

East Course Combine meeting minutes

Location: Jenkin's workshop. Corona, CA

Date: 12/18/2021

Present: Amador Larios (RIC), Relys Moreira (RIC), Walter Jenkins (WEF), Larry Tomlin (WEF), Alex Perera (BON), Dr. David Chen (BON), Mike Smith (BON), Juan Gomez (LAP)

Visiting: Eric Basister (FVC), Carl Loizzi (FVC), Adam Wilson (FVC), Hector Rivera (FVC), Bruno (FVC), Juan Mesia (VPC), Tony Martin (OCC)

President Amador called the meeting to order at 10:18 AM.

After Roll Call, all clubs were supposed to bring Schedules, Rosters with delegates for us to have the new candidates, the only club with schedule in hand was RIC.

The OCC meeting was postponed due to not having the necessary items to discuss for our meeting, plus ECC needs to take the information regarding joining Southern California Concourse.

Walter presented the financial report. Current balance in the bank is \$20,336. Outstanding expenses that needs to be paid are GPS, web page, Race secretary fees, Last race costs. Next meeting we will have the final balance after all these expense are paid.

It was decided to have the next meeting in four weeks. At that meeting we will elect new officers of the Combine, finalize the Old Bird race schedule, number of teams flying and per team fee.

Alex thanked Amador and Francisco for repairing the damaged trailer tire at a low cost. They did it themselves.

Discussed the Old Bird schedule.

Mike Smith advised about flying Globe AZ as the Arizona flyers had bad releases from that point and is should be something to discuss within the clubs

RIC was the only Club bringing a schedule, the agreement was to take the two schedules brought by RIC and discussed between those 2 schedules.

Mike Smith asked about the 2 day release on 300 Miles+ with the concern about having the rest, he mentioned that this was already a rule. Juan Gomez pointed out that it was agreed on the previous ECC meeting and was not followed, Relys mentioned that such a rule was not in the Bylaws or in the minutes and because of that there was a suggestion to do same day shipping on the last YB race. He asks all the clubs about that and all the club vote in favor. Relys said The birds rest six hours.

ECC members were reminded about having all the minutes and Bylaws in the web page. Amador asked Relys if the Bylaws and all the minutes were in the webpage. Relys said, yes all the minutes and Bylaws are there.

RIC proposed two schedules. It was decided to take the second schedule to the club members for discussion. Individual clubs will bring in their proposals to the next meeting in four weeks. Final schedule will be decided at that meeting.

Agreed on February 19th as the start date. The schedule to include 8 races.

Mike brought up the issue of heat and wind. Change or bring back the birds for a shorter race when the heat is 90 degrees or higher and the wind is 20 mph or higher. Wind can cause micro sand storms in some areas. Also discussed 2 day shipping when the distance is greater than 300 miles. Same day shipping will not give sufficient time for the birds to rest once they get to the station.

Dr.Chen brought up the issue of possibly rotating clubs on the pickup schedule. After discussion, the group was not able to come up with a good practical solution.

Dr. Chen brought up that someone in his club asks why LAP and BON are always first in the pickup? After discussion, the group was not able to come up with a good solution.

Agreed to discuss this issue at club level and bring in suggestion to the Combine.

Amador started the discussion regarding other clubs wanting to fly the East Course. These clubs include FVC, OCC and VPC. FVC currently has 60 active members.

Erick Basister So Cal Concourse Race Secretary spoke in behave of all the clubs from the concourse and explained how it works and invited the ECC to join the Concourse to be able to be part of the report and be able to be posted in the AU web site. He acknowledges that by concourse flying East they will adopted ECC rules and Bylaws to make and everything fair

Eric explained that they will be flying the East Course regardless whether we join the Concourse or not. They are willing to adopt ECC rules and have us fly in the Concourse. One of the goals is being able to host an AU Convention.

Eric explained the structure of the concourse, such as the concourse is made of two or more combines, a combine is made of two or more clubs and to be able to make a Federation we will need 2 or more concourse, for that reason the concourse could not join the ECC but the other way around, ECC will need to join the concourse or create one to the on their own.

Eric suggested that if ECC wanted to have the So Cal Concourse, ECC should create a concourse and they will happily join our concourse.

Eric explained that it could be very beneficial to join forces and become one of the biggest groups in the US and for all of us to be able to compete in a bigger level

The information will be taken to all clubs and the clubs will have their own separate meeting to be able to decide if joining is a positive or a negative thing to do.

This joining of forces is a test for a year to see if everyone is happy and if does not work then everybody can go back to the way it was.

Carl Loizzi detailed the problems they have with the 99 course and that is had nothing to do with Clay because they have their own equipment, is all 99 course related.

ECC will have a meeting in January about a month from this meeting DTBD...

So Cal Concourse currently include two combines i.e. Tricity and West. If East Course Combine decides to join, then we will be the third Combine in the Concourse. Nothing will change whereas how the East Course Combine currently operates, except we will also have a third report, which is a Concourse report (in addition to our current club report and combine report).

Amador noted that this will make the Concourse bigger, but our Combine will stay the same.

Carl from FVC explained, how they are trying to get together and grow bigger and this was not to divide.

Mike Smith suggested the possibility of us becoming a Federation which will cover a large geographic area; Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Fernando Valley, Orange County and Inland Empire.

Amador was going to further discuss this proposed plan with these key people and list any potential issues, so that we could work on resolving them.

Amador adjourned the meeting at 11:20am.