

FEDERATION OF BRITISH GREYHOUND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION
(FBGOA)

Minutes of the annual general meeting held at Oxford Stadium
on Sunday 10th June 2012.

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1. Apologies were received from Kinsley and Terry Veasey (Hall Green).
 2. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
 3. Matters Arising: C/f from item 7 of the previous meeting, Paul Koller outlined the current situation at Belle Vue in respect of the Owners' Association with particular reference to the retired greyhound branch which had been a concern. His comments were favourable in that connection and were endorsed by the Chairman who had visited the retirement kennels used by the track and found them to be well run and satisfactory.

The combined website www.cagro-greyhounds.co.uk had now been established and was working well.

An audit of race cards with particular reference to BGRF additional PM took place during the year with particular reference to the early months of the Owners Bonus Series. Track managements are now required to submit spread sheets showing how this added PM had been distributed and how the carry forward was being managed.

4. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer presented his statement of income and expenditure and balance sheet. The cost of our support for *Greyhound Star* was being a feature. It was agreed to continue funding the cost of the FBGOA pages. It was agreed to make a contribution towards the cost of setting up a "Save Wimbledon" campaign.

Subscriptions reached an all time high in 2010 with 20 of the 25 licensed tracks subscribing. There had been some changes to the personnel of owners' committees at tracks which had resulted in administration and continuity problems in places for the collection of subscriptions resulting in renewals being slightly down for 2012. The Chairman would speak to those responsible for renewing lapsed members and others when visiting tracks in the course of his business. The Secretary was instructed to apply for the Federation's draw-down from its budget allowance. The accounts were approved.

5. (a) The Chairman gave a verbal account covering the period under review, being on the Boards of both GBGB and BGRF as it affected his role as Practitioner for the stakeholders and in particular, his input on behalf of owners and trainers in respect of keeping costs to a minimum and prize money at a maximum, consistent with funding available. During the period there had been some important changes to personnel at GBGB. The head of the Regulation Board is now Mr. Tom Shields and Mr. Akim Vilmaz has been appointed Secretary of GBGB in place of Richard Hayler. Our Chairman has been appointed to the Budget Committee and in this connection he was requested to outline to the meeting his other committee commitments as follows: Trainers Assistance Fund, Budget, Welfare, and Racing Committees in addition to his Board appointments GBGB, BGRF and a trustee of the RGT.

With reference to PM, the Owners Bonus Series had proved highly popular and would be continued throughout 2012. In respect of any extra PM becoming available before the year end, the Practitioner would lobby for a percentage to be always allocated to PM.

(b) The CAGRO (Combined Associates Greyhound Racing Organisation) committee had now held its 17th meeting. Set up to receive information and changes to matters of racing, to discuss and advise the Practitioner on responses to such changes coming down from GBGB. Minutes of all these meetings are published on www.cagro-greyhounds.co.uk.

(c) Members were brought up-to-date on the situation at Wimbledon, London's only remaining track with a London postcode. This track is the subject of a development scheme which does not include a stadium facility for greyhound racing. A committee has been established to make local businesses, residents, local councillors and politicians aware of this major threat to the home of the Greyhound Derby and racing in London generally. The Wimbledon GOA is working closely with the "Save Wimbledon" committee and has two members on the newly formed rescue group.

A fund has been established by opening a bank account "We Want Wimbledon" and donations are being received. It was proposed and passed that FBGOA should make a donation to this fund whose Secretary/Treasurer is J.L.Waldron. JLW went on to say that letters he had sent to GBGB, Merton Planning (twice), Merton's Mayor and the local M.P. on behalf of WGOA remained unanswered and un-acknowledged on this matter, which was disappointing.

6. Election of Officers and Committee: There being no resignations or new nominations, the Officers and Committee existing, being willing to stand for another term, were re-elected en bloc, (the Chairman having been elected in 2010 for a 3 year term under the rules of the Federation's constitution) the committee consists as follows:

Chairman:	John Haynes
Vice-Chairman:	Terry Veasey
Secretary:	John Waldron
Treasurer:	John Alcock
Committee:	Bob Gilling, Paul Koller, John Simpson
President:	Arthur Hammond.

7. A.O.B. Bob Gilling stated that the Breeders Festival would take place at Harlow on 23rd September.

Committee member John Simpson had put himself forward as a candidate and there would be at least one other candidate yet to be named.

Arthur Hammond thanked the Chairman for his endeavours on behalf of the FBGOA during the year, who in turn, thanked the Secretary for his diligence and attention to detail.

Thanks were also made to John Alcock for organising the arrangements, the Secretary would also write to the General Manager of Oxford Stadium thanking her for its hospitality. The Treasurer would enclose a donation towards the retired greyhound fund there.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

J.L.W.