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Monday 23rd November, 2015

RE : NEW TRANSPORTER – CRATE ALLOCATION GUIDELINES

Dear Club Secretary,

The New Transporter will be operational for the start of the 2016 season, the SAHPA Management Committee has discussed how the crates will be allocated and have prepared this document to explain our plans.

The plan will evolve further as we gain more experience and see how many birds are prepaid, how many are raced each week and how many birds are raced by the various clubs, including affiliated country clubs. So we expect to update this document from time to time.

Background

The Transporter capacity :

Race Type	Number of Birds/Crate	Main Unit Crates	Main Unit Birds	Trailer Crates	Trailer Birds	Total Birds
One night transport	32	108	3456	48	1536	4992
Two night transport	28	108	3024	48	1344	4368

The SAHPA have 156 crates and the clubs have ordered a further 211 crates.

- 1) Each Crate will be assigned a number 1 to 367
- 2) The 156 SAHPA owned crates will have life tags affixed labelled SAHPA, some of the tags will also have the name of the generous donors who have donated money to the SAHPA for the procurement of crates. The 211 Club owned crates will also have a life tag affixed with the name of the Club who owns the crate.
- 3) Crate Space Allocation Algorithm - At the start of each season the SAHPA Secretary will perform a calculation based on the number of prepaid birds for each club divided by the total number of prepaid birds multiplied by the number of crate spaces on the Units (156) and then the result is rounded. The total prepaid birds denominator will include an estimate of the affiliated club members and their bird numbers, affiliated clubs may choose to also prepay.

For example :

- a) A club prepays 2,000 birds and the total number of prepaid birds is 25,000

Number of Crate Spaces allocated = $2000 / 25000 \times 156 = 12.5$ rounded to 13 crates

b) A club prepays 2,700 birds and the total number of prepaid birds is 25,000

Number of Crate Spaces allocated = $2700 / 25000 \times 156 = 16.8$ rounded 17 crate spaces.

- 4) The 156 SAHPA owned crates will then have an additional tag attached which will assign names of clubs to each of the crates for that season. We expect clubs to meticulously look after SAHPA Crates as well as their own club crates.

For example the Glenelg club may prepay enough birds to have 10 crate spaces allocated to them plus they have bought 10 crates out of their own funds. The SAHPA Crates numbers 1 to 10 will have the Glenelg club name attached as a second tag for the 2016 season plus for example crate numbers 157 to 166 will already have the Glenelg club name on the life tag as they will be crates they have purchased.

- 5) Each week the SAHPA Transport cleaner will unload crates from the truck and trailer and stack them in club order ready for club pick up.
- 6) Clubs will be allocated the same side to load each week so they know which dock to line up for. There is no need for us to split birds from each club on to both sides of the unit as both sides are equal, the roller doors will protect birds from wind, rain and traffic gusts, every bay is equal. The Liberator has confirmed that from his observations all birds get away equally.

The advantage of the new Transporter is that loading should be much faster, clubs will only need to send up two people as long as the driver can assist with loading, or three people if driver cannot assist. If we have two race units going on the same weekend then we may need additional helpers from clubs to load the second race. Clubs will assist to load their own crates plus one before and one after. The Crates for pickup to take back to the club will be stacked on the side that you always load from.

- 7) Crates will be loaded on unit top to bottom, side to side in order that clubs arrive. If we have a race that requires the main truck and trailer then a portion of each clubs crates will be allocated to trailer. Please note the trailer has the exact same ventilation and release system. The bottom bays will only be able to be loaded towards the end of the night as the Truck will need to be moved out from the loading dock before loading the bottom bays due to the Truck and Trailer being lower than the semi trailer and the current dock floor level. Modifications to the loading dock are planned for the future.
- 8) Clubs will keep crates clean and replace cardboard, the SAHPA will provide clubs cardboard based on their prepaid numbers and crate allocation. No other material in the crates will be accepted. Clubs will replace the cardboard and scrape the crates at their own club rooms.
- 9) SAHPA Management Committee will review the use of cardboard after one season and decide whether we invest in wire or plastic grill floors for the following season, the Geraldty plastic floors were quite expensive (20 Euro each, \$30 plus GST) and we wanted to review our requirements after trialling cardboard.

HAMPER NIGHT PROCEDURE

- 1) Club Secretaries will ring through bird numbers and the number of crates by 7pm on Hampering Night.
- 2) SAHPA Secretary will publish on SAHPA Release Forum by 7:30pm how many crates have been rung through and whether the number of crates warrants the SAHPA Sending only the Truck, Truck and Trailer or Truck, Trailer and Second Unit (eg. Old Hino Duttro or SALDC Ute)

This information will give clubs guidance about whether they can send crates with fewer birds than the maximum.

- a) Clubs have asked whether they can spread their birds evenly amongst their allocated crate spaces. If we are going to a race point where the number of birds is well below capacity then this is fine but we want to avoid sending a trailer unnecessarily because for example we have 5 extra crates on the trailer which could have fitted on the Truck if the crates were loaded to their correct capacity. The website forum should give clubs guidance on this matter.
 - b) When we are at or near full capacity it will be necessary to merge birds from some half full crates with other half full crates from another club in a secure environment.
 - c) Partially filled crates, when the Transporter is at full capacity, we would ask clubs to send the birds that make up a partially filled crate in a standard club hamper and we can then merge them in to another partially filled crate in a secure environment.
 - d) On occasions where the Transporter will be at full capacity and it is decided to send a second unit, we ask that clubs allocate birds in excess of 30 for flyers to separate hampers as they may be put on the second back up unit, we would aim to have at least 30 birds on main unit for each flyer.
- 3) The SAHPA Management Committee have agreed to send a standby unit loaded with any overflow of birds for the first season, for subsequent seasons it may be decided to restrict clubs to their crate space allocation and clubs will need to restrict their members to within the number of crates.

In 2016 we will approach the SALDC to see if we can borrow their ute and the Liberator may follow up the main truck in the ute and if necessary with the blue trailer. We may also use the old Hino Duttro Unit for the overflow. Please see point 2d) above about birds in excess of 30 for a flyer.

Based on previous seasons the only races where we get close to the capacity of the Truck and Trailer is Hawker and Parachilna.

- 4) The SAHPA Management Committee have decided that all the short distance races will be hampered on the night before release rather than 2 nights before the release.

The reasoning behind this decision :

- 1) Increases our capacity by 600 birds
- 2) Decreases cost of driver and liberator (1 less day, saving \$500)
- 3) Travel time to Parachilna (457km by road) is no more than 6 hours, if truck leaves at 10pm it will be at Parachilna by 4am, plenty of time to settle the birds before release.
- 4) Clubs will have their own crates with drinkers that they can attach and therefore if they want to give their birds experience with feeding and watering in the crates they can make their own arrangements within their own club rooms.
- 5) The Verco Series races will be conducted using the old Hino Duttro Unit, we do plan to make some minor modifications to the dividers to the drinkers and remove the mesh floor to improve this unit. Clubs should keep some of the traditional club hampers for loading overflow birds and birds for the Verco series. The SAHPA will make up a few funnels where birds can be transferred from new crates to old hampers or the old unit. That is an aluminium device that can be inserted into crate when front release door is down and fits the old hamper front doors width so birds can be pushed between crate and hamper or visa-versa.

As you can see by reviewing the above points, the SAHPA Management Committee have spent quite a bit of time considering the various options and further considerations will be made, if your club has constructive suggestions that you would like us to consider, please put them in writing and email them to the member on committee who represents your electorate and they will follow it up before reviewing the suggestions with the SAHPA Management Committee.

Yours In Sport,

Gavin Harris

Vice Chairperson – SAHPA

On Behalf of the Management Committee