

Board of Directors

Russ Bobb

I would like to nominate Russ Bobb from Scallywags in Region 15 for the NAFA board of directors. Russ has been involved in flyball for 20 years and competing for over 15 years, reaching the highest NAFA title of "Hobbes" with his first border collie, Mischief. Russ has been president of Oriole Dog Training Club, the oldest and largest dog training facility currently in operation in Maryland, for 9 years. His dedication and love for NAFA flyball is always evident and he travels out of region often in order to compete. He believes strongly in growing the sport, encouraging students in the puppy and CGC classes that he teaches to try it out as well as taking part in demos at various events throughout the years. When considering his experience, enthusiasm and knowledge, I feel he would be a terrific addition to the NAFA board.

Tina Hayden
Scallywags Flyball
Region 15

Board of Directors

Kayla Inman

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing to nominate myself for a position on the NAFA Board of Directors. I have been a member of Flyball for over 5 years. I am passionate about Flyball and believe that my experience and skills would be a valuable addition to the Board.

I am a strong leader and have a proven track record of success in volunteer roles. I am also a strategic thinker and have a deep understanding of the Flyball community. I am confident that I can make a positive contribution to the Board and help Flyball continue to grow and succeed.

I would be honored to serve on the Board of Directors and would appreciate your consideration. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kayla Inman
Certified Peer Visitor
Amputee Coalition
Grand Valley Amputee Support Group founder, November 2021
605-222-0122

Board of Directors

Leerie Jenkins

To whom it may concern:

I would like to take this opportunity to nominate Leerie Jenkins for a position on the NAFA Board of Directors. Leerie served as a board member from 2009-2015 and 2017-2022, and as chairman of the board from 2010-2015. As chair, he was responsible for scheduling, helping to plan, and presiding over all board meetings.

During this time he worked tirelessly on behalf of NAFA and was an active member of every standing committee.

His committee duties included:

- Chair of Judges Committee: administration of judges' education and advancement.
- Chair of Disciplinary Committee: processing and presiding over all disciplinary issues
- Rules Committee: routine answering of inquiries from competitors, processing and reviewing formal proposals.
- Election Committee: helped transition the election process from in-house to third party, online elections.
Helped change ballot weight to give more equality to clubs, whether they host 2-day or 1-day tournaments.
- Judges Committee: reviewing applications of all judges, supervising applications and revising the judges exam.

Additional accomplishments include:

- Always willing and available to address questions and concerns from competitors in an extremely timely manner.
- Helped equalize tournament fees paid to NAFA for all formats, resulting in a balanced budget.
- Participated in a complete re-write of corporate bylaws with attorneys.
- Helped plan and run all CanAm Classic Tournaments from 2009 through 2019.
- Helped create "Line & Box Training" video.
- Helped work on design, testing, and implementation of new database.
- Helped work on design, testing, and implementation of new NAFAScore online scoring program.
- Helped create videos for new measuring system.
- Assisted in diagnosing, repairing, and maintaining US EJS sets.
- Helped design, test, and implement new CanAm website (nafacanam.com).
- Serves as the NAFA Webmaster.
- Conflict of Interest Video Review Panel: Chair of this committee, that reviews measuring videos that are potential Conflicts of Interest.
- Counsels new tournament hosts.

Leerie has not been on the board since January, but he continues to assist NAFA . He answers questions, provides advice when asked, continues to help maintain the EJS systems, serves on the Technology, Rules, and Judges Committees; as well as chairs the Conflict of Interest Video Review Panel.

Leerie's broad business and technical skills are an asset to the Board of Directors. NAFA's technology has benefited from his advanced computer skills, including programming and database administration, and audio/video knowledge.

While completing these activities at the national level, Leerie continued to be an active member of the Fur Fun flyball club and is the Tournament Director for two very large (3-4 ring) tournaments, and one small, limited tournament. As a Supervising Judge, he mentors and trains new judges. In the category of self-improvement, Leerie successfully completed the "Dog Training Professional" program, and earned the designation of "Certified Training Partner" from the Karen Pryor Academy. I believe he has acted on the board as he has in the competition ring, with integrity and with the best interests of NAFA and the sport of flyball in mind. I hope you will join me in casting your vote for Leerie Jenkins in the upcoming NAFA Board of Directors election.

Respectfully submitted by:
Amanda Brown, Region 9 RD

Board of Directors

Paula Johnson

I would like to officially submit my nomination for a position of director on the Board of Directors of NAFA.

I am recently retired from McMaster University where I managed a team of 16 individuals responsible for the recruitment of undergraduate students, both domestic and international. This position required me to navigate often conflicting needs of prospective students, faculty, upper administration and staff on a daily basis. It taught me the art of negotiation, conflict resolution, collaboration and leadership. All of these are skills are critical in being part of an organization like NAFA.

I have been involved in dogs my entire life, starting with Dobermans and Collies and now sharing my life with my wife Kim and our 5 dogs (whippet, saluki, mini bull terriers and a mix). A lifetime member of Hamilton Dog Obedience club, where I taught puppy classes for over 25 years, I developed a passion for teaching. My strong people and communication skills served me well as a head instructor.

A member of team Zoom! (Region 2) for the last 12 years, I found my stride with flyball. My team is my family and where I met my wife (team captain). Our focus is fun, friendship and of course food. I believe flyball is for all and a place can be found for every dog who wants to compete. It is not just for the top teams racing 14 seconds. It is just as much for that team that struggles to put together a 24 second team. If we want to continue to grow this sport we need to accept new people with non-traditional flyball dogs and help them catch the bug.

My philosophy has always been to give back to organizations I benefit from participating in - which is why I decided to become a NAFA judge. I love being in the lanes and celebrating accomplishments of the teams, cheering for a perfect start or a new team milestone. It is also the reason I have decided to stand for the BOD again. It is also the reason I was honoured to be asked to fill the remainder of Emma Mak's term on the BOD when she was unfortunately unable to do so. An organization such as NAFA has many competing ideas and perspectives that need to be balanced across all participants. Not an easy task. It needs people that are willing to step up and become part of the process and are able to listen and hear all sides of a discussion. I believe I am such a person.

I have no illusions that this role will be an easy one, but I believe I am up to the challenge.

Thank you for accepting my nomination.

Board of Directors

Jayne McQuillen

Dear NAFA,

I would like to nominate Jayne McQuillen for a second term on the NAFA BOD. As her husband, I am of course biased, but I've also had a front row seat to see her involvement on the BOD. Since joining the Board three years ago, Jayne has increased her responsibilities from Member to Chair of the BOD. She has made it her mission to push forward website updates, technology updates, and in her role as Chair, she has tried to increase communication and cooperation between committees.

As the Chair, she serves a supervisory role on every committee. She does her best to attend every committee meeting, as well as planning & running BOD meetings, extra meetings for things like CanAm planning, meetings with AKC, ESPN, and even meetings to help court sponsors. To say she is committed to NAFA is an understatement. There are few things Jayne will miss a team flyball practice for and NAFA related meetings are 1 of those high priority things.

Jayne is also not afraid to quietly do work behind the scenes in NAFA. I never realized how much goes into making sure NAFA runs so smoothly! Very few people are aware of all the things: disciplinary calls, rule interpretation issues, helping resolving judging issues and even urgent tournament hosting issues. She's never one to shy away from hard work or responsibility. Whether that's on her hands and knees taping rings at CanAm or personally recruiting volunteer workers for committees or for CanAm. She has been quick to recognize and promote the talents of others for the good of NAFA.

I think it's easy to complain about things. Jayne listens and starts looking for solutions. Those solutions can take a long time to develop in a volunteer run organization. She will patiently keep pushing towards the end goal. In any volunteer organization, that persistent oversight is needed. Jayne has worked tirelessly in many volunteer organizations and understands that people who passionately care are the most valuable asset you can have.

Beyond her duties as the Chair, Jayne truly cares about the experience of playing NAFA flyball. She cares about the health and well-being of all the dogs. At the end of the day, what really matters is that the people and dogs are enjoying themselves. For these reasons, I cannot imagine a better candidate for the NAFA BOD.

Sincerely,

Steve Branin
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