

CONSTITUTION AND BY-
LAWS OF THE EAST
COURSE COMBINE
AMENDED SEPTEMBER
2020
(recent changes in yellow)

ARTICLE 1

Name

The name shall be the **EAST COURSE COMBINE**

Website: 10eastcourse.org

ARTICLE 2

Objectives

To coordinate the activities for racing pigeons on the East Course. To promote the sport of breeding and racing of pigeons and to conduct and join in worthy efforts of others to elevate this sport to the highest plane of sportsmanship and Competition, in a fair and honorable manner.

ARTICLE 3

Section 1

Membership in the combine is open to any racing pigeon fancier in good standing and character with any club recognized by the American Racing Pigeon Union, the I.F., the CSRPO, and the East Course Combine.

Section 2

Active Membership: Any pigeon fancier of good character who has been accepted as a member in a club recognized by the combine. An active member is considered to be one who has paid a race fee for either of the proceeding young bird or old bird season. The member must also be current with respect to all fees owed the combine including but not limited to annual dues.

Section 3

Inactive Membership: Any pigeon fancier that meets all qualifications of active membership but has not paid a race fee for either of the proceeding young bird or old bird season.

Section 4

Probationary Members: Any pigeon fancier that has not been a member of the Combine long enough to have paid a race fee for either of the proceeding young bird or old bird season.

Section 5

Voting Criteria: Voting: A 2/3 vote of the active members present during an open meeting is required to amend or delete any provisions of articles. A majority vote of the active members as represented by club representatives is required on any other issue such as race schedules, race rules, shipping and the election of officers of the (organization), except where otherwise noted. All Active members shall have the right to make and second motions from the floor.

Section 6

The right to hold office is a privilege of both active and inactive members only.

Section 7

The right to serve on a committee is a privilege of all active and inactive members only.

Section 8

Any club meeting the qualifications stated in Article 3 section 1, with five members may make application to the combine if it is within boundaries to be determined. A vote for membership can be taken at any combine meeting or function where a quorum is present. The vote will be by voice unless any active member calls for a secret ballot. Prospective members should not be in the immediate presence of the vote. A yes vote by 2/3 of the members present is necessary for membership.

ARTICLE 4

Resignation

Any member club wishing to resign from the combine must tender its resignation, through its President, in writing to the Combine President or Vice President and pay all indebtedness due the Combine. If a member ceases to pay dues, he will be considered resigned. By resigning the member forfeits all rights and claims to Combine property. If the resigned member wishes to rejoin the combine, he must be voted in as a new member.

ARTICLE 5

Removal

Any club or individual may have its membership in the Combine suspended or revoked for good cause. ARPU guidelines will be followed.

ARTICLE 6

Officers

A Board of Directors and the elected officers shall administer the affairs of the combine. The Board of Directors shall consist of two delegates from each member club. Each club shall have the option to send an alternate to each meeting.

That alternate will have the right to represent their club. The Delegates/Directors will be allowed one vote for every **active member** in their club. See Article 3 Section 5. The board of Directors shall elect Combine Officers. The officers must come from the Board of Directors, except the Combine Race Secretary. Upon election, the Race Secretary will become a Board member if not already. There will be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Race Secretary. The Board of Directors will have the authority to make decisions pertaining to the Combine. Any three clubs can petition the Board of Directors and request a meeting, open to all members.

Responsibilities of Officers

Section 1

The President shall preside at all meetings when present, and shall be ex-officio member of all committees. The President can vote only to break ties. The President shall also have the authority to sign checks in the absence of the Treasurer. Should any officer be unable to fulfill their duties, The President shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term. **It is the responsibility of all officers to ensure that all bylaws and race rules are followed.**

Section 2

The Vice President shall assume and perform all duties of the President in case of his absence or inability to serve.

The Vice President shall also be Chairman of the Trailer Committee.

Section 3

The Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds of the Combine. The Treasurer shall credit the Combine's accounts with all monies received from any source and shall pay all obligations of the combine. The combine books shall be open for inspection **by the board of directors** at any reasonable time.

Section 4

The Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the combine. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings, and provide **them to** The Board of Directors and all clubs Presidents, copies of all meetings minutes. The Secretary shall **be responsible for maintenance of** an accurate roster of all members. The secretary shall notify all Board members 5 days in advance of all meetings, unless it is a regularly scheduled meeting. **The treasurer of each club is responsible for reporting to the board the number of active members in his club for voting purposes.**

Section 5

The Race Secretary shall be chairman of the race committee. The Race Secretary shall have charge of all details of every race and shall conduct the same in accordance with these by-laws and the combine race rules.

Section 6

The Board of Directors will elect the Race Sheet Secretary if the Race Secretary does not prepare a race sheet. The R.S.S. duties are outlined in the Combine race rules.

ARTICLE 7

Committees

Section 1

Race Committee: The race committee is to be chaired by the combine Race Secretary and will include all member clubs Race Secretaries. Clubs Race Secretaries duties will be to assist the Combine Race Secretary in conducting the races and implementing the combine race rules.

Section 2

Trailer Committee: The trailer committee is to be chaired by the Combine Vice President. Duties will include presenting qualified applicants and their bids to the B.O.D. for the position of conveyer. The committee will provide proof prior to shipping the first race, that the conveyer has liability insurance **to the maximum amount available for that driver's personal insurance policy.** The committee will also instruct and prepare the conveyer for his duties. They shall prepare an operating guidebook and a logbook for the driver, and ensure the guidelines are followed and the logbook is current. The committee will also be responsible for the maintenance and safe operation of the trailer as well as the maintenance and cleaning of the crates.

Section 3

Other Committees: Regular and temporary committees are to be appointed by the President and will serve whatever function deemed necessary

Section 4

The Board of Directors will establish a race schedule at the first regular Board meeting following the completion of the prior race schedule. It is the responsibility of each club's representatives to discuss within their club their members recommendations for a race schedule, prior to this meeting, which will allow a vote on a final schedule at the combine meeting.

ARTICLE 8

Annual Open Meeting

Section 1

The annual open meeting is to take place the first agreed upon date in January. The agenda for this meeting will include each member club announcing their representatives for the new year Board of Directors. At this time members seeking Combine office will be allowed a few minutes to address the Combine membership. The members nominated for the upcoming year will be voted on at this meeting. The new Combine officers take over on January 1 and serve until December 31 of that year.

All awards for young birds will be given out at the January meeting

All awards for old birds will be given out at the July meeting and a race schedule for the next old bird season shall be presented at that meeting. A vote will be scheduled for the next meeting after the clubs have had an opportunity to review it.

Section 2

Special meetings may be held at the call of the President or by a written request to the President by a simple majority of member club Presidents. All Board members must be notified of any meeting approximately ten days in advance unless an emergency arises.

ARTICLE 9

Quorum

A simple majority of the combine representatives constitutes a quorum at a Board meeting. A simple majority of the active members constitutes a quorum at any open meeting.

ARTICLE 10

Combine property Section 1

All Combine property is to be owned equally by all active and inactive members. Should the Combine disband while there are still outstanding debts to be paid the Combine property would be sold to pay all debts and loans. Should any assets remain after all debts are paid, the assets would be donated to The Help a Beginner Program, another pigeon organization or the City of hope. This will be determined by a majority vote of the board of directors.

ARTICLE 11

Contracts Section 1

The Combine may authorize any Officer(s), Agent(s), to enter into any contract or execute any instrument in the name of, or on behalf of the Combine. Such authority shall be confined to specific instances. Unless so authorized by the Combine, no officer, agent, employee, or member shall have the authority to bind the Combine by contract or engagement, or to pledge its credit, or to render it liable for any purpose or for any amount.

ARTICLE 12

By-laws

Section 1

New by-laws may be adopted or these by-laws may be repealed or amended at any meeting of The Board of Directors called for that purpose, by a majority vote.

Section 2

Repealed, amended or new by-laws shall be effective on the day following the vote, unless specified otherwise. The effective date shall not be retroactive.

Section 3

Any and all changes to the by-laws shall be copied into the BOOK OF BY-LAWS with the original by-laws. All repealed by-laws shall be stated in the said book.

ARTICLE 13

Dues

Annual dues are \$20.00 per adult member, no dues for junior members. Dues are due February 1, and delinquent March 1