

# THE ROYAL PIGEON RACING ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

The 118th Annual General Meeting of the Royal Pigeon Racing Association will be held at the Coventry Hill Hotel on Friday, 28th February 2014, at 9am for the purpose of transacting the following business:

1. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
2. General Manager's Annual Report
3. Accounts for 2013
4. Election of Officers:
  - a) President
  - b) Three Vice-Presidents
  - c) Auditors
  - d) Solicitors
5. Election of Committees as follows:
  - a) By Regional Representation:
    - i) Finance and General Purposes
    - ii) Emergency and Rules
    - iii) Clock, Ring and Weather Forecast and Liberation Sites
    - iv) British Homing World Management and Lib-Line
  - b) By Election:
    - i) The Reddings House
    - ii) Future of the Sport
    - iii) Stray Bird
    - iv) Olympiad
    - v) Performance-Enhancing Drugs
6. Election of Delegates to:
  - a) Federation Colombophile Internationale (One Delegate, One Reserve)
  - b) Standing Conference on Countryside Sports
7. Propositions

*(General Managers Note – for the purpose of clarity - the change between the old rule 48 and the proposed rule 48 is the addition of a comma after the word secretary). Please note that the existing rule is printed in italics, and the proposed rule is in plain print.*

### 7/1 WESTERN REGION PROPOSES

#### Delete RPRA Rule 2

2. In these rules the following words and expressions shall have the following respective meanings unless the context requires otherwise:

*'the Association'* means The Royal Pigeon Racing Association.

*'Club'* means any club or society all the members of which are individuals or partnerships of individuals and which is affiliated to the Association in accordance with Rule 17.

*'Group'* means any federation, amalgamation, combine or organisation all the members of which are Clubs or combinations of Clubs and which is affiliated to the Association in accordance with the provisions of Rule 17.

*'Council'* means the Council of the Association established under these Rules and *'Councillor'* means a member of the Council.

*'General Manager'* means the General Manager of the Association.

*'Individual Member'* means a member of the Association who has been admitted to membership by a Local Region Committee pursuant to Rule 15 and who is not a member of a Club.

*'Local Region'* means a division of the Association consisting of all members of the Association whose registered membership addresses lie within the boundaries of a geographical region specified by the Council pursuant to Rule 9 (a list of the boundaries of the current Local Regions is attached hereto as Appendix B).

*'Local Region Committee'* means the governing body of a Local Region.

*'National or Specialist Club'* means any club which does not organise a full race programme annually.

*'Occasional member'* is a member who takes part in a competition under an Open Race licence.

*'Organisation'* means any Club or Group.

#### and replace with

2. In these rules the following words and expressions shall have the following respective meanings unless the context requires otherwise:

*'The Association'* means The Royal Pigeon Racing Association.

*'Club'* means any Club or Society all the members of which are individuals or partnerships of individuals and which is affiliated to the Association in accordance with Rule 17.

*'Group'* means any Federation, Amalgamation, Combine or Organisation all the members of which are Clubs or combinations of Clubs and which is affiliated to the Association in accordance with the provisions of Rule 17.

*'Council'* means the Council of the Association established under these Rules and *'Councillor'* means a member of the Council.

*'General Manager'* means the General Manager of the Association. *'Individual Member'* means a member of the Association who has been admitted to membership by a Local Region Committee pursuant to Rule 15 and who is not a member of a Club.

*'Local Region'* means a division of the Association consisting of all members of the Association whose registered membership addresses lie within the boundaries of a geographical region specified by the Council pursuant to Rule 9 (a list of the boundaries of the current Local Regions is attached hereto as Appendix B).

*'Local Region Committee'* means the governing body of a Local Region.

*'National or Specialist Club'* means any club which does not organise a full race programme annually.

*'Occasional member'* is a member who takes part in a competition under an Open Race licence.

*'Organisation'* means any Club or Group.

Any individual or partnerships whom are members of a club or society, whom are affiliated members to a Federation and Amalgamation only, including those that are affiliated, via a Federation or Amalgamation to a Combine shall be deemed as individual or partnership members for the purpose of disputes, grievances, complaints or disciplinary matters ONLY.

### 7/2 WM REGION PROPOSE

#### Delete RPRA Rule 11

11. Each Local Region shall hold its annual general meeting at least 14 days prior to the last Friday in February in each year.

#### and replace with

11. Each Local Region shall hold its Annual General Meeting at least 14 days prior to the last Friday in October in each year.

### 7/3 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE. (C6886)

#### Delete RPRA Rule 24

24. Each Club shall pay an annual fee of £4.00 to the Local Region in which its headquarters is situated. The Annual fee must be paid before the last day of February. Any Club which fails to pay its annual fee of £4.00 by March 1st, shall in addition to such annual fee, pay a penalty of £10.00.

#### and replace with

24. Each Club shall pay an annual fee of £10 split 50% Region and 50% HQ to the Local Region in which its headquarters is situated. The Annual fee must be paid before the last day of February. Any Club which fails to pay its annual fee of £10 by March 1st, shall in addition to such annual fee, pay a penalty of £10.

#### **7/4 SOUTHERN REGION PROPOSE:**

##### **Delete Rule 24**

24. Each Club shall pay an annual fee of £4.00 to the Local Region in which its headquarters is situated. The Annual fee must be paid before the last day of February. Any Club which fails to pay its annual fee of £4.00 by March 1st, shall in addition to such annual fee, pay a penalty of £10.00.

##### **and replace with**

24. Each Club shall pay an annual fee of £5 to the Local Region in which its headquarters is situated. The Annual fee must be paid before the last day of February. Any Club which fails to pay its annual fee of £5 by March 1st, shall in addition to such annual fee, pay a penalty of £10.

#### **7/5 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE. (C6885)**

##### **Delete RPRA Rule 25**

25. Every Group shall pay an annual fee of £5.00 plus Value Added Tax (at the rate ruling at the date of payment) to the Association and shall send such fee to the General Manager not later than 1st April in each year. Together with payment of such fee, every Group shall send to the General Manager a list of the Clubs or combinations of Clubs which are members of the Group, the address of its headquarters and the name and address of the Group's President, Secretary and Convoyers (where applicable). Any Group which fails to pay its annual fee by 1st April in any year shall instead pay a fee of £7.00 plus Value Added Tax (at the rate ruling at the date of payment). The Association shall procure that payment of the said registration fee in any year entitles each Group to insurance cover against public liability at liberation sites in England, Scotland and Wales officially approved by the Association to a limit of £5,000,000 per insured event.

##### **and replace with**

25. Every Group shall pay an annual fee of £20 plus Value Added Tax (at the rate ruling at the date of payment) to the Association and shall send such fee to the General Manager not later than 1st April in each year. Together with payment of such fee, every Group shall send to the General Manager a list of the Clubs or combinations of Clubs which are members of the Group, the address of its headquarters and the name and address of the Group's President, Secretary and Convoyers (where

applicable). Any Group which fails to pay its annual fee by 1st April in any year shall instead pay a fee of £30 plus Value Added Tax (at the rate ruling at the date of payment). The Association shall procure that payment of the said registration fee in any year entitles each Group to insurance cover against public liability at liberation sites in England, Scotland and Wales officially approved by the Association to a limit of £5,000,000 per insured event.

#### **7/6 SOUTHERN REGION PROPOSE**

##### **Delete Rule 25**

25. Every Group shall pay an annual fee of £5.00 plus Value Added Tax (at the rate ruling at the date of payment) to the Association and shall send such fee to the General Manager not later than 1st April in each year. Together with payment of such fee, every Group shall send to the General Manager a list of the Clubs or combinations of Clubs which are members of the Group, the address of its headquarters and the name and address of the Group's President, Secretary and Convoyers (where applicable). Any Group which fails to pay its annual fee by 1st April in any year shall instead pay a fee of £7.00 plus Value Added Tax (at the rate ruling at the date of payment). The Association shall procure that payment of the said registration fee in any year entitles each Group to insurance cover against public liability at liberation sites in England, Scotland and Wales officially approved by the Association to a limit of £5,000,000 per insured event.

##### **and replace with**

25. Every Group shall pay  
(a) An annual fee of £10 including value added Tax (at the rate ruling at the date of payment) to the Association and shall send such fee to the General Manager not later than 1st April in each year.  
(b) And an annual subscription to the Group's Local Region of £5  
(c) Every Group shall send to the General Manager & Local Region, a list of the Clubs or combinations of Clubs which are members of the Group, the address of its headquarters and the name and address of the Group's President, Chairperson, Secretary and Convoyers (where applicable).  
Any Group which fails to pay its annual fee by 1st April in any year shall instead pay a fee of £20 plus Value Added Tax (at the rate ruling at the date of payment) to the Association and £10 to the Local Region.  
The Association shall procure that payment of the said registration fee in any year entitles each Group to insurance cover against public liability at liberation sites in England, Scotland and Wales officially approved by the Association to a limit of £5,000,000 per insured event.

#### **7/7 SOUTHERN REGION PROPOSE**

##### **Delete Rule 26**

26. The General Manager shall send the

information concerning each Group delivered to him to the Secretary of that Group's Local Region Committee.

#### **7/8 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE. (C6887)**

##### **Delete RPRA Rule 27**

27. Each Club (including any National or specialist Club) shall pay to the Secretary of its Local Region Committee:

(a) an annual subscription to the Association of £5.50 (inclusive of value added tax) for each member of the Club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Association through another Club;

(b) and an annual subscription to the Club's Local Region of £2.50 for every member of the Club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Local Region through another Club.

##### **and replace with**

27. Each Club (including any National or specialist Club) shall pay to the Secretary of its Local Region Committee:

(a) an annual subscription to the Association of £10 (inclusive of value added tax) for each member of the Club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Association through another Club;

(b) and an annual subscription to the Club's Local Region of £2.50 for every member of the Club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Local Region through another Club.

#### **7/9 SOUTHERN REGION PROPOSE**

##### **Delete Rule 27**

27. Each Club (including any National or specialist Club) shall pay to the Secretary of its Local Region Committee:

(a) an annual subscription to the Association of £5.50 (inclusive of value added tax) for each member of the Club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Association through another Club;

(b) and an annual subscription to the Club's Local Region of £2.50 for every member of the Club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Local Region through another Club.

##### **and replace with**

27. Each Club (including any National or Specialist Club) shall pay to the Secretary of its Local Region Committee:

(a) An annual subscription to the Association of £6.50 (inclusive of value added tax) for each member of the Club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Association through another Club;

(b) And an annual subscription to the Club's Local Region of £3.50 for every member of the Club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Local Region through another Club.

## **7/10 SOUTHERN REGION PROPOSE**

### **Delete rule 32**

**32.** *An Individual Member shall pay:*

*(a) An annual subscription of £6 to the Association and*

*(b) An annual subscription of £4 to his local region*

*Both shall be paid to the secretary of the local region not later than the first of March each year and are inclusive of VAT.*

*Individual members will only be entitled to the privileges and benefits of the Association when the fees for that year have been paid.*

*Individual members may apply from 1st November for their following year's membership.*

### **and replace with**

**32.** *An Individual Member shall pay*

*(a) An annual subscription of £5 to the Association and*

*(b) An annual subscription of £5 to his Local Region.*

*Both shall be paid to the secretary of the local region not later than the first of March each year and are inclusive of VAT.*

*Individual members will only be entitled to the privileges and benefits of the Association when the fees for that year have been paid.*

*Individual members may apply from 1st November for their following year's membership.*

## **7/11 WM REGION PROPOSE**

### **Delete RPRA Rule 39**

**39.** *The officers of the Association shall be a President and three Vice Presidents who shall be elected from delegates representing four different Local Regions at the annual general meeting of the Association and shall hold office for one year. Any officer shall be eligible for re-election provided that no officer shall hold the same office for more than three successive years. The conduct of the nominations for and election of officers shall be regulated by the Council.*

### **and replace with**

**39.** *The officers of the Association shall be a President and Vice President who shall be elected from delegates representing different Local Regions at the Annual General Meeting of the Association and shall hold office for one year. Any officer shall be eligible for re-election provided that no office for more than two successive years. The conduct of the nominations for and election of officers shall be regulated by the Council. Nominations to be sent to the General Manager 7 days prior to Annual General Meeting.*

## **7/12 WM REGION PROPOSE**

### **Delete RPRA Rule 42**

**42.** *Each Local Region with a membership*

*not exceeding 1,500 shall be entitled to appoint one Councillor. Each Local Region with a membership numbering not less than 1,501 and not more than 2,500 shall be entitled to appoint two Councillors and each Local Region with a membership numbering more than 2,500 shall be entitled to appoint three Councillors. Appointments of Councillors shall be made at the Annual General Meeting of each Local Region. Councillors will hold office from the date of the Annual General Meeting at which they are appointed until the conclusion of the next following Annual General Meeting of the Local Region and shall be eligible for re-election.*

### **and replace with**

**42.** *Each Local Region with a membership not exceeding 2,000 shall be entitled to appoint one Councillor. Each Local Region with a membership of more than 2,000 shall be entitled to appoint two Councillors. Appointments of Councillors shall be made at the Annual General Meeting of each Local Region. Councillors will hold office from the date of the Annual General Meeting at which they are appointed until the conclusion of the next following Annual General Meeting of the Local Region and shall be eligible for re-election.*

## **7/13 CUMBRIA REGION PROPOSE**

### **Delete RPRA rule 42**

**42.** *Each Local Region with a membership not exceeding 1,500 shall be entitled to appoint one Councillor. Each Local Region with a membership numbering not less than 1,501 and not more than 2,500 shall be entitled to appoint two Councillors and each Local Region with a membership numbering more than 2,500 shall be entitled to appoint three Councillors. Appointments of Councillors shall be made at the Annual General Meeting of each Local Region. Councillors will hold office from the date of the Annual General Meeting at which they are appointed until the conclusion of the next following Annual General Meeting of the Local Region and shall be eligible for re-election.*

### **and replace with**

**42.** *Each local region with a membership not exceeding 1750 shall be entitled to appoint one councillor. Each local region with a membership in excess of 1750 shall be entitled to appoint two councillors. Each local region with a membership in excess of 2500 shall be entitled to appoint 3 councillors. Appointments of councillors shall be made at the Annual General Meeting of the local region, they shall hold office until the next AGM of the local region and shall be eligible for re-election*

## **7/14 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE (C6881)**

### **Delete RPRA Rule 48**

**48.** *Any Local Region Committee acting*

*through its Secretary or a Councillor appointed by that Local Region may request the President to include any matter in the general business specified in any such notice but no such matter shall be so specified unless the General Manager has received such a request more than 21 days before the date upon which the meeting is due to be held in the case of any general meeting other than the annual general meeting and 42 days before the date on which the meeting is due to be held in the case of the annual general meeting (excluding in each case the date of the meeting and the date on which the request is received by the General Manager).*

### **and replace with**

**48.** *Any Local Region Committee acting through its Secretary, or a Councillor appointed by that Local Region may request the President to include any matter in the general business specified in any such notice but no such matter shall be so specified unless the General Manager has received such a request more than 21 days before the date upon which the meeting is due to be held in the case of any general meeting other than the annual general meeting and 42 days before the date on which the meeting is due to be held in the case of the annual general meeting (excluding in each case the date of the meeting and the date on which the request is received by the General Manager).*

## **7/15 WM REGION PROPOSE**

### **Delete RPRA Rule 49**

**49.** *An annual general meeting of the Council shall be held on the last Friday in February each year and other general meetings shall be held as often as may be required.*

### **and replace with**

**49.** *An Annual General Meeting of the Council shall be held on the last Friday in October each year and other General Meetings shall be held as often as may be required.*

## **7/16 WM REGION PROPOSE**

### **Delete RPRA Rule 52**

**52.** *The Council may form such Committees of Councillors as the Council may from time to time determine. The Council shall be empowered to delegate its authority to any such Committee either wholly or partly and whether or not subject to any conditions. The composition of any such Committee shall be a matter for the Council save that the Management Committee of the British Homing World shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Council and shall consist of the President, three Vice-Presidents, plus one councillor from each of the remaining Local Regions not already represented, plus the Editor for the time being of the British Homing World and the General Manager.*

and replace with

52. The Council may form such Committees of Councillors as the Council may from time to time require. The Council shall be empowered to delegate its authority to any such Committee either wholly or partly and whether or not subject to any conditions. The composition of any such Committee shall be a matter for the Council.

#### 7/17 SOUTHERN REGION PROPOSE

##### Delete Rule 142

142. The Council shall have power to make and alter Rules and regulations to cover any emergency. Such Rules or regulations may be made or altered at a general meeting or a special meeting and shall operate until rescinded by the Council or until the next annual general meeting at which the requisite publication of the proposed alteration of the Rules can be given, whichever is sooner.

#### 7/18 WM REGION PROPOSE

##### Delete RPRA Rule 144

144. A complete and up-to-date set of the Association's Rules shall be published as an editorial pull-out supplement in the British Homing World in each year not later than the first Saturday in May.

and replace with

144. A complete and up-to-date set of the Associations Rules shall be published as an editorial pull-out supplement in the British Homing World in each year not later than the first Saturday in February.

#### 7/19 LONDON REGION PROPOSE

##### Delete RPRA Rule 174

174. Should any member of an Organisation at 1st April in any year be in arrears for any sum owed to the Organisation the secretary of the Organisation shall send him a recorded delivery letter notifying him of the balance of his account in detail. The member shall be debited with the postal charges incurred and shall be notified that unless a remittance is received or the debt disputed within 21 days he will be suspended by the Organisation and reported to the Local Region. The suspension shall be noted in the Organisation's minute book prior to the notification being sent to the Local Region.

and replace with

174. Should any member of an Organisation at 1st March in any year be in arrears for any sum owed to the Organisation the secretary of the Organisation shall send him a recorded delivery letter notifying him of the balance of his account in detail. The member shall be debited with the postal charges incurred

and shall be notified that unless a remittance is received or the debt disputed within 21 days he will be suspended by the Organisation and reported to the Local Region. The suspension shall be noted in the Organisation's minute book prior to the notification being sent to the Local Region.

#### 7/20 WESTERN REGION PROPOSES

##### Delete RPRA Rule 207 in its entirety.

207. Where a member has more than one clock set he/she must clearly label them Number One ((1) Clock, etc., before they will be accepted for setting. Birds may be timed in to more than one clock but the times of the Number Two or subsequent clocks will not be acceptable unless the Number One Clock stops or goes wrong, except in respect of birds timed in subsequent to the Number One Clock having been sent for checking.

#### 7/21 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE. (C6882)

##### Delete RPRA Rule 241

241. The positioning of the ETS sensors/ antennae will not be allowed on any landing boards or other external surfaces in such a way that when the loft is closed no electronic chip ring may be recorded by the Electronic Timing System installed. Club Officials may make random checks at any time. Contravention of this rule will result in disciplinary action under Rule 70(a).

and replace with

241. The positioning of the ETS sensors/ antennae will not be allowed on any landing board or external surface in such a way that when the trap is open no electronic chip ring may be recorded by the Electronic Timing System installed. Club Officials may make random checks at any time. Contravention of this rule will result in disciplinary action under Rule 70(a).

#### 7/22 LONDON REGION PROPOSE

##### New Rule:

Any RPRA expenditure in excess of £10,000 must be referred to the local region committees for discussion and mandating of their councillors. Emergency expenditure in excess of £10,000 must be approved by a minimum of nine councillors from nine different regions at an emergency council meeting.

#### 7/23 LONDON REGION PROPOSE

##### New Rule:

That any new rule or alteration of an existing rule must have accompanying explanation as to why the new rule is required or the existing rule needs to be altered. This text to be as brief as possible and not exceed 100 words.

#### 7/24 WESTERN REGION PROPOSES

##### New Rule:

All RPRA propositions submitted to Local Regions by clubs shall state the name of the club, if passed by the Local Region committee then forwarded to the RPRA the Club name and Region will be on the RPRA Annual General Meeting agenda.

#### 7/25 WM REGION PROPOSE

##### New Rule:

All RPRA, Annual General Meeting propositions will be voted on by the members in a ballot. Voting will take place at a meeting of the Club where each member pays his/her RPRA subscriptions. The Clubs will be supplied with a voting form from the Local Region secretary where the Club is affiliated to the RPRA. The Club secretary will fill in the details (Name of Club, how many members have paid RPRA, subscriptions to that club, whether in the Local Region or another) and the voting for or against the proposition/s and signed and dated, also signed by another official. (President or Chairman) Then return to Local Region secretary.

#### 7/26 WM REGION PROPOSE

##### New Rule:

The Management Committee of the British Homing World shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Council and shall consist of the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Editor, plus four Councillors. All nominations to be sent to the General Manager, 7 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

#### 7/27 WM REGION PROPOSE

##### New Rule:

An Executive committee shall be appointed by and from the Council and be answerable to the same. The committee shall be elected each year by ballot by the incoming Councillors at the Annual General Meeting and the members shall remain in office until their successors are elected. The committee will consist of President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, plus four Councillors. All nominations to be sent to the General Manager, 7 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

#### 7/28 CUMBRIA REGION PROPOSE

##### New Rule:

The Council of the Association shall appoint annually an appeals committee consisting of one member from each Region, five to form a quorum. The current President to be the chairman, in his absence, the committee will elect a Chairman from the floor. Appeal meetings to be held at the discretion of the current President.