

**THE 395 CONCOURSE
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**OFFICIAL RACE RULES
JANUARY 1, 2012**

The 395 Concourse has adopted the official A.U. general guidelines and recommendations and the official A.U. race rules. In addition to the above, the following specific race rules shall apply.

ARTICLE I - RACE SECRETARY - DUTIES

SECTION A. Responsibility

Shall have full responsibility for all concourse races.

SECTION B. Race Reports - Business

Shall make all race arrangements, shall prepare a race report after each race of the concourse and have sufficient copies of same made to distribute to the Racing Membership. It shall be his/her duty to secure and award all Diplomas, Trophies and prize awards to those entitled to same. He/She shall keep a record of all money received and expended and present a detailed report at the first meeting of the concourse following a series of Concourse Races. It is the Duty of the Race Secretary to manage and conduct the Concourse Races on a business like basis so as not to operate at a loss or burden to the membership with unnecessary expenses or obligations.

SECTION C. Compliance - Race Rules

Shall conduct races in compliance with the AU Official Club Race Rules and the Concourse Race Rules.

SECTION D. Communications

Keep club race secretaries fully informed as to schedules, details of shipping, release time, and weather conditions at release points.

SECTION E. Clocks

Shall inspect any and all clocks used for timing Concourse Races whenever he/she deems it necessary or is requested to do so by a member club race secretary.

SECTION F. Reports

Keep full record of all races flown in each series and render a full report to the membership. Ten percent of the birds shipped to a race will be listed followed by the first bird to the remaining lofts. Such report shall include all places with speeds, including average speed place winners at the end of each series of races. Records shall be kept so that all information needed in ordering trophies and diplomas is readily available.

SECTION G. Liberator

Shall instruct the liberator in release of birds for all races. When unfavorable weather conditions exist he shall have full power to deal with the liberator directly and to protect his charges whenever in his opinion they require it. No other individual member or member club may communicate with the liberator on race days without specific authorization from the 395 Concourse race secretary.

SECTION H. Shipping Expenses

Will recommend to the delegates at the annual meeting to be held in December, the cost of participation in the 395 Concourse races. A majority vote will establish the charge for the coming year.

SECTION I. Race Cancellation

Shall have the power to cancel a race due to weather conditions. If he chooses, may have the race secretaries of all the clubs, as a committee, make this decision to cancel a race.

SECTION J. Liberation Time

1. The race secretary shall direct the exact time of liberation, from which calculations for records are to be made. The time of release may be put on a phone recorder so any member may call for the time of release, or he shall notify all club race secretaries of liberation time within a reasonable time.
2. Race birds to go to scheduled race points. Race birds to be released one half-hour after official local sunrise on all short races. On all races with average distance 400 miles or greater, birds will be liberated when sun has reached full circle.
3. The Concourse Race Secretary and/or race committee has complete authority to vary from this policy if extreme weather conditions exist at point of liberation or along the racecourse.
4. The conveyor's truck shall proceed directly to the shipping location after leaving the last pick up point and shall be at the release point a minimum of 2 hours prior to the release.

The birds shall be given adequate rest: a minimum of one hour shall be given for a rest period at the release point. All water and/or food shall be given prior to the one hour rest period beginning for any given release.

SECTION K. Watering and Feeding of Race Birds

Watering of race birds to be done by trucker or conveyor. No feed given to race birds on short races. For long races, one ounce of feed per bird on Friday evening will be given. Hold over or 3 day races, each bird to receive one ounce or more. On all races where birds are to be fed and watered, they are to be taken to the release point and then feed and water will be offered. *

ARTICLE II - TIMERS

SECTION A. Timer Tampering

Proof of a timer having been tampered with shall be sufficient to forfeit all claims for record or prizes in said race. The discipline shall be set by the race committee.

SECTION B. Timer Malfunction

Refer to A.U. Race rules # 8.40 - # 8.56 Also in the event of an accident or malfunction to a timer prior to actual clocking, a member may telephone the inside and outside countermark number, band number, and color and sex of the bird to the club race secretary, or other club officer who must write description on a slip of paper, deposit in his timer, and the member will be allowed that time. The members malfunctioned timer, seal in tact, plus any and all countermarks timed in another persons clock must be submitted to club race secretary for approval.

SECTION C. Timer Knock Off

Members may knock off their own timers*.

ARTICLE III - COUNTERMARKS

SECTION A. Verifying countermarks

The inside countermark number must be verified on each of the competitors birds clocked. Staple countermark to the clock tape or print out.

SECTION B. Multiple Countermarks

If two or more countermarks are in one porthole, only one countermark may be chosen. In 12 bird timers multiple countermarks may be put in a porthole after the first porthole. The flyer may designate the order of clocking.

ARTICLE IV - SHIPPING BIRDS

SECTION A. Conveyor

All race birds shall be shipped to the races using the truck/trucks under contract with the 395 Concourse of Southern California. Failure to meet the truck loading schedule shall bar that club from that race.

SECTION B. Shipping Point

Two or more adult members must accompany the birds to the shipping point and continuously remain with the birds until loading is complete. They may not be members of the same family or partners from the same team. It is permissible to follow in another vehicle as long as the vehicle carrying the birds is not of a closed-van design. The second vehicle must maintain visual contact with the conveying vehicle.

SECTION C. Truck Loading

At no time shall anyone tamper with or otherwise inspect anything on or in the race compartments of the conveyor's vehicle without the conveyor's permission.

SECTION D. Birds in Crates and on Truck

Even though the AU removed item 7.23 from the Race Rules 7/04 the 395 Concourse requires that any one fancier's birds be mixed with other club member's birds and be evenly distributed in shipping crates and ultimately on the race trailer. Grouping any one fancier's birds in one crate or hole on the Concourse trailer is not permitted.

Section E:

Birds must be at the designated place and time for countermarking/basket or they may be barred from competition in a given race. All Birds to be entered into any given race must be entered at a shipping site designated by their respective club.

Section F:

During race season: All birds equipped with electronic bands that do not scan (dead or inactive band) during shipping shall be disqualified from the given race. Any bird that has an electronic band that scans and displays another bird's band number, where both birds are raced by the same competitor, both affected birds shall be disqualified for the given race and must have both their respective bands re-assigned by the club race secretary prior to being allowed back into any subsequent race.

Section G:

Should one or more bird(s) escape during any portion of the basketing, loading, or shipping to the race station, an inventory shall be completed to determine which bird(s) are actually missing. The missing bird or bird(s) shall then be disqualified from the race. The race secretary of each club and/or the Concourse race secretary shall have a complete inventory of all birds, which includes all bird band numbers and assigned crate numbers. The race secretary of the affected club shall immediately notify the Concourse race secretary in the case of an escaped bird.

If an inventory of the remaining birds in the crate(s) is impractical and/or if there is no other independent method to determine which bird(s) were in the affected crate(s), such as by a crate designation on the organization race entry form, then the entire club affected shall be disqualified. If more than one club is affected then the entire race shall be declared no contest.

At no time shall any individual competitor of the Concourse reload or allow to be reloaded any birds onto the transport that had escaped during any portion of the basketing, loading, or shipping of the birds to the race station.

Section H:

Each club will be responsible for cleaning their assigned crate(s); Crates must be maintained in a sanitary condition.

Section I:

On all shipping crates both the large and small doors must be sealed. It is the clubs choice to use lead seals or zip ties.

ARTICLE V - BIRD LIMITS

SECTION A.

The 395 Concourse has open limit for shipping, but only the FIRST FIFTEEN (15) listed on entry sheet will be eligible for average speed. If more than one sheet is used number them (1 of 2), (2 of 2) etc.

ARTICLE VI - RACES EXCEEDING ONE DAY

SECTION A. Dead Time

See A.U. Race Rules # 13.01 - # 13.02 Plus the following: All birds clocked after the start of "Dead Time" but before midnight shall be given the start of "Dead Time" as official arrival time. All birds clocked after midnight but before the end of dead time will be given the end of "Dead Time" as official arrival time.

SECTION B. Smashes

In the event of a "smash" all races will be considered open until all diplomas have been won or the race ended by action of the Concourse race secretary.

ARTICLE VII - BIRDS EXCESSIVE SPEED

SECTION A. Excessive Speed

The club race secretary will contact the Concourse race secretary in cases where the club's first bird is 100 ypm ahead of the next club bird to see if other Concourse birds arrived in between and if not take the appropriate action to see that the bird is tossed.

SECTION B.

In the event any flyer's speed exceeds any other flyer in the 395 Concourse by 100 ypm that timer and all papers may be confiscated for investigation of any infractions of the race rules. If there is another bird within a close proximity within that 100 ypm no investigation would be deemed necessary.

ARTICLE VIII - TWO OR MORE TEAMS PER LOCATION

SECTION A.

Where two or more teams are flown from the same loft location, whether by one individual or more, each team must be listed by band numbers (with one (1) open team per loft location designated as "add on Team"). In the event the bird is double banded, both bands will be listed on said team. One copy of the list must be transmitted to the Concourse race secretary prior to the first average speed race to be flown in each series. Failure to designate the teams and fly them as designated will result in the disqualification of the bird or birds flown where the infraction occurred. A member may fly the remaining races in said series after complying with the above ruling. The responsibility for complying with the above ruling rests upon the individual flyer. Each team to be flown shall require a paid-up membership in the 395 Concourse.

SECTION B.*

A minimum of three competing flyers from three separate physical loft locations must be present to ship a race. Club winners will be excluded on the Concourse race report if less than five members ship the race.

ARTICLE IX - POLICY FOR RACE SCHEDULE CHANGES

SECTION A. Inclement Weather

Birds will not be released in weather that is determined by the Race Secretary and/or the Race Committee to be adverse to the safety or well being of the pigeons.

SECTION B. Holdovers

Birds may be held over in the event of bad weather for possible release the following day.

SECTION C. Delayed Releases

Birds may be released later in the day than normal if the weather is inclement during early morning hours and subsequently clears up. A decision as to exactly how late this release may be will be determined, not only by the weather but how far the longest lofts are from the race station.

SECTION D. Race Location Change

In the event birds are unable to be liberated from the designated release point, at the discretion of Race Secretary and or Race Committee, birds may be liberated at a shorter station when weather is favorable. If this should occur, the race from the shorter station will be the official race and will replace the station where the release was not possible.

SECTION E. Canceled Races

All canceled races will be flown at the end of the regular scheduled season.

SECTION F. Outbreak of Disease

Depending on the severity, this could result in cancellation of a race or series of races.

ARTICLE X - REPORTS

SECTION A. Clubs

Deliver to conveyor, night of shipping, third copy of race entry form with countermarks and crate assignments filled in. Truck loading form with amount of birds in each crate and what truck compartment each crate went in.

SECTION B. Club Race Secretary

Deliver or mail to Concourse race secretary all regulation entry forms, tapes or clock print outs with countermarks attached. along with payment for shipping the 395 Concourse race.

SECTION C.

Each Club race secretary must submit a race report showing results of each race; the Concourse race secretary must receive this by Tuesday following the race. Failure to comply may result in that club being omitted from the Concourse race report sheet and fined \$25.00.

SECTION D. Entry Sheets

Each entry sheet must show:

1. Name of member
2. Band number of the bird
3. Color and sex of the bird
4. Time of arrival
5. Airline distance in miles
6. Speed in yards per minute
7. Set time
8. Master time
9. Print time
10. Fast or Slow
11. Club name
12. Race station
13. Clock number
14. Seal number
15. Full signature of race committee member on entry forms.
This to be verified at close of race along with clock seal
16. 3rd copy of race entry form to go to Race Secretary the night of shipping*

ARTICLE XI - DIPLOMAS AND TROPHIES

SECTION A. Diplomas

Diplomas will be awarded for each race on the basis of one (1) diploma for every 2% of the birds or fraction thereof competing. Average speed diplomas will be issued on the basis of one (1) diploma for every five (5) lofts or fraction thereof competing at the start of said series. All races to be average speed*.

Average speed diplomas awarded as follows:

1. Young bird series
 - a. Overall
2. Old bird series
 - a. Short
 - b. Long
 - c. Overall

SECTION B. Trophies

All individual trophies are to be of equal value.

All average speed trophies are to be of equal value.

If one flyer wins more than one trophy, then they shall be different, but have equal value.

Winners have a choice of Trophy, Plaque, Clock or Cash.

The Concourse may award trophies and awards for special prearranged races as it may see fit, from time to time.

All trophies shall be inscribed, engraved or properly and officially marked to show the organization, date, year, series, station, band number, color, sex, name of flyer, number of lofts, and birds.

Concourse trophies and diplomas shall be awarded only to winners of official 395 Concourse sponsored and scheduled races flown in compliance with these Race Rules and AU Race Rules.

The champion bird of the year will be based on the AU points system. Points will be awarded to the 20th percentile.

Example:

If 100 birds go to the race, points are awarded from the 1st through the 20th bird.

If 1000 birds go to the race, points are awarded from the 1st bird through the 200th bird. ECT.

The Concourse shall award a trophy to the "Master loft of the year", based on the AU "Master loft" points system.

SECTION D. Junior Trophies

Junior trophies are to be awarded with a minimum of three junior members flying.

ARTICLE XII - INFRACTION OF RACE RULES

SECTION A.

Any individual in a member club who directly refuses to comply with these rules shall forfeit all rights to participate in said races. The primary responsibility for the enforcement of these rules falls upon each club. It shall be the duty of any individual member to report any suspected infraction of these rules to his club race committee. If a decision cannot be obtained at club level, the Concourse race secretary shall make such

decision based on his/her interpretation of suspected violations. The Concourse race secretary's decision shall be binding, subject only to a review by the 395 Concourse race committee. The President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Concourse shall be notified by phone of the request for review followed by mail.

SECTION B. Race Committee

The race committee will consist of the President and a committee of four (4) experienced individual members appointed by the President.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS

The Concourse Race Rules may be amended by the majority vote of the delegates providing such amendments are not in conflict with the AU Official Race Rules.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION OF THE 395 CONCOURSE OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RACE RULES

CERTIFIED BY SECRETARY OF ADOPTION BY MEMBER'S VOTE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY: That I am the duly elected, qualified and acting secretary of the above named Concourse and that the above Race Rules consisting of eight (8) pages, including this page, constitute the Race Rules of said Concourse which was duly approved by the majority vote of the Concourse members entitled to vote on _____.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of _____

Secretary