

ECC Meeting Minutes – 06/12/05  
**EAST COURSE COMBINE MEETING**  
**Sunday June 12, 2005 (Location: Sandberg Middle School)**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

1. Bonita
2. Freeway
3. La Puente
4. San Gabriel Valley

Absent:

1. Pomona
2. Palm Springs
3. Santa Anita

**MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING:** Kristin Swift-Ramirez read the meeting minutes from the 05/15/05 meeting. Kristin made the Combine aware that she had made a typo error in regards to the new 2005 Young Bird race schedule. She marked Wickenburg as a one day race and should have stated that Mesa was going to be a one day race. The correction was noted and Kathy Bagu made a motion to accept the minutes with a second from Ron Whitmer and the motion passed unanimously.

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

John took this time to thank all the Board Officers and Club Representatives for all their hard work and support over the past year.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Kathy Bagu read the financial report. Kathy reported a balance of \$4,055.63 in the combine account as of 06/12/05. The report is as follows:

Balance from 05/15/05	\$4325.79
Expenses:	
Battery Harness & Locking Screws	\$ 204.16
Bank Charge (May)	\$ 16.00
Franchise Tax Board(Tax Exempt Status)	\$ 50.00
Balance in Account:	\$4055.63

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

**RACE SECRETARY:**

Sonny wanted to address a few issues since he was not present at the last Combine meeting.

- The trailer tanks really need to be changed to the 40 gallon tanks. He stated that all previous conveyors made a comment in regards to not enough water for birds, plus one tank is leaking. Discussion on this topic was tabled at this time and will need to be considered by the new Vice President.
- Sonny has the new latches for the crates. All crate latches need to be switched out before YB 05 season starts. Sonny stated that he would have to show members how to do the switch because the latch could be broken if installed incorrectly. Discussion on this topic was tabled at this time.
- After viewing the new YB05 race schedule, Sonny wanted to make a note that the Wiley's Well station is NOT a good release point. At this time Kathy Bagu also stated she received a call from Urban Paulus in which he also stated his concerns about this release station. Discussion on this topic was tabled until the next meeting.
- Sonny stated that the new Race Secretary could continue to use the release phone number he provided if they wanted.
- Sonny wanted to clarify that the Aguila race in the OB05 season was NOT changed. Due to bad release conditions the release point was moved across the street for that race.
- The trailer is currently stored at Sonny's home. No discussion was made at this time for a new location. This issue would need to be addressed by the new Vice President.

**YOUTH FLIER PROPOSAL**

Ron Whitmer presented his Youth Flier Proposal. This proposal was sent out by email prior to the meeting and would be an amendment to the current ECC Race Rules.

**Proposal: Race Rules Change**

**Article XIV: Youth fliers**

- 1) A youth flier must be a minimum of 10 years of age and a maximum of 17yrs of age at the start of the race season, Young bird or old bird. (If the youth turns 18 yrs old during the race season, then he/she will participate as a youth flier for given season).
- 2) The youth must have a paid adult flier as sponsor/mentor for the race season, in which the youth flier will be participating. (I.E. this can be a parent, grandparent, guardian, or other adult sponsor that is authorized, by the club president and race secretary). The adult sponsor/mentor is responsible for ensuring that the youth flier has adequate facilities, supplies and race equipment, ECT.
- 3) Youth fliers are considered probationary members and have no combine voting rights as such.
- 4) Youth fliers will have a shipping limit of 15 birds on all races.
- 5) Youth fliers will pay shipping fees at the maximum rate of 1/2 the adult fliers cost for any given race season. (the actual rate up to the maximum rate is to be determined by the board of directors and remain in effect until changed by said authority)
- 6) The youth flier's team must be designated prior to the beginning of each race season.
- 7) Youth fliers and their designated team of birds are not eligible to participate in any money races or betting.
- 8) The youth must be an active member. (I.E. Just as the ECC By-Laws Article 3 section 2 states: any pigeon fancier of good character who has been accepted as a member in a club recognized by the combine and said member must have competed in at least 50% of races for a given race season to be considered an active member: So to, must the junior participate in a minimum of 50% of his/hers Club functions).
- 9) The youth flier must be certified as an active participating member by the club president and race secretary, prior to the start of each race season. (If a conflict of interest should occur, such as the president or race secretary is the youth fliers sponsor/mentor, then the club vice president should assist in the certification)
- 10) If the club president and race secretary determine that the privileges (reduced shipping cost for example) given to the youth flier is being violated. The youth flier will not be allowed to ship for the balance of the race season and/or until the youth flier and sponsor/mentor have satisfactorily shown that no violation(s) have occurred and/or the violation(s) have been corrected.
- 11) If the youth flier and sponsor/mentor wish to appeal the decision of the club president and race secretary, regarding this or any other issue regarding a junior flier. The ECC governing Board of directors will have the finale jurisdiction over the matter.
- 12) Youth fliers will be eligible for all race diplomas and trophies, that an adult member is eligible for.
- 13) If 5 or more youth fliers, fly in any combine race. Then in addition to the regular diplomas and trophies that a youth flier may have won. Separate "Youth Diploma(s)" will be issued by the combine race secretary for said race. Diplomas will be issued for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. In

order of youth flier position (first clocked bird from each youth participant). A participation diploma will be issued for all other youth participants in said race.

- 14) An "Iron Eaglet" (or similar designation) participation diploma will be issued by the combine race secretary for all youth fliers who are able to successfully complete an entire race season.

**ECC YOUTH FLIER CERTIFICATION:**

Club affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor/Mentor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone# (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Years in the sport of Racing Pigeons? \_\_\_\_\_

Has the Youth previously flown one or more Youngbird or Oldbird seasons? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Club President: \_\_\_\_\_

Presidents Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Club Race Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Race Secretary's # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Certifier: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

We certify that the above named Youth Flier is a member in good standing. The youth flier has participated in a minimum of 50% of club activities. (1)The youth has a loft of his/her own that the youth maintains in a clean and healthy fashion and that the loft is not detrimental to the image of the sport \_\_\_\_ or, (2) The youth shares a loft with his/her sponsor/mentor that the youth helps to maintain in a clean and healthy fashion and that the loft is not detrimental to the image of the sport \_\_\_\_

**Signature of Club President:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Club Race Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Alternate:** \_\_\_\_\_

After discussion on the above proposal, Steve Whitmer made a motion to accept the proposal as an amendment to the ECC Race Rules with a second by Lolo Ramirez. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**OLD BIRD 2006 SCHEDULE:**

Discussion on this topic was tabled until the next meeting when the new board would be effective.

**ADVERTISING:**

The California State Racing Pigeon Organization is having their 60<sup>th</sup> convention and is offering ad space. Charlie Cathel stated it would be nice to have something submitted by the ECC. The cost is \$175 for a

full page ad. Sonny Cangiarella volunteered to create the ad. Charlie made a motion for the Combine to have a full page ad submitted and Ron Whitmer made a second. The motion passed.

**ELECTIONS FOR 2005-2006 ECC OFFICERS:**

John announced the nomination for officers from the last meeting: Kristin Swift-Ramirez was nominated for President, Lyle Loomis was nominated for Vice President, Steve Whitmer was nominated for Recording Secretary, Lolo Ramirez was nominated for Race Secretary, and Kathy Bagu was nominated for Treasurer. For the office of President Sonny Cangiarella made a nomination for Ron Whitmer. Ron accepted this nomination. At this time Kristin Swift-Ramirez withdrew her nomination for President. A motion to close the nominations and accept Ron Whitmer as President was made by Charlie Cathel with a second from Sonny Cangiarella and the motion passed. For Vice President there were no other nominations so a motion to accept Lyle Loomis as Vice President was made by Charlie Cathel with a second from Lolo Ramirez and the motion passed. For Recording Secretary Charlie Cathel nominated Kristin Swift-Ramirez, Kristin declined the nomination. A motion to close the nominations and accept Steve Whitmer as Recording Secretary was made by Charlie Cathel with a second from Sonny Cangiarella and the motion passed. For the positions of Race Secretary and Treasurer there were no new nominations so a motion to accept Lolo Ramirez as Race Secretary and Kathy Bagu as Treasurer was made by Charlie Cathel with a second by Steve Whitmer and the motion passed. So the new Board of Officers for the ECC is as follows: President – Ron Whitmer, Vice President – Lyle Loomis, Recording Secretary – Steve Whitmer, Race Secretary – Lolo Ramirez, and Treasurer – Kathy Bagu. Congratulations to all new officers and good luck in the coming year.

**OPEN FORUM:**

Charlie Cathel wanted to bring up the issue that clubs need to remember that any items from the club level to be discussed at the Combine level needs to be presented by one of the clubs designated ECC representatives. Combine meetings are only for Board Officers and Combine Representatives unless it is specified as an “open” meeting. Clubs please make note of this and take care of this issue at the club level. The Combine will monitor this more closely in the future.

John Godinez expressed that when a date is set for the Combine meeting, we need do our best to adhere to the date set.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**

The next meeting for the ECC was set for July 10th, 2005 at 15:00. The location of the meeting will be at the Sandberg Middle School, if available. (Kathy will advise) Please contact Ron Whitmer with any topics or issues that your clubs want 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 16:25.

I would like to take this time to thank all the hard work and efforts of the Officers and the Club Representatives. Without you, there would be NO Combine. I have enjoyed my term as Recording Secretary and look forward to continuing my service to the Combine as a Club Representative. Good luck to the new officers

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kristin Swift-Ramirez/ECC Recording Secretary