

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Chairman's joint sub-committee of the
FEDERATION OF BRITISH GREYHOUND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION
AND
BRITISH GREYHOUND BREEDERS FORUM

Held on 4th November 2013 at the Reigate Manor Hotel

In attendance: J. Haynes (*Chairman*), R. Gilling, J. Simpson, A. Matthews, J. Waldron (*Hon. Secretary*).

- 1) Apologies: A. Hammond (indisposed).
- 2) Minutes of the previous meeting: Taken as read.
- 3) Matters arising: There was no matter arising.
- 4) GBGB Practitioner's Report: The Chairman had brought the committee up-to-date with published details on matters of current interest.

Since the previous meeting the estimate of income to BGRF from the Voluntary Levy has been downgraded from £8.2m to £7.4m. In addition support for televised greyhound racing needs additional funding. There will need to be cuts made to stakeholders' budgets submitted for 2014. The Practitioner will resist cuts to prize money but may face stiff opposition to this stance from fellow committee stakeholders.

The committee welcomed the new GBGB rule about social forums statements which are designed to undermine, abuse or defame certain individuals working for the good of the Sport, many of whom being unpaid voluntary persons. There will also be a tightening-up of leaked information of a sensitive nature from committees.

A review of greyhound funding and use of resources is to be undertaken by Deloitte, a firm of City analysts which has expertise in this area. An Owners' Survey Working Party is being formed to produce a report on the recent survey of owners' opinions.

The Chairman is to produce and publish a document of achievements and benefits he has been involved in his capacity as Practitioner on the Boards of GBGB/BGRF with particular reference to the help to trainers facing difficult circumstances.

The committee noted a call for non-co-operation by GTA (GOBATA) if they do not obtain representation on certain committees within GBGB.

Personnel changes on committees and greyhound registrations (80 down on last year) was discussed, also the offshore betting situation as it affected greyhound finances.

- 5) W W W Matters: The Wimbledon / Oxford situations were discussed, in particular the funding of professional legal advice for Oxford. At Wimbledon the WWW letter to Eric Pickles M.P. was read out which complained of a possible breach of protocol by Merton Council in allowing AFC Wimbledon to miss the deadline by submitting late development proposals prior to their submission to the GLA Strategic Planning Dept.
- 6) Any Other Business: The GBGB Annual Presentations for 2013 will be held in Manchester on 26th January 2014 details are not yet to hand.
- 7) The Next Meeting: Monday 9th December 2013. The meeting closed at 12.15 p.m.

J.L.Waldron, *Hon. Secretary*.