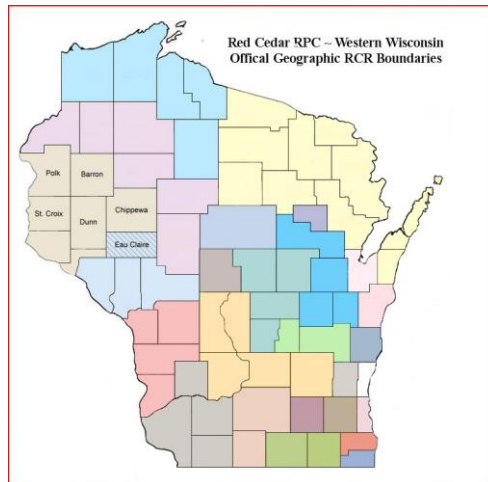


CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE
RED CEDAR RACING PIGEON CLUB
REVISED 01/17/15

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. Name and Location: The name of this organization shall be the Red Cedar Racing Pigeon Club (RCR), with its Headquarters located in Menomonie WI. The club is incorporated as a not for profit organization under the laws of the state of Wisconsin.

Section 1A. RCR Geographic Boundaries: Racing Pigeon enthusiasts with their primary residence within the following Wisconsin counties Polk, Barron, St. Croix, Dunn, Chippewa, & Eau Claire, as defined geographically on the official Red Cedar Racers map are eligible for membership within the Red Cedar Racing Pigeon Club. The RCR is incorporated as a not for profit organization under the laws of the state of Wisconsin.



Section 2. Affiliation: The Organization shall be chartered with the American Racing Pigeon Union (AU) and conduct its activities in compliance with the AU rules and competition standards. The RCR may also from time to time, conduct its activities with other chartered AU organizations such as a Combine, Concourse, Federation or State.

Section 3. Purpose: The primary purpose of the Club is to engage in the friendly competition of racing registered Homing Pigeons and to foster a positive social environment for members and their families whilst promoting the Sport of Racing Pigeons. It shall also conduct social and fraternal events, and other activities related to the racing pigeon sport as determined by the membership from time to time. Members cannot be excluded because they have been successful in competition and have the right to affiliate with any other Club or National Organization.

Section 4. Sportsmanship & Motto: Members of the RCR agree to conduct themselves in the spirit of friendly sportsmanship, fairness and in accordance with the AU Code of Ethics (AU Policy 310). As members we subscribe to this statement “Competition is for testing Pigeons, not relationships”.

ARTICLE II – OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers: The officers shall comprise of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Race Secretary.

Section 2. Election: The officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting and shall serve for a period of two years. Nominations shall be made from the floor of the meeting and must receive a second motion. The person nominated shall have the privilege to decline nomination. Newly elected officers will take charge of their office after the Annual Meeting and should an office become open during the year due to resignation or any other cause, the President will appoint a replacement. If, after a period of two years in office for any officer of the RCR, there are no members nominated to take over a position, that officers shall be afforded the opportunity to continue holding that office. They have the privilege to decline and the voting process must follow the same process for a newly elected officer.

Section 3. President: The President shall preside over all regular or special meetings in such a manner as to transact all business. The president shall only vote to break tie votes and shall automatically be on all committees in an advisory capacity. He is the spokesman for the RCR, and will meet the public and be the spokesman for the RCR should the need arise.

Section 4. Vice President: The Vice President will preside at all meetings in the absence of the President, and heads up special committees as appointed by the President. The Vice President may also serve as the RCR Constitution & Bylaws Advisor to make sure the RCR operates as intended, and it’s constitution and bylaws are kept up to date.

Section 5. Secretary: The Secretary shall issue notices of all RCR meetings at least one week in advance, shall attend and keep the minutes of the meeting and ensure that all Club members receive a copy of the minutes. The Secretary shall issue bands, order bands and keep the records in accordance with AU policy. The Secretary is responsible for keeping the RCR Constitution and By-Laws, Race Rules and Charter current and is to issue all revisions to members. It is the responsibility of the Secretary to make sure the AU Secretary kits with band orders, diploma orders and AU dues are returned to the National office in a timely manner and that he/she keeps a book of motions.

Section 6. Treasurer: The Treasurer is responsible for the financial assets of the RCR. The treasurer is to submit a financial accounting record to the membership annually, or as directed by the President. The Treasurer shall keep the Officers of the Club informed as to any delinquent member accounts and shall pay all bills. The Treasurer shall keep all books and records pertaining to the RCR and deposit all monies

received into the RCR official bank account in a timely manner. The Treasurer will be sure that bank account signature cards that consist of the Treasurer and President are kept current. At the termination of office, the Treasurer shall immediately surrender to the President or new Treasurer, all books, records and related papers together with such funds or monies in possession. An audit shall always be made to the incoming Treasurer and two members of the RCR as appointed by the President.

Section 7. Race Secretary: The Race Secretary and his Committee shall be responsible for the conduct of the Club race, record Club members birds into their clocks, enter birds on shipping night and be present at clock knock off. They shall be responsible for maintaining a record of all loft surveys and shall coordinate the race liberations and make provisions for notifying RCR members of release times. They shall also manage all race Calculation activities, and are responsible for publishing race results and distributing diplomas and awards.

Section 7a. Remote Race Secretaries: Remote Club Race Secretaries are to record Club members birds into their clocks, enter birds on shipping night and be present at clock knock off. They shall also manage the race Calculation activities, and are responsible for sending their results to the Primary Club Race Secretary who will merge their results to produce the Club Result.

Section 8. RCR Heartland Federation Concourse Board Representative

The RCR Heartland Board Representative is responsible for acting as a liaison between the RCR members and The Heartland Federation Concourse. The RCR Board Representative will represent the direction provided by the RCR membership and act on behalf of the RCR Membership in all matters, maintaining the best interests of the RCR Membership.

The RCR Board Representative will report directly to the RCR President prior to and after each Heartland Federation Concourse board meeting; providing written documentation of the meeting agenda items discussed. After which; a RCR Club meeting will be scheduled to review & discuss the agenda items of the Heartland Federation Concourse board meeting.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting: The RCR shall hold an Annual Meeting, the date of which shall be determined by President and or Secretary. The business of that meeting shall include the election of officers and consideration to any changes to the Constitution & By-Laws. All members shall be notified at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting and will be requested to submit any minutes they wish to be included in the Agenda. Items not on the Agenda may be put forward at the end of the meeting under any other business.

Section 2. Regular Meeting: The President may call Regular Meetings as deemed necessary and or as voted by the membership.

Section 3. Special Meeting: Special Meetings may be called by the President or in his/her absence, the Vice President, if deemed necessary. Notice of such meeting shall be given to all members at least seven (7) days in advance of the date of the meeting. The President shall also call a Special Meeting within ten days (10) of receipt of a signed request from 25% or more of the active members of the RCR.

Section 4. Order of Business: The normal order of business at Regular Meetings shall include Roll Call, Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Financial Report, Committee Reports, Communications, Unfinished Business, New Business, Any Other Business Date of next Meeting and Adjournment.

Section 5. Quorum and Government: The members who are physically present for the meeting constitute a Quorum at any Meeting. Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws can only be acted upon at the Annual Meeting and a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the active members in attendance shall be required for adoption. All other matter will be decided by the majority vote of the active members at the meeting. It should be noted that the President shall only vote to break tie votes. Junior members will be entitled to vote on all matters with the exception of the election of Officers and the Constitution and By-Laws. See Sections below on the voting rights for Inactive, New, Probationary, Former and Temporary Members.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Active Members: Any RCR member that has participated in at least two (2) races during the previous year, and is current in all dues and fees of the RCR and National Organizations is considered an Active Member. All categories of Members must be of good character and never been expelled by a recognized National Racing Pigeon Organization.

Section 2. New Members: Any Active member of the club may make Recommendations for individuals as new members in the RCR. A prospective member who has never been a member shall be eligible for membership if he/she is eligible to be an AU member. Membership shall not be denied based on anyone's sex, race, creed or religion. Acceptance of the applicant as a member is constituted by a majority vote in favor by those current members present and voting. Any new member duly accepted by the RCR shall be a probationary member for twelve month upon been accepted. During this period, the new member has full entitlement to participate in races and other activities

Section 3. Probationary Members: Probationary member do not have the right to vote during the probationary period. At the first meeting following the completion of the members probationary period they shall stand for voting into full Active member status

and will be accepted as a full Active member by a majority vote prior to conducting any other business.

Section 4. Junior Members: Junior membership in the RCR is defined as any person less than eighteen (18) years of age and accepted by the majority vote of the active members present. Junior members will be entitled to vote on all matters with the exception of the election of Officers and the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 5. Former Members: A former member is defined as any former flying member of the RCR who is either not presently engaged in racing pigeons or left to join another club. To be reinstated as a member, an Active member must make recommendation for the individual to be accepted as a member. Any former member duly accepted by the RCR shall be a probationary member for twelve months upon been accepted. During this period, the former member has full entitlement to participate in races and other activities, shall have no voting rights and will be subject to all dues, fees and expenses as per RCR Active members

Section 6. Temporary Members: A temporary member is defined as an active flying member of chartered AU organizations such as a Club, Combine, Concourse or Federation that the members of the RCR conduct their activities with. A temporary member can be accepted as a temporary member by the majority vote of the active members present. The purpose of this membership is to give them the opportunity to race should their former organization not have the requirements to conduct their activities in accordance with AU rules. A temporary member shall have no voting rights and will be subject to all dues, fees and expenses as per RCR Active members.

Section 7. Inactive Members: Inactive members are members who are current of all dues and fees but only participate in non-race related activities. Inactive Members do not have a voting right.

Section 8. Resignation: Should a member leave the RCR for any reason, all physical or financial RCR assets shall remain with the RCR, unless specified in a written agreement made, dated and signed, between the member(s) leaving and the remaining club membership. They shall also be required to give written notice to the Secretary-Treasurer and must pay all indebtedness that is due to the RCR by them.

ARTICLE V – DUES, FEES and EXPENSES

Section 1. Dues: The Club Dues and AU Dues are to be paid by all members by the 1st of February each year.

Section 2. Bands: Band orders for the following year are to be submitted by all members and must be paid for by the 1st of February each year.

Section 3. Due Dates: The Club Secretary shall set the date for Dues for other organizations, shipping fees and any other expenses. Members will not be allowed to race if due dates are not met.

Section 4. Membership Dues: Club membership dues will be \$25 for Adults. Junior members (not reached their 18th Birthday) and inactive members shall pay \$10. Any member joining after the 1st of July will be required to pay full AU dues plus any Late Fees. They will also be required to pay Club Pro-rated Dues assessed for that fiscal year (Jan 1st – Dec 31st).

Section 5. Crate Fee: There will be a crate fee of \$40 for New Members joining the RCR.

Section 6. Shortage of Operating Funds: Any shortage of funds shall be assessed equally to all members and restored to the RCR treasury. In the event of an assessment of over \$50, each member may be given the opportunity to pay their portion of the assessment in two or more installments. Any agreement to money given, invested, or loaned to the RCR must be recorded in the minutes and a written agreement or contract provided, as appropriate, signed by the RCR officers.

ARTICLE VI – DIPLOMAS, TROPHIES and AWARDS

Section 1. Diplomas, trophies and awards shall be left to the wishes of the RCR active members, provided they do not conflict with the Official AU Competition Standards.

ARTICLE VII – DISPUTES

Disputes (other than race disputes which are handled by the Race Secretary and his/her Committee) are to be settled as follows: They shall first be referred to the RCR President for settlement unless the dispute involves the President, thus it will be taken to the Vice President. If either party in the dispute appeals his/her decision, the matter shall be taken up by the RCR officers for settlement. If either party in the dispute appeals their decision, the entire RCR membership, other than the parties in the dispute, shall decide the issues with a majority vote. If the dispute cannot be remedied through the RCR membership or its affiliates (i.e., Combine, Concourse, Federation, State Organization), and an AU rule is involved, then the complaint may be filed with the AU National Office.

ARTICLE VIII – EXPULSION / SUSPENSION

A member accused of dishonorable conduct as outlined by the AU Rules of Conduct (AU Bylaw 14), shall be notified to appear before the officers of the RCR, who will investigate the charges. Such notification to appear shall be in writing at least seven (7) days before the date of the hearing and shall specify the charges. As a result of the investigation, the officers shall present their findings to the membership of the RCR at the next regular meeting or at a special meeting. A secret ballot will be taken, and a three-

quarters (3/4) majority vote of all active members would be required to expel or suspend a member. The hearing must follow procedures outlined in the AU's Constitution and Bylaws (Sec. 15 Disciplinary Rules), and must assure the charged individual is afforded "due process". An expelled or suspended member shall forfeit all privileges and claims against the RCR.

ARTICLE IX – DISSOLUTION OF ASSOCIATION

The RCR shall not be dissolved without the consent, in writing, of two-thirds (2/3) of its active members, obtained in one and confirmed in another special meeting convened for the consideration of such dissolution. Upon dissolution, the property of the RCR, after all bills and obligations have been paid shall be donated to the American Racing Pigeon Union Youth Program.

ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES

Section 1. Regular and Temporary Committees: Regular and temporary committees shall be appointed by the President who shall designate a chairman for each.

Section 2. Race Committee: The Race Secretary will chair the Race Committee, consisting of at least two other (2) members, appointed by the President and recorded in the minutes. This committee shall have charge of all race details and shall conduct every race to these by-laws, and AU Competition Standards as well as any additional the RCR has. It will also resolve all questions and disputes regarding racing or competition, ensure that racing supplies are adequately maintained, and manage all race figuring activities.

Section 3. Loft Certification Committee: The race secretary will also chair the Loft Certification Committee, with a minimum of one other member, to survey member's lofts and inspect and photograph member's lofts should the requirement arise.