

The ANRPB 2025

National Ace Bird Awards

By Paul Gibbs

2025 is the third year that the ANRPB has conducted “National Ace Bird Awards” of which there are three categories, “Short to Middle”, Middle to Long” and “Overall”. In the Short to Middle the nominated pigeon has to be timed in from three races between the distance of 80km and 500km. It can be timed from two race points that are of the same distance, but the third must be from a different race point/distance.

In the “Middle to long” the nominated pigeon must be timed in twice from two different race points between the distance of 501km and 900+km, and in the “Overall Distance Award” the nominated pigeon must be timed in on three occasions between the distances of 80km to 900+km, these can be from two races within the Short to Middle and one from the Middle to Long or vice-versa, one in the Short to Middle and two in the Middle to Long.

The proviso is that in each race, in any of the category distances there **must be** a minimum of **20** competing fanciers. Those pigeons being nominated for anyone of the awards **do not need to be winners**, only to be the first clocked pigeon to the loft in the main race of the day. The aim of these awards to recognise consistency.

In each of the three categories there are ten Certificates of Achievements presented to the Top Ten Pigeons. The winner in each category will be presented, along with a Certificate of Achievement, a Framed Photo of their winning pigeon along with an engraved Glass Trophy.

Photos of the winning pigeons will be added to the “Hall of Fame” that will appear on the ANRPB website. Articles and photos regarding the winning fancier/pigeon will be forwarded to the Editors of the ARPJ and the UK Racing Pigeon International Magazines for consideration to be included in an upcoming issue.

These awards are seen by those fanciers that have already won as being a prestigious and much valued endorsement of their pigeon’s effort and ability. They have actually proven to be difficult to win, never mind having a pigeon to finish in the top ten, as consistency over the number of races and distances has proven hard to achieve.

This year (2025) will be the third year that the ANRPB has conducted these awards, and although at this stage we have never had the full complement of ten nominations in either of the three categories, even though the winners and fanciers that have received Certificates of Achievement have come Qld, NSW, Vic, SA and WA all apart from TAS which we are hopeful may change in 2026, these awards are proving to be of National interest among many of Australia’s fanciers.

The system used to determine the winners and placed birds is similar to the one used in Europe, and that is using a mathematical process that determines the pigeon with the lowest “coefficient” i.e. the position the pigeon finishes in the race, divided by the number of pigeons entered, then this number is multiplied by 100. Example, if a pigeon finishes in 8th place

against 3400 birds the division of this, 8 divide by 3400 = 0.0023529 this x by 100 = 0.23529 this then is the coefficient for this bird from this race. The other two races that the pigeon was timed from is worked out the same, then added together and divided by 3. This then being the average coefficient number that determines the placings in the Top Ten in each category.

This type of system is used in Europe to determine many National results in being able to identify their "Ace Birds", with this comes prestige, notoriety and in a lot of cases monetary value.

So, this year 2026, keep an eye on those pigeons that are consistently being clocked, not necessarily winners, but consistent pigeons and hopefully you will have a pigeon worthy of being a Top Ten ANRPB Ace Bird.

This year's winners/and place winners were:

In the Short to Middle Distance there were four nominations:

- 1) Poi Weynton (CCF) NSW with a coefficient of 0.1907957
- 2) David Chaffer (PRF) WA with a coefficient of 0.3470747
- 3) Nick Lakiotis (GMPF) VIC with a coefficient of 0.4230874
- 4) Graham Radnidge (CCF) NSW with a coefficient of 1.7154402

In the Middle to Long Distance there were eight nominations:

- 1) J Borg & Son (CCF) NSW with a coefficient of 0.1201761
- 2) Haidar Bros. (GMPF) VIC with a coefficient of 0.1594793
- 3) Steve Derkacz (CCF) NSW with a coefficient of 0.4298268
- 4) Paul Burak (VRPU) VIC with a coefficient of 0.6679473
- 5) Neil Bailey (PRF) WA with a coefficient of 0.8349365
- 6) G Mountjoy & Son (VHA) VIC with a coefficient of 2.1330483
- 7) M & D Sultana (CCF) NSW with a coefficient of 2.2656892
- 8) Graham Radnidge (CCF) NSW with a coefficient of 7.2471185

In the Overall Distance Winners there were seven nominations:

- 1) Haidar Bros. (GMPF) VIC with a coefficient of 0.3164035
- 2) Steve Derkacz (CCF) NSW with a coefficient of 0.6536272
- 3) Mal & Richard Clements (NCF) NSW with a coefficient of 0.8209947
- 4) A & D Marcon (VHA) VIC with a coefficient of 1.1715095
- 5) A & M Curcio (VRPU) VIC with a coefficient of 1.225758
- 6) Jack Hao (VHA) VIC with a coefficient of 1.3607255
- 7) Graham Radnidge (CCF) NSW with a coefficient of 8.0213903

Congratulations to all the winners and prize-winners. It's on again this year, so keep an eye open for your most consistent pigeon that may meet the criteria for one all three of the categories, but most of all don't forget to nominate them.

