

SAHPA INC.

SAHPA RULE # 3  
CLOCK BYLAWS

DRAFT

FINAL DRAFT

NOVEMBER 2022

DRAFT SAHPA - Rule No 3 - CLOCK BY-LAWS  
November 2022

**1 Preamble**

1.1 SAHPA competitors shall register one (1) clock (brand and serial number) for use in all races in each yearly SAHPA race programme. Should this registered clock become unsuitable for use (for whatever reason), the competitor may use a 'club spare' at each club or make use of suitable clock (electronic or mechanical). This second clock shall be duly registered at the discretion of the SAHPA Clock chairperson in writing (text or email).

1.2 All SAHPA competitors must use continuous-running printing clocks. Such clocks may be mechanical or electronic (EBSS).

1.3 Race result timings shall be suitably recorded, and race result velocities calculated by using the SAHPA Race Result System (SRRS) accessed through the SAHPA website.

1.4 All clocks (set by GPS, through a computer, or by hand) shall be set and or checked against [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com) (the SAHPA COM approved UTC app) to ensure accuracy across all SAHPA clubs and membership. [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com) is based on and set through the world universal timing system (UTC). [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com) is available via smart phone or computer.

**Clock requirements are as follows:**

**2 Mechanical Clocks**

2.1 Clock(s) must be in good order and must be approved by the SAHPA COM. Any member of the club or group clock committee has concerns about any presented clock, the club or group shall apply to the SAHPA COM & SAHPA clock chairperson for a ruling on use.

2.2 If any clock is rejected by the SAHPA COM, the owner shall be informed of the fact and reason for such a rejection in writing. The responsibility for accurate running, clear and readable clock print rests with the owner.

2.3 Club Secretaries must send to the general secretary a list of clock names and clock numbers stating the names of members to whom the clock belongs.

2.4 All clocks must be plainly marked with the name of the club and owner to whom the clocks belong.

**2.5 Dolometer.**

2.5.1 If in the opinion of the SAHPA clock chairperson or SAHPA race adjudicator any clock(s) which are presented for checking have the dolometer or similar device at such a variation from correct setting point to create the impression of the clock(s) have been mishandled the said clock(s) shall be disqualified.

2.5.2 When the gain or loss is at the rate of one second or less per hour (from clock start time to clock result time) the variation will be struck and deducted from (in case of FAST clock) or added to (in case of SLOW clock) the recorded times on the clock tape print out.

2.5.3 In the event of a clock gaining more than one second per hour (from clock start time to clock result time) the clock tape will be left as printed with no adjustments to tape recorded time(s) i.e., clock recorded as a DEAD clock.

2.5.4 In the event of a clock losing more than one second per hour (from clock start time to clock result time) the loss must be doubled and added to the recorded time(s) on the clock tape and then recorded as a DEAD clock.

2.5.5 Clocks consistently running over the allowed margins of FAST & SLOW shall be reported to the SAHPA clock chairperson.

## **2.6 Clock Setting**

2.6.1 Clocks must be in the hands of the club or group clock chairperson at the time fixed by each clock centre on setting night, and to be only handled by the clock chairperson whilst clock setting is in progress.

2.6.2 All clocks to be set, sealed, read, and checked by at least three members of the club or group management committee (usually the chairperson, secretary and treasurer).

2.6.4 No clock seals shall be broken except in conformity with Clause 2.7.2.

2.6.5 Any competitor clocks the with seal not intact shall forfeit all rights and privileges and claims for that race and may be further penalised.

2.6.6 For any clock used in a race, and the race ring is not the in the thimble and the thimble mouth down in the receptacle for same, shall be disqualified for such race.

2.6.7 All thimbles used and operated to be made by the makers for each clock or be acceptable to the SAHPA clock chairperson.

2.6.8 No more than one race rubber in to be placed in each thimble or receptacle.

## **2.7 Thimble-less Clocks.**

2.7.1 If a race rubber is carried into the incorrect disc hole during the act of firing or at any time prior to the opening of the new clock, the owner of the clock will be awarded the time of the print that corresponds to that disc hole. If a race rubber is not in a thimble hole, that race rubber will be disqualified with the owner having no right of appeal.

2.7.2 Where all positions of a race have not been filled and the race is still open, all clocks produced for verification shall be checked, fired, and may be opened at the discretion of the SAHPA Clock chairperson. This check print will be used in calculating the pigeon's velocity.

## **2.8 Clock Replacement**

2.8.1 In the event of a mechanical clock stopping before a bird is clocked, the owner of the stopped clock may time his/her bird in another owner's clock providing that person has permission to do so from the clock chairperson in writing (text and or email).

2.8.2 Any competitor who, prior to the clocking of their bird, finds their clock is at fault, can have it replaced with a spare clock that has been set by the club or group clock chairperson for the race.

2.8.5 Club or group clock chairpersons must ensure that clocks used as spares are in excellent working order and are available for inspection by the SAHPA clock chairperson or designate.

2.8.4 The faulty clock must be produced to one of the above-mentioned officials, in exchange for the spare clock, who shall be responsible to produce the faulty clock for examination by the SAHPA clock chairperson or designate on clock reading night. The faulty clock is to be cleared by the SAHPA clock chairperson or designate before such clock is used again.

2.8.5 In the event of any clock stopping after a bird is clocked, the owner of the stopped clock will only get a result if approved by the SAHPA clock chairperson in writing (text or email).

2.8.6 A stopped clock shall be treated as a slow clock and double the slow time added.

2.8.7 Smoking is NOT permitted at tables where clocks are being opened and tapes are being read.

## 2.9 Clock Reading

2.9.1 The end of the clock tape shall show the race-point, date, owner's name and club twice, with an authorized signature between, the clock end is to be torn across this signature.

2.9.2 Clocks shall be 'fired off' to [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com)

2.9.3 Clock reading shall include rechecking the printed times on clock tapes, and the punched holes for verification.

2.9.4 A competitor gaining 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> in any race shall (through the club or group secretary) send the original hamper sheet, plus compiling sheet plus rubber race rings to the SAHPA secretary within 7 days of the race start.

## 3 EBSS Clocks

3.1 The use of Electronic Band Scanning Systems (EBSS) is approved by the South Australian Homing Pigeon Association Incorporated (SAHPA) for use in all races conducted by the SAHPA.

3.1.1 If the SAHPA COM determines that an EBSS or a system design does not provide adequate security or presents a potential security question, the SAHPA COM may disapprove the use of that system. The disapproval of any system will be effective immediately upon resolution by the SAHPA COM and the disapproval will be advised to members as soon as reasonably possible by personal notice and or SAHPA COM minutes of meeting.

3.1.2 If the SAHPA clock chairperson, his/her designate, or any race official determines that a lack of security exists with any individual unit, he/she shall notify the SAHPA COM and seek an immediate statement as to the validity of the continued system use. The SAHPA clock chairperson, his/her designate, or race official must provide a written statement of the reason for concern to the EBSS Owner and to the SAHPA COM.

3.1.3 Issues of actual adequacy or otherwise of security will be a matter for determination by the SAHPA COM following advice provided to the SAHPA COM by affiliated SAHPA clubs, SAHPA members and EBSS supplier delegates.

3.1.4 Use of an EBSS by an individual SAHPA member must be notified to the SAHPA by the Club Secretary in writing.

3.1.5 A SAHPA club shall not make use of an EBSS Mandatory.

3.1.6 A SAHPA member is free to purchase any EBSS he/she chooses. The member is responsible for ensuring the system (hardware/software) is suitable and complies with the requirements of these EBSS rules, and installation conditions SAHPA race rules as amended from time to time. The SAHPA or the Club shall have no responsibility for any system incompatibility.

3.1.7 All EBSS systems shall comprise an electronic clock/data device, electronic landing board(s), and an independent club system reading device plus appropriate and current software. All EBSS systems will utilize an electronic printer for providing basketing/hampering lists, and race/evaluation/clocking lists.

3.1.8 The serial number of each EBSS clock, must be registered with the SAHPA prior to use (see Clause 1.1)

3.1.9 Installation of the EBSS in a SAHPA member loft must be inspected and approved by the SAHPA clock chairperson or his/her designate before being accepted for competition use within the SAHPA. The nominated

designate is to be the local club chairperson, local club secretary, or local club clock chairperson. Any questions as to acceptability are to be referred to the SAHPA clock chairperson.

3.1.10 All EBSS sensor/antennae/ELB are to be installed inside the confines of the loft or an entry into the face wall of the loft which effectively traps the pigeon within the entrance when being recorded by the ELB. The definition of a loft includes flights, sputnik traps, sun shelters etc. which are permanently attached and considered part of the loft. See Attachments 1 and 2 for non-legal and legal set ups.

### **3.2 Installation**

3.2.1 Sensor/antennae may be a single pad ELB, or a multi pad ELB depending on manufacture. More than one sensor/antenna pad ELB per electronic clock shall be allowable if compliance with EBSS rule Clause 3.2.2 occurs.

3.2.1 Every sensor/antenna must be set as a fixture at point of entry. Point of fixture shall be documented by a photo. Photos are to be recorded by club clock chairperson or his/her designate and forwarded to the SAHPA clock chairperson or as directed by the SAHPA COM. This process will not need to be carried out each year (if the sensors/antennas are still in place the next season) but must be verified by the club clock chairperson or his/her designate prior to SAHPA racing each year.

3.2.2 EBSS SAHPA flyers wishing to use more than one sensor/antenna ELB must comply with the following requirements:

- a. GPS co-ordinates are to be taken as near as possible to the mid-point between the intended sensor/antennae ELB points (centerline to centerline of the sensor/antennae ELB).
- b. The longer distance between the sensor/antennae ELB shall be measured and the longer distance is not to exceed 25 metres.
- c. If the distance is greater than 25 metres, the flyer shall apply to the SAHPA clock chairperson for approval to use that sensor/antennae ELB setup for flying SAHPA races.

3.2.3 No sensor/antenna ELB shall be employed or placed at the loft of another competitor or moved to any other position of the competitor's loft without prior application to, and approval by the SAHPA.

3.2.4 The SAHPA management committee or its designate reserve the right at any time, (and without prior notice) to inspect the installation and operation of any EBSS being used by any competitor within the SAHPA.

**3.3 Verification - Clock chairperson** - The SAHPA clock chairperson or his/her club/group delegate shall be authorised to secure and use the System Control Modules and or System Authorization Swipe Keys and or GPS time setting devices during clock setting and clock reading activities at club and group hampering centres as necessary.

### **3.4 Basketing Procedure**

3.4.1 During the race entry logging or basketing process, electronic banded pigeons shall not be handled, or bird(s) verified, or the EBSS system operated by the competitor (or a representative of the competitor) as is the case with non EBSS basketed pigeons.

3.4.2 During the basketing procedure, the bird life ring number is to be cross checked by two SAHPA members (not being the owner or a representative of the owner). Members shall scan and read out the life ring number of the pigeon

- a separate member, not the owner or a representative of the owner shall verify the digital screen readout of the life ring number to be correct or otherwise. If the data does not correspond, the bird is to be disqualified from the race - except in cases noted below:

a. sex or colour/pattern discrepancies - the basketing/hamper list may be amended – if the electronic system allows the change without affecting the hamper list – text details and or consult the clock chairperson/race adjudicator.

b. incorrect or non-coupled e-chip/life ring – the basketing/hamper list may be amended - and/or the e-chip added and re-coupled - if the electronic system allows the change without affecting the hamper list - text details and or consult the clock chairperson/race adjudicator.

c. in all cases, the printed hamper sheet must be free of incorrect details and be verified as such by the owner and club hamper steward by signing the hamper sheet - text details and or consult the clock chairperson/race adjudicator.

3.4.3 After EBSS race birds have been basketed/hampered, the club or group secretary or his/her designate shall print a list of the competitor's entries as verification of all birds entered. The printout shall be signed by the club clock secretary/chairperson or his/her designate, and the competitor.

3.4.4 The printout serves as a race entry sheet. Three copies are to be printed. One for SAHPA, one for the club, one for the competitor.

### **3.5 EBSS Race Results**

3.5.1 In the case where an electronic clock race sheet shows a tie, the first (1st) bird listed will receive the highest ranking and so forth, down the list.

### **3.6 Race Entry Data**

3.6.1 If race entry data is deleted (whether accidentally or deliberately) from the EBSS clock (either prior to basketing, prior to the race, after the race, or at any time prior to the hampering sheet or race result sheet being printed), the competitor shall be disqualified from the race of that week.

3.6.2 Some EBSS clocks have limited capacity to record ring information. For example, the SFRPC club has five (5) letters as club prefix – this may be recorded as SFRP. This is acceptable.

3.6.3 EBSS clocks process numbers differently. For example 01234 may only be recorded as 1234. Alternatively 1234 may be recorded as 001234. This is acceptable.

### **3.7 EBSS Clock or Chip Disfunction**

3.7.1 Where an electronic chip or clip band has become dysfunctional (for whatever reason), broken, or stolen, that band may be replaced and recorded to the satisfaction of the SAHPA clock chairperson or his/her designate.

3.7.2 In the event of a malfunction of an EBSS and it being sent for repair, proof of repair must be produced before the EBSS can be used for competition again. Proof of repair shall be the receipt of the Repairer (which shall note the repaired EBSS serial number) and/or the new unbroken manufacturer seal on the EBSS device.

### **3.8 Relocation of Sensor/Antenna ELB**

3.8.1 In the event of the relocation of the sensor/antenna ELB for any reason, the sensor/antenna ELB re-installation must be re-approved by the SAHPA Clock chairperson or his/her designate before the EBSS can be used for Competition again. (See CR Rules 43, 44, 45, 46, and 47)

**3.9 If any competitor** intentionally attempts to corrupt, interfere with, or destroy the electronic data of another competitor, then his/her conduct shall be reported to the club, group and general secretary or SAHPA COM for review.

**3.10 EBSS Clock Setting**

3.10.1 EBSS clocks which are ‘time set’ by GPS are to be checked to UTC time by [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com) prior to basketing for each hampering session. Any clarification required on [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com) – contact the SAHPA clock chairperson.

3.10.2 EBSS clocks which are NOT ‘time set’ by GPS (ie computer or other means) MUST be checked to UTC time by [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com)

**3.11 EBSS Fast/Slow Requirements**

3.11.1 Most EBSS/ETS clocks will run as a DEAD clock, however in the event of this not being the case, EBSS clocks will be allowed the MAXIMUM of +2 seconds FAST or -2 seconds SLOW over the full run of the race. e.g., hamper night to clocking/fire off.

3.11.2 If the FAST is over +2 seconds, then the clock will be recorded as a DEAD clock and if the SLOW is more than -2 seconds the SLOW will be DOUBLED, and the doubled time added to the print EBSS recorded times and then recorded as a DEAD clock.

3.11.3 Any EBSS clock consistently running over the allowed FAST/SLOW should be checked by the service agent and or manufacturer of said clock as instructed by the SAHPA clock chairperson or SAHPA COM. If this is not carried out, then the clock may be removed from use by the SAHPA clock chairperson or SAHPA COM at their discretion.

**3.12 EBSS Results**

3.12.1 Should the EBSS screen display (after a race entry or race) show the complete set of results, but not be able to generate a printout, the SAHPA clock chairperson or his/her designate shall view the display data and report it manually.

a the manual (screen) report may be used for calculating race results **if** the ring number, clock ‘fast/slow’, race number, race date and time of clocking is available on screen.

b the confirmation of this result is to be made available to the SAHPA clock chairperson for verification.

c the clock will be required to be presented to the SAHPA clock chairperson or his/her delegate by the flyer owning the EBSS clock.

d If all the required information is not available, the bird shall be disqualified.

**3.13 EBSS Clock Dysfunctional** - Should an EBSS become dysfunctional, the flyer may take his pigeon to another EBSS loft and time the pigeon on the competitors EBSS clock (this assumes that the chip ring data number (as a minimum) can be read and corresponds to the chip ring data noted on the original hampering sheet.

**3.14 Slave clocks** - which enable continuous clocking in the absence of the registered clock are permitted. The registered clock must be used for the provision of hampering lists and race result lists. Slave clocks (or copy clocks) shall not be used to calculate race results.

**3.15 Base stations** - which enable continuous clocking in the absence of the registered clock are permitted. The registered clock must be used for the provision of hampering lists and race result lists. Base stations (or copy clocks) shall not be used to calculate race results.

**4 BENZING LIVE LOFT EVALUATION**

**4.1 Benzing Live Loft Evaluation** - the SAHPA COM has given approval for SAHPA members using Benzing Electronic Timing Systems to utilise the Benzing Live Loft Evaluation functionality in all pigeon races operating in the SAHPA race program.

- a. Members wishing to use Benzing Live Loft Evaluation functionality are to advise the GenSec before commencing official use.
- b. The Benzing Live system is required to generate (as a minimum) two (2) emails for each flyer – one to the club secretary, and one to for the SAHPA clock chairperson ([sahpa.clocks@gmail.com](mailto:sahpa.clocks@gmail.com)). Emails shall be generated for hampering, temporary evaluations, and final evaluation.
- c. A temporary evaluation sheet provided by a flyer for SAHPA race result requirements is acceptable providing a full evaluation result is also available to [sahpa.clocks@gmail.com](mailto:sahpa.clocks@gmail.com) once the SAHPA has closed the race.
- d. The club secretary is the person responsible for ensuring that the information contained in the email is keyed into the SAHPA race results system.
- e. The SAHPA race result system (SRRS) is the only accepted velocity calculator and is the source of all official results.

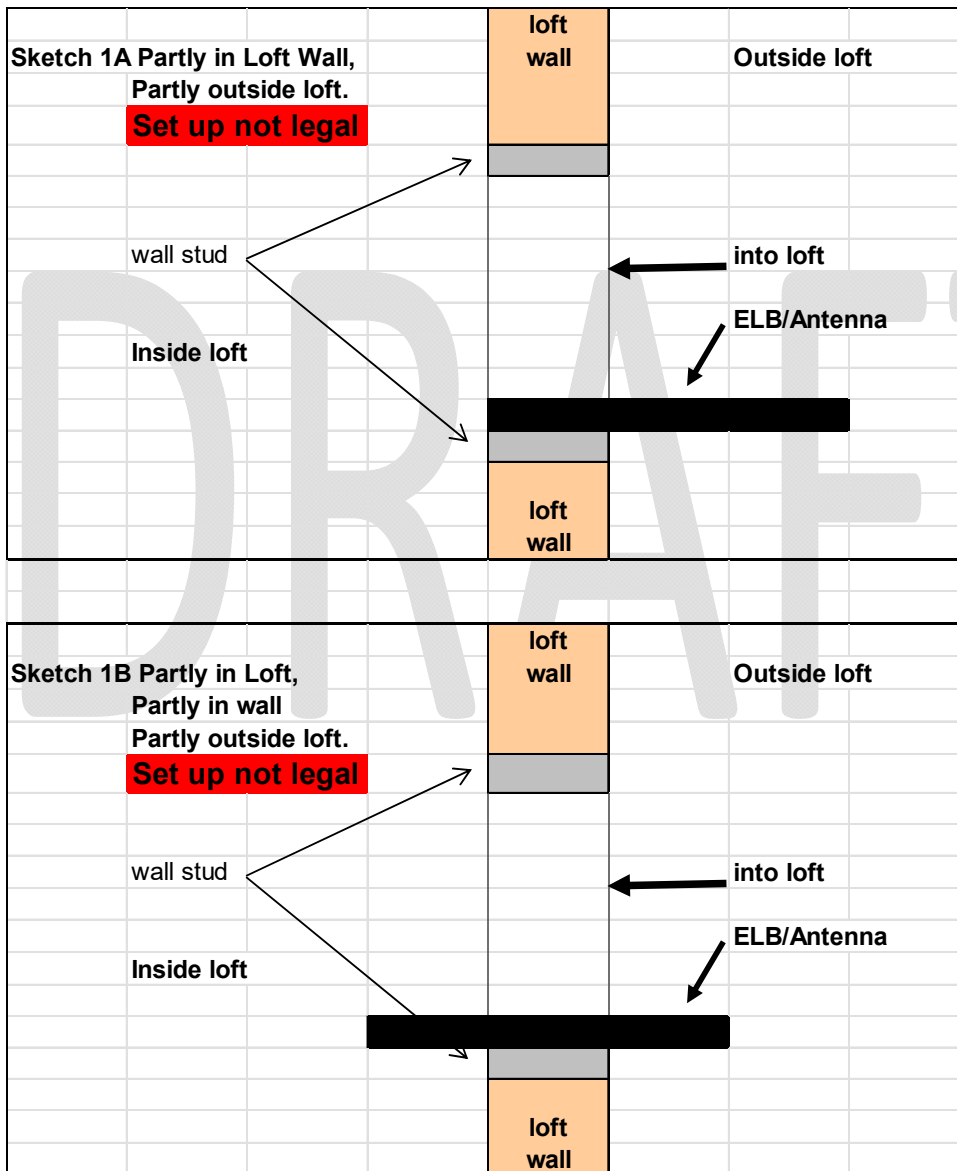
**4 The SAHPA COM** may from time to time amend these rules and conditions as it thinks fit and with its absolute discretion.

END of NOTES

**Antenna Sketches follow next two (2) pages**



**Attachment 1**  
**Antenna Sensor/ELB Location – Set Up Not Legal**



**Attachment 2**  
**Antenna Sensor/ELB Location – Set Up Legal**

