

**August 3, 2005**

**Toronto, Ontario**

**NAFA Flyball Granted Exemption from Breed Specific Legislation**

NAFA, the North American Flyball Association, Inc., is very pleased to announce that the sport of Flyball will continue to thrive in Ontario despite the Breed Specific Limitations of the Dog Owners Liability Act coming into effect on August 29, 2005.

The Ontario legislature has recently passed into law, a series of amendments to the Dog Owners Liability Act that now place NAFA on a par with the Canadian Kennel Club, the American Kennel Club, the United Kennel Club and the American Dog Breeders Association. These organizations have been enabled in law to allow "pit bulls", as defined by the Act, to compete in dog shows and at NAFA sanctioned Flyball events.

Ontario has historically hosted teams from all over North America at NAFA sanctioned Flyball events, drawing teams that have produced a number of world record times. This exemption will allow those events to continue in Ontario at the highly competitive level they have in the past. The past four world records have all been set in Ontario.

The exemption permits Staffordshire Bull Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, American Pit Bull Terriers or dogs that resemble these breeds in appearance, registered with NAFA and who have competed at other Flyball events within the preceding year, to travel to and from and to compete at future NAFA sanctioned flyball tournaments in Ontario without reprisal.

A fast-paced dog sport, Flyball involves teams of four dogs competing against each other in a retrieval relay race. The highly trained dogs race over a series of hurdles, catch a ball from a triggered box, and then race back over the jumps carrying the ball across the start/finish line, which then allows the next dog on their team to go. The winning team is the first team with all four dogs to finish the race. In 2004, NAFA sanctioned over 400 tournaments across North America.

The full text of the amendment is found at

[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/DBLaws/Source/Regs/English/2005/R05434\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/DBLaws/Source/Regs/English/2005/R05434_e.htm)

A formal announcement and details will be forth coming after this weekend's board of director's meeting in Detroit, Michigan.

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