

# NATIONAL TWITCHATHON OFFICIAL RESULTS 2016

Congratulations to everyone who competed in this year's Twitchathon across Australia! The state coordinators have been processing payments and results for some time now, and while donations are still open, we can announce the final results of this year's event.

To determine national winners in the 24 hour and 12 hour events, an algorithm was developed that accounted for the total bird lists of each state, and produced a weighted score out of 100 for each team's total.

## 24 hour Twitchathon Race

**1st:** 89.6 - Dodgy Drongos (NSW), recorded 244 species;  
**2nd:** 86.3 - Hunter Home Brewers (NSW), recorded 233 species;  
**3rd:** 83.6 - Southern Emu-wrenches (TAS), recorded 117 species.

## 12 hour Champagne Race

**1st:** 88.9 - Roebuck Ruffians (WA), recorded 160 species;  
**2nd:** 88.4 - Phaps around the Traps (VIC), recorded 168 species;  
**3rd:** 84.3 - Raven On (NSW), recorded 177 species.

## Birdathon

**1st:** 115 - Cheerful Drongoes (NSW);  
**2nd:** 112 - Barwon Catbirds (VIC);  
**3rd:** 86 - Australian Spotted Cakes (WA).

## Junior

While a number of teams throughout the three events this year were partially comprised of junior competitors (such as the Australian Spotted Cakes from WA, with two team members being 12 years old), many teams were exclusively made up of junior birdwatchers, and as such qualified for the junior categories. All such teams scored impressive tallies, and certainly make the future of Australian birdwatching look bright!

We would like to specifically congratulate the **Sawtell Babblers (NSW)**, who topped the Under 16 Junior Category (in actual fact, they came 4th overall in the Birdathon) with a score of 82! The Under 10 Junior Category was taken out by the **Cantankerous Kits (NSW)**, who scored 56 in the Birdathon - another phenomenal effort!

An extra special mention must also go out to two Under 10 Victorian teams - the **KookKay Brothers**, and the **Barking Owlets**, both of whom raised close to \$1000 in sponsorship - a stellar effort of which they should be extremely proud, probably having trumped most of the adult teams in the fundraising aspect of Twitchathon, and setting a fine example for birdwatchers everywhere, both young and old.

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Over the rest of Australia, the online portal alone has so far raised more than \$25,000 for bird conservation, with more donations still to come in many states who are getting cheques processed at BirdLife offices. Once the final donation tallies have come through early next year, we will be able to announce the top fundraisers, who will win the major prize generously donated by Swarovski Optik.

All prizes will be awarded early next year, including those donated by our other sponsors: The Binocular and Telescope Shop (NSW), Boobook Mountain Cottage (NSW), the Australian Reptile Park (NSW), and Andrew Isles Natural History Books (VIC).

Next year, the National Twitchathon will be held in all states and territories on the 28th/29th of October, which is the weekend before the Australasian BirdFair. Please contact [twitchathon.aus@gmail.com](mailto:twitchathon.aus@gmail.com) if you wish to be placed on the mailing list for upcoming details (any team who participated this year should already be on their state mailing list)

And a final reminder, if you were planning to donate to a team, or still have donations that need to be sent to BirdLife, please do so as soon as possible. We would like to finalise the prizes by mid January, so donations received after the 20th January 2017 will not be attributed to a specific team, and will just go into the fundraising pool.

Thanks once again to all competitors and donors who helped make this year such a success. We hope that everybody enjoyed themselves, and are already planning how to twitch even more birds in the New Year! A special thank you also to our fantastic team of coordinators and BirdLife office staff, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes all year to bring Australia's first truly national twitchathon to fruition.

Best regards,  
Ashwin Rudder and Joshua Bergmark, on behalf of all coordinators

## TWITCHATHON WEIGHTINGS AND STATE BREAKDOWN

### 24 HOUR

|     |                         |     |
|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| 242 | DODGY DRONGOS           | NSW |
| 233 | HUNTER HOME BREWERS     | NSW |
| 215 | BACK O' BOURKE BUZZARDS | NSW |
| 117 | SOUTHERN EMU-WRENCHES   | TAS |
| 180 | 007: SILVEREYE          | QLD |
| 179 | WING DINGS              | QLD |
| 112 | GLADSTONE GALAHS        | QLD |
| 157 | THOSE BINOCULAR BOYS    | VIC |
| 114 | THE BARKING OWLETS      | VIC |
| N/A | N/A                     | WA  |
| N/A | N/A                     | SA  |
| N/A | N/A                     | NT  |

### 12 HOUR

|     |                           |            |
|-----|---------------------------|------------|
| 123 | LAKESIDE LORIKEETS        | SA         |
| 116 | GANG GANG GANG            | SA         |
| 89  | BLACK SPARROWS            | SA         |
| 177 | RAVEN ON                  | NSW        |
| 140 | LOUSY JACKS               | NSW        |
| 131 | NAGY MAGGIES              | NSW        |
| 87  | BATTY BABBLERS            | NT (ALICE) |
| 75  | MASTER TWITCHERS          | NT (ALICE) |
| 57  | EAGLES ROCK               | NT (ALICE) |
| 98  | HAS BINS                  | TAS        |
| 137 | SPARE ME A DOLLAR BIRD    | QLD        |
| 118 | COURTING BOWERBIRDS - 118 | QLD        |
| 105 | FUNKY FAIRYWRENS          | QLD        |
| 160 | ROEBUCK RUFFIANS          | WA         |
| 149 | THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK   | WA         |
| 138 | SwaMPY HARRIERS           | WA         |
| 168 | PHAPS AROUND THE TRAPS    | VIC        |
| 159 | MANKY SHEARWATERS         | VIC        |
| 119 | NORWEGIAN BLUES           | VIC        |

### 24 HOUR RACE WEIGHTINGS

QLD 2.8  
NSW 2.7  
VIC 2.3  
TAS 1.4

### 12 HOUR RACE WEIGHTINGS

NSW & QLD 2.1  
VIC & SA 1.9  
WA 1.8  
NT 1.4  
TAS 1.3

**To find your own team weighting, simply divide any total score by the relevant weighting number. The complex algorithm to produce these weightings was systematically and methodically worked out by Dan Williams (NSW), based off previous Twitchathon scores, atlas data, and sub-regional classifications – thank you Dan!**

Cheers,

Joshua Bergmark & Ashwin Rudder (National Coordinators)

