

THE ROYAL PIGEON RACING ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

The 123rd Annual General Meeting of the Royal Pigeon Racing Association will be held at the Novotel Hotel, Long Eaton, Nottingham on Friday, 22nd February 2019, 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 2018
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
 - b) By Election:
 - i) The Reddings House
 - ii) Future of the Sport
 - iii) Olympiad
 - iv) Performance-Enhancing Drugs
6. Election of Delegates to:
 - a) Federation Colombophile Internationale (One Delegate, One Reserve)
 - b) Standing Conference on Countryside Sports
 - c) Confederation
 - d) Pigeon Racing UK & Eire (Raptor Alliance).
7. Propositions

Please note that the existing rule is printed in italics/bold, and the proposed rule is in plain/bold print.

Explanations for rule changes are highlighted in Red.

7/1 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE

Insert New Rule 13b

The Chief Executive Officer can, after approval by the Council Officers, refer any matter needing an urgent decision to the RPRA Council via a round robin or emails.

The reason for this rule is to allow decisions to be made in a timely manner and avoid having to wait for a meeting of Council. It will assist in taking advantage of opportunities when they arrive as well as mitigating any risks.

7/2 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 24

Each Club shall pay an annual fee of £10 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.

Replace with

Each Club shall pay an annual fee of £10 to the Local Region in which its headquarters is situated. The annual fee must be paid before the **last day of January**. Any Club which fails to pay its annual fee of £10 by **that day**, shall in addition to such annual fee, **pay a surcharge of £10**

The reason for this rule change is moving fees payment dates forward.

7/3 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 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 Chief Executive not later than 1st April in each year. Together with payment of such fee, every Group shall send to the Chief Executive 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.

Replace with

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 Chief Executive not later than **1st March** in each year. Together with payment of such fee, every Group shall send to the Chief Executive 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 March** in any year shall instead pay a fee of £10.00 plus value added tax (at the rate ruling at the time of payment). The Association shall procure that payment of 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.

The reason for this rule change is to encourage fees to be paid on time.

7/4 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Insert New Rule 26

Only RPRA affiliated members allowed on sites, should any such Organisation allow a non-affiliated RPRA member onto such sites it will, after investigation by the Local Region Committee be dealt with under the

appropriate RPRA Rules by the Local Region to which that Organisation is affiliated.

The reason for this new rule is non-affiliated persons on transporters cannot be sanctioned under our Rules hence the Organisation must ensure all persons on transporters as licenced.

7/5 DERBYSHIRE AND SOUTH YORKSHIRE REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 27

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

(a) an annual subscription to the Association of £7 (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 for every member of the club except any member who has paid his annual subscription to the Local Region through another club.

Replace with

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

(a) an annual subscription to the Association £7 (inclusive of VAT) for each member of the Club except any member who has paid their annual subscription through another Club.

(b) and an annual subscription to the Clubs Local Region of £3 for every member of the Club except any member who has paid their annual subscription to the Local Region through another Club.

(c) all Junior members under the age of 18 who are members of a Club will pay an annual subscription to the Association of £3 (inclusive of VAT) except any Junior member that has paid their subscription to the Association through another Club. and an annual subscription of £2 (inclusive of VAT) to the Clubs Local Region except any junior member that has paid their subscription to the Local Region through another Club.

The reason for this additional Rule is to try and encourage younger people to join the RPRA.

7/6 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 29

Each Club shall pay the said annual subscriptions to the Association and the Club's Local Region prior to 1st March in each year and together with such payment shall send to the Secretary of the Club's Local Region Committee a list

showing the names and addresses of all the members of the Club. If an individual becomes a member of Club after 1st March in any year, that Club shall provide to the Secretary of the Club's Local Region Committee the name and address of such individual and shall pay the annual Association subscription and the annual Local Region subscription in respect of such individual unless he has already paid his Local Region subscription through another Club.

Replace with

Each Club shall pay the said annual subscription to the Association and the Club's Local Region by no later than the **last day of January** in each year and together with such payment shall send to the Club's Local Region Committee a list showing the names and addresses of all its members of the Club. If an individual **or individuals** become a member of the Club **after the last day of January** in any year, that Club shall provide to the Secretary of the Club's Local Region Committee the name and address of such **individual/s** and shall pay the annual Association subscription and the annual Local Region subscription in respect of such **individual/s** unless **he/she** has already paid **his/her** Local Region subscription through another Club.

The reason for this rule change is bringing fee payment dates forward and gender recognition.

7/7 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 31

If any Club shall fail to pay the due annual Association subscription and the due annual Local Region subscription for any member by 1st March in any year, that Club shall pay to the Secretary of its Local Region Committee an additional £0.50 per member in respect of whom either the annual Association subscription or the annual Local Region subscription has not been paid when such subscription is paid. Such surcharges of £0.50 shall become the property of the Club's Local Region.

Replace with

If any Club shall fail to pay the due annual Association subscription and the due annual Local Region subscription for any member by the **last day of January** in any year, that Club shall pay to the Secretary of its Local Region Committee **(by way of a surcharge)** an additional £1.00 per member in respect of whom either the annual Association subscription or the Local Region subscription has not been paid when such subscription is paid. Such **surcharges** of £1.00 shall become the property of the Club's Local Region.

The reason for this rule change is to encourage Clubs to pay fees on time.

7/8 DERBYSHIRE AND SOUTH YORKSHIRE REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 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.

Replace with

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.

(c) An individual Junior member under the age of 18 will pay to the Association an annual subscription of £3.

(d) an individual Junior member under the age of 18 will pay to their Local Region an annual subscription of £2.

All individual subscriptions shall be paid to the Secretary of the Local Region not later than 1st 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 the following years membership.

The reason for this additional Rule is to encourage younger people to join the RPRA.

7/9 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 35

Prior to 30th April in each year, the Secretary of each Local Region Committee shall send to the Chief Executive all annual Association subscriptions received by him, together with a list of the Clubs which have paid their annual affiliation fee to the relevant Local Region, giving the names and addresses of the Secretaries of all such Clubs. Within four weeks after 30th April the Chief Executive shall notify any Local Region Committee Secretary who has failed to send all annual Association subscriptions to the Chief Executive by 30th April.

Replace with

Prior to the **last day of March** in each year, the Secretary of each Local Region Committee shall send to the Chief Executive all annual Association

subscriptions received by **him/her**, together with a list of the Club's which have paid their annual affiliation fee to the relevant Local Region, giving the names and addresses of the secretaries of all such Club's. Within four (4) weeks after the last day of March the Chief Executive shall notify any Local Region Committee Secretary who has failed to send all annual Association subscriptions to the Chief Executive by the last day of March. **The reason for this rule change is moving fee payment dates forward and gender recognition.**

7/10 NORTH EAST REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 38

The ultimate control of the affairs of the Association shall be exercised by the Council in general meetings provided that the Council may in its absolute discretion seek a vote from all members of the Association on any matter or resolution. If the Council determines to put a matter or resolution to the vote of all members of the Association, the Council shall specify the matter or resolution to be put to members and shall provide voting forms to the Secretary of each Local Region Committee but the Local Region Committee shall administer the taking of such vote and shall bear any costs and postage associated therewith. The Council shall determine the date by which any such vote shall be taken and shall specify such date to the Secretary of each Local Region Committee. In the event that a straight majority of members of the Association vote for or against any matter or resolution put to the vote in this manner, the Council shall be obliged to take the necessary actions to give effect to that vote. In all other cases, the Council shall not be obliged to comply with the view expressed by the majority of votes cast on any such matter or resolution but shall take such votes into account in the Council's deliberations.

Replace with

The ultimate control of the affairs of the Association shall be exercised by the Council in general meetings provided that the Council may in its absolute discretion seek a vote from all members of the Association on any matter or resolution. If the Council determines to put **matter(s)** or **resolution(s)** to the vote of all members of the Association, the Council shall specify the **matter(s)** or **resolution(s)** to be put to members and **shall identify a method of on-line voting which will provide each member with one vote on each resolution.** The Council shall determine the publicity given to such method and the date by which any such vote shall be concluded. In the event that a straight majority of members of the Association vote for or against any matter or

resolution put to the vote in this manner, the Council shall be obliged to take the necessary action to give effect to that vote. In all other cases the Council shall not be obliged to comply with the view expressed by the majority of votes cast on any such matter or resolution but shall take such votes into account in the Council's deliberations.

Although this rule has never been used, converting to an on-line method of voting would make it more useable and allow for the development of a secure on-line voting system for future use.

7/11 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE

Delete Rule 40

The Chief Executive shall be appointed upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Council shall consider appropriate. A Councillor shall not be eligible for the office of Chief Executive while holding office as a Councillor. It shall be the duty of the Chief Executive to attend all Committee and Council meetings of the Association and to record and keep the minutes thereof. All money paid to the Chief Executive, either as remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in respect of the business of the Association, shall be included in the accounts of the Association.

Replace with

The Chief Executive shall be appointed upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Council shall consider appropriate. A Councillor shall not be eligible for the office of Chief Executive while holding office as a Councillor. It shall be the duty of the Chief Executive to attend Committee and Council meetings of the Association and **to ensure a record of the minutes are taken.** All money paid to the Chief Executive, either as remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in respect of the business of the Association, shall be included in the accounts of the Association.

The reason for this rule change is to allow the CEO to take more part in meeting by removing the necessity for him/her to take the minutes

7/12 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE

Delete Rule 71

Disputes, complaints and grievances between members on matters connected with the sport or between members and an Organisation to which they may belong including appeals, against any decision of such Organisation, shall be heard and determined as laid down by these rules by the Local Region within whose limits the person or Organisation involved in the

dispute resides or is established. Any Local Region may expel or suspend a member from the Association in any of the circumstances specified in the immediately preceding Rule whether or not any Organisation of which the member in question is a member takes any action against him. The procedure to be adopted by a local Region in any matter which may lead to the expulsion or suspension of a member shall be the same as that which an Organisation is obliged to adopt.

Replace with

Disputes, complaints and grievances between members **belonging to different organisations** on matters connected with the sport or between members and an Organisation to which they may belong including appeals against any decision of such Organisation, shall be heard and determined as laid down by these rules by the Local Region within whose limits the person or Organisation involved in the dispute resides or is established. Any Local Region may expel or suspend a member from the Association in any of the circumstances specified in the immediately preceding Rule whether or not any Organisation of which the member in question is a member takes any action against him. The procedure to be adopted by a local Region in any matter which may lead to the expulsion or suspension of a member shall be the same as that which an Organisation is obliged to adopt.

The reason for the proposed change is to correct a grammatical error but also to clarify the rule relates to disputes between members of different organisations.

7/13 NORTH EAST REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 75

During the period of expulsion or suspension any member expelled or suspended shall cease to be a member of the Association and shall not be permitted to attend any meeting held under the Rules of

*the Association except that he may be invited to attend a Local Region or Council meeting when applying to have a suspension lifted but for that item on the agenda only. No address, loft or ring belonging to or registered in the name of an expelled or suspended member shall be recognised by the Association during the period of expulsion or suspension. It shall, however, be within the right of any member other than an expelled or suspended member at any time to apply for the 'freeing' of any such ineligible address, loft or ring and the Local Region Committee may grant such a request. **The decision of the Local Region Committee shall be final.***

Replace with

During the period of expulsion or suspension any member expelled or suspended shall cease to be a member of the Association and shall not be permitted to attend any meeting held under the Rules of the Association except that they may be invited to attend a Local Region or Council meeting when applying to have a suspension lifted but for that item on the agenda only. No address, loft or ring belonging to or registered in the name of an expelled or suspended member shall be recognised by the Association during the period of expulsion or suspension. It shall, however, be within the right of any member other than an expelled or suspended member at any time to apply for the 'freeing' of any such ineligible address, loft or ring and the Local Region Committee may grant such a request.

To provide a level of appeal and guard against possible local bias.

7/14 NORTH EAST REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 76

*Upon the expulsion or suspension of any Organisation all its members shall cease to be members of the Association. A member of any suspended Organisation may apply to a Local Region Committee to continue to be a member of the Association by membership of another Organisation or by becoming an Individual Member. Such application shall be by letter addressed to the Secretary of the Local Region Committee. The decision of the Local Region Committee on any such application may be given without holding any formal enquiry or hearing any evidence **and shall be final.***

Replace with

Upon the expulsion or suspension of any organisation all its members shall cease to be members of the Association. A member of any suspended Organisation may apply to a Local Region Committee to continue to be a member of the Association by membership of another Organisation or by becoming an Individual Member. Such application shall be by letter addressed to the Secretary of the Local Region Committee. The decision of the Local Region Committee on any such application may be given without holding any formal enquiry or hearing any evidence.

To provide a level of appeal and guard against possible local bias.

7/15 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE

Delete Rule 100

100. All clubs and organisations must nominate a ring secretary to be included in the ring distribution list. This ring

secretary is responsible for the reporting of strays unless special dispensation has been granted by the Council of the Association. Before 1st June in each year the Chief Executive shall draw up a list of rings issued to Clubs/Organisations prior to 31st March in that year. The list shall include the name and address and, where possible, telephone number of each club/organisation's ring secretary and shall be made available for publication in two of the newspapers devoted to the racing and showing of homing pigeons circulating nationally in the United Kingdom.

The reason is changes to the general Data Protection regulations.

7/16 CUMBRIA REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 102

On change of ownership of any bird carrying a ring issued by the Association, the former owner shall forthwith sign and deliver to the new owner a transfer form, supplies of which may be obtained (incurring postal charges only) from the Chief Executive. Such transfer form must be sent to the Chief

Executive for registration in Association records within 14 days after the change of ownership. The Association will send notification of such transfer within 14 days after a receipt of a duly completed transfer form enclosing a replacement transfer form to each party. There is a charge for the process of transfers, which includes postage. This cost can be found in the current price list.

Replace with

On change of ownership of any bird carrying a ring issued by the association, the former owner shall **either forthwith sign & deliver a transfer form to the new owner or agree to transfer the bird by electronic means. In either event the original owner shall have 7 days to object to the proposed transfer. The cost of this process will be found in the current price list.**

This new rule allows Electronic Transfers.

7/17 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE

Insert New Rule 124B (Current Rule 124 to become 124A)

Applications for convoyers licences after the last day of March a licence fee shall be charged of £20 of which £8 will be retained by the local region and £12 (inclusive of VAT) to be forwarded to the Chief Executive.

7/18 CUMBRIA REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 134

Exhibitors may judge at shows at which

they are exhibiting providing the following rules are observed. All exhibits to be penned before the selected judges are informed of the class/classes they have been nominated to judge. The exhibits of the judge in the class/classes he/she has been nominated to judge will be withdrawn. All stewards to be provided by the show organisers. No contact or conversation will be permitted between judges while judging is in progress. On completion of judging of his/her class the judge will be required to leave the hall immediately until all judging is completed. Any violation of the above rules will result in the offending judge being withdrawn along with all his/her exhibits.

Replace with

Exhibitors may not be able to judge and show at a show which they are exhibiting.

This new rule means that someone who judges at a show may not exhibit at the same show.

7/19 WELSH REGION PROPOSE

Delete existing Rule 139(b)

These Rules may be altered by the Council at any annual general meeting provided not less than 28 days notice of the proposed alteration has been given to the secretary of each Local Region Committee and advertised in any two papers devoted to the sport of racing or showing homing pigeons circulating nationally in the United Kingdom.

Replace with

These rules may be altered based on a majority vote of individual members, one member one vote all of whom must have paid a fee for the current year. Voting shall be facilitated through the provision of ballot papers published on the RPRA website, social media and in the British Homing World Journal at least 21 days before the voting deadline. An online electronic voting system may also be provided. For the purpose of this rule an individual member will be defined as those individuals who are members of clubs/organisations as well as the definition of individuals within rule 2. The collation of votes will be administered at the RPRA HQ and it will be the responsibility of the RPRA Chief Executive to ensure that a fully auditable trail is maintained for scrutiny for at least 6 months after voting. The cost of postage (ballot papers) will be incurred by each individual member.

To provide an opportunity for every member of the Association to have a say in the direction, governance and rules of the Association as opposed to the current governance structure that requires club delegates to attend region meetings. A small percentage is

engaged in the current process. The recent member's consultation exercise proves that a larger percentage of members will engage in this process as opposed to the regional structure. Please note this proposition does not remove the requirement of the Regions and only proposes to amend how rules are adopted and/or changed and reflect the outcome of the recent member's consultation.

7/20 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE

Delete Rule 139B

These Rules may be altered by the Council at any annual general meeting provided that not less than 28 days notice of the proposed alteration has been given to the Secretary of each Local Region Committee and advertised in any two papers devoted to the sport of racing or showing homing pigeons circulating nationally in the United Kingdom.

Replace with

These Rules may be altered by the Council at any annual general meeting provided that not less than 28 days notice of the proposed alteration has been given to the Secretary of each Local Region Committee **and advertised in the British Homing World.**

The reason for this proposal is to reduce the cost of advertisement

7/21 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 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.

Replace with

Should any member of an Organisation by the last day of January in any year be in arrears for any sum owed to the Organisation, the Secretary of the Organisation shall send **him/her** a recorded delivery letter notifying **him/her** of the balance of **his/her** account in detail **plus any surcharge the Organisation deem appropriate. The member or**

members 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/she** will be suspended by the Organisation and reported to the Local Region. The suspension shall be notified in the Organisations minute book prior to the notification being sent to the Local Region.

The reason for this rule change is moving fee payment dates forward plus penalty for lax payments by members plus to avoid getting into the racing season and members still not paid fees, also gender recognition.

7/22 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 177

No Organisation or official of an Organisation shall destroy or permit to be destroyed any books, maps, race results, dials, ring lists, distance sheets or other important documents without the prior permission of the members of the Organisation at an annual general meeting. On the appointment of a new secretary to an Organisation, the Organisation must ensure that all such documents are transferred to his custody.

Replace with

No Organisation or official of an Organisation shall destroy or permit to be destroyed any books, maps, race results, dials, ring lists, distance sheet or other important documents without the prior permission of the members of the Organisation at an annual general meeting. On the appointment of a new Secretary to an Organisation, the Organisation must ensure that all such documents are transferred to **his/her** custody.

The reason for this rule change is gender recognition.

7/23 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 181

The Organisation shall have a minute book in which the secretary of the Organisation shall record the date, time and place of all meetings, the chairman's name, the names of members present, the text of resolutions with the names of proposers and seconders and whether carried or defeated. The chairman and secretary shall sign all the minutes after confirmation as a true record at the next meeting of the Organisation except the minutes of an annual general meeting which, if agreed as a true record, shall be confirmed and signed at the next annual general meeting.

Replace with

The Organisation shall have a minute book in which the Secretary of the Organisation shall record the date, time and place of all meetings, the chair person's name, the names of the members present, the text of resolutions with the names of proposers and seconders and whether carried or defeated **and the numbers for or against the proposition.** The chair person and Secretary shall sign all the minutes after confirmation as a true record at next meeting of the Organisation except the minutes of an annual general meeting which, if agreed as a true record, shall be confirmed and signed at the next annual general meeting.

The reason for this rule change is to record accurately the number of votes cast equate to the number of members present plus the margins for or against the propositions.

7/24 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 183

At least once every three years an Organisation shall publish up-to-date copies of its Rules and issue these to each of its members unless no changes have been made to its Rules during that period. New members must be furnished with an up-to date copy of the Rules of an Organisation upon joining the Organisation.

Replace with

At least every **two (2) years** an Organisation shall publish up-to-date copies of its constitutional Rules and issue them to each of its members. New members must be furnished with an up-to-date copy of the Rules of the Organisation upon joining **the** Organisation.

The reason for this rule change is set of rules more frequently to try to ensure members are more conversant with the organisation rules.

7/25 WEST MIDLAND REGION PROPOSE

Insert New Rule 184

On request by the Local Region Secretary, all such Club constitutional Rules will be communicated to the Local Region Secretary for perusal to ensure they comply with RPRA Rules.

The reason for this new rule is to prevent lax administration due to a possible request for a copy of constitutional rules from Local Region to which they are affiliated.

7/26 NORTH EAST REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 233.

The necessary hardware and software for the organisation's administration of ETS must be held under lock and key at the organization or other approved premises, to be accessed by a minimum of two officials. The operation of the hardware and software is only permitted by authorised members who have been elected by the organisation.

This rule is unnecessary and is not upheld in its entirety by many clubs.

7/27 NORTH EAST REGION PROPOSE

Delete Rule 235

a) *Electronic rings must be allocated to the ring numbers of the member's pigeons by two elected officials a minimum of 7 days prior to the use of the ETS. Allocation on marking nights will only be permitted due to a defect or loss of an electronic ring.*

b) *Should a member present a bird for allocation of rings prior to the start of or during old bird or young bird racing and the electronic ring indicates another member's loft number/details, then proof of ownership of the ring must be supplied before assigning the ring to the member's bird. If proof of ownership cannot be furnished by the member then action may be taken under rules 169/70.*

c) *Additional ETS Zeroes – the leading zeroes that are automatically added by ETS systems are acceptable.*

Replace with

a) *Electronic rings must be allocated to the ring numbers of the member's pigeons a minimum of 7 days prior to the use of the ETS. Allocation on marking nights will only be permitted due to a defect or loss of an electronic ring.*

b) *Should a member present a bird for allocation of rings prior to the start of or during old bird or young bird racing and the electronic ring indicates another member's loft number/details, then proof of ownership of the ring must be supplied before assigning the ring to the member's bird. If proof of ownership cannot be furnished by the member then action may be taken under rules 169/70.*

c) *Additional ETS Zeroes – the leading zeroes that are automatically added by ETS systems are acceptable.*

Some models of ETS allow members to allocate their own rings and this is happening regularly. The rule needs to reflect reality.

7/28 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE

Delete current Rule 235A

a) *Electronic rings must be allocated to*

the ring numbers of the member's pigeons by two elected officials a minimum of 7 days prior to the use of the ETS. Allocation on marking nights will only be permitted due to a defect or loss of an electronic ring.

b) *Should a member present a bird for allocation of rings prior to the start of or during old bird or young bird racing and the electronic ring indicates another member's loft number/details, then proof of ownership of the ring must be supplied before assigning the ring to the member's bird. If proof of ownership cannot be furnished by the member then action may be taken under rules 169/70.*

c) *Additional ETS Zeroes – the leading zeroes that are automatically added by ETS systems are acceptable.*

Replace with

a) **All** *electronic rings must be allocated to the life ring number of the members pigeons in the organisation premises or other approved premises by two elected officials a minimum of 7 days prior to use of the ETS. Allocation on race marking night will only be permitted due to a defect or loss of an electronic ring.*

b) *Should a member present a bird for allocation of rings prior to the start of or during old bird or young bird racing and the electronic ring indicates another member's loft number/details, then proof of ownership of the ring must be supplied before assigning the ring to the member's bird. If proof of ownership cannot be furnished by the member then action may be taken under rules 169/70.*

c) *Additional ETS Zeroes – the leading zeroes that are automatically added by ETS systems are acceptable.*

The reason for the rule change is to enhance race security.

7/29 COUNCIL OF THE RPRA PROPOSE

Delete Vaccination Code of Practice

VACCINATION CODE OF PRACTICE

(1) *Racing pigeons entered in races or shows must be vaccinated annually against paramyxovirus with an authorised vaccine.*

<http://www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/ProductInformationDatabase/>

(2) *A vaccination certificate containing the details of the vaccination must be used.*

(3) *Vaccination of pigeons must be witnessed by two independent association/union members, or a veterinary surgeon who will be required to sign the vaccination certificate on the front and likewise after the last pigeonlisted on the reverse of the form.*

(4) *The vaccination certificate should have recorded on it the make of vaccine used and the batch number of the vaccine.*

(5) *The original copy of the certificate*

should be retained by the club and a certified true copy lodged with any other club (if a member is in more than one club). These certificates should be retained for two years.

(6) *Members entering racing pigeons in races or shows will be required to certify on their race/show entry form that the pigeons have been vaccinated against paramyxovirus with an authorised vaccine.*

(7) *Club secretaries will require to certify to their conveying organisations that all pigeons entered have been vaccinated against paramyxovirus with an authorised vaccine.*

(8) *The driver of the transporter should be furnished with a certificate certifying that all pigeons carried have been vaccinated against paramyxovirus with an authorised vaccine.*

Replace with

VACCINATION CODE OF PRACTICE

(1) *Racing pigeons entered in races, sales or shows must be vaccinated annually against paramyxovirus with an authorised vaccine.*

<http://www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/ProductInformationDatabase/>

(2) *A vaccination certificate containing the details of the vaccination must be used.*

(3) *Vaccination of pigeons must be witnessed by two independent association/union members, or a veterinary surgeon who will be required to sign the vaccination certificate on the front and likewise after the last pigeonlisted on the reverse of the form.*

(4) *The vaccination certificate should have recorded on it the make of vaccine used and the batch number of the vaccine.*

(5) *The original copy of the certificate should be retained by the club and a certified true copy lodged with any other club (if a member is in more than one club). These certificates should be retained for two years.*

(6) *Members entering racing pigeons in races or shows will be required to certify on their race/show entry form that the pigeons have been vaccinated against paramyxovirus with an authorised vaccine.*

(7) *Club secretaries will require to certify to their conveying organisations that all pigeons entered have been vaccinated against paramyxovirus with an authorised vaccine.*

(8) *The driver of the transporter should be furnished with a certificate certifying that all pigeons carried have been vaccinated against paramyxovirus with an authorised vaccine.*

The reason for this proposal is to provide clarity in respect of sales and vaccination.