

**Newcastle & Coalfields Racing Pigeon Federation Inc.**

**[www.newcastlepigeons.com](http://www.newcastlepigeons.com)**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Location Lake Macquarie Sunday 3/12/17**

**President - Stan Rippon - Ph. 0413 708 203 - [stanrip@gmail.com](mailto:stanrip@gmail.com)**

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

**Mobile – 0438 244 061 Email – [anthony.davis100@outlook.com](mailto:anthony.davis100@outlook.com)**

**Treasurer – Greg Jack – Ph. 0419 127 574 – [gregoryjack72@bigpond.com](mailto:gregoryjack72@bigpond.com)**

**To start 9:30 am**

**1. Welcoming of Members** - The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting and advised the members that we will deal with the outstanding issues and reports prior to the commencement of the AGM.

**2. Apologies** - Joe Howson, Peter Edmans, Bob Hawkins

**3. Presidents Report** - The Chair provide an overview of the year past and commented on the number of challenges that both the Fed and all members have had to face, Roto Virus, differences of opinions regarding racing, transmission of the virus, use of the poo vac etc. These have been trying time for us all and we need to but the past behind and get on with racing pigeons. This will not be easy as there are a number unknowns in regard to the availability and cost of the vaccine, that hopefully will resolved in the New Year.

He paid tribute to the committee who have all worked hard to keep the Fed functioning and thanked Peter Field for the ongoing efforts in maintaining and looking after the truck.

The Chair also thank Paul Bettons for his tireless efforts in maintaining the clubs financial accounts, as well as his efforts in setting up electronic banking, and diligently maintaining accurate computer records of all the Fed's transaction and accounts. The chair advised the meeting that Paul will not be standing this year of any positions, and has officially retired from the sport due to health reasons. Thank you again for you efforts.

**4. Secretaries Report** - The Secretary reiterated a number of the comments from the chair, and advised members that the Roto virus had a big impact on racing and on individuals who suffered big losses.

This had not only divided our Fed, but had created similar confusion and division across the entire Australian pigeon race sport. There has been a lot of chatter, gossip and personal attacks that have been placed on the various web site and forums, which were posted on the heat of the moment, and in hindsight would have been best been not said, as all this has done is air the dirty washing for all to see.

He advise that between now and our proposed race start date there will be a number of challenges the Fed will face, that will be require all of us to act responsibility. One of the biggest changes that is coming is the nation code of practice that is currently released as a draft. The other is the \ release of the Roto vaccine, the cost of such is unknown at this stage, as is how and when it will be release. Other question that there are no answers for at

this stage are, will previously affect birds break down once put under stress of racing, will the young birds become infected, will this just die out, or will this affect us every year from now on. These are some of the issues we have at this point where we don't have any answers.

I closing he urged all members to read the draft code of practice to gain and understanding of what is being propose, if they have any concern or issues, raised them with your delegates or direct to the executive so we can represent concerns. He reminded members that we all what to race pigeon, but no one can see in to the future, the challenges facing us are real, and at this point there are definitively no clear answers as to how the future will unfold.

We just need to deal with issues as the appear, democratically, allow and accepting that all members are all entitled to a point of view, individual views or questions this must be put forward without creating division or be taken personal. We need to show a united front and hopefully we will get back to racing and have a good year in 2018 and into the future.

## **5. Treasurer's report**

### **Main Operating account 135221**

#### **Period of October 2017**

Balance C/Fwd.	3/9/2017	\$ 3,719.14
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#### **Income**

Donations		\$ 125.00
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Interest		\$ 0.32
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#### **Period of November 2017**

Application		\$ 25.00
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Blue Band Sales		\$ 370.00
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Gold Band Sales		\$ 480.00
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Vaccine Sales		\$ 1,999.00
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Cash c/fwd.		\$ 225.00
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<b><u>Total</u></b>		<b><u>\$ 6,943.78</u></b>
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#### **Expenditure**

Purchase of Blue/Gold bands		\$ 183.00
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Vaccine Purchase		\$ 4,557.00
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<b><u>Total</u></b>		<b><u>\$ 4,557.00</u></b>
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<b><u>Balance as per Westpac Statement at 30/11/2017</u></b>		<b><u>\$ 2,203.78</u></b>
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### **Truck maintenance account 230894**

**Period of October/ November 2017**

Balance C/Fwd. 31/08/2017 \$ 1,037.01

**Period of October**

Transfer from Main Acc. \$ 733.00

Interest 0.09

**Period of November**

Interest 0.03

**Total C/Fwd** \$ 1,770.13

**Expenditure October**

Fuel \$ 129.91

**Expenditure November**

Vaccine Triedlia Biovet (pox) \$ 1,440.00

Total \$ 1,569.91

**Balance as per Westpac Statement at 30/11/2017** \$ 200.22

The Chair requested that the financial accounts as presented be accepted as true and correct record.

Moved – Alan Wilmot, Seconded, Mick Watt

**Reading of Minutes of Delegate Meeting at Maitland 5/9/17 (not previously tabled)**

*The Chair advised that these minutes need to read, table and accepted as a true and correct record, as the Secretary as absent at the September meeting and no minutes were tabled.*

The Chair read the minutes of the meeting. The Chair asked if there were any business arising from the minutes. Nil.

As there were no objections, the Chair requested that the minutes from the 5/9/17 be accepted as true and correct record.

Moved by Dick Archer, Second –, Mick Watt - All in favour

**6. Reading of 2017 part 2 AGM Minutes - Start 10.00 AM**

**The Chair read the AGM Minutes as tabled on the 7/2/17**

The Chair read the minutes of the meeting. The Chair asked if there were any business arising from the minutes. Nil.

As there were no objections, the Chair requested that the AGM Part 2 minutes from the 7/2/17 be accepted as true and correct record.

Moved by Alan Wilmot, Second –, Mick Watt - All in favour

## **7. Election of Officers - Nominations Received**

All positions were declared vacant, the Chair asked if there were any other nominations?

The Secretary advised that only 1 nomination has been received for each position, with the exception of the liberation committee, where only 3 nominations have been received, as detailed on the agenda.

**President** – Nominations Received – Stan Rippon

**Secretary**– Nominations Received – Tony Davis

**Treasurer**– Nominations Received - Greg Jack

**Vice President**– Nominations Received- Alan Wilmot

**Ring Secretary**– Nominations Received – Tim Fairfax

**Race Secretary**– Nominations Received- Mick Watt

**Liberation Committee – 3 Nominations Received** - Tony Davis, Mick Watt, Stan Rippon

The Chair advised the meeting that subject to no objection, he asked the meeting to endorse and accept all nominations as elected unopposed.

No objection, all in favour.

The Chair welcomed all returning members of the executive, and introduced the new Treasurer, Greg Jack to the members, and commented that he looks forward to a successful year in 2018

## **8. Setting of Race and Federation Membership Fees for 2018 season –**

Current fee structure - \$425.00 Race Fees, Application fee to join the Federation \$50.00 and the annual membership fee to \$25.00., \$50.00 levy for flying members, PMV levy \$25.00

It was moved by Mal Clements, seconded by Alan Wilmot that the fees remain the same for 2018.

The Chair called for a vote, all in favour.

The Chair advised that the levels are a one off payment not ongoing.

## **9. Honorariums for Officer Bearers – Motion to pay Honorariums for 2017 and to set rate for 2018**

It was moved by Alan Wilmot, seconded by Dick Archer that the 2017 honorariums not be paid and the 2018 rate is not changed.

The Chair called for a vote, all in favour.

## **10. Race Schedule and Racing 2018 with or without a Roto Virus Vaccine**

The Secretary read the latest information from the board regarding the issues associated with the release of the vaccine. He advised members present that there are a lot of unknowns at this time and that he felt that all Feds will race in 2018 with or without the vaccine. He advised that once we have more information we will need to have a meeting to revisit/rescind the current motion “to follow the direction of the Board”.

There was a lot of discussion as to what may or may not happen. It was moved by Alan Wilmot and seconded by Chris Newton that the following motion: - "The Federations decision to fly in 2018 will be made once further information is made available. The decision will be made at meeting of all financial members.

The Chair call for a vote, 28 for, 1 against – motion passed

The date of such meeting will be determined in due course.

## **11. Notice of Motions**

### **A. Rescission motion regarding including the sprint series in the point**

A Rescission Motion was tabled by the President, as follows.

"Submitted at the March 2017 meeting to be voted at the subsequent Federation Meeting.

The decision at the AGM to "no longer conduct a Sprint Series as part of the NCF premierships" rescinded. And as a result of the rescission, the Fed. Conduct Sprint, Middle and Long distance as well as the overall point score"

Proposed by Stan Rippon, Seconded by Paul Bettons

After some discussion the Chair call for a vote – all in favour – motion passed.

### **B. Motions From Richard Clements**

#### **Motion 1**

That the schedule attached be considered – it has minimal changes to the current schedule that was listed for 2017 but it has several advantages in my opinion and these are listed on the schedule document.

The Chair advised that this motion will be ruled out of order. No objections to this discussion.

#### **Motion 2**

That members bird limits be raised to 30 birds per member for Friday night basketing.

28 Birds for Thursday and 25 for Wednesday or earlier.

Fees to be adjusted by \$50

This will guarantee more income- approx. \$3000 ( and the fed will gain more revenue)- we have less flyers and more spare baskets- 11 Surplus baskets per week will still be potentially available as with 60 members this still only uses 75 baskets

I am not proposing we increase bird numbers in baskets just that we use more baskets.

We always flew 30 birds previously and everyone will have a lot of birds to get away after not racing this year and a \$50 fee increase will be better received then ongoing levies.

This was seconded by Jay Newton. The Chair allow the motion to be discussed. Mal Clements spoke in favour of the motion.

The Chair call for a vote – 2 for, 27 against. Motion lost.

### **Motion 3**

That the federation continues to fly a sprint- mid – long distance and overall average as per rescind motions from April 2017.

The new point system needs to be trialled and reviewed before changes are made and an overall winner is eliminated. This system is designed to help even things up.

Most federations in Australia will be using the new point system in 2018 and most have a combined overall fed average winner. By reducing the races all you are doing is reducing the status of winning the overall average and where do we draw the line- do we just include the 4 long ones in 2019??

This motion was not seconded and as such was not discussed – motion passed

**Motion from Jay Newton** - Jay Newton proposed that the Federation go back to holding only 1 breeders plate instead of 2. Jay spoke in favour of this motion but as the motion was not seconded, the Chair ruled the motion lost.

## **12. General Business**

**Australian National Racing Pigeon Board** – Discussion on Draft code of Practice and the impact on current Fed Code of Practice and constitution?

The Secretary advised the members that the board is recognized by the Government as the pigeon fraternity's single voice. The draft code of practice has been released, and we as a Federation need to provide comment on this, as well as involve ourselves in the establishment of the Boards role and how the board will recognizes and communicate with our Federation.

The Chair advised that the Board needs to encourage, or request that all Federations affiliate with the board, because at this stage our Federation is not officially associated with the board. The latest correspondence from the Board acknowledges that they need to improve how the Board operates and communicates with all sectors of the pigeon fraternity.

The Secretary moved that the members of the Federation support the executive in formulating a response to the code of practice and communication with Board to bring about a formal relationship and recognition of our Federation. This was seconded by Mal Clements.

The Chair call for a vote – 26 for, 3 against. – Motion passed,

**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.

Meeting Closed 11:35