

ANRPB held Tuesday 03 June 2025

Meeting Opened 18:35 EST.

Meeting chaired by Stephen Shears

Attendees: Gavin Harris, Leo Turley, Nick Mitchell, Russell Somerville, Andrew Crothers, Tony Price, Paul Gibbs, Philip Almond, Stephen Shears

Apologies: Robin White, Vince Pedavoli

Previous Minutes Approved: Moved - Leo Turley **Seconded** - Tony Price

Correspondence In: Nil advised

Correspondence out: Nil advised.

Treasurers Report.

General Account Balance \$23,559.73, Term Deposit \$80,000

3 Jun 2025	DEPOSIT-OSKO PAYMENT 2559686 STEPHEN SHEARS Shirt sale	\$50.00	\$23,669.73
13 May 2025	WITHDRAWAL ONLINE 1397882 TFR Term Deposi	-\$7,160.30	\$23,619.73
13 May 2025	INTEREST PAID ON 0000000 TERM DEPOSIT 448699	\$3,350.63	\$30,780.03
5 May 2025	DEPOSIT Andrew Crothers membership	\$50.00	\$27,429.40
30 Apr 2025	DEPOSIT PRICE Tony Price	\$50.00	\$27,379.40
29 Apr 2025	WITHDRAWAL-OSKO PAYMENT 1434444 Central Cumberland Racing Pigeon Fe CCF Donation from ANRPB	-\$500.00	\$27,329.40
17 Apr 2025	DEPOSIT CBA PRFWA L Turley Mem	\$50.00	\$27,829.40
16 Apr 2025	DEPOSIT-OSKO PAYMENT 2834051 DAVID GORDON Convention	\$2,100.00	\$27,779.40
15 Apr 2025	DEPOSIT 2586988 Philip Almond Board Member Almond	\$50.00	\$25,679.40
15 Apr 2025	DEPOSIT-OSKO PAYMENT 2610987 STEPHEN SHEARS Extra for merch	\$20.00	\$25,629.40
14 Apr 2025	DEPOSIT MARK A KOULOURIS ANRPB 2 of 2	\$2,500.00	\$25,609.40
11 Apr 2025	DEPOSIT-OSKO PAYMENT 2560675 ADAM ARCHER ANRPB Ken	\$3,000.00	\$23,109.40

Moved - Leo Turley, **Seconded** – Stephen Shears

Agenda Items	Discussions / Issues	Actions / Actioning Member / Outcomes
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General Business

<p>Promotional Video</p>	<p>Youtube link to be put up on ANRPB website and other pigeon websites</p> <p>Stephen Shears is an advisor on a movie about a woman and a stray pigeon. Vince to report next meeting on intended filming of a club release.</p> <p>Reported by Stephen Shears: A 400 bird release was filmed for the movie with AI being used to increase the release number to 4000 for inclusion in the movie.</p>	<p>Action : Tony to speak to Rod Simmons about changing Youtube video setting to allow for Pilipino and Mandarin. Mistakes in autocue noted, Tony has sent correspondence to Rod Simmons to follow up.</p>
<p>Victorian Legislation</p>	<p>VCAT hearing completed, aim is to have pigeons listed with councils under the same “Racing Category” as Greyhound Racing.</p> <p>Action: Tony Price reported that VCAT hearing has been finalised. Pigeon Racing is no longer considered Domestic Animal Husbandry or Animal Husbandry, it is considered innominate land use not under 73.03 of the scheme, similar to other racing animals, which has different ramifications as per the Darebin Planning scheme.</p> <p>A link to the VCAT report can be viewed at VICTORIAN CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL</p> <p>Note: Leo Turley reported that his informative documentation on Racing Pigeon keeping was used to assist a flyer in Fairfield in Sydney in overcoming Council regulations and concerns.</p>	<p>Action: Gavin to liaise with Len Vanderlinde to include Leo’s PDF information on the ANRPB website, including a hyperlink to the VCAT decision to assist flyers who encounter issues with their local councils.</p>
<p>FCI</p>	<p>Previous Notes: Mr. Matteo Grappa, Vice president of the FCI has notified Stephen that the Boards FCI application to become a member has been accepted. The ANRPB is awaiting formal approval of membership by the FCI congress.</p>	

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FCI continued	<p>FCI congress in China 2026 (now changed to Germany). Next FCI Olympiad to be in Dortmund – Germany, 4/2/2026 to 08/02/2026</p> <p>Due to new membership, it is important for a representative to attend from the Board to promote Australia. Paul motioned that the Board should support and pay travel and accommodation costs for a member to attend the congress. Stephen to consider option of attending conference.</p> <p>FCI – One Loft racing. How does Meadows One Loft race register for FCI recognition?</p>	<p>Action: Stephen to consider attending on behalf of ANRPB.</p> <p>Action : Stephen to research and forward to Tony for Steve Gazzola</p>
Loading Density / Code of Practice	Documentation by DPIRD indicates the initial 450cm2 density provision will now be 200cm2 for racing pigeons.	Action: Leo reports that no further correspondence from DPIRD has been received and loading densities will continue to be actioned as per the 200cm2.
Government recognition / Sports Australia.	Vince to draft letter in regards to treating pigeon racing as a sport similar to how Horse Racing and Greyhound Racing is considered a sport, the animal and bird welfare conditions are also recognized by Councils.	Action: Vince – in draft. Report next meeting.
AWAMO alliance	Vince has suggested that that a portion of the funds raised by the pigeon auctions by the ANRPB to be donated to the AWAMO.	Carried forward for further discussion.
2025 Grand National.	<p>NSW – Stephen Shears reported: East Coast Long Distance Racing Combine (ECLDRC) will be organizing body for national Race. Race will be from Booligal 550-620km. ECLDRC will sponsor \$1000 towards the race. Basking points will be : Newcastle, Central Coast,Liverpool/Dural, South Coast, Shoalhaven, Plus invite to Mid North Combine and Taree \$10 per bird/10 bird entry</p>	<p>For Information only.</p> <p>Date to be advised.</p>

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	<p>QLD - 2025 National race to be from Charleville 680 to 780km race.</p> <p>WA - National will be held from Yalgoo 2nd August 2025, 500km race to Perth.</p> <p>SA – Race point decided – Booroorban in NSW, 30th August. Distances – 700km Pt Augusta, 560km Adelaide, and 430km Keith.</p> <p>Vic – Race from Morgan, all federations on one Truck, one prize from ANRPB for each federation. 10 bird limits. 12th October</p>	<p>Geraldton Racing Club to submit proposal to PRF for protocols for inclusion in race.</p>
National Ace Bird Awards	<p>2025 eligibility discussed, consideration of including 150 bird race entry to accompany 20 member flyer requirement. It was agreed for this year to have a minimum of 20 competing flyers in each race but not the 150 bird minimum.</p>	<p>Action: Paul to update the terms and conditions to stipulate a minimum of 20 competing flyers in each race. Action: Gavin to send edit regarding 20 bird flyer requirement to Len Vanderlinde so he can update the ANRPB website.</p>
Victorian Country Delegate	<p>Ongoing search for regional candidate.</p>	<p>Action: Tony Price Ongoing – carried forward.</p>
Queensland Delegates	<p>Ongoing search for regional candidate. 3 candidates were interested, yet are now no longer eligible due to varying reasons.</p>	<p>Action: Philip Almond Carried forward.</p>
Tasmania Delegates	<p>Robin White has indicated interest.</p>	<p>Philip Almond stated he was overseas at the time of this meeting and will attend the next meeting in July. Action: Gavin to send zoom invite to Robin White for July meeting.</p>
Merchandise	<p>Stephen Shears reported no new merchandise is required to be bought, there is enough on hand.</p>	<p>Action: Stephen will circulate itemized list of merchandise to Board members. Anyone wishing to sell any items to contact Stephen Shears.</p>

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ANRPB Life Ring	Ongoing: Re-visit this in the future should the Board take over the life rings when current sellers Alex and Ted are ready to retire.	Carried forward.
Patron	<p>The ANRPB is pleased to announce that Nigel Allsop has accepted the boards offer to be appointed Patron.</p> <p>The ANRPB is honoured to appoint Nigel Allsop as patron. Neil has sent through some information regarding Pigeons used in War times (see below)</p> <div data-bbox="443 699 501 759" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="412 769 533 817">wwi pigeon use.pdf</p> <p>General discussion raised by Vince – that the 2 War pigeons receive the Dickens medal posthumously. Suggestion to offer competition to High School students to name them, as a way of raising awareness of pigeons used in war times and general awareness of pigeon racing today.</p>	<p>Webste: www.awamo.org.au Action: Gavin to correspond with AWAMO to offer to have the ANRPB website added to the AWAMO web page.</p> <p>For further discussion. Action: Paul Gibbs has tabled a letter for the Federal Minister of Education (in consultation with Leo Turley) to request the involvement with High School students Australia wide.</p> <p>Action: Gavin to touch up letter drafted by Paul, with ANRPB logo/letterhead and distribute to members for perusal. Carried forward.</p>
National Convention March 2025	<p>Macca from ABC interviewed Gavin Harris for his radio program. Video by Len Vanderlinde available at Convention Video Central Cumberland Big thanks to Sue Shears who manned the ANRPB stand at the convention. National Convention was a resounding success.</p> <p>QLD to consider next convention in Brisbane – November 2025 to March 2026.</p> <p>SA considering convention in November 2026.</p>	Information only.

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Pigeon Pictorial UK Magazine	<p>Paul Gibbs has provided an article from ANRPB that has been published in Sept Issue Thank you, Paul.</p> <p>Paul will continue to write articles.</p>	<p>Paul – To do article on National Ace Bird awards with some information about the Sydney Convention – post event.</p> <p>Currently working on next one. Trevor Steed of CCF and Gary Bortelli.</p>
State Round Up / Discussion	<p>QLD – Amalgamation of QRPF and NRC, to be recognized as QRPF.</p> <p>NSW – Stephen Shears, CCF President, reported that first race was last weekend with Vince Pedavoli winning the race. Membership has increased by 10% bringing total membership to 240.</p> <p>VIC – Dandenong Club has 2 bird race from King Island.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – New Benzing live Club system implemented. – Approx. 90% of Victorian flyers use Benzing clocks – VHA facebook page has drone video of toss which has gained considerable following. – 3 flyers banned for securing own rings, bypassing the ring fees and rings contain flyers personal phone numbers not club number (compromising rules) – Department of Agriculture requesting online registration of lofts so that lofts can be locked down in case of an avian flu outbreak. Voluntary at this stage but to register if more than 50 race birds. – Racing program begins last Saturday in June. <p>SA – first race last weekend with near 100% returns. Basketing on Wednesday night for this week’s race due to upcoming weather and liberation protocols being implemented.</p> <p>SA – Golden Mile Loft, 30 return members x 10 birds each in loft, plus a waiting list. South Aussie with Cosi – TV show aired 01/06/25 (good positive promotion).</p> <p>SA to build a bigger loft to accommodate a one loft race. Approval at club level, awaiting council approval. Intention to have 3 races.</p>	<p>Information only.</p>

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	<p>4 bird limit at \$400 per SA flyer. Spots will be opened up to other states if positions not filled by SA flyers.</p> <p>WA – Kevin Wilson is new President of PRF, appointed at AGM on Sunday 9th February, 2025. 2 races so far, first in ordinary conditions with last weekend’s race in favorable conditions. Geraldton Club has had 4 races so far with good returns.</p> <p>Russell suggested a map for each state showing race points.</p> <p>Any outbreak of Avian Flu in any state – board members to report immediately so alterations to racing programs can be implemented if required.</p>	<p>Action: Stephen has offered to prepare the maps. Action: Federations to share racing programs considering the races crossing into Victoria and vice versa. Programs to be sent to Gavin, who will forward to Stephen.</p>
Genetics of Racing	<p>Phil Almond discussed his collaborations with Dave Shewmaker on Dave’s book “Genetics of racing”. Phil gave an oversight of Dave’s book which was completed and published; unfortunately; immediately prior to Dave’s passing. Phil offered to give a more rigorous presentation into Racing Pigeon genetics on how results of genetic indicators can improve performance.</p>	<p>An overview as explained by Phil Almond is attached.</p>  <p>Supercharging Your Champions v1.2.pdf</p> <p>Link to Dave Shewmaker’s website - https://www.shewmaker.com/html/the_book_project.html</p>
ANRPB – List of Contacts for each state.	<p>Federation details for states being collated. Gavin is waiting on responses from each state’s delegate so he can collate the list. Received from WA and VIC.</p> <p>Board Job Description to be put up on website.</p>	<p>All delegates Carried forward.</p> <p>Action: Gavin & Len Carried forward.</p>
FCI website article from ANRPB	<p>Stephen Shears advised the FCI are currently redesigning their website to include continents with Australia to have a box seat to promote pigeon racing.</p>	<p>Paul to prepare draft, Tony – information about Bass Strait races Carried forward.</p>

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	<p>Ideas include on the site include Paul's article regarding the Board and purpose, contact details for all the States and Federations, graphically interesting races highlighting distances including Alice Springs race of 1300kms of desert for pigeons, Launceston to Newcastle. Tony Price to seek interest for a Tasmania to Victoria race across the Bass Strait.</p>	<p>Action: Stephen Shears to contact FCI to have the link to Australia updated so that it include relevant information about Australia, currently blank.</p>
<p>Microsoft AI Co-pilot program to predict flight conditions during pigeon races to assist Liberation committees in their decisions.</p>	<p>Andrew Grech has progressed his computer program that he has been developing to predict flight conditions during pigeon races to assist Liberation committees in their decisions.</p> <p>Locations along the estimated flight path are entered into the program and conditions are promulgated along the way</p> <p>The program utilises Liberation protocols used by the CCF to then determine Green, Amber and Red light for flying conditions at each location entered.</p> <p>This program was utilized by CCF last weekend with encouraging results.</p>	<p>Action: Stephen shears to approach Andrew Grech to ask if he will attend next meeting to present an updated information session. Stephen to enquire if the program could be made available to other Federations around Australia and if a cost would be involved.</p> <p>Grech is considering patenting his program and is contemplating presenting it to the FCI congress in Germany.</p>
<p>ANRPB meeting minutes to be posted on the website.</p>	<p>Paul Gibbs reported that there had been a request from the VRPB for the ANRPB meeting minutes to be posted on the website.</p> <p>Gavin Harris reported that historically they had been posted.</p>	<p>Action: Gavin to send to Len who will post the minutes.</p>
<p>AAWS Survey</p>	<p>Marc Tenaglia forwarded correspondence regarding Australian Animal Welfare Strategy survey for ANRPB to review. The AAWS Connection - Edition 2, 2025</p>	<p>Action: Leo Turley to review.</p> <p>Leo reports that the deadline for comments had closed before he was requested to review.</p> <p>Leo will contact the AAWS and request that information that has been worked on with DIPRD can be considered for inclusion.</p>

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AI feeders to control Feral Pigeons	Leo Turley circulated information regarding AI feeders to sterilise Feral pigeons. Artificial intelligence, birth control used to curb Geraldton pigeon numbers - ABC News	Leo has written to the ABC and Eric Wolf from Ovocontrol, Annolytics LLC Pigeon Control Company about making it clear that it is FERAL Pigeons that are being targeted for the sterilisation program. Currently no response from ABS, Eric Wolf replied with the comments noted for future published documentation.

Meeting closed 2055hrs AEST Time.

Next meeting to be held **Tuesday 8th July 2025** at 1830hrs AEST (QLD, NSW, VIC), 1800hrs ACST (SA), 1630hrs AWST (WA)