

Newcastle & Coalfields Racing Pigeon Federation Inc.

www.newcastlepigeons.com

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Treasurer – Paul Bettens – Ph 403693896 - paulbettens@hotmail.com

General Meeting Lake Macquarie club rooms 5.5.15

Meeting commenced at 7:05pm with 17 Members present. Apologies – nil

1) Reading of the previous minutes.

- a) Minutes of General Meeting held at Adamstown Clubrooms on 07/04/2015 – The Chair read the minutes.
- b) Moved as a true record by, Alan Wilmot - seconded by – B Walters- All in favour.

2) Business arising from the minutes – Nil

3) Correspondence in.

- a) PVM declarations from Cessnock, Maitland, Newcastle and Lake Macquarie.
- b) Application to join the Fed from Mark Smith (to fly with Maitland Club) To be voted on in general business
- c) Application to join the Fed from Mal Burke. To be voted on in general business
- d) Ring Transfers

Brett George to Basil Houlahan, Gary Ellicott to Basil Houlahan, Basil Houlahan to Dave Hunter, Dave Hunter to Basil Houlahan, Peter Pont to Shane Brown, Trevor Barker to Shane Brown, G Worthington to Cornel Nieuwenhuizen, Ray Wesche to Wade Pickhard, Ray Wesche to Tim Fairfax, Mick Watt to Alan Wilmot, Geoff Cotterill to Cornel Nieuwenhuizen, Craig Mosca to Bill Guran, Geoff Cotterill to D&S Archer.

The Chair moved, that the correspondence moved to be action as required, second Alan Wilmont, all in favour.

4) Correspondence out. - Nil

5) Treasurer's report

Paul Bettens presented a statement of the clubs accounts for March.

As at the 30/04/15

Opening Balance 1/04/15 **\$ 16,566.80**

Receipts/ Income

Income	\$ 1825.00
Vaccine sale M Clements	\$ 110.00
Vaccine sale T Davis	\$ 110.00

Gold Band Sales	\$	12.00
Interest	\$	2.82
Total Receipts including opening balance	\$	18626.62

Expenditure -

Motorcharge A/C keeping fee	\$	20.43
P Bettens ETag refund	\$	90.00
Truck Insurance	\$	1408.38
Truck Fuel Account	\$	1000.00
Total Expenses	\$	<u>2518.81</u>

Closing balance @ 30/4/15 - **\$ 16,107.81**

Paul advised members that he had purchased an ETag for the Truck as we will be travelling on toll roads on the south route. Paul further advised that he has arrange for a debit card to manage all cost associated with the fuelling and maintenance of the truck. Paul advised that he is cancelling the Motor charge account due to the cost of monthly account keeping fees and the fact that not all service station accepted the card.

The Chair asked that the statement as presented be moved as a true and correct record and that the purchase of the ETag and change to a debit card form "Motorcharge" be endorsed. – B Walters, Second – P Kiem - All in favour

6) General Business

A) New Members

The Chair moved that we consider the application to join the Fed from Mark Smith, member of Maitland club and Mal Burke, (club not nominated at this stage). This was seconded by Tony Davis – show of hands was call for - unanimous.

The Chair to arrange for the new members lofts to be inspected and GPS.

B) The Chair advised that the mapping will change from the "Great Circle Distance" to the "Vincentia Formula". The chair advised that this will have no effect on individual flyers distance, and is a more accurate system of measuring distance.

C) The Chair advised that the first Race Point has been change from St Ives to Parklea due to the fact that this was the only suitable location that could be found within the time frame. The chair asked for this to be supported. Moved A. Wilmont, Seconded by Mick Watt – all in favour.

D) The Chair advised the meeting that he had received a complaint from a Windale Residence regarding free lofting of birds, smell and vermin. The chair advised that he will meditate with the compliant in an attempt to have the matter resolved.

The chair advised all present that the Federation has a code of conduct that must be complied with. The local councils are aware of the code and have ratified our code of conduct. The Chair advised that he has often has complaints referred to the Fed in the first instance, to determine if the complaint is related to a Fed member and to determine if there has been a breach of the code. We cannot support any member who fails to comply with the code. If this is the case, the fed may act via way of sanction or expulsion of the member from the federation. Failure to comply with the code may result in the complaint escalating to litigation or action from the council.

E) Alan Wilmot advised that the spare baskets that are stored at Raymond Terrace have been flooded and that they all need to be pull out and washed and restacked. If this

is not done they will quickly deteriorate. It was suggested that a working bee be arranged to undertake the works. *(This needs to be actioned at the next meeting)*

- F)** There was a discussion on the requirement to have the fed baskets removed after a fed tosses and races. Tony Davis advised that this is a requirement to maintain a healthy environment in the truck and to remove the potential to have mould and mould spores growing in the baskets and in the truck.
Tony reminded members that this was voted on at the AGM I 2012 along with a number of other improvements which were based on the findings of the Sub Committee that was formed to look at improvements to the truck, liberation policy and the healthy and maintenance of bird during transportation. He advised that all recommendation were passed unanimously on the 7/2/2012 and to change any of the current requirements would be a backward step.
The Chair call for a delegates vote to determine if there is support to change the current policy – Results 8 supported no change, 1 vote for change – Basket to be removed policy to remain unchanged.

- G)** Dick Archer requested that the Federation consider putting the start of the season back 1 week due to the fact that a number of members in the Raymond Terrace and Maitland Club have been effected by flood waters and have not been able to train there birds. John Buxton seconded the motion
There was a general understanding for the hardship that has effected a small number of member and the Chair called for a show of hand – 2 for 8 against. No Change to the start date.

- H)** The Sub Committee reported to the meeting and presented the recommendations for endorsement. 9 recommendation were proposed. After much discussion there was general consensus that the majority of the recommendation , 1 to 6 & 8 will need to be taken back to the clubs for discussion and endorsement or to recommend change.

It was agreed that item 7 and Item 9 as detailed below were agreeable and were endorsed unanimously.

Item 7 - Liberation dates - It is proposed the liberation policy be amended to state: - *“For the sprint series the basketing of birds and liberation dates as published can be moved 1 day either side of the published dates if the forecast conditions are outside the liberation parameters.”*

Item 9 - Forecast Tools and Notifications- It is proposed the liberation policy be amended to state: - *“The Bureau of Meteorology Website (BOM) “Meteye” forecast site be used by the liberation committee to forecast and substantiate all decisions to postpone, bring forward, delay and or cancel a race. Club Secretary are to be advised without delay by the liberation committee of all decisions relating to delays and or changes to basketing and of amended liberation dates and times, by way of phone call, text message and or email, to ensure all flyers can make appropriate arrangements as required.”*

- I)** Fed toss will be held on Saturday 9/5/15 it is proposed that the truck will toss at Wyong Race Course and then travel tom Somersby. Pick up 0700 Adamstown, 0800 Lake Macquarie, Raymond Terrace 0900, Maitland 0930, Cessnock, 1000 to 1030. Cost \$5.00 per basket, additional Toss dates will be determined based on demand.

**J) Race Baskets – 66 Baskets have been nominated for use, leaving 18 Baskets for use as surplus. *Surplus allocation is as follows. Cessnock – 5, Lake Macquarie – 5, Maitland – 2, Raymond Terrace – 2, Adamstown – 2, Cessnock Invitation - 2*
Note to check surplus numbers at meeting**

**K) Notice of Sale – Terry Bradbury has a Bricon Clock for sale.
Contact Terry on 02 49 917569**

Next Meeting – To be held at Cessnock club rooms on Tuesday 2/06/15

Meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Certified as a true copy.

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S. Rippon President

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Tony Davis Secretary