

South Coast Pigeon Federation Incorporated

President: **John Koster** *Secretary:* **Stephen Saywell**



Minutes SCF Annual General Meeting

Meeting Held: 6th February, 2010 at 1:00pm – Fraternity Bowling Club.

Present:

42 Financial members of the SCF attended with Keith Kitt, Warren Hinde and Graeme Sullivan attending as observers and with John Koster presiding as the chairman.

Apologies – Brett Yeaman

The minutes of the previous AGM were read to the meeting.

Moved C Hedley/D Monteleone that the minutes read were a true copy – carried unanimously

There were no questions arising from those minutes

Moved C Hedley/J Sheppard that the minutes be adopted – carried unanimously

President's Report:

The President's report was presented by John Koster. John outlined the performance of the SCF in the past 12 months and complimented the 2009 Committee for their efforts in achieving an outstanding administrative success in 2009. A full transcript of his report was attached to the annual report.

Presentation of Financial Balance Sheet:

The Treasurer presented the balance Sheet for 2009 and the auditor's report with qualifications and recommendations from that report. The Secretary read the report to the meeting and upon request for questions the only question arising was:

From D Glover re the zero figure in the 2009 SCF Dinner expenditure. It was explained that the auditor had used a template from 2008 to present the 2009 balance sheet summary and that the SCF dinner expense was included in the items relating to SCF Secretary's expenses. This explanation was accepted by the meeting.

Moved A Zahra/W Lamers that the financial report be accepted – carried unanimously

Auditor Appointment:

Moved R Bird/C Hedley that Anthony Abela be approached and invited to be the SCF auditor for 2010.

Carried unanimously

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Election of Officers:

Written nominations were presented for the positions of:

President	John Koster
Vice President	Brett Yeaman
Secretary	Robert Yeaman
Race Secretary	Trevor Gasseling
Assistant Race Secretary	Mark Maidman
Ring Secretary	Leanne Lane

These officers were elected unopposed.

There was no written nomination for the position of Treasurer. Nominations for the position of Treasurer were called from the floor with none forthcoming. The opportunity to elect a Treasurer from the floor was lost and it was deferred to the next SCF Committee meeting for discussion and appointment for that position.

Vale:

There was a minute's silence for a past member, Allan Yeaman, who passed away on 5th Feb, 2010. Allan was a flyer of many years and was the father of our Vice-President, Brett. The Chairman passed on the condolences of the meeting to Bob, Barry, Brett and their families.

Notices of Motion:

A total of 5 nominations were put to the committee. These motions were discussed by the committee and the Chairman spoke on the acceptability of each motion. The following actions were taken:

Motion 1: Compulsory vaccination for Pigeon Pox.

The Chairman offered T Cooper the opportunity to outline the reason for his motion. This led to an extended discussion by the meeting with the consensus being that it was strongly recommended that all flyers should vaccinate their birds against pigeon pox. The Chairman concluded the discussion and stated that the motion would not be put to the membership as the SCF had no legal entitlement to make vaccination compulsory.

Motion 2: Unlimited sale of IGBF Rings.

The Chairman offered T Cooper the opportunity to outline the reason for this motion. There was some discussion about pros and cons of having a limit and why T Cooper and K Pearson thought that the rule limiting sales of IGBF rings should be amended. The Chairman advised that this motion was in order and would be put to the members for ballot.

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Motion 3: Membership to vote on cancellation of races from the published programme.

The Chairman invited D Glover to speak for the motion that he and I Sunlay had moved. The consensus from the movers for this motion was that they considered it the member's right to determine that a race be cancelled rather than a few members elected to the SCF Committee to manage the affairs of the SCF. The Chairman noted their comments and pointed out that the committee had followed a procedure to make the members aware that the race needed to have at least 250 birds nominated for a race to be conducted from Welshpool. Members were asked several times for nominations for this race and that the minimum number set by the committee was not met. Further points from discussion were noted:

- The Committee is appointed by the membership to conduct the business arising in operating the SCF.
- The Committee sets the race programme for the year and the conditions for those races.
- The SCF Committee has set the welfare of the birds above that of a limited number of members that may wish to conduct a race regardless of the numbers sent.
- It was also noted that previous committees (including years where D Glover had been the President) had exercised their authority and cancelled races without consultation of the membership.
- When D Glover was asked an opinion on what would constitute a minimum number of pigeons to be sent to a long distance races he declined to nominate a number.

The Chairman advised the meeting that the SCF Committee, elected by the SCF membership, did have the authority to conduct the affairs of the SCF for the benefit of the members and the welfare of the pigeons. He advised that the motion was declined and the SCF would operate as it had done in the past with the SCF Committee controlling the affairs of the SCF.

For those members that may wish to question this ruling please refer to our constitution; particularly clause 13(c):

Part 3 – The committee

13. Powers of the committee

The committee is to be called the committee of management of the association and, subject to the Act, the Regulation and these rules and to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting:

- (a) is to control and manage the affairs of the association, and*
- (b) may exercise all such functions as may be exercised by the association, other than those functions that are required by these rules to be exercised by a general meeting of members of the association, and*
- (c) has power to perform all such acts and do all such things as appear to the committee to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of the association.*

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Notice of Motion 4: Clock variation of ETS to be same as conventional clocks.

This motion was moved by D Glover and I Sunlay. When asked to explain the logic of the motion D Glover referred to the incident in last year's National where he asserted that P Breeze's clock had exceeded the loss/gain regulation and no penalty had been applied.

An explanation from the APOF executive was requested to explain to D Glover that his allegation was incorrect and that the clock had been inspected and although set at the wrong time the variation was found to be less than 1 second. It was also pointed out that the times could be accurately assessed by following the print out copies of the entry sheet and the race result sheet. The two in conjunction with each other clearly verified that they were indeed in correlation with each other.

The Chairman advised that this motion was declined as Rule 21 of the Racing and clock rules covers ALL clocking systems used by the SCF.

Notice of Motion 5: all ETS are to be updated with the latest software as it becomes available.

This motion was moved by D Glover and I Sunlay. There was some discussion about the need to make updating of ETS software compulsory. The Chairman advised that the existing ETS rules covered any concerns that may arise from security aspects of the use or application of an ETS. Specifically rules 1 and 2 of Clock Rules Part B cover this intent of this motion. Simply put an ETS must first be approved for use by the SCF before it can be used in competition and secondly if the committee assesses that there is a security risk with an ETS then that system can be scrutinized and refused use in SCF races. Therefore this motion was considered unnecessary and refused acceptance.

After the Notices of Motion were discussed Bob Yeaman addressed the meeting and complimented the committee on their efforts for the past three years. He asked that the members get behind him, as the new secretary, and that the members must realize that continual personal attacks by a minority of the membership on the committee could result in no member wanting to stand on the committee. He also offered some opinion on how interclub and sale races formats and rules should be supplied to the SCF well prior to their inclusion in the race programme.

Meeting closed at 2:23pm.

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General Meeting of SCF Members

Several items were discussed by the membership and the SCF Committee will consider the items put and how they can be implemented in 2010. The major points noted were:

ETS Installations:

I Sunlay asked the Chair why the question as to the legality of ETS installations had been ignored after it had been raised at the AGM last year. The chairman stated that all ETS are inspected by club executives when they are first installed and all have met the criteria set for their installation. The Secretary then explained that:

- The question had been addressed in 2008, when it had first been raised and again at the AGM of 2009.
- The matter had not been ignored or “swept under the carpet”, as claimed by I Sunlay.
- The matter had been published in the minutes dated 5th August, 2008.
- An explanation stating that ETS systems in question had been inspected and complied with the general interpretation of the appropriate ETS rules was made then and again reinforced at the AGM in 2009.

The Secretary then again explained the “common sense” approach the committee had taken in its definition and interpretation of the ETS rules in question.

SCF Combine Pointscore:

P Breeze requested that the SCF Combine Pointscore points allocation be reduced to 12 prizes for all combines. He was advised that there was no rule as such in our constitution and that the committee had set the points awarded each year. He was advised after the meeting that a letter from his club to the 2020 committee was required as the first step to accede to his request.

Use of Comb-Rings:

G Worthington asked if the use of “Combi Rings” by the SCF had been considered. He was concerned that the ETS rings were easy to remove and several of his birds had homed with the ring removed. The reply was that they had been considered and a decision made not to use them as the committee was not convinced that:

- They had been demonstrated to be secure
- The rings were compatible with all ETS.
- The chip may be easily removed.
- They did not offer a significant cost advantage over the current ETS practices.

These were the main topics for discussion and the meeting closed at 3:30pm