

# Canberra Racing Pigeon Combine, weekend

Inaugural Australian National Racing Pigeon Board Inc.  
(ANRPB) Convention

Saturday 19 November 2016

[www.anrpb.org](http://www.anrpb.org)



Australian National Racing Pigeon Board Inc.



**ANRPB**

flying gallantly into the future

# General overview, why are we here?

- Formation of the National Board – why?
- Involvement of Animal Health Australia (AHA) – why?
- ANRPB achievements to-date – what?
- Racing Pigeon Welfare
  - Future directions
- Q&A – panel discussion

# Outline

- Introductions – SE
- Background to ANRPB – GP
  - Why formed...
  - Animal Health Australia (AHA)
- Guest speaker – Hon. Bryan Green MP, Tasmanian Labor Leader
  - Politics of pigeons
- National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK
  - Why do we need this...
  - Where we are at...
- ANRPB – Communications Plan – AG
- Break / Raffle / draw – MJ
- Welfare, Welfare, Welfare – SE
  - Future directions
- Adinovirus – WA experience - SE
- Q&A – panel discussion – SE, GW, GK, MJ, GP, AG

# Introductions

- ANRPB Board
- Guest speaker
  - Hon. Bryan Green MP, Tasmanian Labor Leader
    - Politics of pigeons
    - Ken Turner case



# Background to ANRPB – Grant Paterson

- Why formed...
- Animal Health Australia (AHA)



# Politics of pigeons

## ➤ Guest speaker

- Hon. Bryan Green MP, Tasmanian Labor Leader
  - Politics of pigeons
  - Ken Turner case

# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN



## **NATIONAL CODE OF PRACTICE Draft November 2016**

### **The Australian National Racing Pigeon Board (Incorporated)**

#### **PIGEON KEEPING AND PIGEON RACING IN AUSTRALIA 2016**

- Refer also to the – Federal Government Animal Health Australia publication
- The Australia Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Poultry 2016
- All pigeon keepers are bound by sections of this code that refers specifically to pigeons (refer appendix attached).

# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN



## Introduction

- This outline of a Code of Practice was produced by the Australian National Racing Pigeon Board Incorporated for the welfare of the pigeons.
- Animal welfare considerations are mandatory and the minimum standards outlined by this code of practice are intended as a guide to help pigeon fanciers and associated organisations meet acceptable standards.
- The principal effect of this Code of Practice, when fully developed, is to ensure that the welfare of the pigeons is the prime consideration in all activities associated with their keeping and that the mandatory standards are met.



# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN



The main issues that the Code will focus on are:

- Welfare of Pigeons and Duty of Care
- Housing and Feeding
- Exercise and Training
- Releasing of Pigeons and Racing
- Governance

# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN



## Welfare of Pigeons and Duty of Care

- 1.1 Duty of Care
- 1.2 ill Treatment & Neglect
- 1.3 Vaccinations

# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN



## 2.0 Housing and Feeding

- 2.1 Pigeon Loft Construction
- 2.2 Ventilation
- 2.3 Off-Ground Flooring.
- 2.4 Insulation
- 2.5 Loft Cleaning
- 2.6 The Racing Loft
  - 2.6.1 Minimum Space per Pigeon Race Loft.
  - 2.6.2 Perches
- 2.7 The Stock Loft
  - 2.7.1 Minimum Space per Pigeon Stock Loft
- 2.8 Feeding & Watering Pigeons
  - 2.8.1 Feeding and Watering at the home loft

# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN



## 3.0 Exercise and Training Pigeons

- 3.1 Free Flight
- 3.2 Non Flight Times
- 3.3 Training for Race Events

# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN

## 4.0 Releasing of Pigeons and Racing

- 4.1 Fit to Compete
- 4.2 Stewards
- 4.3 Inspection of Pigeons
- 4.4 Clashes on the line of Flight
- 4.5 Race Controls
- 4.6 Liberation
- 4.7 Weather
- 4.8 Carriage of Racing Pigeons
  - 4.8.1 Race Panniers
- 4.9 Feeding and Watering in the Race Crates
- 4.10 Feeding and Watering en-Route

# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN



## 5.0 Governance

### ➤ 5.1 Performance Enhancing Drugs

- Random Drug Testing

- Airports

### ➤ 5.3 Breach of Code

### ➤ 5.4 Stray Pigeon Management

- Neighbours

### ➤ 5.6 Local Council Laws

# National Code of Practice (NCOP) – GW, GK, LN



## Summary

- In Q1 2017 draft NCOP will be completed
- We will be sitting with the big Fed's to discuss how it will be implemented, taking on feedback
- Local Federation liberation protocols can and most likely will sit separate to the NCOP... eventually all Federations and Clubs will need to adopt the NCOP as the base level of welfare compliance.

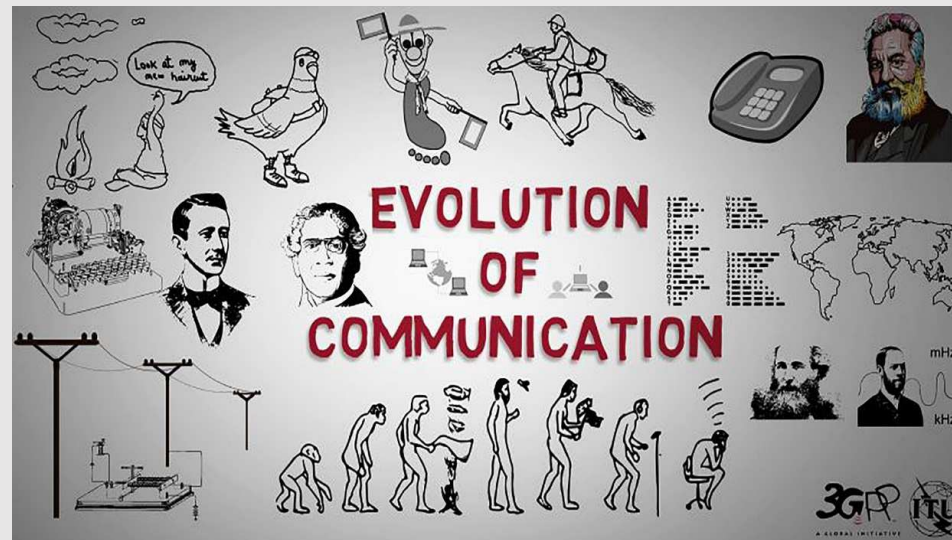
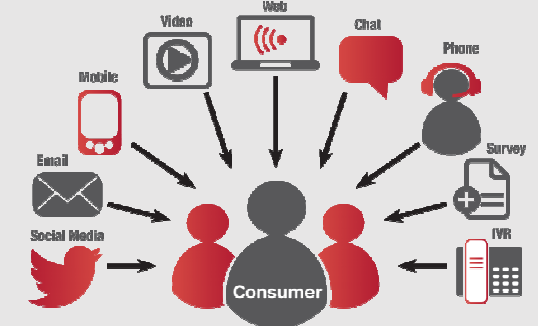
Thank you

# Australian National Racing Pigeon Board Communications Management Plan

Andrew Grech  
ANRPB Secretary  
Saturday 19 November 2016



# Our Changing Landscape





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# Goals Of The Communication Plan

## • Communication Plan

### Defines

- What
- How
- When
- Responsibilities
- Resources
- Governance
- Formats
- Channels
- Escalations
- Constraints

Communication Type	Objective of Communication	Medium	Frequency	Audience	Owner	Deliverable	Format
Kickoff Meeting	Introduce the team. Review objectives and management approach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conference Call</li></ul>	Once	ANRPB	ANRPB Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agenda</li><li>• Meeting Minutes</li></ul>	Soft copy distributed by email
ANRPB Meetings	Review status of ANRPB initiatives and priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Face to Face</li><li>• Conference Call</li></ul>	Bi-Monthly	ANRPB	ANRPB Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agenda</li><li>• Meeting Minutes</li><li>• Project Schedule</li></ul>	Soft copy distributed by email
State based bi annual meetings	Report on the status and priorities of ANRPB to pigeon racing fraternity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Face to Face</li><li>• Conference Call, one session per state</li></ul>	6 months	Pigeon Racing Federations	ANRPB State Board Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project schedule</li><li>• Wins/Challenges/issues/risks</li></ul>	Soft copy distributed by email
Annual Conference	Report on the status and priorities of ANRPB to pigeon racing fraternity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Face to Face</li></ul>	Yearly	pigeon racing fraternity in Australia	ANRPB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Slide updates</li><li>• Project schedule</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Soft copy distributed by email</li><li>• Paper based handouts</li></ul>
Status Reports	Report the status of the ANRPB including activities, progress and wins/issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Email</li><li>• Website</li><li>• Pigeon race.net??</li></ul>	Quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ANRPB Members</li><li>• Pigeon racing fraternity</li></ul>	ANRPB Chair	Informational communicate	Soft copy distributed by email & Web Post

# Bi lateral communication

- Communicate with ANRPB
  - Website [www.anrpb.org](http://www.anrpb.org)
  - Your state based representative
  - Email [enquiries@anrpb.org](mailto:enquiries@anrpb.org)
- Communication from ANRPB
  - Website updates
  - Register to receive comms via the website
  - Print media
  - Radio
  - Pigeon racing events
    - Future
      - Facebook??
      - Twitter??
      - SMS??





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# Register Online



BOARD INC  
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ANRPB Inc

AUSTRALIA



*flying*

Administration

Home

About Us

## Register

son Racing Australia

Register with us to receive updates on issues that may affect pigeon keeping and racing in Australia. Privacy: The Australian National Racing Pigeon Board will not share this information with anyone else.

Your form was successfully submitted.

First Name\*

Last Name\*

Email Address\*

Mobile

Address:

Street Address

Suburb

Home

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Register


Board Members




Stephen Eggleton NSW  
Chairman  
Australian National Racing Pigeon Board




Andrew Grech NSW  
Secretary ANRPB




Grant Paterson CBR  
Treasurer ANRPB



Greg Kakoschke SA/NT  
Board Member




Len Vandertindie QLD  
Board member



Kevin Wilson WA  
Board Member

Information

Press Releases



www.anrpb.org

[Home](#)[Contact](#)[Register](#)

Contact

Name: \*

Email Address: \*

Subject: \*

Message: \*

Submit

If you would like to receive future updates and information relevant to the keeping and of racing pigeons in Australia, please complete the registration form, under the Information Menu, to be added to our mailing list.

Contact email [enquiries@anrpb.org](mailto:enquiries@anrpb.org)



# Summary

- Effective communication is key to our success
- Communication can be visible to a large audience
- Communication channels are constantly evolving
- Comms Plan has been endorsed and is being implemented



Thank you.

# Break / Raffle draw

10-15 mins



# Welfare, Welfare, Welfare

Stephen Eggleton

Chair - ANRPB

# Outline

- Background
- Today
- The Future
- Best practice
- The ANRPB
- How can people get involved
- Take homes
- Next steps

# Background

- For the past 100 years pigeon racing in Australia has been decentralised
- We have been determined to self regulate our sport at a local level, Club & Federations; there has been no united National body
- Over the past 10-15 years the major Federations have implemented liberation protocols and in some cases have had their transporters accredited by 3<sup>rd</sup> parties for “fitness for purpose” to transport racing pigeons... the motivational “driver” behind this is pigeon welfare
- Welfare from a racing perspective has become much more “front of mind”, e.g. delaying basketing due to adverse conditions is now an accepted norm
- We are living in an ever changing environment... a new world order of “disruption”
  - Disruptive technologies (Uber / AirBNB)
  - Disruptive politics (Brexit / Trump)
  - Global warming and renewable energies
  - And Animal welfare... NSW Greyhound case as an example
  - So where to from here

# Today



- The Australian Government has seen to it, via AHA – Animal Health Australia - that we have a National Code of Practice in play for racing pigeons
- This necessitated the formation of the ANRPB – Australian National Racing Pigeon Board
- We are on watch... Pigeon Racing, like Horse Racing is under the spotlight
  - Others are better prepared...
- Greyhounds were on watch and didn't adapt fast enough. Now they have to transform totally and at a great rate of speed
- From a Welfare perspective we have been bracketed with Horse Racing and Greyhound Racing, we must get our house in order... so what to do?

# Future directions

- The future is all about... Welfare, welfare, welfare...
  - This is the focus
- We need to change structurally
- We need to transform our image
- We must educate and inform
- We must mitigate risks that can harm our sport
- We must be professional, work as a team and have a positive attitude about our sport
  - Indeed, get our sport registered by Government as a Sport!

# Future

- Welfare, welfare, welfare
- We need to change
- We need to train
- We must
- We need to improve our sport

Who wants to be racing in 5-years,  
10-years time?  
I'm sure we all do!

# Welfare, Welfare, Welfare

- So who would have thought the NSW Government would straight-out ban Greyhound Racing in NSW?
- And who would have thought the NSW Greyhound Industry would have received a stay of execution, to undertake major structural reform?
- So we must be ready, we must act!



# Let's do a straw poll

- Who agrees with the following?



# Suggested Best practice: 5-point Code of Conduct Checklist

For all Federations and Flyers; pertaining to racing and caring for your racing pigeons.

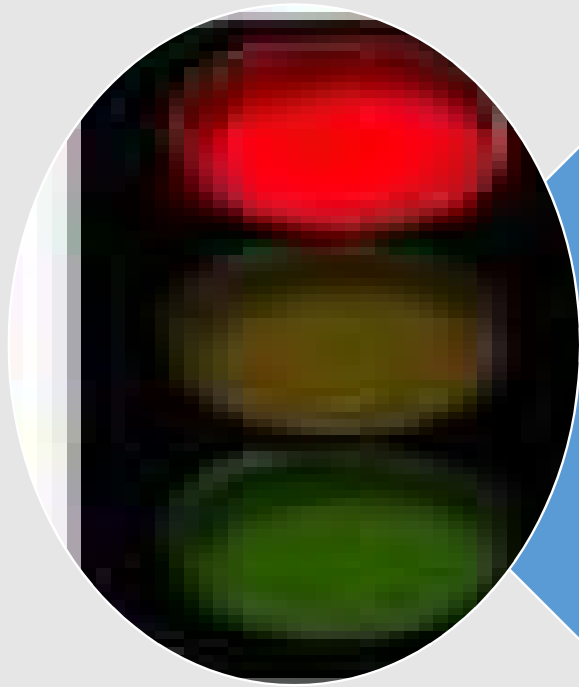


1. Welfare - Always put the welfare of your birds first.

Adhere to your Club or Federation Code of Practice to care for your racing pigeons

# Suggested Best practice: 5-point Code of Conduct Checklist

For all Federations and Flyers; pertaining to racing and caring for your racing pigeons.

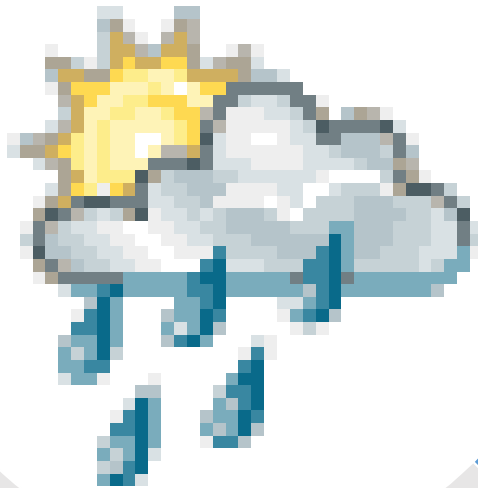


2. Liberation - Federations must adhere to Liberation protocols.

Always err on the side of caution in liberation decision making. If in doubt hold.

# Suggested Best practice: 5-point Code of Conduct Checklist

For all Federations and Flyers; pertaining to racing and caring for your racing pigeons.



3. Flyers - support your Club and Federations decisions around delaying basketing or canceling races due to unsuitable conditions to race.

# Suggested Best practice: 5-point Code of Conduct Checklist

For all Federations and Flyers; pertaining to racing and caring for your racing pigeons.



4. CASA - Do not liberate training or race birds near to aerodromes or airports.

# Suggested Best practice: 5-point Code of Conduct Checklist

For all Federations and Flyers; pertaining to racing and caring for your racing pigeons.



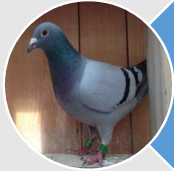
5. At all times be positive about our sport.

Maintain best practices and always be pigeon welfare centric.

Collect lost or stray birds.

# Best practice: 5-point Code of Conduct Checklist

For all Federations and Flyers; pertaining to racing and caring for your racing pigeons. Canberra 19/11/16



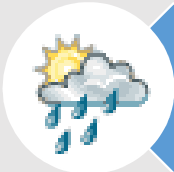
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3. Flyers - support your Club and Federations decisions around delaying basketing or canceling races due to unsuitable conditions to race.



4. CASA - Do not liberate training or race birds near to aerodromes or airports.



5. Be positive - at all times be positive about our sport.

Maintain best practices and always be pigeon welfare centric.

Collect lost or stray birds.

# Suggested Best practice: 5-point Conduct Checklist

For all Federations and Flyers; pertaining to racing and club pigeon racing



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1. Welfare - Always

Adhere to your

eons



If you agree with this  
5-point best practice  
checklist, we are 90%  
of the way there...

delaying basketing or



Place birds near to aerodromes or airports.



5. At all times be positive about our sport.

Maintain good practices and always be pigeon welfare centric.

Collect lost or stray birds.

# Suggested Best practice: 5-point Code of Conduct Checklist

For all Federations and Flyers; pertaining to racing and caring for your racing pigeons.



- And for those that don't agree...
- As a responsible Racing Pigeon Fancy we must assist the small minority who may struggle with saying or doing the right thing
  - particularly regarding lost or stray birds or negative comments that could bring the sport into "disrepute"
  - We need to assist. Preferable to inform and to educate. To change behaviors. If not...
  - The ANRPB will recommend to local Clubs and Federations, that they deal swiftly with these issues using existing rules and disciplinary procedures.
  - ***We must mitigate our risks, for the benefit of the majority and the reputation of our sport...***



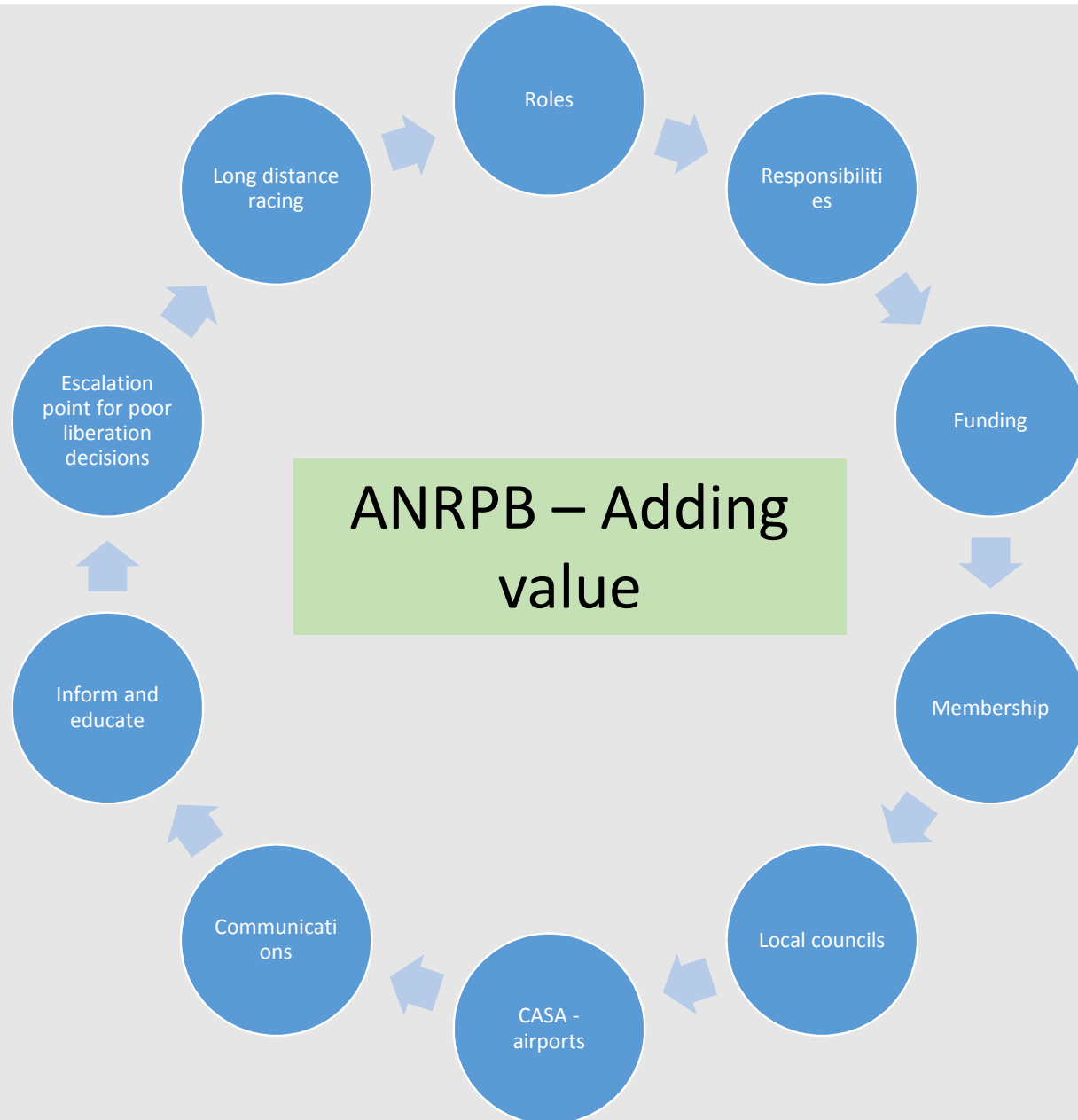
# The ANRPB

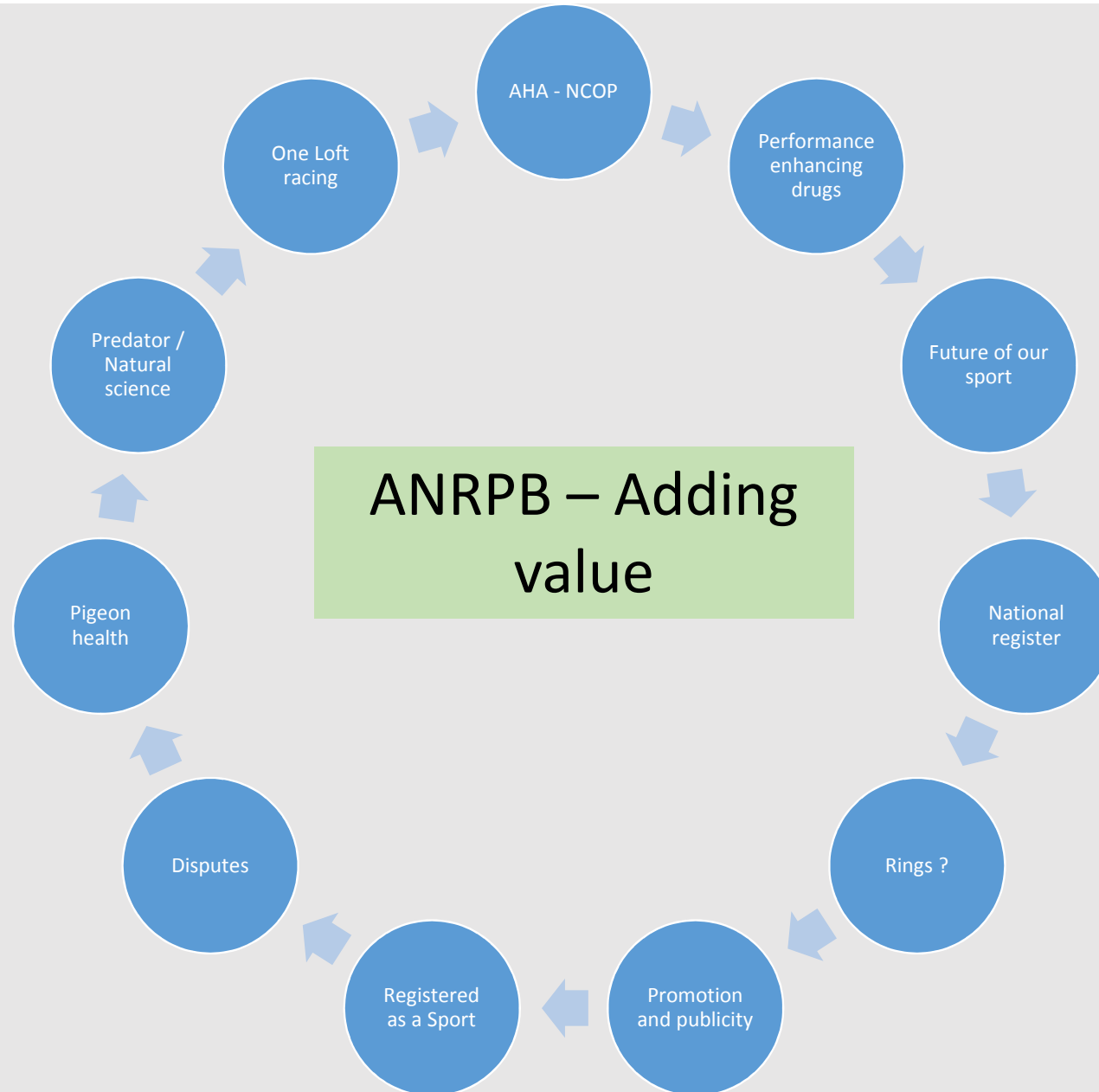


- Strategy
- Structure
- Staff
- Progress so far
- How can people get involved
- Take homes (other than pigeons ! 😊)

# The ANRPB - Strategy

- The aims of the ANRPB in Years 1-2, operate at macro-level
  - Not directly involved in Federation or Club matters
- Our primary focus is:
  - Government – AHA
  - National Code of Practice
  - CASA
  - Point of escalation for poor decision making by Federations, Combines, One Loft races around liberations
  - Animal Welfare monitoring
  - Any matter or situation that may or could bring the sport into disrepute
  - Acknowledged National body of Pigeon Racing in Australia and Internationally
  - Future of our Sport
    - Guidance and support for Federation's
- Overall, adding value to the Australian Racing Pigeon Fancy





# The ANRPB - Structure

- Initial structure is a Board member from each state:
  - Plus Chair, Secretary and Treasurer



# The ANRPB - Staff



State / Role	Name	Voting rights
VIC	Graham Wark (VHA)	1 vote
SA/NT	Greg Kakoschke (SAHPA)	1 vote
QLD	Len Vanderlinde (QPF)	1 vote
WA	Kevin Wilson (PRF)	1 vote
TAS	Peter Wallace (TAS)	1 vote
NSW/ACT	Mark Jeffrey (SRPF)	1 vote
Chair – NSW	Stephen Eggleton (CCF)	1 vote (casting)
General Secretary	Andrew Grech (CCF)	
Treasurer	Grant Paterson (CRPC)	

# ANRPB Inc. – the progress so far:

## 2-steps forward, 1-step back

- Excellent involvement with AHA in Canberra and input from Grant Paterson
- ANRPB Inc. formed
- Board established
- Constitution developed
- Seed funds generated from On-line Fund raiser
- Bank account
- ANRPB Branding
- Website established - [www.anrpb.org](http://www.anrpb.org)
- Board meetings underway
- Draft NCOP
- Inaugural ANRPB Convention
- Preparing next steps



# How can people get involved

- Needing people to assist State board members
- Publicity support
- Everyone to be an advocate of the sport of Pigeon Racing
- Advocate Pigeon racing positively
- We need successors in all roles





# How can people get involved

- Needing people to assist State members
- Publicity support
- Everyone to be a part of the sport of Pigeon Racing
- Advocacy and support positively
- We need you in all roles
- Please

Please feel free to put your hand up to help us



# Take homes

- In a short time we have made good progress
- This is a “love job” for all of us
- We need everyone here to support ANRPB
- Its taken 100 years to get to this position, we are launched but we are not in orbit... but we are close

# Take homes

- Please be great “Pigeon welfare” disciples
- Be advocates of “Pigeon welfare” practices
- Support our 5-point best practice checklist
- Macho talk must be a thing of the past... please!
- The ANRPB will listen, we will confer, we will do the right thing...
- Enjoy your birds, enjoy having them return home, enjoy your racing 😊

# Thank you



# Q&A – panel discussion



# Adenovirus – Dr. Rob Marshall

- Recent outbreak in WA
- Dr. Rob Marshall report
- Next steps

## Disease kills hundreds of racing pigeons and forces lock down of competitions

June 28th, 2016, 10:00AM | Written by Bryce Luff | Fremantle Gazette NEWS



AN adenovirus has been blamed for killing hundreds of racing pigeons and forcing a lockdown on competition.

The Pigeon Racing Federation of WA (PRFWA) told members to quarantine birds after the first death was reported in mid-May.

By then many pigeons had been infected, with ill birds vomiting, suffering diarrhoea and dying.

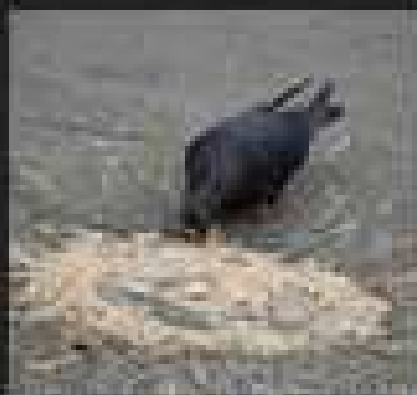
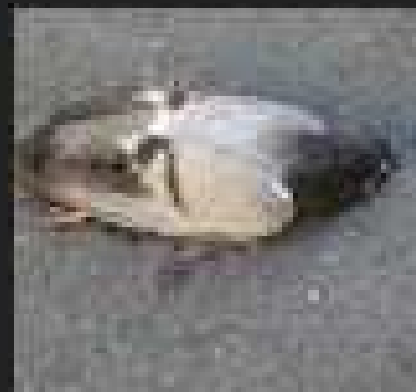
The Department of Agriculture and Food (DAFWA) began investigating after the first reports were made and issued a notice to the industry.

Dr Mia Carbon, the department's acting chief veterinary officer, said post mortems had been held on birds submitted to its animal health labs.

"Laboratory tests and an epidemiological assessment provide a high level of confidence that the cause of mortality is due to an adenovirus," she said.

# Adinovirus “Young bird sickness”

Related images:



[View more](#)






Mon 6/06/2016 1:50 PM

stephen.eggleton@somfy.com

Recent Adenovirus outbreak, WA

To ☐ George Azar

Cc ☐ susan palterman; ☐ admin@understandingbusiness.com.au; ☐ pkpatto@bigpond.com

 160606 Adenovirus out...  
55 KB

Dear George,

I'm writing to you as Chair of the ANRPB - Australian National Racing Pigeon Board - regarding the recent outbreak of Adenovirus in WA.

Firstly, I would like to commend you and the PRF Committee for your swift and professional actions around this matter.

Secondly, to please pass on our sincere condolences to all members affected by this horrible disease for the severe loss of life of their beloved birds.

Attached is a copy of the Final report on this outbreak by Dr. Rob Marshall. Rob is a secondment to the ANRPB for pigeon health & disease management.

I have been in touch with all but one of our ANRP board members in the past 24 hours (including Kevin Wilson) and we are all in agreement that the **ANRPB, as a National vehicle, should recommend that there be no shipment of racing or show pigeons from WA to the Eastern States until 31 December 2016. This requirement will need to be self regulated in the first instance; the alternate is National Biosecurity measures.**

I understand you have a PRF committee meeting tonight and I ask that you table this matter with your Committee members.

Please share with me feedback soonest as we wish to put out a Press Release.

*(See attached file: 160606 Adenovirus outbreak WA COMPLETE FINAL REPORT.pdf)*

Best Regards,

Stephen Eggleton



**From:** JOHN [<mailto:wintlej@hotmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 8 June 2016 8:38 PM  
**To:** George Azar  
**Subject:** Fw: Adenovirus Outbreak in WA

Hi George,  
Here is my thoughts on the recommendation from Stephen Eggleton ANRPB

The ban on exporting pigeons from Western Australia is a good idea. Though it is too short a period to try and stop the spread of the virus to the Eastern States. I would suggest 12 month ban on exporting pigeons from WA. This could be extended if another outbreak occurs next year. Self-regulating the ban will be hard to enforce. I believe the only way to ban export of pigeons from WA is the involvement of the State Government authorities. I have read an article from a Vet. in Europe and they stated the the birds that have recovered from the adenovirus will be the carriers of this virus. If this is the case then our birds will never be safe to export to the Eastern States.

I am hoping that the virus effecting our birds will never happen again.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN WINTLE  
Secretary/Treasurer  
The Pigeon Racing Federation of W.A. (Inc.)









Thu 9/06/2016 5:12 PM

susan palterman <spalterman@yahoo.com>

Adenovirus outbreak West Australia

To  Stephen Eggleton

Cc  Stephen Nuske;  Peter Wallace;  Mark Jeffrey;  Grant Paterson;  David Buxton;  George Azar

Hi Stephen

I have discussed this with our PRF Board Members and they are in agreeance to close down the shipment of birds from WA as per your E-Mail to George.

The WA Govt Authorities are reluctant to get involved as its is not a Infectious Disease at this stage until they complete their tests.. The PRF Board will instruct the members to stop sending any pigeons from WA, The fancy pigeon club here (FUPS) have cancelled their plans for the National Show being held in Melbourne this year; so that should help to contain the virus to WA

Talk to you soon

Regards

Kevin W[ison

Director ANRPB

# FINAL REPORT

## Adenovirus outbreak in WA

By Dr Rob Marshall

### Introduction

The recent outbreak of adenovirus infection in Perth Western Australia is of great concern for all Australian pigeon fanciers due to its rapid spread, high level of mortality and no potential for future protection from vaccination. This report presents a blue print for future outbreaks, which are likely to reach the Eastern states of Australia at some time.

### Outbreak Narrative

Sickness and death appeared within 48 hours of race birds returning from the first race of the 2016 season. They had been exposed in the race transporter to the virus from lofts that had experienced the disease a week or so earlier.

The origin of infection appears to be linked to deaths in pigeons from lofts that shared a tossing trailer some 2 to 3 weeks prior to the first race which was not reported to the PRF committee.

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Pigeon Racing Federation of WA (PRF) executives acted immediately to diagnose the exact cause of this disease outbreak by sending body specimens for analysis to veterinary pathologists at the Western Australian Department of Agriculture who quickly eliminated as its cause Avian Influenza, Newcastle Disease Paramyxovirus and other serious viral infections of danger to humans and the poultry industry.

Pathologists in Western Australia and Sydney also microscopically examined body organs. WA pathologists examined birds that had died from the disease whilst Sydney pathologists examined birds that were euthanatized after exhibiting typical symptoms of the disease. The combined results of these microscopic investigations presented a view of the disease, which formed the basis of the following disease control strategy.

Within three days of the first death a strategic plan had been implemented by PRF to control the disease, which included standard biosecurity measures of disease containment and the start of Sulfa-Trimethoprim antibiotic therapy for race and stock birds of all in-contact and affected pigeon lofts.

## Future of Adenovirus

There is little doubt that both forms of pigeon adenovirus infections (PiAV1 and PiAV2) will recur in future years and most likely in young birds at the same time each year. Because young late bred pigeons are at most risk of disease it is proposed if PRF members agree that the first 6 weeks of 2017 racing be restricted to old birds and young birds that have completed their moult to a level of at least 8 full main flight feathers on each wing. This approach may reduce the likelihood of another similar massive outbreak by allowing young birds to develop some level of immunity before they enter races over the following years.

## Protection of Eastern States from Adenovirus

National bodies for racing pigeons and show pigeons are approaching government departments to ban movement of pigeons from WA to eastern states for at least 6 months.

# Next steps

- Please discuss with Dr. Rob Marshall
- Thank you