyone for all their hard work.

Leerie reported that the new database is now live. He thanked Gord & Emma Mak, Karen Oleson, and Dale Smith for all their work on the database and transition.

Leerie thanked outgoing board member, Dana Nichols for her service to the Board. He presented a glass plate custom made with a picture of one of her border collies.

### Executive Director's Comments – Lee Heighton

Lee also thanked Dana for her service to NAFA.

Lee also commented on the new database and said that his plan is to continue to make our organization even more flexible and customer service oriented.

RD issues:

There are currently three acting regional directors. Two were just appointed, so Lee indicated he wanted to wait to have the board consider their approval to make sure they are comfortable with the position and a good fit.

Billy Coleman has been the acting regional director in region 6 for about a year. Lee reported he has done well and requested the Board approve him as RD of the region. Dana said she judged in his region last April and enjoyed working with him. Nancy moved to approve. Dale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes

January 25, 2013

Candis Amasalian was recently appointed acting regional director for the northern California area of Region 16. Candis has many years in flyball and Lee expressed his appreciation for her willingness to act as RD. Lee thanked the outgoing regional director Bill Carter for his service to the region and NAFA.

Jayne McQuillen was recently appointed acting regional director of region 21. Jayne has been an active member of her region for many years and Lee expressed his appreciation for her willingness to act as RD. Lee thanked the outgoing regional director Sharon Atkinson for her service to the region and NAFA.

Leerie moved we enter Executive Session.

The Board entered Executive Session at 9:19 a.m.

The Board exited Executive Session at 9:55 a.m.

During executive session, the board authorized the purchase of additional matting based on a favorable cost benefit analysis.

## Treasurer's Report – Nancy Garcia

Nancy distributed financial documents. She reported that we currently have 63,000 points in our AmEx rewards. She cashed out our balance for worker raffle gifts at CanAm, but the balance is already back up to 63,000. She discussed investment options for CDs.

We received notification that UPS rates are increasing. This will only affect US shipping. Kelly Price and Greg Stopay have assisted with setting up an account with Purolator for Canadian shipping of EJS.

The board took a brief break.

## Secretary's Report – Dana Nichols

- 9/4/12 – minutes from 8/11/12 Toronto Board meeting approved by unanimous consent
- 9/13/12 –the 8/11/12 meeting minutes were posted to NAFA page with attachments
- 11/29/12 – Board authorized a letter to Betty Carroll in honor of her retirement from flyball thanking her for her years of service. A copy of the letter is attached to the minutes.

Sam reported that the letter to Betty Carroll was quite well received. He expressed his appreciation for the board's letter. Betty was quite touched and appreciative.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

### Nominating Committee – Dana Hanson

Leerie expressed his thanks on behalf of NAFA to Dana Hanson of Double Dog Dare from Georgia for acting as chair of the nominating committee this year. He did an excellent job. He coordinated two candidate chats with transcripts posted on the NAFA web page.

**North American Flyball Association, Inc.**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

Judges Committee – Dave Walt (Leerie presented for Dave)

Leerie presented the following requests for advancement of judges.

- Bob Atol, Richfield MN – Provisional to Approved. The judges committee unanimously recommends advancement. Dana moved to approve. Nancy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Brian Bickerstaff, Coaldale AB – Apprentice to Provisional. The judges committee unanimously recommends advancement. Karen moved to approve. Sam seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Robin Chapelski, Edmonton AB – Apprentice to Provisional. The judges committee unanimously recommends advancement. Sam moved to approve. Karen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Jonathan Phaneuf, Chilliwack BC – Apprentice to Provisional. The judges committee unanimously recommends advancement. Sam moved to approve. Dana seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Glen Robbins, Ottawa, ON – Provisional to Approved. The judges committee unanimously recommends advancement. Curtis moved to approve. Sam seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- George Vincent, St. Andrews MB – Provisional to Approved. The judges committee unanimously recommends advancement. Karen moved to approve. Sam seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Training videos – There has not been any further advancement on the tournament hosting video. If the changes to the measuring rule pass, there will likely need to be revisions to the measuring video.

Rules Committee – Curtis Smith

Curtis distributed comments received by the committee to the members of the board.

**1. Split mixes into 2 "breeds" based on height -- Cindy Henderson**

*I have a proposal for consideration by the board that may assist teams in fielding a multibreed team. Since there are so many mixed breeds in the sport we could split dogs that are of mixed breeding into 2 separate "breeds". Put mixed breeds 16 inches and over into a category of Mixed Breed - Large and those under 16 inches into the category of Mixed Breed - Small.*

*I know that NAFA is not in the business of being a breed registry. This height distinction would give the benefit of separating dogs that are clearly of different body types and could give a club another "breed"*

**North American Flyball Association, Inc.**

Board of Directors Meeting

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes

January 25, 2013

*to list on a multi team. This would allow for a distinction that is easily assessed and/or challenged if necessary by the judge - just measure the dogs in question as we would with a height dog. We could even measure dogs not only for the purposes of being a height dog but for the taller Mixed Breed-Large designation in the morning and list on the same form. NAFA could even offer height cards for the purposes of dogs that fall into the Mixed Breed-Large designation (possibly generating a bit more revenue for NAFA even).*

*This may be a fairly easy thing to implement that could benefit multibreed entries while not putting NAFA into the breed registry business.*

*Thank you for your consideration.*

*Regards,*

*Cindy Henderson*

*Weston Whirlwinds Flyball Team*

*NAFA Judge*

*Region Director, Region 13*

**Recommendations:** The committee is amenable to the idea of having two mixes on a multibreed team if they are split by some well-defined criteria such as height. At present, a Great Dane mix cannot run with a Chihuahua mix on a multibreed team since they are considered the same breed. However, on the other end of the spectrum, if mixes are split based on height, one possible outcome could be multibreed teams with pairs of nearly identical mixes, perhaps even littermates, one just below the cutoff and the other just above.

If mixes are split based on height, the committee agrees that 16 inches would make a good cutoff (i.e., small mixes must be under 16 inches). Additionally, the committee suggests that all mixes remain classified as "Mix" unless some criteria are met (e.g., a height card is obtained). Requiring a height card would decrease the likelihood of breed challenges (Mix vs. Mix - Small) since any breed challenge could essentially be dealt with as a height card challenge. Mixes that already have height cards and are less than the cutoff height could simply request a breed change if desired. Another option to consider is allowing owners to declare their dogs as Mix - Small on the honor system; although this alternative option would presumably result in a comparatively higher number of breed/height challenges. Lastly, the committee has some concern that splitting mixes based on height would slow down the measuring process at tournaments.

Regardless, before implementing any changes, the board may want to consider having a comment period for competitors to share their thoughts and/or putting the proposal up for a delegate vote (despite the associated significant delay). Yet another option would be to implement any changes on a 1-year trial basis.

Curtis led a discussion of the proposal and several different possible options.

Dave Walt was unable to attend, but sent a written comment ahead of time in strong opposition to this proposal. The committee received one additional comment.

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

Curtis brainstormed other options, including dividing into three categories: small mix, large mix, and mix (catchall for mixes that do not go through a measuring verification process). Two mixes could run together on a multi team only if one is large and the other is small.

There was discussion of whether there was enough support to even discuss splitting mixes as a general concept.

Dana moved we consider adoption of a mix and small mix category. Dale seconded.

There was discussion of the challenges associated with such a split. If a dog did not get a height card, then it would fall into the mix category. This would mean you could have two small dogs, even littermates, running on the same multi team. Also, this would put a specific requirement for a dog to get into a breed and take us outside of our existing honor system for breed designation. Such a change would also affect comparing statistics and would be a marked departure to historical multibreed rules.

Ultimately the board felt it would want substantial feedback from the community before voting on such a proposal. Four board members were in favor of at least discussing possible changes to the multibreed rules, including splitting mixes. The board decided to seek feedback from the community for proposals on how to split mixes or otherwise encourage the multibreed class, especially the mechanics of how such a proposal could be fairly and administratively implemented.

Dale called question.

Dana withdrew her motion. Dale withdrew his second.

Dana made a new motion to seek comments from the community regarding splitting mixes or otherwise encouraging the multibreed class, including mechanics of how such a proposal could be fairly and administratively implemented. Dale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **2. Change the minimum age to 18 months -- Clara Theiss**

*I would like to request that the Board review and consider a proposal to change the minimum age for dogs to compete in NAFA to 18 months.*

*Flyball is a demanding sport both physically and mentally. Dogs at one year of age still require time to mature.*

*I have reviewed the minimum age of the other sports, here are the findings.*

### *Agility*

*Canadian Kennel Club (CKC), Agility Association of Canada (AAC), the minimum age is 18 months. United States Dog Agility Association is also 18 months, but there is an "Intro Level" which allows dog to play at a non-competitive level at the age of 14 months. American Kennel Club (AKC) is 15 months.*

*Even with this delayed start there are different skill levels (Starters, Advance, Masters) the dog must obtain before reaching the highest level which means they are not required to be pushed to the hardest*

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

*level first time in. Plus there are different classes that can be entered so that some of the more demanding equipment are not used (Jumpers only, Gambler etc.). All agility associations also have performance levels which give the option to have a dog run at a lower jump height, no spread jumps and lower aframe, (specials or performance classes).*

*In flyball the dogs goes out full force right away. The only cushion is the jump height could be lower if a small height dog was used. (unless the new dog is the height dog or a small dog). Dogs need not run a full spot their first time out BUT there is no guidelines or rules to say that a dog should not run a full spot early in its flyball career.*

*Obedience (either competitive or Rally-O)*

*Minimum age in various organizations is generally 6 months, but this is not as physically demanding as flyball or agility.*

*Some items to consider*

*1) the number of tournaments in NAFA has increased over the years. In my area there are times during the summer months that if you wish to travel a little bit, you could compete in 4 - 5 tournaments in a row.*

*This means*

*a) there is the opportunity for a young dog to do alot of running early in its career and;  
b) as there are more tournaments an extension of the minimum age does not mean an excessive wait due to no available tournaments.*

*2) For a dog to be ready to run and compete (not just warm ups) when first entered, means there has been a lot of "training" before a year of age.*

*3) Tournaments may not fill, therefore the opportunity is there for a dog to be listed on more than one team and run more than one spot.*

*4) Many tournaments now give 9 - 10 races a weekend. Many years ago the norm was 8 races over a weekend, sometimes only 7 races. There is now more heats available for a young dog to run.*

*Recently I had the pleasure to see first-hand 2 milestones in the sport of flyball.*

*1) the setting of the new world record of under 15.000 seconds and;*

*2) the highest pointed dog in NAFA setting a new record No doubt the sport has certainly changed over the years, training is better, but the physical and mental requirements are still there for a young dog.*

*Thank you for your time and the opportunity to address the minimum age.*

*I have also attached a couple of articles from the internet addressing the development of dogs as pups and when exercise and sports should be started.*

*Clara Theiss*

*Co-founding member of K9 Thunder (1990)*

*AAC Masters Agility Judge*

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes

January 25, 2013

*<See the accompanying file named 18\_month.pdf.>*

**Recommendations:** The committee agrees that the proposal has some merit and that its implementation would be a major change to the sport. In general, the committee does not believe it is a safety issue for every dog or that running dogs at too young of an age is a widespread problem. There are many clubs that will not run dogs until their growth plates are closed, and even then, not in a full-time slot. Making everyone conform to the least common denominator is not necessarily the right thing to do.

One committee member suggested that perhaps dogs between 1-1.5 years old only be allowed in warm-ups; but another member remarked that if such a dog were to run in a heat that did not earn points, the database would not catch it. If applicable, before any changes are implemented, the committee recommends that the board consider soliciting input from the flyball community and perhaps conducting some additional research on the topic.

Curtis introduced the topic. There was discussion about the proposal, but ultimately no motion was put forth.

### 3. Paper form for Judge of the Year nominations -- Kim Davis

*I noticed that we have a paper form for HOF and MVP but not one for JOY in the links on the website or the rulebook*

<http://www.flyball.org/rules/C7.pdf>

*Should we have one they can print out for JOY, like the other two?*

**Recommendations:** During the 2012 nominating period, only one nomination was submitted by paper. Consequently, the committee unanimously recommends the C.7 form be removed from the rule book and that all future nominations for Hall of Fame, Regional MVP, and Judge of the Year be submitted via the current online process.

Curtis relayed that NAFA only received one nomination by fax this year. All other nominations were submitted through the online forms. When a nomination is received on paper, the nominating chair actually keys the nomination in through the web page. Curtis indicated there would be a few changes needed in the rules if the recommendation were adopted.

Dale moved to adopt the recommendation. Dana seconded.

There was discussion regarding requiring people to utilize technology. The election is already conducted completely electronically and internet access is readily available through most libraries for those who do not own computers or have internet access.

The motion passed unanimously.

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

Rules committee will draft any needed changes throughout the rule book.

#### 4. Require running of all 4 dogs -- Dede Crough

*I have been thinking about this for several days and have been bothered enough that I decided to approach the Rules Committee. It is regarding a team's decision to not run the rest of the team after the first dog has a bad bobble or flags. Please note that what I am saying applies only to teams deciding not to run their dogs the \*first\* time; it does not apply to teams electing not to \*rerun\* dogs who have flagged.*

*This may appear to be about only one instance by one particular club, but it is not. Yes, they are the only club that I have ever seen do this (and I had never heard of any other club doing it), but you will see below that this club apparently has done it before, and others may be doing it. And I would be sending you the same e-mail regardless of which club had participated in a race in this manner.*

*There was a discussion on someone else's Facebook page regarding what happened in the race to which I'm referring. (I can document everything I state here). The owner of Club A explained that they did not run the other three dogs in all three heats (after the start dog made mistakes) for strategic reasons, as they were running one of their dogs on both that team and on another team that was in the next race, and they didn't want to run that dog "just for the sake of running." A member of Club B (Club A's competitor in the race I'm referring to) said that "in the top divisions it is common to do" what Club A did, that is, not run dogs on "lost heats." I asked for clarification, that she was talking about not running the dogs \*at all\* as opposed to not \*rerunning\* them, but did not get a response. One other commenter on the Facebook thread said that she had seen Club A not run their whole lineup at a tournament earlier in 2012.*

*I think it should be against the rules for any team to not run 4 dogs in every heat unless the judge whistles the heat dead, or there is an obvious safety or injury concern. I also think any team that goes into the ring and does not release 4 dogs in turn during every heat without just cause should be declared FEO.*

*I have been thinking about how this might work. The head judge should make the determination of just cause. Most of the time if there's an obvious safety or injury concern the judge is going to whistle the heat dead anyway. But, a jump might be knocked over and the judge might not whistle, and the team might be unaware that the rules allow them to reset the jump, so they might elect not to run the rest of the team over the knocked jump. I would call that just cause to not run the entire team and the judge, even if \*he\* thought there was not enough of a safety issue to whistle the heat dead, should not declare the team FEO.*

*"Running a team" should be defined as "four dogs each released in turn by their handlers." Being released in turn would be sufficient to consider that a dog has run, which would cover instances where dogs are released but never actually cross the start line for whatever reason, or who otherwise don't complete a full run.*

*NAFA flyball is first and foremost a race between two teams of 4 dogs. Trying to "save" double-listed dogs for subsequent races, or just trying to rest dogs on a team that might be gunning for a new best time, should never be more important than playing the game the way it is supposed to be played and*

**North American Flyball Association, Inc.**

Board of Directors Meeting

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes

January 25, 2013

*running 4 dogs in every heat. Some may cite concern for a dog having to run too much as a safety issue, but to them I would say if you think your dog can't safely run the number of heats in the race, then you should be running another dog instead or sharing the spot. And if you think it's not safe to run your dog in back-to-back races, run another dog in one of the races. Or, you can pull that dog and run FEO. Or forfeit a race.*

*In my opinion, taking a team into the ring and then opting not to run the whole lineup (as defined above) in every heat because one of the dogs made a mistake or was flagged is just quitting. I think it reflects poorly on the team and on NAFA flyball in general. Running fewer than 4 dogs in a heat is no different than running For Exhibition Only and should be treated as such.*

*Thank you for your consideration,*

*Dede Crough*

*Owner and Captain*

*Happily Evfur After Flyball Club*

*Region 15*

**Recommendations:** The committee understands that people have very strong opinions on both sides of the issue. Some committee members believe it can be strategically appropriate to not run all four dogs in a lineup while other members are concerned that such behavior may reflect poorly on flyball. However, the committee unanimously agrees that it would be extremely difficult to codify all possible circumstances for which it might not be possible to run all four dogs. For example, some dogs may not be focused enough to run unless there is another dog running in the other lane; or a dog may appear to be lame as a heat starts only to look fine after the heat is completed. Realistically, after examining the issue, the committee believes serious unintended and detrimental consequences could arise as a result of unknown variables and unforeseen situations. Because of these potential problems and the associated difficulty with codifying any rule changes, the committee recommends that the board not adopt the proposal.

Dana asked for a point of order discussion of what information should go in the minutes. An absent board member provided written comments ahead of time. There was discussion of whether the entire text should go into the meeting minutes or if it was sufficient to summarize the opposition. The concern expressed was that, especially on heated discussions, then all board members might request that their comments be put into the meeting minutes word for word. Ultimately the consensus was that a summary of the position would be sufficient.

Ally Stern submitted written comments to the board ahead of time expressing her strong opinion that this type of conduct is in direct violation of the existing code of conduct.

Curtis discussed the committee's recommendation not to adopt proposal because of many different issues in practicality of administering that type of rule. He did receive some comments on the proposal that were shared with the board.

Nancy moved to accept the committee's recommendation not to adopt any rule change. Dale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

## 5. Measuring rules -- <Stemming from discussion on the judges list>

*After much discussion on the judges list and on the judges committee list, the NAFA Chair asked that the rules committee clarify some of the rules related to measuring. The crux of the issue is:*

*In some regions, the statement "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" (page 17, PDF page 23, definition of Not Measurable) in conjunction with the statement that a "dog may be measured up to 3 times" (page 9, PDF page 15, Section 4(f) of the Rules of Racing) has been interpreted as implying that a first measurement is not "final" if the handler decides to walk away. However, in other regions, once a valid measurement is taken, the competitor cannot disregard the measurement as if it never happened. Otherwise, folks would be able to shop around for height card measurements.*

*Due to the lack of consistency among regions, the rules committee was tasked with reevaluating the definition of "Not Measurable" along with several sections of Chapter 4 - Measuring, while taking into consideration the following recommendations from the judges committee:*

- *The rules should make it clear that a competitor cannot walk away from a proper/valid measurement.*
- *If there are multiple judges measuring at a tournament and a competitor wishes to obtain more than one measurement, all measurements must be from the same judge.*

**Recommendations:** The committee recommends that the board adopt the edits contained in the accompanying file named measuring\_edits.pdf.

Curtis explained that the rules and judges committees became aware that there was a lack of consistency in how measuring being handled in different regions. The main issues were when a handler could walk away from measuring and a dog being measured up to three times. Some people were getting a measurement, not liking it, and walking away. The committee decided it should be clear that a competitor should not be able to walk away from a measurement. And the rules should reflect that a dog should have the right to be measured up to three times.

If multiple judges are measuring at a tournament, all of the three measurements must be taken by the same judge. A practice measurement can be done as long as it is clearly indicated to be a practice measurement. If the handler wishes to then take an official measurement, they would have to walk away, come back, reset the dog, and have a new measurement taken officially.

Dale moved to adopt the recommendation. Sam seconded.

There was discussion of a number of modifications to the language.

The meeting was briefly adjourned for lunch.

When the meeting was resumed, further changes were discussed.

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

Dale moved to amend his motion to include all changes made by the board to the measuring edits as recorded by the secretary and for the judges committee to modify the measuring video as needed. Sam accepted the amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

The final changes approved (red text = original edits recommended by the rules committee; blue text = edits made during the board meeting):

## *Rules of Racing*

### Chapter 4 - Measuring

(f) - The dog ~~is entitled to receive~~~~may be measured~~ up to 3 measurements, attempts, or combinations thereof~~times~~. The dog must be presented in an acceptable stand (as described in paragraph e and in illustration 4.1 above), within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed five minutes per attempt. The lowest acceptable measurement as determined ~~obtained~~ by the judge shall be the dog's ~~recorded~~ official height for that tournament. At any time before the judge determines an acceptable measurement is has been taken, a handler may walk away and choose not to have the dog measured.

(j) In cases where multiple judges are measuring, if a competitor wishes to obtain more than one measurement, attempt, or combination thereof, all measurements/attempts must be with the same judge. ~~o~~

~~Once a dog's height has been measured and recorded a final acceptable measurement is obtained by either the measuring judge on the Jump Height Form, it shall be the dog's official jump height for that tournament, regardless of which ring the dog may run in.~~

(k) ~~Once the dog is measured, the judge is under no obligation to re-measure the same dog. If a dog is re-measured and the measuring Judge determines he has made a mistake, the team shall in no way be penalized. However, the team will be required to jump the proper height for any remaining heats.~~

<With the suggested merging of subsections (k) and (l), all subsequent subsections would be relabeled accordingly.>

(l) 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. However, once the measuring judge has finalized the Jump Heights Form (C.9) at an event, the judge is under no obligation to remeasure any dog of the dogs listed on the C.9 for the same event. The head judge may at any time measure a dog. If a dog is remeasured and the height obtained is higher than that obtained during the measuring period, the team shall in no way be penalized. However, the team will be required to jump the proper height for any remaining heats. 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.

-In the event a team has failed to record the dog's jump height on the C.2 time sheet and the dog fails the jump height challenge, it will be presumed that the team was jumping the incorrect height in all preceding heats where the dog was circled.

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes

January 25, 2013

(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 required height in a round robin format, the team shall forfeit any heats run at the improper jump height. In the case of an elimination format, the team shall be excused.

## *Glossary*

Not Measurable - Refuses to stand; refuses to stand still; refuses to stand in an ~~appropriate~~ acceptable 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 ~~acceptable~~ accurate measurement within the allotted number of measuring attempts. ~~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.~~

Clean copy of changes (before renumbering):

### Chapter 4 - Measuring

(f) - The dog is entitled to receive up to 3 measurements, attempts, or combinations thereof. The dog must be presented in an acceptable stand (as described in paragraph e and in illustration 4.1 above), within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed five minutes per attempt. The lowest acceptable measurement as determined by the judge shall be the dog's official height for that tournament. At any time before the judge determines an acceptable measurement has been taken, a handler may walk away and choose not to have the dog measured.

(j) In cases where multiple judges are measuring, if a competitor wishes to obtain more than one measurement, attempt, or combination thereof, all measurements/attempts must be with the same judge.

(k) [note that subsections would be renumbered based on modifying and combining paragraphs]

(l) 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. However, once the measuring judge has finalized the Jump Heights Form (C.9) at an event, the judge is under no obligation to remeasure any dog listed on the C.9 for the same event. The head judge may at any time measure a dog. If a dog is remeasured and the height obtained is higher than that obtained during the measuring period, the team shall in no way be penalized. However, the team will be required to jump the proper height for any remaining heats. At the time a dog is measured pursuant to a protest, all racing should stop until measuring has concluded. In the event a team has failed to record the dog's jump height on the C.2 time sheet and the dog fails the jump height challenge, it will be presumed that the team was jumping the incorrect height in all preceding heats where the dog was circled.

**North American Flyball Association, Inc.**

Board of Directors Meeting

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes

January 25, 2013

(m) If the head judge determines a team is not jumping at least the minimum required height in a round robin format, the team shall forfeit any heats run at the improper jump height. In the case of an elimination format, the team shall be excused.

*Glossary*

Not Measurable - Refuses to stand; refuses to stand still; refuses to stand in an acceptable measuring stance as set forth in Chapter 4, Rules of Racing, which results in the measuring judge being unable to take an acceptable measurement within the allotted number of measuring attempts.

Election Committee – Dana Nichols

Dana expressed appreciation to Emma Mak and Karen Oleson for their help with the verification process. Ballots were sent out on December 3, 2012. Only four bounced out of 362 email addresses. Of those four, all were able to be resolved except for one.

Dana also thanked Dana Hanson for all his work with nominations and scheduling the candidate chats. Two candidate chats were held with board of director candidates – Nov 9 and Dec 7. Chat transcripts were posted on the NAFA site for those who could not attend.

Ratification of results and 2013 Officers -

Leerie moved we enter Executive Session.

The Board entered Executive Session at 1:10 p.m.

The Board exited Executive Session at 1:35 p.m.

During executive session, the election results received from BigPulse were ratified by the board. Officers were elected and will be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

There was a brief break.

Marketing Committee – Nancy Garcia

Leerie moved we enter Executive Session.

The Board entered Executive Session at 1:58 p.m.

The Board exited Executive Session at 2:10 p.m.

During executive session, the board discussed CanAm sponsorship opportunities and encourages people to contact us.

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

## Board of Directors Meeting

Minneapolis, Minnesota

### Abridged Minutes

January 25, 2013

- International Group

Nancy reported that we received a suggestion from a flyball competitor about an international group hosting multi-sport dog competitions. After reviewing the information, the consensus was that this was not the best fit for us now.

- In Memoriam Recognition of Flyball Dogs

Nancy indicated Sam has done a ton of work perfecting the Honor Board project and thanked him for all his work. She asked Sam to give an overview of the project.

Sam explained the final product is essentially what was unveiled at CanAm this year. Memorial plaques would be sold and displayed on the jumps at CanAm. He has developed a process for identifying each jump in the various rings for locating plaques. And he has also finalized an online ordering process. The Executive Director would be responsible for approving all inscriptions on plaques. The deadline will be entry closing of CanAm each year for new plaques to be displayed by that year. The program will be announced at the annual general meeting tomorrow and should go live shortly.

Plaques will cost \$20.00 USD each. Payment must be received by the CanAm entry deadline. There were a number of possible plaque options discussed, such as a club buying an entire jump and filling in plaques with dogs in their club as they retire, a stud dog owner buying an upright and honoring offspring, honoring people involved in flyball, honoring retired dogs, or honoring club achievements. Reservations on particular color jumps/specific rings would be honored on a first come, first serve basis.

Dale left for a business call at 2:58 pm

- Josh Beissel Good Sportsmanship Award

Nancy discussed a proposal received from the Animal Inn flyball club to honor their teammate, Josh Beissel, who died shortly before this year's CanAm event. The initial request was for an award voted on by all of NAFA, similar to the Judge of the Year or Hall of Fame awards. While recognizing Josh and Animal Inn's tremendous contributions to flyball, the marketing committee had concerns about administering that particular type of award. Specifically narrowing down finalists for that type of award would be especially difficult. The committee thought that a better option for honoring Josh would be to have a CanAm sportsmanship award in his name. They suggested having Animal Inn determine the recipient each year and have the club actually present the award at CanAm. Nancy and Lee plan to meet with them to discuss these ideas. Allowing an award at CanAm would also acknowledge Animal Inn's contribution to such a large number of regions, where many of them can be present. And, most importantly, this proposal would allow the club to be more closely involved in awarding the plaque to a person or club who most closely reflected Josh's spirit and contribution to flyball.

Dana moved to solicit input from Animal Inn about possibility of a CanAm specific award honoring Josh with their input. NAFA would pay for the cost of the plaque with a dollar amount to be determined later. Nancy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**North American Flyball Association, Inc.**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

- Customized Awards – no update

Sam asked that the board revisit the Honor Board proposal and specifically vote regarding authority to implement the Honor Board program. Sam moved to approve Honor Board as presented. Curtis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Disciplinary Committee – Leerie Jenkins

Nothing to report.

Review Panel – Leerie Jenkins

- JD - 120525, 06/20/2012 - overturned on appeal
- Taj – 090259, 09/02/2012
- William – 120049, 09/09/2012
- Dobby - 080286, 11/04/2012 – second excusal
- Kodi – 111045, 11/15/2012

Finance – Nancy Garcia & Curtis Smith

Leerie moved we enter Executive Session.

The Board entered Executive Session at 3:45 p.m. Dale returned from his business call during executive session.

The Board exited Executive Session at 4:49 p.m.

During executive session, the board discussed that this year's CanAm event was a tremendous success with a record number of entries. We've received the final numbers financially and even with costs association with such a large production, there was only a small overall loss of approximately \$2500. The board also reviewed the NAFA budget.

**Future Board meetings**

Leerie discussed possible dates and locations for board meetings.

June 1, 2013 – Houston

August 10, 2013 – Detroit

These dates were settled on tentatively and will be finalized at the first teleconference. Leerie also requested that the Annual General Meeting date be discussed at the teleconference as well.

# North American Flyball Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Abridged Minutes  
January 25, 2013

## Special Committee Reports

### Technology Committee – Karen Oleson

- Database – Karen reported that we rolled over to the new database on January 11, 2013. There were relatively few issues, but we are still resolving a CRN payment issue.
- EJS update – She hopes to have phase two of the software upgrades implemented by next year to allow output of statistical data from EJS systems. There have been some complaints of wheels on EJS cases breaking, making them difficult to move. Dale will see about getting replacement wheel kits. He indicated it is a fairly easy repair. There was discussion about trying to make some needed repairs at CanAm, if time allows.
- FB score – the next priority after the database is fully transitioned is to have this program redesigned.

### NAFA/Flyball History Committee – Dave Walt

Nothing to report.

#### **Old Business:**

Nothing additional

#### **New Business:**

None.

Dana moved that the meeting be adjourned. Sam seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm CST.