

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

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

**Annual General Meeting - Part**

**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 – 0467 734 091. Email – [anthony.davis100@outlook.com](mailto:anthony.davis100@outlook.com)**

**Treasurer – Paul Bettens – Ph. 0403 693 896 - [paulbettens@hotmail.com](mailto:paulbettens@hotmail.com)**

**Location - Lake Macquarie Club Rooms 7/02/17 start 7.00 pm**

**1. Welcoming of Members – Chair Reconvenes the AGM – 32 Members present**

**2. Apologies - Nil**

**3. Reading of 2016 AGM Part 1 Minutes**

The Chair read the minutes of the AGM Part 1 held at Adamstown 4/12/2016. The Chair asked if there were any business arising from the minutes. Nil.

The Chair requested that they be accepted as true and correct record. Moved by Mick Watt, Second – Alan Wilmot - All in favour

**4. Correspondence In/Out**

Ring Transfers – B Solomon to P Bettens, A Jameson to D Brice, A Jameson to P Brooks, A Jameson to D Archer, W&J Bates to C Rolston, W&J Bates to B George

**5. Audit Report - Attached**

The audit report as prepared was read to the meeting by the Treasurer. In summary the clubs financial position is healthy. For full detail please access the website.

The Chair requested that the report as read and presented be accepted as true and correct record.

Moved by Alan Wilmot, Seconded by W Scherbach, All in favour

**6. Treasurer's report - Attached**

The Chair requested that they be accepted as true and correct record.

Moved Brian Walter, Seconded Chris Newton

Audit Invoice the Treasure presented an invoice to the value of \$500.00 and request that this be payed. The Chair asked for this to be supported. Moved by Terry Condran, Seconded by Mick Watt. All in favour.

**7. Notice of Motions**

The Secretary advised the meeting that there were a number of motion received regarding proposed changes to the race schedule as passed at the AGM part 1.

He advise the meeting that he felt that prior to proceeding with these motions, there needs to be a discussion regarding the way the vote was conducted, he advised that the AGM agenda part 1 had 3 schedules listed for consideration and that the agenda, had advised that there would be a ballot to decide.

At the meeting the Chair decided that this will be decided by show of hands as opposed to the ballot. The Secretary advised that he felt that this was an incorrect process as the schedules were not considered together and as such a number of concerns were raised as to the validity of the original vote.

The Chair advised that in hindsight it would have been better decided by ballot and acknowledged that there has been a number of concerns raised as a result of this decision.

The Secretary moved that as there has been a number of issues identified regarding the previous vote, that the motions as proposed in the agenda part 2, that relate to amending and or changing the schedule as passed at AGM part 1 be not considered, and that there be a new vote by ballot.

This was seconded by Brian Walters. All in favour.

It was agreed that as all members had signed the attendance sheet, this will be used as the ballot paper. Each member was requested to place a 1, 2 or 3 against their name. Schedule 1 proposed by P Edmans, Schedule 2 by T Condran, Schedule 3 proposed by T Fairfax.

There were 32 members present. Vote results as follows - 22 for schedule 2, 3 for schedule 3, 1 for Schedule 1, - 6 members did not vote.

Schedule 2 was declared the winner.

*Note – As a result of the vote the motions as proposed “A” will not be considered, a number of other motions received are similar and will be dealt as one subject to member agreement*

#### **A. Proposed 2017 Race Schedule Change**

*We would like to move that the third Redcliff listed in the approved TF schedule slotted for 23/9/17 be replaced with a Maryborough.*

*Proposed by Richard Clements – **not considered as detailed above.***

#### **B. Schedules and Routes x 2**

*1 - People want to know the schedule pre ringing birds- they also appear to want to fly around the clock including South West. Whilst preferring the North I think/propose that we should fly around the clock to give everyone a chance.*

*Proposed by Richard Clements - **not considered as detailed above.***

*2 - I propose that the Fed fly the same race schedules for the North, North West, West and South. We should only change race points if the local council will not permit us to liberate. I feel that this will stop a lot of the arguments*

***Proposed by Ron Herivel, Seconded by Mal Watters - The Chair called for a vote – All in favour - Passed***

#### **C. Race Schedule 2018 – 2019**

*The Race Schedule for the 2018 and 2019 being North West Schedule's to be submitted in June 2017 and voted on at July meeting. With decided race points to stay the same for the two years of racing. With the unavailability of a race point the only reason for Schedule to be changed. This will allow members to know before breeding the future racing for the next 2yrs.*

***Proposed by Bill Collins, Seconded by Chris. Newton. - The Chair called for a vote – All in favour - Passed***

**D. South West Route**

*I propose that the Fed include the South West route instead of the south route in the future race schedule.*

**Proposed Alan Wilmot, Seconded by Bill Collins - The Chair called for a vote – 18 for, 2 against - Passed**

**E. Fed Point Score x 3**

*1 - The Federation Overall Point Score to start at the closest Race Point to 200mile. To make it a more even for the flyers that are off the line of flight.*

**Proposed by Bill Collins, Seconded by Terry Condran - The Chair called for a vote – 16 for, 12 against - Passed**

*2 - I would like to move that Fed do not have and overall point score. I feel that we should only have a Short, Middle and Long distance series.*

**Proposed by Ron Herivel, Seconded by Mal Watters - The Chair called for a vote – 2 for, 16 against – Lost**

*3 – It is proposed that we maintain the point scores i.e. Short, Middle and Long, but change the point allocated to each race.*

*Current system encourages flyers to send birds that have no chance of homing in race time because they are less disadvantaged by loss of points.*

*The system I am proposing is used by several other federation now because they had the same issue that we are experiencing.*

*Example – 1<sup>st</sup> place gets 25 point, 25<sup>th</sup> place gets 1 point, 26<sup>th</sup> to last place gets no points. (The system can be extended to score more places, up to the members to decide).*

**Proposed Stan Rippon, Seconded by Tony Davis. - The Chair called for a vote – All in favour - Passed**

**F. Increasing bird limits to 30 birds for Friday night basketing.**

*We would like to propose an increase from 24 to 30 birds for the 2017 season for all Friday night basketing races.*

**Proposed by Richard Clements, not supported – MOTION LOST**

**G. 2017 trap entrances and pad positions**

*Every flyer who is registered to fly in the 2017 season is to send a photo of their trap and loft entrance to the federation representative (Stan) to be reviewed and filed. This file will be a permanent record and should be updated if and when a flyer does any alterations to his loft entrance.*

**Proposed by Richard Clements, Seconded by Tony Davis - The Chair called for a vote – 1 for, 20 against – Lost**

#### **H. 1 AGM Instead of 2**

*We would like to move a motion to remove split AGM meetings and that the financials be completed before the first meeting.*

***Proposed by Richard Clements, Seconded by Tony Davis - The Chair called for a vote – All in favour – Passed***

#### **I. Amendment to Constitution**

*I would like to propose that the following statement/policy be included in our constitution. "The NCF fly a cycle spanning from the North Coast to the South Coast including variations between"*

- *No route to be contested for more than 2 consecutive years.*
- *There to be at least 4 routes in each cycle*
- *Each route to be distinctly different, i.e. North, North West, etc.*
- *The Route can only be changed as a one off in the case of an emergency, such as bio security reasons, or an event that makes it physical impossible to travel the route. The cycle to resume after the above scenario and changed route is completed.*
- *The cycle must be completed before starting again.*

***Proposed Stan Rippon, Seconded by Bill Collins. The Chair called for a vote – All in favour – Passed***

#### **J. A Sub Committee be formed to formulate a drug/performance policy. *Proposed by Stan Rippon, Seconded by John Banfield.***

The Secretary advised the meeting that the Feds Code of Conduct had a policy ref section 7 page 8. The Chair advise that the policy need to be updated to identify how and when this is applied, and by what means testing is undertaken

***The Chair called for a vote – All in favour – Passed***

#### **8. General Business - nil**

#### **9. New Member Application**

Doug Bice - application to join Fed and fly with Raymond Terrace

***The Chair called for a vote – All in favour – Passed – Welcome Doug.***

#### **10. – Pigeon Virus update and possible impacts on racing.**

The Chair advised the meeting that the Roto virus has spread to Sydney and that numerous case have been reported. The Chair advised that as information becomes available it will be posted on the web site.

The Secretary tabled a number of documents that provide details of the virus that detailed the symptom of the virus and recommendation to implement bio security requirement to minimise the spread of the virus.

A press release dated 6/2/17 from the ANRPB, was read to the meeting this press release detailed all the events that have unfolded since the virus was discovered. The following were extracts that was read verbatim to the meeting.

“For New South Wales, and the Greater Sydney Federations, the ANRPB strongly recommends that decision makers review their recent decision to proceed as planned with racing for 2017.

Should racing proceed it will undoubtedly lead to the spread of the virus and perhaps the death of 15-40% of the pigeon population of NSW. Particularly affected will be fanciers in clubs outside the Sydney area that currently do not have the virus.

For country NSW it is recommended that strict bio-security measures are maintained to either protect your own birds, or prevent the spread of the virus.”

“Summary:

The ANRPB acknowledges the far reaching ramifications of the above recommendations and understands that they may not be well received by many fanciers. However, the ANRPB is a “pigeon welfare” based organisation and makes recommendations at this time in the best interests of both the health and welfare of our birds, but also in the best long term interests of our sport.

The ANRPB does not have a mandate to dictate to the decision makers of the various pigeon sporting bodies and the final decision making rests with the clubs, associations, combines and federations.

The ANRPB would however, remind office bearers that they do have a “duty of care” to demonstrate “due diligence” in the administration of their respective sporting bodies.

The ANRPB is in no doubt that Animal Welfare Organisations would be most concerned should decision makers not demonstrate such “due diligence” and as a consequence the highly infectious Rota virus continues to spread killing perhaps between 15 and 40% of our pigeons, and amounting to the deaths of many thousands of pigeons.

The ANRPB therefore appeals to decision makers to place the “best interests of our birds’ health and welfare” and the best long term interests of our sport at the forefront in their decision making process with the knowledge that a vaccine for Rota virus will most likely be available well before the commencement of the 2018 Racing Season.”

Stephen Eggleton

Chair – ANRPB Inc.

John Banfield also spoke on the impact of the virus and advised members that we need to abide by the recommendation as detailed in the press release, he also advised that the RSPCA are aware of the recommendations and again reiterated the need for all members to comply with the recommendation.

***The Secretary moved –***

***“That the Federation adopt the recommendations as detailed in the ANRPB press release and also request the members support a levee of \$25.00 from each financial member of the Fed to be paid into the Boards vaccine development fund. All members will have the levee either deducted from the accounts or be a debt that is owed to the Fed.”***

***This was seconded by Peter Edmunds, The Chair called for a vote – All in favour – Passed***

**The Secretary moved - that any member who suspects that they have contracted the virus that they are to contact the Secretary/President so that all members can be quickly advised.**

***Seconded by Peter Edmunds – The Chair called for a vote – All in favour – Passed***

***Bill Collins moved that the Fed monitor the situation and that the Fed keep all member informed. This was seconded by Geoff Garland.***

***The Chair called for a vote – All in favour – Passed***

**11. 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.

**12. Meeting adjourned**

The Chair moved that the AGM be adjourned to allow for the clubs account to be audited, seconded by Tony Davis, all in favour.

**Next Meeting – to be held at Cessnock club rooms 7/3/17 commencing at 7:00 pm**

**Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.**

**Certified as a true copy.**

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S. Rippon President

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Tony Davis Secretary