

Zivko (Curley) Maricic - Cobar Open Winner - SA06 17137 BCH

Zivko (Curly) Maricic - SA06 17137 BCH - Cobar - 20 09 2008

Curly started his racing with the Riverside club in 1972 and was there for 10 years. During this period he won four Pt Adelaide Assoc races from Ceduna, Nundroo, Eucla and Little Topar. He then moved to Kilburn (his current address) and became a member of the North Suburban Club. He loves his pigeons and pigeon racing and recalls with pride winning North Suburban points twice, winning the 'Gold Band' race in 1990 in the Hampstead group (in those days with 80 pigeons) and being a regular top 15 SAHPA points winner.



This year he has won 1st SAHPA Cobar, 28th & 29th SAHPA Marla, 22nd Coober Pedy (with a hen that had flown Marla two weeks before) and 14th & 35th Nyngan (the 35th Nyngan had also flown Cobar two weeks before).

SA06 17137 BCH had 3 club races in 2007 and was clocked 0630pm in the dark from the Little Topar SAD, plus 2 club races in 2008 then clocked 1st SAHPA Cobar on the Sunday morning.

Curly uses 40 pairs of breeders, and looks to have around 150/180 race birds for the start of the season (this includes 30/40 from previous years). He culls to get down to these numbers.



The breeding of the winning bird is Pryor/Maricic - the sire being all J Pryor and had won 8th SAHPA Emmdale. The dam is Pryor/Maricic and was put into stock by Curly. He has around 25 pairs of birds based on J Pryor stock and 15 pairs of his original Harrison/Jurion which he obtained from Stuart Gregerson.

Birds are weaned into a separate loft and after a few flights by themselves are moved in with older birds. Cocks and hens are separated when weaned, and he races cocks and hens from separate lofts.

The loft is cleaned twice a day as he hand feeds on the floor, and provides a mainly pea diet with a little wheat and maize. A small seed mix is used as for trapping. Race birds are provided with a light am feed but the pm feed is as much as the birds want. Race birds are initially loft trained before a tossing programme which goes to about 100kms before the first race. He uses medication only once the birds go in race baskets. His drug of choice is Sulphadim available from feed merchants. The breeding is done from birds put aside for stock, and he breeds off older birds for stock, and younger birds for racing.