

17/7/2018.

RE: Victorian Bird Sales and implementation of the Declared Bird Organisation System

The Vic. *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (DAA) amendments including supporting regulations passed into law on April 10th 2018. Our bird club exemption from the entire DAA remains in force so there is time during 2018 for Victorian clubs to comply with the new Declared Bird Organisation system.

To be clear - the purpose of the new Declared Bird Organisation system is to simply identify bird club events where birds may be traded legally. It is not to regulate these events. Events that are not run by a Declared Bird Organisation are illegal (unless they go through the whole animal sale permit rigmarole). The Minister read into Hansard words to the effect "**The central purpose of the declared bird organisation system is to simplify identification of illegal trading outside of legitimate bird club events, not to further regulate bird club events.**" This needs to be made clear to all clubs and all members - we are avoiding regulation NOT being regulated.

Both department officers and those in the Minister's office have worked with us (VAC and CCBFA and others) behind the scenes to edit the forms designed to implement the Declared Bird Organisation system. All edits we recommended have been incorporated into the forms to our satisfaction - great process!

There are two forms which can be downloaded from <http://animalwelfare.vic.gov.au/> together with Fact Sheets.

1. **Application to Minister to be a Declared Bird Organisation** (Form 5 - Declared Bird Letter to the Minister). This specific form MUST be used. This is a one-off application/approval process to ensure each club is in fact a legitimate bird club. Most clubs will already have the documentation required on this form, however it may need updating to ensure it directly addresses s.58T of the DAA (refer page 111 of the DAA). If this is of concern to your club(s) please let us know and CCBFA will gladly assist to ensure there are no unintended issues.
2. **Notification of bird sales to Secretary** (Form 6 - Bird Sales Letter to the Secretary.docx). This form can be used or you can include the information in some other format that better suits your needs. I imagine most clubs would essentially submit their calendar of events to the Secretary early each year. Changes, additions and edits can be made throughout the year as required. Include all events where birds could possibly be traded - shows, competitions, even meetings and social events where members may simply exchange birds with friends. List the lot.

The Pets and Animal Welfare unit have offered to provide bird clubs with a presentation on the new requirements. If this is something that interests your club or if you have further questions, please contact the team via pet.welfare@ecodev.vic.gov.au. This may be of interest to representative groups, rather than individual clubs - nevertheless worth considering.

We are also in dialogue with Animal Welfare Victoria over the Animal Welfare Action Plan (AWAP) including lobbying for representation on the AWAP "Collaborative Group".

Regards,

Sam Davis

President – Canary and Caged Bird Federation of Australia Inc.

E: president@ccbfa.org.au