

VICTORIAN HOMING ASSOCIATION INC.

Minutes of the VHA February delegates meeting held at Notting Hill on the 3/2/2025.

The President Andrew Spiliopoulos declared the meeting open at 7:38 PM

Vale - Godfrey Stevens and Peter Fitzpatrick. A minute silence was held for both gentlemen.

ROLL CALL

CLUB	PRESENT	MEMBERS	DELEGATES
Diamond Valley	Yes	12	3
Frankston	Yes	9	2
Heidelberg	Yes	11	2
Ivanhoe	Yes	9	2
Knox	Recess	0	0
Malvern	Yes	9	2
Metropolitan	Yes	11	2
Mornington	Yes	4	1
Northcote	No	5	1
North East	Yes	5	1
Notting Hill	Yes	4	1
Oakleigh	Yes	6	1
Pathfinder	Yes	8	2
Plenty	Yes	12	3
South East	Yes	8	2
United	Yes	6	2
TOTAL		119	27

Apologies – NIL

S Kearsey spoke in relation to the late Godfrey Stevens, highlighting his very generous input towards the VHA over many decades and his passion and success in long distance racing. He further stated

the love of his pigeons and dedication to them and called him an icon of the sport. These comments were met with unanimous agreeance by the delegates present.

J Weaver also addressed the meeting regarding Godfrey, touching on his love for the Geelong and The Old Ivanhoe Grammarians Football Clubs and that he loved watching his son John play for the Sydney Swans. Many fanciers benefitted from his generosity.

K Clark spoke on behalf the late Peter Fitzpatrick. Peter started racing in the VRPU in 1966 and moved sometime after to the VHA. He also raced in the GMPF with Frankston. He loved gardening and social life, he was an all-round good bloke.

Previous minutes of the December 2/12/2024 delegates meeting (distributed via email)

Business Arising-

J Van Beers believed that the guidelines in rule 27 were not followed regarding the 2025 race schedule. After discussion it was decided to move this to general business.

December minutes had the incorrect date (11/11/24) typo error. To be amended. Jeff Weaver asked if the minutes would be sent out again. Steve Brown advised that they would not be circulated again for a typo error and that once amended they would be on the VHA website for public display along with all other meetings.

Minutes adopted – moved A Demidowski Seconded S Gazzola. Carried.

Voting:

New members: M Lucas (Metro) & A Barsheshet (Malvern) Moved D Lowe Seconded S Kearsey. Carried.

Reports

Clock Chairman- NIL

Ring Secretary- 29 birds reported. Club ring secretaries still have to submit their ring secretary report. Unused rings need to be returned by the 31st of March.

Treasurers Report-

Refer to Annual General Meeting

Honorariums

All honorariums to remain unchanged except for the treasurer's honorarium to be raised to \$5k. Moved S Brown Seconded A Demidowski Carried.

Transport

NIL

Correspondence

In

Frankston: A Lester name change flying as A & S Lester (Ring transfers required) noted.

Mornington: Clearance for J & A Stanley from United Club. (race list required) Noted

Metro: Clearance for M Lucas from Dandenong Club. Noted

Ivanhoe: J Morel flying as Morel and Iurato. (ring transfers required) Noted.

Ivanhoe: Canvas North- West section members re J Brislin & J Li requesting to join section. Rejected.

Liquor Control Vic – Liquor permit for Notting Hill. S Brown has matter in hand.

VRPB- Notice of AGM at Notting Hill 23/3/2025

Knox – Club in recess, T Maslowski, D Allen & G Mountjoy flying with Metro.

Diamond Valley – G Knight transferring from Plenty (with clearance). Flying as Knight Bros (ring transfers required)

Heidelberg: request for J. Brislin & J. Li to join North- West section and to be determined by the full delegates, not the North- west section members.

Lyn Wood: Making enquiries re J Yates inclusion into the VHA Hall of Fame (Moved to general business)

Heidelberg: Withdraw of request for two members to join north-west section re further enquiries to be made. Noted.

Tom Matchett United application for membership.

OUT

All members minutes: Minutes of December delegates meeting & notification of AGM, Presentation night & VHA transport sale.

Heidelberg: Advising that request for members to join NW section should be in NOM form by June 2025.

Lyn Wood: Acknowledging receipt of email and to follow up.

C Walker – Congratulations re Order of Australia (OAM)

Elections

President: Nominations M Tung & A Spiliopoulos. M Tung withdrew his nomination A Spiliopoulos elected unopposed. Nominated P. Suban
Seconded P. Bryant Carried.

Vice President: M Tung & K Clark were nominated. S Brown and S Gazzola seconded. Carried.

Secretary: S Brown nominated by S Gazzola & S Spiliopoulos. Carried.

Treasurer: P Bryant Nominated A Demidowski Seconded V Valvo. Carried.

Transport Officer: Sam Spiliopoulos. Assistant transport officer A Spiliopoulos. Nominated J Weaver Seconded A Demidowski. Carried

Clock Chairman: D Wetering Assistant : S Kearsey. Nominated K Clark seconded G Mountjoy. Carried

Race Secretary: S Gazzola Nominated D Lowe seconded S Kearsey Carried

Liberation Committee: S Gazzola, P McDonough & D Wetering. Nominated S Brown Seconded P. Suban Carried

Minutes Secretary: A Demidowski. Nominated M Tung seconded P Bryant. M Tung to assist when Andrew away. Carried

Ring Secretary: H Merbis Nominated J Weaver seconded P Suban. Carried

VRPB: A Demidowski & J Weaver Nominated P Bryant Seconded P McDonough. Carried

General Business

J Van Beers enquired if the Envelope Auction was a VHA event. Informed that it was not a VHA event.

J Van Beers stated rule 27 was not followed in allowing an amendment to the 2025 race schedule. In a general discussion John Van Beers enquired if the South East club could submit another race schedule. He was asked by S Brown if this was his driven by him or his clubs wishes. He advised that it was a club decision. J Weaver then stated that there was no hurry to adopt the 2025 race program as the WPF has not yet had their AGM to get the full support of their members. S Brown stated that he and A Spiliopoulos are members of the National Committee and attended the last meeting where all federations were in favour of transporting together for the 400 national, a 500 & 600 and he was unaware of any negativity. K Clarke believes that we put the 2025 race program in abeyance until this issue is sorted out.

Lyn Wood enquiring about J Yates introduction into the VHA hall of fame. It was suggested that the Plenty Club submit an application.

The meeting asked all clubs to have a look their present and past members to see if they fit the legends status. S Brown suggested that any nominations be sent initially to the Executive Officers for vetting before being presented to the Executive Committee (delegates).

The meeting congratulated Colin Walker on his OAM for services to Avian Veterinary Research and to Pigeon Racing. Well done Colin.

CCF Pigeon Convention 28th, 29th and 30th of March 2025.

A Spiliopoulos thanked D Wetering for his efforts in organising the VHA presentation.

S Brown highlighted the VHA sale as good day, had a social aspect and raised \$7k for the VHA transport. Thank you to everyone who donated.

Pigeon auction of N&K Podesta's pigeons 23/2/25 at Notting Hill

Moved P McDonough seconded S Kearsey that the national be included in the upfront fee. Carried.

G Sheean thanked S Spiliopoulos assisting at the shrine for Remembrance Day regarding releasing of pigeons at the conclusion of service.

Meeting Closed. 8:56PM