



NAFA NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the North American Flyball Association, Inc.

September 1996.

Annual Meeting coming up in Las Vegas

Words from the Chairman

by Bob Murray

Editor's Note

Bob is visiting the UK to observe the Longleit Tournament which we understand is the BFA's premier event. While in the UK, Bob and Sheila will be taking a well earned vacation, visiting relatives in Scotland. No doubt Bob will have lots to tell us when he returns.

I am leaving this column open, in case he has time to submit an article before we go to print.

The Executive Director's Corner

by Clyde Moore

I would like to thank all the NAFA™ competitors as we approach the end of our fiscal year (Sept. 30). 1996 was a record setting year as NAFA sanctioned 71 tournaments, up from 56 in 1995. We also have well over 200 clubs registered and competing in Flyball. Without all of the old and plenty of new Flyball enthusiasts this would not have been possible. I would also like to thank your Board of Directors for all their hard work, with special thanks to Director Melanie Davidson who saw her work load as statistician increase by 15 extra tournaments this year. Also, our thanks to Sue Rogers (Maximum Overdrive) who has performed the tasks of distributing the pins to the FM, FMX, and FMCh winners, and responding to the many requests for information we receive.

A special thanks to all of the host

teams, and their tournament directors whom I have enjoyed working with in the past year,

I would like to at this time announce the appointment of Ivor McTavish (Tailspinners) as NAFA's Regional Director in Region #2 (Ontario/NY). Ivor will be interim Regional Director pending approval of the Board of Directors at their November meeting.

By the time you read this the Regional winners will be decided so start working for next year. Awards are decided on the basis of the regional competition during our fiscal year (Oct. 1 thru the following years Sept. 30).

Now, last but not least, let me urge all of you who are reading this and are NAFA delegates to please fill out the ballots that accompany this Newsletter, and return them in time so that your voice is heard.

From the Starting Line

by Dennis Wieske

Technology has done wonders to advance the sport of flyball. Electronic stop watches and video cameras with slow motion playback are a must. Never before have teams been able to run with the speed and precision that we see at tournaments today. NAFA too, is using technology to improve our sport. The Electronic Judging System calls starts and passes with precision and consistency far exceeding any human capability. Indeed, without the EJS we would not run as fast as we run today.

Even during warm-ups, the EJS is working for you. As long as the system is powered, the passing detectors are working. Make full use of this feature. The lights will tell you if your practice pass is early. During the race, the EJS tells if the starter is late with the top light and early with the bottom light. The best starters are within inches of the line when the green

light comes on. Occasionally they will push a start just to be sure. And YES, the EJS does catch the little dogs. While any dog may push a nose through, undetected, no dog can do it consistently.

Having traveled a distance greater than the circumference of the globe; the EJS has proved very durable. However, they can be damaged very easily. That is why Flexi leads and such must not be allowed during warm-ups. It is also very important that when the standards are bumped the Head Judge is notified. The alignment must be checked before the start of racing. Any problems or malfunctions must be reported to the "Lights" coordinator in your region "as soon as possible" after a tournament. This allows NAFA to repair the equipment before the EJS is sent to the next destination. Enjoy EJS and take full advantage of the benefits it provides.

Correction

The following was omitted from the last paragraph of **From the Starting Line** in the last issue of the *NAFA NEWS*

Personally I think a head judge has the best seat in the house to view Flyball. It is worth all the hard work to get this view. The head judge is there to insure that every competitor at every level of play has an equal chance to perform at their best. They are also looking out for the safety of all the dogs competing. Listen for their whistles and follow your race.

Flyball News on the Internet

To subscribe to the *Flyball* mailing list, send an E-mail to:

listproc@ces.com

Put only:

subscribe flyball your real name in the body of the message. For example:

"subscribe flyball Joe Blow"

There is also a *Flyball* Home Page on the World Wide Web. The URL for the Flyball Home Page is:

<http://www.cs.umn.edu/~ianhogg/flyball/flyball.html>

These services are available to us through the courtesy of Ian Hogg.

NAFA, Inc.
Box 8,
Mount Hope, ON
Canada
L0R 1W0

NAFA Directory

Revised: September 25, 1996

Board of Directors, Chairman: Bob Murray (95-97)

Sue Borup (94-96) Val. Culpin (96-98) Melanie Davidson (95-97) Glenn Hamilton (94-96)
 Katy Kaylor (94-96) Noel Kujawski (95-97) Steve McAvoy (96-98) Alan Weiner (96-98)

Executive Director: Clyde Moore (95-97) Staff: Melanie Davidson

Tournament Sanctioning: Clyde Moore.
 Statistics and CRNs: Melanie Davidson.

Regional Directors:

1	Clyde Moore	MI, OH, PA	6	Katy Kaylor	CA, NV, AZ
2	Ivor McTavish	ON, NY	7	Rick Palylyk	BC, WA
3	Toni Osojnicki	MN, WI, NE	8	Kevin Hughes	MB, SK, AB
4	Steve McAvoy	IL, IN, IA, MO	9	Mike Randall	MD, VA, NC, SC, GA
5	Alan Weiner	TX, KS, LA			

Addresses and Telephones

Sue Borup

7723 Westview Lane
 Woodridge, IL 60517
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Val. Culpin

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 Abbotsford, BC V4X 1A0
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 pacific@uniserve.com

Melanie Davidson

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Glenn Hamilton

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 venham@barint.on.ca

Kevin Hughes

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 (204) 237-7086

Katy Kaylor

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 NBFC76A@prodigy.com

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***Ivor McTavish**

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 rick_palylyk@mindlink.bc.ca

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***Alan Weiner**

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 (713) 261-9398

* Indicates a change.

NAFA, Inc.
Box 8
Mount Hope, ON
LOR 1W0

NAFA Sanctioned Tournaments

Date	Host Team	Location	Closes	Contact	Phone	Judge	Notes
Oct 5	Canine Agility Racers	Brandon MB	Sep 20	Jeff Mortensen	204-727-0457	K Hughes	Unlimited Reg & 4-breed
Oct 6	Canine Agility Racers	Brandon MB	Sep 20	Jeff Mortensen	204-727-0457	K Hughes	Unlimited Reg
Oct 26-27 *	Ruff Riders	Regina SK	Oct 2	Aria Evans	306-949-2004	B Freeman	Unlimited Reg. & 4-breed
Oct 26-27	Canine Express	Mt Clemens MI	Sep 22	Kathy Duguid	313-371-4617	K Duguid	Unlimited Reg. & 4-breed
Nov 2	Touch N Go	Las Vegas NV	Oct 1	Katy Kaylor	702-876-2417	V Culpin	Unlimited Reg.
Nov 3	Touch N Go	Las Vegas NV	Oct 1	Katy Kaylor	702-876-2417	V Culpin	Unlimited Reg.
Nov 9-10 *	Flying Red Rangers	Brooklyn Park MN	Oct 11	Jan Frey	612-427-9264	Judge-?	Unlimited Reg. & 4-breed
Nov 16-17	Houston Flyball Assoc.	Corpus Christi TX	Oct 16	Lance Monroe	713-480-1573	D West	Limited Reg. (12)
Dec 7	Allsorts Dogsports	Winnipeg MB	Nov 22	Angela Fehr	204-772-4110	R Marion	Limited Reg. (15)
Dec 7	Rocket Paws	Encino CA	Nov 8	Marge Henderson	818-884-0522	D Moore	Unlimited Reg. & 4-breed
Dec 8	Rocket Paws	Encino CA	Nov 8	Marge Henderson	818-884-0522	D Moore	Unlimited Reg.
Dec 1	River City Flyers	Peoria IL	Nov 8	Steve McAvoy	309-682-7617	S McAvoy	Unlimited Reg.
Dec 8	Dogwood Pacesetters	Matsqui BC	Nov 22	Laurie Owens	604-581-6321	V Culpin	Unlimited Reg.
Jan 17	Pawbusters	Novi MI	Dec 28	Clyde Moore	810-686-1973	Judge-?	Limited Reg. (8)
Jan 18-19	Pawbusters	Novi MI	Dec 28	Clyde Moore	810-686-1973	Judge-?	Limited Reg. (12)
Jan 18-19	Gulf Coast Mavericks	Houston TX	Dec 7	Cindy Hyde	713-957-4303	G Conway	Unlimited Reg.

* = Different Classes and/or Divisions each day. n = No Electronic Judging System

Please contact the Host Teams directly for further information on these tournaments.

The most up-to-date version of this table is available on the Flyball Home Page.

To have a tournament Sanctioned, send Tournament Application Form to:

Clyde Moore, NAFA Executive Director
2025 E. Tobias Rd. Clio, MI 48420
Fax: (810) 686-0NYX

Résumés for Nominees to the NAFA Board of Directors.

(Retyped to conserve space, but otherwise unedited)

BRINKMAN, MARION.

We would like to nominate Marion Brinkman for a position on the Board of Directors.

Marion has been involved with flyball for the last 6 years and is currently the captain of the FASTRACK Flyball Team based in Brampton, Ontario.

Marion has put her exceptional organizational skills to good use as the tournament director for three sanctioned tournaments and over the last four years has organized and run (with the help of her team mates) a highly successful flyball league. Fashioned after any sports league with a regular season and play-offs, this league was originally set -up to give the new dogs of some existing teams some real racing experience over the winter months before the tournament season began. Now with 28 teams participating over a 5 month period, this league has become a popular winter past-time for teams in the Toronto area and a few from as far away as New York an Michigan.

Strong organizational skills, common sense and logic, and a love for the sport keeps this league growing in popularity and we feel that Marion can offer these same qualities to the Board of Directors of NAFA™ as a member.

{signed by 10 members of The FASTRACK Flyball Team}

HAGAN, JUDY.

I started Flyball in 1991 with my Cocker Spaniel "JJ". In May of 1992 I formed the Hawkeye Hustlers Flyball Team. We are not associated with a dog training facility and there are no big training centers in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I have had to find places for us to practice that will be large enough and allow dogs.

Our team just got done holding its third tournament and I have been tournament director for all three. At our tournament I also completed my third provisional judging assignment and will be submitting my name to become a full fledged judge

At the present moment I am also helping to get a flyball team started in Fort Dodge, Iowa. I have been trying to help interested people in Des Moines and Ames, Iowa to get together.

I also write articles for the Front and Finish, a dog newspaper. My articles called Flyball Action Ask Me About It are intended to make dog people aware of the fastest growing dog sport and also arouse more interest in it.

I feel that I could be a big addition to the Executive Board with the variety of things that I have done in Flyball

I look forward to serving the interest of Flyball in whatever capacity I may be chosen.

Resumes for Nominees to the NAFA Board of Directors.

(Retyped to conserve space, but otherwise unedited)

KAYLOR, KATY

My name is Katy Kaylor and I am seeking reelection to the NAFA Board of Directors. I have been involved in flyball since 1989. After a brief introduction to the sport through West Valley Dogsports I started the Quantum Leap flyball team. Currently I am team captain of the Touch N Go flyball team which I started after moving to Las Vegas in 1993. Touch N Go was Nevada's first registered flyball team.

I was appointed Regional Director of California, Nevada and Arizona in July 1993. I have enjoyed watching the expansion of flyball in this region. Being a source of information for newly forming teams and eventually seeing them compete for their first time is well worth all the hard work.

During my term as a NAFA Board Member I have served as head of the Finance Committee and on the Marketing and Promotions committee. I have worked hard to help create the Hall of Fame and Regional Award criteria. I am currently serving as Vice Chairman of the board.

I have truly enjoyed serving as a NAFA Board Member and feel that I have made a positive contribution while on the board. I'd like to continue to serve for another term and would appreciate your support.

Thank you,

Katy Kaylor,
Las Vegas NV. 89103

MATUSHEK, KURT

I currently run with the Flashback team out of Naperville, Illinois. However my wife and I first became involved in Flyball nearly 6 years ago when we were living in the Detroit area and started training with the Funrunners. After moving to Chicago, we raced with the Rainbow Runners for a year and then started our own team, Smack-Dab, which after only 2 seasons, was named regional co-champion in 1995. Throughout my time in Flyball, I have been associated with some of the fastest and some of the slowest teams racing; therefore, I have an appreciation of the challenges and concerns faced by teams across the spectrum. My wife and I have trained 4 of our own dogs and held training classes for more than 2 years, thus I also have experience with dogs of every breed, size, and age. My goal as a board member would be to make Flyball accessible to as wide a variety of handlers and dogs as possible, while preserving the essential nature of the sport.

Sincerely,

Kurt Matushek
phone: 847-622-9814
e-mail: 74232.35@compuserve.com

HALL OF FAME NOMINEES

Votes will be counted and inductees announced at the November '96 Board Meeting. Ballots must be received by October 31, 1996. Ballots are enclosed for delegates and must be sent to:
Katy Kaylor, 6800 Arroyo Ave., Las Vegas NV 89103.

Onyx was the first dog to earn 20,000 Flyball points. The **Onyx Award** is named in her honor. Playing Flyball for nine years she is just a tournament away from 40,000 points. She is the core of the **Pawbusters Flyball Team** and the standard by which we measure our own dogs.

Flash (*Flash Moy of Spunk ONYX, CD*) is a Border Collie that runs on the **Border Patrol Flyball Team**. Flash began his flyball career in 1987 and nine years later is still running. Flash has been in on many record-breaking times, serving as anchor dog and sometimes height dog. Many remember Flash for his spectacular "come from behind" finishes. Even though he will be ten years old in November, he continues to be an important part of one of the highest-ranking teams on the continent. To myself and many others I know, Flash is the epitome of what a flyball dog should be.

Tracks (*AM CAN CH Starbright Fantastique AM CAN CD, FDCH, AM CAN AD*) is a Belgian Tervuren who has been playing Flyball with the **Dogwood Pacesetters** for nine of his ten years. Tracks still runs Flyball when our team needs a reliable and fast anchor dog. When the chips are down you could always count on Tracks to turn on the afterburners, and in these autumn days of his life his role is to back up the "green" dogs on our team as a reliable replacement. I doubt there is anyone in our region who doesn't adore Tracks both for his abilities as a Flyball dog and for his loving attitude. He truly deserves consideration as a Hall of Famer.

Lexi (*Lexis Ann Borup FMX, AACD, CGC*) is an eleven year old mix breed adopted from the Ann Arbor Michigan Humane Society. She and her owners have been instrumental in the promotion of Flyball in central and northern Illinois. Representing the "dog next door" Lexi demonstrates that a dog does not have to be purebred to be good at Flyball. Racing most of her life, Lexi has been the height dog on many different teams. She is one reason that the **Smack Dab Red Team** became one of the best teams in the region, tying POTC for the 1995 Regional Award. Because of her service, being a Flyball public relations representative, and a great height dog please consider Lexi for the NAFA Hall of Fame.

Cider (*OTCH Heelalong DeCider UDX, FDCH, TD*) When someone gets bitten by the "Flyball Bug" there is a dog that inspires them, a dog that catches their eye, a dog that is a joy to watch race. There is also that handler/dog partnership we try to emulate teamwork, grace and speed. Cider was the red and white Border Collie with the green and white socks that I watched race back in 1988. Cider and his owner raced for years with **Animal Inn**, and were an integral part of the growth of Flyball in that region. An indication of a NAFA champion can be an ONYX award or ten years of racing, but it is also the contribution to the sport. During the ten years Cider raced, he was a champion, and now Cider's progeny carry their sire's dream.

Tournament Directors

The NAFA Electronic Judging System Transportation Box Lock Combinations:

Green (Canadian) Box (from left): 3228
Red (US) box: 173

Keep these numbers handy. They could save you a panic call on the eve of a tournament!

Election Time

Every year, three of the nine positions on the **NAFA Board of Directors** come open for election. This year the current terms of office for Sue Borup, Katy Kaylor, and Glenn Hamilton come to an end. It is time to thank these people for their past service and look ahead to the future. At the time of writing, I have not yet seen any nominations, but recently there has always been a good slate of candidates offering their services and I am sure we will have a good slate again this year.

Ballots will be enclosed with this mailing for those people who are delegates. Delegates should discuss the merits of the candidates with their team members and mark the ballot to reflect their team's selection.

Mail ballots to: *NAFA Nominating Committee, c/o John Cocking, RR 2, Fisherville, ON. N0A 1G0.* or, hand deliver ballots to the *NAFA Ballot Box at the Touch N Go tournament* on November 2 in Las Vegas.

Don't forget to send **Hall of Fame** Ballots to Katy Kaylor.

The Final Word

by Steve McAvoy

In this issue I would like to take time away from the rulebook interpretation to hopefully try to stop what seems to be a growing problem within our sport.

The problem that I would like to address is all of the petty arguing between teams that is appearing on the flyball list, it is this behavior that could cast a unfavorable light on flyball.

Any person or team that has a legitimate complaint concerning conduct prejudicial to the sport of flyball should use the prescribed method of filing charges. Also teams or individuals can contact any Board Member or the Executive Director with their concerns over conduct of other teams.

The flyball list is a great source for sharing information and answering questions about training or just touch base with friends, it should not be used by teams or individuals associated with a team to make derogatory comments. Anyone who has never been to a tournament or has heard what flyball is really all about could come away with a negative opinion of flyball as a sport. Flyball is a great sport we can share with friends and our pets, so we should confine our battles with other teams to the racing surface, and if a problem does arise let a NAFA official handle it.

The NAFA NEWS is published by The North American Flyball Association, Incorporated as a means of formal communications between the Board and the individual competitors. It is published bi-monthly and distributed free of charge to all registered Delegates, Team Captains, and Officials. The information contained is intended for all competitors to see. Delegates are urged to copy or post the NAFA NEWS for all their team members to read.

Articles of a broader general interest to Flyball enthusiasts are published in The Finish Line. The Finish Line is available by subscription from: Melanie Davidson, 2220 W Albany, Peoria, Il 61604 \$15.00 (US).

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