

North American Flyball Association Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Abridged Minutes, Detroit, Michigan

August 25, 2007

Present were: Executive Director Sam Ford
Board of Directors Brian Fay,
Lee Heighton,
Todd Morningstar,
Dana Nichols,
Lisa Peckham,
Kris Pickering,
Dale Smith,
Mike Smith,
Scott Stein

Chairman Lee Heighton called the meeting to order at 8:58 AM. Mike Smith was delayed due to travel arrangements and gave his proxy to Brian.

Guest Chris Van Wert.

Chairman's Comments

Chairman Lee Heighton welcomed Dana Nichols to the Board. Lee reiterated board procedures with respect to Roberts Rules of Order, especially in light of the busy Board agenda.

Lee discussed the need for additional EJS sets.

Todd moved for the Board to purchase three additional sets of lights. Lisa seconded.

There was discussion regarding financial feasibility and forecasts for future EJS needs. Kris has concerns about accountability for efficient use of our existing light sets. There was also discussion about getting lights to regions that have not had access to the Signature Gear lights. There was concern from Finance Committee members about depleting reserve funds to purchase lights.

Scott moved to table the motion until after the Finance Committee Report. Kris seconded. There was discussion about tabling the motion.

There was further discussion about financial challenges of shipping lights with vast geographic challenges in a timely fashion. Todd talked about leaving EJS sets in geographical locations to minimize shipping expenses and time delays. There was a discussion about where lights would ideally be located. Todd discussed where sets are currently being allocated and where new sets could be utilized. There was also a desire to have enough sets to allow for sets to be out of circulation for preventive maintenance. Currently the intent is that they would go in for preventative maintenance approximately 2 years after manufacture. Five sets are out of service right now for repairs. There was discussion about expediting repair time on sets.

Kris expressed concern that NAFA has 16 sets of Signature Gear lights, with 5 currently out for repair, and at least one region reportedly never having had access to these, and asked that any future light purchase requests include detail about how the existing sets are being allocated and what their maintenance schedules are, as well as how the new sets would be used, with reference to peak demand, scheduled maintenance etc. Todd indicated that the region in question has never requested NAFA lights for tournaments.

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Todd and Dale were requesting more lights to be stationed in Canada to reduce on shipping and tariffs.

The motion to table was withdrawn.

Voting in favor of the motion to purchase three new sets of lights: Brian, Lisa, Todd, Dana, Dale, Mike (by proxy), and Scott. Opposed: Kris. The motion passed.

Executive Director's Comments

Executive Director Sam Ford reported he has added Greg Stopay from Ontario, Canada to his staff as a Canadian liaison to help deal with EJS in Canada.

Mike Smith joined the meeting.

1. EJS Training Class

Sam reported that to provide better problem solving and resources for using the EJS, he is instituting an EJS training class at the AGM. He stated that his plan is to have volunteers attend the class and then work in a rotation to be on call as a point person for solving EJS problems over the weekend. Mark Kuznitz of Signature Gear and Dale Smith would remain backup resources. Sam envisions a core of five or six people who would make up the on call schedule. This would give clubs a person available to answer questions & troubleshoot EJS problems. This may also minimize damage to EJS by clubs trying to fix issues without proper guidance. Judges would also be invited to attend the training.

Sam also discussed allowing host clubs to test lights with dogs on the host club's team roster during set up to assure the EJS is operating correctly before the beginning of the tournament. This would allow diagnosis of problems before the pressure of delaying racing, especially when it can be done the night before racing starts. There was discussion about how this would be implemented. Sam will communicate the details of implementing this process through his Regional Directors.

2. Regional Changes

Sam indicated he had been approached regarding three requested regional changes

- a. Region 2:** Sam proposed an east/west split of this region in Ontario primarily because of the large number of tournaments in the area and the geographical expanse. The dividing line would be Peterborough to Port Hope. Sam and Dale would work to identify the exact dividing line based on postal codes. Region 2 would be western Ontario and a new Region 20 would be eastern Ontario and Quebec.

Scott moved to adopt the proposal. Todd seconded. In favor: Lisa, Kris, Todd, Dana, Dale, Mike, Scott. Abstain: Brian. Motion carries. This change would be effective October 1, 2007.

Clubs can still elect to run in a different region. The deadline for election is September 30, 2007.

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b. Region 8: Regional Director Peter Wesdyk requested that Dryden Fastrax in Ontario be made a part of Region 8. Currently they can elect to be in Region 8, but any tournaments they host are still considered a part of Region 2. Currently Dryden Fastrax has to travel twenty-three hours to tournaments in region 2. There was discussion regarding changing this rule, rather than changing boundary lines for clubs in these circumstances. After extensive discussion, there was a specific proposal to have any tournaments hosted by a club who has elected into another region be in-region tournaments for their elected region. There was extensive discussion about possible rule amendments.

Dana moved to amend Section 8.3(c) to say:

(c) All points and tie-break times for Regional Championships must be earned in the Club's home region, i.e., an "in-region" team. A Club's home region, absent a written request for change, is the place of residence of the Club owner shown on NAFA Form C.11. A Club may change regional affiliation to an adjacent region by written request to NAFA. Requests to change regional affiliation must be received before the start of the racing year to take effect that year. A host club's regional affiliation shall determine the region in which regional points accrue for tournaments hosted by that club.

Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sam requested a motion to return Thunder Bay, Ontario to Region 2. Dale made that motion. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Realignment of Regions 3 and 4: Sam reported on a request to create a new region 21 consisting of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas & Missouri. This would leave Minnesota, North Dakota & South Dakota in Region 3. Region 4 would consist of Wisconsin, Illinois, Kentucky and Indiana. There was discussion regarding this proposed change.

Dale moved to adopt Sam's proposal regarding a new Region 21. Scott seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. RD Approval

a. **Region 14**, acting Regional Director Jane Kline from Nashville, Tennessee from acting to approved. Todd moved to approve her, Mike seconded. Approved unanimously.

b. **Region 2**, acting Regional Director Suzanne Brown from Ancaster, Ontario from acting to approved. Dana moved to approve, Brian seconded. Approved unanimously.

c. **Region 21**, effective October 1, Joe Acker will be approved as RD. Kris moved, Scott seconded. Approved unanimously.

Secretary's Report

There are currently no minutes outstanding. Dana is completing the transition from Glenn Hamilton

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Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee Report

1. Financial Statements:

Balance sheet and Profit & Loss for the fiscal year to date were distributed and reviewed. Highlights included: Income – tournament income fees down approximately \$6,000, team registration fees equal, CRNs down \$2,000. Expenditure differences – BOD meetings have gone up because air travel is higher than last year, EJS shipping is up \$1500, accounting fees are up \$7,000 (includes one time costs of approximately \$6,000.00 for updating required IRS filing requirements and transitioning to a new outside accounting firm), legal fees are up \$8,500.00 based on expenditures for protection and renewal of trademarks. Some of the legal fees will end up reclassified as a trademark asset when year end financial statements are prepared. The differentials in income and expenditures may also change at year end.

2. Canadian Conversion:

Scott distributed a proposed replacement of Appendix A based on US and Canadian currency exchange rates, which is attached to these minutes as Attachment A.

Dale moved to accept the new Appendix A. Lisa seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Forms:

Scott requested a rewrite of the C6 form (tournament results form) with separate data entry designations for regional designation and for recording multiple tournaments over one weekend. Dana and Kris volunteered to redraft the form.

Kris addressed whether processing fees were needed for some of the administrative change requests. At this point, the Board elected not to make any changes.

4. Proposed CRN fee increase:

The Finance Committee recommended to increase the CRN fee to \$20 USD from \$15 USD. This fee has remained the same since it was instituted in 1993. There was discussion regarding this proposal.

Dale moved to adopt the increase effective October 1, 2007. Kris seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Scott requested the board go into Executive Session to discuss future financial requirements. There was no opposition. The Board entered Executive Session at 12:35 p.m.

The Board left Executive session at 12:47 p.m.

5. Annual Budget

The Finance Committee is working on an Annual Budget and asked Sam Ford to participate in that process. Based on the resulting Budget, the Committee will make recommendations to the Board on whether any increases in fees will be needed.

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Judges/Education Committee

1. Judging Status

Recommendations for change in status of judges.

- a. Stuart VandeVenter, Loveland, Colorado – provisional to approved. Dale moved to approve. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. David Caffo, Santa Barbara, California – apprentice to provisional. Dale moved to approve. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. Elizabeth Theesfeld, Plymouth, Minnesota– provisional to approved. Dale moved to approve. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. John Faibairn, Murphy, Texas – provisional to approved. Dale moved to approve. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Maintaining Judging Status

The Judges Committee recommended repealing the change to Chapter 2, section h that was set to take effect October 1, 2007, which would increase the number of judging assignments required to maintain judging status.

Kris moved to repeal the change and leave the rule as it currently exists. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Brian inquired about the judging status of Todd Heineman. Scott indicated the Judges Committee still needs to review tapes of measuring assignments before any final determination can be made.

Brian reported that he and Todd Morningstar were invited to Australia to judge their National Championships.

Marketing Committee

1. Hall of Fame

Dale passed out a list of Hall of Fame and Regional MVF Nominees. He also passed out the nomination letters for Hall of Fame nominees. The Board reviewed the nominees to narrow the list to five nominees: Bizzy, Crackers, Cyrano de Bordercollie, Lyric, and Tab.

2. Cynosport

Sam will be the Event Coordinator and Regional Director. Lee will be the Tournament Director. Lee reported that the format will change slightly. Friday will remain a regular tournament. Saturday will be bracket racing. The top placers in each bracket will advance to Sunday plus additional wild card entries based on times. Divisions for Sunday will be announced Saturday night. On Sunday, divisional winners will be recognized as well as the overall Cynosport Champion. This blended format

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should allow a broad variety of teams to be competitive. All teams will be guaranteed racing Friday and Saturday.

Sam reported that Cynosport donated a large championship trophy that will be engraved with each year's Cynosport Champion, including the names of the dogs, handlers, and boxloader.

There was a discussion regarding eligibility for entry in the event for 2007.

All dogs must have run on the NAFA club that they are representing in the preceding racing year at a NAFA sanctioned event. There is no limit on the number of teams that can enter.

Lee will be contacting hotels to make sure Cynosport rates are also available to flyball competitors.

There was discussion about tournament expenses and potential budget items. There was discussion regarding Cynosport's request for media releases from all competitors. There was also discussion regarding signs or banners to promote the flyball section of Cynosport and a public address audio system to announce during racing.

Election Committee

1. Review nomination deadlines

Lisa reported that the existing nomination deadlines for Hall of Fame & MVP, as well as for the Board of Directors are very early in the year. The Committee recommends the deadlines be reconciled to have Hall of Fame and MVP be June 1 – July 31.

Lisa moved to Amend Sections 8.5 & 8.6 as follows:

8.5

Submit nominations to NAFA® no earlier than June 1st and no later than July 31st of each year by mailing to the Hall of Fame Committee at the published NAFA® address.

8.6

(b) Nominations must come from a club in the candidate's region using form C.7 or equivalent information. Nominations shall be no more than 200 words, citing the contribution and outstanding qualities that make the candidate deserving of the award. Candidates cannot have previously won the award. Nominations should be sent to the NAFA® mailing address. Submit nominations to NAFA® no earlier than June 1st and no later than July 31st of each year by mailing to the Hall of Fame Committee at the published NAFA® address.

Brian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board also discussed developing a running list of rule changes available on the webpage for rule changes that are adopted after the rulebook is published. This would permit judges & competitors to easily access and print the latest rule changes. Lisa will work on developing it on the webpage.

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Disciplinary Committee

1. Removal of aggression write-up for Katie CRN#011283

Dale moved to remove the aggression write-up. Kris seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Removal of aggression write-up for Casey CRN#020820

Dale moved to remove the aggression write-up. Kris seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Kris pointed out that under Rule 5.8, disciplinary actions should be published.

Dana moved that the Rules Committee review the rules and bylaws and change any references to "NAFA News" to "the NAFA webpage" or remove as appropriate. The Rules Committee will report back their changes to the Board for final approval. Brian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Technology Committee

1. **Software changes for EJS.** September 15th is slated as the date for new software. It will be run in a few tournaments on a test basis and then be released more widely. The new release will include a count down timer for warm-up times, veteran false start, and improved computer interface.
2. **Preventative maintenance.** The maintenance program calls for the Signature Gear EJS to go in for preventative maintenance two years from date of manufacture.
3. **Old NAFA EJS systems** The old sets that were auctioned off drop off from the approved list at the end of this racing year. The remaining approved systems are: Signature Gear, Aaron Hughes, Jason Serpa, Flying Colors, Dean Good, and WatchDog.

Lee requested the Board enter Executive Session to discuss technology issues. Scott seconded. There was no opposition.

The Board entered Executive Session at 3:46 p.m.

The Board left Executive session at 3:52 p.m.

Standing Rules/Regulatory/Bylaw Committee

1. Proposal: To amend NAFA Policies, section 6.1, 2006 Rulebook, p. 26

Currently, section 6.1(f) states, "NAFA may sanction a tournament within 250 road miles of a previously sanctioned tournament, with written approval from the sanctioned tournament's club owner." At the ED's request, the Rules Committee examined the wording and unanimously recommended the following amendment to section 6.1(f):

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NAFA **will not** ~~may~~ sanction a tournament within 250 road miles of a previously sanctioned **NAFA** tournament **without** written approval from the sanctioned tournament's club owner.

Scott moved to approve the proposal. Dale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Proposal: To amend and restate Rules re Measuring, NAFA Rules of Racing, 2006 Rulebook, pp. 6 – 7 to set a time limit for a dog/handler to present an acceptable stance**

Chapter 4 of the Rules of Racing, 2006 Rulebook pp. 6 – 7 addresses measuring but does not set an outside time limit for presenting an acceptable stance. The Committee unanimously agreed we need an outside time limit but split 3 – 1 on whether the limit should be stated as mandatory and always allowed or whether a judge, in his/her discretion, should have the ability to deem the dog not measurable in less than the stated time limit. Debating the issue demonstrated organizational problems with the Rules in this Chapter. Dana Nichols redrafted Chapter 4 to better state the existing rules and to add that an acceptable stance must be presented within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed five minutes.

The draft rewrite of Chapter 4 was separately circulated and is attached to these minutes as Attachment B.

Mike moved to accept the proposed language regarding the time limitation for presenting a dog for measuring. Dale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

There was then discussion regarding the reformatting of Chapter 4 on Measuring. There was discussion regarding a modification to the proposed subsections:

(f) The dog may be measured up to 3 times. The dog must be presented in an acceptable stand (as described in paragraph e and in illustration 4.1 above), within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed five minutes per attempt. The lowest measurement obtained by the judge shall be the dog's recorded height for that tournament.

(g) Aggression during measurement will not be tolerated and **Rule 8.4** (Aggressive Dogs) will be observed.

(h) A dog deemed to be "NOT MEASURABLE" by the measuring Judge will jump 14" hurdles.

Kris moved to approve the re-draft of Chapter 4 as amended above. Dale seconded. In favor: Brian, Todd, Dana, Lisa, Kris, Dale, and Scott. Opposed: Mike. The motion carried.

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3. **Proposal: To amend section 8.3.e.iv of the NAFA Policies, 2006 Rulebook, p. 33, to clarify the rules re lottery draws**

A question came up during the year about a limited tournament that goes to a draw and thereafter an excluded club is allowed to enter. The Rules Committee unanimously recommended the following amendment to section 8.3.e.iv of the NAFA Policies:

In a limited entry class of competition, if any entering club is excluded ~~during a~~ **at the time the lottery draw is conducted**, the class of competition will not count toward Regional Championship points or tie-break times.

Dale moved to accept the proposal. Brian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Proposal: To amend section 16, Art. IV, NAFA By-Laws, p. 41 to permit email consent to certain Board action**

Section 16 of article IV of the NAFA by-laws, 2006 Rule Book, p. 41, currently requires unanimous written consent, signed by all Board members, for all action taken by the Board other than at a special or regular meeting. As a practical matter, the Board has to do some things by unanimous email consent that nonetheless should get picked up as actions of the Board by the secretary. Also, on non-substantive things like approving minutes, the Board has accepted silence in response to a written notice, by email, fax or letter, to be deemed consent. The Rules Committee unanimously recommended the following amendment to authorize these actions:

Section 16. Action by Unanimous Consent. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors or of any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if a written consent, setting forth the action so taken, is **signed approved by email or in writing** by all the members of the Board of Directors or the committee, as the case may be, and such written consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors or the committee. **For administrative matters such as approval of the minutes, unanimous written consent may be obtained by written notice setting a date by which consent to the action will be deemed approved if not objected to in writing within five or more business days of the notice.**

Todd moved to adopt the proposed amendment. Dale seconded. Dale recommended changing the time period to "seven or more days." Todd accepted the amended language. The motion to adopt the recommended bylaw change, with a seven day period specified, passed unanimously.

5. **Futurity Rules: Proposal to Adopt**

The Futurity Rules sunset at the end of this racing year. The Committee favors continuing the class and expanding it, to include side by side recalls on the flat or, for eligible dogs, over jumps in a recall format. Dana prepared a discussion draft, which was circulated as a separate attachment and is attached to the minutes as Attachment C.

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There was discussion regarding the proposed modifications to the futurity rules. Dana moved to adopt the proposed changes. Kris seconded.

Discussion followed about the benefits of having an expanded futurity program for training young dogs in a tournament environment and whether it made sense to expand the program. Some people argued that there was no need for the proposed futurity rules, since green dogs currently are allowed to do recalls over the jumps during warm ups so long as they are on the time sheets. Others argued for single dog racing in lieu of futurity rules.

Mike moved to table the motion. Motion failed for lack of a second.

In favor of the proposed futurity rules: Dana, Kris, Mike, Scott. Opposed: Brian, Todd, Lisa, Dale. Lee voted in favor to break the tie. Sam vetoed the motion.

Kris moved to override the veto. Dana seconded. In favor: Dana, Kris, Mike, Scott. Opposed: Brian, Todd, Lisa, Dale. The motion required $\frac{3}{4}$ to pass, so it failed.

The existing Futurity Rules sunset so they will be removed from the 2008 fiscal year rulebook.

6. **Proposal: To amend section 1.6(e) of the NAFA Policies, p. 18, to require appointment of an acting Regional Director if the head judge is normal RD**

The Rules Committee discussed whether the same person should be able to serve both as Head Judge and Regional Director at the same tournament. The Committee unanimously recommended the following amendment to ensure the Head Judge and the RD will always be two separate people:

If the Regional Director is **a *the* tournament director *or a Head Judge for the tournament***, the Executive Director shall designate an acting Regional Director for the tournament.

Dale moved to accept the proposed language. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Entry Rules and Forms**

The Committee reviewed the Rules and forms governing entries into NAFA sanctioned tournaments and reported its plans to present a proposal to clarify and expand these rules.

8. **Proof of Entry into NAFA Sanctioned Tournament**

Scott is working with Dale on developing a proof of entry form that can be generated from the website for use in attending tournaments in Ontario and elsewhere with BSL.

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Dale will create a form on the webpage. There was discussion that NAFA can certify when the CRN was issued and that the dog was eligible to compete on an entered team at the event that date. The owner will then certify that the dog is actually entered.

9. Integrating Appendices into Rule Book

The Committee is concerned about the number of appendices to the Rules, which are already somewhat cumbersome with the Rules of Racing, the Corporate Policies, the Bylaws, the forms, and the various appendices. The matter was referred back to Rules for specific recommendations.

10. Certification of Judges

Addressed by the Judges' Committee.

11. Training in the Ring and Box Devices

The Rules Committee reviewed photographs and an inquiry concerning jumps attached to boxes during racing. The issue was whether, though these devices do not take the box size beyond the dimensions permitted by the box rules specifically, this constitutes training in the ring, in violation of the Rules and glossary definition of the term, which states, "Training in the Ring – where, once racing has started, the handler uses techniques and/or devices that would be used to train. See Chapter 7 warmups, Chapter 8, Section 8.3 – The Run."

Though not unanimous and not taken to final Committee vote, a split of the Committee believed this constituted training in the ring and that, if needed, the Rules should be amended to so state. The Committee proposed suggested language to modify the box rule as follows:

(vi) No training aids or props may be attached or integrated into the box design when the box is used during racing. Prohibited attachments or designs would include, but are not limited to: anything attached to the front, side, top, or bottom of the box to enhance performance, such as jump boards or wings. Tape or paint on the front matting of the box is not considered a training aid or prop as long as it is flat against the box and does not protrude.

The pictures and email exchanges concerning this issue were circulated separately and are attached to the minutes as Attachments D, E & F.

Kris presented information regarding this issue. Scott addressed history regarding the Board's previous consideration of the issue of wings attached to a box during racing.

Dana moved for a ruling that use of this box would constitute training in the ring. Kris seconded. In favor: Dana, Lisa, Kris, Mike. Opposed: Brian, Todd, Dale, Scott. Lee, as Chair, voted against. The motion failed.

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Kris moved to adopt the above language proposed by the Rules Committee. Mike seconded. The Board discussed the proposed language at length. In favor: Dana, Kris, Mike Opposed: Brian, Todd, Dale, Scott, Lisa. The motion failed.

Dana moved to determine whether the Board wanted to adopt any modifications to the box rules at this point. Kris seconded. There was discussion. In favor: Dana, Kris, Mike, Scott, Brian. Opposed: Todd, Lisa, Dale. The motion passed.

Lee proposed alternative wording:

“A box design or attachment shall not physically obstruct the turn of a dog.”

Mike moved to adopt that language. Dana seconded.

There was extensive discussion. Kris discussed a possible alternative of:

“A box design or attachment shall not physically obstruct the dog’s approach onto or turn off of the box.”

Mike and Dana both agreed to amend the motion to include Kris’ wording. In favor: Dana, Kris, Mike. Opposed: Brian, Todd, Lisa, Dale, Scott. The motion failed.

There was further discussion about whether possible alternative language could be created. Several Board members had concerns about the inability to draft language that would prohibit this type of box, but would not inhibit future innovative box design.

12. Penalties for Ineligible Dogs Running

Sometimes the Rules specify the penalty for listing or racing an ineligible dog whereas in others they don’t; some see this as giving rise to an ambiguity when a dog is entered on two time sheets in the same class: Do both teams lose all points and placements, or only one of the two teams?

The Committee unanimously supported clarifying the Rules to provide for forfeiture of points on both teams and to present proposed language to the Board.

Kris provided the following language,

Any dog(s) listed on a time sheet in violation of Rules Chapters 3 and 7(d) of the Rules of Racing, sections 6.2(f) and (g) and 7.5 of the Corporate Policies and any appendices pertaining to eligibility will cause forfeiture of all NAFA points earned during the tournament for all dogs on the team(s) on whose time sheet(s) the ineligible dog(s) appear. Team(s) with dog(s) violating these rule(s) will also forfeit any tournament placements.

Scott moved to adopt the language. Dale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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13. Racing Schedules and Format

The Committee reviewed correspondence respecting the way racing schedules are formulated. No consensus was reached. The Committee agreed to solicit input from the ED on this issue.

There was discussion about computer programs that were formulated that do not follow the racing schedule formats already contained within the NAFA Rules, specifically left and right lanes and round robin formats. While the Board encourages innovation, it was stressed that racing schedules should follow the outlined format as much as possible with limited modifications to accommodate scheduling conflicts.

14. Limits on the Number of Heats

Concern has been expressed about the number of heats per tournament or per weekend and whether limits should be imposed. The Rules Committee found that this issue merits further discussion, with input from the ED and the Board.

There was a discussion about whether there should be a daily or weekly limit for the maximum number of potential heats per day for a team.

Dale moved that the Rules Committee develop language for a rule that would limit the maximum number of potential heats per team to 35 per day. Kris suggested the following language:

Section 6.3 – Format & Schedule

The tournament format & schedule shall be approved by the Regional Director. Each team participating in the tournament (and the Head Judge) shall be notified no less than 48 hours prior to competition. The tournament format includes:

- (i) Teams in each division along with the seed time of each team and the breakout time assigned to that division.
- (ii) Format of the tournament, i.e., Round Robin with or without Single/Double elimination, and whether the two rounds are added together or not.
- (iii) Scoring – how wins and placements are determined; and how tie scores would be broken.
- (iv) The Race Schedule shall not call for more than a total of 35 possible heats per day per team.**

Dale moved to accept this proposed language. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The Board clarified that this Rule will be effective October 1, 2007.

15. Rarities Registry

The Committee has been asked to review whether Rarities, Inc. and NAKC should be added to the list of breed registries on whom NAFA relies to establish recognized breeds. The web link is <http://www.raritiesinc.ca/default.htm>.

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This was referred back to the Rules Committee for a specific recommendation.

16. Disciplinary Rules

Section 5.6 of the Corporate Policies, entitled "probation," p. 24, refers in paragraphs a and b to "teams" being put on probation as opposed to "clubs." The Rules Committee reported its view that this is an error. After discussion, the following amendment was proposed:

Section 5.6 - Probation

(a) A Regional Director may put on notice a tournament director, ~~host~~ club, **individual, team,** or judge within their region for violating NAFA® Rules of Racing and Corporate Policies & Procedures or for conduct prejudicial to Flyball. The notice, whether **oral** or written must be documented and forwarded to the **Executive Director**. A second notice for the same or similar violations or for conduct prejudicial to Flyball shall be reported to the **Executive Director who will forward it to** Board of Directors for appropriate actions.

(b) The Board of Directors may put a tournament director, ~~host~~ club, **individual, team,** Regional Director or judge on probation for one year. If the problem is not corrected to the satisfaction of the Board of Directors, the tournament director, ~~host~~ club, **individual, team,** or judge may be prohibited from participating in NAFA® sanctioned events.

Dana moved to accept that proposed language. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

17. Veterans

Section 6.2 - Classes of Competition

(f) No dog shall be listed on more than one time sheet in any given class of competition. A dog listed on a time sheet in the Veteran's class at a tournament may not be listed on a time sheet for any other class of competition in that tournament unless the classes are scheduled so as to be run on separate days to a maximum of one additional class. ~~No dog shall be listed on the timesheets from more than one club at any given event.~~

Dale moved to strike the last sentence of this rule. Kris seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Outstanding Business

1. Pick-up teams rules draft

The Rules Committee was not able to reach a conclusion regarding this issue, but tendered a report with various options, rules that would need to be amended, and discussion points. Kris led a discussion of some of the highlights of the report. The Committee's report was circulated and is attached to these minutes as Attachment G.

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Sam circulated a proposal. A copy of the proposal is attached to these minutes as Attachment H.

Scott left the meeting at 8:18 p.m. He gave his proxy to Lisa.

Sam reviewed highlights of his proposal and led a discussion.

Todd made a motion to adopt Sam's proposal. Mike seconded. There was extensive discussion.

There were several suggested changes:

- a. open class could be seeded combined with the veteran's class and would run subject to the veteran's false start & heat limitations.
- b. No best time would be displayed from a team designated as a performance team in the Database.

After discussion, Todd moved to approve the proposal with the two suggested changes. Mike approved. In favor: Todd, Dana, Lisa, Dale, Mike, Scott (by proxy). Opposed: Brian, Kris. The motion passed.

New Business

1. Judge Lawrence Cox request for delegate vote.

Kris moved to allow. Dale seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Judge Monica Johnny request for delegate vote.

Dale moved to allow. Mike seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Judge Danny Fitts request for delegate vote.

Dale moved to allow. Mike seconded. In favor: Todd, Dana, Lisa, Kris, Dale, Mike, Scott (by proxy). Opposed: Brian. The motion passed.

4. Judge Josh Watson request for delegate vote.

Lisa moved to allow. Dale seconded. There was extensive discussion, including a suggestion from Brian that all judges at approved status or above be granted a delegate vote. Lisa withdrew her motion to allow Brian's motion to be heard. Dale removed his second.

Brian moved to allow judges at approved level or above to have a vote. Lisa seconded. There was discussion. There was a suggestion to amend Article VII, Section 2 of the bylaws to read:

Section 2. Delegates. From time to time the Board of directors may submit rule changes to delegates for consideration. Affiliate Clubs will be given a number of delegate votes based on the number of tournaments each club competed in and/or hosted during a fiscal year. Affiliate Clubs must compete in at least one event during the racing year to qualify for Delegate Votes. Delegates will be calculated for a club based on competition in or hosting

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tournaments on the following schedule: 1 delegate for 4-5 team entries; 2 delegates for 6-11 team entries; 3 delegates for 12-17 team entries; 4 delegates for 18-23 team entries; 5 delegates for 24-29 team entries; and 6 delegates for 30 team entries or more. One delegate per club will be awarded for hosting each tournament. No Club shall earn more than 8 delegate votes in total by team entries or tournament hosting. The Board of Directors may designate delegates with special interest in **flyball (i.e. judges)**. Each Board member will individually receive a delegate vote over and above any delegate votes **otherwise earned by their Club**. Each Regional Director will individually receive a delegate vote over and above any delegate votes **otherwise earned by their Club**. **All approved judges and supervising judges will individually receive a delegate vote in addition to any other delegate votes otherwise earned.** Clubs will be notified of the number of delegates earned during the preceding fiscal year.

Brian amended his motion to include this amended language. Lisa also seconded. The motion passed unanimously. This change will be effective October 1, 2007.

In light of the above amendment, Dale moved to grant a delegate vote to all existing approved and supervising judges for the upcoming election, the names of which will be inserted into the minutes below. Brian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The names of all supervising and approved judges are as follows:

Lawrence Cox, Carl Dingee, Stephanie Doerr, Brian Fay, Paul Ferlitto, Joe Goetz, Kevin Hughes, Kurt Johnson, Denise Lacey, Robin Marion, Doug May, Todd Morningstar, Ron Pelletier, Dale Smith, Scott Stein, Annette Tindall, Darrel West, Rob Bitler, Geoff Brown, Steve Brown, Scott Chamberlain, Gail D'Avolio, Carle Lee Dembeck, Mike Devine, Jennifer DuRocher, Cyril Edmonds, Danny Fitts, Barry Freeman, Scott Frerich, Mike Galloway, Phil Getty, Kevin Gordon, Judy Hagan, Glenn Hamilton, Drew Hansen, Todd Heineman, Cynthia Henderson, Ule James, Leerie Jenkins, Monica Johnny, Brian Kaulk, Kimberly M. Kendall, Randy Kenzie, Carla Mortensen, Dana Nichols, Heather Puddington, Lea Reisig, Scott Rideout, Dave Samuels, Mike Smith, Jennifer Staton, Arend Teraa, Aimee Walker, Dave Walt, Josh Watson, Peter Wesdyk, Dan Wood, Stuart VandeVenter, David Caffo, Elizabeth Theesfeld, and John Faibairn.

5. Request to establish tournament seeding guidelines

Lee discussed a request from an RD to have the Board address teams who are submitting seed times that are substantially faster than the teams actually run. Lee mentioned that historically NAFA has not required teams to run their submitted seed time.

Dale moved to table the request and refer to the Rules Committee for further review and a recommendation if appropriate. Brian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion on entry requirements for waiver of fees on additional EJS

There was discussion about granting waiver of fees for additional EJS units in tournaments that are two one day tournaments, rather than one two day tournament, especially in light of the new fee schedule.

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Lee discussed modifying the existing rule to have a minimum amount of NAFA fees generated, rather than a minimum number of teams. He suggested a minimum fee of \$800 over the weekend. His suggested rule revision was:

Section 6.5 – Electronic Judging Systems

~~(d) Tournaments with less than 10 teams will pay NAFA® \$200.00 to cover shipping cost. Tournaments with 10 to 40 teams will get 1 set of lights for free. Tournaments with more than 40 teams are eligible to receive 2 sets of EJS lights.~~ **Tournaments that generate less than \$200.00 in NAFA fees will pay NAFA \$200.00 to cover shipping costs. Tournaments that generate \$200.00 or more in NAFA fees will receive 1 set of EJS lights at no additional charge. Tournaments that generate \$800.00 or more in NAFA fees are eligible to receive 2 sets of EJS lights at no additional charge.**

Dale moved to adopt the proposed language above. Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dale moved to delete section 6.5(e) because it was obsolete.

~~**(e) Private clubs can order EJS from NAFA's supplier with a \$50.00 fee to be paid to NAFA® for use of the software.**~~

Todd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Proposal to scan all tournament paperwork and handling of C9 forms

Dale moved to begin a process of storing tournament paperwork by scanning and preserving in digital format, rather than paper format. This process would begin with the new racing year. Brian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Online club registration and tournament sanctioning

Dale is working on it.

9. Discussion on possible changes to measuring process

a. Change in amount of deduction (4" to 5" or 6")

Dale moved to submit to a delegate vote whether 5 or 6 inches should be reduced from the dog's height instead of 4 inches to determine jump height. Lisa seconded.

There was extensive discussion regarding whether this proposal should be submitted to the delegates. Dana felt that this proposal should not be submitted. There was further discussion. Kris lodged an additional objection because there was no written language submitted for wording of the delegate ballot.

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In favor: Lisa, Dale. Opposed: Brian, Todd, Dana, Kris, Mike. Abstain: Scott (by proxy). The motion failed.

Todd moved to refer the issues the Rules Committee for drafting of possible language and later submission back to the Board for consideration. Brian seconded. In favor: Brian, Todd, Lisa, Dale, Mike, Scott (by proxy). Opposed: Kris, Dana. The motion passed.

b. Change on how measurement is taken

The Board reviewed a request to change the current measuring system NAFA uses to measure dogs.

No motion was made regarding this request.

c. Measuring study

Lisa requested we go into Executive Session to discuss topics regarding measuring. There was no opposition.

The Board entered Executive Session at 11:15 p.m.

The Board exited Executive session at 12:08 am

Proposed Rule regarding Open Class and Performance Racing

After a break, there was proposed language submitted regarding adopting these rules:

PICK UP TEAM DRAFT RULES

In response to the delegate survey the NAFA Board adopts the following rules establishing the Open Class and Performance Teams on a one year trial basis, effective October 1, 2007, as follows:

Open Class

From October 1, 2007 until September 30, 2008, NAFA restates section 6.2 of its Corporate Policies and Procedures to recognize as a fifth class of competition the Open Class. The Open Class is subject to all existing NAFA Rules of Racing and Corporate Policies and Procedures except that the 87 day rule stated in Section 7.5(a) of the Corporate Policies and Procedures does not apply to the Open Class. The Open Class is subject to the following additional specific rules:

1. Other Classes or Time Sheets

A dog that is listed on a timesheet for a team in the Open Class may be listed on the timesheet for one additional team in another Class, except in circumstances where a second entry would be prohibited by Sections 6.2(f) or (g) of the NAFA Policies and Procedures.

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2. Club Affiliation

A dog's club affiliation is not affected by reason of running in the Open Class.

3. Seeding

- a. *The preference for divisions comprising at least four teams shall not apply to the Open Class.*
- b. *In consultation with and with the approval of the Regional Director, the host club may utilize a racing schedule that has teams in the Open Class compete with teams in the Veteran's Class. Where this occurs, competition in the Open Class shall be run subject to the false start and heat limit rules stated for the Veteran's Class in section 6.2(e)(i) and (ii) of the Corporate Policies and Procedures.*

4. Record Times and NAFA Seed Times.

- a. *The rules governing world records stated in Section 7.2 of the Corporate Policies and Procedures do not apply to the Open Class. A team running in the Open Class is not eligible to set a NAFA world record;*
- b. *Teams running in the Open Class shall be eligible for points and tournament placements within the Open Class. However, times set by a team running in a Open Class shall not be entered into the NAFA Database as club or in region times. As with the Veteran's Class, a separate roster may be established on the website to report times for teams competing in the Open Class.*

Performance Teams

From October 1, 2007 until September 30, 2008, Section 7.5 of NAFA's Corporate Policies and Procedures is further modified to permit clubs to field teams designated as Performance Teams that include dogs that otherwise would be ineligible to compete because the dog earned points on another club's team within the preceding 87 days. This exception to section 7.5(a) is subject to the following terms, conditions and requirements:

1. NAFA Rules and Policies Apply

Clubs, teams, dogs and participants on Performance Teams remain subject to and governed by all of the provisions of the NAFA Rules of Racing and Corporate Policies and Procedures, except as specifically set forth below.

2. Conversion to Performance Team Entry.

With the permission of the Tournament Director for cause shown, a team entered in a regular or non-regular class may be converted from its original status to a Performance Team entry prior to the start of the tournament. The intent of this conversion privilege is to allow teams that have already entered a tournament but who, for unforeseen reasons, find

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themselves unable to field a complete team, to run for points with a dog or dogs from another club. "Cause" shall include but not be limited to circumstances such as dog injury, illness, or other unforeseen situation. A team may not enter a tournament as a Performance Team.

3. Performance Team Status Declared.

A team's status as a Performance Team entry shall be clearly shown on the team's time sheet and declared prior to the start of racing. The team's status as a Performance Team shall be disclosed on the seeding list prepared and circulated by the host club prior to the tournament and/or at the captain's meeting before the racing starts. Once a team is declared to be a Performance Team, its status does not change, even if the non-club dog(s) listed on the time sheet do not earn any points

4. Club Affiliation

A dog's club affiliation is not affected by reason of running on a Performance Team.

5. Other Classes or Time Sheets

A dog that is listed on a timesheet for a Performance Team may be listed on the timesheet for one additional team provided the entry is on a team in another class, except in circumstances where a second entry would be prohibited by Sections 6.2(f) or (g) of the NAFA Policies and Procedures.

6. Placements and Awards

A Performance Team is not eligible for tournament awards or placements. A Performance Team will not be awarded any wins in any races or heats. A team racing against a Performance Team must complete the minimum number of heats in order to record a win. In an elimination event, Performance Teams shall be placed at the bottom of the elimination brackets, with the Performance Teams being ranked by time among themselves by seed time in the event more than one Performance Team is in the elimination schedule.

7. Record Times, NAFA Seed Times, and Championships.

- a. A Performance Team is not eligible to set a NAFA world record. The rules governing world records stated in Section 7.2 of the Corporate Policies and Procedures do not apply to Performance Teams.*
- b. Times set by a Performance Team shall be recorded on the time sheet for purposes of calculating points earned by the dogs on the timesheet entered into the NAFA Database but for no other purpose.*
- c. Regardless of the regional affiliation of the club fielding the Performance Team, such teams shall be treated as out of region teams for purposes of the Rules governing Regional Championships.*

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Mike moved to accept the new Open Class and Performance Team rules. Brian seconded. There was discussion regarding the draft. The motion passed unanimously.

Annual General Meeting

There was discussion regarding the date and location for the Annual General Meeting. Lee recommended that the AGM be hosted by Omaha 4-Play in Omaha, Nebraska in conjunction with their December 1-2, 2007 tournament. The AGM date would be December 1, 2007 with the Board meeting on November 30, 2007.

Dana moved to adopt Lee's recommendation. Dale seconded. In favor: Brian, Dana, Lisa, Dale. Opposed: Mike. Abstain: Todd abstained because he had already accepted a judging assignment and he did not want to blemish his perfect attendance record; Kris and Scott (by proxy). The motion carried.

Brian moved to reconsider the AGM motion. Lisa seconded. There was discussion about other possible dates for more Board members to be able to attend. The motion passed unanimously.

Dale moved to table the discussion. Mike seconded. Discussion followed that briefly tabling the matter until everyone's calendar's could be reported on and the best date for maximum attendance established. The motion to table passed unanimously. The date and location of the AGM shall be determined by email in the coming days.

Mike moved that the meeting be adjourned. Todd seconded. There was unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 AM Eastern on August 26, 2007.