



SCF Annual General Meeting (AGM)

held on Saturday, 1st February 2025 at 1.15pm

Venue: Fraternity Club Sunken Lounge

Attendance Sheet Attendance as per the attendance sheet

1 SCF Life Member, 40 SCF Full Members, 2 Associates and 4 guests.

Apologies: Trevor Gasseling, Robert Elliott

Vale: Rick Irwin, Benny Oliver, Kenny Winn

The meeting was opened by SCF President, Jason Matthews, who thanked everyone for coming to the AGM.

Alan Zahra:

Alan thanked Stephen Saywell for his help throughout the 2024 race season. When Alan asked for assistance to fix any issues that he had with the website Stephen helped Alan correct the problems and showed him how to use the SCF Website.

Alan said that he appreciated all of Stephens Help.

SCF President's Report: Jason Matthews

Jason thanked the committee for their work during the year and said that we have had a tough year this year with this being our first year on the committee and we have learnt a lot. We are hoping to have a better year this year.

Minutes of Previous AGM held on Saturday the 1st February 2024 was read to the meeting.

Moved: Matt Nelson

Seconded: Brent Cavill

Business Arising from Minutes of Previous AGM - Nil

Treasurer's Balance Sheet for 2024 – Paul Barnes presented the 2024 report to the meeting.

Moved: Luca Krkovski

Seconded: Aidan Cavill

Business Arising from the Treasurer's Report:

It was noted that there were only 10 copies of the treasurer's report printed out but there should have been a copy for each member of the South Coast Pigeon Federation.

Iris apologises for the error and will ensure that a copy is made available to each member at next year's SCF AGM.

Honorariums – the SCF Membership AGM attendees were asked to ratify the honorariums for the 2024 SCF Committee of Management for their work over the last year. On a show of hands this was carried unanimously. The SCF Honorariums for the 2024 SCF Committee to consist of:

Number	Position	Honorarium
1	President	\$500.00
2	Vice President	\$250.00
3	Treasurer	\$500.00
4	Secretary	\$1,000.00
5	Race Secretary	\$500.00
6	Assistant Race Secretary	\$250.00
7	Ring Secretary	\$500.00
TOTAL HONORARIUMS		\$3,500.00

Moved: Jeff Sheppard

Seconded: Peter Clarke

Auditor's Report – Steve Saywell presented the Auditor's Report to the Meeting

Ms. Iris Elliott
Secretary SCF Inc

25th January, 2025

2024 Audit Report

Iris, Please accept the following audit report on the financial activities for the SCF Inc during the calendar year ending the 31st December, 2024. The audit consisted of a review of bank statements, income and expenditure statements, receipts and monthly reconciliation statements for 2024 as presented by you and the SCF Treasurer. During the operating calendar year 2024 the accounts were reconciled each month. This enabled easy and accurate assessment of the accounts and their reconciliation with the SCF Bank accounts as of December, 2024.

32. Voting

Clause (4) A member or proxy is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the association unless all money due and payable by the member or proxy to the association has been paid, other than the amount of the annual subscription payable in respect of the then current year.

Review of the SCF Accounts realised that there is an outstanding cheque for \$10,058 that has yet to be presented. It is the understanding that the Illawarra Health's procedure for fund allocation is that any funds, such as these, will only be drawn once those funds are allocated to a specific item. Julie Hider is aware of this situation and is continuing to follow up with the Illawarra Health.

There are also some outstanding accounts for the 2024 period. These are listed on the 2024 Balance Sheet. The SCF Model Rules clearly state:

32 Voting

Clause (4)A member or proxy is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the association unless all money due and payable by the member or proxy to the association has been paid, other than the amount of the annual subscription payable in respect of the then current year.

The SCF has always ruled that all members must be financial T the SCF AGM for them to participate in that AGM and subsequent SCF activities. Exemptions can be made at the discretion of the committee if there are extenuating circumstances.

The 2024 race year saw a reduction in flying members to 51 from 56 in 2023. The nominated bird numbers dropped by 20% from 29,874 in 2023 to 23,826 in 2024. In 2023 the freight budget estimate was set at \$1.50 per bird with the proviso that this figure would be reviewed dependant on the fuel consumption savings anticipated on the new truck. That saving of 35% in fuel costs was realised and the committee reviewed the 2023 freight costs and made a 25 cent per bird refund to the members. That equated to a cost per bird for 2023 at \$1.25. The fuel savings of 2023 for new truck have been reaffirmed in 2024.

The budget freight estimate for 2024 was calculated to be approx. \$59,500. This estimate was reviewed and savings in accommodation and maintenance saw the budget estimate figure dropped to \$55,000. The freight cost was set at an average \$2.00 per bird per race for the season. This was a 60% increase in freight costs per bird from the 2023 race season. The actual amount required to supplement freight costs after fees, sponsorship and other income was taken into account was \$40,500 for the 2024 season. This included a 5% contingency sum for ongoing costs of the SCF. The actual cost per bird to cover this expense was \$1.70. This actual increase in the cost per bird was 36% over the 2023 cost of \$1.25. It is recommended that the committee review these costs (as has been done by SCF Committees in the past) and refund a sum that would ensure accurate costing of racing to the benefit of all members.

The SCF Committee developed a freight proposal in 2008 that was put to and accepted by the SCF membership. This proposal attempted to minimise costs to the members by maximising the birdage on the truck and formalising a budget plan. One tenant of that 2008 proposal was that there would be no surplus. Prior to 2008 the SCF had allowed surplus baskets and clubs had taken advantage of the system by under nominating baskets and then applying for extra baskets as required. This directly increased the costs per basket to the detriment of those flyers that were genuine in their nomination of requirements. That 2008 proposal saw an immediate reduction of 25% in a basket costs while also boosting SCF funds due to the optimisation of birds nominated. Those principles developed in 2008 and sound financial management over the past 16 years enabled the SCF to fully fund the 2023 purchase of a new truck with minimal impact on the SCF member. And still maintain a healthy bank balance.

The freight calculation system of 2008 has worked well since that time and has seen the SCF freight costs per bird kept to a minimum while maximising the number of birds sent each race. In 2024 after all

members had nominated their bird numbers, there was a move to allow surplus. Comments then followed that if a member had known surplus was going to be allowed then they would have reduced their numbers. This is exactly the scenario that the original plan was attempting to stop. The cost of the surplus basket was also at a significantly reduced rate and allowed some members to get birds away at a lot cheaper cost than those not sending surplus.

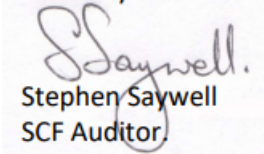
If members know that there will be surplus then by their very nature some will under nominate. This will see an increase in the average cost per bird while those sending surplus will get their birds away at a reduced cost. The effect will only be negative to the overall impact on a member's pocket. Changes to our system have always been put back to the members and to change this practice should only be done with the support of the membership. The committee is commended in initiating activities such as the blind auction to alleviate member costs. As the racing costs are increasing and our membership is reducing it is recommended that any change to our freight costing procedure be put to the members, as was done in 2008.

Weith regard to the 2024 IGBF Race there was a sum of \$2,455 deposited in the 2023 SCF Accounts for the 2024 race and this was correctly recorded as a liability in the 2023 SCF Balance Sheet. Sales of \$570 for the 2024 IGBF Race in January 2024 were also deposited and recorded in the 2024 SCF Accounts. This equated to a total sum of \$3,025 deposited for the 2024 IGBF Prize Money. The Ring Secretary reported to the SCF Committee that there were 551 IGBF rings sold for the 2024 race and this equated to \$2,755. This was the sum paid out for the 2024 race. The SCF Committee may wish to review these accounts from 2023 and 2024 to determine the discrepancy in the income and expenditure for this race.

Also with regard to the SCF Combines, it is the practice for trophy money to be deducted from the SCF Combine entry money to pay for the race trophies. In 2024 this was not done and SCF trophies were paid from general SCF funds.

The SCF accounts and bank records, as presented to me by the SCF in my opinion reflect an accurate and true copy of business conducted by the SCF Inc during 2024. Iris Elliott has taken on part of the Treasurer activities this year, as well as her Secretarial obligations. Her dedication to her duties on behalf of the SCF, has made what can be a difficult task as auditor, an easier one. She should be commended for the accuracy of these accounts and their coordinated and logical presentation.

Sincerely



Stephen Saywell
SCF Auditor

Moved: Frank Raschilla

Seconded: Colin Hedley

Business arising from Auditor's Report

There was a discussion on the following:

The Treasurer

The Treasurer feels that the Auditor should only report on the business relevant to the books eg: uncashed cheques, income and expenditure and whether the books balance etc and not on business in regard to such matters as whether there should be refunds, whether we should have surplus birds etc. Such matters should be discussed in General Business

The Auditor

The Auditor said that it is part of his audit duties, and he can make recommendations on these matters.

Payment for Auditor's report - the SCF Membership AGM attendees were asked to ratify the Auditor's Report for 2024 SCF. On a show of hands this was carried unanimously. The SCF Auditor, Stephen Saywell, to be paid \$200 for the audit.

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE

ELECTION OF NEW SCF OFFICERS 2024				
Position	Nomination	Moved	Seconded	Elected Officer
President	Jason Matthews	Paul Barnes	Adam Southwell	Jason Matthews
Vice President	Matt Nelson	Greg McEwen	Hedley Privett	Matt Nelson
Secretary	Iris Elliott	Paul Barnes	Brent Cavill	Iris Elliotts
Treasurer	Paul Barnes	Robert Elliott	Brent Cavill	Paul Barnes
Race Secretary	Brent Cavill	Paul Barnes	Iris Elliott	Brent Cavill
Assistant Race Secretary				
Ring Secretary	Luca Krkovski	Paul Barnes	Iris Elliott	Luca Krkovski
Auditor	Stephen Saywell	Colin Hedley	Jeff Sheppard	Stephen Saywell

The position of Assistant Race Secretary is still open, the SCF committee will ask if anyone is interested in filling this position for the 2025 race season.

Action 2.1

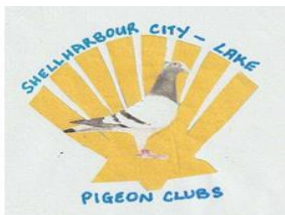
Iris will send an email to see if anyone would like to fill the Assistant Race Secretary position

TO BE COMPLETED

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

MOTION 1

SHELLIES/LAKES PIGEON CLUB



President:
Secretary:

P. Clarke
A. Southwell

The Shellies-Lake Pigeon Club would like to move the notice of motion at the SCF AGM held in 2025 that the following rule be added to section 7. Racing Routes:

7. Racing Routes:

As the direction for the following racing season is voted on by the members each year, in the case where the same direction be flown for two consecutive years, that direction be removed from the ballot for the third year. As such no direction would be flown for more than two consecutive years.

Moved: George Wiktor

Second: Peter Clarke

Adam Southwell

Secretary

Discussion regarding Motion 1

This motion has been submitted because not everyone would like to fly the same direction every year. If we take out a direction that has been flown two years in a row then members will have the opportunity to fly a different direction, possibly the direction that they want to race. It was also said that if we take out the direction that has already been flown for two consecutive years then some members would be unable to vote on the direction they prefer.

There will be a ballot sent out with the 3 directions that were voted in at the AGM by the way of a show of hands.

South (7 Votes)

North (10 Votes)

West (7 Votes)

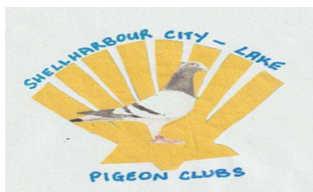
The directions of flight for 2026 will be voted on by a ballot and not at the AGM because the following rule was voted in, by a ballot in 2024. If the SCF members would like to vote for the next years direction at the AGM a new motion would have to be voted in.

Replacement Motion: 7. Racing Routes:

7a. A discussion will be held each year at the AGM regarding potential race routes for the following years racing. A choice of three most popular routes will then be put to a ballot of eligible members to vote on as soon as practical after the AGM. A preferential voting system will be applied whereby members rank the three options in order of preference. When the SCF Committee tallies the votes, those members that voted for the least popular route as first preference, will have their second preference route counted in the ballot.

MOTION 2

SHELLIES/LAKES PIGEON CLUB



President:
Secretary:

P. Clarke
A. Southwell

The Shellies-Lake Pigeon Club would like to move the notice of motion at the SCF AGM held in 2025 that the following rule be introduced:

At the start of each year the SCF Committee, determine the running cost of the fed truck for the upcoming season including fuel, maintenance, registration and insurance and that cost be divided equally between all SCF members as an annual truck fee. This would be a flat fee for each member regardless of the number of birds they send or whether they fly half a year or a full year.

Moved: Peter Clarke

Second: Adam Southwell

Adam Southwell

Secretary

Discussion regarding Motion 2

Peter Clarke said that if everyone pays the same amount then everyone will be equal, we will still pay for freight and our membership fees.

Stephen Saywell said that we have:

Fixed costs eg. Members fees and registration.

Variable costs eg. Fuel, accommodation etc.

Dom gave this example that if two people have a car and one person drives 200km for the year and the other person drives 10km for the year they both have to pay for the whole registration, so members who only race half a season should still pay the same as the members who race for the whole season.

MOTION 3

RICHARD WHITEHEAD AND JEFF HENDERSON

Date 13/12/24

Notice of Motion for South Coast Pigeon Federation AGM 2025

Motion to read.

We the undersigned put forward the Motion to allow the Live Clocking System to be used in all competitions starting from the start of the 2025 race season onwards.

Note: Everyone's first bird is still used for all results including club races , Point scores, combine races etc nothing changes at all

This is the next step in electronic timing where flyers can see how all their birds compete against all birds in the federation not just their first bird each week.

Example: How your 30 birds compete overall against 1500 birds overall

This system also gives the flyer the ability to spend more time with the family as they are not required to go to the club on clock reading night, other federations since starting the Live system have seen older flyers staying in the sport and younger flyers getting more time with their families on the weekend keeping everyone happy and still flying.

Yours in sport

R J Whitehead and Jeff Henderson

R J Whitehead Motion

Paul Barnes 2nd Motion

Discussion regarding Motion 3

Richard Whitehead said that everyone will get to the stage where they will have health problems. The electronic clocks changed the way we race; the Live Clocking system will change the way we race again.

MOTION 4

TOWRADGI HOMING PIGEON SOCIETY


TOWRADGI NOTICE OF MOTION 1


REGARDING: Change of pigeon food on the SCF truck

Dear Members of the SCF Committee,

Towradgi Homing Pigeon Society would like to move the Notice of Motion at the SCF 2025 AGM held on the 1st of February 2025 to change the pigeon food on the SCF truck from 3 parts wheat, one part corn to 5% J & M pigeon mix.

The following guidelines would need to be amended:

-  Transportation and Liberation Guidelines
Under the heading Transportation Guidelines – Part 4 point 2.

-  Liberator Guidelines
Under the heading Feeding – point 2.

Moved: Paul Barnes

Second: Dom Monteleone

MOTION 5



TOWRADGI HOMING PIGEON SOCIETY

REGARDING: Bring back 3 Moruya Races

Dear Members of the SCF Committee,

Towradgi Homing Pigeon Society would like to move the Notice of Motion at the SCF 2025 AGM held on the 1st of February 2025 to bring back the 3 Moruya races as well as the 3 Dolphin Point and Bermagui or the equivalent to these race points, dependant on the direction of flight for the race season.

Our reasoning for bringing back the 3 races include:

-  Educational purposes.
-  To reduce the cost of freight for all members.

Moved: Frank Raschilla

Second: Paul Barnes

Discussion regarding Motion 3

This will make the cost of freight considerably cheaper.

MOTION 6

TOWRADGI HOMING PIGEON SOCIETY

TOWRADGI NOTICE OF MOTION 3

REGARDING: Notice of Motion

Dear Members of the SCF Committee,

Towradgi Homing Pigeon Society would like to move the Notice of Motion at the SCF 2025 AGM held on the 1st of February 2025, that if a flyer's pigeon clock fails on any race day that the flyer can take his/her pigeon and clock it in using the nearest flyer's clock.

The clock must be put on training mode so that the flyer can clock in.

The flyer must take the pigeon not just the chip ring.

The chip rings electronic number will be used as verification to the flyers race sheet.

If a flyers clock fails, the flyer must notify the club and SCF Race secretaries as soon as possible that they will be using another flyers clock.

Moved: Dom Monteleone

Second: Paul Barnes

Discussion Regarding Motion 5

This may never happen but there may be a day when a member's clock fails and there needs to be a system put into place so that members have an opportunity to clock in on race day.

MOTION 7

TOWRADGI HOMING PIGEON SOCIETY

TOWRADGI NOTICE OF MOTION 4

REGARDING: Notice of Motion

Dear Members of the SCF Committee,

Towradgi Homing Pigeon Society would like to move the Notice of Motion at the SCF 2025 AGM held on the 1st of February 2025, that the SCF have a later liberation time as per previous years so that birds will arrive home around 2pm – 2:30pm as Towradgi feel that the benefits of later liberation outweighs the benefits of an earlier liberation, including plenty of time for the birds to rest after travelling to the race point.

Moved: Frank Raschilla

Second: Graeme Worthington

Discussion regarding Motion 5

It was said that Wayne Gallagher reported that on early liberations the falcons will get into the birds because they are looking for food, therefore a later liberation would be better.

Action 2.2

Iris will email ballots from AGM to clubs

GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting of members was opened at 3.15 pm and the following items were discussed:

AUCTION

Warren Glover suggested that we have an auction where everyone breeds two pigeons each.

Peter Clarke said that he is not sure about all the sales we have considering that we have had people with PMV.

He also said that people should have been vaccinating by now.

The SCF Federation rules state that members should vaccinate their birds twice and they are required to hand in a signed PMV form every year.

EAST COAST CLASSIC LONG-DISTANCE COMMITTEE

Convention

Jeff Sheppard is the Vice President of the East Coast Classic Long-Distance Committee and said that there is a convention coming up in Yagoona in the Sports Arena (Rosewood Road). Jeff said that the ECCLDC will have a stand at the convention and that it would be good to see people there.

The convention will be on Saturday the 29th and Sunday the 30th of March 2025.

There will also be a bus tour going to visit other flyers lofts on Friday the 28th of March 2025

FED FEES

Warren glover believes that all members should be paying the same membership fees regardless of whether they are pensioners or non-pensioners to make it fair to all members.

2024 TRUCK DRIVER REPORT

Aidan Cavill has written a report on his experience driving the truck from Eden to Wonthaggi in the 2024 race season. It reads as follows:

2024 SCF Truck Report

Dear Fellow South Coast Pigeon Federation Members,

I am pleased to present my report on the 2024 SCF Truck.

The Truck:

The new truck has been a pleasure to drive. Compared to the previous model, it is much more comfortable, with smoother handling and an easier driving experience. I've found it particularly convenient for our needs, with enhanced features that make transportation more efficient and enjoyable. Overall, the truck's performance has exceeded expectations, and I'm confident it will continue to serve us well.

Fuel Economy:

The truck has been excellent on fuel, averaging only 4-5 petrol stops on the longer drives. This is a significant improvement over the previous truck and has helped reduce operating costs on trips.

Release:

Releasing the birds has been easy and smooth, with no issues during the process. Feeding and watering have also been straightforward, ensuring the birds are well taken care of during the journey.

Trailer:

The trailer provides plenty of airflow, which is crucial for the well-being of the birds. It has also been easy to feed, water, and release the birds, making the process efficient and stress-free.

Negative Aspects About the Trailer:

One downside to the trailer is that when it's fully loaded, it becomes quite heavy, weighing 4.2 tonnes on the weighbridge. This is heavier than the ute used to tow it, which has resulted in more fuel stops than usual. Additionally, the heavy trailer doesn't tow as smoothly as the SCF truck. It is noticeably rougher and less comfortable to drive, especially on longer journeys.

Baskets, Feeders, & Waters:

- **Water Drinkers:** The water drinkers inside the truck, attached to the back of the baskets, are too small, leak, and are over 60 years old. They have passed their expiry date and should be replaced soon.
- **Side Water Drinkers:** The water drinkers on the side are in good condition and are functioning well. They do need to be maintained and cleaned more regularly by the clubs to ensure optimal performance.
- **Feeders:** The feeders are in good condition and have not caused any issues at this point.
- **Baskets:** The baskets are in fair condition, but the doors sometimes stick and need to be sprayed with WD-40 at the start of each season to avoid delays. This ensures smooth operation, as any delay in opening baskets could disadvantage the members' birds.

Rat Issue: There were some concerns with rats nesting in the front wall of the truck, particularly in Bairnsdale. I had to remove rats from the truck, and there was evidence of rat droppings in the side drinkers, the floor of the baskets, and the floor of the truck. I hosed down the entire truck in Bairnsdale to maintain cleanliness and ensure the safety of the birds.

Mould and Mushrooms:

With baskets remaining in the truck during the week, I've noticed mould and mushrooms growing

inside them. I've been dropping off dirty baskets during the pigeon collections to keep everything sanitary, but this process adds extra time, leaving me with a later start and leading to late arrivals at the clubs. This could be streamlined for better efficiency.

Food:

The feed for the truck has not been ideal. The 60% wheat and 40% corn ratio is problematic. Birds at the back of the baskets tend to eat all the corn first, leaving the remaining birds with just wheat. As a result, the next batch of feed becomes mostly wheat as well, which creates an imbalance in the nutrition provided. I recommend switching to a more varied mix to ensure all the birds get the necessary nutrition.

Race Points:

- **Eden:**
This was our first year driving down on a Friday night. The main issue was the late arrival in Moruya at 11:40 pm, followed by a 4 am wake-up call to continue to Eden, which goes against driver fatigue management. I propose we have three basketing points for Eden to save time driving around Wollongong to different clubs. A pick-up in Towradgi, Dapto, and Shoalhaven would help streamline this process.
- **Bairnsdale:**
Finding a good spot to liberate in Bairnsdale was challenging. The surrounding mountains and trees felt too closed in. Local fliers have recommended flying from Lakes Entrance instead, as the birds tend to track east from Bairnsdale to Lakes Entrance.
- **Yarram:**
This was a great liberation spot – a flat track with no mountains or trees. The conditions were perfect for racing.
- **Wonthaggi:**
Wonthaggi was also a good liberation spot, though I believe we made an error by having three liberations on Saturday only instead of two on the Saturdays and one on Sunday. The third Wonthaggi race in 2024 had poor results. I personally prefer to liberate the birds earlier in the day to ensure better opportunities for the birds to get home on the day. In my opinion, a two-liberation Saturday schedule and one on Sunday would have yielded better results.
- **National & GP Race:**
For this race, I would have preferred to liberate the birds 45 minutes earlier, as there was enough sunlight. According to the rules, we must wait 30 minutes after sunrise, but I believe contacting the liberation committee for an earlier release time in situations like this would be beneficial.

Conclusion:

Overall, it was a pleasure to serve as the SCF 2024 truck driver and liberator. I look forward to working with everyone in the upcoming 2025 season and addressing the mentioned areas for improvement.

Best regards,

Aidan Cavill

General Meeting closed at 3:50pm

ACTION ITEMS - SCF AGM AND SCF GENERAL MEETING held 1st February 2025

Action 2.1

Iris will send an email to see if anyone would like to fill the Assistant Race Secretary position

Action 2.2

Iris will email ballots from AGM to clubs