



100 years of Pigeon Racing

President: *Jeff Sheppard* Secretary: *Julie Hider*

SCF Committee Meeting (9)

held on Wednesday, 6 September 2023 at 7.00 pm

Venue: Fraternity Club Roma Room

Record of Attendance: Jeff Sheppard, Bill Hider, Steve Saywell, Dave Miller, Alec Krkovski, Trevor Gasseling, Julie Hider (minutes)

Apologies: Luca Krkovski, Wayne Gallagher

Minutes of Previous Meeting held on Wednesday, 2 August 2023 was read to the SCF Committee

Moved: Dave Seconded: Jeff

Business arising from the Previous Minutes

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

ACTION 9.1: Julie to send a copy what we would like printed on the back of the truck to Alec



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

Note: This clip cannot be welded. Steve has now fixed the clip with bolts. The truck doors need to be done up correctly.

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

Moved: Jeff Seconded: Dave

Treasurer's Report – August 2023 Treasurer's Report was presented to the meeting, including Charity Race Summary:

SCF Charity Race - House of Pigeons (HOP) Pigeon Auction			
Date Paid	Won By	Receipt	Amount
11-Aug-23	Kerry Williams - HOP Invoice 54 - J & A Faulks' pigeon	#4016	\$627.00
28-Aug-23	Seafood Fresh - HOP Invoice 55 - Marshall & Gasseling pigeon	#4017	\$300.00
06-Aug-23	Brett Luck - HOP Invoice 56 - Gordon Smith's pigeon	#3991	\$676.00
07-Aug-23	Gregory Kehlet - HOP Invoice 57 - Frank Raschilla's pigeon	#3992	\$625.00
07-Aug-23	Gregory Kehlet - HOP Invoice 57 - Jeff Sheppard's pigeon	#3992	\$726.00
05-Aug-23	J & M Henderson - HOP Invoice 59 - Stephen Saywell's pigeon	#3990	\$1,026.00
11-Aug-23	Kerry Williams - HOP Invoice 61 - Pat Arcelar's pigeon	#4016	\$500.00
28-Aug-23	Seafood Fresh - HOP Invoice 62 - Vince Pedavoli's pigeon	#4017	\$600.00
11-Aug-23	Kerry Williams - HOP Invoice 63 - Rudy Diener's pigeon	#4016	\$2,661.00
28-Aug-23	Seafood Fresh - HOP Invoice 64 - Poi Weynton's pigeon	#4017	\$1,650.00
			\$9,391.00

SCF Charity Race Pigeon Auction			
Date Paid	Won By	Receipt	Amount
28-Aug-23	Seafood Fresh - Wayne Gallagher's pigeon	#4017	\$500.00
14-Aug-23	Fred Zurzolo - Graham Kerr's pigeon	#4003	\$700.00
14-Aug-23	Tony Grech - Terry Sylvester's pigeon	#4004	\$600.00
			\$1,800.00

SCF Charity Race OneLoft Entries Auction			
Date Paid	Won By	Receipt	Amount
05-Aug-23	Poi Weynton & Peter Evans	<i>cheque paid</i>	\$650.00
05-Aug-23	Poi Weynton & Peter Evans	<i>directly to TWH</i>	\$800.00
05-Aug-23	Poi Weynton & Peter Evans	<i>Neonatal Unit</i>	\$50.00
			\$1,500.00

SCF Charity Race Donations, Scotch, Heads & Tails, Raffle			
Date Paid	Donated by	Receipt	Amount
03-Aug-23	Michael Fielder	#3983	\$50.00
03-Aug-23	Rick Irwin	#3985	\$50.00
04-Aug-23	Games & Raffle	#3987	\$1,080.00
04-Aug-23	\$10 per entry x 39 SCF Flyers		\$390.00
TOTAL			\$1,570.00

SCF Charity Race 2023 Summary	
SCF Charity Race - House of Pigeons (HOP) Pigeon Auction	\$9,391.00
SCF Charity Race Pigeon Auction	\$1,800.00
SCF Charity Race OneLoft Entries + Donation (direct cheque to Neonatal SP&T Fund)	\$1,500.00
SCF Charity Race Donations, Scotch, Heads & Tails, Raffle, 39 Flyers Donation	\$1,570.00
TOTAL DONATION:	\$14,261.00
SCF Cheque	\$12,761.00
Poi Weynton & Peter Evans Cheque	\$1,500.00
TOTAL DONATION:	\$14,261.00

Charity Night 2022	
Total Raised	\$12,725.00

Julie and Jeff are going to meet with Danielle Coggan, Nurse Unit Manager, Neonatal Unit and Katie Bedwell, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District's Fundraising and Marketing Coordinator next Wednesday to hand over the SCF cheque and Poi and Peter's cheque. They will take a photo and publish a story on Social Media.

ACTION 9.2: Julie to write thank you letters to donors for the Charity Race.

Moved: Dave Seconded: Steve

Correspondence Received

4 August 2023 – Newsletter from Gallagher Insurance

6 August 2023 – Steve Saywell, Woonona Bulli Towradgi Pigeon Clubs' Clock Committee explanation/response to Caves Beach 3 Race clock setting.

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 reoccurrence. 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.

11 August 2023 – Tony Davis, East Coast Classic, Catering, access to ECC website and Bundaberg Nomination Form

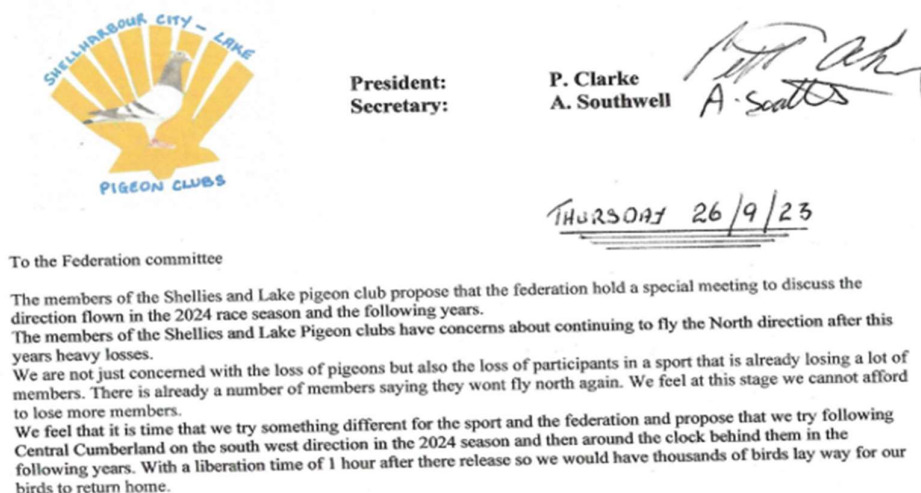
13 August 2023 – Louie Piculovski, SCF Charity Race House of Pigeon's Auction Invoice details

16 August 2023 – Louie Piculovski, House of Pigeon's incorrect payment to SCF from Phillip Gorman for Invoice 81 for \$826 - REFUNDED

23 August 2023 – Tony Davis, ECC Entry Form and other information, please ensure that you print 3 race sheets, and hand the entry from, a race sheets and the money to Wayne Weatherburn

24 August 2023 – Trevor Gasseling transferred \$45 into the SCF bank account from the East Coast Classic.

27 August 2023 – Adam Southwell – Letter from Shellies-Lake pigeon club to be tabled at the next Fed Meeting, signed by 10 Shellies Lake flyers.



DEFER TO GENERAL BUSINESS

28 August 2023 – Andrew Szalai – query regarding freight costs after dropping a race point:

SCF Response: The budget/freight is calculated on an average cost of racing over the whole year and includes all races, ie the first few races are shorter and cheaper without the motel charges and not as much fuel needed for the truck, whereas the later races are more costly. Deception Bay may not cost as much for fuel but we do pay driver and liberation expenses and accommodation for an extra day/night.

30 August 2023 – Tony Davis ECLDRC from Bundaberg - Please find attached the latest information regarding the ECLDRC race from Bundaberg. In an attempt to attract additional entries to the race the committee has decided to increase the overall prize pool by \$1000 to \$2000, and have also decided to contribute an additional \$10 for each bird entered in the sections. Entries to be received by Tuesday 5 September 2023, basketing Monday, 11 September 2023 and Bundaberg Race to be held Friday, 15 September 2023.

4 September 2023, email from, Stephen Saywell, SCF Race Secretary, reminding clubs about the SCF Combine Race Clock Reading Bylaws:

Several clubs appear to have read unconfirmed second day times and loaded onto the website in the race from Sawtell yesterday. Reading a time that has not been correctly evaluated and printed out sets a precedent that could lead to cheating. Would you please remind clubs that there is a clear bylaw that deals with the reading of second day pigeons and that this bylaw should be followed by all clubs. Failure to follow this bylaw has led to disqualification in the past and will lead to further disqualifications if this bylaw is ignored.

The SCF Racing Bylaw in question is very clear:

62d. Clubs are to check clocks at 8:00 PM on the second Day in the case of 2 day races.

Would you please let all clubs know that failure to follow our bylaws could lead to disappointment.

THIS EMAIL WAS FORWARDED TO CLUB SECRETARIES

4 September 2023 – Response from Shellies Lake Illawarra Pigeon Club regarding the SCF Racing Bylaw - Just to confirm that the Shellies/Lake Pigeon club did enter second day times onto the website through text message of clocks as all combine places were filled and these were just club birds for our own club result. However, all

2nd day clocks were read, confirmed, and printed at 6pm on Sunday night. We can provide proof of this if the Federation does require.

DEFER TO GENERAL BUSINESS

6 September 2023 - The Shellies-Lake Interclub Combine will be held from the 2nd Sawtell. It is \$10 per bird, any age bird with a 5-bird limit. We will have our get together on Friday 8th September in the Emerald function room at Warilla Bowls and Recreation Club. Starting at 6.45pm there will be a raffle with multiple prizes, some finger food will be provided, and the loft auction will be held at 8pm. Clocks will be read in the same function room at 8.00 pm on Saturday 9th September.

6 September 2023 – Danielle Coggan, Nurse Unit Manager, Neonatal and FISH Program, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District (ISLHD) – Introductory letter to Katie Bedwell, ISLHD fundraising and marketing coordinator and will be able to help us with a way of the cheque being presented to the Neonatal Unit from the Illawarra Pigeon Association. Thank you so much for fundraising for the Neonatal Unit, we really appreciate your kindness and help to purchase new equipment.

6 September 2023 – Katie Bedwell, ISLHD Fundraising and Marketing Coordinator, email: *'Yes, it's such a generous gift. Thank you both and to your association. We would like to take the opportunity to do a story and share more widely about your donation and the impact it's having on enhancing the care we can provide at Wollongong Hospital. If we can chat a bit more about that day and time in future, we can arrange to have photos and such. I look forward to meeting you both and having this chance to thank you in person.'*

General Business

Shellies and Lake Illawarra Pigeon Club Letter – Request for Special Meeting to change the flight direction for 2024 Racing – Discussion - Dave spoke about how flyers are “getting hammered” once we get to Thursday night basketing. Rings have already been issued for next year. Steve stated that you can't change the direction after the rings have been sold. However, this can be changed if you want to change the two years south and two years north rule in the constitution. First the by-law rule to change from two years north and two years south needs to be rescinded. Special Meeting can be called. Dave suggested that eventually we will only be able to fly to 300 km and put a longer race on later. Bill noticed how there was an hour between the first and second batch of pigeons last week.

ACTION 9.3: Julie to write a reply letter to Shellies and Lake Illawarra Pigeon Club regarding Special Meeting (below)

Re: Letter requesting a Special Meeting

On behalf of the SCF Committee, I would like to thank you for your letter requesting a Special Meeting which was discussed tonight at our SCF Committee Meeting.

We appreciate that you would like to change the direction of racing for the 2024 season and we acknowledge that this year's racing has seen significant losses not only in the SCF but all over Australia and overseas. Unfortunately Rule 5 of the SCF Racing By-Laws 2023 states that the direction of racing cannot be changed after life rings have been sold for next year. All clubs have purchased their 2023 life rings, Rule 5 is shown below:

5. Change of Racing Conditions:

No motion can be accepted for the change of the race direction or race survey method for those races conducted by the SCF (in that direction) for the following year after the 1st July (or when the life rings become available for sale) e.g., SCF racing conditions for 2008 cannot be altered after 1st July 2007.

The exception to this rule is when racing has commenced, or will soon commence, and actions or conditions occur that will make racing the agreed programme impossible to continue (e.g. pigeon health restrictions, fire, government rulings, force majeure). This change will require a meeting to be called of all SCF members, to discuss the change. A ballot will then be conducted, of all members, for approval of the change, as per our constitution.

Also, to change direction, Bylaw 7 which includes 7a, 7b, and 7c would need to be rescinded before the allocation of rings in 2024 for the race direction to change from South in 2025.

7. Racing Routes:

- 7a. The SCF Inc. of NSW shall conduct races on the basis of two years on the Northern Route followed by two years on the Southern Route and two years about alternatively thereafter. As soon as possible the SCF Inc. of NSW Committee shall draw up a schedule of races for the relevant season.
- 7b. Northern Route: To be defined as those race points flown along the coastline north of The SCF boundary with small deviations inland to accommodate a practical liberation from the appropriate point selected for that distance
- 7c. Southern Route: To be defined as those race points flown along the coastline south of The SCF boundary with small deviations inland to accommodate a practical liberation from the appropriate point selected for that distance.
- 7d. Distances over 650 – 700km cannot be practically flown from the mainland along the southern coastline. Therefore races past this distance will be selected from a different direction by the Organising Committee.

So, just to reiterate we will definitely be flying north in 2024.

Truck Seat: Dave asked if a business in Jardine Street, Fairy Meadow could have a look at the truck seat as they previously had fixed our other truck seat. Wayne has adjusted the seat and hasn't had any problems with the truck seat.

ECLDRC Bundaberg – there have been 18 SCF birds nominated for 15 September 2023 Race, basketing Monday, 11 September.

SCF Trailer: Dave mentioned that the East Coast Long Distance Racing Committee borrowed SCF Trailer for the East Coast Classic. The trailer went to Blacktown, Central Coast and Punchbowl Clubs to pick up their pigeons and they all commented what a great trailer it was!

Liberation from Sawtell - Anthony Agius said Central Coast Federation liberate from the park where the Sawtell liberation is taking place and this is where Cumberland race from too.

East Coast Classic: The East Coast Long Distance Racing Committee donated \$100 for pizzas for the East Coast Classic basketing night. Louie Piculovski provided the pizza but refused to take the \$100, donating it back to the East Coast Classic Race. Trevor has the \$100. The SCF Committee decided divide the money into two prizes for first and second. The entry money totalled \$45 and has already been banked.

Sale of Rings – Alec and Luca need a list of SCF members who can purchase SCF Rings. Out of area rings are 40 cents each.

ACTION 9.4: Julie to send a list of SCF members to Alec and Luca.

Point score – Trevor and Steve have had to fix the point score which seems to have been broken when we dropped one of the race points, but has been fixed now.

National Basketing - Basketing for the National will take place on Thursday, 5 October 2023, at Woonona-Bulli Towradgi and Dapto Pigeon Clubs

Combine Point Score – Trevor talked about the Combine point score for the gold bander and young bird derby which are being held on the same day. The gold band race will be the precedence in the point score.

RSPCA - Steve was concerned that an SCF member has approached the RSPCA regarding the SCF Races. Luca spoke with them and they were happy with his explanation of what was happening with the pigeons. Dave said that Wollongong WIRES contacted Central Cumberland and watched a number of their liberations.

Combine Trophies – Combine winners can choose to receive either a Trophy or a photo of the winning pigeon.

Stray Pigeons – Alec and Luca are having problems with SCF Flyers who have not been picking up their lost pigeons. The Committee to send out an email warning flyers that they must organise to have their pigeons picked up within seven (7) days or they shall be fined \$20.00 as per SCF Racing By-Law 43 (below)

- 43.** Any member failing to claim his bird after having same reported to him in writing by the Ring Secretary within seven days shall be fined \$20.00.
 - 43a. All transfers must be in writing on the approved SCF Inc. of NSW Transfer form and signed by both the breeder and flyer/owner by the first main series race of the year.
 - 43b. All Out of Area IGBF flyers are to use the SCF Inc. of NSW Transfer form to register birds. This form must be signed by both the breeder and flyer/owner.
 - 43c. All rings must be registered in the flyers name with the SCF Inc. of NSW Ring Secretary prior to the commencement of the SCF Inc. of NSW Racing Season.

ACTION 9.5: Julie to write an email to all the Clubs reminding them and their members of SCF Racing By-Law 43.

SCF Combine Race Clock Reading Bylaws for 2-day Combine Races – Email from Steve, SCF Race Secretary and response from Shellies and Lake Illawarra Pigeon Club. Clubs should take note of SCF Racing By-law 62d in the case of 2 day races. It is acceptable to print out your sheets at 7.30 pm but they are not to be entered onto the SCF Website until 8.00 pm.

Meeting closed 9.10 pm

Next meeting to be held Wednesday, 4 October 2023 at 7.00 pm at the Fraternity Roma Room

ACTION ITEMS – SCF Committee Meeting (9) held Wednesday, 6 September 2023

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

ACTION 9.1: Julie to send a copy what we would like printed on the back of the truck to Alec



ACTION 9.2: Julie to write thank you letters to donors for the Charity Race.

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