

ECC Meeting Minutes – 07/10/05  
**EAST COURSE COMBINE MEETING**  
**Sunday July 10, 2005 (Location: Sandberg Middle School)**

ECC President Ron Whitmer called the meeting to order at 15:20.

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

1. Bonita
2. Freeway
3. Santa Anita
4. San Gabriel Valley

Absent:

1. Pomona
2. Palm Springs
3. La Puente

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

Ron welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new board and brought up an issue that needed to be discussed before the meeting could take place. Ron had spoken with John Godinez and Lyle Loomis in regards to Lyle wanting to resign as the 2005-2006 ECC Vice President. John Godinez stated that he did get an email from Lyle stating he wanted to decline his resignation before the election, but it was not received in time. Ron Whitmer accepted Lyle's resignation and sent out an email looking for anyone interested in taking over the position. Steve Whitmer expressed an interest in taking on the position. Ron asked the combine if they wanted to just have Steve appointed as VP or if a vote was to be taken. Charlie Cathel thought a vote would be best. Charlie Cathel made a motion to accept Steve Whitmer as the new ECC VP with a second from Lolo Ramirez and the motion passed unanimously. Ron made a note that with Steve taking the new VP position that he would no longer be able to fill the position of Secretary. Ron had previously spoken with Kristin and appointed her as the new Secretary for the 2005-2006 year.

**MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING:** Ron Whitmer summarized the meeting minutes from the 06/12/05 meeting. Kathy Bagu made a motion to accept the minutes as is, with a second by Lolo Ramirez and the motion passed.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Kathy Bagu read the financial report. Kathy reported a balance of \$4,055.63 in the combine account as of 07/10/05. The report is as follows:

Balance from 06/12/05	\$4055.63
Expenses:	
Bank Charge (June)	\$ 16.00
Radio Shack – Tape recorder for Secretary	\$ 47.61
Balance in Account:	\$3992.02

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

**SHIPPING CRATES:**

Kathy Bagu stated that the crates bottoms were in progress, but not completed yet. She stated they should be completed soon and should be able to bring a one to the next combine meeting.

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

Steve Whitmer had just taken on the position of ECC VP and stated he would have a report for the trailer issues by the next meeting. Charlie Ettensberger asked what was going on with the replacement issue for the tanks. Steve stated that he would be evaluating the trailer and doing the necessary work on the trailer and would report back to the combine. At this time Steve asked for representatives to go back to their respective clubs and ask for a volunteer from each club to form the Race Trailer Committee. Steve hopes that people will actually volunteer, but if they don't then the responsibility of the Race Trailer Committee may have to fall on each clubs existing VP. Contact Steve with any questions.

**OB HOPE RACE DISQUALIFICATION:**

Lyle Loomis was not present, but had recently told Ron Whitmer that he wanted the issue of the Hope Race in OB to be discussed and reevaluated by the combine. Ron had contacted the AU to see if the existing database information could be changed, if so necessary, and it was possible. The issue was discussed and the combine came to the conclusion that it was just too late to do anything now. Steve Whitmer made a motion to keep the Hope race "as is" with a second by Lolo Ramirez and the motion passed unanimously.

### **RACE SECRETARY:**

Lolo Ramirez passed out the new ECC Shipping Crate List. He generated copies for each club and the respective club Race Secretaries should make copies as necessary. Lolo would email each Race Secretary a copy as well. After presenting the new sheet Charlie Ettensberger asked if it was going to be mandatory to use this sheet, as he thought it was just extra paperwork he felt was unnecessary. Lolo stated that he did want it to be mandatory. Charlie Cathel made a motion to make the crate list sheet that Lolo presented mandatory for each club to record and submit to the ECC Race Secretary weekly. Kathy Bagu seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **ADVERTISING:**

Ron Whitmer presented two samples, made by Sonny, for insertion in the California State Racing Pigeon Organization 60<sup>th</sup> Convention catalog. The combine selected the ad with the state of CA in the background and made a few typographical corrections. Charlie Cathel suggested a slightly different slogan for the top of the ad, which the Combine agreed with and Ron would take back the corrected ad for Sonny to adjust and submit. Thank you Sonny for taking the time to do this! A job well done!

### **OLD BIRD 2006 SCHEDULE:**

The combine discussed the 2006 OB season and came to the agreement on the following schedule.

The Old Bird schedule is as follows:

<u>RACE DATE</u>	<u>STATION</u>	<u>MILES</u>
02/26/06	Hayfield	135
03/05/06	Chuckwalla	160
03/12/06	Ehrenberg	200
03/19/06	Hope	245
03/26/06	Tonapah	295
04/02/06	Prescott	315
04/08-4/09/06	Ehrenberg(Sat)/Winslow(Sun)	200/420
04/16/06	No Race (Easter)	
04/22-04/23/06	Wickenburg(Sat)/Holbrook(Sun)	300/450
04/30/06	St. John's (Thurs. ship for Sat)	500

Charlie Ettensberger made a motion to accept the above OB06 schedule with a second from Charlie Cathel. The motion passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **TRAINERS:**

Steve Whitmer brought up the topic of trainers on the race truck to be discussed. The combine has had 2 incidents in the past year involving trainers on the truck. There was a brief discussion and Steve made a motion to no longer allow trainers on the race truck with a second from Alex Galustian. FWY voted 2 yes, SGV voted 1 yes & 1 no, BON voted 2 no, SA voted 2 no. The motion was not passed. Trainers will still be able to be considered on a per race/space basis. At this time Charlie Cathel wanted to make a motion in regards to how long the conveyor must wait before releasing the trainers and where to release them, but the combine agreed to table this discussion until we have found a conveyor.

#### **MANDATORY BIRD TOSS:**

Steve Whitmer made a motion that the combine should have a MANDATORY bird toss for the combine winner each week in a timely manner after the race, with an approved Combine Race Committee Representative present. The AU guideline states that a toss can be requested in writing by a competitor within 12 hours after the race but is not mandatory. Charlie Ettensberger made a second on the motion. Freeway voted 2 yes, SA voted 2 yes, BON voted 2 no, SGV voted 2 no. Since there was a tie Ron voted to break the tie and he felt it was something important to implement and voted yes passing the motion. Therefore in the upcoming YB05 season, all winning combine birds will have to be tossed. Lolo will make arrangements at that time.

#### **OPEN FORUM:**

Charlie Cathel brought up the issue in regards to the YB05 schedule that the first race Hayfield, which is scheduled as a trainer, still has to be paid for as a race. Since we are paying the conveyor to haul the birds we should just make this a race instead of a training toss. Charlie made a motion to make the 10/09/05 Hayfield toss a race with a second from Charlie Ettensberger. The motion passed.

Ron asked the Secretary, Kristin, to make sure to send notices out to clubs not present at the meeting. It is very important that EACH club has representatives attending the meetings to relay information to the club along with giving their clubs input to the combine. Please make it a priority to attend ALL combine meetings.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**

The next meeting for the ECC was set for August 14th, 2005 at 15:00. The location of the meeting will be at the Vista Del Monte Mobile Park Clubhouse, 416 Jeffries, Monrovia, CA 91016. This is Charlie Ettensberger's mobile home park. 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 17:35.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kristin Swift-Ramirez/ECC Recording Secretary