

## **ANRPB held Wednesday 21 February 2024**

Meeting Opened 18:30 EST.

Meeting chaired by Gavin Harris

**Attendees:** Vince Pedavoli, Stephen Shears, Andrew Crowthers, Paul Gibbs, Gavin Harris, Janine Johnston, Russell Somerville, Louie Piculovski

**Apologies:** Leo Turley, Tony Price.

**Special Guest:** Louie

**Correspondence In:**

**Correspondence out:**

**Previous Minutes Approved :** Janine to update previous minutes.

Moved Russell Somerville                      Seconded by Paul Gibbs.

**Business arising from Correspondence in:**

**Treasurers Report:** Treasurer Gavin Harris advised Term Deposit \$70,000, plus working account current balance as at 15/01/24 of \$18,208.31.

Moved Gavin Harris, Treasurer. Seconded Paul Gibbs

**General Business**

**QLD Rep**

Vince Pedavoli advised he has received an application and been in contact with Phillip Almond who is interested in being a QLD representative. Vince moved that Phillips application be accepted to become a QLD board member. Seconded Stephen Shears. CARRIED.

**Promotional advertising / video.**

Vince Pedavoli advised he has been in contact with Rod Simmons regarding a condensed 3-4 minute clip. ANRPB is second to third google search on Australian Racing Pigeon search. Vince advised that a brief look into Google Ads – requires a bid per price per click – unsure of quantum however sourcing further information. The board can pay for a link to longer clip and are able to cap links to a set amount each month, it is currently free to set up a google account and a monthly limit. If the board is able to synthesize a clip to 30 – 45 second, Vince has been in contact with his niece who works within Dale Morgan and can place in selected theatres around Australia – 60K people will see for \$5000. Louie provided feedback on targeting a certain population. The use of a micro influencer would be a strong way to get brand and message out

there. Kurt Maney – uses hashtags in languages and has Australian and international followers. Kurt may be willing to share video on his page and is located in WA. Louie is happy to use the boards logo on his auction website – increasing visibility and associating the board to the sport. Stephen advised Philippino / Chinese targeted audiences would increase members. Louie stated content creators are always looking for content – may be able to advertise ANRPB for free if approached. Gavin advised the Board would like to have a tag for each states contact details attached to the video. The board discussed attaching the youtube link to the ANRPB website and to advise each states body of the link.

**Victorian Legislation** – VCAT hearing scheduled for May 2024 with a Barrister representing Victoria. Colin Walker has recovered from recent illness.

**Loading Density** The imposition on the WA Code of Practice by the WA Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development (DPIRD) with respect to the loading density of 450cm<sup>2</sup> per bird, for all races, has relevance in all states although no other state has been involved at this stage. The PRF have made representation to DPIRD and their response is encouraging. DPIRD advise that - quote “**the Poultry Standards do not generally cover requirements for transportation of birds. However, standard SB 11.10 stipulates that adult racing pigeons must have a minimum floor space of 200 cm<sup>2</sup> per bird during a transport journey. WA intends to implement the mandatory standards as regulations under the Act but not the guidelines of the Poultry Standards. The guidelines will remain voluntary. While the consultation for the details of the Poultry Standards has already occurred, a public consultation on the draft regulations is anticipated to occur in mid to late 2024. The Pigeon Racing Federation can make a submission on how the regulations are drafted at this time**”. Leo, on behalf of the PRF, has made contact with our ANRPB representative, Mr. Grant Paterson, on the 32-member Animal Welfare group and through Grant will be forwarding our submission along the same lines as the DPIRD submission and to coincide with the review period planned for later in 2024. Leo to advise progress in due course.

**International Application** – Stephen Shears in discussion with Atilla from Benzing. David Madeira is no longer vice president of FCI. Stephens details have been forwarded to new vice president.

**Govt recognition** – ongoing.

**2024 Grand National Race.**– Feedback received that Dubbo is too short a distance. Stephen is waiting feedback from Cumberland regarding transportation as the Southern Federation is happy to transport pigeons for the race. Awaiting feedback from Cumberland.

**Ace pigeon awards** – Results have been collated with two awards. 11 nominations were received for the short to middle distance race with Anthony Agius winning the Central Combination. 1 valid nomination received for middle to long with Brian Donovan successful in winning. Tim Fawcett has agreed to take the photo for Brian and John debrinkets will collate the pigeon photo and races on a certificate for \$70 fully framed. ANRPB to organize trophies for winners. 10 certificates to be organized, To investigate the costs of a trophy with a glass etching including image of pigeon and logo – approx. \$80.

**Delegate updates.**

Victorian Country Delegate: VRPB holding meeting in March 2024 and may nominate a country delegate

QLD: Interest has been received from Barry Snyman and Phillip Almond.

Tasmania Delegate – ongoing.

**Merchandise** – Benzing trade day in Sydney – 2/52 ago. ANRPB held a table at the trade day with thanks to Stephen Shears for organizing. Sold \$175 in merchandise, opportunity to promote the ANRPB charter and representing board. Stall holders were positive with feedback. Gavin queried if shirts are overpriced there is approx 100 left. Could decrease price to \$50. Vince and Stephen agreed. Caps sold well at \$25.

**Life rings** – Remains ongoing.

**Avian Flu protocol** – nil further update currently. Govt report trends that avian flu likely to reach Australia – article and information is available on the boards website.

**New members** – Louie Piculovski welcomed.

**Patron for the board.** Vince Pedavoli advised ongoing.

### **General Discussion**

Gavin Harris advised he recently spoke on ABC radio regarding a pigeon who was locked up by an Indian couple believing it was a Chinese spy.

ABC program – What the Duck had a podcast on pigeons – would be beneficial to add to web page.

Protection of pigeons – ongoing.

Pox vaccine is sold by Australian Pigeon company,

2024 fundraising auctions – Tim Fawcett may not have any spots available for an auction at this time.

Gary Bortelli– Board to approach regarding promoting the board and to add a Bortelli logo on ANRPB website with a link to his website and stable setting. Louie Piculovski discussed organizing a head to head race with top 10 fanciers from Sydney – 500kms and to enquire if sports bet would be interested in broadcasting / promoting the race to seek ongoing publicity. Betting may attract money and new people to the sport. Ray Hadley may be interested in this discussion.

**2024 Convention.** No feedback from QLD. NSW would prefer March 2025..

Stephen Shears – Summary of 2023 highlights to forward to Vince.

### **New Business –**

Paul Gibbs 24/2/23 is War Remembrance Day. As there is a plaque at the War Memorial Canberra – can the board organize a wreath. Paul to follow up – Greg Kokoschke may have a contact who can lay the wreath. Board to reimburse the costs.

Ace Bird of the Year. Following feedback and the 2023 season Paul Gibbs discussed a revamp Ace Bird of the year. For the bird to be nominated must clock 3 x in the short to middle races (80 to 500klms). and / or twice in the middle to long ( equal to or greater than 501klms) Moved Vince Pedavoli. Seconded Gavin Harris. Paul Gibbs to update form and update website.

## **State News**

SA : Gavin Harris advised AGM March 24. Motion will be moved to decide line of flight for 2024. Unsure of where National race will be held at this time.

Russell Somerville– Country representative– There has been a lot more interest from country fanciers for the 2024 national race. Russell discussed that with the board increasing social media presence an updated list of contacts for each state is required. A collation of all major federation contact details within Australia is required for people interesting in the sport. in social media.

Len Vanderlinde to be approached by Gavin to set up a page of contacts for each states federation. The ANRPB page on website for race programs for around Australia to be update as last updated 2020. List of contact details / federation details to be compiled by each state..

Victoria : Tony advised the VPRB is doing a study on the meadows oneloft race – a report has been written and will be in the Australian Pigeon Journal. Vaccinating babies at 3 weeks – has not been successful for PMV.

NSW : Paul Gibbs – ANRPB details to be updated in the next book – SQUILLS 2024. Diameter of life rings – not consistent sizing, is there a standard Australian diameter. Stephen advised FCI has a standard of ring size. Icon rings have a smaller size and fanciers are having to ring birds earlier or cut rings off. Tony to provide feedback next meeting of ring sizing. Are clubs checking diameter to ensure they are what has been ordered. Stephen identified rings have faded over time – an issue with manufacturing and dyes used.

WA: Anthony advised fanciers are having trouble getting PMV and Rota vaccines in WA. PMV Vaccines are available through Treadlier - Biovet in Seven Hills (02) 9674 1488 Sydney. Pox is available through Colin Walker

Meeting closed 2012hrs

Next meeting –Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

1830 est.