



Australian National Pigeon Association Inc. Constitution.

1. The name of the organisation shall be AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PIGEON ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED. This name shall be shortened to ANPA.

2. AIMS

- a) To promote and foster greater national interest in the unity of all fanciers and interest in breeding, management, exhibition and quality of recognised breeds and varieties of domestic pigeons in Australia.
- b) To promote greater co-operation between individuals and between show organisations in the pigeon fancy.
- c) To consider and advise on any matters pertaining to the improvement of the fancy and publish a regular bulletin.
- d) To publish an illustrated text containing a National Standard of Excellence for each breed or variety.
- e) To issue a national seamless ring with the band identification 'ANPA'
- f) To sponsor an annual National Pigeon Show for the purposes of bringing together quality displays of all recognised breeds and varieties where they may compete for coveted awards.
- g) To generally promote and coordinate specialist clubs, ideas, breed standards, rings, shows, show dates, and meetings to assist fanciers in competing anywhere in Australia under similar conditions.

3. STATES

- a) For geographic and communications purposes ANPA shall be divided into branches basically following the boundaries of the states and territories. The Northern Territory to be included in South Australia and the ACT to New South Wales.
- b) States and Territories shall have a minimum of fifteen (15) financial members to form a branch otherwise they will combine with the nearest other state.
- c) If a state/territory attains a membership of not less than five (5) members, that state/territory can qualify for the independent election of one committee representative to serve on the committee in conjunction with the committee of the nearest other state that has fifteen (15) or more members.



4. MEMBERSHIP

a) Application for membership is open to any individual or club interested in promoting the aims of ANPA and shall be subject to the approval of the Executive.

b) Membership fees shall cover the period of *April 1 for one year to March 31 of the following year*. Payment of the membership fee shall constitute an agreement by the member to be bound by the rules of the constitution of ANPA, including any subsequent alterations or modifications thereof duly made. Membership may be Individual membership, Affiliated Clubs, Specialist Clubs.

No member shall be entitled to any of the privileges or benefits of the Association until the appropriate membership fee for the current year has been paid. The annual subscription of members shall be set and declared by resolution at the Annual General Meeting.

c) When the membership is not paid for more than one financial year (e.g.: April 1 2023 to March 31 2024) it shall be considered lapsed and the individual or club must re-apply as a new member and the membership shall then be subject to the approval of the Executive committee.

d) The rights of individual members shall be to:

- i. nominate fellow members for elected positions
- ii. stand for and hold office
- iii. vote at the AGM or in ANPA elections
- iv. exhibit at the National Show
- v. nominate persons for consideration of judging at the National Show
- vi. receive a copy of the newsletter
- vii. be nominated for ANPA awards
- viii. nominate persons for consideration for ANPA awards

e) The rights of affiliated clubs shall be to:

- i. receive a copy of the newsletter
- ii. submit bids to host the National Show
- iii. 1. Club Ring Secretaries of ANPA affiliates have the right to distribute the Australian National Pigeon Association's 'ANPA' rings but only to members of that affiliate's club.
- iii. 2. Club Ring Secretaries must record and maintain complete contact details of the ring-buyer; if he/she is a club member so that those details are available.
- iii. 3. The member, ring-buyer is advised that they are now responsible for those rings and should record contacts for any sales/exchanges, else they be responsible to retrieve any such found bird.
(Amended at AGM 19 July 2014)
- iv. nominate changes to the national breed standards and be consulted prior to the Committee's consideration of a nominated change to a breed standard



- v. nominate persons for consideration of judging at the National Show
- vi. nominate one of its members for consideration for ANPA awards

f) The rights of Specialist Clubs shall be:

- i. to hold its annual show in conjunction with the National show or other show held under the auspices of ANPA
- ii. to distribute rings issued by ANPA
- iii. to nominate changes to its National breed standard and to be consulted prior to the committee's consideration of a nominated change to a breed standard for a breed catered for by that specialist club.
- iv. to nominate names for judging that breed at the National show
- v. to nominate one of its members for consideration of ANPA awards
- vi. to enjoy all the benefits and protection afforded by the membership of ANPA
- vii. to make suggestions or propositions to change ANPA rules/constitution but any proposition must be submitted through an individual member of ANPA
- viii. to advertise that the club is affiliated with ANPA.

g) To gain and maintain affiliation with ANPA, affiliated Clubs and specialist Clubs must have and maintain a minimum of (10) and (8) individual financial members respectively. In addition, they must be properly governed under a suitable constitution or documented set of rules/code/aims etc, that has been adopted by a majority of the Club's membership and must not conflict with the rules and Codes of Conduct and Ethics of ANPA. A copy of that document is to be sent to the Membership Coordinator for Executive Committee approval. When forwarding to ANPA the affiliation application form and fee or an affiliation renewal and fee on the date it falls due, each Club is to provide a list of the Club's current office bearers and a certified list of financial members. Any such list or other related information provided to ANPA remains the property of the Club providing it and is for the exclusive use of the ANPA Executive Committee and must not be published, divulged or forwarded in any way to any organisation, group or individual.

h) Membership affiliation fees are to be paid to the National Membership Coordinator or any other such person as the Executive Committee decides. Affiliation will not be approved for clubs and societies, which distribute a ring other than the National ring issued by ANPA. (Amended at AGM 19 July 2014)

i) The Committee may recommend to the AGM that Life Membership be granted to individuals who have been members in good standing for at least (10) consecutive years and who over a period of at least (10) years have performed outstanding service to ANPA. No more than one life membership per year to be granted. A life membership can only be granted on the unanimous vote of the Executive and Committee, which is then submitted to the AGM for majority endorsement.



It is not intended that Life Membership be an automatic right of any member after ten years membership but rather in recognition of sacrificial service to ANPA.

5.OFFICE BEARERS

Only financial members may hold office in the Association.

The office bearers within the Association shall be:

- a) President, who shall not hold any other ANPA office
- b) National Secretary.
- c) Treasurer.
- d) Persons holding the offices in paragraphs b and c may hold concurrently any other office or Committee position not specifically excluded by this constitution.
- e) State branch officers consisting of two representatives for the first 15 individual financial members plus a further one representative for each additional 25 individual members up to a maximum of eight representatives. All representatives are to be elected, except when vacancies occur under circumstances described in clause 8g. The State officer who polls the most votes from the voting shall become the State Vice President.

These state branch officers shall form the State Committee.

If a State/Territory attains a membership of not less than five members, that state/territory can qualify for the independent election of one committee representative to serve on the Committee in conjunction with the committee of the nearest State with 15 or more members.

- f) Executive consisting of the President, Secretary, Treasurer and all the State Vice Presidents.
- g) National Committee, which shall consist of the Executive and the full membership of the State Committees.
- h) The Committee will appoint members to fill the following roles to assist the National Secretary and/or the Committee; Publicity Officer/Newsletter Editor, Membership Coordinator, National Ring Coordinator, National Show Coordinator, Election Supervisor and Public Officer. The Election Supervisor shall not hold any other office. The Committee may also appoint a National Standards Coordinator and Rare Breeds Coordinator. Additionally, a position(s) can be created to address a particular need that may arise. These additional positions can only be created through a majority vote of the Committee. The Committee may if it deems necessary co-opt suitable person(s) to fulfill one or more of these specific roles.
- i) All of these positions shall be honorary but the Committee, with the approval of the AGM, may determine to pay an honorarium to selected office bearers where it is clear that the work involves considerable personal sacrifice and out of pocket expenses.



j) Notwithstanding the above provisions, the Committee may, with the approval of the AGM and if financially able, employ a person on a full-time or part-time basis to fill the role of National Secretary combined with the duties of any other Office except President.

Where it is determined that such an appointment should be made, it will be by interview and selection arranged by the Executive rather than election. The nomination of the Executive for a person to be so appointed shall come to the AGM.

6. MANAGEMENT

a) The Executive shall carry out the day to day business as necessary. The President is entitled to a casting vote only.

b) The National Secretary shall canvass the views of the Executive on important issues through mail or other means available to deal with the efficient running of the Association.

c) The role of the State Committees shall be to undertake any activities that promote the aims of ANPA at the State level. The State Committee shall canvass opinion on issues of concern and convey the information to the Executive and the AGM. The State Committee of the state nominated to host the National Show shall be responsible to assist the National Committee in making decisions regarding the host club's venue, judging nominations and other matters pertaining to the show.

d) The full National Committee shall decide on major issues such as changes in the constitution or breed standards, and other issues as defined by the constitution.

e) Should a member require any matter to be brought before the National Committee they should approach their State Vice President to have the matter raised on their behalf.

7. ACCOUNTS

a) The National Committee shall cause proper accounts to be kept of all the receipts, credits, payments, assets and liabilities of the Association and of all other matters necessary for showing the true state and condition of the Association and the accounts shall be kept in such books and in such manner as the Committee think fit and to the satisfaction of the appointed Auditor.

b) The accounts of the Association shall be annually examined and the correctness of the balance shall be ascertained by an Auditor, appointed by the Association at the AGM.

c) The Treasurer shall present at each AGM a financial statement for the previous year and an audited financial statement shall be published in the ANPA newsletter and on its website.

d) Approved national bank accounts shall be held for all funds. Signatories for all accounts shall be the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a Committee Person, as approved by Executive, with any two to sign.



- e) The President will duly report at each AGM that he/she is personally satisfied that all books of the Association have been duly audited and he/she has taken steps to confirm the current bank balances shown on the Financial Statement.
- f) No officer or member of ANPA shall incur expense, disburse any funds or render ANPA liable for any obligation, which has not first been authorised by the Executive under penalty of personally assuming such liability.
- g) Members of the Committee shall disclose any personal interest they may have in any contract or proposed contract, entered into or to be entered into by the Committee on behalf of the Association.
- h) The property and income of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the aims of the Association and no part of that property or income may be paid or otherwise distributed, directly or indirectly, to members of the Association, except in good faith in the promotion of those objects or purposes.

8.ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- a) Election of officers at National and State level is to be every year for approximately half the committee for a two-year term.

In even years the following positions will become vacant: President, Publicity Officer/Newsletter Editor and State Officers for NSW, Victoria and Tasmania. In odd years the following positions will become vacant: Secretary and Treasurer and State Officers for W.A., S.A., and Queensland. Only financial members may hold office in the Association, including the Election Supervisor.

- b) The National Secretary shall determine and publicise the respective State Committee sizes according to the financial membership at the 1st January of the election year. Financial members on the 1st January will be eligible to vote in the elections.
- c) Nominations for all positions to either be in writing or sent via email and close with the National Secretary at midnight on the 1st March.

Nominations can only be received from another financial individual member as at 1st January of that year and must be seconded by another financial individual member. For State Officers, nominations and seconders must come only from financial individual members residing in that state for that nomination.

Email nominations and seconders, must come from the nominators and seconders own email address. Full name, postal address and contact phone number is to be included in the body of the email.

- d) The Secretary shall forward initialled ballot papers together with a list of financial members to the Election Supervisor by April 15. The Election Supervisor shall counter initial all ballot papers and mail



them to all individual financial members by April 30. Ballot papers must be returned to the Election Supervisor by May 31.

As an alternative to initialing, a non-reproducible watermarking of ballot papers can be used to authenticate the papers and the ballots be posted with the Newsletter.

e) When a member casts a vote they must sign the ballot paper. Signatures will be removed once the election results have been scrutinised by the President.

f) Voting for all positions will be by preferential ballot. Members will be requested to vote 1, 2, 3 etc. in order of preference with 1, being first preference etc. Failure to indicate on the ballot paper the first through to last preference will make the vote for that particular position invalid.

The Election Supervisor will eliminate the person who receives the least number of first preferences and distribute the ballots according to the next subsequent preference indicated unless the preferences are exhausted. This process will be repeated with each successive lowest preferred candidate eliminated until the required number of candidates to be elected remains. The State Officer who holds the most votes at the end of this process shall become the State Vice President.

g) In the event of interim vacancies occurring in any position, the President shall arrange for the Executive to appoint a person to fill such position for the remaining period that position has to run. The appointee shall usually but, not necessarily, be the person who obtained the next highest vote at the previous election. In the event of the President's position needing to be filled then the Secretary shall arrange for the Executive to appoint a person to fill such position. The appointee in this case usually but not necessarily, is a State Vice President. The appointment/s shall be subject to ratification at the next AGM.

h) The National Committee shall have the power to dismiss from the Committee any officer, if deemed necessary, in the interests of the Association. This vacancy shall be filled as per paragraph 8 g) above.

i) Nominations are to be called for from the floor at the Annual General Meeting for any positions which have not attracted written nominations by the due date. Voting for these positions will be by a show of hands or other method as determined by the meeting.

9. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

a) Members are expected to adhere to the Association's Codes of Ethics and Conduct. Any breach of these Codes shall be considered misconduct under this clause and will be dealt with appropriately. Any member considered to be acting in a manner prejudicial to the aims of ANPA may be expelled or suspended from the Association and shall forfeit all privileges of membership, for such period as shall be determined by the Executive.



10. APPEAL PROCEDURE

a) Procedure for appeal against a decision of either the Executive or National Committee:

- i. Any application to appeal against a decision of the Executive or National Committee should be submitted to the Secretary, in writing, within 28 days of notification of the decision. The application should include the grounds for the appeal.
- ii. The President, Secretary and the State Vice President of the appellant's state will consider the appeal and either give leave for the appeal to proceed or refuse the application. The applicant will be notified of the outcome in writing and given a date for an appeal meeting, where appropriate.
- iii. The Appeal Committee will be chaired by the President and together with the Secretary and State Vice president of the appellant's state, will where possible, conduct a meeting with the appellant.
- iv. The Appeal Committee will make a recommendation to the Executive who will make a final decision on the matter.

11. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in conjunction with the National Show. If there is no National Show the meeting should be held before the end of July of that year at a location chosen by the committee, or by video conferencing technology.
- b) Members wishing any matter of General Business raised at the AGM must advise the Secretary, in writing, 90 days prior to the AGM. 10 members must support this matter in writing. The notification must be received by midnight and can be either by letter, email or via social media.
- c) The Secretary shall forward a notice convening the AGM to all members at least 30 days before the date of the meeting. This could be an inclusion in the Association's Newsletter, or on its website and through its social media channels. The notice should only be posted on the association's social media channels if it has already been added to the website. The notice must include a list of all matters of General Business to be discussed, including nominations received for future National Shows.
- d) The postal votes must be returned to the Secretary, and received at least 21 days prior to the meeting.
- e) The business of the meeting shall include the following order; Apologies, Reading of the Previous Minutes, President's Report, Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report, Acceptance of the Financial Statement, Ring Coordinator's Report, Installation of officers as required, General Business and announcement of the next National Show venue and date.
- f) Only matters advised in the notice convening the AGM will be discussed in General Business, unless there were exceptional circumstances and then the President/Chairperson may allow discussion on these additional matters. Only members in attendance can vote on these additional matters, therefore,



the President/Chairperson should not allow a final decision to be made on important issues to be raised in this manner.

12. QUORUM

- a) At the National AGM the quorum shall be 19 individual financial members.
- b) At a meeting of the Executive the quorum shall be the full Executive less two members.
- c) At a meeting of the Committee a quorum shall be two-thirds of the Committee members.
- d) If a quorum is not achieved at an AGM, the Committee must transact the business of the Association by video conferencing technology or a phone hook-up within two months of the set AGM date.

13. NATIONAL SHOW

- a) The location and venue of the National show will be determined based on applications received. The show is usually staged over the third weekend in July each year, but this may be varied.
- b) Applicants to host the show should state the preferred date, the venue facilities including the maximum number of pens available, accommodation availability and other relevant information, to the National Secretary.
- c) All applications should be in writing and in the hands of the National Secretary not later than July 1 the year preceding the Show.
- d) The full Committee shall consider all applications together with a recommendation from the relevant State Committee if applicable in deciding the National show host. ANPA may ask the State branch to host the National Show on its behalf if no bids are received. Bids will also be considered from groups of financial members on the basis the bid is led by a member of the association's committee and that all hosting criteria are met.
- e) Host club awards will be supplemented where considered desirable by ANPA. ANPA will award the title of National Champion to the best of each breed subject to the judge's discretion. ANPA may also award a trophy as a memento of the award where considered appropriate.
- f) There will be no Grand Champion of all breeds.
- g) After considering nominations from the host club, other affiliated clubs and individuals and in consultation with the State Branch Committee of the host state, the National Committee shall determine the National Show judging panel, which must be printed in the Show Schedule.
- h) No bird shall be eligible to win a National Champion Award or National Young Bird Award unless it is banded with a seamless band issued by ANPA.



i) An exhibitor at the national show must be either an individual financial member of ANPA or a financial member of the host club. In the case where ANPA hosts the national show, financial members of ANPA Affiliated Clubs in the host State may also exhibit (Amended 19 July 2014)

14. NATIONAL AWARDS

a) ANPA will issue awards to fanciers or organisations, which are members of ANPA, in recognition of outstanding achievement in any of the fields of pigeon pioneering, scientific breeding, exhibition or for meritorious service or for any other significant contribution made to the pigeon fancy.

b) ANPA's highest award for breeding excellence shall be the National Master Breeder's Award. To issue this award the Committee must receive evidence of substantial improvement or development of a breed or variety, which is nationally recognised.

c) Applications for a National Masters Breeders Award may be submitted by:

i. Clubs affiliated with ANPA.

ii. A member of the Executive or Committee.

iii. An individual financial member on behalf of another member.

iv. An individual on behalf of himself or herself.

d) The nominee and nominator must have been a member in good standing of ANPA for three consecutive years prior to the application. Membership for the year in which the application is made cannot be considered as the third year of this membership requirement.

e) The nominee must prove that he/she has bred and shown the breed for which the application is made for at least 10 years prior to the application for this award. The nominee must list a show record for at least 10 years on the application.

f) The nominee must have bred all birds listed on the application.

g) It is expected that the show record will include at least 4 different National Champions. The strongest possible competition must be evident and the nominee must have exhibited beyond their local area. The nominee will show evidence that they have won consistently. Agricultural shows should not be included unless of major importance.

h) Applications will be submitted to the nominee's local major affiliated club and if appropriate to an affiliated specialist club for comment.

i) A Master Breeder's Award may be granted only on the unanimous vote of the Executive and Committee, which is then submitted to the AGM for majority endorsement.

j) Members of the Executive and Committee must submit reasons for a negative vote. Failure to submit reasons will cause the vote to be disregarded. Reasons that do not relate to the criteria for the award



will cause the vote to be disregarded. Any votes disregarded in this process will be viewed as “yes” votes for the purpose of the unanimous vote count in 14 i).

k) The Executive and Committee will look for evidence of the following;

- i. National recognition for the work of the nominee.
- ii. Evidence of selective breeding.
- iii. Successful show record against the best available competition.
- iv. An unsuccessful application may not be resubmitted until a period of three years has elapsed, unless not supported because of a technical reason.

l) ANPA will also award from time to time on the nomination of its affiliates or members an Award for Meritorious Service. This award will also require unanimous support from the Executive and Committee and AGM majority endorsement. It will be awarded only to those fanciers or organisations, which through their dedication have benefited the fancy in the fields of scientific breeding, disease research and club services or for any other significant contribution made. Generally, a maximum of two Meritorious Service Awards would be awarded in any one year.

m) ANPA will also award from time to time on the nomination of its affiliates or members an ANPA National Judges Award. This award will require unanimous support from the Executive and Committee and AGM majority endorsement. It can be awarded only to those judges who have judged a breed at a minimum of two National Shows, with only one appointment prior to 1997 allowed to be counted, and have demonstrated outstanding skill at their local and state level for judging that breed. The Executive should make enquiry of the recognised leading breeders of that breed before voting. The Award shall be a coat patch and certificate with the wording “ANPA National Judge of (name of the breed)”. Generally, a maximum of three ANPA National Judges Awards would be issued in any one year.

15. ASSOCIATION RECORDS

The Association shall keep the following records:

- a) A list of Foundation Members;
- b) A record of Master Breeder Awards;
- c) A record of Meritorious Service Awards;
- d) A record of National Judges Awards
- e) A Code of Ethics and Conduct;
- f) National Show Rules;
- g) Rules for the Registration and Changes to Breed Standards;
- h) Guidelines for the Operation of State Committees;
- i) A record of National Show results.



j) A record of Judges at each National Show

16. ALTERATION TO RULES

An alteration to the rules comes into force at the time that the resolution is passed. This does not apply to an alteration to the name of the association which does not come into force until registered by CBS.

a) Any member who wishes to amend the Constitution must advise the Secretary in writing or via email of the proposed amendment/s at least 90 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. These proposals should also be signed by 10 financial members indicating their support for the proposed amendment/s. The Secretary will place the proposed amendment/s on the notice convening the Annual General Meeting. Such proposed amendment/s shall only be carried if it receives a two-thirds majority vote at that meeting, including proxy form voting.

b) Email advice and seconders, must come from the nominator's and seconder's own email addresses. Full name, postal address and contact phone number is to be included in the body of the email.

17. COMMON SEAL OF THE ASSOCIATION

a) The Association shall have a common seal on which its corporate name shall appear in legible characters.

b) The common seal of the Association shall not be used without the express authority of the Executive Committee and every use of the common seal shall be recorded in the minute book.

c) Any two of the President, Secretary and the Treasurer shall witness the affixing of the common seal of the Association.

d) The common seal of the Association shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary or of such other person as the Executive Committee from time to time decides.

18. WINDING UP OF THE ASSOCIATION

a) If, on winding up of the Association, any property of the Association remains after satisfaction of the debts and liabilities of the Association and the cost, charges and expenses of that winding up, that property shall be distributed;

i. to another incorporated association having objects similar to those of the Association, and/or

ii. for charitable or benevolent purposes, and/or

iii as shall be determined by resolution of the members when authorising and directing the Committee to prepare a distribution plan for the distribution of the surplus property of the Association.



19. POWERS OF AN INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION

The Association shall have all the powers conferred by Section 25 of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985.

Appendix Section 25 of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985.

Powers of an Incorporated Association.

For the purpose of carrying out its objects, an incorporated association may, subject to this Act and its rules-

- (a) acquire, hold, deal with, and dispose of, any real or personal property and
- (b) administer any property on trust; and
- (c) open and operate ADI (Authorised Deposit Taking Institution) accounts and
- (d) invest its moneys -
 - (1) in any security which trust moneys may, by Act of Parliament, be invested; or
 - (2) in any other manner authorized by the rules of the association; and
- (e) borrow money upon which terms and conditions as association thinks fit; and
- (f) give such security for the discharge of liabilities incurred by the association as the association thinks fit; and
- (g) appoint agents to transact any business of the association on its behalf; and
- (h) enter into any other contract it considers necessary or desirable.

(New Clause 19 at the instruction of the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs of the Government of South Australia on September 29, 2008)

