

UKFL Annual Conference Minutes 2024



10.30am – 17th February 2024

Location: Arden Hall Water Orton Road Castle Bromwich B36 9PB

Attending - Members were asked to sign in using their UKFL Membership number upon arrival, Names of those who chose to attend virtually was collected by Head Mentor Sam Bawden

Info saved.

Apologies – Nicky Collen (Treasurer)

The Welcome address was given by Joe Lamont (JL)

The League has continued to grow,

Total teams - 117

Total dogs - 1934

Total members – 1712

Total juniors - 159

Donna Culley (DC) continued and addressed the “Thank you” for each official.

Jodie (Elements) – Arranging the Gifts

Tasha James – Admin Officer

Ellen Schofield – Tech Officer

Tech Team – Shani Galloway, Chloe Malpas, Hazell Fare

Iscribe Superusers –

Ann Denise Stokoe

Ashley Hindmarsh

Charlotte Busi

Des Christon

Donna Culley

Elaine Millar

Hayley Bonwick

Hazell Brown

Ian Draper

Jenny Knight

Jo Sodeau

Laurence Tittensor

Liz Mattingly

Louise Sanders

Lucie Grant

Lucy Gourlay

Rebecca Christon

Shani Le Galloway

Stephanie Murray

Membership Secretary – Shani Galloway

Accessibility Officer – Sue Matthews

E.T.S. Officer – Ian Richens

Vet Team – Stacy Brook, Pas Medina, Emma Overend

Social Media Team – Johanna Barnett, Faye Wildish, Olivia Ash

Mentors – Head Mentor Sam Bawden, Mark Porteous, Carmela Clark, Linda Law, Katie Wardell, Katie Day, Eileen Hodge, Meg Morgan, Emma Wells, Holly Harte, Stuart Nichols

Junior liaison Officer – Abbie Mellor

Safeguarding Officer – Charlotte Charles

Treasurer – Nicky Collen

A Thank you to Bridget Leek for her work as Judges Liaison before stepping down.

The New Judges Liaison – Christina Opperman

Committee

Darryl Ogden – Committee Member

Lucie Grant – Committee Member

Charlotte Busi – Committee Member

Lynnette Treadwell-Jones – Secretary

Cheryl Quinn – Chair

Special presentation for Vicki Dawe – Founding Board Member

(presentation shared on the UKFL Hub)

Board Announcement –

Official welcome to New Board Member – Cheryl Quinn

Committee Presentation – Chairpersons Speech delivered by Cheryl Quinn (CQ)

22 New Team registrations,

2023 another record-breaking year –

February Tails We Win improving the UK record to 14.45s,

May multi-breed record 15.42

Congratulations to Tails We Win

Championships 2023 – 3 indoor rings, 1 outdoor ring, 51 primary teams, 344 camping units, junior only event,

Thank you to JL, DC, VD for UKFL

Thank you to the Committee.

Your Board and Committee are dedicated to the League.

Junior Liaison Officer – Presentation by Abbie Mellor

Presentation requested to be shared into the hub

Sam Bowden – Head Mentor gave a review of the mentors, (No presentation available)

10 Mentors but would like more again overviewed that they are not given regions, instead utilise their skillset to help support the membership, Board and Committee.

They were busy at champs, and Champs was busy which resulted in not being able to host the mentors evening, they also added the W3W (what 3 words) to the camping.

SB also added that there will be a ring party update that will be worked on to support iscribe learning.

Treasurer Report – Nicky Collen was unable to attend in person, so Lucie (Committee) read out the financial report.

(Financial report and any profit/loss has been requested to be sent to the Secretary for uploading for the membership)

Charity of the Year – The Cinnamon Trust – UKFL members raised £470 and the UKFL Board rounded it up to £500.

Guest Speaker – Dr. Jacqueline Boyd – Presentation uploaded to the Hub.

***** LUNCH *****

During Lunch the video for the Poppy Award nominations was playing and a google form was available online to vote

JL – Thank you to Elements for arranging Lunch.

Social media – Johanna Barnett reviewed the year for UKFL social media, she also thanked Paul Horgan for all of his work in his role as Press/social media and how sorry we are to see him step down, and also to Michael Wilson for his time on the team too.

The current social media team – Johanna Barnett, Faye Wildish and Olivia Ash

Some of the items the team covered – 2023 Crufts working alongside other organisations to reach more of the general public, The work focusing on the Juniors at Champs, Junior Day at Anglesey, Junior Camp and the big one the 2023 UKFL Championships.

Johanna addressed the lateness of the Championships results being posted and apologies made, assures the membership all the templates are now saved so can be easily created and posted in a much more timely manner.

(Presentations has been shared to the UKFL Hub)

Tech Officer – Ellen Schofield offered a Q & A session in place of a tech team presentation.

Ellen Schofield – Action points below

Previously asked question from Emma Mason on the UKFL Hub regarding displaying Event results on the website – Ellen replied it is on the list just needs coding.

This led onto how to record results for Pairs racing too.

The Board asked about the rule from the last conference that was added regarding the dogs' achievements – again in on Ellens list of work to do. (The data is there just needs to be done) Ellen.

Q) from Hayley Bonwick via Zoom – Is there a possibility to add a (Are you sure) box when removing entries so you must confirm removal

Q) from Natalie Horgan (present) – Is there a way to link points to Juniors to make it easier to track –

A) Need to speak to Charlotte & Abbie to ensure safeguarding and GDPR are covered.

Q) Little League times recording

A) They should be there so there must be a bug in the system

Q) Could we have a way to mark up dogs that have INT in warm up.

A) IScribe question will liaise with Des.

Thank you from Ellen to her tech team for all their hard work throughout the year.

Board Official Update on roles:

Christina Opperman – Judges Liaison

Shani Galloway – Membership Secretary

Cheryl Quinn – Board Member

Charlotte Charles – Safeguarding Officer

Judges Liaison – Christina Opperman delivered her Judges Presentation via zoom (available on the UKFL hub)

Vet Team – Q&A with Stacy Brook

Q) Johanna Barnett via zoom – Neutering / Spaying and when should they return to racing –

A) Stacy firstly referred to the UKFL rules then explained the differences in procedures and then reiterated the difference between fitness levels in dogs in terms of when vet states return to normal and flyball and the differing levels of fitness of dogs doing flyball.
– there is no rush especially when jumping/ turning etc.

Charity of the Year 2024 – CQ

3 charities shortlisted – Thin Blue Paw Foundation, Mind and SSPCA

The Charity of the Year for 2024 is – MIND.

Poppy Award

The Poppy Award Nominations were displayed via social media and also during Lunch at the conference.

There were 17 nominations.

The winner of the Poppy Award 2023 – **Lucky – Rapid Rascals**

He was the first British Bulldog to compete in flyball in UKFL and the UK and he certainly drew a crowd. You heard him before you saw him. He loved the attention he got, he loved flyball and it was a huge part of his life. Lucky was a unorthodox flyball dog due to his breed but his love, heart, spirit and life was flyball. Lucky is sadly no longer with us and this award would be the cherry on his pie.

Fledgling Production

The Awards

Judge of the Year – Abbie Mellor

Nominations:

Lucy Gourlay Katie Day Steven Wheelton Ross Payne Abbie Mellor Darryl Ogden Christina Opperman Robyn Bawden Joe Lamont Mark Porteous Cheryl Quinn Katie Mabbutt Holly Harte Craig Buglass Lindsay Stocks Sam Bawden Hayley Bonwick

Official of the Year – Lucie Grant

Nominations:

Abbie Mellor Johanna Barnett Vicki Dawe Stacy Brook Joe Lamont Sam Bawden Hazell Fare Bridget Leek Tasha James Ellen Schofield Lynnette Treadwell-Jones Sue Matthews Cheryl Quinn Charlotte Busi Steph Murray Donna Culley Lucie Grant Shani Galloway

Member of the Year – Colin Robinson

Nominations:

Colin Robinson Ryan Smith Louise Messenger Louise Mabey Cheryl Quinn Christina Opperman Lynn Bradley Joe Scott Katie Mabbutt Lorraine Kidd Eileen Hodge Caroline Bannard Donna Culley Megan Lamont Abbie Mellor Denise Stokoe Tasha James Katie Latter Louise Sanders Liz Mattingley Ellen Schofield Robyn Bawden Nichol Fisher Linda Law Des Christen Emma England Holly Harte

Team of the Year – Elements

Nominations:

Essex All 4 One Junkyard Dogs Tails we Win Aces Storm Chasers Watson's Elements Saltires Ricochet Livewires Northants Falcons Purple Dynamics TimeFlyz Reiver Rebels Speyside Copper Dogs Southern Striders

Dog of the Year – Pryor – Anita Howard – Cambridgeshire Flyball Team

Nominations:

Venom - Aces Poppy - Sirius Bandit - Elements Shima - Aces Solo - Antics Dolcie - Watson's Cash - Pavilion Flash - Saltires Scout - Tails Ajax - The Flying Scots Fume - Paws on the Run BlackJack - Livewires Lyric - Essex Kylo - Cambridgeshire OpTic - Watson's Epyc - Watson's Walter - Phoenix Nimbus - Aces Lana - Tails we Win Stix - Initiate Pryor - Cambridgeshire Borris - Phoenix Fame - Tails we Win Rumour - Southern Striders Teddy - Southern Striders Raven - Tails we Win Tweet - TimeFlyz Henri - Geordies Lynk - Pavilion Biera - Elements Bruce - Tails we Win Scamp - Tails we Win Geezer - Killies Ziva - Reiver Rebels Spencer - Killies Destiny - Mad Mutts

Junior of the Year – Maddie Culley – Elements Flyball Team

Nominations:

Katie Ince Maddie Culley Esmail Horgan Eion Leia Culley Shanta Sloan Sienna Mabbutt Lily
Mason Violet Burrows Ella Wareham Meadow Bannard George Ince Eden Coleman Lucas
Buglass Christine Bunday

Fastest Team of the Year – Tails We Win Flyball Team – 14.45 seconds.

Panther, Boone, Kenickie, Ginny

Fastest Multi-breed Team of the Year – Tails on Top – 15.42 seconds

Envy, Kobe, Arlo, Lana

Breed Awards:

🏆 Fastest **English Bulldog** - Groot, **7.41** (*Phoenix*) 🏆 Fastest **Field Spaniel** - Fiyero, **6.42** (*The Flying Scots*) (The Flying Scots) 🏆 Fastest **Hungarian Vizsla** - Zeta, **5.59** (*Geordie Racers*)
🏆 Fastest **Belgian Shepherd dog (Groenendael)** - Rossi, **5.56** (*Southern Striders*) 🏆
Fastest **Miniature American Shepherd** - Finnick, **5.54** (*Cambridgeshire*) 🏆 Fastest
Border Terrier - Stanley, **5.47** (*Tails We Win*) 🏆 Fastest **Fox Terrier** - Skwish, **5.39**
(*TimeFlyz*) 🏆 Fastest **Irish Setter** - Oscar, **5.39** (*Watson's*) 🏆 Fastest **Pomeranian** - Rosi,
5.37 (*Catch 22*) 🏆 Fastest **Bull Terrier** - Betsy, **5.36** (*Rapid Rascals*) 🏆 Fastest **Miniature Schnauzer** - Boris, **4.81** (*Phoenix*) 🏆 Fastest **Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever** - Casper, **4.81** (*Be Right Back*) 🏆 Fastest **Jack Russell Terrier** - Mr Bojangles, **4.78** (*Livewires*) 🏆 Fastest **Chinese Crested** - Dolcie, **4.77** (*Watson's*) 🏆 Fastest **Beagle** - Bella, **4.70** (*Paws on the Run*) 🏆 Fastest **Siberian Husky** - Misty, **4.60** (*Essex*) 🏆 Fastest **Australian Kelpie** - Storm, **4.59** (*Mad Mutts*) 🏆 Fastest **Patterdale Terrier** - Reggie, **4.57** (*Houston*) 🏆 Fastest **Australian Shepherd** - Stix, **4.55** (*Initiate Impact*) 🏆 Fastest **Staffordshire Bull Terrier** - Birdie, **4.45** (*Rapid Rascals*) 🏆 Fastest **Parson Russell Terrier** - Chewit, **4.41** (*TimeFlyz*) 🏆 Fastest **English Springer Spaniel** - Marley, **4.39** (*Sirius Stars*) 🏆 Fastest **German Shepherd Dog** - Shell, **4.16** (*Paws on the Run*) 🏆 Fastest **Golden Retriever** - Qula, **4.13** (*Monsters*) 🏆 Fastest **Cocker Spaniel** - Teddy, **4.00** (*Southern Striders*) 🏆 Fastest **Labrador Retriever** - Moose, **3.87** (*Northants Falcons*) 🏆
Fastest **Dutch Shepherd** - Kobe, **3.81** (*Tails We Win*) 🏆 Fastest **Border Collie** - Arlo, **3.64** (*Tails We Win*) 🏆 Fastest **Belgian Malinois** - Bruce, **3.63** (*Tails We Win*) 🏆 Fastest **Whippet** - Venom, **3.50** (*Aces*) 🏆 Fastest **Crossbreed** - Fume, **3.41** (*Paws on the Run*)

General Questions:

Q) Louise Sanders via zoom – more a request for iscribe training for in person or via zoom

Q) Vicky Jones – Ring Party renewal date to be added to the website

A) Action – Ellen Schofield to add to the website

Q) Ellen Schofield – requesting feedback for the trial to run 35 teams in 1 day

A) Cheryl Quinn – Too Long of a day and not successful

Q) Abie Mellor – Videos that are posted onto social media that include juniors could create a problem if includes juniors that are not allowed to be seen on social media etc

A) JL asked for solutions to be submitted – to think about the other side too

(discussion within the room)

Action for Abbie Mellor & Charlotte Charles to review.

Q) Jo – Conwy via Zoom – asking if there were any thoughts to equally divide entry between teams to ensure everyone gets someone in

A) The entry system would have to be totally overhauled – JL replied with potential issues for larger teams which could deter them and explained although we have had an influx of new members some of these will become UKFL event hosts in time.

Q) Tracey Seal – Singles racing – If your dog gets a PB and the other side gets a light then your PB doesn't stand

Followed a discussion regarding understanding the question then false starts.

Q) Stacy Brook – ring party not helping with jumps

A) JL With a new member influx some may not be aware of the UKFL way there is also a level of complacency within the membership and social media have posted some visuals to help with reminders.

Darryl Ogden suggested where possible could Box Judges help with boxes when either entering or leaving the ring.

Action for Faye Wildish (social media) – Post reminder for the membership to take the ring party exam.

Sam Bawden states she is discussing with Sue Matthews regarding the accessibility options for members for the ring party exam.

Q) Hayley Bonwick via zoom – Points issue marked as N/T

A) Needs to raise via committee then can look at the raw data

A) JL explains that this is an educating scenario and general learning for iscribe which goes hand in hand with the discussion for updating the exam.

Hayley followed up with – Scribe highlighting the correct dog – iscribe user issue.

A) Ellen Schofield replied – She thinks Des has inputted a new code to help with missed data.

Hayley followed further with specific queries.

A) JL replied addressing the procedure of the committee regarding rectifying issues

Thank you to our Committee Members:

Darryl Ogden, Charlotte Busi and Lynnette Treadwell-Jones

Committee Nominations:

Lynnette Treadwell-Jones

Lucy Gourlay

Richard Porter

Abbie Mellor

Sarah Bailey

There are 4 committee seats available due to CQ now on the Board.

New Committee Members

Abbie Mellor

Lucy Gourlay

Richard Porter

Sarah Bailey

****Close 3.08pm****

Minutes prepared by: Lynnette Treadwell-Jones

Date: 24th February 2024

Agreed by the Board:

Date: 14th March 2024