

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS.

The Executive Officers of the VHA have cancelled all racing for the remainder of 2011.

They do so under Rule 6h "The Executive Officers shall have the power to alter or vary the race schedule or stage should the necessity arise."

The DPI has closed NSW, Sth Aust and Tasmania. They have also made it quite clear that we should not loft fly our birds, toss, race or similar.

We had hoped that the outbreak would diminish but this is not the case. New cases have been diagnosed within our boundary and so it is time to make this difficult decision for the safety of our birds, the sport and our own enjoyment.

There will be obvious follow on problems but these can be dealt with, but the paramyxovirus is our absolute priority at this time.

May I ask all of you with electronic access to please notify any members of your club, not having email connection, regarding this announcement.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT:

WE DO NOT LOFT FLY OUR BIRDS

WE DO NOT CONDUCT RACES.

WE DO NOT TOSS OUR BIRDS.

Extra precautions around your loft are also important. Don't allow any doves, or wild birds, access to feed or your birds' drinking water or bath.

Preferably, don't visit each others lofts. Don't swap birds. Be very vigilant and report any unexpected pigeon deaths to Colin Walker. The DPI will test your birds free of charge. Remember, if your birds do contract this disease it is not your fault! The fault lies with the original source over which we have no control.

You might know someone who does not belong to any federation or club but has a few birds at home for their enjoyment. Please inform them of the risks and of Colin's phone number which is 9764 9000.

Thank you everyone.

Neil Machar