

## Volume 11 Issue 1



# NAFA® NEWS

*Official News Letter of the North American Flyball Association*

*September, 2005*

**Nominations are out  
Don't forget to vote!**

**Nominations are:**

**Brian Fay  
Judy Hagen  
Kristina Pickering  
Mike Smith**

**Bio's are in this edition of the NAFA NEWS**

### **From the Chairman**

Lee Heighton

I would like to start out by commending my fellow BoD members for their hard work and dedication during this past year. Several changes that were recommended at the AGM have already been implemented to increase communication between the Board of Directors and the delegates. These include the advance publication of Board of Director meeting locations and dates as well as the meeting agendas. Steps have also been taken in relation to executive session. The minutes now reflect the reason that the Board has entered into executive session in an effort to provide as much information as legally possible. Unfortunately, the recent malicious attack on our website has hampered these efforts but we anticipate the introduction of our new website in the near future.

The new Electronic Judging Systems are being tested at several tournaments and have been very well received. These systems are wireless and will all

include large displays which have proven to be a very popular addition. We anticipate the testing phase to be completed very shortly.

While the idea of judging seminars has been talked about several times, the logistics of holding the seminars has always been very difficult. The Judges Committee has developed a plan to tape short training segments that can be posted on the website. A judge will be able to view the segment at any time and a database will be kept to verify that our judges have viewed the training segments. This provides a uniformity in judges training that has never been available. Rule changes can be easily addressed by changing one segment instead of replacing an entire tape or disk. These training segments will also be available to any competitor who wishes to increase their own understanding of NAFA® rules.

The Board is continuing to address Breed Specific Legislation. Our efforts to prevent this legislation passing in Ontario were unsuccessful however; we recently received an exemption to the legislation. We are continuing to explore options that will limit or even prevent any impact on our sport in areas where this type of legislation is introduced.

The elections for the Board of Directors, as well as MVP and Hall of Fame selections, are rapidly approaching and I urge all of our delegates to vote for their respective choices.

We all have the common goal of enjoying this sport with our four legged companions. Please contact any member of the Board if you have a suggestion that you feel will improve our sport.

Lee Heighton

## NAFA Gains BSL Exemption

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 forthcoming after this weekend's board of director's meeting in Detroit, Michigan.

Glenn Hamilton  
Secretary, North American Flyball Association, Inc.

For further information, please contact Glenn Hamilton at  
[venham@rogers.com](mailto:venham@rogers.com) <<mailto:venham@rogers.com>>



Baron—Some Ruff Competition

## Signature Gear—EJS

Signature Gear EJS  
By Dana Nichols, RUFF

Colorado had the good fortune to be one of the testing sites for the new Signature Gear EJS system in June at the RUFF in the Rockies tournament. Several of RUFF's members had already run on the new lights, so the rest of the club was excited to see the lights in action. The overwhelming consensus was that the new lights are wonderful!

Many of us had run on Signature Gear's agility timing equipment. They have a great agility timing system that attaches directly to the first and last jumps for extremely consistent timing. The new flyball system is a much more complicated venture, but as we have seen the lights progress through the testing process, it looks like the final product will be equally consistent. The Colorado tournament was a relatively large tournament with 38 regular and 12 multi-breed teams (huge for us!). We ran two rings

over 2 ½ days of racing. There were very few errors with the Signature Gear flyball system. The new EJS was consistent, reliable, and easy to use. The lights were monitored during racing through an intricate camera system used by Bordering on Insanity from Chicago. Their recording system is an amazing setup with several security cameras on motion detectors that automatically record onto an internal system. They were able to catch passes and box turns for every heat without even needing someone to hit a record button or put in a fresh tape. Plus, they could show us all their races from the last year at the touch of a button. It's definitely something on my wish list now. Even under this extra close scrutiny, the Signature Gear EJS performed well.

The most immediate difference in the new system is that it has four lights – three before the green start light comes on. They sequence on the same interval as the existing EJS system, but with an extra light. This is great for folks with speedy dogs who need to get farther back. For those who were then able to start with the second light, they had more notice to prepare for their start. Additionally, before the lights go through the final countdown, they sequence once in the opposite direction as another, even earlier indicator.

Another new feature on the Signature Gear EJS is the lights themselves. They are LED, rather than standard light bulbs. This means the lights come on completely and more quickly. There is no split-second glow before they light up. We ran the lights indoors, but they should also be easy to see outdoors even in the bright sun. After the start dog handlers got used to the change in systems (we had a few false starts to begin with), many found the Signature Gear system made it easier to shave their start times as there was far less variability.

From a judging standpoint, the Signature Gear lights are a dream. I got to judge with them at two tournaments while apprenticing. The system is lightweight and easy to set up. The system can be run on batteries rather than electrical cords. This meant we did not have as many cords to cover in the racing area. We recharged the units each night after racing. The lights are very judge-friendly in their operation as well. They automatically keep track of false starts for each team without reset. A light shows the judge and the handlers which team, or teams, have false started in that heat. The Signature Gear system even has an auditory mode that sounds a buzzer for false starts and early passes. The buzzer sounds like a basketball buzzer with adjustable volume. We were initially

concerned that it might bother some sound-sensitive dogs, but we ran with the buzzer one day and it didn't seem to bother a single dog. It is not nearly as loud as a judge's whistle, and the tone is somewhat flatter. Most people really liked the feature because it was another reminder, especially for early passes when you sometimes manage to miss the light and the judges' flags. It was also helpful for second false starts because the buzzer does not sound. I quickly became conditioned to the buzzer and missed it when it wasn't turned on.

We were very pleased with Signature Gear's flyball EJS system. It's clear that a great deal of time and effort went into the system by both Signature Gear and NAFA. I think the result is a great new system that should serve us well for many years to come. And be sure to mark your calendars for Colorado's 2006 RUFF in the Rockies tournament – June 9-11, 2005. We hope to see even more teams next year!



Signature Gear Lights with Time Display

## **NAFA PATCHES**

Contact **Judy Hagan**

1890 Cottage Grove Pkwy

Marion, IA 52302

(319) 286-8294

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## Abridged Board Meeting Notes

St. Louis, Missouri  
January 15, 2005

Present were:

Executive Director– Sam Ford  
Board of Directors - Lee Heighton, Jeff Kinsley,  
DaleSmith, Glenn Hamilton, Ken Eldridge, Brian Fay,  
Todd Morningstar, Kris Pickering and Scott Stein

Called to order at 8:27 a.m. Central by Lee Heighton. Several guests were in attendance who were advised that when the board entered executive session, they would be required to leave. The chairman moved directly to the first item on the agenda which was a Disciplinary Hearing the charge 2004-3.

### Disciplinary Hearing

Scott Stein and Brian Fay requested the board enter executive session to begin the discussion regarding Charge 2004-3. The board entered executive session at 8:29AM. The Board left Executive Session at 8:51.O

### Opening Remarks

The meeting was reconvened at 9:00 to welcome the guests and to review the NAFA hearing process. Lee wanted to ensure that there was an accurate understanding of the process for all concerned. Witnesses will be sequestered until called buy may stay after offering their testimony unless asked to leave by the respondents. Thus advised, the hearing began and the guests were asked to leave. Jeff Kinsley recused himself from the meeting at 9:05.

Disciplinary Hearing 2004-3 was called to order at 9:06 with respondents, Ule James and Val Rogalla, in attendance. Mr. James and Ms. Rogalla requested that the meeting be held in open session. After a review of the Roberts Rules of Order, it was noted that all trials or hearings must be held in Executive Session.

In the absence of a waiver of executive session from the complainants, we entered Executive Session at 9:11AM.

The board left executive session at 3:06PM.

Disciplinary charge 2004-3 was sustained in part

and rejected in part in that Ule James was found to have committed an act prejudicial to the sport of flyball. Letter of discipline to follow. Disciplinary charge 2004-3 was sustained in that Val Rogalla was found to have committed an act prejudicial to the sport of flyball. Letter of discipline to follow.

The board recessed for 15 minutes and returned to active session at 3:25PM.

### Chairman's Comments

Lee welcomed Scott and Kris to their first in-person board meeting. Lee indicated that 2005 will be an exciting year as we launch a new series of Electronic Judging Systems from Signature Gear. The improved communication of minutes, web site and published agendas have been noticed and have been well received by the flyball community. Dale's improved sanctioning software has allowed the huge backlog of sanctioning requests to be brought up to date. Kris has initiated actions that have enabled the legal aspects of the corporation to be brought current.

### Executive Director's Comments

Sam distributed several new documents. The transition of staff is moving well and NAFA is resolving several outstanding issues.

Karen Oleson is now serving as the Sanctioning Secretary. All sanctioning requests are caught up and only those tournaments that require special attention remain open at present. All duties have been transferred at this time.

Certificates have been printed through November 11 and are being mailed now. When this is accomplished, administrative responsibility for the certificates will change hands.

Work has been put into a new Reserve or Legacy Weekend Rule, which upon adoption, will eliminate the word-of-mouth policy that now exists. A written draft of the new rule was circulated.

Judges pins have been ordered, received and delivered to Brian for distribution.

Sam would like to reallocate some of the employee funds to volunteer payments. Brian made a motion that we reallocate \$12,000 of the annual employee payments to volunteer payments as the

## Sanction your Tournament

Contact NAFA:

1400 West Devon Avenue  
Suite 512  
Chicago, IL 60660  
PH & FX: (800) 318-6312  
Email: flyball@flyball.org

number of volunteers that help NAFA has grown dramatically while the employee position has been correspondingly reduced. Jeff seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

The ED is developing plans with Dale to be able reallocate Regional breakdowns based on postal/zip codes rather than, or in addition to, state and provincial boundaries. The ED is planning to propose the creation of a new western region, to be created by dividing Region 16 (CA) in two along N/S lines. Similar suggestions are being discussed for Region 3.

### Finance Committee Report

The financial reports from Green and Giustini have not been received yet. Dale has been out of town for some time and may have the reports at home on his return. Dale will have the IRS 990's filed by the Feb. 15 deadline and will get copies to the secretary.

### Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee met and has no report at this time.

### Standing Rules and Regulatory Committee

The Standing Rules committee met with the Bylaws Committee to discuss common issues and has no report at this time.

The committee presented a formal recommendation that Corporate Policies and Procedures section 1.6, "Regional Directors", be interpreted to require that, upon the election or appointment of an Executive Director, all Regional Directors shall be tendered for approval by the board.

Kris made a motion for the board to confirm the recommendation brought by the Standing Rules Committee. Glenn seconded the motion.

In discussion, there was concern by Dale that this would prompt a wholesale reaffirmation every three years that had not been done in the past. This would be onerous for the management of the corporation. Glenn pointed out that while the process hadn't been performed in the past, the bylaws explicitly state in Article VI, Section 4 Executive Director: Section 4. Executive Director. The Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall be the chief operating officer of the Corporation, and shall, subject to the direction of the Board of Directors, generally supervise, direct and control the business of the Corporation and shall have the responsibility for the day-to-day management of the business and affairs of the Corporation. The Executive Director shall attend meetings of the Board of Directors and shall make periodic reports to the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall appoint Regional Directors and other staff as necessary for the day-to-day operation of the corporation. The Executive Director shall preside over the annual meeting.

Glenn also pointed out that this reinforced by Rule 1.6, which provides RD's to be appointed by the ED and approved by the board.

With the review of the rules, the implied requirement is that any newly elected or appointed ED must tender a new or continuing slate of Regional Directors which the board then has the opportunity to ratify.

It is the Executive Director's belief that it is the office of the Executive Director that appoints the regional directors and such appointments exist beyond the transition of the role from one person to the next.

Jeff and Dale both expressed concern that a better method of review, perhaps a periodic cycle, could be established rather than have the ratification process tied into the elections.

## NAFA PATCHES

Contact **Judy Hagan**  
1890 Cottage Grove Pkwy  
Marion, IA 52302  
(319) 286-8294

Scott called for a vote on the motion. For the motion: Ken, Kris, Glenn and Todd. Against the motion were Brian, Dale and Jeff. Abstained: Scott.

The Executive Director then vetoed the motion.

Brian made a motion that the board vote to override the Executive Director's veto. Kris seconded the motion. For the motion: Ken, Kris, Glenn, Brian, Scott, Todd and Lee. Against the motion: Dale and Jeff. Motion carried.

The Standing Rules committee looks forward to working on the new Reserve Weekend rule, a revision to the forfeiture rule and verification of the world record rule and measuring rules.

Board took a short recess at 4:50PM.

Board reconvened at 5:05PM.

#### Disciplinary Committee

Glenn and Scott requested that the board enter executive session to discuss charges 2004-7 and 2005-1. Entered executive session at 5:06PM.

Executive session left at 5:17PM.

By unanimous action, the board has bound charge 2004-7 over for hearing at our next in-person meeting.

By unanimous action, the board has dismissed charge 2005-1 as being outside our jurisdiction.

#### Judges Committee

The committee recommends that Lisa Han be moved from Apprentice to Provisional judge status. Scott moved acceptance and Todd seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

The committee recommends that Phil Getty be moved from Apprentice to Provisional judge status. Scott moved acceptance and Todd seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

The committee recommends that John Rutkowski be moved from Apprentice to Provisional judge status. Todd moved acceptance and Scott seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

The committee recommended a modification to the judging requirements for Curtis Smith, located in

## Switching Teams? Making a Team?

Call, email or mail NAFA:

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Suite 512  
Chicago, Illinois, USA 60660  
(800) 318-6312  
Flyball@flyball.org

Eagle River, Alaska, that he be allowed 2 years to submit provisional credentials rather than the normal one year term, including one assignment out of Alaska. The committee recommends that we work with Curtis to assist him in his development as a NAFA judge. Brian has supervised him recently and is confident in this recommendation. Dale suggested that NAFA sponsor the travel costs for a supervising judge to attend the first Alaska tournament in 2006 to ensure the proper establishment of Flyball in Alaska. Kris moved to approve the committee's recommendation. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

The Judge's Committee has established the following goals for the year:

1. To work towards establishing a training program to evaluate new and existing judges.
2. To work with the Rules and Regulations Committee to further clarify the Rules of Racing.
3. To update the current Judge's Questionnaire for new applicants requesting to become a NAFA judge

#### Marketing, Development & Awards Committee

The committee met to discuss the names of the proposed new titles to be introduced at 1,000 and 2500 points. The discussion of title names was moved to the Outstanding Business section.

The committee recommends that on Oct. 1, 2005 NAFA will award and distribute the new titles, retroactively, to any dog which had previously surpassed either or both of the point requirements. Title certificates will be distributed for any dog who has earned points in NAFA sanctioned event after October 1, 2004. Other eligible dogs may receive a certificate for this title upon request.

Scott made a motion and Kris seconded that the board accept the recommendation. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

The committee recommends that NAFA design and produce one new pin to represent each 10,000 points that a dog earns above the FGDCH in addition to a new pin for the Hobbes award. Kris made a motion to accept the recommendation. Dale seconded. For the motion: Jeff, Dale, Kris, Scott, Glenn, Todd, Brian. Against: Ken. Motion carried.

#### Technology Committee

The Technology Committee recommended the development and distribution of a new form that documents the condition and operation of the EJS at each tournament. The form shall be the responsibility of the Tournament Director, shall be signed by the Head Judge at the end of the event and shall be returned with the results. Kris made a motion to accept the recommendation and Todd seconded. Unanimously accepted.

Dale discussed the merits of having NAFA host clubs provide the measuring wicket in place of the NAFA supplied models that are being damaged in the field. There is concern that the host club wicket may not be to NAFA standards. The model to be used is available from Action K9 Sports.

Signature Gear is progressing well with the development of the NAFA model and expects to meet the March 31 delivery date for the first 5 systems. The battery packs for the tree will be rechargeable D cells that can be replaced by alkaline models or by 120V. The next test will be at the Flat Out Flyers tournament in Austin, TX on Feb. 12/13.

#### Treasurer's Report

Dale presented the draft of the financial statements for review by the board.

#### Secretary's Report

There was no report to present.

#### Outstanding Business:

Disciplinary Charge 2004-9

Brian and Scott requested executive session to discuss Disciplinary Charge 2004-9.

Brian and Scott recused themselves from the meeting at 6:34PM.

The board entered executive session at 6:35PM.

The board left executive session at 7:35PM. Brian and Scott returned to the meeting.

The board unanimously dismissed charge 2004-9 as unfounded, with a letter to follow.

The Judge's Committee will address separately the list of questions that complainants sent with 2004-9.

#### Regional Director Appointments

The Executive Director submitted several recommendations for the positions of Regional Director in various regions.

### **Getting a Plaque Soon? An Onyx Award?**

Make sure your dog's name and your name are correct  
**Check the Data Base!**  
If not correct notify NAFA.

Todd made a motion to accept the appointment of Cindy Ferlitto of Region 14 as Regional Director. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Glenn made a motion to accept the appointment of Jules Comeau of Region 10 as Regional Director. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Sam described Region 3 as a large region including MN, IA, SD, ND and NE. He requires Co-Regional Directors to handle the broad expanse of the area. Dale made a motion to continue the process of using Co-Regional Directors in Region 3. Todd seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Dale made a motion to accept the appointment of Jan Frey as Co-Regional Director in Region 3. Scott seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Dale made a motion to accept the appointment of Judy Hagan of Region 3 as Co-Regional Director. Scott seconded. For the motion: Scott, Dale. Against: Glenn, Todd, Brian, Jeff, Ken and Kris. Motion failed. Dale requested that the board state their case for opposing the appointment.

Kris moved to reconsider and Scott seconded. For the motion: Scott, Dale, Todd & Ken. Against: Glenn, Brian, Jeff and Kris. Lee voted for the motion to break the tie. Motion to reconsider carried.

A lengthy debate occurred discussing the merits of the candidate and of comments received by the board.

Dale made a motion to accept the appointment of Judy Hagan of Region 3 as Co-Regional Director. Scott seconded. Ken made note that the Executive Director's stated plans for developing regional directors needs to be allowed time to mature. For the motion: Scott, Dale, Todd and Ken. Against: Glenn, Brian, Jeff and Kris. After considering the ED's plans for monitoring the RD's more closely than in the past, Lee then voted for the motion to break the tie. Motion carried. Judy Hagan approved as Co-Regional Director for Region 3.

For the motion: Kris, Scott, Dale and Jeff. Against: Glenn, Brian, Ken and Todd. Lee voted for the motion to break the tie. Motion carried. The AHBA will be added as an approved registry in the next rulebook, which will become effective 10/01/2005

#### New Business:

##### Formalization of Legacy or Reserve Weekend Requirements

Scott made a motion to accept the proposed Legacy or Reserve Weekend Requirement rule definition, attached by copy as Appendix A. Kris seconded. Dale made a motion to table the proposal until the next in-person meeting. Brian seconded. The motion passed with no objection.

Scott made a motion to accept a new NAFA Form C3 containing additional event location information as well as the reserve weekend to enable the

Brian made a motion to accept the appointment of Nancy Garcia of Region 5 as Regional Director. Todd seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Scott Stein recused himself at 9:45PM.

Brian made a motion to accept the appointment of Scott Stein of Region 13 as Regional Director. Dale seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Scott returned the meeting at 9:47PM.

Scott made a motion to table the approval of the remaining regional director appointments from Regions 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17 until the next in-person meeting. Dale seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

The board recessed for dinner at 9:55PM.

The board returned to the meeting at 10:20PM

#### Request to Accept AHBA as a Registry

Dale made a motion that the American Hering Breed Association be accepted as an additional breed registry. Brian seconded the motion. Glenn felt that the AHBA does not require a breed definition that can accurately define a dog's breed and description. Kris feels that with the addition of the AHBA registry, there will only be 3 new breeds added to the list of accepted breeds. In a response from the AHBA, they defined their acceptance criteria as follows:

Generally the criteria for being considered a true breed is based on the following:

1. Recognized as a breed by AKC, FCI or equivalent registry.
2. Has an established registry for the breed with established criteria for inclusion and exclusion of dogs and in existence for at least 5 generations (example, Australian Shepherd Club of America, the McNab).
3. Non registered but historically documented as to the breed with established criteria for what is considered to be "the breed" and what is not, with at least 5 generations (Altdeucher Shaaferhund).



beginning of some additional data collection. Todd seconded. For the motion: Kris, Scott, Dale, Jeff, Glenn, Ken and Todd. Against: Brian. Motion carried.

#### Iron Dog Tournaments Fee Structure

The board discussed the issue at length. There is concern that the development of events with fee structure and training purposes such as this will have a negative impact on marketing and the perception of our sport.

#### Increase in fee for Disciplinary Charges

Brian made a motion to increase the fee associated with any disciplinary charge from \$25.00 to \$100.00 effective Oct. 1, 2005. Todd seconded. Dale made a motion to table. Scott seconded. For the motion: Kris, Scott, Dale, Jeff, Glenn, Ken and Todd. Against: Brian. Motion tabled.

#### Removal of Aggression Write-up on Suncrest Jus' Breez'n Thru CRN #010696

Lee will complete the research.

#### Documentation of dog Excusal forms

A record of dog and handler excusals will be maintained on the web site.

#### Videotaping of World Record Measurements

Sent to the Rules committee for further research and/or recommendation.

#### BSL Amendment Request to 90-Day Rule

Sent to the Rules committee for further research.

#### Request to Use NAFA Logo

Sent to marketing for further research and comment.

Brian moved that we adjourn the meeting. Glenn seconded. Unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 12:28AM Central.

#### Appendix A

#### Proposed Reserve Weekend Rule Definition

## Abridged Board Meeting Notes

Los Angeles, California  
March 18-19, 2005

#### Present were:

Executive Director-Sam Ford

Board of Directors-Lee Heighton, Jeff Kinsley, Dale Smith, Glenn Hamilton, Brian Fay, Todd Morningstar, Kris Pickering, Scott Stein

Absent-Ken Eldridge

Called to order at 7:17PM Pacific Time by Chairman Lee Heighton. Several guests were in attendance and introduced. The board thanks Marge Henderson, Jane Horsfield and Margaret Lyons for attending.

Ken Eldridge was unable to attend due to business commitments and has given his proxy to Glenn Hamilton.

Due to the delays in starting the meeting, both the Chairman's and Executive Director's comments were deferred until later in the meeting.

#### Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee met and has no report at this time.

#### Standing Rules and Regulatory Committee

The committee reviewed the requirements for sanctioning with respect to Breed Specific Legislation. The committee proposes that Section 6.1 – Requirements be modified to exclude the phrasing regarding banned breeds. Currently the rule reads as follows:

(b) The host club must submit a complete application (NAFA® Form C.3). (i) NAFA® will not sanction tournaments where all dogs would not be allowed to participate on the tournament grounds. eg. certain breeds banned.

Discussion ensued as to whether NAFA wanted to emphasize the position that Flyball should be open to all dogs, mixed breed or pure bred except where prohibited by legislation. The sanctioning process needs to be upgraded to report breed limitations and exemptions that would apply to tournaments and affect competitors that may enter. This information would be included on the web site for public review when entering events. The board requested that the Standing Rules Committee draft the formal wording of the proposed rule change and the modification to

sanctioning form C3 to be submitted later in this meeting. Additionally, further rule changes that may be affected by BSL need to be researched, i.e., regional championships, venues, possible 90 day exemptions, etc. by the rules committee.

The committee reviewed the management of limits on the size of entry fees and felt that it was impossible to regulate tournament entry fees. They did recommend that entry fees be charged by team and not by person. Discussion followed about whether limits should in fact be used to regulate the upper amount that an entry fee amount can be established. The question was asked whether the Executive Director should be given some discretion in the approval process to manage excessive entry fees or conditions, subject to the approval of the board. The board felt that current definition of rule Section 6 -1 (g) Requirements can continue as the basis for controlling unusual sanctioning requests.

The committee was asked to recommend a method to the Executive Director for approval of regional directors. After review, the board concluded that April 30 of the year following an election of an Executive Director should become the cutoff date for an Executive Director to propose a full slate of regional directors for review.

The committee was asked to decide whether vomit was considered "fouling in the ring" or not. The recommendation from the committee is that vomit is not considered fouling and should not be penalized by a loss of heat. "Fouling" is to be limited to urination and defecation.

Lee recommended that Glenn Hamilton be added to the Rules Committee. There was no opposition to the recommendation. Motion carried.

### **Questions, Need something?**

Contact NAFA at:  
P.O.Box 512  
1400 West Devon Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois, USA 60660  
Phone & Fax: (800) 318-6312

### **Judges Committee**

**The Judge's committee thanked the Executive Director for initiating the distribution of the updated form C12 to the judges.**

**The committee recommends that Danny Fitz be moved from Apprentice to Provisional judge status. Brian moved acceptance and Dale seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.**

**The committee recommends that Rob Bitler be moved from Apprentice to Provisional judge status. Brian moved acceptance and Scott seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.**

**The committee recommends that Cynthia Henderson be moved from Provisional to Head judge status. Brian moved acceptance and Scott seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.**

**The committee recommends that Melinda Roast be moved from Provisional to Head Judge status. Brian moved acceptance and Glenn seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.**

**Scott left the meeting at 9:18PM.**

**Lee requested that the board enter Executive Session which was entered at 9:19PM to discuss a recent judge's committee teleconference.**

**The board left Executive Session at 9:36PM**

**Upon review of the recent teleconference, no further action was required by the judge's committee.**

**Glenn moved that we recess the meeting until 03/19/05 at 8:00AM. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.**

**Meeting recessed at 9:40PM.**

**The meeting was resumed on Saturday, March 19, 2005. The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 8:30AM. Roll Call was taken and all members were present with exception of Ken**

### **Eldridge whose proxy remained with Glenn Hamilton.**

The Judge's Committee continued with their presentations.

The committee reported that Glenn Hamilton had resigned from the Judge's Committee due to his recent addition to the Rules Committee. Lee moved that the board accept his appointment of Scott Stein to the Judge's Committee. Glenn seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

The committee reported that they have reviewed the requirement of developing new methods for presenting judge's training. A series of 3 to 4 minute training sessions is proposed that would outline the various aspects of the required training. Storing digital video clips would enable judges to have immediate access to updated material without the need for reproduction of static videos, saves money in the long term for NAFA. High and low resolution presentations could be offered to dial-up versus broadband users. Additionally, if a judge is not computer enabled, alternate distribution methods can be developed. The committee recommends that the board undertake a bid process outlining the development of the videos with information being requested on the NAFA web site.

### **Rules Committee**

During the recess, the committee drafted the following revision to 6.1 to eliminate 6.1(b) and 6.1(g) and replace them with the following replacement rules;

6.1 (b) NAFA is committed to maintaining Flyball as a sport for all dogs. NAFA tournaments are open to all dogs without regard to whether the dog is a mixed breed, a pure bred or any particular breed. NAFA will not sanction a tournament at a site that excludes dogs on the basis of breed unless the exclusion is mandated by governmental law or ordinance and the host club has attempted and been unable to qualify for an exemption to governmental exclusions. A host club shall inform NAFA of any such laws or ordinances when sanctioning is requested. It is the host club's responsibility to keep the sanctioning request current on all legislation and ordinances that affect the tournament. The host club shall finalize all such event limitations 60 days prior to the event closing.

6.1(g) The host club must submit a complete application (NAFA Form C.3). The entry fee shall be stated on a per team basis. The host club must request and obtain written approval from NAFA for any special or unusual request.

Kris made a motion that the rule changes be accepted.

Brian seconded. In discussion, Kris noted that the necessity of the for the rule change is to formally publish

NAFA's mandate regarding Breed Specific Legislation to enable NAFA to work with legislative powers

to seek exemptions from existing ordinances for our sport. Scott endorsed the policy but was concerned that the distribution of this rule should not wait until a

new rulebook is published in September. A single page addendum to the rulebook should be stated and placed on the rulebook distribution page. It was felt that this rule change does not affect the rules of racing

but is directed at the sanctioning process to bring it in

line with current legislative requirements. There was

no opposition to the amended motion. Motion carried.

Working with the BOD, the ED has adopted an amendment to form C3 to require application and coordination of any applicable exemption with appropriate local governmental authorities and subsequent notice to NAFA of the BSL and the event's exemption. In this manner, the sanctioning function managed by the Executive Director and through the web site, all competitors can be kept current on the status of events with respect to legislative issues that affect their ability to enter NAFA events.

Todd made a motion to define fouling in the ring to include only urination and defecation and amend the glossary to reflect this definition. Brian seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

### **Marketing, Development and Awards Committee**

The committee met to discuss various issues and presented the following recommendations.

Jeff made a motion that the terms FDSilv and FDGold be adopted for the 1,000 and 2,500 point awards. Todd seconded the motion. In discussion, the concern was that the concept of FDCh was being lost. Jeff amended the motion to replace the title names as FDCh-S and FDCh-G for the 1,000 and 2,500 point title names. Scott seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the amended motion. Motion carried.

The committee noted that the distribution of these awards in the current year will be todogs that arn the title in FY2005 and to past achievers that are active in racing in FY2005.

The committee presented a draft of the 100K Hobbes award pin. Jeff recommended the acceptance of the proposal. Brian seconded the motion. Jeff noted that the image of the dog will be an outline of Hobbes. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

Various Flyball game classes have been discussed by the board and committee in the past. Classes under consideration are Single, Doubles, Mixed Doubles (height dog and other), Open (holiday or friends from multiple clubs) and Steeplechase. Concerns that under discussion are the impact of racing of Open classes against Regular class, impact on club integrity, separate point and award systems for Single and Doubles racing, jump heights, etc. Scott noted that the implementation of such events should be scaled and planned to ensure complete success of the games. The committee feels that the addition of such classes will appeal to many competitors. Concern was expressed that the development of such games may erode the team aspect of Flyball which is one of the major strengths of our sport. The committee will request input from the Flyball community as we move towards the development of sanctioning new classes.

#### Technology Committee

Signature Gear is on schedule to deliver the initial order of 5 sets on March 31 to Dale to acknowledge formal receipt of the product. The shipping cases for the systems are delayed as the updates to the tree are not yet finalized. Once development is complete, the case foam cutting will be completed. Dale is developing the set up instructions to be included before distribution. The systems will be distributed in April to tournaments once the cases are ready. As the SG systems are certified and used in NAFA events, the board will be kept current on the success or failures of

the new systems. An additional five SG systems will be available 4 to 6 weeks after our order is placed with Signature Gear. The board has requested that the Technology Committee request a delivery date of systems beyond the proposed 10 systems be established.

Concern was expressed over the lack of accuracy of the Electronic Judging Systems. Efforts are under way to determine if the Hughes hardware can be reprogrammed to eliminate the errors. Discussion of the letter from Alyson Brown describing failures on the EJS's was extensive and Dale will respond to her questions. The Judge's Committee is requested to advise the judges that they have the ability to override calls on all EJS's when it is apparent that an error has occurred.

Dale reported that the technology driving the Chat transcripts has been improved and the ability to print an entire chat has been improved.

The board requested that the web site display all NAFA world records.

Dale reported that MVP, board nominations and Clyde Moore Hall of Fame nominations will be submitted using the web site for online submission of nomination information.

#### Election Committee

Outstanding is a request from Walter Davis that the balloting be accomplished completely on-line in the FY05 elections. Dale expressed concern that the technology for electronic distribution of the ballots may not be available for this voting year.

The committee requested information about the location of the Annual General Meeting so that Balloting plans can be established.

The committee recessed at 10:40AM for 30 minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 11:10AM.

The Chairman indicated that the meeting would continue beginning with Disciplinary Charge 2004-7 and reviewed the hearing process as outlined in the NAFA rulebook. Charged individuals will be identified, the charges reviewed, witnesses will be identified and interviewed. Sam confirmed that he was recording the meeting separately on a voice

## Hearing for Disciplinary 2004-7

Scott Stein and Brian Fay requested that the board enter executive session to begin the discussion regarding Charge 2004-7.

The board entered executive session at 11:13AM to conduct a disciplinary hearing. Witnesses and guests were asked to leave until called by the board.

The board left Executive Session at 2:12PM.

Disciplinary charge 2004-7 was sustained in that Mr. Sid Lupu was found to have committed Conduct Prejudicial to the sport of Flyball with a written letter of discipline and apologies to follow.

The board recessed for lunch at 2:15PM.  
The board returned from lunch at 3:10PM.

## Treasurer's Report

Scott moved that we renew our Director's E&OE insurance per Dale's quotation. Brian seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion Carried.

The current year financial statements were presented and reviewed.

## Secretary's Report

There was nothing to report.

## Disciplinary Committee Report

Lee requested Executive Session to discuss disciplinary issues.

Executive Session was entered at 3:23PM to discuss several new charges that had been brought to the Disciplinary Committee for review.

The board left Executive Session at 3:59PM.

Disciplinary charge 2005-2 was found to warrant a hearing.

Sam left the meeting at 3:46PM.

Disciplinary charge 2005-3 was deemed to be unfounded and was dismissed without merit.

Sam returned to the meeting at 3:51PM.

Disciplinary charge 2005-4 was deemed to be unfounded and was dismissed without merit.

## Chairperson's Comments

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the five Regional Directors who have recently resigned. NAFA wishes them well in their future endeavors.

## Executive Director's Comments

Sam expressed his appreciation to Kris Pickering for making the arrangements for today's meeting.

NAFA has the opportunity to improve our sport and look forward to continuing to expand it throughout North America. As an organization, we have new challenges and will rise to meet those challenges. The ED congratulated the board for taking stands on various issues and looked forward to working with the Board and the changing slate of Regional Directors.

## Outstanding Business

### Approval of Regional Directors

In the days immediately preceding this meeting, NAFA received 5 resignations from Regional Directors for Regions 1, 4, 6, 7 and 16. The board thanked Annette Tindall, Katy Kaylor, Doug May, Dave Cracknell and Steve McAvoy for their work on NAFA's behalf.

Todd made a motion to accept the appointment of Bunny Burton of Region 2 as Regional Director. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Glenn made a motion to accept the appointment of Jonnie L. Geen of Region 6 as Regional Director. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Brian made a motion to accept the appointment of Peter Wesdyk of Region 8 as Regional Director. Todd seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Todd made a motion to accept the appointment of Amanda Brown from Region 9 as Regional Director. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Dale made a motion to accept the appointment of Ule James from Region 4 as Regional Director. Jeff seconded. For the motion: Scott, Dale, Todd, Kris, and Jeff. Abstain: Ken by proxy, Glenn, Brian Motion carried.

Todd made a motion to accept the appointment of Christine Sells from Region 11 as Regional Director. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Scott made a motion to accept the appointment of Linda Smith from Region 12 as Regional Director. Dale seconded. For the motion: Scott, Dale, Todd, Kris, Brian, and Jeff. Abstain: Ken by proxy, Glenn. Motion carried.

Todd made a motion to accept the appointment of Denise Delaney from Region 15 as Regional Director. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Carried.

Due to recent resignations, regions 1, 7 and 16 still require permanent regional director appointments.

#### Removal of Aggression Write-up on Suncrest Jus' Breez'n Thru CRN #010696

The Disciplinary Committee recommends that the aggression incident be removed from its file. The dog has continued to learn the sport of flyball and has earned over 10,000 points, competing in over 20 weekends of racing. Scott made a motion to accept the recommendation. Todd seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

#### Formalization of Legacy or Reserve Weekend Requirements

The draft of the proposal has been submitted to the NAFA web site for response from the Flyball community. The draft was tabled for further discussion.

#### Increase in fee for Disciplinary Charges

Brian made a motion to increase the fee associated with any disciplinary charge from \$25.00 to \$100.00 per named respondent effective Oct. 1, 2005. Glenn seconded. In discussion, the concern was expressed that increase in fee might cause some people to be unable to afford to file reasonable charge. Nonetheless, the board has been expending a tremendous amount of effort reviewing charges, frivolous or otherwise, to bring all charges to an accurate conclusion.

If the increase in fee causes plaintiffs to research their charges more accurately, then the idea has merit. It was noted that the \$25.00 fee has not been increased since the early 1990's. Scott made a motion to table the motion to the Rules and Bylaws committees to provide a recommendation to amend the Disciplinary process. Dale seconded. For the motion: Kris, Scott, Dale, and Todd. Against: Ken by proxy, Glenn, Jeff, Brian. Lee voted in favour of the motion. Motion to table carried.

Glenn made the motion to reconsider the vote of the motion to table. Brian seconded. Against tabling: Ken by proxy, Glenn, Jeff, Brian and Todd. For tabling the motion: Kris, Scott and Dale. Motion to reconsider the tabling was passed.

Further discussion followed regarding the merits of increasing the fee. After review, Scott made a motion to table Brian's original motion to the Rules and Bylaws committees to provide a further recommendation to amend the Disciplinary process. Dale seconded. For the motion: Kris, Scott, Dale, Ken by proxy, Glenn and Todd. Against: Jeff and Brian. Motion to table carried.

#### Wicket Responsibility

Dale made a motion to transfer the responsibility of providing the NAFA approved wicket for tournaments from NAFA to the tournament hosting club. Scott seconded. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

#### New Business

##### Response to Passage of Breed Specific Legislation

The Rules committee is reviewing the impact of BSL of the NAFA rule book and will continue to report on its progress.

##### Region 6/16 Realignment

The Executive Director has removed his earlier proposal to split region 16. At this time, there is no plan to split California into multiple regions.

The Executive Director has agreed to review the composition of Region 6. He has received a number of communications respecting Nevada, Colorado and all areas of region 6 which he is studying.

All other regions are under review for the balance of the year. Any further regional realignment will be proposed by July 31. It should be noted that several proposals were received and they continue to be reviewed by the ED.

#### Alaska as Region 18

The Executive Director recommended the development of Alaska as Region 18. Todd made a motion to accept the creation of Region 18 as Regional Director. Brian seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

#### Next In-person Board Meeting

It is suggested that the next board meeting be held in the south east segment of the United States on August 12.

#### Annual General Meeting

The proposed weekend for the Annual General Meeting is November 5 with a board meeting on November 4.

#### Letter Received from Julie Norman

Julie Norman wrote to request that NAFA prohibit the dog Whiplash from racing without her consent. The dog has been registered in her name and was living with a former family member. When the dog began to compete in Flyball without her consent, Ms. Norman objected. The board felt it was unable to enforce her wish as she placed the dog in the other party's care and control regardless of NAFA registration which placed the dog beyond the scope of any NAFA involvement. Lee will reply.

#### Letter Received from Julie Andrews

Julie Andrews has requested that NAFA accept the Mini Australian Shepherd as a separate breed. NAFA is unable to accede to this request this as NAFA only accepts breeds from the registries listed Chapter 6.2 – Classes of Competition, paragraph (d). Lee will reply.

#### Videotaping of World Record Measurements

The Rules Committee believes that there is merit in the submitted proposal to video tape world record measurements. Todd made a motion that during the

verification of the world record measurements, that all measurements be videotaped, including a measurement of the height dog, regardless of the presence of a height card. Kris seconded the motion. Brian made a motion to table the proposal for review. Scott seconded the motion to table. For the motion: Scott, Dale, Ken by proxy, Glenn, Brian and Jeff. Against: Kris and Todd. Motion carried. The proposal was returned to the Rules Committee for further research and/or recommendation.

Brian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Todd seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion carried.

The meet was adjourned at 8:00PM.

### Avoid the lines at Measuring GET A HEIGHT CARD!!

Avoid the hassle of measuring in the future... if your dog has raced in NAFA® sanctioned events for at least a year, apply for a height card application for only \$5.00 US.

NAFA  
1400 W Devon Ave #512  
Chicago IL 60660  
(800) 318-6312  
flyball@flyball.org

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

Teleconference—Abridged  
May 4, 2005

Present Were:  
Executive Director—Sam Ford  
Board of Directors—Lee Heighton, Glenn Hamilton, Brian Fay, Todd Morningstar, Kris Pickering, and Scott Stein

Called to order at 7:10 PM Central Time by Chairman Lee Heighton. Ken Eldridge was unable to attend due to business commitments and has given his proxy to Glenn Hamilton attached as Appendix A. Dale Smith was unable to attend due to business commitments. Jeff Kinsley indicated by email that he would be joining the meeting late.

Opening Remarks

The special meeting was called to review immediate issues requiring discussion by the board. Lee welcomed Mark Kuznitz of Signature Gear.

#### Signature Gear Update

Mark Kuznitz joined the meeting for an update on the new Signature Gear EJS lights, which have been displaying several bad passes per weekend in the initial testing at tournaments. The Board expressed its concern with this intermittent fault and with the delay in production and delivery. Signature Gear reports that it has been working to isolate and resolve the problem and believes that it has done so. Mark will be shipping a set to Chelsea, MI for use this weekend to determine if the problem has been resolved under actual tournament conditions. Lee will provide a camera to monitor all passes for Mark's testing and Mark will be in attendance and have several bug fixes available to implement in case of error. The glitch seems to be related to the reception of radio waves. Signature Gear does not believe the implementation of two rings, side by side, affects this error.

Cases are being delivered in the week of May 9. There will be seven cases required for each ring of equipment. The board feels that this number of cases needs to be reduced to a maximum of two cases.

Competitors are experiencing some differences in the start sequence. The fact is based on the fact that the LED lights display quicker than incandescent bulbs. Starters will probably need to adjust their release points. The timing intervals are exactly the same as with the old sets.

SG reports that it is 98% of the way towards solving the problems. It is hoped that this coming test weekend will confirm the problem has been solved and validate the systems. In that case, Mark believes the balance of the initial order of five sets can be released to general use by June 7.

Outside usage should have no impact on the integrity of the lights. Use in a thunder storm may impact the integrity due to sensor interference, however racing should realistically not be held during such circumstances. The only equipment that needs wet weather protection is the system controller.

Mark reports that Dale has pledged to write the user

manual with Mark doing cooperative editing.

Signature Gear has enough components on hand to build seven additional sets within 3 weeks from the production of the first five sets.

Jeff joined the meeting at 7:43PM.

Mark left the meeting at 7:49PM.

The board discussed its concern with the delay in production and the passing faults, but also noted its appreciation of SG's cooperative efforts and dedication to problem-solving. Assuming the problem has been isolated and fixed, the Board hopes production will proceed without further delay. If feasible, one further weekend's testing should occur. Further, as sets are rolled out, acceptance criteria should include a minimum of two weeks of perfect exchanges, out door usage and use in a multi-ring environment. The user manual must be developed in parallel to the testing so that the whole user package of hardware, cases and manuals can be approved.

#### Financial Committee:

Dale was unable to attend and relayed a Finance Committee report to other members. Attached were copies of the 2001, 2002 and 2003 IRS 990 filings to the Executive Committee. Sam forwarded these to Glenn at the close of the meeting.

The board will request financial information from past Executive Director Steve McAvoy to enable past year financial statements to be reproduced. The finance committee directed Sam and Kris to address the need directly with Dale for the production of these statements.

#### Breed Specific Legislation:

Glenn, Kris and Rob Sparling have worked together to prepare a request to Mr. Grant McLeod of the Attorney General's office of the Ontario government. The request would add NAFA to the list of organizations that can provide exemptions for "pit bulls" competing at events in Ontario. Work has progressed and as of May 3, enough information had been assembled for Mr. McLeod to be able to prepare his assessment. The Board expressed its deep appreciation to Rob Sparling for his efforts.



Outstanding Business:

Judge's Training program:

The Judge's Committee has received one bid to date to produce training tapes for ongoing judge's training. Additional bidders will be solicited by adding a second notice to the NAFA web site.

The committee is developing a proposal for a new program that will move from a two tier mentor program to a three tier method that offers a better grounding to judges before becoming apprentice judges. The program will be formalized more fully by the committee with an intention to deliver a working proposal at the next in-person meeting.

Request to Register "Flyball" in Japan:

The Marketing committee will respond to Kuni and Yuka Amano who wish to protect the concept of the NAFA flyball in Japan through copyright protection. The Amanos have created a league in Japan playing by NAFA rules that has grown to 9 clubs and 129 dogs. The Board supports this effort by the Amanos to "grow" flyball in Japan and has asked the Marketing Committee to express NAFA's support for their effort. Scott Stein to respond.

Len Silvester's Request to Use the NAFA Logo:

Mr. Silvester has requested the use of the NAFA logo for use on pictures. NAFA charges a fee for use of its logo based on prior contracts. Sam will investigate what the rate is and advise the board at the next meeting. Glenn made a motion to table the discussion until that information was available. Kris seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion was tabled.

Summer Meeting:

The board members reviewed their calendars and agreed that the July 29/30 date in Detroit should stand as proposed.

Glenn moved that we adjourn the meeting. Brian seconded. Unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 10:44PM Central.

Teleconference—Unabridged  
June 22, 2005  
Present Were:

Board of Directors—Lee Heighton, Glenn Hamilton, Brian Fay, Dale Smith, Todd Morningstar, Kris Pickering and Scott Stein

Called to order at 9:08 PM Eastern Time by Chairman Lee Heighton. Ken Eldridge was unable to attend due to business commitments and has given his proxy to Kris Pickering. Sam Ford was unable to attend due to business commitments. Jeff Kinsley indicated by email that he would be joining the meeting late.

Opening Remarks

The special meeting was called to review immediate issues requiring discussion by the board.

Update on Financial Documentation

Dale explained that the purpose of the multiple currency accounts held in both Canada and the US is to enable the US-based corporation to receive and deposit Canadian currency accounts. Canadian postal money orders and cheques are difficult to deposit in the US and suffer a huge discount when deposited into US banks. The Canadian account currently maintains a minimal balance but there are a large number of cheques waiting to be deposited.

Kris made a motion that we open a new Canadian account at the TD Canada Trust bank to replace the existing Canadian account signatories with Sam Ford, Lee Heighton, Scott Stein and Dale Smith. Dale seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the motion.

Dale has forwarded Corporate Resolutions to the Commercial Federal Bank adding Sam Ford, Lee Heighton and Scott Stein as signing officers to the existing signatory of Dale Smith. NAFA has four accounts with this bank currently. These documents will be updated and signed by all and forwarded to the Commercial Federal bank.

The chairman appointed Scott Stein as Special Project Leader for the treasurer transition project. Due to time commitments for work, family and other NAFA projects, Dale plans to resign the Treasurer position effective October 1st. The Board plans to elect Scott Stein to the Treasurer position effective October 1st. Dale and Scott will work together over the coming to ensure a smooth transition at the beginning of the new fiscal year. Scott will research

the selection of a bank local to Vermont for future usage.

Scott tendered his resignation from the Marketing Committee effective immediately due to the to enable him to better continue his work on the Judges Committee and financial projects.

990 income and expense statements have been given to the firm of Seim, Johnston, Sestak and Quist located in Omaha, NE to prepare the financial statements for FY2001 to FY2003. The firm specializes in non-profit organizations across the US and will prepare balance sheet and income statements for NAFA. SJSQ will offer recommendations to changes to the chart of accounts as well as the 990's.

Kris reported that NAFA corporate status is that of a 501(c)4 corporation.

The American Express accounts have been updated. Scott and Dale will finalize the transition.

Jeff joined the meeting at 10:15 PM.

#### Update on Electronic Judging Systems

Dale reported that the Signature EJS has been run twice since early May. The Animal Inn tournament suffered a number of disruptive events that were corrected before the next event in Denver in early June. At that time the SG set suffered four failures occurred that SG felt were based on damage to the tree created by unprotected shipping. The next test will be in Amana, IA which is expected to be the final test. If continued problems are experienced, the Board discussed options to assist SG in expediting the resolution of any remaining issues.

Jeff left the meeting at 10:25PM due to a family emergency.

The Hughes systems are being reviewed by two separate constructors. Donn Moore and Bill Carrothers are each analyzing a sample set and have been able to report progress in correcting the hardware. Bill Carrothers will be preparing a cost estimate to repair his sample set as well as add a large display. Further details of costs will be requested from Bill Carrothers as to the cost of the upgrade/repair, the display and a maintenance contract for each set. Donn Moore will be requested to offer the same information.

#### Status of Web Site Reconstruction:

Dale reported that the corporate web site is being replaced using a different technology. The site will be two-part design with a corporate image for outside users as well as a competitor site that ties into the existing NAFA database.

#### Publication of Minimum Runback:

A competitor requested that the board review the requirement at the next in-person meeting. Dale moved that the discussion be tabled until the next in-person meeting. Brian seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the request to table. Discussion carried over.

#### Waiver of Electronic Scoring Fees:

All of the information necessary to file electronically is available on the web site. The links were tested and were found to work successfully. The problem for most users lies in the need to update old computers to the .NET Framework and is not associated with the web site reconstruction. If users are having problems, they should contact flyball@flyball.org for assistance.

#### Region 12 Regional Director Concerns:

Kris proposed to carry this item over to the in-person meeting due to Sam's absence. Dale seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the motion. Discussion carried over to next meeting.

Jeff rejoined the meeting at 10:53PM.

#### Hall of Fame and MVP Nominations:

Dale recently transferred the nominations received to Jeff for review by the Hall of Fame committee. The deadline for nominee submission is published in the rulebook as May 31. Jeff will collate the submissions and publish them on the web site for flyball community review.

#### Outstanding Business:

##### Judge's Training program:

The Judge's Committee has received one single bid to date to produce training tapes for ongoing judge's training. Further bids are encouraged from suppliers with a closing date of July 22, 2005. Scott Stein can provide more detailed information on what is

required for those interested in bidding.

#### Len Silvester's Request to Use the NAFA Logo:

Glenn made a motion to table the discussion until the next in-person meeting due to Sam's absence. Scott seconded. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion was carried over to the next meeting.

#### Summer Meeting:

The meeting will be held in Detroit, MI on July 29 to July 31 at the Romulus Marriott hotel. The board members reviewed their calendars and agreed that the July 29/31 date in Detroit should stand as proposed.

Dale moved that we adjourn the meeting. Scott seconded. Unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 11:13PM Eastern

### **Sanction your Tournament**

Contact NAFA:

1400 West Devon Avenue  
Suite 512  
Chicago, IL 60660  
PH & FX: (800) 318-6312  
Email: flyball@flyball.org

#### Teleconference—Unabridged July 11, 2005

#### Present Were:

Board of Directors—Lee Heighton, Glenn Hamilton, Brian Fay, Dale Smith, Todd Morningstar, Kris Pickering and Scott Stein

Called to order at 8:13 PM Eastern Time by Chairman Lee Heighton. Sam Ford was unable to attend due to business commitments. Jeff Kinsley indicated by email that he would be joining the meeting late and has submitted a proxy to Kris. Absent was Ken Eldridge also due to business commitments.

#### Opening Remarks

The special meeting was called to review immediate issues requiring discussion by the board.

#### Update on Banking Resolutions

The motion to approve the resolutions prepared and circulated by Kris was amended by her to modify the form of the secretary's certification to reflect that these were adopted and considered at a meeting, duly called upon notice, rather than upon unanimous written consent without a meeting, which was the form in which they had originally been proposed. Scott seconded the motion. These resolutions involve the increase in the number of signing officers, the replacing of some out of date officers, the addition of new officers as well as a request for information from prior fiscal years. The Canadian account is used to handle Canadian denominated deposits as well as pay a minimal number of cheques. Funds are held in US currency but are converted from Canadian currency with more favourable costs than with a US institution. The Commercial Federal account, based in Omaha, NE, processes approximately 120 – 150 cheques annually and handles the general business of the corporation. In favour, Kris, Jeff by proxy, Scott, Glenn, Todd, Brian, Dale. Opposed to the motion, none. Motion passed.

#### Update on Repairs to the Hughes EJS's

Lee discussed the proposal for repairs to the Hughes EJS systems as provided by Mr. William Carrothers. Dale, as head of Technology committee, indicated that he had been in discussion with Mr. Carrothers and fully supported his analysis of the problem. Additionally, another Hughes system has been sent to a second analyst for review.

Dale left the meeting at 8.40PM.

Jeff entered the meeting at 8:42PM during the discussion of the Hughes system repairs.

Brian made a motion that the board authorize the payment of up to \$800 to Mr. Carrothers to repair a single Hughes system as a prototype of the necessary repairs and that it be tested at up to three tournaments to verify the reliability of his solution. Glenn seconded the motion. There was no opposition to the motion. Motion passed.

Scott moved that we adjourn the meeting. Brian seconded. There was unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59PM Eastern.

### **NAFA PATCHES**

Contact **Judy Hagan**

1890 Cottage Grove Pkwy  
Marion, IA 52302  
(319) 286-8294  
Email: doublejj@netins.net

## **And The Nominees Are.....**

### **Brian Fay**

916 N. Murphy Rd., Hanna City, IL 61536 (formerly of Toronto, Ontario)  
309/565-0052  
ripperjrt@sbcglobal.net

I am seeking re-election to the NAFA® Board of Directors. I have participated in the sport of Flyball since 1993. I became a NAFA Judge in 1998 and a NAFA Supervising Judge in 2002. Over the years, I have judged and/or raced in 13 different regions which gives me first-hand knowledge of how the sport of Flyball is played throughout North America. I enjoy the sport and the friends I have met through Flyball over the past twelve years. I have been honored to give something back to the sport and the people through judging and serving on the Board of Directors.

I have served as the head of the Judges Committee for the past two years. One of the main efforts our committee has worked on is improving the process for becoming a NAFA Judge. These process improvements will be incorporated into the processes for becoming a Supervising Judge and maintaining approval as a NAFA Judge. I feel that my experience as a Supervising Judge and as the head of the Judges Committee will assist the Board of Directors in completing these improvements over the next year.

While I have been happy to see communications improve between the Board of Directors and participants, I feel there are still improvements to be made. It should be easier for participants to find the names and contact information for NAFA Board members. Decisions made in Board or Committee meetings should be readily available to participants in a timely manner. The Board of Directors should be able to demonstrate that it considers all participants when making decisions and not just a select group.

I am proud to be a part of the Board of Directors working on improving the NAFA lights for all competitors. I have both competed and judged with the new lights and, while there are still a few quirks to iron out, they are a definite improvement. I would like to see working lights located in every NAFA region so that shipping costs are

avoided. This way, we would avoid the stress of shipping on the lights and extend the overall working life of our lights. It would also reduce the number of times tournament hosts must deal with light problems during events.

I would also like to see more consistency among NAFA regions. Having judged and competed in so many regions, it becomes apparent that there are different 'flavors' of NAFA Flyball throughout North America. In my opinion, we should work to determine the best practices in each region and develop standards for all regions to use.

In summary, I would be honored to represent you on the NAFA Board of Directors for another term. NAFA needs individuals that are willing to listen, challenge the status quo, and work to make NAFA better for all participants. I am willing to be one of those individuals.

Sincerely  
Brian Fay

### **Judy Hagan**

In my opinion and that of many of my constituents in her time on the board, Judy consistently performed her duties as a member of the Board of Directors with intensity, compassion and above all else, in the best interest of the sport of Flyball as we all love. She has devoted countless hours to improving the organization and keeping it functioning in the best interests of all competitors.

Judy served in her past term on the BOD as secretary and Chairperson, and currently handles the NAFA® plaques, CRN's, new team applications, NAFA® mail and various other duties for NAFA®. I have come to better understand the countless hours of dedication and commitment Judy has put forth in her various responsibilities.. Not only does this take a tremendous amount of time, but also a true dedication to Flyball as a sport. From time to time many pressures are exerted upon the board members from various factions and it takes a truly unique individual who can withstand those to make unbiased decisions for the total membership, not a select few and I believe Judy can do this.

Not only have I had the pleasure of knowing and competing with Judy for the past 8 years, but competed under her expert judging during many tournaments. Judy is one of the most knowledgeable judges in the sport of flyball that I have ever worked with. She is

courteous to exhibitors, but at the same time makes valid, logical decisions during the heat of competition. As a judge, Judy is always willing to take the time to politely explain her decisions as well as interpretation of the rules when competitors as well as spectators alike have issues with a call or decision rendered during tournaments.

Judy and her team have hosted many NAFA tournaments that I have had the opportunity to attend. These functions are conducted with the highest level of efficiency, integrity for both human and canine exhibitors to enjoy. This individual knows and understands not only the inner workings of the sport as a true competitor, but as an untiring, dedicated member of the NAFA Board.

I can think of many individuals eligible to run for the Board of Directors, but I sincerely feel that Judy Hagan has a proven performance record for this capacity. Her ability to promote Flyball as a sport and the encouragement she has instilled in many people including myself is a stellar credit to the sport. Judy has proved her dedication to the sport, competitors and to the NAFA Board itself stands alone.

In my opinion there is no better nomination for the Board of Directors than that of Judy Hagan. This outstanding individual will help to give us a new and continued leadership to allow our organization to improve and grow as we move forward in the upcoming years ahead of us.

Respectfully submitted, Mary L. Fuller, Sneak Attack

### **Kristina Pickering**

Because of her unsurpassed contribution to the NAFA Board this past year, I would like to nominate Kristina Pickering from Flying Colors Flyball Team, Region 6, for re-election to the NAFA Board of Directors.

I am confident that the NAFA community is aware of the importance of her continued presence on the Board. Kris has brought a business and legal perspective to the Board that is uniquely valuable. Her contributions include updating NAFA's corporate filings, working on financial and non-profit issues, and counseling and assisting NAFA in securing an exemption from the Ontario government's BSL ban.

Kris is a trial lawyer with a background in commercial litigation and mediation. She serves on the Nevada State Board of Bar Examiners; with her husband, Steve Morris, she co-captains and runs dogs on the Flying Colors Flyball Team. Despite the time demands, Kris has given

NAFA her full attention. Over the past year, Kris has attended every NAFA Board meeting. She has served on the By-Laws, Rules, and Disciplinary Committees. When people have questions or divergent points of view, she listens, hears both sides, and responds on the merits. With her extensive legal background, Kris has brought to the Board and its Committees the ability to interrupt legal issues and advise and suggest the proper course of action to move NAFA forward in a positive and professional manner.

As a longtime competitor in Region 6/16, Kris also adds balance to the composition of the Board, providing representation from the western states. Many tournaments in the west are still run outside on grass, which involves variable set-up, venue and technology issues. She understands the geographical and distance challenges that are faced in the west in our large multi state regions and the need to address these issues as NAFA moves forward.

Her agenda for this term is a continuation of her original stand: promote fair procedures and open communication in Flyball and to help the sport grow in a positive way. In addition, she intends to work on issues and topics that have yet to be resolved from this past year in office. When you cast your vote this year, please cast your vote for Kris Pickering. Give her the opportunity to continue her fine work as demonstrated over this past year.

Should you have any additional questions, or wish to speak with Kris, please e-mail her at [KP@morrislawgroup.com](mailto:KP@morrislawgroup.com) or call her at home at 702-258-4040.

I am joined in submitting this nomination letter by the other teams and individuals listed below.

Sincerely,  
Jonnie Geen, RD Region 6, Howlin' To Run  
Steve Morris, Flying Colors, Region 6  
Marge Henderson, Flying Colors, Region 6  
Margaret Lyons, Bark In The Park, Region 16  
Jane Horsfield, Orange Crush, Region 16  
Alisa Romaine, Heat Wave, Region 16  
Tooie & Ian Crooks, Power Pack, Region 6  
Stephanie S. Doerr, NAFA Approved Judge, INXS, Region 16

### **Mike Smith**

I would like to nominate Mike Smith, Region 5, for a NAFA board position. Mike is well qualified in every

way. Mike started his flyball career with Texas Allstar Express in 1991 with his collie, Coat. We knew essentially nothing about flyball in those early days and Mike taught us much about coaching, team work, stopwatches, and enthusiasm. He had endless patience for helping, and for teaching Coat, and was soon one of our favorite team members. Plus, he built us boxes better than any we had ever had, a real bonus. Being a coach, Mike soon got into judging, and became a NAFA judge in 1995. Because of moving and long distance driving, he left our team for one of our "offspring" (High Voltage), then raced with Flat Out Flyers, and eventually formed his own team, Texas Twisters, which is highly successful now. Among the many things I like and admire about Mike is that he is an outstanding judge, he is always fair, he is always cheerful and supportive while judging, and I have never heard a complaint about him as a judge or competitor.

Mike's work career has prepared him well for a job on the NAFA board. After Graduating from Texas A & M in 1987 he has worked in several public school systems teaching both math and history as well as coaching. He has coached football, basketball and track for the past 12 years, bringing in many winning teams. As you know, successful coaching requires many skills, not the least of which is managing relationships among the players and staff. He brings these skills to very successful flyball judging and competing and will put them to good use on the board, as well.

Mike's judging career took off fast. Among other things, he was asked to judge the Purina Dog Challenge Regionals in Dallas and Chicago in 2002 and 2003, and has judged more than 50 tournaments in Oklahoma, Kansas, Illinois, Missouri and, of course, many times in Texas. Mike has successfully trained many types and kinds of dog to do flyball. Among them are Collies, Jack Russells, Mixes, Aussies, and Border Collies. He is currently racing 3 dogs including one (a height dog) for a San Antonio team.

Mike has been making flyball boxes all these years, constantly improving his design, and has sold over 100, and as well he makes all sorts of jumps and other equipment. Mike was instrumental in designing the Accupass, which, with the addition of electronic sensors, gives teams an accurate measurement of how close their dogs are passing.

Mike has served as tournament director and secretary for many years, first for our team and then for several others, and has served as temporary RD in other regions as well. Mike is always thinking about ways to improve our sport and has come up with several truly exciting

and innovative ideas. Back in the 90's, for instance, he helped implement a plan to make racing more fair which lead to our current breakout system. In 2004 he devised the "one schedule-two ring" format which improved racing in Region 5 by a quantum leap, doing away forever with us being on deck with the wrong team for the wrong ring, and which has allowed as much as 50% more racing in a weekend while cutting down competitor stress in a major way. When we in Region 5 were having so many problems with the EJS, which seemed to always arrive not quite working, and after Sam had made a couple of emergency trips to find a substitute, Mike got two sets of lights which he has brought to each tournament so that we could count on having two working sets. This was a real plus for the entire region.

Mike states: My main reason for wanting to serve on the NAFA board is that I love this sport and feel that I can best help flyball by listening to the complaints and needs of teams in all regions and by working for the good of the sport as a whole. I want to help with the growth of flyball in a positive way, and to make sure that we remain focused on the needs of ALL teams in all regions, regardless of their speed. I will be open to accepting new ideas in regard to rule changes that are introduced by any member of flyball as long as I see that such changes would have a positive influence on the sport and be fair to all. Thank you for your consideration.

Presented by Betty Carroll  
Head of 061 Texas Allstar Express

#### **Clyde Moore Memorial Hall of Fame Nominations:**

<b>Bayly</b>	<b>Dog's CRN:</b>	<b>930857</b>
	<b>Breed of Dog:</b>	<b>Shetland Sheepdog</b>

I would like to nominate Bayly, Good Times Fancy Bay (930857, Shetland Sheepdog), owned by Page Heig for the NAFA Clyde Moore Hall of Fame.

Bayly raced in Minnesota, with BOTC, TCOTC and Brat Pack (213). Bayly loved flyball for eleven years, starting in 1993 and finally retiring in 2004.

Bayly was a core member of Brat Pack since its inception in 1996. She could run in any position, next to any dog and could be run by any handler. She was an untiring height dog that ran 100% of the time. She was a small dog with big dog times. Bayly passed along her love of Flyball to three of her offspring,

Banchor, Breeze and Sydney, all of which ran on Brat Pack. Bayly was the Ultimate Flyball Dog, her drive and enthusiasm for Flyball was truly amazing to behold.

**Indy Anna Dog's CRN: 930136**  
**Breed of Dog: Border Collie**

In addition to being one of the original "Power Pups", Indy was their height dog AND Allsorts Dogsports' fastest dog for most of her career. The Power Pups team formed an unmatched powerhouse within region 8 and was consistently ranked in NAFA's top ten teams.

After a serious leg injury at the age of four - in which doctors predicted her career was basically over - she defied the odds and proved everyone wrong, by not only coming back to play the game she loved, but coming back to play at a top level, showing her "heart and determination" and proving that she is truly one of the greats in flyball.

Career Highlights:  
Seven Regional Championships  
Four Regional Multi-Breed Championships  
One NAFA Multi-breed Championship

Indy was a true ambassador of the sport having played in many regions, against many of NAFA's fastest teams as well as participating in four PIDC's. She was often pitted against other teams' fastest dogs and rarely lost the challenge.

Indy retired in June 2004 after 10.5 years of racing. Please consider electing Indy to the Clyde Moore Memorial Hall of Fame and place her with the other all-time greats.

**Sampson Dog's CRN: 930186**  
**Breed of Dog: Irish Setter**

It's hard to think of Region 5 Flyball without seeing a big red Irish Setter running and jumping as fast as he could over the Flyball jumps. Sampson ran Flyball from July 1993 until September 2004. He was hard to miss, with that beautiful mahogany coat. Everyone knew him and he knew everyone. Sampson never knew a stranger. At age 13, he's now retired.

Sampson's Flyball career started with CDTC, continued with Texas Tornados, and when they disbanded, Sampson joined and concluded his career with K9 Komotion. "Sammy" mentored all of the dogs currently running on our team. He was extremely consistent, whether as the start dog, running second or third or as a fast anchor. He ran his heart out for his "human"

Teresa, but anyone on the team could run him. He was the heart and soul of our team.

Sampson achieved the title of FGDCh with 32,378 career points. He was the first Irish Setter to achieve the titles FM through FGDCh, and is the only Irish Setter to achieve FMCh to FGDCh titles.

Sampson was and still is an outstanding ambassador for Flyball and deserves to be inducted into the Clyde Moore Hall of Fame.

**Toby Dog's CRN: 940173**  
**Breed of Dog: Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier**

Toby's career began in June 1993 and ended in August 2004 upon her retirement at the age of 13.5 years. She raced with club 015 her entire career. Toby was well known as a frequent competitor in many tournaments throughout Regions 1 & 2. Toby was our main height dog (10" height) for a number of years. She had a tremendous impact on the Pawsitive Attitudes club because until she came along, the jumps were set at 15". Toby wasn't a ball fanatic or the fastest of our dogs, but once she learned to play Flyball, she was dependable, consistent and steady. She would run for anyone in any position. Toby often ran on two teams in order to allow for other teammates to play.

Toby has been the #1 SC Wheaten since 2000. She was the first of her breed to earn FMCh, Onyx, FDGCH, FG40K, FG50K, FG60K and FG70K. When she retired, her point total was 74,553 – a pretty amazing feat for a little dog with a lot of heart. Pawsitive Attitudes misses her on the racing lanes and hopes that you will cast your vote to induct her into the Clyde Moore Hall of Fame!

#### **Nominations for Regional MVP's:**

Region 2 (two nominees)

**Chime Dog's CRN: 930173**  
**Breed of Dog: Border Collie**

Chime is a fourteen year old border collie who ran most of her flyball career with the Afterburners team in Ottawa. In fact, the Afterburners were formed in 1998 so that Chime could play flyball in a city that had no existing teams. Ottawa now boasts 7 flyball teams. Chime helped train numerous dogs and handlers in the sport of flyball. She is rock steady and will put up with anything that comes her way.

Chime learned flyball in BC with the Matsqui Flyball and Agility Club using the old style arm boxes. A move to Toronto found her traversing teams. She initially joined the North York Stingers, then Toronto White Sox, and finally the Eastenders before moving to Ottawa to complete her career.

Chime retired in May 2005, at Ottawa's first flyball tournament. She was a member of a new Ottawa team which includes her son, granddaughter and grandson. Although retired, Chime will continue to help those young pups willing to learn this exciting game. Her legacy will live on through her offspring and grandchildren. Chime is always patient and ready to play.

**Higgins Dog's CRN: 000132**  
**Breed of Dog: Staffordshire Bull Terrier**

Barb Stopay's "Higgins" is a remarkable athlete. This handsome Staffordshire Bull Terrier's Flyball career has seen him racing on three different Ontario clubs, all of which have earned Region 2's Multi Championships with his contribution. Whether in the 'pack' exchanging into the smallest dog on the team or running the start position with gusto, he gives his all. A teammate once described Higgy as being a 'workout on a leash' and truer words were never spoken. His desire to race, his perfect swimmers turn on the back wall and the smile on his face say it all, this dog loves life!

In June of 2005, Higgins will earn a NAFA milestone award when he achieves 60,000 points, making him the first Staffie to reach this award.

A more dedicated supporter of the breed than Barb Stopay can't be found and Higgins is a superior ambassador for this breed's temperament and ability. Flyball, Free-style, Obedience or Best Friend, Higgins is a "once in a life time" dog.

His teammates on Some Ruff Competition are very much honoured to race with Higgins. We ask that our fellow competitors in Region 2 acknowledge this outstanding dog with our region's MVP award. Thank you.

Region 3 (one nominee)

**Jesse Dog's CRN: 990869**  
**Breed of Dog: Jack Russell Terrier**

Jesse, a JRT (FGDCH), known in Region 3 as the constant companion of Anne Jansen and professional height dog on the Happy Hurdlers is proudly nominated for the MVP of Region 3. Jesse does the majority of work for his team by lowering their jump height to the minimum. He never misses the ball and is content to run in any position for any handler. Equally amazing Anne still manages to run Jesse after a hip

replacement and loves the sport. Outside of the sport this dog has a winning personality. This is a dog very deserving of this award!

Region 4 (one nominee)

**Winston Dog's CRN: 010870**  
**Breed of Dog: West Highland White Terrier**

Winston ran in his first tournament just before his 8<sup>th</sup> birthday and continues today at 12. Winston is not the fastest dog, but gives it everything he has. The determined look on his face as he runs to the box has brought smiles to the faces of many box loaders. He runs for the pure joy of getting his ball and hearing the crowd cheer. He's been so popular with spectators that they think our team didn't exist before Winston. The truth is, we might not have existed without him. He brought a valuable 8-inch jump height when we had no full-time height dogs. To the embarrassment of his owner, he growls as he's released and will only run for an old, torn, plastic, green frog that he found in the park. He's kept in fabulous shape and runs as fast as his legs will carry him. Now that our team has faster height dogs available, some may wonder why we still run Winston now and then. If they watch his face as he runs, they'll know why. We know the time will come for Winston to retire, but for us, he'll always represent what the sport is all about.

Region 5 (one nominee)

**Sampson Dog's CRN: 930186**  
**Breed of Dog: Irish Setter**

It's hard to think of a Texas Flyball tournament without seeing a big red Irish Setter running and jumping as fast as he could over the Flyball jumps. Sampson ran Flyball in Region 5 from July of 1993 until September of 2004. He was hard to miss, with that beautiful mahogany coat. Everyone knew him and he knew everyone. Sampson never knew a stranger. At age 13, he's now retired.

"Sammy" mentored all the dogs currently running on our team, and many that have long since retired. He was extremely consistent, whether as start dog, running second or third or as a fast anchor. He ran his heart out for his "human" Teresa but anyone on the team could run him. He loved Flyball, and was the heart and soul of our team.

Sampson achieved the title of FGDCH with 32,378 career points. He was the first Irish Setter to achieve



Sampson was and still is an outstanding ambassador for Flyball and deserves to be recognized as the MVP in Region 5 for 2005.

Region 7 (one nominee)

**Jasper Dog's CRN: 960159**  
**Breed of Dog: Jack Russell Terrier**

Jasper started running at one year of age in 1996, after only 8 Flyball training sessions and didn't stop until retirement on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2004. Way back then she ran on the old boxes with teams earning either one or five points a heat. At retirement she had more than 42,000 points to her name. She ran as a height dog for the Non Stop Noise team of the Toonies Flyball Club for most of her career. If Carolyn "her mom" could not make a tournament at home or away, it was not unusual for her to pack wee Jasper's overnight bag and crate because this little dog was happy to run for anyone – she just wanted to run. She could have been the dog that coined the phrase "*it's not the size of the dog in the race but the size of race in the dog*". Jasper was a real trooper and never made an error. She certainly was one of our club's most valuable dogs and we would like to recommend her for your consideration for the Regional Most Valuable Dog.

Region 8 (two nominees)

**Sprocket Dog's CRN: 990032**  
**Breed of Dog: Miniature Poodle**

Sprocket is a Miniature Poodle and was a little trouble maker to start. He probably developed every problem possible, from dropping his ball to running down the opposite lane. With time, determination and patience, Sprocket became an incredible height dog. Sprocket was often a clown at practice but always had his game face on when it came to the "real deal". Sprocket absolutely loved competition and never let his teammates down. He would run for anyone who dared to hold him! His "racing grin" was his trademark. Sprocket raced in both regular and multibreed divisions and was always ready to race again! At one tournament Sprocket posted over 1700 points. Sprocket retired in September 2004 as the #6 Miniature Poodle, and was the third dog in Saskatoon ever to earn an ONYX title. Sprocket was a little dog with a big heart and he helped his teammates and club reach some big milestones. Unfortunately Sprocket was retired from racing because of a back injury. Sprocket loved this game, loved his fans and will be sorely missed.

Sprocket's ONYX award is dedicated to Nancy's mom who passed away shortly before he achieved that goal.

She was his biggest fan!

**Talbot Dog's CRN: 000596**  
**Breed of Dog: Terrier Mix**

Talbot's not your typical flyball dog. A Terrier mix (found in 1998 on the "Talbot Ave." bus route during a frigid Winnipeg winter), he began his flyball training and discovered he loved the game.

Later that spring, a viscous dog attack in his yard, left him hospitalized and halted his flyball training for a year. This "little dog that could" overcame his injuries and returned to flyball.

In December 1999, Talbot began having seizures. By April 2000, the seizures became monthly. Still racing and never wanting to give up on his team, Talbot needed to find a balance between medication and diet. He has remained seizure free for over a year.

Despite overcoming adversity and ensuing health issues, Talbot continues to play and gives 100% every race. Talbot is well recognized and known throughout the Region 8 flyball community. He has the determination and heart of a dog four times his size thereby demonstrating a true testament of his desire for the love of the game. A candidate well worthy of this recognition.

Region 10 (one nominee)

**Indiana (Indy) Dog's CRN: 021043**  
**Breed of Dog: North American Shepherd**

Over the course of her relatively short career, Indy has already established herself as one of the premier dogs in Region 10. Her intensity, her competitiveness and her ability to raise the level of her performance has been paramount to the success of the Fast 'n FURious' Airwave team. Competing as the height dog, jumping 11 inches, running regularly in the 4.2 second range, Indy has allowed the Airwave team be the first team in Region 10 to break the 17 second barrier. Her uniqueness in doing ambidextrous swimmers' turns to always face her competitor is truly remarkable. This highly competitive athlete with her intense desire to be the best she can be and the value she brings to her flyball club makes her a very deserving choice for Region 10's Most Valuable Performer.

Region 11 (one nominee)

**Lucy Dog's CRN: 000991**  
**Breed of Dog: Jack/Parson Russell Terrier**

In August 1998, Ketch This hosted the first flyball tournament in Florida. At the time, our fledgling team had only one height dog. After much pleading and begging, Kyle Roche reluctantly agreed to get a height dog and Lucy, a JRT puppy, joined Ketch This in 1999.

From the time she debuted in July 2000, Lucy made an immediate impact on our team, lowering our best time by at least 2 seconds. She was the fastest height dog ever seen in Region 11, consistently running 4.5 – 4.6 seconds over 9". Ketch This one has continued to improve and excel, running our best time of 17.01 in 2005 and constantly flirting with breaking into the 16s.

Lucy has proved to be tireless, fearless and a remarkably consistent height dog. She rarely makes a mistake over the course of a weekend, running flawlessly for whoever handles her. Over the years she has dealt with many changes in lineups, boxes, balls and handlers without breaking stride.

Lucy recently achieved her FGDCH title and has led Ketch This to the Regional Championship each and every year. Region 11 and Ketch This would not be the same without the contributions of Lucy and Kyle Roche.

Region 13 (two nominees)

**Duffy Dog's CRN: 980137**  
**Breed of Dog: Border Collie**

Duffy discovered flyball in 1997 at a clinic run by No Speed Limit. He loved it, but there was no NAFA flyball in New England, so he had to change that. Using a crude flyball box built by his agility club, Duffy learned quickly and soon became a reliable steady performer. But he needed other dogs and teams to compete with, so he gave flyball demonstrations at dog training clubs, rescue organizations, and pet fairs to introduce the sport and encourage participation. Traveling to his first tournament (Fur Fun, 1998) he and his teammates earned over 500 points as New England's first flyball club (All Dogs). He was a founding member of ARFF where he served as the "training" and "demo" dog, running in any position for any handler. In a new region with inexperienced players and few tournaments, it took a while for Duff to accumulate enough points for his ONYX (not that he cared). But along the way, he made it possible for many dogs to learn his favorite game and achieve their own titles. Region 13 now boasts sixteen active clubs. Because of Duffy's significant contribution to its birth and growth, we proudly nominate him for MVP.

**Walker Dog's CRN: 000587**

### **Breed of Dog: Australian Cattle Dog**

The day that Walker dragged Cheryn down the stairs to his first flyball class, we knew this Australian Cattle Dog had the makings of a great flyball dog. His excitement and enthusiasm for the game were a pleasure to see. From his first tournament in July of 2003, up to present time, his drive for flyball has never wavered. Reliable and consistent, Walker never stops. He's addicted to the sport and will run in any position just to play. His love for flyball can be seen every time he runs at every tournament he attends. Steadiness and reliability, along with his willingness to run wherever he is needed, makes Walker this year's Maine Coast Runner's MVP.

Region 14 (three nominees)

**Casper Dog's CRN: 010946**  
**Breed of Dog: American Bulldog**

The HOTC Rocket City Racers proudly nominates Casper as the Region 14 MVP for 2005. Casper is the major force behind (or in front of) the Cosmic Strays.

After seeing Homeward Bound, the Barribeaus fell in love with the American Bulldog featured in the movie and so Casper came to live with them. White, with a distinctive underbite, brown eye patch, and crooked tail, Casper is a picture of high style and self-assuredness. He was the first dog registered on the RCR Flyball team and has become the first American Bulldog to win an FMX title.

He has overcome challenging health issues (among them, bell's palsy and cancer) to excel in Obedience, Agility, and Flyball. However, his willingness and eager work ethic, combined with enormous power and speed, make him a quintessential Flyball dog. (He is so strong; he moves the box and box loader when he retrieves the ball.) He can run in any position, but is a superior leadoff runner. His acceleration, stamina, and eagerness to run make him an ideal fit for that crucial position.

Casper has the heart and soul that embodies the Flyball spirit. We are pleased to nominate him for this high honor.

**Cody Dog's CRN: 010269**  
**Breed of Dog: Border Collie**

I would like to nominate my buddy, Cody for Region 14 MVP. Cody ran in his first tournament in Decem-

ber of 2000. Although he didn't get many points that weekend, his love for the game was evident. Now, less than four and a half years later, his love for the game remains high. He was the first to obtain the title of Flyball Grand Champion in our region. He has well over forty thousand points and is the number one pointed dog in our region.

Because of his even temperament, we can use him with new dogs when teaching them the game. Not only is Cody an athlete, he is also Delta certified and makes visits to see children as well as the elderly.

Cody is known around our region because he is part of the reason The Gamblers have been able to become Region 14 Champions the last two years. He is also known in the region because of his high level of excitement that is demonstrated by his continuous barking while waiting to race.

I ask for your support for Cody as your Region 14 MVP.

**Snap Dog's CRN: 990746**  
**Breed of Dog: Border Collie**

I can't think of a more deserving dog for MVP in region 14 than Jenny McRoy's Snap Dragon, or "Snap" as she is known to most folks. Back in October of 1999, the very first flyball team from Alabama made its tournament debut in Memphis. Snap was on that team. No other dog in the region has been continuously competing for that long.

Snap will travel with and run for anyone. Snap also holds numerous titles in obedience and agility. She recently earned her FMCh.

Whether or not Snap wins the NAFA MVP award, she's already done so for her handler, Jenny. A few years ago, Jenny's van was hit by a drunk driver. Jenny was severely injured, although her first thoughts were for her dogs. Jenny went through many surgeries and long, painful rehabilitation because she wouldn't give up on competing with Snap again. Jenny was able to run Snap again that summer, from her walker on the side of the lane. Snap found the lane, ran cleanly, and returned to Jenny quietly and gently.

Today, Jenny walks and competes with her dogs and lives a full life. All because of flyball, and a little Border Collie named Snap.

Region 15 (one nominee)

**Tab Dog's CRN: 970815**  
**Breed of Dog: Pembroke Welsh Corgi**

Many years ago I brought Tab to flyball practice with his 'sister' just for the fun of it. I wasn't sure he would catch onto the game for he really wasn't interested in retrieving a tennis ball. However he soon got into the excitement of the sport when he realized he got a food reward for bringing the ball back. Once he discovered the fun of racing with other dogs and being cheered on, he started pulling me out to the lane. Tab soon became a very reliable and appreciated height dog. While not the fastest dog on the lane, he always gives his best and puts his heart into racing. He was the first Pembroke Welsh Corgi to obtain the ONYX, FGDCH, and FGDCH 40K titles and is the #1 PWC. Out of 15,993 dogs registered with NAFA, he is #216 (as of 6/26/05)--not bad for a dog with little legs! Tab, now 10 years old, is still an active and valued member of his team.

## Switching Teams? Making a Team?

Call, email or mail NAFA:

1400 West Devon Avenue  
Suite 512  
Chicago, Illinois, USA 60660  
(800) 318-6312  
Flyball@flyball.org