

Twin City Concourse Loft Certification Requirement

All clubs transporting pigeons on the Twin City Concourse trailer will be subject to all Twin City Concourse Race Rules and practices currently established.

History:

Loft Registration was adopted in 2008 to help keep us flying in face of a disease outbreak with poultry. In 2015 we had to cancel old birds due to an Avian Influenza outbreak. The Minnesota Board of Animal Health banned the racing pigeons within Minnesota June 15, 2015. The Board of Animal Health allowed us to fly young birds in the fall of 2015 after noting we were loft certified and willing to follow some common sense Bio-Security rules. We are currently allowed to self-regulate with no oversight from any government agency. Should we ever be asked to have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for interstate transport of pigeons I will have all the necessary paperwork at the truck to issue a certificate. Two Certificates of Veterinary Inspection were issued in the fall of 2015 for 2 weekend releases from Vermillion, South Dakota. Entry sheets will be kept for 2 weeks, all other paperwork will be a permanent record kept on the truck at all times. The Minnesota Board of Animal Health has stated that Clubs entering from Wisconsin to release pigeons in Minnesota are welcome if they are Loft Certified and comply with the same minimum standards of Bio-Security at the Club level.

Current Race Rules and practices currently are:

1. AU Loft Certification Program (TCC Article IV, Section 4, adopted 12/2008)
 - a.) **390.04 Certification Duration.** A loft is certified from the date of acceptance of the application by the Certifying Committee and is permanent although it is recommended that the committee visually **inspect the loft every year or as determined necessary** by the committee.
 - b.) A copy of the loft certification for each loft is to be kept on file at the club. A copy of the certification is to be given to the trucker to be kept on file with the trucker.
- 2.) A copy of the loft entry sheet is to accompany the birds and given to the trucker at pickup. Club race secretary is to supply trucker with a form showing # of crates shipped and # of birds shipped.
- 3.) Follow minimal standards of Bio-Security at the Club level.

- a. A foot bath is to be used by everyone at entry and exit of the club.
 - b. Hand sanitizer is to be used between crating of different lofts.
 - c. Disinfect and clean shipping crates at least every 2 weeks.
 - d. Disinfect waters weekly.
 - e. Birds from one club shall be considered as a unit so that they may be mixed in race crates. Birds from different clubs or shipping locations may not be mixed together.
- 4.) Shipping limit of 25 bird entry to Open races and 5 birds to Classic races in old birds, 35 bird entry in Open races and 5 bird entry in Classic races for young birds. Concourse Members may ship more than 25 birds to the Topeka Classic only by paying an additional \$2.00 per bird. (Adopted 10/2017, outstate clubs may ship as many birds as they want at their current shipping charges.)

Dr. Phil Nelson, DVM
Chairman, 2018
Twin City Concourse Board of Directors