

## Volume 6 Issue 1



# NAFA NEWS

*Official News Letter of the North American Flyball Association*

*March 2000*

### **From the Chairman**

Alan Wiener

NAFA enters the year 2000 in terrific shape. The enthusiasm and hard work of the flyball community has resulted in tremendous growth and notoriety for our sport. International and local media exposure as well as demonstrations introduced flyball to millions of people. Teams that host tournaments contribute to flyball in a huge way. Hats off to these hard working teams! Never before have there been so many opportunities to enjoy flyball with our dogs.

NAFA's partnership with PetSmart will help facilitate this growth. PetSmart's sponsorship will provide funding for new, improved Electronic Judging Systems, judges training videos and much more to allow NAFA to keep up with this growth. Any suggestions regarding how PetSmart can contribute are welcome.

The 1999 Annual General Meeting held in Novi, Michigan was the first event sponsored by PetSmart. A big thanks to Sue Rogers and Maximum Overdrive for hosting the tournament and AGM. The venue was great and teams came from far and wide to participate.

Congratulations to the 1999 NAFA Champions, Instant Replay and Multi Breed Champs Rude Dogs. These awards were earned by your tremendous performance. The regional champions should be proud of their accomplishments as well. There was close and exciting competition in many regions.

Congratulations to Robin Marion and Brett Williams for election to the Board of Directors and to Marion Brinkman on her re-election. Outgoing board members Katy Kaylor and Judy Hagan have contributed in many ways.

Their service to NAFA is appreciated. Katy served as NAFA Treasurer and headed the Hall of Fame Committee and Judy chaired the Marketing Committee.

Melanie McAvoy is stepping down as NAFA Statistician during the year 2000. The amount of work she put into NAFA can not be overstated. She has done a great job during a period of unparalleled growth. Thanks for your monumental contribution!

This year will bring improvements to the NAFA website ([www.flyball.org](http://www.flyball.org)), allowing participants to access much more information and services as well as streamlining NAFA's record keeping. Dale Smith has put a lot of work into this project. His efforts are appreciated.

PetSmart sponsored demonstrations at Harlem Globetrotter games are well under way and there are many planned for 2000. There are two travelling groups of Globetrotters allowing NAFA teams to put on demonstrations all across the US as well as some in Canada. The demos have been very well received and go a long way to introduce hundreds of thousands people to flyball. Thanks to Bob Long for his work on the PetSmart Committee and especially to the participating teams that have done such a great job as ambassadors for flyball.

The NAFA board always welcomes input from flyball participants. If you have suggestions, questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me or any board member. The next board meeting will take place June of 2000 in Chicago.

Have fun playing flyball in 2000!

## Editor's Comment

Ule James

Ron Mayeda wrote:

“NAFA (as of October 1, 1999) records and maintains the points record on a web-based database and the dog's CRN (Competition Registration Number) is used to record the points earned in a tournament. Captains should double check team details (name of dog, handler, breed of dog, team number, team captain (and address) and CRN ) when completing time sheets at a tournament to ensure that their dogs are credited with all the points they earned.

Most CRN errors take one of the following forms and in all situations the information on the team time sheets were used to resolve the problem.

1. If the incorrect CRN belongs to a dog on another team. The program sends the following warning:

NOTE: New club 666666 from Atlantis Swimmers (AK) to Hades Howlers (ON)

This statement has two possible meanings:

(a) A dog with a CRN of 666666 has transferred from the Atlantis team in Alaska to the Hades team in Ontario. or

(b) A dog with a CRN of 666666 who is a member of the Atlantis team was recorded as a member of the Hades team. The team captain or the data person has entered a wrong CRN.

In both cases we use the dog's name and the handler's name to determine whether it is case (a) or case (b). In case (b) the dog's name on the time sheet will not match the dog's name on the computer's heat results. In case (a) the dog's name will match the dog's name on the computer's heat results.

2. A CRN error that is not picked up by the program can result from entering a CRN that belongs to a dog on your team but not the dog that is running in a particular heat. There is no warning from the program.

This error is discovered when we match the dog's name on the team's time sheet with the dog's name on the computer's heat results. Sloppy entry of the dog's and handler's name can make this a difficult task.

3. Dogs running in a heat are not circled (error by the line judges).

This problem is resolved by looking at heat results on the time sheets.

4. Just entering a dog's name (with no CRN, no handler listed) on the team time sheets. We have discovered one team with 3 dogs named Margaret or Maggie. This was resolved by getting in touch with the team captain (via e-mail).

The Point - Your dogs work hard for their points, please help them. Some teams have gone out of their way and printed sticky labels with all the details on them and a few teams have even pre-printed time sheets.”

*There are basically five ways CRN's can be checked before it gets to NAFA. One is the owner needs to have their dog's CRN number available at all the tournaments. Two is the team captain, checking names, dog names and CRN's at the beginning of the tournament. Three, is the line judge who needs to record four dogs for each race. Four, the head judge, who can check after each heat that four dogs are recorded for each race and the wins/losses. Five, the table people at the tournament can also check after each heat. If everyone does their part, fewer mistakes will be made. We want the data entry person to be able to concentrate on inputting data and not checking for errors in data. This will lead to faster results for you!!!*

*Ron works for the Executive Director, entering data. If you have a concern, please contact NAFA directly. Don't bog-down Ron — he's got lots of data to enter! —Ule*

I am looking forward to publishing the NAFA News and bringing you the latest information every other month! — Ule James

### Hey, Short Stuff!

Avoid the hassle of measuring..... Get a NAFA APPROVED HEIGHT CARD

Contact Sue Rogers  
40225 Regency Dr  
Sterling Heights, MI 48313  
(810)268-3831  
(810)268-3831 (FAX)call 1<sup>st</sup>  
fgdchud@voyager.net

Remember, if it doesn't have a Seal it's not NAFA.

## Executive Director's Report

Steve McAvoy

As you know NAFA has been in the process of upgrading our stats program. Thank you to those of you that have shown patience through this process. Beginning next month you will have access via the internet to point summaries, breed analysis, CRN's, the current seeding chart and upcoming tournaments. We will make an announcement when you will be able to access the system. We have also added new staff to speed up the data input. Ron and Carol Mayeda are now inputting time sheets and Denise Delaney has been assigned the duties of assigning crn's. Melanie McAvoy is still overseeing the stats and will handle mailings. Let me remind all of you the proper method of contacting NAFA regarding stats. You have (4) options:

- (1) Phone the NAFA # at 309-688-9840
  - (2) Send mail to the NAFA address @ 1400 W Devon, PO Box 512, Chicago, IL 60660
  - (3) Send an e-mail to flyball.org
  - (4) E-mail me @ melmavoy@worldnet.att.net
- These are the recognized methods of contacting NAFA. Please do not contact staff members directly. We have assigned staff to respond to all inquiries at the above #'s and addresses.

We made the announcement last year that NAFA would re-align the regions and add new ones. Due to the growth of the sport we have added (2) new regional directors as follows:

Kurt Johnson Region (12)  
Denise Delaney Region (13)

Please support them in their new positions.

Sue Rogers is still handling height card applications and can be contacted directly for an application. Ule James has volunteered to be editor of the NAFA News. Please direct your questions about the NAFA News directly to him.

At the recent board meeting the board after much discussion voted to allow 3 legged dogs to compete in NAFA sanctioned tournaments if in the judges opinion the dog will be able to safely compete. Also discussed at the meeting was the status of our agreement with PetsMart, some of you have expressed your concern over the length of time it has taken to complete. We have taken great care to ensure NAFA's interests in this matter. At this point we are just waiting for signatures from PetsMart. The Board also decided the Annual Meeting in 2000 will be held in Texas at a location and date to be announced.

Good Racing.....Steve McAvoy

## ABRIDGED MINUTES FROM THE NAFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Saturday, 15 May 1999  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Tournament Results back faster** – we need to get tournament results back faster so we will investigate couriers and see if we can get preaddressed labels etc. Effective 1 October 1999 – Tournament Results must be sent by NAFA approved courier within 14 days. To be effective 1<sup>st</sup> of October. Sue will amend rule 5.1(h)

Steve also requested that we approve Dave Zember as Regional Director for Region #10

*Val made the motion that we approve Dave Zember as Regional Director for the new Region #10 – seconded by Marion. The motion was passed unanimously*

**Non-Board appointments to committees (Alan)** – once again we should seriously consider getting other people involved in the various committees

**Chad Marquis letter re: limited vs. unlimited with a cap tournaments and the distance between tournaments (Sue)** – the unlimited with a cap format is already a dead issue and Steve is already on a case by case basis is allowing exceptions to the 300 mile rule with permission of the date “owner” host club. Sue will send a thank you letter to Chad.

**Policy re: racing for exhibition only (Alan)** – there seems to be some confusion with forfeiting a race and going Exhibition only. A team may need to forfeit a heat or race but if they declare they are running “Exhibition Only” they cannot come out of this status for the duration of the tournament.

### **Sending timesheets back to teams (Dale)**

*Dale made the motion that NAFA will no longer mail back any tournament forms for tournaments run after October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1999. Teams may request a copy of a time sheet at a cost of \$2/team/tournament – seconded by Val. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Requiring the use of Current NAFA Forms (C.2, C.3, C.6) (Dale)**

– Dale stated the need to use the current forms because there is additional information required for the new software. A package needs to go out to all teams with the updated forms so that everyone has them and can add them to their rule books.

**EJS times to 100<sup>th</sup> of a second (Dale)** – Dale wants the timers changed to reflect ties heats at 2 decimal places.

*Val made the motion that we remove the 3<sup>rd</sup> decimal place from future timers and by blacking out the current systems – seconded by Dale In favor – Sue, Bob, Ule, Judy, Dale, and Val – Katy abstaining, Marion opposed because it doesn't solve anything we should be upgrading.*

**Re: tournament results back faster**

*Dale made the motion that effective October 1<sup>st</sup> 1999 Section 5.1(h) will be changed to read “**The following items will be sent to NAFA within 14 days after the tournament, via NAFA approved courier:***

- (1) a recording fee of \$20.00 (US Funds) per team that competed*
- (2) original time-sheets (NAFA Form C.2)*
- (3) completed Jump Height Form (NAFA Form C.9)*
- (4) completed Tournament Results Form (NAFA Form C.6)*

*The motion was seconded by Judy and passed unanimously*

**Re: letters from Ron English**

*Dale made the motion to add the following to Section 6.6(g): “(i) **The dog will be measured from the ground to the top of the withers. The front legs will be vertical with the paws directly below the shoulders. The back legs will be positioned with the hocks perpendicular to the ground and spread no wider than the width of the dog.**” – seconded by Ule. The motion passed unanimously*

**Re: Championship Criteria**

*Ule made the motion to adopt the following criteria for Regional and NAFA Champions - seconded by Judy. In favor: Ule, Judy, Dale, Val, Sue, Katy, Bob Opposed: Marion (to NAFA Champions Item 1.) The motion was passed.*

**Regional Champions for Regular and Multi-Breed**

1. Club must be in good standing with NAFA, i.e. no suspensions, notices or disciplinary actions are in effect. No monies or other commitments are past due to NAFA

2. All points for Regional Championships are to be earned in the club's home region.
3. Only one team from each Club will qualify for Regional Championship points at each tournament (i.e. Clubs fielding more than one team may not count points accumulated from both teams towards the Regional Championships). Points accrue to a Club
4. A minimum of four tournaments must be competed in during the competition year, which runs from October 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> of the following calendar year. To qualify for points towards Regional Championships, tournaments must have a minimum of four teams competing. Regular classes limited to below 20 teams that fill will not count. Multi-Breed classes limited below 12 teams that fill will not count.
5. Points are to be accumulated up to 80 per cent of the tournaments within any given region. For example, if a region has a total of 10 tournaments in the competition year, 80 percent of that would equal 8 tournaments. Points towards Regional Championships would count from the best 8 finishes for any given Club.

Top Finishing Regional Team—3 points  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Regional Team—2 points  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place Regional Team—1 point

6. The team with the highest total points will be named Regional Champions.
7. In the case of a point tie, the best times from each Club's four best tournament placings will be averaged. So, if a Club places second in a tournament, but has four other tournament wins, the times from the tournament wins will be used in the average, regardless of how good a time was run in the 2<sup>nd</sup> place result. The Club with the lowest average time will be named the Regional Champion. If a tie still exists after the tiebreaker is exhausted, Co-Champions will be named.

### **NAFA CHAMPIONS**

1. The NAFA Champions will be named from among the Regional Champions.
2. A minimum of 6 tournaments must be entered, regardless of their location, to qualify for the NAFA Championship. Of all tournaments entered in any

competition year (inside or outside of a team's region), the best time from a Club's 6 fastest tournaments will be averaged. The team with the lowest average time will be named the NAFA Champions. If a tie still exists, Co-Champions will be named.

End of 15 May 1999 meeting notes

**ABRIDGED MINUTES  
NAFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Saturday, 12 February 2000**

**NAFA Software, Web-site – (Dale)** – Working to merge NAFA mailing list information into the NAFA web-site.

Dale made the motion that the points summary, breed analysis, tournament results, breed detail, and seeding chart information be made available to clubs accessing the www.flyball.org web-site. It will not provide any personal information i.e. address, phone numbers of flyball club members. Seconded by Bob. Motion passed unanimously. We will strive to have this available by the end of March, 2000.

**Connie Croley's (Rude Dogs) request re: three legged dog policy – (Alan)** - Bob made the motion that we allow 3-legged dogs to compete. Brett made a second. Dale & Val abstained. In favor – Bob & Brett. Opposed - Robin, Marion, Sue, & Ule.

Robin made the motion that we allow 3 legged dogs (back leg missing only) to compete. Bob seconded. In favor – Bob & Robin. Opposed - Marion, Dale, Val, Ule, & Brett, Sue.

Bob made the motion that we treat 3-legged dogs no different than 4-legged dogs – In favor - Bob, Brett, Val, & Dale, Abstained – Robin, Opposed – Ule, Marion, & Sue. Steve vetoed.

Bob made the motion again that we treat 3-legged dogs no different than 4-legged dogs. Val seconded. In favor - Dale, Val, Bob, Brett, Robin, & Alan. Opposed – Ule, Marion, & Sue. The motion passed. Robin to respond to Connie.

**By-laws, Rules, and Policies review – (Sue, Dale, Brett, and Ule)** – The committee is working on a list of Standing Rules. This will provide a record of policies that have not been recorded in a central document. The Secretary will be responsible for the maintenance of this document.

**USDAA/NAFA TOURNAMENT (Alan)** - USDAA has approached NAFA about hosting a tournament in conjunction with the USDAA Agility Finals held September 7,8,9, & 10<sup>th</sup> in Del Mar, California (San Diego). Val made a motion that NAFA sanction and run a tournament in conjunction with the USDAA finals held in Del Mar, CA on September 9 & 10, 2000. In favor – Marion, Dale, Val, Bob, Brett, Sue & Robin. Opposed – Ule James. Catchers on the Fly will be hired by NAFA to be tournament director.

**Policy on certificates for FM, FMX, and FMCh (Sue)** – NAFA will begin sending these certificates out. If you would like copies of the certificates previously earned, clubs should contact NAFA with their request.

**Open meeting policy (Sue)** – We reiterated our policy that we have an open meeting policy for NAFA board meetings. This will be added to the standing rules document. (Standing Rule)

**Interpretation of Rule 6.16 (k)** - The board was asked for an interpretation of the intent of rule 6.16 (k). Distractions. Specifically team members being required to pick up any loose balls.

The board stated the intent of this rule was to keep balls off the course to prevent distractions or possible injury. It does not prevent a team from using a ball as bait. For example: Placing a ball at the end of the runout or between a handlers feet. The ball must not be bounced or thrown and it must not interfere with the opposing team.

**Racing with CRN pending policy (Sue)** – We reiterated our policy that dogs can't run without a CRN number. CRN numbers must be on the timesheets prior to the start of racing.

**Limited entry tournaments, unapproved changing of number of entries (Brett)** – (Standing Rule) Host teams may increase the number of entries their tournaments are limited too, provided it includes a full round of teams. Example, Accepting 3 additional entries so that you can include all 2<sup>nd</sup> entries received from clubs. Teams may not decrease the number of entries for a limited tournament.

**Letter from Alyson Brown Re: Judges excusing dogs that hit, break or knock down jumps repeatedly. (Alan)** – Judges discretion and the dog may be excused. Alan to respond.

**Elimination racing policy Letter from Mike Mattos (Brett)**–

*Brett made the motion, that the following be added to Section 5.4:*

*(v) In elimination rounds, where seeding is determined by Round Robin, a team ineligible for placement shall be seeded last. (vi) In elimination round heats, where a team ineligible for placement competes against a team eligible for placement, the ineligible team shall be awarded a loss. Ule seconded. The motion was passed unanimously. Brett to respond.*

**Selection of Regional Directors for Regions 12 & 13 (Steve)**–

Dale made the motion that Denise Delaney be selected as Regional Director for Region 13 (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts) Robin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dale made the motion that Kurt Johnson be selected as Regional Director for Region 12 (Alberta, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming) Robin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Clyde Moore Memorial Hall of Fame** – Discussion followed regarding changing criteria.

Dale made the motion that in order to be inducted into the Hall of Fame a dog must have 35% or more of the vote returned. Brett seconded. In favor – Val, Robin, Brett, Dale, & Bob. Marion, Sue & Ule opposed. Steve vetoed.

Dale made the motion that in order to be inducted into the Hall of Fame a dog must have 35% or more of the vote returned. Brett seconded. In favor - Val, Alan, Robin, Brett, Dale, & Bob. Marion, Sue & Ule opposed. The motion passed.

**Judges signing timesheets** – Reiterate our policy that judges sign all timesheets at the end of tournaments.

**New Judges for Approval (Val)**–

Val made the motion that we approve Kurt Johnson as Supervising Head Judge. Robin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Val made the motion that we approve John Fairbairn as a new NAFA Judge. Ule seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

End of 12 February 2000 meeting notes

**Planning a Flyball  
Tournament?**

Contact Katy Kaylor:

6800 Arroyo Ave  
Las Vegas, NV 89103  
(702)876-2417

**Questions, Need something?**

Contact NAFA at:  
P.O.Box 512  
1400 West Devon Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois, USA 60660  
Phone & Fax: (309) 688-9840  
E-mail: flyball@flyball.org

# North American Flyball Association

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS (as of the year 2000)

Alan Weiner, Chairman (99-01)	Dale Smith, Treasurer (98-00)	Bob Long (98-00)
Val Culpin, Vice Chair (99-01)	Marion Brinkman (00-02)	Brett Williams (00-02)
Sue Rogers, Secretary (98-00)	Ule James (99-01)	

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Executive Director: Steve McAvoy      Statistics: Melanie McAvoy      Tournament Sanctioning: Katy Kaylor

## REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Annette Tindall Region#1 MI, OH	Rick Palylyk Region#7 BC,WA,OR
Ivor McTavish Region#2 ON	Kevin Hughes Region#8 MB,SK, Westermn ON
Toni Osojnicky Region#3 IA,MN,WI,NE,SD,ND & Jan Frey	Eunice Morgan Region#9 MD,DE,VA,NC,SC,WV
Steve McAvoy Region#4 KY,KS,IL,IN,MO,TN	David Zember Region#10 PE,NB,NS
Alyson Brown Region#5 TX,LA,OK,AR,NM	Pending Region#11 FL,GA,AL,MS
Katy Kaylor Region#6 CA,NV,AZ,UT,CO	Kurt Johnson Region#12 AB,MT,ID,WY
	Denise Delaney Region#13 PA,NJ,NY,CT,RI,VT,NH,ME,MA

## ADDRESSES, TELEPHONE AND E-MAIL

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Alyson Brown 639 Stillmeadow Dr Richardson, TX 75081 (972)699-3707 blucowdog@aol.com	Katy Kaylor <b>Tournament Sanctioning</b> 6800 Arroyo Ave Las Vegas, NV 89103 (702)876-2417	Eunice Morgan 31010 Benson Mills Rd Upperco, MD 21155 (410)472-2371	Annette Tindall 5237 Willow Hollow Brandon Twp,MI 48371 (248)628-9936 erict@rust.net
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