

South Coast Pigeon Federation Incorporated

President: Jeff Sheppard

Secretary: Julie Hider



Protect these Birds

SCF Annual General Meeting (AGM)

held on Saturday, 4 February 2023 at 1.00 pm

Venue: Fraternity Club Sunken Lounge

- 1 Record of Attendance:** 34 members and 3 guests, as per the attendance sheet.
- 2 Apologies:** Nil
- 3 Vale:** Dennis Kerr, Lou Zahra, Brian Gater, Norm Trethewey
- 4** The meeting was opened by SCF President, Jeff Sheppard, who thanked everyone for coming to the AGM.
- 5 SCF President's Report:** Jeff Sheppard

Thanks to all the Committee: Julie Hider, who has done a fantastic job; Bill Hider, for organising the baskets and helping Julie; Steve Saywell and Wayne Gallagher for organising race results; Luca Krkovski, for a good job organising rings and reporting strays; Trevor Gasseling, for helping with events on the computer and phone messages; Dave Miller for organising the East Coast Classic Race.

Special thanks to Steven Saywell, Terry Sylvester and Brett Yeaman for going down to Melbourne to retrieve the baskets, feed and water trays and anything else they were able to salvage.

We had a good racing season flying all the way to Phillip Island. Thanks to Bill Hider for organising the baskets for Nowra, Moruya and Narooma Pigeon Flyers on the way to the race point which helped both them and the SCF financially.

Unfortunately, the truck had an accident on the way home after the last race which put us on track earlier than we wanted to buy a new truck. I was hoping there were a couple more years left in the old truck, but the curtains were just about had it and mechanically it needed a good overhaul. Looking forward, through good management, we were in a good position to purchase a new truck and have it fitted out to our specifications. I can't wait to see the new truck when it is finished. I am sure Steve will have more input in General Business.

Good racing to you all in 2023!

- 6 Minutes of Previous AGM** held on Saturday, 5 February 2022 was read to the meeting.

Moved: Alec Krkovski Seconded: Wayne Gallagher

6.1 Business arising from the Previous Minutes – Nil

7 Treasurer’s Balance Sheet for 2022 – Julie presented to the report to the meeting.

Moved: Graham Kerr Seconded: Col Hedley

7.1 Business Arising from the Treasurer’s Report:

7.1.1 Balance Sheet Combine Races - Daniel Cavill asked a question regarding the discrepancy in the Balance Sheet of around \$3,000 in the Income and Expenditure for the SCF Combine Races. \$900 in the Combine Income belonged to the funds for the Mildura Race but as the Race did not take place there was no Expenditure. Julie will reconcile the Combine Race Income and Expenditure with Steve as it is most likely money allocated wrongly. Julie will report back to the SCF membership once the Combine discrepancies are found.

7.1.2 Honorariums – the SCF Membership AGM attendees were asked to ratify the honorariums for the 2022 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 2022 SCF Committee to consist of:

Number	Position	Honorarium
1	President	\$500.00
2	Vice President	\$250.00
3	Treasurer	\$500.00
4	Secretary	\$1000.00
5	Race Secretary	\$500.00
6	Assistant Race Secretary	\$250.00
7	Ring Secretary	\$500.00
8	Assistant General Secretary	\$500.00
TOTAL HONORARIUMS		\$4,000.00

8 Auditor’s Report - Col Hedley presented the Auditor’s Report to the AGM

South Coast Pigeon
Federation Inc. of NSW
Audit
2022 Season

Table of Contents

1. Purpose of the Audit	1
2. Audit Criteria	1
3. Scope of Audit	1
4. Audit Summary	2
• Financial Transactions	2
• Organisational Requirements	2
• Information	2
• Requirements and Compliance	3
o Requirements	3
o Compliance	3
5. Audit General Overview	4
6. Disclaimer	4

1. Purpose of the Audit

The purpose of the Audit is to objectively assess the adherence and level of compliance by criteria required to effectively operate the SCF Inc. of NSW; namely Audit *Criteria below*.

In addition, the audit aims at examining any area of potential improvement or any inconsistencies in order to propose corrective or proactive actions.

It is also the Auditor's responsibility to express an unbiased opinion on the financial statements and include any suggestions to non-compliance issues that may arise due to the Audit.

2. Audit Criteria

The Criteria by which the Audit was carried out is contained within aspects currently pertaining to South Coast Federation Inc. of NSW namely:

- Model Rules 2007
- SCF Racing By-Laws 2022
- 2022 SCF Liberation Protocol
- Liberator Guidelines
- Sub-Committee Protocols
- Code of Conduct

3. Scope of the Audit

The Audit conducted was that of the South Coast Federation Inc. of NSW and covered the following boundaries:

- Financial Transactions
- Organisational Requirements
- Information
- Requirements and Compliance

4. Audit Summary

The following boundary points are listed underneath, each with an attached summary:

- a. Financial Transactions
- b. Organisational Requirements
- c. Information
- d. Requirements and Compliance

a. Financial Transactions

Information was gathered from the SCF's Income and Expenditure transactions, Debit Card transactions as well as monthly statement details and receipt stubs. The accounts have been reconciled with the SCF Treasurer's receipt book, the SCF Charity Receipts, miscellaneous receipts, and Bank statements. A thorough review of all this information was carried out in a fair and accurate method, verifying and cross-referencing account details to ensure there were no major errors, account misrepresentation or fraud.

The Treasurer prepared a Financial Balance Sheet as well as a comprehensive Income and Expenditure Sheet that contained full and thorough (and accurate) accounting records.

The Balance Sheet reflects the current net financial position of the South Coast Pigeon Federation Incorporated as at the 31st December 2022.

The following points should be acknowledged: -

All account keeping records for 2022 were found to be true and accurate where financial records were kept and recorded in a meticulous method which allowed for straightforward cross referencing and verification of all transactions.

The presented Balance Sheet also points to the SCF to be in a reasonably good recovery position after having encountered an unfortunate major financial incident with regards the SCF transport truck.

b. Organisational Requirements

All Federation committee positions were filled as required, with each executive position carrying out their respective duties for the running of the SCF Inc. for 2022. The 2022 Fed Committee ensured aspects pertaining to Race Rules, Model Rules, Code of Conduct and Protocols were adhered to for the year 2022. This was evident by the way in which the Fed Committee meeting minutes were recorded and distributed with relevant information contained within the distributed minutes.

c. Information

The main set of information pertinent for the general membership was the monthly Fed Committee Meeting minutes. These minutes were clear and concise and distributed in a timely manner. The format of the meetings' agenda was recorded in a professional and coherent manner. The distributed monthly minutes gave a full understanding of Business Arising, Actions and General Business as required.

A second major source of information is the use of the Online Race Results. This form of online information and race results is extremely well accepted and most informative with all participants having their results published online within a relatively short period of time. There's incorrect data having been submitted. Three

(3) Combines have incorrect entry data against some members; namely JCYBN, National and Grand Prix where there were 8, 1 and 2 respectively competitors with incorrect combine entry numbers. Most combines have a maximum limit that can be entered (a special tick box). People need to be more aware when entering data. Incorrect data portrays a false entry number and can be quite misleading especially to people outside the SCF who access and check the SCF results.

Another form of information was the sending of Text messages from the vice president with regards liberation, expected 'time of arrival' and sales information. These were concise, informative, well received and much appreciated.

Finally, one other form of information in 2022, brought about by necessity, was the Special Fed meetings to discuss, assess and suggest the best way forward to repair / replace the damaged Fed truck. The information gathered and presented to the membership, along with suggestions, was 2nd to none. Committee members should be highly commended for the presentations put forward and agreeable suggestions voiced to bring about an acceptable and affordable resolution.

d. Requirements and Compliance

- **Requirements**

Requirements pertaining to the running of the SCF Inc. for 2022 were fulfilled. These items included truck maintenance, basket maintenance which also involved feed and water troughs plus the care of basket mesh grates. Another important incidental necessity was the birds' Feed Supply on the truck and the birds' drinking water. These incidentals may seem insignificant, but they are essential for the care and racing of the pigeons; jobs that are necessary. The more important commodities, which include the truck and baskets, were kept in good working order to allow uninterrupted racing until the last "long weekend" race in early October 2022. Unfortunately, the truck was severely damaged and ultimately deemed too costly for a 20-year-old truck to be repaired.

- **Compliance**

There appears to have been no noncompliance issues arising, however as a Fed member and auditor for 2022, I feel compelled to raise an issue and put a strong recommendation forward.

I, along with others, received rather distressing news in early Nov 2022 that 3 deceased pigeons were discovered in the baskets by members who travelled to Melbourne to retrieve the Fed baskets. Why these birds did not leave the baskets is not the issue.

Although no liberation guidelines appear to have been overlooked, I feel there needs to be an added step to the duties of the liberator/conveyor; namely something along these lines (See suggestion P4)

Suggestion: to be added to the '*Liberation Protocol Guidelines*'

A check sheet for the Liberator/conveyor to tick/initial a box and that all baskets have been checked that no pigeons remain in the baskets after liberation. (Something along these lines)

Audit General Overview

The overall outcome of the audit indicates the SCF Inc. of NSW fulfilled the necessary requirements to function in a proper manner. The criteria under which the SCF Inc. is governed was adhered to and the boundaries by which the SCF Inc. operated were accomplished. The financial situation of the SCF Inc. of

NSW is in a comfortable position with commodities and assets that add to the Fed's current stable financial position. The 2022 Fed Committee should be commended for the way in which the financial position has ended. Although the Fed suffered a "financial blow" with the necessity to acquire a new truck and fit it out, the financial position of the SCF Inc. at the end of 2022 is that of a financial trending recovery heading into 2023 where the funds have been healthy and a positive increase of Income to Expenditure ratio is keeping our basic cash position steady.

There were no non-compliance issues that appeared and my overall view, as auditor, is that the 2022 Fed Committee should be commended for their diligence, perseverance and astute running of the SCF Inc of NSW in 2022.

Disclaimer¹

It was my responsibility as auditor to express an unbiased opinion on the financial statements and include any suggestions to non-compliance issues that arose due to the audit. It is not my intent to criticise any shortcomings with regards compliance issues but rather draw attention that these issues may be addressed.

AUDITOR



Colin Hedley

¹ The auditor's reason for including a Disclaimer is because I am not independent from the SCF Inc. of NSW. My inclusion of a Disclaimer is to dispel any thoughts of favouritism or bias while compiling this audit.

Moved: Alan Zahra

Seconded: Warren Glover

8.1 Business Arising from the Auditor's Report

- 8.1.1 Alan Zahra commented that there was too much responsibility for the driver, we need a liberator to assist the truck driver. Dennis Glover agreed that there was too much stress for the truck driver.

Motion 1 – Structure of the SCF Committee - WITHDRAWN

Motion 1 was withdrawn as the SCF Committee decided to return to the seven-person committee structure already defined in the Model Rules and Racing By-Laws.

Therefore, the SCF Committee of Management will consist of:

No	Position
1	President
2	Vice President
3	Treasurer
4	Secretary
5	Race Secretary
6	Assistant Race Secretary
7	Ring Secretary

Motion 2 - Honorariums

The SCF Committee would like to move that the current South Coast Pigeon Federation Inc (SCF) Racing By-Laws (April 2022) regarding Honorariums be amended to read as follows (changes highlighted):

11. *Honorarium:*

An honorarium may be paid to all elected positions on the South Coast Pigeon Federation Inc (SCF) Committee of Management. This would recognise the efforts of those office bearers and their contribution to the management of SCF activities. In the event of one person being appointed to more than one of these positions then that portion of the Honorarium would be allocated to that person.

The amount of the Honorarium can be determined by the Committee of Management of the SCF for ratification by the membership at the SCF Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Moved: Jeff Sheppard Signature: Date: 7/2/2023

Seconded: Stephen Saywell Signature Date: 7/2/2023

Honorarium Amounts:

The SCF Honorariums for the 2022 SCF Committee to consist of:

Number	Position	Honorarium
1	President	\$500.00
2	Vice President	\$250.00
3	Treasurer	\$500.00
4	Secretary	\$1000.00
5	Race Secretary	\$500.00
6	Assistant Race Secretary	\$250.00
7	Ring Secretary	\$500.00
8	Assistant General Secretary	\$500.00
TOTAL HONORARIUMS		\$4,000.00

Adhering to the SCF Constitutional By-laws, the SCF Honorariums for the 2023 SCF Committee to consist of:

Number	Position	Honorarium
1	President	\$500.00
2	Vice President	\$250.00
3	Treasurer	\$500.00
4	Secretary	\$1000.00
5	Race Secretary	\$500.00
6	Assistant Race Secretary	\$250.00
7	Ring Secretary	\$500.00
TOTAL HONORARIUMS		\$3,500.00

Honorariums (from Treasurer's Report) – the SCF Membership AGM attendees were asked to ratify the honorariums for the 2022 SCF Committee of Management for their work over the last year. On a show of hands this was carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding Rule 50 of the SCF Racing By-Laws 2022:

In May 2022, correspondence was received from Shellies-Lake asking if they could change their prizes from two (2) gold-band rings to six (6) gold-band rings per prize. The SCF Management Committee advised Shellies-Lake that they were happy for them to change their prizes from two (2) gold-band rings to six (6) gold band rings per prize as it is their race to administer. Flyers are permitted to have more than the 20 IGBF purchase limit if they acquire extra birds/rings through SCF sanctioned sale races, however, on SCF Gold Band race day, a limit of 20 IGBF rung birds may be entered.

David Armstrong also quoted Rule 50 in the SCF Racing By-Law 2022:

50. A limit of purchase of IGBF life rings is restricted to twenty (20) life rings per loft at a cost of \$5 each. This limit does not apply to IGBF rung birds purchased at SCF Sanctioned Sales.

The SCF Committee reviewed Rule 50 and agreed that if any flyer has more than twenty (20) life rings through SCF Sanctioned Sales, they would allow the extra IGBF rung birds to be raced in the IGBF races this year, however, a Notice of Motion for the 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be raised to add a note to Rule 50 to make it clearer, ie The IGBF (Gold Band) Race to have a limit of twenty (20) IGBF life rung birds per flyer entered into the IGBF Race each year.

Motion 3 – Rule 50 - IGBF (Gold Band) Life Rings and Race

The SCF Committee of Management would like to move that the current SCF Racing By-Laws (April 2022) Rule 50 regarding the IGBF (Gold Band) Life Rings and Race be amended as follows (changes are highlighted below):

*50. A limit of purchase of IGBF (Gold Band) life rings is restricted to twenty (20) life rings per loft at a cost of \$5 each. This limit does not apply to IGBF rung birds purchased at SCF Sanctioned Sales. **The IGBF (Gold Band) Race is restricted to twenty (20) IGBF life rung bird entries per flyer, per loft on the day of the race each year.***

Moved: Jeff Sheppard Signature: Date: 7/2/2023

Seconded: Bill Hider Signature Date: 7/2/2023

Members’ Ballot - Motion 3 – to be distributed and voted on by the SCF Members

Motion 4 - Discussion regarding the Grand Prix and the National Races

The Grand Prix and the National were liberated at the same time last year as has occurred in previous years. Some members disagreed with the SCF Committee of Management and SCF Liberation Committees' decision to liberate these two races at the same time as they would have liked them to be liberated separately. The Committee's decision took into consideration the welfare of the birds and the bird numbers at that time of year.

The SCF Committee of Management recommends that Rule 15, 15a, 15b and 15c of the Racing By-Laws April 2022 be deleted and that races at a distance greater than 550km should be liberated as seen fit by the SCF Committee and the SCF Liberation Committee for the welfare of the birds.

Motion 4 – SCF Grand Prix and SCF National Races

The SCF Committee of Management would like to move that Rule 15, 15a, 15b and 15c of the Racing By-Laws April 2022 be deleted.

~~15. In the event that two SCF Combines are scheduled for the same weekend at a distance greater than 550km and are transported together to the same race point that:~~

~~15a. The pigeons be liberated on separate days. i.e., Saturday and Sunday liberations as per schedule.~~

~~15b. If the SCF Combines are scheduled for release on the same day that a minimum 30 minute break is given between liberations.~~

~~15c. If possible, baskets from each race are to be loaded on opposite sides of the truck.~~

Moved: Jeff Sheppard Signature: Date: 7/2/2023

Seconded: Stephen Saywell Signature Date: 7/2/2023

Members' Ballot - Motion 4 – to be distributed and voted on by the SCF Members

Discussion regarding SCF Flyers' Pigeon Clock Systems

After discussion regarding Pigeon Clock Systems at the SCF Committee meeting in December 2022, it was decided to reconsider a previous Notice of Motion that all SCF flyers' pigeon clock systems must be electronic from the 2023 Racing Season onwards, as this rule may discourage new flyers to the sport who may start out with a manual clock and they may not be able to afford an electronic clocking system when they first start racing.

Motion 5 – Conventional Timers

The SCF Committee of Management would like to move that the current SCF Racing By-Laws (April 2022) CLOCK RULES Part A, Conventional Timers, Rule 52 be amended to read as follows:

CLOCK RULES Part A

Conventional Timers

52. Only SCF Committee approved Electronic Timing Systems (ETS) and analog (non-ETS) Clocks shall be used in the SCF Incorporated of NSW Races. ETS clocks are preferred, however, other clock systems need to be approved by the SCF Committee, to make sure they are running correctly prior to use in SCF Incorporated of NSW Races, from the 2023 Racing Season onwards.

Moved: Jeff Sheppard Signature: Date: 7/2/2023

Seconded: Trevor Gasseling Signature Date: 7/2/2023

GPS and Time.Is Systems - There was discussion regarding clock systems. Mario Saliba, raised the subject of clocks using the GPS system to set the clock times. Stephen Saywell spoke about the discrepancy noticed in the GPS system when checked against the 'Time.Is' system. Trevor said that when they have used the GPS it may be correct when checked against 'Time.Is' for the first couple of times and then they noticed a variance in the GPS times. This is why clubs have been asked to check the GPS time against the Time.Is. The SCF Committee have recommended that Time.Is be used to set the clock times.

Manual Clocks - Col Linnett was concerned regarding the naming and shaming of flyers using manual clocks because they are hard to read. Sometimes this is because of the incompetency of people reading the clock. This will discourage new flyers.

Members' Ballot - Motion 5 – to be distributed and voted on by the SCF Members

9 Election of New Committee

Election of New SCF Officers 2023				
Position	Nomination	Moved	Seconded	Elected Officer
President	Jeff Sheppard	Bill Hider	Frank Raschilla	Jeff Sheppard
Vice President	Trevor Gasseling (voluntarily stood down)	Bill Hider	Jeff Sheppard	Dave Miller
Secretary	Julie Hider	Jeff Sheppard	Frank Raschilla	Julie Hider
Treasurer	Bill Hider	Graham Kerr	Jeff Sheppard	Bill Hider
Race Secretary	Stephen Saywell	Bill Hider	Jeff Sheppard	Stephen Saywell
Assistant Race Secretary	Wayne Gallagher	Stephen Saywell	Bill Hider	Wayne Gallagher
Ring Secretary	Luca Krkovski	Jullie Hider	Bill Hider	Luca Krkovski
Auditor for 2023	SCF Committee to decide			

All SCF Committee of Management Officers elected unopposed.

AGM closed at 2.00 pm

General Meeting

A General Meeting of members was opened at 2.10 pm and the following items were discussed:

- a. **Refunds** – Warren Glover did not agree with the decision made last year not to refund the money for the race that was cancelled last year. Members should have been offered a choice if they wanted the money refunded. Stephen Saywell said that this was due to unanticipated expenses, including a \$770 bill to have the truck towed. The refund would have only been a few dollars to most flyers. The SCF Committee makes decisions as they see fit in the best interest of the members.
- b. **Driver and Liberator** – Jeff Sheppard has been speaking with Rick Irwin regarding driving the truck for the 2023 Season. Rick is only able to drive up until September. Rick's daughter is happy to be liberator up until Thursday night basketing. Jeff has also spoken with Martin a retired truck driver and mechanic who is interested in driving the truck as well. Jeff is organising a meeting with Martin. Alan Zahra suggested sending two drivers if needed. Mario Saliba thought this was a good idea. SCF Clubs may need to send one of their flyers to be a liberator. The SCF Committee will discuss options and advise the members when a decision is reached.

- c. **Northern Schedules** – Jeff Sheppard spoke about the three (3) schedules received. Long Distance Committee’s East Coast Classic will be from Yamba and their 500-mile (800 km) race will be Bundaberg. Brett Yeaman asked why they were flying from Yamba, 68 km further than Grafton and a very long drive from the Motorway? Graham Kerr asked when racing would commence. Jeff Sheppard thought it would be around Saturday, 27 May 2022. Dave Miller suggested the Reptile Park near Gosford and the Dog Track in Newcastle as potential race points. Sawtell was suggested instead of Coffs Harbour as they have a big caravan park. Brett Yeaman spoke about the Long-Distance Committee should not be able to dictate the SCF Races. Mario Saliba asked if the East Coast Classic will be included in the SCF Point Score again this year? Alan Zahra didn’t think that the East Coast Classic should not be in the SCF Point Score. Jeff Sheppard stated that the East Coast Classic will be on the SCF Point Score. Peter Clarke wanted to avoid holdovers where the birds could be kept basketed for two (2) days. Jeff Sheppard said we will rely on the SCF Liberation Committee to make these decisions. The SCF Committee will decide on a schedule at the next Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday, 7 March 2023.
- d. **New SCF Truck and Body:** Steve spoke about the truck. Mick Marciano is building the chassis frame and when it is ready, he will send it away to have it painted professionally. The frame will be machined at weld sites to ensure the weld sites won’t rust before it is painted, and work commences on the rest of the frame to house the baskets. The first instalment was due on delivery of truck on 17 January 2023 but he was happy to wait until maturity of our investment on 16 February, however, he will let us know if he needs funds prior to this date.
- e. **Baskets:** Col Hedley asked how we would divide the birds between the truck and the trailer? Steve said that the current system of nominations has worked since 2014. Members should be able to send from 30 to 40 pigeons per week depending on nominations. We would also like to incorporate Shoalhaven flyers. Warren Glover said that the pick-up of birds at different clubs using the trailer could be difficult. Jeff Sheppard thought that Gwynneville pick-up would be difficult with the trailer as it would be very difficult to back up to their pigeon club because of the overhang of the trees. It was suggested that Gwynneville basket their birds at either Berkeley or Dapto. Ron Bird asked about the damaged baskets. Shellies-Lake have three (3) damaged baskets. Stephen Saywell asked if the SCF Committee could see these baskets? Woonona-Bulli/Towradgi have a number of baskets, five (5) are not any good. The SCF Committee will work out allocation of baskets once nominations are received.
- f. **Liberation Times:** Stephen Saywell spoke about liberation times. He was concerned that some of the liberation times might be too late for the Shoalhaven. Ian Price thought that in previous years they didn’t seem to have any problems getting their pigeons home. Derek Louth asked if our pigeons would clash with Cumberland as they are racing south this year. Stephen Saywell said that the Liberation Committee will try not to let them clash.

Meeting closed at 3.00 pm