



## Minutes

### VPFA Ltd Delegates Meeting

17<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dandenong Poultry Club 10am

A. Welcome Tony Mann Chairman welcomed everyone for coming.

B. Present (Good idea to go around the room and get everyone to introduce themselves and what club /s they represent. Brian Daniels : Mountain District Poultry Society, The Game Club of Victoria, John Hunt : Victorian Waterfowl

Association , Alexandra , Anne Beaty : Benalla, Victorian Waterfowl Association, Lorraine Edgley: Benalla, Victorian Waterfowl Association , Tony Mann : Ballarat Poultry Society, Dandenong Poultry & Kennel Club, Alf Woods : Essendon Poultry Society, The Game Club of Victoria, Pauline swift: Essendon Poultry Society, Neville Chislett: Langshan Club, Tony Milton :Benalla Poultry Club, Ken Bjorksten: Warragul Poultry Club, John Betts, Dandenong Poultry & Kennel Club, Renee Carpenter: Colac Poultry Club, Robbie Rogers: Western Region Poultry Club

C. Apologies Hollie Corbett : Gippsland Riviera Poultry & Game Club, Sonya Ford : Victorian Rare & New Breeds Society Inc. Mitchell Carrigan : Colac Poultry Club D. What is the VPFA?

**What is the VPFA** \_\_\_\_\_ Tony reads out what is the VPFA

- It is the recognised Victorian State Body constituted under Australian Company Law with a body of persons elected as Company Directors by the Victorian membership to administer the affairs of the Pure Breed Poultry Breeders in Victoria.
  - It maintains a register of Members who pay an annual fee to belong.
  - It issues a bi-monthly journal via an Editor whom the VPFA pay a fee to.
  - It maintains a register of Member Clubs.
  - It is the recognised body that corresponds with and receives correspondence from other like bodies in Victoria and interstate as well as local, state and Australian government bodies.
  - Its Directors meet on a regular basis throughout the year to administer the company which they do on a voluntary basis and without remuneration.
  - It maintains a Website and Facebook page for its members and interested public.
  - It holds an AGM & GM once a year to deliver its reports and finances to its members for approval.
  - It oversees the committee that runs & produces the Australian Poultry Standard. □ It oversees various committees relating to the running of VPFA.
  - It will try and come up with the “tools” to help member clubs recruit new members.
  - Where possible to will try and assist members experiencing Local Council problems.
  - Puts together the Annual Show Calendar and advises member clubs a list of financial members that they can correspond with to invite them to show at their show.
  - Examine and maintain a panel of Judges. □ Other matters from time to time.
- The main points of what the VPFA does.

Tony asks for questions

Can the clubs have a copy of the insurance policy, what is the claim process?

All clubs get a copy of insurance certificate once it is paid at the end of March.

In the secretary kit you will be given today is an incident report form, these need to be filled out if there is an incident, and a copy given to the VPFA when you send in your exhibitor list 14 days after your show. For insurance purposes we need an up to date list within 1 month of the show.

Does this cover include day passes?

Yes it does that is why we need a list of exhibitors and addresses and any incidents so if there is a claim made later, we have the paperwork.

If any club does a sausage sizzle are they covered?

Yes if it is club event they are covered. It comes back to filling out the incident report.

The clubs will get the certificate as soon as I receive it.

Are the public covered who are visiting the show.

Not sure but I would say they would be.

Ken said I don't understand the correlation between day pass and filling out report, as long as incident report is filled out.

Brian insurance companies will find a loop hole to get out of paying if they can.

Alf gives an example of a member who bought cattle they got out and 1 was hit by a car insurance company covered the damage.

How are claims made, straight to insurance company or to the club?

Claims would come to the VPFA from the club, then to the insurance company who will contact club secretary directly.

If someone breaks there leg who do I make the claim through the VPFA or the insurance company.

The initial contact would be the club and then the club contacts the VPFA and then the VPFA would contact the insurance company. The insurance company would contact the club secretary re the claim. Paper work would be sent direct to the club.

Suggested that insurance requirements be put in the newsletter, including the process necessary.

Insurance policy and certificate of currency should only be accessed by the club committee.

Clubs get a copy of certificate of currency.

Clubs need to know the policy, public liability policy so covers public as well. But incident report must be filled out.

At what point in time does the insurance cover them.

If they are at the show and get out of their car where are they covered?

Clarification need on where the public are covered in the shed or when they enter their property.

The Ag society and the club are responsible jointly depending on where and when and what the accident is and who is at fault. E.g. broken drain tripped over then that is the Ag society not providing a safe area.

Have to provide copy of insurance (when available after renewal) The responsibility and where it lies, send to all club secretaries.

Journal as well.

Insurance questions will be clarified after the next delegates meeting and sent out to all clubs and delegates.

- E. Membership. Just clocked over 200 members coming in a steady rate. Membership last year 326. Go back to the most we have had is 420 members in 1950's (Alf) and it's started to decline, rely on country people who have more room.
- F. Increasing memberships  
Neville Chislett who live in the city at this meeting.  
Who lives in town, urban Brian Daniels, John Betts?  
Other ways to increase membership  
How to increase membership there are many ways the state coal mine is a voluntary organisation, they have visitors who look at the poultry and a few other things. These organisations would benefit from information from us on feeding and housing. A membership for this type of organisation, casual membership or Associate membership suggested, schools are asking for information and help, Collingwood children's farm  
A newsletter or questionnaire out to schools and get children interest now.  
Ian is involved with schools but there is so much more we could be doing, letter to these organisations, schools now is the time to get the interest of children and get them interested now.  
Ian has helped 3 schools.  
Ian get in touch with education department and find out what schools have chickens Stefanie alexander / Kitchen Garden Program.  
People who have chickens cross bred you need to educate people.  
We need to get our head out of the sand our member ship based should not just be based on exhibition poultry. We have an exhibition poultry base. If we have 10 people with Isa browns and they lose them then if you can get them in then you can get them educated in pure breeds.  
John hunts information box on chickens,  
CRC is an organisation the gov in NSW put in to place, government has got rid of the program now.  
Schools that show at the Royal Melbourne  
Schools can get a copy of standard if they write a letter free.  
Individual clubs should contact their local schools. Should advertise in their area.  
Give the schools a package if they show at their local show.  
VPFA directors should look at a membership seminar, complex issue and a big problem.  
Memberships of schools are free, need to tell schools.

Club to get a reward for getting schools in to the VPFA.

Damage books should be at the show so they can give them out. Could be given to the schools at Royal Melbourne. Traceability we need a numbered letter.

A generic letter for the royal and give a book to all schools who are at the Royal, to get a free standard for their school.

Need to have a back yard section in the show to allow students to show there Isa browns.

Each club should contact their local schools and tell them what is available if they join.

Warragul had 80 financial members and only 20 where member of the VPFA to get people to join what do they get out of it, if they do join the VPFA.

Put the brochure out with information about VPFA on it. Currently working on re doing the brochure.

Will give a few copies to clubs and email them a copy so they can put their details on them.

It would be good to give members what the VPFA does.

Alf every council has different rules, cant adopt the same rules across the board.

Refer to the standards committee and they should recommend to the board and then the board makes the decision.

The standards committee are under the control of the board.

Standards committee should formulate there recommendations for the books and schools.

The board should be able to say what happens subcommittee shouldn't have final say.

The subcommittee is under the control of the board, the board has the final say.

No one from the Warragul bird night put up any points. Warragul or Langshan club are the only clubs to put in questions doesn't anyone else care.

VPFA face book page has to get approved before it goes up, admins talk and disallow posts, and the site should be interactive and if they put something up you don't like you can ban them or take the post down.

VPFA didn't post their own AGM on Facebook.

Ken Face book site is not utilized and shouldn't have such strict controls.

Journal only fee is \$45 (to expensive)

Tony giving people a reason to be a member of the VPFA to show chooks, pamphlet would give people more information to be a member. Get people interested now at s school level or Ag show level and a reason to be a member of the VPFA.

Need to give people a reason to be a member.

We have to pay for these ideas and the standards committee had to bail the Main body out.

Pamphlet and INS etc. get our info out there to get members.

Give people a reason to be a member.

To do more- you need members- interest is poor, selling the book is the way we can get more members.

Neville people you are posting on Facebook and want to know more about chooks and we need to tap into it. We need to tap into social media because there are so many interested people out there who want to know more about chooks. Some people are not interested in showing there chooks, they are interested in breeding and feeding.

J Hunt we only make up 1% of poultry owners in Victoria.

You guys at the top are charged with keeping the VPFA going need to roll with the punches.

WE need to use social media.

Brochure sent to all clubs and get feedback on the content on it. Time line to get it back.

Erika Nash is admin now for Facebook

Need to put info up on Facebook site about what's happening

Board needs to decide what site is for

Is for affiliated clubs only, accept posts for national clubs,

Need to get people interested in Facebook site, brochure people won't read it.

Brochure won't reach everyone and neither will Facebook.

Facebook gets information out to members, should have put up new board members on Facebook after AGM need to use the site.

Around about half the people at the meeting visit Facebook site once a week.

You should be allowed to post without waiting for it to be cleared.

Posts from Tony have been put up straight away.

VPFA Facebook page preaches to the converted. We should be posting more.

#### G. Questions sent in from Warragul Ken Bjorksten

1. After another complete waste of time at last year's AGM why should anyone waste their time attending again. Ken hadn't been for a few years but has been for 2 now.

Apologies who stayed away because of confrontation. How many...

Meeting procedure we should run the meeting this way.

Tony meeting 2 years ago meeting was rough and last year gave them a chance to have their say.

We have process to go through with those members and if they join then we have a process to go through. AGM should be adjourned and members told to leave.

There was miles to much latitude given and they destroyed the meeting.

A lot of apologies who stayed away because of what happens. A lot of apologies but they were listed as they had put in a proxy.

Have had legal advice on AGM what we can allow and disallowed. There is a universal meeting procedure and there is a meeting procedure to follow and if you don't follow it then you are asked to leave. Board needs to hold the reins must tighter.

There was a fall out many years ago and we are heading in the same direction.

We have constitution and rules and regulations but we have the corporations act 2001 above that. Meeting procedure everyone has to abide by meeting procedure.

Security guard needed money well spent.

Meeting can be adorned and those members asked to leave.

Tony is taking on board.

Last year's meeting was better than the years before

2. What does the board have in mind to bring the Macdonald issue to an end and stop it from dominating and ruining the fancy?

3. What is happening with the exhibitor club funds from last year and this? Club asked for more information Donna aware of this.

What about this year's allocation from the exhibitors fund, hasn't been decided.

Raffle tickets pre sell ticket

Option have a raffle and sell tickets and then give them a ticket for VPFA raffle.

Dandenong asking if they get a subsidy compensation because they won't be able to hold the raffle. Discussed.

John will send in a letter outlining position of Dandenong. Pre sell tickets not allowed, Neville all I have got is no. Hold a raffle at Dandenong and give them a ticket for the VPFA raffle. \$250 to \$300 last raffle roughly compensation needed.

Tony explains about the raffle. Why 3 months

Disadvantaged clubs are Dandenong, Euroa, Wangaratta, Alpine more clubs disadvantaged if it's May June July'

For 6 months you have to get permit.

Money would have to come out of the pot as they are disadvantaged.

No permit needed for prizes under \$5000 and 3 months.

Conditions are very onerous on getting a permit.

4. What is the VPFA planning to do to increase membership?  
Answered already
5. Are there any plans to invest or spend any Exhibitor funds in any way?

Looking at premises, or investing money in a better return fund.

Alf would like to have 1 mill in bank and then won't have to pay membership.

Investment property.

Majority of factories cost more than \$600,000 then insurance, power, etc.

Better return on money if you have an investment property.

John hunt said James Bishop put a proposal to the board and Michael going to look into it.

Essendon has a financial adviser in there club.

We have not investigated all avenues.

Not guaranteed, other investments are not guaranteed.

Stock market 20yrs plus to get a return, directors can look at it, Alf wouldn't like to invest in property or shares, going to go down. Maybe another years' time.

Committee to look at.

John, Michael, Neil on futures committee. He did investigated and came back with a handout.

Urban development is going to be shut down in next 2 years.

Constitution needs changing, to change investments.

Our constitution states only banks as investments.... Brian

Another investment publish another book other than standard, high risk investment.

APS how did they get the money to publish book through our constitution. Clause

Neville we have got used to having that money. It will be a brave board to invest in a property and spend the money

What is the objective do we want a home all the expenses associated with having a home.

South Australia talk to them and see about the pit fall s of having your own building.

VPFA needs to progress and a home where we can have something centrally

Centre of Vic is Euroa / Seymour. How many clubs would use It.?

Pauline go looking for properties instead of expecting the board to find it all volunteers.

Directions needed on what VPFA is wanting keep asking people about properties.

Ask a real estate agent to do the work.

Guidelines needed long term lease,

Where you would like a property to buy or lease,

A property we want to buy or lease, how many clubs to use it, rental for shed, will they shut there shed and use the new shed.

Wasting money my money that I have to put in.

Property to get rental on. But to build a shed a waste of time

Multipurpose, forget about a big she for shows, guidelines. A long term lease on a property.

Guidelines needed. The best investment and it should be taken back to the members.

6. What does the board expect to get from these meetings or are they lip service. Nothing seems to have come out of last year's meeting. Do you think what will apparently be 3 meetings will work any better than last years.

7. What is the board's long term plans to take the fancy forward and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Advertise, schools, promote,

8. Why does the VPFA social media avenues not promote everything to do with the VPFA. Last year's AGM never rated a mention on the face book page. Face book is interactive and can draw massive attention if run write. Do you not think it would be better to open the site for people to freely comment and ban anyone who abuses the right?

9. Under what rule does the VPFA have the right to not present a properly, timely and legitimate notice of motion to the AGM.

Explained by Anne read out rule 8 and the junior going to EKKA is part of pure breed poultry meets criteria of VPFA constitution.

10. Are there plans for the board to run a show next year for the 50<sup>th</sup>? If so when and what issue would it create for clubs around this show. (Should the VPFA be running shows anyway??).

Why are we not having a show to many shows?

No show , there will be a lunch being worked out now.

11. With the more recent interest shown in nominations for the board shouldn't the board look at increasing its numbers?

A board member at every show.

Increase in numbers to 15 in constitution.

No election necessary when Tony was asked by Lou to join.

H. Questions from other delegates present.

Lunch 12.30pm

Wimmera with increasing cost from Ag societies can the board subsidize this expense Warragul annual rental 550 water and power.

Clubs that help themselves

H. Question from Neville Chislett representing Langshan Club.

May well be too late to be added as an Agenda item but could a few minutes be set aside to discuss the VPFA policy (or lack of it) on members interest in supporting Agricultural Shows in their area.

I. I have a few points that I would like to raise and would be interested in the general feelings of those present.

What prizes exhibitors get for taking their birds to Ag shows, VPFA should support these Ag shows Windows we have to the public is the Ag shows, so we need to advertise with these people.

The cost of taking birds to Maffra \$15 for each exhibitor to get in. admission adult 10 plus 5 for bringing car in. 2 people in one car also had to pay.

Essendon has taken on Sunbury Ag show, up to individual clubs to promote themselves

Warragul does Redhill show and Warragul as well.

Exhibitors provide something for the show so to get no prize money and pay 1 dollar fee.

We need to be more aware of Ag shows

Maffra poultry club how many are members of the Ag society.

How to support Ag shows article to put in the journal, window to the public.

Berwick and Pakenham show no poultry clubs to help them. John Betts organises these.

Each Ag society have their own rules and regs

Articles for the journal wanted photos of Ag shows

I. Councils. Every council in Victoria has different by laws.

How can the VPFA support its members dealing with local councils?

Advocates that could go into bat for people.

People that members can go to mediate the problem

Research into it existing use laws.

Brian Daniels, went to VCAT with town planner.

VPFA should in the future set up a fighting fund to help these members

Have an independent person talk to the ranger,

Michel Ryan and J Pavey followed the council's bylaws. Made movie????

Have to deal with on a case to case basis.

Form letter written by James. Source not on file.

Disc about the VPFA and what we are about. Video Jack did.

How tidy is your back yard.

Discuss at next board meeting.

J. Day Passes Explanation of why day passes were bought in. Discussion

Introduced years ago 2 per club at \$5 a pass and introduced a \$10 day pass last year

And were for members to show at their local club.

Tony explains his day passes as per his email.

Day passes majority said they like as it. 1 against Alf

K. Show Calendar

Happy with process this year.

L. Secretaries Folder

Explanation on the need for Show Report list of exhibitors, day passes,

Show Results Journal award points and Results for journal.

Insurance updated at the end of March

Members list will be sent out end march updated monthly

Website later in the year will have a secretary's page to access forms used by secretaries. Closed 2.38pm

