

**MINUTES OF THE RACE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT NOTTING HILL ON THE 28TH OF FEBRUARY 2022**

President Andrew Spiliopoulos opened the meeting at 7.03pm.

PRESENT Andrew Spiliopoulos, Paul Gardiner, Ed Sheean, Kevin Clark, Steven Kearsey, Ray Schreiber, Steve Gazzola, David Wetering, Alan Marcon, Mark Schubert, Steve Brown, Mark Tung and Jeff Weaver.

The president welcomed the two new executive officers Kevin Clark and Ray Shreiber.

ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

MELBOURNE 110 RACE The President advised that Bob Stukel has resigned as chairman of the Melbourne 110 committee. It was decided that the race should still be held and that a new chairman would be sought to run the race. The Secretary Steve Brown would send out a message to the members seeking someone to take on the chairman's role. Andrew Spiliopoulos advised that he would be running the transport. It was decided that the race be on the North line and the race point be Mount Hope.

AUDITOR This role is currently not filled. Steve Brown advised that because our turn over is under \$250,000, we don't need a qualified person to fill this role. Steve will send out a communication to the members calling for nomination for the position.

REPAIRS TO UNITS The repairing of the units at Notting Hill will be undertaken by a working bee which will begin at 8.00am Saturday the 5th of March. Two people from each centre required to help with the work. Steve Brown will send out a text asking for volunteers. All attending please advise Andrew Spiliopoulos.

SPRINT SERIES There was a lot of discussion around the holding of the sprint series. It was decided that as the series ran at a loss of \$5,000 last year that lowering the cost was imperative to the future success of the series. As such it was decided that the races would be special races and not federation races. This would mean there would be no medallions or certificates awarded resulting in savings of \$100 a race. The committee are to look into using a smaller unit to take the pigeons and decided there would be no need to take a conveyer for such a small distance and low number of birds. Prices for entry would be the same as currently advertised subject to transport costs which would be priced going forward. It was decided that the season opening would be pushed back to the 23rd of April. The race points being three Shepperton's and three Deniliquin's. A fifty bird limit would apply. Note there will be no Hay race point. Other federation flyers would be able to fly subject to paying an associates members fee. Basketing will be at Noting Hill and Ivanhoe centres. If it is decided to pay prize money it would be paid over two sections, North and South.

OLD BIRD SERIES Andrew in his role as transport officer gave a run down of costs for the 2021 race series and informed the members that on current fuel pricing there could be an increase of \$10,000 on diesel fuel. This was noted as a volatile cost moving forward. The following costings are to be recommended to the delegates for the 2022 season. An up front fee of \$1.10 per bird with an excess of \$2.20 for extra birds. No exchange of up front fee bird allocations between flyers to be allowed.

The club and federation entry is:- club races \$0.80 per bird. Narrandera and West Wyalong \$1.50 per bird Narrandera Derby \$3.00 per bird. Parkes Produce \$4.00, Parkes 10 bird \$5.50, Parkes \$2.00. Yolla races \$4.50. Dubbo \$2.50, National 10 bird \$6.50, Coonamble \$3.50 and Collarenebri \$5.50. Other pigeon organisations have requested to fly with the VHA and it was decided that fees to be charged would be Dubbo \$4.00 per bird, Coonamble \$5.00, Collarenebri \$5.00 and Yolla \$5.00.

DISTRIBUTION OF RING MONEY Treasurer Ray Schreiber reported on the ring fund moneys. It was decided on an allocation of \$1,200 per race excluding the club races, two Yolla's and the National.

NOTTING HILL SEWER PROBLEM Andrew reported on the toilet issue at Notting Hill centre. He has supplied a quote of approx. \$10,000 for a permanent sewer line to replace the existing pump system which he has been advised will only fail again. Andrew gave a breakdown of the costs and the members of the Race a Finance committee recommended that the Executive Officers go ahead and have the work done.

Meeting was closed at 9.01pm.