

SAHPA JUNIORS 2017

The 2017 SAHPA Junior Competition kicked off on 15th July this year, slightly down on previous years due to our interrupted season from Rotavirus. We still had six members registered five from previous years and newcomer Lucas Yang. Points were awarded for 5 to 1 for each race for the Doug Searle Shield.

Congratulations to all Juniors and to Henry Tetley in winning his 3rd consecutive Doug Searle Shield.

Hawker No. 1: 1 - Fawcett Kids. 2. – EJ Smyth. 3 – Hugh Mahney, 4 – Henry Tetley. 5 – Max Smyth.

Bookaloo: 1 – Fawcett Kids. 2 – Henry Tetley. 3 – Hugh Mahney.

Lyndhurst YBC – 1 – Henry Tetley. 2 – Hugh Mahney. 3- Fawcett Kids. 4- Lucas Yang.

Lyndhurst Open: 1- Henry Tetley. 2 – Lucas Yang.

The Twins: 1 – Fawcett Kids. 2 – Hugh Mahney. 3 – Henry Tetley. 4- EJ Smyth. 5 – Lucas Yang.

Points Score: 1. Henry Tetley (19). 2. Fawcett Kids (18). 3. Hugh Mahney (14). 4. Lucas Yang (7). 5. EJ Smyth (6). 6. Max Smyth (1).

Feeding and Watering – report from Tony Perkins

One day race.

The water trays are filled before the birds are loaded at the Association hall, many birds drink after the trip from their Clubs. The water is emptied just before the transporter departs for the race destination. Arrival is around 1, 2 or 3 am. Water is again added before sunrise race day and removed a half hour before release. No feeding occurs on these races. The fan forced air and climate control air into the baskets is on all the time but only activates when the temperature reaches over 15 degrees.

Two day races.

The water trays are filled before the birds are loaded at the Association hall and emptied just before the transporter departs for the race destination. The transporter generally drives for around 5 hours then stops for rest. Water is added before sunrise allowing about 1 hour for drinking. Depending on the length of the race the birds may receive a light feed. When reaching race point the birds will be fed for two hours then receive water until release the next day. The air and fans are on all the time but only activates when the temperature reaches over 15 degrees. If the temperature is extreme which has only happened once the pop up roof vents are opened.

At the race point the truck is parked facing the east to ensure the direct sunlight does not shine on either side of the transporter. The roller doors are opened just before sunrise and closed just after sunset, except in the case of extreme heat or rain.

Extra food and water is always carried in the event of a hold over.

I treat these birds as if they are my own going to great lengths to get them to eat and drink. I talk and whistle to them often, I use a broom on the outside of the transporter to move the birds closer to the food and water. I roll the doors up and down as some birds rush to the outside thinking they are being released which allows other birds to get closer to the trays. Each time I water them I hold the hose high so they can see and hear the water.

Good luck to all in the coming season.