



Minutes

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSE,

CLOCKS, RINGS & WEATHER

COMMITTEE MEETING

15th December 2025 (via Zoom)

ROYAL PIGEON RACING ASSOCIATION

Finance & General-Purpose, Clocks, Rings & Weather Committee MINUTES

MINUTES of the Finance and General-Purpose, Clocks, Rings & Weather Committee meeting held on 15th December 2025 at 8pm (via Zoom).

1. **Roll Call** - C O'Hare-IR (President), L Blacklock-CA, D Headon-DC, S Reed-DY, J Dodd-EM, A Williams-LN, D Higgins-NE, P Murray-NW, R Harris-SO, S Beardmore-WE. W Lewis-WM, P Whale-WM

In attendance: C Sutton-CEO (Chair)

2. **Apologies for absence** - S Collishaw-EM, G Cockshott-NE, H Jackson-NE, T Gardner-WS
3. **Declarations of interest** – none declared
4. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – 11.12.2025** – Due to the timespan between meetings the minutes of the last meeting were not available in time for this meeting.
5. **Matters arising** - none
6. **NWHU/RPRA Agreement**

As directed by Council minute **C.7871** a meeting was held on the 19th of November 2025 with the NWHU organisation to endeavor to resolve differences between unions.

In attendance representing the RPRA: Cormac O'Hare (President), Phil Murray (Vice President), Jon Dodd (Vice President) and Chris Sutton (CEO).

Representing the NWHU: Terry Phifer (President), Rob Owen (Vice President), Jim Frost (Vice President) and Ken Owen (Secretary).

A positive and frank discussion took place which resulted in an agreement in principle to four points:

- The RPRA will once again recognise the NWHU once NWHU Rule 2, part (ii), is rescinded at the AGM on 13th December 2025.
- Once the NWHU reverts to the boundaries set out in NWHU Rule 2 (i), the RPRA will support the NWHU in its application to the Confederation of Long-Distance Racing Pigeon Unions of Great Britain and Ireland.
- The NWHU will seek confirmation, via the relevant RPRA Regional Office, that all

outstanding fees owed to the RPRA have been paid before accepting any new member.

- The RPRA will remove the requirement for NWHU rings to be registered with the RPRA.

Proposed by SO, seconded by LN, with 10 votes for: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NW/SO/WE/WM1; 2 votes against: NE/WM2 and 0 abstentions, that:

C.7883 Rescind the minute C. 7844 to derecognise the NWHU

Proposed by SO, seconded by NW, with 10 votes for: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NW/SO/WE/WM1; 2 votes against: NE/WM2 and 0 abstentions, that:

C.7884 To withdraw the requirement to register NWHU rings with head office.

Proposed by SO, seconded by DC, with 10 votes for: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NW/SO/WE/WM1; 2 votes against: NE/WM2 and 0 abstentions, that:

C.7885 To assist the NWHU in their application to join the Confederation of Long-Distance Racing Pigeons.

The following statement to be jointly distributed:

RPRA and NWHU Reach Agreement

Joint Statement from the Royal Pigeon Racing Association and the North West Homing Union

The Royal Pigeon Racing Association (RPRA) and the North West Homing Union (NWHU) are pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached following constructive and positive discussions between the two organisations.

The RPRA would like to thank the NWHU officials for hosting the meeting and for the warm welcome extended. Discussions were frank, open, and productive, and both parties are pleased that a compromise was reached on the issues raised.

The following actions were agreed:

- The NWHU revised its rules to rescind Rule 2 part (ii)
- The Council of the Royal Pigeon Racing Association has rescinded the previous minute to derecognise the North West Homing Union.
- The requirement for RPRA members to register NWHU rings has been removed.
- The RPRA will assist the NWHU in its application to join the Confederation of Long-Distance Racing Pigeon Unions of Great Britain and Ireland, marking an important step forward in strengthening cooperation and unity within the sport.
- The NWHU will seek confirmation, via the relevant RPRA Regional Office, that all outstanding fees owed to the RPRA have been paid before accepting any

new member.

- Both organisations are committed to working together in a spirit of mutual respect, open communication, and collaboration, with the shared aim of supporting members and safeguarding the future of pigeon racing.

7. Propositions from Council clarification

Rule 108 to be deleted and replaced with:

108. The Secretary of any RPRA Organisation may obtain verification of the ownership of any RPRA association ring on a bird using the free online verification tool on the RPRA website. Any RPRA Organisation or non-RPRA Organisation may request verification of ownership by paying to the Chief Executive a fee of £1 per ring (inclusive of value added tax).

Rule 106 to be deleted and replaced with:

106. (a) In the event of dissolution or termination of a partnership, alterations of the registered owner's name will be made upon payment of a fee of £5.00 per partner (inclusive of value added tax), provided that the succeeding owner is resident at the registered address of the former partnership. Proof of dissolution or termination to a partnership shall be furnished to the Chief Executive and all of the partners in the ex partnership must sign the Association's standard form. Should it not be possible to obtain the signatures of all the former partners for any reason, a covering letter explaining the circumstances must be forwarded to the Secretary of the relevant Local Region Committee who, after investigation, may give permission for the partnership to be dissolved. All rings on pigeons removed from or to an address other than that at which the owner of such rings is registered must be transferred by means of submission of the standard ring transfer form.

106. (b) Upon dissolution or termination of a partnership whereby the loft reverts to a single member loft, the loft name shall be changed from the partnership loft name to the full name of the remaining member.

106. (c) Upon dissolution or termination of a partnership whereby the loft has one paid member and one or more deceased and exempt members remaining on the partnership, the loft name may remain as the partnership name.

8. Clock approval – Unikon

The FCI approved Unikon Race ETS system was accepted with an RPRA official to be trained in its use at Blackpool.

9. Invitations

a. FCF National Day 23-24 January 2026 at Saint-Omer

Subject to his agreement Mr T Gardner to attend the French National celebration day on the 23rd and 24th of January 2026.

10. Any other business

The CEO to measure the crates in the RPRA Geraldy trailer and take further photographs for a valuation by Geraldy. Once this has been received it will be advertised as offers over their valuation.

Meeting closed: 21:30