

Newcastle & Coalfields Racing Pigeon Federation Inc.

www.newcastlepigeons.com

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Treasurer – Paul Bettens – Ph. 0403 693 896 - paulbettens@hotmail.com

Annual General Meeting Part 2 - 2/2/16

Held at Maitland club rooms

The AGM was reconvened at 7:10 pm with 20 Members present. Apologies – nil

1. Welcoming of Members – The Chair reopen the meeting and welcomed all present

2. Reading of the previous minutes.

- a. Minutes of Annual General Meeting part 1 - held at Raymond Terrace Clubrooms on 06/12/2015 - The Chair read the minutes.
- b. Moved as a true record by, Bill Collins- seconded by – Gary Woolcott. - All in favour

3. Business arising from the minutes – Bill Collins advised the meeting that since being elected on to the liberation committee he had looked at the Feds web site and advised that he has not been able to determine the duties and or the rules governing the liberation protocols. He further commented that this is confusion and needs to be sorted out.

The Secretary agreed with Bill's concerns and advised that the rules and procedures are currently located in 3 areas on the web site. They being the liberation policy, the Code of Practices and in the meeting minutes.

He acknowledged that a number of the issues and complaints that have been levelled at the liberation has in part, been caused by members not being able to identify where changes have been made, via the meeting minutes, as a result of recommendation being presented to the meeting, from committees that were formed to review and make recommendations regarding the liberation policy, as well as the Code of Practice, regarding the care and management of pigeons.

Tony advised that is unfortunate that the liberation policy had not been updated and reminded members that although not updated, all the changes that have been made, are detailed in the meeting minutes, and are on the web site. He further advised that this all takes time, the work is done by volunteers, and stated that we are more than happy if anyone would like to help out, it would be appreciated.

Tony further advised that at the last meeting the integrity of the liberations committee was questioned, and allegations were made that the committee had acted outside its authority by changing the location and date of the liberations. Tony said, that this was total incorrect and that all members of the committee had made informed decisions, which at times were difficult due to non-favourable forecast but were made as protocol requires such.

The committee was in constant communication with each other, the liberator and the executive of the clubs and combines to keep them informed of possible changes. At the end of the day the Committee had made the decisions based on what we believed would be the best outcome for the birds, based on an assessment of the latest forecast weather conditions.

Tony referred members to the Code of Practice and read section 6.3, this clearly give the liberation the authority to change the date, location and time of a liberation to ensure that health and welfare of the birds are not compromised.

The Chair also reiterated that members must respect and abide by the decision of the committee, and that personal attacks and allegations of conspiracy are doing nothing but creating dissention amongst the members. He stated that if you feel the committee has got it wrong, you can simply vote the committee out at the next AGM. He further reiterated that the committee works very hard to achieve a successful outcome and is a thankless task that often attracts unfair criticism.

Terry Condran took offence to the comments and stated that “you know that was a load of crap”. This comment excited the meeting and a number of heated exchanges were made between members. This was quickly quashed as out of order and the meeting resumed.

Tony Davis advised the meeting, as Stan had been voted off the committee, there is now a number of activities that Stan had performed as part of his duties, that included visiting the liberation sites with the liberator, to determine suitability for liberation, as well as making formal application to the local councils to ensure that we can liberate with all approvals in place.

He also advised that all the website updating regarding the liberations, was also performed by Stan and that this has been done for years and it is vital that this continues.

Tony Davis suggested that the members consider increasing the liberation committee to 4 members, if past this would allow Stan to continue to undertake the additional activities as described previously, as he was ranked 4th in the ballot this would not require a revote.

This was formally moved by Allan Wilmot and seconded by Gary Woolcott.
The Chair call for a vote – Passed unanimous.

4. Correspondence in

- a. Ring Transfers – Allan March to Mick Watt, Allan March to Chris Newton, Rodney Howe to Ian Richens, Ray Walters to Ian Richens, Bob Migley to Tim Fairfax, Peter Van Clemputt to Bob Hawkins, Bob Hawkins to Tony Davis, P&D Fields to Stan Rippon, Michael Martens to Mick Watt, V Watters to R&P Herivel,
- b. Applications to join the Fed from Ray Wesche, Richard Jones, Kevin Macintosh and Mark Johnson. To be dealt with in general Business
- c. Letter from Anton Maas re transport proposal/option for proposed 700 mile race in 2017 - To be dealt with in general Business

5. Correspondence out – Nil

6. Audit Report

The independent audit report, prepared by Malcolm Clements, of the Federations financial accounts for the year ending 30/11/2015 was tabled by the Treasurer.

The auditor advised in the report that he is satisfied that the accounts as audited “show a true and fair analysis of the Federations financial position as at the 30/11/15”. Please see web site or copy of complete audit report.

The Chair asked that the audit report as presented be moved as a true and correct record – Moved by Gary Woolcott, seconded by Alan Wilmont

7. Treasurer’s report

The Treasurer presented a statement of the clubs accounts.

As at the 31/01/2016 Main Fed Operating Account – December - January

<u>Opening Balance 01/12/15</u>	<u>\$ 11,570.91</u>
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Receipts/ Income December

Raffle Sales	\$ 132.00
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9. Surplus Liberation

It was proposed that the surplus bird be liberated with the race birds. Moved by Bill Collins, Seconded by Terry Condran. The Chair call for a vote, 18 for 2 against – Passed

10. Cost of surplus birds.

It was discussed that due to the number of flyer this year it is expected that there will be very limited surplus baskets available. Tony Davis advise that until the number of flyers are confirmed the allocation to the clubs could not be determined.

It was discussed that as the surplus bird will be liberated with race birds each club will need to ensure that any spare capacity that is available in the race baskets be offered for surplus. I was noted that there may be some issues with determine surplus availability prior to basketing and suggested that the clubs must manage the utilisation of surplus, to give fair access to all.

If clubs do not required, or are not planning to use there allocated surplus baskets, they are requested to notify the Fed Secretary as early as possible, so this may be offered to another club.

Paul Bettons suggested that we change from charging by the basket to per bird charge. This was then moved by Paul that each bird sent as surplus will be charged at \$0.50. Seconded by Chris Newton.

The Chair call for a vote - 18 for 2 against. Passed

9. Proposed 700 Mile Race for 2017

Tony Davis advised the meeting that there has been a number of members and flyers from other Federation two have expression interest in the race.

He advised that he had received a letter from Anton Maas where he had contact the airport and has provides a draft cost annalist to send bird by air, as opposed to sending the birds via vehicle.

Anton has done some good work in providing the information. Tony advised that he will prepare a proposal prior to the end of the year which will detail the anticipated cost of self-funding the race and that he will be chasing some sponsorship. In the meant time if any once has any ideas or wish to provide some sponsorship please contact the Secretary.

10. Proposed Restructuring the Fed Boundaries

The Secretary advised the meeting the that he believe that we will need to form a committee to prepare a proposal that will look at the current structure of the fed boundaries, as well as also look at other issue that may prepare us for the years ahead.

With the numbers of flyer dropping we need to consider what may be the best way to structure the Federation to move with the times.

It is proposed that the committee will form, then set and agenda and progressively report to the Federation as proposal are prepared for consideration.

Note 1 - Members were reminded that the PVM declaration is required to be provide to the fed secretary confirming that the birds have been vaccinated, prior to being eligible to fly.

Note 2 – Club Secretaries are to provide a list of all fed race baskets held at each club. This will be required annually.

Next Meeting – To be held at Adamstown club rooms on Tuesday 1/03/16

Meeting Closed at 8:45 pm.

Certified as a true copy.

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S. Rippon President

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Tony Davis Secretary

