

ECC Meeting Minutes – 03/05/05  
**EAST COURSE COMBINE MEETING**  
**Saturday March 5, 2005 (Location: Sandberg Middle School)**

ECC President John Godinez called the meeting to order at 15:23.

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

1. Bonita
2. Freeway
3. La Puente

4. San Gabriel Valley
5. Santa Anita

Absent:

1. Pomona
2. Palm Springs

**MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING:** John Godinez read the meeting minutes from the 02/19/05 meeting. Upon completion, Charlie Cathel made it aware that an omission of tabling the bylaw/race rules was made at that meeting and not recorded. John stated that he would add that to the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes with the one addition was made by Charlie Cathel with a second from Lolo Ramirez and the motion passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Kathy Bagu read the financial report. Kathy reported a balance of \$3,861.28 in the combine account as of 03/05/05. The report is as follows:

Balance from 02/05/05	\$3577.28
Deposits to be made	\$1840.00
Expenses:	
C. Ettensperger (Trailer Storage)	\$ 100.00
Sam Quinonez (Crates)	\$1440.00
Bank Charge (February)	<u>\$ 16.00</u>
Balance in Account:	\$3861.28

A motion to accept the financial report was made by Sonny Cangiarella with a second from Ron Whitmer. The motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**RACE RULES AND BYLAWS:**

John Godinez asked all the clubs if the proposed amendments to the race rule/bylaws had been taken back to each club and discussed. All clubs present were ready to vote on the proposed amendments. In regards to the proposed amendments to the ECC Bylaws the clubs voted as follows: BON – No, FWY – Yes, SA – Yes, LAP – Yes, SGV – Yes. The motion to update the ECC bylaws to the proposed amendments made by the committee passed. In regards to the proposed amendments to the ECC race rules the clubs voted as follows: BON – No, FWY – Yes, SA – Yes, LAP – Yes, SGV – Yes. The motion to update the ECC race rules to the proposed amendments made by the committee passed. Kristin Swift-Ramirez stated that she would have the bylaws and race rules updated sometime this week and have them to Sonny to post on the website. Hard copies will be provided at the next combine meeting.

**SHIPPING COSTS:**

Charlie Ettensberger brought up an issue in regards to the increase in the race fee to \$225 discussed and voted on at the last meeting. Sonny clarified that the race fee was increased by \$25 to cover the cost of paying Sam Quinones back for crates. Sonny further explained that the \$25 was an assessment fee that was going to be charged to all ECC members. The members not flying 2005 Old Birds would have to pay the \$25 assessment fee at the time of 2005 Young Birds season start. Sonny Cangiarella made a motion to amend the last meeting minutes to clarify this. Charlie Cathel seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**RACE SECRETARY:**

Sony Cangiarella stated that he had put together an ECC Conveyor's Guide Book which contains all of the duties, contacts, race station information, crate sheets, shipping location, etc. This book will be given to Brian Crossen for the 2005 Old Bird Season. Sonny wanted to let everyone know that the release spot for the Aguila station is going to permanently be at the airport Urban used. The existing spot is hard to get into, especially after bad weather, and the airport agreed to let us use their location, which is private and better suited for the release. Sonny stated that since there were no volunteers from the comine,

someone would have to be hired to haul the trailer to Sonny's shop for the necessary work to be done before the 2005 Old Bird season starts.

**ECC DUES:**

The ECC dues were due on February 1<sup>st</sup> and are now considered delinquent. The following clubs have paid dues: BON – No, FWY – Yes, POM – waiting on 2 members, LAP – Yes, SA – Yes, PS – No, SGV – Yes. Shipping dues of \$225/team is also due before the first race and so far SA is paid. All dues must be paid before the first shipping or that member may not participate.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**TRIAL TOSS:**

Charlie Ettensberger made a motion to fly the Old Bird season as stated, but used the first drop as a trial toss not a race and then fly a race on Easter weekend. He stated that there had been mistakes made before with a new conveyor and thought this could serve as training for our current conveyor to avoid any mistakes. Kathy Bagu made a second on this motion and when taken to a vote there was a majority No vote and the motion did not pass.

**GPS COORDINATES FOR NEW MEMBERS:**

Steve Whitmer brought up an issue in regards to clubs getting GPS coordinates for new members. Currently no one is really in charge and the responsibility seems to have found its way to Sonny who just doesn't have the time or want to do this. Sonny Cangiarella made a motion that the responsibility of obtaining GPS coordinates for new members should belong to each club's Race Secretary. The combine has a GPS that they would be willing to loan out to do this if needed. Lolo Ramirez made the second and the motion passed unanimously. Sonny handed out GPS coordinate sheets to the representatives for each club. Sonny wants to include this for the ECC Race Secretary notebook.

**TRAINERS:**

Kathy Bagu asked if it was going to be possible to put trainers on the race truck to be released after the race release. Sonny stated that he had not discussed this with the conveyor yet and would talk with him and inform the combine by email as soon as he had an answer.

**BOOTH AT PET EXPO:**

Kristin Swift-Ramirez brought up an issue brought to her by Barry Bowman. The AU had contacted Barry in regards to a booth being set up at the LA County Fair Grounds for a pet expo. The cost of the booth is \$100 and the AU suggested having 2 booths. They would cover 50% of booth cost and supply literature for us. The volunteers would have to man the booths for several days and possibly do a bird release. Barry would pass on the contact information if there seemed to be an interest from the ECC. There seemed to be some interest from the ECC committee but Sonny stated that we need more information before we could really commit. What was the date of the show, how many days would we have to man the booth, etc. Kristin said she would contact Barry again with this information. No volunteers were received at this time.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**

The next meeting for the ECC was set for April 2nd, 2005 at 3:00pm. The location of the meeting will be at the Sandberg Middle School. John Godinez stated that as this date approaches, if there seems to be nothing new to discuss at the Combine level, that this meeting will be cancelled until something comes up that needs to be discussed. Please contact John Godinez with any topics or issues your clubs feel need to be discussed at the Combine level.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kathy Bagu with a second by Lolo Ramirez. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at approximately 16:30.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kristin Swift-Ramirez/ECC Recording Secretary