



Newcastle & Coalfields

Racing Pigeon Federation inc.

www.newcastlepigeons.com

General Meeting

President: Stan Rippon: PH 0413708203 stanrip@gmail.com
Secretary: Mal Watters: PH 02 49660249 malandvel@bigpond.com
Treasurer: Greg Jack: PH 0400941003 gregoryjack72@bigpond.com

Meeting Date: 4/2/24

Meeting commenced: 10.05

Location: Cessnock

Number present: 28

Apologies: T.Davis, R.Logue

The chair, Stan Rippon, read the minutes of General Meeting, Teralba, 10/10/23 and the minutes of Special Meeting, Adamstown 3/12/23. Chair asked that minutes be accepted as true and correct.

Moved: B.Collins

Seconded: B.Walters

Minutes are a true copy.

Accepted.

Business Arising from Minutes: Nil

Correspondence In/Out :

1. Transfers from J.Carroll to B.Walters, J.Carroll to M.Burke, M&V.Watters to G&N.Brown, G&N.Brown to M&V.Watters, B.Walters to M&V.Watters, M&V.Watters to C.Ralston, C.Nieuwenhuizen to M&V.Watters, C.Ralston to M&V.Watters, K.Clegg to M&V.Watters, S.Bailey to M&D.Watt, T.Bradbery to M&D.Watt, Bluecraze Racing to N.Jones, Bluecraze Racing to G&W.Gilchrist, Bluecraze Racing to J.Carroll, R.Herivel to K.Alley.

2. Email from J.Carroll regarding nomination of club rings for Blue Band race.

3. Email from G.Lott asking if there is an application form to fly a 20 bird limit.

4. 2 emails from Taree Pigeon Club: (a) Requesting transport on NCF truck.

(b) Acceptance of NCF terms for transport.

5. Email from Jon South with flyer for Blackall Open 2024.
6. Invoice to G.Jack from Australian Pigeon Company for pigeon pox vaccine. (\$2,092.50 paid with Greg's credit card).
7. Letter from A.Limeburner with his thoughts on the future of pigeon racing.
8. Nomination for bird of the year from K.Harris for F.Kowalski.
9. Application from Lye Lee to join Fed.
10. Application from C.Hunter to join Fed.
11. Email from Alan Long regarding e-ring & Unikon orders needing to be in before 16th Feb.
12. Text from G.Pound via T.Condran to S.Rippon requesting to fly as an invitation member of the NCF.
13. Email from A.Wilmott proposing that the top 10 Fed flyers donate a race team to be auctioned or sold to raise money for the NCF (for AGM).
14. Email from B.Collins proposing that we fly 1 round in future seasons with the starting date being the first Saturday in June (for AGM).
15. Email from B.Collins proposing that we replace the drinkers on the truck (for AGM).
16. Email from B.Collins proposing that we change the liberation time for Taree from 12 noon to 11am (for AGM).
17. Nominations for Fed Executive Positions from:

President - S.Rippon	Vice President - B.Collins
Secretary - M.Watters	Treasurer - G.Jack
Race Secretary - M.Watt	Ring Secretary - T.Fairfax (for AGM).
18. Nominations for Liberation Committee from:

S.Rippon, M.Watt, C.Ralston, S.Bailey (for AGM).
19. Email from G.Lott with 2 proposals **(a)** that we liberate the 5 Bird Nationals half hour before mass and **(b)** that we look into the purchase of a Costco Membership for fuel.

Business Arising from Correspondence:

1. John Carroll be allowed to race nominated pigeons in Blue Band.

Moved: B.Collins **Seconded:** M.Clement

Accepted: Unanimously

2. Stan Rippon to look into a form for persons requesting to fly less than 25 birds so that flyer privacy can be protected.

3. Stan to post Blackall Open 2024 flyer on website.

4. Motion that Lye Lee and Cheyne Hunter be accepted as Fed members

Moved: M.Watt **Seconded:** A.Wilmott

Accepted: Unanimously

5. Application from G.Pound to fly as an invitation member

For: 4 **Against:** 23

Not Accepted

A motion was then moved that G.Pound be offered transport of his pigeons after our members have been catered for

Moved: T.Condran **Seconded:** A.Wilmott

For: 26 **Against:** 1

Motion Accepted

Presidents Report:

It was good to see the full schedule flown in season 2023. All do to the input of the membership. With special thanks to Terry Condran and Clint Ralston for taking over the driving duties and Brian Walters for the liberator duties.

But I can't undertake any comments without recognizing the input from Pete and Debbie Field who for over 20 years provided transport and liberator duties far beyond those that could be expected. Peter looked after that truck like it was his own and in some ways it was. In the trucks life it never missed a service which required Pete sometimes to sit for hours at the Hexham Service Centre or had to rely on family members to drive him to and from Hexham

to drop off or pick up. The countless times they were confined to that truck cab in inclement weather or turned up at the drop of a hat to do the job just because we had decided at the last minute to change our liberation date. I have lost count of the number of family functions they missed because of their loyalty to the NCF. When our birds returned home in top condition you can thank Debbie she looked after those birds like they were her daughters.

Pete was reluctant to stop doing the job but knowing Pete as I do his devotion to his family had to take precedence. I for one will miss Pete's voice on the phone when I would ring him early on race day I would know instantly from his first Hello how the conditions were at the liberation point. We as a group owe the couple Deb and Pete so, so much.

So much work done by the truck sub-committee and the executive when the full impact of our financial position became clearer. It is obvious that we cannot continue the business model that we have employed for many years. Thanks to Richard Clement for finding the time to utilize his expertise. The outcomes of that work can be found elsewhere on this site. We have to change or cease to exist. This applies not only to our fee structure but the way we do things. It's a different world both financially and legally.

Secretaries Report:

Given by Mal Watters.

The 2023 race season proved to be one of the most successful race seasons for many years with all races on the schedule completed. Many thanks to the liberation committee, Stan Rippon, Mick Watt, Clint Ralston & Stephen Bailey who were all prepared to make what were at times difficult decisions. Thank you gentlemen.

Whilst we had no official truck driver or liberator for the 2023 season it was good to see Pete Field agree to drive the truck for the Friday night basketing and then Terry Condran & Clint Ralston step up to get us out of trouble. Brian Walters put his hand up after the roster system for liberator proved to be a failure with some clubs unable to provide. Thank you all very much.

It was very pleasing to see much needed repairs being done on the NCF truck. Thank you to the truck committee for your efforts. Hopefully the truck will now service us for many years to come.

Special thanks must go to Richard Clement for all the work he has put in to get the NCF on the right track financially. Amazingly he was able to get our Fed fees down to a much lower level than was initially predicted. I hope that all members appreciate what he has done for us.

I would also like to thank the Fed Executive for their ongoing help and of course all the members.

Hopefully, if we all pull together, 2024 will also be a great race season.

Treasurers Report:

Given by Greg Jack.

Current Assets	31/12/2023
Westpac Main Account	10,250.82
Westpac Truck Account	2471.8
Westpac Term Deposit	22,785
Cash & cheques to be banked	0
Petty cash float	427.3
Total current assets	35,934.97
Non Current Assets	
Truck at cost	135947.85
Less accumulated depreciation	122353.07
	12731.66
Grand total of assets	48,666.63
Less Current Liabilities	
Honorariums	1000
Prize Money	5382
Truck Repairs	6000
Pigeon Race Net	1600
Total liabilities	13982
Total members assets as at 31/12/23	34,684.63

Moved: M.Watt

Seconded: B.Walters

Race Secretary Report & Trophy Presentation:

Given by Mick Watt.

Mick informed the meeting that unfortunately, when he went to pick up the trophies, they had not yet been done. They have been paid for and will be presented at the next General Meeting.

Bird of the year was awarded to Frank Kowalski for his Black Check Hen CIPC 19 06 which was placed 3rd Club & 10th Fed from Narrabri, 2nd Club & 8th Fed From Mungindi, 1st Club & 2nd Fed from Mungindi, 2nd Club & 18th Fed in National and was 1st Club & 5th Fed from Charleville.

General Business:

1. Motion that PMV vaccinations be made non-compulsary

Moved: W.Scherbak **Seconded:** J.Bates

For: 2 **Against:** 26

Motion Defeated

2. Terry Condran asked about changing batteries in Benzing clocks. Stan to seek information.
3. PMV declarations to be given to the Secretary before commencement of racing.
4. Club ring orders to be given to Tim Fairfax by next Fed meeting.
5. Can secretaries of all basketing centres please forward the number of Fed baskets they have to Mal Watters asap.

Meeting Closed at: 11.07

Next meeting at : Maitland on 5th March

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Stan Rippon. President.

Mal Watters.Secretary.