

Jim Marafiote

SAHPA Champion Flyer 2017

**4th YBC SA16 19408 bbh. 12th SAD SA16 19409 bbh
1st Twins SA16 19494 bbh. 17th Twins 5-B SA15 04344 bbh
5th MG1 Aust15 13316 bbh. 4th CP SA16 17680 bbh
5th Mt. W1 SA15 04359 bgh. 4th Mt W2 SA15 04359 bgh**

Plus other points earned



Jim Marafiote was the 2017 SAHPA Champion Flyer, it was the fourth time Jim has won the SAHPA Aggregate points. Interesting to note that he has also finished 2nd in the points on six occasions. Just goes to show how consistent Jim has been over many years and from three different addresses.

John Hofman collated the aggregate points between 1980 and 1989 and published that Jim Marafiote was the SAHPA flyer of the decade.

Jim started racing at the age of 12 years in the very strong North West club which included Fin Fraser and Bill Walford. After he got married to Frances he flew from Para Vista for 18 years in the Vitesse club and won his first SAHPA aggregate when there were over 500 members in the SAHPA. Also ran second on a couple of occasions. He then moved to Hahndorf in the

Hills which is a very difficult loft position and managed to run second in the points both times to John Pryor.

Since moving to Walkerville only a few kilometres north of the Adelaide city centre and retiring, he has won the Aggregate points three more times.

Jim has a family of pigeons which he has developed that can be placed from both lines of flight and in all types of conditions. A testament to this, he won The Twins Open (629 km) 1814 birds, which was a very fast race (2483 m/m 149 km/hr), clocking 1st, 2nd and 3rd. He was also was the second loft from Mt Gambier-1 with a velocity of 1274 m/m and 1168 birds. From Mt Willoughby-I (88 7kms north 1257 birds), a tough race, he was placed 5th with a velocity of 956 m/m 57 km/hr, then the second Mt Willoughby II (1005 birds) was even tougher and his loft was placed 4th. velocity of 891m/m 53.4 km/hr.

Nothing surer, Jim will be around the mark again next season!

Jim has served on the SAHPA Committee on multiple occasions and is passionate about keeping the sport enjoyable and keeping members. He has concerns about the costs rising as memberships decline.