

MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING

joint committees of the

FEDERATION OF BRITISH GREYHOUND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION GREYHOUND TRAINERS ASSOCIATION BRITISH GREYHOUND BREEDERS FORUM

Held on 30th June 2011 at the Reigate Manor Hotel

In attendance: J. Haynes, (*Chairman*), R. Gilling, A. Hammond, J. Simpson, N. McEllistram (delayed in traffic)
J. Waldron, (*Hon Secretary*).

- 1) Apologies: None.
- 2) Minutes of the previous meeting: were taken as read, subject to the amendment below.

Under item 4 this item should not have referred to the initiative of Mr. Livesey regarding his British Breeders awareness race meetings as his "fronting an organisation". Our latest understanding of this development is that the proposed meetings are his individual response to a reduction in the British greyhound breeding scene. The amended version of this item should read as follows: "There was a discussion regarding Mr. Mick Livesey, who, apparently is in receipt of funding and is going ahead with a series of fund-raising and awareness races at Newcastle and Sittingbourne. The committee though not in complete agreement with the aims and objectives of Mr. Livesey would watch this initiative with interest."

- 3) Matters arising: the new guidelines regarding the taking of a urine sample upon the marking up of a new greyhound was raised in respect of unraced puppies where it is often impossible within time constraints to obtain such a sample due to the novelty and inexperience of the puppy attending the race track perhaps for the first time. In such circumstances it was agreed that the taking of a sample in these circumstances should be at the discretion of the Racing Manager or Senior Paddock Steward.

With regard to the proposed combined website, the Secretary circulated a draft Home Page which was approved by the committee and the Secretary was given the go-ahead to proceed with the development including the reproduction of profiles of the committee for which greyhound scene photographer, Steve Nash would be contacted as he was likely to have the members on file.

- 4) GBGB Practitioner's Report: the Chairman reviewed developments in relation to committees and other meetings which he had attended in his role of Practitioner, together with dates of forthcoming meetings which involved members of this committee.

The Chairman circulated a paper for discussion highlighting the need for new greyhound owners and significant extra prize money to attract fresh ownership. In this respect the practitioner would be asking for a significant proportion of any new money becoming available. During the course of this discussion, Bob Gilling reported that registrations were down, so far this year by 450 compared with a similar period in 2010. Norah McEllistram stated that without an influx of new owners, trainers will be in worse financial difficulties than some are, at present. Also, within this heading, the Secretary reported upon an audit of race cards at GBGB which he had attended with John Simpson and others on 13 June.

- 5) Any Other Business: Bob Gilling reminded members of the Greyhound Breeders Festival on 11th September at Harlow. Members agreed to attend subject to commitments with regard to racing elsewhere.
- 6) The Next Meeting: Thursday 8th September 2011.

The meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

J.L.Waldron,
Hon. Secretary.

