

**American Racing Pigeon Union, Inc.
Mid-Year Board Meeting
Salt Lake City, June 8, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President John Hundrup at 8:00 a.m. with a welcome to guests, flag salute and moment of silence.

Present were John Hundrup, Karen Clifton, Terry Finnerty, Joyce Stierlin, John McSweeney, Bob McKenna, Shannon Demler, Toni Wiaderski, Gary Heindel, Tom Coletti, Jeff Life and Deone Roberts.

Guest present: Craig Erickson

Public/non-Board Member Comments

Guest, Craig Erickson said he started racing in the 70's, in the Ben Lomond Pigeon Club. Back then he bred the winning pigeon. He said he recently returned to the sport and has been rebuilding for 1 and ½ years. He has an old clock, which is not allowed and he said he is curious about live clocking. He wanted to observe the board meeting in process.

Motion was made to approve the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes as posted. Stierlin/McSweeney. Approved.

Officer Reports

President's Report: President Hundrup said the last few months have been very quiet. John said a couple board members resigned for personal reasons. He added that the NDB (National Database) is up and going well and that EWINSPEED© is live. There are a few glitches as is always the case with new programs. John told the board about the case of one member having trouble uploading and calling Mountain Pacific Zone Director, Joyce Stierlin, late at night. John said the problem was fixed within twenty minutes and the member was very impressed. John attributed that to Joyce's hard work and that of the programmer.

John talked about the need to make some appointments to fulfill vacant offices. Hundrup asked the board to approve appointing Gary Heindel as the Plains Zone Director, Bob McKenna as the Vice President, and Toni Wiaderski as the Northeast Zone Director. Recommendations were approved by the board. These appointees would fulfill current terms and would need to run for office after the term should they wish to continue. All appointees submitted the required petitions with member signatures supporting their appointment.

New officers/directors were sworn in.

Executive Vice President Update (John McSweeney)

McSweeney restated, as in prior meetings, that his role is to support President Hundrup and his agenda. There are no outstanding issues to date.

Vice President Update

No update at this time

President Ex-Officio Update (Tom Coletti)

Coletti stated he is new to this position and there was no activity to date. Tom said the only exception is that he received an inquiry from a member in the San Francisco area because that member knew Tom. That member asked Tom to intervene in a club conflict. Tom said he referred the issue to Shannon Demler, AU Constitution & By-Laws Chairman.

Treasurer Report (John McSweeney)

McSweeney stated that his dealings are direct with Karen Clifton. John said he is pleased with the AU's accountant. Further, John said he feels the accountant is doing things as they should be done and explained that the accountant connects remotely to office records to keep accounting accurate. McSweeney explained that he also receives a back-up disk each month and reviews the AU monthly financial statements.

John shared with the board that we have been placing money aside: \$10,000 into a rainy day account and \$10,000 into a building fund every year. McSweeney states it may be difficult to keep both up because the AU's finances are limited. John recommended that the board consider moving \$10,000 each year from the rainy day fund to the building fund. He suggested keeping just one fund. John explained that the accounts have self-imposed restrictions, therefore, are not available to spend without strong action from the board. John added that those restrictions were intentionally imposed to protect the funds.

Tom Coletti was concerned that McSweeney's statements implied that the AU is strapped for cash near the end of year. Tom said he believed there are two reasons the AU's finances were not strong. He noted that all the way back to 2010, there has been a drain on funds because of attorney fees. Additionally, there was the funding for EWINSPEED© startup costs. He estimated \$300,000 is approximate loss due to these two things. Tom said he does not believe we can accurately forecast finances until we can estimate how much more will be spent on legal fees. Coletti said he does not see a need to move from one fund to another. Coletti suggested a building fund to cover maintenance and repairs. He said we need to be ready for a catastrophe (flooding, tornadoes, etc.) rather than risk losing more records/equipment. Tom also said though there may not be agreement, he wanted the board to understand why the building fund exists.

Demler asked what benefit is it to take from one fund to another? McSweeney said that with that arrangement, we would no longer take from the general fund to pay for general office function at the end of each year.

Committee Reports

President's Agenda (John Hundrup)

John briefly reviewed use of the travel expense form required for travel and reimbursement. John reiterated that directors are to estimate cost and seek approval prior to traveling.

President Hundrup also reminded board members that the Board Action Request (BAR) form should be used for submitting request for policy or race rule change. He encouraged the board to let members know it is available to them as well to request policy change.

A quick review of the ongoing items on his agenda took place. John said that as updates or changes occur, the Director's Manual would be updated and an electronic copy distributed to board members.

John also reminded the board to hold side comments to a minimum when someone has the floor and is speaking during meetings. Additionally, he told board members that they need to submit articles for the quarterly *Updates* and *Yearbook*. John also asked board members to be prepared for meetings and read the materials in the meeting packets prior to the meetings.

Another item on the President's Agenda was the completion of EWINSPEED©. John explained there are still some tweaks being made and an existing list of enhancements. John asked if Tom Coletti would agree to coordinate with the programmer to request a letter of completion, as well as a maintenance agreement. John also asked if Tom would review the existing contract at mid-point (November 2019) to ensure all is current and practical. Tom agreed to do so.

John asked if Tom would negotiate and oversee a contract with a programmer to produce a live clocking solution. John asked Joyce Stierlin to write the specs. John asked the board for discussion regarding charging vendors an annual fee versus a one-time licensing fee, as well as who would reach out to the clock manufacturers.

Tom said that the programmer in Portland that expressed an interest in assisting with live clocking should be contacted. Tom declined to negotiate a contract or oversee the live clocking development.

John said that he would then reach out to the programmers and report to the board. It was decided that until there is a product/solution, the decision as to one-time licensing fee or annual charge would wait.

One new item that was on President Hundrup's agenda was the appointment of three directors to fulfill the terms of the Plains and NE Zone Directors and Vice President, which was accomplished earlier in the meeting.

The three items still pending from Ex-Officio, Coletti's agenda are promoting mini zone conventions, an AU museum or display, and the quarterly newsletters being sent electronically only.

Leadership/Retention (FinnertyRoberts)

Karen Clifton shared that the former committee chair, Lee Kohli's focus was attracting millennials and increasing social media presence, along with revamping the website. Though the website was done, it still needs work visually. Kohli established a budget for a promotional video. Terry Finnerty is working with a videographer that will be able to produce a positive, educational and hopefully enticing video for use on YouTube and similar sites. The film would layout the history of pigeon flying and feature highlights of the sport.

President Hundrup said he would like to combine the Leadership/Retention committee with the Promotion committee. John appointed co-chairs Jeff Life and Terry Finnerty. Both will work with Deone and work within the previously approved budget. The board approved.

National Youth/School Coordinator (Deone Roberts)

With Ron Pairan having left the board, John Hundrup appointed a new chair for the committee. Bud Williams is heavily involved with youth and will serve as the new chairman.

Right to Race (Karen Clifton)

Clifton shared that the Virulent Exotic Newcastle Disease outbreak in southern California continues. The first detection was in May 2018. Clifton reported that as of June 7, no new cases had been detected since about May 10, 2019. Karen said she will continue to monitor the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) website for updates.

Initially, the CDFA had limited areas where movement of birds was restricted. Because the outbreak has continued, they finally started depopulating flocks that had been tested as positive or those that were at high risk of becoming infected due to proximity of locations where positives had been detected.

Karen said they have a 1 kilometer radius so if we have members within 1 kilometer of a bird of flock that tested positive; it is possible their birds may be depopulated. Depopulation appears to be the only way they are getting on top of the situation. So far Clifton said she has not received calls from members indicating their teams have been depopulated. Karen shared that the state vets have final authority and must protect the state poultry industry.

Judge's Panel (Tom Coletti)

Coletti reported that one organization in Alabama was interested in having a speaker at a function, but when Tom explained to the event organizer that the AU pays half (up to

\$600) and they would be responsible to pay half of the travel-related expenses, they did not want to pay and, therefore, canceled.

Tom said that the Mt. Hood club in Oregon will have a mini-zone meeting attached to their show in July.

Coletti reported that the Utah County PRA will have a show and zone meeting. Tom has helped the chairman of the event to create a successful event. The show is set for June 29. Tom said they were new to organizing these functions and asked the board for donations of birds for their auction. Tom added that he will be driving and would be happy to take birds with him to their auction if board members wanted to donate birds.

Coletti advised that Jeff Life, NW Zone Director and National Race Secretary, will attend to host a zone meeting. Additionally, Brad Hoggan will be the chief AU Judge and Tom will assist with judging. Tom pointed out that neither he nor Brad will be looking for reimbursement and that Brad has been very generous with his time and assistance to help this group.

Speakers' Bureau (Tom Coletti)

Tom Coletti said he believes that we don't receive requests for speakers because of the AU policy that no speaker may sell their wares to AU membership when representing the AU. Tom went on to say that those organizations that want information on products, pigeons and equipment for sale, or demonstrations, need to understand the AU policy on providing speakers and proper topics.

Coletti said the office sent letters to speakers to determine if they are still interested in participating and to update their area of expertise. Coletti believes the speakers should be better vetted to insure they are pro AU and their topics are appropriate and meet the spirit of providing good information about pigeons to the membership.

Tom reported that we have one request from Dennis Kuhn to be placed on the Speakers Bureau. Coletti suggests that in the future, applicants for the Speakers' Bureau should submit a petition with at least 25 signatures from AU members supporting their being added to the panel. Coletti/Heindel. Motion to add Dennis Kuhn to AU Speakers Bureau. Approved.

Constitution & By-Laws (Shannon Demler)

Shannon Demler said it has been fairly quiet. He explained that recently there was one club that had an issue when a member became angry and quit the club. When that member tried to participate in the next season, the club told him that he quit and was no longer a member.

Shannon advised the club to hold a meeting (in accordance with club by-laws) to allow for discussion regarding the member's membership status. Shannon said that despite his assistance, the member was still unhappy about the time and day of the meeting and he wanted no part of reapplying to the club.

Tom Coletti pointed out that the member practiced “cherry picking” among board members. He spoke with several board members trying to get a statement in his favor.

Competition Standards (Jeff Life)

Jeff Life said out of hundreds of calls that he has fielded, no one ended up unhappy. He said that many times members simply want to vent. Jeff said a lot of the calls he has taken are from members wanting to know about the three person shipping rule.

One thing Life pointed out is that he sees a lot of wording that needs to be changed in the rules. Jeff asked the board if he needs to submit a Board Action Request (BAR) for each item or submit one BAR with several rule changes. Tom Coletti said in the past he did wordsmithing and listed the items in a single BAR for approval. The BAR records the information and date the rule was implemented for historical reference.

Jeff said he is not able to see the verification of chip bands actually going to the race when an electronic clock fails. Coletti said that refers to average speed and it depends on knock off. Tom added that average speed is a local award, not national. Jeff said he was concerned about integrity of clocking. Tom suggested Jeff needs to bring a BAR to the board to approve.

Veterans Committee (Hassler/Clifton)

Karen said there has been no response from national Veterans groups when we reach out them and that we have more success at the grassroots level when members generously give of their time and work with Veterans groups. Clifton said she does not believe there is need to continue the committee, rather we should continue to support members that work with Veterans groups. Coletti said he agreed and believes the committee should be dissolved. The board agreed and Karen will remove reference to committee reports on future meeting agendas.

Drug Test Committee (Tom Coletti)

Tom Coletti said the committee was formed when he and former board member, Freddie Rivera, addressed an issue in Florida. Tom said the situation started when an inquiry was made regarding what substances were prohibited. Tom said there doesn't seem to be enough activity to warrant a Drug Committee. Coletti said he has had a couple calls from members in Florida and that a list of banned drugs has been created.

Tom said that he recently received a call from a member in Florida that wanted to know if consequences would be dealt by the AU or the local organization if a member is found to be using a banned substance. He said that one inquirer wanted to know what the AU would do about cocaine users not being disqualified, when her father was kicked out for drug use.

Coletti said he repeats to each caller that he needs a copy of their club's drug policy. In this particular situation, Tom said he tried numerous times to get a copy of the club's drug policy and there was no response so he asked the Zone Director, Al Hassler, to contact them. Al did call, however, received no response. Coletti said he called John

Hundrup for action and John removed the race results from the National Database. Tom added that he still got no response so Tom asked Jeff Life, National Race Secretary, to prepare a BAR adding consequences for not cooperating with the AU and/or using banned substances to the Drug Policy (#400).

Tom said he believed that the AU should ban this club and combine from the AU and that no memberships or bands should be issued to this club or any of the clubs in this combine.

John Hundrup clarified that there was no BAR expected. John also said that until we have more in place than our Policy #400, we don't have anything in writing to back up the action of pulling charters. John said that a policy needed to be written.

Comments followed: Terry Finnerty said he understands all the comments, but he wonders if the local organization is even aware of the issue and the reasoning for pulling a charter.

Hundrup believes the whole organization should not be penalized for one person's cheating.

Coletti said the request came in for the AU to intervene. Coletti feels we have to make a statement of non-tolerance of any drug abuse.

John McSweeney asked why not just throw out members that cheated and not the entire organization?

Tom said he believes we need a zero tolerance policy and that these are the two issues in front of the board today. Tom said the AU needs to be more firm.

Hundrup suggested Finnerty and Coletti work on the wording and submit it to the board. Finnerty's suggested language was "If an AU member or organization refuses to cooperate with an investigation, then that club or member would be (appropriate action, i.e., suspension, probation, etc.)"

Shannon Demler said a member/club needs to be given due process and he didn't feel they were given that in this scenario. Shannon used an example of saying you called someone and if they don't answer or respond, you kick them out. He added you can't kick someone out if their phone was disconnected and he or she never got the message.

Finnerty, Demler, Life, and Coletti were tasked with rewriting Policy #400, according to the wording given by Finnerty.

National Office & Director Updates

National Office (Karen Clifton)

Clifton said our membership appears to be up this year compared to same time last year and that our band sales are slightly down. She said these are year-to-date numbers. In addition to individual members joining or rejoining during the second half of the year, we are still receiving a few club rosters.

Clifton said it is hard to quantify how much revenue is lost due to counterfeit bands. We are working with both manufacturers we deal with and have a new system in place, which will hopefully mitigate use of fake bands.

Bands will not be shipped to clubs that have not submitted their club roster and dues.

Clifton asked the zone directors to call those clubs that have not renewed to determine if they will or if the club has disbanded.

Regarding club charter retention, Clifton asked for support of adding Section 100.03 (below) to Policy #100. If a club submits no dues for two years, we hold their band letters. If at the onset of the third year, there is no activity within the club and no memberships paid, the club would have to recharter should they want to regroup. If the band letters are still available, then they can request the letters they ant.

Karen said we have a few clubs that have two or three members and are not actively racing but will submit dues through the club each year. Karen was directed to change those members to individual members instead of sending out rosters and secretary packets.

The board was in agreement to make an addition to Policy #100 as below.

Section 100.02 currently reads: to obtain a club charter, a club must consist of a minimum of five (5) individuals. At least three (3) of these individuals must have a separate physical loft address. A separate physical address is defined as a separate delivery point by the U.S. postal service. An AU club charter would entitle the club members to participate in pigeon racing, awards programs, and other activities related to the sport.

100.03 is currently blank and Clifton would recommend adding:

A club charter will be held as active even if no activity (dues submitted, bands ordered, etc.) for two years. If at the onset of the third year, dues are not submitted or if club membership falls below 5, the club will lose the charter. The club will then need to recharter.

Another policy Clifton would like to reinforce is the convention agreement. The policy in place now is that which Greg Smith crafted for us. Karen reminded the board that it is a

licensing agreement with very specific clarification and requires that a club or combine hosting an AU convention use a bond and/or certified public accountant.

Karen said that the last page should require signatures of all the club officers not just the club president or secretary.

Tom Coletti brought up the label of sanctioned race for convention and said it gives the appearance of being an AU conducted race. He suggested removing the statement that the AU Convention Race is an AU Sanctioned Race and remove any reference to a convention race. If a convention wants to include a race when hosting the AU convention, that is up to them and the AU will not be involved in any way.

There was a motion to remove the verbiage pertaining to convention races and to add a hold AU harmless clause specific to the race if a convention host has a race during the convention. Finnerty/Life. Approved. Karen will forward to Greg for revision.

Clifton also asked for the board's input regarding an annual auction to help the AU rebuild funds after several years of incurring heavy legal fees

Robert McKenna suggested having a small auction during the convention dinner. Shannon Demler said he would check with the 2019 convention host and see if an AU auction would interfere with their efforts and that he believes it should not be a problem. Shannon will let us know tomorrow by the end of the meetings if at all possible.

Karen went on to provide an update on the AU Scholarship Program. She reminded the board that the Sacramento RPC donated funds to the AU scholarship, legal and help-a-beginner programs. The club requested that we allocate five scholarships of \$2000 each in 2019 and 2020.

Karen said that we received 18 scholarships applications so far this year. Clifton told the board that upon returning to the office the committee will review and the five winners will be notified and once proof of enrollment is received this fall, checks will be issued. Karen said she will send letters to the others that submitted applications and encourage them to reapply next year.

Clifton closed her comments and confirmed the board will travel on Sunday, October 20, and hold annual board meetings on October 21, 22, and 23.

Sport Development (Deone Roberts)

Roberts commented on the three different areas of promoting the sport: advertising, publicity and promotion activities.

From the annual advertising budget, expenses have been for state convention book ads, the Racing Pigeon Digest magazine, the Canadian Pigeon International magazine, Facebook and Google.

Facebook advertising includes paid ads based on target area suggested by members in a recent on-line survey. Additionally, Facebook allows the “boosting of an event” which is advertising. If clubs share their event details with the office, we post that information under the event listings on Facebook. We are then allowed to boost the event using parameters suggested by survey participants, or based on a radius from a particular event location to pull in area public.

Deone further explained that Facebook interaction with clubs also seems to boost the response to the club and the activities they have planned. A specific example of club promotion effectiveness through Facebook is the growth of the Grand Junction RPC. Roberts said we have “liked” each other’s Facebook pages and the AU page shared the posts from the Grand Junction page; they in turn have shared AU posts. That has resulted in an immediate gain in audience for Grand Junction. Deone said she has been working with Brandi Kaufmann from the club. Brandi works in marketing and she takes great photos and is working on video creation. Roberts added that the club posts are shared via the AU Facebook page and events are created on the AU Facebook page. The viewer has the opportunity to interact with the event posting.

In general, with advance notice of proper contact and good event details, Deone said we can judge what kind of attendance, via Facebook, could be anticipated. It is not always true that the interested parties actually do attend, but the outreach is there and the information gets out there. Roberts added that it could easily spread by word of mouth and someone else may attend, and so on. If there is an effective contact for the event, communication can be established between the attendee and the event representative.

Continuing with the Colorado’s Grand Junction example, Deone shared that the club has gained 4-5 new members as a result of their promotion event and Facebook interaction. This serves as a great example of making social media work to the club’s favor.

Deone said that with Google, we have opportunities for posting advertising. We tried different formats to see what might get better attention. Links are included for communication and website information. One ad was specifically structured for the recipient to sign up for more information and that information was in turn emailed to them.

Tallying the costs of internet advertising, we remained under \$500 for the period January to May. No new members were gained from the ads; whereas we are aware of one club (Grand Junction) that gained due to a cooperative social media effort to post club activities for public to attend. They are the best example for success this year through social media – and yet it is not necessarily the social media that made the new membership come about – it was actually the club members getting out and promoting at a public event. Their friendliness and openness contributed greatly to their success.

Roberts said we have enjoyed a continuing relationship with Dr. Frank Blazich (Smithsonian), our guest presenter at the 2018 convention, via social media. The historical information that he has uncovered has been passed on through social media and has been well received.

Various events and activities by members around the country are shared in the Update newsletter. Roberts mentioned activities taking place in Alabama, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin.

Zone Director Reports (NW/Pacific/SW/Plains/Lakes/SE/Mountain/NE)

Northwest Zone (Jeff Life)

Life said there is nothing new going on in the zone. He is attending various zone meetings in the upcoming weeks. He said the Western Open was canceled because of weather. In Burney, California, some people wanted to get back into long distance flying. Jeff said that weather interfered, but they had a good showing. He added that it is hard to get this project going again after decline in interest.

Mountain Pacific Zone (Joyce Stierlin)

Stierlin said they also had a challenge with weather this year and that bad weather over the mountains interrupted the last few races. Further, Joyce said there is concern about the 600 miler in July with the heat.

Joyce said that the quarantine in Los Angeles and Riverside is restricting entries for the California State Race from those areas. The CSRPO convention will be in October at Carl Perry's in Hilmar, California and that it should be a nice event.

Jeff Life interjected that they had an easier time crossing the border than he thought. Joyce concluded by adding that the postal service threw in a curve with shipping restrictions because of Los Angeles being a hub.

Southwest Zone (Bud Williams)

Williams was not able to attend the meeting. There was no report.

Plains Zone (Gary Heindel)

Heindel just joined the board. There is no report at this time.

Lakes Zone (Terry Finnerty)

Finnerty said his club is three-quarters of the way through the season. Terry said that he distributes flyers and brochures anywhere he can to let others know about the hobby. He said that from January through present the zone is very quiet with no complaints. Terry said he did get calls complimenting the Update article.

Southeast Zone (Al Hassler)

Hassler was not able to attend the meeting and there is no report.

Northeast Zone (Robert McKenna)

McKenna said they've had poor weather in his area so the race schedule was affected and they are making up the races now.

Bob said that the Northwest Juniors club had a good fund raiser this year. Bob went on to say that the club had a display at the fair and gave away free pigeons, as well as a display at Tractor Supply. Bob said that there were approximately 50 children and 17 parents in attendance.

McKenna said he made a presentation to a book club at the Wallingford Library and the library did a great job publicizing the event.

Bob concluded by sharing that the Rhode Island Club had their award banquet and that he had jackets made for the Northeast Open winners, which they really liked. Bob said he feels that will encourage more participation.

Convention Update (Shannon Demler)

Demler said they have replacements coming in and have a north and south section established as they did in 2015. Shannon said that convention planning is going well. He added that the Jones Boys will get a percentage of auction because they will take care of details. Shannon said the race format will be the same as in 2015 and that they will auction off the top 15 birds from each section.

He said that Versele-Laga is sponsoring the youth race and providing trophies and feed. They will also provide speakers for convention seminars. Shannon said they will also be using Benzing live as a convenience for participants. Shannon added that the north section has 600 birds and the south section has somewhere around 500 birds.

There was a question as to whether the local organization should handle the youth race or if it dragged us back into ownership. An example was used to answer: the CSRPO is not responsible for the convention; the host organization is. And so it would be with the AU and any convention races: youth or otherwise.

Future Convention Hosts (Robert McKenna)

Bob said that Drew Lesofski and Peter Meca asked about getting a bond for the 2020 convention they would like to host in Baltimore, Maryland. Bob estimated it would cost \$1000 - \$5000 to bond for \$300,000 coverage.

Bob reminded the board they voted to approve Tampa hosting the 2021 convention.

Karen was asked to have host clubs from Maryland, Tampa and Ohio (2020, 2021 and 2022, respectively) sign a new contract once received from Greg and then forward Maryland and Ohio to the board for final approval.

Award Committee (McKenna)

Bob said that Bryan Wilkerson from Oklahoma established a new speed record, which beat the record set in 1987 for the 150-200 mile category for young birds.

McKenna said he had inquiries about the NDB and that participants thought they would get a state award, which is not part of the current award program.

He said he received another call concerning being denied an AU Registered Champion since the flyer could not participate one year due to quarantine because of avian influenza. Bob said that the race rule criteria calls for five consecutive years of competition.

Bob explained he had received an award application with diplomas from 1998. McKenna explained the race results, not diplomas, are needed to substantiate the award application and, therefore, the member was not eligible to receive the award.

Bob said that from January through June, five AU Elite Registered Champions and five AU Registered Champions were awarded.

Bob concluded and shared that only one member applied for the breeders' award and that it was denied because the races used were one-loft races not flown in accordance with AU rules. McKenna asked the board if the award should be revamped or removed. Hundrup was agreeable to dropping it since there is no participation. A motion was made to remove the award. McKenna/Coletti. Approved.

Tom Coletti complimented McKenna's work on awards.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

**American Racing Pigeon Union, Inc.
Mid-Year Board Meeting
Salt Lake City, June 9, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President Hundrup at 8:00 a.m. with a welcome to guests.

Present were John Hundrup, Karen Clifton, Terry Finnerty, Joyce Stierlin, John McSweeney, Bob McKenna, Shannon Demler, Toni Wiaderski, Gary Heindel, Tom Coletti, Jeff Life and Deone Roberts.

Guest present: Craig Erickson

There were no visitor comments.

WinSpeed©/eWinSpeed©/NDB/Programming Update (Coletti/Stierlin/Hundrup)

Joyce Stierlin passed out two handouts that provided a record of accesses to EWINSPEED© and the EWINSPEED© completion roadmap. Joyce said that in the past two weeks, 104 organizations accessed the NDB.

The office NDB modifications have been on hold for completion of EWINSPEED© work. Stierlin reviewed the existing band list to adjust lettering for EWINSPEED© since standardized lettering is required for EWINSPEED©.

Joyce added that the membership renewal and sign up process, as well as ordering bands will be automated. Stierlin now needs board approval to carry this out.

There was a question as to the combine level race secretary having the ability to remove a club. Stierlin said she will need to check with the programmer.

John Hundrup restated that we would like to roll this out for YB season.

Tom Coletti said we are about two months beyond the contract with the programmer now and the contract includes 60 days of support and maintenance. If Craig would decide to stop, Coletti asked if we now have a functioning EWINSPEED© that is at least as good as the PC Winspeed©?

Stierlin said the production issue list is all she has pending now but the major components are in place.

Tom Coletti pointed out that he feels we need to close out the existing contract and establish a new contract for support and maintenance, so the programmer gets paid. Tom suggested that the office NDB specs would be part of the new contract.

Motion made to authorize completion for support and maintenance contract for EWINSPEED© and authorize funds, at Coletti's discretion, to complete. Finnerty/Stierlin. Approved.

Motion made to cease support for and sale of PC Winspeed© effective August 2, 2019. Coletti/McSweeney. Approved.

Hundrup discussed the cost of EWINSPEED© for members that had not previously purchased PC WinSpeed©. The PC based version has always been available to members for \$99 plus shipping. John said new users should be charged as well. Motion made to require new clubs/new users to pay \$199 for EWINSPEED©. Coletti/Finnerty. Approved.

Add a new version of EWINSPEED© that would provide only screen reports for special needs and download of data for calculations (also for \$199). Coletti/Stierlin. Approved.

Review of New Board Action Requests **New Board Action Requests (June 2019)**

Motion was made to have any future Board Action Requests pertaining to awards be assigned to the Awards Chairman. After review, he or she will provide a recommendation to the board. Coletti/Stierlin. Approved.

NW-181: Change the requirements of the AU National Old Bird Ace Pigeon Marathon Distance category. Specifically, the distance of each race changed to 450 miles and the total distance changed to 900 miles, effective old birds 2020. Coletti/Finnerty. Approved, 1 opposed.

NW-182: Change the requirements of the AU National Old Bird Ace Pigeon Marathon Triple Crown category. Specifically, each changed to 450 miles and a total distance of 1350 miles or more, effective old birds 2020. Coletti/Finnerty. Approved, 1 opposed.

NW-183: Change the requirements of the AU National Old Bird Ace Pigeon Long Distance category. Specifically, change the total distance requirement to 1050 miles, effective old birds 2020. Coletti/Finnerty. Approved, 1 opposed.

NW-184: Appeal expulsion on behalf of a former member due to alleged violation of by-laws. To be addressed in Executive Session.

NW-185: Create sanction/suspension for enforcement from the AU for those caught using counterfeit bands to include suspension, race result removal from NDB, remove club results if secretary knowingly allowed uploads of illegal birds' records. Appropriate actions will be taken, from suspension to expulsion.

Discussion centered around variety of scenarios of counterfeit band use and therefore it is difficult to set a specific time and punishment. Modify to read "Appropriate

disciplinary action will be taken against a member using illegal bands or a club secretary that knowingly allows uploads of illegal birds' records." As modified. Stierlin/McSweeney. Approved.

NW-186: Amend race rule 4.01 to allow a member to be part of the three-member minimum for AU races. Proposed:

4.01 The AU will recognize as an AU race, competitions in which race birds are entered by three (3) individual AU members with three (3) separate surveyed loft locations. Within the scope of this rule all of the members need not clock birds in the particular competition for it to be declared as being official. Separate loft location is defined as a loft which has a separate surveyed location. An Individual AU member is defined as either an individual member or partnership whose birds are registered and countermarked to compete in a particular event sponsored by an AU-affiliated organization. Under this rule and for the purposes of determining a count for official race status, a partnership (regardless of the number of members in the partnership) constitutes one (1) member. *(See section 4.03 governing more than one team from the same loft.) (10/15) Coletti/Stierlin. Approved.

PLAINS-047: Implement a rule that all lost birds participating in one-loft races are the responsibility of the organization hosting the race. All efforts to retrieve and return birds back to the ORL should be made even after the event.

Discussion centered around the fact that unfortunately we have no authority over one loft races. Died for lack of motion.

PAC/MTN-054: To bring uniformity and consistency in determining dead time, the AU should add verbiage to race rule 13.00 – Time Out for Darkness (Dead Time), which would read:

“Local sunrise and sunset should be determined from the sunrise/sunset tables set by the US Naval Observatory (USNO).”

Discussion centered on the various sources for determining sunrise and sunset. Stierlin asked if we could amend the BAR to say we must use a centralized location?

Robert McKenna offered that the combine Race Secretary should make the determination.

Coletti said the Western Open crosses time zones and you have different data. To resolve the issue, sunrise sunset is taken from the intersection of race points.

Stierlin suggested each loft could have that designation in the NDB and that it would be unfair advantage and disadvantage for members.

Coletti said there will be no difference in 50 mile radius, so he believes there is another purpose to this bar and that the answer lies within the central location of the organization.

Dies for lack of motion.

The board urges organizations to agree upon a latitude/longitude to be used for the central location when determining dead time.

NW-187: Add Theobromine (a vasodilator, which increases the heart rate) and Theophylline, which is a bronchodilator to Drug Policy 400 (banned substances). Coletti/Mckenna. Approved.

NW-188: Effective immediately, any AU member or organization that does not cooperate with any AU authorized officer or investigator while investigating alleged use of banned substances shall face sanctions from the AU of expulsion, suspension, or loss of charter. Coletti/Finnerty. Approved.

Tom Coletti requested that AU send a letter as a thank you to Ferdinand Perez for his cooperation in the investigation. It is important that his cooperation be recognized.

Executive Session

Infraction Review/Patron/Sponsor Membership Review. Once out of Executive Session, a motion was made to approve the recommendation on the infractions discussed and Board Action Request #NW-184. Coletti/McSweeney. Unanimous.

AU Live Clocking (Hundrup/Coletti/Stierlin)

Terry Finnerty said the AU needs to provide a live clocking solution for members so we need to analyze cost and benefit of outside sources.

Hundrup said there are three manufacturers right now with a live system. The intention is not to recoup expense, but to generate income.

Joyce Stierlin said all systems must be secure and members have indicated they want the AU to approve or develop live systems for use by AU members.

Finnerty said cost for the Benzing system is \$250 for a unit and with a license to access EWINSPEED®, we could use the source while we work on developing our own.

Tom Coletti said he will not work with a vendor for live clocking.

Discussion centered on the purpose of incorporating live clocking and the emotions surrounding it. It was agreed that the lure and intrigue of the sport and comradery is in the backyard, however, the distance of the flyers from each other allows for remote reporting.

The board agreed research needs to be done as to which clocking systems are already being used. Additionally the board agreed that approving using only one system may appear to be support of one manufacturer over another and create a monopoly for one company.

Motion was made to authorize going forward with a project to investigate licensing options and developing criteria needed at the AU to obtain secure clocking information that can be fed into EWINSPEED©. Stierlin/McSweeney. Approved.

Hundrup suggested there be a committee with Hundrup heading it up. Stierlin and Life are to be on the committee.

Review of Member Awards

Submissions were shared with board members with voting as follows:

Hall of Fame

Motion to accept recommendation of Victor C Miller for the award. Coletti/Stierlin.
Approved

Legend

Motion to accept recommendation of Farrell P Finnerty for the award. Coletti/Stierlin.
Approved.

Hall of Fame

Motion to accept recommendation of Jim Greelis for the award. Stierlin/Life. Approved.

Person of the Year

Motion to accept recommendation of Art Soucy for the award. Stierlin/Life. Approved.

Legend of the Sport

Motion to accept recommendations of Ralph Withrow and Duncan Harvey for the award.
Stierlin/Wiaderski. Approved.

Publicity Persons of the Year

Motion to accept recommendations of Grand Junction RPC and Flying Clovers RPC for the award. Coletti/Finnerty. Approved.

Breeder Elite

Motion was made to eliminate the award. Coletti/Finnerty. Approved.

Junior of the Year

No candidates were submitted.

Rick Phalen Leadership

Motion was made that Bob McKenna receive the award. Coletti/Stierlin. Approved.

Discussion returned to the AU having an auction at the convention to generate money for the AU Scholarship Fund. Shannon Demler reported that the Ogden club would offer time to have the auction and it was agreed that six birds would be included in the auction for the scholarship fund. Shannon said that iPigeon reps will be involved with the convention. Bob McKenna agreed to coordinate with them to facilitate the auction. Terry Finnerty will seek the donation of birds.

There was a presentation by Ed Minvielle on the M3 live clocking system. Motion was made to approve the M3. Stierlin/Finnerty. Approved.

Life/Wiaderski. Motion to adjourn. Unanimous.