

NAFA Board of Directors Annual General Meeting, January 27th, 2018

Held at Twin Cities Obedience Training Center, Minneapolis, MN

Neil Flood opened the annual general meeting.

Good Evening Everyone! Welcome to NAFAs Annual General Meeting! I wanted to start out by thanking Animal Inn for graciously taking on hosting this event. I would also like to thank Chuck & Don's, who donated a meeting space for our board meeting yesterday. Finally, I want to send a huge "Thank You" to all our regionals directors. Our RDs do a lot of work behind the scenes that most of us never see, and they are true unsung heroes of our sport, and make everything work so well on the weekends when we race. We have 2 of our RDs in attendance tonight, Elizabeth Theesfeld, from region 3, and Jayne McQuillen, from region 21, so please joining with some applause for all the work they do.

What we normally do to get started is we have a trivia question! We have a nice prize for our winner. I will read off the question and the closest answer, without going over, wins. Our board members are walking around with pens and paper for everyone.

Here is our question:

Without going over, how many team entries in region 3 tournaments have there been since the last AGM was hosted in region 3? This will exclude the prior AGM weekend in region 3 as well as any after January 1st, 2018.

In the event of a tie, our tiebreaker question is:
How many of those entries were in the multibreed class?

Introductions:

- Neil introduced himself and the attending board members, with each saying a bit about themselves.

- Election results
 - o This year our delegate voter turnout was remarkable. We were thrilled to see that we 90% voter turnout for our ballots this year!
 - o Attachment – 2017-2018-Election-Results.pdf

Fiscal Year statistics

- # of events hosted: 311
- # of states: 38 different States/Provinces
- # of unique clubs hosting: 126
- # of teams that raced in the events: 7308
- # of clubs represented: 320
- # of total club entries: 3346

of teams by class:
Regular: 3398
Multibreed: 640
Open: 3077
Veterans: 181
CanAm: 8
CanAm-Multi: 4
of new titles: 5839
of new Iron Dogs: 187
of dogs earning titles: 2877
of points during the year: 12,245,866
of dogs earning points during the year: 4837
of different breeds earning points during the year: 152
of new dogs registered: 811

Trivia Answer: Winner – Mary Amann with her answer of 2,248.
2,892 teams total
Multi: 117
Open: 1,061
Reg: 1,651
Vets: 63

Tie Breaker: 11

Announcement of New Officers:

I am pleased to announce that our Board of Directors have elected the following individuals as our Officers:

- Chairman of the Board: Steve Corona
- Vice Chairman: John Hendriks
- Secretary: Kim Davis
- Treasurer: Dana Hanson

Delegate Vote Results and Changes

This past year has been a busy year with changes and trial periods. For much of this past year we have implemented a trial period for changes to the jump height requirements and false starts in the open class. During that time, we solicited feedback and received a lot of responses on these topics, as well as for the removal of false starts in the regular and multibreed class. Following that feedback period, we held a delegate vote on these issues. From the feedback and voting results, I would like to announce the following changes:

- The Open trial period changes of no false starts, and ability to run any jump height between the minimum and maximum, will continue through the end of this flyball year (September 30th, 2018).
Additionally, any host clubs that would like to offer a practice start

- before the first heat in a race will be allowed to do so without the need for ED approval.
- Effective October 1st, 2018, these changes will be officially in the rulebook, and the practice start will be offered to all competitors.
 - Effective October 1st, 2018, there will no longer be false starts in the regular and multibreed classes of racing. The ability for competitors to have a practice start before the first heat in a race will also be offered.
- NAFA is creating a new special committee, whose primary responsibility will focus on communications. We are looking to improve the ways we communicate with our members, as well as finding better ways to improve the pace at which we communicate updates.
 - FCI World Cup
 - This past August, NAFA was approached by the FCI, which is a world governing body of many dog sports, about attending the inaugural World Cup of Flyball this coming August, which will be held in France. NAFA did a lot of analysis on logistics and costs. Due to the short timeline and planning, both financially and logistically, NAFA isn't going to fund teams to enter this year but plans to work towards attendance at the 2020 World Cup. We plan to create and publish selection criteria for teams by the end of this fiscal year. While there is a chance one of top finishers in the NAFA Championship standings may attend the event if they can raise their own funds, NAFA will send a delegate to the event to better understand the logistics, as well as work with the FCI to help us prepare for 2020.

Q & A

Jayne McQuillen – I'd like to know more about the Certified Measuring Judges.

Neil – Since the height card process has changed, we have four Certified Measuring Judge. Once you apply for a height card, NAFA will coordinate a Certified Measuring Judge to come out to the tourney you'll be attending. Once there is an event announced, additional height card applications can be applied for before the tournament. Certified Measuring Judge will attend to measure that dog and their responsibilities are done for that tournament. They cannot be a judge on record for the tournament. Temporary height cards will be available.

Question – Why didn't we see the jump height proposal on the ballot?

Neil - Regular and MB will start with no false starts, as of October 1st, 2018. The change in jump heights was not included in this delegate vote at this time.

Jayne McQuillen - 10th anniversary of CanAm? Anything you can tell us about?

Neil – Yes, it's the 10th CanAm and it will be special! We thought that last year's went really well! And we hope to do it again this year. The livestreaming will be addressed. We're looking at a great event this year.

Kim – We will open the CanAm event design t-shirt contest earlier than usual. We will also have better communication when the sales will start.

Closing Remarks

I want to end out night with a huge thank you to one of our board members that is rolling off after his two terms have ended. While Dale will continue to work with NAFA and judge in our sport, I thought this was an ideal forum to thank him for his many contributions to our sport.

Dale Smith has been an instrumental member of the flyball community and a major contributor to the NAFA Board of Directors. While this is the end of 6 consecutive years on the board, Dale has in fact served a total of 21 for the board. His contributions to the sport extend well beyond his contributions directly to the board. Dale was instrumental in the development of our current EJS and is currently working hard at helping develop the next generation of lights.

Dale's contribution to the technology side of flyball overall is amazing. He created the NAFA Flyball Database that drives all our points, titles, and regional standings. Additionally, he created the flyball optimizer that NAFA uses to generate schedules for tournaments.

If that all wasn't enough, Dale has worked tirelessly to help create and maintain our rulebook, been a critical contributor to CanAm, and that's all when he isn't busy functioning as a NAFA Supervising Judge. He is one of our longest tenured active judge in flyball.

So please join me in offering a huge "Thank You" to Dale Smith!

Dale motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kim seconded. The meeting was adjourned.