

5/5/2020

Hi affiliated clubs and friends,

CCBFA May 2020 President Reports

Please note that our May 6th 2020 CCBFA meeting has been cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. We will run the July 1st meeting online with details to follow prior to the meeting date.

Reports on issues of relevance to your members follow. Please forward to your executive and members.

1. COVID-19 Update

To our knowledge all in-person club events and meetings have been cancelled. Our recommendation to do so up until 14/6/2020 remains in place -

<https://www.ccbfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/ccbfa-corona-recommendation.pdf>

At this time, it is unclear whether government advice will require restrictions to be extended. We will notify clubs immediately should the situation change. Thanks to all clubs for their prompt response to this situation.

Our club network is vital to the social well-being of many of our members, so continuing communication via newsletters and internet technologies is encouraged. It is terrific to see a range of clubs now running or intending to run meetings and other events over the internet using video conferencing and other technologies.

Our May 6th 2020 meeting has been cancelled. We will run our July 1st CCBFA meeting online using Zoom. Meeting details including a link to the meeting will be emailed to all clubs for use by their CCBFA delegate. An internet enabled computer with camera/microphone is best, however a smart phone works almost as well.

2. Victorian Animal Welfare legislation review

On 20/4/2020 I met via video conference with senior policy staff to discuss general directions for the Victorian review of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 (POCTAA). Representatives from the Budgerigar Council of Victoria (BCV) also attended.

I did not receive a response to my 26/2/2020 email to the VAC and ASA, therefore prior to the 20/4/2020 meeting I rang VAC President Mark Godwill. The VAC was unaware of the meeting but through their President, expressed a desire to remain informed of any outcomes.

My synopsis of the 20/4/2020 meeting approved by government policy staff is on the CCBFA website - <https://www.ccbfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Vic-Animal-Welfare-200420-Meeting-Synopsis.pdf>

3. NSW Native Animal Licensing Update.

On March 17th 2020 ACA President Michael Donnelly and I met with Minister Matt Kean's office. The delay implementing the reforms was vigorously discussed followed by further discussion afterwards with NPWS Director of Conservation Richard Kingswood.

After somewhat heated negotiations, we now have a video conference scheduled for May 8th 2020 with the head of NPWS Atticus Fleming. We aim to progress the licencing reform implementation directly through the Minister's office as internal licensing staff appear uncooperative at best.

4. Review of NSW Bird Sale Code of Practice

We will postpone review of the NSW bird sale code until our July 1st 2020 meeting, which will likely be a video conference. Given interest in the matter from many affiliates in rural areas, regardless of COVID-19 restrictions, a video conference is likely the best way to progress the consultation.

In the interim, thoughts and input welcomed from all clubs. Thanks to those who have already commented.

A few points on this matter...

- There is NO way the ABA should submit anything to the NSW DPI whatsoever. I have made this clear to the ABA and I believe they agree.
- The ABA commenced reviewing the code some years ago and have completed some preliminary work. I spoke with ABA president Craig Jeffrey at the Orange Bird Sale who offered to send CCBFA the ABA draft. This has not been received; it is CCBFA intention for this draft to inform the process.
- The current code was formulated by the ABA with CCBFA input and final ratification. The only recent 2019 change was the clause regarding insurance which CCBFA altered in its version dated 2019 and recently distributed to all clubs as part of this review process. The current version is on our website - <https://www.ccbfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/NSW-Bird-Sale-CODE-OF-PRACTICE-CCBFA-2019.pdf>
- CCBFA will most certainly be continuing to consult all clubs as the bird sale code is reviewed including the ABA. There will likely be a number of drafts and redrafts required to reach consensus with a final version unlikely until towards the end of 2020 hoping for implementation in 2021.

Kind regards,



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Community-based animal groups ARE the animal welfare experts.

The real animal welfare experts are the hundreds of community-based animal groups, along with the veterinary profession and of course farmers. All these groups have been animal welfare educators and advocates for hundreds of years. Animal welfare is central to our day-to-day existence, it is what we do, and our expertise is specialised and professional.
