

ECC Meeting Minutes – 09/24/06
EAST COURSE COMBINE MEETING
Sunday, September 24, 2006 (Location: Sandburg Middle School)

ECC President Bill Lincoln called the meeting to order at 15:10.

ROLL CALL

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Absent</u>
1. Bonita	1. Palm Springs
2. La Puente	
3. San Gabriel Valley	
4. Santa Anita	
5. Freeway	

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING:

Kristin read the meeting minutes from the 08/27/06 meeting. Sonny Cangiarella made a motion to accept the minutes, as is, with a second from Lolo Ramirez. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Kathy Bagu read the financial report. Kathy reported a balance of \$4307.25 in the combine account as of 08/27/06. The Combine account incurred the following credits and debits:

Balance from 08/27/06	\$ 4,307.25
Deposits:	
Interest from Checking(Aug.)	\$.74
Correction (Math error)	\$ 17.11
Expenses:	
Bank Service Charge	<u>\$ (16.00)</u>
Balance in Account:	\$ 4,309.10

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MEMBERSHIP:

Bill wanted to continue the discussion on ways to possibly increase the membership of the ECC. Discussion began again about inviting potential members for one season of free shipping. Bill talked about creating a letter to be sent to selected clubs or members advertising the one season of free shipping (1st come 1st serve) to fly our course. This offer would hopefully create interest in our course and give these selected clubs or members the desire to join the ECC. Bill stated that he would create the letter and begin to put a list together of possible contacts. He will present the letter and contact list to the ECC before he sends out any information. He was hoping to have the letters sent out near the end of the YB06 season. Lolo Ramirez made a motion to direct Bill Lincoln to create a letter to invite potential clubs or members to fly free for one season with the ECC with a second by George Macaluso. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BIRD 2007 SCHEDULE:

Bill Lincoln opened up the topic of the OB07 schedule to be discussed. Bill went around and asked each club what they were looking for in the OB07 season.

Mike Smith spoke for BON and began with the fact that long races are very expensive and asked what makes a long race worth flying? If we fly these long races we need increased numbers of birds to support it. Mike also expressed the weather should be watched carefully for these long races and the losses could be large if not very careful, so races should be able to be changed or cancelled because of this. A 350-400 mile races with good courses are preferred but should be done on a guaranteed bird minimum or the race should be cancelled. Mike also brought up the thought of flying Phoenix over Mesa.

George Macaluso spoke for SA and expressed the desire for two 2-race weekends. An Eherenburg/Winslow and a Chuckwalla/Holbrook. They also want to continue the 500 (St. John's)

Lolo Ramirez spoke for SGV and said stick to what works, change only what doesn't seem to work for the season. SGV agrees on the double race weekends.

Sonny Cangiarella spoke for FWY and just stated that they desire more flyers. They also brought up the idea of bring back money races.

Discussion began about the race schedule and the following is what was agreed upon unanimously:

2/25/07 – Chuckwalla
3/04/07 - Ehrenburg
3/11/07 – Hope
3/18/07 - Wickenburg
3/25/07 – Mesa
3/31/07 – Ehrenburg / 04/01/07 – Globe
Easter OFF
4/14/07 – Ehrenburg / 4/15/07 Holbrook
4/22/07 – St. John's

A discussion began on a minimum number of birds to ship a race. Each club was asked what minimum number of birds they wanted: BON-200, SA-150, SGV-150, LAP-150, and FWY-200. Sonny Cangiarella made a motion that their had to be at least 150 birds to ship a race. There was a second by Lolo Ramirez and the motion passed unanimously. It was discussed that as soon as the number of birds shipped gets close to 200, the Race Secretary will begin calling clubs to get a confirmed number of birds to be shipped the next week to ensure that the race will be held. If clubs are called by the ECC Race Secretary, the numbers clubs give to the combine are NOT to be estimates, clubs will be held accountable for the number given to the ECC race secretary, make sure counts are accurate. Clubs will really need to work together to keep our shipping numbers up.

NEW BUSINESS:

RACE SECRETARY:

Sonny has provided Hector Morales (ECC Hauler) with all the information and equipment needed for the upcoming YB06 season. They will be moving the trailer to Sonny's to make repairs before the season starts. The brakes need to be replaces and the master cylinder is leaking.

Sonny took a quick crate count from clubs: FWY-8, LAP-14, BON-25, SA-7, and SGV-8.

Once races start Sonny stated on the first race he wants entry sheets and crate sheets given to the driver on shipping night. The following weeks you need to also send the winning sheet along with the entry sheet and crate sheet.

Sonny stated that he knew the contact for race information for SA is Mary and for LAP is Edwin. He need to know who is responsible for BON. It was stated that their Race Secretary Curtis Harman is moving so he is unable to continue doing the job. It was not decided for sure who would be taking on the job.

The AU has a new point system they are implementing starting in OB2007. A discussion began and it was agreed that the ECC would try out this point system for YB06. The point system is described in the AU newsletter, talk to Sonny for clarification if you or your clubs have any question. It is strongly recommended that clubs try to use this point system so the whole ECC is using the same system and to avoid confusion, but it is NOT mandatory.

Sonny made a motion that the 5-bird nomination MUST be completed by all flyers EVERY week. Lolo Ramirez made a second. BON, FWY, LAP, SGV agreed. SA opposed. The motion passed. So Race Secretaries need to make sure all members nominate 5 birds each week. Talk with Sonny if you are not clear on this matter.

Sonny stated that the ECC is growing out of its website size. It is easy to expand; the cost will increase a little for the year. Sonny will take care of this and bill the combine.

Sonny has offered to do the \$10 pick bird for the YB06 season. Make your clubs pick bird sheet and include that and the money with your packet you give to the driver weekly. He will post all information on

the website like in the past. Release information will be posted as usual on the website or you can call (951)685-4305 AFTER 7:30 for a recorded message.

Sonny asked SGV if FWY could take over the Mesa WTA, since SGV was not participating in the YB06 season. SGV agreed, so FWY will be hosting the Mesa WTA at \$25/bird with \$300 guaranteed.

OPEN FORUM:

Mike Smith brought up the fact that a member of BON, Curtis Harman was in the process of moving. He will not be able to participate in the entire YB06 race season. Mike Smith made a motion to allow Curtis Harman to fly two teams for the price of one for the first four races of the YB06 season. If Curtis decides to fly more races beyond the fourth, he would have to pay the ECC the full \$200 for the second team. Lolo Ramirez made a second. BON, LAP, FWY, and SGV agreed. SA opposed. The motion passed.

Sonny had the BON database on a floppy to be installed on their club computer, but since it was just brought up that Curtis Harman was going to fly two teams a correction needed to be made in the database, a backup needed to be created and then it needed to be sent back to Sonny. Sonny asked who was going to take care of this at the BON club. BON didn't have anyone who felt comfortable doing this, so Kristin Swift-Ramirez volunteered to go to the BON club and install the new database with the proper changes for Sonny.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

The next meeting for the ECC will be set after the YB06 series. Good luck to all participating members and have a very successful YB06 season!!

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristin Swift-Ramirez/ECC Recording Secretary