

VICTORIAN HOMING ASSOCIATION INC.

Minutes of the VHA delegates meeting held at Notting Hill on the 13th of November 2023.

The President Andrew Spiliopoulos declared the meeting open at 7.05pm.

ROLL CALL

CLUB	PRESENT	MEMBERS	DELEGATES
Diamond Valley	Yes	12	3
Frankston	Yes	9	2
Greensborough	N/A	3	0
Heidelberg	Yes	11	2
Ivanhoe	Yes	11	2
Knox	Yes	5	1
Malvern	No	9	0
Metropolitan	Yes	7	1
Mornington	Yes	5	1
Northcote	Yes	6	1
North East	Yes	4	1
Notting Hill	Yes	5	1
Oakleigh-Waverley	Yes	8	2
Pathfinder	Yes	9	2
Plenty	Yes	10	2
South East	Yes	8	2
United	Yes	8	2
TOTAL		129	25

Apologies – Kevin Clark Gerry Sheean and Hank Merbis.

Matters arising from the previous meeting. None. Moved Neville Stone seconded Steve Kearsey minutes be accepted. Carried.

Vote on notice of motion from Pathfinder to alter rules 55 and 56. Vote for rule to stay as is. 21 Yes 4 No. Result of vote – Motion defeated. Rule to be left as is.

REPORTS

VRPB – Colin Walker. Colin gave the meeting a rundown of the VRPB's latest undertakings. Please see full report attached.

Ring Secretary – Andrew Spiliopoulos on behalf of Hank Merbis. 34 pigeons reported and owners notified.

Clock Chairman – Alan Marcon. Alan reported one centre had not changed their clocks for daylight saving and one clock had a pre-existing race in it throwing times out. One clock from Frankston centre was not presented but a photo sent instead. The flyers time was removed from the result. Another flyer sent a picture of his clock in the Yolla race and his time was removed from the result.

Photos of electronic clock times will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Discussion was had at Alan's request around presentation of clocks for the upcoming 500 and 600 mile races. It was decided that pigeons from the 500 home on the day be processed on the Tuesday night but pigeons clocked after this would be processed on the Thursday night along with the 600 mile clock presentation.

Treasurers Report – Steve Brown on behalf of Gerry Sheean.

Current bank balances. Cheque Account - \$21,049.28 V2 Plus Account \$55.07 ANZ Online Account \$131,657.19. Gerry's summary of moneys owed less \$18,500 from Bayswater club and \$24,000 from the pigeon sale leaves us with approx. \$40K in the bank. We need to set affiliation fees for 2024 and he suggests \$200. Upfront fees for next year can be looked at later.

Transport Officer – Andrew Spiliopoulos. Andrew discussed the upcoming two races and suggested to the delegates that a change of release points for both races be considered. After discussion it was agreed by the delegates that the 500 birds should be released at Orroroo and the 600 birds at Blinman. This was moved John Van Beers seconded Colin Walker. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Heidelberg club advising verification of W. Wang and J. Hao federation winners.

South East club verification of A. and D. Marcon federation winner.

Diamond Valley verification of P. McDonough federation winner.

Plenty notification of verification of J. Cerin's federation winner.

Pathfinder new race schedule proposal for 2024 racing season.

Victorian Racing Pigeon Union requesting quote for transport for 2024 season.

Heidelberg Club Notice of Motion to change rule 79a & insertion of rule 79c (all transfers to be done prior to the first federation race).

GENERAL BUSINESS

With Reference to the request by the VRPU for a transport tender. The delegates were asked to vote whether the VRPU could transport on our truck. It was moved Steve Kearsey seconded Neville Stone that they be allowed. Motion carried. Andrew and Sam Spiliopoulos and Gerry Sheean will meet with the VRPU to discuss details for a tender.

The new race schedule submitted by Pathfinder Club was discussed. It was put to the meeting by Jeff Weaver that the submission of this new schedule clearly contradicted rule 27. David Wetering was then asked to speak to the members regarding Pathfinders submission. John Van Beers then spoke referencing the reduction in daylight hours when races were held earlier. Two examples he gave

were the rescheduling of the first five hundred mile race to the 5th of October from the existing scheduled 2nd of November and the rescheduling of the second 500 mile race to the 19th of October from the existing scheduled 9th of November. This would result in 65 less minutes of daylight and 47 less minutes of daylight respectively thus giving less time for the birds to get home. Steve Kearsy spoke and suggested bringing back the scheduled dates would enable more flexibility if we ran into hot weather. Steve Brown stated that the original DV line of flight which was submitted was the same schedule that we have been racing on the NE line for the past 30 years and required further examination. He stated the Pathfinder submission was not a change of line of flight, and was a re-shuffle of races on the schedule with the same race points. The submission offered one less club race as we generally lose money on some club races which are not supported and most flyers toss from Wharing Cottage prior to the first race. It offers a race on the Friday prior to the 10 birder rather than sending an empty truck and the season finishes 3 weeks earlier, therefore the delegates had the chance to rectify the schedule. After another objection by Jeff Weaver that the submission did not comply with VHA rules it was decided by the President and the Secretary to allow a motion to put the new schedule back to the clubs. It was then moved David Wetering seconded Steve Kearsy the new schedule go back to the clubs for consideration. Motion carried.

Members are reminded that the presentation day is on Sunday the 3rd of December at the Manningham club in Bulleen. Clubs to provide numbers to the secretary.

Reminder the Victorian Pigeon Convention is being held at The Meadows on the 24th, 25th and 26th of November. Details on the website <https://wpf.org.au/victorian-national-pigeon-convention-2023/>

Discussion was had re the VHA bird of the year calculation. Even though there is no rule governing the selection of bird of the year attempts to discuss an alternative to the current "system" were met with no interest.

Advice from the President that all future November meetings be held on the second Monday of the month.

Permission was sought for Executive Officers to advise the treasurer to pass payment for remaining federation races once winners verified. This is to enable payments to be made as the treasurer is heading overseas. This was moved Steve Kearsy seconded Tina Dark. Motion carried.

Members advised 2022 year book is at the printers.

The secretary advised more of the Peter Ainsworth race special rings were available for interested clubs. To be conducted on the 1st 400 mile race (within the fed race) Rings \$5-00 each with 1000 to be sold. Rings available from – Notting Hill Steve Brown 0402 381 490, Diamond Valley – Shane Peels 0418 138 436, Ivanhoe/Northc- Steve Paralys 0403 259 031 & Frankston Brad McPherson 0455 457 772. Rings can also be order via Email - stevebrown9@bigpond.com

Chen Cheng has received request for more information from the Council. Colin Walker to assist with this.

Jeff Weaver asked the members to consider a reduction in federation positions for next year. A request would need to come from a club.

Meeting closed at 9.03pm.