

Newcastle & Coalfields Racing Pigeon Federation Inc.

www.newcastlepigeons.com

Continuation of December Annual General Meeting

President - Stan Rippon - Ph. 0413 708 203 - stanrip@gmail.com

Secretary - Tony Davis – 55 Appletree Rd, Holmesville. Ph. 02 49 533 260

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Treasurer – Greg Jack – Ph. 0419 127 574 – gregoryjack72@bigpond.com

Location – Cessnock Club Rooms 06/02/18 start 1900 hrs

1. Welcoming of Members – Chair welcomes all present – 27 Members present

2. Apologies – Tim Fairfax

3. Reading of Minutes of 03/12/17 - Annual General Meeting.

The Chair read the minutes to the meeting.

4. Business arising from the minutes.

The Chair advise the meeting that AGM minutes held on the 3/12/17 will need to be amended to say that “the AGM is adjourned till the 6/02/18”, as the AGM financial report needs to include the December financial statement.

The Federation is required to submit a full 12 months summary of the Federation financial transaction covering the period from 1/1/17 to the 31/12/17 and this need to be also reflected in the minutes.

The Chair asked the meeting if there were any other issues regarding the minutes as read, or any objections or issues regarding the proposal to extend the AGM as detailed above.

With no objection raised the Chair advised that this recommendation for amendment as detailed needs to be proposed as a motion.

It was move by Chris Newton that “the Minutes of the AGM of the 3/12/17 be amended to say Adjourned till the 6/02/18, and the financial report be updated to include the full period from the 1/1/17 to 31/12/17” this was Seconded by Mick Watt.

The chair call for a vote by show of hands. Unanimous all in favour. Motion passed.

The Secretary advised that the amendments as identified and passed as required to the 3/12/17 AGM will be done as detailed without delay.

5. Correspondence In/Out

Ring transfers – P Van Cleemput to Brian Walters (*LM-17- 2401 to 2450*), P Van Cleemput to Ann Marie & H Glassey (*Taree City-17-713 to 732*) – 42 Lewis Drive, Medowie. NSW 2318. Ph. 02 49 817 814

Letter to Fair Trading regarding the Annual Return.

Letter from Fair Trading advising that the Annual Return has been rejected as it did not cover the full calendar year 1/01/17 to 31/12/17.

Letter/Press Release from the ANRPB – 25/01/18 – regarding Roto virus vaccine progress, advising the following –

“Dr White is unable to provide an exact timeline for the vaccine to be available, but barring unforeseen complications the vaccine should be available prior to the 2018 racing season. With a second batch of vaccine some 2 to 3 weeks later to provide sufficient supply to meet initial demand. Dr White has also advised of his intention to apply for a permit so that pigeon owners can vaccinate their own birds; as per PMV. If approved this will alleviate the costly need for Veterinarian involvement. Obviously, owners would still need to comply with their club and Federation regulations.

Roto + PMV outbreak in Sydney in recent times there have been reports of rota related mortalities in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide. There has also been a PMV outbreak in Sydney causing high mortality.

Should lofts experience an outbreak of disease the ANRPB recommends that owners have their birds diagnosed by a bird veterinarian.

The ANRPB strongly recommends that owners vaccinate their birds against PMV in accordance with manufacturer’s specifications.”

For further information or to read this Press Release in full, or to access other information please log onto the following web address - <http://www.anrpb.org>

6. Treasurer’s report

The Treasure advised that he has yet to get access to the club bank accounts, and as such is unable to provide a report at this time. He advised that the President, previous Treasure and himself will be going to the bank to finalise the transfer of authorities to himself as soon as possible.

The Chair advised that the delays in arranging a time to get all parties to the bank has resulted in outstanding financial reports for December and January being delayed. It is anticipated that the outstanding reports will be presented at the next meeting to be held at Maitland on the 6/03/17.

7. General Business

- A-** Judy Bates advised that one of our members Jim McIlroy wife died last week and on top of that Jim has had a heart attack.
The Chair call for a minute’s silence. The Chair requested that this be noted in the minutes.
On behalf of the Federation we offer our condolences to Jim and family on his recent loss and hope that he has a speedy recovery.

Judy was asked to keep us posted on Jim’s recovery, and if there are any issue or assistance required from the federation or our members to support Jim during this time.

B- 2018 Race Schedule

The 2018 race schedule was presented to the meeting. There were a few questions and qualifications in regards to where the Fed point score starts.

This was clarified as starting on the 4/8/18 from Yamba. There will be 11 Fed point score races, made up of 7 middle distance and 4 long distance races.

There are 13 races in the sprint series, a standalone point score will be recorded, but this will not be included in the overall point score.

There was no other issues raised with the schedule other than the sponsored races not being identified.

The Secretary advised that he has confirmed that J&M will continue to be our major sponsor for 2018, which includes sponsoring 2 races and providing feed for the truck.

He further advised that he has yet to contact Rob Marshall to confirm if he will continue to sponsor the Rob Marshall Challenge, once determined the schedule will be updated.

The Schedule is on the website.

C- Racing 2018

The Chair advised the meeting that we need to discuss and form a motion that rescinds or amends the current motion. The Federations needs to clarify its position and intentions in regards to racing this year.

There is a possibility that the vaccine may be available prior to the commencement of the race season, but the impacts associated with cost, administration of and as to whether the vaccine will be mandated to all flyers as with PMV, or as an optional vaccine are yet to be determined.

The Chair reiterated that we have an AGM motion that states that the Federation will comply with the recommendation of the ANRPB, in its current form it is considered ambiguous.

The secretary read to the meeting the motion as passed at the AGM 2 2017 – *“to comply will the requirements and recommendations of the ANRPB and the DPI, and this will stand until either the vaccine is released, and or there is a change in the recommendations from the ANRPB and the DPI.*

This generated much discussion with the members present, there was general consensus that the situation has change since the motion was passed. The issues raised/ identified are as follows.

- The Roto virus appears to have run its course, and the majority of members have already been infected and their birds have since recovered from the effects of the virus.
- It was established that about 8 members did not get the virus and that some of these members have decided that they will not race until they vaccinate there birds. Other have indicated that they intend to fly and see what happens.
- The main facts that were identified, was that the decision not to fly was based on the fact that the virus had broken out in our area, birds were dying, and there was a lot of speculation as to how this was spreading.
- There conflicting opinions, on methods of treatments being offer from the 3 main pigeon vets, created confusion. This inconsistency and differences of professional opinions, as well and numerous individual views being expressed Australia wide, lead to disagreements between members as to responsibility for spreading the virus and how best to proceed.
- At the time the DPI, RSPCA and the ANRPB suggested not to fly, this in itself created confusion and as such added to the situation and the division within the Federation.
- It was agreed that we as well as all other Federation, now intend to race this year unless we are given a clear direction for a recognised legal entity (DPI) not to fly, or there is another virus outbreak that has the effect of making it not viable to race.

Based on the review of current situation and general consensus of the meeting, the Secretary move –“ that Federation intends to race the 2018 season as detailed in the race schedule as posted on the website, unless were are given clear mandated direction by a legal governing entity not to do so’. Seconded Mick Watt.

The Chair call for a vote by show of hands, all in favour, motion passed.

D- Tossing – A question raised in regards to Fed tosses and the Coalfields combine raised the possibility of a separate toss.

The Chair advised that this will be discussed and determine at the April meeting.

E- Race Baskets, Flyer numbers, and surplus availability.

The Secretary advised all delegated that they will need to determine flyer number for each of the clubs and provide the information at the next meeting. This is required so we can determine basket numbers and surplus availability.

F- PMV Declarations

Clubs are advised that the PMV declarations are still required to be sent in each year regardless if we race or not, must be received prior to the commencement of Fed tossing.

Meeting Closed at 2015hrs.

Next Meeting – to be held at Maitland club rooms 6/03/18 commencing 1900 hrs.

Certified as a true copy.

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S. Rippon President

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Tony Davis Secretary