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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOMING PIGEON ASSOCIATION INC.

Annual General Meeting Sunday 11th October 2020

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and Govt health restrictions we were unable to hold the AGM scheduled for March indoors, but eventually the COM decided to hold it outside in October which would comply with Govt Covid-19 rules.

1. The Acting Chairperson opened the meeting at 1:00pm

(Quorum present. All names recorded)

2. Apologies: – T Fawcett, D Shaw, D Walker, A Ward, B Snyders,
P Thalbourne, Slavko

3. Memoriam: - The Chairman read the names of members who passed in 2019 -20 and held a minute's silence – W Moyle, J Hicks, D Warhurst, P Goodrich, P Hughes, G Marshall

4. Minutes of previous AGM as circulated.

Moved by G Harris that they be accepted. Seconded P Squire. **Carried.**

5. Business arising from the minutes – Nil

6. Correspondence: Change to Constitution. Motion from Barossa Club.

7. Reports from officers/committees

7.1 Treasurer's Report: - Mr G Harris read the Treasurer Report, showing a profit. (Full report published on SAHPA website). Items noted:

- Savings on GST due to the threshold
- A cash rebate was distributed to all clubs

- Purchase of Mazda Ute a 50/50 shared arrangement between SAHPA and LDC with cost savings due to fuel economy.
 - Substantial savings on plumbing work due to work completed by SAHPA member Ray Mcilduff.
- Moved by D Thalbourne that the Treasurers Report is true and correct.
Seconded P Burke. **Carried**

7.2 Chairman's Report:- Full report published on SAHPA website

7.3. Auditor's Report: published on website in February

8. Election of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Management Committee.

- **Chairperson:-** Mr T Perkins was the only nomination for SAHPA Chairperson. A vote was held and Mr T Perkins was elected SAHPA Chairperson for 2020
Moved D Thalbourne. Seconded P Burke. **Carried**
- **Vice Chairperson :** – The position of Vice Chairperson remains vacant until the next AGM in March 2021
- **Management Committee Reps:** No change until next AGM in March 2021

9. SAHPA Inc. Notice of Motions

9.1 Change to the Constitution 4.3

Constitution change to boundary from 50km to 100km.

Membership (present rule)

4.3 The lofts of all members competing in Association Races shall be situated within a 50 km radius of the Adelaide GPO.

Proposed change to read:

4.3 The lofts of all **SAHPA** members competing in Association races shall be situated within a **100 km** radius of the Adelaide GPO.

- The Chairman called on R Sommerville to speak for the motion.

- R Pimlott spoke against the motion due to the distance on the longer NW races when front markers clock in on sunset but the backmarkers are excluded from the result on the night due to darkness.
- G Rayment question whether the boundary should be 65km.

The Chairman asked for a vote from the floor by a show of hands.

Motion to change Constitution **4.3**

34 for / 8 against. Motion **Carried**

9.2 Change to Code of Practice

5.3.9 The Release panel may move a Race Day back but not forward.

Change to read

5.3.9 The Release Panel may move a Race Day either back or forward if weather conditions on the programmed day of release are unsuitable. Preference on Race Days would be Saturday / Sunday / Monday / Friday.

- P Burton asked for at least 2 days notice to be published on the website if the race day was changed, which was noted.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with the majority of members voting in favour of the change. **Carried**

9.3 New Addition to Code of Practice

7.4.3 Releasing Birds in Winds

The Race Release Panel will use the SAHPA Race Speed Estimator spreadsheet, by entering wind direction and wind speed estimates from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM). A calculation of the estimated average speed of the pigeons at various points en route will be derived, which then calculates the estimated average velocity of the pigeons for the entire race. If the average velocity for the entire race is estimated below 900 metres/min (54km/hr) or above 2000 metres/min (120km/hr) the race should be held over or rescheduled to another day.

- G Harris spoke in favour of the addition explaining the reasons behind the rule which would lead to a better outcome for owners and the welfare of the birds.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with a count of 18 for / 19 against. **Defeated**

9.4 Changes to Race By-Law RBL 1

Control of Races RBL 1. All races will be flown under the auspices and management of the S.A.H.P.A Inc. Any associated club or body of people wishing to organize and compete in a race not approved on the S.A.H.P.A. program must seek the permission of the Management Committee. This relates to pre-program, post-program and during the program events. Training pigeons may be released from race points on the same day as the scheduled race providing, they have been transported on the official race vehicle. Training places will be allocated by booking on a first come first served basis. Additional toss birds that accompany the race birds must be registered under the prepaid system.

- D Buxton explained the reasoning behind the change
- G Rayment spoke against the change

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with the majority opposing the change. **Defeated**

9.5 RBL 16.

A SAHPA Inc. "**Bird of the Year**" trophy shall be awarded and presented each season. Points shall be awarded to the first (30) birds in all races under the heading of Association races on the official SAHPA Inc. yearly program. The first bird shall receive 30 points with one less point for each succeeding bird.

New Addition to rule

Bird of the Year awards will also be recognised for North line and also for East line. In addition, Certificates for the Champion North line flyer

and top 10-point scorers; and similarly, for the Champion East line flyer and top 10-point scorers. Certificates for the overall Aggregate Points as usual will be issued to the first thirty flyers. The Aggregate Points winner will no longer receive a jacket.

- D Buxton spoke for the new addition to the rule explaining the reasons for the change.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with the majority opposing the change. **Defeated**

9.6 Change to Race By-Law RBL21

RBL 21. That there are no qualifications for birds on all SAHPA races.

To be changed to RBL21 Vacant

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with the majority opposing the change. **Defeated**

9.7 Change to Race By-Law RBL23

Hampering (present rule)

RBL23. Four (4) competing flying members and two (2) other club or SAHPA members, which is a total of six (6), must be present to constitute a hampering center. If less than four (4) competing flying members and two (2), they should also sign the other or SAHPA members then the hampering of birds must be with other club/s. Clubs who find it difficult to comply with the above may hamper at the SAHPA Inc. headquarters. When phoning your bird and member numbers through you must state the names of the two (2) SAHPA members overseeing the hampering, they should also sign the other four (4) member's race compiling sheets stating their name and date. This is to be done on both hampering and result nights.

Change to now read:

RBL23. Four (4) members must be present to constitute a hampering center. The members must be registered as club members, when tallying up the number of members they cannot be of the same family

living at the same address. If a club falls below 4 members they must hamper with another club. Clubs who find it difficult to comply with the above may hamper at the SAHPA Inc. headquarters. When notifying the General Secretary with your club's bird and member numbers you must, if less than 4 competing numbers, advise the names of the noncompeting members overseeing the hampering. They should also sign the club clock off sheet stating their name and date. This is to be done on both hampering and result nights.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with the majority of members voting in favour of the change. **Carried**

9.8. Change to Race by Law RBL35

Non SA rings

Members were not in favour to the wording of the change so it will be reviewed and resubmitted at the next AGM. **Adjourned**

9.9 Change to Race By-Law RBL40

Short Distance Championship Series (Present Rule)

RBL 40 - The SAHPA Inc. will conduct a Short Distance Championship Series (SDC Series) on all races under the heading of club races on the official SAHPA Inc. yearly program. A sub-committee of at least three (3) members of the SAHPA Inc. shall be responsible for the organization and management of the series. The sub-committee shall be known as the SDC subcommittee.

Change to read:

RBL 40 – The SAHPA Inc will conduct a Short Distance Championship Series (SDC) on all races shown on the SAHPA Race program with a status of (SDC). A maximum of 30 birds can be entered to compete in the SDC result by any flyer, if the flyer has more than 30 birds hampered for the race they must mark up to 30 birds with SDC on the nomination sheet to be part of the SDC result. If the flyer does not

mark the nomination sheet then by default the first 30 birds listed on the nomination sheet will be deemed SDC entries. Flyers entering 30 or less birds do not need to mark their nomination sheet. Short Distance Championship aggregate points will be distributed as per the standard used by SAHPA for Aggregate Points.

Only birds entered from a Hampering Centre that complies with **RBL 23** can appear in the SDC result.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with the majority of members voting in favour of the change. **Carried**

9.10. Acknowledgment of Bird performance.

The COM is keen to emphasise recognition of high performing birds. From 2020 the top 10 Young Birds competing in three SAHPA races will be recognised providing they finish in the top 10% of the convoy. The top 10 Old Birds will also be recognised according to the same criteria. Currently known as **The SAHPA Ace Pigeon Award**. Birds previously had to finish in the top 5% which will now be changed to the top 10% of the convoy. The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with the majority of members voting in favour of the change.

Carried

9.11 Change to Race By-Law RBL21 implemented from 2021

Qualification for Long Distance Races

RBL21. From 2021 no young bird can compete in any race further than 800km. Old Birds competing in Long distance races must have first qualified by having competed in a middle-distance race on that line of flight in that season.

SAHPA Management Committee to specify each season which long distance races need qualification and which races provide qualification. Onus is on flyers to provide proof through club nomination sheets that birds have competed from at least one of the races from those points.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from the floor with the majority of members voting against the rule. **Defeated**

It was noted however that members were in favour of qualification of all birds both young and old on that line of flight when they fly in races of a distance of 800kms or more. COM to review qualifying rule for next AGM.

9.12 Rule 3 Clock By-Law

New Addition

28. Rounding of Manual and Electronic timing clocks.

It was decided that the COM need to seek clarification from all manufacturers of electronic timing clocks as to their process of rounding seconds up or down before any rule can be implemented.

Adjourned to next AGM

10. Breaches of Rules and Regulations.

- Members were asked to be aware of their obligation to pick up any reported stray birds especially from a member of the public. Failure to comply will result in a \$50 fine.
- It has been reported that several birds have returned from S/E races recently with their Life rings and ETS rings removed. Any SAHPA member found to have removed a life ring and or an ETS ring from another owner's bird will risk termination of membership.

11. General Business.

11.1.B Hill asked about an increase of race crates to be allocated to the Happy Valley club. COM to review.

11.2 D Thalbourne asked if the COM could request that clubs using their own rings have their phone number included on the life ring.

Noted

11.3 The Chairman asked the Members to put their hands together in appreciation for the efforts of Drivers, Conveyors and the Release Panel in what had been a very difficult year due to Covid19 restrictions.

11.4 R Williams questioned whether we could improve air flow to the birds by drilling holes in the Perspex front door of the crates.

11.5 G Harris gave an in-depth explanation of the ventilation system and the movement of circulated air in the Geraldty pigeon transporter which in his opinion was State of the Art and couldn't be improved upon.

11.6 M Seiboth & I Durrant from the Para Hills club raised concerns over Clubs allowing some members to place all their birds in one crate when they believed that all birds should be mixed. It was pointed out that the COM had given approval but left it up to each club to go with the decision of the majority of members in that club. The Chairman asked for a show of hands from members in favour of mixing birds. The majority of members were in favour.

11.7 G Harris asked for a show of hands for those members who wanted their birds to arrive home between 1:00 – 2:00 pm on a Saturday as some of the races this year saw birds arriving before 12:00 noon. The majority were in favour. The Secretary explained that the Release Panel always endeavour to have birds arrive between this time but occasionally due to the forecast conditions on the day, especially when heavy rain is forecast, this is not possible. As the welfare of the birds is of paramount importance in these situations it is imperative to have the majority home before adverse weather conditions set in. With the boundaries now increased to 200kms from front markers to backmarkers this will make the job ever harder. If we plan for 1:00 pm arrival at the GPO it will mean 11:30 am for front

markers and 2:30 pm for back markers, that is if the predicted velocity is correct.

11.8 Life Membership

The Chairman notified members that the COM had approved Life Membership for D Schwarz.

11.9 Wall of Fame

The Chairman notified members that the COM had approved R Chapman for inclusion to the Wall of Fame.

12. Minutes Read

Moved P Squire that they were correct. Seconded B Donovan **Carried**

Meeting closed: 3:35 pm