

CONSTITUTION AND RULES
OF THE
KWAZULUNATAL RACING PIGEON UNION

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The name of the Union shall be the KWAZULUNATAL RACING PIGEON UNION hereinafter referred to as the UNION, and its headquarters shall be at such place as is decided at each Annual General Meeting.

2. DEFINITION

In the construction of these Rules, unless the context requires a different meaning, "Affiliated Federation", "Affiliated Combine" or "Affiliated Club" means a Racing Pigeon Federation, Combine, or Club affiliated to the KwaZuluNatal Racing Pigeon Union. "Affiliated Members" means a member of affiliated Federations, Combines or Clubs. "Union Council" means the Council of the KwaZuluNatal Racing Pigeon Union constituted as hereafter mentioned.

2.a. CONSTITUTION AND STATUS

The Union shall consist of such affiliated Racing Pigeon Clubs, Federations and Combines of Kwa Zulu Natal as can effortlessly partake in the activities of the Union. The Union is an independent body that can contract and do business in its own name as prescribed in this constitution.

3. OBJECTIVES

The objectives for which the Union is established are to:

- (a) Provide a central organization for Federations, Combines, and Clubs with head-Quarters in KwaZuluNatal (which shall include that part of KwaZuluNatal Embracing the KwaZuluNatal Railway System).
- (b) Foster, promote, protect and stimulate the art of and interest in pigeon racing and the showing of racing pigeons;
- (c) Promote sociability between members of affiliations and pigeon fanciers in general;
- (d) Prescribe entrance fees and subscriptions to be paid by member affiliations and the amounts thereof.
- (e) Appoint employees and determine their remuneration, and to dismiss them;

- (f) Arrange or promote pigeon races and the showing of racing pigeons, allocate such funds of the Union as may be necessary for payment of the prizes in connection therewith;
- (g) Establish a uniform system of measurement for all Union Races and secure a uniform system of timing in;
- (h) Fix entrance fees for Union Races;
- (i) Purchase, lease or otherwise acquire such property both immovable and movable as may be required for the purpose of the Union.
- (j) Sell, mortgage, hypothecate, lease or otherwise dispose of the immovable and movable property of the Union;
- (k) Borrow such sums or sum of money as may be necessary for the Union as set out hereinafter;
- (l) Invest upon such security as may be deemed to be sufficient such funds of the Union as are not immediately required for the purpose of the operation of the Union, institute or defend proceedings at law;
- (m) Purchase or acquire supplies for supply to member affiliations;
- (n) Make such call or calls upon member affiliations as may be necessary for the proper operation of the Union in accordance with the procedure as set out hereinafter;
- (o) Make, amend or repeal the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of the Union in accordance with the procedure as set out hereinafter;
- (p) Do all such other acts and things as are incidental or conducive to the aforementioned objects.

4. OFFICERS

- (a) The Council of the Union, hereinafter referred to as the Council, shall consist of four duly elected members from the Pinetown and Durban Metro Combine and four duly elected members from the **Northern Natal Racing Pigeon Federation(NNRPF)**. The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be elected from these eight members at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for two years.
- (b) The Chairman of *neither the Pinetown and Durban Metro Combine or the NNRPF* may be the Chairman of the Council.
- (c) The Council shall also function as an executive committee.
- (d) **A Secretary/ Treasurer, Race Secretary and Transport Officer shall also be elected from the eight members, should none of these eight be available to fill a post, then the post may be filled from the floor.**

5. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) The Union shall be non-proprietary, and any Federation, Combine or Club **with headquarters established within the Province of Kwa Zulu Natal and/or the Kwa Zulu Natal railway system** shall be eligible for admission to the Union. Such application shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the Union and shall be accompanied by a copy of the Constitution of the **applicant and a list of the names** and addresses of its active flying members. The Secretary shall thereupon give all affiliated member Federations, Combines and Clubs notice of such application that shall be placed before the Union Council.
- (b) Objections to the admission to the Union of any Federation or Combine or Club must be made in writing to the Secretary of the Union or at the meeting dealing with the application.
- (c) No rejected applicant may demand to know the reason for such rejection nor shall any such rejected applicant again be considered for membership until after the expiration of six months from date of advice of such rejection.
- (d) Each active flying member of an affiliation who enjoys the full privileges of such affiliation shall become a member of the Union in his own right and all members of the Union are bound by this Constitution and Rules and/or subsequent alterations in or additional thereto and/or any supplementary rules or by-laws duly made in pursuance of a resolution adopted at a General Meeting.
- (e) *A member may participate as a flying member in an affiliate club of the KZNRPU as well as fly in another organization simultaneously, provided that :*
 - i) *Separate unique teams of pigeons, which are not interchangeable are registered for each organization.*
 - ii) *Such registration lists are lodged with the race secretary of each respective club upon ring registration*
- (f) Life Membership: The Council may bestow Life Membership to a member of an affiliation who, in its discretion, has rendered outstanding service to the Union, provided the Council unanimously agrees it.

6. QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Subject to compliance with Clauses 3(a) and 5(complete), of this Constitution and Rules, a Federation, Combine or similar associated group or Clubs, or a club with a membership of at least four active persons (deemed to be flying) whose lofts are situated at least four separate addresses within the boundaries of the **Province of Kwa Zulu Natal and/or the Kwa Zulu Natal railway system**, shall be eligible for affiliation. **In cases where members are under the age of 18 years, the parents or legal guardian must sign on their behalf for active membership.**

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) Affiliated Clubs or Societies shall pay to the Union an Annual Subscription of **R20.00** per *flying* member plus any fees due to any or to which this Union may be affiliated. The Union shall not be responsible for the collection of individual subscriptions, and such shall be collected by each individual Club or Society and forwarded to the Union Treasurer. **Subscription** fees are due on the last day of **APRIL** each year, and no Club shall receive any supplies nor shall forward orders be placed for the ensuing year's requirements, until **Subscription** fees for their members have been collected and paid over to the Union, together with membership lists of active (deemed to be flying) members.
- (b) Every Club affiliated to the Union shall pay an entrance fee of R50.00 in addition to the Annual **subscription** Fees.
- (c) Federations will pay an initial entrance fee of R10.00 and R20.00 per annum Annual Membership Fee **thereafter**.
- (d) Every affiliated Club shall, BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF **MARCH** EACH YEAR, furnish to the Treasurer of the Union a list showing the names and addresses of its members, together with the subscription payable by such Club in respect of its members. Likewise, every affiliated Federation, Combine or associated group of clubs should, before the date mentioned, furnish to the benefits of the Union unless his/her name appears in such lists and his/her affiliation fee has been paid.
- (e) An affiliated Club shall not be allowed to accept as a member any person who has severed his/her connection with another affiliated Club unless such person is clear of all liabilities to the last mentioned Club, or Union, or Federation, or pigeon organization.

8. MANAGEMENT

- (a) The affairs of the Union shall be managed by the Council and the only persons Entitled to vote at General Meetings shall be the eight above-mentioned members.
- (b) The Executive Committee is authorized to deal with matters of urgency, which are not in variance with the constitution.
- (c) The Annual General Meeting shall be held during **APRIL** in each year. In addition, **at least** two Council Meetings, one in the second quarter and one in the last quarter, shall be held. Notice of the places, dates and times appointed for such Meetings, and of the business it is proposed to transact, shall be given to affiliations at least fourteen days prior to such meetings
- (d) The Council on the request of three Clubs and/or the Executive Committee may call extraordinary General Meetings. Notice of dates, times and places of such meetings and of the business to be transacted thereat shall be given to each affiliated Federation, Combine or Club at least fourteen days before the dates fixed for such meetings.
- (e) Each affiliated Federation, Combine or Club shall register the postal address of its Chairman and Secretary with the Union, and whenever in these Rules it is provided that notices shall be sent to an affiliation it shall be considered that due

and proper notice has been given to such affiliation if a prepaid letter is sent by post to the addresses.

- (f) In the absence of the Chairman and the Vice Chairman at General Meetings, the Representatives present shall elect one of the Council to act as Chairman.
- (g) The Council shall cause true accounts to be kept of all the assets of the Union, of the sums of money received and expenses by the Union and of the matters in respect of which such money was received and expended and of the credits and liabilities of the Union. The actual form of such accounts shall be, as the Council shall determine.
- (h) The Council shall by resolution determine to what extent the books and accounts of the Union, or any of them shall be open to the inspection of affiliated members, and the members shall have such rights of inspection as are given to them by such resolution only, provided always that the Union in General Meeting may direct that any person shall have the right to inspect and make extracts from any book of the Union. The Treasurer and Secretary for the time being of the Union shall have custody of the books of the Union and it shall be one of their duties to see that this Rule is observed.
- (i) ***VOTING SHALL BE BY SHOW OF HANDS unless by a majority vote the meeting shall decide to vote by ballot. In the event of a difference of opinion, the simple majority/minority rule shall apply except where otherwise required by any rules, regulations or by-laws for the time being in force, and, in the case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall endeavour to secure a majority vote failing which the status quo remains. The Chairman shall have no casting vote. At least two members from each combine must be present to constitute a quorum. This clause was in the original constitution and for whatever reason was removed. I have now added it back – Greg 18/5/04.***
- (j) The Secretary, or in his/her absence, the Acting Secretary, shall convene all meetings.

9. PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

Members of affiliated organizations shall enjoy full privileges of the Union. No member may take part in any of the proceedings at any Union meeting nor enter his pigeons in any race being conducted which in any way is connected with the Union while he/she, or an affiliated or of which he/she is a member, is under suspension.

Any member affiliation wishing to resign from the Union must intimate such intention in writing to the Secretary prior to the last day of **MARCH** otherwise such affiliation shall be liable for the ensuing year's subscription.

Notwithstanding that a member affiliation has resigned its membership of the Union, such affiliation shall nevertheless be liable for all arrears subscription plus any debts incurred by it to the Union or its share of debts incurred by the Union while a member.

10. CONDUCT

- (a) Should the conduct of any member of any affiliation upon being reported to the Council be, in its opinion, ungentlemanly, unsportsmanslike, or injurious to the character and interests of the sport, or should any member persistently refuse or decline to conform to any rules, regulations or by-laws which may from time to time be in force, the matter shall be reported to the Club of which he is a member. The Council may demand to be furnished with particulars of the action taken, and, if not satisfied, may in its discretion act in whatever manner it may deem fit, not inconsistent with the Union Constitution, Rules or By-Laws, which may be in force.
- (b) If the Council is not satisfied with the manner in which its officials are managing an affiliation, the Council may in its discretion order an inquiry and shall appoint a Board of not exceeding three members of the Union to conduct such inquiry. A letter shall be addressed to such affiliation through its Secretary at least fourteen days prior to the date of the inquiry (unless the Inquiry Board and affiliation concerned mutually agree upon shorter service) setting out the reason thereof. Any witnesses desired by either the Council or the affiliation concerned may be called, each to arrange for the attendance of its own witnesses. If the representatives of the affiliation concerned neglect, fail or refuse to attend the inquiry the Inquiry Board may proceed in their absence.
- (c) After the holding of the inquiry the Inquiry Board shall report to the Council, who may decide to:
 - (i) Take no further action, of which the affiliation shall be notified in writing;
 - (ii) Impose a reprimand which shall be in writing;
 - (iii) Suspend the affiliated member or from participation in all Union privileges for a period which shall be specified, notification to be conveyed in writing to the Secretary of the affiliation concerned;
 - (iv) Dismiss the member affiliation from the Union. Upon dismissal all rights to the property of the Union shall be forfeited and no refund of any money, which may have been paid as fees, or other monies or articles donated to the Union will be permissible. The affiliation shall, however be liable for all dues owing by it to the Union as well as its share of any debts incurred by the Union while a member.
- (d) Upon the dismissal or suspension of any affiliation, all members of such affiliation shall after dismissal or during the period of such suspension cease to be members of the Union provided that the Council shall have the right to grant any member of an expelled or suspended affiliation permission to be elected to another affiliation. Letter addressed to the Union Secretary shall make application for permission under this clause.
- (e) Notice of expulsion or suspension of any affiliation or member shall be forthwith communicated to all affiliations.

11. DISCIPLINARY APPEALS

- (a) An affiliation dealt with in terms 9 (c)(ii), (iii) or (iv) may appeal to the Executive Committee, such appeal should state whether the appeal is against the finding, the severity of punishment or both, should be addressed to the Secretary of the Union, and should be posted or handed to him within 14 (fourteen) days of notification of the decision of the Board, otherwise the affiliation shall have no further right of appeal. Should the Executive Committee's decision not be unanimous and if not satisfied with the decision of the Executive Committee, such affiliation may appeal to the Council, notice of which appeal must be posted or handed to the Union Secretary within 14 (fourteen) days of notification of the decision by the Executive Committee, otherwise the affiliation shall have no further right of appeal.
- (b) Any member dealt with by his/her Club as a result of disciplinary action taken against him/her by such Club and who is not satisfied may, after having utilized any channels of appeal provided by his/her Club, appeal within 14 (fourteen) days of the notification of the result of such appeal to the Executive Committee. Should the Executive Committee's decision not be unanimous and if not satisfied with the decision of the Executive Committee, the member may appeal to the Council. Otherwise, he/she shall have no further right to appeal. Such appeals should be addressed to the Secretary of the Union and should state whether the appeal is against the findings or the severity of punishment, or both. The Secretary shall thereafter within 14 days, refer the appeal to the Executive Committee or Council before which all the relevant papers shall be placed. After consideration of the appeal, the member, also his/her Club shall be advised of the decision of the Executive Committee or the Council as the case may be.
- (c) The decision of the Council upon any appeal (insofar as the Union is concerned) shall be final, and its proceedings shall be conducted in such manner, as the members of the Council in General Meeting shall decide from time to time. In the absence of special directions, the members of the Council shall have full power to act as they see fit.
- (d) No member, Union or Club shall have the right to be represented by a Solicitor or Counsel, nor shall any member of any Committee or the Council hearing an appeal appear professionally.

12. FINANCIAL LIABILITY OF AFFILIATIONS

The liability of each affiliation is limited to:

- (a) Payment of its annual subscriptions;
- (b) The amount or any call or calls made on affiliations which are members of the Union at the time any call is made by the Union duly authorized by a General Meeting;
- (c) Any other liabilities, which the Union may have incurred during the period of the membership of the affiliation.

13. BOOKKEEPING AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Union shall keep, or cause to be kept, proper books of account, and submit a statement of its affairs at each Annual General Meeting. A certificate of bank balance shall be on the table at each Council Meeting. Each affiliated Club or Federation shall, if necessary, bare proportionately to its membership, any deficit that may occur during a season's working.

All monies of the Union shall be paid into a Bank as the Council may appoint. All payments other than petties shall be made by cheque.

14. **SIGNING**

All documents and cheques which are required to be executed on behalf of the Union shall be deemed to have been properly and correctly executed if signed by the Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Secretary/Treasurer or such other persons as may be nominated by the Council in the absence of any of the foregoing.

15. **POWERS OF COUNCIL**

The Council shall have full power and authority to do the following acts, matters and things and all other acts, matters or things necessary in or about the management of the Union and to carry out the **objectives** of the Union.

- (a) To appoint a Board of Enquiry to enquire into the conduct of any member or member affiliation, and to hear appeals in connection therewith;
- (b) To make, add to or amend or annul any by-laws inconsistent with this constitution or rules for the time being in force subject to such addition, amendment or annulment as aforesaid being approved at the Annual General or Special General Meeting of member affiliations called for the purpose;
- (c) To appoint or remove **officials** and determine the duties, salaries or remuneration of **officials**;
- (d) To delegate part of its duties to sub-committee or secure the appointment of sub-committees to deal with special matters. The members of all such sub-committees shall be members of affiliations and the Council shall have the right to review all decisions of sub-committees;
- (e) To institute or defend proceedings at law in the name of the Secretary of the Union for the time being, subject to the approval of members of affiliations as the Annual or Special General Meeting of member affiliations;
- (f) It shall have the custody and control of funds and any other property of the Union;
- (g) With the authority of a Special General Meeting of Members to make such call or calls as may be necessary to carry out the management;
- (h) To discharge any debts or liabilities which the Union may have incurred;
- (i) To invest any funds of the Union not immediately required for the purpose of the Union in any or all of the following classes of security;
 1. On fixed deposit with any Bank
 2. On call in a savings account within any Building Society

- (j) Generally to conduct, regulate and manage the affairs of the Union, to carry out the **objectives** and purposes and do all things necessary or incidental thereto.

16. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of all meetings shall be confirmed at the next subsequent meeting and all minutes of sub-committees shall be placed before the Council.

17. **DUTIES OF SECRETARY/TREASURER**

The Secretary/Treasurer shall at all times be under the control, supervision and instructions of the Council:

- (a) The Secretary shall keep a register of member affiliations showing the names and Addresses of their Secretaries and Chairman;
- (b) The Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept all necessary books and accounts of the Union'
- (c) The Treasurer shall receive payments and issue receipts for all entrance fees, subscriptions and other amounts received by him/her;
- (d) The Secretary/Treasurer shall attend all meetings;
- (e) The Secretary shall record in a book kept for the purpose a true a proper record of all the proceedings of all meetings;
- (f) The Secretary/Treasurer shall carry out all the duties usually associated with that of Secretary or Treasurer and particularly shall carry out all instructions given from time to time by the Council.

18. **RING AND BASKET STEWARDS**

All affiliated Clubs must elect a Ring Steward or Stewards, who shall keep a register of all pigeons belonging to members of the Club. Each Club must appoint basketing stewards, who shall arrange for the marking of race entry forms, ringing and placing in official race panniers of all pigeons entered for the race and for the sealing of race panniers after pigeons have been basketed, and otherwise attend to all matters incidental to the basketing of pigeons entered for races.

19. **AUDIT**

- (a) At the Annual General Meeting an Auditor or Auditors, who may be other than Chartered Accountants, shall be appointed to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting. The Council may fill any casual vacancy in the office of Auditor. **At least once** in every year the Auditor/Auditors shall examine the accounts of the Union.

- (b) It shall be the duty of such Auditor/Auditors also to carry out examination of the books at such time as they or the Council may determine.
- (c) A copy of every Balance Sheet and Statement intended to be submitted to the Union at an Annual General Meeting shall be furnished to the Auditor or Auditors at least one month before the date fixed for such meeting, and it shall be the duty of such Auditor/Auditors to examine the correctness thereof. The Auditor or Auditors shall sign a certificate stating whether in their opinion it shows a true and correct account of state of the affairs of the Union.
- (d) No member of the Council shall be eligible for the position of Auditor. The Auditor or Auditors shall at all reasonable times have access to the books and records of the Union for the purpose of carrying out their duties. The Auditor or Auditors may if he/they consider it necessary, demand a Special General Meeting. In such case, the Secretary shall be notified in writing and he/she shall, subject to giving the usual notice for a Special General Meeting, convene a Special General Meeting of member affiliations. If, after a lapse of ten days from the receipt of such notice by the Secretary no meeting has been convened, the Auditors shall be empowered to convene a Special General Meeting upon giving the usual notice for the calling of General Meetings.
- (e) *All affiliated Federations, Combines and Clubs are to ensure that their respective financial affairs are audited on an annual basis by a duly appointed Auditor.*

20. ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION

No Resolution adopted at any Meeting of the Union may be reviewed or rescinded at the same meeting.

These Rules may be altered, amended or amplified or rescinded and new Rules may be adopted in any general meeting of the council carried by a majority vote.

QUORUM

A QUORUM at a General Meeting shall at least two members of council from the combine and NNRPF.

Should a quorum not be present at any General Meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned for at least fourteen days when further notice, in writing, will be served, and if a quorum is still not present, those present shall proceed with the business for which the meeting was originally called.

Notice of all alterations, amendments, amplifications, recessions and new Rules of an important nature shall be given to the Secretaries of affiliated Federations, Combines and Clubs, at least 14 days after such amendment was passed by the council. Objections to such alterations will only be considered upon receipt by the Union secretary of written objections from a simple majority of affiliated organisations to the Union within 14 days of receipt of such notice

21. INTERPRETATION

Should any doubt at any time arise as to the interpretation of any clause in this constitution or the rules of the Union, the interpretation shall be that placed thereon by the Council. Such interpretation may, however, not be at variance with any other clause in this constitution or with the rules and by-laws, which may be in force. In considering any interpretation the Council shall be guided by what would be the generally accepted practice.

22. APPEALS (OTHER THAN DISCIPLINARY APPEALS)

- (a) Should a member of an Affiliation not be satisfied with any decision, on any matter, other than discipline, given by such an Affiliation, an appeal to the Council may be made. Appeals from affiliations shall be accompanied by a certified copy of the Minutes of a properly constituted general meeting relevant to the matter under appeal. A deposit of R100-00 must also accompany such appeal.
- (b) All disputes between individual members of the Union or affiliations in respect of any matters affecting the sport of pigeon racing or its subsidiary activities, directly including matters relating to the sale, care custody, carriage or management of racing pigeons and all matters affecting the welfare of the Union as a whole, shall be decided in terms of this clause. Insofar as the Union is concerned the decision of the Council shall be final.

23. PRIZES

The Union may offer and award prizes for competitions, races or shows promoted by itself and may admit such competitors thereto whether members of the Union or not, on terms as it deems proper and it may make contributions from the funds of the Union to similar races or shows managed or held under the directions of members of the Union.

24. GENERAL

All affiliate Federations, Combines and Clubs must purchase all Identification Rings from the **S.A National Pigeon Organization through the KwaZulu Natal Racing Pigeon Union, provided that SANPO can give definite assurance of availability of rings during January.**

Whenever any affiliated Federation, Combine or Club or individual member feels that he/she has a legal case for action against the Union, it or he/she shall be bound and obliged to submit the matter in dispute to arbitration in terms of arbitration acts in force at the time such claims arises.

25. IDEMNITY

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and members of the Council shall be indemnified against all liabilities incurred by them in the execution of their duties in

terms of the Constitution and Rules of the Union except as they shall incur through their own neglect or default.

26. DISSOLUTION

The Union shall not be dissolved as long as two organizations remain affiliated, and then only by a special resolution passed at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose. A Special Resolution for the purpose of this clause shall mean a resolution passed by a majority of at least TWO THIRDS OF THOSE MEMBERS PERSONALLY PRESENT AT A DULY CONSTITUTED MEETING.

QUORUM

The QUORUM at such meeting shall be TWO THIRDS OF THE REPRESENTATION POWER OF DULY REGISTERED MEMBERS.

On dissolution of the Union, the assets shall be sold to the best advantage and the proceeds, after payment of liability and expenses, shall be awarded to a Charitable Organization or Organizations to be decided upon at such meetings.

RACE RULES

RACE RULE NO. 1

No member of an affiliated Club or Association will be allowed to compete in UNION or CLUB RACES until his current subscriptions have been paid to the Union or Club Secretary.

RACE RULE NO. 2

A Union Race Program which will include race points, entrance fees and all things pertaining thereto, shall be arranged by the Executive Committee prior to the Annual General Meeting for the following reason; shall be tabled at the Annual General Meeting for information only; and as soon as possible thereafter, each affiliation shall receive notification.

The Union Race Program shall be provided for as many races as determined prior to the AGM, at least one (1) to be for open competition and one (1) for yearling competition. One of the Open Competition races shall be a long distance limit bird race of a 20 bird maximum.

Members may enter as many birds as they may desire in any Union Races or Club Races, except where there is a rule of limitation.

RACE RULE NO. 3

Each affiliated Club must muster its officials to be at Club Rooms for each race, to set, strike, read and open clocks of competitors, and generally comply with the requirements as for all races. This responsibility is vested in the Club's Chairman and Secretary or their deputies. The Club Management Committee, who shall act in the best interest of the Union and Club, must deal with lack of interest in this respect.

RACE RULE NO. 4

Entry Fees, Nominations, Specials or Prize Money in Union or Club races will be reflected in Official race Programs of the Union or Club, agreed upon by the Council or Committee for each year.

RACE RULE NO. 5

The result of all Union Races shall be decided upon by the velocity principle, that is, the pigeon recording to the highest velocity in meters per minute reckoned by two decimal points, from race point to loft, shall be declared the winner and subsequent positions in the race shall be decided on the same principle.

RACE RULE NO. 6

Measurements of distances shall be on the principle of race point to loft, and shall be calculated by surveyors or GPS as accepted by the Union. In the event of change of location, the member must notify the Secretary of his Club.

RACE RULE NO. 7

Time of arrival shall be recorded by means of special timing clocks made for the purposes of recording the arrival of racing pigeons.

RACE RULE NO. 8 **(ENTRIES OF PIGEONS)**

Entries of pigeons for all races must be on the official, **printed ENTRY FORMS in DUPLICATE (or reasonable facsimile thereof)**, to avoid disqualification. All letters and numbers reflected on the identification ring must be shown in the space provided on the forms, as well as all other particulars required. Submission of **signed** race entry forms will bind the member entering the pigeons reflected thereon to all rules and regulations appearing in the Constitution and the Rules or By-Laws applicable.

RACE RULE NO. 9

All pigeons competing in races must wear only one identification ring bearing a number duly stamped or embossed thereon, and which is made specifically for racing pigeons.

RACE RULE NO. 10

No pigeon will be permitted to take part in any race or admitted into race panniers unless the are bona fide property of the member entering such pigeon or pigeons which have been registered with the Club Ring Steward at least seven days before the first race of the season.

RACE RULE NO. 11 **(METHOD OF BASKETING FOR RACES)**

- (a) Prior to being placed in race panniers each pigeon will be ringed with a numbered removable ring hereinafter called the RACE RING, specially provided for the racing of pigeons.
- (b) No member or person may under any circumstances be permitted to act as steward or penciller, who is in any way connected with the member basketing his/her own pigeons, nor those of a member of his/her family, a member flying to the same address, nor his/her partner.
- (c) A member wearing apparel WITH SLEEVES ABOVE THE ELBOW, shall be permitted to basket his/her own pigeons with the proviso that at all times:
 - (i) There shall be a STEWARD at the ringer who WILL CALL ALL INFORMATION APPEARING ON THE IDENTIFICATION RING of EACH PIGEON and observe the placing of the race ring on the pigeon;
 - (ii) The member shall carry his/her own pigeon AT ARMS LENGTH straight to a second steward at the pannier, AT ALL TIMES DISPLAYING THE RUBBER RACE RING TO THE STEWARD;
 - (iii) The steward at the panniers shall observe the placing of the pigeon with race ring into pannier, opening the basketing flap for the member;
 - (iv) After the steward has observed the placing of the pigeon into the race pannier, THE MEMBER SHALL RAISE BOTH HANDS, FINGERS OUTSTRETCHED, IN FULL VIEW of members and stewards, acknowledging deposit of pigeon with rubber race ring in basket.
- (d) A member may appoint a nominee, wearing suitable apparel as above, to act in the same manner on his/her behalf;
- (e) After ringing of pigeons is complete, the Secretary shall take charge of all completed race entry forms and sealed envelopes containing slips bearing numbers of removable rubber race rings placed on pigeons entered in the race, which must be wrapped there and then and sealed before an official of the Club, such package to remain under seal

until opening of clocks when seal shall be broken in the presence of at least four members of the clock committee.

RACE RULE NO. 12
(RACE ENTRY & RACE RESULT CLAIM FORMS)

Each affiliated Club must forward by registered post to the Union Secretary before liberation, an analysis sheet showing entries and pools for each race. Attached to the analysis sheet must be **the COPIES** of the race entry forms, which must also reflect the carbon duplicate rubber race ring numbers and also a remittance covering entries and pools.

Each affiliate Club must also forward, by registered post, **the race result forms and race results backed up on 1,4 mb stifty disk which must be posted or e-mailed** to the Union Velocity Calculator not later than 96 hours following **ring out**. **Only** those birds mentioned on the return by Clubs on a result form **accepted** by the Union will be considered as being worthy of mention in the result. **The Union Velocity Calculator may request original race entry form and clock rolls.**

RACE RULE NO. 13

If, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, after consideration of all the circumstances prevailing in respect of the particular race involved, a pigeon(s) is/are regarded as having incurred an improbable velocity in relation to other pigeons in the race, such velocity(s) may be excluded from the official race result even though there may be no evidence of the pigeon or pigeons having escaped or of any fraudulent practice.

RACE RULE NO. 14

Members may fly to one distance only, and pigeons arriving at a point within 100 meters that of owners loft shall be regarded as having homed.

RACE RULE NO. 15

Prize money will be paid out seven days after conformation of the race result. 10 % will be deducted for Union funds. Prizes will be paid out after the above deduction in the following way:

- (a) 5 birds timed in
 - 1st 30%
 - 2nd 25%
 - 3rd 20%
 - 4th 15%
 - 5th 10%
- (b) 4 birds timed in
 - 1st 35%
 - 2nd 30%
 - 3rd 20%
 - 4th 15%
- (c) 3 birds timed in

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|------|
| | 1 st | 45% |
| | 2 nd | 35% |
| | 3 rd | 20% |
| (d) | 2 birds timed in | |
| | 1 st | 60% |
| | 2 nd | 40% |
| (e) | 1 bird timed in | |
| | 1 st | 100% |

If no birds are timed in then total prize money will revert to Union funds. In addition to prize money, a diploma will be given to the first thirty birds.

Union nominations will be arranged as decided from time to time. Nominations money will be paid to the bird registering the highest velocity in each respective nomination. In the event of no nomination bird being timed in, the amount concerned will revert to Union funds. Birds must be nominated at time of entry.

RACE RULE NO. 16
(HOURS OF DARKNESS)

The SANPO constitution in this regard shall apply.

RACE RULE NO. 17

A member having once handed in a pigeon(s) for entry in a race shall not be allowed to withdraw his entry or in any way interfere with his birds. For the purpose of this rule a member shall be deemed to have handed in his pigeons once he has submitted his race entry form.

RACE RULE NO. 18

Pigeons considered by the officials of the Club as suffering from disease of any kind shall not be allowed in panniers, and any fees paid or due in connection with such pigeons shall be forfeited.

RACE RULE NO. 19

No official or member other than the officials or members responsible for the dispatch of pigeons shall be allowed to enter unaccompanied by at least two other official, the room where the pigeons are stored awaiting dispatch to a race, for any purpose whatsoever.

RACE RULE NO. 20

All pigeons once entered in a race shall be regarded as in the custody of the Club officials, and while every possible care will be exercised, they will be regarded as entered at owner's risk, and the race organizations shall not in any way be held responsible for injury or loss from whatsoever cause arising.

RACE RULE NO. 21

The race will not be cancelled if birds are held over owing to bad weather and liberated on a working day. The names of the winners of prizes in each race will be published as soon as possible after each race. The velocities of all nomination winners will also be published.

RACE RULE NO. 22

If less than two (2) CLUBS are competing, there will be no Union Race. All races will have combined liberation's.

RACE RULE NO. 23

No Club can claim the right for publication of any race results in which it has been disqualified, nor when the Club race results are not in the hands of the Velocity Calculator within 96 hours following the close of the race.

RACE RULE NO. 24

Duration of Race.

The SANPO constitution in this regard shall apply.

RACE RULE NO. 25

The Chairman or an official appointed by each Club should be notified of the arrival of the bird within the hour so that the winning pigeon can be verified and that the said pigeon (and at their discretion any other pigeon) be tossed as soon as possible within 100 meters of the loft of the member concerned. Any untoward happening must be reported to the Union Secretary.

RACE RULE NO. 26

Any affiliation which desires to organize a race in which members of other affiliated Clubs participate, the date of such race or races being ten days before or after the date on which a Union Race will be flown must make application to the Secretary of the Union indicating the date on which it is proposed the race or races are to be flown. Should the Executive Committee consider that the race or races would jeopardize entries for any Union race, they may decide against an affiliation organizing such race or races.

CLOCK RULES

CLOCK RULE NO. 1

Each member competing in races must use a clock specially made for recording the arrival of racing pigeons, each clock to have the approval of the Club Management Committee. A record must be maintained of the make and number of any clock rejected and the Secretary of the Union advised. Only persons appointed to the Clock Committee in terms of Rule No. 2 can set clocks.

CLOCK RULE NO. 2

Each Club shall elect a Clock Committee.

Such Clock Committee shall consist of the number of members the Club may decide and may include members irrespective of any executive or other positions held in the Club. The Committee shall attend to all matters pertaining to the compilation of the results of each race, i.e. setting of clocks, opening clocks, reading of clock rolls and checking of such readings, calculation of clock variations and of velocities, and checking of such calculations, clock variations and velocities.

Should a member of the Clock Committee be absent, and the necessity so warrants it, the remaining members of the Clock Committee may appoint another member to act in his stead.

In accordance with the requirements of the Union Race Entry Sheet, the signature of Clock Reader and his Checker must appear on the form to avoid disqualification.

CLOCK RULE NO. 3

- (i) A member of the Clock Committee immediately prior to the clock being set must sign all clock rolls. It shall be the responsibility of the Clock Committee to append to the Clock Roll, before setting, the number of the clock if not printed by the clock mechanism, competitors name, race point and date of setting.
- (ii) When setting a computer type clock which has been duly approved as required in Clock Rule 1, a record shall be kept of the information indicated on the screen provided, of:
 - (a) The code number relative to the race concerned
 - (b) The time of the "strike on" relative to the Master
 - (c) The time indicated of the "check strike" given. A similar record shall be kept of all information indicated at time of "strike out" after a race.

At the time of operating and extracting a printout of all information relative to a race identified by the code number recorded at the time of "striking on", all other information as required in Clock Rule 3(i) above shall be recorded on the printout roll and signed by the Clock Committee Member responsible.

- (iii) All clocks shall remain under seal for the duration of the season other than when

Opened by the Clock Committee for reading or resetting. It is the responsibility of the member to see that his/her clock is properly sealed at all times.

- (iv) No member may sign or open his/her own clock nor handle his/her own rubber race rings.

CLOCK RULE NO. 4

Any competitor may have his clock reset by a member of the Clock Committee, or a member of the Clock Committee may reset his own clock to that of another member provided just cause for such a request can be shown. When resetting the clock, the Committee member must also simultaneously take an impression on the clock to which resetting is taking place. In such circumstances a clock may not be opened unless in the presence of and under the supervision of at least the two participants involved.

CLOCK RULE NO. 5

In the event of a member timing in to another member's clock such member must produce his own clock, unopened, with seals intact, to that requesting that he be permitted to time in to such member's clock. The Club Management Committee must obtain the explanation of any incident of this nature.

CLOCK RULE NO. 6 **(STRIKING ON/OFF/CHECK STRIKES)**

Any reference in the Constitution and Rules or any By-Laws applicable to MASTER TIMEPIECE or WIRELESS TIME SIGNAL shall be deemed to mean the SIXTH PIP OF THE RADIO SOUTH AFRICA TIME SIGNAL. A GPS will also be accepted as a master timepiece *as well as the time signal on Telkom line 1026.*

When setting clocks before a race (other than resets and referred to in Clause 4 of these Clock Rules) and striking off after a race, such clocks must be struck on or off, as the case may be, to the Master Timepiece. If for any reason any clock is not struck accordingly, such clock or clocks must be struck simultaneously with two other selected clocks, which had already been struck to the Master Timepiece. One of the two clocks selected must, at the original striking, be nominated as the official timepiece for pro rate adjustment to the Master Timepiece in order to assess the correct setting time of the clock involved. The other clock selected must be regarded solely as a reserve and used as a substitute only in the event of failure of the nominated clock.

All clocks MUST BE STRUCK ON OR OFF ON THE HOUR OR HALF-HOUR.

During the time the clock is under seal for any race, any member of the Clock Committee or an appointed deputy, shall have the right to inspect such clock at any time, any place and take an impression. Should any defect be found, he shall act in the manner he thinks fit.

A CHECK STRIKE FOR BOTH STRIKING ON AND STRIKING OFF MUST BE MADE.

The CHECK STRIKE OFF must, however, be done within two minutes of the striking off with the wireless time signal. The actual interval of such check strike off must be decided by the drawing, immediately before the strike off, of a tab from a number of tabs each reflecting different times up to and including the two minutes maximum referred to.

CLOCK RULE NO. 7

After each and on the day of timing in, all clocks will be struck off to the wireless time signal in the same manner as is provided for in the setting of the clocks. The striking off of clocks shall be arranged in a manner to suit the Club concerned unless otherwise specially provided for.

CLOCK RULE NO. 8

All clocks, which do not provide for automatic locking in boxes must be sealed with Club sealing pliers and remain under seal for the duration of the race season. In the case of resetting clocks must be resealed to the satisfaction of the Clock Committee. Any clock found not so sealed must be reported to the Management Committee.

CLOCK RULE NO. 9

- (a) Adjustment in clock variation will be made, except in the event of a clock gaining more than 2,0 seconds per hour, when no allowance will be made; or a clock losing more than 2,0 seconds per hour when double pro rata time lost will be added to the time of time in.
- (b) Any clock being opened after setting and before being struck off with wireless time Signal, **except as provided for in Rule 10, will be disqualified.**

CLOCK RULE NO. 10

In the case of any clock stopping, after timing in, the competitor may present it UNOPENED to a member of the Clock Committee, who may remove the ring and time it in to his own clock. Likewise, should the stopped clock be that of a member of the Clock Committee, he may report to another member of the Club, who may act in the same manner as though he were a member of the Clock Committee. In either such an event the time recorded in the clock in which the ring is subsequently retimed shall be regarded as the time of arrival of the pigeon.

CLOCK RULE NO. 11

Competitors must place removable rubber ring in the appropriate receptacle where provision is made for such a receptacle in the particular type of clock; such receptacle must be complete as required for the particular clock in use. Where clock manufacturers stipulate that thimbles or receptacles are not to be used, clocks may be used without thimbles, all such clocks to be approved by **the SANPO Council.**

CLOCK RULE NO. 12

All clocks must be checked on the day of timing in. For the purpose the time of demarcation shall be 9pm.

CLOCK RULE NO. 13

Clock rolls, which cannot be satisfactorily deciphered or are in any way mutilated or broken, will be referred to the Management Committee of the Club for a decision.

CLOCK RULE NO. 14

- (a) Competitors must place only one rubber ring in the first hole of a clock. From the second hole, any amount of rings can be inserted and will be read in the sequence of emerging.
- (b) Lid boxes are not allowed. Open type thimbles supplied with certain makes of clocks must be inserted with open aperture facing downward, otherwise they will be disqualified. If more than one race is flown and clocked in the same clock, only the first race will be one ring in the first hole.

CLOCK RULE NO. 15

All clocks to be handed in to the Clock Committee for inspection, two weeks before the first race in proper working order, and if any clock is found defective it shall be disqualified until the said clock is rectified. In the case a member has complied with the above requirements and his clock is subsequently found to be erratic during the racing season, such clock shall be disqualified until it is rectified to the satisfaction of the Clock Committee concerned.

CLOCK RULE NO. 16

Clocks may be set by the competitor but will be checked by one or more members of the Clocking Committee, but when struck in or out, three adult active flying members are to be present. The Secretary of a Club may take a check strike at any time deemed necessary and in accordance with Clock Rule No. 2, but no clock may be opened unless three adult active members are present. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS RULE active members shall be as defined in Rule 6 of the Constitution.

[Clock Rule No. 17](#)

All electronic clock rules as published in the SANPO constitution shall apply.

SHOW RULES

SHOW RULE NO. 1

The decision to hold a Show shall be made at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose.

SHOW RULE NO. 2

A Sub-Committee, to be called the Show Committee shall be elected at such General Meeting and such Show Committee shall make all arrangements for the Show, not inconsistent with the Constitution or any of the Rules or By-Laws of the Union.

SHOW RULE NO. 3

Entry Fees, Classes, Date of Show, Venue and the appointment of Judges will be decided upon at the General Meeting at which it is decided to hold the Show, but the General Meeting concerned may delegate any of these powers to the Show Committee.

SHOW RULE NO. 4

Entries must be submitted on the prescribed entry form and submission thereof will bind the exhibitor to the Constitution, Show rules and any other relevant Rules or By-Laws of the Union.

The following shall be prohibited:

- (a) The borrowing, lending or hiring of any pigeons for exhibition;
- (b) The trimming, removal or insertion of feathers, or the staining of any part of the exhibit;
- (c) The marking in any way, by which identification of an exhibit, such as by plastic rings, may be revealed, even though intention of such identification is not proved;
- (d) Endeavoring to influence a judge's decision directly or indirectly during or before a Show.

SHOW RULE NO. 5

The Show Committee may refuse the entry of any exhibit at its discretion, and any pigeon suffering from disease or which appears to be in an unhealthy condition may be removed from the Show premises.

SHOW RULE NO. 6

Should any exhibit be disqualified, rejected and/or the removal from the Show premises be ordered, the following conditions will apply:

- (a) Exhibits are at owner's risk and the Union will not accept responsibility in any way;
- (b) Entry fees will be forfeited;
- (c) Any prizes that may have been awarded may, at the discretion of the Management Committee, be withheld.

SHOW RULE NO. 7

Each exhibit must wear an intact identification ring bearing a number, recognized as applicable to racing pigeons. An exhibit in a class where age is specified, however, must wear an identification ring acquired through the SANPO. The Show Committee may request production of proof that an exhibit complies with the requirements of any class.

SHOW RULE NO. 8

During judging, only Judges, Stewards and officials of the Club will be allowed within the enclosure where exhibition is taking place.

SHOW RULE NO. 9

No exhibits may be removed from the Show pens unless authorized by the Show Secretary, such removal to be under the supervision of a Steward.

SHOW RULE NO. 10

Exhibits must be the absolute property of the exhibitor for at least 21 days prior to the date of commencement of the Show.

SHOW RULE NO. 11

Award of prizes will be entirely at the discretion of the Judges, whose decision shall be final. Allowance, will, however, be made for condition of molt according to season of Show.

SHOW RULE NO. 12

On completion of the judging of each class the judge shall advise the Show Secretary of the numbers of the pens to which he has awarded prizes and the order of such awards. Once having notified the Show Secretary of his awards, the judge may not alter his decision unless instructed by the Show Secretary, who may do so only on the decision of the Management Committee.

SHOW RULE NO. 13

The Show Secretary may not communicate the names of any of the prizewinners to any person whatsoever until after judging has taken place of the final classes, and all awards of the Show have been made.

SHOW RULE NO. 14

Although every precaution will be taken, exhibits will be accepted entirely at owners risk, and the Club will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to exhibits.

SHOW RULE NO. 15

Escaped birds not already judged will be excluded from competition unless repenned prior to commencement of judging. Likewise any exhibits not penned at time of commencement of judging will be excluded. Entry fees in such instances will be forfeited.

SHOW RULE NO. 16

A novice shall be an exhibitor who has not at any Show won a first prize in any class, unless such class has been set-aside exclusively for novices.

SHOW RULE NO. 17

All disputes must be referred to the Show Secretary, who, if the circumstances warrant it, or if requested to do so, shall refer the matter to the Show Committee and thereafter, if necessary, to the Management Committee.

SHOW RULE NO. 18

Any affiliation that desires to hold a Show must make application before the Annual General Meeting to the Secretary of the Union indicating the date on which it is desired to hold the Show. Each such application must indicate alternative dates in order to avoid possible clashing with other prospective Shows.

RULES FOR ELECTRONIC BAND SCANNING SYSTEMS

The rules as subscribed to by the **South African National Pigeon Organization** shall apply in this regard.

Corrected and Updated **for meeting March 2003, per amendments ex Secretary.**

Altered by GA Brooks for discussion 1/4/2004.