

# VICTORIAN HOMING ASSOCIATION INC.

Minutes of the VHA delegates meeting held at Notting Hill on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2024.

The President Andrew Spiliopoulos declared the meeting open at 7.22pm.

## ROLL CALL

CLUB	PRESENT	MEMBERS	DELEGATES
Diamond Valley	Yes	13	3
Frankston	Yes	8	2
Greensborough	No	5	0
Heidelberg	Yes	12	3
Ivanhoe	Yes	10	2
Knox	Yes	4	1
Malvern	N/A	0	0
Metropolitan	Yes	6	1
Mornington	No	4	0
Northcote	No	5	0
North East	Yes	4	1
Notting Hill	N/A	3	0
Oakleigh-Waverley	Yes	7	1
Pathfinder	Yes	8	2
Plenty	Yes	10	2
South East	Yes	9	2
United	Yes	9	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>117</b>	<b>22</b>

Apologies Kevin Clark and Colin Walker.

Matters arising from the previous minutes. – None. It was moved Hank Merbis seconded Neville Stone the minutes be accepted. Carried.

Election of office bearers.

Block nomination from Metropolitan club. Andrew Spiliopoulos – President, Kevin Clark and Jeff Weaver - Vice Presidents. Alan Marcon – Clock Chairman, Steve Gazzola, David Wetering and Peter McDonough – Liberation Committee, Sam Spiliopoulos – Transport Officer.

Due to the application of office bearers not being received by the October meeting as stipulated in the rules nominations for positions were allowed from the floor. Steve Gazzola nominated Mark Tung for President with Steve Kearsey seconding the nomination. A vote was then held for all other positions as per the Metropolitan submission. It was moved Neville Stone seconded Gary Mountjoy that all other positions be filled as per the nomination. Carried. A vote was then held for President which resulted in Andrew Spiliopoulos receiving 12 votes and Mark Tung receiving 10 votes. Andrew Spiliopoulos retaining the position of President.

Election of sub-committee members – Assistant clock chairman, Assistant Transport Officer & Minute Secretary. Steve Kearsley, Andrew Spiliopoulos and Mark Tung each volunteered for the positions and were then appointed respectively.

## REPORTS

VRPB – No report.

Ring Secretary – Hank Merbis. 22 birds reported and owners notified.

Clock Chairman – Alan Marcon. Alan reported to the delegates that the Benzing representative visiting Australia confirmed the process that allowed time given to Ergun Avci's second pigeon in the 500 mile race in season 2023 as correct.

Treasurer – Gerry Sheean. Gerry had already provided the members with a comprehensive report at the AGM. He then provided the current bank balances as -: Cheque account - \$32,080.62 V2 Plus account - \$55.07 ANZ Online Saver - \$81,500.00. He also provided the Profit and Loss statement for January.

Transport Officer – Andrew Spiliopoulos. Andrew advised he has received quotes for the new water pump of \$1,88 - \$1,970. He has also advised that the curtains on the trailer need repair and should be done sooner rather than later as the damage will only get worse.

Members were also advised that the VPU had accepted the tender for transport with the Western Pigeon Federation over the VHA.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Greater Melbourne Pigeon Federation requesting a price to transport with the VHA to the 500 and 600 mile stages.

VRPU advising of their transporting with the WPF this season.

Mornington submitting various notices of motion.

Metropolitan nominating office bearers and liberation committee for 2024.

VRPB notifying AGM and updated code of practice.

Diamond Valley requesting validity of rings being issued by Winners 1.

Diamond Valley advising new member J. Li (Lower Plenty)

Affiliations from Metropolitan, Diamond Valley, Knox, Oakleigh Waverley, United, Northcote, Ivanhoe, Frankston and Plenty.

Heidelberg advising new member M. Portelli (Altona Meadows) with clearance.

North East advising new members Colin James (Seville).

Heidelberg – S. Piralis member transferring from Northcote club. With clearance supplied.

United New members M. Valentine (Cranbourne South) J. Stanley (Pearcedale) & S. Ali (Cranbourne North)

Mornington notifying of change of address for B. McPherson.

Diamond Valley Submitting a Notice of Motion to change rule 3(i) VHA members cannot compete in another federation.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

The rings supplied by Winners 1 were discussed. As the rings have a contact number on them and the distributor keeps a record of ownership it was moved Steve Kearsley seconded Hank Merbis the rings be accepted for use in the VHA. Carried.

Rings for the Peter Ainsworth race are still available contact Steve Brown.

Andrew reported the VHA presentation day held at the Manningham club went well with all attending enjoying the get together.

Notice of Motion presentation from Steve Kearsley. Steve outlined the concerns with double flying summarised in the following-:

All the work required on basketing night has to be completed by the members present and it is impossible to be at two places at once. This puts a greater burden on members who stay at one location. This action can and has caused dissent amongst the remaining workers and puts pressure on room supervisors who then have to deal with accusations of individual members not "doing enough work".

Double flying allows teams to be sent to the National from each federation. i.e. 20 birds instead of 10 as sent by the majority. It is acknowledged that existing dual flyers in one fed do this now but the incidence of this happening would rise from approximately 3 to near 20. A huge increase in the scheme of things.

If 17 flyers (the number quoted) double fly outside the VHA the monetary effect to the remaining flyers would be substantial. e.g. If 17 flyers reduce their upfront nominations to the VHA to 10 per week (and could well be more) that equates to 170 per week and 2720 per season at a cost of at least \$5440.00 (and probably more) to be met by the remaining non double flyers.

Steve Brown raised the possible legalities of not allowing flyers to compete in two federations and the wording of the notice of motion. He also queried the possibility of a non VHA member racing in another federation from the same property as a VHA member and believed that the motion should be sent to Charles Hider for comment.

The President believes that the numbers Steve Kearsley estimates will be lost from existing members will be made up from the flyers that will come into the VHA.

A comment was made from the floor that not allowing dual flying could lead to members leaving the VHA.

Meeting closed at 8.28pm.

