

National Flyball sub-committee



K U S A
KENNEL UNION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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NFSC Convenors Report 2023

14 October 2023

1. What's happening around the country?

6 new Flyball judges qualified in KZN where the sport of Flyball is growing rapidly. Two aspiring judges in Gauteng have passed the KUSA part of the judges' exam and will write Schedule 05M soon and do the practical exams.

2. National Championships

Western Cape hosted a brilliant KUSA Nationals event from the 6th to the 8th of October. A big thank you to Barry Levitt and his provincial flyball sub-committee, Cape Handlers Dog Club for the use of their grounds free of charge and the amazing sponsors, in particular Nala Health who was the main sponsor, which added to a very successful flyball weekend. Having Flyball separate from other disciplines proved to be worth the effort.

Entries were excellent with 7 teams competing on Friday, 5 teams entered the KUSA Nationals on Saturday morning, 6 teams entered the 2nd show on Saturday afternoon and a whopping 8 teams entered on Sunday. For the first time we had 2 divisions running in South Africa with 4 teams in each division.

The KUSA Nationals was won by FBI Special Ops in a best time of 17,53s followed by Cape Furr Fly posting the best time of 17,92s and Cape Wag Tails coming third in a best time of 20,32s.

Sadly there were no Western Cape Provincial Council members or KUSA officials present at this prestigious event. However, media presents were great and Flyball featured on all the local newspapers front pages on Monday.

3. Titles and achievements

Congratulations to all the Flyball handlers and dogs who reached specific milestones this year by achieving FD, FDX, FDA, Champion, "Th One & Only" title or the prestigious Grand Champion title. These achievements only come about because of dedication, perseverance, commitment and not forgetting team work.

Two Gauteng dogs – Ziva, owned by Yolandé Johnson and Frankie, owned by Regan Bosch, received their Master Flyball Dog awards for 3,000 points. Regan sadly lost Frankie a few weeks after obtaining this achievement.

4. South African record

FBI Special Ops is the first team in South Africa to break the 17s barrier and ran a new South African record time of 16,75s on the 20th November 2022.

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5. Flyball Open World Cup

The Flyball Open World Cup will take place in Hessenhalle Alsfeld in Germany. At present the organisers are holding a spot for one team from South Africa but once again due to financial restraints it seems we are unable to send a team to compete.

6. Amendments to Schedule 05 M and the 18 month "rule" imposed by KUSA

The NFSC submitted proposed changes to Schedule 05M in August to be tabled at the Fedco meeting in December but were informed that *"...changes to Dog sport Schedules would only be considered once every eighteen (18) months, unless the changes were due to changes in FCI Regulations."* And Flyball is thus not eligible to submit further proposals until Fedco 06-2024 unless such changes relate to changes in the FCI Regulations.

The NFSC studied all relevant Articles, Bylaws and Schedules and cannot find the wording relating to the 18 month period pertaining to changes of Dogsport Schedules anywhere else and questioned whether the Fedco meeting minutes could be used to force this issue?

We, as the NFSC, have given great consideration to changes to Schedule 05M in line with- and to be on par with flyball rules across the rest of the world. We are not in support of only changing rules once every 18 months as we believe this is not good governance standards and practice compared to other Flyball organisations in other countries.

The KUSA Articles mention the following:

3. OBJECTS

The objects of the Kennel Union shall be:

The administration, development, co-ordination or promotion of sport or recreation in which the participants take part on a non-professional basis as a pastime, and as detailed below:

3.6 to frame, enforce, *amend and add to Schedules, Rules, Regulations, and By-Laws* made under the powers conferred by this Constitution for the Conduct of Training Classes, *all events forming part of the Schedules* of the Constitution and the administration of all matters falling within the jurisdiction of the Kennel Union;

6. CONTROL

6.1 All the business of the Kennel Union shall be managed by the Federal Council in which vest all control and management of the Kennel Union. *Under this Constitution the Federal Council is empowered to make, amend, alter, cancel and revise the Constitution and its Schedules, Rules, Regulations and By-Laws* and to do or authorise to be done anything necessary for the *advancement or fulfilment* of any of the objects of the Kennel Union and of all matters incidental or conducive thereto.

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41. AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULES, RULES, REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS

The Federal Council shall be *empowered to issue, revise, add to, suspend, revoke, cancel or amend any Schedules, Rules, Regulations and By-Laws* made under the provisions of this Constitution, provided that:

41.1 Every resolution to issue, revise, add to, suspend, revoke, cancel or amend shall be carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of the Federal Council;

41.2 notice of every issue, suspension, revocation, cancellation or amendment adopted by the Federal Council shall be published in the *Official Kennel Union Journal* (does this still exist?) or circulated to Affiliated Clubs together with notice of the date when it is to come into effect;

41.3 not less than two (2) months' notice shall be given of every amendment to Schedule 7;

41.4 not less than two (2) months' notice shall be given of every other form of amendment;

41.5 the requirements of this article shall not apply to geographical name changes, matters concerning the secession of or alteration or amendments to the borders of any State or Province of any area currently under KUSA jurisdiction due to a political change in a particular area, corrections to numerical cross references and minor grammatical errors of no material consequence.

The NFSC is extremely disappointed that the custodians of dog sports in SA believe rules should only be amended every 18 months and decided not to extract and only submit FCI changes and requested KUSA to withdraw the NFSC's request for any amendments to Schedule 05M in its entirety.

The NFSC is mandated to continuously improve Flyball but if our rules don't keep up with other countries in the world, and we don't have the support from the Kennel Union, we are not doing justice to our sport. We will reconsider if any changes are worthwhile submitting in future.

7. NFSC Bylaws

The NFSC submitted proposed changes to its bylaws on the 16th August but have not received the outcome whether these were approved by Fedco or not and therefore the bylaws have not yet been signed.

8. Thank you

I would like to thank the respective Flyball sub-committees for their support, input, involvement and commitment during the past year. To every dedicated handler who ensures the sport is thriving, every club who hosted Flyball and every official (judges and stewards) we applaud you – thank you!

Liesl Twyman
NFSC Convenor