# Jonathan Bescher

I have been involved in the sport since 2002 when I started with my Border Collie. I ran my Border Collie Daisy, along with Box Loaded and did other various jobs with Go Dog Go! After I became a judge, I really enjoyed judging and let my daughter and wife run the dogs and I just judged. I enjoy being a Supervising Judge and helping other judges out, and clubs with their first tournaments. I have judged in many regions including Alaska 3 times.



I became an approved judge in 2009
I was promoted to Supervising Judge in 2017.
I was Judge of the Year in 2017 and 2023.
NAFA Board Member 2019 - 2025
NAFA Judges Committee - 2017 - Current
Chair NAFA Judges Committee - 2019 - 2025
NAFA Rules Committee - 2019 - 2025
NAFA Technology Committee - 2023 - Current
NAFA COI Committee - 2022 - 2025
I have been the CanAm Gift Basket Exchange Coordinator for many years.

**1. Why are you interested in serving on the NAFA Board?**
While it was hard the first time I did it, I enjoyed giving back to the sport and helping out where needed. Not running a dog, but seeing and helping tournaments run give me a different perspective that most people don't get. I have no bias on certain things because of that. My goal is to make it fair for all competitors and to keep the sport enjoyable for everyone, including the Junior Participants.

**2. What are you most excited about for NAFA's future?**
The growth of the sport. I was on the board during COVID and seeing the sport lose competitors was tough. It has been nice to see it gain traction again. We just need to find venues that are big enough and cheap enough so the host clubs can host tournaments and not lose money. Seeing the Junior Handler division at CanAm grow shows us that there is a future and it is enjoyable for the kids.

**3.What skills, experience, or perspectives would you bring to the NAFA Board to help support our members and the sport of flyball?**
I am fairly technical and know a lot about the EJS and hopefully the latest version of the EJS. I am one of the people that gets called when there are issues with the EJS. Being on the board for 6 year allows me to get right back into it without any onboarding needed. I bring the perspective of the judges side, and how to make tournaments run smoother, without stressing the people or the dogs. I am always available to answer questions from the judges or just competitors about the rules or anything else about Flyball.

# Cindy Henderson




Cindy Henderson first competed in a flyball tournament in July of 2000. She is the owner of Wicked Runners flyball club (Region 13) who has hosted many tournaments over the years including the Westminster Kennel Club Flyball Tournament. Cindy is a NAFA Supervising Judge and previously served as the Region 13 Regional Director and on the NAFA Board (2020 – 2025).

Cindy resides in MA with her 3 dogs, Gehrig (border collie), Maris (border collie), and Yogi (border/whippet).

**1. Why are you interested in serving on the NAFA Board?**
I had the honor to serve in the past and really enjoyed my time learning more about the inner workings of NAFA, meeting great people, and helping to make some changes to improve how NAFA works and serves the flyball community. I would like to get back to work and help bring the organization forward and help it grow. I have recently semi-retired and now have more time available to focus on NAFA initiatives. I would like to ensure that the voices of smaller regions and smaller teams are heard so we can make improvements that help as many as possible.

**2. What are you most excited about for NAFA's future?**
There is much to be excited about. It was great to see so many new clubs make it into the CanAm Invitational rounds and at CanAm in general. That shows me that the sport is growing. But we need to do more as there are still regions that are struggling, so helping the smaller regions grow is something I am excited to discuss and bring forward ideas that could help. The work that is ongoing for the technology is exciting to see progressing and I look forward to further advancements and releases. The exposure that flyball is getting through the live streaming on AKC TV and the Westminster event for example is fantastic. We need to continue to increase the exposure of the sport.

**3. What skills, experience, or perspectives would you bring to the NAFA Board to help support our members and the sport of flyball?**
I am from Region 13 which is a small region that has struggled post COVID. I would like to bring forward the perspective of regions like this so NAFA can work with the region to address the challenges they face and help them find ways to grow.
I had 2 components to my career – Data Management and Sales and Marketing that I believe can be useful to NAFA.

1. Data Management – I was a Data Manager in the pharmaceutical / biotech world early in my career and this shaped a lot of my interests. I love analyzing data to identify trends and gain insights. I would love to work with others to dig into our data to gain insights on our financials to facilitate better decision making around spending and budgets. Also better understanding exactly where we are growing and shrinking will could provide learnings that could help us grow.
2. Sales and Marketing – I developed and led a team that helped the organization grow approximately 500% over a 10 year period. I would like to bring these skills forward to help NAFA grow. A new website, which is in development, and improving our social media presence with more exciting content will be key. There is so much great content being created by the NAFA community I would like to see if we could find a way to tap into that to help grow the sport and the NAFA presence online. This will be critical to gain sponsorships.

I would like to hear more from the flyball community. Not via gossip or comments on social media posts but through actual community engagement. I would love to see a survey done to gather direct feedback on what NAFA is doing, what is important to you as an individual competitor, what did you love about CanAm, what changes would you like to see, etc. I think we need to hear and learn more from the people out there playing every day.

# Leerie Jenkins



I have been playing flyball for 27 years, been a flyball judge for 25 years, a supervising judge for 20+ years, and I've been on the board of directors for 19 of those years. I've served on every committee and was the Chairperson of the Board for 6 years. I have helped put on most CanAms. I have always been on the rules committee, and it brings me a surprising amount of joy.

I run Quicksilver Canine, a dog sports facility, with my wife, Julie, and mother-in-law, Deb. Besides dog sports, I love cooking, music, and playing the bass.

**1.) Why are you interested in serving on the NAFA Board?**
I love giving back to a sport that has given me so much joy. I am a big rules nerd, so being involved in judging and the rules for our beloved sport is a boon for me.

**2.) What are you most excited about for NAFA's future?**
I am super excited about technology in the future of our sport. New scoring and tournament admin software and methods; and new and improved Electronic Judging Systems are just a couple of things I'm super excited about.

**3.) What skills, experience, or perspectives would you bring to the NAFA Board to help support our members and the sport of flyball?**
Over 25 years of experience playing, judging, and hosting tournaments (many of those years also serving on the board of directors) are a few things I bring to the table, when serving on the NAFA board of directors.