

North Road Racing Pigeon Association
Delegates Meeting
July 5th, 2020
Bill Weima's Workshop
194 Speedvale Avenue, Guelph, ON

Present:

Bill Weima - Chair
Mike van der Jagt, Rick Fyfe – Niagara
Joran Giankos – Hamilton Central
Andre Gomes, Peter Sciortino – Central Peel
Ang Camilleri, Peter Trezzi – Pine Valley
Marian Hojsan, Sam Monardo – Mississauga
Cor Ubbels, Tony Rodgers - Flamboro

1:05 P.M. call to order by President Bill Weima.

Bill read a detailed information memo and quote from E.J. Stross and Alana Aird of SV Law firm explaining the pros and cons of incorporating with a quoted cost estimate of \$1650 - \$2000.

There was a length discussion. Basically, it comes down to the fact that every member is personally liable for any legal action or judgements against the NRRPA unless we are incorporated.

There will be a motion to proceed with the incorporation presented at the next annual general meeting clubs are asked to come prepared to vote on the issue.

The next item of discussion was the due date for young bird fees that was set at the last AGM. Some clubs were asking for an extension from 01 JUL with the uncertainty of the Covid 19 pandemic threatening clubs with losing their clubhouses.

Motion by Peter Sciortino and seconded by Andre Gomes that any club that loses its clubhouse before the first young bird race is flown, due to Covid 19 restrictions or issues, will be issued a full refund of all young bird flying fees. The motion carried.

Motion by Cor Ubbels and seconded by Peter Trezzi that the late fee for young bird flying fees be extended until 18 July to be in the hands of the combine Treasurer by that date. The motion carried.

Jordan Giankos informed the board that a member is in the process of medical testing for a serious medical condition that could possibly sideline him for the entire young bird season. He would like to pay the young bird flying fees and the club is asking that if he is unable to participate in any young bird racing due to this condition, could he be entitled to a refund of his young bird flying fees. The full board agreed that medical exemptions asked for in advance have been allowed in the past and that in this case, a refund would be allowed should the member miss all the races.

Rick Fyfe raised the issue of a member that paid old bird flying fees, but did not ship any races. The member is asking for his old bird fees to be applied to his young bird fees. The reason given for him not shipping any old bird races was a "miscommunication". The Board ruled against this request.

A short financial statement was circulated and reviewed by Treasurer Mike van der Jagt. Due to Covid 19 there were only 36 old bird shippers. Old bird costs were somewhat mitigated by shorting the number of weeks in the race schedule. Overall, there will be an operating loss of close to \$3000 in old birds. With the strong number of committed young bird flyers, this loss should be more than made up in young birds. The financial strength of the NRRPA remains very solid.

A few members were under the mistaken assumption that the \$5 per week short program fee was waived for the entire year, instead of just for old birds. This was not the case. The \$5/race/member applies in young birds. The short program races are only available to members that have paid the regular C series flying fees. In other words, a member who has not paid a flying fee for the regular races cannot show up and ship birds to the short program race by only paying \$5. In order to reduce on the administrative load of the driver collecting envelopes of money every week and holding on to them for the entire week until turning them in the following Friday, the \$5/race/member short program fee will be collected only once as one lump sum at the end of the race season. Clubs will be responsible to ensure their members pay what they owe and the club will submit it to the NRRPA in one lump sum at season's end.

Bill Weima reported that the Pioneer Club of Stouffville has applied for membership on the NRRPA. A discussion ensued. Some members felt that the application was too late to be considered for 2020. Some members were concerned that the club was too short compared to other lofts in the NRRPA. Other members suggested that the NRRPA lost money in old birds this year and additional membership would be a good thing. It was also mentioned that the trailer is way under capacity.

Motion by Bill Weima and seconded by Peter Sciortino to accept the Pioneer Club as a member of the NRRPA. The motion was defeated 4 in favor and 7 against.

The Pioneer club will be invited to reapply for consideration of joining the NRRPA for the 2021 season.

The issue of basket ownership was once again raised. The trailer and the full double set of baskets are owned by the NRRPA. Cor Ubbels relayed the history of the ownership of the current trailer and baskets. When the new trailer and baskets were originally purchased, the NRRPA cash reserves and fundraising activities fell short of the total cost. As a result, the NRRPA voted to levy each member a one-time fee to cover the shortfall. After that year, any new member joining the combine was charged a one-time initiation fee of \$50 in addition to regular dues and flying fees as a contribution toward rebuilding the cash reserves. After several years of collecting the \$50 initiation fee from new members, the NRRPA voted to discontinue the fee, since the reserves were once again in a healthy balance. At no time did any individual member ever own or partly own, any of the double set of NRRPA shipping baskets.

Marian Hojsan and Rick Fyfe volunteered to organize a fund-raising bird auction for the combine sometime this fall. The offer was enthusiastically received.

Motion by Cor Ubbels seconded by Rick Fyfe to adjourn. Carried.