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Dear BCSA Member,

As you may be aware, the BCSA and its affiliated Clubs (BSSA, Mt Gambier, NEBS and Port Pirie) have been working on a status movement proposal since late 2009. Under the current system, Novice exhibitors are automatically elevated to Intermediate status after 6 years unless the Novice wins a Major Award in this time frame. Intermediate exhibitors are automatically elevated to Open status after a further 4 years, unless they have won 2 Major Awards. The proposal has now been endorsed by the Clubs and is to commence from 9th May 2010 removing the compulsory time promotion currently in play.

This means that every member will show at their competitive level always, and when their birds are consistently winning and will be competitive at a higher level, they will then and only then be promoted to the higher status. Too often at shows we hear the complaint from members in Intermediate and even Open status that they don't show because their birds are simply not competitive. These members are longer term members who have been promoted over time, are slowly but steadily improving their quality of bird, but are continuously competing on an uneven playing field. No longer will this be allowed to happen.

Please take the time to read the document attached which outlines the process. Some of the really important points to take note of are:

Item 4: Exhibitors will only be able to achieve a higher status by showing birds they have bred themselves. The hobby has many stories of Novice members who purchase a quality bird, show that bird, win a Major Award and find themselves in Intermediate status the following year. Thankfully this will no longer happen.

Item 9: The opportunity will now exist for Open and Intermediate exhibitors to request to return to Intermediate or Novice status, respectively, if they are currently uncompetitive in the Open or Intermediate sections.

Item 11: This contains the current point allocation to achieve promotion from Novice to Intermediate, and then from Intermediate to Open Status.

Item 15: The "3 year" rule was discussed at length at BCSA, and the Council felt it was appropriate for only points accumulated over the last 3 years to be considered for promotion to a higher status. Hopefully this will provide a good "snapshot" of the quality of birds a member currently has, and will ensure they are competitive at the next level.

Item 16: Each year the process will be formally reviewed and hopefully recommended improvements from the past year will be implemented to make the system better for the year ahead. As you will see from the document, three topics have already been selected for review this year, and this can be added to at any time by the affiliate Clubs at BCSA meetings. Members who have ideas for improvement should forward these via their affiliated Club.

So what needs to happen now?????

*All members of the BCSA should read and take the time to understand the process and the structure contained within the document.

*Any Open or Intermediate exhibitor who would like to move to another status needs to contact their affiliated Club and have their request forwarded to the BCSA.

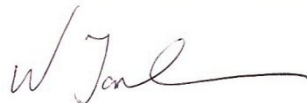
*Any Novice or Intermediate member who is approaching automatic promotion under the old time based system can still have this granted if they wish, by contacting their affiliated Club who will forward their request to the BCSA.

*Any member who has questions, ideas, thoughts or any comments at all, please speak to your Club delegates who will present your comments to the BCSA.

*Go out and clean those show cages, as under this new system, members will be able to show at just about every show in South Australia to gain the points needed, which should be a massive boost for the hobby in this state.

It all starts on May 9th 2010 with the Pt Pirie Breeders Show - birds with red rings only.

Regards



Nigel Tonkin
President, BCSA