

## **Appendix B – NAFA Futurity Program Class Rules**

The purpose of the NAFA Futurity Program is to give young dogs an opportunity to demonstrate a variety of skills necessary to play the sport of flyball at NAFA sanctioned flyball tournament.

The Futurity Program will consist of four levels of classes - Levels I, II, III, and IV. Dogs do not need to complete levels in order.

The Futurity Program is not mandatory at tournaments but may be offered at the host club's discretion. A club offering Futurity Program classes must offer Level I, but need not offer any other level.

This pilot project will continue to run until September 30, 2008 and will be reviewed by the board at that time.

### **A. General Rules applying to NAFA Futurity Program classes.**

1. All dogs participating in the Futurity class must be permanently registered with NAFA with a Competition Registration Number (CRN). This number must be purchased in advance of the event. The CRN must be recorded on the NAFA C14 event form prior to the start of the Futurity class.
2. NAFA Rules, including those dealing with aggressive dogs and fouling in the ring, are in effect for the Futurity Program classes.
3. Futurity Program classes may be offered at any NAFA sanctioned event. A host club must announce to all team captains and the head judge that the Futurity Program class(es) will be offered within 48 hours of the start of the sanctioned event.
4. Futurity Program classes must be scheduled so that they do not interfere with any portion of the sanctioned event either by running the class(es) prior to the start of the sanctioned tournament, during a schedule break, or at the end of either day of the event. Futurity Program classes shall not be held at the same time as racing is occurring in the tournament
5. There will be no winner declared in any Futurity class. Results will be reported as a PASS or FAIL.
6. No NAFA points shall be awarded because of a Futurity Program class.
7. Dogs who pass all four levels in the Futurity Program will be awarded the title of FQ - Futurity Qualified.
8. Dogs entered into the sanctioned Flyball tournament by inclusion on a NAFA timesheet, are not allowed in Futurity Program classes.
9. Bitches in season will not be allowed to enter Futurity Program classes.

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10. NAFA will maintain and report the results of Futurity Program classes.

### **B. Futurity Program Levels**

#### **1. Level I.**

One dog at a time will be tested. The Test shall be a restrained Recall to the handler over a measured distance. This level does not include jumping. Success will be reported as Pass or Fail with a Pass being the successful recall to the handler. The handler will be given one opportunity to recall the dog. Dogs entering this level must be at least four months old.

#### **2. Level II.**

Two dogs at a time will be tested. Each dog will do a restrained Recall to the handler over a measured distance. This level does not include jumping. A physical barrier must be included between the two lanes. The barrier can be of any reasonable design that will insure separation of the running dogs, including, but not limited to: baby gates, snow fencing, or wooden boards. Success will be reported as Pass or Fail with a Pass being the successful recall to the handler. Each handler will be given one opportunity to recall the dog. If an odd number of dogs are entered, a bye dog of sufficient age and experience should be used to run against the remaining dog. Dogs entering this level must be at least four months old.

#### **3. Level III.**

One dog at a time will be tested. The Test shall be a restrained Recall to the handler over four regulation flyball jumps, set up in regulation format. Jumps shall be set at the lowest jump height. Success will be reported as Pass or Fail with a Pass being the successful recall over all four jumps to the handler. The handler will be given two opportunities to recall the dog. Dogs entering this level must be at least 10 months old.

#### **4. Level IV.**

Two dogs at a time will be tested. Each dog will do a restrained Recall to the handler over four regulation flyball jumps, set up in regulation format. Jumps shall be set at the lowest jump height. A

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### C. Test course requirements.

The test course consists of a run-up area, 51 foot section including a start and finish line and slow down area. The following are approved testing surfaces:

#### 1. Natural surface.

May be hard packed dirt free of stones or short cut grass. Surfaces must be free of holes, debris and contaminants.

#### 2. Artificial surfaces.

Concrete or other such hard surfaces must be covered with matting or carpeting.

#### 3. Test course layout.

##### Start and Finish Line.

A start and finish line, separated by a 51-foot distance, must be clearly defined using a tape or chalk if outdoors to enable the Tester to clearly view the dog's recall.

##### Testing Lane.

To protect the integrity of the tournament racing ring(s), if a Futurity Program class is held in the racing ring, all EJS equipment must be removed from the ring.

### D. Reporting Results.

The following items will be sent to NAFA® within 14 days after the tournament, via NAFA® approved courier with the results of the tournament:

- (i) A recording fee of \$2.00 (US funds) per dog that competed in Futurity Program classes.
- (ii) A completed entry form C14 for each entrant .

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### **E. Testers.**

Designated Testers shall be NAFA Approved Judges, Regional Directors or the event's Tournament Director. A Regional Director or NAFA Approved Judge must be present during testing.