



**Exhibition Poultry Association of NSW Inc.
Secretary's Report for the Year Ending 30 June 2026**

It is with pleasure that I present the Secretary's Report for the Exhibition Poultry Association of NSW Inc. for the year ending 30 June 2026.

The past year has again demonstrated the continued strength, enthusiasm and commitment within the exhibition poultry community throughout NSW. The Association has continued to support affiliated clubs, individual members, judges and exhibitors, while encouraging sound governance, appropriate conduct and the development of our poultry exhibition community.

During the year, the Association was pleased to welcome a number of clubs to the EPA family. I extend a warm welcome to the following newly formed clubs:

- Yass Valley Poultry Club
- Japanese Bantam Club of NSW
- Sussex Club of NSW

It is particularly encouraging to see new specialist and regional clubs being established. Their formation contributes to the future of exhibition poultry in NSW, creates further opportunities for members and junior exhibitors, and broadens the representation of breeds and interests within our Association.

We also welcome established clubs that have taken up membership and insurance with the EPA during the year:

- Australorp Club of Australia
- Australian National Pekin Club

The decision by these clubs to affiliate with the EPA and obtain insurance through the Association is valued and appreciated. Their involvement further strengthens our collective voice and supports the ongoing provision of services to clubs and members across the State.

The EPANSW extends its sincere thanks to the Executive of the Penrith Poultry Club for its generous donation of \$600.00 following the winding up of the Club.

Penrith Poultry Club has been a long-standing member of the EPANSW and a respected stalwart of the poultry fancy. Its closure is a sad loss for the exhibition poultry community, and many members will hold fond memories of the shows, friendships and time shared through the Club.

Throughout the year, correspondence was received from affiliate clubs and EPA individual members on a range of matters. The majority of enquiries related to:

- Club and individual membership
- Public-liability insurance
- Provisional judges' reports and judging administration

The Association remains committed to assisting clubs and members where possible, providing information, maintaining records and supporting appropriate administration across the exhibition poultry community.

The year also saw an increase in correspondence concerning conduct at shows, including concerns relating to exhibitors, judges and spectators. More concerning, however, has been the increase in complaints regarding the operation and internal affairs of individual clubs.

I remind the executive committees and members of all affiliated clubs of the importance of maintaining respectful, proper and professional conduct at all times. Clubs must ensure that their affairs are conducted in accordance with their own constitution, the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act*, the *Associations Incorporation Regulation*, and the applicable dispute-resolution procedures.

Where a disagreement or complaint arises within a club, the appropriate first step is for the matter to be managed through the club's own established grievance and dispute-resolution process. This should be done fairly, respectfully, confidentially where appropriate, and in accordance with the club's constitution. The EPA may be able to provide general guidance; however, it cannot replace the responsibility of a club committee to manage its own affairs lawfully and appropriately.

The Association continues to receive and process provisional judges' reports and related judging correspondence such as Judges continued membership and registration. The work undertaken by provisional judges, mentors, judges' registrars and clubs in supporting competent judging is greatly appreciated.

It is important to note that the EPA cannot address concerns regarding judges who have been appointed by clubs but are not registered in NSW or in the judge's home State or Territory. For this reason, clubs are strongly encouraged to engage judges who are appropriately registered in NSW or through the relevant judging body in their home State. Using registered judges promotes confidence in show outcomes, supports recognised training and assessment processes, and ensures that any genuine concerns can be directed through the proper channels.

The EPA has also received an encouraging proposal to establish a Youth Program, developed through the enthusiasm and initiative of several young provisional judges, together with experienced exhibitors. While the programme is still in its developmental stages, it is extremely pleasing to see the next generation of exhibitors and judges contributing such thoughtful and promising ideas for the future of exhibition poultry. We look forward to sharing further details as the proposal progresses—so please watch this space.

I also wish to remind clubs of an important insurance matter. The EPA insurance policy provides **public-liability insurance**. It does not provide coverage for accidents, incidents or liability arising from the consumption of alcohol.

Alcohol should not be consumed inside a club shed or pavilion unless the club holds the appropriate licence and is complying with all applicable legal requirements. Alcohol should certainly not be consumed in front of junior exhibitors or junior attendees during the operation of a show.

Clubs have a responsibility to provide a safe, family-friendly and professional environment for exhibitors, volunteers, visitors and particularly our junior members. Appropriate management of alcohol at shows is an important part of meeting that responsibility and protecting the reputation of the exhibition poultry community.

I thank the executive, committee members, affiliated clubs, individual members, judges, provisional judges, exhibitors and volunteers for their ongoing commitment to the Exhibition Poultry Association of NSW.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Fagan

Secretary

August 30, 2026