

Rule 2

BRPC INC

RACE BYLAWS

1 CONTROL OF RACES – PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES

1.1 All races will be flown under the auspices and management of the BRPC Inc.

1.1.1 Any club or body of people wishing to organise and compete in a race as part of the BRPC Inc program must seek the permission of the BRPC Inc COM) This relates to pre-program, post-program and during the program events.

1.2 Members are not permitted to privately release birds from race-points or liberate in private tosses if doing so will interfere with birds homing from a race, any member proven after investigation by the BRPC Inc COM to have done so may be subject to disciplinary action by the BRPC Inc COM.

1.3 The BRPC Inc COM (through the Liberation Sub-Committee) shall have entire management of races, and in all cases of dispute the decision of a majority of such BRPC Inc COM members shall be final.

1.4 The BRPC Inc COM reserve absolute power to refuse any entry or entries received which do not conform strictly to the Rules and By-Laws controlling such races as held under the auspices of the BRPC Inc.

1.5 The release of all pigeons at all race points is to be at the sole discretion of the chairperson of the Liberation Sub-Committee. Release information will be available via the Pigeonrace.net website.

1.6 Liberation Sub-Committee.

1.6.1 The BRPC Inc COM shall appoint a three (3) person Liberation Sub-Committee from applicants experienced in pigeon management and racing. One of the three will be appointed as chairperson of the sub-committee.

1.6.2 The appointments shall be for the duration of the racing season – generally late May to early October.

1.6.3 In the event of a member of the Liberation sub-committee being unable to fulfil the duties the BRPC Inc COM shall appoint a replacement (either temporary or permanently).

1.6.4 The Liberation sub-committee is answerable to the BRPC Inc COM.

1.6.5 The Liberation sub-committee appointments are unpaid.

1.6.6 The liberation chairperson shall be responsible for all communications with the Driver/Liberator and the BRPC Inc COM, release details, change of race day or any other matters in relation to the race release.

1.6.7 The Liberation sub-committee (in consultation with the BRPC Inc COM) may change the race point whilst the convoy is traveling or when it has reached its destination and prior to release.

1.6.8 The chairperson of the Liberation sub-committee (in consultation with the Driver/Liberator) shall be responsible for the safe release of the convoy.

1.6.9 The Liberation sub-committee shall consider all events that could adversely affect the safe return of the convoy - this includes storms, tempest, fog, wind velocities, temperatures.

1.6.10 The Liberation sub-committee must always hold bird welfare as the prime requirement and all due diligence shall be undertaken to affect a reasonable and acceptable race result, in regard to velocities and returns.

1.6.11 The Liberation sub-committee are to (where suitable race conditions apply) affect a release on the day of the scheduled race.

1.6.12 The Liberation sub-committee may (following consultation with the BRPC Inc COM) move a race date backwards or forwards from the scheduled race, or 'hold' the race over for a maximum of two (2) days - following all due diligence.

1.6.13 The Liberation sub-committee may initiate conversation with suitably qualified persons in the execution of their duty but shall not discuss such actions and decisions with the general association membership (before, during or after the race period).

1.6.14 A reasonable race result is generally taken as a maximum velocity of 2100m/min or minimum velocity of 800m/min.

1.6.15 The BRPC Inc COM shall provide all necessary suitable and acceptable means and technology to the Liberation sub-committee to fulfil their obligation of due diligence.

1.6.16 Should race conditions be unsuitable, the Liberation sub-committee (following consultation with the BRPC Inc COM) shall cancel the race and birds returned to BRPC Inc HQ. Birds will be released when suitable weather conditions allow.

1.7 Driver/Liberator

1.7.1 The BRPC Inc COM shall appoint the Driver/Liberator from applicants experienced in pigeon management and racing.

1.7.2 The Driver/Liberator shall be appointed for the duration of the racing season.

1.7.3 The Driver/Liberator appointment is a remunerated position. The remuneration shall be set by the BRPC Inc COM at the beginning of each race season.

1.7.4 In the event of the Driver/Liberator being unable to fulfil the duties another Driver/Liberator shall be appointed as the need arises.

1.7.5 The Driver/Liberator shall have responsibility and control of the convoy following completion of marking up to and including the time of release (as approved by the chairperson of the Liberation sub-committee).

1.7.6 The Driver/Liberator shall consider their personal safety and any other member of the release team as a priority.

1.7.7 The Driver/Liberator shall observe and apply current generally accepted occupational health and safety protocols and procedures.

1.7.8 The Driver/Liberator (in conjunction with the chairperson of the Liberation sub-committee) shall be responsible for the safe release of the convoy – however the Driver/Liberator shall not release the convoy until authorisation is received from the chairperson of the Liberation sub-committee.

1.7.9 The Driver/Liberator must ensure that adequate water and feed are available to the birds following arrival at the race point and prior to release.

1.7.10 The Driver/Liberator (in agreement with the chairperson of the Liberation sub-committee) must ensure the birds receive adequate rest prior to release in accordance with the Code of Parctice.

1.7.11 The Driver/Liberator (after confirmation from the chairperson of the Liberation sub-committee) shall release the convoy as close as practicable to the agreed release time.

1.7.12 Objections - All objections to the performance of the Liberation sub-committee and Driver/Liberator must be made in writing to the BRPC Inc COM via the club secretary.

2 MARKING AND ACCEPTANCES

2.1 Computer generated/printed marking lists of Benzing electronic timing systems only are approved.

3 OWNERSHIP and DUTY OF CARE

3.1 All birds before marking, must be the absolute property of, and ring registered to the competitor(s) in whose name(s) they are nominated and flown, and must be flown to a loft approved by the BRPC Inc COM.

3.1.1 A competitor may be one person or a partnership of two or more persons.

3.1.2 A partnership may be located at more than one loft location - in this case, the partnership shall be named for the loft location owner first, followed by other partners - for example Smith & Brown **or** Brown & Smith **or** Jones & Smith.

3.1.3 Multiple competitors may choose to race to a single loft. This is approved by the BRPC Inc COM - for example A. Smith, and B Smith.

3.2 All birds marked for racing on BRPC Inc transporters shall be entirely at owners' risk from the time they leave the owner's hands, but every care will be taken to prevent losses or injury to birds by the BRPC Inc COM and the personnel charged with the transport and release of races.

4 RESULTS, AWARDS, PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES

4.1 Results shall be calculated on the Panache race result system (PRRS) or Pigeonrace.net in accordance with Clause 6 below and the results shall be advertised asap after each race is finalised but not published for 7 days.

4.1.2 Awards, prizes, trophies, certificates etc are to be awarded at the sole discretion of the BRPC Inc COM. Awards may include but not be limited to aggregate points, bird of the year recognition, ace bird recognition etc.

4.1.3 Any prize money for BRPC Inc races is to be organised, controlled, and allocated by the BRPC Inc COM.

4.1.4 All competitors shall be entitled to one prize only in any race, excepting special condition/novelty races. Should no birds arrive home in race time any pool monies to be returned and any unclaimed prize monies will be paid into club funds.

4.1.5 Protest of any race result should be made in writing to the club secretary within 7 days of the result all protests shall be accompanied with a deposit of \$5.00 which will be forfeited to club funds if the protest is not successful.

5 LOFT LOCATIONS

5.1 Global Positioning System (GPS) co-ordinates will be struck and recorded as near as practical to the registered loft position by the BRPC Inc COM and will be done once unless clause (a) below.

- (a) All members who have changed their residential place of abode or relocated the race loft or who have had an absence of two (2) years or greater from the sport are required to have GPS co-ordinates recorded.
- (b) Members can ask to have their loft locations re-evaluated if they believe it to be incorrect.

6 RACE CALCULATIONS and FLYING TIME DEFINITIONS

NOTES

A Release time - Release time is the time and date pigeons are released from the release point by the BRPC Inc Driver/Liberator.

B Corrected clocking time - Corrected clocking time is:

- Printed time of EBSS clocks adjusted for clock **fast** or **slow** variation in accordance with clock bylaw 2.10.

C Hours of Darkness –

- (a) ‘Hours of Darkness’ for each day shall be 45 minutes **after** sunset to 45 minutes **before** sunrise.
- (b) Birds arriving before midnight only: Hours of darkness shall be one hour after the last bird is clocked to 45 minutes before sunrise, race then remains open.
- (c) Birds arriving after midnight only: Hours of darkness shall be 45 minutes after sunset to time first bird is clocked, race then remains open.
- (d) Birds arriving before and after midnight: **No** hours of darkness shall apply.

D Distance – Distance is calculated using the GPS coordinates at each competitor’s loft and the race release point GPS coordinates in the Panache race result system (PRRS) or Pigeonrace.net.

E Velocity Calculation – the velocity calculation is determined by the Panache race result system (PRRS) or Pigeonrace.net using the distance divided by corrected time.

6.1 The winner of a BRPC Inc race is the bird flying the fastest calculated velocity for the event, except where clause 6.1.1 applies. Where clause 6.1.1 applies, the winner is the bird with the fastest velocity of those arriving on the day except where a bird on the second day would have flown a higher velocity with its flying time having been from release time until corrected clocking time (including hours of darkness) in which case that bird is the winner. The velocity flown by all birds shall be determined by dividing the corrected flying time into the distance from the race point to the loft and expressed in metres per minute to the third decimal point. Should two or more birds record an equal velocity to the third decimal they shall be declared joint winners. The BRPC Inc COM may disqualify any bird making a velocity it rules to be impossible.

6.1.1 Birds homing on the day cannot be beaten by any bird or birds homing on any subsequent day unless sub-paragraph clause 6.1.2 applies.

6.1.2 A bird homing on the second day beats a bird home on the day if it would have flown a higher velocity with its flying time having been from release time until corrected clocking time (including hours of darkness). This also applies to birds’ home on subsequent days until the closure of the race.

6.1.3 The City of Brisbane shall be used for Sunrise and Sunset calculations in the PRRS or Pigeonrace.net and the BRPC Inc COM shall determine the relevant agency which supplies these timings for races.

6.2 The time limit for races shall be:

6.2.1 **24** hours for races under 160km from time of liberation and then 24 hours for every 160km or part thereof after.

6.2.2 Distance to be taken from Bundaberg City Post Office to Liberation site.

6.2.3 Earlier if all prizes, aggregate points and certificates are deemed to have been taken.

6.3 There are no race distance qualifications for birds on any BRPC Inc races.

7 MARKING and CLOCKING REQUIREMENTS

7.1. Four (4) competing flying members must be present to be eligible for BRPC Inc race awards.

7.1.1 The members must be registered as competing flying club members.

7.1.2 When tallying up the number of members they cannot be of the same family living at the same address.

8 All EBSS (electronic clocking) banded birds competing in the BRPC Inc race programme must comply as below:

8.1.1 Following scanning for the race, a marking sheet shall be printed and held securely by the club secretary – a second given to the club member on the night. Benzing Live users are required to have evaluation sheets emailed to brpciclocks@gmail.com via the Benzing server.

8.2 No fewer than four members shall be present when race marking, and evaluation commences and is in progress unless a procedure such as Benzing Live Loft Evaluation is available to the club - refer BRPC Inc Clock By-Laws.

9 LINES OF FLIGHT/SCHEDULE OF RACES

9.1 The line or lines of flight and the date schedule to be flown shall be determined by members of the BRPC Inc at a Special General Meeting called for this purpose.

9.2 Such meeting shall be held in September of each year of the existing line of flight program.

9.3 The only resolutions to be considered at the meeting are resolutions that pertain to line of flight and the date schedules to be flown.

9.4 The BRPC Inc COM shall each season draft race programs for the following season to present as a starting point for discussion at the Special General Meeting, the race program will be finalised at this meeting.

9.5 The **FINAL** race program shall be made available to all members at the October General Meeting

10 LIFE RINGS

10.1 LIFE RINGS – BRPC Inc - All BRPC Inc club members are asked to purchase their life-rings from the BRPC Inc, Non-members **cannot** purchase rings from the BRPC Inc.

10.2 All birds competing in races must be rung with solid rings, such rings to be registered and approved by the BRPC Inc COM.

10.3 BRPC Inc rings shall be made available after the 1st May of each year, unless there is a supply chain issue which will then be as the rings are available.

10.4 Before a pigeon or pigeons rung with a BRPC Inc prefixed ring is/are raced by a person other than the person to whom the ring was sold, the new owner must ensure the pigeon ring(s) are transferred through the BRPC Inc ring secretary. Failure to transfer pigeons in the above manner will cause the disqualification of the pigeon from any awards earned in races on the official BRPC Inc COM race program.

10.5 Pigeons rung with foreign rings and purchased at squeaker sales (including Sires Produce sales) conducted by the club, the secretary of the club or his/her delegate when conducting the sale must submit the names of purchasers of all pigeons (plus ring details) to the ring secretary for ring ownership transfer.

10.6 No old life rings shall be sold while there are unsold current year rings on hand. Should stocks of current year rings be exhausted, the ring secretary may, upon approval by the BRPC Inc COM, sell old rings at the same price as the current year rings.

10.7 Life rings over eight years of age cannot be used in any BRPC Inc sanctioned event.

10.8 Any member requiring additional life rings must purchase them from the club ring secretary, no member shall exchange life rings with another member unless the transaction is brokered through the ring secretary.

11 FOREIGN RINGS

11.1 All non-‘BRPC Inc’ rings are deemed ‘foreign’ rings.

11.2 Foreign rings are approved by the BRPC Inc COM if the birds are confirmed as young birds.

11.3 An owner wishing to race a pigeon rung with a foreign ring must register the ring with the BRPC Inc ring secretary prior to the commencement of the BRPC Inc race season. Non-registration of the ring will cause the disqualification of the pigeon from any prize money and points earned in BRPC Inc races on the BRPC Inc race program.

11.4 Birds rung with international rings are banned from all BRPC Inc sanctioned events.

12 LOADING OF RACE BIRDS

12.1 An unlimited number of birds may be entered in BRPC Inc races, a lower maximum may be specified by the BRPC Inc COM on the yearly program for specific specialty races and/or on a race-by-race basis.

12.1.1 A loading plan for the loading of birds on the transporter shall be drawn up using all allocated space in order to mix members birds on a crate-by-crate rotation basis.

13 ELECTRONIC BAND SCANNING SYSTEMS (EBSS)

13.1 The operation of EBSS by any BRPC Inc member is subject to the rules and conditions of installation and use of electronic band systems. These rules and conditions of installation are noted in BRPC Inc Clock by Laws.

14 PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS: DRUG FREE RACING

14.1 A person must not administer any performance enhancing drug to a racing pigeon. This includes (but not limited to) any of the anabolic steroids or corticosteroids or other 'stimulant drug'. Any pigeons found sick or dead at the release site can, at the discretion of the BRPC Inc COM, be sent for analysis. Where any performance enhancing substance is detected, the owner(s) will be held responsible – and be liable for all testing costs and BRPC Inc penalties (for bringing the sport into disrepute).

14.2 Any person found guilty of administering performance enhancing drugs to their birds or being an accomplice to administering performance enhancing drugs to race pigeons may be prosecuted under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulations 2001.

14.3 The BRPC Inc COM reserves the right to have member's birds tested for any performance drugs. As such

14.3.1 Routine tests may be conducted at any time and any members refusing to have his/her birds tested will be in breach of this by-law and will be automatically disqualified from racing until such time as his/her birds have been proven to be free of any performance enhancing substances.

14.3.2 In the case of a clearly positive result all costs shall be borne by the offender. If the result is negative all charges in respect of the testing will be borne by the BRPC Inc.

14.3.3 Medical treatment may not be used as justification should the result prove positive.

14.3.4 Once the test has been finalised and the result established, a copy of the result shall be forwarded to the member/s in question and another copy to be placed in the hands of the BRPC Inc COM.

14.4 Procedure for Sample Preparation

14.4.1 Two (2) samples shall be taken by a minimum of two (2) BRPC Inc COM nominated persons in the presence of the owner and or his/her nominee, one sealed sample will be given to the owner for reference and the other sealed sample will be sent for testing.

14.4.2 Only the authorised test kit supplied by an authorised testing laboratory shall be used.

14.4.3. The procedure for sample collection shall as per the authorised laboratory instructions.

14.4.4 Samples for testing are to be sent by first class post to the authorised testing laboratory.

END.