

VICTORIAN HOMING ASSOCIATION INC.

Minutes of the VHA delegates meeting held at Notting Hill on the 6th of February 2023.

The President Andrew Spiliopoulos declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

ROLL CALL

CLUB	PRESENT	MEMBERS	DELEGATES
Diamond Valley	Yes	12	3
Frankston		0	
Greensborough		0	
Heidelberg	Yes	11	2
Ivanhoe	Yes	8	2
Knox		0	
Malvern		0	
Metropolitan		0	
Mornington		0	
Northcote	Yes	5	1
North East	Yes	4	1
Notting Hill	Yes	4	1
Oakleigh-Waverley	Yes	8	2
Pathfinder	Yes	8	2
Plenty	Yes	10	2
South East	Yes	8	2
United	Yes	8	2
TOTAL		86	20

Apologies - Mark Tung

Matters arising from the previous minutes – none. Moved Hank Merbis seconded Neville Stone minutes be accepted. Carried.

REPORTS

Clock Chairman – Alan Marcon. Nothing to report.

Ring Secretary – Hank Merbis. 15 strays reported in the last two months. Owners notified. Ring lists have not come in from all clubs. Could clubs get their ring lists into Hank ASAP.

Treasurers Report - Gerry Sheean

Current account balances 4th February 2023 - Cheque account \$48,262.58, V2 Plus account \$25,054.77, ANZ Online saver account. As previously reported at the AGM the VHA is in a sound financial position. Gerry recommended that the balance in the V2 Plus account be transferred to the Online saver account as it returns better interest. The interest to be paid into the Cheque account. It was moved Don Low seconded Kevin Clark that the money be moved as recommended. Motion

carried. Some clubs have not paid their ring account this amounts to a total of approx. \$5,600. Could club secretaries address this matter ASAP please.

Transport Officer – Andrew Spiliopoulos

Andrew advised that because we were racing the North West track we need a certificate for the straw. Centres need to get straw from Notting Hill. Andrew also asked Colin Walker if we could get a certificate to prevent road authorities from shaking the truck. This is a test they do on transport vehicles.

VRPB Report – Colin Walker

Colin is asking that pigeons confirmed with PMV be made available for the undertaking of a new Rapid Antigen test. This will hopefully lead to a new convenient and cheaper test for future use by fanciers. Anyone with pigeons effected please contact Colin Walker. As Colin is away for several months this year we are looking for a new representative on the VRPB bord. This would require the attendance at 2-3 face to face meetings and the odd on-line meeting. Anyone interested please contact Steve Brown or Colin. The nomination needs to be in by the 31st of March.

EXECUTIVE MEETING held 12th of December 2022.

Andrew addressed the meeting with regard to the outcome of the executive meeting.

Request to give direction on paying the Insurance on the Diamond Valley rooms. The offer of paying \$40 per member to each centre on request. Motion moved by Peter McDonough. The motion had no seconder so was not voted on and therefore the recommendation was not accepted.

Offer of repairs to the trailer by Andrew and Sam for the cost of materials only (\$26). This offer was accepted.

VHA 110 race to be discontinued. Moved Steve Brown seconded Kevin Clark. Motion carried.

Recommendation of a maximum of two flyers to race to any one property. This will require a notice of motion.

Running of the Notting Hill centre. Steve Brown accepted that this was for the centre to organise.

Mark Tung request that the proceeds from the VHA sale be put to good use. One proposal from Mark being a VHA social gathering somewhere in the north area of our fed.

Pigeonrace.net fed results being limited to the federation result being filled. It was decided that all clocks that are presented have their time put on the federation list.

Proposal to reduce the duration of 500 and 600 mile races by one day. This will require a notice of motion.

Proposal to charge competing flyers a \$10.00 fee for holdovers. Move Kevin Clark seconded Alan Marcon. Motion carried.

Proposal for a \$200 affiliation fee for season 2023. Move Gerry Sheean seconded Jeff Weaver. Motion carried.

Moving to a Committee of Management system for the VHA. Kevin Clark withdrew the proposal.

CORRESPONDENCE

Application for membership:-

Samad Perman – Oakleigh, John Galea – Plenty, Anthony Milovac – Plenty, Vince Araco – South East, Joe Venturina – United, Konrad Camigia – United, Jayson Esden – United, Ivan Espiritu - United.

Moved Hank Merbis seconded Colin Walker all new members be approved to join the VHA. Carried.

New flyers will be required to supply an initial ring list of all pigeons they are racing this year.

Application from Heidelberg for H. Merbis to fly as H. and C. Merbis. Moved Colin Walker seconded Jeff Weaver. Motion Carried.

ANRPB are seeking two VHA representatives for a Victorian Pigeon Convention to be held in 2024 around February – March.

National Day for War Animals to be held at the Shrine of Remembrance on February 24th. Gerry Sheean to attend and supply pigeons.

Letters from several clubs nominating office bearers.

Tim Owen advising of the cessation of the Bayswater /Nunawading club.

From Pathfinder a proposal to purchase/build a 1200 bird race unit/trailer.

Peter Dwyer -From Mornington Racing Pigeon club representing Racing Pigeon Victoria wishing to sponsor a 500 mile race. Members to be sent further details.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS 2023

Nominations received and seconded in October-:

President – Andrew Spiliopoulos

Vice President – Kevin Clark

Vice President – Jeff Weaver

Secretary – Steve Brown

Treasurer – Gerry Sheean

Race Secretary – Steve Gazzola

Clock Chairman – Alan Marcon

Transport Officer – Andrew Spiliopoulos

Also nominated for the Liberation Committee -: David Wetering, Steve Gazzola and Peter McDonough

Nominated for Ring Secretary – Hank Merbis.

It was moved Colin Walker seconded Don Lowe all nominated persons be elected. Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Gerry Sheean nominated for life membership. Moved Steve Brown seconded Kevin Clark. Carried. Congratulations to Gerry on this great achievement.

Colin Walker advised that pigeons have been donated to Melbourne University for veterinary studies.

Centre supervisors and clock chairman from each centre to be sent to Steve Brown.

Setting of upfront fee at \$1.50. Moved Neville Stone seconded Colin Walker. Motion carried.

Gerry Sheean recommended \$1,000 a race be allocated from added money. Moved Kevin Clark seconded Alan Marcon. Motion carried.

Discussion was held around our tenant and the future of the lease. He wishes to vacate the premises immediately. He currently owes some \$133.00 plus \$4,000 for eleven months of outgoings. Discussion was had around the future management of the lease and it was decided that an agent be consulted. Steve Gazzola volunteered to contact an agent and meet them on site. Advice from this meeting will be forwarded to the executive officers.

Andrew spoke about the possibility of renting floor space in our area for pallet storage during the non- racing months. Andrew to follow up.

Pathfinder then spoke regarding their investigation into the possible purchase of a 1200 bird trailer. David Wetering and Steve Gazzola brought the delegates up to date with what they were proposing. A seven meter trailer with aluminium slide in baskets of 900mm x 900mm, provision for carrying water and food and sleeping facilities. It would be approximately three tonne which is legally towable by a vehicle such as a Ford Ranger. An approximation of cost was \$90,000. It was decided that delegates go to their members and get feedback on whether further investigation should be undertaken. A properly drawn up design for consideration by members and quoting by a contractor would be the next step. This would require a commitment of money by the VHA.

Meeting closed at 9.37pm.