

Flying Rules (Revised 2024)

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1) QRPF RACES

ROUTE (2005)

- 1) The race routes North, West, and Southwest shall be flown on a rotation system giving changing direction each year (*North being in the direction of Mackay, West being in the direction of Quilpie and Southwest in the direction of Thargomindah or Broken Hill*).
- 2) The three routes must be flown at least once in the three-year cycle unless otherwise determined by a majority vote of those present at a special general meeting called for that purpose.
- 3) Two of the three routes (ref 1) may be flown in one season as an option for the majority vote of those present at a special general meeting.

SCHEDULE OF RACES (2022)

- 1) The Management Committee will draw up a schedule of races for the following year and distribute to the affiliated clubs by September of their year of office to allow time for members to organize their racing pigeons for the forthcoming year.
- 2) The above-proposed race schedule will be presented to the members for consideration and ratification at a special general meeting to be held on the last Saturday in October each year.
- 3) Only the members that have paid \$125 deposit will be eligible to vote at this Special general meeting in October each year and receive a \$50 discount off the following years flying fees. The deposit is non-refundable. Members are to pay all fees to affiliated Club.
- 4) Once ratified by the members at the above Special General meeting no further motions from the clubs to make changes to that race schedule will be accepted at later meetings.
- 5) The QRPF schedule of races will determine:
 - the race point
 - the date of basketing
 - the date of release
 - the closing date (clock reading) of the race
 - Arrangements for Federation races
- 6) A race will close on the day and time of the scheduled clock reading if sufficient birds are home to claim the allocated points.
- 7) In the event of unforeseen circumstances, such as a hard/difficult race the management committee may at its discretion defer clock reading up to the maximum time permitted under these flying rules (**Refer page 15 LIBERATION OF RACE BIRDS (2023)**).
- 8) The race schedule will be flown as a lap-over **or** straight through series.
- 9) The race schedule will start in May and conclude in October.

PRIZE SCHEDULE (2022)

- 1) The prize schedule for all 5 bird Open Fed races will be 1 prize for every 5 members.
- 2) Every member that participates in the 5 Bird open will have to pay \$5 entry fee per bird.

- 3) All fees to be paid to affiliated club.
- 4) The bird limit will be 5 for each Open Federation race.

RACE DISTANCES (2002)

- 1) Each competitor must use an approved loft location and race distances obtained through the QRPF Secretary.
- 2) Each competitor shall be entitled to one loft location only.

SPECIAL RELEASES (2022)

- 1) Affiliated Clubs may apply to the Management Committee for special releases.
- 2) The management committee will consider the well-being of the birds in the main release before granting permission for special releases.
- 3) The Federation 5 bird races and the National will be released half-hour after mass.

TRAINERS (2022)

- 1) Members are permitted to send trainers through their clubs to all club races and selected Federation races **up to the 400mils** at a cost to be determined by the management committee.
- 2) Trainers on **Federation races** will be released **30 minutes** after mass except when the well-being of the birds is jeopardized by the later release.
- 3) Trainers released on club races will be determined by the management committee. Less than 10 training crates will go up with mass on Club races.
- 4) Trainer crates must be clearly marked by clubs as "**trainers or T**" before loading on the transporter.

SCHEDULE OF FEES (2024)

In addition to membership fees, Flying Fees are also payable by each member wishing to race pigeons with the QRPF, this is a once per year up-front fee to transport each member's pigeons to each race point on the race schedule. Payment date will be determined by the management committee. All members that paid \$125 deposits before the end of October the previous year will get a \$50 discount. Members have the choice of racing a maximum team of 30, 15 Birds or PAYG birds each week.

- 1) Full Membership fees \$125 per member
- 2) Associate Membership (non-racing, non-voting member) \$62.50
- 3) Club affiliation Fees \$1 per club
- 4) 30 bird team \$475
- 5) 15 bird team \$375
- 6) 10 bird team \$275

2) RACE ENTRY

CONSENT OF THE COMMITTEE (2005)

The Management Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to any bird in races controlled by the QRPF Inc.

FIT TO RACE (2022)

- 1) Birds sent to QRPF controlled races must be of an appropriate age, healthy and in a fit condition to successfully fly the race distance.
- 2) Members, Clubs are required to check and ensure that birds sent to races are fit to fly the distance.
- 3) In the event of a dispute as to the fitness, the matter is to be referred to the committee in charge of that basketing center who shall determine if the bird is fit to be sent. The Club committee's decision shall be final.

NUMBER OF BIRDS (2022)

- 1) Each member shall be allowed to enter a maximum of 15 or 30 birds (depending on the level of flying fees selected and paid for) in each race (including club only races) conducted by the QRPF.
- 2) The Management Committee may alter the number of entries permitted in special QRPF races.
- 3) The Management Committee may alter the number of birds each member is allowed to send to any race point if this is required for transport or any other reason determined by the Management Committee.
- 4) The management committee may alter the flying fees based on predicted financial transporting costs.
- 5) All members must pay their Flying fees to affiliated clubs.
- 6) Requests for flying fees refund are only per written request to Management committee.

QRPF JUNIORS (2022)

- 1) Junior members may compete at the federation level provided that a parent or Guardian of the junior flyer is a member of the QRPF.
- 2) Free entry for juniors with a limit of 10 birds per race.
- 3) Junior members flying in the same loft as Parent/Guardian must be registered with Club secretary and QPF race secretary before the start of the race season and cannot be transferred during that season.
- 4) Juniors may not participate in prize money.

MAXIMUM BIRD LIMITS PER CRATE (2022)

Members, Clubs are required to observe the maximum limits for birds in QRPF crates, including trainers as set out below.

- Overnight 30 hens or 30 cocks per crate
- Two nights in basket 25 hens or 20 cocks per crate
- All others 20 hens or 20 cocks per crate

BASKETING (2012)

- 1) Members wishing to compete in QRPF races must be at the place of basketing by 7pm or time specified by the Management Committee as follow and abides by the directions of the Management Committee on such occasions.
- 2) No competitor shall on basketing night handle their birds after the birds have been race-marked or rubber rung.

SECURITY AT BASKETING CENTRES (2022)

- 1) Club Committees are responsible for ensuring that the details of any birds removed from the basketing center on race basketing night are recorded.
- 2) Club Committees should appoint an appropriate person or persons to monitor exits during basketing activities.
- 3) It is the responsibility of the affiliated clubs to clean and maintain the race crates each week. Particular attention should be paid to the doors to ensure they operate freely. Damaged crates should be repaired and/or brought to the attention of the Federation committee.
- 4) Affiliated clubs are also responsible for arranging the pickup and cleaning of race crates on a weekly basis from the QRPF headquarters at Belmont.
- 5) Race crates are NOT to be removed from the QRPF headquarters without official permission, offending clubs will be dealt with by the management committee.
- 6) Race crates will be loaded on the transporter by the affiliated clubs under the direction of an appointed QRPF Official. Clubs must follow the directions of the official and load the race crates as directed.
- 7) Clubs must provide two able bodied people to assist with the loading of race crates.
- 8) On Federation races the race crates will, as far as practical be spread around the transporter to maximize the distribution of each Clubs birds on the transporter & Club races the race crates, where possible will be loaded into the same area of the transporter.
- 9) The deadline for delivery of race crates to the transporter on basketing nights is 9pm except as directed by the Management Committee to meet a particular deadline offending clubs will be dealt with by the management committee.

ENTRY SHEETS (2022)

- 1) Entry Sheets must be of a type approved by the management committee and completed correctly, legibly and in order with one entry per line.
- 2) Entry sheets produced by an approved EBS Systems are approved for use in QRPF races.
- 3) The following must be shown on all entry sheet in full:
 - Race point and date
 - Life ring number (except that zero before ring number may be omitted)
 - Club mark & year
 - The main colour of the bird e.g. BB, BC, BCWF, BBWF, BBPI, BCPI
 - Sex of the bird
 - Pools and special entry details
 - Competitors name and signature
- 4) Entry sheets must be checked, ruled after the last entry and signed by club secretaries before passing to the ringing table. Club secretaries shall obtain the signature of another club official on their entry sheet .
- 5) Completed and race marked entry sheets shall bear three different signatures
 - the competitor
 - the club secretary
 - the race marker
- 6) Entry sheets shall be kept secure in a locked box by the committee from the time of marking until their release to the club secretaries on the clock reading night. One committee person shall hold the locked box and another the key.
- 7) Each competitor is responsible for the payment of all race entrance fees at the time of basketing.

EBSS ENTRY & EVALUTION SHEETS (2020)

EBSS clocks must have the latest available software installed and be loaded with the current race schedule where possible, the race point, flyers name and date must be printed or written on all printouts.

RACE MARKING (2022)

- 1) Every pigeon before competing in a QRPF Federation race must have fitted to its leg an official race rubber or be fitted with an approved electronic read/write band which will trigger an approved EBS System.
- 2) Handlers will read the full details ring number, year, and letters of the life ring to the marker before placing bird in the crate.
- 3) The race rubbers shall be fitted by a nominated official on the basketing night, and the details of the race rubber or electronic band are to be recorded on the competitor's entry sheet, after which the official(s) shall countersign every competitor's entry sheet Completed entry sheets are to be placed in the locked box immediately upon completion.

- 4) Race handlers must show the bird and race rubber, or e-ring attached to the bird's leg to crate supervisor before placing the bird in the race crate.
- 5) Clubs shall carry out the ringing procedure using the same race ringer or EBS System.
- 6) Crate Supervisor mark the crate as each bird is placed in it and ensure that the maximum number of birds permitted is not exceeded.
- 7) Members shall not race mark their entry sheet or race-ring their birds or scan their birds if using an EBS System.
- 8) Markers are to check for errors on entry sheets and make any minor corrections and initial these corrections. Additional birds cannot be added to the race sheet by the marker. An additional entry form, submitted through the club Secretary is required if additional pigeons are to be entered.
- 9) In the event of a clerical error being made by the race marker, the benefit of the doubt is to be in the competitor's favor.
- 10) If an EBS System is used the following will apply:
 - Approved club officials shall use the EBS system control modules to enter competitors pigeons in Federation races.
 - Approved club officials will secure the EBS system control modules during Federation races.
 - Approved club officials shall **not** scan their pigeons to enter Federation races.
 - Once race birds have been scanned by the EBS System and entered in the race the approved club officials will print and sign a list of the birds entered in that race.
 - The print-out must display the bird's life ring details, colour, date, race name as well as the electronic band information.
 - If the EBS System does not allow the printing of the bird's colour, a separate entry sheet which provides that information is required.
 - The competitor may then mark pools on the printout sheet if they wish and then counter sign the printout, which will then serve as a race entry sheet and retained by the committee. The competitor may have another printout as copy for their records.

Handlers shall not (2022)

- Turn the birds upside down
- Handle birds with dirty, wet or sweaty hands (it is recommended clubs and provide Talcum powder for handlers)
- Open the bird's beak or ruffle the feathers (handlers should refer doubtful birds to the health committee who shall use their discretion)
- Handlers should check every bird prior to placing the bird in the race crates and report any doubtful bird to the Club President.

Handlers should look for (2022)

- Any bird with a watery eye
- Any bird with less than 8 ½ flights in either wing
- Any bird with more than half its tail missing
- Any bird with an obvious dirty wattle
- Any bird with injury to any part of its body
- Any bird with pigeon pox lesions
- Any bird that is emaciated and not fit to race
- Any bird with a significant number of external parasites (eg. lice, pigeon flies)
- Any doubtful bird (if in doubt show the bird to a health officer)
- Only Official Health officers are empowered by the QRPF Management Committee to refuse entry to the race crates.

CRATE MARKING/SUPERVISION (2023)

- 1) Club committees must ensure that 4 competing members in the race are present when basketing for any QRPF Federation race. Should there not be enough competitors present then that club is required to basket at any other approved QRPF basket facilities.
- 2) Crate markers shall ensure the following:
 - That every bird is correctly fitted with a race rubber or ET ring
 - That cocks and hens are placed in correct crates
 - That crates are marked as each bird is put in to ensure maximum numbers are not exceeded
 - That crates are secure, and doors tied with zip ties on completion of basketing
 - Crate Supervisors are to prevent unauthorized persons from interfering with birds in the crates. *Any person not co-operating with crate supervisor should not be allowed to place the bird into the crate and be immediately referred to the Club President or Secretary.*

OWNERSHIP (2022)

- 1) All birds must be rung with max of one approved Federation or Club seamless life ring, and be the registered property of the competitor, and trained to the recognized loft location of that competitor at the time of entry into any QRPF race.
- 2) Any competitor with birds bearing life rings in current year not registered in their name must supply a full ring list of the unregistered birds to Ring Secretary before the entry of those birds in QRPF Federation races.
- 3) The ring secretary shall account for all QPF life rings and keep a register of all life rings sold.
- 4) Life rings shall not be issued by the QRPF ring secretary or any affiliated club before the 1st May each year. The life ring colours will in the following sequence per year black writing with Pink, Light Green, White, Yellow or Light Blue back round. eg 2021 Pink, 2022 Light green.
- 5) Life Rings may not be more than 8mm in Diameter, contain no more than 5 numerical digits, have correct year, letters and they may have phone or email details of the clubs Ring Secretary at the time of entry into any QRPF race. All life rings that were not verified will need to get approval from the QRPF management committee before entry to any QRPF race.
- 6) QRPF clubs that wish to sell their own Life rings will need to register/verify with the QRPF Ring Secretary on the 1 May or after.
- 7) Any competitor that wishes to join and race with the QRPF that is not using verify/registered Life rings with the QRPF (Interstate race teams) will need to get clearance from their Club of all race birds prior to competing any QRPF races. These birds' rings will need to be visually checked and verified to QRPF specification outlined in Ownership rule (5). Clearance for these birds must be obtained from the Club Ring secretary in writing.
- 8) Any competitor with birds bearing life rings not registered in their name must supply a full ring list of the unregistered birds to Ring Secretary before the entry of those birds in QRPF races.

PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS (2005)

- 1) The administration of drugs to racing pigeons to enhance race performance is not permitted.
- 2) Performance-enhancing substances banned within other sports are also banned for racing pigeons.
- 3) The management committee at its discretion may arrange for testing to determine if drugs are being used.
- 4) Members agree to authorize the Management Committee to conduct such drug testing as is reasonably required and which will not endanger the life of the bird being tested, provided always that the competitor shall have no claim against the Management Committee.

CARTAGE TO THE TRANSPORTER (2022)

- 1) Cartage to the QRPF transporter for all QRPF races will be arranged by the Clubs.
- 2) The security of the pigeons while in transit will be provided by ensuring at least two members from the club to accompany the race birds.

YOUNG BIRD DERBY & YOUNG BIRD FURTURITY (2022)

- 1) Only birds rung with an approved life ring that identifies them as a yearling will be eligible for entry to the Young Bird Derby & Young Bird Futurity.

3) RACE CLOCKS

APPROVED RACE CLOCKS (2006)

- 1) Competitors may use only one approved race clock in any QRPF Federation race.
- 2) All clocks require the approval of the Management Committee before use and shall bear the flyer's name (or number) where applicable.
- 3) The clock after being used in a race may be kept, if necessary, in the custody of the committee for re-checking.
- 4) The Committee may request a competitor to use an alternative clock approved by the committee in any Federation contest.
- 5) All race clocks will be started and operate on a continuous running basis during the race.

FAULTY RACE CLOCKS (2008)

- 1) No competitor shall open their clock or remove the official seal from their clock during any QRPF race.
- 2) In the event of an official set clock stopping or becoming faulty **before** a bird has been clocked a competitor may:
 - Have the faulty clock reset by an approved clock setter other than them themselves or their partner if flying in a partnership.
 - Use a spare clock that has been officially set and sealed for use in the same race.
- 3) In the event of an officially set clock stopping or becoming faulty **after** a bird has been clocked then a competitor may:
 - Have the race rubbers removed from the faulty clock by a committee person other than themselves or their partner and the race rubber re-clocked in the committee person's own officially set clock.
 - Have the new time recorded by the committee person's clock at the time of re-clocking as their clocking time.
- 4) In the event of a race rubber not dropping correctly into the receptacle of a clock spool:
 - The clock will be opened on the clock reading night and each clock stamp checked against the corresponding receptacle of the clock spool eg. the first stamp to hole one etc.
 - Each spool receptacle without a race rubber will eliminate the corresponding clock stamp from the result.
- 5) If no race rubber is found within the confines of the receptacle of the clock spool or no stamp aligned to the hole in which the rubber is found, then the clock cannot be given a reading and will not be counted in the result.
- 6) Race clocks with variations of more than three (3) seconds per hour of running time will be read as follows:
 - Gaining clock – no adjustment to flying time.
 - Losing clock – double the lost time as at clock reading will be added to the flying time.

- 7) Clock variation of three (3) seconds or less per hour of running time will be adjusted in the flying time.
- 8) If a loss or gain cannot be obtained before clock reading, then such clock is deemed to be disqualified
- 9) If an EBS System is used the following will apply:
 - If the EBS system should fail during a race the competitor may remove the EB from the returning bird and place it on an **officially** set spare clock (Junior T3 recommended). The time recorded by the spare clock shall then be used to determine the velocity of the clocked bird.
 - The Electronic Band taken from the spare clock must be scanned and a printout obtained and officially signed to confirm the band was that which was set for that race by the system for that bird on the basketing night. If the electronic band is faulty and cannot be scanned the band is determined to be disqualified and no velocity will be given.
 - The competitors must as soon as possible notify the Club or Federation President in the event of an EBS System failure.
 - Full details, including the electronic band and all paperwork (spare clock sign out sheet, electronic band scan print-out etc.) signed by the officials must be forwarded to the QRPF Race Secretary for verification.
 - If the data contained in the EBS System becomes defective, erased or corrupted during the race all entries by that competitor shall be disqualified from that race result.
 - The committee or delegate shall print out and sign all data contained in the EBS System for that race before transfer to a computer. The printout can be used to manually enter the data if required. Data files should be stored on a back-up disk.
 - If a printout of the EBS System is not possible but a visual display from the system for a particular race is available, the committee may view and manually record the details. The signed manually recorded details shall be entered into the race result by the committee.

DOLIMETRE MOVEMENT (2002)

Variations of more than 25% of the full dolimetre reading (if fitted) shall result in disqualification of the clock in that event.

CLOCK RESPONSIBILITY (2005)

The Club committee and clock setters shall take good care of race clocks under their control but shall not be held liable to any clock owner for any damage to or loss of any clock while carrying out their official duties.

SETTING RACE CLOCKS (2022)

- 1) No competitor shall set or reset or sign clock tapes or sign electronic printouts of their clock for or during any QRPF Federation race,
- 2) The Club Master Timer must be synchronized with the GPS timer.
- 3) All race clocks shall be set for Federation races by appointed clock setters.
- 4) Two signatures are required on each clock tape or electronic printout.

- 5) Any infringement of this rule may incur a penalty to the Club if it is found to be at fault.
- 6) The clock setters will mark each competitor's clock tape where applicable with the following:
 - Competitor's Name
 - Date
 - Race Point
 - Two signatures are required on each clock tape or electronic printout
- 7) All clocks must be sealed with a lead seal bearing the official QRPF stamp before releasing to the competitor. It's the competitor's duty to ensure their clock is sealed before removing from Club premises.
- 8) Clubs May use Benzing GPS or equivalent to set the master timer of the club. These GPs systems have to be approved by the QRPF management committee.
- 9) Hand held Race clocks will be stamped on and off at the predetermined time from a Benzing GPS master timer set to Australian eastern standard time. Should a club not have a Benzing GPS or any equivalent system then club would be required to call QRPF Race secretary for a check against master time.
- 10) Electronic clocks without paper tapes will be sealed and setting details printed and signed by a committee person before releasing to the competitor.
- 11) Clocks will not be released for use in a Federation race unless the number 1 hole of the clock spool is in the open position and ready for use. Clocks displaying any other hole must be reset.
- 12) Clock setters will exercise due care when setting clocks but each competitor is responsible to ensure their clock:
 - is running and time has been set correctly
 - is on hole number 1
 - the tape is (where applicable) moving freely and
 - the clock is sealed and secured

TIMING-IN WITH RACE CLOCKS (2022)

- 1) The arrival of each bird shall be timed in by removing the rubber race ring from the leg of a returning race bird and placing it in the approved race clock and stamping off or by scanning of an approved electronic band fitted to the bird and recorded in an approved EBS System at the time of race entry.
- 2) The competitor may clock multiple birds with one race rubber per clock receptacle.
- 3) In the event of a competitor timing in a wrong pigeon in the first receptacle of the clock, they will be allowed to time-in the second receptacle and so on, and in such case must notify the committee of same before clocks being checked.

PRESENTING RACE CLOCKS (2023)

- 1) Club committees must ensure that there are 4 competitors that competed in the race are present for stamp off when stamping off for any QRPF Federation race. Should there not be enough members present then that club is required to stamp off at any other approved QRPF basket facilities.
- 2) No competitor shall lift or compare any clock after the same has been placed on the table without the consent of the Committee.
- 3) A competitor may have handed to them their own or another competitor's clock for striking.

- 4) There may be two strike-offs on clock reading nights, the first up to five minutes before and the second at the scheduled time.
- 5) Any competitor not present for the first strike-off must notify the President or Secretary at that center immediately when they enter the premises.
- 6) Any member not present for the second (final) strike off at the scheduled time must report immediately to the President or Secretary outlining the reasons for missing the strike-off. The Committee will decide if the competitor's clock is to be included in the result and the matter reported immediately to the Federation President or Secretary.
- 7) Once clocks have been tabled and hit-off, no competitor may open or interfere with their clock.

OPENING RACE CLOCKS (2022)

- 1) Lead seals shall be verified and checked that they have not been broken or tampered with before opening the clock.
- 2) Members must be at their club center before 7pm on clock reading night. Race clocks shall be opened after stamp off in the presence of another member in all Federation races.
- 3) Clock tapes where applicable will be removed and checked for perforations (lid opening marks), only two perforations are permitted on each tape and all clock stamps must appear between the two perforations (the last perforation may appear within the final clock stamp).
- 4) Clocks without paper rolls shall have all electronic recordings printed to paper and signed by an official (an official shall not sign their print out) before opening the clock or transferring data.
- 5) Race rubbers shall be removed from the race clock one at a time from each hole and details recorded on the clock tape or electronic printout and the entry sheet. Each race rubber removed from a race clock receptacle must correspond to a clocking stamp.
- 6) The following information shall be recorded for each clock stamp.
 - Clock hole number
 - Race rubber number
 - Race bird life ring details
 - Open pools
- 7) Clock second-hand stamp where not fully on the mark shall be read back (NOT Forward).
- 8) Race rubbers, clock tape or electronic printout, entry sheets and all other race entry details shall be retained by the committee for future checking if required.

VIEWING A COMPETITOR'S CLOCK, LOFT OR PIGEONS (2009)

- 1) The committee or their delegate shall have the power to view a competitor's clock or their loft or their pigeons at any reasonable time.
- 2) Any competitor who refuses entry of the committee or their delegate to view their clock or their loft or their pigeons may be disqualified from a contest and may face termination of their membership.
- 3) Any competitor wrongly taking their clock to another place to gain an undue advantage shall be disqualified from the race and face termination of their membership.

4) RACE BIRDS

LIBERATION COMMITTEE (2023)

- 1) The Liberation Committee, consisting of three (3) members which will be nominated and elected from the floor at the AGM. The QRPF Race secretary will be one of the three members.
- 2) The Chairman of the Liberation Committee will be the QRPF Race secretary.
- 3) Where possible the liberation committee will be representative of the various areas of the QRPF boundaries.

DUTIES OF THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE (2002)

- 1) The Liberation Committee are to obtain weather conditions on route from the race point to Brisbane; reach a decision in consultation with the Liberator at the race point regarding the suitability for releasing the race birds at the scheduled time, and to authorize the liberator to release the birds.
- 2) The liberation committee may authorize a release time other than the scheduled release time to avoid adverse conditions.
- 3) A majority vote of the liberation committee is needed to release the birds. The opinion of the QRPF president will also be sought in doubtful conditions.
- 4) Only the Chairperson of liberation committee or authorized representative may communicate with the liberator while in control of the race birds.
- 5) Birds will not be released in adverse conditions that are likely to result in leading bird velocities of 900 mpm or less. In the long races the birds will be brought back to a shorter release point between 400 & 500 miles if adverse conditions such as strong head winds are forecast to persist.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (2022)

- 1) The management Committee, consisting of executive committee President, Treasurer, Admin secretary, Vice President and Race secretary and elected member of each Club.
- 2) Federation Committee members are the elected representatives of the Federation and as such they are responsible for the management of Federation business. By virtue of their positions, they will be the senior officers at Club center that they attend. They will take precedence over all other members except the club President. They will be present in a supervisory and advisory role on matters of QRPF procedure and policy if required.
- 3) They have the right to visit any Club center, but courtesy requires that they make their presence known to the Club President.

LIBERATION OF RACE BIRDS (2023)

- 1) The birds will remain in control of the Management committee at all times. Only once birds have arrived at the race point the Liberation Committee will assess the weather condition before Liberation. A majority vote of the liberation committee is needed to release the birds.
- 2) Only the QRPF Race Secretary, Chairman of the Liberation committee or authorized representative may communicate with the liberator while in control of the race birds.
- 3) The race birds will be fed standard race mix on the transporter.

- 4) The management committee may alter the race point or release time should there be other racing pigeon organization near the QRPF release point.
- 5) The management committee will address any issues raised by Club secretaries with the Liberation team.

RELEASE TIMES (2022)

- 1) Birds basketed on the night before a scheduled next morning release will be released at 10am for the first race point and 30 minutes earlier for each new race point.
- 2) Birds basketed other than Friday night (i.e. Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday) for scheduled release on a Saturday morning (Friday in the case of Tuesday night basketing) will be released as early as practical.
- 3) Early as practical (EAP) means after the sun has fully risen above the horizon.

DELAYED RELEASE OF RACE BIRDS (2002)

- 1) In the event of inclement weather either at the race point or en-route to Brisbane the scheduled release may be delayed.
- 2) Should the scheduled release time not be suitable due to inclement weather race birds will be held at the race point for a maximum of four (4) days, provided that sufficient feed and water is available.
- 3) The management committee can defer release times on the release day if conditions improve sufficiently for a release as per the following race distances and times:
 - UP to 300km no later than 12 Middy
 - UP to 500km no later than 10am
 - OVER 500km no later than 11am

INSUFFICIENT BIRDS RETURNING (2002)

- 1) Should insufficient birds return to claim the allocated points by the close of the race (clock reading) the race closure will be extended for the following periods from the time and day of release:
 - Under 150km, 24hours from the time of liberation
 - 150km and up to 550km, 2 days (48 hours) from time of liberation
 - Over 550km, 4 days (96 hours) from time of liberation
- 2) These distances apply to the competitor with the longest airline distance. The race will close at the end of the extension periods above.
- 3) In the event of only one bird homing before the extended closing time of a race, such bird shall take all prize money.
- 4) If fewer birds home than places allocated the remaining uncollected prize money shall be divided equally between the birds' home.
- 5) If no birds return to claim the allocated prizes within the above periods all cartage fees will be retained by the QRPF, but prize money and pool monies will be returned to the competitor.

BIRDS ESCAPING FROM RACE CRATES (2002)

- 1) Should a bird or birds escape from the race crates after race marking and before a Federation race release, and provided those birds escaping cannot be positively identified or eliminated from the result, the race shall be declared null and void and no QRPF prizes or points will be awarded for that race.
- 2) In the event of a race being declared null and void, all cartage fees will be retained by the QRPF, but prizemoney and pool monies will be returned to the flyer.
- 3) Clubs may decide for themselves if they wish to continue with their race.

PRIVATE TOSSES (2022)

- 1) No member shall liberate any birds if it is likely to interfere with birds homing from a QRPF Federation race.
- 2) Birds must not be tossed from any position where they are likely to cross an airport or within 15klms radius.
- 3) Before the start of each race season a copy of the QRPF race schedule to be forwarded to the Brisbane operation centre.

LOST OR STRAYED RACE PIGEONS (2002)

- 1) Members shall not unduly detain, or injure, or destroy or in any manner interfere with a racing pigeon that is not their property.
- 2) Particulars of all QRPF strayed must be reported to the Ring Secretary for identification.
- 3) Owners of lost or strayed racing pigeons must within 4 days of receiving notification from the ring secretary contact the reporter to make arrangements to retrieve the bird and the bird must be retrieved within 7 days.
- 4) If a non-flyer reports a lost or strayed racing pigeon the owner upon being notified as above must immediately contact the reporter and retrieve the bird within two days.
- 5) Unclaimed lost and reported racing pigeons to become the property of the reporter and proof of ownership will be supplied by the Ring Secretary.

FOREIGN BANDS (2002)

- 1) Illegally imported racing pigeons shall not be housed, raced or used in any manner by a member of the QRPF.
- 2) Birds bearing life rings other than those issued for Australia must be covered by a quarantine or import certificate.

5) RACE RESULTS

MODE OF RACING (2022)

- 1) All race results will be determined by calculating the velocity of clock birds, the bird flying the greatest number of meters per minute between the race point and the owner's loft to be declared the winner (excluding night birds, see hours of darkness).
- 2) Flying time shall be the period between the time the race bird is released until such bird is clocked at the approved loft location of the competitor, minus Hours of Darkness or clock loss or gain where applicable. Pigeon race net program will calculate this result.

HOURS OF DARKNESS (2002)

1) **No birds arriving during the night:**

Hours of Darkness shall be 45 minutes after sunset to 45 minutes before sunrise.

2) **Birds arriving before midnight only:**

Hours of Darkness shall be one hour after the last bird is clocked to 45 minutes before sunrise.

3) **Birds arriving after midnight only:**

Hours of Darkness shall be 45 minutes after sunset to time first bird is clocked. The race then remains open.

4) **Birds arriving before and after midnight:**

No Hours of Darkness shall apply and race remains open throughout the night.

5) **Second-day birds**

Birds clocked during the night will not affect second-day velocities where possible. Provided that the lowest placed bird during the Hours of Darkness, when calculated against the first bird clocked in normal race time on the second day records a better velocity, all second-day birds are to be calculated with Hours of Darkness removed but will be placed behind the night birds in the result.

WINNING PRIZES/POINTS (2022)

- 1) All competitors shall be entitled to one position and allocated points in federation races except for the last race where **two birds may be clocked but only the first bird will count towards winning prizes or points.**
- 2) A provisional result for each Federation race will be provided after clock readings are completed. The result will remain provisional until the committee has completed the necessary checks and declared the official place getters.
- 3) Any competitor shall have the right to question the result of any Federation race within 7 days of the clock reading night.
- 4) The management committee shall have the right to question the result of any Federation race within 60 days of the clock reading night.
- 5) Any Competitor making any charges regarding the genuineness of a race after such race has been declared won, and prizes paid, will be called upon to explain, and failing same will be dealt with by the Management Committee.
- 6) Clubs are required to forward all evaluation sheets with basket list for verification to QRPF race secretary within 30 days.

PRODUCING RACE BIRDS (2009)

- 1) Racing pigeons competing in Federation races must be made available on demand for inspection and/or tossing at the competitor's recognized loft location by designated Committee members (or appointee).
- 2) A tossed race pigeon must return and enter the loft at the recognized loft location of the competitor within two hours of being tossed by the committee (or appointee).
- 3) The bird will be tossed within 50 meters of the loft allowing two hours of full daylight for the bird to return. No other pigeons are permitted outside the loft when a bird is tossed.

QRPF & CLUB POINTS (2023)

- 1) Points towards Clubs Championship will be awarded to the top 20 places in all races only except any novelty races (e.g. ring race, futurity, breeder's plate etc.) which shall not carry any points.
- 2) Points towards Open Fed championship will be awarded to the top 20 places in all Federation races only except any novelty races (e.g. ring race, futurity, breeder's plate etc.) which shall not carry any points.
- 3) Points towards Short, Middle & Long distance champion of the QRPF will be awarded to the top 20 places in all Federation races. only except any novelty races (e.g. ring race, futurity, breeder's plate etc.) which shall not carry any points.

Short Distance races e.g. Jackson, Roma, Gladstone, Miriamvale, Westmar, St George ,Moree

Middle Distance race e.g. Morven, Bollon, Marlborough , Walgett

Long Distance races e.g. Charleville, Quilpie, Windorah, St Lawrence, Mackay, Bowen, Townsville, Cunnamulla, Eulo, Thagamindah, Noccundra, Nyngan, Cobar, Broken Hill, Wilcannia

- 4) Points towards 5 Birder champion of the QRPF will be awarded to the top 20 places in all 5 bird races only except any novelty races (e.g. ring race, futurity, breeder's plate etc.) which shall not carry any points.
- 5) Points towards the champion club of the QRPF will be awarded to the top 20 flyers (maximum of 3 members per club per race) in all Federation races except any novelty races (e.g. Ring race).
- 6) Points are not considered as prizes for these rules.

6) ADMINISTRATION

COMPETITORS AGREEMENT (2002)

All competitors before entering birds in races controlled by the QRPF agree to be bound by these flying rules and the QRPF Code of Practice for Keeping and Racing Pigeons.

CODE OF CONDUCT (2023)

All members agree to abide by the Code of Conduct (Including social media) at all times when at Federation Meetings and on Federation premises as follows:

1. Drunk and disorderly conduct will not be tolerated.
2. Loud and excessive bad language will be deemed as an offence.
3. Members must behave in a sportsmanlike and friendly manner.
4. Proper toilet facilities must be used where provided.
5. Flyers and Visitors must obey all reasonable direction from the committee whilst under their jurisdiction.
6. Smoking or Vaping is not permitted in QRPF controlled premises or within 4 meters of any entry or exit.

Any breaches of code of conduct will be dealt by the management committee and may result in a fine, suspension or disqualification

INTERPRETATION OF FLYING RULES (2005)

- 1) The management committee in matters of dispute or where these rules are silent shall interpret the meaning and intention of the flying rules in the spirit of fair play.
- 2) The flying rules are designed to ensure that in all Federation races each competitor has a fair and equal chance of winning.
- 3) The decision of the Committee shall be final and binding.

MULTIPLE MEMBERS/MUTIPLE RACE TEAMS AT SAME PROPERTY (2022)

- 1) Members may make an application to the Management Committee for approval for multiple members to race independently to the one property. The application must clearly state the reasons for the proposed arrangement and include the approximate number of birds to be raced by each member. The Management Committee may approve or reject such applications based on merit.
- 2) Where multiple members independently to one property, the following conditions must be adhered to:
 - The conditions of the QRPF Code of Practice for Keeping and Racing Pigeons must be observed.
 - Each member shall pay separate membership fees and racing fees.
 - A full list of each member's birds is to be provided to the Club Secretary, the Federation Secretary before the season's first basketing night.
 - Each member may race only those birds nominated by them.
 - Transfer of nominated birds between such members/teams shall only be permitted after that flying season.
 - Multiple members flying to the same property may use the one race clock for the timing

of their birds from a race.

- Each member must advise the committee of the clock receptacle in which they have clocked their pigeon, e.g. Joe Blow in hole 2 and Jill Blow in hole 1 etc.

3) Where one members race multiple teams to one property, the following conditions must be adhered to:

- The conditions of the QRPF Code of Practice for Keeping and Racing Pigeons must be observed.
- The member will pay one membership fee and each teams separate racing fees.
- A full list of each teams birds is to be provided to the Club Secretary, the Federation Secretary before the season's first basketing night.
- Each team may race only those birds nominated by them.
- Transfer of nominated birds between such teams shall only be permitted after that flying season.
- Multiple teams flying to the same property may use the one race clock for the timing of their birds from a race.
- Each team must advise the committee of the clock receptacle in which they have clocked their pigeon, e.g. Joe Blow in hole 2 and Jill Blow in hole 1 etc.

PENALTIES - APPEALS (2023)

1) Breaches of the flying rules will be dealt with by the management committee who may inflict a penalty such as a fine (maximum fine \$100), disqualification, suspension from racing or termination of membership where appropriate.

2) QRPF Members may report any breaches of the QRPF flying rules to their Club secretary. The Following Process is to be followed:

- QPF Admin Secretary is notified by club secretary of possible breach of race rules
- President is notified by QRPF Admin Secretary.
- QRPF Results are removed immediately pending investigation
- Communication to all members that results have been removed
- Reporter and affected members will present information (evidence) at the following management committee meeting.
- Verdict will be made by the management committee based on the information presented.
- Reporting member or competitors penalized under any flying rule of the QRPF by Management committee will be informed of their right of appeal.
- All appeals must be made in writing accompanied by a deposit of \$100 and received by the Management Committee within 14 days from the date of the penalty. The \$100 deposit will be retained by the committee should the appeal fail.
- QPF secretary will communicate the information presented to all members.
- Special General Meeting will be held within 14 days of notification of appeal on a clock reading night where possible
- Majority Support of the members attending the special general meeting is required for an appeal to be succeed.
- Should the appeal turn to a guilty verdict then the Special general attendees will determine if a warning, fine, suspension or disqualification

3) Every Member where possible shall be given a clock reading and velocity, and reason for disqualification if applicable.

AFFILIATED CLUBS (2022)

- 1) Competitors must be financial members of the QRPF Inc to compete in Federation races.
- 2) All new members have to be affiliated with a QRPF club in order to proceed with application for QRPF membership. This application need to be signed by two representatives of that affiliated club.
- 3) Competitors who have issues during the year with an affiliated club and are financial members of QRPF will be allocated to basketing and clock reading in all Federation races at the QRPF headquarters 1485 Old Cleveland Rd, Belmont.
- 4) New clubs may apply in writing to the QRPF secretary for affiliation with the QRPF Inc. Applications must provide full particulars of financial members and elected club officials including names and addresses and previous club membership if applicable.
- 5) The secretary will forward a copy of the new club's application to the relevant Management committee for their comments prior to considering the application.
- 6) The management committee will make the final decision whether to accept the new club.
- 7) Competitors who wish to change their affiliated club must obtain a clearance from their previous club. If clearance cannot be obtained, they may appeal to the management committee who shall consider the case and if necessary issue a clearance.
- 8) Each Club shall hold their AGM prior to the QRPF AGM.
- 9) All correspondence from any QRPF members will need to go through their affiliated club Secretary in writing before clubs can submitted the correspondence to the QRPF secretary.
- 10) Clubs are responsible for the provision of their own basketing and clock reading facilities.
- 11) Race Rubbers, seals, string, master sheets, envelopes, pins, chalk etc are the responsibility of each Club for all races basketed in their club center.
- 12) Club Secretaries are to balance their Master Sheet, attach their cheque and submit to Federation treasurer.
- 13) Clubs should ensure they pass their members entry sheets and tapes to the Club Race secretary as soon as possible to ensure the Club result/Federation is calculated quickly. Clubs are to use the PIGEONRACENET calculation program to calculate all QRPF races. This will ensure the Open Federation result can be produced quickly.
- 14) All QRPF life rings will need to be purchased through their clubs. The clubs will place an order with QRPF ring secretary.

CLUB PAYMENTS (2022)

- 1) Each affiliated club shall pay an annual affiliation fee equal to the QRPF membership fee set at the AGM.
- 2) Club affiliation fees are due and payable at the Special General meeting held on the last Saturday of October every year.
- 3) All member Fees will need to be paid to affiliated club treasurer.
- 4) The QRPF treasurer will not accept any direct bank transfers from members, only club treasurer/secretary can do direct payment on behalf of their club. After payments made a detailed statement outlining the payments must be sent to QRPF treasurer. Any fees paid

by members directly into QRPF account will be charged \$50 handling fee with reimbursement.

- 5) Clubs that fail to pay affiliation fees by the date determined by the Management Committee must reapply to the committee for affiliation with the QRPF.

ALTERATION TO FLYING RULES (2005)

- 1) Members, through their affiliated club, may submit a request to the Management Committee in writing (consistent with the constitution) to alter the flying rules.
- 2) Requests must state the existing clause to be amended or deleted or if a new clause is to be added. Reasons for the change, addition or deletion must also be given.
- 3) The Management Committee will consider all requests for changes to the flying rules and will gauge the feelings of the QRPF members before they make any changes to these rules.
- 4) The committee may call a special general meeting or conduct a ballot or questionnaire of the members to gauge their feelings.
- 5) Each flying rule shall show the year it was inserted or last amended.
- 6) The members at each AGM shall ratify the flying rules for the forth coming racing year.
- 7) Once the flying rules have been ratified by the members the management committee will only consider changes if a rule or rules become demonstrably unworkable during the race season.

BOUNDARIES (2016)

- 1) The boundaries of the QRPF shall be those set by the sections. Members living outside the boundaries shall not be entitled to compete in QRPF races.
- 2) The boundaries of the sections will be limited so as to prevent the continual expansion of the QRPF beyond the existing limit as at 2016 (Refer to signed maps in each section).

ELECTRONIC BAND SCANNING SYSTEMS (2022)

- 1) Electronic Band Scanning Systems, hereafter called EBS Systems are permitted for use in all QRPF Inc Federation races.
- 2) The use of EBS Systems is not mandatory for QRPF races.
- 3) Brands of EBS Systems that are currently available on the market and that have been proven to provide adequate security are approved for use in QRPF races, these include Benzing, Unicon, TIPES, Tauris, Mega, Top Pigeon and Bricon. Alternate brands will require the approval of the management committee before use. All EBS systems will be required to have the latest available software installed. This software will be tested every three years with the cloning process.
- 4) Members wishing to use EBS System in Federation races must make written application to the management committee, stating full details of the proposed system including the serial numbers of the EBS System and the antenna before using the system.
- 5) Provision of club control systems, security keys and compatibility of the EBS System is the responsibility of the member choosing to use that system.

- 6) EBS Systems must use re-programmable (read/write) electronic bands.
- 7) A competitor may use an officially set spare clock if the EBS system should become faulty during a race (Junior T3 recommended). See 'Faulty Race Clocks' section for details.
- 8) System antennas single or multiple may be placed anywhere on the loft and must be sealed.
- 9) A committee member or delegate (e.g. Club Committee) must inspect and seal. A digital photograph of the antenna sealed in place.
- 10) A signed and dated written form from the person carrying out the inspection must be forwarded to the QRPF Secretary before the system is approved for use.
- 11) A committee member or delegate may request an inspection of a member's loft and antenna location at any time.
- 12) Members who break the antenna seals or add to or move the antenna to another location without approval will be disqualified from the race and may face further action from the committee. The antennas should be re-sealed by Club Committee and submit form to QRPF Secretary.
- 13) Should the EBS Clock become faulty and needs to be replaced. The member is required to report this to QRPF secretary and provide replacement clock details before being approved for use.