

British Flyball Association

Hybrid Teams

Member Guidance Handout

Purpose of this handout

This handout explains how Hybrid Teams should be entered, identified, administered and recorded at BFA sanctioned tournaments. It is designed as practical guidance for members, team captains, tournament organisers, judges, scribes, ring parties and competitors.

⚠ **Hybrid Team arrangements are effective from 30 September 2026. The date was moved from 1 September to allow time for documentation, set-up and communication to clubs.**

How to use this handout

- Start with **Changes at a Glance** for the headline process changes.
- Use the role-based sections to confirm what team captains, tournament organisers, judges, scribes and ring parties need to do.

Introduction

Hybrid Teams allow dogs from more than one primary team to race together for a single occasion where specific circumstances make that necessary. They must be clearly identified before racing and must be managed consistently so that teams, officials and competitors understand how the entry affects paperwork, race administration, times, records and awards.

Each active primary team will have two Hybrid Team identifiers available: one for Hybrid Open and one for Hybrid Multibreed. These identifiers use the primary team TRN with the suffix **HO** for Hybrid Open and **HM** for Hybrid Multibreed; for example, Free Wheelers may use **157HO** and **157HM**.

Changes at a Glance

The table below summarises the main practical requirements. Detailed guidance follows by topic.

Topic	What is changing	When it applies
Team identifiers	Each primary team has Hybrid Open and Hybrid Multibreed identifiers using HO and HM suffixes.	30 September 2026
C2 paperwork	Hybrid entries should be identified automatically where the TRN ends HO or HM; late changes must be annotated manually.	30 September 2026

Times and awards	Hybrid Teams can compete but cannot set official times, earn seed times or hold records. The Stats team will use 99.99 where a seed time is required.	30 September 2026
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SECTION 1 · Entering and Identifying Hybrid Teams

1.1 When a Hybrid Team may be used

- A Hybrid Team may be formed for a single occasion where specific circumstances mean the team needs to combine dogs from more than one primary team.
- The team should be identified as a Hybrid Team before racing wherever possible.
- Hybrid Teams can compete, but they do not set official times, earn seed times or hold records.

1.2 Team Captain responsibilities

- If entering a tournament with a Hybrid Team, the Team Captain should use the relevant Hybrid Team identifier at the point of entry.
- The Team Captain must make it clear to the Tournament Organiser that the entry is a Hybrid Team.
- Where a team changes to Hybrid after entry, the Team Captain must notify the Tournament Organiser as soon as possible, but at least half an hour before the division starts and update the entry to the correct Hybrid Team number. No other entry details should change, although a declared time may still be submitted if the deadline has not passed.

SECTION 2 · Tournament Administration and C2 Paperwork

2.1 Tournament Organiser responsibilities

- Tournament Organisers should update entry schedules so that Hybrid Team is available as an option, in the same way as Open and Foundation are currently shown.
- Tournament Organisers should ensure judges, scribes, ring parties and competitors understand that the relevant team is racing as a Hybrid Team.
- Where a Hybrid change is made on the day, or after paperwork has been printed, the Tournament Organiser must manually annotate the C2 and ensure the judge is told before the team races.

2.2 C2 identification

- The C2 should include an indicator to identify Hybrid Teams.
- The indicator is formula-driven and should appear where the TRN in the Teams sheet ends with **HO** or **HM**.

- If the entry changes after the paperwork has been printed, the formula-driven field may be blank and the Tournament Organiser must annotate the C2 manually.

C.2 Time Sheet		BFA Rules and Policies apply		TO BE COMPLETED IN INK	
Tournament	Insert Tournament Name	Hybrid	Y	Date	Insert Date
Head Judge	Insert HJ Name	Host Team: Insert Host Name			
Team	Free Wheelers	Team Registration No:		157HO	
Captain	Claire Crowe	Captain's BFA Number		0	
Box loader Name		Boxloader's BFA Number			
	Dog	Dogs BFA No	Breed	Height	Handler
1					Handler's BFA No
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

SECTION 3 · Race Administration, Results and Awards

3.1 Judges, scribes and ring parties

- The scribe should inform the Judge that the team is a Hybrid Team at the start of each session for that division.
- The scribe should remind the Judge each time the Hybrid Team enters the ring.
- Ring parties and competitors should be made aware where the Hybrid status affects timing, awards or records.

3.2 Results, seed times, records and awards

- Hybrid Teams may race and their actual race times should still appear in results.
- Where the system requires a seed time, the Hybrid Team should show **99.99**.
- Hybrid Teams cannot set official times, earn seed times or hold records.
- Statistics and awards calculations should be reviewed after implementation to confirm that Hybrid dogs and teams are being tracked correctly.

Key point: Hybrid Team status must be clear before the team races. If it cannot be shown automatically on the paperwork, it must be manually annotated and communicated to the Judge.

Further Information and Member Reminder

This handout is intended to help members and officials apply the Hybrid Team process consistently at tournaments. It is guidance only and should be read alongside the relevant BFA rules and tournament administration documents.

Final reminder

Hybrid Team arrangements apply from 30 September 2026. Teams, Tournament Organisers and officials should use the correct HO or HM identifier, ensure the C2 clearly shows the Hybrid status, and remember that Hybrid Teams can compete but cannot set official times, earn seed times or hold records.