

ANRPB held Tuesday 14 October 2025

Meeting Opened 19:35 AEST. Meeting chaired by Gavin Harris

Attendees: Vince Pedavoli, Nick Mitchell, Gavin Harris, Leo Turley, Russell Somerville, Tony Price, Paul Gibbs, Stephen Shears, Andrew Crothers.

Apologies: Philip Almond, Robin White, Eric Able.

Previous Minutes Approved: Moved - Andrew Crothers Seconded - Russell Somerville

Correspondence In: Nil.

Correspondence out: Copy of email sent to all Board members. Email from Gavin Harris to FCI advising of Australian doping protocols.

Treasurers Report.

General Account Balance

\$32,574.24 (as of 10am – 09/10/2025)

Term Deposit

\$80,000

Disease Management Fund

\$66,192

Transactions

16/09/25 SA National prizes payment to NAHPA (Port Pirie and Port Augusta)	\$100
23/09/25 SA National deposits	\$730
25/09/25 NSW National payment to East Cost Long Distance	\$920
25/09/25 NSW National payment to S Shears Photo reimbursement	\$80
09/10/25 Sale of 2 patches	\$10

Moved - Andrew Crothers, Seconded – Russell Somerville

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

New Item. AGM	2026 AGM	Next month's meeting to review dates for 2026 AGM
New Item. National Animal Welfare	National Animal Welfare Acts review	Action: Stephen Shears to schedule review – March 2026 Code of Conduct to be reviewed.
Correspondence by Colin Walker	Discussions with regard to correspondence from Colin Walker and his thoughts on ANRPB initiatives and his ideas he would like to see actioned by the Board.	Action: Vince Pedavoli and Stephen Shears to meet with Colin Walker to discuss his ideas and then report back to the Board.
Auction by Vince Pedavoli	Very successful auction. Ken Marshall paid a substantial amount of money but was happy to assist the ANRPB via the donation from Vince.	The money donated was discussed by the ANRPB with the outcome decided as: \$3000 to be donated to Legacy \$2400 to be donated to AWAMO Action: Gavin to organize bank Cheques for Vince **
Promotional Video	Youtube link to be put up on ANRPB website and other pigeon websites	Action: Tony to speak to Rod Simmons about changing Youtube video setting to allow for Filipino and Mandarin. Mistakes in autocue noted, Tony has sent correspondence to Rod Simmons to follow up.

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<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. FCI congress in China 2026 (now changed to Germany). Next FCI Olympiad to be in Dortmund – Germany, 4/2/2026 to 08/02/2026 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>Stephen Shears received email from FCI with contract for 2027 – 2030 and updated details of 3 ring suppliers with costings.</p> <p>Stephen Shears received correspondence from FCI regarding congress meeting. Received contract agreement from Ring suppliers.</p> <p>Copy of email sent to all Board members. Email from Gavin Harris to FCI advising of Australian doping protocols.</p> <p>CCF has advised they will be requesting a quote for rings for next year.</p>	<p>Action: Stephen to consider attending on behalf of ANRPB.</p> <p>Action: Leo to forward information regarding import duties.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  FCI Rings.msg </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Doping Protocols to FCI - October met </div>

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Government recognition / Sports Australia.	Vince to draft letter in regard 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. Bill Hawa auction of Pedavoli birds, donation of half the auction proceeds to be split, 25% to Aust War Animal Memorial Organisation, 25% Legacy, 50% National state prize	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, using CCF spare trailer. Race was from Booligal 550-620km on 30th August. ECLDRC will sponsor \$1000 towards the race. Basketing 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 – National Race there were 5 Federations liberating together which caused unity and they are now going to liberate together for the next weekend.</p> <p>QLD - 2025 National race to be from Charleville 680 to 780km race.</p> <p>WA - National was held from Yalgoo 4th August 2025, 500km race to Perth.</p>	<p>For Information only.</p> <p>Winner from Shoalhaven.</p> <p>Queensland cancelled the race but will have one in 2026.</p> <p>Race moved from 2nd August to 4th August Winner N. Bailey</p>

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	<p>WA – Geraldton Racing Club will receive \$100 for prize money from Gavin Harris for 2026</p> <p>SA – Special meeting held – Changed to SE Line.</p> <p>National Race now from Terang – 530km to Adelaide, Monday 31st August.</p> <p>National Race to Nundaroo for Eyre peninsula, Pt Pirie and Pt Augusta – 600km.</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. Andrew to advise Gavin the bank account to deposit the money into.</p> <p>Held 11th October Race from Morgan – 400 miles. Winning bird – 1864 m/min Fast, good returns.</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>Len Vanderlinde has updated website to reflect 20 bird flyer requirement.</p>	Paul reports now ready to receive nominations.
Victorian Country Delegate	Ongoing search for regional candidate.	Action: Tony Price reported that there may be a possibility of a country delegate, will update next meeting. Gavin to follow up Aaron Mackay about person in his area that might be willing to take on role
Queensland Delegates	Eric Abel has accepted the position.	

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Tasmania Delegates	Robin White has accepted the position.	
Merchandise	Stephen Shears reported no new merchandise is required to be bought, there is enough on hand.	Action: Stephen will circulate itemized list of merchandise to Board members. Anyone wishing to sell any items to contact Stephen Shears.
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 honored to appoint Nigel Allsop as patron. Neil has sent through some information regarding Pigeons used in War times (see below)</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>wwi pigeon use.pdf</p> </div> <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>Vince was sent a Dickens Medal to be held, from Nigel.</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. Posted 6.6/2025</p> <p>26/08/2025 – No response from Education Minister yet, Paul will send another enquiry.</p>

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National Convention	QLD has decided not to host in Brisbane – March 2026. SA will now work towards holding the convention in November 2026.	For further consideration, discuss next meeting.
Pigeon Pictorial UK Magazine	Paul will continue to write articles.	Articles: Paul reportedly doing article on Jason Stigg. Paul asked board members to consider any prospective flyers that would be good stories for fanciers.
State Round Up / Discussion	<p>QLD – Amalgamation of QRPF and NRC, to be recognized as QRPF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Phil Almond has tabled a letter to the newly amalgamated QRPF detailing the lessons that have been learned historically by the NRC with regards to Long Distance Flying to enable improved returns by selected breeding, proper preparation, and having flexibility in liberation dates to choose best conditions. The letter is to assist in the decision of a race schedule for the 2026 season to enable the long distance races to continue. This would assist with the introduction of a National Race in QLD that is sponsored by the ANRPB. <p>NSW – Andrew Gretch has decided not to continue with his AI Liberation Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mildura race 500 miles, ave. 1800m/min – Renmark race 600 miles, ave. 950 m/min <p>VIC – 3 races held from Morgan over last 3 weekends.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Average velocities 1700m/min for first 2 races, 3rd race average 1800m/min. – Flying Carrieton this week. – Currently experiencing an outbreak of Pigeon Pox. <p>SA – Racing completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – SALDC Kulgera race (1150km) scheduled for 03/10/25. 	<p>Information only.</p> <p>Pigeon Pox and Rota Virus causing widespread issues. Currently experiencing difficult racing.</p> <p>Currently experiencing difficult racing- currently racing at approx. 500km.</p> <p>Discussions held with Agriculture – now compulsory to have a PIC (Property Identification Code) if 50 birds or more. Reason – for reporting and notifications should there be an Avian Flu outbreak.</p> <p>Tasmanian Races next 2 weeks.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently building the loft for the One Loft race next year – internal walls. 550 bird limit @ \$400 per bird entry - Jim Marafiote has won the Aggregate Points for 2025 <p>WA – PRF Brad Phillips is 2025 Flyer of the Year, 2nd year running.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good racing from Yalgoo - Difficult racing from Cue, Meekatharra, Newman and Three Rivers. - Notification of Bird Auction of Ray Stibbs <p>- Report that Rota and PMV vaccinations are compulsory prior to flying as with Geraldton Pigeon Racing Club.</p>	<p>Action: Gavin to send out email with information on proposed race schedule for the One Loft race.</p> <p>Young Bird Derby held – very difficult race.</p> <p>Geraldton Club has just completed Karratha and Port Headland race – longest race for year, difficult racing conditions.</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> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <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>Also a page with State programs to alleviate crossed flight paths.</p>	<p>All delegates Carried forward.</p> <p>Action: Gavin & Len Carried forward.</p>

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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>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>Paul to prepare draft, Tony – information about Bass Strait races Carried forward.</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>
Microsoft AI Co-pilot program to predict flight conditions during pigeon races to assist Liberation committees in their decisions.	<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. Andrew Grech deciding whether he will do it as an APP and charge for the service.</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>Program currently being used by CCF Liberation Committee with (so far) promising results.</p>
APRJ	Link to subscription on ANRPB website	<p>Action: Gavin to liaise with Len Vanderlinde to add a link to the ANRPB website for flyers to access to subscribe to the Australian Pigeon Racing Journal. It was considered that social media accounts for Ari Barsheshet and Adam Archer be linked on the ANRPB website to gain further awareness of the sport.</p>

Meeting closed 21:15hrs AEST Time.

Next meeting to be held **Tuesday 18th November 2025** at 1930hrs AEST (NSW, VIC, TAS), 1830hrs (QLD), 1900hrs ACST (SA), 1630hrs AWST (WA)

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Completed Items

Victorian Legislation	A link to the VCAT report can be viewed at VICTORIAN CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL	
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.
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, PRF will comply with 200cm2 densities as missing from current posted legislation.