

VICTORIAN HOMING ASSOCIATION INC.

Minutes of the VHA delegates meeting held at Notting Hill on the 1st of March 2021

The President Andrew Spiliopoulos declared the meeting open at 7.04pm.

ROLL CALL

CLUB	PRESENT	TOTAL	DELEGATES
Bayswater-Nunawading	Yes	4	1
Diamond Valley	No	12	3
Greensborough	No	6	1
Heidelberg	Yes	10	2
Ivanhoe	Yes	12	3
Knox	Yes	13	3
Malvern	Yes	5	1
Mountain District	Yes	6	1
Northcote	No	6	1
North East	Yes	5	1
Notting Hill	Yes	9	2
Oakleigh-Waverley	Yes	9	2
Pathfinder	Yes	12	3
Plenty	Yes	9	2
South East	Yes	6	1
United	Yes	6	1
TOTAL		130	28

Apologies Bob Stukel and Alan Marcon

Matters arising from previous minutes -none.

Moved Neville Stone seconded Steve Gazzola that the minutes be accepted. Carried unanimously.

Notice of Motion

The notice of motion to alter rule 2(a). It was moved Ray Schreiber seconded Steve Gazzola the motion be accepted. Carried unanimously.

The notice of motion to clarify boundaries rule 10. Moved Ray Schreiber seconded Paul Gardiner. Carried unanimously.

NEW CLUBS AND MEMBERS

The application for membership from Mornington and Frankston clubs was put to the delegates. It was moved Neville Stone seconded Paul Suban that both clubs be accepted into the VHA. Motion carried unanimously.

The secretary Steve Brown then read out the names of the ten new members from Frankston club and then the four new members of Mornington club. The delegates from the two new clubs were

then advised by the President they were able to participate in the meeting and vote on matters arising. New clubs and delegates that will be included in the next delegates meeting roll call are as follow

CLUB	PRESENT	TOTAL	DELEGATES
Frankston		10	2
Mornington		4	1
TOTAL		144	31

CORRESPONDENCE

The secretary advised that he had replied to the Frankston Council re its enquiry regarding specification for a pigeon club.

A letter was received from Bayswater-Nunawading Homing Pigeon club. The club has submitted a notice of motion to insert a new rule 3(f) and subsequently re number rules 3(f), (g) and (h) to 3(g), (h) and(i). **Please refer to letter attached.**

Oakleigh – Waverley club have offered to supply a defibrillator machine to the Notting Hill centre. This would be on condition that the VHA undertake training of operators for the machine.

Oakleigh – Waverley have submitted a letter requesting a change of section to include their club members only. They are to be advised to submit a notice of motion detailing their request.

REPORTS

Race and Finance Committee Meeting

The President ran through the minutes of the race and finance committee meeting held on the 22nd of February 2021. The race and finance committee have recommended that the upfront fees this year be \$1.40 per pigeon with a late entry excess of \$1.10 per pigeon making a total of \$2.50 entry for a late nomination. It was moved Ray Schreiber seconded Paul Gardiner this recommendation be accepted. Carried unanimously.

Ring Secretary

Hank Merbis advised 13 birds had been reported and owners notified. Hank requested that all club secretaries advise him of the number of rings required for the upcoming breeding season. He also sought clarification on who is able to purchase VHA rings.

Transport Officer

Andrew advised that he is looking into a rebate for diesel fuel used as we are a non-profit organisation and a sporting group.

Treasurer

Gerry reported the VHA is in a sound financial position. We currently have \$71,425 in the bank with outgoings of \$6,800 for honorariums and \$6,670 for Insurance. Added money of \$17,700. Estimated balance of \$41,425. Gerry also spoke regarding the insurance on the trailer. He advised that the

trailer was not covered when registered. After discussion it was moved Paul Bryant seconded Colin Walker that the trailer should be covered by insurance at all times. Carried unanimously.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The VHA secretary Steve Brown's phone number is 0402 381 490.

Steve Kearsley has advised that he is willing act in the capacity of assistant clock chairman. It was moved Gavin Frazer seconded Andrew Demidowski Steve be appointed to this position. Motion carried unanimously.

Andrew advised that Andrew Demidowski has been updating the website with assistance from Steve Letch when required. The original VHA logos have been reinstated. New look logos will be presented to the delegates for consideration.

Andrew reminded people of the upcoming sprint series and encouraged flyers to participate.

Neil Machar has a spare bottle of Rota vaccine available. If anyone is interested Neil's phone number is 0428 500 039.

Colin Walker is to follow up on the formation of the committee for "One Voice Victoria". It is understood that some associations have representatives but others have yet to appoint theirs. The VHA representative is Kevin Clarke.

Colin Walker advised the issue with dying pigeons in Queensland is believed to be as a result of PMV. In light of this he advises VHA members should vaccinate as usual.

A representative from Victoria for the National Pigeon Board was discussed as it is vacant.

Jeff Weaver advised that he and Mark Schubert would not be going ahead with the VHA pigeon sale that was originally planned for 2020.

Kevin Clarke responding to a question from Hank Merbis advised that an electronic clock could not be used simultaneously for two races conducted by two separate federations.

Kevin Clarke suggested that the VHA rules should be looked at with regard to the number of federation positions that can be taken and an update to the procedure for "Benzing Live". Kevin noted that there had been a lot of discussion in the past re the current "Benzing Live" rule. He has now been asked by the President to revisit the rule and provide an update to the delegates for consideration.

David Crosby has five cane pigeon baskets for sale. The money received will go to the VHA. David's contact number is 9723 3678.

Paul Gardiner asked if the updated race schedule could be put on the website. Gerry Sheean advised that he would update the schedule and have it posted.

Ray Shreiber requested an agenda be put out for the next delegates meeting.

The next delegates meeting was to fall on Easter Monday but has now been rescheduled to the 12th of April starting at 7.00pm.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 9.07pm

ATTACHMENT

BAYSWATER-NUNAWADING HOMING PIGEON CLUB

NOTICE OF MOTION

Insert the new rule as Rule 3(f). Re-number rules 3(f), (g) and (h) to 3(g), (h) and (i).

(f) In VHA races, only one member or partnership may participate from any one property whether such property is residential, industrial or commercial and regardless of the size of the said property. The member or partnership will be allowed a maximum entry of one hundred birds in any race other than those races deemed to have a different limit as decided by the Executive Body either at the Line of Flight meeting or from time to time for special races.

Examples: (1) 10 Bird Special decided at the Line of Flight Meeting.
(2) 50 Bird limit in the March/April 2021 Special Races as decided by Executive Body the February 2021 Meeting

Notes of Explanation

The purpose of this Notice of Motion

The main purpose of this Notice of Motion is to provide a more even distribution of results in that only one member/partnership may compete on any one property and may take only one Federation/Section position and it follows only one prize, spreading the results more over the competition.
(Two positions/prizes in long distance races as per the VHA rules)

To achieve this end, whilst some members may have a strong view in relation to numbers of birds/flyers per property, we must all be prepared to accept compromise.

100 Bird Limit

For those members who believe there should be no limit, we do not agree and we are proposing a compromise of a 100 bird limit. This proposed limit is generous in itself and entry to this limit is achievable by only a very small proportion of the members in our organization both in number of birds and financially. The 100 bird limit is a very reasonable compromise.

For those members who believe 100 bird limit is too high, we would say this. Previously there has been proposals to have “one loft- one backyard” with a 50 bird limit. These proposals have received little support and in our view is not achievable. It is not achievable for two reasons:-

- Members do not wish to lose the extra income realized towards transport cost from the members who sent large numbers via two teams.
- Members do not wish to upset their club members who send two teams.

So again the answer is compromise. By having a 100 bird limit, larger flyers can still send the same maximum number of birds that they sent across two teams so in terms of getting birds away to races, they are not disadvantaged compared to previous years. By being able to maintain their previous numbers, their contribution towards transport cost would remain the same alleviating the fears of reduced transport income caused by a 50 bird limit. **BUT THEY CAN ONLY TAKE ONE POSITION AND ONE PRIZE.**

(Two positions/prizes in long distance races as per the VHA rules)

Start Date

Our Club believes that this rule should be implemented for the 2021 season. If the Notice of Motion is successful and applied to the 2021 season, the Bayswater- Nunawading Homing Pigeon Club Delegate will immediately move a motion that all existing multi team flyers have their birds transferred to one of their existing names at no cost. Also additional memberships paid for 2021 to be refunded.

Tim Owen
Secretary,
Bayswater-Nunawading Homing Pigeon Club