

VICTORIAN HOMING ASSOCIATION INC.

Minutes of the VHA delegates meeting held at Notting Hill on the 7th of November 2022.

The President Andrew Spiliopoulos declared the meeting open at 7.06pm.

ROLL CALL

CLUB	PRESENT	MEMBERS	DELEGATES
Diamond Valley	Yes	13	3
Frankston	Yes	13	3
Greensborough	No	6	0
Heidelberg	Yes	13	3
Ivanhoe	Yes	10	2
Knox	Yes	10	2
Malvern	No	8	0
Metropolitan	Yes	7	1
Mornington	No	7	0
Northcote	Yes	5	1
North East	Yes	4	1
Notting Hill	Yes	7	1
Oakleigh-Waverley	Yes	8	2
Pathfinder	Yes	12	3
Plenty	Yes	8	2
South East	Yes	5	1
United	Yes	7	1
TOTAL		142	26

Apologies – Kevin Clark

Matters arising from the previous minutes. None.

REPORTS

VRPB - Colin Walker. Colin addressed some concerns regarding participation in the new Animal Protection Laws. Noting that pigeon racing is an established activity which should be self-regulating and as such we should be involved in the process. Colin referred members to the update in the Australian Racing Pigeon Journal.

Clock Chairman - Alan Marcon. All is going well. Some discussion was held with reference to the clock of a member being set an hour out. Reference was made to our current rules that require a clocks time to be set initially by the VHA.

Ring Secreterty - Hank Merbis. Fifty-four pigeons reported and owners notified.

110 RACE - Steve Gazzola The 110 race has been run and won. The winning pigeon verified. \$47,000 money has been paid out in prizes. \$5,000 in costs. The VHA made no money on the running of the event.

Transport Officer - Andrew Spiliopoulos. Andrew referred to the transport this year as “an outback adventure”. Most people would be aware of the difficulty faced by all federations this year with the floods and the varying weather patterns. Damage was sustained to Sam’s truck with water getting into the brakes and the differential. This resulted in substantial costs for repair. Discussion was had on the upcoming 500 and 600 mile races. It was decided to postpone basketing and closely monitor the weather. Sam Spiliopoulos will contact local authorities to find out which roads are open to traffic. A decision will be made with regard to which line will be flown as data becomes available. Andrew reported that the Yolla race was the most stressful he had to organise with 45 flyers nominating but 60 flyers attending on the night. This created some issues with the transport. Reports are that returns were good and that they were comparative to the Union.

Andrew then addressed an issue that was raised at a previous a previous meeting with regard to our transport contractor charging for transport to races in 2019 that had been cancelled. This matter was investigated by the acting treasurer Gerry Sheean with assistance from the then treasurer Tim Brudenell. Members are advised that no races have been charged for that weren’t undertaken.

Treasurers Report - Gerry Sheean. Gerry reports we are trading OK. Current bank balances Cheque account:- \$55,965.40, V2 plus account \$498.15, ANZ on line saver \$60,062.12
There is still prize money to be allocated and transport costs to come out. Gerry raised concern with the future of the VHA 110 race due to poor participation and the allocation of \$25,000 1st. prize money when our initial aim was to \$100,000. Gerry would like to remind delegates that he recommends affiliation fees be set at \$200 for next year.

CORRESPONDENCE

South East Club - Verification of Dubbo federation winner.

Metropolitan Club – Verification of National federation winner.

Diamond Valley Club – Verification of Parkes & Parkes 10 bird federation winners.

North East Club – Verification of Cobar federation winner.

Frankston Club – Verification of VHA 110 winner.

Diamond Valley Club – Verification of Coonamble federation winner.

Metropolitan Club – Nomination of D. Wetering and S. Gazzola for liberation committee 2023.

Application of new member Rob Farrugia.

Cam Murrells – Several convoyers reports.

Andrew Demidowski – Resignation as web site manager for 2023.

Jim Davis - Minutes of National meeting and results of Cobar National.

Metropolitan Club – Notice of Motion to alter rule 39.

Gippsland RPF – Request to send birds to Coonamble.

Western Pigeon Federation – Requesting breakdown of National race costs.

Reuben McInnes – Requesting information to start in pigeons. (11 years old from Metung Victoria).

Gippsland RPF to make contact with Rueben.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Rob Farrugia voted in as member.

Steve brown explained Metropolitan's notice of motion to alter Rule 39. This will be voted on at next meeting.

Thanks was given to Godfrey Stevens and Ivanhoe Club for their very generous donations in support of the two five hundred and the six hundred mile races and the Yolla race respectively.

A new PRV representative is required for next year as Colin Walker has advised he will be overseas for eight months.

The VHA will need a treasurer for next year anyone interested should contact Steve Brown or Andrew Spiliopoulos.

Andrew reported that the rent for the premises next door is up to date but that there is \$4,000 owed for body corporate. This is being followed up.

Mark Tung advised that the online auction would start the next day. The auction can be accessed via the Greater Melbourne website. All told 27 pigeons from several states will be offered in two parts. Advertising has been placed in the Australian Racing Pigeon Journal.

The meeting closed at 8.09pm.