



100 years of Pigeon Racing

President: Jeff Sheppard Secretary: Julie Hider

SCF Committee Meeting (8)

held on Wednesday, 2 August 2023 at 7.00 pm

Venue: Fraternity Club Roma Room

**Record of Attendance:** Jeff Sheppard, Wayne Gallagher, Bill Hider, Steve Saywell, Dave Miller, Alec Krkovski, Julie Hider (minutes)

**Telephone:** Trevor Gasseling

**Apologies:** Luca Krkovski

**Minutes of Previous Meeting** held on Wednesday, 5 July 2023 was read to the SCF Committee

Moved: Wayne Seconded: Jeff

Business arising from the Previous Minutes

ACTION 7.1: Bill to pay Kevin Clark for rings. COMPLETED PAID \$2136 ON 7 JULY 2023

ACTION 7.2: Alec to contact Jones Signs for a quote for the truck signage. Alec asked what we would like on the truck signage. We would like the South Coast Pigeon Federation and a pigeon/s picture.

ACTION 8.1: Jones Signs will draft a sign for approval by the SCF Committee.

ACTION 7.3: Alec and Luca to email invoices to the individual clubs and also copy in Julie and Bill. Clubs can pay directly into the SCF account with an EFT Transfer but need to advise Alec, Luca, Bill and Julie with an email of the details of the money paid so it can be receipted properly.

COMPLETED Invoices have been emailed, awaiting payment from a number of clubs.

ACTION 7.4: Julie to email Club Secretaries asking for their numbers again this week so that we can determine if we need to use the trailer. There is also a toss planned for this Sunday. Numbers to be in by Thursday afternoon for the Race and the Toss. COMPLETED – emails to be ongoing each week until the Long Series Nominations begin.

One door clip came undone while Rick was on the road. Steve said that Marciano attached spring loaded. Dave Miller moved that the clip could be welded instead of using pot rivets which can come out before something serious happens. Steve will organise for this to be welded.

ACTION 8.2: Steve to organise welding the door clip with Marciano, instead of using pot rivets.

Moved: Jeff Seconded: Dave

**Treasurer's Report** – July 2023 Treasurer's Report was presented to the meeting.

Moved: Dave

Seconded: Jeff

### Correspondence Received

7 July 2023 – Steve Saywell emailed three race toll notices to Towradgi Pigeon Club totaling \$422.63 (the first race did not register on the tolls) and thanked Towradgi for helping out the SCF in the payment of the tolls this year.

8 July 2023 – Lake Macquarie Motor Inn – Invoice \$147.23

16 July 2023 – Dapto Pigeon Club Ring Order and payment

17 July 2023 – Dapto Pigeon Club Ring Order over payment and \$48 refund

18 July 2023 – Berkeley Pigeon Club Ring Order payment advice and summary sheet from Luca and Alec

20 July 2023 – Woonona Pigeon Club Ring Order from Luca and Alec

21 July 2023 – Shellies-Lake Pigeon Club - The members of the Shellies/Lake pigeon club would like to know the reason behind the Towradgi and Woonona Bulli Pigeon Clubs clocks all gaining a range of 3, 4 or 5 seconds on the 15th July 2023 from the 3rd Caves Beach.

The members would like to know the process used over the 2 nights to set the clocks and how the gaining clocks were read and entered into the system to gain the results.

DEFER TO GENERAL BUSINESS

21 July 2023 – Dapto Pigeon Club Protest

The members of Dapto Pigeon Club discussed the situation that arose regarding the gaining of 3-5 seconds of all clocks from the Towradgi and Woonona-Bulli clubs on the 3rd Caves Beach Race. We have heard that the cause of the variation is unknown.

We decided to protest the result as it appears the affected clubs did not apply the rule the SCF Committee introduced last year and announced in the email you sent on 20 August 2022 (\*\*copy below). Specifically:

"..if any ETS clock has a variation of more than 2 seconds in a 24 hour period then if it is gaining the clock it shall be read "as is" and that shall be the clocking time...."

We note that your email indicated this rule change would be put forward as a Notice Of Motion to be ratified by the SCF members. However, it appears that this was overlooked, as I could not see a reference to the rule in subsequent Committee meeting minutes, and no motion was put to the 2023 AGM.

Our protest is on the basis that, with no change to the contrary after the Committee introduced the maximum 2 second ETS variation rule last year, it should be considered the rule in place this season and therefore should be applied to the 3rd Caves Beach result. At the very least, we seek guidance and an explanation from the Committee on what rule actually applies this season.

DEFER TO GENERAL BUSINESS

28 July 2023 – Berkeley Pigeon Club have a concern about their basket allocation for Thursday night basketing. Our club nominations are 220 birds per week, 23 birds per basket, and you have allocated us for 9 baskets which equates to 24.44 birds per basket.

Are we able to send 10 baskets, starting next week, for 2 Harrington and 2 Crescent Heads?

Obviously, if we don't have the flyers sending full allocations then we don't need this extra basket.

**ACTION 8.3:** Julie to email Club Secretaries asking for their numbers again this week.

28 July 2023 – Paul Gibbs, Australian National Pigeon Racing Board Inc (ANRPB), Thanks for having the info on your websites re the ANRPB "**Ace Bird of the Year Awards**", but as many Federations are now starting to reach the halfway mark in their race schedule I was hopeful that you may place the two attached "**Official Nomination Forms**" on your web site as well, as it would appear already that there are a few birds within some feds that will be eligible for nomination for the "Short to Middle Distance Award" (80 to 550 kms).

31 July 2023 – Rudy Deiner Pigeon Pedigree for the Charity Pigeon Auction

31 July 2023 – Tony Davis from East Coast Long Distance Committee - Please find attached information regarding the **East Coast Classic** from Red Rock.

Can you please table this at your next meeting and inform your members.

I require a response by the 8/8/23, to allow time to arrange for baskets to be delivered.

Thank you and your members for their ongoing support.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Dave Miller: 5 bird nomination and \$5 per bird, Wednesday night basketing for SCF and SPF at Dapto 4.30 pm to 5.30 pm then on to Blacktown, Central Coast and Newcastle. Birds to be liberated on Friday.

Friday Night is Woonona-Bulli interclub - Clocks with temporary evaluations you can't delete a race. Woonona-Bull Interclub to be held at Balgownie Collegians, 126 Balgownie Rd, Balgownie NSW 2519

Begin reading the clocks at Balgownie Collegians from 7.30 pm for the East Coast Classic. Steve to take a nomination sheet and the flyer.

## General Business

**Charity Night:** Louie Picolovski spoke to the meeting about using his House of Pigeons (HOP) Website for the Charity Night Pigeon Auction. Donated pigeons and their blood lines/pedigrees will appear on the website. All bids should be done online. All people who want to bid need to be registered. Anyone can register on the night and bid online on the night. Louie will hook up a computer to show the progression of the auction on the screen. Jeff said all the games will start at 7.00 pm. The auction to be closed at 8.00 pm.

**Charity Raffle** to include canned food, IGBF gold bands, \$500 worth of pigeon products, flowers, paintings, child's push bike and flowers kindly donated by Derek and Chris Louth. Alec and Luca Krkovski have kindly donated 20 IGBF Life Rings for the Raffle. Game of heads and tails \$5 each, Warren Glover is organising a jelly bean jar again this year and Graeme Worthington is kindly donating a bottle of Scotch Whiskey, the closest gold coin wins the bottle of Scotch, and lots more. A photo of the winner of Charity Race with the two birds who won the Charity Race needs to be taken after the race.

**Woonona-Bulli and Towradgi Clocks (DEFERRED FROM CORRESPONDENCE):**

- The members of the **Shellies/Lake Pigeon Club** would like to know the reason behind the Towradgi and Woonona Bulli Pigeon Clubs clocks all gaining a range of 3, 4 or 5 seconds on the 15 July 2023 from the 3rd Caves Beach.
- **Dapto Pigeon Club** protested the result as it appears the affected clubs did not apply the rule the SCF Committee introduced last year.....\*\* At the very least, we seek guidance and an explanation from the Committee on what rule actually applies this season.

The following is the response received from the **Woonona-Bulli and Towradgi Clock Committee** with an explanation of what took place on the night:

***Clock setting for Caves Beach 3  
Woonona-Bulli and Towradgi Club System***

*At the race from Caves Beach 3 the Benzing club system was found to show a gain of 4 seconds on the checking of the club system on the Saturday night.*

*An investigation by the clock committee to determine the cause of this variation found:*

- 1. At the clock setting for the race the Woonona-Towradgi club system was set accurately using the Time.is app on the Friday night.*
- 2. The system was recalibrated a number of times before the people setting the system were satisfied with the accuracy of the synchronization between the club system and the Time.is app.*
- 3. The club system was further checked 3 times during the ringing of the birds and was accurate according to the app.*
- 4. On the Saturday night the club system was again calibrated using the Time.is app.*
- 5. The race printout showed a gain of 4 seconds on the first two clocks read.*
- 6. The club system was recalibrated again and still produced results showing a gain of 4 seconds on subsequent clocks read.*
- 7. The accuracy of the club system using the Time.is app was verified using another time app on the Saturday night.*
- 8. It was established that the system must have been set 4 seconds fast on the Friday night as all clocks displayed a gain indication of 4 seconds.*
- 9. The club has been experiencing some failure with the internet connection at the club and it has been assumed that the setting error of the club system may have come from a fault or delay in the internet connection.*

*At all times the club followed the correct procedure of setting the club system and having it verified by inspection of several members at the time of setting.*

*The system was checked during the week following by setting up a "dummy" race and the system performed as normal with a zero variation. And has continued to do so since then.*

*The club has initiated a verification procedure on the accuracy of setting of the club system with the Time.is app by comparing it with the Clock.Zone app. This is similar to the procedure where the Time.is app is used to verify the setting with the GPS signal as set out by the SCF Committee. The club would recommend that this practice be adopted by the Fed to ensure the accuracy of setting of the club system.*

*In summary the club was concerned about the variation that has occurred in the setting of the club system and has initiated a verification procedure to minimize the risk of a recurrence. The club established that the system in this instance was set in error on the Friday night by 4 seconds. Applying the Fed rule for gaining clocks a pro rata amount of time was deducted from the individual times rather than the whole 4 seconds. This would mean that the members received no advantage to their clocking time and in fact were placed at a slight disadvantage as a consequence of only deducting a portion of the setting error.*

*This club (Woonona-Bulli and Towradgi) has always attempted to ensure the accuracy of the timing systems used in the SCF and has initiated several practices adopted into Fed By-Laws. Our members, several years ago, were*

concerned about the continued variation of Benzing clocks by several seconds. The use of electronic timing should see minimal variation in any electronic system. Our members contacted Benzing and established a procedure that was facilitated by Dom Monteleone where clocks from our club and other clubs that showed abnormal variation were recalibrated. These clocks have provided accurate timing since. We note that there are a couple of clocks currently used in the Fed that show a consistent variation over a 24- and 48-hour period and would advise that these clocks should be recalibrated using the correct procedure.

Woonona-Bulli and Towradgi Clock Committee

**\*\*Dapto Pigeon Club's Protest regarding Set up of ETS Pigeon Clocks – copy of email from 2022**

**From:** [hider@iprimus.com.au](mailto:hider@iprimus.com.au) <[hider@iprimus.com.au](mailto:hider@iprimus.com.au)>

**Sent:** Saturday, August 20, 2022 10:16 AM

A situation arose last week in the race from 1<sup>st</sup> Mallacoota using the 'Topigeon' Electronic Timing System (ETS) clocks where three (3) of these clocks gained an unexplained 17 to 19 seconds. This is well outside the normal variation of an ETS and indicates a failure of the system or the people using it. Shellharbour City-Lake Illawarra Pigeon Club was asked to provide an explanation of how this anomaly arose and what actions they would take to ensure that all clocks at their club were set correctly. Shellharbour City-Lake Illawarra's response was unsatisfactory in that they did not provide a scenario that explained why these clocks gained an inordinate amount of time. It also was identified that the club system was set by an individual rather than with a witness and that they did not verify that the club system setting time was accurate.

It is now apparent that these clocks were not set correctly or there was a failure in the clock battery backup system that caused this problem.

As a result the SCF Committee has discussed the situation and is now directing that all clubs must set their club timing systems with witnesses, that the club system is then checked to validate its accuracy with the 'Time.is' (<https://time.is/>) app and if there is a discrepancy with the club system and the 'Time.is' app then the system is reset or if it cannot be reset accurately the time variation is noted and a manual adjustment is done to any clock affected on clock reading night.

Also, as a consequence of this failure at Shellharbour City-Lake Illawarra to ensure the clocks were set correctly, the SCF Committee has amended our clock By-Laws to cover ETS variations. This amendment will be noted as a 'Minute' and applied for the remainder of the 2022 season and will be put as a Motion to our next AGM for validation by the SCF membership.

The amendment is that if any ETS clock has a variation of more than 2 seconds in a 24 hour period then if it is gaining the clock it shall be read "as is" and that shall be the clocking time. If it is losing more than 2 seconds per 24 hour period then the total variation will be doubled and added on to the clocking in time and that will be the clocking time. No subsequent adjustment will be made for clock variation. All clubs must set their club timing systems with witnesses, that the club system is then checked to validate its accuracy with the 'Time.is' (<https://time.is/>) app and if there is a discrepancy with the club system and the 'Time.is' app then the system is reset or if it cannot be reset accurately the time variation is noted and a manual adjustment is done to any clock affected on clock reading night.

The SCF Committee emphasises that it is the responsibility of club officials to ensure that the ETS club systems are set and validated by competent clock committee people and that the above procedure is followed.

**TOLLS:** Towradgi have been paying for the tolls each week - huge thanks to Towradgi Pigeon Club! This will assist in making the freight cheaper and a refund may be possible for all flyers at the end of the season.

**SCF Truck:** Steve reported that all jobs on the truck have been completed, the water tank is being built at the moment and will be ready in a couple of weeks and will be the same capacity as the old SCF Truck. There are two 20 litre drums with food but not sure if there is enough food if there is a hold over. 50 to 60 kg of food currently on the truck.

Meeting closed 9.00 pm

Next meeting to be held Wednesday, 6 September 2023 at 7.00 pm at the Fraternity Roma Room

### ACTION ITEMS – SCF Committee Meeting (8) held Wednesday, 2 August 2023

ACTION 8.1: Jones Signs will draft a sign for approval by the SCF Committee.

ACTION 8.2: Steve to organise welding the door clip with Marciano, instead of using pot rivets.

ACTION 8.3: Julie to email Club Secretaries asking for their numbers again this week.